VESIT Connect

NEWSLETTER
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V.E.S.
Since 1962

Contents

Gas Blasts shook VESITians

-Tanvi Shinde

On the calm afternoon of August 8 2015, at around 2.45 pm, tremors shook Chemburkars in a kilometer radius of BPCL as a massive fire broke out in state-run Bharat Petroleum refinery. Within seconds the region was covered in fumes of thick smoke.

According to the news report, the fire was caused due to a blast in the hydrocracker plant in the cracking vacuum gas oil and hydrocarbon unit following a leak of hydrogen gas. The shock waves blasted some windows and panels in the nearby HPCL and RCF industrial and commercial complexes. VESIT too, felt its impact! As this site is well visible from VESIT, we too felt the tremors on a large scale. There was confusion for a few minutes, as students were not sure what had happened. But soon as news began to filter in, every body realized the cause of the tremor.

"I live in Tata Colony close to the blast location and certain showpieces fell from their shelves and we felt the tremors and thought it was an earthquakes. I picked up my little sister and ran out if the room" said Anisha Kaul, D12A.

72nd Independence Day - Stop complaining and start changing

-Aadi Fernandes

Millions of brave souls from diverse religions, caste, creed and race participated actively in a struggle and gave up their lives for us, which eventually led to our freedom. This very day, 72 years ago, Bharat was reborn. We celebrate this day to commemorate the bravery of those individuals because of whom we are standing here today and calling India "our" nation.

Our Independence day celebrations started off with the Flag Hoisting at 9:30 am in the ground of VES Arts, Science and Commerce College. Following this, we all made our way to the auditorium for further celebrations. The introductory speech was given by the respected Principal of Arts, Commerce and Science college, Dr. (Mrs.) J.K. Phadnis who set off the session on a very positive note with a patriotic speech about our beautiful Bharat and how we need to pledge to make it the India of our dreams. She appreciated the presence of so many students, who did not sit at home thinking that it's a holiday, but joined us in celebrating our 72nd Independence Day. She also warmly welcomed the Principal of VES College of Pharmacy: Dr. (Mrs.) Supriya S. Shidhaye, Vice principal of VES Institute of Technology: Mrs. Vijaylaksmi M, Principal of VES Polytechnic: Shri. Vikrant Joshi, Principal of VES College of Law: Dr. (Mrs.) Jyoti Deshmukh, Director of VESLARC: Mrs Piya Mukherjee and our esteemed Chief guest and VES Trustee, Advocate Shri Laxman Kanal Ji.

The first performance of the day was by VES Arts, Science and Commerce students who sang a very melodious "Aye Vatan Mere Vatan." After this, Pooja from VES Polytechnic then recited a poetry about Bharat Aaj Kal aur Kal(India Today, Yesterday and Tomorrow). It explained how we have forgotten our values and culture. All malpractices like corruption are taking over, and yet, we still have a strong belief and still have hopes that we will awaken and lead to a better and brighter India.

Hoisting the tricolor

A student from VESASC, Nasmeena spoke about our long historic journey. That Bharat is just a journey of 72 years post colonial rule, but we have a culture rooted deep in the past, a history of many centuries. She blatantly stated a really valid point, that most of us don't do anything except for blaming the government for the mishaps that take place. As a citizen our duty is to obey laws, perform our civic and social duties, to maintain cleanliness and take care of the public property. The policies like Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan are useless unless WE do something. Say no to corruption. Everything begins with you.

VES college students sang "Saare Jahan Se Accha Hindustan Hamara" and "Hai preet Jahan ki reet sada."
Following this, VESIT students Rahul Ghorpade(D13), Kapil Kriplani(D15), Jatin Manglani(D18) and Chaitanya Kulkarni(D18) executed a wonderful drama, the script for which was written by Chaitanya Kulkarni.

It basically revolved around how our freedom fighters gave up their life for our nation and what would they think if they were here today. There was an argument about whose statue should be erected during Independence day, Gandhi-

Singing Patriotic Tunes on Independence Day

ji's or Sawarkarji's. The argument took place with both individuals giving their own reasons. This was cut off by their statues coming to life and reminding that how we are still arguing about who is better rather than working towards making our country a better place. How we are capable of making lakhs of Gandhiji's and Sawarkarji's. That we need to understand the need of the hour. The most striking statement was that we should stop keeping their idols, we should follow their idealogies and work towards the India of our dreams.

Up next, a few students from VES Polytechnic performed "Ae Vatan Mere Vatan." All the raags were right on point and their synchrony was a marvel worth listen to.

VESasc's Rohit Thakur gave a speech which also incoporated poetry in it. It was about our brave freedom fighters and their sacrifices. About the struggle for power, and how it is impossible for us to understand it, unless we live it. He also stated a very beautiful stanza spoken by Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji.

"Jeeyenge to issi rashtriya ke liye, marnege to isi rashtriya ke liye, (We will either live for OUR country or die for OUR country).

The speech was then continued by Ravi, who spoke about how we, the youth are responsible for our own future. That we are wearing our tricolour today, but the next day, it will be lying somewhere on the roads. He stated was that we live in such a time, where we have still not got rid of the concept of castes, and we are talking about big things like Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan. But the harsh reality that struck our minds like a bomb was when he said:

But the harsh reality that struck our minds like a bomb was when he said: "Agar Gandhiji aaj Swacch Bharat Abhiyaan ka chashmah pehnenge, toh ek aankh Mai Bharat dikhega aur swacchta nahi, aur dusri aankh mai swaachta dikhegi, lekin Bharat nahi." Not only was this literal, but also metaphorically correct. It's absolutely true we still need to get rid of a lot of dirt from our minds. With these very influential speeches still fresh in our minds, they signed of

Not only was this literal, but also metaphorically correct. It's absolutely true we still need to get rid of a lot of dirt from our minds. With these very influential speeches still fresh in our minds, they signed off.

