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Hyderabad Campus



# Confluence of Academic Ideas, Intellect and Information (Workshop / Conferences / Symposiums)

# Webinar on, 'CO<sub>2</sub> Capture, Sequestration, Storage & Utilization for a Greener Tomorrow' by Dept of Chemical Engineering

Eminent researchers with diverse interests shared their ongoing research with students, faculties and research scholars in this webinar. The webinar saw participants from different parts of the world spanning across India, Singapore, China, Canada, etc. In this webinar, Prof Vivek Polshettiwar (Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, India) shared his research in the area of nanomaterials for CO<sub>2</sub> capture and utilization. Moving from nanomaterials, the next talk was delivered by Prof. Praveen Linga (Vice Dean Faculty of Engineering and Dean's Chair Associate Professor, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, National University of Singapore) on long-term storage solution of CO<sub>2</sub> in the form of CO<sub>2</sub>-hydrate.

#### Department of Chemical Engineering BITS Pilani Hyderabad Campus



Webinar on September 4, 2021 9:45-17:00 IST

CO<sub>2</sub> CAPTURE, SEQUESTRATION, STORAGE AND UTILIZATION FOR A GREENER TOMORROW

#### Opening Remarks 9:45-10:00 am



Prof. VIVEK POLSHETTIWAR
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, India
Nanomaterials for CO<sub>2</sub> Capture & Utilization
Time: 10:00-11:15

# Prof. PRAVEEN LINGA National University of Singapore, Singapore Long term & stable CO<sub>2</sub> hydrate based storage





Prof. FAROOQ SHAMSUZZAMAN
National University of Singapore, Singapore
Adsorption Technology for CO<sub>2</sub> Capture & Concentration
Time: 14:00-15:15

Prof. MICHELE ARESTA
University of Bari, Italy
CO<sub>2</sub> Conversion & the Transition from Linear to Cyclic
Carbon Economy
Time: 15:30-16:45



Link to Join Webinar: meet.google.com/itq-pxcz-fkc

Conveners: Dr. Arnab Dutta (arnabdutta@hyderabad.bits-pilani.ac.in)
Dr. Debirupa Mitra (debirupa@hyderabad.bits-pilani.ac.in)



To tackle a serious problem like CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, there has to be a right technology. In this context, Professor Farooq Shamsuzzaman (Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, National University of Singapore) shared insights based on his 30-years of research experience in the area of adsorption technology for CO<sub>2</sub> capture and concentration. The last talk in this webinar was delivered by Prof Michele Aresta (University of Bari, Italy, and CEO of 'Innovative Catalysis for Carbon Recycling-IC2R Ltd) on CO<sub>2</sub> Conversion and the transition from linear to cyclic carbon economy. This webinar indeed aided in knowledge transfer on one of the global concerns faced by humankind.





#### 'Into The Lab' Sessions

The Department of Chemical Engineering, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus, organized 'Into The Lab', which had sessions by Dr I Sreedhar and Dr Vikranth Surasani. They spoke of the intricacies of their research and answered doubts raised by students who wished to pursue future projects in the research domains of carbon capture, catalysis, computation tools, among others (September – October 2021).



#### 'Know Your Seniors' Programme

The Department of Chemical Engineering, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus organized 'Know Your Seniors', a weekly meet-up of recently graduated students who have excelled in various career streams — helped in guiding the undergraduate students in understanding the procedure their seniors underwent and the challenges they faced their academic goals (August — September 2021).



#### The Changing Face of Chemical Engineering: Future Prospects and Career Opportunities

The Department of Chemical Engineering, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus organized 'The Changing Face of Chemical Engineering: Future Prospects and Career Opportunities', in collaboration with Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, Hyderabad Regional Center (31 October – 1 November 2021).



# 27<sup>th</sup> International Conference of International Academy of Physical Sciences (IAPS) on Advances in Relativity and Cosmology (PARC-2021) by Dept of Mathematics

The Department of Mathematics has organized the 27th International Conference (online) of International Academy of Physical Sciences (IAPS) on Advances in Relativity and Cosmology (PARC-2021) in BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad Campus during 26-28 October 2021. The focus of the online event was on issues related to early and late time evolution of the Universe both in the context of Mathematics and Physics. The convener of the conference was Prof B Mishra. All sessions were conducted over Google Meet.

The event started with a brief inaugural session, in the presence of Prof Pankaj S Joshi, Provost, Charusat and Founding Director of ICC as the Chief Guest, Prof AK Mishra, Vice-President, IAPS, Prof G Sundar, Director BITS-Pilani Hyderabad Campus and Prof PK Sahoo, HoD, Mathematics. The convener delivered the welcome address, followed by the address of the chief guest, IAPS vice-president and the Director. At the end of the event, the Head of the Department offered the vote of thanks.

The webinar was divided into invited talk and paper presentation sessions. There were nine invited talks and one public talk given by leading scientists from across the globe and 114 research papers in 9 parallel sessions. Each day three parallel sessions were scheduled for paper presentations. There were 311 participants from 18 different countries in the event.

The webinar concluded with the valedictory session by the convener, followed by the address of the chief guest Prof. Ahmed Kamal, Senior Professor Emeritus, Department of Pharmacy, BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad Campus. An e-certificate towards participation and presentation was sent to the participants. Online feedback was obtained from the participants on the organization of the conference.

https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/hyderabad/parc/home

# Dept of Mathematics Celebrates 134<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Sri Srinivasa Ramanujan

On the 134<sup>th</sup> birthday of Sri Srinivasa Ramanujan, the Department of Mathematics, BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad campus organized a day-long program to celebrate the genius of Sri Srinivasa Ramanujan through various activities. The event was catalyzed and supported by National Council for Science & Technology Communication (NCSTC), Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India and Telangana State Council for Science and Technology (TSCOST) Dept. of EFS&T, Govt. of Telangana.

The following activities took place during the event:

- Plenary talk by Prof Anupam Saikia, IIT Guwahati.
- Poster Presentation by students on 'Beauty of Numbers' and 'Fun with Geometry' at Auditorium foyer.
- Movie on Srinivasa Ramanujan's life.
- Second Plenary talk by Prof. Atul Dixit, IIT Gandhinagar.
- Essay presentation on 'The Beauty of Numbers in Nature' and 'Mystery and Importance of Prime Numbers In Mathematics'.
- Faculty-students' interactions.
- Prize and Certificate distributions by Prof G Sundar, Director, BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad Campus at Library quadrangle (in front of auditorium).

#### **Speakers**

- Prof Anupam Saikia, IIT Guwahati
- Prof Atul Dixit, IIT Gandhinagar







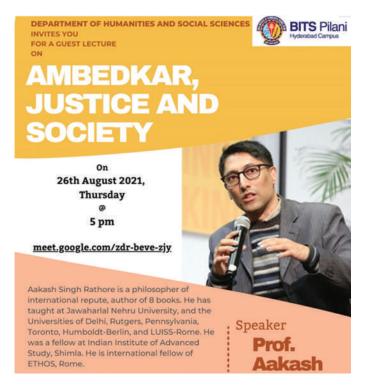






#### Dept of Humanities & Social Science

A webinar titled 'Ambedkar, Justice and Society' by Prof Aakash Singh Rathore was conducted on 26 August 2021.



Prof. Aakash Singh Rathore is a philosopher of international repute and author of eight books. He has taught at Jawaharlal Nehru University, and the Universities of Delhi, Rutgers, Pennsylvania, Toronto, Humboldt-Berlin, and LUISS-Rome. He is author of Ambedkar's Preamble: A Secret History of the Constitution of India, and Series Editor of the 15-Volume; Rethinking India Book Series, and Co-editor of its first volume, Vision for A Nation, with Prof. Ashis Nandy. He is Series Editor of Ethics, Human Rights and Global Political Thought, Religion and Democracy: Reconceptualizing Religion, Culture and Politics in Global Context (OUP).

# Dept of Electrical and Electronics Engineering organized a 5 days IoT workshop 27 to 31 July 2021

The workshop was conducted by Mr. Madhu Parvathaneni, Director and strategist, Mad blocks Technologies Limited, Hyderabad. Four days online session was attended by the

Faculty, Technicians, Research scholars and Higher degree students of the department of EEE. The workshop had 75 registered participants. A full day hands-on session was specially organized for the technicians of the department who enthusiastically attended the session.

