



अनन्ता

The Power of Infinite Intelligence

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Newsletter – Department of Master of Computer Applications

Message from Department

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
- Nelson Mandela

◆ Inside This Issue

<u>Academic Excellence</u>	2
<u>Placement</u>	2
<u>Student Endeavour</u>	3
<u>Co-Curricular</u>	4
<u>Extra Curricular</u>	12
<u>Faculty Pursuits</u>	14
<u>Expressions</u>	15
<u>Alumni Interaction</u>	16

At the MCA Department of VESIT, Mandela's timeless words echo through every initiative we undertake. Education here is not just about imparting knowledge – it's about igniting transformation. We are privileged to be part of VESIT's Ruby Jubilee celebrations in the academic year 2024–25, marking four decades of excellence. As a department, we proudly celebrate Ruby Connect, our vibrant alumni association that unites MCA graduates across the globe, fostering lifelong bonds and professional growth.



Dr. Dhanamma Jagli

◆ Editorial Board

Dr. Meenakshi Garg	ॐ
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Prerna Chotwani (MCA 1A)	ॐ
Tanavi Kadam (MCA 1B)	ॐ

As part of the Hashu Advani Centenary Celebrations (HACC), VESIT hosted a weeklong symposium titled TAS – Technological Advancements for Sustainability. Our department contributed meaningfully by organizing expert sessions on Bio-Inspired AI and Generative AI in Education, aligning with our vision of sustainable innovation.

Our strength lies in a team of highly qualified and experienced faculty, committed to guiding students through both theoretical foundations and practical applications. Our approach blends value-based teaching with technical excellence, nurturing ethical, socially conscious professionals. The department regularly hosts technical workshops, coding bootcamps and expert talks, enhancing students' practical skills and readiness for the tech world. Our strong industry interface has enabled numerous students to secure internships and placements with top-tier companies. Beyond academics, we foster a culture of mentorship, innovation and self-belief. Students are encouraged to engage in research and development, cultivating creativity and resilience to tackle future challenges. I truly appreciate the department's commitment and the way the newsletter thoughtfully showcases their dedicated efforts in driving this initiative forward.

🌐 [VESIT MCA Website](https://www.vesit.ac.in/mca)

✉ newsletter.mca@ves.ac.in



Scan and help us make this experience better for you!

Vision of Department

Towards leading the way in area of Computer Application to train and nurture the Students to become successful Technocrats thus benefiting the Society and Nation.

Mission of Department

- To provide opportunities to Students so that they understand the Theoretical Principles and apply them.
- To enable the Students to continually master the evolving Tools, Techniques, Trends in Technology and Management and effectively put them in practice in a cost effective manner.

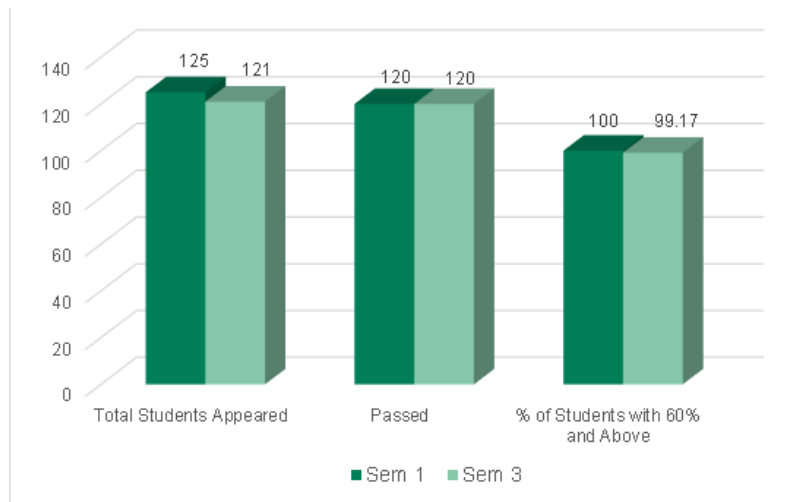


Srinivasa Ramanujan



Academic Excellence

Result Analysis AY 2023-2024



Toppers:

Semester I:

- Divyanshi Naveenchandra Joshi
- Anubhav Pankaj Singh

Semester III:

