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## Warm Adieu to A Wonderful Teacher



VESIT bid farewell to one of the most beloved teachers, **Mrs. Shobha Krishnan**, who was the Head of Department of Electronics and Telecommunications on her retirement day on 31st October 2021. She has held this dignified position for over thirty-four years now and... **Continued on Page 8.**

## Ushering into Space Research

-Mohit Shahidapuri

VESIT is proud to announce that we are now a Network Institute with the **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** from 16th November 2021, under the **Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS)**. **Dr. Parmeshwar Birajdar** (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics Engineering) is the coordinator for IIRS-ISRO Outreach Programme.

Through the EDUSAT Programme initiative, live online courses will be conducted by elite scientists from ISRO for the students and faculty of VESIT. Students and faculty can now register in ISRO certified E-learning courses, which will help them to enhance their skills for their professional careers in remote sensing, geospatial, and space technology applications using online simulated learning content.



**Co-ordinator of the IIRS-ISRO outreach programme: Dr. Parmeshwar Birajdar (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics Engineering)**



**Logo of the IIRS-ISRO Outreach Programme**

The training and education programmes at IIRS includes short duration customized courses, PG Diploma and Master's Degree (M.Tech and M.Sc) in various disciplines.

Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS) under Indian Space Research Organization, Department of Space, Government of India is a premier training and educational institute set up for developing trained professionals in the field of Remote Sensing, Geoinformatics and GPS Technology for Natural Resources, Environmental and Disaster Management founded in 1966.

The programme is one of its kind in the entire South-East Asia. It functions as a constituent Unit of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), Department of Space, Government of India while nurturing its primary endeavor to build capacity among the user community by training mid-career professionals.

Remote Sensing and Geoinformation Science have become key technology tools for the collection, storage and analysis of spatially referenced data for resource planning and decision making. Today it is the backbone of many decision-making systems and location-based services emerging in the New Information Economy.

Planners and decision-makers utilize these Geospatial technologies for a variety of applications in forestry, mining, water resources, environmental analysis as well as infrastructure.

It is indeed a really proud moment for every individual who is a part of this which is ushering into a new era of space research.

## Online Faculty Development Programme on Deep Learning Using Python

-Abhiroop Bhattacharjee

Vivekanand Education Society's Institute Of Technology, Department of MCA conducted a Two Day Online **Faculty Development Programme on "Deep Learning using Python"**. Organized under the guidance of VESIT IQAC & Approved by Ad-hoc Board of Studies in MCA, University of Mumbai, the FDP was held on 29 & 30 October 2021 from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

The session was open to faculty members of all institutes. **Dr. (Mrs.) Dhannama Jagli** (Deputy Head, Master of Computer Applications) was the host for this workshop which was attended by over 50 faculty members from different colleges across Mumbai.

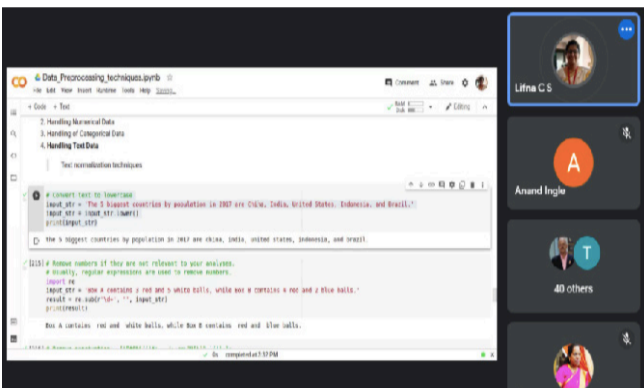
The Session commenced at 2:30 pm on the 29th of October with **Dr. Shiv Kumar Goel** (Head, Master of Computer Applications) giving the

welcome address. This was followed by greetings from the Ad-hoc Board of Studies.



(L-R): Dr. Shiv Kumar Goel (Head, Master of Computer Applications) gave the welcome address and Dr. (Mrs.) Dhannama Jagli (Deputy Head, Master of Computer Applications) was the host of the programme

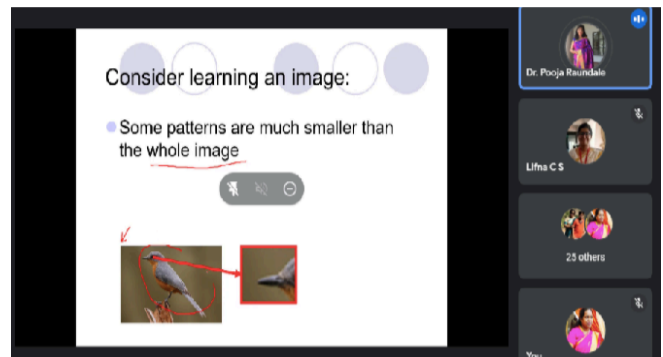
The 1st session was conducted by Mrs. Lifna C.S (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering) on Data Preprocessing Techniques from 2:50 pm to 3:40 pm.



Screenshot of Session 1 by Mrs. Lifna C.S (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering) on Data Preprocessing Techniques

Session on Artificial Neural Networks by Dr. (Mrs.) Krantee Jamdaade (Assistant Professor, TIMSCDR) was next, from 3:40 pm to 4:30 pm. The final session of the day was conducted by Dr. (Mrs.) Pooja Raundale (Head of Department MCA, S.P.I.T) on Deep Neural network algorithm- Convolutional neural network (CNN).

The next day, 30 October, began at 2:30 pm. The 4th session of the workshop was conducted by Mrs. Sangeeta Oswal (Assistant Professor, Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science) on Regularization Techniques from 2:35 pm to 3:45 pm.



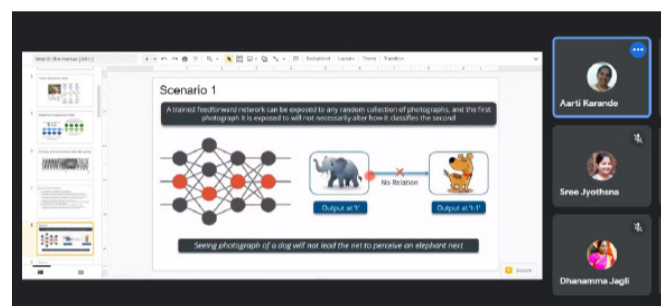
Screenshot of Session 3 by Dr. (Mrs.) Pooja Raundale (Head, Department of MCA, S.P.I.T) on Convolutional neural network

The 5th and final session of the workshop was on Deep Neural Network Algorithm - Recurrent Neural Network (RNN), which began at 3:45pm. It was conducted by Dr. (Mrs.) Aarti Karande (Assistant Professor, SPIT).

There was a question and answer session which was followed by a valedictory address after which the 2 day workshop came to an end at 5:30 pm.



Speakers for the programme (Top-bottom, L-R): Mrs. Lifna C.S (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering), Dr. (Mrs.) Krantee Jamdaade (Assistant Professor, TIMSCDR), Dr. (Mrs.) Pooja Raundale (Head, Department of MCA, S.P.I.T), Mrs. Sangeeta Oswal (Assistant Professor, Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science), and Dr. (Mrs.) Aarti Karande (Assistant Professor, SPIT)



Screenshot of Session 5 by Dr. (Mrs.) Aarti Karande (Assistant Professor, SPIT) on Recurrent Neural Network

# Mission Yuva Swasthya: COVID-19 Vaccination Drive

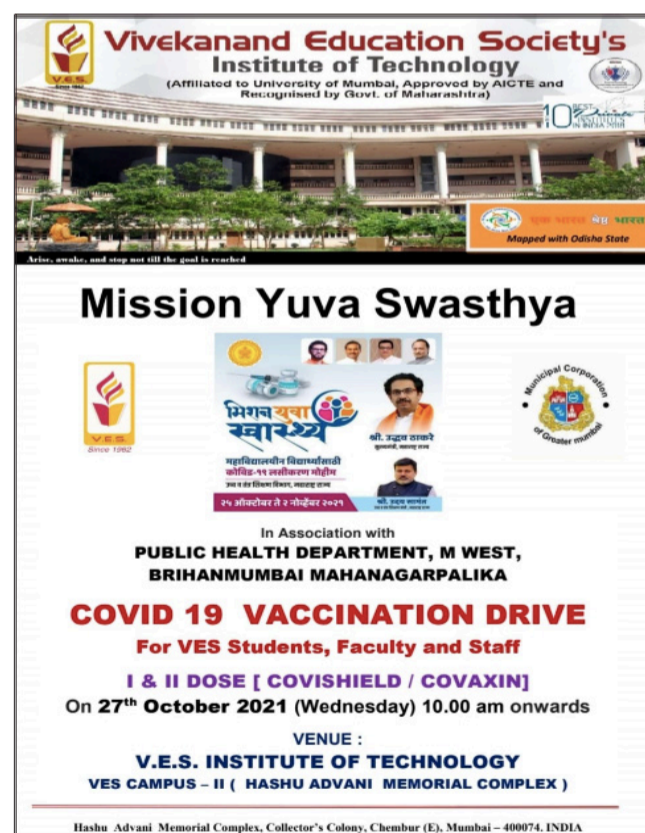
-Priyal Singhi

Maharashtra Health Minister Mr. Rajesh Tope on Thursday evening, October 21, announced a special drive to vaccinate all students in the age group of 18 to 25 years, across the state, to enable them to attend physical classes in college.

