VESIT Connect

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Contents

Swatantrata ka Amrut Mahotsav

-Anvita Koyande

India celebrated its 75th Independence Day on August 15, 2021. Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the nation from Red Fort. The Prime Minister recalled the people who contributed to the freedom struggle and urged the youths and scholars of today to take responsibility and preserve the history of our freedom fighters.

Vijnana Bharati Konkan Prant (VIBHA) with Vivekanand Education Society and its affiliated institutions (VES) conducted the inaugural function to celebrate **'Swatantrata ka Amrut Mahotsav'** on August 17, 2021. They streamed the event live on YouTube at 4.00 pm. **Prof. B.N. Jagtap** (Senior Professor, Department of Physics, IIT Bombay) was the keynote speaker to address the event - Remembering the contribution of Scientists to India's Freedom Struggle.

Dr. Madhav Rajwade (Secretary VIBHA) welcomed the attendees, and they followed it with an invocation performed by **Mrs. Maneesha Oak** (VIBHA) and **Mr. Santosh More** (VIBHA). **Shri. Amar Asrani** (President, VES) spoke about PM Narendra Modi, who started Amrut Mahotsav on March 12, 2021. This Mahotsav is a year-long celebration that will conclude by conducting 75 different programs in 75 weeks' span. He recollected the significant works of the Founder of VES **Shri. Hashu Advani** and his contribution to society.
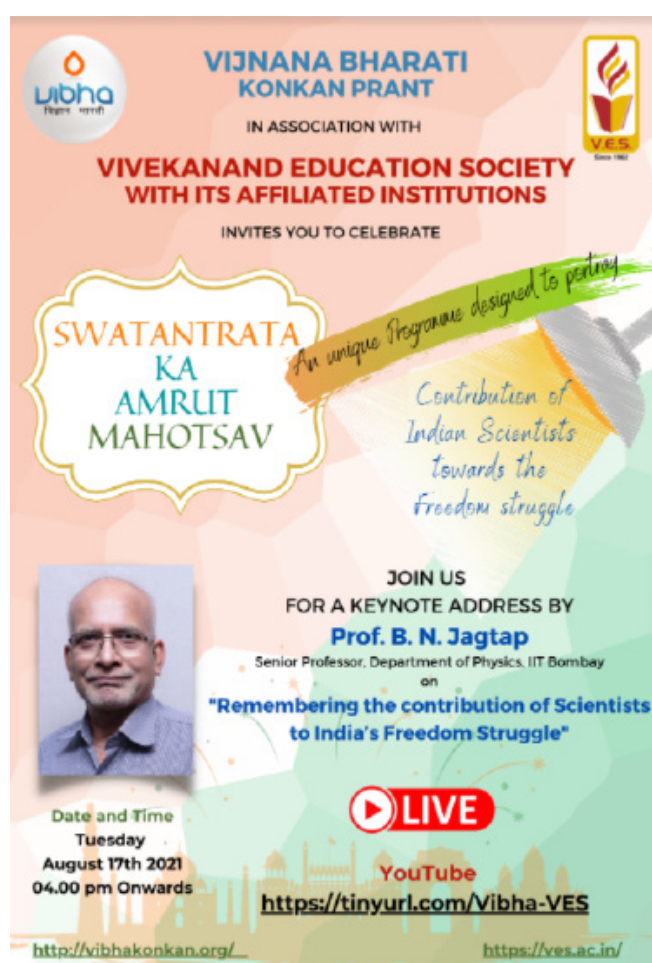
Prof. Shriniwas Samant (President, VIBHA Konkan Branch) spoke about the activities they will embark on this year-long journey. He expressed, VIBHA focuses on the contribution of the Indian Scientists to the independence of the nation and laying the foundation of modern science. He further explained how people forget to remember scientists as freedom fighters. Prof. Samant then introduced the keynote speaker, Prof. Jagtap.

Prof. B.N. Jagtap narrated the history of our nation's many mathematicians and scientists during the British rule and independence era. He explained the many social and economic barriers faced by our intellectual warriors. He unfolded how Indian scientists fought back racial discrimination and founded the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science (IACS) in 1876. Prof. Jagtap concluded the presentation by answering the question - What is Patriotism?

Dr. Mrs. Jayashree Phadnis (Vice-president, VIBHA) gave the vote of thanks and expressed her gratitude to everyone who made this event a great success. The event concluded with the national anthem performed by Mr. Santosh More.

Gauraang Prabhudesai (D1E) says, "Overall, the session was very thorough and kept true to its time limits. Professor B.N.Jagtap explained things in a way which made the topic more enjoyable and easy to understand. We got to learn more on the scientist's point of view on the freedom struggle; a topic which was not talked about in much detail which personally really got my attention."

Poster of 'Swatantrata ka Amrut Mahotsav'

Top-Bottom (L - R): Invocation by Mrs. Maneesha Oak (VIBHA) and Mr. Santosh More (VIBHA); Keynote Speaker- Prof. B.N. Jagtap (Senior Professor, Department of Physics, IIT Bombay); Prof. Shriniwas Samant (President, VIBHA Konkan Branch) explained the activities of Amrut Mahotsav; Vote of thanks by Dr. Mrs. Jayashree Phadnis, Vice President, VIBHA; Shri. Amar Asrani, President, VES mentioned the significant works of the Founder of VES Shri. Hashu Advani.

Solar Decathlon India- Team Venturis

-Atharva Bhoite

To participate in the national-level competition arranged by Solar Decathlon India, 15 bright students teamed up under the name 'Team VENTURIS' and started working on a project 9 from August 2021. The team comprised of 12 students of architecture from BSSA, NMIMS and 3 engineering students, Atharva Gadkari(D18), Yugandhara Kadam(D18) and Tanuja Upadhyay(D18) from VESIT.

The plan Is to design a net-zero efficient ICSE school in Sector 33, Kharghar. They focus is on building energy performance simulations, thermal comfort, HVAC design and other sources of ventilation, renewable energy generation and storage and also the integration of STP in the building structure. They also have an industrial real estate partner. The team is guided by Mrs. Sangeeta Prassannaram (Deputy Head, Department of Instrumentation) and Mrs. Madhumati Khuspe (Assistant Professor, Department of Instrumentation).

Solar Decathlon India provides the platform and resources necessary for students to learn and design net-zero buildings and contribute to a sustainable future. They get hands-on experience by developing innovative and affordable solutions for real buildings and learn how to make their solutions market-ready and scalable.

The participating teams have been provided with study modules, pitch guidance, past submissions for references and energy simulation software access by the organizers. The participants have to make use of these resources in order to complete their project. Apart from the resources, weekly webinars are conducted, to guide and instruct the participants on how to proceed with the project.

The Guides of the team (L-R): Mrs. Sangeeta Prassannaram and **Mrs. Madhumati Khuspe**

Members of Team VENTURIS (L - R): Yugandhara Kadam (D18), Atharva Gadkari (D18) and Tanuja Upadhyay (D18) from VESIT

The three VESITians, who comprise of the engineering unit of the team has to focus on building energy performance simulations, thermal comfort, HVAC design, sources of ventilation, renewable energy generation, storage and the integration of STP in the structure of the project

Atharva Gadkari(D18) said, "We have completed 1 deliverable as of now and are working towards the next one which is due on 27th November 2021. We are very glad we got an opportunity to work a this project of this scale and hope to do our best"

V-REACH

-Tanaya Gaikar, Gaurang Desai, Vishakha Kulkarni, Atharva Bhoite

V-Reach 2.0 is a VESIT Alumni engagement initiative organised by **Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)** in association with **Institution's Innovation Council (IIC)**. The inceptive series of 14 webinars took place from 2nd August 2021 to 26th August 2021, with 21 of our esteemed alumni as guest speakers. It was conducted on Zoom and was live-streamed on Youtube.

Objectives of the V-Reach program:

* 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 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.

V-Reach aims to reach out to the alumni and harnest their vast knowledge and experience, thus widening the horizons for our students. It enables the alumni to play an active role as a stakeholder and contribute actively in building VESIT's legacy. The alumni covered various topics including guidance on preparing for better placements, higher studies and career guidance, research and innovations, entrepreneurship development and new trends in technology.

In the unprecedented times of the COVID-19 pandemic, where social distancing is the new norm, V-Reach provided the students with a golden opportunity to interact, via the online mode, with their seniors who have excelled in their respective fields and gain insightful knowledge about life outside the university.

Day 1, 2 August '21

Topic: "Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Placements Beyond Campus"

Alumni: **Mr. Pranav Ganorkar** (Batch of 2017, Department of Computer Engineering), Software Engineer, TWILIO. **Mr. Sujitkumar Singh** (Batch of 2021, Department of Computer Engineering), Software Engineer, PayPal.

Day 1 Speaker (L-R): Mr. Pranav Ganorkar (CMPN - 2017), Software Engineer, TWILIO and Mr. Sujitkumar Singh (CMPN - 2021), Software Engineer, PayPal

The session began with **Mrs. Indira Bhattarcharya** (Assistant Professor, Department of Master of Computer Applications) welcoming and introducing everyone to the V-reach sessions followed by the inaugural address by the Principal **Dr. J.M. Nair** and a keynote address by the Vice-principal, **Dr. M. Vijayalakshmi**. This session was held by the Department of Computer Engineering and **Dr. Nupur Giri** (Head, Department of Computer Engineering) highlighted some objectives of this session which was moderated by **Tanvi Shetty** (D17A-CMPN).

The moderator gave a detailed introduction of the speakers.The session began at 5 in the evening and was conducted on Zoom. This session was also live-streamed on the youtube platform. Both the speakers explained the preparation of the off-campus placements. Also, the skills required for the process were discussed in detail. The speakers discussed the startup sector. Also, the speakers gave a brief on building on a resume. Mr. Sujitkumar gave some amazing tips about the resume. They also explained the reasons behind applying for off-campus placements. He suggested keeping a backup plan and advised the students to have a lot of patience for off-campus placements.

(Top-bottom, L-R): Dr. J. M. Nair (Principal), Dr. M. Vijayalakshmi (Vice Principal), Mrs. Nupur Giri (Head, Department of Computer Engineering) and Mrs. Indira Bhattacharya (Assistant Professor, MCA Department) addressed the viewers

Furthermore, Mr. SujitKumar said one's CGPA plays an important role in the initial rounds. Mr. Pranav gave the importance of the referrals. Also, Mr. Sujitkumar mentioned the product-based company is helpful during the initial days. The age-old belief that only the students from IITs and NITs are placed in good companies has changed now and that the students from private colleges also get placed in such esteemed companies.

Mr. Sujitkumar advised to always ask for feedback from the interviewer. Lastly, Mr. Pranav quoted, "Life's not about how hard of a hit you can give, it's about how many you can take, and still keep moving forward", from the movie Rocky Balboa.

Both the speakers set forth some advice for the current placement batch. Mr. Pranav said, "Everyone has a different journey, always focus on your path." The students should try to be a different version of themselves. The session concluded with the moderator thanking the alumnus on behalf of the entire team. Later, a Q&A session was held and the speakers cleared the doubts of the viewers.

Tanvi Shetty (D17A) says, "Our session was an insight for students applying for off-campus placements in order to help them secure their dream job. Mr. Pranav and Mr. Sujitkumar answered all the queries students had regarding off-campus placements in detail. I thoroughly enjoyed moderating this session and their tips truly helped me throughout my placement process!"

Day 2, 03 August 2021

Topic: "Digitization in Refineries"
Alumni: **Mr. Vikram Gupta** (INST-2008) Assistant Manager, BPCL Mahul Refinery.

Day 2 Speaker: Mr. Vikram Gupta (INST - 2008), Assistant Manager, BPCL Mahul Refinery

This session was held by the Department of Instrumentation Engineering and began with the moderator **Gaurav Govilkar** (D13) giving brief details about the session's topic. The moderator then proceeded to introduce the session's alumnus, **Mr. Vikram Gupta,** by throwing light on his past achievements and current projects.