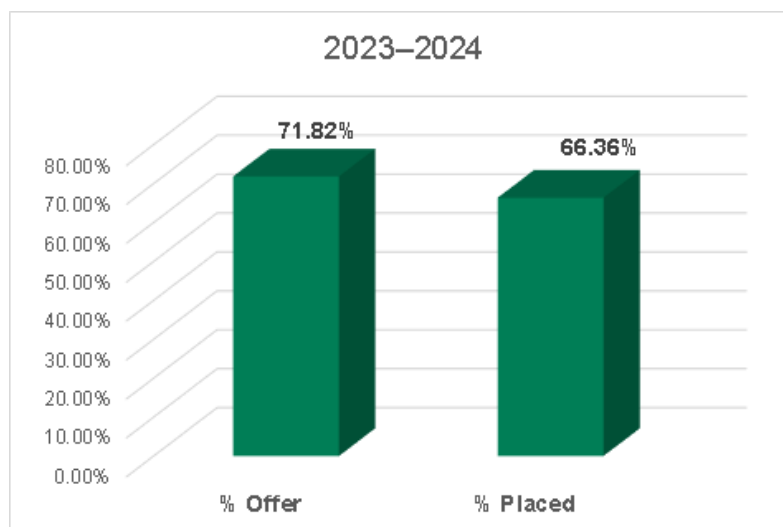
- Barika Hira Khalidi
- Anushka Mangesh Pradhan
- Mangalam Ramnaresh Sahu
- Pradeep Satish Vahatule
- Heetika Mahesh Vaity
- Neha Rajesh Yadav

-Prof. Ameya Parker

Placement

VESIT has a policy of more than one job offer for a particular student. The total job offer refers to the count of the number of offers received by students. Placed refers to the actual how many students got placed counting one job per student.

Placement vs Placed



Student Endeavour

◆ Tech-Ignite: Knowledge Series under TAS'25

Session on “Generative AI in Education”



Speaker conducting the session

The Department of MCA, VESIT, organized an expert session on “Generative AI in Education” on 1st March 2025 under Technology Advancements for Sustainability (TAS'25) – Tech-Ignite: Knowledge Series, in association with the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) and guided by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC). The TAS'25 initiative was conducted as part of the Ruby Jubilee Celebration of the college. The spokesperson of this session was conducted by **Mr. Rushikesh Meharwade, Vice President – Data Science, Motilal Oswal Financial Services LLP**, who shared valuable insights on how Generative AI is transforming the education landscape through personalized learning, automated content creation and data-driven innovation. A total of 146 students and 13 faculty members attended the event. The session began with the presentation of a **Tulsi sapling** to the speaker as a token of appreciation. The engaging talk inspired participants to think critically about the responsible use of AI and its role in building a sustainable future.



Participants in auditorium with speaker and faculty members

- Dr. Ramesh Solanki, Prof. Ruchi Rautela

◆ Scholarship

In the MCA Department at Vivekanand Education Society's Institute of Technology, several students were awarded scholarships from the VESTrust.

The recipients and their respective scholarships for the academic year 2024-2025 are as follows:

- **Sai Shashikant Mehetre** received the **Vivekanand Jyothi Scholarship for FYMCA/SEM II.**
- **Snehal Gajanan Dighore** was awarded the **Student Aid Scholarship for FYMCA/SEM II.**

- Prof. Monali Rajput

Co-Curricular

◆ SPICE

SPICE conducts aptitude test sessions by experts and ex-students to make students understand the aptitude level of dream companies as well as prepare them for such placements in both aptitude and interviews. It also aids their overall personality development by giving them the confidence to speak via GD and debate sessions and prepare them for the corporate world.

• Activities:

Aptitude Test Series: It is carried out through online and offline modes on 11th, 28th and 30th of January 2025 covering all the important topics from **Quantitative, Qualitative, Reasoning, Programming Java and SQL.**



Aptitude Test, 28th January 2025



Coding Contest

Coding Contest: This contest was conducted on 5th March 2025 using the **HackerRank** platform, where participants solved programming challenges in **Python, Java** and **C++** under timed conditions. The event promoted healthy competition, logical thinking and real-time application of programming knowledge.

