Since 1962

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# **VESITians shine at AVISHKAR**

-by Shivani Bhat

VISHKAR is a Research Competition among all Universities of Maharashtra. It is a special effort towards the participation of the talented students from rural and urban areas in such a Research Competition. The objective of AVISHKAR is to foster young researchers that are intended to contribute societal needs while undertaking their under-graduation, post-graduation and research studies. AVISHKAR has six categories with Engineering & Technology being category-5. Each such category has four levels of participation viz. UG Level, PG level, Post PG level (M. Phil /PhD) and Teacher level. At the Inter University Research Convention Avishkar 2016-17 two research papers from our college not only reached the final round but also won the award in their respective category.

Prof. Shilpa Shailesh Joshi from the EXTC Dept. won third prize in category-5, Ph.D under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) R.K.Kulkarni. The title of the paper was *Novel Hybrid Filtering Techniques for Removal of Speckle Noise from Medical Images*. The objective of the research was to obtain a high-resolution image from a single noisy low-resolution image. Also, a set of operations such as Intensity correction, Diffusion filtering and Super Resolution (SR) was suggested on the basis of the detailed literature review and analysis of a wide variety of existing nonlinear filters. The resulting enhanced quality of the noisy images would be measured by the statistical quantity measures. The filters will thus be extremely useful in the perfect diagnosis especially in the rural areas where expensive machinery is not available.

The other research paper titled *Road Divider Based Power Generation & Street Light Illumination* won second prize in category-5, U.G. The paper was proposed by four students from the EXTC Dept. namely Ketan Uday Vaidya, Ramanathan Choodamani, Shivesh Hiranandani, and Shubham Koyande. The objective of the project was to generate electricity by using renewable wind energy from vehicles running on highways. Wind energy can be extracted by a wind turbine and converted into electrical energy using proper electricity generating apparatus. They planned to design and fabricate a vertical axis wind turbine to perform the job of extracting energy from wind in most efficient manner. Also, street light automation to vary intensity according to traffic and weather conditions was achieved with the help of cheap electronics and custom designed algorithms.

Hearty congratulations to the winners!

# TINKERER'S LAB

"It's not about ideas. It's about making ideas happen." — Scott Belsky

-by Neha Menon & Shivani Bhat

he Tinkerer's Lab at VESIT was started with an aim to bring together students who wanted to learn and students who wanted to teach. It also aimed to use the available resources in the college optimally and to eliminate the hassle of starting a project from the scratch and working on redundant tasks. It is currently operational in three departments viz. Department of Electronics, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication and Department of Instrumentation.

### **Department of Electronics:**

The Tinkerer's lab at the Electronics Department is in the E-Yantra lab (201) and the faculty in-charge is Prof. Abhay Kshirsagar and Prof. Abhishek Chaudhri. The department also has various students in-charge in succession.

There are various valuable resources in the E-Yantra lab of which the students are unaware of. If these resources are used to their full capacity, the cost incurred by the students while making any project will be reduced considerably. The Tinkerer's lab associated members of the department decided to bring these resources to the notice of the students and also teach them how to use the same. The first robot that they built was 'The Pooja Robot'. It was a zero cost robot and was appreciated by not only the faculty and the students but also the Principal and the alumni of VESIT. The huge success of the robot helped in propagating their message viz. the institute has the resources: you need to find the time to seek these out.

The first large scale event that was organized by the Tinkerer's lab at the Electronics Department was the Line Follower Robot Workshop. It was held on the 22nd and 23rd of March, 2016. They taught the participants the basics of Robotics and the various parameters involved. The batch was limited, so that the students could be given individual attention. The interaction with students highlighted the requirement to make a robot, which was resourced from the e-waste of various labs. They also reused parts from the previous years' projects. Thus the e-waste was drastically reduced.

The next event organized was the workshop on "Arduino and Basic Embedded Systems" that is in trend now. The primary aim was to teach the students to interface any sensor with the microcontroller. The workshop conductors shared all the documents to facilitate easy understanding. The workshop was a huge success.

According to Rohit Kashyap, one of the student in-charges just knowing about robots and learning about them is not enough. To ensure that the students have enough practice, they were given a list of projects they were to complete. They also have a mentorship program where students with experience will guide amateurs under their guidance with their projects. Rohit said," The faculty is really supportive of this endeavour. We want to help out students who want to participate in various Robotics Fests by giving practice in making robots. We want to create a trend, a DIY world. We want to create creators."

### **Department of Instrumentation:**

Prof. N. Gopalkrishnan is the faculty-in-charge of Tinkerer's lab at the Department of Instrumentation. It was first setup in the year 2014-2015 in Lab. No. 107. The Lab was kept open after college hours, so that students could experiment and 'tinker' with new ideas in the lab. The students had access to all the measuring equipment, including some hardware and sensors. Students from all years, that is, from first year to final year, were encouraged to work together. This increased the technical interaction between seniors and juniors, and the juniors found immense help in refining or coming up with newer ideas. It can be proudly said that some of the notable projects were a result of these numerous ideas and tinkering done by the students in the lab, which has also won laurels for our institute.

Avinash Somnathan and his team started the Digital Stethoscope as part of their mini project. Later they refined it using the lab facilities throughout the year and eventually came up with a project where he and his team won the first prize in IEEE-IEEMA conference, "Smart Innovators" 2015.

Vigneshwara Lingam and team worked on the IOT for agriculture and were able to convert their idea into a final year project. For this, they won the Best Project in State level project competition held at VishwaKarma Institute of Technology in Pune.

Sanket Karnik, Aishwarya K. and Vignesh R, a team comprising of second and third year students, were able to make Thermocouple Data Acquisition system based on Lab view. This setup is now used as part of lab in the Instrumentation curriculum.