Mr. Vikram began his presentation by categorizing the pillars of the SMART framework. Firstly, he talked about the smart equipment used in refineries. He said that the refiners can track production operations second by second with reliable and well-networked digital equipment. He continued to mention that sensors are one of the smart equipment that allows the companies to monitor assets and locations, both globally and within a facility, allowing more efficient route-planning and company operations. He said that powerful artificial intelligence algorithms can be used to optimize a production process for different strategic goals, allowing companies to shift focus intelligently and confidently.

The alumnus proceeded to explain that IIoT (Industrial Internet of Things) provides the opportunity to utilize the power of smart machines and real-time analysis to take advantage of the data produced by the machines in industrial settings for years. This technology makes it possible to collect data for use in Business Intelligence (BI) and Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The alumnus proceeded to share the usage of AR (Augmented Reality) and VR (Virtual Reality) in industries in a variety of settings to boost efficiency and reduce errors and uncertainty. Mr. Vikram discussed the dangers and hazards of working in refineries and how digitization has helped to avoid the same

There was a Question and Answer round at the end of the session where one of the viewers asked about the pollution control strategies taken by refineries to which Mr. Vikram answered by giving some examples. The session concluded with **Mr. Prasad Godse** (Associate Professor, Department of Instrumentation Engineering) sharing his views and thanking the speaker of the session.

Mr. Prasad Godse (Associate Professor, Department of Instrumentation Engineering) concluded the session

Gaurav Govilkar (D13) shared his thoughts on the session. He said, "The session was edifying and educational as the speaker gave in-depth insights of the topic. It truly encouraged me to do research on the topic and gave me correct guidance as well."

Day 3, 04 August '21

Topic: "Odyssey to the Pinnacle" and "Engineering to Forensics"
Alumni: **Dr. Siddhartha Raja** (Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, 2002), Regional Cluster Lead for South Asia, World Bank Country Office, Kathmandu, Nepal. **Mr. Ameya Puranik** (Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, 2016), Security Specialist Northwave Intelligent Security Operations, Netherlands.

Day 3 Speaker (L-R): Dr. Siddhartha Raja (EXTC - 2002), Regional Cluster Lead for South Asia, World Bank and Mr. Ameya Puranik (EXTC - 2016), Security Specialist, Northwave Intelligent Security Operations

The session began with **Mrs. Shobha Krishnan,** Head of Department, Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, giving a keynote address about the objectives of V-Reach. **Sahil Salian** (Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, D19B) was the moderator on the 3rd day of V-Reach. **Dr. Nandini Ammanagi** (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering), went on to list the various remarkable achievements of Dr. Siddhartha Raja, the first speaker. The session started at 4 PM and was conducted on Zoom. It was live-streamed on YouTube as well.

The session started with Dr. Siddhartha Raja explaining that rather than treating passion and career as a dichotomy, there are ways in which both of them can be pursued in parallel. He rightly said, "Continue doing what you have to do, and then find ways to do what you want to do." He shared some fun anecdotes from his time at VESIT which is fresh in his memory even after 19 years. He shared the importance of working with people from different cultural and professional backgrounds and building meaningful personal and professional relationships. He concluded by giving a very important life lesson to neither hesitate in asking for help in times of distress nor faltering to help others.

Moderator on the 3rd Day of V-Reach, Dr. Nandini Ammanagi (Assistant Professor, Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering)

The second speaker for the day, Mr. Ameya Puranik, started with a presentation to give an introduction about his journey from engineering to forensics. He gave a brief idea about the seemingly inconspicuous overlap in these two fields. He stressed the importance of extracurricular activities, which portray social adaptability, along with good grades while applying to jobs and colleges.

Sahil Salian, the moderator, shares, "The opportunity to interview Dr. Siddhartha Raja was one of the most influential and inspiring experiences of my life. The interview was filled with various questions that a student in the online education system would relate to. His humble yet dynamic personality truly reflected the epitome of poise and professionalism. The interview with Mr. Ameya Puranik threw light on the paradigm-shifting world of forensics and his journey from being a student at VESIT to pursuing a Masters degree in forensics."

Day 4, 05 August '21

Topic: "Cloud computing using Micro-Services Architecture"
Alumni: **Mr. Jaison Varghese** (MCA - 2013) (Software Development Engineer, TIAA, Mumbai)

Day 4 Speaker: Mr. Jaison Varghese (MCA - 2013), Software Development Engineer, TIAA

The V-REACH session on Day 4 began with the moderator **Manasi Pisal** (MCA - 3A) welcoming the alumni, teachers, and viewers. This session was conducted by the Department of Master of Computer Applications on the digital platform of Zoom meeting and was also streamed on Youtube.

The stage was shared by **Dr. Dhanamma Jagli** (Deputy Head, Department of Master of Computer Applications). Further, she went on to describe the alumnus of the day Mr. Jaison Varghese (MCA - 2013) (Software Development Engineer, TIAA, Mumbai) and handed over the control to him.

Dr. Dhanamma Jagli (Deputy Head, Department of Master of Computer Applications) introduced the speaker for day 4

While discussing the core agenda of the session he said, " Microservices architecture is used by great companies like NETFLIX, Amazon, Uber, PayPal and various others. This is the reason many companies are looking for these skills in IT freshers." He gave various examples which revolve around our daily lives to make the viewers understand the meaning and application of Microservices architecture.

He further explained the need for Microservices and Cloud computing.Computer science freshers equipped with the knowledge of Microservices architecture would certainly have an advantage in the job market. The session came to an end with the Question & Answer session.

Manasi Pisal (MCA - 3A) one of the viewers who attended the session said, "VReach's webinar on Cloud Computing and Microservices architecture was very informative and encouraging. As there is an increase in the demand for skills related to cloud technologies and Microservices, many participants found it helpful"

Day 5, 06 August '21

Topic: "Booting Up! Adventures in Entrepreneurship"
Alumni: Mr. Roshan Kulkarni (INFT - 2003) (Founder and CEO Mindstix Software Labs, Inc.)

This session was conducted by the Department of Information Technology on the Zoom Meeting platform and was also streamed on Youtube for viewers to watch later as well. It began with **Aarushi Sharma** (D15B) the moderator of the session calling upon **Dr. Shalu Chopra** (Head, Department of Information Technology) who gave valuable advice on how one should think out of the box and train his/her mind to think big and achieve feats which are beyond their reach. She also explained how the thought process of an entrepreneur is different from common people and that the students should also give a shot to such thoughts and try to expand their capacity.

Further, Aarushi Sharma introduced the alumni of the day Mr. Roshan Kulkarni (INFT-2003) (Founder and CEO Mindstix Software Labs,

Inc.) He is a perfect blend of an engineer and an entrepreneur. He has taken Mindstix Software Labs to new heights and has made a prominent identity in Silicon Valley. He started the session by thanking the VReach initiative and appreciating the event convenors and viewers for their support and participation.

He introduced the topic of the day "Booting Up! Adventures in Entrepreneurship" by taking the audience through a variety of entrepreneurship genres and changes that entrepreneurs have brought around the world over the past decades. He also shared his journey briefly which took him through several failures and his meetings with various entrepreneurs around the globe. He put forth questions like 'are entrepreneurs born?' which intrigued the viewers. Entrepreneurship is a skill that can be learned, practiced, or nurtured.

Day 5 Speaker: Mr. Roshan Kulkarni (INFT - 2003), Founder and CEO, Mindstix Software Labs, Inc

Along with all these qualities, an entrepreneur should also have a mentor who guides you throughout the path and backs you in your lows. Also, a strong network is required when you startup, so maintain good interaction with your peers and have a strong social profile. Then the session proceeded to some extremely good questions from viewers which were answered by the alumnus. Thus the session proved to be very fruitful for all the students who aspire to become entrepreneurs.

Aarushi Sharma (D15B) who was the moderator of the session said, "The session was educational and informative. It was a really good experience hosting this knowledgeable session and interacting with such a learned speaker."

Day 6, 09 August '21

Topic: "The Path towards Embedded System Engineer"
Alumni: Mr. Sameer Batra (Electronics Engineering, 2016), Senior Embedded Software Engineer, L&T

Day 6 Speaker: Mr. Sameer Batra (ETRX - 2016), Senior Embedded Software Engineer, L&T

The session was conducted on Zoom by the Electronics Engineering Department. The session began at 5 pm and was live-streamed on Youtube. It commenced with **Mrs. Naveeta Kant** (Deputy Head, Electronics Engineering), welcoming the viewers to the session. **Shlok Mangesh Jagushte** (D16B) was the moderator for the session. It was a technical session to enlighten the engineering graduates about the existing career opportunities in the field of embedded systems. It also explained to the aspirants the necessary skills required to achieve success in this field.

Mrs. Naveeta Kant, (Deputy Head, Department of Electronics Engineering) commenced the Day 6 session

In the presentation made by Mr. Sameer Batra, he gave a brief overview of his qualifications. He right away cleared the misconception that one can become an Embedded System Engineer by simply knowing how to code and solder. He observed that there is a lack of awareness among the students regarding the lucrative opportunities available in this field. He used the funnel concept to lay down the salient differences between the IT Industry and the Embedded System Industry.

He further discussed finding job opportunities and considering the Embedded System as a career. The top-rated companies in this field are Samsung, Bosch and Siemens. Some of the career options are Firmware and Application Development, CAD or EMI Testing and Validation and Hardware Design Engineer.

"Positive intent for working in the core", was an important lesson which he repeatedly emphasized. This was followed by a Q and A session. He answered several doubts of the attendees regarding online simulation tools and forums and microcontroller architecture. The session wrapped up with a couple of questions by the live audience.

Shlok Mangesh Jagushte (D16B), said, "My take away from the webinar was that one needs to be patient when starting a professional journey, quick success is a myth. Also, focus on your fundamentals. Once they are rock solid, you can branch out to new technologies."

Day 7, 10 August '21

Topic: "Work-Life Balance (Entrepreneurship & Choosing a Career)"
Alumni: Mr. Minhaj Shaikh (Master of Computer Applications, 2017), Founder and CEO, FriendsCampus, Mumbai

Mrs. Indira Bhattacharya, (Assistant Professor, Master of Computer Applications), started the session by introducing the speaker, Mr. Minhaj Shaikh. It was held on Zoom and was live-streamed on Youtube. The session intended to essay that work plays a significant part in all our lives and encouraged maintaining a healthy work-life balance in today's unpredictable and fast-evolving world. **Manasi Pisal** (Master of Computer Applications, MCA3A) was the host for the evening.

Day 7 Speaker: Mr. Minhaj Shaikh (MCA - 2017), Founder and CEO, FriendsCampus, Mumbai

According to Mr. Minhaj Shaikh deciding on a career is very important and should be given a lot of thought.. The career choices made should be equivalent to one's goals. In the beginning, one should always focus on a single career and develop expertise in that field. To summarise the steps by quoting him, "Know the plan, and take action."

He shared his journey in becoming a successful entrepreneur and explained the building blocks of an entrepreneurial process. First comes idea generation and evaluating job opportunities around it. Next is planning. Going from generating an idea to planning the startup needs to be a rapid process. One of the most important steps in the process is the execution of the startup. Forming the company, building the team and launching the product consumes the maximum amount of time. The final step is growing without compromising the quality of the product.

Mrs. Indira Bhattacharya (Assistant Professor, Master of Computer Applications), introduced the session and the speaker of Day 7

The webinar concluded with a Question and Answer session, where he answered some doubts asked by the live audience. He answered questions related to work-life balance among employees, leadership skills and attracting potential investors to invest in your company.

Manasi Pisal (MCA3A) says, "Work-Life Balance and Entrepreneurship is a topic that is being primarily discussed these days. The webinar was very informative. It shed light on the importance of work-life balance and gave key points to entrepreneur enthusiasts."

Day 8, 11 August 2021

Topic: "Opportunities for engineer in PSU/Govt sector"
Alumni: Mr. Arca Mitra (INST - 2009) Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited

This session was held by the Department of Humanities and Applied Sciences and the moderator was **Rahul Patil** (D13), who began the session by shortly introducing the topic. **Mr. Vivek Umrikar** (Head, Department of Humanities and Applied Sciences) mentioned the importance of PSU/Government sector jobs for engineering students and shared advantages of these jobs as well. The moderator then proceeded to give an introduction to the alumnus of this session, Mr. Arca Mitra, by briefing the viewers about his past achievements and his ongoing work.

