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Notable Achievement of UBA Team - VESIT

-Manasi Nerurkar

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is a flagship program of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. It is inspired by the vision of transformational change in the rural areas of India through the means of development by the influence of the premier institutions in order to formulate and architect an Inclusive India.

The foremost mission of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is to enable and equip the higher educational institutions to work alongside people of rural India in order to bridge the major developmental disconnections between rural and urban sectors. This program would aid the institutes in identifying development challenges and conceiving innovative solutions in order to accelerate growth.

Vivekanand Education Society's Institute of Technology has previous worked under this flagship program in 2019, wherein students of VESIT, led by the social responsibility team (SoRT) VESIT, alongside 12 teacher volunteers who were guided by the institute co-ordinator for the UBA, **Mrs. Manisha Joshi** (Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics and Telecommunication), visited these villages in order to understand the primary issues faced by the villagers and devised innovative solutions to resolve the same.



VESIT UBA Co-ordinator :
Mrs. Manisha Joshi (Assistant Professor, EXTC)

Vada taluka of Palghar district. Team members of UBA (Ambiste Kh) team: **Dr. Gresha Bhatia** (Deputy Head, Department of Computer Engineering), **Mrs. Indu Dokare** (Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering) and **Dr. Sushil Dhuldhhar** (Assistant Professor, Department of H&A).

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), Ministry of Education (MoE) had also organised "Poster Making Competition" for creating awareness regarding COVID-19 pandemic at regional level. Out of the 46 entries received, two entries were from VESIT. Five posters were shortlisted by the VESIT team and two were sent for the competition. The entries in the competition were initially scrutinized and shortlisted by RCI staff based on the following aspects - Theme appropriateness, creativity, clarity in message, design and format. The short-listed entries were further evaluated by a team of independent and expert jury members. Poster of **Pooja Narayanan** (D9A) from VESIT was selected by the team and awarded the second prize. All participants received a certificate by UBA Team, comprising of CTARA IIT Bombay (RCI-MH (Konkan & Pune), Goa & DNH)



Poster by Pooja Narayanan (D9A)

Serial no.	Title of the proposal	Status of the proposal	Comments from SEG/NCI
1	Installing Sanitary Pad Dispensing and Disposing Machines	SEG-Waiting at SEG NCI:-	SEG- NCI:-
2	e-Learning	SEG-Waiting at SEG NCI:-	SEG- NCI:-
3	Surya Sakshamta: Pragati Ka Sulabh Marg	SEG-Processed by SEG, waiting at CI NCI:-	SEG:-Under this area the fund maximum limit is INR. 50,000/- (added on date:- 2021-03-10 15:40:58) NCI:-
4	Bio Toilet: An Ecological Initiative	SEG-Waiting at SEG NCI:-	SEG- NCI:-

Screenshot of financial aid received

The Unnat Bharat Abhiyan team had sent 4 proposals for villages (Aamgaon, Ambiste Kh, Gargaon and Aapti) under "Technology development proposals" in the academic year 2020-2021. Estimated costing of each proposal was Rs.1,00,000. After the village survey conducted in 2019, the team is glad to share that the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan team at VESIT received Rs 50,000 on 1st June, 2021 for the proposal "Surya Sakshamta: Pragati Ka Sulabh Marg" from the government of India for village development.

The grant will be used for implementation of the planned activity in Ambiste Kh, situated in the



Pooja Narayanan (D9A) bagged the second prize in Poster making competition.



Photo of the team along with members of the Village Panchayat, Dr. Gresha Bhatia (Deputy Head, Department of CMPN), Dr. Indu Dokare (Assistant Professor, CMPN) and Dr. Sushil Dhuldhhar (Assistant Professor, H&A)

COVID-19 Vaccination Drive

- Siddhi Bhosale

"Tough times don't last but tough people do"

To sail through these tough times, getting vaccinated is a must. VESIT in association with Surana Group of Hospitals, stepped in to help by conducting a vaccination drive from 17th June to 21st June 2021. It included all students, faculties and their families.

The registration process was done, where the details of individuals was taken and the recipients had to produce the receipt at the time of vaccination along with the college identity card. They were given the "Covishield" vaccine for both the doses.

Everything was very carefully planned according to the social distancing norms. Once the vaccination was done, people had to wait for 20 min in the waiting room. Prerak Moolchandani(D7A) who got his 1st dose from VESIT says, "Everything was perfectly planned and it was very comfortable. From the registration desk to the waiting area social distancing norms were followed everywhere. Refreshments were also made available. The complete vaccination process took barely 40-50 minutes."



Students after getting vaccinated at VESIT (Top-Bottom, L-R): Prerak Moolchandani (D7A), Nikita Joshi (D14B), Manoj Ayyappan (D12B), Mansi Kasar (D14B), Kirti Patil (D12B), Parth Tripathi (D19A)

Councils & Circles Sign Off

General Secretary Sign Off

As COVID hit us and the world went into online mode, VESIT hopped on the bandwagon to continue hosting events with the same zeal and enthusiasm as they did before. Here is **Nilesh Talreja (D17A) - General Secretary 2020-21** recounting his experience as he signs off from his post.