Gaurang Wadhwa (D7C) giving a dramatic performance

Gaurang Wadhwa(D7C) from VESIT, then performed an act, which brought tears down people's eyes. About a soldier who protected his motherland with all his life and soul. About how social media posts, likes, comments and shares does not bring about any kind of difference. He told us his story, about how nobody remembers him, we all remember how much dhoom 3 made, but but do we even give a thought about how many brave men laid down their lives for us? His motherland was under attack, and the moment he heard that on the radio, he knew that the condition outside was terrible, about how he could have been shot, but he never thought about it and moved out of his home to go and protect his people. There was blood all around, and there were gunshots all around. Those terrorists cornered him and he was shot on his leg in the crossfire, but he still did not give up. They caught him and in front of him, his wife was brutally murdered while they restrained him and then left them there to die. This was his story.

He then just told us one thing, about how we should honour our country and soldiers on Independence and Republic Day and respect the fact that they live and die for us. The least we could do is to honour and nation and indirectly honour those who protect our borders without thinking about their lives.
Chaitanya Kulkarni(D18) from VESIT then sang the beautiful song "Ne Majasi Ne Parat Matrubhumila" written by Swatantryaveer Savarkar when he was in prison. This wonderful performance was followed by the VESIT music council singing Maa Tujhe Salam. The melody of that song was something that I cannot express in words. It was literally Bliss.

The very touching song was then followed by a speech by our Chief guest. Respected Trustee, advocate Laxman Kanal Ji loved the performances by the students and warmly appreciated their efforts. He explained how the younger generation should be more confident, bold and do something for the nation. Also that the views they put forward today should be brought into action by each individual. He said that we can live for the country though we do not have the for dying for it. We can give tribute to our nation and the society by performing for our country. He very truly stated that we never thought the session was too long, in fact, we thought it was too short. All the staff members and students were thanked for their presence and efforts in organizing this event.

We all then rose for our National song, the Vande Mataram, with the spirit of nationality radiating from within us. Light refreshments were served post the session in the auditorium. This was personally the best Independence Day celebration I have ever attended. It was truly inspiring and thought provoking. All the performances portrayed the results of their excellent preparation. We did not only get to hear the views, we could actually feel it. We were inspired to be the change, instead of waiting for it.

First Day Frenzy For FEs

-Saumya Kulkarni

The 1st of August was a day of hustle and bustle in our college. A new batch of students had just entered the threshold of VESIT. It was the first day for FEs and the excitement was clearly being seen among them.

The FEs were welcomed with an orientation by Umrikar Sir (HOD, Humanities and and Nagananda Sir, Head of Training and Placement. They were sorted into their classes and sent for the orientation. The students were briefed about their respective branches. The teachers told them the rules and the working of our college. Nagananda Sir informed them about the Placements Cell of our college. A few students even found the courage to ask queries in the orientation.

Then the actual fun started! The students sat in their respective classes and the teachers introduced them to their subjects. When asked about the syllabus, Khushi from CMPN branch said,"We have learnt most of the basics of the subjects in Junior College itself. So while the pattern is completely new, at least we do not have to worry about studying the syllabus from scratch." Since Khushi is a hostelite, she has already made friends in the hostel, overcoming the challenge that we all faced which was making new friends and finding someone to sit with on the first day.

The teachers were really helpful,as always, and conducted the class council elections very efficiently. While there was a little competition for the position of CR, Malavika from ETRX branch said, "I have heard a lot about the councils from my friends who are seniors. I still have to decide what position I want to contest for!" Since our college has a lot of technical and cultural activities, the FEs enthusiastically asked us about the cultural and technical festivals. They have already started planning their performances for the Freshers' Event, Prarambh '18.
We are excited to see what talent the new students have in store!

Patent Patience!

-Aditya Srivastava

Let's begin with what a patent is. It is a statutory right to the inventor or the applicant by the Government for his invention which is either a new process or product.
What does it do? It protects 'Intellectual Property' for 20 years (at least in India).

Why is this being covered in VESIT Connect's issue?
Here's why :
A final year (B.E) project of 4 VESITians of EXTC Department qualified for a patent (Patent Numbers: 308565 & 308566) under the guidance of Shobha Krishnan Madam (H.O.D, EXTC Dept.) and Manisha Joshi Madam in the academic year 2018-2019. These students i.e.
   1) **Sanket Agarwal**
   2) **Pawan Ailani**
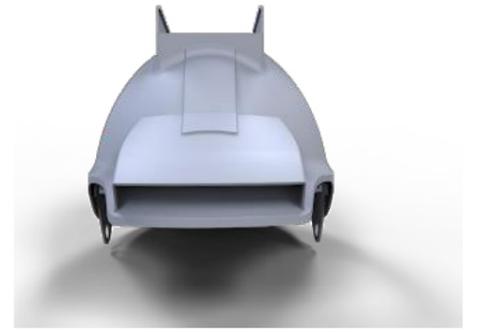   3) **Amit Israni**
   4) **Harsh Shambwani**

The Team

had already graduated in the year 16-17 but decided to devote 1 extra year for this process. The Prior-art Search i.e. evidence that your invention is not already existent was done which resulted in the need for modifications to the product and then it was filed for patent, which took approximately a year's time.

What is the invention all about?

This present invention relates to the obstacle detection in the path of blind or visually impaired people by using ultrasonic sensors & Raspberry Pi. The sensor senses the obstacle in any direction/angle and indicates to Raspberry Pi the distance of the obstacle in that respective direction. Then the Raspberry Pi verifies with all obstacle detectors and based on the logic, generates a signal which indicates the direction of the obstacle and guides the user to move in the respective direction in order to avoid the obstacle. The signal generated is in the form of a text message which is then converted to an audio signal. The audio signal reaches the blind person through earphones.