Group Discussion Session: On 9th April 2025. A group discussion activity encouraged students to share diverse viewpoints on the given topic, **promoting active listening** and **respectful dialogue**. Each member contributed their ideas, leading to a collaborative exchange that deepened everyone's understanding. The session concluded with a summary of key insights and a consensus on the main points discussed.



Group Discussion Being Conducted



- Dr. Dhanamma Jagli, Prof. Vaishali Gatty

◆ MCA IIC (INSTITUTION'S INNOVATION COUNCIL)

• IIC Activities:

Seminar: On February 25, 2025, the MCA IIC Department organized a session on “**AI-Powered Entrepreneurship: Opportunities and Challenges**”, delivered by **Dr. Meghana Manohar Jalgaonkar, Director, MXAP Financial Pvt. Ltd.**

Poster Presentation: On February 25, 2025, IIC organized the “**Idea Showcase: Poster Presentation**” competition, where students presented their innovative projects through creative and **visually appealing posters**. Participants explained their ideas to the judges, who evaluated them based on creativity, clarity and real-world relevance.



Speaker highlighting the opportunities



Student Presenting his Poster

Idea Showcase (Demo Day): The **shortlisted students** presented live demonstrations of their innovative projects on February 27, 2025. The event featured **enthusiastic participation** as students showcased their ideas before a panel of judges, who evaluated each presentation based on creativity, technical execution and overall impact.

Session: The MCA IIC Department organized a session on “**Basics of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)** on February 28, 2025, and their Importance for **Innovators and Entrepreneurs**”, conducted by **Mr. Vinayak Singh, Ex-Vice President, JP Morgan Chase**. Mr. Singh discussed key aspects of patents, copyrights and trademarks.



Students Presenting their Projects



Speaker interacting with the audience

— Dr. Dhanamma Jagli, Prof. Sunny Nahar

◆ MOOC

Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) are free online courses available for anyone to enroll. MOOC provide an affordable and flexible way to learn new skills and deliver quality educational experiences at scale.

Students are encouraged to enroll in courses through platforms such as SWAYAM, NPTEL, Oracle Academy, Internshala and Udemy to strengthen their academic foundation and explore emerging technologies.

During the academic year, students completed 168 courses through SWAYAM-NPTEL, along with 75 additional certifications from Oracle Academy, Internshala and Udemy. Under SWAYAM-NPTEL, 75 students earned Elite certificates and 21 achieved Elite + Silver recognition for outstanding performance.

Several students excelled in their respective courses, achieving top rankings:

- Shubham Yadav – **Programming in Java** (Top 2%)
- Shubham Chougule – **Programming in Java** (Top 5%)
- Rahul Manoj Kumar Singh – **Database Management System** (Top 5%)



- Prof. Ruchi Rautela

◆ NPTEL Certification

NPTEL (National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning), a joint initiative by the IITs and IISc, was launched in 2003 and funded by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, to provide quality education across the country. Over time, NPTEL expanded to offer over 600 courses each semester across 22 disciplines. Through Swayam NPTEL, students completed a total of 168 courses, earning 75 Elite and 21 Elite + Silver certificates.



- Prof. Ruchi Rautela

◆ AWS Certification

A total of **69 FYMCA students** earned the **AWS Academy Machine Learning Foundations** certification in 2024–2025, reflecting their strong interest and skills in **cloud-based machine learning**.

- Dr. Ramesh Solanki

◆ Degree Distribution Ceremony

The **Degree Distribution Ceremony** for MCA was conducted on **16th April 2025** on behalf of the University of Mumbai. **Mr. Amit Nathu Tambe**, Project Manager at EPAM Systems, Pune, was the Chief Guest for the ceremony. The dignitaries on the dais were **Mr. Amit Nathu Tambe** (Chief Guest), **Dr. Shivkumar Goel** (Head of Department, MCA), **Dr. Mona Deshmukh** (Exam Incharge, MCA), **Dr. Saylee Gharge** (Controller of Examination, VESIT) and **Dr. Manoj Sabnis** (Dean of Student Affairs, VESIT). **Prof. Vaishali Gatty** was the MOC for the ceremony and **Dr. Shivkumar Goel** gave the welcome address.