Taking it to Twitter, the State Environment and Tourism Minister Mr. Aaditya Thackeray announced 'Mission Yuva Swasthya' from 25th October 2021 to 2nd November 2021 to boost vaccination amongst college students.

VESIT also took upon itself to improve the overall vaccination quota of its personnel and students by taking part in this initiative on 27th October 2021 from 10:00 A.M. onwards at VES Campus - II (Hashu Advani Memorial Complex).

The Health Department of M-West Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation provided all colleges with medical equipment, ambulance, medical staff, and vaccines. Data related to vaccination of students, faculty, and staff were collected and the doses were prepared in accord. Both Covishield and Covaxin were included in the drive based on availability and time-gap.



Poster Of the Vaccination Drive



Mr. Rajesh Tope (Health Minister of Maharashtra)

About 167 students from VESIT were eligible for vaccination of which 80 students were yet to be vaccinated with their first dose and 87 students were eligible for their second dose. VESIT provided around three rooms to successfully conduct the vaccination drive and create awareness among students about the burgeoning importance of vaccination.

*"The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising everytime we fall"*

—Nelson Mandela

# Acing Competitive Exams

-Mohit Shahdadpuri

**T**raining and Placement Cell of VESIT organized a webinar on 'Preparing for Competitive Exams' along with IFCAI Business School (IBS), Mumbai on 23rd October 2021 via the Zoom platform. Interested participants had to register via a Google Form link which was mailed to them by the co-ordinator of the event, **Dr. Dashrath Mane** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering). The webinar began at 11 am with the introduction of the speaker, **Dr. Vanita Joshi** (Faculty Member, IFCAI Business School, Mumbai).

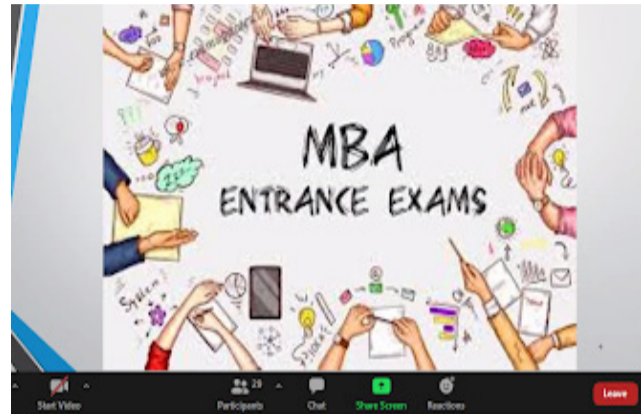


**Speaker of the session: Dr. Vanita Joshi (Faculty Member, IFCAI Business School, Mumbai)**

The speaker briefly touched upon various competitive exams such as MBA, UPSC, MPSC as well as Bank PO Exams. Using PowerPoint, she conveyed useful information such as eligibility

criteria and mode of examinations, career opportunities as well as preparation required for these exams. She covered most areas of competitive as well as civil services examinations.

The participants gained knowledge about various All India Service and the path towards getting into a particular service. The speaker patiently answered all queries of the participants before the conclusion of the session.



**Participants gaining knowledge on various avenues of Management Courses**

The webinar recorded an attendance of about 30 participants and received a lot of positive feedback. Deepesh Shahdadpuri (D19A), an attendee of the webinar said, "The basic purpose of me attending the webinar was to get a clear idea of each and every aspect. I did not have a complete and clear idea of the various competitive exams. Through the webinar, all my doubts were clarified." In conclusion, the webinar was a feather in the organisers' cap.



**Coordinator of the webinar: Dr. Dashrath Mane (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering)**

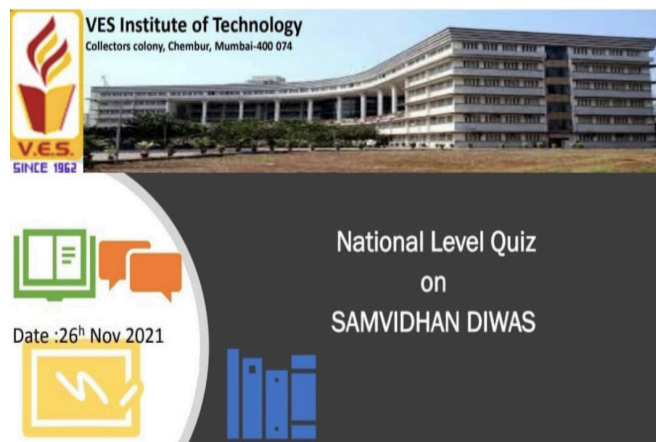


**Speaker of the session: Dr. Vanita Joshi giving a brief intro of the topic and starting the session**

# VESIT Library Organizes Quiz on "Samvidhan Diwas"

-C S Lakshmi

**2**6th November is celebrated as 'Samvidhan Diwas', also known as the National Law Day or Constitution Day. The Library Department of VESIT under the guidance of the Internal Quality Cell (IQAC) in Association with the Institution's Innovation Cell (IIC) organized a **National-level quiz** to enlighten the everyone about the Indian Constitution.



**Poster announcing Online National-level Quiz on Samvidhan Diwas**

The quiz was free of cost for all the staff members of the colleges, students, and professionals working in the domain.



**Co-ordinator of the Samvidhan Diwas Quiz: Dr. (Mrs.) Meenakshi Tyagi (Library Incharge)**

**Dr. (Mrs.) Meenakshi Tyagi** (Library Incharge) was the coordinator for the quiz and was convened by VESIT, Library Committee members under the patronage of **Dr. (Mrs.) J.M. Nair** (Principal, VESIT) and **Dr. (Mrs.) M. Vijayalakshmi** (Vice Principal, VESIT).

The quiz was conducted on an online platform using Google Forms. It had 20 Multiple Choice Questions and participants with a score of 40% and above were awarded E-certificates.



**(L-R): Dr. (Mrs.) J. M. Nair (Principal, VESIT) and Dr. (Mrs.) M. Vijayalakshmi (Vice Principal, VESIT) provided guidance and support for the event**

Nikhil Chhabria (D8), one of the participants said, "The quiz was really interesting. I learnt many new things from it and had fun answering the ones I knew. It didn't take up too much time and was engaging. The quiz covered various topics and was very informative. I look forward to more interesting quizzes like this."

More than 1000 students and staff members from all over India participated in this quiz. It was an excellent opportunity for everyone to understand the history behind the history of making the Constitution.

# Councils

## Felicity for Charity

VESIT SoRT Council organised a charity event, 'FELICITY' from 16th to 21st November 2021, to collect funds to donate to SMIT Old Age Home and Care Foundation. SMIT Foundation is an NGO that helps people in need from different backgrounds. This drive collected a whopping amount of Rs 57,045 through Ketto links, and the message was spammed in the comment section of the youtube live stream during the entire Felicity event.

Events like 'Valo for Charity', 'Talent Aid - An open mic fundraiser', 'EMBEZZLE: The Heist of VESIT' were organized in collaboration with Sports Council and Music Council, through various online platforms and were also streamed live on youtube.

### Talent Aid - An open mic fundraiser

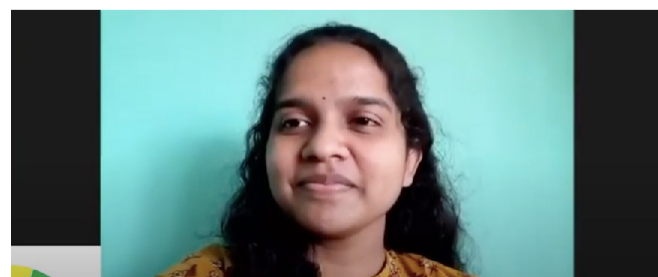
In the event 'Talent Aid- An open mic fundraiser', that took place on 19 November 2021 at 4 pm, performances included dance, drama, music, poetry, stand-up, mimicry, monoact, and many more entertained the audience.

