



VESIT CONNECT

NEWSLETTER
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VESITian comes to Professor's aid

-by Neha Menon

"You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is like an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty."

— Mahatma Gandhi

Prof. Keya Doshi of the Humanities and Applied Sciences department met with an accident on 26 July 2016. She was on her way to college when the auto rickshaw she was travelling in rammed into the road divider and toppled near the highway at Vivekanand Chowk.

Like any other day, Mrs. Keya got into an auto rickshaw to travel to college. But no sooner had they reached the highway, than it started to rain. Then, instead of reducing his speed, the auto driver increased it and started travelling at a great speed. Mrs. Keya started getting anxious and looked outside to see where they were going. At one point she saw that there was a divider up ahead but the driver was looking the other side. She told him to look at the road which he did and promptly took a left. Unfortunately for them the rear tyre of the rickshaw hit in the divider and the rickshaw overturned. Quite a few people gathered around and straightened up the auto.

Tarleen Dand, a final year student at VESIT was in the auto behind them and had seen the whole incident. He asked his auto driver to stop at the side of the road and rushed forward to help the victim. On asking Mrs. Keya, she said, "Tarleen was a picture of humanity. He did not know me or that I worked at VESIT. He saw that I was injured and came to help me." He asked her what was wrong and because of the initial shock she started talking in her mother tongue, Gujarati. Tarleen, being a Gujarathi himself, coaxed her into telling him her husband's number and immediately called him.

He then accompanied her to the doctor and stayed with her till her relatives came over. She is immensely grateful to him for helping her and staying with her till her family came over.

In the present age, when the humanity of humans is under question, people like Tarleen set an example to their peers and all around them to follow. It rekindles the hope of a better world with selfless people in it.



Tarleen Dand

Automation Workshop

Automation Industry Association (AIA) founded in 2004, is India's apex automation industry body, with nearly 40 high tech automation companies. It is an industry led 'not-for-profit' body set up with techno-social objectives. AIA started campus connect program which runs in collaboration with chosen engineering institutions. The program creates "Competency Development Centers" nested at these institutions which entail sustained engagement with students and academia for proliferation and promotion of contemporary and relevant education in Automation. It also provides a blended framework of classroom, self-study and hands-on education in the field of automation. Individual companies focus on their own products, whereas here the consortium of companies, under the AIA charter have created a brand-neutral approach to education. This will be more effective and appealing to students.

In December 2015, some professors of VESIT were trained by instructors from firms such as Siemens, Rockwell Automation, Festo, B&R and Pepperl & Fuchs on their respective fields of automation by giving a series of lectures, presentations and practice comprising of 64 hours in 8 days. The workshop provided them hands-on experience on Sensors, Actuators (Pneumatics), Motion Control and PLC (Programmable Logic Control). After the training, the professors were provided with a user name and password using which they can access the training material of the instructors. The faculty who attended the workshop were Prof. Vijay S., Prof. Ramya T., Prof. Kader S., Prof. Kanchan C., Prof. Rakhi J., Prof. Abhijit S., Prof. Ajinkya V, Prof. Kadambari Sharma, Prof. Gauri S. and prof. Prasad G.

Said Prof. Vijay S. who attended this workshop, "It has been at the forefront of creating new platforms that impact the nation's competitiveness in manufacturing and infrastructure. Automation Industry has been propelling economies internationally by enabling manufacturing and infrastructure to meet the growing needs across the globe. This workshop emphasizes more and more on practical hands-on instead of only learning the theory part. Because of this I faced practical difficulties while performing the practical and there I came

to know where and how to use theoretical knowledge. After I finished training for myself I am conducting this workshop for students along with other professors with more effectiveness."



Prof Vijay S, along with the participants

These professors decided to pass on the learning to the students, by taking a workshop every academic semester for all those students who were keen and interested in learning. In this workshop, students would get a hands-on experience with the kits and would be provided with necessary theory and practice.

This workshop for students is conducted with a batch of maximum of 20 students and a fee of Rs. 5000 plus taxes. After the training is imparted, there are practice sessions for the students. The students will then have to clear a qualifying exam and all the students who have attained the qualifying mark will be awarded a certificate. This workshop would be conducted for students from Instrumentation, Electronics and Electronics and Telecommunications branches.

The first batch of this workshop was held during January 2016 and the second batch of workshop was held during July 2016 in VESIT. So this was an amazing opportunity and learn lots about automation!