Auditorium



Chief Guest engaging with the Audience



Degree Distribution

The Chief Guest, **Mr. Amit Nathu Tambe**, addressed the gathering with valuable insights for the students' professional journey, followed by the degree distribution. A total of **67 students** attended the Ceremony.

- Dr. Ramesh Solanki, Prof. Ameya Parker, Prof. Indira Bhattacharya

◆ Technology Day

The Department of Master of Computer Applications organized **Technology Day** on **March 21, 2025**. The event, coordinated by **Dr. Mona Deshmukh** and **Prof. Indira Bhattacharya**, provided a platform for students to showcase innovative semester projects through live demonstrations and presentations.

A highlight of the day was an online session on “**The Future of Machine Learning with Quantum Computing**”, offering insights into emerging technologies. A total of **25 students** and **11 faculty members** participated, making the event a success in fostering creativity, teamwork and practical learning among MCA students.



Technology Day

◆ Version-2025 All India MCA Meet

Version is a platform for showcasing talent, fostering healthy competition and promoting creativity. Beyond a mere contest, Version is an immersive experience featuring coding challenges, hackathons, workshops and interactions with industry experts. As the star event for MCA at NIT-Trichy, it continues to be eagerly anticipated, drawing participants from across India.



VESIT MCA Student at Version'25

The event, held from **March 7th to 9th, 2025**, at **NIT-Trichy**, featured a variety of engaging sessions and competitions. The first day included Insight, a guest lecture on Low-Code Development by **Ranjit Bhinge**, followed by a hands-on workshop on **Bubble.io, Groq.com, and n8n**, and concluded with **Meetup Mania**, a fun networking session with team activities and quizzes. The second day hosted technical events such as **Algo Arena, Dev Duo, Code Reboot and Treasure Hunt (R1)**, along with the **gaming event Shadowlands**. The final day featured **Treasure Hunt (R2), the Pitch 2 Rich idea presentation and Destinite**, a **live interview** round for the top performers, culminating in the Closing Ceremony celebrating winners and the success of Version'25.

The team consisted of **Gudimitla Ankababu (VESIT Coordinator), Avishkar Chauhan, Abhishek Mishra, Bhushan Tile, Chetan Chaudhari, Khushal Dhumane, Omkar Garud, Priyanka Sharma, Vaishnavi Karad and Anundhi Mishra**. VESIT students excelled in several events: **Team Stories (Ankababu, Chetan and Khushal)** secured **1st place in Meetup Mania**, **Team AAO (Avishkar, Abhishek and Omkar)** achieved **2nd place in Meetup Mania** and **Team RENEV won 2nd place in Pitch 2 Rich**.

-Dr. Ramesh Solanki

◆ Expert Lectures

• Research Ethics

An Expert Lecture on **Research Methodology** was held on **25th February 2025**, organized by **Dr. Dhanamma Jagli and Dr. Mona Deshmukh** for First Year MCA Students of Semester II (Div A and B). The topic of the lecture was **Research Ethics** and a total 110 students attended the session.

-Dr. Meenakshi Garg, Prof. Vaishali Gatty

◆ Skill Enhancement Programme (SEP)

As part of the **Skill Enhancement Programme (SEP)**, technical tests were conducted for MCA students to strengthen their understanding of semester subjects. The Test was conducted online for which purpose a Google form was shared with all the students. The **questions were application oriented** based on the university syllabus which were intended to enhance their technical skills. The test was well received by the students which will help for their academic excellence as well as their placement activities. The test was conducted for First Year MCA (SEM II) on **25th April 2025**, with **124 students participants**.

Top Performers: **Vishal Kruplani, Naishal Doshi, Vaishnavi Karad, Khushi Krishnani, Swarup Kadam.**



Technical tests being conducted

- Prof. Vaishali Gatty

◆ Placement Activities

The placement activities conducted by the MCA department under the VESIT Training and Placement Cell played a key role in guiding students toward their career goals. The college training and placement cell acts as a **guiding force, providing valuable resources and support to help students make informed career decisions**. Through various programs and initiatives, the cell equips students with the necessary skills, knowledge and exposure to thrive in the competitive job market.