### **Department of Electronics and Telecommunication:**

Tinkerer's lab at the Department of Electronics and Telecommunication intends to conduct technical talks, technical paper presentations, project competitions, project exhibitions for students. To conduct hands on activities for the students on electronics, microcontroller programming with all the resources available in the institute and create a motivated workforce for future endeavours and to explore the resources and facilities available in the institute.

The faculty in-charges for the department are Prof. Sanjay Mirchandani and Prof. Chintan Jethva. The department also has twelve student in-charges. The main objective of Tinkerer's lab in this department is to create a platform to aid the enhancement of technical skills in students and to create an environment where work, desire and interest go hand in hand leading into a comprehensive learning system.

The inauguration of Tinkerer's Lab at EXTC was done on 22nd March 2016 at 1:00 pm in lab 410 by Prof. Shoba Krishnan, HOD of the Department. It was followed by a project exhibition where the second year EXTC students displayed their projects. The exhibition proved to be a testament to the students' imagination and willingness to innovate constantly.

A two-day activity was organised, which focussed primarily on programming the Arduino Uno board to perform various functions where the teams constructed the circuits and programmed the board. The activity was supported by Saurabh Jadhav and Kiran Parte, third year studens of EXTC Dept. The Tinkerer's Lab team was at hand to solve any doubts or problems faced by participants. This activity was originally scheduled for two days, i.e. on 30 and 31 August 2016, but was later extended by one more day due to the participants' enthusiasm and desire to learn. A total of 25 teams registered for the activity. Each team consisted of two members. Participants were given an option to buy takeaway kits. Teams that opted not to buy the kit were provided Arduino boards and other components by pooling the resources of college and Tinkerer's members.

Tinkerers Lab aims at building a platform to get together many 'Tinkerer's', which means people who enjoy working on innovative ideas. It thrives to create a forum wherein enthusiasts could foray deeper into the aspects of electronics and technology and be effective engineers.

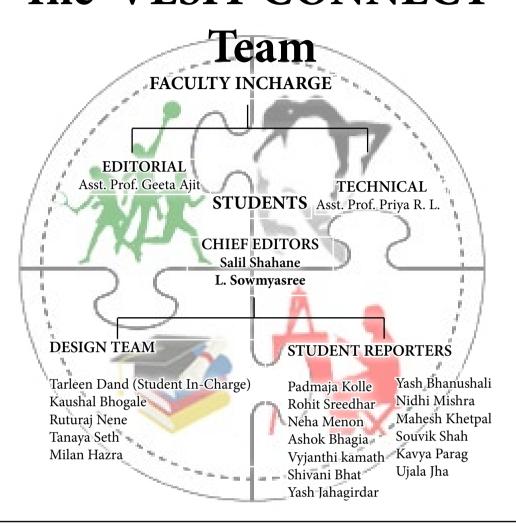
### **VESIT Voice**

s we all bid a goodbye to 2016 shortly, VesitConnect brings to all its readers a Christmas gift with this issue. As the exam fever continues, VesitConnect ►brings you the respite from the stressful days and sleepless nights. This issue covers the regular columns of Vesit Diaries, Musings and expressions and the popular StudentSpeak section. This month the topics for StudentSpeak were Amazon Go-the harbinger of an artificially intelligent supermarket, Forced Patriotism and the very famous or rather infamous Cashless India. The best entries from the students have made the cut to this month's newsletter issue. Also featuring in this issue is a team profile of all the six teams participating in the cultural extravaganza of the year Illusions' 17 in the month of January next year. The teams are ready and the stage is set. The audience now waits to experience the most fierce battle between the titans to win that coveted trophy of Illusions'17. Canteen has always been that special place in any college where friendships have bloomed, small skirmishes have happened, big ideas have taken birth and all the celebrations, small and big have been cherished. Vesit canteen is no exception. This issue tries to pay tribute to the invaluable service the Vesit canteen has offered to thousands of its students and has given them some best memories to cherish for their entire life. We at VesitConnect congratulate the newlyweds Prof. Abhishek Chaudhari who got married to Ms. Snigdha Mankar on 9th December 2016 and Prof. Gaurav Tawde who got married to Dr. Namrata Raul on 6th December 2016. We all wish them a happy married life.

We have tried our best to bring to you this colourful issue to end your 2016 on a positive note and we resolve to work more efficiently and tirelessly in the coming year and make you readers happier and help you stay updated.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy new year from the entire team of VESITConnect!

# The 'VESIT CONNECT'



# Illusion '17 - Team Portfolios

**Imperials** 



ultural Festivals occupy a very unique position in VESIT. They provide a necessary respite from the otherwise mundane lives of the students. They successfully tap into hidden potentials. Illusions is one of the most awaited festivals, as it leads to a zeitgeist in which VESIT entirely immerses itself. The fact that it happens at the outset of the semester only enhances the joy. Six teams battle it out across seven portfolios, and only one is crowned the king.

We are Imperials, one of the teams that are competing for the top spot come January. We take pride in the team that has been formed this year, we call ourselves An Empire of Invincibles. That's our tagline. What we intend to convey by this tagline is that our team works in unison like a giant empire where each and every member is considered to be more thanthe sum total of their contribution to the team and is valued for all the talents they posses. This is what we think makes us unique, the dedication of every team member towards the total enhancement of the team as well as the entire Illusions experience. We believe that this makes us strong. It leads to an unquenchable thirst to win, and that

is what makes us invincible.

One of the most important factors in our team is the sheer number of First Year students. Our philosophy is that newcomers represent untapped wells of potential, wanting a platform that is capable of unleashing their dormant potential. In this process many develop new skills as well.