The online open mic fundraiser - Talent Aid was hosted by two pairs of hosts viz. Anushka Kulkarni (D14A), Akshiti Kachhawah (D6AD), Vaidyanathan Natarajan (D13), Shreya Kukreja (D7A). The event commenced with Ganesh Vandana by Manasi Shah (D7A) followed by 21 astounding performances by very professed students of the college who had filled the talent aid forms circulated in all the classes 5 days prior.



**Hosts of the event (Top-Bottom, L-R): Anushka Kulkarni (D14A), Akshiti Kachhawah (D6AD), Shreya Kukreja (D7A), and Vaidyanathan Natarajan (D13)**

Two students namely Venkatesh Reddy (D15A) and Yash Raje (D15A) from the VESIT SoRT council and VESIT Music council respectively had visited the SMIT old age home on 17th November 2021 to spend some quality time with the people who live there. Small video clips from that day were also streamed at the online open mic fundraiser.



**Manasi Shah (D7A) commenced the event by singing Ganesh Vandana**

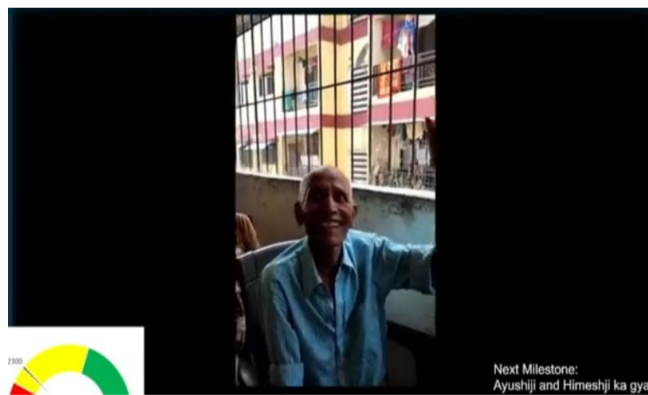
One of the most interesting segments of the entire open mic were the milestone performances. Khushi Makhijani (D17C)(General Secretary), Rakshita Danee (D15A)(SoRT Secretary), Yash Raje (D15A)(Music Secretary), Aaditya Moykhede (D15A)(Sports Secretary) and Sahana Shetty (D15A)(Cultural Secretary) gave some hilarious and jolly performances on reaching a certain amount of donations which definitely gave a boost to the charity amount.



**NGO jamming session with Venkatesh Reddy (D15A) and Yash Raje (D15A)**

The event culminated with a vote of thanks by the secretaries of SoRT and Music councils - Rakshita Danee (D15A) and Yash Raje (D15A). They thanked their entire councils for putting up such a wondrous event with a splendid cause and also thanked Yash Bhise (D14B) for streaming the event on youtube. This epic fundraiser was nothing less than a huge success, paving the way to transform this fundraiser into one of the most enthralling online events VESIT has witnessed.

When asked about his experience of hosting the event, Vaidyanathan remarked, "It was my first ever experience hosting an event. I agreed at once when I learnt that it was for a fundraiser. Although I was nervous, the sort council and my co-host Shreya Kukreja were really cooperative and helpful. I had great fun hosting for this noble cause and contributed to raising funds for the SMIT old age home."



**Performances by the people in SMIT Old Age Home**

Akshiti Kachhawah also shared her experience saying, "When I was approached to be a co-host for this event, I immediately said yes because I got an opportunity to be a part of a beautiful initiative. All the participants in the Open Mic were so talented and it was amazing interacting with them!" Even the participants of

the event expressed their contentment. Arunim Chakraborty (D6AD) says, "Talent aid was a great initiative by the student council to aid our senior citizens. The fundraiser was innovative, filled with amazing performances and for a noble cause too. I was honored to get the opportunity to perform."



**A glimpse of performance by SoRT Secretary Rakshita Danee (D15A) for a donation milestone**

Swara Nabar (D7A) said, "The Talent Aid organized by SoRT and Music council was an innovative idea to use young people's talent for a great cause and was very well executed. I thank the team for giving me an opportunity to play a tiny role in this great cause."



**Streamer of the event: Yash Bhise (D14B)**

### EMBEZZLE: The Heist of VESIT

The inter-council fundraiser contest "EMBEZZLE: The Heist of VESIT", was held on the 17th of November, at 4 pm on Zoom.

This fun-filled heist was arranged exclusively for members of councils, societies, and circles, who were competing to bag the title of 'The Best Council/Circle/Society at VESIT'. Among the participating teams were students from the Music Council, Cultural Council, Sports Council, VESlit Club, VESIT Connect, VESIT Dance Crew, VESIT Photo Circle, Technical Societies like ISA, ISTE, CSI, as well as the Student Council.

Each council was asked to form a team of 4. Their sleuthing skills were then put to a test in a game of treasure-hunt that carried them across the college (virtually, of course!), starting at the entrance gate. Each round called for a task that the team had to complete, upon which they would be given the clue that would lead them to their next stop. The tasks included fun and engaging activities like puzzles, crosswords, questionnaires, as well as tasks like tying a 'pheta' around their head!

Some of the tasks also included making donations to the charity. A team could also skip a round by making a donation. The teams ventured across various locations through the college, including the Vivekananda Statue, the Amphitheatre, the Canteen, and more in their quest to be known as the best council/society/circle at VESIT.



Poster for the event Embezzle

The first to complete all the tasks, solve all the clues and reach the finish line were the team members of ISTE– Puneet Meghrajani (D17A), Devansh Singh (D11A), Mrunmayee Waingankar (D12C), and Varnit Batheja (D12A), making them the ultimate winner of the heist. Following them were the Sports Council– Riyansh Jain (D6A), Aseem Kulkarni (D10A), Figo Cardozo (D7A), and Ruchita Dolas (D6A), who became the Runners up.



Members of the winning team ISTE (Top-Bottom, L-R): Varnit Batheja (D12A), Devansh Singh (D11A), Mrunmayee Waingankar (D12C), and Puneet Meghrajani (D17A)



Runners-up Sports Council (Top-Bottom, L-R): Riyansh Jain (D6A), Aseem Kulkarni (D10A), Figo Cardozo (D7A), and Ruchita Dolas (D6A)

The event was fruitful in raising donations for the charity, which would go towards providing support for old-age homes. It also served as a great opportunity for members of various councils to socialize and engage in friendly competition.

Sheetal Dixit (D6AD), one of the participants, shared her thoughts on the event by saying, “The event was not just successful in terms of entertainment, but also in terms of the donations that the college collected. It had many fun games and had a great participation of not just the SoRT council, but also all other councils. Everyone voluntarily participated and donated for a good cause. Looking forward to many more of these.”

**Charitable Valoant!**

Through this event, VESIT Sports Council in collaboration with SoRT Council and Music Council organized its first-ever intercollegiate event, 'Valo for Charity'. It took place from the 16th to the 21st of November. Teams from various colleges were required to register by giving Rs 250 via Ketto link. In-game prizes were awarded to the winning teams.



The selected finalists having a discussion with the hosts

The events' success was aided by the most imaginative and helpful VA teams across the three councils, who promoted and advertised the event with amazing IGTV, films and reels. The event was promoted through various social media platforms such as Instagram, Discord, WhatsApp, and Mail.

Position	Team Name
Winner	FGB (Perna Convent)
1st Runner Up	WHOLESOME (Shubham Katke (D15B))
2nd Runner Up	RESURGENCY ESPORTS (VIT)

The prizes were given as follows :

Position	Prize
Winner	1 Skin + 1 Battle Pass
1st Runner Up	1 Skin
2nd Runner Up	2 Battle Pass

The Valorant game in this event was conducted in different formats throughout the event. 'Unranked Custom Lobby' was the tournament type. In our tournament, a total of 36 teams from various colleges had enrolled. The

top four teams advanced to the Semi-Finals. Our Finalists were determined through the tough and cut-throat Semi-finals. The Finals were held in a best-of-three format. The Semi-Finals and Finals were broadcast live on YouTube, along with viewers donating through the Ketto link.