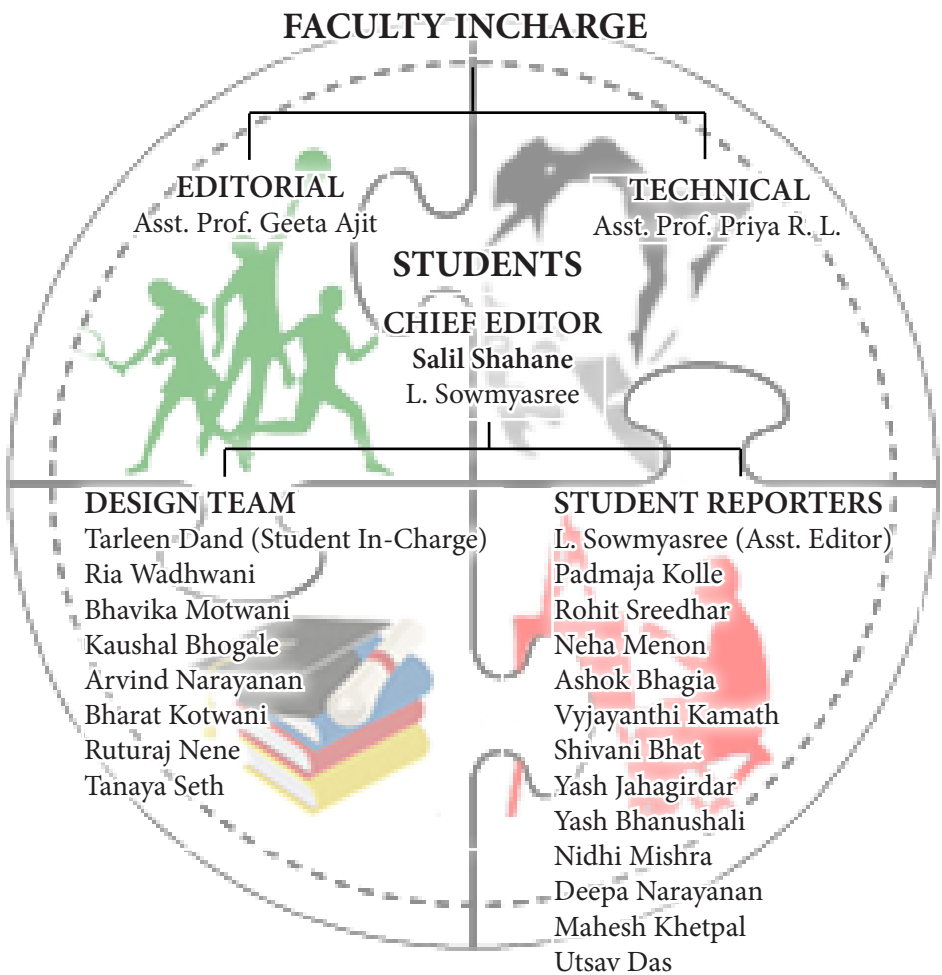
VESIT Voice

With the college reopening a new academic year has commenced and we at VESIT connect welcome you all again with a new enthused spirit. We once again bring to you the July issue of VESIT Connect newsletter to update you with the events and happenings and also enchant you with all the frenzies in and around the college. This issue features the regular sections of musings and expressions, a students creative zone. In VESIT Diaries we bring to you a candid interview with another dynamic VESIT alumnus of 1994 instrumentation batch Ms.Khanjari Kumbhar (Badamwala). In Golden Service we revere the service of Mr.Balaram Wadkar, lab assistant (Electronics department) and bring to you an open chat with him. With this issue we are starting with a new column ‘StudentSpeak’ where the students can express their opinions regarding the most talked about topics in and around the world. This issue also features a report on Yoga day celebration in VESIT where the yoga enthusiasts celebrated the 2nd international yoga day. Also featuring in this issue is a report on another eco-friendly initiative by VESIT, the tree plantation drive, consciously designed for giving back to the nature. Budding environmentalist, Neha Mundra (CMPN department) under the Children’s Movement for Civil Awareness initiative organised by Gangadhr Rao Chitnavis Trust conducted a workshop ‘GO GREEN WITH WASTE’ for creating awareness about waste management. This issue highlights a few excerpts from the same. VESIT organised a faculty development program under VESIT Renaissance cell to invigorate their skills and proficiency. Another quality workshop regarding Data Analytics using R programming was held for students to get an hands-on experience with the latest technology. Another workshop regarding free and open source software (FOSS) using python was held for students. Industry experts enlightened the students with the benefits of this technology.

This issue as well promises to be an encouraging and edifying joy ride.

Happy Reading!

The ‘VESIT CONNECT’ Team



PAUSE FOR A CAUSE - Tree plantation drive

-by Deepa Narayanan

With a view of creating enthusiasm among masses for environmental protection, Vivekananda Education Society hosted a tree plantation drive on 1st July. A total of 70 saplings were brought from BMC to support this cause. The event took place in the presence of staff, students and principals



Tree plantation drive at VES

of various VES institutions. The Principal of VESIT, Dr. (Mrs.) J.M. Nair inaugurated the tree plantation drive by rooting the first sapling. Thereafter, Principal of Vivekananda Education Society (polytechnic), Mr. Vikrant Joshi, staff of all departments, students and co-workers joined the drive. Mr. Vikrant Joshi stated, “It’s a good initiative put forth by the State Government to cele-



Principal Dr. J. M. Nair and Vice principal Dr. Vijayalakshmi inaugurate the tree plantation drive

brate this tree plantation drive at various prominent locations of the city. Each individual is responsible towards taking good care of the environment, as it will set an example to the future generations.” Needless to say the event was properly planned and executed. The places where saplings were to be placed had been kept ready by digging and a sapling each was handed over to the crowd present for the occasion. Thus the tree plantation drive was just one among many such initiatives which motivated the people to contribute their bit towards the environment.