Illusions marks the first time a talented new batch arrives in a VESIT cultural festival and this makes Illusions important to other students in VESIT as well. The chance to locate where the talent lies, is priceless. Being a team with a large number of newcomers has another advantage. It leads to some unconventional thinking. Imperials strive to inculcate such suggestions a case in point being, our endeavor to release a fun promotional video for every portfolio. These videos were intended to showcase the talent that Imperials have acquired this year, the videos have received popular support on Facebook as well. Another purpose of the video series was to foster a team spirit even before the preparations began. We hope this'll serve to better our performance during Illusions. Speaking of performances, this is being written as the Dance team is perfecting their moves and the Drama team is working over their script. The unconventional, albeit extremely thing here, is that there is a free flow of ideas. Cross portfolio interaction is always supported and facilitated, which in turn reinforces our intent to participate in Illusions as a single cohesive unit.

Usually participating in a festival of this scale has a risk. The chance of all the grandeur getting marred by the escalation of competitive spirit. In this scenario the responsibility lies, we feel, in the hands of the teams. We at the Imperials team, are dedicated to preventing that possibility. We feel that our role as a team this Illusions is just that. Winning or losing are mere functions of the on day performance, nothing more. But the joy that Illusions is associated with, it is of prime importance. Keeping that intact, protecting that legacy is our job as a team. When a large crowd gathers around for an event and walks away happier than they came, that, is what's priceless. And that is the sole aim of every portfolio in the Imperials roster.

At the very outset of Illusions we associated ourselves with a metaphor, one of a Pirate. A free reigning pirate out to conquer the sea, represents an artistic freedom of expression to us. The metaphor shows up in various places, like the initial video introducing our team leader and in the caption for one of the pro-

motional videos. Now referring this, we'd like to say that every ship no matter how well built, needs a good captain. This role is expertly performed by our team leader and the various Managing Committee members. It is necessary to acknowledge their contributions. They are the ones that steer the teams clear of obstacles, keep them focussed, guiding them where necessary and lending autonomy where possible. If we win this year then it would be largely because of them. Their efforts create a certain synergy within our team. It is there, we believe our greatest strength lies, in the limitless cohesion and the promise of a great competition.

# Conquerors



he majestic Conquerors this year, with a humorous tagline "Jo hamse jale, Kripaya Side se chale", are a team which aims to conquer the hearts of every person in the ever cheerful VESIT crowd. As a team with a conscience, we play fair even in presence of overwhelming odds. The motto "You challenge, we conquer" displays the nerves of steel and sinews of carbon fibre that these smiling faces hide.

Scrupulous, just and conscientious men never display blind courage in their activities. They honestly ponder over the advantages and disadvantages of each decision and work in order to maximize benefits for all.

They believe in taking the right decisions over the easy ones. Friar Lawrence in Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" said, "Go wisely and slowly. Those who rush, stumble and fall."

An organization of weaker persons or the unity of small things can accomplish huge and gigantic tasks easily, just like straws when united as a rope can bind a large elephant.

This team consisting of a judicious mix of fresh talent from the FE members and experience of the senior members displays great unity and character. With collaborative and joint efforts, they aim to make their mark on Illusion'17. With grit and determination the Conquerors are determined to perform and be remembered for years to come.

The team leader, Mayank Harwani with proven credentials as an efficient ex-deputy cultural secretary believes in leading by example. He is an excellent singer and an integral part of the music team.

This talented crop of VESITians believe in making their deeds do the talking.

They march into battle with the attitude: "We know what we are, but know not what we may be".

Able members of the managing committee of the Conquerors for each portfolio are:

Music - Mayank Harwani; Dance - Aashish Punjabi; Drama - Harsh Rochlani; Literature- Mansi Mistry; Sports - Aashutosh Deshmukh and Sahil Koul; Aesthetics- Saylee Parab; Visual Arts- Harsh Bhatia

They help the team with their experience and perspectives in their respective portfolios.

As gold is tested by the friction of the whetstone, by cutting down, melting and hammering, so is a person also examined by his sacrifice, chivalry, virtues and character.

### Laureates



swish, a swirl, one leg forward and with hands stirring the settled silence, the diva lit the intricate interiors of her tiny world, a small palace where she had lived for years. Manasi Karale, a profound dancer, had never danced outside of her palace, and seemed pretty content with it. From making her meals, to drawing the curtains, she would dance with a divine grace.

One fine day, she heard her window smash. The arrow that had made its way through the window and stuck on her bedroom wall seemed like an attack in the first place.

A keen observation revealed that it was actually a message in disguise. She carefully unwound the paper around the arrow stick. It was from the Cultural Council. It talked of a battle between kingdoms like the Prevailers, Conquerors, Invaders, Intruders and Imperials, where Men brought in their armies for a cultural fight.

"Why only men?" she thought to herself. She had a ticklish feeling as she came up with a strange idea.

It was then that a beautiful phenomenon caught her eye. She saw the white sunlight pass through a prism that

broke off the glass window, which scattered into seven vibrant colors.

She set out, on her journey to fetch her VIBGYOR.

Vickey's Dance, Madhu's Literature, Soham's Music, Ansh's Drama, Aradhana's Aesthetics, Sufyan's Sports and Titeeksha's Visual Arts soon caught her attention and they became her Managing Committee.

These gems helped her form a team that could let her fight a battle, that was not just cultural, but also against all those who undermine the leadership of girls. Reality check. Manasi's fantasy might seem really intriguing, but the fact is not too different from it.

Standing strong as the only female leader in Illusion '17, Manasi is setting records (in the literal sense, while choosing our Dance MC).

I'm filled with awe as I pick my pen to write about my team, the Laureates.