Mr. Vivek Umrikar (Head, Department of Humanities and Applied Sciences), introduced the session

Mr. Arca started the session by explaining the process for applying to PSU and Government sector jobs. He mentioned the GATE qualifying exam and the minimum requirements to get the above-mentioned jobs. He proceeded to lay down the roles of an engineer in a new Government project which included pre-project activities, design coordination, integrated plant engineering, procurement activities, cost estimation, and field engineering assistance during construction. He stated that these are some of the common key points that engineering students might come across while working.

Day 8 Speaker: Mr. Arca Mitra (INST - 2009), Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited

The alumnus also put forth roles of an engineer involved in a running Government plant that included operation and maintenance activities, design support for upgrading and aging management, review of plant proposals, support for administrative clearances, and development of special tools. He stated that engineers are also required for designing and developing new systems and methodologies, and managing technical documents.

The speaker then proceeded to explain the

roles of a Control and Instrumentation engineer that included identifying the design inputs, and carrying out all the design modifications. He also shared some of his real-life work experiences while explaining the roles which made it easier to understand for the viewers.

The session concluded with Mr. Arca summarizing the benefits like steady career growth, supportive work environment, and regular training opportunities while working in PSU and Government sector jobs.

Gaurav Govilkar (D13) shared his thoughts about the session. He said, "Mr. Arca talked on the topic in such a way that it was really easy to understand. The question and answer round was really interactive as well and made the session more educational and edifying."

Day 9, 12 August 2021

Topic: "Technical and Soft skills required for engineering students"
Alumni: Ms. Mrugakshi Bole (INST - 2014) Senior Instrumentation Engineer, Black and Veatch Pvt Ltd.

Day 9 Speaker: Ms. Mrugakshi Bole (INST - 2014), Senior Instrumentation Engineer, Black and Veatch Pvt Ltd.

This session was held by the Department of Humanities and Applied Sciences and began with the words of **Mr. Subhash Singh** (Deputy Head, Department of Humanities and Applied Sciences) explaining the basic importance of soft skills and introducing the session. **Gaurav Govilkar** (D13), the moderator of this session, gave an introduction to the alumnus of this session, Ms. Mrugakshi Bole, by briefing details about her past projects and achievements. She shared her views on getting acquainted with the lockdown situation before starting her presentation on the topic.

Mr. Subhash Singh (Deputy Head, Department of Humanities and Applied Sciences), introduced the event session and explained the importance of soft skills

The alumnus started by explaining the importance of skill development and how it enhances one's employability and mindset. She opinionated about how soft skills keep students agile and prepared for the upcoming trends. She also gave a clear distinction between technical skills and soft skills. She gave a brief explanation of each of the technical skills which included academics, commercial awareness, project management, artificial intelligence, strategic planning, risk management, cloud computing, and more. She shared her own experience of designing ships and working with a team while explaining strategic planning.

The speaker then proceeded with explaining different types of soft skills which included reasoning, teamwork, creativity, determination, innovative thinking, and many more. She also focused on physical details like having a good posture and maintaining good eye contact while speaking can have a positive impact while giving a presentation. "Be a good speaker, as well as a good listener," was another suggestion given by her.

Towards the end, there was a Question and Answer round wherein one of the viewers asked about ways to deal with stress due to examinations and workload. She answered by stating that nothing is more important than one's health and well-being and that each one must find ways to keep themselves pacified and safe. The answers given by the alumnus were motivating and beneficial for the viewers.

Ms. Mrugakshi Bole (INST-2014) (Senior Instrumentation Engineer, Black and Veatch Pvt Ltd.) interacting with Gaurav Govilkar (D13) during QnA round

Devanshi Shah (D13), a viewer of this session, shared her thoughts on the session. She said, "By the end of the session, I learned about the importance of soft skills, time management skills, risk management, strategic planning as well as cloud computing and virtual reality. I also got a clear insight into the use of digital marketing by improving technical and soft skills."

Day 10, 13 August '21

Topic: "Belling the "CAT" "
Alumni: **Mr. Navin Gurnani** (CMPN - 2013), Revenue Marketing Manager, BrowserStack. **Mr.Samarth Ladia** (CMPN - 2017), Product Manager, Flipkart. **Mr. Chirag Dixit** (CMPN - 2018), Equity Specialist, Bloomberg LP.

The session was held by the Department of Computer Engineering on some questionnaires of the students related to business/MBA. **Dr. Gresha Bhatia** (Deputy Head, Department of Computer Engineering) introduced our speakers for the day. This session was conducted on the Zoom platform at 5 in the evening and lasted till 6.30 p.m. The session was also streamed live on Youtube. The moderator, **Vinayak Baranwal** (D17C), gave a short introduction on the session's topic and greeted the speakers as well. The session began with a brief Q&A interactive discussion, where the moderator asked a few questions in detail and the Alumni gave a brief answer with their experience.

Day 10 Speaker (L-R): Mr. Navin Gurnani (CMPN-2013), Revenue Marketing Manager, BrowserStack and Mr. Chirag Dixit (CMPN-2018), Equity Specialist, Bloomberg LP.

Mr. Navin shared that he had experience with Indus Valley Partners and then joined the course of MBA at IIM Ahmedabad. He also said IIM follows the Case Study Methodology. We get to learn from our colleagues. Mr. Samarth and Mr. Chirag also shared that experience of 1-2 years with industry helps a lot in classroom discussion while pursuing MBA. It helps in the course for better understanding. They suggested that work experience is essential before going for an MBA.

Dr. Gresha Bhatia (Deputy Head, Department of Computer Engineering) introduced our speakers for the day.

Mr. Navin shared that in the second year of MBA, students get a chance to spend a semester in an exchange college. Mr. Navin gave a piece of advice to the students to keep exploring foreign universities for an MBA and gave an example of Europe having deeper learning opportunities compared to other countries. The speakers also displayed some important tips for an interview. He said, "The students must be truthful and should be confident enough. The student gets an edge if he/she is a placement coordinator, but one needs to earn just like the HR of a company does."

Day 10 Speaker (L-R): Mr. Navin Gurnani (CMPN-2013), Revenue Marketing Manager, BrowserStack, Mr. Samarth Ladia (CMPN-2017), Product Manager, Flipkart

Vinayak Baranwal (D17C) says, "The speakers were really informative and interactive. They were thorough and covered the topic really well. The seniors were really helpful and made sure that we got the correct career guidance which will

in turn help us choose the right paths in the future."

Day 11, 23 August 2021

Topic: "Industrial Automation for Process Industry"
Alumni: **Mr. Rahul Ghogle** (INST - 2011) Process Automation Division Business Development Professional for DCS, Siemens Ltd.

Day 11 Speaker: Mr. Rahul Ghogle (INST - 2011) Process Automation Division Business Development Professional for DCS, Siemens Ltd.

This session was held by the Department of Instrumentation Engineering and began with **Rahul Patil** (D13), the moderator, giving few details on automation industries and shortly introducing the session's topic. **Mrs. Deepti Khimani** (Deputy Head, Department of Instrumentation Engineering) then gave a wider introduction to the topic. The moderator proceeded with introducing the alumnus of the session, Mr. Rahul Ghogle, and briefing details about his past works and achievements.

Mrs. Deepti Khimani (Deputy Head, Department of Instrumentation Engineering), gave a wider introduction to the topic

Mr. Rahul started the session by sharing the benefits and advantages of Distributed Control System (DCS) in industrial automation and gave an overview of the session's contents. He proceeded to throw light on the types of industries which included discrete industry and process industry. He also gave a very clear picture of the process of producing cement through his presentation. He stressed the importance of synchronization between each component of DCS. He then explained the architecture of DCS to give the viewers an insight into the topic. He described each of the components in depth and gave a detailed breakdown of the same. He also explained the communication protocols involved in industries.

The alumnus gave a detailed comparison between Profibus-DP and Profinet that gave a

clear picture of the features of each. He explained the features of the controller which included clock frequency, scan time, maximum IO capacity, memory, and temperature range. He gave practical examples of these components while working in industries. He proceeded to explain the purposes of OS servers and mentioned how trends are stored in the form of graphical data and then analyzed in these servers. He also presented an MIS report which includes the overall data that can be used by industries to analyze their system over the course of time.

The session concluded with the Question and Answer round where the viewers of the session could ask questions to the speaker in the chat box. One of the questions included asking about the languages or software that are used in digital twinning. Mr. Rahul answered it by suggesting the SIMIT software which includes many features and can be used to get accurate data.

Devanshi Shah (D13), a viewer of the session, shared her thoughts on the session. She said, " I got to know about the client-server configuration, cement manufacturing as well as the usage of AI for monitoring employees and checking their safety-related equipment. The session was really informative and interactive as well."

Day 12, 24 August '21

Topic: "Decennium in Vocation" and "The Power of Women in Technology: Triumphs and Challenges"
Alumni: **Mr. Yogesh Sharma**, (Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, 2011), Senior Program Manager, Cloud & AI Security, Microsoft, USA. **Ms. Rajasi Desai,** (Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, 2014), UX Specialist, The MathWorks/Natick, Massachusetts, USA. **Ms. Neha Chaudhari**, (Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, 2011), Trading Risk Manager, Cambridge Global Payments, Toronto, Canada. **Ms. Preeti Wadhwa,** (Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, 2013), Senior Engineer, Qualcomm (5G WRND), San Diego, USA

The 12th day of V-Reach commenced with a keynote address by **Dr. Chandan Singh Rawat,** (Deputy Head, Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering). **Mr. Shobhit Khandare, (**Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering), introduced the first alumni for the evening, Mr. Yogesh Sharma. Mahalakshmi Pendyala (D19A) was the moderator for the first session. It was conducted on Zoom and was live-streamed on Youtube.

Day 12 Speaker (L-R): Dr. Chandan Singh Rawat (Deputy Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering), Mr. Shobhit Khandare, (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering), introduced session and the speakers for the evening

The event began with Mr. Yogesh Sharma acquainting the audience with his journey from VESIT to working in Microsoft through a presentation. He emphasized the importance of not giving up when things don't fall in place. Next, he talked about the importance of good resumes. He elucidated, "Resumes are supposed to be built, not written up over the weekend." At the end of the presentation, he reminded the viewers to find fun at work and make it fun for co-workers around.

To bridge the gap between the field of study and field of interest, he asked the students to speak to the professionals who are in those roles and understand what skills are required at that position. He mentioned that the aspirants are examined by the recruiters on their ability to show outcomes. "The lucrativeness of the career shouldn't be the main attractive factor." At the end of the session, he recollected some of the hardships that he had faced while pursuing his masters.

In the second session, Ms. Rajasi Desai, Ms. Neha Chaudhari and Ms. Preeti Wadhwa were the guest speakers. This session was awe-inspiring and particularly motivated the women engineers to not feel intimidated in the men dominated field. Bhuvana Raisinghani (D19A) joined in to co-host the session with Mahalakshmi Pendyala. The session started with the three of them sharing fond memories from their time at VESIT.

(Top-bottom, L-R): Mr. Yogesh Sharma (EXTC-2011), Senior Program Manager, Cloud & AI Security, Microsoft, Ms. Rajasi Desai (EXTC-2014), UX Specialist, The MathWorks/Natick, Ms. Neha Chaudhari (EXTC-2011), Trading Risk Manager, Cambridge Global Payments and Ms. Preeti Wadhwa (EXTC-2013), Senior Engineer, Qualcomm

Empathising with students due to the COVID '19 pandemic, they gave tips on how to build a resume during these unfortunate times by taking up remote-friendly projects. The echoed opinion was that along with academia even extra-curricular activities are looked into closely by the recruiters. They emphasized that in Western countries, soft skills are given as much importance as technical skills. They discussed gender bias existing in the corporate world and gave plausible solutions to overcome it. The session wrapped up with them giving insightful advice to all the viewers.

Mahalakshmi Pendyala (D19A), said "For a student on the cusp of entering the corporate world or pursuing higher education, this was a much-needed interaction. It was very inspirational to speak with people whose journey was different but they all started on the stepping stones of VESIT. It was a fruitful interaction with the alumni, who shared their anecdotes about the who's and how's of life beyond the university."