"Wherever you are, just make that place better than what it was before" is the quote I've tried to follow consistently. While signing up for the post of General Secretary, I made some promises to myself and the people of VESIT. Looking back, I'm very happy that my council and I were able to fulfil all of them.

Working as the General Secretary has taught me a lot of things. First and foremost is time Management. There was a time in the engineering term, in which I struggled to manage my academics because of a lack of time management skills and by the end of the engineering I was able to manage approximately 100 events with the help of my student council.

There were many new Initiatives taken this year, I would like to mention a few of them. Firstly, INVINCIA' 20, was the first event of the academic year 2020-2021 and the first event organised by the student council as a whole. With INVINCIA, came the first-ever fundraiser which was organised for Kshмата NGO.

The second big initiative taken up was VESIT's own Discord server. It aided us in bringing the entire VESIT on one platform, one place. Because of the lockdown, students were not able to socialize, councils weren't able to reach the students at once. To overcome all these problems, we thought of making the Discord server, credit of which goes to Varad Rane. Another Initiative was "The certificates bot" in which students can see all the certificates issued in their name. It also made it easy for the councils to issue the certificates, they just have to upload in the system and students will be able to see those certificates anywhere, anytime.

All of this work wouldn't have been possible without our Secretaries Ayushi, Archita, Himesh, Sahil and their respective councils. Everyone in the student council was unfamiliar when it came to organizing online events but they always thought of enhancing the events in these tough times too. I would like to thank our **Principal, Dr. Mrs. J.M Nair** and our **Vice Principal, Dr. Mrs. M. Vijayalakshmi** who always motivated us to organize more events and were always there to guide us.

When you have enough people with you who support your aim, achieving it is just a matter of time. I'm happy for everyone present in the student council for giving their all, entertaining other students and living up to their expectations in terms of events and new initiatives.



Nilesh Talreja (D17A)
General Secretary for 2020-21

All the best, to all future councils to come, do raise the bar high, after all, we all are engineers and Innovation is what we do best! This is Nilesh Talreja, signing off as General Secretary 20-21.

Thankyou!"

Cultural Secretary Sign Off

Cultural activities are the best part of one's college life. With all the events happening online this year, here is **Himesh Shadiza (D14A)** sharing his experiences as he signs off as the Cultural Secretary 2020-21.

"One more year, one more Utsav done! This definitely was the longest year. When I look back I remember the day college elections were announced. The announcements of college elections in the beginning of the year had actually surprised me, rather confused me. I was very curious about what we would do in this online scenario. Though I was a Junior Deputy Cultural Secretary in my second year, the thought of being an 'online' Cultural Secretary did scare me at first. Everything seemed uncertain and I was bewildered by the thought of managing events online. And after one whole year, I can proudly say that we, as a council, have turned these cloudy uncertainties into bright blissful events and successfully conducted not one, not two, but four mega-events under our banner.

We had a journey like no other cultural council had before. We were presented with a completely new set of challenges. We had to design new events from scratch and refurbish the older ones so that they suited the online scenario. I'm very proud of my team who took every blow that came our way and yet persevered to deliver the best that

we could. Whether it was brainstorming for nights together designing an event or working for hours to get the execution on point, my team was always prepared for the worst to deliver the best.

We did have a rocky start with CultRatri, but we have come a long way. I was extremely fortunate to have such an amazing team who, despite all the backlash, the challenges, still did this every single day without succumbing to the pressure. After CultRatri we did Invincia, Prarambh and finally Utsav and brought to the table what we had promised!!

I would like to thank our **Principal, Dr. Mrs. J.M. Nair**, our **Vice-Principal Dr. Mrs. M Vijaylaxmi** and our faculty incharge **Mrs. Naveeta Kant (Deputy HOD - Department of Electronics)** for always being supportive. I would also like to thank Nilesh Talreja, our General Secretary for whom this year wouldn't have turned out the way it has. I would also like to thank the secretaries of other councils for constant cooperation and support. I would like to thank my seniors who taught me the skills and brought in me the confidence to manage these high-scaled events. Lastly, my friends were constant mental support during the entire year.

As a council, we have always tried to bring smiles to the faces of all the VESITians and constantly worked towards giving them the best of experiences.



Himesh Shadiza (D14A)
Cultural Secretary 2020-21

Lastly, I would say that we haven't created mere events, we've created memories!!"

Sports Secretary Sign Off

With VESIT having its first-ever online Sports Council here is **Archita Malgaonkar (D11B) - Sports Secretary 2020-21** sharing her thoughts and experiences as she signs off.