Staff in-charges (Sports Council):

- 1) Dr. Ramesh Solanki (Assistant Professor, Department of Master of Computer Applications)
- 2) Mrs. Kajal Jewani (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology)
- 3) Mr. Mahesh Singh (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Sciences).



(L-R): Mrs. Kajal Jewani (Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology), Dr. Ramesh Solanki (Assistant Professor, Department of Master of Computer Applications), Mr. Mahesh Singh (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Sciences)

Volunteers: Sannidhi Shetty (D11B), Prathamesh Gudame (D6), Ruchita Dolas (D6), Riyansh Jain (D6), Tanmayee Bochare (D9B), and Chirag Panjwani (D7B).



Volunteers of the event (Top-Bottom, L-R): Tanmayee Bochare (D9B), Sannidhi Shetty (D11B), Ruchita Dolas (D6), Riyansh Jain (D6), Prathamesh Gudame (D6), and Chirag Panjwani (D7B)

With the help of college authorities, the Sports Council, the Music Council, SoRT council, and co-ordination of the participants, the whole event was a grand success. Praneel Rastogi (D17C) says, “Overall it was a good event. It was organized very well. The last final and semi-final matches were very intense.”

*"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."*  
—Winston Churchill

# Societies

## BE & Beyond

The second episode of the series **BE & Beyond** was premiered on ISA-VESIT's YouTube channel at 8 pm on the 7th of November. The theme for this episode was entrepreneurship and **Mr. Dhairya Pujara (Instrumentation-2010)** was the guest speaker for this session. He is the founder and CEO of Ycenter: A global experiential learning, innovation consulting and design firm. In addition to being invited as a speaker for various programs, Mr. Dhairya has also been the curator of 'Global Shaper' and a global TEDx organiser. He is also a blogger at HuffPost and a public speaker. He completed his masters in Drexel university in the U.S.A and is now helping students make smarter career choices.



**Sahil Shewale (D18), the interviewer for the 2nd episode of BE and Beyond**

This interview was conducted by **Sahil Shewale (D18)** who is the Sr. Public Relations Officer at ISA-VESIT. The interview began with the speaker reminiscing about his days at VESIT and how the experiences he had at the college campus went a long way in shaping his career. He then spoke about the scope of a Master's Degree in Biomedical Engineering and what attracted him to pursue the same.



**Dhairya Pujara (Founder and CEO of Ycenter) in conversation with Sahil Shewale (D18)**

Mr. Dhairya then spoke about his entrepreneurial journey and what motivated him towards entrepreneurship. Next, he shared with the viewers interesting tales about how he founded, built and set up Ycenter. He even mentioned the challenges he encountered while setting up this global organization. He also spoke about how he conducted a TED talk in Mozambique.



**Mr. Dhairya Pujara (Founder and CEO of Ycenter), the chief speaker for the 2nd episode of the series**

The session concluded with Mr. Dhairya talking about the difference in education systems in India and the U.S.A. Then, he discussed about the projects undertaken by Ycenter and how each one added value to the company. He also spoke about how one can handle the social pressure many engineering students face today. He even mentioned what advice would he have given to his younger self if he could go back in time.

One of the viewers, Nilesh Sharma (D6A) says, "It was an immensely enjoyable and informative session which gave an in-depth understanding about various aspects pertaining to entrepreneurship." The session was met with positive feedback and was enjoyed by the viewers.

# CSI VESIT- Third Year Council Interviews

-Atharva Bhoite

The **Computer Society of India (CSI)**, which is one of the high profiled societies in VESIT, is known for its various technical aspects. The new Third Year council for the year 2021-22, was formed through stirring interview rounds. They were conducted on 7th November wherein all interviewees were given a deadline to submit their Statement of Purpose (SOPs). It should also include the choice of the post they would like to designate themselves with till the 5th of November. The BE council consisting of Chairperson Fayzaan Qureshi (D20), Sr. Treasurer Saloni Ingle (D17C) and Sr. Secretary Arya Paryani (D17A) and the Executive Committee, conducted the interviews through Online Mode (via Google Meet) for all the required posts through separate sessions from morning 10 am to 5.30 pm.



**(L-R): Chairperson Fayzaan Qureshi (D20), Sr. Treasurer Saloni Ingle (D17C) and Sr. Secretary Arya Paryani (D17A) interviewed and picked the gems among the Third Year students**

### THIRD YEAR COUNCIL (2021-22)

Name of the Student	Position
Mcvean Soans (D14A)	Co- Chairperson
Mugdha Sholapure (D15A)	Operations Secretary
Prerak Moolchandani (D12A)	Managing Secretary
Roshni Jha (D12C)	Jr. Treasurer
Adarsh Kadam (D15B) Vanshika Bajaj (D12C) Ashish Shingade (D15B) Ruchika Dusija (D12A) Meet Patel (D12A)	Sr. Operations Officer
Mihir Rane (D12B) Shreyas Poojari (D12B) Anikat Dewani (D12B)	Sr. Technical Officer
Prithviraj Chavan (D12B) Neeharika Nagori (D12A) Jahnvi Mulchandani (D12A) Sudhanshu Thorve (D14A)	Sr. Public Relations Officer
Drishti Katiyara (D12B) Harsh Bhat (D12B)	Sr. Editor

The questions and discussions in the interviews mainly focused on how dedicated or sincere the candidate would be to hold the post or whatever contributions he/she might be pitching in during their term. Whether it was programming and technical questions for the technical posts or

grammatical and literal questions for the editorial posts, all candidates were confident enough to answer and leave an impression for themselves at the end of the interview.

All these years, through different forms of workshops or fun events, CSI-VESIT has never failed to guide students to new technologies and improve their skill set. All these proceedings were successful because of extremely hardworking and dedicated council members who always delivered when their turn arrived. At the end of the day, having dealt with so many talented and creative students, CSI announced the selected candidates for the given posts on 8th November 2021.



**The CSI-VESIT Third Year Council for the year 2021-22**

The newly appointed Co-chairperson Mcvean Soans (D14A) had a few remarks to make about the council's new journey and how they will try their best to carry out new innovative ideas for the coming year: "The bar this year has already been set really high due to our success in workshops and events last year! Our members seem to have higher expectations, and CSI-VESIT is definitely going to deliver! Be it online or offline, we aren't leaving any stone unturned to provide exasperating events and top-notch workshops for our members."

Talking about the conduction through online mode and how they'll plan to deliver the same success as last year, he quoted: "Conducting workshops or events online is genuinely more difficult than it appears. Making sure the entire team works in sync throughout the duration of the whole facade is insane! But being willing to go that extra mile is what makes us different! In addition to our flagship Events, our attendees would dive into some of the most exciting technologies, and get acquainted with a few new kids on the tech block".

Prerak Moolchandani (D12A), the Managing Secretary of the CSI-VESIT TE council for the year 2021-22 said, "My overall experience during the interview session was very amazing. The BE council made me feel comfortable throughout the process and helped me bring out the best of answers. I feel very privileged to be a part of this wonderful team. As a council, we assure to deliver astounding events throughout the tenure."

## Senior Council of IEEE Ready to Make Wonders

-Divisha Gupta

IEEE VESIT is a student branch of the **IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers)**, which is one of the most operative societies in VESIT. Holding a council position in this society is extremely prestigious for the students of SE, TE, and BE. The Council mainly holds events that come under the domain of android app development workshops, machine learning, and also fun events that they call 'funtech' which helps students learn technology with fun. Last year the council hosted numerous events that included a game development workshop, MUN, technical paper presentation, clash of conquerors (card game), app development workshop, a self-defense workshop, etc.

IEEE VESIT's Student Council for the academic year 2021-22 was started by the formation of the Senior Council which chiefly consists of the BEs. The BEs and MCA seniors were instructed to submit their SOPs through a Google form on 30th October. The Interviews were conducted on 15th November on Google meet. The dress code was formal and the total number of applicants was 15. The applicants were interviewed by a panel that consisted of the IEEE teacher-in-charge **Dr. Ashwini Sawant** (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics Engineering) and **Mrs. Asha Bharambe** (Associate Professor, Department



(L-R): Mrs. Asha Bharambe (Associate Professor, INFT) and IEEE teacher-in-charge Dr. Ashwini Sawant (Assistant Professor, ETRX) interviewed the applicants



IEEE Senior Council for the year 2021-22

Position	Name
Chairperson	Abhinav Sharma (D17A)
Vice Chairperson	Muskaan Bhargava (D19B)
CEO	Tejas Dhopavkar (D17A)
Sr. Technical Advisory Board (TAB)	Rutwik Pendse (D18)
Senior Web Editor	Aditya Mohan (D17C) Dinesh Kannan (D17C)
Women in Engineering	Madhumita Menon (D19B)

of Information Technology).