Day 13, 25 August '21

Topic: "Paradigm Shift: Bond Markets and Introduction to AI in Bond Pricing"
Alumni: **Mr. Anish Saraf** (INFT - 2013)(Assistant Vice-President, JP Morgan & Chase, London)

Day 13 Speaker: Mr. Anish Saraf (INFT - 2013), Assistant Vice-President, JP Morgan & Chase

The session on the Day 13 of the VReach initiative was conducted by the Department of Information Technology and its topic was "Paradigm Shift: Bond Markets and Introduction to AI in Bond Pricing". This event was conducted in online mode taking assistance of the Zoom Meeting platform and was also streamed on Youtube for the viewers to watch later as well. The moderator of this event was **Yash Raje** (D15A). To begin with the session, **Mrs. Smitha Jangale** (Deputy Head, Department of Information Technology) addressed the viewers by explaining the objectives of the VReach initiative and the benefit that students should acquire from these informative sessions from successful alumni of our college who are doing exceptionally well in their respective fields today. Then, the alumnus of the day, Mr. Anish Saraf (INFT - 2013) (Assistant Vice-President, JP Morgan Chase, London) was introduced and the platform was handed over to him.

Mrs. Smitha Jangale (Deputy Head, Department of Information Technology) commenced the event

He started the discussion with an overview of types of markets, namely, Primary, Secondary, Money and Capital Market. The participants of the market such as Issuers(Companies issuing bonds or offering stocks), Exchanges, Brokers/Dealers (facilitate market marking) and lastly the Clients. There are various sectors in which the market is divided, like Equity - Shares, options; Debt- Bonds, Loans, Private placements; Commodities - Oil, Gold, other precious metals; FX - Currency trading, futures and Cryptocurrencies.

The combination of AI and Machine learning has several other benefits such as Trading, Historical Data Analysis, Research and Analysis, prediction of change in a certain factor that affects a share price.. This session was very informative to all the viewers who were interested in investing in the

stock market and can include Artificial Intelligence to maximize profits.

Yash Raje (D15A), the moderator of the session said, "The webinar on Bond evaluation and structured notes was one of the most informative sessions. As FinTech is a growing field with a lot of opportunities for anyone interested in Finance, Bonds are a risk-free investment and are good for long-term investors. Many participants found it helpful in building their knowledge and interest around the respective fields."

Day 14, 26 August '21

Topic: "Entrepreneurship Pathways"
Alumni: Mr. Shivkumar Krishnamurthy (ETRX - 2017), Sales Director, Revolo Infotech.

Day 14 Speaker: Mr. Shivkumar Krishnamurthy (ETRX - 2017), Sales Director, Revolo Infotech

This was a very inspirational session held by the Department of Electronics on the Zoom platform. The session was moderated by **Varun Prasad Gokhale** (D16) who introduced the speaker. **Mrs. Kavita Tewari** (Head, Department of Electronics Engineering) welcomed the speaker, Mr. Shivkumar Krishnamurthy. The session was conducted on the Zoom platform at 5 in the evening and was also streamed live on Youtube.

Mrs. Kavita Tewari (Head, Department of Electronics Engineering) welcomed the speaker

The initiative of this session was to introduce the changing professional environment. Why, How, When to start our own company or startups was the objective of this Session. The speaker started by introducing himself and talking about his journey through VESIT. Then he began with an example of startups like Zomato and Swiggy. He said, "Tech is driving the world today to a better place." The speaker shared stories of his journey. He mentioned that Ola and Uber were some of the popular startups when he was in college. The speaker and his friend (Nitin) started this company. They went to Bhandup and discussed with the daily transporters and the truck drivers.

Having zero knowledge about the transport industry, they tried and worked hard with a lot of patience. They weren't getting any response from the market. Their only focus was to find a solution or build a platform for a logistics company. Finally, they joined a course, in which they got to know the basics of a startup. In this course, they also talked with investors. By the end of the 7th semester, they got placed at Accenture.

Later, the speaker joined a 1-day course. A person liked their idea and had a meeting with them. This transporter was their first client. They both went to his Pune office, had a talk with the employees, and discussed the software. And this is how in 2017, Revolvo Infotech got registered. They

studied the industry for the next 2 years.

Later, the speaker shared the stories and experiences of his friends as one of his friends Hamja has a startup for handicapped citizens, and Nihal makes software for car engines and currently owns Tangent Motorsport Company.

Lastly, Mr. Shivkumar Krishnamurthy said, " We shouldn't get overly attached to our ideas or what other people are saying about the idea". The session further proceeded towards the Q&A segment. Lastly, Mr. Pranav Prasad Gokhale quoted, 'Patience is a deal' and thanked the speaker and the viewers on the behalf of the team.

Anvita Koyande (D8) says, "The session of Entrepreneurship pathway truly encouraged me. The speaker was really interactive. The session was informative and gave me a brief idea about my entrepreneurship pathway."

"Guidance is not attained except with knowledge and corrected direction is not attained except with experience."

College, a place that imparts knowledge is so important, so special that even though we leave it, it never leaves us. But we always come back like these alumni that came for the college, for the younger generations and for the people that could be helped with their words. Words that guided multiple and encouraged each and every person hearing them. They brushed over crucial concepts like stock marketing, financing, artificial intelligence, Industrial Automation, Entrepreneurship and various others and made the students believe that success is closer than they think.

While each one of these comes from multiple places and organizations, their roots pass-through this campus. A lot of awareness about the exams, degrees, colleges, placements and important turns of life was spread among the students. This boosted the sense of imparting their knowledge to all the younger ones, they ameliorated the present generation and made their future a bit more guided. The professionalism and skills of the alumni were visible by the way they spoke and addressed the audience. They guided the masses smoothly and so the event was a roaring success.

E Session on Startup and Fundraising

-Vishakha Kulkarni

Under the guidance of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell(IQAC) and in association with VESIT's Institution's Innovation Council(IIC), the Department of Master of Computer Applications(MCA) organized an E Session on Startup and Fundraising on 27th July 2021 on Google Meet at 4 pm. VESIT alumnus, **Mr. Minhaj Shaikh** was the guest speaker for the evening.

Mr. Minhaj Shaikh, alumnus of the Batch of 2017, from Master of Computer Applications (MCA). He is the Founder and CEO of FriendsCampus. With a vision to empower educators and learners to achieve more, he adopted effective teaching methods to encourage learning through understanding and not just memorizing. He is currently working as **Chief Content Coordinator at Acadza Technologies.**

During the course of the session, he discussed the entire life cycle of entrepreneurship. How the seed of an idea sowed in the head grows into a blueprint, spreading its roots in search of a financier and finally bears the sweet fruits of success.

He went on to explain the different stages

of funding. The first stage begins with angel investment. The investor may be a close relative, friend or yourself, who invests in your startup solely based on your idea and business plan. Eventually, as the needs of the startup grow, Venture Capital Financing is required. At this stage, the startup has a few years of sales revenue and a consumer base and is looking for potential investors through multiple series of funding for additional customer acquisition.

In Series A investment, there is no external funding. Series B investment portrays that the marketed product is being bought by the customers. During Series C investment, the investors can be Venture Capitals or private equity. After years of performance, the startup that has evolved into a profitable company may choose to become private or go public via IPO.

Next, he spoke about different ways to acquire funding through self-financing crowdfunding, or outside investors, while also giving guidance on how to pitch our Venture Capitals for funding. He called on future engineers to seek inspiration from those startups that have become successful, to learn to seize windows of

Mr Minhaj Shaikh (MCA - 2017), Guest Speaker for E Session on Startup and Fundraising

opportunity and set them on the path to victory.

Neil Saptarshi(D14A) says, "The session was very useful, given that an entrepreneur who has built a profitable startup by implementing the strategies that he referenced in the session, was the guest speaker. It inspired me to implement the

Session on Design the Thinking- Preparing the Entrepreneurship Mindset

-Divisha Gupta

Under the guidance of VESIT Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and Association with Institution's Innovation Council (IIC), VESIT organized a webinar on Design Thinking on 31st July 2021 from 10 AM to 12 PM. The speakers for the session were **Dr. Ramakrishnan R**.(Assistant Vice President, Intellect Design Arena) and **Mr. Ramnath Prabhu** (Assistant Manager, Intellect Design Arena).

Guest of honour, Dr. Ramakrishnan R (Assistant Vice President, Intellect Design Arena, Faculty, School of Design Thinking)

Yash Bhise (D14B), the host of the day commenced the event by explaining the basic meaning of the word entrepreneur and welcoming all the students and faculty members. Dr. Ramakrishnan R. went on to explain the need for design thinking and highlighted the most important factors that affect the designers should consider- Listening, Dialogue and Observation. He further gave examples of a few brilliant designs - 'a safety pin'- simple yet brilliant and the city of Singapore- a meticulously designed urban city.

Yash Bhise (D14B), the host of the event

Further, the speaker discussed elements of great design that covered the following points in detail with tons of examples:

- Simplicity
- Experience
- Frictionless Approach
- Efficient
- Complexity Reduction
- Questioning Assumptions

He also quoted that 'Empathy' is the most important element that makes your approach egoless and unbiased. He pointed out the differences between a traditional and a design-oriented approach that would help an entrepreneur enhance the captivity of the product. Later in his presentation, he highlighted the pillars that make a successful and stupendous design.

He explained the laws of design thinking where he highlighted how important it is to 'no do too much and keep it simple when applying the skills of design thinking.

He then went on to explain the 5 drivers of design - Skill, Expertise, Perspective, Idea, and Alignment. This was followed by a deeper discussion of 5 Frictional Forces in design thinking that might stunt the growth of a better output- Doubt, Conflict, Anger, Fear, and Ego. Discussing the further intricacies of design thinking, Mr. Ramakrishnan explained the 3 capacitive levelers- Vulnerability, Appreciation, and Limiting Beliefs. This was followed by a question and answer session where the speaker cleared doubts that came up from the participants.

The second half of the webinar was taken over by Mr. Ramnath Prabhu who began with explaining the differences between Listening and Hearing, Dialogue and Discussion, Observation, and Watching. Further, he went on to explain some case studies that included the shampoo brand-Chick, Indian Cafe Giant-Cafe Coffee Day(CCD) and explained how these brands were newsmakers because of their perfect design approach.

He went on to explain the importance of considering the user needs and extreme users also. He further explained this concept with case studies of Volvo cars and McDonald's Milkshakes. The webinar proceeded with another question and answer session. The host thanked the speakers for their insights on Design Thinking. Later **Dr. Anjali Yeole** (Assistant professor, Department of Computers) concluded the session with a Vote of Thanks and presented a virtual appreciation memento. Gaurav Govilkar (D13) says, "The session was creative and also a new concept for us. It helped us to choose our projects and also how to handle them at each level. And many points were really well such as the project being presented as a startup and many more."

Rahul Patil (D13) says, "The approach to deciding the project was an eye-opener, in the sense that one realizes from experience the things that went wrong while deciding a project."
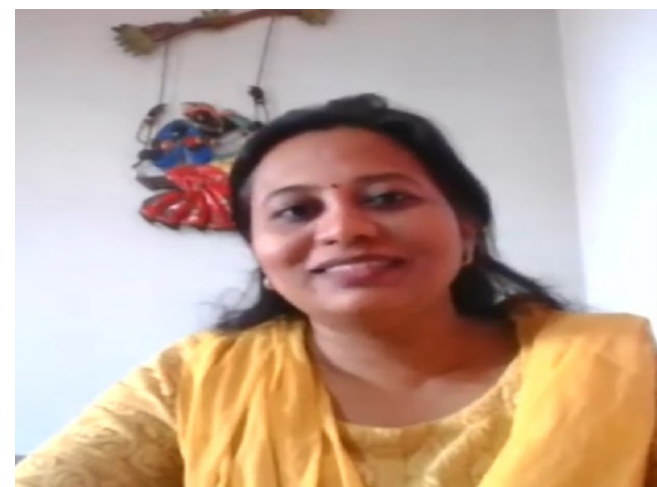
Dr. Anjali Yeole (Assistant professor, Department of Computer Engineering) giving a formal vote of thanks to the speakers and students

Guest of honour, Mr. Ramnath Prabhu (Assistant Manager, Intellect Design Arena, Faculty, School of Design Thinking)

"Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up."