Activities:

• Bonding Bridge (Senior–Junior Meet):

The Bonding Bridge (Senior–Junior Meet) event was organized by the SPICE Committee and Placement Committee on 1st February 2025 for FYMCA students. The session began with a warm welcome and a talk on the importance of early preparation for placements. Seniors shared their experiences, interview tips and ways to perform well in technical and HR rounds. The event gave juniors a chance to interact with their seniors and ask questions. It helped them understand the placement process better and prepare with more confidence. Overall, it was an informative and helpful session for all students.



Images capturing a glimpse of the senior giving insights to their juniors

• Resume Writing:

The Resume Writing session, conducted by Prof. A. Nagananda on 27th March 2025, was especially impactful. It helped students understand the resume structuring, formatting and content optimization, common mistakes to avoid and ways to make their resumes stand out.

The session saw active participation through an engaging Q&A segment. The Resume Building Session was highly beneficial, offering valuable insights and skills that students appreciated for enhancing their career development.



Resume writing session

- Prof. Indira Bhattacharya

✦ Research Forum Activity

• Threat Intelligence and Threat Research

The Research Forum Talk on **Threat Intelligence and Threat Research** was held on **2nd April 2025**. The session was delivered by **Mr. Pratik Mahale, Senior Threat Intel Consultant at Saudi Telecom Company, Saudi Arabia**.



Speaker leading the session

Mr. Pratik Mahale, a skilled professional in **Cybersecurity**, shared his experience in cyber threat intelligence, malware analysis, incident response and vulnerability assessment. He explained the lifecycle of threat intelligence and the use of tools and frameworks like **MITRE ATT&CK** and **STIX/TAXII**. He also discussed real-world examples of cyberattacks, sources for gathering threat data and the importance of collaboration in cybersecurity.

A total of **119 participants (113 students and 6 faculty)** attended the session. The hands-on demonstrations helped participants understand how to identify and respond to cyber threats effectively. The session provided useful insights into threat analysis and research methods. The star performers of the event were **Prof. Vaishali Gatty (Faculty)** and **Naishal Doshi (FYMCA)**.

In conclusion, the session by **Mr. Pratik Mahale** was very informative and interactive. It helped participants gain practical knowledge about threat intelligence and the importance of proactive security in today's digital world.

- Dr. Dhanamma Jagli, Prof. Vaishali Gatty

Extra-curricular

♦ Junior Sphurti

The Department of MCA actively participated in **Junior Sphurti 2025**, held from **23rd March to 2nd April 2025** at the VES Polytechnic Ground. The event featured exciting sports like futsal, box cricket, dodgeball, throwball, volleyball, kabaddi, kho-kho, athletics and tug of war, with students showcasing remarkable enthusiasm, teamwork and sportsmanship.

The Box Cricket (Girls) and Dodgeball (Girls) teams emerged victorious, while Dodgeball (Boys), Athletics (Om Rasal & Asmitha Velmula) and Tug of War (Girls) secured runner-up positions. The **MCA Department proudly achieved 2nd place** on the overall points table, with **35 students** contributing to this success.

- Dr. Ramesh Solanki

♦ Shubhant

The MCA Department organized a heartfelt farewell event, **Shubhant**, on **19th April 2025** to bid adieu to the outgoing SYMCA batch. The event was thoughtfully planned and hosted by the FYMCA students to celebrate and honor the memorable journey of their seniors. The farewell included a soulful Saraswati Vandana, lively dance and poetry performances, fun activities and games with gift hampers for the winners and a Vote of Thanks by the **General Secretary, Rohit Jha (SYMCA)**. The event concluded with a nostalgic video presentation of SYMCA's journey and light refreshments. **Shubhant** was a beautiful and emotional send-off that strengthened the bond between juniors and seniors and created lasting memories for all.

- Dr. Ramesh Solanki, Prof. Monali Rajput



Box Cricket (Girls)



Participants



Photo Capturing the glimpse of Shubhant

◆ UTSAV'25

The MCA Department participated in the event **UTSAV** held from **26th March to 5th April 2025** at the Amphitheatre. **UTSAV** is one of the main events for all branches of Engineering and Management students, where many talented students showcased their skills. The event included several days of celebrations such as **Traditional Day, Look-Alike Day, Suit Day and Bollywood Day**. The theme of the event was **masquerade** and the participants dressed according to the theme. The event was attended by FYMCA students and was a joyful and engaging celebration for all.

