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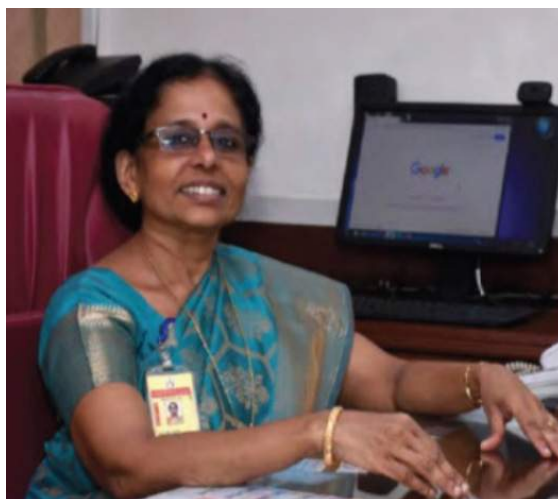
Celebrating Women Leadership

-Tanya Dubey

There is no force more powerful than a woman determined to rise. Thus, the monthly Industrial Automation magazine decided to celebrate these strong and beautiful women this International Women's Day. The **IA magazine** featured our honourable Principal **Dr. J. M. Nair**, along with 17 other leading women in their March 2021 edition.

Industrial Automation magazine is a monthly magazine published by IED Communications since 1980, catering to the Factory and Process Automation needs of the industry. The magazine is one of the most widely read and referred trade journals in the automation industry. Its reader profile is a vast pool of automation enthusiasts who want to be constantly in touch with industry through information like products, case studies, industry trends, interviews and news and updates as it happens around the globe.

On the occasion of International Women's Day, Industrial Automation (IA) presented a special feature "**Women of Substance**" celebrating the women in leadership, achieving an equal future in a Covid



Dr. J. M. Nair, Principal VESIT

19 world. Following are the other leading women featured along with Dr. J. M. Nair in the magazine:

Swati Jain, SeniorManager – Program Management, Technology R&D & Women in Stem Leader for India
Sreelatha Nair, Freelance Consultant in the field of Industrial Automation
Sophie Moochhala, Managing Director, Fluid Controls Private Limited
Samiksha Bhokare, Student
Swati Tiwari, ManagingDirector, Arcturus Business Solutions Pvt Ltd
Resmi Nair, Senior DeputyGeneral Manager, BHEL



IA magazine featuring the leading women of India

Ritu Agarwal, Dy. GM -Instrumentation, Projects & Development India Limited

Reetu Khanna, GeneralManager-Instrumentation at EIL

Titli Chatterjee, Senior Lead, Smart Manufacturing Practice, Information Services Group

Jaya Chanchalani, Project Manager,Nexcharge-Exide Leclanche Energy Pvt Ltd.

Litty Josekutty, GM (E&T), Incharge Infocom, ONGC - TripuraAsset

Madhumita Ghosh, Solution & Service Lead - Cognitive & AI - Process Transformation -Digital-RPA-Advance Analytics at IBM

Surbhi Jerath, Dy Manager –Projects, Endress+Hauser Group

Rashmi Mathur, DGM(O&M/C&I), NTPC Vindhyachal

Lakshmi Lalita Mohan, Head and Representative - Germany, Confederation of Indian Industry(CII)

Raedah Saman, FutureOffer Marketing for LV/MV Industrial Drives

Amrita Chowdhury, Co-Founder & Director, Gaia

WDC: #ChooseToChallenge

-Anushka Kulkarni

On behalf of Women Development Cell, Institution's Innovation Council(IIC) and Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Vivekanand Education Society Institute of Technology, Chembur, Mumbai had invited three women achievers to talk to us about their experiences, achievements and success stories to celebrate the "The International Women's Day" on 20th March, 2021 Saturday, be-

tween 2pm and 5 pm. This event was streamed over youtube as well.

The campaign theme for International Women's Day 2021 was 'Choose To Challenge' and these women have very well accepted challenges and have done exceptionally well in whatever they have chosen to excel in. The hosts of the event were **Mrs. Nusrat Ansari** (Assistant Professor, Depart-

ment of Electronics and Telecommunication) and **Mrs. Vinita Mishra** (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication).

The speakers for the event were:

1. **Ms. Shanti Raghavan** - EnableIndia – Founder, National Award Recipient (VESIT, 1989- Department of Electronics Engineering)
2. **Ms. Suprabha Marathe** is a Chief Engineer - Coastal Road Project, MCGM
3. **Ms. Usha Rajendiran** - Director - Charles Schwab (VESIT, 2006 - Department of Computer Engineering)

Organizing Committee:

Dr. (Mrs.) J. M. Nair, Principal, VESIT (Chairperson)

Dr. (Mrs.) M. Vijayalakshmi, Vice Principal, VESIT

Dr. (Mrs.) T.Rajani Mangala, Convener

Dr. (Mrs.) Shoba Krishnan, Chairperson, WDC

Dr. (Mrs.) Nupur Giri, Member-WDC

Dr. (Ms.) Maya Bhat, Co-ordinator

Patrons:

Shri. B. L. Boolani, President, VES

Dr. (Mrs.) J. M. Nair, Principal, VESIT

Dr. (Mrs.) M. Vijayalakshmi, Vice Principal, VESIT

The host of the event Mrs. Nusrat Ansari said "Every year's women's day event is based on the International Women's Day theme as this year's



Poster For the event

theme was "choose to challenge" we invited three amazing women who have not only chosen challenging careers but have done exceptionally well in them! It's a day where women are recognized and celebrated in their fields. These women have a fierce and robust spirit, which makes them excel in their respective areas. They deserve all the love and support that the world gives them on this day. The contribution of women in every sphere of life is

massive.

We were very glad to be addressed by Ms. Usha Rajendiran, Ms. Suprabha Marathe and Ms. Shanti Raghavan as they shared incredible lessons and inspirational stories from their lives. Ms. Usha and Ms. Shanti are alumni of our college so it was a great feeling of pride to have them share their experiences with us."

Marathi Bhasha Diwas

A quiz was held on the 27th of February 2021, on the occasion of Marathi Bhasha Diwas to enhance knowledge and to honour the Marathi language and its appreciative relevance in Maharashtra's culture. The quiz was held for all staff members, students and faculties of VESIT.

Under the guidance of the Internal Quality Cell (IQAC) in Association with the Institution's Innovation Cell (IIC) Library, the quiz was arranged for faculty, students and all the stakeholders of the society. The quiz was convened by Library Committee Members, VESIT under the patronage

of **Dr. (Mrs) J.M.Nair**, Principal VESIT and **Dr. Vijayalakshmi M**, Vice principal VESIT, **Shri. B. L. Boolani**, President VES. The quiz was conducted successfully in VESIT, thanks to the efforts of **Dr. (Mrs) Meenakshi Tyagi**, Library Incharge VESIT, who was the coordinator for the event.

Marathi being the official language of the State of Maharashtra, the main focus of this celebration is to promote the Marathi culture among the participants of the quiz. The quiz was conducted online through Google forms. Participants were quizzed on twenty multiple-choice questions on the history and knowledge of Marathi Literature. Par-

ticipants with scores 40% and above were awarded E-Certificates immediately after submission of the quiz.

"Celebrating Marathi Bhasha Diwas initiates a sense of pride and belonging amongst many Marathi-speaking Maharashtrians. The quiz was very informative and interesting and I am very grateful for this initiative", said Gurudutt Gaonkar(D12B). The quiz had a lot of participation from VESIT and received numerous formidable feedback on the execution of it. It was engaging and informative for many.

-Sristi Sharma



Shri. B. L. Boolani, President VES Dr. (Mrs) J.M.Nair, Principal VESIT, Dr. Vijayalakshmi M Vice principal, Dr. (Mrs) Meenakshi Tyagi, Library Incharge VESIT

Online Arduino Workshop with Tinkerer's Lab EXTC

-Tanya Dubey

With Arduino being an important requirement for mini projects, Tinkerer's Lab EXTC organized an online Arduino training workshop for the second year students on 18th February, 2021 and 28th February, 2021. The workshop was conducted via Google Meet.

Arduino is an open-source platform used for building electronics projects. Arduino consists of both a physical programmable circuit board, which is referred to as a microcontroller, and a piece of software or IDE (Integrated Development Environment) that runs on the computer, used to write and upload computer code to the physical

board.

The workshop was organised and coordinated by **Mr. Mrugendra Vasmatkar** (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering). It was conducted by 4 BE students of the EXTC department, **Shubham Singh (D19A)**, **Sagar Khurana (D19A)**, **Siddhant Satam (D19C)** and **Sai Rane (D19C)**.

Sagar Khurana (D19A) introduced Arduino microcontroller and IDE to the second year students. Shubham Singh (D19A) explained the circuits and simulations in TinkerCad. Siddhant Satam (D19C) and Sai Rane (D19C) demonstrated and explained the hardware aspects.

"The online Arduino workshop organised by Tinkerer's Lab EXTC was an excellent initiative. It proved to be really helpful for us, especially with our mini projects. The speakers were well versed with the topic and were also interactive throughout the session. It was a resourceful workshop. We will be looking forward to more such workshops," said Ameya Dikshit (D9B).

The code explained in the workshop was shared with the attendees via email. The following topics were covered in the workshop :

1. Detailed Architecture of Arduino.
2. Implementation and simulation using TinkerCAD.
3. Arduino UNO interfacing with LED, potentiometer, Photodiode.
4. Interfacing with stepper motor, touch sensor, moisture sensor.
5. Interfacing with LCD and 7-segment display.
6. Interfacing with Motor drivers, servo motor and DC motors.
7. Interfacing with Bluetooth and gas sensor.

An arduino workshop was a need of the hour. Tinkerer's Lab EXTC provided the second year students of the EXTC department with the perfect opportunity to learn. The BE students who conducted the workshop had a good knowledge of



Shubham Singh (D19A) simulated the circuits in TinkerCad

the topic and were successful in passing it to the workshop attendees. They also provided the attendees with all the necessary resources. In this workshop, the students were introduced to arduino and were made familiar with its circuits, simulations and hardware aspects.



Mr. Mrugendra Vasmatkar (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering)



Clockwise : Shubham Singh (D19A), Sai Rane (D19C), Siddhant Satam (D19C), Sagar Khurana (D19A)

Current Research Trends in Machine Learning

-Maitraiya Dandekar

A study uncovers that Machine Learning (ML) finds its applications in 77% of the devices that are utilized currently. The year 2021 is ready to observe some significant ML and AI trends that would maybe reshape our economic, social, and industrial workings.

The quest of learning new methodologies and applying enormous data around us to use engages us to explore the space of machine learning. Research Forum of the Department of Computer Engineering, VESIT in association with IIC and IQAC has organized a session on "Current Research Trends in Machine Learning" for the faculty members of our college on 13th March 2021 from 4 to 5 pm.

Dr Ashish Tendulkar, (Machine Learning Architect Google) explored various facets, beginning with the basic concepts of machine learning. He further explored neural networks, types of activations and when to use them and the architecture of neural networks. Training of neural networks, the pooling function and loss function were explained in detail. He concluded the session by introducing the '<http://playground.tensorflow.org/>'

website to tinker around with Neural Networks.

This session was coordinated by **Dr Sharmila Sengupta** (Associate Professor, Department of Computer Engineering) and **Mrs Lifna CS** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer



Dr Sharmila Sengupta (Associate Professor, Department of Computer Engineering) and Mrs Lifna CS (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering)



Dr. Ashish Tendulkar (Machine Learning Architect Google)

Engineering) was conducted via Google Meet and was a resounding success with around 40 attendees.

SAMVAAD Debate

-Arnob Saha

Be it online or in-person, VESIT's debate team stays strong and stays dominant. On the 26th and 27th of February, 2021, the Fr. C. Rodrigues Institute of Technology, Vashi conducted the annual reiteration of their reputed debate competition called SAMVAAD.