With "outstanding creative and intellectual achievement", we Laureates literally set ourselves apart from the rest of the teams.

All the teams abate,
As I make my fate,
Winning, my only bait,
I am a Laureate!
Vítězové

## **Prevailers**



**∠** To win hearts, we never fail. It's time to prevail" was the tagline with which we Prevailers started our quest towards making Illusion'17 a memorable one. Winning hearts and not the trophy was our ultimate aim. But by God's grace, well wishers' blessings and our hard-work, we won the Illusion Winners trophy too. Santosh Patkar (Prevailers - Sports) also won the Best Performer Award in Illusion'17. Prevailers came up with out of the box performances in almost all the portfolios. A never before done - Qawwali on VESIT life was presented by the Music Team. The Drama team gave a jaw-dropping performance in a packed audience. To everyone's surprise, Prevailers Drama won a standing ovation too! The Dance team came up with a Rajasthani Mela concept implemented in various dance styles like Ghoomar, Chirmi, Katputli etc. T-shirt painting done by a creative Prevailer was an amazing art of Illusion (a tiger was visible amidst trees if one looked carefully). In the new event - Castle Making, Prevailers again went a step ahead and structured a Japanese Castle which also won the first prize in the competition. Quiz, Spell Bee, Story writing-narration and Battle of 30 seconds were the events where Prevailers gave a tough fight to all the opponents. Sports team was a strong and patient one with many of them having won different competitions at various levels. Total scores accounted for the 2nd place of Prevailers in the sports domain. Last but the not the least, the new portfolio introduced - Visual Arts. This team Prevailers worked day and night and came up with an excellent documentary with no outsourcing which won them the 2nd prize in that event. In all, Illusion'17 was a great platform for all team members of Prevailers to work together, network and compete against the best!

There was a constant punchline which made rounds in the Prevailers group - "Hum unme se hai, jo garajte nahi, baraste hai"

## **Invaders**



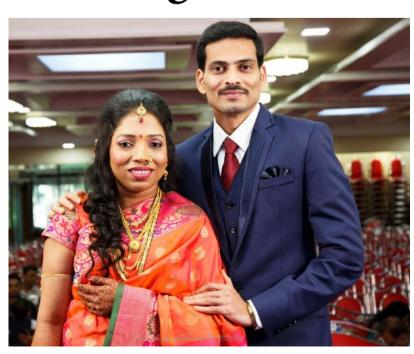
Pushing the boundary is what we love to do, because that's what boundaries are there for. First it was Genghis Khan, Alexander, Napoleon and now it's us. We are here with one goal, "Conquer Illusion 2017". Tenacity and ruthlessness runs through our veins. We have the unquenchable thirst within us to excel and succeed, we trample all that tries to get in our way. When you run into an intrepid lot like us, you know you are in deep water. We, as a team, strive for excellence. Sounds cliché? Wait till you meet us. There is no '1' in our team, we intend to succeed as a whole and not as individuals. We are a hardworking and deterministic lot, and we are ready to pour our sweat blood and tears to win it all in this year's illusion and we are backed by the confidence and willpower in ourselves to do the same. We are a talented and vibrant lot and we stand united in the pursuit of victory. We are not here to woo you with words of our praises and laurels, we will speak with our actions because thoughts do more,words do much but actions do much more. We aim to win and no matter how many setbacks we face, we will never take Elsa's advice and 'Let it go'. The sky is not the limit, we are. We are born to soar and We ..are.. here.

## **Intruders**



Team. Irrespective of the fact as to how smart, talented or passionate the participants are about their skills individually, we are earnestly waiting to see how the team will show what it means to channelize talents in the right path, all put together. Ranging from the foot-tapping traditional Marathi Folk Dance, bringing to light the exploitation of juvenile via the 'Child Labor Documentary', depicting sexual abuse in the Drama, performing challenging physical tasks in the Sports domain and wading the way through jugglery words in the literary section, almost all the portfolios will display their expertise and will manage to have a respectable standing in the face of public. Needless to say, the team leader, Prasanna Sharma deserves some words of praise for forming a team that can bring laurels to their respective domains.

# Wedding bells



Prof. Gaurav Tawde with Dr. Namrata Raul

The month of December saw two of the Vesit's professors tying knot this wedding season and starting a new inning in their life. Prof. Gaurav Tawde from the EXTC Department married Dr. Namrata Raul on 6th December 2016 and Prof. Abhishek Chaudhari from ETRX Department married Snigdha Mankar on 9th December 2016.

We at VESITConnect wish both the couples a very happy married life!



Prof. Abhishek Chaudhari with Snigdha Mankar

# What's cooking in the Canteen?

-by Neha Menon Vyjayanthi Kamath

ngineering students are always on a see-food diet; they see food and they eat it!

Canteens are an integral part of every institution, especially in colleges where nothing can satiate a student's ravenous hunger. Luckily we at VESIT have a remarkable canteen with ever-increasing and innovative food items.

We are all familiar with Mr. Shetty, the man behind the canteen counter who always ensures we get our food before we can even finish saying "Bhaiyya, ek vada pav!"

The following is an extract of an interview with Mr. Suresh Shetty, the owner of the college canteen.



Mr. Suresh Shetty

### Tell us something about the canteen:

We started it around 5 years back. We have 24 staff at present. The canteen is functional from 8 A.M to 6 P.M but we always start the preparation of the food from 6 A.M. My wife and I personally look after the working of the canteen. During events and other functions, the staff has to work extra for which we pay them accordingly. The minimum salary that we pay is Rs. 8500 which includes benefits. In the morning when we come, we gauge the strength of the crowd and prepare food accordingly. Then during the 10.10 break we get a better picture and we start preparing for the next break. This prevents the wastage of food.