The topics covered in the IoT bootcamp includes IoT architecture, Arduino programming, Interfacing sensors and actuators with Arduino uno, Raspberry Pi basics and interfacing, Raspberry Pi with sensors and actuators, Arduino and Raspberry Pi IoT protocols, basic Python programming, Thing speak IoT cloud, AWS server, Blynk IoT and basic machine learning with IoT.

#### **Dept of Economics & Finance**

Dr Suranjali Tandon (NIPFP, New Delhi) gave a talk on 'Tax Compliance in India: An Experimental Approach' on 18 November 2021. She is an Assistant Professor at the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi. She has done



her Ph.D from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She works in the area of taxation and sustainable finance. She is a special invitee to the sub-group on Financial and Regulation, and Task Force on Sustainable Finance. The talk was based on an analysis of results of a laboratory experiment conducted in 2015 to assess compliance behaviour in India. The experiment evaluates responses of participants to the changes in key policy instruments like tax rate, penalty rate and audit probability.

#### **Dept of Biological Sciences**

Dr. Kirtimaan Syal and his laboratory from the Department of Biological Sciences, BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad campus organized the DBT sponsored Biophysics module at PGIMER-Chandigarh from November 2021 to February 2022. The program aimed to benefit medical researchers and expand their knowledge in the field of Biophysics. The topics covered in the modules were: Basic Analytic Concepts, Spectroscopy, Hydrodynamics Methods, Radioisotopic Methods, Electrophoresis, Chromatography, X-Ray Crystallography, Optical Tweezers, Molecular Biology-Chemical Biology Methods, Microscopy and Mass Spectroscopy.

Prof Nishith Gupta and his team organised the 'Indo-German-China Monthly Symposium', January to December 2021.

## Invited Talk by Faculty

#### **Dept of Pharmaceutical Sciences**

- Prof Sajeli Begum delivered a talk for Indian Pharmaceutical Association – Community Pharmacy Division (IPA-CPD) on the topic 'Techniques in Structure Elucidation of Natural Molecules' organized by IPA Anand local branch and Anand Pharmacy College on 24 August 2021.
- Prof Balaram Ghosh delivered talks at the following events:
  - 'Development of HPMA-based Polymeric Micellar Systems for the Delivery of Anticancer Chemotherapeutics': International Virtual Conference on Biomaterial-Based Therapeutics, Engineering and Medicine (BIOTEM-2021): Organized by Departments of Biotechnology, Biomedical Engineering and Chemical Engineering, Manipal Institute of Technology, MAHE, Under the aegis of Society for Biomaterials & Artificial Organs India (SBAOI) and Society for Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine India (STERMI) Co-organized by The American Ceramic Society (ACerS), 17-20 December 2021.
  - Research Lecture Series at NMIMS, Shobhaben Pratapbhai Patel School of Pharmacy & Technology Management, Mumbai. 'Research Accomplishments: Journey through the Research Track'. Time: 3.30 to 5.00 PM (Lecture followed by Discussion): 9 October 2021.
  - Resource Person: 'Epigenetic Modulation: An Emerging Therapeutic Strategy for Many Diseases Including Cancer' in AICTE Sponsored Short Term Training Programme (STTP) themed on Bridging Industrial Opportunities with Academic Challenges: Prospective of Pharmaceutical Research organized by the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dibrugarh University, Assam during 26-31 July 2021.
  - AICTE sponsored grant for organizing the conference (GOC) from 18 to 29 October 2021 in online mode (Virtual) on 'Advancing Drug Discovery Development and Therapy with Research Informatics (ADDDTRI)' at the Institute of Pharmacy & Technology, Cuttack, Odisha.

#### **Dept of Physics**

- Prof Harihara Venkataraman delivered a talk on 'Materials Processes and Characterization of Rare-Earth Doped Layered Ferroelectric Ceramics for Random Access Memory Devices', International Conference on Advances in Functional Materials, University of California, Los Angeles, USA, 18-20 August 2021.
- Prof Satya Narayana Murthy was invited to be the Session Chair in National Symposium on 'Recent Advances in Magnetism and Spintronics (NS – MagSpin – 2021)', 20 December 2021.
- Prof Sarmistha Banik delivered a talk on 'Equation of State table with Exotic Matter for Supernova and Neutron Star Merger' in the conference 'The Modern Physics of Compact Stars and Relativistic Gravity', Yerevan, Armenia, 27-30 September 2021. She was also the keynote speaker in the workshop 'Exploring Binary Stars using Ground and Space based Observatories' at Osmania University, 22-23 October 2021.
- Prof Aranya B Bhattacherjee delivered a talk in Summer School on 'Quantum Information and Quantum Technology, Department of Physics', IISER Kolkata, India. 14 June - 18 July 2021. He also delivered an International Lecture Series on 'Recent Advances on Pure and Applied Physics' at the Department of Physics, University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya, 1 Oct - 1 Nov 2021.
- Dr Subrahmanya Bhima Sankar Davuluri conducted a seminar on 'Developing Quantum Technologies' at DRDO (Electronics and Communication systems), 19 November 2021.
- Dr Swastik Bhattacharya delivered a talk on 'Microscopic Modelling for Black Hole Membranes from Constraints of Symmetry', 16<sup>th</sup> Marcel Grossmann Conference, Rome, Italy, July 2021.

#### **Dept of Humanities & Social Sciences**

 Santosh Mahapatra conducted two sessions on 'Assessing Students Online' for college and university teachers during Online Refresher Course in English Language Studies, organized by UGC Human Resource Development Centre, University of Hyderabad, 7 August 2021.

### Paper Presentations by Faculty in International Conferences

#### **Dept of Biological Sciences**

- Dr Ruchi Jain Dey presented a paper on 'Temperature Management System for Microfluidics based Isothermal Nucleic Acid Amplification' (Theme: Novel application of RibH as diagnostic marker of TB using on chip RPA based detection) at 34<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Micro Electro Mechanical Systems (IEEE MEMS 2021) Virtual Conference on 29 July 2021.
- Dr Pragya Komal presented a paper at Canadian Association for Neuroscinces; 14th Canadian Neuroscience Meeting, held from 22 to 25 August 2021.
- Dr Pragya Komal presented a paper at Society for Neurosciences (SFN) United States, held on 11 August 2021.
- Prof Nishith Gupta presented a paper at Asian Congress of Protistology-IV, held from 18 to 21 November 2021.
- Prof P Sankar Ganesh delivered a lecture on 'What is (Y) Our Footprint?' at Human Behavior and Environmental Sustainability Conference on 17 December 2021.

#### **Dept of Chemical Engineering**

- Mr Suresh Kanuri, Dr Satyapaul A Singh, Dr Santanu P Datta, Dr Chanchal Chakraborty, Prof Sounak Roy, and Prof Srikanta Dinda, presented a paper on 'Thermodynamic Analysis of Methanol Synthesis via CO<sub>2</sub> Hydrogenation Reaction', 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on 'Chemical, Bio & Environmental Engineering, CHEMBIOEN-2021', (Virtual Conference) held on 20-21 August 2021 by Department of Chemical Engineering, Dr B R Ambedkar National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar 144011, Punjab, India.
- Dr Ramendra Kishore Pal delivered an oral presentation on 'Nano-fibrillated Cellulose-based Electrochemical Sensors for Sweat Diagnostics' in European Materials Research Society Spring Meeting, 2021.
- Dr Ramendra Kishore Pal delivered an oral presentation on 'Paper-based Plasma-Generating Electrodes for the Inactivation of Food-Pathogens' in the European Materials Research Society Spring Meeting, 2021.
- Dr Chandrakala K, Prof R B Adusumalli, presented a paper on 'Measurement of Epoxy Resin and Hair Fibres using Vickers Indentation', Proceedings of International