This year, the 5th edition of SAMVAAD had the central theme of **'Skewed Perceptions: Looking through the Socio-Psycho-Political Prism'** for the inter-college debates. Three teams attended the 'Parliamentary' form of debate competition on our college's behalf out of which two made it into the finals and secured the First and Second prizes in the competition.

The teams in the finals were the team of **Avinash Tripathy(D14B)** and **C.V Ananya(D19A)** who were up against the team of **Adith Nair(D19B)** and **Sneha Karthik(D7C)**. The topic for this sensational finals was **"The Pandemic has had a debilitating effect on humankind, from which it may not rise"**. The team of Avinash and Ananya, won the competition by winning the final debate while being for the notion and the team of Adith and Sneha secured second place, showing the level of debating skill our college harnesses after the strong performance in FCRIT, Vashi.

In the words of Avinash, 'Samvaad was a great debate experience be it in terms of organizing or the competition we faced. It was closest experience to an offline debate that we had during this phase of online competitions which goes on to show the quality of Samvaad.'



Adith Nair (D19B), CV Ananya (D19A), Avinash Tripathy (D14B), Sneha Karthik (D7C)

VESIT Students Win at the PCGT Conclave

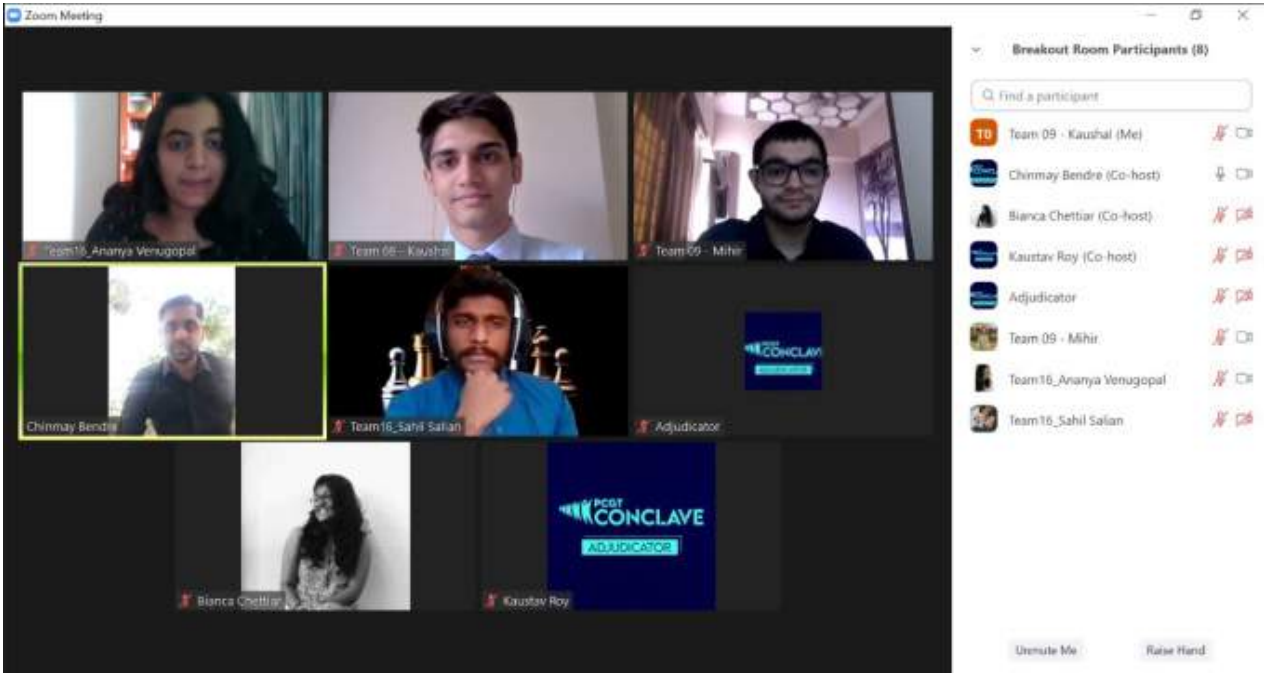
-Mihir Pamnani

Debates are the conversations that run ideological discourse. They lend a platform for critical opinions by inviting the assertive mouths to the podium. It is a trail of formal discussions, logical arguments, historical contexts, technical events and stating claims to defend the agenda at hand. Generally, there are two parties involved in a fair discussion with varying viewpoints presenting arguments with statistical analysis and civil scrutiny.

Accordingly, Public Concern for Governance Trust (PCGT) is one such registered trust founded by Mr Julio Ribeiro, Dr R.K. Anand, and the late Mr B.G. Deshmukh. The trust is committed to increasing public participation and activism towards creating a more transparent and efficient governance system. In furtherance of its vision and mission, PCGT had organized its first-ever conclave with the theme 'Unity In Diversity, to ensure that the spirit of brotherhood and togetherness prevails among the youth of India. The Oxford Debate Team had sent out invitations for all the emerging and young leaders from junior colleges, undergraduate and postgraduate colleges across India to register for the same.

A policy document including the rules of procedure, list of motions and technical guidelines were all mailed to the participants a week before the conclave. A total of thirty-two teams each consisting of two members had participated in the Oxford Debate Competition which was conducted online on 20th-21st February 2021 via Zoom Meetings. The four teams representing VESIT were :

- Team 07: Sneha Karthik (D7C) and Sahana Shetty (D10A)



Team 09 and Team 16 debating against each other at the Quarter Finals

- Team 09 : Mihir Pamnani (D7C) and Kaushal Jagasia (D7C)
- Team 10 : Tanuja Upadhyay (D13) and Omkar Rao (D13)
- Team 16 : C.V. Ananya (D19A) and Sahil Salian (D14A)

On Day 1, two elimination rounds were organized followed by a thrilling Quarter-Finals beginning from noon up till 5 pm. The initial rounds saw sheer preparation and analysis of the set-in-front questions. The motions for discussion ranged from 'Climate change being the biggest threat' to 'Liberal Arts Education being essential for our techno-centric world'. There were witty one-liners, stronger come-backs, formal retaliations and all of

them led to constructive decisions about how human life can be better and progress with the best of their potential by eliminating issues at hand. Team 10 (Tanuja Upadhyay and Omkar Rao) couldn't make it through the elimination rounds. Team 07 (Sneha Karthik and Sahana Shetty) and Team 16 (C.V. Ananya and Sahil Salian), both the teams, with their remarkable speeches and rebuttals, made it to the Quarter Finals whilst Team 09 (Mihir Pamnani and Kaushal Jagasia) made it to the Semi-Finals by the end of Day 1.

The next day, the Semi-Finals began at around 4 pm, wherein apparently, Team 09's opposition team couldn't turn up because of technical reasons and they were ultimately promoted to the

finals. The exciting finale then began, an hour later, where the motion for discussion was - 'The House believes in Secularism which implies a strict separation between the State and Religion'. A strict separation between the State and religion is a renowned thought, considered to be vital for the progress of civil society, heard in most common political mandates across the globe since the last century. Team 09 aligned with the House's belief and spoke in the defence of the motion. The finales brought the best critical opinion from the participants. The opening statements and the by-products concerning the inter-subject matters were discussed at length. After a trail of arguments backed with instances of historical contexts, law and implementation, Team 09 emerged victoriously and won the title for 'Best Team' at the PCGT Conclave.

As a result, Team 09 (Mihir Pamnani and Kaushal Jagasia) were awarded a cash prize of Rs. 5000 and a certificate of merit in the closing ceremony conducted later that evening. "It was an



Winners: Kaushal Jagasia (D7C) and Mihir Pamnani (D7C)

amazing first-time experience for us at an inter-college debate. The motions were quite interesting and thought-provoking. From climate change to politics, a lot was on the table to discuss and defend. The highlight, for me, was the winner in the finale. I mean, winning against a team of law students on

a motion of fair historical and political relevance, that's quite something. All in all, for me and Mihir, it did add a lot to our learning curve and we are grateful to have represented VESIT at such a prestigious forum." said Kaushal Jagasia (D7C).

Councils

Prarambh 2020

College life is undoubtedly the most delightful phase in any person's life. Students make friends for life and make unforgettable memories in this new exciting period of their lives. Since pulling through the first few months in college can get a bit stressful for students, the Freshers Party is conducted in most colleges to encourage an atmosphere of friendliness and brotherhood. Students can be their true selves and make new friends by taking part in the events organized in this party.

The Cultural Council and Students Council joined hands to come up with **Prarambh 2020**, which was held on the 4 March 2021. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic situation, this mega event was streamed live on YouTube via the Cultural Council YouTube Channel. Prarambh is one of the most awaited events by the First Year's, as it is an even held exclusively for them by their seniors-thus. Thus, the Freshers Party had all the FEs joining in, enthusiastically, to participate in the event.

Meme Challenge

Memes not only address social ills but also have the power to address social values as well, making them a versatile tool for satire and humour. It is one of the things that has united us throughout the pandemic. The pre-prarambh event was the ultimate "Meme Challenge" which was conducted on CULT's Instagram page. This clash took place on 1st of March 21. For the first round, the participants were expected to come up with memes in a picture format. The classes which got through to the second round were selected based on the polling results on the Instagram page. The winning class teams were short-listed from the ones who made it to the second round. They were allowed to use gifs and videos to portray their quirky sense of humour. D5A triumphed in the contest, D2A securing runners up position for their commendable performance.

Collage Making

The collage making competition took place on the 1st of March, 2021. The task was to create a collage, having some amazing pictures with classmates and showcasing the bond of togetherness of

the class as a whole. The event was a class contest, wherein all the divisions submitted their class collage expressing their creativity and awareness of colour and texture.

The class who came through with flying colours displayed their sense of innovation and artistry, stunning one and all around them. Putting together their photo editing skills and originality, they curated an impact on the minds of the judges. The winners of the event were D5B. The first and second runners up positions were secured by D2C and (D1E & D2B) respectively.

Online Treasure Hunt

This event was conducted before Prarambh on the 1st of March. Who doesn't love an exciting round of scavenger hunt. The participants are sent on a wild goose chase in search of a primary objective. This year, the treasure hunt was conducted online for the first time ever in the history of Prarambh. Teams of 5 students were permitted with each division being allowed to send in a maximum of 3 teams. The clues were given digitally to the students which led them to uncovering the ultimate treasure. The joint winners for the event were divi-

- Vaidyanathan Natarajan and Manasi Nerurkar
sions D2B and D5A.

Scandal

Reporting is an art that takes a great deal of finesse, as it is designed to record and convey information to a reader. The cultural council came up with a non-stop frenetic event, called "Scandal" which aimed to awaken the inside reporter. The event was conducted on the Google Meet platform on the 2nd of March 2021. The rules of the event were: Team size: 3; Team entries per class: 4. The task given to the teams was to add a bit of spice to the news via a scandalous article! A brief scenario was provided to all the participants, based on which they had to write a scandalous piece of news in a given time frame. All the teams put their best efforts into articulating the report along with supplementing it with their unique style and diction. The submissions were given points based on various aspects such as eloquence, word choice and the epigrammatic way of presenting their thoughts to the prospective readers. D1E hit the mark, emerging as the winners of the event. Their article portrayed the perfect mix of choices, working together



Artist Assemble winner Arunim Chakraborty performing live for the audience

to establish mood and meaning to captivate their audience. Furthermore, D2C secured the 1st runner up position, the 2nd being D3.

Inter class Challenge

In this challenge, classes were paired against each other. The participants from each class were posed with a challenge from the competing team. The task was to complete the dare set forth for them to gain the winning points. The teams which failed to complete it lost the round.

