Contents

Mrs. Kavita Tewari (Head, Department of Electronics Engineering) gave a welcome address

V-REACH '22

-Sneha Tanna, Prachit Paralikar, Nikita Kumawat, Vrushabh Karavade

VESIT is proud of its robust alumni base which has grown immensely and reached global heights. It wholeheartedly acknowledges their role as stakeholders in leveraging the VESIT brand, and to foster this relationship further VESIT-Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) has unlocked the teaching-learning process, "**VESIT's Alumni Engagement Initiative: V-REACH**"

V-Reach 3.0 is a VESIT Alumni engagement initiative organized by Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) in association with Institution's Innovation Council (IIC). The inceptive series of 9 sessions took place from 13th August 2022 to 8th October 2022, with nine of our esteemed alumni as guest speakers. These sessions were broadcasted live on YouTube. Objectives of V-REACH:

- To provide a forum for a series of webinars covering various domains of learning and support outcome-based education.
- To enable knowledge and expertise sharing of alumni for the professional development of students.
- To actively engage the stakeholders to expand VESIT's outreach.
- To foster our relationship with our alumni effectively and employ their flair, ardour, knack, and contributions to constructive ends for VESIT and its students.

This series caters to the needs of students with diverse backgrounds, covering the following broad areas:
1. Guidance on preparing for better placements
2. Higher studies and career guidance
3. Research and innovations
4. Entrepreneurship development
5. New trends in technology

Day 1, Session 1: 13th August 2022

Topic: "Exploring Career Opportunities in IIoT and Industry 4.0"
Speaker: Mr. Sagar Bhokhare (Batch of 2008, Department of Electronics Engineering), Senior Software Engineer at Nvidia

Speaker of the session: Mr. Sagar Bhokhare (Batch of 2008, Department of Electronics Engineering

This session was organized on 13th August 2022 at 11:30 am on the topic 'Exploring Career Opportunities in IIoT and Industry 4.0' and was broadcasted live on YouTube. The alumnus, **Mr. Sagar Bhokhare** (Batch of 2008, Department of Electronics Engineering) was the speaker for this session.

Mr. Sagar Bhokhare is a VESIT Alumnus from the Batch of 2008 from the Department of Electronics and Telecommunications. Later, Mr. Bhokhare received an MTech degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from the reputed Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay in 2011. He has worked as a consultant for ZLearn for a brief time. He is now a Senior Software Engineer at Nvidia. Apart from all these things Mr. Bhokhare has hands-on experience in AI, Deep learning, and wireless media streaming. He is also skilled in photography, device drivers, Python, C++, and

Poster of the session

Eagle software.

The session started with **Jheel Panchal** (D11), the moderator for the session giving a brief introduction about the speaker. The moderator later invited **Mrs. Kavita Tewari** (Head, Department of Electronics Engineering) to give the inaugural speech. She highlighted the importance of V-Reach and explained why it was necessary to take sessions on IIoT. The moderator then requested the speaker to address the audience.

Mr. Bhokhare divided his session into two parts: Introduction to the ongoing Industry 4.0 era, with ample food for thought and secondly to share his experience and learning. He expounded on the knowledge required to flourish in the field of IIoT. These topics included Embedded systems, AI/ML, Microprocessors and Microcontrollers, Digital

Design, Analog circuits, and System Design. The speakers briefly highlighted all the topics stated above.

Moderator of day 1, session 1: Jheel Panchal (D11)

The speaker then briefly narrated the history of the Industry starting from 1.0 to 4.0, highlighting how swiftly the technology is progressing. He stressed the fact that connected devices which can easily communicate with each other are needed for Industry 4.0. Autonomous machines, AI assistants, Coexisting systems, Connect smart devices, VR/AR workspaces, HighFrequency Trading, Last Mile Delivery solutions, automated warehouses, and Health monitoring systems are some important subjects on which work is going in Industry 4.0 concerning IIoT.

Then, the speaker enlightened the audience with his four-word mantra which is 'Land an opportunity, Adapt, Evaluate and Repeat'. The speaker even urged them to select the projects in their academics carefully and which suited their interest. The speaker also repeatedly stressed investing in oneself and maintaining a long list of failures and learning from failures.

The session ended with a very interactive doubt-solving segment. Dhanshree Pandey (D11) said, "The session was very informative and helped me to understand various opportunities in the field of IIoT."

Day 1, Session 2: 13th August 2022

Topic: "A journey: Internship to Placement Offer"
Alumni: Mr. Arnav Bagchi (Batch of 2022, Department of Computer Engineering), Associate Engineer, Commvault

Speaker of the session: Mr. Arnav Bagchi (CMPN-2022) Associate Engineer, Commvault

The session began with **Dr. Sujata Khedkar** (Associate professor, Department of Computer Engineering) welcoming and introducing everyone to the V-Reach session. This session was held by the Department of Computer Engineering and was moderated by **Yashvi Dhar** (D12C).

The moderator gave a detailed introduction of the speaker. The session began at 1:30 PM and was conducted via Zoom platform and was live-streamed on YouTube. Mr. Arnav Bagchi started with a brief about his journey. He discussed internships and their role in detail. As he was from the Computer engineering department, he also explained the importance of DSA for getting started.

The speaker said, "DSA is the entrance but you consequently have to focus on development, that is how companies work". Mr. Arnav Bagchi discussed the ON-OFF campus placements and pointers also. He said pointer is just an eligibility criterion for sitting for placements and suggested maintaining a CGPA between 8-9. He advised the students to be consistent in learning and have a lot of patience for off-campus placements.

Furthermore, he discussed the importance of networking and Linkedin for internships/jobs. Various digital platforms were mentioned by the speaker where we can apply for internships, keeping Linkedin on priority. He also said referrals play an important role, they are like brownie points in a job posting.

Dr. Sujata Khedkar (Associate Professor, Department of Computer Engineering) gave a welcome address.

Moderator of day 1, session 2: Yashvi Dhar (D12C)

Later, a Q&A session was held, where the queries related to competitive coding, GATE and GRE were asked by the attendees. The speaker cleared every doubt of the viewers. The session concluded with the moderator thanking the alumnus on behalf of the entire team.

Poster of the session

Attreyee Mukherjee (D7C) says, "Mr. Arnav Bagchi had given a talk on placements and how we

should prepare for it. It was quite an informative session where a lot of people asked their questions on the YouTube live stream. Although there were too many doubts, all of them were taken up by Arnav in an amazing way. The questions revolved around getting started with programming, solving DSA questions, being consistent while coding, getting internships, and cracking interviews with companies through both off and on-campus placements. Overall, it was a very great experience to attend the session since everyone got some benefit out of it. Hoping to attend more such sessions in the future."

Day 2, session 1: 20th August 2022

Topic: "Aiming for gaming
Speakers: Mr. Umesh Ramchandani (Batch of 2019, Department of Computer Engineering), MSC informatics game engineering, Technical University of Munich.
Mr. Faizan Shah Ansari (Batch of 2010, Department of Computer Engineering) (MSC computer games engineering), Newcastle University.

Speakers of the session: (L-R): Mr. Umesh Ramchandani (Batch of 2019, Department of Computer Engineering) and Mr. Faizan Shah Ansari (Batch of 2010, Department of Computer Engineering)

This session was conducted by the Department of Computer Engineering and it began with an introductory speech by **Dr. Sharmila Sengupta** (Associate professor, Department of Computer Engineering), where she talked about how the gaming industry has brought a lot of new career and job opportunities for students like character designing, game development, etc. And how this industry will be performing in the future.

Dr. Sharmila Sengupta (Associate professor, Department of Computer Engineering) began the session with an introductory speech

The session was conducted online on zoom and was also live-streamed on the official YouTube channel of VESIT. Then the moderator introduced each of the speakers in detail. The session proceeded while introducing the speakers Mr. Faizan Shah Ansari and Mr. Umesh Ramchandani. The moderator of the session was **Sneha Kartik** (D17C). Both speakers talked about their experience of studying abroad and how covid changed their plans for further education. And what gaming engineering is and how it is different from normal engineering.

Mr. Faizan shared his experience by saying "As soon as I got graduated, I had plans for a master's degree but then covid happened, which made me realize having a backup option is important. Then,

I had a discussion with my parents and got my first job at Reliance jio. I worked there for 1 year and then went for my master's degree at NewCastle University." He also said how his experience was in a gaming university and how the life of an MBA student is different from engineering.

Poster of the session

Sneha Kartik (D17C) said, "I honestly loved the whole session and the whole reason being that the speakers were very knowledgeable and they knew what they were honestly talking about and what advice they were giving and for those reasons, I would say that every question that was asked by the audience was answered perfectly by all the speakers. I think it was truly enlightening to hear about how life is different from the path that we have chosen, like how when you have chosen computer engineering and how many things get branched out like gaming, machine learning, etc. Gaming has been an underrated segment I would say and it is nice to see that there is so much potential in the market over there, so I do think that this session as a whole was serving exactly what the audience asked for."

Moderator of Day 2, session 2: Sneha Kartik (D17C)

Day 2, Session 2: 20th August 2022

Topic: "Communication system in power utilities"
Speaker: Mr. Sukalp Kamdi (Batch of 2017, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering), Lead Engineer – Communication, Tata Power Company Ltd., Mumbai
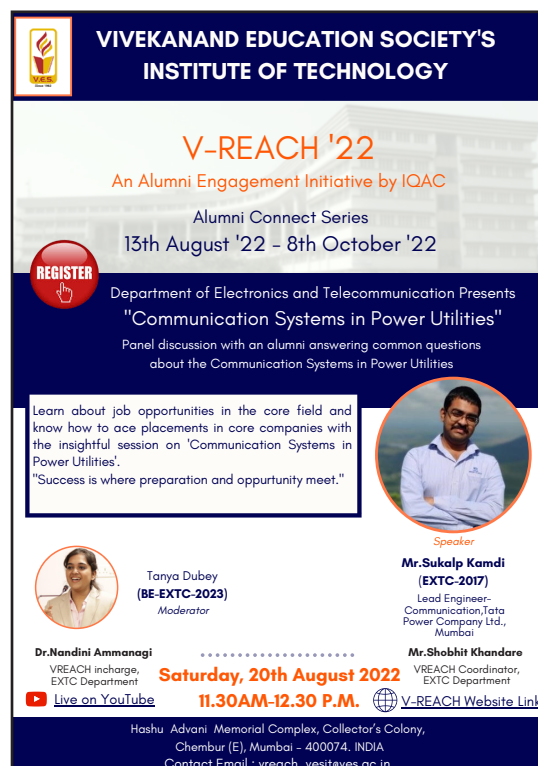

Speaker of the session: Mr. Sukalp Kamdi (Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, 2017)

The Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering organized this session and it began with a brief introduction about V-Reach and the alumnus of the session Mr. Sukalp Kamdi, by the moderator of the session, **Tanya Dubey** (D19B).

Moderator of day 2, session 1: Tanya Dubey (D19B)

Mr. Sukalp Kamdi began his presentation by briefing about Tata Power Company in Mumbai. Further, he discussed the importance of fiber media and its application. The alumnus explained what is his role as a Communication Engineer and he discussed the fiber network spread across the different regions of Mumbai by displaying a diagram. He explained the role of the entire team of communication engineers and how they work and turn around with new technologies. Later, Mr. Sukalp explained fiber's advantages and disadvantages. He also described how optic fiber is constructed and how it works. The types of fiber were also discussed.

Poster of the session

Lastly, Mr. Sukalp shared some of his memorable moments in VESIT. He mentioned how four years of engineering flew away he never got to know and suddenly a day arose when he had to give an interview for the placements. He mentioned that every day of his four years at VESIT was memorable.

The moderator thanked Mr. Sukalp Kamdi for his wonderful explanation of his role as a communication engineer and for sharing his experience. The session ended with the QNA session, where the moderator asked a few questions on behalf of the students and Mr. Sukalp Kamdi answered them.

Tanay Dubey (D19B) said, "The session was very informative and I got to know much about the communication system and its importance."

Day 3, Session 1: 27th August 2022

Topic: "How to shape your career?"

Speakers: Mr. Saurabh Kanwar (Batch of 1995, Department of Electronics Engineering), CEO, Kommune.
Mr. Santosh Sonawane (Batch of 1995, Department of Electronics Engineering), Microsoft Practice Leader, Atos.

Alumni (L-R): Mr. Saurabh Kanwar (Batch of 1995, Department of Electronics Engineering) CEO, Kommune and **Mr. Santosh Sonawane** (Batch of 1995, Department of Electronics Engineering) Microsoft Practice Leader, Atos

This session was conducted by the Department of Electronics engineering on the digital platform of Zoom meeting and was also streamed on Youtube. The session began with the moderator **Ashiqa Shervegar** (D11) welcoming the alumni, teachers, and viewers. Thereby the stage was shared by **Dr. T. Rajani Mangala** (Professor, Department of Electronics). Further, she went on to describe the alumni of the day **Mr. Saurabh Kanwar** (Batch of 1995, Department of Electronics Engineering), CEO, Kommune, and **Mr. Santosh Sonawane** (Batch of 1995, Department of Electronics Engineering), Microsoft Practice Leader, Atos.

Dr. T. Rajani Mangala (Professor, Department of Electronics) welcomed the speaker for the day

Mr. Saurabh Kanwar began by sharing his experiences and life story. He took over the session by presenting an interesting PPT which contained his life works where he failed. The speaker also mentioned that he was not interested in coding but learned a lot from organizing intercollege events. He secured his first job at Unilever which was not his dream job. The speaker discussed how he landed his dream job after getting cheated by an AD agency. He went into the creative field and started working with MTV. Furthermore, he added that he just didn't want to make an agency but wanted to build a community. Carrying this Idea he established Kommune.

Further, Mr. Santosh Sonawane continued by appreciating Mr. Saurabh Kanwar and his work. This was followed by a discussion about his niche i.e. Customer Relationship Management. He discussed in detail customer relationship management (CRM) and its functions. The functions of CRM like marketing, Sales, and Services were discussed. He then explained the roles present in CRM which included functional roles, technical roles, testing roles, and system admin. The speaker summed up his experience in a hindi phrase saying, "Duniya mein rehna hai toh kaam kar pyare, haath jod sabko salam kar pyaare, warana yeh duniya jeene nahi degi, khane nahi degi peene nahi degi, khel

koi naya subah shaam kar pyare."

The webinar concluded with a Question and Answer session, where they answered some doubts asked by the live audience. They responded to questions on how to stay motivated in life even after failure and many others.

Moderator of day 3, session 1: Ashiqa Shervegar (D11)

Ashiqa Shervegar (D11) said, "The session went very smoothly, Mr. Kanwar shared his life experiences and motivated everyone to never give up. Also, Mr. Sonawane gave some very useful tips about sales. In the Question and Answer session, all the doubts were cleared by the speaker. Looking forward to more such sessions."

Day 3, Session 2: 27th August 2022

Topic: "How to crack ESE, GATE, and PSU on the first attempt?"
Alumni: Anish Kumar Singh (Batch of 2008, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering), Assistant Divisional Engineer Telecom (ADET) - Ministry of Communication, Government of India.