Abhinav Sharma (D17A) says, "Every year, IEEE interviews the brightest minds of the college and recruit them as their society council members to bring tech knowledge to the students in an engaging and fun way, and this year was no different. The faculty incharges, Asha ma'am and Ashwini ma'am interviewing the fourth year students with an aim to form the most impactful senior council. After this, the senior council began the hunt for the Junior council members from the third year along with formation of a team of coordinators from second year. The process, as always, was transparent and smooth."

## VESIT Voice

-Sristi Kushwaha

November, the penultimate month of the year, welcomes in the season of online tests and all it entails. In addition, VESIT hosted a number of cultural and technical activities. Let's take a look at what happened.

VESIT becomes a Network Institute with the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) under the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS). A two-day online faculty development program on "Deep Learning with Python" was held by the MCA Department. VESIT took upon itself to improve the overall vaccination quota of its personnel and students by taking part in the Mission Yuva Swasthya. VESIT's Training and Placement Cell collaborated with ICFAI Business School to host a webinar on "Preparing for Competitive Exams" (IBS). VESIT conducted a national-level quiz on the occasion of 'Samvidhan Diwas' to educate students about the Indian Constitution on National Law Day. This odd semester, VESIT's SoRT council sponsored a charity event dubbed 'FELICITY,' with the goal of raising monies to donate to the SMIT foundation. ISA VESIT released the second episode of the series BE & Beyond on the theme of entrepreneurship. The technical societies of VESIT, CSI-VESIT and IEEE-VESIT formed their Senior Council i.e. the Third-year council for the academic year 2021-22. Mrs. Shoba Krishnan (Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication) received heartfelt gratitude from the VESIT staff welfare committee and the EXTC Department on her retiral.

In the diaries section, we have Mr. Iqbal Mutabanna from Batch of 1995, Department of Computer Engineering. He is the Founder and Managing Partner of Zane CRE, LLC and WealthChakra, LLC. He talks about his time at VESIT, professional life after that and much more.

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**Faculty Incharge (Technical) :-** Asst. Prof. Priya.R.L

**Student Editor:-** Sristi Kushwaha

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Tanvi Kate  
Priyal Singh  
CS Lakshmi  
Nishtha Batra  
Divisha Gupta  
Tanaya Gaikar  
Gaurang Desai  
Shreya Kukreja  
Jagruiti Dhamal  
Abhiroop Bhattacharjee

# Warm Adieu to A Wonderful Teacher

-Puja Mahankuda

VESIT staff welfare committee and EXTC Department wished their heartfelt compliments to one of the most beloved teachers, **Mrs. Shoba Krishnan** (Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications) on her retirement on 31st October 2021. She has held this dignified position for over thirty-four years now and her service to the department and college has been indispensable. She was always a stalwart teacher and will forever be an inspiring figure in the hearts of many.



**Mrs. Shoba Krishnan (Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications)**

On this occasion, Mrs. Shoba madam's son **Mr. Aditya Krishnan** recited a heartwarming poem that overwhelmed all the faculty members.

An ocean of knowledge that enlightened generations,  
Words of wisdom brought about transformation,  
Your Simplicity & conduct enthralls everyone,  
Feel blessed & lucky to have someone as exceptional,  
Clarity of thoughts coupled with a personality par excellence,  
You are our hope, belief & inspiration,  
Resemble serenity of a flowing river with bliss,  
On your retirement, I wish you the best,  
As you are so different from the rest,  
May almighty bless you with happiness & best of health,  
Always keep shining like the eternal rays of the sun.  
- By Mr. Aditya Krishnan



**Mrs. Shoba Krishnan celebrating her retirement ceremony with colleagues**

## 1. When did you join VESIT and how were the early years at VESIT? How did you celebrate your last day at VESIT?

My journey at VESIT started on 1st July, 1987. As in any teacher's life, the early years were of struggle and juggling. Struggling with the preparation of lectures and juggling various subjects and at times 4-5 lectures in various classes of VESIT and VES Polytechnic!

Now in retrospect, they seem like fond memories, but I remember vividly praying frantically for smooth lectures!!

Comparatively, my last day at VESIT (30th Oct 2021) was like a dream!

Streams of colleagues across departments were in and out of my cabin to wish me well. Surprises in the form of ex-students visiting, a group of colleagues presenting a beautiful plaque and the whole department congregating to invite me for my farewell, having a last cup of tea on campus with my close friends made the day truly memorable! All of these activities kept me busy the whole day so I did not have time to look back and feel nostalgic!

## 2. How was your journey of teaching, especially in the last two years when teaching shifted from offline to online?

After being offline for 33 years, suddenly shifting to online mode was certainly a challenge. As the Head of Department, I had to ensure that not only did I make a smooth transition but the whole department was geared up for it. In July 2020, we arranged for a 4-week workshop on facilitation to online Transition for VESIT faculty. Because of this workshop, we managed the transition, though with minor hiccups. Technologically it was a steep learning curve but being technologists we were successful in adapting to the new scenario. However conducting practicals online, especially for hardware subjects was the biggest hurdle. Though we shifted to simulated environments, we all felt that it was not enough.

## 3. What subjects did you teach and which one was your favourite and why?

Over the years I have taught a plethora of subjects covering domains of Electronics, Telecommunications, Instrumentation, Programming etc. For every subject assigned, I took it as a challenge and gave it my best shot. The two subjects I have really enjoyed teaching in the last few years are 'Data Compression and Encryption' and 'Mobile Communications'. Both these subjects are very topical and related to our daily life, which made my reading of all extra information worthwhile as I could share this in my class and make it more interesting.

## 4. What changes have you observed in students over so many years?

The role of teachers has changed over the years. Earlier, teachers were the only knowledge givers and the source of information on the subjects as the other sources were usually not so friendly pedantic textbooks. With the all-pervasive Internet, the Teacher is now more of a facilitator, a guide who steers the direction of study, a troubleshooter and a mentor. As the role of teachers has undergone a sea change, so also the student-teacher relationship has moved from awe and fear to friendly camaraderie.

## 5. Your proudest moment or an experience in VESIT that you will always cherish.

My students and faculty gave me ample opportunities and moments to be proud.

100% results, dream placements, admission in premier institutes in India and abroad, winning National level competitions and so many more...

But my most proud moment was when all the 5 branches VESIT had applied for got Accredited for a period of 3 years. As the Accreditation in charge, I viewed this success as the synergy of our progressive management, diligent faculty, enthusiastic students and proactive Industry, alumni and parents. I will always cherish the joy seen on all VESIT faces and the ensuing euphoria afterwards.



**Mrs. Shoba Krishnan celebrating her retirement ceremony with her family**

## 6. Highlights of your time with students and colleagues.

My classroom is where I built my bonds with the students. The more interactive the class, the more I enjoyed it. The satisfaction and joy of a well-delivered and well-received lecture are unparalleled. I enjoyed all the lab sessions and mentoring sessions where I could interact with students on a one to one basis and many bonds were made there, which lasted beyond the VESIT campus. I preferred to call students by their first names which always created a special connection.

As an HoD I tried to be a friend and guide to all my faculty. I also had a symbiotic relationship with many colleagues across departments. I made many lifelong friends which will transcend my working life at VESIT. It is the presence of all those around me that has made my journey at VESIT so joyful, happy and memorable, that I can look back and feel an immense sense of satisfaction and belonging. For me VESIT is not merely a place I worked, it is an ethos that I shall always cherish!



**Mrs. Shoba Krishnan celebrating with her class of students**

## 7. How will you spend your time post-retirement?

Retirement has given me time to sit back, relax and enjoy the little pleasures of life, be it drinking my cup of morning coffee with that day's newspaper or pursuing many myriad hobbies. Being good and doing good is going to be my motto as always!

## 8. Any message for students.

Students need to recognize the fact that mere good pointers are not enough, the differentiator is the skill set they acquire via intensive internships, projects, workshops, competitions and other co-curricular activities. This path alone will make their future both in the industry and higher studies. With a more conducive environment being provided by incubation centres, the future belongs to those who are able to scale up their projects into profitable ventures. More students should be involved in being job creators rather than job seekers!