Trend-O-Mania

It is always fun trying out new social media norms and trends. Furthermore, doing this along with your classmates adds an element of joy and unity in the class. The Trend-O-Mania was a pre-Prarambh event and was conducted on the 2nd of March. Every division was expected to perform the 'DOUGIE TREND' and the 'WIII TREND'. These are trends that have been around for quite some time and are known for their quirkiness. It takes a great deal of coordination and unity to perform these trends. Every class was allowed a single entry and was required to involve as many students as possible in coming up with the trend. D1E won the 'DOUGIE TREND' while D2A won the 'WIII TREND'.

Spoof IT

All the freshers were geared towards winning one another event called "Spoof it". In this event, the teams were expected to create a striking fusion between conventions of a genre and the current pandemic situation. The movie chosen was from the theme of "Prarambh' 20"-Spirit of Life. The round consisted of the submission of the entries, one per class. The time limit of the video was bound to 3-5 minutes. The event received an enormous amount of response as all of the classes participated in it. The panel of judges were astonished with the effort and twist in the storyline of the edited movies. The winners were class D1E. The 1st runners up position was given to D4A and the 2nd runners up being shared by both the classes, D3 & D5A.

Winners: D1E

Runner Up: D4A

Artist Assemble

Shrushti Govindwar(D7C) and Neeraj Patil(D11A) commenced the night by inviting the students to Prarambh 2020. Following our college tradition, the Saraswati Vandana was recited by Sanika Inulkar (D11A) to invoke the presence of Goddess Saraswati. **Mr. Vivek Umrikaar**, head, department of Humanities and Science was then invited to impart a few words of wisdom to the freshers.

While science invokes the technical skills of a person, art makes our minds trigger it's creative spark. Therefore the first event of Prarambh was dedicated to art. Students were given a chance to portray their creative side to their fellow batchmates. The first event for the day was **The Artist Assemble** which was hosted by Varun Bhat (D14A) and Divya Singh (D11B).

This is one of the most anticipated events of Prarambh every year. Contestants are selected after auditions to perform at Prarambh and display the talents they have mastered. This year, the contestants had sent in pre recorded performances which were then displayed during this event. A couple of students took it a step further by performing live in front of the audience. These performances left the hosts searching for words as they showered praise on the contestants. After each performance, the



Sheetal Dixit (D1AD) performing in the talent round

hosts made it a point to inform the students about the various clubs in our college dedicated to various arts so that interested students can join them. Arunim Chakraborty(D1AD) bagged the first position for performing a live solo music performance. Sheetal Dixit(D1AD) and Janhavi Deshpande(D5A) were the joint runners up.



Mr. Vivek Umrikaar, head, department of Humanities and Science invited to impart a few words of wisdom to the freshers

Mr. and Ms. Fresher

The hosting was taken over by Sneha Karthik(D7C) and Aditya Dube(D10A) for the most awaited event of the day. Mr. and Ms. Fresher is a contest in which each and every student takes part eagerly. These titles are a matter of esteem and pride among the students and help students in bolstering their popularity and image in the college.



Mr. Fresher: Noel Dason (D5A)

This ever important round was judged by Gaurav Shukla (D19A) and CV Ananya (D19A), both being more than qualified after winning the contest themselves in their freshman year. They were joined by Aditya Rao (D17B).

The first round of the event was the 'Introduction Round'. As the name suggests, the participants were required to introduce themselves to the judges, hosts, and their fellow batchmates. To add an element of spontaneity and creativity, the contestants were given a specific constraint which would govern how they introduced themselves. They were then given a couple of minutes to prepare their introduction before presenting themselves. The constraints given added hilarity to the event as students put themselves in the shoes of a variety of characters while giving their introductions.

Before moving on to the talent round, a beautiful dance video made by the seniors was unveiled before the freshers. Moving on to the talent round, the hosts explained to the audience the rules of this round. Much like Artist Assemble, the contenders were invited to present a specific talent of theirs, to the judges. Before the performances, the hosts asked the participants a couple of questions to ease off the tension and lighten the atmosphere. The contestant had chosen diverse talents ranging from comedy and music to dance and storytelling. The audience and judges had a great time watching these performances as these students portrayed their talents with utmost mastery. After these performances, the hosts joked about the performances and had a laugh with the contestants. Finally, the judges congratulated the participants for their brilliant performance. They gave feedback each of the



Ms. Fresher: Madhura Mhatre (D2C)



Top-Bottom, L-R: Akshay Khanna (D14B), CV Ananya (D19A), Madhura Mhatre(D2C), Aditya Rao (D17), Gaurav Shukla (D19A)

performances and encouraged the students to keep pursuing these talents.

Next, Himesh Shadiza (D14A) and Akshay Khanna (D14B) took over as hosts. The following event, 'Challenge Round' was the most exciting as well as arduous round. Students were paired up by spinning a wheel with the contenders' names on the wheel. After the pairs were selected, the students had to challenge their pair mate with a feasible challenge. The feasibility of the challenge was decided by the judges. They were given two minutes to decide a challenge and a further 15 minutes to prepare for their challenges. Meanwhile, during these 15 minutes, a few games were played with the audience to keep them engaged. After the given preparation time, the participants individually performed their challenges with grace and fervour.

The judges declared the winners who had made it into the final round before appreciating the efforts of the contestants who didn't make the

cut. The final round was the Question and Answer round. The rules of the round were fairly straightforward where the judges would ask the students questions and the participants had to respond impromptu. The judges asked the participants questions from a wide variety of topics. From dealing with the biggest injustice in one's life, to asking one's opinion on the COVID-19 vaccination drive, the judges made it a point to put the students in a tough spot and forced them to rack their brains before answering the questions.

The winners of this event were declared after a melodic relay of DJ. The judges declared Noel Dason (D5A) the winner of the title of Mr. Fresher. Madhura Mhatre (D2C) was given the title of Ms. Fresher. The judges complimented and congratulated the winners. The winners thanked the Cultural council and all the persons who had put in efforts for conducting this event.

Rajat Mhatre (D4B) and Sheetal Dixit

(D1AD) were the runners up for Mr. and Ms. Fresher respectively.

Prarambh'20 ended on a high note, leaving the participants with indelible memories notched in their minds. The best class award was picked up by D5A and the runners up being D1E. Divisha Gupta (D5A), Cultural in charge of the class said "Online Prarambh was expected to be 'more work and less fun' yet the events turned out to be fun in the best possible way. These events helped us to break the ice, socialize with our classmates and seniors and make some great bonds. Some events were tough to ace but along with my co-in-charge's assistance everything went smoothly. The entire class pulled in their share of effort to make this happen. Kudos to Cult-VESIT for organising such amazing events & activities."



Winner's collage : D5B

2021 Google Solutions Challenge

The DSC-VESIT team conducted a Solution Challenge Information Session on the 28th of Feb 2021, guiding and aiding interested participants about the flow of the Challenge. The session was conducted by Aditya Srivastava (DSC Lead, D17C) and Tanvi Shinde (Technical Lead (Software), D17C) over google meet and was attended by more than 30 students.

The Google Solution Challenge is the perfect opportunity for students at any skill level to do a project that aims to solve one or more of the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals using Google Technology. Created by the United Nations in 2015, to be attained by 2030, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed upon by all 193 United Nations Member States aims to end poverty, ensure prosperity, and protect the planet.

The participant team of size 1 to 4 had to select one out of the 17 United Nations SDGs, identify a solution, then design and build the front-end interface as well as the back-end technologies. For the 2021 Solution Challenge, the goal is to create a project that contributes to solving one or more of the 17 SDGs using Google technologies. The team had to submit their project on the Google DSC Portal before 31st March, by recording a demo video of the working prototype of their project.

The DSC-VESIT team explained all the technologies provided by Google for the said challenge, and also guided the teams to find online mentorship and support. Next, they explained where one can find all the assistance they need on

the google platform as well as directed them as to how they can start designing their project prototype using the Design Spring Kit. The session concluded with a doubt-solving session. Interested participants were also shared a google form to connect individuals to form a team based on their skills, if their team was incomplete.

Dhwani Serai (D12B) said, "The session was highly interactive and informative. It motivated me and my colleagues to participate in the Google Solutions Challenge."

-Shivani Shenai



Aditya Srivastava (DSC Lead, D17C) and Tanvi Shinde (Technical Lead (Software), D17C)



United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals

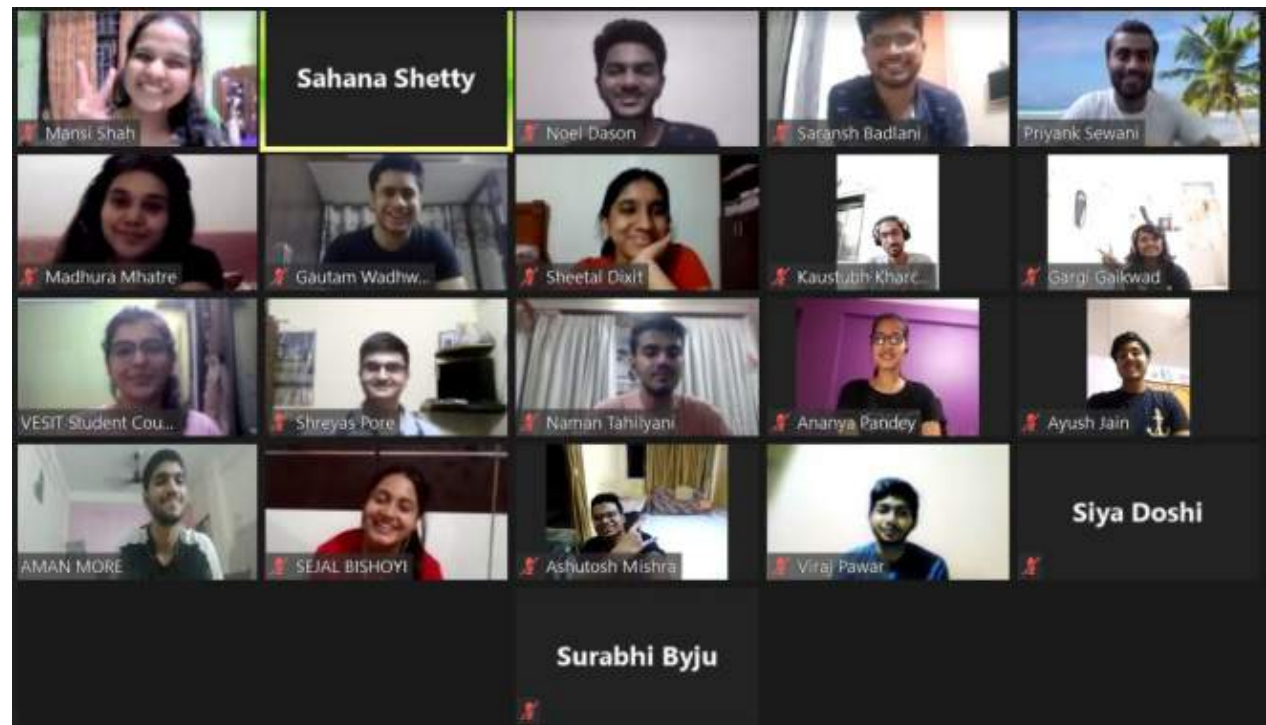
VDC's Virtual Dance workshop

-Anushka Kulkarni

VESIT Dance Crew conducted a two-day workshop on the 20th and 21st March 2021. It was conducted by Aman More (D19B) and Priyank Sewani (D18B). The workshop lasted two hours each day and took place over zoom. Naman Tahlilayani (D7C) started with beginner-friendly basic warm-up steps to get the audience grooving followed by Aman who taught VDC's dance routine which involves hip-hop and tutting styles of dance. On the second day, Priyank stepped it up and taught freestyle dancing to a rap song.

VDC is VESIT's celebrated team of amazing dancers who always set the stage on fire everywhere they go. Even though the dance workshop was virtual, it did not stop people from participating in huge numbers in the virtual dance party. It was also refreshing to see the participation of many newly joined first-year students.