Speaker of the session: Mr. Anish Kumar Singh (Batch of 2008, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering)

The Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering organized a session on "How to crack ESE, GATE, PSU's in the first attempt?" on 27th August 2022. The session was held in the auditorium and was also broadcasted live on YouTube. The session started sharp at 11:30 AM. The speaker for this session was Alumnus **Mr. Anish Kumar Singh** and the session was moderated by **Riya Gorade** (D14A).

Moderator of day 3, session 2: Riya Gorade (D14A)

The session started with a brief introduction to GATE (Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering),

ESE (Engineering Service Examination), and PSU (Public Sector Undertaking). The moderator then introduced the speaker to the audience. Mr. Anish Kumar Singh is currently working as Assistant Divisional Engineer Telecom (ADET) - Ministry of Communication, Government of India.

Mr. Anish Kumar Singh has completed his MTech from the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology- Bombay.

Poster of the session

After the introduction, the moderator handed the mic to the speaker as the audience was eagerly waiting for his words of wisdom. The speaker started by explaining the perks of government jobs. The speaker advised the students to carefully examine their strengths and interests and choose the right path accordingly after their graduation. He then gave an in-depth explanation of GATE preparation according to various engineering fields.

The speaker then gave highlights about the various doors of opportunities that open after clearing GATE like pursuing MTech in prestigious IITs, NITs, and IISC. The students interested in research opportunities get a chance to apply to premier agencies like Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC).

For the students interested in Management, doors of top management colleges such as NITIE gets open up. The GATE score is valid for three years and is also applicable for admission while pursuing a Master of Science (MS) in universities in Singapore, Germany, and Switzerland.

The criteria for eligibility for GATE and the paper pattern were explained in great detail by the speaker. As the audience mainly comprised of students of the EXTC branch, the speaker went into minute details about various subjects in EXTC and the questions regarding them in GATE.

The speaker then moved on to explain ESE. ESE conducted by UPSC can be undertaken by students of civil, mechanical, EXTC, electrical, and instrumentation engineering. Students of CS and IT engineering are not eligible for this exam. The eligibility and paper patterns were highlighted by the speaker. The speaker then shared his personal interview experiences and how he cracked down on the exams.

After sharing with everyone what the speaker had planned, he opened the floor for doubts. The audience was very interactive and asked a plethora of questions. The session ended with the moderator giving a vote of thanks.

Dhanshree Pandey (D11) said, "The session was amazing. It helped me explore various opportunities I will get after cracking the GATE, ESE and PSUs. The speaker was very knowledgeable and interactive."

Aumni Mr. Anish Kumar Singh (Batch of 2008, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering) explaining the preparation strategy for GATE

Day 4: 10th September 2022

Topic: "Blockchain"
Speaker: Mr. Mehul Tuteja (Batch of 2020, Department of Master of Computer Applications), Contract Engineer at Sperax.

Speaker of the session: Mr. Mehul Tuteja (Batch of 2020, Department of Master of Computer Applications)

The session was held on 10th September 2022 and was conducted on the Google meet platform. It started with the introduction of the session's speaker **Mr. Mehul Tuteja** by the moderator of the session **Ashvita Salian** (MCA 2B). Then the speaker began by saying he got all his memories looking at the introductory videos of the college. Further, he talked about his job and what blockchain is and how he got into this field.

Moderator of day 4: Ashvita Salian (MCA 2B)

Then, he started the session with his background. He mentioned that he was born at Rohtak in Haryana, and shifted to Delhi. He spent his childhood in Delhi and later shifted to Mumbai at a young age where he completed his BCA from Bharatiya Vidyapeeth, Mumbai.. He got admitted at VESIT for MCA degree and then after his graduation got placed in BNP as a tester where he worked for 2 years. He started investing in crypto and started following blockchain and learned about it from online platforms like YouTube, etc. In December 2021, he got his first job as a blockchain

developer in rapid innovation where he worked on different projects, and after some time shifted to Sperax where he is currently working.

Further in the session, he explained what blockchain is, what is a stablecoin, what is a hash, and what is a block. While explaining these concepts, he also said that he was hiring people to work with him for a project on which he is currently working. Then, he started sharing his knowledge of what hash and block in the blockchain are and also how they are actually implemented.

Poster of the session

Ashvita Salian (MCA 2B) said, "The speaker began the session by giving the viewers an idea about what blockchain is, followed by an introduction of himself. Further, he demonstrated and explained the working of hashing and chain of blocks. He guided the viewers on how they can learn and apply blockchain, and what are the research opportunities and scope. He also provided various platforms through which we can apply blockchain. The session was concluded by a QNA round where the viewers asked questions about blockchain and the speaker instantly answered them. Overall it was an informative and engaging session on a very buzzing and interesting technology called blockchain".

Day 5: Session 1: 1st October 2022

Topic: "Cloud, a better place to go"
Alumni: Mr. Vishal Israni (Batch of 2019, Department of Information Technology), Associate Software Engineer, JP Morgan Chase & Co., Mumbai

Speaker of the session: Mr. Vishal Israni (Batch of 2019, Department of Information Technology)

The session began with a warmful welcome by the moderator of the session, **Yash Raje** (D20A).

He invited **Dr. Manoj Sabnis** (Deputy Head, Department of Information Technology) to address the viewers of the session. Further, the moderator briefly introduced the speaker of the session, Mr. Vishal Israni, who then proceeded to continue with the session.

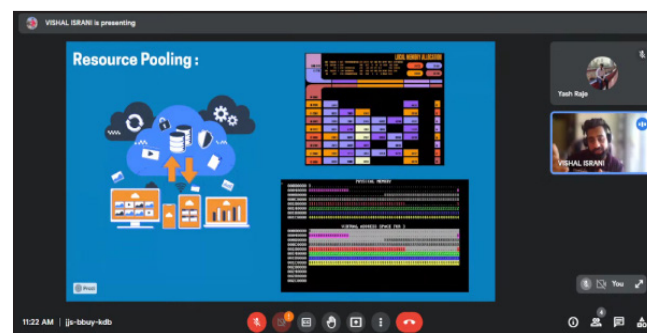**Moderator of Day 5, Session 1: Yash Raje (D20A)**

Dr. Manoj Sabnis (Deputy Head, Department of Information Technology) addressed the audience

Firstly, Mr. Vishal Israni shared his experience as Software Engineer at JP Morgan Chase & Co. He started his presentation by explaining the importance of the cloud by relating it to real-life examples. He mentioned the top 10 leading cloud providers and explained the providers' generic features.

Further, the speaker explained 'Resource Pooling' and mentioned some properties of cloud systems and their easy maintenance. Different types of storage and networking used in cloud systems were described by the speaker.

The session ended with a question and answer round, where questions were asked by the audience watching the live stream on YouTube and the speaker answering them.

Gaurang Desai (D15A), a viewer of the session, said, "The session was very informative as the speaker put forth his real-life experiences following the session's topic."

Speaker of the session: Mr. Vishal Israni (Batch of 2019, Department of Information Technology) explaining about resource pooling

Day 5: Session 2: 1st October 2022

Topic: "Why Entrepreneurship?"
Speaker: Mr. Akshay Rathi (Department of Instrumentation Engineering, 2017), Tech Sierra, Founder and CEO

This session was held by the Department of Instrumentation Engineering. This session was

conducted in offline mode, in the Auditorium from 11:30 am onwards. Shriya Naik (D11) was the moderator of the session.

Speaker of the session: Mr. Akshay Rathi (Department of Instrumentation Engineering, 2017), Tech Sierra, Founder and CEO

Moderator of the session: Shriya Naik (D13)

Mr. Akshay Rathi (Department of Instrumentation Engineering, 2017), Tech Sierra, Founder and CEO, first shared his college experiences. He shared tips on how a student can become a successful entrepreneur, and what should be the ideal way of starting the entrepreneur journey at the college level.

Poster of the session

The speaker further shared some of the stories from the time when he was studying abroad. He shared his experience of living far from his family and how he, stood firm and focused on his goals.

To sum up, this session was an introduction to entrepreneurship and why it is beneficial for students to think of starting their journey as entrepreneurs.

Day 5, Session 3: 1st October 2022

Topic: "Story of Shiv Sagar Restaurants"
Speakers: Mr. Akshay Rathi (Department of Instrumentation Engineering, 2017), Tech Sierra, Founder and CEO, and **Mr. Narayan Poojari,** Shiv Sagar, MD, and chairman.

Speaker of the session: Mr. Narayan Poojari, Shiv Sagar, MD, and Chairman

This session started from 12:30 pm onwards. The moderator of the session was Prajwal Patil (D11). The speaker of the session was alumnus Mr. Akshay Rathi and the guest speaker was Mr. Narayan Poojari.

Mr. Narayan Rathi first shared his story of coming to Mumbai and all hardships he faced at the start of his journey. Also, he mentioned how he stood strong to be successful and how he managed to settle in a city away from his hometown.

Also, the speaker Mr. Narayan Poojari shared his journey of starting entrepreneurship which is different from his domain. He mentioned not sticking to one domain and experiencing everything which is possible is the best way of knowing what you love to do and being consistent to be successful.

Overall, this session was example of successful entrepreneurship journey and it motivated all of the attendees to start working on their dreams.

Day 6: 8th October 2022

Topic: "Choosing a Career path"
Alumni: Mr. Arbaaz Shaikh (Batch of 2022, Master of Computer Applications), Data Engineer, Nomura, Mumbai.
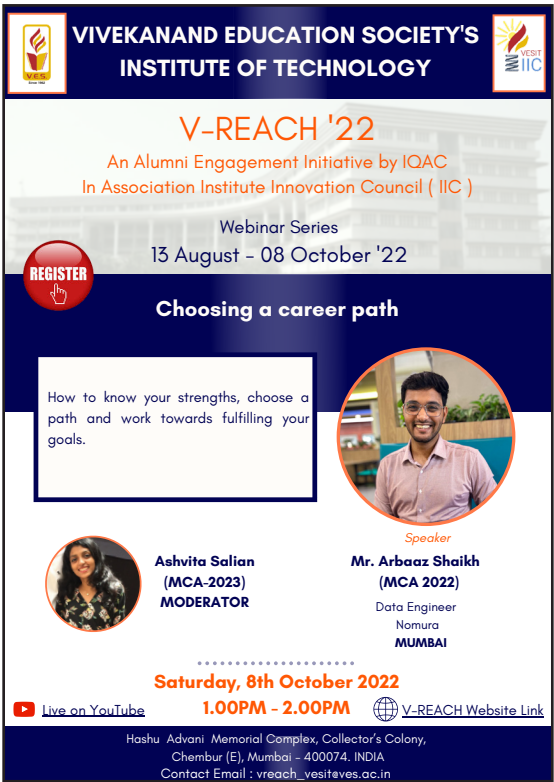
The session began with moderator **Ashvita Salian** (MCA 2B) welcoming the alumnus. This session was conducted by the Department of Master of Computer Applications on the digital platform of Zoom meeting and was also streamed live on YouTube starting at 1 pm. Further, the moderator went on to describe the alumnus of the

day, **Mr. Arbaaz Shaikh** (Batch of 2022, Master of Computer Applications), Data Engineer, Nomura, Mumbai, who then started with the session.

The speaker started with his education journey and talked about his likes and dislikes. To interact with the viewers, he asked a question, "How do you define a career?" Further, he described his career in his way. He defined a career as an occupation, a course of action through one's life, success in the profession, and livelihood.

Speaker of the session: Mr. Arbaaz Shaikh (Batch of 2022, Master of Computer Applications)

Poster of the session

The session began with moderator **Ashvita Salian** (MCA 2B) welcoming the alumnus. This session was conducted by the Department of Master of Computer Applications on the digital platform of Zoom meeting and was also streamed live on YouTube starting at 1 pm. Further, the moderator went on to describe the alumnus of the day, **Mr. Arbaaz Shaikh** (Batch of 2022, Master of Computer Applications), Data Engineer, Nomura, Mumbai, who then started with the session.

The speaker started with his education journey and talked about his likes and dislikes.

To interact with the viewers, he asked a question, "How do you define a career?" Further, he described his career in his way. He defined a career as an occupation, a course of action through one's life, success in the profession, and livelihood.

The speaker mentioned 5 steps to identify the best career path for yourself. Steps included asking around for feedback, discovering your personality, writing down what you do, looking for patterns, and keeping an open mind. For working on yourself, he suggested, cracking an internship, growing a network, improving collaborative skills, learning time management, establishing a personal brand, finding a professional mentor, becoming a better speaker, and working on your emotional intelligence.

The speaker said to set annual goals and set a deadline. Divide your goals into small tasks and start working on your tasks daily. The webinar concluded with a Q&A session, where the speaker answered various questions related to job switching, emotional intelligence, and more

Ashvita Salian (MCA 2B) says, "Overall it was an informative and engaging session on a very important topic as students are pacing towards starting a career. The points explained by the speaker were very useful and would be very beneficial for the students in choosing the right career path."

A college is a place we all leave one day, but college never leaves us, nor the memories we created there. This was an amazing alumni session V-Reach'22, where all the alumni came up and encouraged, guided, and shared the memories with all the students of VESIT.

They not only guided us for our college days but also for life after college. Starting from the internship to cracking the GATE exam and then the placements, choosing the right carrier for yourself, and big concepts like cloud and blockchain they shared and explained everything to all their juniors.

Seeing the seniors at different companies, exploring their interests, and doing all possible they could, helped all of us a lot and motivated us very much. The confidence in their speeches boosted our souls and made these sessions a huge success.

Speaker the session: Mr. Arbaaz Shaikh giving direction to students for choosing a better career

VReach Department Incharges (L-R): Indu Dokare (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering), Richard Joseph (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering), Dr. Manoj Sabnis (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology), Dr. Abhay Kshirsagar (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics), Abhishek Chaudhari (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics), Dr. Nandini Ammanagi (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication), Shobhit Khandare (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication) and rasad Godse (Assistant Professor, Department of Instrumentation).

36 hours of Thinking, Coding and Innovation

-Suhanee Kandalkar

Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science made a grand entry with the inauguration of their club "**Artificial Intelligence CoLegion**", Organizing their first event **Hack-AI -Thon** from 1st to 2nd October from 8 am to 8 pm by successfully managing to get an association with the best friend of all coders, none other than "GeeksForGeeks". The best part about it was team formation from any branch and the year was acceptable with no registration fee.

Poster of the event

Jury for 1st & 3rd round (L-R): Mrs. Sangeeta Oswal (Assistant Professor, Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science) and Mr. Ajinkya Valanjoo (Assistant Professor, Department of Artificial Intelligence & Data Science)

The event was a great success with a total no. of 81 registrations (72 online + 9 offline). The Hackathon started with its first round "Proposal of the solution & Data cleaning and visualization." A total of 55 teams successfully submitted the round 1 solution, technically eligible for the certificate of participation. The jury for the round was **Mr. Ajinkya Valanjoo** (Assistant Professor, Department of Artificial Intelligence & Data Science) and **Mrs. Sangeeta Oswal** (Assistant Professor, Department of Artificial Intelligence & Data Science). Proceeding towards Round 2 "Functioning ML model", 36 outstanding solutions were turned in from which 24 were selected under the jury by **Dr.**

Anjali Yeole (Assistant Professor, Department of Artificial Intelligence & Data Science).