- Dr. Ramesh Solanki, Prof. Monali Rajput



Performance by MCA students (girls) during Utsav'25



Performance by MCA students (boys) during Utsav'25



Students dressed up as bollywood characters on bollywood day

◆ Illusions'25

The event **Illusions** was held from **14th to 24th January 2025** at **VESIT Campus**. **Illusions** celebrated creativity, talent and team spirit, bringing together six dynamic teams: **Intruders, Laureates, Conquerors, Imperials, Invaders and Prevailers** to compete in Dance, Singing, Aesthetics, Dramatics, Sports, Visual Art and Literature. The event was a grand success, with excellent participation and remarkable performances from all teams. After a spirited competition, **Team Intruders (The Red Team)** emerged as the winners. Six students from MCA name as **Nikita Jugalkishor Yadav, Anjali Tanhaji Gadakh, Asmitha Velmula, Ansari Abu Huzaifa, Aryan Yadav and Swayam Manohar Ghatge** participated in the event, contributing to its energy, enthusiasm and memorable celebration.

- Dr. Ramesh Solanki, Prof. Monali Rajput



Photos from Illusions'25



◆ FDP/STTP/Workshop Attended by Faculty

- From January 6 to January 11, 2025, Dr. Ramesh Solanki and Prof. Ruchi Rautela attended the AICTE Training and Learning (ATAL) Academy FDP organized by the School of Computational Sciences, Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University.
- From June 2 to June 8, 2025, Dr. Ramesh Solanki, Prof. Ameya Parkar, Prof. Indira Bhattacharya, Prof. Ruchi Rautela, Prof. Sunny Nahar and Prof. Monali Rajput attended the FDP on “AI for Effective Teaching and Learning” organized by L.B.H.S.S.T’s Institute of Computer Application.

◆ NPTEL Mentorship

- Prof. Ruchi Rautela mentored students for the NPTEL course “Programming in Java” offered by IIT Madras.
- Dr. Meenakshi Garg mentored students for “Programming in Java” and “The Joy of Computing using Python”, both coordinated by IIT Madras.

◆ Research Paper Publications

- Dr. Ramesh Solanki, Prof. Indira Bhattacharya and Dr. Meenakshi Garg, co-authored “Prognosticating Agricultural Outputs via Machine Learning Methodologies” in the Proceedings of the International Conference on Data Analytics and Insights, Vol. 1233, ISSN: 2367-3370.
- Prof. Ruchi Rautela, Prof. Sunny Nahar and Dr. Meenakshi Garg co-authored “Investigating Sophisticated Machine Learning Paradigms for the Prognostication of Diabetes” in the Proceedings of the International Conference on Data Analytics and Insights, Vol. 1233, ISSN: 2367-3370.
- Prof. Indira Bhattacharya published “Plant Disease Prediction Using Mobile-Based Real-Time Leaf Image Analysis” in the International Journal of Scientific Research in Engineering and Management (IJSREM), Vol. 9, Issue 6, ISSN: 2582-3930.
- Prof. Sunny Nahar published “Analyzing Volatility in the NIFTY 50 Index with ARCH and GARCH Models: A Two-Decade Perspective” in the International Research Journal of Engineering and Technology (IRJET), Vol. 12, Issue 6, e-ISSN: 2395-0056.
- Dr. Meenakshi Garg published multiple papers including:
 - “Movie Recommendation Using TF-IDF Vectorization and Cosine Similarity” in the International Research Journal of Engineering and Technology (IRJET), Volume 12, Issue 6, June 2025, e-ISSN 2395-0056, pp. 1113–1118.
 - “A Hybrid Model for Skin Classification Using Neural Networks and K-Nearest Neighbors” in the International Journal of Scientific Research in Engineering and Management (IJSREM), Volume 9, Issue 6, June 2025, ISSN 2582-3930.
 - “Leveraging Machine Learning for Cryptocurrency Price Prediction in Digital Asset Market” in the Journal of System Engineering and Electronics, Volume 35, Issue 2, 2025, ISSN 1671-1793.