Arohan – The Faculty Development Program

-by Geeta Ajit

The VESIT Renaissance Cell conducted a one week Faculty Development Programme, (Arohan - Arise, Awake, Ascend), to invigorate new skills and enhance faculty’s competence and proficiency before they begin the new academic year. The program which commenced on 4th July 2016 provided a perfect opportunity to faculty members to expand and extend their knowledge in the areas of effective communication and also in the development of soft skills. The Programme also covered areas of health care, yoga and an extended session on the forthcoming plan of the Institute to go autonomous.

Dr. Prince Augustine and his team from the Mahindra and Mahindra Group conducted the program for the first two days. They educated the audience about the effects of powerful questioning, active listening, giving and receiv-

ing feedback, which led to ‘Effective Conversation’. They also explained the positive outcomes that can be brought about by ‘Quggestions’.

Day three saw an interesting session by Mr. Y. Dattareya. He expounded Howard Gardner’s theory of Multiple Intelligence and made the audience aware of how each person varies from another on account of the difference in his abilities and skills. He also elucidated the traits of each characteristics and also gave inputs on how each one can improve themselves and become a better person. The objective of this exercise was to enhance the understanding of teachers about students and grown-ups, and how to identify their talents and also why some students excel in some area and others do not. He also touched on the topic of Transactional Analysis and the importance of positive pats in

our daily life. It was indeed a very interesting session and he was able to keep the attention of the audience captivated all through the session.

Day four comprised of Health Awareness. Mr. Puneet Anand from Integre Advisory Group addressed the health problems faced by most teachers because of their profession. Some of the problems faced by teachers are insomnia,



Arohan Team

severe leg pain, on account of long hours of standing on their feet, varicose veins, spondylitis, back pain and of course, stress. Dr. Kavita Puri, medical coordinator of Good Health foundation, demonstrated some simple exercises by which the teachers could release the strain from their backs and leg region. This was followed by a free medical check-up for all the faculty and a one hour very interesting talk by Dr. Rakesh Nair, a renowned Orthopaedic Surgeon who delivered a lecture on how to take care of your knees and also on the prevention of osteoarthritis and osteoporosis. Day five started with “Office Yoga” session by Ami Yoga Solution Private Limited. Mrs. Megha Dhargalkar, a senior member of the team, spoke about the advantages of yoga for teachers, especially as they have to deal with long hours of work, and also the stress and disposition of the job which requires them to be alert and sensitive at all times. Mrs. Megha, with her team, demonstrated how we could do all

types of Asanas and also Surya Namaskar, using a chair! She also gave inputs on the benefits of practicing yoga at workplace, on how it not only helps to calm and refresh you but also rejuvenates and energizes you instantly.

In the afternoon, it was college business session, where the faculty were updated on the progress of VESIT towards becoming an autonomous institution. There was a brief talk by Prof. Uday Joshi, Assistant Professor from K. J. Somaiya College, who shared his experience on their journey to becoming an autonomous college. Later, Prof. Abhay Kshirsagar, and Dr. C. D. Rawat,



VESIT faculty at the FDP session

presented to the audience on the current position of the college and also the work still to be done by the institution in order to apply for autonomy.

The program ended with a resounding appreciation from the faculty members, who found the sessions very enlightening and beneficial as the schemas of the various sessions matched with the requirements of their current working domain. Says Indu Dokare, Assistant Professor from the Department of Computer Science, “The FDP sessions were very informative and we learnt a lot on how to maintain positive attitude. The session on Multiple Intelligence was excellent. Now I begin my day by giving ‘positive strokes’ to others. Hope we have many more sessions like this in future.”

Report on Summer School Program

-by Utsav Das

As a part of Skill Development, Department of Computer Engineering along with the departments of IT and MCA organised a Summer School Program for second, third, final year and passed out students of VESIT during the beginning of the academic year. The details of the two workshops are attached below.

Workshop 1 : Data Analytics using R Programming

Departments of Computer, IT and MCA of VESIT organized Four days workshop on “Data Analytics Using R Programming” from July 11-14, 2016 in collaboration with Delflip Edusense Pvt Ltd. The objective of this Summer School Program was to learn how to use the statistical computing language R. Final year and students who passed-out from all three departments actively participated in the workshop.



Participants of R programming workshop with faculty and instructors

Mr. Manish Jain from Delflip Edusense Pvt Ltd was an excellent trainer who helped the participants to understand R language and also provided extensive hands on activities. Facebook data analysis and visualization was done with the help of fully integrated R Studio development environment. Mr. Manish did a remarkable job of providing guidance and instruction. The participants showed high level of enthusiasm and spirit of learning.