"Great web design without functionality is like a sports car with no engine." so round 3 consists of "UI design of the product and presentation" qualifying about 12 dedicated teams for the Presentation round under the supervision of **Dr. Anjali Yeole** (Assistant Professor Department of Artificial Intelligence & Data Science), **Mrs. Sangeeta Oswal** (Assistant Professor, Department.of Artificial Intelligence & Data Science) and **Mr. Ajinkya Valanjoo** (Assistant Professor, Department of Artificial Intelligence & Data Science).

Supervision under Dr. Anjali Yeole (Assistant Professor, Department of Artificial Intelligence & Data Science)

Jury for round 2 (L-R): Mrs. Mannat Doultani (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science) and Mrs. Pallavi Saindane (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science)

Mrs. Pallavi Saindane (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science) and **Mrs. Mannat Doultani** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science) took time from their busy schedules to serve as our honorary jury for this presentation round. 6 deserving teams were shortlisted for the Final Offline Presentation, hosted by **Dr. Anjali Yeole** (Assistant Professor, Department of Artificial Intelligence & Data Science).

Jury for final round (L-R): Dr. Rohini Temkar (Assistant Professor, Department. of Computer Engineering) and Dr. Shanta Sundur (Associate Professor, Department of Information Technology)

For the Finale, **Dr. Shanta Sondur** (Associate Professor, Department of Information Technology) and **Dr. Rohini Temkar** (Assistant Professor, Department. of Computer Science) wisely observed them all and after a mindful discussion concluded the Winners of this Hack-Artificial Intelligence -Thon:

1st Position Winners (Top-bottom, L-R): Atharva Bhoite (D15A), Hrishikesh Kumbhar (D15A), Sarvesh Patil(D15A) and Shreyansh Singh(D15A)

2nd Position Winners (L-R): Arnav Singhal (D11AD), Prasad Jawale (D11AD), Abhishek Thorat (D11AD) and Surya Ganiga (D11AD)

3rd Position Winners (L-R): Aniket Choudary (MCA 2A), Chinmay Vyapari (MCA2A) and Narender Keswani (MCA2A)

1st Ctrl-Alt-Elite- **Atharva Bhoite** (D15A), **Sarvesh Patil** (D15A) **Hrishikesh Kumbhar** (D15A), **Shreyansh Singh** (D15A).

2nd Bit Lords- **Arnav Singhal** (D11AD) ,**Abhishek Thorat** (D11AD) ,**Prasad Jawale** (D11AD), **Surya Ganiga** (D11AD).

3rd Neural Nerds-**Chinmay Vyapari** (MCA 2A), **Aniket Chaudhary** (MCA 2A), **Narender Keswani** (MCA 2A).

Khalid Sayyed (D6AD) said, "The management was excellent and the event was well-planned. Technical support was available 24/7 throughout the 2-day duration of the Hackathon. We not only got to learn many new technologies from the team members but also from other teams in the pursuit of winning the competition. Overall, the event was a great success, not just as a participant but also as a member of the prestigious group responsible for conducting the Hack-AI-thon."

IT SEs Dive into the World of Latex
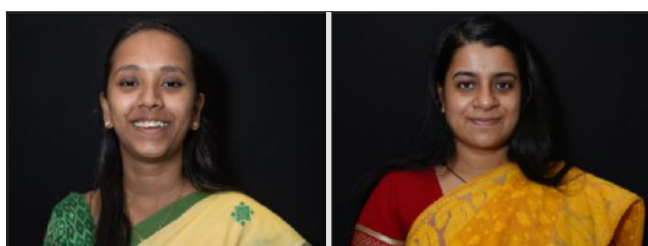
-Prachit P. Paralikar

The Department of Information Technology organized a session on '**Using LATEX for Report Writing**' on 7th October 2022. This session organized under e-Disha in association with VESIT IIC and under the guidance of VESIT-IQAC was broadcasted live on YouTube at 1:30 pm. Our Alumni **Mr. Harmeet Kathoda** (Batch of 2022, Department of Information Technology) was the speaker for this session.

Speaker of the session: Mr. Harmeet Kathoda (Batch of 2022, Department of Information Technology)

Second-year students were supposed to make a Latex report for their Mini-Project. Understanding that second-year students hadn't worked on Latex before, the teachers of Information Technology came together and decided to guide their students. The Department of Information Technology called their Alumni Mr. Harmeet Kathoda (Batch of 2022, Department of Information Technology) to guide their students. Mr. Harmeet Kathoda is currently working as Associate Software Development Engineer in Carwale. The Event Coordinators were **Mrs. Sukanaya Roychowdhury** (Assistant Professor, Department of Technology) and **Mrs. Rohini M. Sawant** (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology).
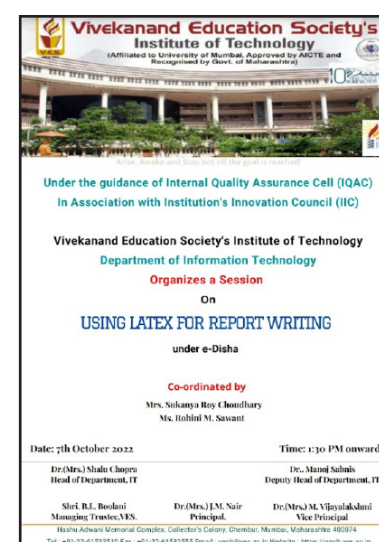

Coordinators of the session (L-R): Mrs. Rohini M. Sawant (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology) and Mrs. Sukanaya Roychowdhury (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology)

Host Mrs.Rohini M. Sawant (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology) introduced the speaker and then handed over the mic to the speaker. The speaker first requested all the students to sign up on Overleaf. The speaker started with the basics of Latex stating its importance. Latex is a basic syntactic language which is used to format documents.

The speaker then explained how bold, underlined and italics the text is. Basic tools to implement lists, mathematical symbols and to put images were explained in a very lucid manner by the speaker. The speaker later demonstrated more advanced concepts which included the use of templates.

The session lasted for a half hour and ended with an interactive doubt-solving session. Prajakta Upadhaye (D10A) said, "The session was very informative and was much needed as we had never worked on Latex".

Poster for the session

Parent Orientation Programme by Computer Department

-Anagha Kulkarni

The Department of Computer Engineering organized a "**Parent Orientation Programme**" on 15th October 2022 from 11 am to 1 pm. This session was conducted for parents of second-year students in the auditorium. The session aimed at helping parents know the department's facilities, practices, and highlights.

The sessions were held under the guidance of **Dr. (Mrs.) Nupur Giri** (Head, Department of Computer Engineering) and **Dr. (Mrs.) Gresha Bhatia** (Deputy Head, Department of Computer Engineering). The speaker Dr. (Mrs.) Gresha Bhatia gave a warm welcome to the parents of second-year students. She then briefly explained the mission and vision of the Institute and the department to the parents. She then shed light on the department's history, faculty, and achievements in various areas of specialization. The parents were then acquainted with the various councils and the best practices conducted by the Computer department to help students accomplish their goals, such as, "Looking Beyond Syllabus", "Campus to Cooperate", and "Skill Enhancement". She also mentioned the different techniques used by the faculties for Problem Solving Learning, Participative Learning, and the Teaching learning process.

Student progress reports and Placement Statistics were also discussed which made parents more assured of the college Placement record. "It was a highly informative orientation program conducted by the college. It helped me to get acquainted with the department very well. In this session, I got a broad outline of the available facilities my child gets in college." said Sunil Rohra, father of Anisha Rohra (D7A).

(L-R): Dr. (Mrs.) Nupur Giri (Head, Department of Computer Engineering) and Dr. (Mrs.) Gresha Bhatia (Deputy Head, Department of Computer Engineering)

Celebrating Navratri with the Library

-Ashutosh Mishra

Inculcating a sense of culture and unity is the essence of any Indian festival and navratri in India is a portrait of color, action, music and togetherness. Navratri is a festival celebrated in the autumn every year. It is observed for various reasons and celebrated differently in different parts of the Indian subcontinent.

As per the Indian tradition, the **Navratri celebration** was organized from 26th September 2022 to 4th October 2022 at VES Institute of Technology's Library Department by displaying the books with different/respective colors of the day.

The celebrations were all about offering prayers to the Goddess Durga. In this event, every day all the staff members and students were pleasing goddesses with aarti.All the staff members and students attended the event. This event of Navratri with prayers filled great enthusiasm in every staff member and student. It brought everyone together to celebrate the vibrant navratri.

Sai Thikekar(D7A) said, "The book display held by the library in the festive season of Navratri was a great initiative. We get to know more about the festival through these."

Books displayed on the days of Navratri in Green coloured theme

VESIT faculty on APB Majha News

-Sneha Tanna

ABP **Majha**, a Marathi News Channel welcomed **Mr. Chandan Singh Rawat** (Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication) to speak on the hottest topic in technology right now, i.e., 5G, on the 1st of October.

Mr. Chandan Singh Rawat (Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication)

Mr. Rawat was questioned on 5G by reporters for the channel, and the video was broadcast live on the internet and the news channel. All the questions were answered in Marathi. Some of our college's professors assisted him in responding to the questions throughout the entire interview. As this interview was an honor for our whole college, all the professors were very excited to help him with the interview.

He started with an explanation of the importance of 5G handsets in this new generation. He also explained the difference between 4G and 5G, i.e., their chipsets. Then he responded to a question about how different service providers, such as Vodafone, JIO, and Airtel, provide these services to users.He also answered the questions related to improving gaming speed by switching to 5G.

VESIT is proud of our faculty member, Mr. Rawat, as he was called on a reputed Marathi news channel for the interview.

Mr. Rawat answering the questions on 5G

Learn New Skills, With No Extra Bills

-Suhanee Kandalkar

Schooling doesn't assure employment but skill does. Keeping this in mind, the Department of Instrumentation organized a Skill Enhancement Lecture on "**Process Automation**" on 4th October 2022 from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm to sculpt our future engineer in the best possible way.

Taking out precious time from his busy schedule, **Mr. Vipin Vibhute** (Professor, Instrumentation Department, D. Y. Patil College of Engineering, Pune) joined us through the online platform Google Meet to overcome the distance barrier.

Faculty in-charge of the event: Mrs. Nilima V. Warke (Associate Professor, Department of Instrumentation)

The faculty incharge for this event was **Mrs. Nilima V. Warke** (Associate Professor, Department of Instrumentation)

Crucial topics such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, were covered on a larger scale. Also types of Learning in Artificial Intelligence, various new upcoming kinds of Artificial Intelligence -Type I, II, III, IV were discovered. A very new and interesting field including White, Gray, and Black AI Boxes, Incorporating AI in Process Control was covered. Mr. Vipin threw light on three characteristics of AI-based controllers - Learning, Delayed Gratification, and Non-traditional inputs with the help of various challenging examples.

Artificial Intelligence Process Control (APIC), Solving problems using AIPC and how would AI benefits in closed-loop control, Evolution of control systems was a corner never explored by many of our students which was enlighted by the speaker. End–to–end process of AIPC, AI Applications in Process Engineering, and most importantly the future of AIPC had been the milestone takeaway of the session.

Speaker of the session: Mr. Vipin Vibhute (Professor, Instrumentation Department, D. Y. Patil College of Engineering, Pune)

No doubts were left unattended as the speaker took a Q&A session at the end of the course.

When interacting with a student Vishal Yadav (D8), he enlightened us by saying, "This session was much needed for us, with the advancement of technologies and automation, the right guidance and mentorship are essential for me being from the automation department, would be looking forward for more sessions"

A Heartfelt Goodbye

-Prachit P. Paralikar

On the occasion of retirement of **Mrs . Smita Jangale** (Deputy Head, Department of Information Technology)**,** the Staff Welfare Committee had organized a **superannuation ceremony** 27th August 2022. This ceremony was orgazined in the Auditorium at 11:30 a.m.

Mrs. Smita Jangle (Deputy Head, Department of Information Technology)

The event started by **Mrs. Bincy Ivin** (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology) giving a welcome speech. A video was then played depicting Mrs. Smita Jangle's

experience with VESIT. The host then invited onstage **Dr. M. Vijayalakshmi** (Vice Principal, VESIT) and **Dr. (Mrs.) Shalu Chopra** (Head, Department of Information Technology) and **Mrs. Naveeta Kant** (Deputy Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications) to share their memories and association with Mrs. Smita Madam.

Mr. Prasad Godse (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology) , **Mr. Chintan Jethva** (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications) and **Dr. Rohini Temkar** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering) enchanted the audience with their melodious voices. Then Mrs. Smita Jangale shared her memories & her beautiful journey in VESIT. The Staff Welfare committee then felicitated Mrs Smita Jangale. **Dr.** (**Mrs.) Aswari Dudwadkar (**Assistant Professor , Department of Electronics and Telecommunications) presented a vote of thanks to conclude the ceremony with Mrs. Jangale.

(Top-Bottom, L-R): Mrs. Bincy (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology), Dr Vijayalakshmi M (Vice Principal, VESIT), Dr. Mrs Shalu Chopra (Head, Department of Information Technology), Mrs Naveeta Kant (Deputy Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications), Mr Prasad Godse (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology), Mr Chintan Jethva (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications), Dr. Rohini Temkar (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering) and Dr. Mrs Aswari (Assistant Professor , Department of Electronics and Telecommunications) shared their memories with Mrs. Jangale

A Library Card: Start of a Lifelong Adventure

-Sai Thikekar

VESIT has always been recognized for its central library and the wide variety of resources available to its students. To encourage maximum and correct use of the library facilities and services, the Central Library awards the '**Best Library User Award**' every three months on the occasion of '**Vachan Prerna Divas**' to students who make the most use of library resources and facilities.

On October 15, 2022, **Atharva Petkar** (D14B), **Sejal Maurya** (D10A), and **Snehal Patil** (D9B) were awarded the Best Library User Award. The students received the award based on their usage of the library's services and facilities between July 1, 2022 and September 3, 2022.

The award was given to the students in the presence of **Dr. (Mrs.) J.M. Nair** (Principal, VESIT) and library staff members in the Central Library.

Dr. J. M. Nair (Principal, VESIT) congratulated the winners with her presence

Snehal Patil (D9B) shared her feeling on receiving the Best Library User award. She said, "I would like to thank our Library Committee for giving me the 'Best Library User' award. The library is kind of the heart of our college. I like to spend most of my time in the library since it is a very calm place, a disciplined space to study, and it has the added benefit of giving free books of many genres, not only educational ones. The library staff is also amazing. Sometimes I merely ask for book recommendations, and they have all of them at their fingertips."

