



VESIT Connect



Newsletter
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Victory At IIMUN

-Arnab Saha

Over the past one year, our college has been making major strides in participating and acing Model United Nations and Mock Parliament competitions across our city. November was no different. As most students were resting and relaxing after burning the midnight oil after their end semester exams, Avinash Tripathy of D9B set out to win MUN competitions and harness the laurels that was already piling.

Avinash participated in the annual IIMUN, conducted in Navi Mumbai on 29 and 30 November and the 1st of December. The three-day committee was set up in accordance with the protocol of the LOK SABHA of our country. Every participant was assigned a political leader with their respective agenda and portfolio to fulfil. Avinash Tripathy represented 'Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury' for the agenda being 'Review of the Sedition Law'.

After a strenuous three-day debate battle, Avinash was honoured as the 'Best Delegate' in the committee. Says Avinash, "I hope my participation will encourage more Juniors to participate in such competitions and bring accolades for VESIT."



Avinash attending the IIMUN Lok Sabha Simulation

In Preparations to Illusions'20

-Shivani Shenai

Illusion is one of the most awaited events organized by the Cultural Council. It is a battle among six teams namely Conquerors, Imperials, Intruders, Invaders, Laureates and Prevailers, amongst seven portfolios namely Aesthetics, Dance, Drama, Literature, Music, Sports, and Visual Arts. The event started with the interviews of twenty eager Final-year students by our Cultural Secretary, Gaurav Shukla (D14A), on the 25th of September, out of which ten were selected to be interviewed by the faculty. These ten selected students underwent a strenuous interview by Mr. Vivek Umrikar and Mr. Abhishek Chaudhary, on the 1st of October, and finally the six team leaders were selected.. These six leaders then acquired their team names and colors via the chit system. After that the six leaders select their Managing Committee (MCs) for the respective seven portfolios. The process of MCs selection started with online registration for third-year and Final year students followed by an auction on the 7th of October.

"Know your leader" was an interrogatory event conducted by the Council, on the 10th of October, in the Auditorium. Here, all the participating students

got to interact with the six leaders through a series of questions and answers by both the Council and the audience and were also familiarized with all that would follow this event. The team names, their respective leaders and all the selected MCs were also announced during this event. The respective group leaders along with their MCs had a meeting with the Cultural Council, on the 12th of October, to obtain a coherent view of all the various events that would follow, which in turn would help them to select wisely in the upcoming student auction. The auditions for the seven portfolios took place from the 14th of October to the 16th of October. This was later followed by student auctions on the 25th of October, thereby completing the constructing the final six teams.

The following are the leaders and MCs of the above-mentioned teams.

Conquerors (White)

Leader: Siddhant Nashte(D16A)

MCs:

Aesthetics: Madhura Karadkar (D14B)

Dance: Tirtha Kulpe (D11A)

Wedding Bells

-Atharva Gupte



Mr. Suved Mhatre and Ms. Parmeshwari Moopnar on their auspicious wedding day

The month of November rings in the wedding bells for **Ms. Parmeshwari Moopnar**, Lab Assistant in Electronics and Telecommunication Department of VESIT, where she tied the knot with **Mr. Suved Mhatre**, lab assistants of Electronics Department on 3rd November 2019. VESITConnect congratulates the newly wedded couple and wishes them a happy married life.



L-R: Heman Parashar(D16A), Anushka Rajwade(D11B), Rochana Desai(D14B), Siddhant Nashte (D16A), Tirtha Kulpe(D11A), Madhura Karadkar(D14B), Pranav Bindra(D14B), Suraj Bathija(D16B)

Drama: Rochana Desai (D14B)
Music: Anushka Rajwade (D11B)
Literature: Pranav Bindra (D14B)
Sports: Heman Parashar (D16A)
Visual Arts: Suraj Bathija (D16B)

Imperials (Blue)

Leader: Harish Muthalagan (D19A)
MCs:
Aesthetics: Vaibhavi Chaudhary (D14B)
Dance: Mohit Tembe (D19B)
Drama: Omkar Nerurkar (D19B)
Music: Rohit Doraiswamy (D19A)
Literature: C.V. Ananya (D14A)
Sports: Sivanta Beera (D12A)
Visual Arts: Atique Kudchi (D11A)