### How do you maintain the hygiene and cleanliness of such a huge place?

The main cleaning is done in the evening after the canteen is closed. The whole place is washed with water. In the morning, after opening, it is further cleaned using a duster.

#### What about the quality of the products used for preparing the food?

I am very adamant on not compromising the quality of the stuff used for preparation. It is important to give the customers quality products. Also when we use good quality ingredients we might be spending a bit more on it but what others fail to understand is that the number of products/dishes we get out of these ingredients are way more than the number produced using low quality ingredients. Students might not always get a hearty allowance for the week or month so when they do come here to buy our food I do not want to disappoint them with poor quality of food.

After the semester is done, most of the times, the college is fairly void of students. How do you manage during vacation time?

The canteen business is not for everyone. Sometimes the loss incurred during the vacation period is more than the profit we make during the normal months. We have canteens in 4-5 states in colleges like BITS Pilani and NIT. These help us to sustain.

### You have brought some changes to the menu recently. What was the motive behind it?

When we have the same thing time and again, it not only bores us but also the students. So after some period of time we add an extra item. Earlier we used to have CCD coffees. Now we have the prepackaged momos and pizzas. Students love this now but after a while they lose interest and we discontinue it. These do not necessarily make us profit and sometimes it is quite the opposite but we do it for the students.

#### You have divided the canteen into specific counters. How does that work?

The main aim for doing this is for the ease of managing. It gives specific responsibility to specific people and if anything goes wrong only they will be accountable for it. It also makes it easier to keep inventory and understanding the problems.

We have always seen that during the rush hour, there are many students who crowd round the counter. It is easy to fleece you and take food for which they have not paid for. How do you handle this?

Yes this has happened quite a lot, not much at VESIT but at other VES campuses. This is why we have introduced the coupon system.

#### What is the most popular item at present?

We regularly check the billing register at the end of the day to see what food items gained us maximum money and most of the time it is Chole Bathura and Chinese Samosa.

#### How do you like interacting with the students?

My wife and I do not have any children, so I make it a point to always bring her with me so she can interact with the students and cheer up. It really lifts our mood to see the happy faces of students. We might come across as scary because of the age difference between us and the students but we quite like interacting with students. I would certainly like to have more students come up to me and give me their feedbacks and suggestions.



Mr. Kailash Singh

When we talk about the VESIT Canteen we cannot forget to mention **Mr. Kailash Singh.** 

He is the staff member who makes sure that you are welcomed by a clean table every time you are seated. He mentioned that his experience here is mostly good and everyone treats him well. There are a few students he knows as they regularly chat with him.

The feedback and comments from the staff are positive. Ms. Sneha Chavhan, and Ms. Sayali Saindana, Laboratory Assistants from the Departments of Computers and Instrumentation respectively, commented that the Veg. Thali offered by the canteen is always delicious and that they highly appreciate the politeness of the canteen staff.

Not only do the faculty speak highly of the entire canteen but also the students. Dhiren Chandnani (D17 A), for whom a typical college day begins and ends in the canteen, makes it a point to not waste time in between ordering his favorite Chilli Cheese Sandwich and scooting right over to the juice counter to buy his constantly favoured Cold Coffee. Vedant Choudhary (D20), on the other hand, is a fan of Egg Schezwan Fried Rice; he practically swears by it.

Another unforgettable part of the canteen is certainly the Juice counter which is owned by Mr. Mullaram Chaudhary. Watermelon, Butterscotch, Rose, Banana, Grape, Orange, Oreo, Cold Coffee, Mango and Strawberry - You name it, they sell it! Mr. Mullaram Chaudhary along with two staff members run the counter smoothly. Talking to him revealed that the counter

was only started in 2011 and has been a regular success ever since. They constantly have witty banter with the students and are a delight to chat with. They mentioned that Oreo shake and Cold Coffee are the most famous items with the students.

In spite of having two other VES canteens on campus, the one right here on the ground floor is favoured by all, and for good reason too.



Mr. Mullaram Chaudhary at the juice centre

Here's a massive thank you to the entire staff - right from in the kitchens, behind the counter, to the ones that clean up. After all, the canteen food and drinks make it worth attending college - besides studies of course!



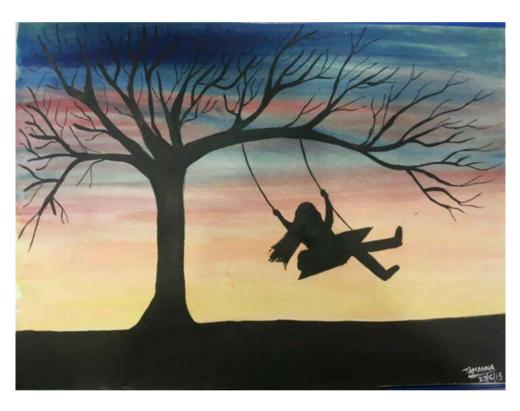
## **MUSINGS & EXPRESSIONS**

### Journey: infant to woman

Counting infinity is insane, I will try best, efforts not go in vain.. Someone told me to unfold a story, Comprises of woman's glory.. From being an infant she wins the heart, Melting dad is one of her art.. Angry dad cools his calm, Looking at daughter's footprint on his palm.. Slowly and gradually she was raised, Her first words were engraved.. From infant to girl she learns to imitate, Sacrifice and giving love was written in her fate.. From giving her toys to pocket money, Just to make happy..let it be siblings or buddy.. Entering in the wonderful age of teen, She wants to become sweet like glycine.. She can detect difference between Russian red and ruby woo, Boys don't have any clue.. Moving from teen to adult, Office and kitchen, in both she can indulge.. Working hours are 24\*7 for her, Household chores add it further..