Best library user award winners (L-R): Snehal Patil (D9B), Sejal Maurya (D10A) and Atharva Petkar (D14B)

VESIT Student Primed for success at Intercollegiate-Events

-Ninad Joshi

Janhavi Khanvilkar (D11AD) has been a rifle shooting champion (10-meter, Air rifle) for the past 7 years. She has won multiple competitions both at the state and national level, including gold at the 63rd National Shooting Championship in 2019.

Formerly a skater, Janhavi suffered injuries following which an acquaintance Suma Shirur (2004 Olympic finalist, Arjuna Awardee) suggested she try her hand at the shooting range. This saw the unfolding of her shooting career in 2015.

The 2019 State Gold Medalist has gone on to participate in many championships, securing golds, silvers, and bronzes for her city and state. Some of her notable achievements in year 2021- have been:
Shortlisted for the selection trials of Junior World Cup and BRONZE - Mumbai university games (chosen for AIU) (Score-623.4)

She had recently participated in an Inter Zonal Team Event which was a Mumbai University intercollegiate event. She was a member of the Mumbai Suburban zonal team which participated and secured first place in the Inter Zonal shooting tournament (2022-2023). The event she participated in was a peep sight air rifle and her team secured first place with a performance of 1779 points. It was organized by the University from 4th October and was held at Prabhodhankar Thackrey Krida Sankul, Mumbai.

Janhavi aspires to continue rifle shooting , alongside pursuing her studies, she also aims to make those who support and believe in her proud.

When asked about her passion for shooting, Janhavi Khanvilkar (D11AD) said, "When I'm with my rifle, I feel both at home and invincible. It gives me peace, it gives me power. It's become a part of me and will always be. The biggest learning is to rise after you fall."

Janhavi Khanvilkar (D11AD) with her rifle at the shooting range

Councils

Spectral '22

- Prachit P. Paralikar, Kavish Punjabi, Ninad joshi

The Social Responsibility Team at VESIT organized it's charity event **Spectral 2022** based around the theme of Halloween in collaboration with VESIT Music Council and VESLit Circle. The event commenced on the 4th of October and concluded on the 17th of October. The fundraiser saw many interesting activities and competitions, the registration fees collected from which were to be donated to NGOs. By the end, the councils raised a large sum of Rs. 22,000 which went towards a good cause.

Day 1: Game of Shows

VESLit Circle, in collaboration with SoRT, had organized a Quiz during the SoRT fundraiser week '**Spectral**'. On 4th October 2022, VESLit Circle hosted Game of Shows- a quiz for charity. Each 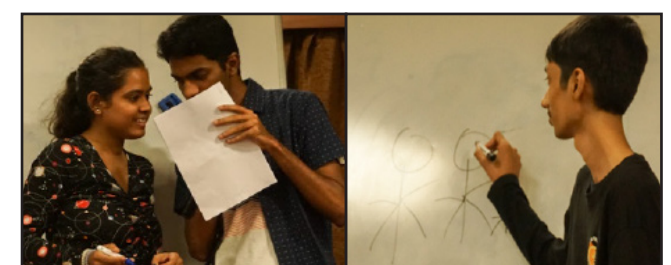team was charged rupees 90 for registration. All the money collected from the registration was donated to **'Khushiyaan NGO'** via the Ketto link provided in a Google form, which was coordinated by the SoRT team.

Secetaries of SoRT, Music & VESIT's Photo Circle along with their council members playing a special round of Game of Shows (L-R): Diya Shah (D15A), Shreya Kukreja (D12A), Soniya Deshmukh (D14B), Anvita Koyande (D13), Swaraj Patil (D11), Pushkaraj Chaudhari (D15B), Tejas Mahajan (D17A) and Kshitij Pawar (D13)

Each team consisted of two members from any branch or any year and having a third member was optional. Questions on various shows from different genres and backgrounds were formulated to give the participants a wholesome experience.

(L-R): Host Noel Dason (D15A) whispering the name of show to participant Aditi Mishra (D11), Gaurang Desai (D15A) drawing sketches for the pictionary round.

The elimination rounds were held on 3rd October 2022, in two slots at 1 pm and 3 pm

respectively in the 519 classroom on the 5th floor. Over 23 teams participated and underwent a paper pen quiz on various shows. A round of performing any dialogue from the given show was a surprise round for the participants which they enjoyed thoroughly along with the elimination rounds.

The final round was held on 4th October 2022, in the college auditorium in the presence of SoRT, VESLit members, and all other students. A total of 8 teams reached the final round, in which one team was eliminated after each round based on their score and performance.

The team consisting of **Raghuttam Parvatikar** (D20B), **Aarushi Sharma** (D20B) and **Shasmita Nair** (D20B) secured the winner's place by scoring the highest number of points.

Ashish Nair (D9A), **Pranav Jha** (D9A), and **Anshkumar Agrahari** (D9A) were the first runners-up and the second runners-up position was secured by **Aaditya Khetwani** (D12C), **Harsh Rane** (D12C), **Hrishikesh Patil**(D12B). Certificates were awarded to the winners and the runners-up.

Winning Team 'The Wannabes' carefully listening to the questions (L-R): Aarushi Sharma (D20B), Shashmita Nair (D20B) and Raghuttam Parvatikar (D20B)

One of the participants, Dhanshree Pandey (D11) said, "The questions were very well chosen and gave a lot of information about the show which many show watchers missed and the manner of conducting was also very smooth, and the VESLit Circle members were also very helpful. In all, it was a very good experience."

1st Runners-up (L-R): Ashish Nair (D9A), Anshkumar Agrahari (D9A) and Pranav Jha (D9A)

2nd Runners-up (L-R): Hrishikesh Patil (D12B), Aaditya Khetwani (D12C) and Harsh Rane (D12C)

Day 2: Escape Room

The SoRT Council organized the Escape Room event on 6th October 2022 between 3 to 5 pm under **Spectral'22.** This was a fundraising event for Khushiyaan Foundation, a Non-Government Organization, which has many projects under it like Roti Ghar (providing free meals to underprivileged people), Project Pathshala

(teaching underprivileged kids), and M.A.R.D. menstruation A Right To Discuss (Creating awareness about Menstruation). The entry for this event was Rs. 150 for one room and Rs. 400 for three rooms for a team of five people. The entry fees were directly transferred to the organization.

There were three rooms according to the level of difficulty. The first room was the easiest with the Halloween theme, the second room was of medium difficulty with the Conjuring theme, and the final room was the most difficult with the Harry Potter theme. The rooms had chits hidden in different places. If all the chits were collected, they could escape the room. If they were unable to find the chit in time, they lost. Participants had the option to pay extra and get clues for the chits. The price of a clue would also increase by Rs. 5 for consecutive clues. The cost of the first clue for the first room was Rs. 10 for the second- Rs. 15 and for the third- Rs. 20. The time limit for the first room was 10 minutes, for the second room, it was 15 minutes and for the third room, it was 20 minutes.

Escape Room Poster

Divisha Gupta (D15A) said, "Escape room was a well-knitted event with 3 rooms filled with mysterious and thematic clues. The thrill our teams experienced as we jumped from one location to another and ratted our brains together for even a single strand of the answer was truly incredible. We were always on our toes trying to get closer to the key. Also, SoRT did a joyful job of bringing Hogwarts to life for us. We were filled with adrenaline at all times."

Yashodhan Sharma (D7B) from the SoRT Council said " There was a lot of hard work and effort that was put into the event. There were a lot of efforts by the Aesthetic's Team as all the props were handmade."

Participants struggling to find chits

Day 3: Talent-Aid

VESIT SoRT Council, in collaboration with VESIT Music Council, organized 'Talent Aid - An open stage fundraiser'.

In the event 'Talent Aid- An open stage fundraiser', which took place on 17th October 2022 at 3 pm, performances including dance, drama, music, stand-up, mimicry, monoact, and many more entertained the audience.

The open stage fundraiser - Talent Aid was hosted by two pairs of hosts viz. **Yash Raje** (D20B), **Raghuttam Parvatikar** (D20A), **Aadarsh Dubey** (D9B), and **Aniket Ratha** (D9A). The event commenced with Ganesh Vandana by **Kaushik**

Sahasranaman (D12A) followed by astounding performances by highly professed students of the college who had filled the talent aid forms, which had been circulated prior to the event.

The theme for the whole event **SPECTRAL'22** was based on Halloween and so, on the day of talent aid, masks and neon goggles were kept for sale to create the Halloween ambiance, the money earned afterwards from the sale of masks and neon goggles was also donated to the NGO.

One of the most interesting segments of the entire open stage fundraiser were the milestone performances. Yash Raje (D20A) with his band delivered a performed music, Kaustubh Pawar(D14B) played the flute, Soham Tawade (D7C) delivered an outstanding monologue, this was followed by an extraordinary sensational performance by VESIT dance crew (VDC) and many others gave some hilarious and jolly performances which definitely gave a boost to the charity amount.

(L-R): Arunim Chakraborty (D11AD), Pranav Rane (D7B), Yash Sarang (D11AD) and Siddharth Patil (D9B) performing in Talent Aid

Hosts of the event (L-R): Yash Raje (D20A), Raghuttam Parvatikar (D20A), Aadarsh Dubey (D9B) and Aniket Ratha (D9A)

VESIT Dance Crew (VDC) with their sensational performance

The event was fruitful in raising donations for the charity made towards the NGO Khushiyan Foundation, Thane.

The event culminated with a vote of thanks by the SoRT Secretary, Soniya Deshmukh (D14B) and the Music Secretary, Swaraj Patil (D11). They thanked their entire councils for putting up such a wondrous event with a splendid cause. This epic fundraiser was nothing less than a huge success, paving the way to transform this fundraiser into one of the most enthralling events VESIT has witnessed.

Vedant Patil (D9B) said, "The Talent Aid organized by SoRT and Music council was an innovative idea to use young people's talent for a great cause and was very well executed. I thank the team for providing me with the opportunity to play a small role in this great cause."

Arunim Chakraborty (D11AD) says, "Talent aid was a great initiative by the student council to aid our senior citizens. The fundraiser was innovative, filled with amazing performances and for a noble cause, too. I was honored to get the opportunity to perform."

VESLit organizes Vigilance Awareness Week for Union Bank of India

-Rushikesh Sarak

VESLit Circle, a team of all creative minds and proficient speakers, is always known for their 'Literature Fests' which brings all creative and talented people together. This time, they organized '**Vigilance Awareness Week 2022**' in collaboration with the **Union Bank of India** (UBI) where a series of events were organized for all the literature and art enthusiasts. The theme for all the events was 'Corruption Free India'.

The following events were organized:- Naatak (A group drama event), Debate, Essay Writing, and, Poster Making.
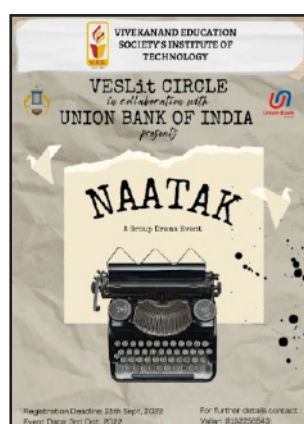

VESLit Welcomes the UBI Officials

Event 1: Naatak (A group drama event)

Drama is a creative way to express your emotions and give a message to the audience. All the interested participants were asked to register in a group of 5-8 members. Due to the overwhelming response of participants, the preliminary round was conducted on the basis of the script of each group. Therefore, two teams were shortlisted for the finals.

The members of Team 1 were Ashutosh Mishra (D12C) (team leader), Mohit Shahdadpuri (D12A), Vansh Pahuja (D12A), Shrey Panchamia (D12A), Aman Paryani (D15A), Sahil Kodwani (D15A), Dhanshree Pandey (D11), Lavin Valecha (D10B), Simran Lahrani (D12A), and Gurkeerat Singh (D11), and they chose the topic - Anti Corruption.

The members of team 2 were Isha Gawde (D20A) (team leader), Aditya Srikonda (D6), Anurag Shirsekar (D7A), Adheeti Dalal (D9A), Akshay Jangam (D13), Rakshita Danee (D20A), Jayesh Utekar (D14A) and, Sumit Jadhav (D19A), chose the topic- Ethics.

Naatak Event Poster

The final round of all events was organized on 6th October 2022 in the auditorium from 2 pm to 5 pm. The judges for the events were the UBI Officials. The judging criteria was on the basis of the group's storyline, and performance which included narration, dialogue delivery, teamwork, and relevance to the chosen topic. The audience was present in large numbers to cheer the participants. Isha Gawde and team won the hearts of the judges and were declared the winners.

The winning team leader Isha Gawde (D20A) said "I was very much interested in the Drama Competition organized by VESLit in the UBI events. We meticulously planned it based on the theme given to us.

Our drama was based on the book, 'The Mother I Never Knew' by Sudha Murthy. The whole team did their individual and collective part very well. We were pretty confident of our skit and that showed in the results too! I am thankful to my team for putting consistent efforts along with their studies too. Being the leader of the team too, I was very proud and satisfied with us."

Various teams performing their drama with dripping confidence

Winners of Drama (L-R): Aditya Srikonda (D6), Anurag Shirsekar (D7A), Rakshita Danee (D20A), Adheeti Dalal (D9A), Isha Gawde (D20A), Jayesh Utekar (D14A), Sumit Jadhav (D19A) and Akshay Jangam (D13)
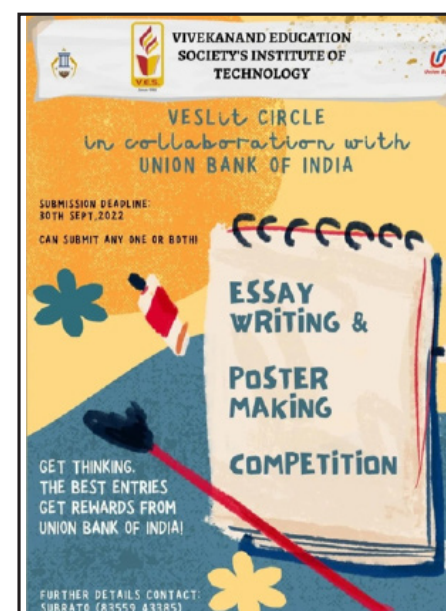
Event 2: Essay Writing

The next event was about expressing your opinions with words. This event was open to all the engineering students as well as MCA students of VESIT. Participants were asked to submit their essays via Google Forms before 2nd October 2022. The theme for the essays was 'Corruption Free India'. The word limit kept was 400-1200 words. The essays were judged by UBI Officials on the basis of participants' content, flow of writing, and vocabulary skills. The result was declared on 6th October 2022 in the auditorium.
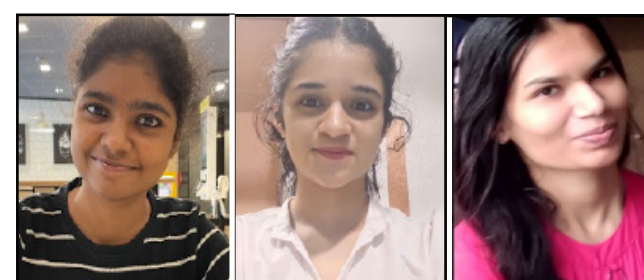
The winners of the essay writing competition were - **Sanskruti Punyarthi** (D15B), followed by **Abhinaya Danda** (D10A), and **Snehal Patil** (D9B) as runners-up.