—Thomas A. Edison

E-cell - My Thoughts about Entrepreneurship

-Gaurang Desai

On the occasion of '**World Entrepreneurship Day**', VESIT E-Cell in Association with VESIT-Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) and VESIT-Internal Quality Assurance Cell organized a self-driven event on the theme 'My thoughts about Entrepreneurship' from 21st to 25th August 2021.

The objective of this program was to bring awareness and maximum participation of the faculty and students of the college for entrepreneurship. Also, the faculty and students got a chance to present their ideas on entrepreneurship.

The registrants were given an option to submit their thoughts in the form of a video, poster, or blog. The E-Cell made a video explaining the structure of the event and giving instructions about the same and was published on VESIT E-Cell's YouTube channel.

Screenshot of Niyanti's Video Submission Pictures

Overall, 21 students participated in the event. The submissions were taken through Google Forms from 21st to 23rd August. There was no language barrier for the participants while making content.

Niyanti Padave (D12C), Star Performer of E cell-My Thoughts about Entrepreneurship

Niyanti Padave (D12C) was selected as the star performer of the activity based on her video submission on the given topic. She shared her thoughts about the event saying, "Even during COVID-19 pandemic situation, our college is conducting various online events and encouraging our skills. Through this event, I got an opportunity to express my interest and put forth my thoughts on

entrepreneurship using a video illustration. I would like to thank professor **Mr. Amit Singh** (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology), **Krishik Rao** (Public Relations Officer, E-Cell), and the whole VESIT E-Cell team for this event."

Faculty Incharge: Mr. Amit Singh (Assistant Professor, Department of Information

Through this inspirational program, participants were able to get the notion of entrepreneurship by learning and researching about the same. All the participants were provided with an e-certificate.

Design Thinking: A Tool for Problem Solving-Project to Product

-Nishtha Batra

The Department of Electronics and Telecommunications (EXTC) in association with VESIT - Institutions' Innovation Council (IIC) and VESIT - Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) organized an E-Session on "Design Thinking: A tool for problem solving (Project to Product)" on 26th July 2021 at 10:00 AM.

The seminar was conducted on the ZOOM platform and lasted for an hour. The speaker of the event was **Mr. Premkumar Joshi,** Lecturer, Diploma - Mechanical Engineering, Father Agnel Polytechnic, Navi Mumbai. He is renowned for his expertise in the Department of Mechanics with more than 16 years of professional experience.

The event was marshaled to introduce the students to the unfolding of design thinking and motivate them to work up their skills for future ventures. The session was hosted by IIC student representative **Sakshi Davkhar,**(D19A).

Keynote speaker Mr. Premkumar Joshi

Dr. Nadir Charniya, (Department of Electronics and Telecommunication) initiated the Session

The session was initiated by **Dr. Nadir Charniya**, (Department of Electronics and Telecommunication) as he gave a brief introduction to the term Design Thinking and the agenda behind the seminar. The main objective was to exhibit the participants of the process of Project to Product from the Ideation, POC, Prototype, and Product stages through design thinking. Mr. Premkumar Joshi set the premise by explaining the importance of Design Thinking considering the job offerings and market scenarios. He stated that- "In the case of new product development, what counts is not just the idea- it's about following through and executing the idea." Following this statement, he explained the concept of design thinking, its definition, and its scope. The unfamiliar term design thinking is a nonlinear monotonous process to understand

the customer's need, challenge assumptions and enumerate problems to formulate solutions that might not be instantly apparent with the initial level of understanding. Design thinking is a practice not only limited to designers but adapted by great innovators of all times and getting recognized by the world's leading brands.

The session student host Sakshi Davkhar (D19A)

He also explained innovations can be made more beneficial by contemplating desirability, feasibility, and viability. Desirability revolves around the user's wants and needs, feasibility computes the efficiency and commercial viability analyzes the long-term success of the drafted solutions. This process makes sure that the product or service not only meets the requirements of the user but is also easy to implement and has commercial value

as well. He efficiently used graphics, examples, and assigned activities at intervals to support his arguments.

Furthermore, Mr. Joshi gave deep insights into Design thinking, the detailed steps, tools, and materials for converting the Project to Product. An innovator is entitled to go through the five stages of design thinking- Empathise, Define(the problem), Ideate, Prototype, and Test, where each one is crucial and plays its role in the success of a solution. The different tools adopted can be physical such as pen, paper, and boards or software tools with rich graphics to support the process. The ultimate key to design thinking is to be able to empathize with the customer and enumerate out-of-the-box solutions.

In conclusion, Mr. Premkumar Joshi shared some projects which were successfully converted to products to motivate the participants to make them understand that no matter what organization they are from they can achieve what others have achieved. Design thinking innovations have evolved to a customer-centered market and succeeded with ideation, inspiration, and implementation. The event received a healthy participation of a total of 125 students from different departments of the college and 22 faculties attended the webinar.

Mr. Joshi was successful in developing a mindset for design thinking among attendees, with the knowledge of how to start a project and build a product.

Program co-ordinators (L-R): Mrs. Shobha Krishnan, (Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication), and Dr. C.D. Rawat, (Deputy Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication) and Mr. Mrugendra Vasmatkar (Assistant professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication)

The program was successfully coordinated by the IIC EXTC student team and **Mrs. Shobha Krishnan,** (Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication), and **Dr. C.D. Rawat,** (Deputy Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication) and **Mr. Mrugendra Vasmatkar** (Assistant professor, Department of

Electronics and Telecommunication), supported and encouraged the students' coordinator for making this program successful.

A question and answer forum was conducted to have an interactive session. Finally, student coordinator **V. Anuparvathi** (D14A). concluded the session by giving a vote of thanks. "The session was insightful and rightly portrayed the journey of a product from the ideation phase to its completion phase. The speaker was successfully able to deliver the content in an engaging way which was really great! Lastly, the facilitators did a great job conducting the session in a timely manner." said participant Mcvean Soans(D14A) when asked about his opinion of the session.

Vote of thanks from V.Anuparvathi (D14A)

STTP on Blockchain and its Applications: Phase 4

-C S Lakshmi

A weeklong event from 16th august 2021 to 21st august 2021 was organized by VESIT's Department of Information technology. The event was the fourth phase of a multiphase comprehensive series on Blockchain and its Applications. The topic of this Short Term Training Program was 'Blockchain Basics and Use Cases'.

The **AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education)** sponsored event was held in association with the Department of Computer Engineering and the Department of Master of Computer Applications under the guidance of VESIT Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and VESIT Institution's Innovation Council (IIC).

(L-R): Dr. Shiv Kumar Goel (Head, Department of Master of Computer Applications) and Dr. Shiv Kumar Goel (Head of Department, Department of Master of Computer Applications) introduced the esteemed speakers

Day 1
The first day of the event started with Saraswati Puja. **Dr. (Mrs.) M. Vijayalakshmi** (Vice Principal, VESIT.) officially announced the beginning of the STTP and gave a course overview while expressing her gratitude towards AICTE, and the dignitaries and participants. **Dr. Shiv Kumar Goel** (Head, Department of Master of Computer Applications) introduced the esteemed speakers for the week-long event.

The speaker for the first session of day 1 was **Dr. Ashish Pandey** (Associate Professor, IIT Bombay) The session was on **National Education Policy 2020** which covered the following topics :

- The State of Learning & Research in India.
- Ideal Learning & Research strategy for our Indian education system
- How the pursuit of knowledge, wisdom, and truth was considered in Indian Philosophy as the highest human goal.
- Enlisting the Ancient universities in India.
- NEP Fundamental Policies.
- Major problems faced by the Higher Education System in India
- Regulation of Higher Education
- Role of Teacher in NEP 2020.

Dr. Ashish Pandey (Associate Professor, IIT Bombay) introduced the speakers

Mr. Bandenawaz Bagwan (Senior Trainer, Finland Labs) was the speaker of the second session of the day. The session covered the topics like issues prevailing in the current banking system and the effect of bitcoin on it. He also guided the participants about blockchain, its features, transactions in a blockchain, its importance, and real-life applications.

Day 2
The second day of the event was led by **Mr. Bandenawaz Bagwan** (Senior Trainer, Finland Labs). This first session of day 2 was on cryptocurrency. Topics like fiat currency, bitcoin, Crypto-currency wallet, working of Cryptocurrency and its benefits, and bitcoin working and mining were discussed.

In the second session, the participants were guided in creating basic Blocks for developing a demo blockchain. The speaker also demonstrated how to connect various blocks along with security aspects while prompting the participants to perform the operations along with him.

Day 3
Mr. Bandenawaz Bagwan (Senior Trainer, Finland Labs) began the day by explaining a transaction in Cryptocurrency. Further, the following topics were covered:
- Ethereum
- Features of Ethereum
- Applications of Ethereum
- Decentralized Applications
- EVM: Ethereum Virtual Machine

The second session of the day kicked off with the speaker demonstrating a Smart Contract. This was followed by a hands-on session on Crypto wallet. The participants performed the operations along with the speaker making the session engaging.

Day 4
Mr. Bandenawaz Bagwan (Senior Trainer, Finland Labs) guided the participants to write a code for the elections. He helped the participants with displaying the election candidates using the code.

Speaker: Mr. Bandenawaz Bagwan (Senior Trainer, Finland Labs)

The second session continued with Election Application in Blockchain. The participants were also helped with displaying the votes cast by the voters during the Election. Further, the speaker assisted the participants to create a metamorph wallet. The session was concluded with a live quiz.

Day 5

Mr. Bandenawaz Bagwan (Senior Trainer, Finland Labs) started the first session of Day 5 by guiding the participants in creating an ETH swap smart contract using ERC-20 Tokens. Later, the speaker demonstrated how to integrate Metamask and Ganache with smart contracts.

During the second session of Day 5, the speaker demonstrated how to create applications for buying and selling our own cryptocurrencies from scratch.

Day 6

The last day of the STTP began with **Mr. Bandenawaz Bagwan** (Senior Trainer, Finland Labs) creating a Blockchain-based lottery smart contract to pick a winner from various nodes taking part in a lottery. He then demonstrated how to integrate metamask and ganache with smart contracts.

During the last session, the speaker demonstrated how to create front-end applications for implementing this lottery-based system. The participants also actively interacted with the speaker in the session making it engaging.

The fourth phase of the STTP on 'Blockchain Platform & its Applications' was concluded on 21st August 2021 with a Valedictory Function in the presence of dignitaries and participants. **Ms. Vaishali Gatty** (Assistant Professor, Department of Master Of Computer Applications) was moderater for the function who started with a brief on the deliberations, sessions, and learnings during this phase of the event and a vote of thanks to AICTE, the dignitaries, and the participants.

An overall Feedback was taken from all participants via the Google Form. **Mrs. Ashwini Sawant** (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication) commented, "The sessions were very informative". A participant, **Dr. K. Senthil Kumar** (Associate Professor, Rajalakshmi Engineering College, Tamil Nadu) described the event as " a great learning experience" and addressed the gathering with positive feedback for the STTP during the last session.

Ms. Vaishali Gatty (Assistant Professor, Department of Master Of Computer Applications) was the moderator the event

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Mrs. Vidya Pujari (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology)
Mrs. Lifna C S (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering)

Exploring Patenting through Research

- Jagruti Dhamal

VESIT Research Forum and Department of Computer Engineering, in collaboration with VESIT - IIC, the Institution's Innovation Council and under the supervision of VESIT - IQAC, the Internal Quality Assurance Cell, organised a virtual workshop on the topic Research Talk on Exploring Patenting through Research, the primary aim of which is to help the faculties and research scholars to get an idea about the process involved in Patenting and provides guidance with respect to filling Patents.

The workshop commenced at 11:00 a.m. on 30th July, 2021 via Google Meeting, with **Ms. Amruta Kulkarni** (Sr. Associate Legal & Trademarks, Brainiac IP Solutions) as the guest speaker. The fact that the event drew 131 students and 33 faculty members speaks eloquently about how educational it was.