Yet she is calm and polite, Carrying smile with delight.. Stage comes when she leaves her home, Mother's Tear rolled down looking at her comb. Father just engulfed the pain of Separation, But cries remembering the eternal connection.. *She is strong enough to convince them both,* That she is just distance apart and gave them hope.. She embrace not only physical beauty, Her heart is genuinely sweet like fruity. She can bear pain of 27 bones cracking at a time, To give world a new lifeline.. This process go on and on.. But there are some moron. Who hinders this beautiful cycle, By ending girls life on her arrival.. Hope mentality changes with this rhyme, Signing off with this line.. "W-oman = wonderful omen"

> -by Manish Manghwani Class: D17A



- By Tamanna Rupani D16



- By Soniya Daryani D15

### STUDENT SPEAK

# **Cashless India**

-by Bhavesh Motiramani

Then I was travelling through an autorickshaw I saw a sticker on auto stating 'Money accepted through Paytm'. This was the first time I used Paytm to pay my richshaw fare. This great move by our Prime Minster has made us go cashless and digital. Where the technology is reaching skies we are still finding change in our pockets to pay the auto fare and not using technology to simplify our lives, and suddenly comes the Demonetization to make everyone digitalize. The Digital India programme of the Indian government is with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. "Faceless, Paperless, Cashless" is one of professed role of Digital India. Back in 2014 the government of India launched a new scheme named Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna which encouraged people to open their bank accounts and that could be done even with zero balance in this way encouraging people to go cashless and use cards. On 9th November the Prime Minister announced demonetization of 500 and 1000 rs notes which means that all 500 and 1000 rs notes were no longer leagal to perform any financial trade. But the notes were allowed to be exchanged and deposited from the banks. postoffice within 50 days.

This major step of Indian government is to curb corrupt practices, funding of terrorists and also the circulation of illegal currency notes. This move has made Indians use cards for their payments instead of using cash. From rickshaw to railway ticket counter all are accepting cards. Some vegetable vendors have even opened a paytm account. This is one major move in making Indians digital.

People will now not have to stay in long queues to take out money from bank instead they can use smart cards. The income tax rates are going to be decreased. Use of fake notes can be

discouraged .People will not have to keep large amount of money at their home they can store it on their banks ,this in one way will help to reduce corruption. Even the government is encouraging people to go cashless by launching tempting schemes as a Christmas gift government launched 'Lucky Gharak Yojna ' under which 15,000 lucky consumers using digital payment shall win weekly price sum of 1lakh.Digital payments are tempting for some as the tax rate on digital payments has been decreased ,while others are facing it hard to learn the technology. Though bank accounts have been opened through Jan Dhan Yojna but most of them are lying unused. Unless people start using bank account cashless economy is not possible. Some are accepting this move with their open hearts while others who are not fimiliar with technology are critising the move and are facing difficulty. It is very cumbersome task to make millions of people cashless, but as we know that every cloud has a silver lining and for those who are face difficult should know that, this difficulty will last only for some days or months and if we see the optimistic part of it we will see that this move is going to make digitally sound. This will make us a fast growing economy and also on our day to day transactions we will get message in our phones from banks and also no worries about taking huge cash in our pockets if we carry our platic money i.e cards.

# **Forced Patriotism**

-by Nikita Joshi

D61

ational anthem has always been the epitome of patriotism and stood for the political independence of our country. It has been successfully invoking nationalism among us Indians from time immemorial. Recently, the Supreme Court of India made the playing of National Anthem mandatory before a movie screening in theatres. The prime objective of this decision was to foster nationalism and patriotism among the citizens.

If there is one trait that we Indians lack in the past seventy years after independence, it is patriotism and love for our mother land. I think it is in fact quite shameful that we still need the highest court of India to prompt us to do what we should have been doing naturally and voluntarily.

Doing it in cinema halls is a good beginning. We Indians are always obsessed with cinema in our love for virtual heroism, larger than life heroes. Indian students generally tend to learn a lot of life altering lessons from the movies. So which can be a better place than movie halls to start inculcating the spirit of patriotism in their impressionable minds?

On an average Indian may not watch more than a movie in theatre in a month. The national anthem is merely for 52 seconds. We can surely give 52 seconds of our time in a month for singing national anthem and remember the sacrifices made by our freedom fighter for liberating our country.

We must welcome and support this decision of the Supreme Court.!

## **Forced Patriotism**

-by Abhinav Mishra
D3 (Instrumentation)