Prizes were awarded to all the winners by VESLit Staff Incharges **Dr. Pooja Kundu** (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Science) and **Dr. Sushil Dhuldhar** (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Science). Adding on to her experience Sanskruti Punyarthi (D15B) said, "The article writing competition held by VESLit was a great medium to explore and express our literacy skills. Looking forward to such events!"

Poster of the Essay Writing & Poster Making Competition

Winners of Essay Writing Competition (L-R): Abhinaya Danda (D10A), Sanskruti Punyarthi (D15B) and Snehal Patil (D9B)

Staff Incharges (L-R): Dr. Pooja Kundu (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Science) and Dr. Sushil Dhuldhar (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Science)
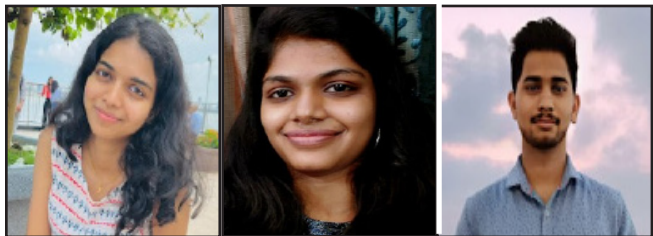
Event 3: Poster Making

Just like the Essay writing competition, Poster Making competition was open to all the students of vesit. The topic was the same as 'Corruption Free India'. Participants were allowed to submit their entries either in digital or paper mode and were asked to submit their work in 3 stages- Initial, Halfway, and Final. The total number of entries received was 23. Each participant made a poster revolving around the theme in a unique and creative way. The results were declared in the Closing Ceremony on 6th October 2022 in the auditorium. The results were evaluated by UBI Officials.

The winners of the poster-making event were - **Mohit Kailas Patil** (D7B), followed by **Shreya Hadkar** (D7B) and **Saakshi Karkera**

(D19A) as runners-up. Prizes were awarded to all the winners by VESLit Staff Incharges Dr. Pooja Kundu (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Science) and Dr. Sushil Dhuldhar (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Science). Shreya Hdkar (D7B) said, "It was a really great event. My aim was to make people realize that our country is on a path of progress & development if we eliminate corruption. So I learned a whole lot of things from this experience!"

(L-R): Shreya Hadkar (D7B), Saakshi Karkera (D19A) and Mohit Kailas Patil (D7B) left us speechless with their amazing posters
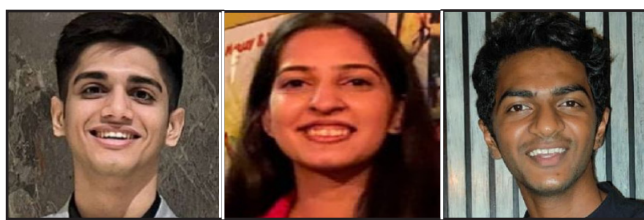

Poster of Debate Competition
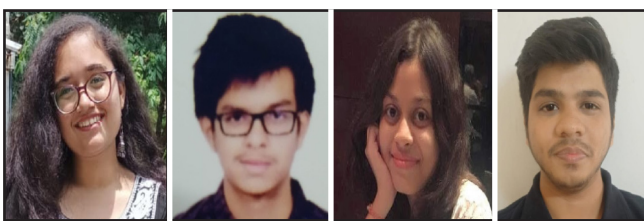
Event 4: Debate

The next event was for those who have critical thinking skills, researching, and arguing to come up with effective solutions to encounter real-life issues. VESLit organized a debate competition for all the students of VESIT. The form of Debate was Oxford Style, with topics centered around the theme of 'Corruption Free India'. The participants have to form a team of two to participate. The preliminary round was conducted on 29th September 2022. A total of 18 teams registered for the first round, out of which 6 teams qualified for the quarter-finals which were held on the next day.

All the participants put all their complex of complex points in the simplest way possible. The four teams headed for Semi-final rounds conducted on the 3rd and 4th of October 2022. The topic given to the participants was 'The House Believes that a

Uniform Civil Code will do more harm than good if implemented in India.' All the preliminary rounds were judged by VESLit members - VESLit Student Head **Kaushal Jagasia** (D17C), Senior Members **Ananya Pandey** (D12C), and **Noel Dason** (D15A).

Senior VESLit members (L-R): Kaushal Jagasia (D17C), Ananya Pandey (D12C) and Noel Dason (D15A)

Junior VESLit members - Kartikey Shukla (D9A), Aditya Mangtani (D7A), Saumya Tripathi (D7B) and Attreyee Mukherjee (D7B)

Moderation for all the rounds was done by Junior VESLit members - **Kartikey Shukla** (D9A), **Aditya Mangtani** (D7A), S**aumya Tripathi** (D7B), and **Attreyee Mukherjee** (D7B).

Winners of VESLit x UBI Debate (L-R): Rahul Kulkarni (D19A) and Akanksha Jadhav (D19A)

After a heated debate, with agreements and disagreements for over a week, two teams were finally shortlisted for the finals rounds. The finale took on 6th October 2022 in the auditorium. The motion for the final debate was "Amendment of PCA 2018 is a threat to the general public." The members of Team 1 were Aakanksha Jadhav (D19A) and Rahul Kulkarni (D19A) who led the Preposition side and on the other side members of Team 2 were Hritika Mulay (D9B) and Aatharvaa

Ketan Shiveshwarkar (D8) on the Opposition side. The Oxford Style Debate was continued for the finale with 3 minutes introduction, and 10 minutes rebuttal followed by 3 minutes conclusion from both sides. The debate was electrifying and highly vibrant as both teams were well-researched and prepared with their sides. Aakanksha Jadhav (D19A) and Rahul Kulkarni (D19A) were announced as the winners of the Vigilance awareness week debate 2022 by UBI officials.

Winners and Runners up were awarded by UBI officials, **Dr. (Mrs.) J. M. Nair** (Principal, VESIT) and **Dr. Pooja Kundu** (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Science) and **Dr. Sushil Dhuldhar** (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Science).

All the event results were declared and winners were awarded certificates and exciting prizes.

Runners-Up of VESLit x UBI Debate(L-R): Aatharvaa Ketan Shiveshwarkar (D8) and Hritika Mulay (D9B)

Winners of VESLit x UBI Debate (L-R): **Rahul Kulkarni** (D19A) and **Aakanksha Jadhav**(D19A). Runners-Up of VESLit x UBI Debate(L-R): **Hritika Mulay** (D9B) and **Aatharvaa Ketan Shiveshwarkar** (D8).

Adding on to his experience Rahul Kulkarni (D19A) said, "It was a wonderful experience participating in the Debate competition organized by VESlit. We competed with teams from all the years of engineering. Topics for the debate were innovative and exciting. I found that prepping together before the debate was most helpful for us so that we don't cut each other's points or stick to one particular point. The final debate was in front of the UBI bank officials which was a little intimidating at first but we trusted our process and end up on the right side."

The event was concluded with UBI Official **Mr. Umesh Kumar Singh** (Chief Vigilance Officer) sharing his knowledge about PCA and PIDPI.

Leading Innovation: Mindset, Skills, Action for New Growth

~ Sai Thikekar

VESIT has always emphasized the need of conducting various innovation sessions. To keep up with this adage, the **VESIT Institution's Innovation Cell** (IIC), in association with **VESIT Internal Quality Assurance Cell** (IQAC) and **VESIT Entrepreneurship Cell** (E-Cell), organized a session titled '**Shaping Career Opportunities Through Innovations**' on October 10, 2022 from 1 to 3 p.m. and was held in the auditorium.

Mr. Krishna Kumar (Chief Mission Promoter, CiiA) started the programme with a pre-event curtain raiser and introduction to CiiA

(Creative Ideas and Innovation). He eloquently explained what the initiative stands for, its motive, how it has assisted thousands of young graduates on the path to innovation, and how we too, can be a part of this vision. He elaborated on the exhibition's perks, prizes and awards.

The main event began with the introduction of the theme by the hosts, **Sudhanshu Sabale** (D12C) and **Ratnakshi Gore** (D14B). Then **Dr. (Mrs.) J.M. Nair** (Principal, VESIT) delivered the welcoming address, and all dignitaries were honoured.

The hosts then introduced **Dr. A.P. Jayaraman** (Nuclear Scientist and Chairman,

National Centre for Science Communicators), who held a scintillating session about innovation for the next 15 minutes. He spoke of his rich experience and was very well received. Following that came a video introduction of **Mr. Baldevkrishan Sharma (**Rashtrapati Awardee for Invention & Innovation, Founder and Chairman, B. S. Marshalls Foundation**).**

It extensively covered his whole journey, from different patents to establishing his own firm. Mr. Sharma began the session in a unique way. He played a snippet of the famous song "Papa Kehte Hain Bada Naam Karega" modelled each student as the protagonist, and told us he'd help us get to our

destination. He followed it up with the evergreen question, "Do you want to be rich, famous, and accomplished?"

Dr. J.M. Nair (Principal, VESIT) welcoming all dignitaries and students

Poster of the event

After receiving a standing ovation, Mr. Sharma dived into the details, starting with fundamental topics like "What is innovation?" and "What are the distinctions between a conventional career route and an entrepreneurial one", and working his way up to a 6-step formula for generating new goods. He spent the next hour brilliantly and meticulously diving into each stage. The talk was filled with famous quotes and examples pertaining to each step.

Mrs. Poonam Chauhan (Human Resources Head, Legal and Administration) then gave a short presentation on CiiA 2 and briefed students

about this CiiA 2022. Following that, there was a Q&A session in which students asked Mr. Sharma questions, which he answered thoroughly.

Dr. Nadir Charniya (Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering) delivered the vote of gratitude, and the session came to an end.

The complete session was coordinated by **Dr. Nadir Charniya** (Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering) and **Mr. Amit Singh** (Assistant Professor, Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science).

Hosts of the session (L-R): Sudhanshu Sabale (D12C) and Ratnakshi Gore (D14B)

Speaker of the session : Dr. A.P. Jayaraman (Nuclear Scientist and Chairman, National Centre for Science Communicators)

Krishik Rao (D19B) shared his experience about the session with us. He said, "The event was a game changer on how to view innovation as a legitimate career, and the 6-step formula on how to pursue innovation was concise, practical and a refreshing change from the generic, abstract lessons usually given."

Mr. Baldevkrishan Sharma sharing his experience in innovation with students

Speaker of the session Mrs. Poonam Chauhan (Human Resources Head, Legal and Administration)

Coordinators of the session (L-R): Mr. Amit Singh (Assistant Professor, Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science) and Dr. Nadir Charniya (Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering)

Societies

Just A Really Very Intelligent System

-Gargi Angne

International Society of Automation - VESIT introduced the students to the intersection of science, engineering, and technology that produces machines-robotics through its offline 'Robotics Workshop' on 24th September 2022, from 1 pm to 5:30 pm in room B52. This workshop was conducted in collaboration with **Techfest, IIT Bombay.**

Poster of the Event

Instructors of the workshop (L-R): Mr. Vinay Vishwakarma (Senior Instructor, On My Own Technology) and Mr. Amey Singh (Instructor, On My Own Technology)

It was conducted by the instructors, **Mr. Vinay Vishwakarma** (Senior Instructor, On My Own Technology) and **Mr. Amey Singh** (Instructor, On My Own Technology) from Techfest, IIT-B. It started with the basics of using TinkerCad to create designs and was followed by getting acquainted with the basic mechanism of line-following robots. The workshop concluded with a

demonstration of a prototype of the line following the robot to all the participants. The workshop was quite interactive and helped the participants gain knowledge about robotics.

When ISA gives you a robotics workshop, make a robot

Pooja Narayanan (D14A) shared her experience, saying, "So first, we were told about the

techfest that is going to happen in December and spoke about the various competitions of the Techfest that we can participate in. Robotics was one such domain where there were quite a few competitions like mesmerise (a robot had to follow or trace the path designed and complete the maze) and cozmo clench (the robot had to start from the starting point, move aside the obstacles placed throughout the path, and reach the endpoint). We were encouraged to participate in these competitions by building our robots. Then, they started with the basics of building a robot and covered small yet important topics like LED switches, etc. They also talked about various types of switches. Overall, the workshop was a good experience because we got to learn many things. We felt like building a robot is not that tough."

The attendees were welcomed to the world of robotics

Chronicles of the Dead

-Ninad Joshi

ISTE-VESIT conducted a refreshing and stimulating fun event, "**Chronicles of the Dead**." The event was conducted in the Amphitheatre on 29th September 2022 from 3 PM onwards. This event was open to students of all years and branches. This event was held in teams of 2-3 members. Inter-branch and inter-year teams were allowed to bring all the students together and create a place for interaction for everyone.

Poster of the event: Chronicles of the Dead

This event revolved around the theme based on the unsolved mysteries of a criminal case. To solve the case there were 3 rounds. The first round was a Card game with tasks. Participants had to complete the task in time and earn their card, with a twist of power cards with special strengths for the team who finished the task first. The same team couldn't contest for a powercard again. The top 2 teams from every counter with the maximum scores qualified for the next round.

In the second round, ISTE-VESIT had arranged an exciting mission with a series of cypher texts to decode with some twists of death notes which were hidden in the entire college campus amongst which a few were fake notes which could directly disqualify the teams. The top 5 teams to find the correct death notes at the earliest would win.

Counter Set-up at the amphitheatre

In the next round top 5 teams would compete against each other in a game where a matrix of cards having clues was placed and the teams with internal coordination should guess the correct card having the letters of the criminal's name using the clue. At the end of the game, the teams will have to rearrange the letters on the cards to find the Criminal. And the team to do it the fastest is the ultimate winner.

Vedant Gupta (D9B) said, "The event really stood up to its expectations. The difficulty level kept on rising with each round, and they all tested the different skills of the participants, which made the event all the more interesting. All in all, it was fun and enlightening at the same time."

The event concluded with the results:
1st position: Prerak Moolchandnani (D17A), Vanshika Bajaj (D17C), and Sahil Deshmukh (D17A)
2nd position: Ayush Jain (D12B), Yash Sahane (D12B), and Samarth Gawli (D12B)

Winners of the Event (Top-Bottom, L-R): Prerak Moolchandnani(D17A), Vanshika Bajaj(D17C), Sahil Deshmukh(D17A), Ayush Jain(D12B), Yash Sahane(D12B), and Samarth Gawli(D12B)

Participants decoding the cypher texts

System.out.println("CSI VESIT Java workshop");

~Nikita kumawat

CSI - VESIT is present when in need. The need for the hour for most of the students was learning Java. A full-fledged **Java workshop** was conducted by CSI-VESIT on the 6th and 7th of October. This workshop took place from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM in B31 and B32. The basics of Java, core Java, and advanced Java were taught.

On day 1, the topics covered were the basics of JAVA, JDK, JRE, JVM, data types, variables, comments and control statements by Senior Web editor at CSI-VESIT **Prathamesh Pradhan** (D14A) and loops, arrays, function overloading and recursion was covered by the Senior Web editor at CSI-VESIT **Harsh Rane** (D12C).