"This year was a year of change. Until last year, the sports council was all about organising Indoor and Outdoor Sphurti, along with VPL and VCL. It won't be wrong to say that we gave rebirth to the council. A complete change from offline to online was a difficult task as the sports domain is mostly on-field events. What to execute online was a big question before me and my council as the bar was raised super high by the former council and we had to level it up. We were locked in our houses, and us, being the sports people, have no habit of sitting idly at home. As much as I don't like the fact that Sphurti didn't take place, I am glad that we came up with many new ideas for events and got to implement them. But, no doubt everyone contributed equally, and glad we have made it so far.

It has been a wonderful year with lots of ups and downs. It might seem that conducting an online event is easy but after working we realized offline was much better. We cannot actually examine what's happening at the other end in the case of cheating. The most challenging task for me as a secretary was to gain trust and a feeling of companionship in between my council. It was our first time where we learned our Dos and Don'ts about the events and I'm sure the future council will take them into notice while conducting events.

Urja - an Online Sports Event was introduced for the very first time in our college and received a good response from the students. I was glad to receive complete faith from the principal ma'am, vice-principal, and sports faculty incharges of our college.

My vision before the pandemic was completely different. I might have not completely fulfilled it. But, as we say, life takes its turns. Today, when I look behind, I am proud to be a part of the revolution."



Archita Malgaonkar (D11B)
Sports Secretary 2020-21

"Consistency is the playground of dull minds."

- Yuval Noah Harari

SoRT Secretary Sign Off

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others rightly said by Mahatma Gandhi is done by SORT Council year after year successfully, but this year is different and so are the challenges, here is **Ayushi Pamnani (D14A)** sharing her journey as she signs off as the SORT Secretary 2020-21

"My journey with SoRT began as a FE in charge which led me to be the junior deputy and here I am giving the signing-off speech as the SoRT secretary. Contrary to what people believe, I was quite reluctant to be the secretary because it's a huge responsibility on your shoulders and I thought leading a council that had no idea that I was going to be their secretary was going to be the toughest thing I had to do in my college life. But this has been a blessing in disguise and the last 1 year has been the most wonderful learning experience for me, both as a person and as a leader. I have learned to overcome my fears by not allowing my emotions to get in the way. I took a step back from the situation and tried to find solutions and opportunities to organize events in these adverse circumstances.

We had a lot of challenges thrown our way, some that we had anticipated and many that we had not. But we always had a realistic approach towards things and realized that there is a difference between the things we can change and the things we cannot – and that's ok. The events that we organized were bigger than this council and the college because we might have helped in saving someone's life.

With being quite restricted to what we could do virtually after we realized that there was no scope of organizing blood donation camps, collection drives, and our flagship event- Umeed, I feel quite confident when I say this that we bounced back and made the best out of these situations. We managed to spread awareness about numerous causes which were not well known like platelet donation and menstrual hygiene and we also set out to help VESITians by conducting 3 successful mental health webinars. We also tried to include technical skills in our domain

of social responsibility when we organized Code For Change. And then came our Project Saksham which had so many obstacles and hurdles while we were executing it but the smile on those children's faces when they learned something new was convincing enough to keep trying. The cherry on top was the 2 fundraisers and we have collectively raised 70000 in just a single year which benefitted 3 organizations. Looking at the scenario outside, India is in the middle of a grave crisis and times like these prove the need for community. So, I would like to urge everyone for the last time to donate since the fundraiser is going to be live till 6 pm today.

Nothing I achieved as the SoRT secretary would be possible without my council. Perfect is the word that comes to mind when I try to describe my team. I don't think we could have got a better one. Your deep commitment, efforts, support, and creativity took us to the top.

And the wholesome meetings at the end of the day when we were trying to build everything from scratch shows that there is no limit to what we can achieve together.

I would also like to thank Principal ma'am and our staff incharge Deepti Khimani Ma'am for their constant guidance and encouragement.

And also the GS, Nilesh Talreja who supported me at every step of the way and was just one call away.

And to Gaurav Marwal, the ex SoRT secretary, I've learned so much from you and I had one goal which was to follow your footsteps and take SoRT to new heights. You stood by us and appreciated us after every single milestone we achieved. And also to Aadi Fernandes, the positive force, you saw the potential in me and believed in me. To say that I was inspired by these two and last year's council would truly be an understatement.

And then come the people who have been my rock, my biggest cheerleaders and SoRT's biggest



Ayushi Pamnani (D14A)
SoRT Secretary 2020-21

cheerleaders, your love and support has made me a stronger person. You have had my back and talking to someone who's constantly rambling on about the next event is not easy. So y'all know who you are.

The SoRT family of this college is not just the council and me but also the incharges, the participants, people who attended our webinars, people who hosted our events, and everyone who donated and supported our fundraisers. We were apart but never stopped working towards the better, together.

It fills my heart and my eyes well up when I look back at the transforming journey I have had and the inspiring people I have worked alongside. My experience has taught me how to empower people, to be an active part of society and facilitate change for those in need and that is the legacy I hope I leave behind for all the future SoRT councils.

So this is your SoRT secretary for the year 20-21 officially signing off."

Music Secretary Sign Off

Sahil Salian (D14B) shares his experience being a part of the Music Council for the past 3 years as he gives his signing-off speech as the Music Secretary 2020-21.