L-R: Sivanta Beera (D12A), Omkar Nerurkar (D19B), Vaibhavi Chaudhary (D14B), Harish Muthalagan (D19A), Rohit Doraiswamy (D19A), Mohit Tembe (D19B), Atique Kudchi (D11A), C.V. Ananya (D14A)

Intruders (Green)

Leader: Sumit Manwani (D17B)
MCs:
Aesthetics: Mahima Zambani (D18)
Dance: Namrata Satpute (D14A)
Drama: Raj Talda (D17C)
Literature: Ninad Wadode (D15)
Music: Akshara Gadwe (D17C)
Sports: Kapil Kripalani (D20)
Visual Arts: Aditya Uphade (D12B)

Invaders (Grey)

Leader: Parikshit Chopra (D19A)
MCs:
Aesthetics: Ritika Sethiya (D17C)
Dance: Devyani Pawar (D16B)
Drama: Ashay Gatade (D18)
Music: Trupti Kamat (D17A)

Literature: Anahita Goswami (D19A)
Sports: Abhik Mirdha (D16A)
Visual Arts: Aditya Bhoir (D11B)

Laureates (Red)

Leader: Deeksha Shetty (D20)
MCs:
Aesthetics: Saloni Shedge (D12C)



Center: Sumit Manwani (D17B), clockwise; Akshara Gadwe (D17C), Aditya Uphade (D12B), Raj Talda (D17C), Mahima Jhambani (D18), Kapil Kripalani (D20), Ninad Wadode (D15), Namrata Satpute (D14A).



L-R: Front- Ashay Gatade (D18), Aditya Bhoir (D11B), Parikshit Chopra (D19A), Abhik Mirdha (D16A). Back- Ritika Sethiya (D17C), Anahita Goswami (D19A), Trupti Kamat (D17A), Devyani Pawar (D16B)

Dance: Sahil Gangwani (D12C)
Drama: Avikshit Dabholkar (D14B)
Music: Arnab Choudhary (D16A)
Literature: Faaiz Dastagir (D11B)
Sports: Vilas Dhuri (D16A)
Visual Arts: Tanmai Govindan (D11B)



L-R: Tanmai Govindan (D11B), Faaiz Dastagir (D11B), Avikshit Dabholkar (D14B), Deeksha Shetty (D20), Saloni Shedge (D12C), Vilas Dhuri (D16A), Arnab Choudhary (D16A), Sahil Gangwani (D12C)

Prevailers (Orange)

Leader: Raj Shetye (MCA2B)
MCs:
Aesthetics: Riya Agarwal (D20)
Dance: Anisha Tandel (D20)
Drama: Kajol Chawla (D17B)
Music: Rahul Bansod (D18)
Literature: Ariscia Mendes (D17A)
Sports: Suraj Singh (MCA2B)
Visual Arts: Amey Chavan (D19A)



L-R: Rahul Bansod (D18), Ariscia Mendes (D17A), Kajol Chawla (D17B), Raj Shetye (MCA2B), Anisha Tandel (D20), Riya Agarwal (D20), Amey Chavan (D19A), Suraj Singh (MCA2B)

VESIT Voice

They grey month of November brought with itself a rather grey phase packed with exams. The new initiative from the Mumbai University that aims to give students enough time to pursue their internships by reducing the time gap between the exams of engineering students has ended up in keeping the students right on their toes and the libraries jam-packed. While some have embraced this change, there have been conflicting opinions on this decision of the University of Mumbai.

While this month was mostly about the exam season, we at VESIT Connect always have something interesting to bring to you. A group of VESITians shone as they represented the college in the annual IIMUN, conducted in Navi Mumbai. A student scored an extremely high score of 334 on the GRE. In this issue, she gives advice to the MS aspirants as to how to crack the GRE.

VESIT Alumni continue to make the college proud with their work. The weChange initiative has been doing very well lately and has been able to influence hundreds of lives already. While one student has already cracked the exam and joined the Navy, his best friend is on the same path and is waiting for the final merit list. We got a chance to talk to him and what influenced him to do this.

This month, in the diaries section, we got a chance to interview Mr. Subodh Gajare.

Happy Reading!

-Gayatri Belapurkar

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weCHANGE- Lighting Up Lives!

-Shruti Bondre

The images that flash through your mind when you think about Diwali are Lights, fireworks, sweets! It is the Festival that adds joy and beauty to life. Everyone is ready with lights, diyas and sweets to celebrate it with their families.