hat is the first thing that crosses your mind when you hear the word "Patriotism". Is it the feeling of feeling proud of your country and the opportunities it has bestowed upon you or is it the feeling of someone constantly nagging you to follow a particular set of untold rules? Now you will ask who is this "someone" or what are these "untold rules"? Let me tell you. This someone is almost all the people you come across in your daily life. Be it on the internet, college, home or anywhere. Remember the chances are high that you have also been this "someone" to somebody at some point in your life. And these "untold rules" include blindly supporting your government, constantly speaking ill of the neighbouring nation, supporting inferior products (buying a Micromax phone when a Xiaomi, Moto or OnePlus gives you almost double the performance for the same price), boycotting films in the name of the country and the list goes on. Recently, a new rule has been added to this list. On November 30, 2016, The Supreme Court Of India made the screening of national anthem in the theatres mandatory before the screening of any film all across the country. Now for someone who has spent the past decade of his life living in Mumbai, this doesn't bother me at all because this practice was mandatory in Maharashtra from a long time back and I am sure that this won't bother the 90% of the people reading this article because we are all accustomed to this. But when you consider yourself an Indian first and then a Maharashtrian, the dynamics of the situation change vastly. Because this rule by Supreme Court is another one of those "untold rules" that you will have to deliberately follow to show your patriotism because as stated by the court "The move would instil a sense of committed patriotism and nationalism". I feel that this move has turned out to be very ant-climatic, contrary to the expectations to The Supreme Court. Why? First of all, movies are meant for entertainment. When you go to a movie, forcibly standing 1 minute before the national anthem would be the last thing you want to do after gambling with your money(What if the movie is utter crap?), dealing with queues, buying the overpriced popcorn and cursing yourself and the cinema hall and finally locating your seat. How could I forget about half an hour of cringe worthy advertisements. Now "someone" may tell you that can't you stand for 1 minute for the nation?? It is the same thing as someone telling you not to be angry because somebody stole your 10 rupees because 10 rupees is a small amount. The problem in this case is that a theft is a theft, whether of 10 rupees or 10 lakh rupees. And similarly forcing an individual of a free nation to stand up for the national anthem is wrong because rather than developing the true feeling of patriotism, it leads them to develop utter disdain for the national anthem. Standing up for the anthem in the theatres make sense when it is in context such as the climax of Dangal where the national anthem plays. That scene was so well crafted that it automatically triggered the "Feeling proud of your country" feeling without any forced speech or forced emotions. That scene displayed how India had won the gold medal and majority of the people in the hall felt like they have won it and the audience automatically stood up. That is the actual feeling of patriotism and nationalism. No one can develop these feelings. They are already there since our birth. So you must be thinking then what actually is patriotism and how can someone actually show it? If you go by the definition of the dictionary, it says that patriotism is supporting your country. So how can we support our country? Simple. Do your work, pay your taxes, help your fellow countrymen if possible, respect others' opinions, stay away from

divide and rule game played by the politicians, develop a mindset to question your government when required and not just blindly follow it because you care for the country and when someone cares, they have the right to question. Trust me, it will yield much better results than forcing people to follow these "unsaid rules" and declaring those "Anti-National" who don't agree with you or who dare to call a spade a spade.

There is a famous saying:

PATRIOTISM IS NOT A SHORT FRENZIED BURST OF EMOTION, BUT THE LONG AND STEADY DEDICATION OF A LIFETIME

# **Forced Patriotism**

-by Sejal Kapoor D19B

common man-

- stands in queue to buy movie tickets.
  - stands in queue for security check.
- stands in queue to buy popcorn.
- stands up for National Anthem.
- \*\*Movie starts\*\*
- sleeps due to exhaustion.

On November 30th, 2016 Supreme Court has ordered that all cinemas play National Anthem before a film screening. Back before the decision, the Anthem was being played before a movie. We did not mind it then, nor will I mind it now. It is good to stand up for the 52 seconds when Rabindranath Tagore's song plays out. But on Wednesday, when the judges mandated this decision just to demonstrate Nationalism, I choked. This is what I think will happen next.

Breaking news: Whenever you download a movie you have to download National Anthem also. We may even start getting pirated versions of National Anthem and Indian flag.

Maybe this decision by the SC is a way to keep people in loop and keep the Anthem mugged up in their mind. But is this decision on behalf of a political party? To know more about it, I digged deeper to find whether this decision is a tap of public emotions by a Neta. The real fact to be known is that SC wasn't acting on its own or direction of any Neta... there was a petition by Shyam Narayan Choukseya, a 76 year old Bhopal resident who runs a NGO.

Wednesday was not the first time that Justice Dipak Misra ruled on where the Anthem should be played. Nor Wednesday was first time that public interest petitioner Shyam Narayan had succeeded in getting a court order over an 'insult' to the Anthem. Thirteen years ago when he was a judge in Madhya Pradesh high court, Justice Misra had passed an order on the imperatives of showing respect to National Anthem. Then, the petitioner before HC was none other than Choukseya.

Does this mean if we do not stand up for the Anthem we are anti-national and do not respect the country. Rabindranath himself once said- "Patriotism which claims the right to bring to the Altar of its country the sacrifice of other people's rights and happiness will endanger rather than strengthen the foundation of any great civilisation." This is what forcing National Anthem on citizens may do.

But it seems like SC's ruling on the National Anthem doesn't go far enough in promoting Patriotism. Now they should declare wearing Tricolour clothes while travelling on roads mandatory in the sake of Patriotism. They should even mandate chanting of the Anthem before entering malls, restaurants, monuments....

Standing up for our Anthem is Normal. I am proud of doing it. But, not sure how standing before watching Befikre or Dear Zindagi is making me feel Patriotic. And, why is the onus of proving our Patriotism always on citizens and not on the 'Netas' before they start their 'bhashan'. I love my country. I love standing for my National Anthem. But, I'm tired of constantly proving my Patriotism for my Country.

## **VESIT** Diaries

-by Padmaja Kolle



Mr. Sanjiv Vishwanathan

Mr. Sanjiv Vishwanathan is a tech savvy marketing professional with over 12 years of experience in areas of strategic marketing and business communications, industry influencer relations, research and consulting in the technology services and engineering industries. His work profile spans across a range of roles in engineering, technology and marketing for small, mid-size and large organizations such as Pfister Gmbh, Accenture, Datamatics Global Services and Atos India Pvt Ltd. Currently, he works as a Senior Manager at Capgemini India Pvt Ltd. as a part of the Global Marketing & Communications function. He belongs to the Batch of 2002 from the Department of Instrumentation.

While his professional commitments keep him chock-a-bloc on weekdays, he prefers spending his weekends on initiatives around professional career development and grooming that contribute effectively towards societal growth. He is also a trained Indian classical musician (percussionist), an avid reader and likes exploring new frontiers in life.