"If 3 years back someone would've told me that I'd be the Music Secretary and I'll be organizing online events then I wouldn't have believed them. But this journey has been totally enthralling and I wouldn't be lying if I said that every single moment of it was special.

With all the credit that I can give, I have to give it to my council members who have worked relentlessly hard and are a bunch of amazing people who've always kept their heads in the game. It is very easy to deviate your focus from something that you're very good at, we all tend to get overconfident and just slack off. But my council members, each and

every one of them have always come through when it came to doing the task at hand to the best of their abilities. Be it Music talent or managing events, be it visual arts or streaming, my team had a blend of everything.

We started our journey with the 'Its all Reel-a-table challenge' right when the council was elected and it was a mega-hit! Next, we came up with the 'Diwali Sabha' where the faculty and students both participated in which we had a Sangeet Sabha followed by a mythological quiz which was an innovative attempt from our side to sprinkle an ounce of zeal in cultural festivals. In collaboration with the VESLit Circle, this event was a true charm. The most wholesome event in my tenure was during the common student council event 'Invincia' where in collaboration with the SoRT Council we were able to pull off a fundraiser open mic and raise funds for



Sahil Salian (D14B)
Music Secretary 2020-21

an NGO called 'Kshamta' which helps women in distress.

Well, were there challenges? Of course, there were challenges, it was a cornucopia of challenges because every council before us had the reference of the events conducted by their seniors. But because of the pandemic, there was a huge paradigm shift in how we organize events. Even after all the challenges that we faced in keeping the spirits of the students

high in an online medium, my council was always on their toes grinding their way through to tackle every hurdle that came our way. We certainly did hit a few bumps in the road but we managed to hold ourselves.

I would also like to mention our faculty in-charge who has been such a great influence over our council, **Mr. Prashant Kanade** Sir. He has been the faculty incharge of the music council for a long time

and has always been supportive of the events that we do. Even with an amazing team and supportive faculty, our year wouldn't have been so amazing without the participation that our audience has shown for which I am immensely grateful.

Lastly, I would just like to address all my juniors and advise them to live their college days to the fullest and keep learning!"

VESLIT Head Sign Off

Literature is one of the most interesting and significant expressions of humanity and VESLIT keeps it alive in VESIT, here is **C V Ananya (D19A)** giving us insights on her voyage as a VESLIT head.

"I can't believe this academic year is over so quickly. Sitting at home, while we couldn't do a lot of the things we did in college, I was blessed with the chance to become the Student Head of VESLIT this year. It is something that I have wanted since I entered college in my first year, and it remains one of the biggest ironies of my life that when I finally got the chance we were all indefinitely tied down at home. But am I any less grateful? Not one bit. VESLIT promptly became one of the most important parts of my final year as well, and I wouldn't have it any other way.

This year, with education transitioning online, all our VESLIT activities had to transition online as well. This brought a new set of challenges for us, the biggest one is engaging the audience in a virtual setting. We tried a lot of new things, new events, we started putting out fun content on our Instagram page and engaging with the college

freshers to a great degree. And at the end of this year I can proudly say we did a great job. We held more events than we ever could have offline, doubled our Instagram impressions, and even sent teams to various competitions where they won many laurels.

What more can I say? I'm so happy with how things turned out. But my speech is incomplete with a heartfelt round of thanks. First of course, to our teachers, **Dr. Pooja Kundu** and **Dr. Sushil Duldhar** for giving me this incredible opportunity. Next, to Avinash Tripathy for being a more than able Deputy Head I could count on anytime, and last, but not least, to all the heads, deputy heads and the entire team. VESLIT has always been the place where I found a lot of people of my wavelength and bent of mind, but this year's council will always be special to me for having the most amazing mix of dynamic, supportive and hardworking people. As I sign off one last time, I can only hope I did my part well and that VESLIT will continue to set the highest standards for performance both inside and outside the college.

Thanks and cheers,
C. V. Ananya"



C V Ananya (D19A)
Student Head of VESLIT 2020-21

VESIT PhotoCircle Head Sign Off

Photography is an art of teleporting the past into the future, here we have **Naren Khatwani (D17C)** who not only made memories but also preserved them in his pictures.

"Photography is the language more powerful than words, so is my journey in VPC, a powerful one! And the journey is incomplete without companions so I would like to thank Sahil Talreja and Gaurav Parwani - you have been the most amusing people when it comes to covering events. Also Sahil we will never forget your front flip on the stage. Jai Mulani, thanks a lot for bringing your tripod at the official photoshoots and making the official college photographer suffer a bit.

Also I would like to extend my gratitude to Shraddha Shinde and MCA member Sushil Saindane, from whom I have learned discipline.

Last but not the least are the amazing juniors Chirag, Gaurav Jagwani, Omkar Rao, Shubham Chaudhari and Rohit Ambesh. These guys are responsible for the rewind with VPC reels and the

recent reel which went viral and got around 60k views. Second year members Shivam Singh and Tejas Majahan have been of great help to the circle in many ways.