Workshop 2 : FOSS Technologies with Python Programming

FOSLIPY Pvt Ltd. organised a summer school programme on “FOSS technologies with Python” on the 11th and 12th of July in collaboration with the computer, IT and MCA departments of the college. The training programme

consisted of three industry experts and professionals; Ms. Sayali Yewale, the founder and CEO of FOSLIPY gave insight on Linux on the first day while Prof. Amit Chougale and Ms. Ujwala Pawde discussed Python with the students on the second day.



Participants of Foss programming workshop along with faculty and instructors

Day 1 kicked off with the introduction of FOSS which stands for “Free and Open Source Software” and a brief history of the GNU compiler and the origins of Linux. The instructors demonstrated the GNU/Linux desktop and showed its versatility in today’s dynamic software industry.

Students learned about writing command lines and building websites and servers with shell programming using OpenShift software. The students were taught about the Linux Directory Structure, thus setting up their foundation for learning Python the next day.

Day 2 introduced Python and the instructors showed the students the Python environment and its dynamic and unique features. Students delved into Python’s powerful polymorphism and other object-oriented programming concepts.

The students applied their knowledge by hosting a website on their server and created a menu on FOSLIPY and filled it with student details. The students thus learned about creating web applications with FOSS, drawing the programme to a close.

GREEN THUMBS - First Step towards Sustainability

-by Neha Mundra

Neha Mundra, a student of the Department of Computer Engineering is an avid environmentalist. Under the Children's Movement for Civil Awareness initiative organised by Gangadharrao Chitnavis Trust, she conducted a workshop 'GO GREEN WITH WASTE' for creating awareness about waste management. She has also given a radio interview on channel 585 kHz, Akashwani Nagpur on the topic Waste Management on 5 July, 2016.

Below is an article written by her for a Children's magazine- Twinkle Star

Our Planet Earth is in imminent danger of becoming one large garbage bin. Not only is the problem acute in urban strongholds, but has infiltrated the Polar caps, and even outer space. Fortunately for humanity, we are not short of environment heroes, who not only spread awareness of the grave danger that awaits us but are also doing what they can to control the damage.

It all started when I shifted to Mumbai about three years ago, to pursue a degree in Computer Engineering. While everyone keeps talking about how great and busy the city is, everyone fails to notice the impact each one emanates around them in their fast lives. Brought up in Nagpur, I was neither accustomed to public transport, nor did I really understand the necessity of it. However, with this epiphany, I soon realised the need for the fundamental mission of my Life— To protect Mother Earth and her delicate ecology, and help her heal. I have been associated with a social organisation, RUR Greenlife Pvt. Ltd. in Mahim for the past two years, working towards bringing awareness in people about the ills of mindless dumping, the benefits of reducing daily garbage produce, and the usefulness of waste.



Neha Mundra's first radio interview as an Environmentalist

Living in Chembur, a 20-minute drive from Deonar Dumping Ground, I could really witness the ill-effects caused due to the fire. It was all filled with smog. We could hardly see anything in the college premises. Everyone kept cribbing about the effects of the fire— the health problems, and how bad the state was in the city; very few really realised the deeper cause, which was the waste which we generate at our homes, societies, offices, schools, etc. Dumping the waste in the yards implies we are actually breaking the cycle of nature. If we can get so excited about buying nice, ripe mangoes, and enjoy eating them with our families, why we do we get so detached with its peels, and later throwing them out of our houses becomes our primary objective. Rather, if we use mango peels, along with other vegetable and fruit peels, and add them to the compost, and eventually use them in our gardens, wouldn't we reduce the load on landfills? When nature is able to recycle everything, why can't we?

RUR designs, builds and implements sustainable, decentralised waste management solutions for societies, corporates, schools and individuals, to recycle 80% of the waste they generate. They also take workshops to educate people to become eco-conscious citizens who care for the planet. I have taken

over 50 workshops now, number of people attending ranging from 3 to 800 and so far, convincing people to take the initiative has proven to be the biggest challenge. But once they understand the impact of waste to their own families and see the benefits of composting in the form of freshly grown produce, they are converted. My favourites are usually the school workshops. Apart from the fun you have with small kids around, I also believe if you inculcate habits like the 3 bin approach (wet waste, dry waste, and trash), composting wet waste, sending dry waste for recycling, at that young an age, it gets engrained in the mind of a child. Then our country will not face the danger of further degradation of the environment, because then there would be lots of 'green thumbs' in our country.



Neha Mundra at the Green Thumbs workshop

It is feared that with the rapid development of Nagpur, we would soon face the same problems that currently plague Mumbai. We need to start following the 3-bin approach as soon as possible, and the World Environment Day seems like the perfect day to begin.