The weCHANGE family - conceived by VESIT Alumnus, Shridhar Loknathan, and Sampada Inarkar from the Instrumentation Batch of 2015 and 2016 respectively, has been working hard to make every Diwali a memorable one for all the orphaned kids at Ekta Niradhar Sangh, Kamshet, by embracing them into a bigger family. This year, weCHANGE took up the initiative of funding these children's education by selling various goods made by them. Various advertisements were put up to sell Diyas. The funds generated from the sale of these goods were to be used for sponsoring the education of the children at Ekta Niradhar Sangh. What can be better a Diwali gift than the gift of education!

Education is the wholesome development of mind, body and soul. Academics is one key aspect of education. For achieving this, weCHANGE set up a Recreation centre at the Ekta niradhar Sangh, Kamshet. This included resources for various indoor and outdoor games, self-help books, etc. Along with this, another major workshop was conducted on 20th October, 2019. It is an encouraging initiative taken up by weCHANGE to instill confidence and provide motivation for the kids that they can fight all obstacles and achieve their dreams. This workshop is known as "I am a Superhero". It was conducted by Dr. Harleen Arora. In this activity, the kids were supposed to draw a sketch of themselves. The twist here, was to draw one half as their real pencil sketch and the second half as the superhero they want to be and colour it. From being spiderman to doctor to teacher, kids imagined themselves as superheroes. This initiative definitely encourages the kids to identify their su-



Beneficiaries at ENS participating in the "I Am A Superhero" workshop



Mr. Abhay Valsangkar with the students at ENS, Kamshet

perhero skills and thus provided another boost to achieve their dream - of being the superheroes they imagined of themselves.

This Diwali, weCHANGE promised the gift of education to the young girls of Kshamata, Thane. The admission fees, exam fees and application fee for each beneficiary was sponsored by weCHANGE under the 'Mentorship' program. While weCHANGE provided the entire study material, the volunteers of weCHANGE spent the entire day with the beneficiaries and celebrated the festival with the commitment towards striving for a better future and self-improvement. The day ended with the cake-cutting and capturing some of the beautiful moments in photographs. This Diwali was not just the festival of sweets and light for the young minds, it was a light of hope brought into their lives by weCHANGE.



Mentor from weCHANGE interacting with one of the students at the Ekta Niradhar Sangh

On 17th November 2019, the students of Ekta Niradhar Sangh, Kamshet along with weCHANGE volunteers welcomed Mr. Abhay Valsangkar, Founder of AlterEgo Solutions. He began his session to depict a simple yet complicated truth-Success favours those who try by a simple slide of a fish trying to jump into a bigger bowl. This was an exciting way to start the session and keep the audience interested. The entire session was about how one can achieve greatness by simple things like- Interest, hard work and self-discipline. He conducted a few activities which helped the kids understand these qualities better. By the end of the day, kids were even more energetic and enthusiastic than they were at the start of the session.

A Helping-Citizen is a Helpizen. Any volunteer, social worker, activist, NGO is a helpizen. Any person or entity working for the unfortunate beyond the ambit of their job is a helpizen. Helpizen.com is a forum which shares stories of such helpizens. Helpizen.com recently shared a story on weCHANGE's "Be a Mentor" program on its website. The story was about a weCHANGE mentor Annirudh Kadam and how he helps a beneficiary at the Ekta Niradhar Sangh to choose his life without any kind of judgements and bias.

Motivation is one of the most important blocks to achieve success. Without any will or motivation, no one can achieve their dreams. With initiatives like "I am a superhero" and "Be a Mentor", the beneficiaries are motivated to strive towards what they want to achieve keep the fire to win burning until they win and also pave the path towards achieving that success without any judgements and also provide them with lots of love and emotional support.

A Dream Come True for VESITian

-Maitraiya Dandekar

EY India (Ernst & Young Services Private Limited) recruits from the Department of Computer Engineering, Dept. of Information Technology and Dept. of Masters in Computer Application from VESIT. Milan Hazra, a student from IT Dept. was offered the post of IT Analyst Advisor in this company. VESIT Connect reporter spoke to him about his placement experience and also of any suggestions he would like to give fellow students.

What do you know about the company?