We also had a very successful workshop this year with around 150 active participants. I hope you all carry on the good work next year and click some sick images of us during our convocation. Hopefully it's offline. Please listen to your head next year and conduct the recruitment smoothly. Make some good content for the social media handles.

On a personal note, from being a SE member to leading this team of 30 talented people it has been an amazing time. After covering around 56 events in the last 3 years with these BE members it feels amazing that our photographer lives have come full circle.

Signing off,
Naren Khatwani, an amateur photographer.
So, till then keep clicking."



Naren Khatwani (D17C)
VPC Head for 2020-21

VESIT Connect Seniors Sign Off

Beautiful minds connect, inspire and support, here is **Atharva Gupte (D19A), Student Chief Editor for the year 2020-2021** sharing his expedition in VESIT Connect.

“VESIT Connect has been more than a newsletter and the magazine team for me. It has been the motivation to come to college when lectures and college life were getting to me. After seeing the efforts taken by the team, to make a simple issue, we realized that these efforts needed to be recognized. We not only made the social media page but also made our entire personalities about VESIT Connect. We told anyone and everyone who listened to us about why it was so important to read and follow this newsletter.

Like all good things it took us time, and a lot of effort to get people to know what VESIT

Connect is all about, and why is it so important for an institution to have a voice of its own. I had an amazing team who have now become friends, best friends and people that I am always inspired by and learning from. Geeta ma'am and Priya ma'am were always there to guide us and help us out with everything that was needed along the way. Lastly there's no VESIT Connect without VESIT and vice-a-versa, I'll always be grateful for being a place that always gave us ample opportunities and talent.

That was all about my time here. Now, it's become a stronger team and they are just getting started. They have the best teachers to guide them and the best talent to grow with.

VESIT Connect just like its name is a melting hub of everything this institution represents and they are only here to take it further.”



Atharva Gupte (D19A), Student Chief Editor for the year 2020-2021

In a world of algorithms, hashtags and followers, the true importance is of human connection which VESIT Connect does, here is **Atique Kudchi (D16A), Design Head for the year 2020-2021** presenting his journey of VESIT Connect.

"On an unsuspecting day in October 2017, me and my (very new) friend Aadi Fernandes were in the workshop on the ground floor, toiling away at some wood pieces, trying to injure ourselves with all the industrial flying around. A senior walks in, and announces that the "Vesit Connect" is interviewing for new hires on the 5th floor. We'd heard of this. It wasn't in the gossip, like the Sports or Cultural Council were. Neither were there any hyped emails regarding this, like the Freshers' Party. But mine and Aadi's eyes lit up regardless. We knew then that we had to apply. Leaving our tools as is (the interview was happening now, like RIGHT NOW!), we reached the 5th floor. The aforementioned classroom was empty except for senior sitting. Nobody from us (and another of our classmates) was giving the interview.

My 4 years at VESIT wouldn't have amounted to much had I not given that interview.

The initial time was gruelling since VC was very recent. Barely 2 batches old. We didn't have a lot of what to do. Information gathering was to be streamlined, formats to be set, to be sorted out, but most importantly, a team to be built. The team at the time was insanely skilled but it was small and very overworked. Not to mention, students did not know about VC the late being put into it. And although it took us 4 years, I can say that the current team has a LOT of things figured out.

I came to VC to practice my love for writing, but I stayed to build a platform. I was very lucky to be joined in this endeavour by people who shared my vision, and to have a faculty incharge who gave us more or less free reign, the likes of which no other student body could've given me.

We managed to transform Vesit connect from a monthly only the staff knew about, to a student friendly wide. Everyone knows that if they want any information about collated neatly, VC is the one to email.

That was my goal in 2017, and I'm glad to have achieved it (and more) while having made



Atique Kudchi (D16A), Design Head for the year 2020-2021

some lifelong friends along the way. I hope that with the examples I've set, VC as a team, continues to grow and remains a welcoming place where people can find a way to make and feel like they fit in.”

VESITConnect is instrumental in connecting the students to the happenings of the college, here we have **Aadi Fernandes (D16A), Senior Reporter**, who has been very instrumental to VESITConnect, reminiscing his time here.

"One announcement at the super crowded workshop led me to join the team in the first year despite being sceptical about my article writing abilities. After my selection, I was ecstatic and told a lot of people about it, especially my seniors, but hardly anyone was aware of what I was talking about. That day, I decided that by the time I sign off, I want people to know who we are and what we do. (This was the hook paragraph that will strike interest of the reader)

With the help of two lovely people, Atique and Atharva, who have been my support system for this entire phase, we started the social media account for VESITConnect. Later, many more talented

juniors and seniors joined us in our journey, and slowly but steadily, more people got to hear from us and know about what we do. That's what we all have achieved, creating a buzz and excitement about our newsletter with people messaging us asking about the next release. I still recall and read my first article from time to time and compare it to my most recent articles. The growth that I have had in my writing journey shines right through it. (This was the building for the body of the story)