- Conference on Advanced Materials and Mechanical Characterisation (ICAMMC 2021), 2-4 December 2021 (Virtual, Organised by SRM Univeristy, Tamilnadu, India), pp: 460.
- Mr Utkarsh Upadhyay, Ms Sadaamnti Sireesha, Mr Sarthak Gupta, Dr I Sreedhar, Ms K L Anitha presented a paper on 'Modification of Alginate-Pectin Gel Beads with Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate for Enhanced Removal of Copper Ions', 2<sup>nd</sup> Virtual International Conference on 'Chemical Sciences in Sustainable Technology and Development (IC2S2TD-2021)', 24-25 November 2021. NIT Surat, India (Best Paper Award)
- Mr Sarthak Gupta, Ms Sadamanti Sireesha, Mr Utkarsh Upadhyay, Dr I Sreedhar, Ms K L Anitha presented a paper on 'Enhanced Removal of Cu(II) and Ni(II) lons from Aqueous Solution using Novel and Cost Effective Biochar based Adsorbent', International Chemical Engineering Conference, (IChEEC 2021), 17-19 September 2021, NIT Jalandhar, India (Online) (Best Paper Award)
- Mr Aayush Belwal and Dr Satyapaul A Singh delivered an oral presentation on 'Design of Nano Nickel Core-Shell Catalyst for Carbon Dioxide Methanation via Conventional Routes', 27<sup>th</sup> International Conference of International Academy of Physical sciences (CONIAPS XXVII) on Recent Advances in Catalysis Science & Engineering (RACSE) (Online conference) held on 26-28 October 2021 Organized by Department of Chemistry, National Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand, INDIA. (Best Oral Presentation Award)

#### **Dept of Humanities & Social Sciences**

- Dr Biswanath Dash presented a paper on 'Reading the Skies: Exploring the Intersection of Ethno Meteorology, Folk Traditions and Meteorology', at the 26<sup>th</sup> International Congress of History of Science and Technology, Prague, 25-31 July 2021.
- Dr Lavanya Suresh presented a paper on 'Who Wants to Conserve the Western Ghats? The Politics of Conflict and Conservation in Idukki District, Kerala' at the 7<sup>th</sup> International Degrowth and 16<sup>th</sup> ISEE Joint Conference on Building Alternative Livelihoods in times of ecological and political crisis hosted by The University of Manchester from 5 to 8 July 2021.

- Prof Shilpaa Anand, presented a paper on 'Always Already Triggered' in the conference strand 'Disability/ Pandemic / Culture' organized by the Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society at the National University of Singapore, July 2021.
- Dr Anhiti Patnaik presented a paper on 'Neo-Victorian Disorientation in Penny Dreadful and Picture of Dorian Gray', at the The Neo-Victorian and the Late-Victorian: Texts, Media, Politics, University of Brighton, UK, Sep 2021.
- Dr Pranesh Bhargava and Dr Suchismita Satpathy presented a paper on 'Ethical Concern in India's Al Policy. Presented Online at CEPE / IACAP Joint Conference 2021, from 5-9 July 2021, Universität Hamburg, Germany on 7 July 2021.

#### **Dept of Civil Engineering**

- Mr Rohit Dwivedula, Ms R Madhuri, Prof K Srinivasa Raju, Prof A Vasan (2021) presented a paper on 'Fuzzy Optimization Framework for Facilitating Best Management Practice in the Context of Urban Floods', 26<sup>th</sup> HYDRO 2021, International Conference, SV National Institute of Technology, Surat, India, 23-25 December 2021, Page number 167 in the Proceeding book (Paper number 324; Presented on December 24, 2021, Session TS3-STW2)
- Dr S C Mohan, Mr CH B V Hareen presented a paper on 'Pushover based Torsional Response of Infill Wall Buildings with Plan and Vertical Irregularities', 17<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Earthquake Engineering, 17 WCEE, Sendai, Japan -28 September to 2 October 2021.
- Mr Satish N, Prof Jagadeesh Anmala, Prof Murari R R Varma, Dr K Rajitha presented a paper on 'An Approach to Determine Land Use Factors to Study their Influence on Stream Water Quality, 26th HYDRO 2021 International Conference on Hydraulics, Water Resources and Coastal Engineering, held at SVNIT Surat, Gujarat, India, 23-25 December 2021.
- Mr Cherian, Ms Sandra Maria, and Dr K Rajitha presented a paper on 'Polarimetric Coherence Analysis for Mangrove Types Discrimination of Pichavaram, India using Sentinel-1 Satellite Data', 2021 IEEE International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium IGARSS, IEEE, 2021, 16 July 2021.

- Mr Patil S M, Dr Majumdar B, and Prof Sahu P presented a paper on 'Life Cycle Cost Analysis of Electric Two-wheelers in India Context', The 14<sup>th</sup> EASTS (Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies) Conference Higashi-Senda Innovative Research Center, Hiroshima University, Japan, 12-15 September 2021 (Nominated for Best Paper Award).
- Mr Chirdeep NR, Mr Chowdary MB, Dr Shekhar presented a paper on 'Influence of Corrosion Deterioration on Lifetime Seismic Resilience of Highway Bridges', 12<sup>th</sup> Structural Engineering Convention – An International Event (SEC 2020+1), MNIT Jaipur, India.

#### Dept of CSIS

- Dr Barsha Mitra presented a paper on 'Enforcing Cardinality Constraint in Temporal RBAC' at the 19<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Security and Cryptography (SECRYPT), Core B ranking, 6-8 July 2021 (Online Event).
- Dr Manjanna B presented a paper on 'The k-Colorable Unit Disk Cover Problem' at the 21<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Computational Science and its Applications (ICCSA 2021), Cagliari, Italy, 13-16 September 2021 (Online Event).
- Prof Aruna Malapati presented a paper on 'An Ensemble Model for Sentiment Classification on Code-Mixed Data in Dravidian Languages' in the Forum for Information Retrieval Evaluation 2021 (FIRE 2021), ACM, 13-17 December 2021(Virtual Event).
- Prof G Geethakumari was a speaker in the Workshop on 'Routing Protocol Security in the Internet of Things Environment' in the IEEE ANTS 2021 Conference, 13-16 December 2021, (Online Event).

#### **Dept of Economics & Finance**

- Dr Nivedita Sinha presented a paper on 'Entrepreneurial Finance and Crisis Events' at the Academy of Behavioral Finance & Economics & Entrepreneurial Finance, Los Angeles, CA, the USA (Virtual) on on 23 September 2021.
   Same paper was presented at Vietnam Symposium on International Business, during 22-23 July 2021 (Virtual).
- Dr Swati Alok, Dr Sajeli Begum and Dr Rishi Kumar presented a paper on "Impact Assessment of

- 'Community Training Program' on Dengue Prevention and Control" at the 81st Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management, New York during 29 July 4 August 2021 (Virtual).
- Ms Keerti Mallela, Dr Archana Srivastava, and Dr Sunny Kumar Singh presented paper on 'Remittances and Technology Spillovers: Empirical Evidence from Remittance-Receiving Economies' at the 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Economics (EconWorld-World Economic Research Institute (WERI)) on 24 September 2021 (Virtual).
- Ms Keerti Mallela, Dr Archana Srivastava, and Dr Sunny Kumar Singh presented a paper on 'Remittances and Technology Spillovers: Empirical Evidence from Remittance-Receiving Economies' at the 37<sup>th</sup> Eurasia Business and Economics Society (EBES), Berlin during 6-8 October 2021 (Virtual).

#### **Dept of Mathematics**

- Prof Bivudutta Mishra, delivered a talk titled 'Late Time Cosmic Acceleration in f(Q,T) Gravity, The Modern Physics of Compact Stars and Relativistic Gracity-2021', 27-30 September 2021, held at Yerevan State University, Armenia.
- Prof Bivudutta Mishra, delivered a talk titled 'Matter Bounce Scenario in f(Q,T) gravity', 21st Alternative Gravities and Fundamental Cosmology (ALTECOSMOFUN-21), 6-10 September 2021, held at University of Szczecin, Poland.
- Prof Bivudutta Mishra, delivered a talk titled 'Little Rip Cosmology in Extended Gravity', 21st International Conference on Physical Interpretation of Relativity Theory (PIRT-2021), 5-9 July 2021, held at Bauman Moscow State Technical University, Moscow.
- Prof Pradyumn Kumar Sahoo, delivered a talk on 'Existence of Bulk Viscous Universe in f(R,T) Gravity and Confrontation with Observational Data', 6-10 September 2021, Alternative Gravities and Fundamental Cosmology (ALTECOSMOFUN '21) Virtual meeting from at Szczecin Cosmology Group, Institute of Physics, University of Szczecin, Poland.