Till now its one of the audit firm and part of BIG 4

having 3-4 branches in Mumbai and it's a MNC so various pregressive branch outside INDIA.

Can you tell us about the interview process?

Round One was Quantitative Analysis(50 question, 50 mins) normal questions India Bix and RS Agarwal is enough. It consists of questions that tested your logical reasoning based on Ages, time and distance, time and work, etc. Suggestion for this round is to solve question which you know accurately and then move on accordingly to unsolved questions.

Round Two is Group Discussion. Always remember that GD is a team play, but individualistic Strategy. You must present your best version while being a part of the group. Whatever you speak, speak differently but relevantly and most importantly... SPEAK CONFIDENTLY. Also allow others to speak up by encouraging them which will mark your leadership skills. My topic was "Peer Pressure, Good or Bad". Round Three was the Interview round. Completely based on the roles offered, and varied from Resume to Resume. The interviewer was from blockchain background. So my 1st round was purely based on projects and tech-

nologies written on the Resume regarding Blockchain.

Round Four : For IT analysis Advisory role I was called for a second interview. In that a business case was given to me and I had to explain that for 30 mins and some situation based questions. You should approach the solution very smartly and confidently. Again my Resume was targeted with Blockchain, the interviewer was cool, so we discussed a lot of things about blockchain and it was also said that they may start a blockchain project, where I can get a shot but anyways, the most important part was to show the confidence that you can be a part of BIG FOUR.

Any advice for your fellow students regarding

how to approach the interview process?

Now as mentioned earlier, EY is a part of the big four so you cannot expect much of core concept subjects. There may be few questions regarding license metrics or ERP. They will mainly focus on how you will approach a situation and management of projects and what was your role into it and contribution in it and trust me that's where the real test is. So my last suggestion is whatever you have been done in projects or any co-curricular activities Be Confident in Expressing and Be Proud in Narrating. Because you should first have respect for your work that you have done



Milan Hazra

Musings & Expressions

Words of Wisdom for GRE

Abhiruchi Bhattacharya, a fourth year Computer Engineering student (D17A) took her GRE test in July, 2019 and bagged a whopping score of 334 out of a possible 340! She has been receiving tremendous praise for her achievement and in return, she has shared her experiences and given advice for future GRE aspirants:

"For anyone thinking of higher studies, I'll recommend giving the GRE early (somewhere in July/ early August at the latest) so that you're aware of what your prospects are. Students balk away from giving the test for fear of not scoring well enough at their first attempt, but getting dates later in the year becomes tough and it will clash with the application deadlines for your universities (which generally start late August and end late December/early Jan. Not a rule, just an oversimplified statement.) Even if you don't score as high as you expected, you need to have the time to decide whether you want to reattempt or not.

You can easily achieve a good score preparing on your own, so enrolling in a coaching class is completely optional. Few friends of mine, who did attend coaching classes said they didn't find their material very useful, as coaching classes tend to impose unreasonable demands (such as memorising 2000 words in a month). I'd say apply to a coaching/consulting firm if you do not find enough support at home for your GRE prep. My family was pretty on board with my preparation; they were open to buying any material I asked for. I have relatives who live abroad as well, who gave me plenty of advice and so I didn't feel the need to attend a coaching class.

Starting your preparation early is also important, because scoring well in GRE has a prerequisite of a strong vocabulary as well as speed at solving numericals for the Quantitative section. I'd say, the best way to start your prep is to give a practice test RIGHT AWAY, so that you know what your baseline is. All of your prep after that should focus on improving your weak points only.

Most students do a high amount of intensive preparation right before their GRE, but I personally find it very difficult to memorise five-hundred alien-looking words within that timespan. I started my preparation as far back as fifth sem, and consequently my preparation was much more lightweight -- only five-six new words a day, sporadically, but with proper understanding and frequent revision. I only focused on Barron's high frequency words, and kept a note of any unfamiliar words I encountered afterwards in my practice questions or tests. I made my own flash cards out of old post-it notes,

by writing the word on one side and its brief meaning (sometimes in slang, for easier understanding) on the other. Others prefer using the vocabulary apps on the Play Store, or Vocabulary.com (a good website that gamifies learning new words and gives you points for them).