On day 2, concepts of OOPs, inheritance, abstraction was covered by Senior Technical officer at CSI-VESIT **Yashvi Dhar** (D12C) and exceptions and collection framework was covered by Co-chairperson at CSI-VESIT **Chaitanya Sondur** (D12A). These are much broader concepts that will help the students to ace their technical interviews or viva.

This workshop was open to all VESITians. A decent count of 50 students attended the workshop. The society once again did a great job, and the event went off without any hindrance. CSI-VESIT looks forward to conducting more exciting workshops and helping students learn modern-day technologies in the best way possible.

Hitesh Ramrakhyani (D12A) said, "The workshop was very interesting and useful. It covered almost every important topic. More importantly it was useful for revision purposes as the topics were covered in a very smooth and simple manner. Amazing workshop and good management as event handlers were enthusiastic."

Speakers of the workshop (Top-Bottom, L-R): Prathamesh Pradhan (D14A), Harsh Rane (D12C), Yashvi Dhar (D12C) and Chaitanya Sondur (D12A)
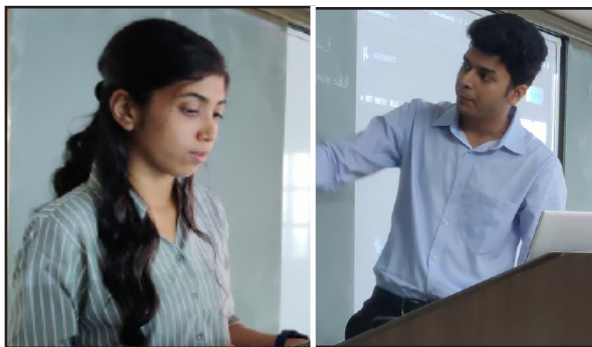
Unraveling the Profits of Open Source

-Preeti Khamkar and Shreya Nalawade

Tinker's CodeCell from the Computer Department organized **Hacktoberfest** in association with **VESIT - IIC** (Institute Innovation Council & **VESIT - IQAC** (Institute Quality Assurance Cell) in the month of October. It had planned a series of sessions on OpenSource. The first two sessions were conducted offline in the college while the last one was carried out virtually through the Google Meet platform.The Organizing Committee Members were **Dr. Nupur Giri** (Head, Department of Computer Engineering), **Mr. Prashant Kanade** (Assistant Professor, Department Of Computer Engineering), **Mr. Richard Joseph** (Assistant Professor, Department Of Computer Engineering), and **Mrs. Geocey Shejy** (Assistant Professor, Department Of Computer Engineering).

Session1

On 3rd October 2022, CodeCell organized the first event named **Getting Started with Open-Source.** With the motto 'Learn continually - there is always one more thing to learn', the event commenced. The offline event that covered a plethora of topics was held from 3 PM to 5 PM for the students to improve their skill set. The venue was VESIT, Classroom B32. **Khushi Bhatia** (D12C) and **Dhananjay Pai** (D12B) were the speakers at the event. The main agenda of the event was to give a brief idea about what is Open Source, why people prefer Open-source, Getting Started With GitHub, and last but not least how to contribute towards projects and do successful pull requests for Hacktoberfest.

Speakers of the session 1 (L-R): Khushi Bhatia (D12C) and Dhananjay Pai (D12B)

The event started with Khushi explaining what Open Source is and what platforms and programming languages can be considered open source. She then further explained why we should prefer open source and how we can contribute towards open source. Next, Dhananjay went on to explain what is Git and GitHub and explained how to get a local copy of an existing repository using the git clone command. After making a few changes in the repository, he then staged the file for commit to the local repository using the git add command. He then further explained the git commit command which is used to commit the file that is staged in our local repository and finally showed how to push the changes in the local repository. The speakers also further explained how to pull requests and with 4 successful pull requests they will be getting goodies and more from HacktoberFest.

Further, the speakers were explaining about various open-source platforms like GSOC and other repositories from where we can contribute to open-source during Hacktoberfest. The session ended with the CodeCell members helping the participants with one successful pull request and showing them their pull requests and also showing the participants the CodeCell repository which had

various good first-time issues and encouraged the participants to contribute to other various types of repositories. With that, the session came to an end. The participants gave positive feedback and found the session was quite interesting.

Organizing Committee Members (Top-Bottom, L-R): Dr. Nupur Giri (Head, Department of Computer Engineering), Mr. Prashant Kanade (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering), Mr. Richard Joseph (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering), and Mrs. Geocey Shejy (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering)

Tasmiya Khan (D7A) said, "I enjoyed the session. I started with GirlScript Summer of Code (an open-source event) as a contributor in my first year but failed to contribute due to a lack of knowledge about Git and GitHub. From then, I used to think that contributing to open source was way out of my reach and that I needed to know more languages, and more skills to be able to contribute. But, Hacktoberfest came in October. After getting started with just basic knowledge of web development. I was able to contribute to some beginner-friendly repositories and successfully got 4 PRs merged in just 15 days. It gives immense motivation to contribute more & more to the open-source community. I would like to thank CodeCell for conducting workshops on open source which really helped me. The best part is that Hacktoberfest rewards the contributors with T-shirts and swags!! So, Start it today. Learn git, and make your account on GitHub. Look at how things work and get your hands-on contributing to open-source."

Getting Started with Open-Source Session

Vedant Pawar (D7C) said, "The Hacktoberfest: the festival of open-source, introduced in VESIT by CodeCell. CodeCell also conducted workshops to let students know about open-source, GitHub, contributions, pull requests, and everything we need to know about different open-source communities, these workshops helped me and motivated me towards open-source contributions, and I started to be more active on

GitHub, finding different repos and projects helped me to learn different technical skills, to improve my communication. Doing this healthy contribution and being active on community platforms, I also participated in Hacktoberfest and completed the challenge to merge 4 pull requests within the month of October. During Hacktoberfest after every successful PR merge, they sent a limited edition badge to keep contributors motivated and eager to earn more badges. I thank CodeCell for organizing and Japneet for helping me during the whole Hacktoberfest. Thank you. "

Session 2

The second event of CodeCell's Hacktoberfest, The **GSoC Talk**, a workshop presented by Appwrite, DigitalOcean, and Docker. Held on 7 October 2022, the workshop took place in classroom B31. The event started at 3.20 PM with **Shivoham Angal** (D17B) explaining what GSoC is and its benefits for Computer Science Engineering Students in cracking interviews. Shivoham had been selected as a contributor for Google Summer of Code 2022, that is, GSoC where he contributed to the Cuneiform Digital Library Initiative.

Speaker of the session 2: Shivoham Angal (D17B)

Thus, he discussed the GSoC'2022 timeline and briefed on the different projects given to programmers. Shivoham explained the selected person would be allotted a 3 months project and a mentor who guides them throughout the project. He gave them tips on how one should write the proposal to maximize their chances of getting into GSoC. He showed his proposal to the participants. The session had a section where Shivoham talked about open-source programs other than GSoC like MLH Fellowship, Outreachy, Linux Kernel Mentorship Program, and so on. He made the participants understand the opportunities other than GSoC. The workshop also included a Question and Answer session where questions like 'When do we start contributing?', 'How to add code snippets into your GSoC proposal?', 'How to find good organizations and projects to contribute to?' were answered.

CodeCell member **Yashraj Desai** (D17B), who is a GSoC'22 mentor, briefed the participants about his personal experience of open source programs and GSoC. He even shared that the allotted mentors can provide Letters Of Recommendation. He concluded by mentioning that getting to be a mentor was one of the greatest experiences he ever had.

Anagha Kulkarni (D7A), an attendee reviewed, "The session was interesting and very informative. The speaker motivated us to go for GSOC, and he also provided us with a pathway to

successful in the same. I would like to thank CodeCell for arranging such an enlightening session."

Session 3

The final event of CodeCell's Hacktoberfest, a workshop through the Google Meet platform, '**Hack Your Career With Open Source**', was organized on 22nd October 2022. The workshop started at 3.30 PM with a member of CodeCell **Saumya Tripathi** (D7A) introducing the session's speaker, **Ms. Unnati Chhabra**, a final year student at Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women, Delhi.

Speaker of the session 3: Ms. Unnati Chhabra

Unnati Chhabra after being introduced, shared with the participants how she knew nothing about coding in her freshman year, how her grades had gone downhill and how she bounced back from it by starting with programming. Having contributed to many Open Source projects, she enlightened the students about the importance of participating, asking questions, and helping out others in forums dedicated to these projects. She explained the importance of GitHub, LinkedIn, and Twitter in projects and acquiring jobs.

While most of the students run behind the certifications, Unnati encouraged participants to instead, focus on building skill sets than going for certificates. This, she said, can be done by joining some mentorship cohorts, communities, attending events, making projects, and contributing to Open Source. On encountering a question about time management, she communicated with the students the importance of multitasking, discipline, and following a timetable.

As she was now questioned more over fellowships and placements, the talk was streamlined to those opportunities. She shared that her work in the field of Machine Learning had bagged her a prize in the college as well as received a chance to be a mentee in LFX Mentorship with Open Horizon. She encouraged students not to give up by sharing that she had been accepted into MLF Fellowship five times after applying to the program.

She then moved on to placements. She revealed that after filling out around 500 applications, 50 of them shortlisted her and only 4 of them finally accepted her. She consoled the participants not to feel depressed if any rejections come their way, to stop using LinkedIn for some time, and not get a 'Fear Of Missing Out'. She next, advised asking friendly questions to the interviewer to make a personal connection and answer the questions confidently.

Lastly, she briefed students about Blockchain Technology and discussed the security provided by Web3 technologies. The session successfully concluded Hackoberfest's OpenSource series by quelling the doubts of the attendees.

Ashutosh Mishra (D12C) reviewed, "The speaker, Unnati Chhabra explained the procedure for Open source nicely. The session was very well coordinated by the CodeCell team. Looking forward to attending more sessions like this."

Another attendee, Harsh Jain (D6AD) said, "Being a blockchain enthusiast, the technical discussions were extremely fruitful for me, as they helped me get a perspective on the future of this tech. She is a product of her community and the community she made is a product of her hard work. That is immensely inspirational to a person like me that wishes to make an impact outside the 8'x8' cubicle. She talked about everything from blockchain, the different specializations, college life, academic education and working on the side, and even relationships. I thank CodeCell for their initiative to bring such a personality up and for organizing such a great event."`

Placements

VESITians Taking Legacy of Placements to a New End

-Sai Thikekar

MAQ Software is a service-based company based in Redmond, Washington, United States. Their solutions make advantage of AI, cognitive services such as Azure Machine Learning, and the most recent cloud computing developments such as Microsoft Azure, Amazon Web Services, Big Data, and others. This firm chose seven VESIT students, offering them a generous CTC of **7.5 LPA** and kicking off the placement season for the class of 2022-23.

VESITConnect reached out to one of these students, **Prithviraj Chavan** (D17B) from the Department of Computer Engineering, Class of 2023, who discussed with us the company's selection process, valuable tips for incoming aspirants, and their plans for the future.

The offered role in the company was that of a software engineer. When we asked about his placement preparations, he stated that the company's emphasis on machine learning and cloud computing offers anyone interested in such subjects an edge. Regular practice of OOPs and database queries is required, as each round necessitates a significant amount of work. When we inquired about the company's eligibility criteria, he stated the branches that were eligible were B.E. (CSE/IT), M.E. (CSE/IT), BCA + MCA, B.Sc. (IT) + MCA, and B.Sc. (CS) + MCA. Also, the eligibility criteria in terms of grades were a 6 CGPA, 60% plus, or equivalent throughout the academic years, 60% plus in the 10th and 12th grades, and no active backlogs. The job location given was Mumbai. Also,

if selected by the company, MCA students will have internship + FTE (internship stipend for 6 months from January to July).

He also focused on the company's various rounds—there were three rounds. The first round was the coding round, which consisted of four coding challenges. It took place on September 14, 2022. He was given a minimal step issue in which he was asked to determine the smallest number of steps required to reach the cell beginning from his current position. The first round was completed by thirty students.

The next final rounds were on the immediate next day, i.e., September 15, 2022. He had both a technical and HR round combined, and it was an interview at college. Few students had their second round as a technical round and later an HR round. Talking about this round, he had a Microsoft AI for Earth Grant 2021 for his TE project. The interviewer asked questions regarding that project as mentioned in the resume. As he had worked on a project whose domain was machine learning and had implemented the same on Microsoft Azure, a major part of the interview focused on Azure and Power BI tools. So keeping our resume up to date is essential because it is the basis for many questions. Few students were asked to write pseudo codes on OOps problems. Also, concepts on OOPs and databases were asked in depth. It was followed by general HR questions on teamwork and project management. After this all rounds seven students were selected by the company.

Prithiviraj Chavan (D17B)

We asked about his first interaction with company executives. He said " As we had our interviews in the college, the results were immediately declared as soon as all the interviews were over by the company executives. The selected students were honoured with the book 'What I Did Not Learn at IIT' written by MAQ Software CEO Rajeev Agarwal. We had a great session with company executives later where they talked about the working of the company and many other things."

Lastly, he gave words of advice for future aspirants, saying, "The most important thing to keep in mind is to stay calm throughout the placement process. We can't deny the fact that there is a little pressure throughout but we have to keep going. Keeping a little practice of concepts everyday will do wonders. And specially for the interviews, confidence is the key. It's alright to get stuck with a concept. But, our positive interaction with the interviewer and answering confidently will definitely get you through."

Do your Course and get into Dark Horse

-Nikita Kumawat

The race doesn't stop here, here comes **Dark Horse Digital** to recruit seamless talent from VESIT 2022-23 batch. The renowned digital transformation consulting firm - Dark Horse digital recruited **2** candidates from VESIT Placement Drive providing **CTC of 5.2 lakhs.**

VESITConnect reached out to **Rahul Vishwakarma** (MCA-2B) from the batch of 2023, Department of Master of Computer Application, sharing with us the process, some amazing tips for future aspirants, preparation strategy and his experience.

When asked about the procedure he said that there were 3 rounds namely- aptitude round, technical round, and HR round. Firstly he mentioned that the criteria were 60% and above in 10th and 12th.

The aptitude round was an online round conducted on the Mettl platform. This aptitude test had four sections i.e. arithmetic aptitude, general aptitude, english, and 2 coding questions.

Coming to the technical round which was conducted on Microsoft Teams, this round included almost everything. After a full-fledged introduction, they asked him about his project. Rahul also showed a live demonstration with explanations of particular features. Later, he was asked on the topic of abstraction and some detail questions from OOPs. 2 coding questions were asked related to "two sum" and "jump game" which were specifically from the Leetcode platform as mentioned by Rahul. The questions were likewise centered on one of the aptitude round's coding problems. Apart from coding, the Computer networks topic was also covered in detail. The questions were related to HTTPs, TCP/IP, and encryption. Some other topics like java collections, RestFul API and HTTP methods were also asked. To test the fundamentals, data structure classification was asked to explain.This round went around for 2 hours. Rahul Vishwakarma said, "This was the toughest round in the entire placement process of all companies."