Mansi Shah (D2A) said "I was so glad that I attended the workshop. Not only was it a lot of fun but I also got to learn new dance forms that I hadn't tried before. I am looking forward to being a part of more such workshops"



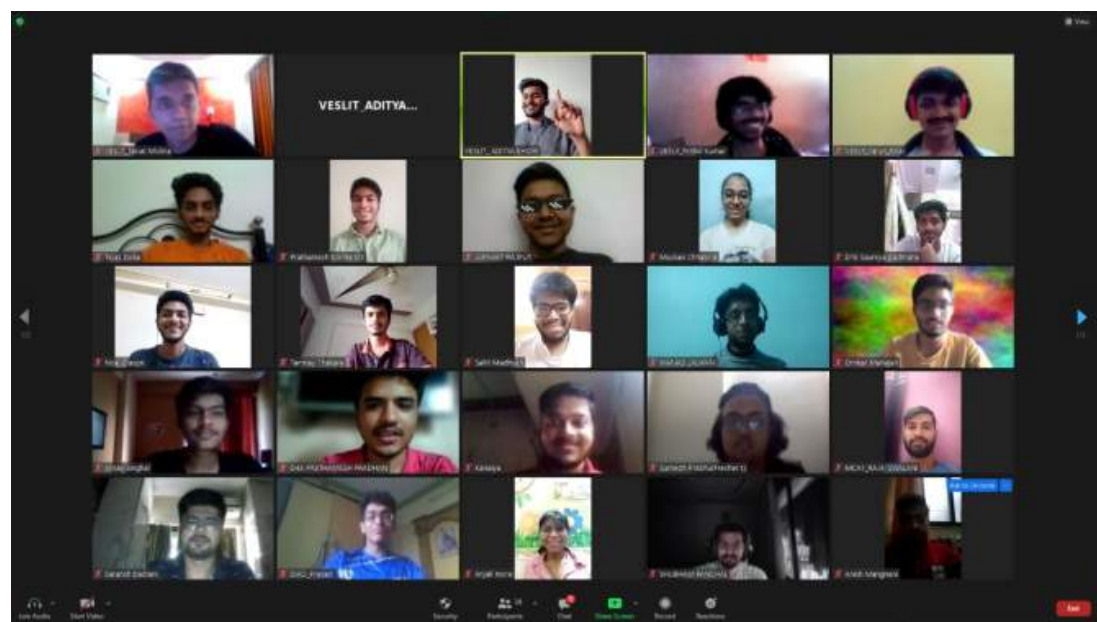
Happy Participants after the work shop

VESLit Circle's Initiative: Inside the Edit

-Manasi Nerurkar

Video editing has been dramatically democratized in recent years by editing software available for personal computers. As the name suggests, the purpose of editing is to continue or illuminate significance to a scene or story. The wide spectrum of applications under this domain makes it a primal necessity of this era. Being extremely familiar with its far-reaching effects, Veslit Circle organised a **“Video Editing Workshop”** on the 20th March at 4 pm. The workshop was conducted on Zoom meetings. The workshop was open to all, designed for absolute beginners.

The hosts for the sessions were Tarun Mishra (D7C) and Aditya Bhoir (D16B). The workshop was divided into two sessions for the convenience of the participants. On day one of the workshop, Tarun Mishra (D7C) laid the groundwork for video editing using the Adobe Premiere Pro software. He briefed on the various topics including aspect ratios and frame rates, importing media, timelines and layers. He introduced the concept of user interface which acts as a workspace to accommodate different working styles and tasks. He moved on to engage the attendees by bringing in essentially basic skills of cutting, trimming, changing speed, resizing, replacing audio and much more. Lastly, he



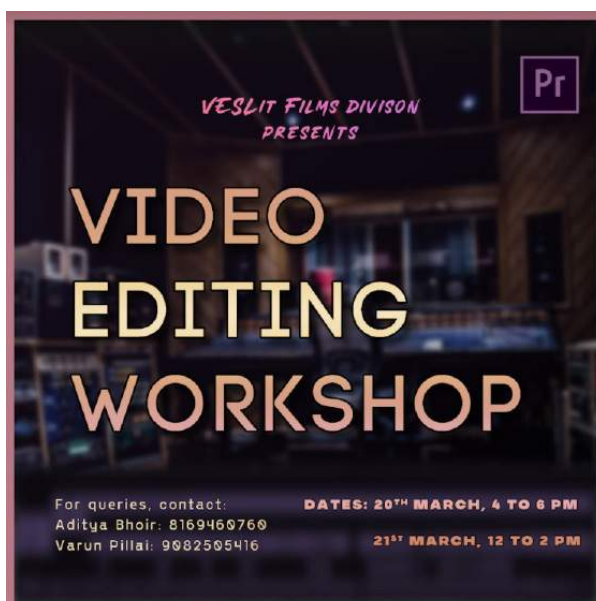
The participants connecting together for a group photo after the workshop

demonstrated working on the assembly of clips in the timeline.

The second half of the workshop was conducted by Aditya Bhoir (D16B), Head of Films Division. He maintained the tempo of the workshop by introducing the building blocks of the video production pipeline. It entailed the following content: Introduction to the effects panel, adding various effects in the timeline, basics of colour grading and keyframing. He wrapped up the workshop by

giving some insights on the basics of storytelling and exporting videos.

Esha Kadam (D9B) said, “The workshop was really good, it covered the basics of video editing. I found the content to be highly informative.. We got hands-on experience in using the Adobe Premiere Pro software.” when asked about her experience of the workshop. Thus, the workshop helped to introduce a new concept, spurring participants to delve deeper into it.



Video Editing Workshop Poster



Aditya Bhoir(D16B) and Tarun Mishra(D7C) conducted the session

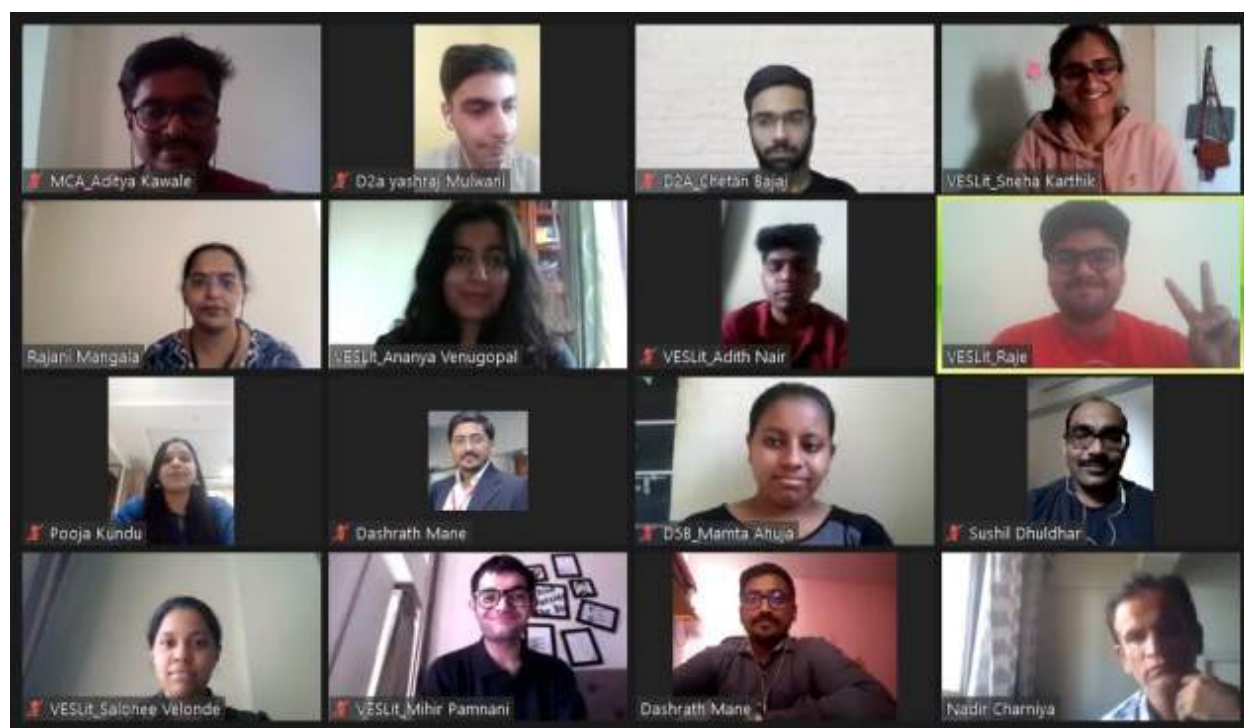
VESLit National Science Day Debate

-Vaidyanathan Natrajan

On the occasion of National Science Day, the 28th of February, VESLit Circle conducted a series of science debates. The National Science Day is celebrated in India to mark the discovery of the Raman effect by Indian physicist Sir C. V. Raman.

These debates were conducted over a period of two days. The first round of eliminations were conducted on 27th February, 2021. A team of two from each class was allowed to participate and a total of 10 teams took part in the eliminations, resulting in 5 debates. These preliminary debates were conducted in different lobbies, simultaneously on the Google Meet platform. The students were informed about the topic of the debate, a few hours prior to the commencement of the event. "Artificial Intelligence - a boon or bane to society" was the chosen topic for all the debates. The debates followed standard procedure, with the students being provided 1 minute for introduction, 3 minutes for questioning and countering, and a final one minute to draw to a conclusion. The 5 debates were overlooked by judges Mr. Adith Nair (D19B), C V Ananya (D19A), Avinash Tripathi (D14B), Atharva Gadkari (D13), Rahul Motwani (D17B). The elimination round came to an end with 4 teams qualifying for the semi-finals. These teams were then instructed about the topics for the following rounds.

The 28th of February saw the 4 teams challenge each other in the semi finals and finals to eventually emerge victorious. The debates were conducted on Zoom meetings with Dr. Rajani



The semi finals being conducted on zoom meeting

Mangala and Dr. Dashrath Mane as the honorable judges. The semis followed the similar pattern as previous debates. The topic for the semis was "Should Animal testing be banned?". The ensuing final had a tweak in the format where each student was provided 3 minutes each for introduction and conclusion, and 8 minutes designated for rebuttal. "Is exploration of outer space a waste of economical resources?" was the topic worthy enough to be debated upon in the finals.

Class D2A emerged victorious in the finals. Winning teammates Chetaniya Bajaj (D2A) and Yashraj Mulwani (D2A) were elated at this feat.

"I have always loved to watch debates and discussions. This time I was given the opportunity to represent my class and show off my debating skills to everyone and I'm elated on the achievement of our team. It was a really interesting debate and a great learning experience for me", said Chetaniya Bajaj (D2A).