The present invention further includes the future scope of a system which is helpful to blind/visually impaired people. In this aspect, the person is trained using pictures of people to be identified (One-Time Process). This system aids the visually impaired person to identify the person in front of them. The output is notified to the user by means of audio output jack through headset, using the open-source speech synthesis library. To power the modules, a solar charger is designed to fit on the helmet with power bank as an alternate source.

Product(Helmet)

The Teachers In-Charge said, "We were lucky that in spite of passing out of the college, the students buckled up extra time to get the modifications done."

Since this was the first time something like this has happened in VESIT, the Management couldn't provide any financial support but hereafter the college encourages all of us to beat our brains out and explore, invent, try new things without the worry of crunching numbers. The idea is estimated to be patented in the next 6 months, whereas the product will take another year and the only thing we can do is hold onto our horses until then.

VESITConnect wishes these ambitious dreamers all the very best and applauds them for bringing honour to our institute in a way no one ever has. We hope their endeavors encourages more students to try new things all the time!

Learning from the learned

-Padmaja Borwankar and Tanvi Shinde

Technology workshops in the form of Skill Enhancement Lectures (SEL) are conducted frequently to keep VESITians cognizant of the latest developments in the tech field. On August 14, one such talk was conducted by one of our alumni, **Mr. Subodh Gajare** (1992 batch, Department of Computer Engineering). He is a senior practice architect at Cisco, a regular speaker at Qualcomm, Wipro, NXP tec and has compiled over 275 articles, tech tips and case studies compiled on Cisco solutions. The session was held in the auditorium for the third year Computer Department students. It lasted for two hours.

The talk revolved around 'Digitisation and how do we get ready for the Digital economy.' The speaker quoted "As we move from data in pockets to a data driven world, digitisation is not only disruptive, but demands skills and a set of new thinking patterns from students. To lead and innovate in this digital economy, it is vital to understand the architecture of the building blocks of SDN , Cloud, Virtualisation, Mobility and IoT."

The session began with a short video about how rapidly the world is progressing. Thousands of children are born everyday. Millions of messages are sent over the internet. Billion units of data are being generated annually. There is no end to it. Mr. Subodh said that this large scale production of data cannot be stopped. It can only be controlled. To control the speed and volume of data, various new fields have come up. Big Data Analytics, Cloud Computing and Digitisation are among the few emerging fields. He also talked about building platforms for storage of huge data and security of that data. Says Pranjali Tembhurnikar from D12B "The lecture not only made us realise the importance of technology, but gave us an insight about what all technologies are taking over and how the general approach towards development has to be. Overall, the experience was an enlightening one, made us one idea richer and gave us a direction in which we should proceed while formulating a solution to any problem statement." The syllabus that students are learning right now is going to be outdated just two to three years later. In reality, students are preparing for jobs that have not even been invented yet. Hence Mr. Subodh aims at creating awareness about digitisation.

Mr.Subodh Gajare addressing the students

The motive of the session was to ignite the student community to think of new possibilities and innovate for their studies, internships and most importantly, their careers. The session was a huge success. Students interacted with Mr. Subodh and were truly inspired by his speech. Bhavika Valecha from D12A said "The session was really helpful as we got a detailed information on networking. To understand better, real life applications were given and their future use in the industry was also explained. The importance of security was also emphasised. Overall, the session was interactive and informative." The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Mrs. Sunita Sahu. Dr. Nupur Giri thanked Mr. Subodh Gajare by gifting him a tulsi sapling

Industrial Visit to CETTM, MTNL

-by Akshara Sarfare

An Industrial Visit to Centre for Excellence in Telecom Technology and Management (CETTM), MTNL, Powai was scheduled for the third year students from Department of Electronics and Telecommunications (EXTC). The visit was conducted on 10th August, 2018. The faculty in charge for the visit were Prof. Neeta Chavan, Prof. Himali Patel and Prof. Gaurav Tawde. Around 60 students from all three divisions of EXTC attended the visit.

The first session started around 10 am. It was an introductory session on basics of telecommunication and was conducted by Mr. Kiran Kumar. The concepts of wireless and wireline communication were elaborated in this session. The students visited 4 labs in this visit.

The first lab was a switching lab which was conducted by Mr. Surendra Mane. The basics of PSTNs (Public Switch Telephone Network), POTS (Plain Old Telephone Service) and Hierarchy of switches were explained in this lab. The real-time equipments such as DP (Demarcation Point), MDF (Main Distribution Frame) were observed.

The next lab was a Transmission Equipments lab. It was conducted by Mr. Girish Kumar. The process of transmission of data from one user to another via the exchanges, links and Transmission system (MUX and DEMUX) were taught. The equipment for different transmission systems (PDH and SDH) and an optical fibre cable was shown to the students.

After the lunch break, the students went to the Broadband Lab conducted by Mr. Ravi. He explained the concepts of DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) and ASDL (Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line). The different wired and wireless methods of communications were also mentioned.

The fourth and the last lab, the students visited was the GSM Lab which was held by Mr. D.K. Jadhav. He overviewed the working of antennas and the Base Transceiver Station (BTS). He summarized the concepts of different generations including the upcoming technology of 5g and concluded the session. Anahita Goswami (D14A) said, "This session was very enriching for me as I was able to gain first-hand knowledge about all the telecommunication processes and its equipment from experts. This industrial visit gave me the practical knowledge that I yearned for and hence it was a wonderful experience for me."

Mr Surender Mane explaining the real-time equipments

Dial 100: An Appy Initiative

On 1st July 2018, the team members who developed the DIAL-100 Mobile App – Mr. Sarvesh Patil, Ms. Riddhi Sanghani, Ms. Asmita Chopade – under mentorship of Dr. Nadir Charniya, Professor Electronics and Telecom Department visited to the Navi Mumbai Police Department and met ACP Mr. Pradeep Kannalu. The primary objective of the visit was giving a demonstration and a presentation of the prototype of DIAL-100 Emergency App that the students have developed.