The three bins are as follows:

Green: Wet Waste (About 60% of the waste generated at our homes)

Yellow: Dry Waste (About 20% of the waste generated at our homes)

Red: Trash (Rest 20% which needs to be reduced)

The waste generated in the Green Bin can be composted, and the Yellow Bin waste can be given for recycling. This leaves us with the Red Bin which mainly consists of the non-degradable waste which we should try and reduce.

This could be a small first step we take towards securing the future of our planet. After all, damaging the environment of which we are part is akin to cutting the very branch we are sitting upon. Let's save our souls and our planet too!

Yoga- A path towards enrichment

-by Deepa Narayanan

June 21, 2016 was observed as the 2nd international Yoga Day at Vivekananda Education society following the protocol stated by the Central Government. Riot of colours of yoga mats flashed the grounds of the amphitheatre. The trainer for the day was a faculty from VES, Mrs. Rita Vazirani, a yoga professional. Mr. Prasad Godse, Assistant Professor Instrumentation, (VESIT) accorded a warm welcome to participants and gave a precise introduction of the trainer. The audience, comprising of students and staff from BMS, BMM, BSc, Arts and Science streams were mesmerised by the melodious song in the background. A group of 5 yoga professional students, having expertise of almost 7 to 8 years, trained from Jawahar Vidyabhvan Chembur performed on the stage, demonstrating all the asanas (yogic postures) in an appropriate

way. When asked to throw light on the importance of Yoga, Rita Vazirani stated, "Each individual has a youth within him and it is necessary to bring it to life. Yoga is the path of life and it improves an individual's concentration skills." As a source of encouragement, the principal of VESIT, Dr.(Mrs) J.M. Nair and the vice-principal of VES Arts and Science college, Dr. Mrs. Anita Kanvar also participated in the event. The whole event was a rejuvenating one and had a perfectly planned transition from warm-ups to asanas. Surely, the amount of participation for Yoga event will increase in the years to come as more and more people are on the lookout for peace and an exit from their humdrum lifestyle.



Yoga day celebration at VESIT



Yoga professionals demonstrating asanas

STUDENTS SPEAK

The topic of this month was: *BREXIT : Its impact on UK and the world.*

Opinion on BREXIT

- by Mihir LeLe

D8

On 23rd June, 2016 people of UK decided to leave EU with majority of 51.9%. The event can be seen as success to struggle of UKIP since 1993. Just after a while of results being declared many mixed thoughts and opinions from both sides were expressed. In my opinion there are three things that should be highlighted about this so called 'Brexit'.

Firstly, the fear of uncertainty in political and financial sectors across the globe due to Brexit spread rapidly than anticipated. Markets took heavy hit and media as usual helped propagation of unnecessary information and thoughtless conclusions. This very event showed us how vulnerable we are. Due to Globalization and increasing free trade each country's destiny is tied up with every other country's destiny; making this world a domino's game.

Another thing that caught my attention was utter ignorance and indifference of people of UK. A certain conversation I read clearly suggested that conversant

did not know what she was casting that vote for. Some people misinterpreted 'Leave' and 'Remain' buttons for referendum for immigration policy of UK where they were deciding fate of immigrants. Reaction of people hours after results was absurd. Thousands of petitions for re-execution of referendum, people expressing regrets about not voting just showed how ignorant people can be.

Lastly, I was amazed to know about David Cameroon's decision of tendering resignation in September, 2016. This decision made me believe that there are still some people left in UK who stand for what they believe in, who have enough moral fiber to let go of power they know they don't deserve. If politicians in India had an ounce of moral standards as these, politics in India would be far better and promising sector.

BREXIT and the world

- by Harsha Kumar

D6-A

On Thursday, the 23rd of June 2016, the citizens of United Kingdom voted on whether their country should remain in or withdraw from the European Union. 'BREXIT' a nifty portmanteau combining the words "Britain" and "exit" marks a historic moment that could shape the future of the country for generations. The referendum question read, "Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union?". The voters had the option of putting an "x" next to one of two answers. But the question arises that "Why is it making headlines all over the world?". "In what way is Brexit affecting us?".

For analysing the various factors let us have an insight on "What is European Union? Why was it formed?". The European Union - often known as the EU - is an economic and political partnership involving 28 European countries. It began after World War II to foster economic co-operation, with the idea that countries which trade together are more likely to avoid going to war with each other. But Britain has had a troubled relationship with the EU since the beginning and has made various attempts to break away from it.