A quick introduction to the speaker by **Mrs. Richa Sharma** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering), MOC of the day was the start of the research discussion. Ms. Kulkarni, who spoke, opened the event with a discussion on "What are Intellectual Property Rights(IPR)?".

The speaker continued the session with examples for each type, covering the many sorts of property rights. The talk then focused on patenting in India, starting with the Patentability Criteria, What is not patentable in India? For a better comprehension of participants, Section 3 has been explained in depth. The speaker then covered in-depth the process of drawing up a patent and the contents of a patent.

Guest Speakers (L-R): Mr. Vinayak Khobrekar (Head Marketing, Brainiac IP Solutions) and Ms. Amruta Kulkarni (Sr. Associate Legal & Trademarks, Brainiac IP Solutions)

A question-and-answer session had the students and faculty members putting forth their queries to the speaker, and gaining more information from them. **Mr. Vinayak Khobrekar** (Head Marketing, Brainiac IP Solutions) from Brainiac IP Solutions summed up the measures through which Brainiac IP Solutions is willing to cooperate with the Institute after the question-and-answer session.

The session ended with a thanksgiving vote delivered by **Mrs. Lifna C S** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering) to Ms. Kulkarni by handing over the Certificate of Appreciation.

Mrs. Sunita Sahu (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering), faculty from the IIC team grabbed the title of Star performer of the activity from faculties and **Akhil Chakkungal** (D12B), grabbed the title of Star performer of the activity from students.

(L-R): Mrs. Sunita Sahu (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering), Star Performer of the activity from faculty, Akhil Chakkungal (D12B), Star Performer of the activity from students.

"I have attended the seminar on Exploring Patenting through Research on 30th July 2021 organised by the Computer department in association with IQAC. The session is very informative for beginners and very helpful for me to get started with my patenting journey. It also discussed the various guidelines and ethics for

patent writing in detail.", said **Mrs. Amrita Jhaveri** (Assistant Professor, Electronics Department).

"It was great! The way everything was explained in the webinar was really good.", said Dimple Nachnani(D17C).

Event Convener:
Dr. (Mrs.) Sharmila Sengupta, Associate Professor,

Department of Computer Engineering
Research Talk Co-ordinators:
Mr. Richard Joseph, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering
Mrs. Lifna C S, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering
Mrs. Richa Sharma, Assistant Professor,

Department of Computer Engineering
Chief Patrons:
Shri. B. L. Boolani, Managing Trustee, President, VES
Dr. (Mrs.) J. M. Nair, Principal, VESIT
Dr. (Mrs.) M. Vijayalakshmi, Vice Principal, VESIT

E-Exhibition under e-Disha

- Atharva Bhoite

Project **E-Exhibition** under e-Disha was held on 3rd August 2021 by The Department of Information Technology in Association with VESIT- Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) and VESIT - Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) to showcase selected final year innovative projects undertaken during the academic year 2020-2021.

In the exhibition, **16 projects** were exhibited. All the projects that were presented were undoubtedly outstanding since they were the selected best of the IT section. The projects were made by the third and final year students of the IT department.

Each group had selected one or a combination of domains as a base for their project. Group No.7 had their project "Krushi Sahyog- AI-powered Agriculture" based on the domain Artificial Intelligence. The aim of this project was the inclusion of Artificial Intelligence in the field of agriculture to improvise the yield of crops.

Another Group No.8 chose their project, "Monitoring of epidemic outbreaks using social media data" from a combination of domains like Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, and Data Science. The motive of their project was to reduce the impact of epidemics and their
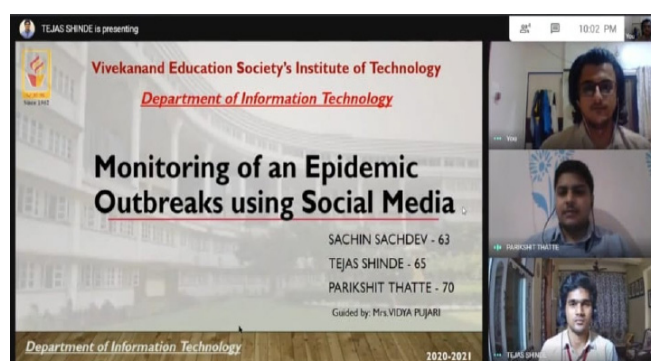

Top-Bottom: Sachin Sachdev (D20), Parikshit Thatte (D20), Tejas Shinde (D20) from group 8 presenting their project

prevention by early monitoring and detection.

Similarly, the domain Virtual Reality was chosen by Group No.1 in their project, "VR Photography Embedded Map with Grid-Based Indoor Positioning". This project is an advancement in the field of age-old Global Positioning systems with enhanced features. Apart from all these, the exhibition also got to see creative and varied projects from domains like Data Mining, Deep Learning, and Security.

One of the participants from Group no. 14, Bhagyashree Thanwani (D20) said, "Amidst the

global pause in the world, one cannot afford to miss an opportunity to showcase their work digitally and E-Exhibition provided us with that opportunity where I and my team demonstrated our project/ idea on "Fake News Detection" system. Overall, this was a great experience for all of us, E-exhibition was a great platform that not only helped us to put forth our ideas but also to build our skillset on public speaking. I would like to thank Prof. Asha Bharambe and Prof. Vidya Pujari for coordinating the event. I would also like to thank the VESIT e-Disha team and our very own IT department".
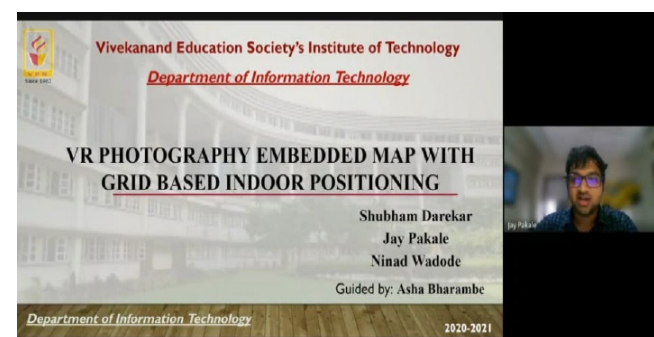
Jay Pakale (D20) highlighting the importance of Virtual Reality and introducing their group project

Pitch like a Pro

- Amaan Humdule

With the growing engagement of the people in the research and startup sector, there arises a huge competition of ideas. Along with uniqueness in ideas, there stands a requirement of skills to pitch your ideas to the investor and get your ideas monetized. Under the guidance of Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and VESIT Research Forum, in association with Institution's Innovation Council (ICC), Department of Computer Engineering, VESIT organized a virtual Research Forum Talk on the topic "**Pitch like a Pro**", the primary aim of which was to guide the faculties and research scholars on how to pitch your business ideas to the investors.

The Speaker: Mr. Chinten Oza (Your Sherpa in Digital & beyond, President India region at One Quantum, Director at Founder Institute Mumbai)

The workshop commenced at 11:00 am on 7th August 2021 via Zoom Meeting, with **Mr. Chintan Oza** (Your Sherpa in Digital & beyond, President India region at One Quantum, Director at Founder Institute Mumbai) as the guest speaker. In total there were 7 student participants and 22 participants included faculty members.

The objective of this event was to provide an overview of how an investment works and on what basis investors monetize the ideas. This workshop aimed for guidance on the topics such as the Procedure to approach an investor and how to prepare a pitch for investors.

The Research talk started with a brief introduction to the speaker by **Dr. (Mrs.) Sharmila Sengupta** (Associate Professor, Department of Computer Enginnering). The speaker started the session with a discussion of how well did India perform in this pandemic with respect to patents and inventions. The speaker carried forward the session by discussing how to prepare the pitch for the investor. How can a pitch be small but impactful was covered. He made the participants work on various short exercises to prepare the pitch with his templates. He went through all submissions of each participant and also gave good suggestions. He prepared the participants to think in a different way. He gave some very important guidelines on how to prepare for the big day of the pitch.

The Workshop came out as one of the

most educational sessions held by the institution. The objectives of the Research Talk were clearly stated. Keynote pertaining to Entrepreneurship and Investors was helpful in getting you started on your journey. How to find the investors for the product was properly covered by the speaker. The procedure for Pitching was elaborated & understood. The insights provided by the speaker on Entrepreneurship and Investors were helpful.
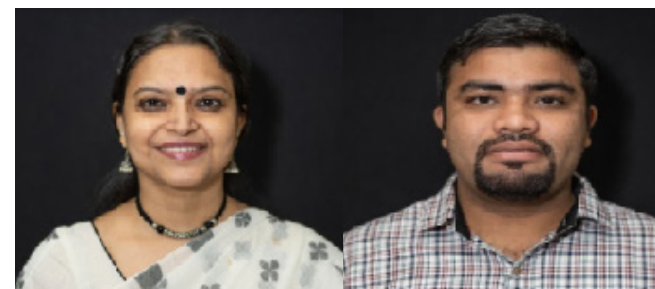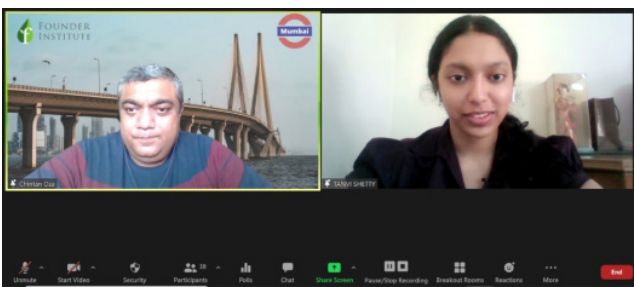

Dr. (Mrs.) Sharmila Sengupta (Associate Professor, Department of Computer Engineering) and Mr. Richard Joseph (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering), convener and coordinator for the event

The session ended with a vote of thanks delivered by **Mr. Richard Joseph** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering, VESIT Research Forum Member - CMPN) to Mr. Chintan Oza, by handing over the Certificate of Appreciation.
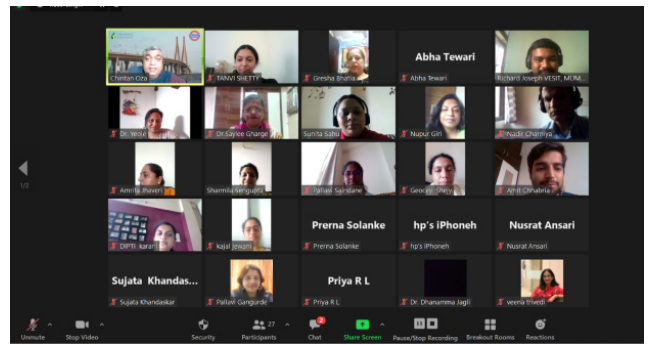
Screenshot of the Zoom Meeting interaction session with Mr. Chintan Oza

Tanvi Shetty (D17B), was voted as the 'Star Performer' by the students. She said, "It was a really insightful and engaging session by Mr.Chintan Oza. I for one learnt a lot about how one should pitch their startup ideas, how to be confident, importance of body language and how grab the best of opportunities. Overall the session was very insightful, beginer as well as expert friendly with a lot of fun and informative discussions"

Mr. Chinta Oza interacting with the star performer Tanvi Shetty(Student coordinator, CMPN, D17B)

Research Areas and Funding Prospects for Academic Institutions

- Tanaya Gaikar

VESIT Research Forum in association with VESIT - IIC, and IQAC held a seminar on "Research Areas and funding prospects for academic institutions" especially for the Faculties and Research Scholars, Department of Computer Engineering on 4th August 2021. The seminar was conducted on the zoom platform and lasted for one and a half hours.

Dr. B Satyanarayana, is a Project Coordinator, India- Based Neutrino Observatory (INO), Mumbai. The event Convener was **Dr. (Mrs.) Sharmila Sengupta** (Associate Professor, Department of Computer Engineering) and the faculty Coordinator were **Mr. Richard Joseph** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering), **Mrs. Lifna C.S.** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering), **Mrs. Richa Sharma** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering) with **Ajay Nair** (D12A) as the Student Coordinator.