This project was the outcome of industrial visit of the EXTC faculty in the year 2016 to Navi Mumbai Dial100 control centre. Commissioner of Police in his speech discussed about the problems in Dial-100 service for the citizens. One of the menace they were facing was fake call on DIAL-100. Prof. Nadir Charniya suggested solution to this issue and told that we would attempt for a mobile App for Dial-100 with the features of Audio Call, text, location, image and video that could be transmitted to the Dial-100 centre. These features would help in verification of authenticity of the calls and thus avoiding fake calls. This app was developed under the scheme of Learning Beyond the Syllabus (LBS) project. The demo and power point presentation was given to Mr. Pradeep Kannalu, the ACP, and their staff and engineers. The officials from the Commissioner Office were highly appreciative of the innovative App that would serve the society.

Lto R: Ms.Asmita Chopade , Ms. Riddhi Sanghani, Mr. Sarvesh Patil, Prof. Nadir Charniya, and Sr.PI Mr. Shrikant Venegurkarat

The team was also given tour of different technological centres and surveillance system of Navi Mumbai in their centre that day. The visit was a resounding success and proved to be a treasure chest of information that could be deemed useful for the current as well as the future endeavours of the students.

VESIT Voice

-Gayatri Belapurkar

With the month of August dawning upon us and the semester settling in, we have brought to you a few bits of what August gave us. August took off with a blast … and shook us to the core (literally) due to the mishap nearby in BPCL. Being one of the most bustling and the busiest of months, August witnessed almost every event of a kind, from placements and workshops to the opening events of the newly formed councils. The spirits and energies of VESITians reached a new high as we welcomed a new batch of First Year students of Engineering and Architecture alike. The fluttering flag yet again rekindled the patriotic fire within and bore an ode to the sacrifices of our ancestors and to our beautiful motherland. Adding another feather to the cap of VESIT, the students and teachers of VESIT have filed for a patent for their incredible invention for the visually challenged. The students of the Department of Electronics and Telecommunication visited the MTNL office in Mumbai, giving them first-hand experience of working in the industry while on the other hand, an alumnus of the Department of Computers, Mr. Subodh Gajare, returned to the college to lecture his descendants. Mastek and Majesco conducted an introductory session for its renowned initiative, Project Deep Blue, where they released their problem statements for this year and called for innovative yet feasible solutions to some real world problems. With the placement season still on, few final year students were placed with Indus Valley Partners. August also saw the budding of the new student council. SoRT VESIT did its part of aiding those affected during the dreadful Kerala floods by sending them essential commodities such as clothes, food grains, etc. The Sports' Council inaugurated Indoor Sphurti, its major event of the odd semester with a bang. Tinkerer's lab did its part of working up the grey cells of students by conducting a workshop for the students of the Department of ETRX. In this issue, we also have excerpts from an interview of a VESIT alumnus who returned to the college as a part of the placement panel of Indus Valley Partners.

Here's wishing you all happy reading and hope the semester smoothens up and settles in comfortably.

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Indus Valley Partners Placements, 2018

-Shruti Bondre

With the placement season in full swing and the students of VESIT acing their interviews and bagging hefty packages in dream companies, we wanted to bring to everyone the first-hand experience of a student who recently got placed in IVP. **Arvind Narayanan**, from Department of Information Technology, has been offered a job at INDUS VALLEY PARTNERS(IVP), a firm founded in 2000 which has built a client base consisting of the most successful hedge-funds and private equity firms in the world.

Here are some of the excerpts from his experience in the placement process:

When and how was the first interaction of the IVP Executives with the VESIT Students?
IVP first visited our campus on 24July 2018. The pre-placement talk, which was conducted at 10 am was where we first gained an exposure to what the company primarily focuses on. They explained what their firm is all about, the major products that they have developed and still supporting, the values that they expect from their employees, what we will be primarily working on once we join the company, the tech stack that they majorly use and so on.

What was the process of resume submission?

A google form was sent by the company, asking basic questions like Name, 10th, 12th percentage, CGPA, PRN number, etc. We were asked to produce our resume only during the technical and HR rounds in the interview.

Usually the first step in any placement process is the Aptitude Test. How was the aptitude test conducted and what kind of questions were asked?

The test consisted of 31 questions and was hosted in hackerrank. Time duration was 60 min. 30 questions were based on both quants and programming aptitude. The last one was a coding question based on Dynamic Programming. The coding question is not as difficult as one thinks. Rather it is a simple problem statement which can be easily solved with 2-3 months of competitive coding practice. Programming aptitude was majorly focused on basic OOP principles.

Interviews are considered to be the major part of scrutiny in a placement process. It is the only step where the companies choose the candidates. Interviews are mostly held to analyze a candidate for their potential. How was the interview for the various short-listed applicants conducted?

The interview was a 4-Stage interview consisting of the Technical Round, Group Discussion, Aptitude and HR Interview.

Mr. Arvind Narayanan

Round 1:- Aptitude

There were 2 slots, one at 11:30 am and the other at 12:45 pm. In total, around 330 applicants appeared for the test from branches CMPN, IT, EXTC and MCA. Out of these, 44 were selected in total, 23 from 1st slot and 21 from the other.

Round 2:- Group Discussion

These 44 students were subdivided into 5 groups consisting of 6-8 applicants per group. Since the results for aptitude in 1st slot was announced earlier, they started with the group discussion even before the results of 2nd slot were announced. So, round 2 started at 2:15 pm. The theme for all the GD topics were abstract. We were given 6 min in total, 1 min for preparation and 5 min for discussion. The selection was based on how effective the overall discussion was and whether the applicant made a valid point or not in the discussion. The number of applicants selected for next round from each group varied. For example, from group 1, 7 out of 8 applicants were selected, from group 2, 5 out of 8. In total, 29 applicants were selected from all the 5 groups for the next round.