The BREXIT 'leave campaign' led by Boris Johnson had justified its reasons and made promises that formed the basis of their victory. The prime objective behind BREXIT was to have lots of jobs and higher wages and this can be achieved by being a competitive economy and not being in any particular club. The BREXIT supporters believe that as a free nation they have the choice to, say, follow a socialist path, nationalise stuff, strengthen unions and welfare benefits. They believe that not all of Europe has the same uninterrupted run of political stability. NIGEL Farage, the leader of the UK Independence Party, told elated supporters that June 23rd should go down as Britain's Independence Day. But the reaction in financial markets to Britain's vote to leave the European Union was rather less euphoric. Global stock markets lost about \$2 trillion in value on Friday after Britain voted to leave the European Union. Investors hate uncertainty and the result of the referendum gives rise to a surfeit of it. Damian Green, a pro-Remain MP, said: "BREXIT poses big risks for welfare. Being in Europe makes our welfare system better able to support pensioners, families and the most vulnerable." BREXIT has adverse effects on Britain itself. A recession in Britain nevertheless seems likely. Cor-

porate investment will be hurt by uncertainty about future access to both the single market and to other

places where Britain has piggybacked on trade deals negotiated by the EU. The majority who voted to leave the EU may think that forecasts of recession in the event of a BREXIT vote were a tactic to scare voters. But as the bleak consequences for the economy become clearer, spending on big-ticket items is likely to slump. The collapsing pound will drive up inflation up, crimping real incomes.

Just like how BREXIT affects other nations of the world. It also has a large impact on Indian economies and businesses and primarily the Indian stock markets. Within a few hours of the result, both the NIFTY and the SENSEX were down by 4%. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says "As far as India is concerned, if there is an entry point for us to the EU, that is the UK." UK has traditionally been among India's closest friends in Europe. Among the western countries, Great Britain is the most positive about India's influence. UK has thus been a traditional jumping pad for Indian companies entering Europe. When UK loses a voice in EU, India loses a partner in the EU. There will be confusion in some of the pending trade deals. India and other countries would have to face a plethora of new agreements to make with all the member countries and that will slow down global economy. Britain's exit from the European Union will have a negative impact on the Indian IT sector. Work-related visa restrictions have already resulted in a fall in the number of Indian students in the UK. Following BREXIT, the number of Indian students applying to UK universities and colleges will reduce further.

This was on how BREXIT affects the countries as a whole. Now as we see from the perspective of the common man, we realise that we have to face a lot of changes. Because the pound is worth less, travelling abroad will be more expensive. As the pound weakens imports will become more expensive. This will lead to higher inflation. As companies begin moving money out of Britain which will negatively impact investment and hiring.

Thus I conclude by saying that this historic referendum will bring long-lasting repercussions that will change the face of the Indian as well as Global economy.

MUSINGS AND EXPRESSIONS

Vipassana

-by Mrs. Sai Dabole
Dept. of H & AS

The technique of Vipassana is a simple, practical way to achieve real peace of mind and to lead a happy, useful life. Vipassana means 'to see things as they really are'; it is a logical process of mental purification through self-observation.

Vipassana is one of India's most ancient meditation techniques. It was re-discovered 2500 years ago by Gautama Buddha, and is the essence of what he practiced and taught during his forty-five year ministry. During the Buddha's time, large numbers of people in northern India were freed from the bonds of suffering by practicing Vipassana, allowing them to attain high levels of achievement in all spheres of life. Over time, the technique spread to the neighbouring countries, Myanmar (Burma), Sri Lanka, Thailand and others, where it had the same ennobling effect.

Benefits of Meditation:

- * Improves concentration
- * Increase alertness
- * Develops control over the mind
- * Memory becomes clearer
- * Improves decision making ability
- * Increase self confidence

- * Agitation, fear, tension, nervousness and stress decrease
- * Capacity to work and study increases
- * Increase ability to understand others and to express oneself
- * One becomes full of good wishes for others.

Meditation Techniques:

- * Sit comfortably keeping your back and neck straight.
- * Keep your eyes gently closed
- * Focus your entire attention on the entrance of the nostrils
- * Remain aware of the natural breath as it comes in, as it goes out.
- * Don't try to control, count or regulate the breath
- * Don't add any word, verbalization or imagination of any kind.
- * When the mind wanders away, bring it back to the awareness of respiration.

Vipassana has the capacity to transform the human mind and character. It is an opportunity awaiting all who sincerely wish to make the effort.



Mrs. Sai Dabole

THE STORM

-by Lairai Karnik

The pearly clouds, irresistibly attracted to the handsome mountains descended from the heavens to kiss their moist peaks. There loomed a forlorn darkness throughout the vastness of the sky, which seemed an expression of its disapproval and anguish. The milky innocent clouds left their abode and nestled themselves comfortably in the reassuring embrace of the magnificent peaks, hurting the serene sky that had given them boundless love and affection...

They too were not to blame. They were torn between the mature, sensible love they were showered with throughout their lives and the newfound, wild, free, passionate love that the humongous hills had to offer. The sky roared with thunder, letting the whole world know of its rage.

Alas! The deeper the love, the deeper the hurt. Lightning flashed, deafening thunder resonated throughout the heavens and earth alike. The wind, standing in solidarity with the sky blew violently like never before, destroying everything that came in its way. The birds shuddered with fear and flew away to the safety of their homes. Or what was left of them.

The rage of the sky soon quietened...only to give way to copious tears. The sky cried uncontrollably, as memories flashed across its mind of the bygone days. And so did the clouds, which too, became dark, filled with remorse and regret. The damp peaks tried to console them, but in vain. As their tears gushed endlessly and the wind's anger knew no bounds, the world witnessed a storm like never before.