Another point about vocabulary-building -- it's not the one and only most important thing. I see people around me trying to memorise thousands of almost-Latin looking words, but I, myself, saw very few of those in the actual test. Vocabulary, I think, helps most for the text-completion and sentence-equivalence type of questions. I knew I personally couldn't mug up so many words (in fact I got bored of it and gave up -- but do NOT follow my example!) so I shifted my focus in another direction, which were the reading passages and the argument questions. If you're struggling with the text completion and sentence equivalence questions, set them aside for a bit and see how you're doing at the RC's and the arguments. I'm willing to bet that most people struggle with those more, but tend to pay less attention to them. In addition, you don't need to know the meaning of every word -- context clues can help you make an educated guess, which will turn out right if you practice enough.

For quantitative, practice is key. Memorise the normal distribution, it shows up in some of the annoying statistics questions. Everything else, huge amounts of practice. Timed practice, that is. Give yourself 35 minutes to solve as many questions as you can, evaluate what you suck at, practice those. Don't always skip a question by assuming you know how to do it -- the kind of silly mistakes you're truly capable of will embarrass you to no end (speaking from personal experience). There are no new concepts, it's just math from ninth-tenth grade. The only thing you need is speed and accuracy.

For analytical writing, I'd recommend learning how to spot common logical fallacies. Most GRE arguments have a similar structure and you can easily spot out at least one flaw, but writing a cogent essay on all the possible assumptions on an argument requires practice. Don't skip the AWA sections whenever you're attempting a practice test, even if it is not scored. You need to be able to find your opinions, and express them in a clear enough manner. Compare your essays with those given in books and at the end of the practice tests (most provide sample responses).

About a month or two before your GRE, I'll recommend only doing practice tests -- as many as you can find for free. There are several online and offline resources, free and paid. Computer based

-Abhiruchi Bhattacharya (D17A)



Abhiruchi Bhattacharya (D17A)

tests are better than those in textbooks, because they'll make you comfortable with the real deal. Free ones include ManhattanPrep, ETS's 2 free Powerprep tests, Princeton, Kaplan, Magoosh etc. The Princeton free test gives you scores for your analytical essays too, and so does the PowerPrep plus (if you decide to buy it). There are a lot of resources on the SharingisCaring folder for GRE too. If you feel the need for additional practice after these, I'd recommend buying one Powerprep plus test or the ManhattanPrep six test pack. Both are around \$50, but obviously the ManhattanPrep deal gives you six tests instead of one. (Mind you, I find ManhattanPrep tests tougher than the actual GRE, so don't feel depressed if you're scoring lower on them).

Book your appointment early, and go visit the centre if it's far away/in an unknown location the day before the test. Take your passport (and just for safety, a print of the confirmation email and two other govt IDs like Aadhar, PAN, license, or voter ID etc. This wasn't required in my case, but having them around doesn't hurt). The staff at most centres is polite and thorough, they'll tell you everything and help you if you have queries. Take something to eat - snacks that'll replenish your energy quickly. You'll have the option to submit your scores to four universities after the exam. Memorise either the institution code or the states in which your four choices of unis are. Lastly, take a deep breath, it'll be alright. All the best!"

My Personal Experience with UBA

-Rochana Desai

From words falling short, overwhelming experience, innocent faces, flashing memories, echoing laughter to immortal gratitude from within we have had it all. I will never be able to put the way I felt about the journey into words because I believe some things are just meant to be felt. To start with my journey, the first thing and probably the only last thing that I have experienced was the feeling of being overwhelmed to even be a part of this group. Overwhelmed to be a candidate to be able to contribute to that particular village with innumerable people around.

Now, let me get back to our journey on 1 October 2019. This journey has been my first social serving platform and I can't tell you how wonderful I am feeling already. I can't tell you how grateful I feel being around people where the only thing I get to learn is there is scope of improvement in every aspect and the thought that there is so much more to life. Our journey for Unnat Bharat Abhiyan was very well organized by one of the most inspiring people I have ever met, Dr. Pooja Kundu Madam. One thing I got to learn from her is that no matter who you are and who you will become you should



Rochana Desai(D14B)

always BE A GIVER, otherwise some people will never be able to experience the feeling of something that they have never received.