- Prof Pradyumn Kumar Sahoo delivered a talk on 'Traversable Wormhole Geometries in Symmetric Teleparallel Gravity', 5-10 July 2021, Sixteenth Marcel Grossmann Meeting - MG16 Virtual meting.
- Prof Pradyumn Kumar Sahoo delivered a talk on 'Wormhole Geometry in a Modified Symmetric Teleparallel Gravity', July 5-9 2021, XXII International meeting Physical Interpretations of Relativity Theory (PIRT-2021) at Bauman Moscow State Technical University, Moscow, Russia.
- Dr Santanu Koley delivered a talk titled 'Hydrodynamic Performance of the Dual-Chamber Oscillating Water Column Device Placed Over the Undulated Sea Bed', 10-12 September 2021, CPESE-2021 organized by Fukuoka Institute of Technology, Fukuoka, Japan.
- Prof Sumit Kumar Vishwakarma delivered a talk titled 'Love Wave Dispersion in an Inhomogeneous Earth's Crust Lying Over a Pre-stressed Inhomogeneous Mantle', 12-15 July 2021, 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Recent Advances in Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering and Soil Dynamics (ICRAGEE) via online mode held at IISc. Bangalore.
- Prof Jagan Moan Jonnalagadda presented a paper titled 'A Remark on the Memory Property of Fractional Difference Operators', 6-8 September 2021, International Conference on Fractional Differentiation and its Applications (ICFDA – 2020) Organised by Warsaw University of Technology, Warsaw, Poland.
- Prof Jagan Moan Jonnalagadda presented a paper titled 'Stability and Asymptotic Behaviour of a Linear Nabla Fractional Difference Equation', 26-30 July 2021, International Conference on Difference Equations and Applications (ICDEA - 2021) Organised by University of Sarajevo, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

#### **Dept of Electrical & Electronics Engineering**

 Naveen Bokka, Jay Karhade and Parikshit Sahatiya presented a paper titled 'A Water Soluble Micro patterned MoS2 QDs/PVA film as a Transient Pressure Sensor',

- IEEE Conference on Nanotechnology (IEEE NANO) 2021, 28-30 July 2021.
- Sharvani Gadgil and Chetan Vudadha presented a paper titled 'Design of CNFET-based Low-Power Ternary Sequential Logic Circuits' - IEEE Conference on Nanotechnology (IEEE NANO) 2021, 28-30 July 2021.
- Avinash Kothuru and Sanket Goel presented a paper titled 'Laser Induced Graphene: Paper and Cloth Based Flexible Electronics' - EEE International Flexible Electronics Technology Conference (IEEE IFETC 2021), 8-11 August 2021.
- Abhishek Varshney, Renuka Loka, Alivelu M. Parimi presented a paper titled 'Fast Frequency Response Using Model Predictive Control for A Hybrid Power System 9th IEEE International Conference on Smart Energy Grid Engineering, (SEGE 2021) - Ontario Tech University, Oshawa, Canada, 11-13 August 2021.
- M K Aparna Nair, P Veda Bhanu, J Soumya and L Reddy Cenkeramaddi presented a paper titled 'Architectural Implementation of a Reconfigurable NoC Design for Multi-Applications - 24th Euromicro Conference on Digital System Design (DSD), 1-3 September 2021.
- Dig Vijay Singh, Rahul, Ajmeria, Rishabh Singh, Manik Gupta and R N Ponnalagu presented a paper titled 'DAWSSM: Α Plug-and-Play Drone Assisted Water Sampling and Sensing Module -47th Annual Conference of the IEEE Industrial Electronics society IECON 2021', 13-16 October 2021.

- Samit Kumar Ghosh, Rajesh Kumar Tripathy, R N Ponnalagu presented a paper titled 'Classification of PCG Signals using Fourier-based Synchrosqueezing Transform and Support Vector Machine' IEEE Sensors Conference 2021, 31 October -4 November 2021.
- K Gupta, S Sahoo, R Mohanty, B K Panigrahi and F Blaabjerg presented a paper titled 'Decentralizd Anomaly Characterization Certificates in Cyber-Physical Power Electronics Based Power Systems - 2021', IEEE 22<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on Control and Modelling of Power Electronics (COMPEL)', Cartagena, Colombia, November 2021.
- H.P. Shrimathi and Mithun Mondal presented a paper titled 'Electroquasistatic Simulations of Wet-Dry Band Polymeric Insulator with Different Grading ZnO Microvaristor Field Designs 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Condition Assessment Techniques in Electrical Systems (IEEE-CATCON)', 3-5 December 2021.
- Jayapiriya U S and Sanket Goel presented a paper titled '3D printed Mxene enhanced Electrodes' - 16th IEEE Nanotechnology Materials and Devices Conference (IEEE NMDC 2021), 12-15 December 2021.
- Anil Kumar and Syed Ershad Ahmed presented a paper titled 'Lower Part OR Based Approximate Multiplier for Error Resilient Applications', 2021 IEEE International Symposium on Smart Electronic Systems - MNIT, Jaipur, 20-22 December 2021.

## **Library Completes 10 Years**



When BITS Pliani Hyderabad campus was started 14 years ago, in 2008, the present Chemistry block (CAL) was the makeshift Library for this campus. One of the dreams was to build a beautiful and highly efficient library that BITSians deserve and should use. Hence a team of highly qualified professionals started working on the project to make the dream a reality.

The plan materialized, and the foundation stone was laid in 2009. In a short span of about two years, the construction was completed and was made available for use. It was inaugurated by the erstwhile Governor of Telangana, Shri ESL Narasimhan, on 16 December 2011. Since then, Central Library has been the house for a rich collection of books and e-resources. It has served as a go-to place for the students, the teaching fraternity and the campus community who seek out knowledge.

To commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the inauguration of the Library, a photo exhibition of the Library was organized in addition to displaying more than 1000 new books procured between 16 and 25 December 2021. For many people, the photo exhibition on the Library brought back memories of the library's growth.

The Library consists of two floors and two large reading halls. It also has individual study carrel for people who opt to work alone. It is spread across an area of 55000 sqft. The current book stock is 45000, and the Library subscribes to 11000 e-journals/databases and print journals. Book exhibitions are held annually at the Library, where a great assortment of books is displayed to recommend to the library by the faculty and students.











### Faculty Awards / Achievements

#### **Dept of Biological Sciences**

- Dr Ruchi Jain Dey, Life Membership at Indian Society for the Study of Reproduction and Fertility on 15 July 2021.
- Dr Ruchi Jain Dey, Life Membership at Society for Reproductive Biology and Comparative Endocrinology on 1 November 2021.
- Dr Pragya Komal, Key note Symposia Scholarship Awardee-Vitamin D Workshop organised by Keynote e- symposia on 14 October 2021.
- Dr Pragya Komal, Women Researcher Award from International Scientist Awards on Engineering, Science and Medicine on 9 August 2021.
- Dr Shuvadeep Maity, Life Membership at Indian Academy of Neurosciences on 16 September 2021.
- Dr Shuvadeep Maity, Associate Editor at Cell & Cellular Life Sciences Journal (CCLSJ) ISSN: 2578-4811 on 20 October 2021.
- Dr Ruchi Jain Dey, Guest Editor at Frontiers in Reproductive Health on 19 November 2021.
- Dr Ruchi Jain Dey, Filed a Patent 'Recombinant Multivalent Vaccine', on 18 July 2021.
- Prof Jayati Ray Dutta, Filed a patent 'Caffeic Acid Amine Complexes', on 9 August 2021.
- Prof P Sankar Ganesh, Filed a patent 'An Anaerobic Reactor for Efficient Biomethanation of Organic Waste', on 11 November 2021.

#### **Dept of Chemical Engineering**

- Dr Pankaj Kumar delivered an expert lecture on 'Production of Transportation Fuels from Biomass' in faculty development program, HBTI, Kanpur, on 10 August 2021.
- Dr Arnab Dutta received the Young Researcher Award, 2021 (Institute of Scholars).
- Dr Arnab Dutta was invited reviewer to evaluate the curriculum and research at School of Chemical & Biological Engineering, Seoul National University [QS Department Ranking, 2020: 25].