Project Saksham - SoRT VESIT

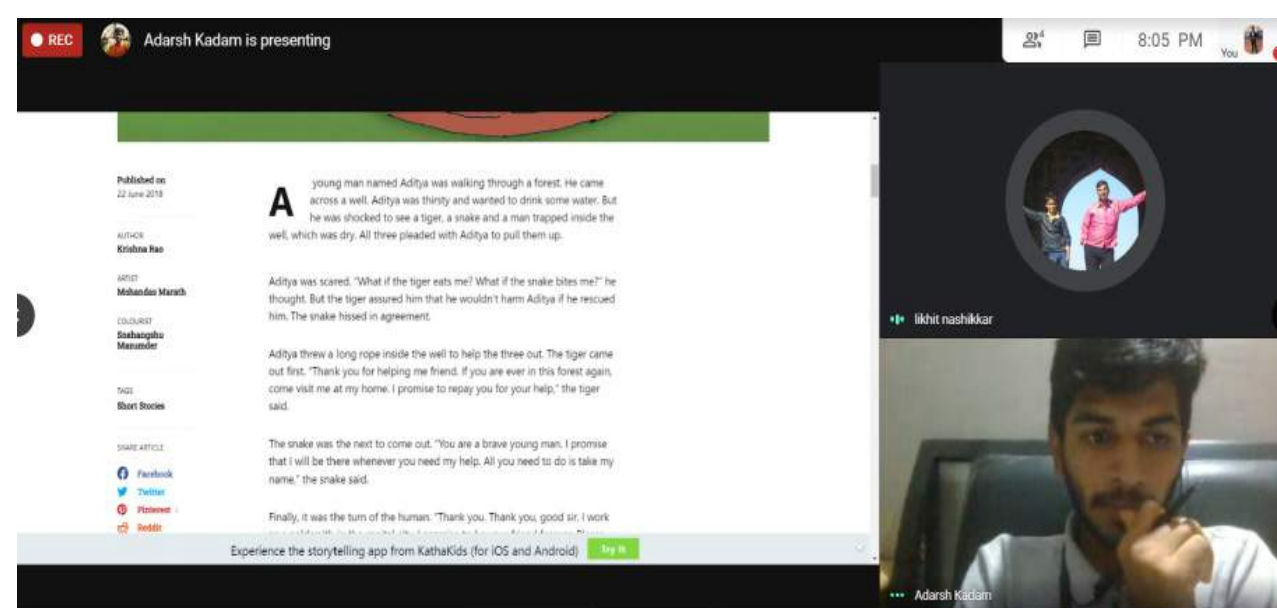
-Aadi Fernandes and Shruti Bondre

SoRT VESIT collaborated with weCHANGE Youth-based NGO in Mumbai whose primary objective is to empower underprivileged youth through the implementation of quality education. This NGO has been founded by **Shridhar Lokanathan** (President, weCHANGE) and **Sampada Inarkar** (Secretary, weCHANGE) who are alumni of VESIT from the batches of 2015 and 2016 respectively, of the Department of Instrumentation.

Project Saksham is a program in which 23 students from Ekta Niradhar Sangh (19 students) at Kamshet and the Gorai Slums (4 students) would be guided and mentored by an equivalent number of students from VESIT, in order to ensure individual attention is provided to each student. The teaching sessions, which started on 16th March, 2021, would span over a period of six weeks with the students being taught in 1.5 hour lectures, twice a week. The modules and curriculum were curated by **Dr. Geeta Ajit** (Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Applied Sciences)

Through interviews conducted by the SoRT council of VESIT, the following 23 students were shortlisted to volunteer for this cause. The list of mentors for this course is:

Manasi Nerurkar (D6)
Madhura Padge (D8)
Manasvi Patwa (D7C)
Suleman Mathekar (D5A)
Janhavi Mhatre (D10A)
Alma Dolare (MCA Shift 1)
Rakshita Danee (D10A)
Gunjan Sureka (D9A)
Yash Raje (D10A)
Ishaan Sharma (D8)



Adarsh Kadam (D10B) conducting a short story reading activity

Sahana Shetty (D10A)
Esha Kadam (D9B)
Venkatesh Reddy (D10A)
Sahil Deshmukh (D7A)
Ajay Nair (D7A)
Adarsh Kadam (D10B)
Diya Shah (D5A)
Soniya Deshmukh (D4B)
Sakshi Patil (D5B)
Shatanshu Choudhary (D13)
Aaditya Moykhede (D10A)
Neeraj Patil (D11B)
Gargi Khanvilkar (D9A)

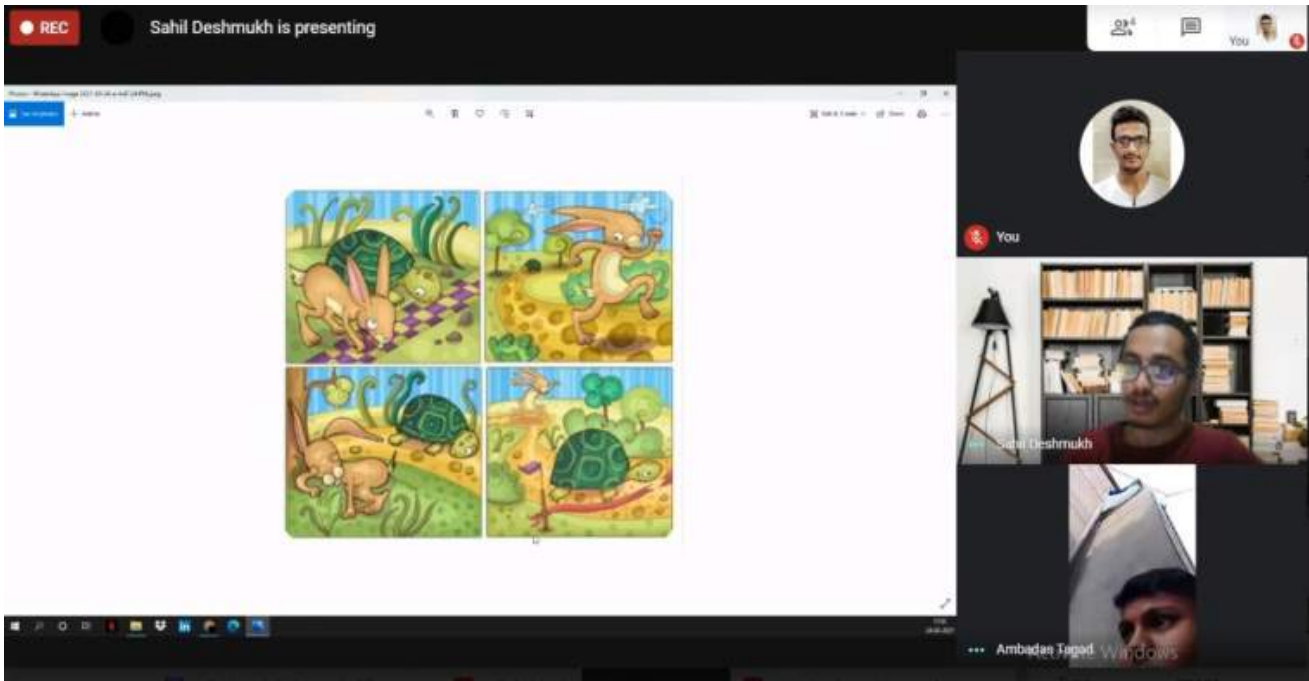
Students from the age bracket of 13 to 21 are the beneficiaries of the program, which mainly envisions providing them with effective communi-

cation skills in the English. The primary focus is on the English language and it's proficiency because of the importance of it all across the world. Moreover, it will assist them to mingle with people from different backgrounds due to the universality of the language. The curriculum is designed to hone the comprehension, pronunciation, vocabulary and grammatical accuracy of the students. By means of group activities, it also aimed at improving their interpersonal communication and making them confident in conversing in english.

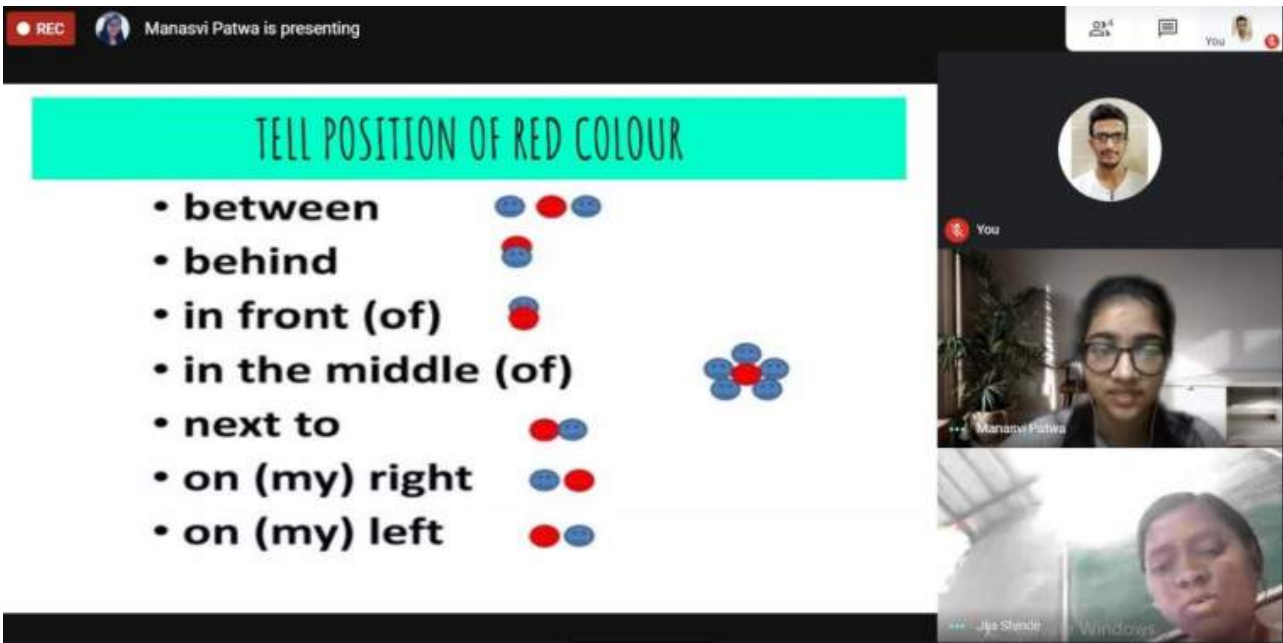
Grammar is being given a lot of attention as it forms the basis of the entire language, making it's understanding critical. The theoretical and practical aspects of english were given equal importance. Storytelling is one of the critical aspects which is

being honed in this curriculum. The narrative however revolves around describing how to do a particular task or just describing an object, alongside the traditional structure followed in the aspect of storytelling. Talking about his experience in the initial sessions which also involved reading and storytelling, Yash Raje (D10A) said, “I’ve taught English to my mentee for about two weeks. At first it seemed slightly difficult, but I also started learning with him. In the process, not only did my communication skills but also the authenticity of my native language improved to help him better understand how things work in English. At the end of the day the thing that matters the most is making an impact and contributing towards a better future and I am really grateful to SoRT-VESIT and weCHANGE who gave me an opportunity to do so.”

The lessons have fun activities incorporated into them to maintain the energy level of the stu-



"The Tortoise and the Hare" story being verbalized by Sahil Deshmukh (D7A)



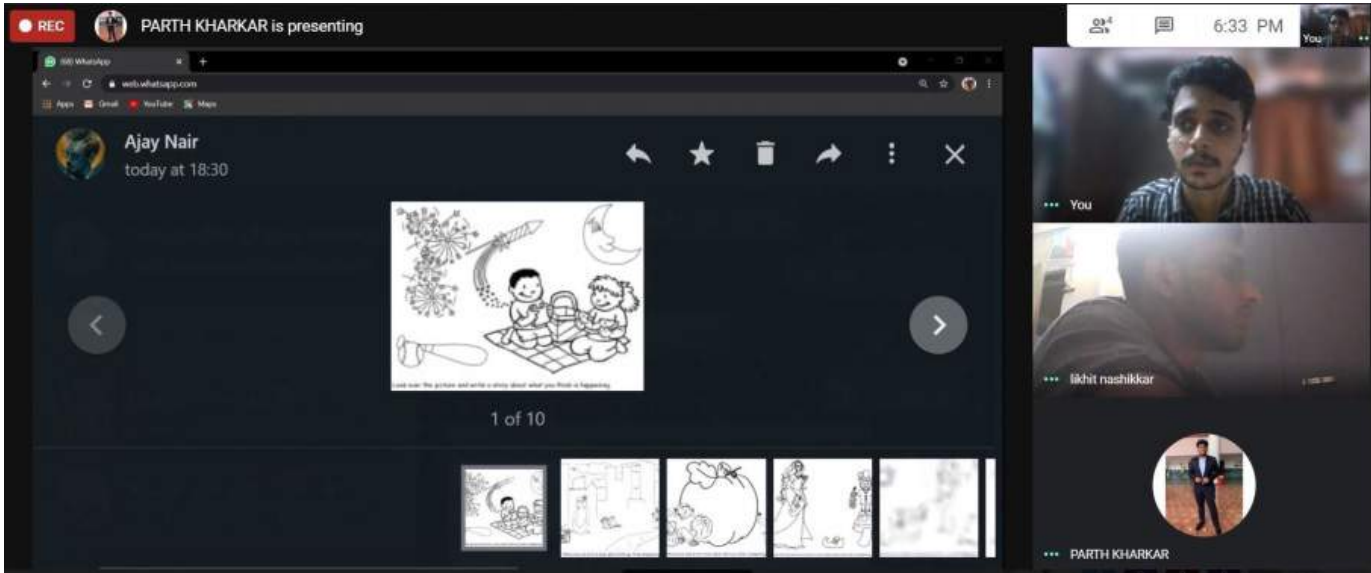
Prepositions being taught by Manasvini Patwa (D7C) using visual representations

dents and make sure that their lectures are educational and enjoyable. The activities would furthermore improve the overall engagement of the

students, especially the ones who have a relatively lower attention span. Public speaking was another focus point under which they will be giving speech-

es in front of their classmates to improve their confidence. Another activity that is being conducted is role playing in order to explain miscommunication and its downfalls. One of the mentors, Gargi Khanvilkar (D9A) also shared her experience through this course and she stated, ""The objective of Project Saksham is teaching underprivileged children, and for me, it has been the best thing that has happened to me during this pandemic! I have never taught anyone but I realized that stepping out of my comfort zone to help someone is much better than being in my comfort zone. Now I can understand how much effort the teachers are taking to teach everyone. I am so happy to be a part of this project"

The course focuses on the overall development of the students with emphasis on the long term positive implications of this program. It aims to hone their understanding of the English language with the hopes of shattering the language barriers so that nothing will hold them back from achieving their dreams.