I, my colleagues and some professors from different Departments enrolled for this beautiful endeavour to experience the light in the crack. We had an amazing journey on the way and we finally reached the village AMGAON which is 3 hours from Mumbai. Our main purpose of the visit was that there was not even one NGO which had reached there till now. Our main aim being tapping areas where NGOS don't easily reach. To benefit society in multiple ways is a huge contribution. Firstly, we visited Gramsevak, who was a lady, to ask for permission to execute our plans. We had certain agendas to achieve in our mind and I won't even hesitate a bit to say that our team has done more than what we thought we could do. The first agenda being tree plantation, we had got samplings of different seeds and we divided ourselves into groups and neatly finished the task. Meanwhile, there were school going kids of 3 to 4 years who came into our vision, who were looking at us all scared, shy faced with the terror on their face to see different people in town. Such innocent and potentially abled people. I instantly felt to send them to schools where they actually belong but I found myself helpless at the moment and which is also the prime reason as to why I was interested in this activity in the first



From L to R:Sahaj Santani(D14B), Aadi Fernandes(D11), Mridul Mohan(D14B), Rochana Desai(D14B), Dr. Pooja Kundu, Yajnesh Shetty(D14B), Sujit Singh(D12B)

place. The idea being we can influence these people even by taking baby steps at least. After finishing tree plantation we again divided in a group of two to conduct a survey of the village. We visited each and every house and in some houses we asked them to bring their neighbors alongside just to avoid further time constraints. The very first house that we visited had people who greeted us very well with a happy face, willing to help us with what we were there for. They showed us tremendous support and huge respect irrespective of the age difference. Some aspects are worth learning from villagers, their respect towards each other, the way they greet others, the way they treat their guests and the values they perceive, it's hard to find such things in these generations. I think it's all about the give and take. Some things you learn from them and some things they learn from you and apparently that's life.

I was awestruck when I got to know that they had no idea how old they were, they had no idea what their contact number was in spite of having a phone. Anyone would go insane staying there for even a day witnessing how unaware they are about most of the things. It got me goosebumps to believe the fact that they cannot read/write or the fact that they never went to school. Its heart aching to know what is the situation of villages in India and how no one is looking after it. Not only this but many more such villages besides this face many more severe issues. They lack opportunities, they lack exposure, they lack awareness, they lack support and maybe I should say that this is because they don't have a choice and that's the worst part about it. Imagine a person being intelligent, diligent but having NO CHOICE. I wish I had some superpower to transform it all and I am hoping the youth of our nation to be considered the superpower that I am talking about.

If I jot down on the average problems faced by the villagers was mainly water issues; there is no tap water in their own house, the only source of water is well which runs dry when there is no rain. Most of the people migrate for work from one place to another for earning due to water crisis during summer. No one is educated more than 12th standard, they have lands and half of it is barren, they have huge poverty issues as no employment op-

portunities. It is devastating to feel helpless and not be able to do anything about it quickly. Everything takes so much time. If we provide them with sufficient funds and bring them to a platform, I swear they are so capable they will not only outperform themselves but also people like us. The next main agenda which we were working on while we were going from house to house was making them aware of the harmful effects of using PLASTIC. We told people to give as much as plastic they can give from their home and we reverted them back with a cloth bag spreading awareness of how important it is to ban plastic.

Along with this, we had a simultaneous session on good touch and bad touch for the innocent ones both; girls and boys where we also taught them how to deal when someone attacks. We also had a session especially for women to spread awareness regarding women hygiene and how it is so important to avoid diseases that may cause severe problems. We distributed lots and lots of chocolates and biscuits and toys to those young ones who were not very comfortable with us at the beginning but eventually they mixed up very well and that's when I realized it takes time to come out of the shell.

I call it hunger and fulfilling that it is what I call completeness and that's ultimately called "happiness". You will know the value of something you rarely get but you will never know the value of something you already have. Because most of us take things for granted. Touchwood, but I felt grateful for what I have in life but along with that I got inspired about how we can benefit one village by our mere help. We had a session where we told those kids to get plastics and they will get candies in return and those angels got us 10 kg plastic, so much plastic that seemed our return journey impossible as all the place would be occupied by plastic (humour). At the end of the session, one lady asked me, "I understand you people have come here for survey but is this the end? What next?" and that certainly hit me. Everyone conducts surveys, everyone shows empathy when the moment calls for it but what happens when it comes to solving the problem in real life?

A Broken Bond

-Anandalakshmi Nair

I was blinded by your companionship,
Your smile and charm,
But being ever ruthless, you,
Never gave me a chance.