### 9. Any message for your colleagues and upcoming teachers.

As the old adage says, 'The only constant in life is changing.' All the faculty needs to embrace this in their life. Upskilling and reskilling to keep oneself relevant in this fast-evolving Tech education scenario is the only way forward for all the facilitators. Adapting to new teaching methodologies and practising them will endear them to the Gen Zers!

#### Farewell messages from teachers

Dear Shoba Madam, I was honoured to get the chance to work with such a wise and kind person like you. The way you trained us with such a friendly and calm attitude is so rare. People with higher positions are often very much authoritative yet you never thought of us as low and we all respect you for that. Having a mentor like you is a true blessing. I've always admired your leadership skills and hope someday mine will come close. If they do, it will be because I had you as a role model and the credit will be all yours. Thank you for setting such a strong example. Congratulations on completing your career in such flying colours.

-By **Dr. Chandan Singh Rawat** (Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications)

I would like to express my gratitude to you for being such a role model and an inspiration. Thank you for all the support and guidance that you provided madam. Working under your guidance has been a great pleasure! Your positive outlook and friendly attitude have always inspired us. I will keep your gesture forever in my heart. Thank you for everything. I will miss your presence and leadership. All the best for your upcoming life. Happy farewell.

-By **Mrs. Rasika Naik** (Assistant professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications)

Shoba madam was not only our HOD, she was my mentor and Guide. Our association goes

back to 1998 when I first joined this college as a lecturer. She was a senior teacher back then and eventually, she became our HOD. In this long association of 23 years many times I was enriched by her valuable advice on many professional and personal fronts. It is difficult for us to imagine our EXTC department without her and we are going to miss her a lot. Retirement is not the end of the journey, it is just a second innings and I am sure that Shoba Madam will be equally active and enjoy this second innings of her life. I wish her a very happy retirement and hope that she will be in touch with us and will continue guiding us.

-By **Mrs. Manisha Chattopadhyay** (Deputy Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications)



**Mrs. Rasika Naik gifting a book of photos to Mrs. Shoba Krishnan**

When I joined ME program at VESIT in 2004, I had the occasion to interact with Mrs. Shoba Krishnan as my teacher and afterwards as my ME Project guide. I found her personality very pleasing. She persistently encouraged me to pursue doctoral studies and research and I shall be ever grateful to her for giving a boost to my career. Every student or faculty should hope to have a GURU like her. She has a knack to identify special qualities of individuals and assigning the appropriate tasks to

the right person. This resulted in the qualitative and expeditious achievement of targets. She has been an administrator par excellence. She is a kindhearted, loving, and versatile problem solver at the same time strict. She is health conscious and always preached exercise and good food habits to all. I wish her a long happy and healthy life ahead and I seek her blessings.

-By **Dr. Mrs. Saylee Gharge** (Associate Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications)

It's always hard to say goodbye to those who are close to us. Especially when our colleagues and coworkers are about to leave the job when our seniors are about to retire and are about to go somewhere far away from us. Shoba Madam who has been our head of the department, is a true inspiration for all of us. She is not only a great teacher but also a great human being. She is a perfect leader. There are so many things that we have learned from her! It was a great experience to get associated with her! She deserves the best farewell! We shared some really wonderful moments together as colleagues. Working with a senior like Madam is a very joyful experience. Thank you for everything Madam! My best wishes to Madam for a new chapter of her life. Wishing her a very happy, healthy and safe retired life. You'll be missed always!

-By **Mr. Gaurav Tawde** (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications)

You have been an inspiration. As a teacher, your skills have been exemplary. As a leader, your achievements have been remarkable. May every day and every moment of your life be fulfilling and full of joy, Enjoy your retirement and have more time with your family and friends. We will miss you!! Happy retirement!

-By **Mrs. Jyoti Dawkhar Bagate** (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications)

### Dr. Ranjan bala (Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication) wrote this heartfelt poem as a token of appreciation and friendship for Mrs Shoba Krishnan (Head, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications) on Mrs Shoba's retirement ceremony

सभी को यथायोग्य वंदन व् अभिनिन्दन !!

समय के रंग में रंगी हुई , अनुभव व् अनुमान की चादर लपेटे, अतीत और भविष्य का संगमस्थल यह ,  
VESIT परिवार !

और यहाँ की मूल स्तम्भ, आकर्षक व् प्रभा व शाली व्यक्तित्व की धनी, कुशल व् मृदुभाषी ,

सौम्य, शांत व् स्नेह की धारा से सबको आप्लावति करने वाली,

अपने सद्गुण, समय की महत्ता व अनुशासन से सभी शिक्षकों और वदियार्थियों के सर्वांगीण विकास में अहम् भूमिका नभाने वाली, शिक्षण कार्य, परीक्षा कार्य या NBA accreditation का कार्य , सब कुछ सरल तरीके से पूर्ण करना जनिकी खासयित है, आपने

चिता नहीं, चितिन किया, व्यथा नहीं, व्यवस्था की, प्रशस्त नहीं, प्रस्तुत की !!

जी हाँ मैं बात कर रही हूँ, सभी की प्रिय

परम आदरणीया श्रीमती शोभा कृष्णन जी मैडम की , आज उनके जीवन का एक मत्वपूर्ण पड़ाव है सेवानिवृत्ति, और हम सब एकत्रित हुए है बर्दाई समारोह में ! आज से सात वर्ष पूर्व मैंने यह कॉलेज ज्वाइन किया था, ४०४ में साथ बैठते थे, ४ बजे साथ में ग्रीन टिके साथ नमकीन का जायका लेते हुए डेपार्टमेंट के मैटर डसिकस करते थे, और VESIT की हस्ट्री सुनते थे ! 404 का आँगन आपके हास्य परहास से शुन्य हो जायेगा ! लेकिन मेरा मानना है कि प्रकृतिका नियम है आना जाना फूल का तो मुकद्दर है , डाली से जुदा होना... अतः हम बर्दाई को बर्दाई न माने,

इसे कर्तव्य माने और आपके बताये हुए मार्ग पर चले तभी बर्दाई की सार्थकता है !!! आपके व्यक्तित्व को , इतने समय में , जो जाना पहचाना अपने भाव आदया क्षरी स्तवन के माध्यम से प्रस्तुत करना चाहूंगी ! आदयाक्षरी स्तवन का मतलब है, कविति की हर पंक्ति उनके नाम के अक्षर से प्रारम्भ होती ही !

आदरणीया श्रीमती शोभा कृष्णन जी

आदर्शों की रक्षा करती, कर्तव्यों का पालन करती !

दया धर्म की पृष्ठभूमि में , छात्र जगत के मन को हरती !!

रत रहती है, धर्म कार्यों में, विश्वास जगाया हर - मन में !

णी नीव का पत्थर (HoD) बनी EXTC में, ज्ञान समाया छात्र जगत में !!



**Dr. Ranjan Bala Jain (Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication)**

याददाश्त है गजब आपकी, यशस्वी है व्यक्तित्व और ओजस्वी है वाणी आपकी !

श्री सम्पन्न है जीवन आपका, तेजस्वी है नेतृत्व आपका !!

मन जीता मृदु व्यवहार से, कर्म शीलता साथ लिए !

तीनों पन एक समान रहे, जीवन सादा, उच्च वचिार लिए !!

शोभति है आपसे, कृष्णन परिवार, कर्मण्येवाधिकारस्ते लक्ष्य लयि !

भाव साम्य, मधुर व्यवहार, अखलि - आदित्य और साथ हुए !!

कृष्ण -राम का आशीष यही, जीवन आपका सदा खुशहाल रहे !

नत मस्तक है हम सब यहाँ , नाम आपका जगमग रहे !!

जीवन के ताने बाने बुनते हुए,

सफलता की अनगनित सीढ़ियों को पार करते हुए, संस्कारों का सम्बल प्रदान करते हुए ,

जीवन के 26 वर्ष इस VESIT परिवार को सहेजा, समेटा और आस्था व विश्वास की चगिारी दी, इस उल्लेखनीय योगदान के

लिए हम आपको शतशः प्रणाम करते हैं !!

मिली जुली खुशी - गम की भावनाओं के साथ इस बढ़ाई के अवसर पर हमारी शुभकामनाये

आपकी सभी व्यक्तगित आंकाक्षाये पूरी हो,

आप जीवन की आपा धापी से स्वतंत्र हो,

अपने सपनों को पूरा करे और आपके नए जीवन की शुभ शुरुआत हो !!