- Prof Balaji Krishnamurthy received a grant of Rs 32.16 Lacs from DBT to work on the project titled 'Modeling the Performance of DET and MET based Enzymatic Glucose Fuel Cells' (2021-2024).
- Dr lyman Abrar received Additional Competitive Research grant of Rs 9.5 Lacs from BITS Pilani to work on the project titled 'Development of Alcohol-Gasoline-Water Micro Emulsion Fuels for Spark-Ignition Engines' (2021-2023).
- Dr Debirupa Mitra received Additional Competitive Research grant of Rs 8 Lacs from BITS Pilani to work on the project title 'Multifunctional Antimicrobial Hydrogels for Next-Generation Wound Dressings' (2021-2023).
- Dr Satya Paul Singh, Prof I. Sreedhar received a grant of Rs 32.04 Lacs from Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) - Core Research Grant (CRG) to work on project titled 'Mechanistic Insights of CO, Methanation Using Core-Shell Catalysts.
- Prof I Sreedhar was invited for a Keynote Lecture for Faculty Development Programme (FDP), College of Engineering, JNTU Anantapuram, 15-20 February 2021 (Laboratory and Workshop Learning Skills for Conducting Practical Classes).
- Prof Ramesh Babu Adusumalli received a grant of Rs 16.24 Lacs from Advanced System Laboratory (DRDO) to work on a project titled 'Developmental Studies on Evaluation of Paint for Composite Substrate', February 2021.
- Dr Karthik Chethan V received a project to work on 'Indegenization of Core Shell Rubber Modified Epoxy Resin'. The project is funded by Advanced Systems Laboratory (ASL), Hyderabad (started in Dec 2021, duration is 18 months)
- Dr Afkham Mir received a grant of Rs. 2 Lacs to work on project titled 'Novel Solid State Film Super Capacitor Using Electrochemically Synthesized Doped Graphene Assembly'. From Research Initiation Grant, BITS Pilani.

#### **Dept of Civil Engineering**

• Prof K S Raju was a Member of Board of Studies for Methodist College of Engineering and Technology, Hyderabad [With effect from 24 September 2021, for a period of three years]

 Prof Arkamitra Kar has received 2021, Session Chair, The First International Conference on Recent Advancements in Civil Engineering (ICRACE) 2021, 17-19 September 2021, NIT Silchar.

#### **Dept of CSIS**

 Prof G Geethakumari was the Tutorial Chair for the IEEE International Conference on Advanced Networks and Telecommunications Systems (IEEE ANTS) 2021, held during 13-16 December 2021, Hyderabad, India.

#### **Dept of Economics & Finance**

- Dr Mini Thomas participated in the 'Online IGC-CDS Summer School in Development Economics' during 5-7 July 2021.
- Dr Rishi Kumar served as part of the Jury for the Doctoral Scholar's Session - Economics for DOCMAD Conference, IRMA on 15 November 2021.

#### **Dept of Mathematics**

- Dr Santanu Koley, Core Research Grant in Mathematics, SERB, Govt. of India.
- Dr Nijjwal Karak, Startup Research Grant in Mathematics, SERB, Govt. of India.
- Dr. Manish Kumar
  - Fellow, The Institute of Mathematics and Its Applications, London, U.K.
  - Programme Committee Member of the International Conference on Bioengineering, Biomedical Signal and Image Processing (BIOMESIP 2021), Gran Canaria, Spain, 19-21 July 2021.
  - Life Member, International Society for Analysis, its Applications and Computation, Sweden.
  - Reviewer in International Conference on Innovation and Application in Science and Technology, organized by Department of Applied Sciences, Galgotias, College of Engineering and Technology, Greater Noida, UP, India, 21-23 December 2021.

#### Dept of Electrical & Electronics Engineering

- Dr Rajesh Kumar Tripathy, got certified Senior Data Scientist – United States Data Science Institute (USDSI™)
- Dr Rajesh Kumar Tripathy, became Associate Editor for IEEE Access IEEE.

- Dr Parikshit Sahatiya, became Associate Editor for Nature Scientific Reports Nature.
- Prof Sanket Goel, Ms Renuka Hyderkhan and Mr Prasanth Kumar Enaganti have filed a patent titled 'Method of Fabricating A Graphene Electrode Based Heterojunction Photovoltaic Cell'.
- Mr Naveen Bokka and Dr Parikshit Sahatiya have filed a patent titled 'Thermal Triggered Transient Field Effect Transistor with Wax as Dielectric'.
- Mr Rajasekhar Nalanagula, Prof Runa Kumari, Mr Naresh K. Darimireddy have filed a patent titled 'Dual Circularly Polarized Dielectric Resonator Based Compact Hybrid Antenna for Dual-Functional Applications'.
- Prof Sanket Goel, Prof S K Sahoo and Ms Mrunali Wagh, have a filed a patent titled 'An Electrochemical Microfluidic Device and A Process for Preparing the Same'.

#### **Dept of Mechanical Engineering**

 Prof Sandip Shridharrao Deshmukh received Prof SSR Memorial Teaching Excellence Award 2021 by BITS Pilani.

#### **Dept of Pharmaceutical Sciences**

- Dr Venkata Vamsi Krishna Venuganti, Number of Patents:
   02
  - Mr Sudeep Kumar Gade, Mr Prashant Garg, Mr Venkata Vamsi Krishna Venuganti, Mucoadhesive Drug Delivery System for Ocular Administration of Fluoroquinolone Antibiotics. Indian Patent award number 370943, 1 July 2021.
  - Mr Venkata Vamsi Krishna Venuganti, Mr Leela Sai Lokesh Janardhanam, A Targeted Drug Delivery System Comprising A Polymeric Film in Capsule. Indian Patent award number 383805, 7 December 2021.
- Dr J Nirmal, Number of Patents: 02
  - Dr Nirmal J, Mr Velmurugan K, Mr Prashant Garg, A Biodegradable Ocular Patch for Treating Eye Infections and A Method of Preparing the Same. IN202111058587, 2021, Patent filed.
  - Dr Nirmal J, Ms Priyadarshini Sathe, Mr Prashant Garg, Mr Velmurugan K, A Pharmaceutical Composition Comprising Nanomicelles and A Method of Preparing the same. IN202111058586, 2021, Patent filed.

- Prof Balaram Ghosh, Number of Patents: 03
  - A Hydrophilic Redox-Responsive Polymeric Micelle Comprising Chlorin E6 for Photodynamic Therapy, Ms Swati Biswas, Mr Balaram Ghosh, Ms Preeti Kumari; Patentauthority. BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad Campus Indian Patent Application number 201711038735; Filed on Oct 2017. Published 21 June 2019, Granted on 5 September 2021. Granted Patent No. 364102.
  - Novel Rhodamine B Amides and Processes for Preparing the Same, Ms Jayanty Subbalakshmi, Ms B. Himabindu, Mr Balaram Ghosh, Ms Yamini Bobde. BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad Campus. Indian Patent Application Number 2019110220063; Filed on 21 May 2019, Granted on 29 October 2021, Granted Patent No. 380926.
  - Nanoconjugate of A Platinum(IV) Compound and Human Serum Albumin, Ms Swati Biswas, Mr Balaram Ghosh, Mr Milan Paul: Patent Authority BITS-Pilani: Indian Patent Application Number: 202111040695, July 23, 2021.
- Dr D Sriram, Number of Patents: 01
  - New Uses and Compositions, Mr Robert Schnell, Mr Gunter Schneider, Mr Dharmarajan Sriram, Ms Rudraraju Reshma Srilakshmi, Mr Goud Dasugari Varakala Saiprasad, UK Patent, Patent Application Number 2114798.8 Dated 15 October 2021.
- Prof P Yogeeswari, Number of Patents: 01
  - Indian Patent Granted: A Compound for Treating Inflammatory Neuropathic Pain and Cancer - Patent No. 360741.