You would incessantly hurt me,
Even though you always knew,
That whatever happens in this world,
I'll never give up on you.

There seemed no turning back,
From the abyss of despair,
I attribute it to my delusion,
That you'd always be there.

Hurt and grievously wounded,
On the razor's edge of oblivion,
I promised to make my presence felt,
To end this vicious illusion.

But, without a guardian angel,
I'll be lost for sure..
But I'll soon find my way,
To the light, so pure....

Dreams To Die For

-Priyanka Awatramani(D12A)

A eleven-year-old girl stands in front of her class
Narrating the gallant deeds of a soldier
Unwavering they continue to strive for the country
A new challenge awaits you everyday
where to act quickly is the only way.

The army reminds her of the sun
So powerful, so fierce
Relentlessly radiating brightness
Does it ever forget to shine?

A valiant soldier served in the Kargil War
Leading one of the toughest operations in history.
His comrade severely injured
Instead of running away, dragged his mate to safety
But was shot and succumbed to his wounds.

The girl stifles a sob,
For little did they know, this heroic soldier was her father.
Resolves she to make her father proud
And fulfill her father's dream to serve the nation
Living her every breath for the country.

(Thousands of dreams die by just thinking what to do next!
Don't just think, Plan Now! Act Now! for what you want to achieve.
Else just see your dream die in front of you!)



-Manish Manghawani(D12A)



-Naren Khatwani (D12B)



-Harsh Suvarna(D13)



-Pradeep Thorat(D14B)

VESIT Diaries

-Padmaja Borwankar & Sreevidya Iyer

Mr. Subodh Gajare, an alumnus of VESIT was a part of the 1992 batch of Computer Engineering. He is an IT Professional with diverse exposure (22 years) in Software design, development, Testing, Implementation and Business development on Internet technologies. He is currently a Senior Technical Leader at Cisco systems for Global customers at Bangalore. He has won various accolades, "Cisco Innovation Award" award being one of them, for proposing a prototype of embedded logic on all Cisco platforms.

Q. Tell us about your life at VESIT

I would paraphrase my college life at VESIT around just one theme that is, discovery. It was filled with curiosity and discoveries about Computer Science. My four years of Engineering were from '88 to '92 and that was the time computers were ushered in. We were all curious as to how Pascal, C or COBOL influenced the systems in the banks around the world. We were mostly ignorant about the industry and platforms but we knew, we were learning this huge thing that's going to control the world. It was the prenatal phase of the huge bay called the internet. So, it was an explorative period for me.

Q. Share a glimpse of your personal life after engineering.

The social and professional obligation was to find a job after engineering. Mumbai pretty much had one export Processing zone at that time, SEEPZ and many companies and banks were setting up onshore offices there. I joined the bandwagon of people and got a job at Silverline. After our professional life is on a smoother plateau, our risk-taking ability notches up a bit. My ability showed up when I talked to my parents about marriage with my girlfriend, whom I was dating since my second year. She was also from the Computer stream but a different college. My marriage was a huge thing

for me. India was on the cusp of embracing new things, love marriages and different cultures came together. We were all in the sweet spot.

Q. Today, the world is advancing at a rapid pace. Can you throw some light on the activities that students can do from the beginning, which will give them an edge?

There are certain tips but not the only ones and this answer will change over time. The most relevant example is the industry exposure that you guys can get now. The poignant part is, twenty-five years ago, there was no industry exposure. Your generation has a lot of opportunities coming through the door. I would say, leverage the industry breadth and touchpoints or the facilities that your college provides. Also, insist on a well-rounded education. You have the ability and freedom to pursue many sources for projects, recognize the advantage and use it.

Q. What do you think is the importance of extracurricular activities in a student's life and how to manage them?

The importance of extracurricular activities is immense. It took me a certain amount of time and confidence to start doing Tech talks. I wouldn't have been comfortable doing this in '91 or '92, even to my peers. I think, extracurricular, co-curricular activities, whether you do it for the dramatics club or technical club, Computer Society of India, IEEE, Utsav or any form or consortium which makes you work, will be useful. Your comfort zone consists of the activities which you do after getting up in the morning, even if it is writing a C program. Your magic happens way outside your comfort zone. These activities are the bridge between your comfort zone and the magical zone which is full of innovation and creativity. Organizing an Utsav, bringing like-minded professors or HODs together



Mr. Subodh Gajare

or being a panel moderator are the kind of things companies like Google, Cisco look for in students. You can cheat mark sheets and a few textbooks. But what you will never be able to cheat, is a technical interview. What gets you through an interview is, clear and quick thinking, the ability to organize your thoughts in chronological order and that comes with practice. Your extracurricular activities keep you honest and to the ground, you can organize some community services too, which opens up a lot of perspectives.