Round 3:- Technical Interview

The technical round started by around 4:30 pm. 29 applicants were divided into 3 groups since there were 3 interviewers thus interviews could go on parallelly. The interviewer majorly focused on what's there in the applicant's resume-- the languages, frameworks, projects and asked basic questions based on the above stated skill-sets. They asked basic OOP and DBMS related questions as well as questions wherein they would give a problem statement and we were expected to write the pseudocode for the same.After around half-an-hour, they would let the applicant know whether he/ she was selected for the next round or not.

Round 4:- HR Interview

This took place alongside the technical round, although applicants had to clear the previous round first. They asked the interviewees about their background, projects and also the typical HR questions like where do you see yourself in 5 years, why do you want to join this company, what makes you stand out and so on. In the end, 3 students were selected in total- 2 from CMPN and 1 from IT.

Any word of advice for the juniors and the future applicants?

Know your resume pretty well. Ensure that you have basic to intermediate understanding of the languages / frameworks that you mention in your resume. You must be able to describe your projects in a concise manner. Also, start with competitive programming if you haven't already since knowing data structures and using that knowledge to solve particular kinds of problems is a must to clear the technical / aptitude round for almost any company. And Most of all, be confident and precise while answering the questions asked. All the Best!!

Project Deep Blue: A Code for the society
-Sreevidya Iyer

This August, we witnessed the inauguration of Project Deep Blue Season 4, an initiative by Mastek and Majesco, forward-thinkers in digital and software solutions. Project Deep Blue signifies the willingness to dive into the problem, determination to get to the bottom of the issue and the drive to find a solution. The aim of this venture is to make the future technologists cognizant of the problems in the society and involve them in the solution building process.

The competition spans across 18 well-recognized technical institutes. Problems faced by various NGOs during their on field work are given as problem statements to the contestants. Students have to first register their abstract on the website. Teams which have understood the crux of the project and show promise and potential are shortlisted from each college. Usually by the end of October, during the project-launch, these teams are assigned mentors who will guide them for the rest of the duration of the project.

There are specific guidelines that each team has to abide by and it is agreed upon, that the idea and code will be shareware and Mastek will reserve the rights to make changes and implement it. The scope of innovation is vast and students also have the freedom to combine already existing open source technologies to build the solution. Some of the concepts that students will require are, Machine learning, Internet of Things, Social Data Analysis and most importantly, Principles of Design Thinking.

This year's Problem Statements have applications not only in software, but also in the hardware realm. The themes selected are: Sanitation and Public Health, Garbage Profiling, Regulation of civil services. There are a total of six problem statements.

There are a lot of challenges to overcome for each problem statement. The students can learn many new concepts under their mentors and will get the satisfaction of working towards solving real world problems. The prizes are quite lucrative with the 2nd runner-up, 1st runner-up and the winner taking away Rupees 25000, 75000 and 100000 respectively.

Just like the previous years, this year too VESIT students will be participating in large numbers. VESITConnect wishes all the participants the very best!

If you are not willing to risk the usual, you will have to settle for the ordinary. If you are not willing to risk the usual, you will have to settle for the ordinary.

-Jim Rohn

Councils

Blood Donation Camp at VESIT

-Lewin Naronha

"Spare only 15 minutes and save one life"

Sometimes we tend to forget how easy it can be to help another human being, but this quote manages to remind us. In the process of helping mankind and reaching out to the society, SoRT VESIT conducted 'The Blood Donation camp', under the leadership of the SoRT council secretary, Shreya Jangale, backed by a team of deputy in-charges and other class in-charges. This event was held on the 24 July in the Boys Common Room (BCR) from 10 am to 5pm.

A number of banners and Whatsapp messages were circulated for the much needed publicity to ensure that this event was patronised wholeheartedly and it would it be a huge success. Mandatory instructions and prerequisites were stated for a blood donor to take care of, which included:
Avoiding consumption of any form of alcohol 24 hrs before the donation.

Required body check-ups (Hemoglobin test) which would be conducted during the time of donation to ensure that the donor is fit for donation.

The council coordinated with the doctors of the reputed JJ Hospital who in turn made sure that the necessary medical instruments and personnel were present at the venue to conduct the required tests and also to avoid any delays or discrepancies. 31 staff members were present to carry out different activities to ensure the event was conducted smoothly. Finally the 24th of July witnessed an overwhelming number of donors who chose to spare just 15 minutes of time for this noble cause. The event witnessed 143 registrations for the same, who in turn were made to pass through the hemoglobin tests and other test as mentioned before. Sadly some of the people couldn't donate blood as they did not meet the necessary hemoglobin test results. As ensured before, clean and disposable syringes were used by skilled professionals for the same.

The SoRT Secretary, Shreya Jangale said, "The response from the students and the staff was very heartwarming. It is always amazing to see so many people come forward to help others. I am glad people supported us and made this drive a huge success!" Truly, the overwhelming support presented by the VESITians has motivated and fueled the SoRT council to work with new zeal and unmatched dedication. This blood donation camp is only one of the plenty events and deeds done by the SORT council ,who aims to make this society a better place to live in and thus bag a special place in the heart of every VESITian!!!

Student Council Elections

-Aishwarya Sahoo

On the 31st of July 2018, the VESIT Council Elections were held. The process of election for this academic year began with the class in-charge elections. All the classes of SE, TE, BE and MCA first select their class in-charges for Music, Culture, SoRT, tVEC, Sports and the CR by the usual voting process. These class in-charges now represent their respective classes in the Student Council Elections.

There are three positions for each council. They are: Secretary, Deputy Secretary (Junior), and Deputy Secretary (Senior).These positions are contested and voted for, by the class in-charges of the respective council. The General Secretary is elected by all the class-incharges from all the councils.