#### **Dept of Physics**

- Dr Sashideep Gutti's paper, 'Pattern Formation, Pulsation and Traveling Wave on Active Spherical Membranes', was featured on the front cover of Soft Matter, a Journal of Royal Society of Chemistry (Page 10583-10778, 2021). https://pubs.rsc.org/en/content/articlelanding/2021/ sm/d1sm90218k
- Prof V Satya Narayana Murthy and Prof P K Thiruvikraman published a paper in Nature Scientific Reports.
- Mr Sateesh Kandukuri, Prof V Satya Narayana Murthy and Prof P K Thiruvikraman (2021) 'Isolated Skyrmion, Skyrmion Lattice and Antiskyrmion Lattice Creation through Magnetization Reversal in Co/Pd nanostructure', Sci Rep 11, 18945.2021.
- Prof V Satya Narayana Murthy was a resource person for a faculty development programme on nanotechnology in communication systems organized by Institute of Aeronautical Engineering, Hyderabad during 2 to 14 November 2021.
- Prof Sarmistha Banik is now an associate of Indian Pulsar Timing Array (InPTA) group, that aims to detect nanoHertz Gravitational Waves with the help of Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT).

#### Student Awards / Achievements

#### **Dept of Biological Sciences**

- Abirami T. Subramanian (2019H1290548H) achieved 'DBT-JRF category II' from DBT, Govt. of India, August 2021.
- Ms Ramya Tammineni (2021PHXP0009H) achieved 'DBT-JRF category II' from DBT, Govt. of India, August 2021.
- Ms S K Venkata Manjari (2018PHXF0002H) awarded 'Best Poster' at IBRO-School of Life Sciences, Chennai, September 2021.
- Ms Monica (2017PH290015H) achieved 'Lady Tata Memorial JRF' from Lady Tata Memorial Trust, October 2021.
- Mr Dhansri Krishnamurthy (2018PHXF0400H) achieved 'CSIR-UGC SRF Fellowship' from UGC, Govt. of India, December, 2021.
- Ms Bakhya Shree. GB (2017PHXF0001H) secured 2<sup>nd</sup> rank in young researcher award by NBRCOM, Society of young biomedical scientists, December 2021.
- Ms Shraddha Tripathi (2019PHXF0403H) secured 1st Rank in 35th Annual meeting of Society for Neurochemistry, India (SNCI) and International conference on Neurodegeneration and Cognition: Recent Advances in Neurological Diseases, December 2021.
- Ms Shraddha Tripathi (2019PHXF0403H) was awarded Certificate of Appreciation in Life Sciences Category in young researcher award by NBRCOM, Society of Young Biomedical Scientists, December 2021.

#### **Dept of Chemical Engineering**

- Utkarsh Upadhyay, Sadaamnti Sireesha, Sarthak Gupta, I. Sreedhar, K L Anitha 'Modification of Alginate-Pectin Gel Beads with Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate for Enhanced Removal of Copper Ions', 2<sup>nd</sup> Virtual International Conference on Chemical Sciences in Sustainable Technology and Development (IC2S2TD-2021), 24-25 November 2021. NIT Surat, India (Best Paper Award).
- Mr Sarthak Gupta, Sadamanti Sireesha, Utkarsh Upadhyay, I. Sreedhar, K.L. Anitha, Enhanced Removal of Cu(II) and Ni(II) lons from Aqueous Solution Using Novel and Cost Effective Biochar based Adsorbent', International Chemical Engineering Conference, (IChEEC 2021), 17-19 September 2021, NIT Jalandhar, India (Online) (Best Paper Award).
- Talk: Aayush Belwal and Satyapaul A. Singh. Design of nano nickel core-shell catalyst for carbon dioxide methanation via conventional routes, 27th International

- Conference of International Academy of Physical sciences (CONIAPS XXVII) on Recent Advances in Catalysis Science & Engineering (RACSE) (Online conference) held on 26-28 October 2021 Organized by Department of Chemistry, National Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand, INDIA. (Best Oral Presentation Award)
- Mayuri Dhole (ME student) won the ACS (American Chemical Society) Best Poster Presentation Award at the International Conference on Complex Fluids and Soft Matter (Compflu 2021) organized by IIT Gandhinagar and the Indian Society of Rheology, 13-15 December 2021.

#### **Dept of Economics & Finance**

- Mr Shubh Mansinghka, MSc (Eco) 2019-24 batch, received Entrepreneur of the Year Award by BITSAA International in December 2021.
- Ms Jui Pradhan, MSc (Eco) completed 3 months of contributions to open source projects in the Google Summer of Code Programme (May-August). She was also selected as a student Delegate in the ECCV 2020 (August).
- Ms Aastha Dave, MSc (Eco) 2017-22 batch, published her research work in 2D Nanomaterial Applications in Electronics in IEEE Consumer Electronics Magazine for which she was granted second authorship. She was also amongst 57 students across India to be selected as a Future Research Talent Scholar to pursue a summer research internship at Australian National University.
- Mr Pratik Kamdar, MSc (Eco) 2017-22 batch secured an internship at the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- MrPranay Khatwani, MSc (Eco) 2017-22 batch got selected as a member of Harvard Business Review Ascend Select, an invite - only and an exclusive community of aspiring leaders, handpicked by HBR Ascend.
- Mr Vikas Sheoran, MSc (Eco) 2018-23 batch, worked on the problem of age estimation and gender prediction and achieved state of the art results on the UTKFace dataset using deep learning. These approaches were Published in the 5<sup>th</sup> IAPR International Conference on Computer Vision & Image Processing, IIIT Allahabad in collaboration with another student from BPGC.

#### Dept of Mathematics

 Ms Laxmipriya Pati (2019PHXP0464H), Dora Plus Scholarship, University of Tartu.

- Mr Tapas Ranjan Panigrahi (2017PHXF0412H), Best Paper Presentation, ICRAGEE-2021.
- Mr Kottala Panduranga, 2018PHXF0027H, Best poster presentation, NCASM-2020.

#### **Dept of Pharmaceutical Sciences**

- Kanitkar (2020A5PS2546H), **BITS** Merit Scholarship in October 2021.
- Asif Itoo, LTMT Junior Research fellowship, October -2021.
- Srivarsha Reddy Bollareddy, LTMT Junior Research fellowship, October 2021.
- Manisha Malani, Best oral presentation award in ARVO-India conference, October 2021.

#### Dept of Physics

Poster Presentation Tanmay Chawhan by [2018B5A71056H] (co-author: Prof Sarmistha Banik) in International Astronomical Union (IAU) Symposium 363

- 2021, which took place virtually from 29 November to 3 December 2021.
- Two B5 students Sanika Khadkikar [2017B5A41696H] & Chatrik. S. Mangat [2017B5A70822H] published their work in highly reputed journals.
- Sanika Khadkikar, Adriana R. Raduta, Micaela Oertel, Armen Sedrakian, Maximum mass of compact stars from gravitational wave events with finitetemperature equations of state, Phys Rev C 103, 055811 (2021)DOI:https://doi.org/10.1103/ PhysRevC.103.055811.
- C S Mangat, J P McKean, R Brilenkov, P Hartley, HR Stacey, S. Vegetti, D. Wen, PSJ1721+8842: a gravitationally lensed dual AGN system at redshift 2.37 with two radio components Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society: Letters, Volume 508, Issue 1, November 2021, https://doi.org/10.1093/mnrasl/ Pages L64-L68, slab106.

#### Alumni Relations

#### BITSians' Day Talk

On 8 August 2021, a virtual talk titled Engineering to Management Consultancy was delivered by Mr. Hari Krishna Upadhyayula (an alumnus of the Hyderabad Campus currently working with the Government of Andhra Pradesh) on the occasion of BITSians' Day. The session provided insights on the rural picture and the challenges and risks of government-based social work. Highlights of the talk included vivid images accompanied by anecdotes, concluding with pointers on how people from all walks of life can contribute to development in rural areas.

#### **Know Your Distinguished Alumnus Series**

As part of the virtual DAA talk series, the Hyderabad Campus hosted Mr. TM Vijay Bhaskar, Ex-Chief Secretary for the Government of Karnataka and an alumnus of the Pilani Campus on 17 November 2021. The talk focused on how studying at BITS helped him dispense the duties associated with his post. He gave guidance to those who aim to pursue a similar career path. The session concluded with fond recollections of the milestones of his journey so far and his hopes for the future of BITS.

#### Prof SS Ranganathan Memorial Teaching Excellence Award - 2021

The Prof SS Ranganathan Memorial Teaching Excellence Award - 2021 was awarded to Prof Sandip Deshmukh of the Hyderabad Campus this year, on 5 September, coincident with the Teachers' Day celebrations. Mr Parthasarathy of the 1978-83 batch delivered the keynote address, with notable attendees being the Directors of all campuses. Prof Deshmukh concluded the event with a lecture on suggestions to improve teaching and making the learning process more engaging.