Under the guidance of Ajay Nair (D7A), the student describes the scenario displayed in the picture

Societies

CSI PHP & Laravel Workshop

-Sristi Sharma & Bhavesh Lohana

In our new digitally driven world where one has to adapt to the rapid advancements, has inevitably given rise to the need to skill oneself to various technologies, one of which the most essential is Web Development. Hence, CSI organized a workshop for students seeking to make the most out of their weekends. The workshop aimed to familiarise students with one of the most popular frameworks

which would enable them to build robust and swift web applications.

The workshop was conducted in two sessions - on 20th and 21st February, 2021 from 11:00am to 1:00 pm through Google Meet.

The workshop was free to all members of CSI-VESIT. The registration link via Google Forms was sent to all members a week before the day of

the workshop.

The instructors for the two day workshop were Pooja Koshti (D12A), Bhavesh Lohana (D12C), Etisha Mathurvaishya (D12C) and Swarangi Dali (D12C). They explored through the abstract idea and explained the basics behind the working of a webpage. The pace was adjusted so that the attendees could work along with the in-

structors. In case of any doubt or query raised by the attendees, they were immediately addressed via chat or any other communication they preferred.

Day one of the workshop began with an Introduction to PHP basics by Pooja Koshti. Topics like Functions and Array were also covered and implemented for a sound understanding of PHP. The other half of the session was instructed by Bhavesh Lohana who trained the attendees on Database connection and queries on MySQL.

The second day of the workshop started with a detailed study on the Laravel framework by Etisha Mathurvaishya. Laravel is a web framework that attempts to dilute the process of development by easing common tasks used in the majority of web projects, such as authentication, routing, sessions, and caching. In the next session, the attend-

ees were trained on various applications of Laravel along with database connectivity with phpmyadmin by the speaker of this session, Swarangi Dali.

The two-day workshop ended on a high note with immense interest in the topic by the attendees and several positive feedbacks for the workshop. Said Hanish Valecha (D10B), one of the participants, "As a beginner to web development, it was intimidating to go through so many frameworks and technologies on my own. This particular workshop has given me all the knowledge I require and has enabled me to take up my projects with ease. The speakers were very insightful and every doubt was being cleared. I am looking forward to similar workshops by CSI".



Top(L to R): Pooja Koshti (D12A), Bhavesh Lhana (D12C). Bottom(L to R): Etisha Mathurvaishya (D12C), Swarangi Dali (D12C).

CSI-VESIT's Workshop on Bootstrap

-Sristi Sharma & Bhavesh Lohana

With a rise in web development, Bootstrap has become quite popular. CSI-VESIT conducted its Bootstrap workshop on 28th February, 2021 which was a session to guide the students to create web applications and pages using Bootstrap. The session was conducted on Google Meet, where more than 80 members attended the workshop.

Bootstrap is a front-end framework for developing responsive and mobile-first websites. It's an easier way to build the front-end of a website. This workshop was primarily conducted by the junior council of CSI-VESIT. The workshop began with Jr. Technical Officer, Aniket Dewnani (D7B), introducing the basics of HTML, followed by important concepts in CSS including some impor-



Aniket Dewnani (D7B), Mihir Rane (D7B) conducted the session



Poster for CSI-VESIT's workshop on Bootstrap

tant properties. The rest of the workshop was conducted by Jr. Web Editor, Mihir Rane (D7B), who highlighted the uses of Bootstrap and how it can be used. He also demonstrated Bootstrap by building the front-end of a restaurant website, including numerous features such as Google Maps, a number of customer reviews, etc.

At the end of the day, the participants were

able to learn basic concepts of HTML, CSS and Bootstrap to be applied for a socially interactive web application. One of the participants, Neha Vaswani (D7B) said, "I was so eager to learn to make a website, but didn't know it was so easy to create one using Bootstrap just by knowing some basics and obvious concepts. Looking forward to more of these workshops".

CSI-VESIT's WLAN Gaming

-Vedant Sawant & Bhavesh Lohana

With the internal assessments right around the corner and the exam stress over the roof, CSI-VESIT conducted their most popular event WLAN Gaming. The mega-event was held from 1st March to 6th March 2021. As the pandemic drove everything online, the entire event was conducted on Google Meet. The event witnessed a huge amount of participation in all the games that were held. Non-members were also allowed to participate by paying a nominal fee for each game.

The games that were conducted were Call of Duty Mobile, Valorant, DOTA2, CS:GO, and Rocket League. Each game experienced participation in huge numbers. A whopping 45 people participated in teams of 5 to play Valorant, a 5v5 multiplayer

character-based team game. While the battle royale game Call of Duty Mobile had 30 participants. PvP games such as Rocket League and DOTA 2 had 15 and 10 participants respectively.

On the first day of the event, the first slot of Rocket League was conducted. On the following day, the Call of Duty Mobile elimination rounds were conducted. Along with that, the quarter-finals of Valorant and the second slot of Rocket League was also conducted where several teams competed to secure their place in the finals. The finalists of Rocket League competed against each other later that same day. The semi-finals of Valorant and eliminations of DOTA2 were conducted on 3rd March followed by the finals of DOTA2 and Call of Duty Mobile on 5th March. The highly anticipated Valorant



Rocket League winner: Gurudatt Gaonkar (D12B)

Valorant was conducted on 6th March where Team Jatin Acharya faced Team Aditya Khomane in a nail-biting contest where the former team edged past their opponents.

Gurudatt Gaonkar (D12B) described the event as, “CSI did an amazing job conducting such a huge event online without any mix-up. Also, I got the opportunity to play and win one of my favourite games, Rocket League. It was fun and I wouldn’t mind more of these events by CSI! ”.

Games	Winner	Runner-up
CODM	Jayesh Kriplani and team (D15)	-
DOTA2	Atharva Godse (D11A)	-
Valorant	Jatin Acharya and team (D20)	Aditya Khomane and team (D7A)
Rocket League	Gurudatt Gaonkar (D12B)	-

ISA Be&Beyond Workshop

-Siddhi Bhosale & Gaurav Govilkar

ISA-VESIT conducted a two day interactive workshop 'BE and Beyond' on 20th and 21st February,2021. The workshop was an insight into the opportunities and challenges after college graduation. There was an introduction and information to competitive exams like GATE and GRE along with the placement process in college. The workshop not only gave students the chance to know but also to experience the mock placement process

First day had two sessions with a diverse set of speakers who shared their strategies and experiences with the students. **Mr. Souvik Saha** and **Ms. Shubhangi B** shared their plan of action for acing the GRE exam and provided valuable insights into TOEFL/IELTS preparation. **Mr. Varun Chotani** made everyone aware of the latest trends in the world of MBA and provided a blueprint to crack the CAT exam and secure their dream B-school. Ms Sakshi Kulkarni provided golden tips to qualify the GATE examination. **Mr Kalpesh Bhole** made the attendees privy to the latest placement rules and trends of the ongoing online placement season. **Ms. Suruchi Singh** candidly explained the to-dos for a non-IT student to secure an IT job. Mr. Yajnesh Shetty unraveled the mystery of getting into JPMC which is the most coveted job on the campus.

The second day of the workshop was a virtual placement process which started off with a proctored online aptitude test. All the participants who managed to pass this test entered the virtual



Speakers of BE&Beyond workshop. Top(L to R): Mr. Souvik Saha, Ms. Shubhangi B and Mr. Varun Chotani Bottom(L to R): Mr Kalpesh Bhole, Ms. Suruchi Singh and Mr. Yajnesh Shetty

hiring round.This helped the students feel the rush of clearing their aptitude and preparing for the interview on the very same day. Om Shetty, a second year Electronics student said “It was a very clear and concise workshop which gave a deep insight on the career and educational opportunities after BE.” .

Speakers from day 1, interviewed all the qualified participants. After the interview, all the candidates were given points to improve, so that they can be completely ready at the time of actual placement season.

ISA IoT Mains Workshop

-Siddhi Bhosale & Gaurav Govilkar

ISA-VESIT successfully launched its first IoT kit on 9th February 2021. After an overwhelming response to its initiative and to help its members get started with working on hardware kits and projects, ISA-VESIT conducted a two-day workshop "IoT Workshop - MAINS" on the 27th and 28th of February, 2021 on the online platform Google Meet. The workshop was conducted by **Sahil Shewale** (D13, Jr. Public Relations Officer at ISA-VESIT), **Raj Talashilkar** (D11A, Secretary at ISA-VESIT), **Abhijeet Gaonkar** (D13)(Jr. Editor at ISA-VESIT) and **Amogh Sadhu** (D13, Technical Executive at ISA-VESIT). A total of 67 students participated in the Workshop.

The first day of the workshop began with a detailed description of the components provided in the kits and a brief introduction about the 'Internet of Things'. A separate detailed explanation about the NodeMCU board was also included in the first session which registered a positive re-

sponse from the attendees and primed them for the projects that were taught later in the workshop . After the theory session, the workshop commenced with a basic 'LED blinking' project. Furthermore, another project based on components in the Generic kit was taught and the basics of the same were made clear for the participants. Finally, the attendees were given a challenge that put their knowledge to test and the winners got a shoutout on ISA-VESIT's Instagram account.

After the immense response received on the first day, the second day started with discussing a plethora of opportunities that abound in the Internet of Things(IoT). It continued with an explanation on the concepts related to the components in the Premium kit, the importance of datasheets, and why it is a good habit to refer to the datasheet of the components. The participants were guided through several projects on the second day as well. When asked about her experi-



Top(L to R): Sahil Shewale (D13), Raj Talashilkar (D11A). Bottom(L to R): Abhijeet Gaonkar (D13) and Amogh Sadhu (D13)

ence of the workshop, Madhura Padge (D8) said, "I thoroughly learned the concepts of IoT and the kit provided hands-on experience with the various hardware components and kudos to ISA for arranging the kits amid the pandemic".

The workshop concluded by giving the attendees various ideas on how they can implement the knowledge received from the workshop to create their very own project. After a productive weekend the participants rejoiced at the fact that they got to work with hands-on hardware after a long time.