#### 1. Tell us something about your college life

My college life had an interesting mix of academics and extra curriculars that I would devote time towards and prioritize at different times of the year. The start of the initial academic years was dominated with reflecting upon the previous year and planning for the next one that would include independent research and interactions with faculty, classmates and seniors as well. However, the last year also included the very important decision to be made around what I really wanted to do in my career since the year I was graduating in wasn't particularly great from a placements season record and also due to the rapidly changing scenario of the industry and demand for skilled professionals beyond engineering degrees.

In addition, I would always stay abreast of activities and events being organized by the college and university around topics that were of interest and relevance to me, enroll myself and participate in technical events being organized by various groups and associations that would provide a good perspective on industry trends and allow real time application of concepts learnt inside the classroom. Lastly, I would also in interest and intra-college cultural festivals and annual day events, which used to be a good way to showcase my talent in music and pursue

want to mention that I was a regular participant in inter and intra college cultural festivals and annual day events, which used to be a good way to showcase my talent in music and pursue my interests outside academics.

#### 2. Share a glimpse of your personal life

I am a strong believer in the principle of dedicating time towards causes or interests that stimulate the mental curiosity, address some of the bigger issues we are faced with today as a global society and provide emotional satisfaction over and above the immediate tangible benefits. While I spend a fair amount of my personal time in continuing to pursue my passions cultivated over a period of time, I also tend to spend a lot of time in understanding and exploring avenues outside my regular interests that allows for mutual exchange of thoughts and expansion of my social network.

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

Absolutely, there is no substitute to developing and managing strong interpersonal skills in today's professional work culture due to the very nature of an ever expanding global work environment and diversity one has to deal with at very early stages in one's career. While there is still a strong tendency among the young workforce to focus on academic qualifications and enhance their expertise in the respective areas, the demand for professionals with a good understanding of the broader nuances of societies and ability to deal with the interconnected rapidly changing global ecosystem is only becoming more critical and significant.

#### 4. Is it necessary to have a full proof plan for your career from the beginning itself?

While there is definitely merit in starting early and remaining focused on one's area of interest and expertise from a long term career standpoint, having a well rounded plan that takes into consideration all possible exigencies and situations one can potentially think of at an early stage helps to navigate professional and personal situations and challenges better.

Also, being a little flexible and taking calculated risks opens doors to a lot of potential opportunities thereby allowing to explore one's true potential beyond what one would have imagined at the beginning, especially so in a highly unpredictable, networked and dynamic world of today.

### 5. Let's talk about your professional life.

As stated earlier, the year of my graduation wasn't particularly impressive with the placement records for the Instrumentation and Control stream which demanded a lot of introspection and exploration from my end as well. I took this up as a challenge and started exploring roles beyond what my educational qualification had provided me with, including taking up current industry relevant technical and functional courses and programs.

I started off working as a commissioning and services engineer for a small, but niche firm in the domain of material handling industrial automation systems which definitely provided me with hands-on experience, a strong sense of lateral thinking for real time problem solving and customer management skills. However, this was also the time when the information technology and outsourcing industry was beginning to consolidate with demand for non-IT professionals with sound analytical and global customer facing skills picking up. Being someone with an exploratory mindset, I decided to ride on the bandwagon and took up an opportunity as a data analyst with a leading KPO that triggered a special interest in the use of technology for market research and business decision making, which effectively has paved the path to a global career specialized in industry influencer relations, strategic research and marketing communications.

To be honest, the initial years of my professional life provided me with a strong foundation to develop a set of skills that were not restricted to any particular type of project or profile, but allowed me to make a contribution towards the larger goals of the organization and clients I was working for. This also gave me the chance to interact with senior level management and leadership very early thereby exposing me to opportunities and situations that required a highly mature and professional approach. I would also consider myself extremely fortunate to have found superiors and mentors who were able to identify and nurture my true potential and provided regular guidance and support that allowed me to be a part of several strategic cross functional programs and initiatives across the organization and industry.

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

As an individual, every human being is born with some inherent skills and interests that need to be spotted, nurtured and enhanced as much as possible. These are personality traits of an individual that go much beyond education and careers, thereby allowing these individuals to be who they truly are.

Pursuing interests outside technology not only enhances the creative ability for problem solving which is of utmost importance in the industry and society that is going through new phases of disruption each day, but also allows to keep the spirit of entrepreneurship alive that is being nurtured and supported actively across industries and organizations. Moreover, there are adequate examples of technologists or engineers who have been able to contribute positively to societies at large only because of their inherent interests cultivated to support those causes or requirements

Additionally, it also opens up opportunities to interact with personalities outside the engineering and technology profession, some of who could become potential partners and customers as well for life!!

### 7. Can you throw some light upon the activities students can do from the beginning which will help them mould their career?

As I have said earlier, it would be very useful for students to stay aligned and updated on the latest trends affecting the respective industries they would want to make their careers in by actively participating in activities organized by the institute and industry bodies outside the core academic curriculum. Building a strong rapport and staying in touch with the alumni network could go a long way in helping them find their true calling and learning from real time experiences. Also cannot stress the importance of making optimum use of the assets and state of the art facilities provided as well as the knowledge and experience shared by the highly qualified in-house and visiting faculty. Lastly, participation in extra-curricular activities would allow for adequate opportunities to enhance leadership, creative and interpersonal skills, which are turning out to be the biggest growth accelerators of great businesses and organizations today, much beyond core technical expertise alone

### 8. Any message for the new generation at VESIT!?

Stay informed and aware of what is current and will be in demand in the global marketplace, make best use of the time and resources available to you over the years of your academic life, explore diverse opportunities beyond regular academics and build a strong association with the institute and the alumni network.

To summarize, remain positive and focused towards your professional and personal goals staying alert to the bigger picture of the organizations, industries and societies that you eventually choose to be a part of!!!