Shubham Safaya (D19) was elected unanimously to the post of General Secretary by all the class-incharges this year. Below mentioned are the names of the other members of the Student Council for the year 2018-2019. Congratulations to all the elected members!

SPORTS COUNCIL

Secretary (TE)	Prathamesh Shukla
Deputy Secretary Girl (TE)	Shivali Jain (D11B)
Deputy Secretary Boy (TE)	Prabhakar Chaubey (D13)
Deputy Secretary (2nd Shift TE)	Sanjana Ahuja (D14C)
Deputy Secretary (Reg. Shift TE)	Anisha Tandel (D15)
Deputy Secretary Boy (SE)	Tanmay kothale (D6B) Rushabh Mehrotra (D9A)
Deputy Secretary Girl (SE)	Tamanna Saini (D7B) Juhi Ajwani (D9A)
Deputy Secretary Girl (2nd Shift SE)	Akshay Nair (D14C)
Deputy Secretary (MCA)	Nitish Sune (MCA-2A)

SORT COUNCIL

Secretary (TE)	Sumit Manwani (D12B)
Deputy Secretary Girl (TE)	Mahima Zhambani (D13)
Deputy Secretary Boy (TE)	Chinmay Mahale (D12A)
Deputy Secretary (2nd Shift TE)	Meenakshi Agarwal (D12C)
Deputy Secretary (TE)	Kapil kripalani (D15)
Deputy Secretary Boy (SE.)	Gaurav Marwal (D7A) Aadi Fernandes (D6A)
Deputy Secretary Girl (SE)	Simran Pandita (D7B) Kalyani Ingole (D6B)
Deputy Secretary (2nd Shift SE)	Disha Mhatre (D7C)
Deputy Secretary (MCA)	Robin Sihag (MCA-2B)

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Secretary (TE)	Rahul Ghorpade (D13)
Deputy Secretary Girl (TE)	Sana Ansari (D15)
Deputy Secretary Boy (TE)	Jasraj Choulkar (D11B)
Deputy Secretary (2nd Shift TE)	Nisha Purswani (D12C)
Deputy Secretary (TE)	Isha Gajjar (D13)
Deputy Secretary Boy (SE)	Gaurav Shukla (D9A) Saurav Jeswani (D10)
Deputy Secretary Girl (SE)	Sartha Tambe (D7A) Jyeshtha Prabhu (D9A)
Deputy Secretary (2nd Shift SE)	Saloni Shedge (D7C)
Deputy Secretary (MCA)	Anuja Pawar (MCA)

MUSIC COUNCIL

Secretary (TE)	Arnab Choudhury (D11A)
Deputy Secretary Girl (TE)	Mrunali Kolte (D13)
Deputy secretary (T.E)	Rahul Bansod (D13)
Deputy Secretary (2nd Shift TE)	Saurabh Satavalekar (D12C)
Deputy Secretary Boy (SE)	Ashwin Selvarangan (D9A) Prasad Naik (D9B)
Deputy Secretary Girl (SE)	Anushka Rajwade (D6B) Shruti Bondre(D(B)
Deputy Secretary (2nd Shift SE)	Sanika Sanaye (D7C)
Deputy Secretary (MCA)	Siddhant Shinde (MCA-2A)

Kerala Donation Drive by SoRT - All For One
-Aadi Fernandes

Kerala is facing one of the most devastating floods the state has experienced in the past 94 years. It started off with an unusually high level of rainfall since the month of May 2018, which has now turned God's own paradise into a flood stricken state of despair. As of August 30, 2018 the death toll stands at about 483, while 15 people are reportedly missing. Various National and International organizations sprang into action to play their own part in helping them.

SoRT VESIT found it absolutely necessary to lend their maximum support to them. So, in collaboration with VF foundation, Wadala, SoRT VESIT contributed to the movement : "Rise for Kerala, Donate for Kerala".

A donation drive was held in college from August 21st to the 24th. The response from the students as well as the faculty was very heartfelt. Everyone was extremely supportive of this event, and several individuals came forward to volunteer as helping hands. Basic necessities like food, clothes and medicines were donated in enormous quantities. Some individuals also contributed money, SoRT used it for buying more medicines, since we were told that it was the most sought-after donation. The response from the students and the staff was overwhelming,

Donations being sent off

The SoRT Secretary for the academic year 2018-19, Sumit Manwani said, "The SoRT Family and other students put a lot of effort to make a difference by giving our own contribution. I thank VF foundation for giving us this opportunity to help our fellow brothers and sisters in need."

After organising the donations according to their food, clothing or medical category ,the donations were then sent through VF foundation, who send it via train to flood struck state of Kerala. The whole drive was completed successfully with great enthusiasm and overwhelming participation from the students as well as the college staff.

A poem to sum this entire scenario:

People are in danger back in wonderful state
One of the biggest disaster till date.
We all got together to help them quickly
They are not strangers now, they are part of our family.
We look at horizon hoping things will be better
Until then we'll be working Towards the better, Together.

Societies

The SEs Warm-up!
-Atharva Gupte and Atique Kudchi

VesLit Circle held its first literary event of the academic year 2018-19, which was the Debate eliminations for the Second Year students on the 13th and 14th of August.

VesLit Circle, which has been honing the debating skills of VESITians, has gained immense popularity amongst all students. The debate eliminations took place on the 13th and 14th of August in the Language Lab (Room no. 305). These eliminations were held to choose the team which would represent the SEs in the main debate event during VESLit Week, which is scheduled to be held in the second week of October. The judges for this event were Rakshit Ganvir (D14A), Gauri Surve (MCA 2A), Kabir Sachdev (D18) and Anirudh Roy(D17B). The contesters in the debates were fiery, showing great grit and courage with healthy arguments.