Participants exhibiting their working models on camera as they complete the task given by the tutors

ISA IoT Advanced Workshop

-Siddhi Bhosale & Gaurav Govilkar

With a stupendous response received in the "IoT- Workshop- MAINS", ISA-VESIT geared up for the advanced version of the IoT Workshop series. ISA-VESIT conducted a two-day workshop "IoT Workshop-ADVANCED" on the 20th and 21st of March, 2021. The workshop was conducted by **Prithvi Shetty** (D18, Vice President at ISA-VESIT), **Amogh Sadhu** (D13, Technical Executive at ISA-VESIT), **Abhijeet Gaonkar** (D13, Jr. Editor at ISA-VESIT) and **Jatin Dandelia** (D14B, Technical Officer at ISA-VESIT).

The Day 1 of the workshop, which beheld an exuberant participation of students, started off with an explanation of the components provided in the Premium kit and an in depth explanation on the PIR sensor with a basic burglar alarm project. This was followed by teaching the participants use of an IoT based web service - IFTTT apace with Arduino IDE to accustom the hardware to the web applications with the help of a simple project.

In the later part of the session, an explicit explanation on the Ultrasonic sensor was provided, followed by showcasing a distance finder - an ultrasonic sensor project. Python libraries such as VPython and Serial were used to create an interactive 3D model of working hardware on the web. These

projects inscribed a positive response from the attendees which helped them get a proactive experience on intersection of the hardware and web based applications.

The massive response received on the first day, whipped up the second day to commence with the participants taking insights on the DHT11 module. Thereafter, Temperature and Humidity Monitoring System using DHT11 sensor interfacing with web applications like Thingspeak and MIT App Inventor was taught. This was followed by the basics of MQTT and a basic project was made using it.

Subsequently, the scope of IoT was elaborated thoroughly. Participants were also educated on choosing the right microcontroller for a project. This was accompanied by a comprehensive discussion on the numerous IoT Technologies and Controllers present in the market and their comparison.

Being a project-oriented workshop, the two-day session wrapped up with a discussion of the streaked projects that can be implemented with the IoT kits and gave the attendees varied ideas on how they can implement the skills gathered from the workshop to create their very own projects. "The workshop was very well organized and the



Top (L to R): Prithvi Shetty (D18), Amogh Sadhu (D13). Bottom (L to R): Abhijeet Gaonkar (D13) and Jatin Dandelia (D14B)

speakers explained all the concepts very well," said Hrutika Pakhale (D8). The splendid performance of the participants in the workshop made it a great success.

ISTE-VESIT CODEATHON

-Hriddesh Kamal and Palak Garg

ISTE-VESIT conducted its competitive coding event - CODEATHON on February 21, 2021, at 3 PM. The event was held exclusively for TEs and MCA 2nd Year ISTE members. The event aimed at providing students with a great opportunity to become familiar with the placement coding assessment questions and format.

The Codeathon was conducted in the form of a mock coding test conducted on the HackerRank platform. In this event, the participating students were given two questions each to test their problem-solving skills. The time allotted for solving the assignment was 90 minutes and every submission was screened and evaluated using the HackerRank platform.

Over 50 students challenged themselves to solve the questions. All the participants received a detailed report covering their performance on both the problem statements assigned to them. The report aimed to help them analyse and work on their weak points to be in the best position for their actual placement coding rounds.



Poster for ISTE-VESIT's Codeathon

ISTE Big Data Workshop

ISTE-VESIT conducted a two-day workshop on "Introduction to Big Data" on 6th and 7th March 2021. The workshop was conducted through Google Meet, open for all ISTE members. The speaker for the first day was ISTE-VESIT's Chief Technical Officer, **Anshul Chaudhary (D20)**. The second day's proceedings were headed by ISTE-VESIT's senior technical officer, **Shubham Darekar (D20)**.

As most of the students were new to big data, the workshop started with the basics. The topics covered in the sessions included the introduction to big data Hadoop, followed by the Hadoop ecosystem and Hadoop architecture. Hadoop is an Apache open-source framework written in Java that allows distributed processing of large datasets across clusters of computers using simple programming models.

Later, participants were familiarized with HDFS (Hadoop Distributed File System), importing data into HDFS, Spark and RDDs (Resilient Distributed Datasets). Finally, the session covered processing data and algorithms in Spark.

"The event was amazing in the way it brought the complex world of Big Data to complete beginners in little chunks which made it easy to comprehend. It helped make the concept less daunting and gave me the curiosity to explore it on my own", said Srushti Jagtap (D9B).

Over 70 students attended the workshop. Any issues or doubts that arose during the event were promptly handled by ISTE-VESIT's Tech Team in the Meet as well as through dedicated WhatsApp groups for the event. ISTE-VESIT was

-Hridesh Kamal and Palak Garg



Speakers: Anshul Chaudhary (D20) and Shubham Darekar (D20)

pleased to see the positive response and enthusiasm shown by the attendees and abided by the feedback given by everyone.

ISTE Study Abroad Webinar

There's a lot to be learned from reading your textbooks, but there's also more to an education than just attending classes. ISTE-VESIT organized a GRE Guidance Session on February 19, 2021 at 3pm to gear up your dreams. Travelling and studying abroad offers students the chance to gain the real-life skills to succeed both personally and professionally. Most students hope to find their dream job after successfully completing their degree.

The speaker for the session - **Prof. K.P Singh**, CEO and Founder of IMFS (The Institute of Management and Foreign Studies) guided students through hindrances faced during applying for universities abroad, for higher studies, and the GRE exam. He specializes in training students for the Verbal section of the GRE/ GMAT/ SAT, tests and enables students to study in the US/ Canada/ Australia/ Europe and other destinations across the

world. He is the Chief Mentor and the Head of the Verbal Reasoning Department at IMFS.

Topics that were discussed are

- Countries and stay back options
- Studying abroad
- Exams needed for MS/MBA/PhD
- Job opportunities after MS

The session opened their minds to the various opportunities related to further studies and how scholarships can help them financially. This session included information about the competitive exams like GRE and TOFEL/IELTS. The session was attended by 110 aspiring students. After the session, an efficient amount of time was allocated to resolve all the doubts students had.

One of the participants, Yash Bhise (D9B) said "The session was very informative. It helped me understand about the necessary competitive exams and the complete procedure for applying

-Hridesh Kamal and Palak Garg



speaker for the session - Prof. K.P Singh, CEO and Founder of IMFS (The Institute of Management and Foreign Studies)

to educational opportunities outside India. On the whole the session helped me gain interest in further studies and going abroad."

ISTE Returns with the Annual Placement Week

With placements around the corner, ISTE-VESIT extended support to not only its members but also the non-members. The council gave the students a chance to practice for their placement sessions and prepared them for their real match. The ISTE Placement Week started off with the seminar on Placement procedures on 19th March 2021. ISTE-VESIT's BE council guided the students and also ensured all of their doubts were cleared.

The whole event consisted of three rounds. Once the students understood the gist of it, an aptitude test was conducted the next day. It tested the critical thinking and problem-solving skills of the students. Those who cleared the cutoffs were qualified to attempt round 2 - the coding test. Here, the students were required to prove their coding skills by handling the questions put forward by the council.

Top performing students were filtered to appear for the interviews which were conducted on the next day, 21st March 2021. Students tested their commercial awareness and communication skills by putting themselves under the experts' scrutiny. For the technical interviews, **Muskan Raisinghani** (CMPN Department - Batch of 2020), **Anshul Chaudhary** (D20), **Shubham Darekar** (D20), and **Chinmay Patil** (CMPN Department - Batch of

2020) asked the students about their coding capabilities and knowledge about various languages and software to get the best out of them.

Ms. Akshaya Wadekar (HR, ICICI Home Finance) was invited to help the students get the professional touch to their mock HR interviews. All the participants took away the experience and guidance for their placement sessions. ISTE-VESIT declared the winners of Placement week to appreciate and boost the confidence of some exceptional participants.

"The event was an excellent opportunity



Ms. Akshaya Wadekar (HR, ICICI Home Finance)

-Hridesh Kamal



Top to Bottom: (L-R) Chinmay Patil (CMPN - Batch of 2020) and Muskan Raisinghani (CMPN - Batch of 2020) Anshul Chaudhary (D20), Shubham Darekar (D20)

to get informed about the procedures regarding placements and provide us students some practice regarding the same. Further, getting a glimpse of what to expect in these mocks helped make me more confident about facing the real placement interviews" said Sagar Pujari (D9B)

SE Winners:

Sreekesh Iyer (D10A), Vaibhavi Jadhav (D10A)

TE Winners:

Rohan Ghosalkar (D12C), Sejal Budhani (D12A)

IEEE: Women in Engineering

-Arnab Saha

An Essay Writing Competition was held by the 'Women in Engineering' section of IEEE-VESIT for the academic year 2020-21, during International Women's Week.

The competition was announced on the 24th of February, 2021 and the submissions were accepted till the 4th of March, 2021. The participants had to write an essay of approximately 700 words, expressing the changes that they'll bring about in their workplace or educational institute, assuming that they were holding a position in the organisation.

The competition saw participants highlighting key issues faced by women on daily basis. The participants brought about concrete ideas as solutions to each of the problems. The entries were

accepted through google forms in pdf format and the last date of submission was 4th March.

The result was announced on International Women's Day, i.e., on the 8th of March. The 1st place was bagged by Mallika Kulkarni from D14B. The runner up position was shared by Yash Mate from D17B and Arnab Saha from D14B, followed by Nidhi Nair from D8 as the second runner up.

In the words of Mallika Kulkarni (D14B), "Writing has always made me happy! IEEE gave us an opportunity to write about what changes we must make to make an institute more friendly and warm for women. Using the platform to voice our concerns and solutions for the same was an enthralling experience altogether. Moreover, I loved winning for the article and presenting solutions!"



Winners of the event (Top-Bottom: L-R) Mallika Kulkarni (D14B), Yash Mate (D17B), Arnab Saha (D14B) & Nidhi Nair (D8)

IEEE: Online Treasure Hunt

-Arnab Saha & Kaushal Jagasia

The Online Treasure Hunt, known to be one of the biggest events of IEEE-VESIT was administered by the council with full enthusiasm followed by maximum participation from students from all branches and societies.

The Online Treasure Hunt was a 24-hour event, starting from 20th February 2021 at 8 pm. The event concluded on 21st February 2021 at 8:00 pm. The participants had to answer questions of varying degrees of difficulty weaved into a storyline written by the Council themselves. The first challenge for the participants was a set of aptitude questions. After they clear this first stage, the participants were divided into two domains namely CMPN/IT and EXTC/ETRX/INST, and the questions were posed accordingly. The questions were designed in such a way that it was not possible for the participants to get the desired answer by accessing any of the resources such as the internet or books - thus making the questions more difficult. More than 230 students participated in the event.

Day 1: The event started on 20th February 2021 at 8 pm. The website was accessible through all devices (mobile/ laptop/tablets) and supported all browsers. The event was free for the members as well as the non - members of the council.

Day 2: The event was continued the next day i.e., on 21st February 2021 as there was no break in between, the participants were free to log in anytime they want on the website. Finally 6 students, 3 from each domain, who completed the event with the highest score were declared the winners.

Praneel Rastogi (D12C), Shalaka Waghmare (D10) and Ninad Rao (D10) emerged victorious from CMPN/IT while Arnab Saha (D14B), Sahil Salian (D14B) and Sristi Kushwaha (D14B) took home the honours from EXTC/ETRX/INST.

"It was an exhilarating experience solving some of the most cryptic & seemingly un-googleable questions over 24 hours. All the questions had an equal balance between the technical as well as 'fun' stuff which made us scratch our heads and



The winners of this year's OTH!

challenged our problem-solving abilities. Thoroughly enjoyed participating and winning this event as it coerced one to cudgel one's brain within a time crunch and acquired some of the uncommon knowledge about the technology and industry." said Sahil Salian (D14B)

Experiencing AI & ML with ISTE's Machinera

-Hrideshi Kamal

ISTE-VESIT kickstarted a fresh initiative for the 2020-21 academic session under the name of 'Machinera'. Machinera - an AI series that is divided into various courses, rose as a place where students get to learn a wide range of concepts under the umbrella of AI. The initiative aimed to provide students with insights on the building blocks of Machine Learning from scratch. As several concepts in the domain are tough to cover over a short period, the team at ISTE-VESIT organised Machinera over multiple sessions. The series started on 24th October 2020 with Machinera Course 1 and wrapped up on 14th February 2021 with Machinera Course 3.