The uprooted trees, with leaves still fresh and seething with life, as if reluctant to die young, lay lifeless on the ground, like a beautiful story that will always remain untold.

I sat by the window, sipping a cup of coffee in the safety of my concrete home, feeling sorry for all the devastation, reflecting how love, loss and the clash of egos can destroy everything.

MARCH ON

-by Harishkandan Somasundaram

There are these days

When with no mercy pours the rains.

When the demon has his ways

And sorrows fill the lanes.

The journey turns into a test and the legs grow weary

As helplessness tightens its noose and the eyes get teary.

Your body begs to give up while your pride bleeds for defiance

Your mind wills to bend and pleads the heart for compliance.

Sweat blurs your vision while your cries deafen your ears

Luck conspires to break you while the end of your will power nears.

You are half way through, says a part of you

But you are yet to cover the other half, or so the other part woos.

The rains keep lashing while the storm shows no pity

But such is the story of life, and there's naught to be done save being gritty.

The legs may cramp but the steps shouldn't cease

You may find your eyes damp but with the failing vision for glory, you mustn't make peace.

Helpless as it may seem and as tired you might be to even cry

Your hurdles should never win and your hope must never die.

Vulnerable you may be in times perilous

The claws of the evil tempting, the wicked incessantly querulous.

Fall not as a prey to the charms of the vile

Love passionately, and shun it with a smile.

Try ceaselessly, but learn from the past

March towards glory, and be the one to laugh last.



-Charcoal art by Pratik Sawant



-Photography by Prasad Gaikwad



-Photography by Prasad Gaikwad

Golden Service

Our labs are an integral part of our process wherein we see the technical theory work in practice. These labs which we conveniently use, are always kept tidy and organized because of the hands which work behind the scenes. These are the people who are so humble that they do not look for recognition nor claim credit for the unspoken help they offer. Yes, it is our lab assistants, who are there around right from the time we workout our circuits in the lab till the time the college is deserted post 5 p.m. One such unassuming person is Mr. Balaram Wadkar. Says Prof. Naveeta Kant, “ Wadkar has been very consistent and diligent with his work. He knows where everything is kept in the lab, and that is of great help. Also, he is a very silent worker. He does not talk unless necessary.”

Here’s a little chat with Mr. Balram Wadkar M, lab assistant, Electronics dept.

1.Tell us something about yourself...

I was born on June 1st, 1966 at Konkan in the Raigad district where I studied till standard XII. Later I came to Mumbai and settled here with my family. I have one daughter, who is doing her M.E. in this college itself and two sons. The elder one is working and the younger one is studying in standard XII.

2. For how long have you been working here?

I joined VESIT in 1985 and I work as the lab attendant. After I came to Mumbai, I did a technical course and joined here. I began my career working in this college.

3. Tell us something about your initial days at VESIT.

When I joined VESIT, around 32 years back, it was a small building. And now, it is has grown to be a huge campus with a good infrastructure. It is to-day, responsible for shaping the career of thousands of students.

4. How has the college supported you throughout the years?

The college has been very supportive of me over the years and the staff and my colleagues too are a vital part of my life. The college has helped out through

every problem and been there with me, thick and thin.

5. What are your thoughts about VESIT?

Everyone knows that VESIT is a well-known institute and one of the best colleges in the city. That is why I took admission for my daughter here for her ME. When I came to work here, VESIT was part of the old building. Back those days, there weren’t many facilities. Even after the buildings were separated there was not much. But now, over the years it has grown into this trustworthy institute to which every year students come with hopes, dreams and aspirations.

6. How is your equation with your colleagues?

I have a pretty good rapport with my colleagues. As a senior staff, I always offer my assistance to all new members who need any help.

7. What is your opinion about the students at VESIT?

Over the period of time there have been changes in the students too. Earlier, they were very serious about their studies and used to treat us with respect. Now-a-days, the students tend to slack a little.

8. What are your future plans?

I would like to continue for a few years after my retirement, provided that the management gives in their consent for it.



Mr. Balram Wadkar M, lab assistant, Electronics dept

*-by Neha Menon
Rohit Sreedhar*

in

VESIT Diaries

-by Padmaja Kollé

Ms. Khanjari Kumbhar(Badamwala) is a deputy chief engineer at Mcdonnell Engineering. She is an alumni of VESIT, belonging to the batch of 1994 from the Department of Instrumentation. Here are the excerpts from a candid interview with her.

1. Tell us something about your college life

Walking down the memory lane, thinking about college days gives a nostalgic feeling specially because I have spent six years in VESIT campus having done my diploma course also from Vivekanand (VESP). College life was quite exciting studies, friends, lectures, bonding, the entire atmosphere is unforgettable.