◆ Invited Lectures

On June 6, 2025, Dr. Dhanamma Jagli delivered a lecture on “Mendeley Tool” during the FDP “AI for Effective Teaching and Learning” organized by Late Bhausaheb Hiray S.S. Trust’s Institute of Computer Application.

◆ Lecture Series

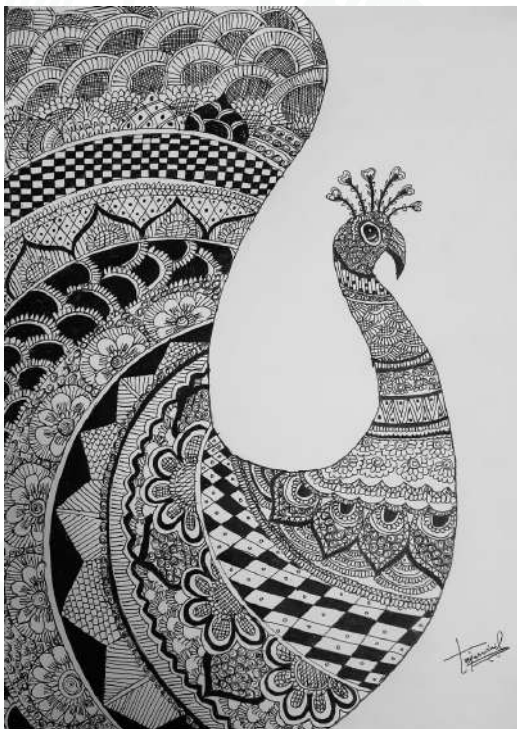
As part of the ISTE-approved Symposium (TAS’25) - Tech-Ignite: Knowledge Series, conducted under the guidance of VESIT-IQAC in association with VESIT-IIC:

- On February 1, 2025, Prof. Ruchi Rautela attended the Tech-Ignite: Knowledge Series organized by the Department of CMPN.
- On March 1, 2025, Prof. Ruchi Rautela organized another session of the Knowledge Series hosted by the MCA Department.
- On March 1, 2025, Dr. Meenakshi Garg attended the Tech-Ignite: Knowledge Series session organized by the MCA Department.

◆ Academic Council Member

In March 2025, Dr. Shiv Kumar Goel was nominated by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Mumbai as an Academic Council Member of Thakur Institute of Management Studies, Career Development and Research (TIMSCR) for the MCA Department.

- Prof. Sunny Nahar, Dr. Meenakshi Garg



Sketches by Tejaswini Moily - MCA 1B



Crochet Creations by Shruti Mohanan - MCA 1B

भारतवर्ष — एक दास्तान

सदियों पुरानी ऐसी एक दास्तान,
जचती है जहाँ ख्वाबों की महफ़िल।
आवाम में है हौसले की शान,
और ज़मीन है बुलंदों की मंज़िल।

वतन है ये शेर दिलों का,
फ़िज़ाएँ पुकारती हैं उनका नाम,
जिन्होंने धर्म का परचम लहराया।
ज़मीन है ये कुर्बानी का पैग़ाम।

रियासतें आई और फ़ना हुई,
लेकिन क़ौमियत कायम रही।
बहादुरी की लाख कहानियाँ सुनीं,
मगर “भारत” — इस लफ़्ज़ की कहानी अमर
रही।

Poetry by Sushrut Phansalkar - MCA 1A



Starry Night by Sanmit B. Pawar - MCA 1B

“Barika Khalidi, an MCA graduate from VESIT, is now working as a Software Engineer at Nomura, Mumbai. During her time at VESIT, she excelled academically and served as Placement Coordinator, supporting her peers throughout their placement journey. Passionate about technology, writing and public speaking, Barika consistently sought opportunities to learn and grow. Her journey from college to corporate life reflects dedication, adaptability and a commitment to turning challenges into learning experiences.”



Barika Khalidi

“Career growth is like a puzzle — each project, challenge and connection adds a piece.”