The SEs had been looking forward to this event and preparing for it for quite some time. This was evident in the way they presented themselves and the amount of research they had done. Every SE had given it their best and learnt oodles from our very insightful judges. In the end, only the best went ahead, while the others got the invaluable chance to improve themselves.

The following are the results in detail:

Anisha Kaul(D12A) instructing the participants

TOPIC	CLASSES
Private prisons are morally justified	D6B (Abhishek Bohra and Varun Pillai) vs D9A (CV Ananya and Jyeshtha Prabhu)
Indian Justice System leans towards the rich	D7B (Aditya Rao and Rahul Motwani) vs D9B (Adith Nair & Lewin Noronha)
Technology kills creativity	D10 (Nihar Kalsekar and Ninad Wadode) vs D7A (Rhea and Aishwarya Sahoo)
Artificial Intelligence causes lack of employment	D9B (Adith and Lewin) vs D9A (CV Ananya and Jyeshtha Prabhu)
Heterosexual couples make better parents	D6A (Itisha and Neeraj) vs D7B (Aditya and Rahul)
CBFC hinders artistic freedom	D7C (Deepak and Prateek) vs D6B (Varun and Abhishek)
Public transport in Mumbai should be made compulsory.	D8(Advait Mandlik and Onkar Raut) vs D9B (Adith and Lewin)

With the SE eliminations being this exciting itself, the main debate event will be twice as enthralling. The best performers from these events will be selected to represent VESIT in inter-college level debate competitions.

VESITConnect wishes all the participants the best of luck and hopes the best for their future!

Tinkerer's Twinkle at Arduino Workshop
-Pranav Phale and Aditya Srivatava

Arduino is an open source electronics platform based on easy-to-use hardware and software. Over the years Arduino has been the brain of thousands of projects, from everyday objects to complex scientific instruments. The Tinkerer's Lab (Instrumentation Department), for the first time in association with the International Society of Automation-VESIT (ISA-VESIT), conducted a workshop on 10th and 11th of August, 2018. It was based on the Arduino IDE and Arduino Boards. The Tinkerers gave a basic idea about microcontrollers and what Arduino is, and the different types of Arduino Boards available in the market. The workshop targeted those students who had little to no experience with electronics and didn't know where to start.

Details of the workshop were as follows:
1) The workshop was open for SEs from all departments.
2) It was held on 10th & 11th August 2018 in room no.117 from 3-5pm.
3) Participants were asked to register in a group of 3.
4) They were asked to have a fully charged laptop with Arduino IDE software installed.
5) Workshop Fees: Rs.50 per person.
6) For takeaway Arduino kit (Arduino Uno board), an additional Rs.375 per kit was charged.
7) A maximum of 17 groups were allowed but they exceeded the capacity to 20 groups while registration.

Students attending the workshop

Apart from takeaway kits, kits for hands-on session were provided to groups during the workshop who didn't opt for takeaway kits. The Tinkerer's student head, Ankit Gone said, "Arduino is the basic thing every technical student should know about. So, we decided to take Arduino as our first workshop. The time we sent the message, the response from the students was too quick which showed us that they were really excited about. At first, we were about to take only 17 groups but in 2-3 hours we got 22 responses. Unfortunately, we had to close the link to make the arrangements of the resources and made it possible for the 22 groups, all thanks to the ISA team. Even after that, we got more texts of students asking to join the workshop. But I had to say no, because of the linmited resources. The workshop was a runaway success. Students showed the same enthusiasm on both days and special thanks to ISA team for their help throughout the whole workshop which wouldn't have been possible without them. We are next planning for 'advanced Arduino workshop.' We haven't decided the topics but yes surely it'll be interesting and useful too, so please do attend."

MUSINGS & EXPRESSIONS

Musings of A Non-Mumbaikar
-Aaryaa Padhyegurjar (D6A)

So you're finally here! In Mumbai! You're probably happy.

I-don't-have-to-look-at-the-stupid-faces-of-my-boring-school-friends kind of happy! I-won't-have-to-tell-my-mom-when-i-go-shopping kind of happy. I-finally-got-a-new-phone kind of happy!! Yaay! Congrats!!

But honestly speaking, If you'd told me you're moving to Mumbai a few years ago, I would have said, "Yeahhh, I know Mumbai is cool and all, but don't come and crowd the city I was born in". Pardon my insensitivity. I was a pretty unlovable child LOL. But as maturity finally started to set it, I realized that I was kind of wrong.

I think everyone must live in Mumbai for a while, although I know that it is not practically possible. You will love the sophistication of South Bombay, the malls, the Queen's necklace, the Kala Ghoda festival, the Sea Link, the food (from Kashmiri pulao to Idiappam), the vast availability of things….. okay, the list is endless. But then after a few days you start to realize: No… there's more.

You start to notice things: little infidelities. Sometimes, it is like being in a difficult marriage where Mumbai is your spouse, not unfaithful, but definitely flawed.

You realize that there are loads and loads of people living on the streets, under the bridges, in nooks and corners. They obviously don't have any ID cards or Aadhar cards. Do they even come under the population census? God knows! Your car stops at a signal, and you hear a wimpy feeble knock. Beggars. Dishevelled, and sundried kids. Okay, so do I give her a few rupees? But you've already seen Slumdog Millionaire, so you think: These kids must be working for a gunda, so let me conveniently ignore them. The crowd, the evergreen traffic jams, the mawali areas, the slums, the flood.

But that's Bombay: a perfect combination of satisfaction and irritation; sophistication and mawaliness; culture and swag!. There is something about its air (apart from the pollution and dust). Mumbai is Mini-India. Mumbai is fun, Mumbai helps you gain perspective. You cannot get enough of it. And these little problems, they are not unsolvable, are they? Plus, we are a bunch of brainy people, aren't we? We can come up with wonderful solutions.

So yeahh….Welcome to our world!