## Musings and Expressions

### DIWALI

Diwali is the festival of lights, the festival when the good comes home and the evil goes away. That Diwali with the lights the colors came home for Nikita. She and her partner were accepted. Their families united, now they aren't afraid of anything around them because they know they got their parents supporting them. Hand in hand they went around the house lighting oil lamps and adding their happiness which shined just like their faces did.

Nikita and Pratyusha have been friends since they were younger. They were family friends as well as neighbors. They've been together the whole life whether its school or now even at the college. They had these phases in their lives where they were called lesbians cause they were always together. Nikita moved up and got the image thrashed when she dated the school heartthrob but Pratyusha remained the way she was. Fast-forwarding to 2 years, They were sitting in a garden chilling up setting aside their stressful life for a while.

"Nikki, I got to tell u something! It's been a month since I know this but I didn't know how to tell you! So the thing is I-I'm a g-gay woman. I know it maybe weird for you to understand but I really gotta get this off my chest. I like u Nikki, not just as a friend I see you the other way." With this, Pratyusha sighed and went silent. It was already 7:30 pm so she got up and left for home.

A week passed by, one night Nikita called up and went, "I knew that u liked me Prats. But the thing that I never told u was I myself am a bi and after you confessed that day I'd say yeah I do like you and I've know you since forever but I don't know if doing this is gonna be the right thing for us. If u suggest we may try our hands on it. Let me know abot what u think. Goodnight!" The line went beep as she cut the call. Prats was stunned with a mixed bag of feelings running in her. Was she sad, happy, excited or was this all wrong. They both knew the fact that their parents were strict but what about this. With the mutual feeling flowing between them, they decided to give it a chance. The worst case scenario would be that they'd be a bit weird after their breakup, but that can be managed right?

Its been six months since they started dating. Their relationship was two people dating, but looked like a pair of besfriends nobody knew what was going on. They'd always been that close but this time they touched hearts. Maybe it is different this way is what they thought. Nikita and Pratyusha, the alphabets are close "...N O P..." but just like the O in between the alphabet series the same way there was an O between them and those were Orthodox parents. Its had been a year since they started dating, their families would meet but none would suspect what's going on between them.

Festivals passed, season passed and time passed. That year during durga pooja they were caught. Their parents kept blaming them and called them names but their love for each other didn't fade. They stopped meeting and talking. Their parents were no different at throwing tantrums but deep in there they still loved each other. They started by trying to get their parents calm and listen to each other. October almost ended till the time they stabled their parents and made them understand. Diwali had started, it was the pre-Diwali days when they decided to get back together.

At the day of Diwali, their parents met just like the earlier times and celebrated together. Amidst the festivities they were summoned and were told, "We tried to understand what you kids wanted. If you both are happy this way then be it this way, we'll support you and even fight battles alongside you, only if you both decide to be true to us and yourselves." With a gleam in their eye, they both looked at each other and nodded at the commitment. They were accepted. They went around the house hand in hand lighting the oil lamps and bringing the light in their lives.

Diwali indeed brought good to the life and tuned down evil. The good of "love is love" was supported and the evil of "Log kya kahenge" was finally shred of. Their Diwali was both a festival of lights and colours.



Tanvi Desai (D8)



Mrs. Rasika Naik (Assistant professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications)



Mrs. Rasika Naik (Assistant professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunications)



Harshita Anala (D6AD)



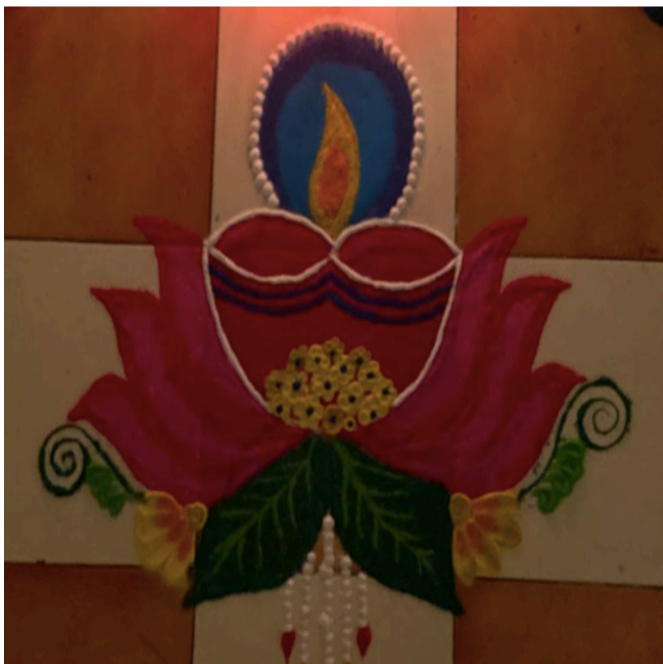
Hrutuja Mestry (D6A)



Shreya Dhamane (D14A)



Hrutuja Mestry (D6A)



Anushka Kulkarni (D6AD)



Shreya Dhamane (D14A)



Puja Mahankuda (D9B)



Yashvi Dhar (D7C)



Tamma Bathija (D7C)



Siya Doshi (D7C)



Tanaya Gaikar (D8)



Tanvi Kate (D6AD)



Puja Mahankuda (D9B)



Shreya Singh (D6AD)



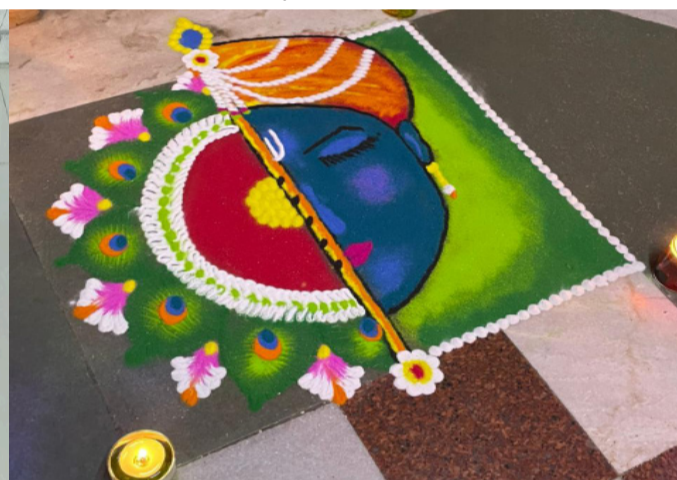
Tanaya Gaikar (D8)



Harshita Anala (D6AD)



Nidhi Gharat (D8)



Akanksha Singh (D6AD)



Diya Shah (D10A)

# Happiness

Never lasts.

When you don't feel it, you just don't. There's nothing called as "pretending to be happy."

Pretending to be happy can be labelled as self-inflicted mental torture.

Feeling the warmth of happiness is the happiness in today's world, because like I said happiness doesn't last. So, if you believe you'll have happiness forever, then you're just being delusional.

You're basically lying to yourself about having an ideal life, a happy life, a beautiful life.

But is the definition of beautiful life only happiness? No.

A beautiful life is life filled with emotions, memories, heartbreaks, life lessons, separations, reunions and etc or just blah blah.

We have humans tend to confuse happiness with ideal. An ideal life isn't just that. It's multiple waves of emotions, it's multiple ranges of mood swings, it's people you love, it's the people who make you laugh, it's the people who make you feel alive, it's the people who make you feel you, it's the beautiful views you admire, the beautiful animals you see and feel, it's the amazing possibilities of emotions.

It's the nature that lets you breathe, it's the clouds above your head, it's the stars that twinkle, it's the sun that shines for you.

Believe me the list is endless.

Be happy without constant happiness, be happy in small and minute situations, be happy in looking at kids playing outside.

We humans get many reasons to feel sad or left out but if you get a reason to be happy for once, don't run away from it. Take the situation, cherish it, feel its presence encapsulating you, feel its warmth and that's when you know that you are genuinely happy, again? Maybe, who knows.

Give life a chance.

Give yourself a chance to feel happy again.

Give yourself a chance a trust a person like you.

Give yourself a chance to believe in a person like you.

And trust yourself that there will be happy moments in your life too, where you will forget all the sorrows, all the pain, all sufferings

When you will breathe again, when you will feel yourself again...

And the thought just stays there

Until next time...