- Barika Khalidi

- **How would you describe your college journey at VESIT - both as a student and as a person?**
My journey at VESIT wasn't just about earning a degree, it was about discovering myself. Looking back, every step from classroom presentations to projects to placement preparations shaped the confident professional I am today. The lessons I learned here went beyond books: giving your best when it truly matters, celebrating others' success wholeheartedly and valuing practical learning. As Placement Coordinator, I realized that responsibility is less about power and more about purpose. VESIT became my mirror, reflecting both my strengths and areas to evolve.
- **How did you balance academics with extra-curricular responsibilities like being a Placement Coordinator?**
Balancing academics with my role as Placement Coordinator was definitely challenging but equally rewarding. I took it as an opportunity to develop discipline, communication and time management skills that would stay with me for life. I would divide my day thoughtfully dedicating focused hours to academics and separate time for placement coordination. Researching companies, building connections on LinkedIn and staying updated took consistent effort, but small, daily progress made it manageable. This balance taught me that with the right mindset, consistency and clarity, you can handle multiple responsibilities without feeling overwhelmed.
- **What was the one thing you think helped you the most in securing your job at Nomura?**
More than anything else, self-confidence played the biggest role in helping me secure my job at Nomura. Of course, technical knowledge and communication mattered, but confidence gave me the composure to think clearly during tough interview moments. My father once told me, “Confidence reflects your belief in your preparation,” and that truly stayed with me. I focused on presenting my thought process honestly instead of chasing perfect answers. That mindset helped me turn unfamiliar questions into opportunities to show problem-solving ability. So, trust your preparation, stay calm under pressure and let confidence bridge every gap.
- **What are some common mistakes you've seen your batchmates make during their college days?**
Knowledge without application is incomplete. Many students focus too much on theory and ignore hands-on practice, which is equally essential. Building real impactful projects, experimenting with new technologies and showcasing them effectively in your resume makes a lasting impression. Employers value proof of skills more than grades or certifications. Another common error is delaying placement preparation while waiting for the “right” time to begin. The truth is, there's never a perfect time, only consistent effort matters.

- **According to you, what should be the ideal approach for a first-year MCA student towards academics and placements?**

Academics and placements are not two separate paths—they actually complement each other. Your academic performance builds discipline and understanding, while placement preparation helps you apply that knowledge practically. The first step is setting clear short-term goals and mentally committing to them. Pay attention in lectures and make concise notes, especially for subjects like Java, Python, AI and Web Technologies that overlap with placement requirements. As placement season nears, you can gradually shift your focus to a 75:25 ratio between placement and academic preparation. Practice coding, revise regularly and develop meaningful projects using trending technologies. Above all, remember your parents' faith in you—it's your biggest motivation to give your best every single day.

- **How did being part of student committees like the Placement Cell contribute to your personal and professional growth?**

Being the Placement Coordinator was one of the most defining chapters of my MCA journey. It gave me a chance to grow beyond academics and learn what leadership truly means. Over time, I developed confidence in speaking fluently, managing situations calmly and learned to think from both a student's and recruiter's perspective. Professionally, it allowed me to connect with HRs and understand how the industry actually works behind the scenes. These real-world interactions gave me a clearer picture of what recruiters value in candidates. The role didn't just add to my resume, it helped me discover the leader within and my strength as a team player.

- **What is one thing you have learned so far in your corporate life at Nomura that you believe your juniors should know?**

If college teaches you how to learn, corporate life teaches you how to unlearn. The corporate journey will often demand more than what's written in your job description. Be proactive, don't just present problems, bring possible solutions to the table. Success here isn't just about technical skill; it's about communication, ownership and collaboration. Keep your manager informed, keep upskilling and always document your achievements for visibility. Building genuine professional relationships and networking across teams is often more powerful than you think. And most importantly, maintain balance. Your career should empower your life, not consume it.

- **If you could go back and give your graduating self one piece of advice, what would it be and why?**

Dear Barika, "Zindagi na milegi dobara" so make every moment count and trust your journey. Don't let fear or doubt stop you from trying new things or exploring unfamiliar paths. Every experience, even the difficult ones, adds depth to your story and teaches you something invaluable. Learn to appreciate small wins, forgive yourself for slow days and keep moving forward. Keep your dreams alive, stay curious and never stop learning from people around you. Most importantly, enjoy the process, because these years will shape both your career and your character.



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