I have learnt so many things here, right from conducting a plethora of formal interviews of students, staff, alumni and teachers to weaving those words into stories and presenting it in the most intriguing manner to get readers invested in the storyline. This is how I not only improved my linguistic capabilities but also my confidence to speak to literally anyone alongside so many other such interpersonal skills. I have also participated in events and seminars, literally transcribing



Aadi Fernandes (D16A), Senior Reporter

the speeches and covering every single aspect. It doesn't end there, because there were a few events that didn't have my physical presence and I had to collect data from several different people to ensure comprehensive coverage. Everyone from our team could agree that we knew at least someone from every corner of the VES campus, that's the number of new and wonderful people I met over time. I could literally go on and on about how much I learnt out here, but you get the gist of it. (This is the paragraph about the lessons I have learnt)

You know what's special about this place though? It's not only my writing that has evolved, but I have even grown into a better person over a period of time. By listening to different perspectives and stories, I became more empathetic, understanding and humble, with the willingness to absorb new information and conflicting perspectives. I love to call this a family because out here, I never felt otherwise. We always had each other's back whether it would be professionally or when it came to some personal issues. Each and every member has always

been ready to jump in and help someone else out no matter how busy they are and that's wonderful according to me. (This is the emotional paragraph of how it is like to be part of the family, which is the core aspect of the article)

We've had days when we had to stay in college beyond 7pm, especially when the release of Vishwakarma was due in a few days. Even though that was exhausting, it was extremely satisfying to watch the reactions and hear the feedback after it's unveiling. The countless number of hours I've spent in CA3 have been etched into my memory as some of the best times of my life. Despite the rush to complete the issues, we were always smiling and laughing because of the beautiful people in the team. I could go on with this and have the entire issue filled with just this article of mine, but what I've learnt out here is that keeping it short and impactful tends to work like a charm. (This is a list of a couple of more memorable moments leading to a buildup to my outro)

This is not the end, and is just a new beginning for VESITConnect as we pass the baton and sign off. I'm already proud of our juniors who have shown exemplary skills in handling everything and I cannot wait to see what else they have in store for all of us. This was, is and always will be an invaluable part of my life. The team, under the guidance and support of **Dr. Geeta Ajit**, **Dr. Priya RL**, our Principal **Dr. J. M. Nair**, our Vice Principal **Dr. M. Vijayalakshmi** and all the faculty, staff members and students are bound to breach new levels of success every single here. The time I spent at VESITConnect didn't seem like a journey, but a new lease of life altogether. Well, here I am, with the widest smile on my face and a fulfilled heart, knowing that this will be one of the best decisions and experiences of my life. (This is an impactful and strong outro that is jam packed with emotions)

PS: Go back and read the text within the brackets to know how to write an article. Trust me, it works, I've learnt it over four years haha! This is it. Here I am, at the end of the line of my journey and this is where I get off."

VESIT Connect is the college's mirror, and here we have **Yash Aswani (D19A)**, **Senior Designer**, one of our seniors who makes the reflection of the mirror and brings it to you.

"Joining VESIT Connect was one of my greatest decisions in college. I say so because as a designer, I always wanted a platform to showcase and practice my skills, and what could have been better than VESIT Connect which came about to be the best available option to kickstart my design journey. VESIT Connect soon became a safe space for me and a platform that helped me grow. Along with designing, VESIT Connect gave me the opportunity to interact with VESIT's incredibly creative minds who later turned out to be my mentors. Atharva Gupte, the ex-Student Editor of VESIT connect, who was a senior reported at the time, motivated me to join the team after he learned about my desire to design, and I would like to give a special mention to Atique Kudchi, the team's design head, for guiding

me and sharing important tips when it came to designing the monthly newsletter.

And last but not the least, it wouldn't have been possible without **Dr. Geeta Ajit** madam and **Dr. Priya R.L.** madam, who were the driving force behind the team and always kept the team motivated. They painstakingly proofread the entire newsletter draft and patiently gave their remarks no matter how many mistakes the newsletter draft had, which gave me a conducive environment to grow as a designer.

All in all, my journey of VESIT Connect has been a memorable one. The VESIT Connect team is not merely a team, but a family, the bonds I made there, I am sure will remain intact forever. VESIT Connect will always hold a special place in my heart and the moments I spent with the team will be cherished always."



Yash Aswani (D19A), Senior Designer

VESIT Voice

-Sristi Kushwaha

Walking into the sixth month of the year 2021, June brings an end to the even semester and the beginning of the final exam preparations. With the start of early monsoon showers, students at VESIT are busy with their exams. But this did not dampen the spirits and energy of the college.