Instrumentation Class was known to be one of the best groups of our batch. Our teachers knew most of us by our names. Our class participated in all the possible extra-curricular activities whether it was Spurti or Utsav. On the Academic front, performance of our class was quite good. Every single moment spent in that college is something I will cherish for the rest of my life. And, the fact that I found some great friends for life during my college days (Diploma and degree), is something I am grateful for and value.

2. How important, according to you, are interpersonal skills at professional level? Do academics and interpersonal skills go hand in hand?

People who have worked on developing strong interpersonal skills are usually more successful in both their professional and personal lives. In fact Employers often look at hiring people who have good and strong interpersonal skills. As they want people of who are able to communicate effectively with clients / customers and work well in team. There has to be proper coordination between managers and employees to understand the requirement of the client and to serve them better and thereby grow in their careers as well.

Role of interpersonal skills in an organization is as below:

- To understand the organizational goal and need to achieve it through collective efforts.
- Understand the client's requirements and balance their demands.
- Identify new opportunities in the market and formulate strategies to achieve business goals.
- To improve collaboration with in teams to achieve project's vision and milestones.

Yes, academics and interpersonal skills do go hand in hand many a times and Interpersonal skills have been recognized as important for success in academics. Teaming, effective time management, working together in teams, adapting to change, problem solving approach and most important , leadership are all that one develops during their academic career.

People with good interpersonal skills are able to understand others better and communicate better as well. This helps them interact with others confidently. It will help to solve the problem. Staying calm is also important because if you are stressed you will not be able to communicate well.

Healthy interpersonal skills reduce stress, resolves conflict, helps to understand difficulties well, improve communication, and promote joy.

3. Is it necessary to have a foolproof plan for your career from the beginning itself?

Now a days almost everyone has some sort of significant goal though not foolproof plan or an aspiration they hope to achieve in the future. For many, this includes some type of long-term career plan or dream job that they would like to obtain. While these major objectives may seem difficult or even impossible to achieve, they can appear much more manageable through the use of a career plan.

The future though is uncertain ride, but having a solid career plan in place can serve as a reliable roadmap to get you wherever you would like to go.

Having a realistic career plan in place is often an essential part of our personal growth and development. Without goals to strive for, most people find it difficult to stray from the easy norm or to gain skills which make them a more valuable in the business world. By planning for the future and setting a specific timeline for accomplishing the things you want to achieve, you will find that your career plan is an effective way to ensure you never lose motivation

along the way. Your career plan is an opportunity to maximize your true potential.

4. Tell us something about your professional life.

I complete my 18 years on professional life as Instrumentation engineer in August 2016, The journey has been long; with great learning, experiences, challenges and achievements. I started my professional career with marketing job and then moved to design industry as opportunity popped in. In 90's information technology job requirement was on peak, in spite of all odds in instrumentation job market I chose to stick to my profession religiously. I have grown from a Junior engineer to deputy chief engineer progressively. My hard work, dedication and commitment to my work has enabled me to reach to this position. My professional journey includes working with instrumentation companies like Chemtrols, ABB, Dorsh, Chemtex Engineering, Snamprogetti Ltd.(was employed in their UK office), Toyo Engineering and Burns and McDonnell Engineering(Present company). I feel completely satisfied at this stage of my professional life.

5. Tell us how important is it for an engineer /engineering student to have a life beyond technology? (Importance of hobbies in one's life).

Yes, it is important for an engineer to have a life beyond technology even though he/she is in technology work profile. Awareness of various other industries like manufacturing, marketing, Finance, Human Resource management is always add a value to your personal and profession life.

Hobbies are good and I would say it's a must for all. In today's stressful and monotonous life, it may be difficult to pursue one's hobbies, but given a try you can do take it forward. A feeling of satisfaction is achieved. Hobbies could be anything like reading books, traveling, music or dance etc. It works wonders in reducing your stress. As for myself, being a mother, I try to take the opportunity to enjoy music and dance with my daughter. I truly feel relaxed after such spent enjoyable time.

6. Can you shine some light upon the activities students can do from the start of the college which will help them mold their career?

Study, work hard, do well in your engineering subjects, search the Internet for information on industry, get into a co-op program during college, join ISA society in college as a student member so you can learn more about the field before deciding how you use your Instrumentation Engineering degree. Once you graduate, never stop learning and create a wide personal and professional network of contacts -- in Instrumentation engineering and outside the field.

7. Any message for the new generation at VESIT?

Today's engineer works is changing at an enormous rate. Many of these changes are unsettling and will surely change our profession in a profound way. For example, computers and other forms of automation and software's are replacing much of the effort we engineers have supplied in the past, commoditizing our business and leaving us wondering what our future roles will be. At the same time, "YOU" the new generation of engineers who have the vision and ambition to play a much more impactful role in making the world a better place.

As new generation of engineers you must be able to accept problems of uncertainty and, most importantly, help others, understand uncertainty and make good decisions in the face of it. Balancing risk and reward among project team members is an important strategy for providing value through innovation. There is no gain without pain.



Ms. Khanjari Kumbhar