Speaker: Dr. B Satyanarayana, Project Coordinator, India- Based Neutrino Observatory (INO), Mumbai

(Top-Bottom, L-R): Event Convener was Dr. (Mrs.) Sharmila Sengupta and the faculty coordinators were Mr. Richard Joseph, Mrs. Lifna C.S. and Mrs. Richa Sharma

A total of 30 faculty and 2 students attended the session. The target audience was mostly faculty and Research Scholars. The main objective of the session was Introduction to Research Areas and Guidance towards Funding Agencies. The Research Talk started with a brief introduction of the speaker by Mrs. Richa Sharma, the MOC of the day.

The speaker, Dr. B Satyanarayana, started the session with a discussion of What is Intellectual Property Rights? He discussed the two dimensions of problem choice in an understandable manner. The most important topic, Low hanging fruit point was also mentioned. He also stated that "We would like problems which are both feasible and with high interest, which are likely to extend our knowledge significantly." During Research, few problems are grand challenges. Later, various processes involved in identifying Research Problems were explained simultaneously.

Since research is not as easy as it looks, he walked the audience through the Typical Research process, which included the research problem to reporting of research findings.

Furthermore, the speaker discussed the different types of Property Rights with examples for each type. Later the speaker focussed on the discussion of Patenting starting with Patentability Criteria in India (i.e. what is not patentable in India?) which was explained under Section 3 in detail for a better understanding for the participants. He also explained the 'Big Bang to today: Spectrum of Science' which was really interesting. Later, the speaker discussed the process of drafting a Patent in detail along with the contents in a Patent. The speaker also mentioned some useful links for collaboration and grants.

The workshop helped the faculties to get an idea about the Funding Agencies for Research. Dr. B Satyanarayan was successful in developing a mindset for Research among the attendees, with the knowledge of how to choose a suitable research topic. Attendees got an idea about the current Research Trends, Different Funding Agencies for Research.

The session ended with a vote of thanks delivered by Mrs. Lifna C S to Dr. B Satyanarayana, by handing over the Certificate of Appreciation. The Star performer of the activity from the faculty was from the IIC team Mrs. Sunita Sahu (Assistant Professor, Computer Engineering) and the Star performer of the activity from students was student coordinator Ajay Nair (D12A). Ajay Nair (D12A) said," It was a great event. The speakers nicely explained all the things related to research, patents, etc. It was very informative."

"Every citizen of India must remember that... he is an Indian and he has every right in this country but with certain ...duties"

- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

VESIT Voice

-Sristi Kushwaha

The month of August brings monsoon and with that, it also brings a power-packed month for VESIT. It is not just the month of enjoying rainy days but also the month in which we celebrate India's 75 years of Independence. VESIT saw a wide variety of diverse events this month, let's have a look at it.

Vivekanand Education Society and its affiliated institutions (VES) with Vijnana Bharati Konkan Prant (VIBHA) conducted 'Swatantrata ka Amrut Mahotsav' to celebrate 75 years of Independence. VESIT students along with 12 architecture students to participate in a national-level competition arranged by Solar Decathlon India. VESIT Alumni engagement initiative organized by VESIT-IQAC in association with VESIT-IIC conducted V-Reach 2.0. The MCA Department organized an E-Session on Startup and Fundraising. VESIT organized a Design Thinking webinar for preparing the entrepreneurship mindset. On the occasion of World Entrepreneurship Day, VESIT's E-Cell organized a self-driven event on the theme of 'My thoughts about Entrepreneurship'. Electronics and Telecommunications Department (EXTC) organized an E-Session on "Design Thinking - A tool for problem-solving (Project to Product)". VESIT's Department of Information Technology conducted a weeklong event for the fourth phase of STTP on Blockchain and its Applications. VESIT Research Forum and the Department of Computer Engineering arranged virtual workshops on topics like 'Exploring Patenting through Research' and 'Pitch like a Pro'. A Project E-Exhibition under e-Disha was held by the Department of Information Technology to showcase selected final year innovative projects. VESIT Research Forum held a seminar on "Research Areas and funding prospects for academic institutions", especially for the Faculties.

In the Diaries section, we have Mr. Piyush Thoravat, from the 2018 Batch of Electronics and Telecommunications (EXTC) who is now a Cinematographer. He talks about his college days, filmmaking career and a lot more.

VESIT Connect Team

Musings and Expressions

75 Years of Independence

The faculty of the EXTC department at VESIT celebrating Independence Day (Top-Bottom, L-R): Mrs. Manisha Chattopadhyay (Deputy Head of Department), Mr. Gaurav Tawde (Assistant Professor), Mrs. Ashwini Sawant (Assistant Professor), Dr. (Mrs.) Nandini Ammanagi (Assistant Professor), Mrs. Himali Patel (Assistant Professor), Mrs. Jyoti Bagate (Assistant Professor), Mr. Chintan Jethva (Assistant Professor), Mrs. Manisha Joshi (Assistant Professor), Mrs. Shoba Krishnan (Retd. Head of Department), Mrs. Arti Sawant (Assistant Professor), Dr. Nadir N. Charniya (Professor), Monali Chaudhari (Assistant Professor), Dr. (Mrs.) Saylee Gharge (Associate Professor), Dr. Chandan Singh. D. Rawat (Head of Department), Mr. Mrugendra Vasmatkar (Assistant Professor), Dr. (Mrs.) Ranjan Bala Jain (Professor), Mrs. Rasika Naik (Assistant Professor) and Mrs. Neeta Chavan (Assistant Professor)

Independence Day

15th August 1947 is the day embossed in the golden history of India. It is the day when India got its freedom from the 200 years of British rule. It was a hard and long non-violent struggle in which many freedom fighters sacrificed their lives for our beloved motherland. Independence Day is like the birthday of our country. It is called the red-letter day in the history of our country and celebrated as a national holiday.

On this special occasion, the people of India remember the selfless sacrifices and unparalleled contributions of great men and women to achieve the independence of India. Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhas Chandra Bose, Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad, Sardar Patel, and Gopalbandhu Das are paid reverent homage by one and all in the country. Independence Day is observed with great honor at all the government and private institutions, schools, and colleges. Students take part in parades, sing the National Anthem before hoisting the National Flag. To celebrate this occasion, sports, and cultural competitions are conducted and prizes are awarded to the winners. Sweets are distributed to all. Patriotic songs can be heard at every street corner.

This day reminds us that our forefathers have done their share of duty and now it lies in our hands how we can shape and form the future of our country. They have played their part and have played it really well. The country now looks up to us as to how we perform our part. A wind of patriotism and National integration blows across the country on this day.

Puja Mahankuda (D9B)
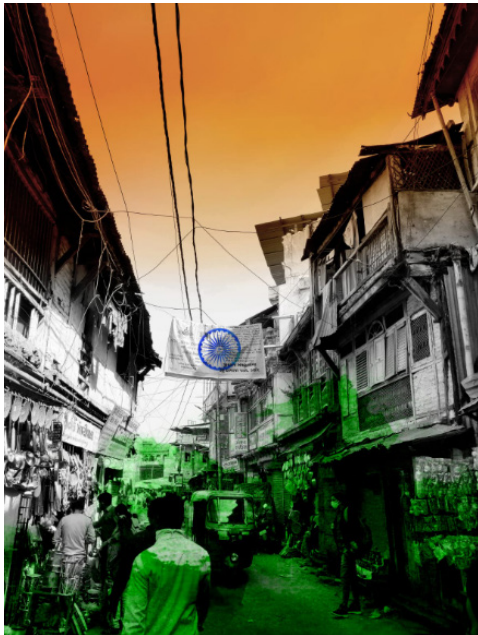
Pushkaraj Chaudhari (D10B)

Tejas Mahajan (D12A)

Krishna Janmashtami

Good afternoon my dear readers! I am Ashutosh Mishra, and it's an honour to connect with you all through this article. Today, I am going to tell a few things about "Krishna Janmashtami", the birthday of Lord Krishna. We will see the story behind the birth of Lord Krishna, the ways in which we celebrate this festival and many more about him. So, without any further delay and with the chant "Jai Shree Krishna", let's begin!

Krishna Janmashtami is celebrated every year in the month of Bhaadrapada, on the eighth day in the Krishna Paksha, as per the Hindu Calendar. There are many ways in which we celebrate this festival, like a group of people forming a pyramid and breaking an earthen pot containing curd (Dahi Handi), or making those paalnas (kind of a swing for babies) for little Krishna, or singing bhajans (devotional songs) in the midnight etc. Here as we understand, our country being rich in culture, celebrates this festival in many different ways!

Let us see the story behind Lord Krishna's birth. Vasudeva and Devaki (the biological parents of Lord Krishna) are arrested by Kansa (the brother of Devaki) in Mathura, due to a premonition that Devaki's eighth child will kill Kansa someday. With the blessings of Lord Vishnu, they give birth to their eighth child "Krishna", who is born in the midnight. Vasudeva then leaves his son to Gokul so that he lives peacefully in Gokul, as a foster home for Krishna. As a grown up, Krishna gets to know about his biological parents who are held captive in Mathura. He goes there, frees his parents, and kills Kansa.

Well, there are many such stories we've heard about Lord Krishna's childhood, like breaking pots and having those butter to eat, when Yashoda asks Krishna to open his mouth and then she sees the universe in it, and many more stories. It's greatly been quoted by Aristotle," God has many names, though he is only one being". Lord Krishna is known to us by many names, like Keshav, Govind, Chitchor, etc. From the stories from his childhood, we see how mischievous he is, which reminds us of ours. We know how our elders used to make us "Bal Krishna", in our childhood, which makes us feel so good.

We cannot forget how Krishna helped Arjuna in the Battle of Kurukshetra (Mahabharata), when Arjuna was reluctant to fight the Kaurawas. One of the most important learnings from the same is, "You should do your work without having the desire of its result". Are these learnings really important in our lives? Yes! Because whatever stories we've seen or heard about Lord Krishna, is somehow seen or felt by us in our lives. I mean, not just the happenings from his childhood or the Mahabharata, but also how he helped his friend Sudama. There are many such stories of Lord Krishna, the learnings of which can help us solve any of our problems in life.

In the end, I will just say that the festival of Janmashtami has a great significance in our lives, and we should not forget the learnings from Lord Krishna's life. Hope this article has helped you all in a positive way. Do feel free to suggest any topic if you want to. Thank you for giving your valuable time!

Ashutosh Mishra (D7C)

India of Our Dreams

India gained independence 75 years ago, yet it is not truly free. Independence does not simply mean freedom. We, as the citizens of this country, need to redefine the word. The India of my dreams is free from corruption, communalism, casteism, and all sorts of exploitation. India will be truly called independent, when its people would not be bound by shackles, when crime rate would be low, and justice prompt. When we transcend the boundaries of our own prejudices and connect to other individuals as equals.

The India of my dreams truly flourishes without stifling the potential of its women and does not deprive itself of the contribution of half its citizens. Women lead armies into wars, fight for their country and not for their safety. They are liberated from the fear of oppression, repression, and subjugation. The chains of fear are unshackled and are directed to the paths of progress and prosperity. Gender is no longer seen as two sets of opposing ideals.

The India of my dreams is a country that is not subjugated by castes, creed, superstitious beliefs and biased ideas. Indians are logical and progressive in thoughts and actions. The power of reason dominates the minds of our countrymen. The stream of reason is not lost among outdated customs and traditions. It is a nation where blind superstitious habits have not put out the light of reason. Where people's minds do not dwell on the mistakes of the past nor be possessed by it. Countrymen are unprejudiced and open-minded, accepting towards the new challenges and changes.

"Into that heaven of freedom, My Father, let my country awake."

Vishakha Kulkarni (D7C)

The Day when Twilight…

At the stroke of midnight,
Millions were filled with glee,
After a long persistent struggle,
Mother India finally became free.

From the shackles of a long reign,
An imperial reign of greed,
To oust that reckless reign from power,
Thousands were ready to bleed.

Finally came the day-
The day when twilight paved way for,
A bright morning with free air,
And rays of jubilation and hope.
But to become a great nation once again,
India still had to prepare;
Prepare to battle for a unified nation,
And to fly high without any limitation.