Q. Failure, since ages, has been a reluctance causing factor in life. What do you recommend for dealing with failure?

It's both a personal and a universal question. By personal, I mean the strategies adopted by every human being would be different and by universal I mean, there are certain tips and tricks, time tested, successfully working and generally accepted by everyone like a positive mindset. I'll try to answer it

from both perspectives. I think the fundamental part of dealing with rejection, failure, disappointment is acceptance. Accept it as a matter of fact. Then, comes in what you do with it. Be it academics, co-curricular or professional space, I believe your ability to rise is more important than your ability to perform. The willingness and ability to rise after a fall sets you apart. You may fall down the very next day, it doesn't matter as long as the commitment is there in your heart. As a piece of advice I might add, Fail often, fail fast and Fail so you can succeed. If you succeed the first time, you go home with one dimension but you fail, you don't miss out on the lessons learned.

Q. Can you tell us something about the interpersonal skills that we should have outside academics?

In the simplest words, you are a function of what you read and view. If you watch violence, soap-operas or unwanted content, it will influence you that way. Have five thumb rules to live by, surround yourself with five good friends, if you are learning

a new technology, choose five good youtube channels, five good books. Birds of a feather flock together, so create communities to support each other and catch when you slip. If you can take industry challenges and drawbacks and convert them into product solutions, you have good interpersonal skills. The other thing is, don't fake. It is okay to not know everything, but it's not okay to cheat some

one. Whatever you put on the resume, you should have the gumption to stand up and say that you know it. Authenticity is a major part of interpersonal skills. Thirdly, we need to listen more. Active listening means understanding what ideas are being exchanged, and ensuring the purpose of communication is achieved. The earlier you start working on interpersonal skills, the better it is. I would say, sweat now than bleed later. So, the more you practice with presentations or technical debates, the easier it will be in interviews.

Q. Any message for the new generation at VESIT?

I would like to sum it up in three parts. First is, ac-

cept, respect, recognize what you have. It is a boon, being born in this generation. You were born in the post google, post-internet generation, reap its benefits. Second is, more inwards looking. I like the concept of being bold. By 'bold' I don't mean aggressive but being bold enough to take up challenges. You can be the next Satoshi who thought of bitcoin or the next Travis of Uber or the next Jeff who created the world's best service supply chain, Amazon or Kai-Fu Lee for talking about AI. My 'Be Bold' is about the risk-taking ability, facing failures and technical growth. Third is, remember whatever truth you believe about technology is a lie after a certain amount of days, or years. It is not exactly false, but there is a better and better version of it. I would suggest, make a dent in the universe, not with your marks or salary. Do something such that the world will be a better place after you say goodbye to your job and your life. Could you be that person, who has a vision and execute it through the next forty to fifty years of your career?

Sports

VESITian shines at University Level Athletic Meet

-Yash Keskar & Pooja Prasad

In the recently concluded University Level Athletic Meet on the 8th and 9th November 2019, Nameira Sheikh, a student of D11B and a participant of the tournament has achieved remarkable success. The third year student of electronics engineering displayed exemplary performance on the field and has brought multiple laurels to the institute. She secured a 2nd rank in 100 meter Hurdles event, and a 5th rank in 100 meters running event, beating hundreds of other athletes from scores of colleges who were participating in the event.

In addition to her victories at the University Level Meet, Nameira has had a golden spree in 2019. At the Reliance Foundation Youth Sports

Athletics Meet, she clinched the silver medal in the 100 metre Hurdle event and Bronze medal in the 200 metre running event.

The twenty year old sporting prodigy is a regular at the Sports Authority of India Club in Kandivali, where she is currently preparing for national level events in the field of running.



Nameira Sheikh(D11B)

"I also realize that winning doesn't always mean getting first place; it means getting the best out of yourself."

—Meb Keflezighi