# Sanctioned Projects (SRCD) During Jan-June 2021

SI. No.	Title of the Project	Name of the PI	PI-Dept	Co-PI-Name	Co-PI-Dept	Funding Agency	Sanctioned- Amount (Rs)	Sanctioned Date
1	IoT and ML Enabled Multiplexed Fully Integrated Portable Platform for Onsite Measurement of Water Quality Indicators	Dr Ponnalagu R N	EEE	Dr Manik Gupta, Dr Satish Kumar Dubey, Dr Sanket Goel	CSE, Mechanical, EEE	DST SERB POWER	2678170	14 July 2021
2	Data Driven Multimodal System for Academic Stress Management in Indian Universities (ARU)	Dr Manik Gupta	CSIS	Dr Dipanjan Chakraborty	CSIS	DST SERB POWER	1658316	14 July 2021
3	Calpain Mediated Disruption of Axon-glia Interaction in Peripheral Neuropathies	Dr Abhijeet Rajendra Joshi	Pharmacy	NA	NA	DST INSPIRE Faculty Fellowship	3500000	13 July 2021
4	Microfluidic Portable, loT enabled, Multiplexed Antibiotic Susceptibility Testing device with Integrated Thermal Management: Application to Resistant Bacterial Electrochemical Activity	Prof Sanket Goel (Dr Khairunnisa Amreen)	EEE	NA	NA	ICMR-DHR	2649500	12 July 2021
5	Neurobiology: DBT Builder - BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus Interisciplinary Life Science Programme for Advanced Research and Education	Prof Yogeeswari, Prof Onkar Prakash Kulkarni, Prof Punna Rao Ravi, Prof Vidya Rajesh, Prof Balaram Ghosh, Dr Pragya Komal	Pharmacy & Biological Sciences	NA	NA	DBT- RRSFP- BUILDER	2,90,08,484	22 July 2021
6	Computational Modelling of Damage in Solids	Dr Raghu Piska	Civil Engineering	NA	NA	DST INSPIRE Faculty Fellowship	3500000	13 July 2021
7	Design and Development of L, S and C Band Circulators for Space Applications	Dr Harish V Dixit	EEE	Dr Prashant Wali	EEE	RAKON	1146390	28 July 2021
8	ML-Aided Secure SoC and Analytics (MASTIC)	Dr Paresh Saxena	CSIS	Dr Rajib Ranjan Maiti and Dr Manik Gupta	CSIS	Axiado India Pvt Ltd	6736932	6 Aug 2021
9	Simulation and Analysis of Cellular Materials Against Blast Loading	Prof N Suresh Kumar Reddy	Mechanical	NA	NA	CVRDE/ DRDO	977040	9 Aug 2021
10	QoE Optimized Multimedia Content Delivery through Caching in D2D Underlay Networks	Dr Suvadip Batabyal	CSIS	NA	NA	DST SERB CRG	2159696	10 Aug 2021

SI. No.	Title of the Project	Name of the PI	PI-Dept	Co-PI-Name	Co-PI-Dept	Funding Agency	Sanctioned- Amount (Rs)	Sanctioned Date
11	Testing of Artificial Intelligent Systems	Dr Lov Kumar	CSIS	Prof N L Bhanu Murthy	CSIS	TestAIng Solutions Pvt. Ltd.	744000	10 Aug 2021
12	Investigation on Dynamic Deformation Behavior of Tungsten Heavy Alloys (WHAs) for Defence Applications	Dr Nitin Ramesh Kotkunde	Mechanical	Dr Navin Kumar, IIT Ropar and Dr Swadesh K Singh	GRIET, Hyd	ARMREB/ DRDO	4074495	18 Aug 2021
13	Development of A Multipurpose Diagnostic Device Based on Microporous Microneedle Patch for Minimally Invasive Sampling and Electrochemical Detection of Glucose, Uric Acid and Thyroid Stimulating Hormone from Interstitial Fluid	Prof Vamsi Krishna Venuganti	Pharmacy	Dr Karumbaiah C N	EEE	ICMR	5421609	26 Aug 2021
14	Sequestration of Heavy Metals Using Multi Functional Biodegradable Natural Polymers	Prof Ramakrishnan Ganeshan	Chemistry	Prof N Rajesh	Chemistry	CSIR	1614000	19 Aug 2021
15	Feasibility Study to Assess the Use of Waste Plastic Aggregate in the Design and Performance of BC-I and BC-II Mixtures for Sustainable Pavements	Prof Sridhar Raju	Civil Engineering	NA	NA	KK Plastic Waste Management Limited	684000	1 Sept 2021
16	Testing On-Spot Food Quality Mainly Focusing With Detection of Biogenic Amines for the Defence Personnel Using Simple Fluorophorse	Prof Manab Chakravarty	Chemistry	Dr Chanchal Chakraborty	Chemistry	DRDO LSRB	2889500	10 Sept 2021
17	Process and Hybrid Tool Design for Higher Productivity in FSW Butt-Joints of Thick Al- Alloy 2219 Plates	Prof Jeevan Jaidi	Mechanical	Dr Sujith R	Mechanical	ARDB/DRDO	3311616	21 Sept 2021
18	Literature Search of LAI Development and Adverse Event Level	Dr Akash Chaurasiya	Pharmacy	NA	NA	Novartis Health Care	259600	25 Oct 2021

SI. No.	Title of the Project	Name of the PI	PI-Dept	Co-PI-Name	Co-PI-Dept	Funding Agency	Sanctioned- Amount (Rs)	Sanctioned Date
19	Development and Characterisation of rLS polymerase Zeta Subunit MAD2B/Rev7 Targeted Inhibitors as Potential Anticnacer Therapeutic Agents Using In-vitro and In- vivo Approach	Dr Audesh Bhat	Pharmacy - Central University, Jammu & Kashmir	Prof Arti Dhar	Pharmacy	ICMR	14,34,000	1 Nov 2021
20	Development of Epigenome Targeted Therapeutics with Improved Selectivity and Drug-ability for the Treatment of Cancer	Prof Balaram Ghosh	Pharmacy	Prof Swati Biswas	Pharmacy	ICMR	3048300	16 Nov 2021
21	Performance Evaluation of Construction and Demolition Waste as Stone Column Material for Improving Bearing Capacity of Soft Soil	Prof Anasua Guha Ray	Civil Engineering	NA	NA	DST SERB Power	2892296	17 Nov 2021
22	Embeddings and Extensions of Sobolev- type Spaces	Dr Nijjwal Karak	Mathematics	NA	NA	DST-SERB- SRG	1509816	8 Nov 2021
23	Fabrication and Vibration Testing of 3D Printed Polymer Structures	Prof Sabareesh G R	Mechanical	Dr Brajesh Panigrahi and Dr Kundan Kumar Singh	Mechanical	DRDO CARS	976355	17 Dec 2021
24	Low-Cost Fibre Reinforced Elastomeric Isolation Using Locally Available Materials – Design Methodology, Numerical and Experimental Investigation	Dr Mohan SC	Civil Engineering	NA	NA	DST SERB CRG	4799696	6 Dec 2021
25	Development of Tribologically Optimized Laser Cladded Friction Material for Automotive Brake Pad-Disc System	Dr Piyush Chandra Verma	Mechanical	NA	NA	DST-SERB- SRG	1236400	20 Dec 2021
26	Influence of Wetting Regime on Evaporative Drying of a Sessile Drop on a Topographically Patterned Surface	Dr Nandini Bhandaru	Chemical	NA	NA	DST SERB CRG	5668696	24 Dec 2021