We saw that the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan team at VESIT received Rs 50,000 on 1st June 2021 for the proposal "Surya Sakshamta: Pragati Ka Sulabh Marg" from the government of India for village development. Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, Ministry of Education (MoE) had also organized a "Poster Making Competition" for creating awareness regarding the COVID-19 pandemic at the regional level. VESIT also contributed its bit to society and organized a Covid Vaccination drive in association with Surana Group of Hospitals for all the students above 18 years as well as faculty members along with their spouses. All the Council secretaries along with our General Secretary sign off from their respective position and responsibilities for the academic year 2020-2021. This issue also features the sign-off of the VESIT Connect leaders as they Graduate this year.

In the VESIT Diaries section, we have Mr. Soumya Banerjee who graduated in 1990 from the Department of Computer Engineering. A business leader and entrepreneur, after retirement, he now spends his time doing philanthropic work.

Happy Reading and Stay Safe!

VESIT Connect Team

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Gaurav Govilkar
Sristi Sharma
Kaushal Jagasia
Mihir Pamnani
Manasi Nerukar
Vaidyanathan Natarajan

Musings and Expressions

75 Years Of Independence

75 years of freedom,
 As an Independent country, we come.
 Our's is the land of sages,
 Known for bravery for ages.
 We introduced the number zero,
 Our world is protected by great heroes.
 From Sanskrit to Vedas,
 We keep our culture alive as we see some.
 We have kept our heads up at every phase.
 We remember this day as the glory of our past,
 We come together no matter what the religion or the caste.



Sakshi Talreja (D12C)



Jay Deshmukh (D12C)

A New Tomorrow

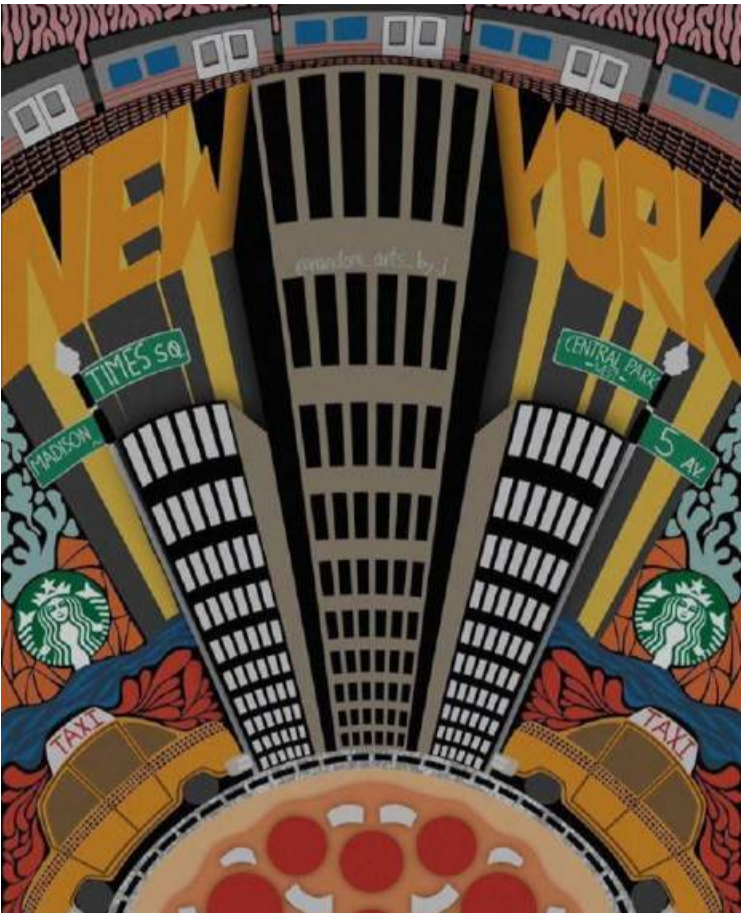
The aurora of a new tomorrow,
 Whose beauty will be hidden to none-
 Melody of success of my motherland,
 Shall echo in every mountain and canyon.

Prosperity shall lie in every clan,
 Helping hands would be ready every now and then,
 For one and all, together we shall,
 Rise to the mission,
 Mission to make a great nation,
 With enormous zeal and passion.

The hard-fought battle of freedom,
 Will not go in vain,
 We'll make our beloved home-
 "Sone Ki Chidiya" Again!!!!



Mohit Shahdadpuri (D7A)



Jahnavi Mulchandani (D12A)

If I'm Honest About My 'What you doing'

"Hey what you doing" .

"Nothing much, really" .

I am running my eyes repeatedly over the window grill to make sense of the pattern. I am playing games with the imaginary patterns of the tiles and I find that I am too competitive with myself.

I am looking at the curves of the coca cola bottle sitting there and the drops of condensation fall just like waterfalls on my cheeks.

I am staring at the gap in the doors of the old attic, at its inability to shut entirely for its too old and rusty to leave no cracks open.

"Hey what you doing?"

"Nothing much really"

I adore the clouds and then downloaded a PDF of the cloudspotter guide and I am nerding about the clouds as a pass time.

I am silently sitting staring at the sky with its cool breeze into my hair and hoping for warm hugs.

I am looking at the flashy wrappers of my grandpas biscuits and medicines.