Tithi Jhamnani (D7B)

# Anybody Can Code

Due to the pandemic in the last two years, the entire world is going through a large digital transformation. This has created a massive demand for coders and software developers and application programming has become one of the essential skills most that a job aspirant should have. While normal people get an opportunity to build up this skillset, the differently-abled people also should get an opportunity to enable themselves with these skills. This thought triggered me to think about coming up with a website which can help such people to code. So, a website named ANYBODY CAN CODE was made by me which such people can visit and try to code in HTML, CSS and JavaScript using their speech while the output gets displayed beside. Since web development is a very beginner-friendly technology to start with, this website can help such people start with their programming journey.

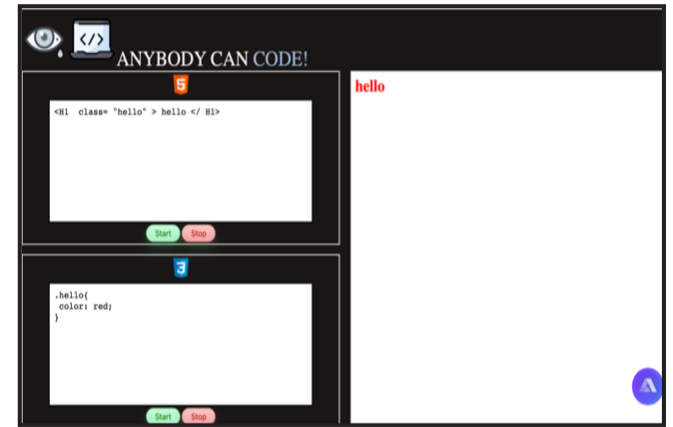
A visually challenged person can use an online chrome screen reader extension and help themselves navigate through the webpage. They can dictate the code while the website automatically converts it into text and shows the real-time output on the output screen. Since the code editor only comprises of HTML, CSS and JavaScript, I used these along with Alan App to build this project.

The text-to-speech recognition API provided by JavaScript has been used in this project and one of the biggest challenges that I faced was when the system wasn't able to understand symbols, a problem which was solved by me later. I look forward to making my own speech to text model using Python and Deep Learning in the future. I later containerised the application and made a Docker image which is pushed to the Docker Hub ("attreyem/abcc-image" - name of the Docker image on Docker Hub).

Since I was not very well versed with JavaScript, this project made me gain some experience as well as confidence in making a project using JS. The main motive of this website is to provide an online editor for visually and physically challenged people, so in future I hope to include more programming languages in it so that a variety of options is provided to the user to choose from.



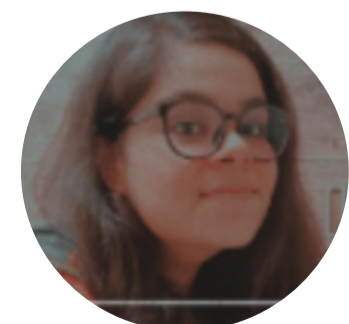
Attreyee Mukherjee (D2B)



Shruti Mishra (D17C)



Anushka Darure (D9A)



Jahnvi Mulchandani (D12A)

# VESIT Diaries

- Vishakha Kulkarni

For the month of November, we have **Mr. Iqbal Mutabanna**, who graduated from the Department of Computer Engineering in 1995. He is the Founder and Managing Partner of Zane CRE, LLC and WealthChakra, LLC. He speaks about his time at VESIT, professional life after that and much more.

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

I can't pinpoint one particularly memorable moment. Overall, my time at VESIT was an exciting one. We learned a lot, made wonderful friendships, and experienced ups and downs that prepared us well for life.

## 2. Which extra-curricular activities were you involved in? Do academics and interpersonal skills go hand in hand?

I was involved in a wide variety of extra-curricular activities. In fact, that was probably one of the best aspects of VESIT compared to other engineering colleges at the time. Some activities were:

- Played field Hockey in college tournaments.
- I was one of the founding members and the first President of the CSI-VESIT student chapter. In fact, we were the first student chapter in Mumbai.
- Organized and participated in lots of hiking/trekking trips. Hiking up the elevations and enjoying the mini-waterfalls around Belapur was a favourite pastime. We also did longer trips hiking up to the Bhimashankar temple and other parts of the Sahyadri range.

Participating in extra-curricular activities is such a critical aspect of personal development that I can't stress it enough. The soft skills gained such as communication, negotiation, organization, and other strategic skills are invaluable.

## 3. Tell us something about your professional life just after VESIT. Where are you currently working?

During my final year of BE at VESIT, I had worked on Genetic Algorithms (GA) for my capstone project. That got me a job at a company called Mahindra-British Telecom (MBT) where I worked on GA-based research projects with colleagues in the UK. After working at MBT for a year, I got the opportunity to attend the University of Cincinnati and complete an MS degree in their Electrical and Computer Engineering department. My specialization there was in formal mathematical modelling for the specification and verification of software and hardware systems. After the MS program, I spent a decade and a half working in a variety of startups on optimization products in manufacturing, market segmentation, and qualitative research.

About 7 years ago, I decided to make a clean break from technology and started a new life in commercial real estate investments. I founded and built a business called Zane CRE that creates and manages investment opportunities for large-scale commercial investing projects. In addition,

I founded WealthChakra to educate my peers on participating in commercial investments through a community approach.

## 4. What does a 'busy day' in your life look like, and what does a 'relaxed day' look like? What hobbies do you pursue in your free time?

A busy day involves working with lawyers, bankers, engineers, and contractors on the one hand, and simultaneously working with a large number of investors on the other hand.

On days when I can relax, I will usually spend time with my children, go on a hiking trip, or read books.

My primary hobby is hiking. I'll often do day hikes in local nature areas. A few times a year I'll do more extended backpacking trips through mountains.

## 5. If you could tell your 19-year-old self something, what would it be?

I would say pay close attention to your strengths and follow a career and path in life that leverages your core strengths as early as possible.

For instance, if you have a true passion for IC design, then don't waste your time writing business application software. Instead, go seek the latest knowledge and experience in VLSI design and develop expertise in that.

If you realize that you are a good engineer, but are much better at convincing people then go become a pre-sales engineer or even a sales professional. Technology companies need intelligent sales professionals, financial analysts, legal experts, etc as much as any other industry.

## 6. You have founded multiple companies, what was your experience? Did it get easier over time?

Founding companies and building a business never gets easier from the perspective of the effort, patience, persistence, and perseverance that is required. That said, the relationships you build through each enterprise is what makes the next one more successful than the previous one.

## 7. What made you take the leap of faith while taking a step out of the tech domain?

Three things helped me take the leap of faith in every business that I ventured into - the first was the conviction that I wanted to build a business and life in which I controlled my future and most importantly my time; the second was the realization that I had developed problem-solving skills which would make me successful in any industry; and the third was my built-in Mumbaikar "make it happen" mindset.

## 8. What are the expectations of the recruiters from the students just out of college? How should one build their resume?

This goes to my comment about playing to your strengths. Look for jobs in companies and positions in which you have the skills and passion to succeed. Be ready to hit the ground running. If you're one of those who has to go through months of orientation and training before you are ready to be productive,



Mr. Iqbal Mutabanna

you will stay in the mediocre lane. Instead, focus on your areas of strength and make companies want to hire and promote you rapidly. Study the company and their job requirements. Tailor your resume to be specific and targeted for the job and demonstrate how you have the skills and qualities to excel. Show the company how they will benefit by having you in their team.

## 9. COVID '19 brought the entire world to a stop. Please share your experience of working through the pandemic.

We figured out what we needed to do to stay afloat. We adapted to the changing environment continuously and made decisions to pivot into areas that we had not considered previously. As a result, our business has grown through this period.

## 10. Any interesting anecdotes or stories/funny incidents from college life or professional life that you'd like to share with us?

I know VESIT is now located on a brand new campus so this may not make sense for the current student body. In the old campus that we attended, we had a horseshoe-shaped building at the edge of a residential area where it almost turned into a kutchha dead-end road. On the other side was a vast open area leading to an industrial complex. A small gate in one corner guarded by security served as the single point of ingress and egress. The administration had a strict policy of not allowing late entries or early exits. So, of course, it became a core mission for everyone to find ways around that. Countless schemes were hatched to create distractions for the security team. I can't get into details but suffice it to say that these distractions involved every possible tactic that the students could whip up - food, fights, sounds, flirting, etc. We saw some truly professional theatrics :)

## 11. Your message to the new generation at VESIT!

Recognize your area of strength. Strive to become an expert in that area. Focus on creating strong relationships. Build a network of mentors. Be agile and ready to adapt.