Incredibly and astonishingly,
Past all hurdles, against all the odds,
India now is on its way,
To become a global power-
In unison with the entire world,
Embracing and spreading its values,
Preserving the roots from which it emerged.

No matter how high a peak we climb,
We must always remember the day-
The day when twilight paved the way,
The way for a bright morning with free air,
And rays of jubilation and hope.

Without this display of spirit and courage,
The Incredible and Beautiful 'Golden Bird',
would have still been in a cage,
And from adversity to eminence,
It wouldn't have been such a smooth passage!!!

Mohit Shahdadpuri (D7A)

Home is where a Billion Hearts Reside

India is a multicultural heaven that is built on hope and hard work of more than a billion people.

The list runs miles when we talk about India's abundant cultural experience in the form of art, people, food, linguistics, religion ,media, beliefs, festivals, customs, economy etc. In India in about every 100KM distance one can experience a new cultural variant and in every 500KM can easily get to experience a completely different culture. The reasons for India's prepossessing diversity are also diversified. Having dynamic geographical landscape, intricate historic events, diaspora and migrant communities choosing India as their home are some of the reasons that explain why India is so culturally diverse. This diverse expat, cultural amalgamation and intertwingling of more than a billion of stories is what makes India what it is!

We also should realise that Cultures and Religions play immense importance in our nation. It drives important decisions affecting the economy, politics, infrastructure and growth of the country. Cultural diversity also affects the relevant and specific fields which fundamentally act as the emotional framework of our country in the 21st century : art, movies and social media etc.

Art is uniquely positioned to move people, get them together, incite new questions and provoke curiosity, excitement, and sometimes even outrage . In India everyone celebrates art irrespective of the faith of the artist. The different dance form of India offers scintillating experiences to the viewers. Along with the major dance forms like Bharatnatyam, Mohiniyattom, Koodiyattom, Kathakali, Kuchipudi, and Odissi, several other local and tribal versions of dances are also practiced in India.The music of India includes multiple varieties of classical music, folk music, filmi, Indian rock, Indian pop(derived from western rock and roll) India's classical music tradition, including Hindustani music and Carnatic, has a history spanning millennia and developed over several areas. Music in India began as an integral part of socio-religious life and brings people together irrespective of who they are . The Indian arts is so diverse whether it be performing arts or visual arts we have seen and continue to see people from varied backgrounds and cultures come together to blend ideas and create magic, be it on screens , stage, paper or canvas.

One such example of cultures blending is Sufi kathak :Manjari Chaturvedi, a leading Kathak dancer from the Lucknow gharana" has blended the mysticism of Sufism with the classicism of Kathak to evolve a new kind of dance, Sufi Kathak. "It is new and yet ancient," says Manjari Chaturvedi. Another Feminist example ,comes from the other side of the border , of Sheema kermani a Pakistani activist and a bharatnatyam dancer who came to India to learn and Bharatnatyam under Guru Leela Samson and went back and founded the Tehrik-e-Niswaan (Movement for Women). Together with a group of actors and artists, Sheema went to different neighbourhoods of Pakistan 177 and put on performances centred around the issues affecting that community. Even today she keeps championing for women's rights both through performing arts and community outreach. "There is no Hindu or Muslim dance, dance is dance," adds Suhaee Abro, a former student of Kirmani.

Just another example out of many which proves ,'Art knows no boundaries' quite literally . Cinema is immensely popular in india with about 2000 films produced in various languages every year. The diverse Indian cinema is a global enterprise, reaching over 90 countries. Indian cinema is said to be influenced by our epics Ramayana and Mahabharata , it's influence is seen in the techniques of side story, back-story and a story within a story. There are also elements of Parsi theatre, containing crude humour, melodious songs, sensationalism and dazzling stagecraft Indo-persian /Islamicate culture is another major influence on our cinema with Urdu being a lingua-franca of popular performances , poetry etc. Thus on account of all these influences we get this flourishing Indian filmindustry we see today. Indian film industry is increasingly trying to portray diverse characters and tell stories about people, communities which are important to be told. Culture and media are inseparable because media is part of culture. Media represents the various cultural heritages and is the mediator between culture and people. Mobile and the internet have created a new platform of networked cultures which are allowing us to share and celebrate each other and share light moments . Social media has become a great channel for display of cultural differences and similarities. It allows us to be aware, show solidarity and support wherever there is any tense situation in the country or the world ,giving us a sense of belonging in a global community and it's development as a whole. As the internet is slowly reaching all parts of India including the rural and remote parts we have more representation on such platforms to tell their stories and help us understand this fragmented world better .

In the south of Bombay there is a place called Dockyard Road. It is one of the oldest areas of Bombay, also one of the most culturally diverse areas ever. Literally on a single street there live Hindus, Christians, Muslims, Jains , Parsis Jews, and a small ethic Chinese community called the Seeyup. I am very delighted to have witnessed such a beautiful neighbourhood growing up . Dockyard's togetherness is on display at many festivals , including the Chinese New year's eve. When everyone gathers at the Chinese temple (kuan kung temple) and a celebration takes place to mark the new year . Not all of us there are believers but we are there because we are a community and celebrate each other. It is a community that I am proud and has made my life more meaningful.

Community is about finding each other and a place we can call home. Unity in diversity is India's strength . India has thrived on cultural diversity and will continue to be a Home for the billion of hearts who are all different, colourful and love to call India their home.

Anushka Kulkarni (D14A)

Aniket Ingle (D19B)

Chirag Kapoor (D19B)

Vedhas Kudtarkar (D16B)

A Soldier

We come along together,
To make a journey forever.
We guard India by land, sea and air
This commitment with our people is very fair!

We are nothing less than a band
Which has impenetrable warriors,
Protecting our motherland, without caring about the conditions
And accomplishing our target missions.

There's no such mission in which
We don't have a casualty
Getting out of it and fighting back
Is our supreme priority.

It's what we always learn from our battles
To focus on what's weak.
To bring peace to our loved ones, thereby our country
Is something we always seek.

Ashutosh Mishra (D7C)

A New Tomorrow

The aurora of a new tomorrow,
Whose beauty will be hidden to none-
Melody of success of my motherland,
Shall echo in every mountain and canyon.

Prosperity shall lie in every clan,
Helping hands would be ready every now and then,
For one and all, together we shall,
Rise to the mission,
Mission to make a great nation,
With enormous zeal and passion.

The hard-fought battle of freedom,
Will not go in vain,
We'll make our beloved home-
"Sone Ki Chidiya" Again!!!!

Mohit Shahdadpuri (D7A)

Disha Raghani (D7A)

Tithi Jhamnani (D7B)

Hrutuja Mestry (D6A)

Puja Mahankuda (D9B)

VESIT Diaries

- Anushka Kulkarni

For August Diaries we have **Mr. Piyush Thoravat,** graduated in 2018 from the Department of Electronics and Telecommunications who is a **Cinematographer**! He has worked on many award winning short films and also was a writer of the very loved Netflix series Little Things-S3. Here he talks about his college days, filmmaking career and lots more.

1. Tell us something about your college life at VESIT.
Being a part of VPC and then being active in college festivals like Utsav or Illusion not only left me with memories for a lifetime but, changed my life and career entirely.

2. What was the most memorable moment at VESIT?
The first documentary I ever made for the festival Illusions. Every moment making that made me realise how much I loved visual arts and expressing myself through it. The most memorable moment from that period was watching the final cut of that film with my VA team and the happiness and plans to win the competition after it.

3. Which extra-curricular and co-curricular activities were you involved in? How did it help you?
I was highly involved in all visual art related activities in college. I was head of VesitPhotocircle in final year. Also, I was in the management committee of team imperials for both year 2017 and 2018. I discovered my passion for cinematography and made a thoughtful change from engineering to filmmaking.

4. Tell us something about your professional life just after VESIT. Where are you currently working?
In my final year, I had already received an opportunity to work in a company named 'Bollywood Times'. I also had a good resume and experience making short films and commercial work. So, I also worked on a Netflix series named **'Little Things'** after that. I kept working on other projects like short films and ads as well. Currently, I am working with the company Pocket Aces pvt. Ltd as a Director of photography.

5. You started working on films and media during your days at VESIT. Please share your experience. How did you manage it along with academics?
Yes, I did start working in films and media during my days at VESIT. College fests provided me with an opportunity to make films.
Working outside of college during those days was definitely a challenge. Time management and a suitable time college timetable made it possible for me. It used to be a lot hectic but, I enjoyed it.

6. What did writing for the Netflix show 'Little Things' look like? Tell us about that! (What were some interesting stories from the 'writers' room'?)
Gathering everyday to brainstorm lot of nuances from our lives and their effect and interpretation was an exercise that not only made me better as a filmmaker but, as a human being as well. I started appreciating small things in my life.
I have so many favourite memories from that time but, one of favourites is the "Post it notes" on snacks and chairs. They always created laughter and smiles and good movements that made it into the script.

7. You went to study at 'New York Film Academy', Los Angels campus. For a One year cinematography program, how did you decide on that course, tell us about that experience studying there?
During the time I was working in the film industry, I felt the need to learn more about hands-on experience in cinematography. After shotlisting colleges that provide hands on experience New York Film Academy had better alumni's as well as conversation with their alumini's finallized my choice. Los Angeles is a city that "breathes film" so, obviously I did not feel like an outsider. Attending lectures throughout the day and working on films afterwards, watching very rare old films everyday. Isn't that a dream come true?

8. Cinematography sounds exciting! How did you decide to pursue it as a career and how has your experience being a cinematographer been so far? What are some films/documentaries you worked on; and some that our readers can watch?
Creating visuals to tell a story is challenging. The technical and artistic challenge in it excites me. Also, every project makes me appreciate the beauty of the world around us. This progression was essential for me because it is provided by cinematography more than any other career I could have pursued .
Well, being a cinematographer is definitely challenging but, seeing the world in a new light, recreating it, is a wonderful experience. As a cinematographer I also get to see new places and interact with new people on an emotional level. There are also some disadvantages to being a cinematographer but, I like the mixture of good and bad that these fields provide.
I have recently worked on a short film that won **Cannes Film Festival** named 'Greenroom: Thehrav'. Also, another award winning shortfilm named 'Tower' which is based in the rural areas of Kokan. Online you'll able to see the music videos that I made for amicable crew like Ghatak and Smooth Life. My commercial work for brands like Mondelez, hershey's , Dewar's can be found online. Some of it is also available on the youtube channel named 'Gobble'.

9. What does a "day in the life of a cinematographer" look like? What are some things you like doing apart from work? Any book/movie recommendations?
Well, shoot days are the most exciting. So much so that it's even difficult to get to sit the entire day. Other days are a bit chilling. But, still they are mostly filled with watching movies for references, meetings with directors making visual books , testing new equipment, planning for the shoot etc.
Apart from work I love to trek, I love roaming in museums and art galleries. I also love to try new restaurants and different types of food.
Well, some of the movies that are close to my heart are :
- On body and soul(swedish)
- The portrait of lady on fire (French)
- Like father Like son(Japanese)
- The English Patient (British)
- Tumbaad (Hindi)
- Kumbalangi nights (Tamil)
- Old boy (Korean)

I have so many more movie recommendations but, I love these movies because they see us humans in a new light. These movies will definitely make viewers think deeply about their life.

10. Working towards your passion is "the dream" for many! How does it feel? What would you recommend to anyone who loves to be behind the lens and would like to pursue it as a career?
If you love photography or cinematography, click as many photos as you can and shoot whatever you will be able to. Keep pushing yourself artistically. If you still love it then do pursue it as a career.

11. Any interesting anecdotes or stories/funny incidents from college life or professional life that you'd like to share with us?
Back in illusions 2018, I remember the day when my documentary, 'The Blue Funk' was screened. It was about depression. I won third prize for it but, I still remember both of my best friends crying while watching it and hugging me tightly after the screening. That was the best compliment I could have ever received.

12.Your message to the new generation at VESIT!
To the new generation, I'd like to say enjoy your four years of engineering at VESIT. Get out of your comfort zones and try new things during these four years. I did and my life took a 360 degree turn, but, whatever happens the friends and the memories of these four years will stay with you for a long time.

Mr. Piyush Thoravat