PS: Aaryaa was born in Mumbai but had secondary schooling in Chennai.

-Tejas Doke(D9A)

-Tejas Doke(D9A)

-Vaibhavi Choudhary(D9B)

VESIT Diaries

-Gayatri Belapurkar

Miss Nithya Chandrasekaran, an alumnus of 2013 batch of Information Technology, is currently working as a Senior Software Engineer with Indus Valley Partners. She had came to the college to interview VESITians. Here are a few excerpts from an interview with her where she shares her journey and what professionals look for in the recruits.

1. Tell us something about your college life at VESIT.
Even though it's been 5 years since college, it seems like another life altogether. College time was an eye opener with not only text book lessons but life lessons too. It involved a lot of learning with projects and academics, fun with Sphurti and Utsav, smiling and helpful professors and a family in the form of friends.

2. Share a glimpse of your personal life.
My personal life is mostly spending time with my parents, sister and my 4 yr old niece who takes up most of my time and energy! To unwind I choose to listen to pop music, read fiction or go trekking. I also write poetry through my blog as a creative outlet.

3. Let's talk about your professional life.
I am currently working as a Senior Software Engineer at Indus Valley Partners. I got placed into IVP as a fresher from VESIT and I recently completed 5 years with IVP. I have worked on several different projects all focused on easing business processes for Hedge fund and/or Private Equity firms. I have had a combined exposure to different tech as well as domain knowledge at IVP.

Miss Nithya Chandrasekaran

4. Is it necessary to have a full proof plan for your career from the beginning?
One can never have a completely infallible plan in one's career. I believe having a goal at every step, that pushes you to get out of your comfort zone, is the best way to achieve what you want. Choose one among the available career options that interests you, follow it diligently but don't lose hope if it doesn't work out. There is always another option to fall back on. You need to keep revising your goals and keep pushing yourself towards it.

5. What do you think is the importance of extracurricular activities in a students' life and how to manage them.
In the stress of college, extracurriculars are like a breath of fresh air. They obviously alleviate stress and help you improve interpersonal skills which is very important once college ends. After all, the good times you had during extra curriculars is what you will remember more about college in later years.

6.Today the world is advancing at a rapid pace, can you throw some light upon activities that students can do from the beginning which will help them get an edge.
In my experience, excelling in academics alone is not enough for any individual to form a wholesome career. Try to be clear on what you want to pursue from the beginning. Learn more about current happenings in the field of your choice. Technical advances, pros and cons of certain technologies and why you are learning what you do etc helps. Create contacts, maintain friendships and cordial relationships with everyone because networking helps in later stages. Of course you also need to build a strong profile by having some meaningful extracurriculars too.

7. As a professional, what can you say the interviewers are looking for in freshers?
I believe the industry looks for well rounded individuals. Knowledge is not the only aspect needed. Fresher's need to know the applications of what they learn. Basically ability to convert knowledge into skills and a tolerance for changes and adaptability is very important.

8. Any message for the new generation at VESIT?
Well I could go on and on about this one! CGPA is important but not the only important thing. You are at a top college giving quality education, helpful staff and a huge library, make complete use of that. Do internships, it will shape you for industry exposure. Believe in yourself, you are your own hero. You have four irreplaceable years, make complete use of it. Learn more, work harder, make friends, forge memories that will last you for years to come. All the best!

The real test is not whether you avoid this failure, because you won't. It's whether you let it harden or shame you into inaction, or whether you learn from it; whether you choose to persevere.

-Barack Obama

Sports

Time to take up Sports again!

-Ninad Wadode and Padmaja Borwankar

Our college VESIT organizes Sphurti, our sports fest every year. Indoor Sphurti takes place in the odd semester and Outdoor Sphurti in the even semester. This year, Indoor Sphurti commenced on 13th August, 2018.

The inauguration ceremony was held on the first day, in the Boys' Common Room at 2:30 p.m. Various staff members as well as the student sports council members were a part of the ceremony. The inauguration started with the lighting of the lamp and seeking blessings of Goddess Saraswati. Few of the staff members included Mr. Yogesh Pandit, Mr. Vivek Umrikar, Mr. Manoj Sabnis, Mrs. Maheshwari Bharadwaj, Mr. Hiru Wadhwani and Ms. Kajal Jewani.

The staff members cut the red ribbon and indoor Sphurti was officially declared open. A brochure containing detailed information about the games and their draws was given to each staff member who was in-charge of sports. During the first week, only a few Table Tennis and Chess matches were held. The schedule had to be put on hold due to interim unit tests. The remaining matches will resume by the end of August.

The sports council has made some changes in the types of games played and their general rules. With Ryan Giggs, Paul Scholes, Ronaldinho, Hernan Crespo among the other legends to play the premier futsal league that was organized in India, the country has been swept by a tide of futsal craze and the sports council now has introduced that game in our college. Yes! The new council has brought in futsal as a part of the indoor Sphurti. Futsal is a variant of association football played on a hard court, smaller than a football pitch, but is mainly played indoors. It can be considered as a version of five-a-side football. Futsal is a skilled and quick game because of the limited size of field and number of players. VESIT is surely going to have fun competing in Futsal.

Badminton was scrapped this year due to court availability problems and darts was cancelled to put more impetus on chess and table tennis. The draws were conducted on August 9th in the Boys Common Room. The winners and runners-up of last year get a straight bye in the first round and the other teams are randomly selected in the process.

With the event being brought forward by two weeks, the new council was pitted against time to smoothly conduct the event. With exemplary time management skills and perseverance, they are doing a splendid job. The most important agenda for the council was organizing matches at times when both opponents don't have other commitments. Taking into consideration the lectures, placements and other cultural activities, the sports council has formed an excellent and well-balanced schedule for the students. Participation has increased in this year's Sphurti.

VESIT Connect wishes all the players good luck for their future matches!

Indoor Spurti Inaugration