After getting shortlisted from the first 2 rounds HR round was the last round. HR round also known as the Managerial round was a discussion with the CEO/Director of Black Horse Digital. This round was very calm and chill. Normal questions were asked, also self-introduction and family-related discussion happened.

When asked about the resources, he mentioned youtube channels and websites from where he prepared. For the aptitude round, he watched some videos from Adda247 youtube channel and also referred to the website India Bix. He cracked the technical round by preparing from YouTube channels like "take U forward" and "Kunal Kushwaha". The website's resources included JavaTPoint, Tutorialspoint, and Geeks for Geeks. For the HR round, 'Interview Bit' was the website that he referred to.

Rahul suggested maintaining a GPA of 8.00, as it will help. GPA criteria differs from company to company but keeping it to 8.00 is safe.

Rahul Vishwakarma (MCA2B)

A company for All: Ernst and Young

- Sneha Tanna

The severeness of placement season seems to be continued in VESIT. Another opportunity here enters one more company on the campus, called **Ernst and Young** with a lot of opportunities. All the branches were eligible for the interview process and the CTC offered was **6.37 LPA.** This company recruited 18 students of VESIT.

VESITConnect reached out to **Akshata Deshpande (D19A)**, one of the candidates to get placed in EY company to share her experience with all and to instruct the TEs for the upcoming placement season.

Firstly, talking about the eligibility criteria, students should maintain a minimum of 6.5 CGPA.

There was a total of four rounds of selection, namely, 1. Online Cognitive Assessment, 2. Online Coding Assessment, 3. Group Discussion, and 4. Pre-placement Talk + Tech Interviews.
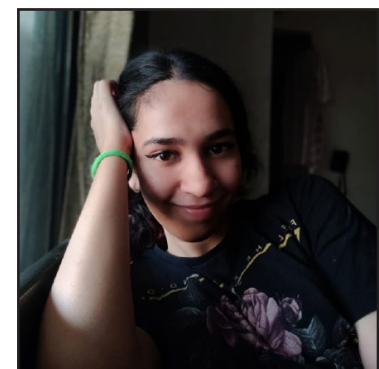
Briefly, Online Cognitive Assessment consists of 5 sections, numerical ability, reasoning ability, statistics & data interpretation, verbal ability, and AI evaluation: writing. According to the experience of Akshata Deshpande (D19A), it was an easy test. It was conducted on the Imocha.io platform and was a 70-minute long test.

The online Coding Assessment consist of 2 questions, one was easy, and the other was moderately difficult. The time limit of this round was one hour.

Group Discussion, as the name suggests, a group of 8-10 students who were selected from the previous rounds was formed, and a common topic was given to discuss. The Group Discussion round was a 25-minute long round. Akshata Deahpande's (D19A) topic for GD was 'Technology and its impact on us', her suggestion for this round is to get your points conveyed clearly and precisely. Try getting quality points out as much as possible, supporting your views with real-life examples, and being extremely polite to fellow candidates.

Pre-placement talk + Tech interviews round was the last round. The students selected after GD were eligible for this round. Akshata Deshpande (D19A), said, her interview lasted for 30 minutes. The interviewer asked about her projects, internships, and experience. She advised giving a brief and concise explanation about all your projects and internships. Also, the interviewer asked her about her strengths and weaknesses, and why she is eligible for the role, and also asked her to tell where she has used her problem-solving skills in real-life. Also, the questions were based on cybersecurity, encryption methods, and risk analysis, as the job role was for Cybersecurity Analyst.

Akshata Deshpande (D19A)

Talking about the interviewer, Askshata Deshpande (D19A) said her interviewer was a bit supportive and polite. When she get nervous during the interview, the interviewer asked her a few easy questions and build her confidence and try to calm her.

Akshata Deshpande's (D19A) advice to all her juniors is, "Practice a lot for the aptitude rounds, focus on your speed there. Always read the job description and get yourself up-to-date about the company, talk to the seniors who have appeared for the placements as they can provide you with resources, tips, and first-hand experiences with the interviewers. Stay motivated throughout the process, and believe in yourself!."

"There are only two ways to live your life: as though nothing is a miracle or as though everything is a miracle."

- Albert Einstein.

VESIT Voice

- Tanya Dubey

VESIT Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) in association with Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) organized the VESIT Alumni engagement initiative 'V-Reach 3.0'. The Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science inaugurated their club 'Artificial Intelligence CoLegion' and organized their first event 'Hack-AI-Thon'. The Department of Information Technology organized a session on 'Using LATEX for Report Writing' under e-Disha. The Department of Computer Engineering organized a 'Parent Orientation Programme'. The Navratri celebration was organized at VES Institute of Technology's Library. ABP Majha, a Marathi News Channel welcomed Mr. Chandan Singh Rawat (Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication) to speak on the hottest topic in technology right now, i.e., 5G, on the 1st of October. The Department of Instrumentation organized a Skill Enhancement Lecture on 'Process Automation'. The Best Library User Award was awarded on the occasion of 'Vachan Prerna Divas'. Janhavi Khanvilkar secured first place in the Inter Zonal shooting tournament. The SORT council organized the charity event 'Spectral 2022'. VESLit organized 'Vigilance Awareness Week 2022' in collaboration with the Union Bank of India (UBI). The VESIT IIC, in association with VESIT-IQAC and VESIT E-Cell, organized a session titled 'Shaping Career Opportunities Through Innovations'. ISA-VESIT, in collaboration with Techfest, IIT Bombay, conducted its offline 'Robotics Workshop'. ISTE-VESIT conducted 'Chronicles Of The Dead'. Tinker's CodeCell from the Computer Department organized Hacktoberfest in association with VESIT - IIC & VESIT - IQAC. CSI-VESIT conducted the 'Java workshop'.

In the Placement section, we have 'MAQ Software' offering a CTC of 7.5 LPA, 'Dark Horse Digital' offering a CTC of 5.2 LPA and 'Ernst and Young' offering a CTC of 6.37 LPA.

In the Life Outside VESIT section, we have Anushka Kulkarni (D19A), who got featured on the Instagram page of Duolingo, for keeping up the streak to learn the German language, on the occasion of International Women's Day. She also received a 'wing-of-king' pin via email.

In the Diaries Section, we had a chat with Mr. Kaushal Bhogale, who graduated from the Department of Information Technology from 2019. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D from IIT Madras, Chennai. He talks about his college life, his experience with cracking GATE, his hobbies and much more.

VESIT Connect Team

Life Outside VESIT

- Ashutosh Mishra

Knowledge of Languages is the doorway to wisdom. The importance of learning new languages were nicely explained by this quote by Roger Bacon. Greetings everyone! So for the October issue of Life Outside VESIT, we have **Anushka Kulkarni** (D19A), who got featured on the Instagram page of **Duolingo,** for keeping up the streak to learn the German language, on the occasion of International Women's Day. She also received a 'wing-of-king' pin via email.

Anushka started learning German from the Duolingo app when she was 15 years old. Here is her experience, explaining the fun while learning German and how the Duolingo app is beneficial in learning many more languages.

"When I was 15, I heard about this app Duolingo, lets you learn any language for free! I picked German just because it seemed fun but eventually stopped after I lost my streak a couple of times! (A streak is basically a score you get by doing a lesson everyday, if you miss a day, it comes down to 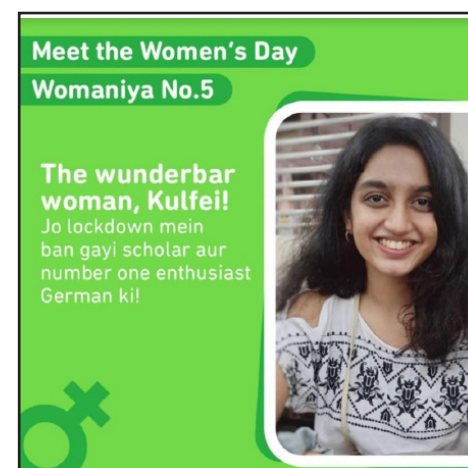zero). It was only during the lockdown that I picked it up again and actually started enjoying and loving this language learning journey.

I love Duolingo as a product and a company as well! It's innovative, constantly upgraded, diverse, community-oriented and has hilarious sentences sometimes. The streak feature does help people stay motivated in the language learning journey to get up and practice a little everyday! Mine is around 200 days (lost a 120 days one some time back, rebuilt the current one again!). There are zoom calls you can attend to practice speaking with experts and a stories section that has genuinely interesting and funny stories that are beginner friendly.

A few people actually started talking about Duolingo on social media and tagging me, that Duolingo noticed and reached out to me for a feature on Women's day on my language learning journey. This was really lovely and it was a great surprise.

There are lots of benefits to language-learning apart from being connected to a culture and understanding it better. It promotes problem-solving and strategizing, which research shows can improve cognitive functioning. It forces your brain to be engaged and creative, and look for patterns. Older adults who studied a new language consistently saw improved cognitive function!"

Anushka Kulkarni (D19A), featured on the Instagram page of Duolingo on International Women's Day

Musings and Expressions

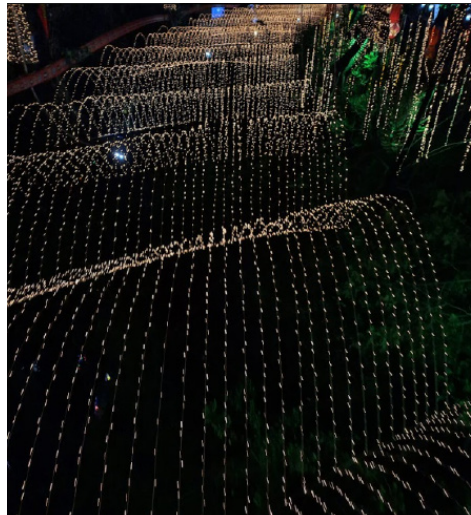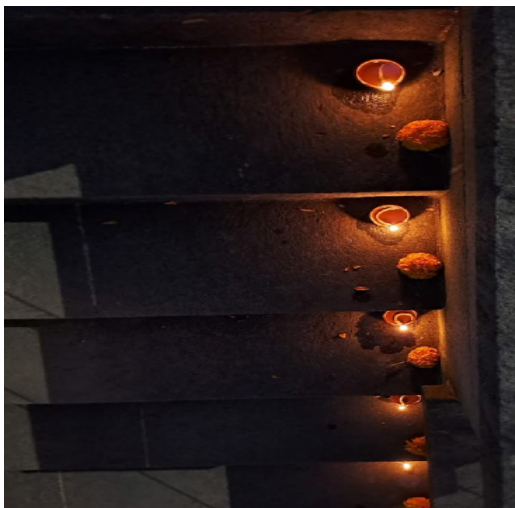## Musing of the Month

Ninad Joshi (D9B)

Rasika Naik (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics & Telecommunication)

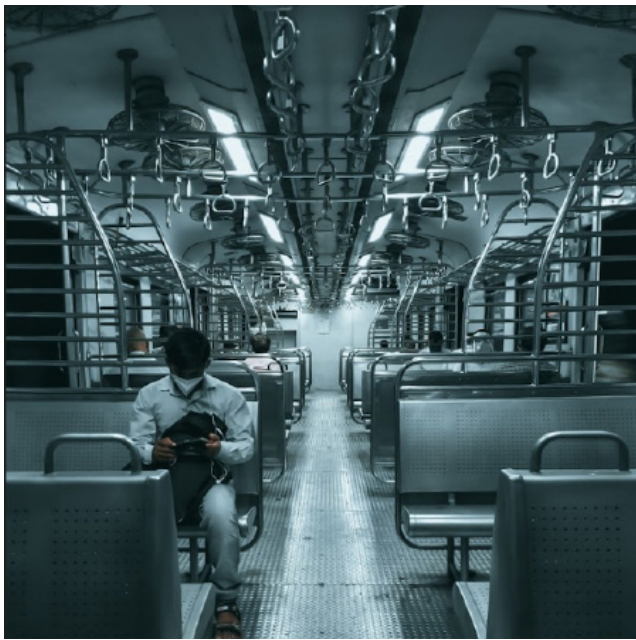**Mr. Prashant Kanade (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering)**
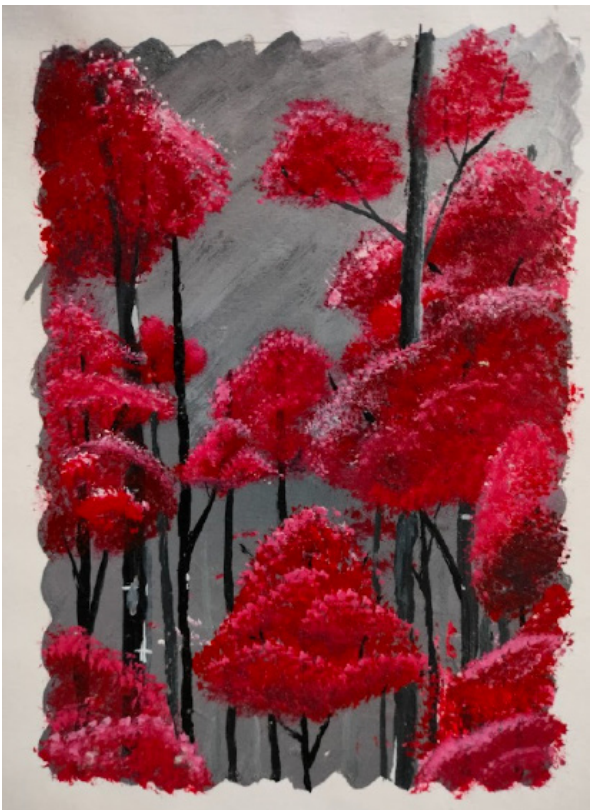

Tanaya Gaikar (D13)

Netal Bhansali (D7B)

Priyanshu Bhagat (D19A)