I am staring at the mirror and looking into my eyes and I am trying to get a sense of who this is and I go so close that I accidentally kiss my image and pull back embarrassingly rubbing my fingers over my lips but I am secretly amused.

"Hey what you doing?"

"Nothing much, really"

I am thinking of how they thought I had no idea of what was going on.

I am reading this great book and then got distracted by a 'wyd' notification that I have mostly never answered truthfully.

I'm doing nothing else honestly, among all this, maybe I politely wish to do anything but look at a screen. Maybe today is an average mundane day that I will probably never remember but will hopefully look beautiful when it collectively sits there with other such slow days.

"Hey, wyd ?" . "Nothing much really, you tell me."



Anushka Kulkarni (D14A)



Tanaya Gaikar (D8)

Dreams

Are the dreams of dawn true,
Random faces scrolling,
Places of which I have no clue,
Just keep on shuffling.
Will they ever be real?
Maybe or maybe not; I say
But the dreams which make you see dawn;
Consciously, they come at day,
Believe me, they'll be true,
They just depend on you,
No more chaos; no more confusion,
What you need is just a passion,
Passion to go beyond skies,
Passion for hundred cent tries,
Or less until you make it existent,
What counts is being consistent.



Mohit Shahdadpuri (D7A)



Rohit Kundnani (D20)



Disha Raghani (D12A)



Janhavi Patil (D10B)



Srushti Sunil Gharat (D13)



Puja Mahankuda (D9B)

VESIT Diaries

-Anushka Kulkarni

This month we are in conversation with **Mr. Soumya Banerjee** who graduated in 1990 from the **Department of Computer Engineering**. A business leader and entrepreneur, now, after retirement, he devotes his time to philanthropic work.

Tell us something about your college life at VESIT? What are some memorable moments from your time at VESIT?

We were one of the initial batches of VESIT so there are lot of memories of the college area developing in marshland, a fledging canteen, college festivals, graduating and also meeting my wife.

I used to live very close to the college (Sindhi Society) so my house often ended up being the hub of meetings outside college.

Were there any extracurricular activities you were a part of during college, how important are extracurriculars in a student's life?

I used to debate, Jam and we used to attend college festivals regularly. Sometimes winning but always having a blast

How was your professional life after VESIT and how did you find your path into Entrepreneurship?

After graduation, I went to the United States for my masters in computer science. After my M.S I worked in the computer programming field before joining Sapient Corporation in Boston as a senior technologist.

Brought Sapient to India in 2000 , set up operations and then ran it as Managing Director (India). After I left Sapient, Entrepreneurship happened because having always worked in services I wanted to build a product and that led me to set up Attano, a pioneer in the field of educational ebooks. It was the urge to do something I had never done before which was key.

Your work has been very philanthropic, how did you begin with it and how important that is to you?

Giving back to society came to me once I moved back to India and saw the inequality and inequity we

have. No matter what one does there is always need for more. So I retired early and decided to use my professional skills of digital and marketing helping NGOs in the social sector. And I now give all my time to it pro bono

Tell us about what it takes as a business leader to successfully establish, scale and operate a globally distributed services model and organisations ?

Being a leader and not a manager, being a people person, taking chances and being comfortable dealing with ambiguity. Often you have to chart your own course because no one may have done it before.

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

Right now every day is relaxed. Because I do what I love and Love What I do. I read, travel, run campaigns for NGOs and try to work with young people wherever and whenever possible

What are some of your favorite books or books that you'd recommend?

Ikigai (Great for figuring out careers), Built to Last, Good To Great. Other than that I love reading English literature by Indian Authors

What is a quote/thought that you like or think about often ?

Peace on Earth, Food For All (From the English Movie Hackers)

In the fast paced world where career choices are ever evolving, How should students decide on a career path, what things should students keep in mind when charting their career?

Often we don't have a choice on our first job, but figure out fast what you really love doing and try and go down that path. Always look for avenues to make impact and don't confuse roles with responsibility. Go above and beyond job description and you will succeed. Don't get stuck in a rut. Take risks, join startups and it will pay off. It did for me and I retired early



Mr. Soumya Banerjee

Are there any interesting stories/incidents that happened in your professional or personal life that you would like to share with our readers ?

Coming back to VESIT to interview and the lab assistant who was still there being surprised to see me there since I was always one of the 'naughty' ones. Being one of the first people to come back from USA to India and setting up a company let to being a pioneer in the field of distributed delivery and that paved the way for many others.

Message for the new generation at VESIT!

Go Out There and Have an Impact and Make a Difference. Learn to Give and Share early and you will have a fulfilling life! Most importantly be a good human being and the rest will take care of itself. The concept of ikigai, attributed to a book and I say it's a map I use in life and you guys can use this for career planning. I wish someone had shown me this earlier in life. Ikigai is a Japanese concept that means your 'reason for being. 'Tki' in Japanese means 'life', and 'gai' describes value or worth. Your ikigai is your life purpose or your bliss. It's what brings you joy and inspires you to get out of bed every day.