Course 1: Python in Data Science

On 24th October 2020, ISTE-VESIT hosted the first course of the Machinera series through Google Meet. This event was open for all SEs alongside the ISTE members of TE, BE and MCA. The first course was divided into two sessions. The first session was led by Amit Chhabria (D12C) and the



Speakers of the event (L-R): Akash Maurya (D15) and Amit Chhabria (D12C)

speaker for the second session was **Akash Maurya (D15)**.

This course, titled "Python In Data Science" included the basics of Machine Learning. The topics involved fundamental data science applications of Python libraries NumPy and Pandas and introduction to Object-Oriented methodologies. The course wrapped up with participants learning data visualization using Matplotlib and Seaborn Library.

Course 2: Web Scraping and Data Preprocessing

After a hiatus, Machinera returned with its second course on Machine Learning. Like Course 1, Course 2 was conducted over two sessions spread between 6th and 7th Feb 2021. The first session was taken by **Aditya Kotkar (D15)** while Rohan Pol (D15) led the second session.

This course was titled 'Web Scraping and Data Preprocessing'. Topics explored during the event included Web Scraping which covered con-



Speakers of the event (L-R): Aditya Kotkar (D15), Srajan Shetty (D15) and Rohan Pol (D15)



ISTE Machinera 3.0 Poster

cepts like XPath, CSS Selectors, BeautifulSoup, Selenium and Scrapy. Further, participants were familiarised with Data Preprocessing, which includes Data Handling, encoding Categorical Data, Training-Test set generation and Feature Scaling.

Course 3: AI Foundation - Model Training

The third course of Machinera was conducted on 13th and 14th February 2020 via Google Meet. The first session was conducted by **Srajan Shetty (D15)**, while Aditya Kotkar returned to lead the second session of Course 3.

The Machinera Course 3 was titled 'AI Foundation - Model Training'. The sessions covered training Machine Learning models using supervised learning and unsupervised learning. The training models showcased to the participants included Regression, Decision Tree, K-Nearest Neighbors, Support Vector Machine and Random

Forest Classification.

Through this series ISTE-VESIT aimed at making students aware of the new and upcoming developments in the field of technology. Further, it tried to develop a basic understanding of the building blocks of AI as presented in terms of intelligent agents: search, knowledge representation, inference, logic and learning among students.

"I have been interested in the idea of concepts like AI and Machine learning for a long time. However, with the extensive amount of content covering these topics, studying online can be overwhelming or even distracting at times. The Machinera series helped a lot as a stepping stone in these domains", said Vaishnavi Shetty (D9B). All three sessions were filled with a great learning experience for the students. The courses saw a great number of participants and it turned out to be a successful series of workshops.

VESIT Voice

-Atharva Gupte

Marching into the month, everyone at VESIT is hustling and bustling as this month is full of celebrations and activities. With the overhanging fear of the pandemic, all the workshops, webinars, technical events, and celebrations are virtual.

The Industrial Automation magazine featured our honorable principal **Dr. J. M. Nair**, along with 17 other leading women in their March 2021 edition. With the campaign theme as 'ChooseTo Challenge', Women Development Cell of VESIT celebrated the International Women's Day. A quiz was organized by VESIT's Library Department to honor the Marathi language on Marathi Bhasha Diwas. EXTC Tinkerer's held an Arduino training workshop and a session on Current Research Trends in Machine Learning was conducted by the CMPN Dept. Our Students won laurels in the SAMVAAD Debate competition and PCGT's 1st ever Conclave.

VESIT warmly welcomed all the newbies and conducted the 1st ever online fresher's event Prarambh. VDC and VESLit Circle also organized events to break the ice with the freshers. To keep abreast with emerging technologies and the changing virtual world, the technical societies of VESIT i.e. IEEE, ISA, ISTE & CSI, conducted a plethora of workshops and events about IoT, Web Development, Big Data, Machine learning, Hackathons, etc. Along with future guidance through GRE sessions, placement week and many more events. In the Musings & Expressions section, we have the 75 Years of Independence series starting from March-August.

In the VESIT Diaries, we interact with **Ms Vidya Kailasam** who graduated from VESIT in 2003 from the Department of Electronics and Telecommunication. She is a Business Leader who has worked with some very prominent companies and brands. She talks about her time in VESIT and her journey in leadership positions.

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Natarajan

"One individual may die for an idea, but that idea will, after his death, incarnate itself in a thousand lives"

— Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

Musings And Expressions

75 Years of Independence

The tears of happiness the birds flying up in the sky,
Thanks to the fearless leaders, who faced it all making tough times pass by.
There may be many things, can't be lived without,
But freedom is what I cherish the most without any doubt.

Truly, one cannot challenge the inestimable value of freedom whose worth is known to those who lost their loved ones while fighting for it. Today, India, the land of rich diversity, Prosperity, and unity is about to mark the completion of its 75th year of independence which is an outcome of victory of freedom from adversity and endurance given by deplorable and reprehensible Britishers, who invaded our land with egocentric desires. It is beyond belief that we are just 25 years away from the feat of completing a century. But before envisaging, we must go through these 75 years.

Few lines of a poem read:

Never ask what my country has done for me,
Millions died, millions cried just to get free.
Those atrocious fires, off the cuff attacks,
The crestfallen faces, dead bodies' stacks.
Bearing the brutal behaviour and all those bloody stains,
All those innocent sobs that went through after bearing pains.

These lines explicitly bring a heart-rending image of the struggle for Indian Independence. Among a mass population of 3 crores, roughly 22 thousand edged forward for letting their country free from the deplorable reign of Britishers and these are the ones whose names are revered in our golden memories. After a long and difficult freedom struggle, India attained its independence from British rule in 1947. But this independence brought a massive change to the Indian map. A new state of Pakistan with portions of Western and Eastern India was taken away from the map.

As a matter of fact, every coin has two sides, the reign of the British Parliament turned our nation into a democratic country. India inherited the legacy of the system of the British rule of administration, an army, and a democratic form of government based on the government of India act of 1935. Most important was the fact that our country retained the name India that is BHARAT.

This time span has been a period of towering changes that were substantial in the field of technology, education, agriculture, socio-economic sectors and some space improvement programmes. Prominent one of which is the Agricultural sector taking into account the fact that India is a major agricultural country. Who in India has never heard of Green Revolution! Green revolution was efficacious in tackling the crisis of feeding such an over-exploding population with such a limited land under cultivation. It was once a time when India was suffering from the shackles of poverty, illiteracy, and casteism. It was essential for our country to break these shackles and bring the communities separated by castes under one nation.

This task was gratified by the laws enforced by our new Constitution, which has chapters on fundamental rights, adult suffrage, child abuse in addition to casteism. This Constitution has proved to be a boon for Dalits or untouchables. When we speak of advancements in education sectors, knowledge has inevitably unbonded us from the clutches of superstitions and illiteracy.

Considering the wide aspects of independence, we must Ponder: Are we truly liberated? Are we independent from the confinements of illiteracy, poverty, untouchability, gender inequality? Are women fairly independent to match their shoulders with men? Has every citizen of our country been granted fundamental rights? Does every poor's voice reach the government? At last, we must contemplate the fact that we are staunchly worthy of the sacrifices of our martyrs?

मजदूर

वो हमारा देश सजायेगा
और मीलो दूर पैदल जायेगा
वो अपने बच्चे को बिस्किट खिलायेगा
और खुद खाली पेट सो जायेगा
वह चमकती धूप में अपने आंसू सुखायेगा
और ठंडी रात में भी सो ना पायेगा
वो हर पल गभरायेगा
क्या वो घर जा पायेगा?
या एक ट्रक से कुचला जाएगा
हर उगता सूरज एक आशा दे जायेगा
कि आज वह घर जायेगा
वो फिर मुस्कुराएगा और चलता जायेगा
क्यों वो मजदूर है
क्योंकि वो एक मजदूर है



Karina Inder Karira (D2A)



अर्जुन शर्मा (D19B)

VESIT Diaries

-Anushka Kulkarni

This month we are in conversation with **Ms. Vidya Kailasam** who graduated from VESIT in 2003 from the Department of Electronics and Telecommunication. She is a Business Leader who has worked with some very prominent companies and brands such as Coca Cola, Britannia, Oreo etc. and is presently working in Mondelez International as Digital Marketing Excellence Lead. Here she talks about her time at VESIT and her interesting journey in leadership positions.

How was your college life at VESIT?

The best 4 years of my life where I made friends for life, my earliest memory of VESIT was how it had almost “school like rules”, no bunking etc and we were all relatively more “sincere” as compared to the rest of our friends in other Engg colleges. VESIT was intensely competitive, high on rigour and I think I really realised my capacity to participate in multiple activities and yet manage the time for academics. Most of my batchmates “multi tasked” with ease which held us in good stead for many years to come

What is the importance of extracurricular activities in a student’s life and what were some activities you pursued while in college?

I played Badminton and Carrom in college - I had never played Carrom before VESIT and was a regular in College Debates. I think it is very important to have a good balance of academics and find time to pursue some of your interests outside academics especially when VESIT was such a fertile place for such opportunities. It helped me build networks, learn “multi tasking” and really build my confidence in pursuing unfamiliar areas.

How was your experience of doing an MBA from XLRI-Jamshedpur? What was your inspiration for the career shift?

I was keen to pursue an opportunity that builds on the rigour of a technical degree from VESIT and also open up myself to sectors beyond Telecommunication. XLRI was a huge jumpshift in terms of culture being my first “hostel experience”; it gave

me a grounding in business concepts around finance, operations and allied areas apart from marketing which have helped me work across sectors/ industries. I have built social and work networks that straddle various kinds of businesses - established and startups which I have leveraged in multiple ways thus far.

You have been working in leading positions of some very prominent Multinational Companies. What has it been like for you and what is the key to accomplish such professional success?

To me the key to success in any organization - be it MNC or otherwise is to be able to take your team along and create a “win- win” situation for all key stakeholders in any situation. Building clarity for the team and motivating them to achieve a common goal can be both enriching and rewarding for everyone

What does a very busy day in your life look like, and what does a 'relaxed day' look like?

A busy day would start with a run or a workout in the morning followed by going through the schedule for the day and planning for the day - the day could have meetings, key presentations etc. and managing to catch sometime to play with my kids in the evening.

A relaxed day would still start with a workout followed by some freshly brewed coffee, reading a book or an OTT series or a CH session, playing with my children and cooking a meal for them

What are some underrated qualities/skills that are very essential for people in leadership positions?

The most underrated quality is an ability to drive a decision within the team for any problem

How have you continued to grow and develop as a leader, what are your current goals and what questions are you asking yourself lately?

Current Goals are to ensure that the vision I have for my work area has been communicated to my



Ms. Vidya Kailasam

team and they are fully onboard with it. The questions I therefore ask myself centre around this

Women have demonstrated great leadership skills yet there aren’t as many women in leadership positions today, what according to you will help in changing this?

Women need active sponsors within the organization who can set up systems and processes that can solve for various breaks women tend to take for the family including maternity etc without impacting their progress

What do you think is a very important thing that students, who are passing out from college, should keep in mind before charting their career path?

Be very single minded about your goals at any given point of time ; goals and aims of careers and life keep evolving, just be true to what you want to do and learn to adapt. Agility is an important life skill

Message for the new generation at VESIT!
“Darr ke aagey jeet hai!”

"Freedom is never dear at any price. It is the breath of life. What would a man not pay for living?"

— Mahatama Gandhi