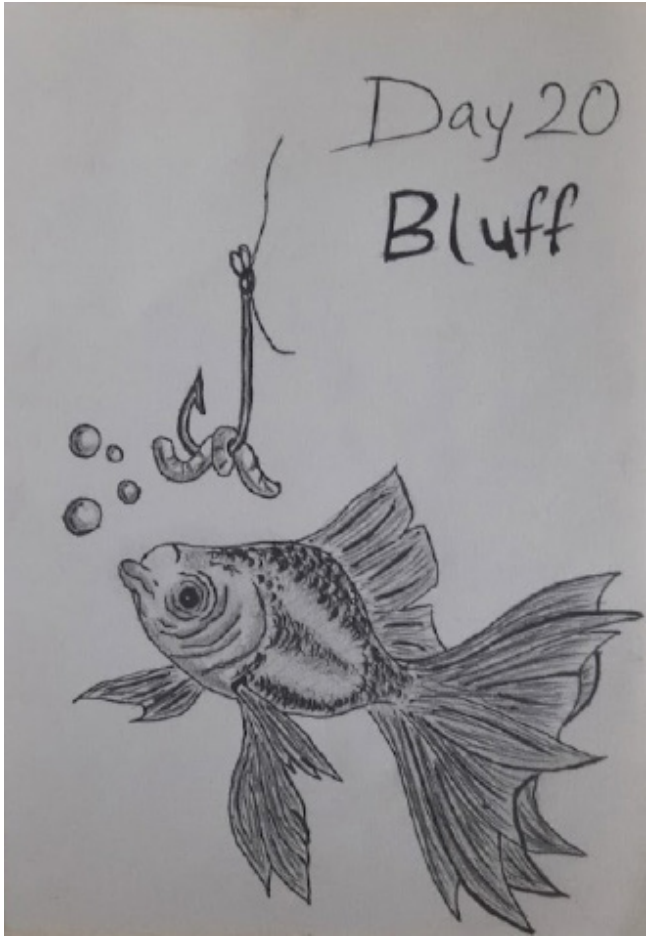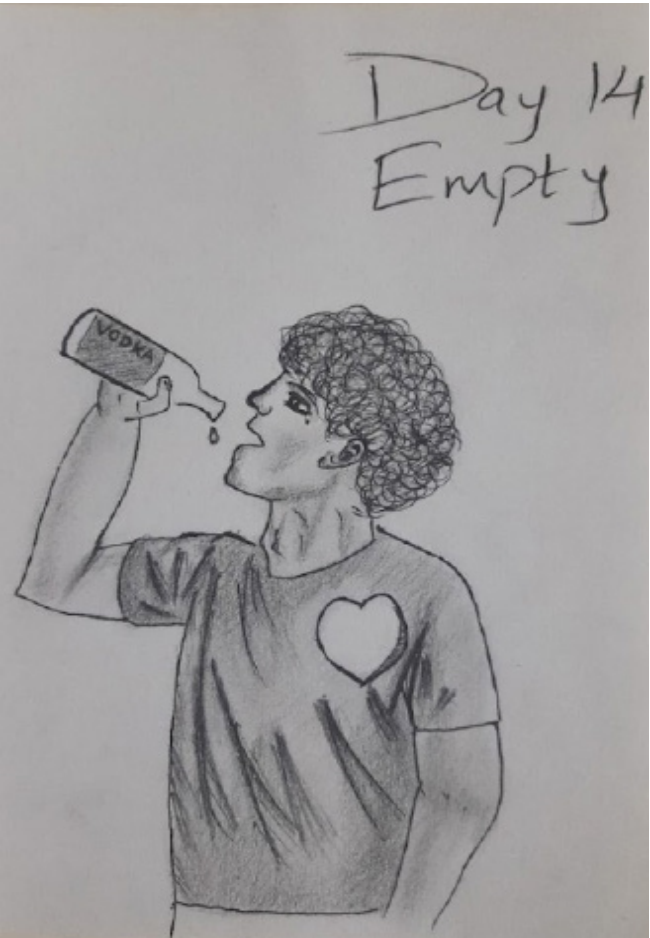**Neeraj Chawla (D12B)**

Taufique Ansari (D7C)

Ninad Joshi (D9B)

Tejas Gala (D17C)

A Memorable Rickshaw Ride

We just had our tea in the Evening. It was a time when COVID just was reducing. Cause I remember being roaming around in the vicinity, carelessly without wearing a mask. Our doorbell rang, I went to the door a little excited as we were not expecting anyone at the time and I wanted to see who showed up. Also, those were the times when everyone used to sit at home, of course for Safety purposes. People barely visited others and hence this got me a little excited to see who had appeared at the door.

I opened the door. A boy, around 12-13 years old probably, with black pants and a similar coloured t shirt, was standing. My first thoughts were whether the boy had come to sell something or to ask for any kind of help. I asked him "What's the matter buddy?" He asked me back, if the Gear bicycle downstairs belonged to me, which in-fact did.

He was referring to the bicycle which I had. Actually it was a Bicycle with gears, with 6x3 gears to be more specific, which back then was a thing of privilege you know. A thing which "BOYZZ" used to brag and show off about and so did I. Well, Honestly that wasn't my Bicycle, it was my elder brother's which I inherited cause my brother was too old to use it. I had a sports bicycle earlier which I stopped using once I got this gear one. And then my sports bike got stolen as someone must have kept an eye on it and watched it not being used for a while, so why not just take it away. Bloody Bastards. Now, answering to his question, YES, it's mine. My brother listened and jumped in the conversation saying that it's his actually. How mean right? However I covered it saying 'it's ours' and gave my brother a healthy look. The boy must be thinking, what I've walked into.

So he continues saying that he wants to buy that bicycle. Now here, I was out of the conversation as in India whenever there is some kind of give and take or something that involves money, younger people are not allowed to share their views or they are expected to stay out of it. Don't know why it is like that but again it is what it is. So I looked at my brother as a sign that now you lead the conversation. Now again, this concept which just left me out of the conversation applies to him as well right? Cause we had another elder person in our house at that time, our Mother. So my Brother called my Mother and asked her to lead the conversation.

Well here's the entry of my mother in the story. She took the overview of the situation. Now as per any other typical Indian Mother, my mother starts with the boy's interview. She asks him multiple questions like, Who are you? Where did you come from? How did you know about the bicycle? And you know the series.

He starts answering with his name which was a very obvious Indian boy's name that I don't remember. Consider any RAMESH, SURESH whatever you like. Let's take RAJU. So Raju is in 7th standard, he stays in Ganeshwadi, which is approximately 1.5kms from my house. He attends a government Marathi school in the morning and works as a helper at a Chinese centre. You know those 'chotus' we see at Chinese centers, taking your order, serving you, etc, yeah, he was one of them. So the thing was, his house was a long distance from his school and the place he works at. Hence he needed a bicycle to travel this distance. Someone told him about my bicycle, alright alright, our bicycle, so he came here. I really don't know who that someone was. Actually, I didn't bother to ask then which I regret now. Anyway,

His mother works as a maid at multiple houses and his father was a truck driver currently not working anymore. On asking the reason, he said that his father recently lost his vision, and he's not able to see anything. That's because of excessive driving during nighttime where the light from the vehicles coming from the opposite direction was so strong that it used to hurt and eventually lead to blindness. This reminded me of all the times I've driven our car during night times and how painful the light from the opposite direction used to feel. Man, this is so real. Now I am afraid of driving at night. He said that treatment is going on. It's really very hard when an earning member of your family, especially when it's a man/father/husband (no discrimination intended, it is what it is) suddenly stops earning due to any reason.

My mother asks him 'how much money do you have now?'. He replies 200. He adds, 'I've got 500 at home and will pay 200 now and the remaining will get from home and then pay today itself'. My brother and I discussed the condition of the bicycle, as the condition was not that good and it would cost a bit to make it run smoothly.

Yeah I know I bragged about the bicycle earlier, but what happens is, when you get a motorcycle and car to drive, why would you go back to bicycles right? Bicycle, for me, now, is never an option as a vehicle or a mode of transport, it is just for exercise. That's so human. You upgrade a level, you forget about those left behind.

So we decided to settle for 200 rupees. He gave me the money. I went downstairs with him to have a last look at the bicycle and hand it over to him. To my surprise, there was no lock on the bicycle. It has been without any lock for don't know how much time. I took 2-3 glances over it holding in my hands, all the memories, all the rides, rides to school, rides to tuition, rides for fun with friends, all the races we had, went through my eyes. I smiled. Took the final picture of the bicycle in my mind and handed it over to Raju. Raju wished me bye, thanked me and left with it. I came back home.

5 minutes later, our doorbell rang again. My brother went to attend. It was one of the uncles from our apartment with Raju held to his neck. Literally to his neck from behind. We didn't understand the situation. The uncle explained, he saw Raju with my bicycle, taking it away. Uncle thought Raju was stealing my bicycle. So he caught Raju and brought back to our home. The uncle was able to recognise my bicycle was the thing that made me relieved thinking that neighbours do look out for each other. Raju on the other side was angry and frustrated ofc I mean why shouldn't he? He had paid for the bicycle and he was accused of stealing. He was screaming out and asking us to tell the uncle the whole story. First of all we asked uncle to get easy on him and release him. Then told him the whole thing. Now Raju got a little aggressive and yelled out 'See, I told you naa!!'. We laughed. Then they both left.

I shut the door. I just thought about the repairings Raju might need to do to run the bicycle smoothly and how much it would cost him. Then I thought, do we really need this 200 rupees? I mean, not disrespecting the amount, but everything is good for us to have those 200 rupees. I asked my mother the same question. I told her he could use this money for the repairings. My brother told me to go and give him the money back, and my mother too agreed.

I stormed out of the door, jumped downstairs to look for Raju and there he was. About 50 metres away from my apartment walking with my bicycle, Okay Okay, now his bicycle. I shouted at him with full power, and what do you shout during such times, Obviously "OYEEE". He turned back. I signalled him to come back. He started walking towards me. On reaching, I pulled out a 200 rupee note from my pocket and offered it to him. Obviously he was puzzled, he didn't understand what was happening. I saw that confused look on his face and said that 'We don't need the money. You'll require it for the repairings so just take it.' He was hesitant to take it back. You know how this usually goes. I'll keep offering him and he'll keep denying it, that stuff happened for a while.

Somehow I managed to get him to accept it. He was delighted and gave a nice hefty smile. That smile was worth those 200 rupees or even more maybe. I smiled back too which might not be worth 200 rupees but anyway it's fine. I gave a pat on his back and said "GO". He thanked me, turned back and started moving. I just stood there watching him go and was thinking what will he tell his family about this incident and how they will react to it. I kept watching him, he kept moving and moving away, became smaller and smaller and finally went out of my sight. I went back home smiling just thinking about what a nice thing happened today.

Prajwal Patil (D15B)

VESIT Diaries

- Tanvi Kate

For the month of October, we had a chat with **Mr. Kaushal Bhogale**, who graduated from the Department of Information Technology from 2019. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D from IIT Madras, Chennai. He talks about his college life, his experience with cracking GATE, his hobbies and much more.

1. Tell us something about your college life at VESIT. What was the most memorable moment at VESIT?

Apart from the classes, I used to spend most of my time either in the lab working on projects, or jamming in the music room. Sometimes I used to hang out with my friends in the canteen, or just sit in the amphitheater and enjoy the cool breeze. VESIT is always bustling with activity, with so many events going on all throughout the year. I tried to ensure I didn't miss any :P My most memorable moment was performing on-stage with my band in Octaves '16.

2. Which extra-curricular and co-curricular activities were you involved in? How do extra-curricular activities prepare one for the corporate world?

I was part of the music council, illusions team, and the VESITConnect, Vishwakarma design team. I took part in hackathons and coding competitions organized by the college.

For the professional world, along with technical skills, one needs to develop many personal skills like taking ownership of tasks, being decisive and being kind to all. Participating in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities allows one to interact with a lot of people, from diverse backgrounds, skill sets, and people having different perspectives about life as well, which is very helpful.

3. Can you share your experience of doing Masters from IISc and now pursuing a Ph.D. from IIT Madras?

I did my M.Tech in Computational and Data Sciences from IISc. Starting my journey there was overwhelming - classes were challenging, hostel life was new, and language barrier of staying in Karnataka. It took me a while to get used to the culture there but once I got used to it, it was a rewarding experience. I got the opportunity to work on cutting-edge research and meet the top professors and researchers in India. Moreover, it was fun to stay in the beautiful IISc campus.

I recently enrolled in the Ph.D programme in IIT Madras, where I am working on building open-source automatic speech recognition systems for Indian languages, as part of the AI4Bharat initiative. My research includes curating datasets, training ASR systems, and deploying these models at scale. I hope to see this work creating a societal impact to eliminate the language barriers in India.

4. What preparation strategies do you recommend for entrance exams like GATE and JAM? A word of advice for the students aspiring to crack them?

I am not an expert on this, but I can share two common misconceptions that students generally have. Since GATE is an MCQ test, a common mistake that students make is to directly attempt to solve as many practice questions as possible. Although important, it can't be a substitute for reading standard reference textbooks. I spent most of my time reading the textbooks thoroughly. The second thing is to not give up on difficult problems. During preparation, some questions took me 4-5 hours to solve. Nowadays, everyone just looks up for the solution online at the first instant they get a question wrong. Trust me, breaking your head on a single question for the whole night is actually worthwhile. Just try doing it once and you will understand.
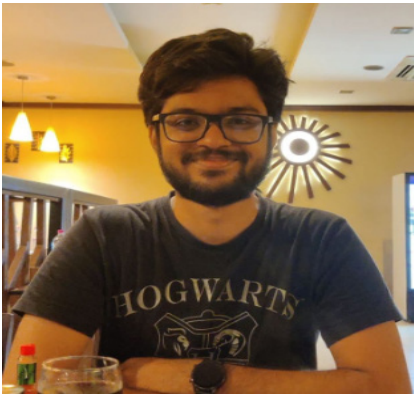
5. How did COVID-19 impact your life? Any changes that you notice in your pre-covid self vs you today?

Creating a proper work-life balance was the most challenging part. In covid, I had gotten into the habit of sleeping late and kind of doing everything at the last moment, so for me maintaining the pre-covid discipline also came as a bit of a challenge. But I think the greatest upside covid brought was the concept of 'working from home'. It really changed the way the world works.

6. Can you share a glimpse of your personal life? Any hobbies or interests that you pursue in your free time?

I love music. I listen to all sorts of music- from bollywood, rock, metal, EDM, jazz, to classical music, slow instrumentals. I also like playing musical instruments, piano and guitar. I like to go on cycling trips and explore the city. Moreover I have found a new hobby these days thanks to Chennai - spending time and relaxing at the beach .

7. Who is your role model in life? What is one rule that you live by?

Mr. Kaushal Bhogale

I feel lucky to have found amazing mentors throughout my life, right from college, GATE days, M.Tech and now in my Ph.D, who have shaped my life positively and guided me to the right path, for which I feel extremely grateful.

Role model? Can't call him so, but Elon Musk's journey from electric cars to space to twitter is very inspirational. His passion, and his ambition to achieve the impossible energizes me. I love this quote of his, which I genuinely believe to be true - "It is possible for ordinary people to choose to be extraordinary."

8. A book you read/movie you watched that influenced you the most and why?

"The Pursuit of Happyness". There's a scene, where Chris, the protagonist, goes to a job interview wearing a muddy jacket. The interview goes well, but afterwards the interviewer asks him "What would you say if a guy walked in for an interview without a clean shirt on, and I hired him?". To this, Chris replies, "He must've had on some really nice pants." and the interview panel bursts out laughing. Life presents us with many extremely difficult/ unseen situations. But even in the worst of times, seeking for hope and positivity is surely the right thing to do. It has always inspired me to do great things, or at least try to.

9. Your message to the new generation at VESIT!

As technology enthusiasts, we keep hearing buzzwords like AI, Blockchain, IOT, etc, and we all want to be part of the hype-train. But what can add more value to this world and to you, is to find your Ikigai, that is, to find what you love, what you are good at and what the world needs. These four years will build foundations for what you will be doing for the rest of your life, so find something that makes you happy, and go chase it. Don't let anything stop you!

"Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence."

- Vince Lombardi