SI. No.	Title of the Project	Name of the PI	PI-Dept	Co-PI-Name	Co-PI-Dept	Funding Agency	Sanctioned- Amount (Rs)	Sanctioned Date
27	Development of A High-Efficiency, All- Weather Atmospheric Water Generator (AWG) Comprising of Low- Temperature-Swing Driven Desiccant Coated Fin-Tube Heat Exchangers	Dr Mrinal Ketan Jagirdar	Mechanical	NA	NA	DST-SERB- SRG	2973710	27 Dec 2021
28	Mechanistic Insights of CO <sub>2</sub> Methanation Using Core-Shell Catalysts u	Dr Satyapaul Singh Amarthaluril	Chemical	Prof I Sreedhar	Chemical	DST SERB CRG	3204660	22 Dec 2021
29	Design and Development of Miniaturized MIMO Antennas with High Isolation at sub-6 GHz and Millimeter Wave for 5G MIMO and Massive MIMO Systems Applications	Dr Sourav Nandi	EEE	NA	NA	DST-SERB- SRG	1269400	20 Dec 2021
30	Modeling the Effect of Changing Bio Film Thickness on the Performance of A Microbial Fuel Cell	Prof Balaji Krishnamurthy	Chemical	Prof Vikranth Kumar Surasani	Chemical	DST SERB CRG	2910422	22 Dec 2021
31	Tribological Behavior of Scalable and Low- Cost Multilayered MoS2 Coatings for Hydrogen Valve Applications	Dr Prabakaran Saravanan	Mechanical	NA	NA	DST-SERB- SRG	2391400	28 Dec 2021

#### APPROVED

SI. No.	Title of the Project	Name of the PI	PI-Dept	Co-PI-Name	Co-PI-Dept	Funding Agency	Sanctioned- Amount (Rs)	Sanctioned Date
1	Seismic Resilience Enhancement of Ageing Highway Bridges using Optima Retrofit Measures	Dr Shivang Shekar	Civil Engineering	NA	NA	DST-SERB- SRG	1489400	14 Nov 2021
2	Design and Implementation of a Hardware Efficient Secure Pseudorandom Bit Generator for Physical Layer Security in the Resource Constraint IoT Devices	Dr. Amit Kumar Panda	EEE	NA	NA	DST SERB SRG	2500000	14 Nov 2021

SI. No.	Title of the Project	Name of the PI	PI-Dept	Co-PI-Name	Co-PI-Dept	Funding Agency	Sanctioned- Amount (Rs)	Sanctioned Date
3	Development of a Cost Effective Solar Energy based Drinking Water cum Cold Storage Facility for Coastal Communities in India	Prof Sandip S Deshmukh	Mechanical	Dr Santanu Prasad Datta	Mechanical	DST SERB CRG	2501000	24 Nov 2021
4	Extraction and Evaluation of Small Molecules from Medicinal Plants with Therapeutic Potential Against Theileriosis	Prof Sajeli Begum and Dr Anand Srivastava	Pharmacy and NBIM	NA	NA	DBT	800000	29 Nov 2021
5	Physiological Importance of Pyruvate Homeostasis in the Intracellular Parasite Toxoplasma gondii	Prof Nishith Gupta	Biological Sciences			DST SERB CRG	8906160	10 Dec 2021
6	Development of the Ti6Al4V Alloy Structure Using Wire Arc Additive Manufacturing Process for Aerospace Application	Dr Ravi Shanker Vidyarthy	Mechanical	NA	NA	DST SERB -TARE - Teachers As- sociateship for Research Excellence	1830000	2 Dec 2021

## International Programmes & Collaborations Division (IPCD)

- Forty-one students did their off-campus thesis abroad. Of these students, IPCD provided 'Partial Financial Support' to four students in the first semester of 2021-22.
- Four undergraduate students were selected for ILDP-Start Plus 2021 Program online in December 2021 at Hiroshima University. One student was selected for NTU India connect internship program at Nanyang Technology University from August to December 2021. Three students (UG) applied for a research internship at University of Southern California for 8 weeks in the summer 2022 under the Viterbi-India Program. Two students applied for NTU summer internship program 2022.

#### Online Events organized / participated by IPCD

- 'Study Australia Virtual Education Showcase', Australian Government, 4-6 August 2021.
- 'Higher Education Talks: United Kingdom', Mr. Saurjya Sarkar (BITS Alumni), Mr. Harsh Sulakhe (BITS Pilani Student), 7 August 2021.
- 'Latest Trends in Civil Engineering', Professor Lucio Soibelmanand Joao Pedro Carneiro: USC Viterbi, 10 August 2021.
- 'Higher Education in France on the Occasion of Campus France Day', Campus France, 10 August 2021.
- 'Higher Education Talks France, Ritika Karnani (BITS Alumni), Neelabh Sinha (graduated in 2021), Olive Chakraborty (BITS Alumnus), 21 August 2021.

- 'Higher Education Talks Singapore', Shivansh Agarwal, Ruchi Choudhary (BITS Alumni), 27 August 2021.
- 'Graduate Virtual Fair', University of Pennsylvania along with NYU Tandon school of Engineering, SJSU, George Washington University, 3 September 2021.
- 'Higher Education Talks USA, Anwesh Bhattacharya, Vishwaa Narayanan, Manan Mehta (BITS Alumni), 4 September 2021.
- A Virtual Workshop on 'Best Practices in U.S.- India Higher Education Collaborations' Institute of International Education (IIE India), 15 Sept 2021 & 7-8 Dec 2021.
- 'Webinar on Off Campus Thesis Abroad: Thesis Beyond Borders' (Organized by the students' representative of IPCD), Archana Swaminathan, Varad Kshirsagar, Jasvith Basani, Kritika Kaliswal, 19 September 2021.
- 'Seminar with German Universities', Bavarian-Indian Centre for Business and University Cooperation, 27-29 September 2021.
- 'Information on Recruitment at USC Viterbi', USC Viterbi, 6 October 2021.
- 'Study Engineering in France', n+i Network, France, 29 October 2021.
- 'Information Session on MS and PhD Programmes', Columbia University, 9 November 21.
- '5-Steps to Study in the U.S. and U.S. Student Visa Process', USIEF Hyderabad, 15 November 2021.
- 'Webinar on Engineering', University of York, Russell Group, 30 November 2021.
- 'Session on Science Postgraduate Programs at UQ,' The University of Queensland, 30 November 2021.
- Information on Australia Border due to the Pandemic', Deakin University, 2 December 2021.
- The Power of International VIRTUAL INFO SESSION Best Practices in U.S.-India Higher Education Collaborations September 15 9 AM EDT • 6:30 PM IST

- 'Presentation on Higher Education Possibilities in France', Campus France, 6 December 2021.
- Information Session on Technology Infusion Grand Challenge', La Trobe University, Australia in collaboration with Study Melbourne India Hub, 6-16 December 2021.



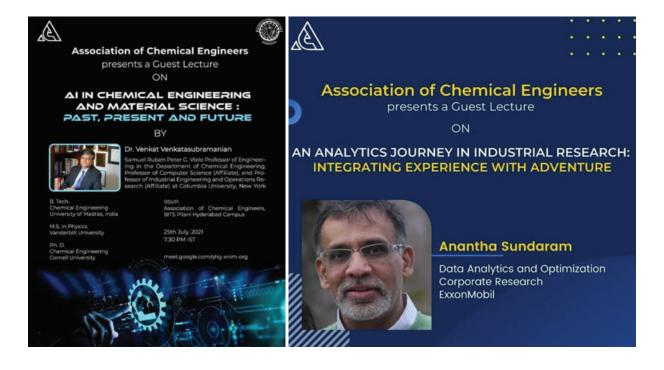


# Distinguished Online Talks / Lectures

Guest Lecture by	Organization	Topic of the Talk	Department	Date
Dr Sankar Basu	Ashutosh College, Calcutta University	Transient Dynamics of Salt-Bridges – A Key to Trigger (avalanche type) Transitions Among Disordered and Ordered States in Proteins	Biological Sciences	22 Oct 2021
Dr Vijayalakshmi V Subramanian	IISER, Tirupati	Ends: A Means to Promote Meiotic Chromosome Size Bias	Biological Sciences	12 Jan 2021
Dr Venkat Venkata Subramaniam	Columbia University	Al In Chemical Engineering and Material Science: Past, Present and Future	Chemical Engineering	25 Jul 2021
Dr Anantha Sundaram,	ExxonMobil	An Analytics Journey in Industrial Research: Integrating Experience with Adventure	Chemical Engineering	22 Nov 2021
Dr Veeranna Yempally	Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh	Anti-cancer Potential of Rhenium Carbonyl Complexes on Colorectal Cancer Cell Line HCT 16	Chemistry	10 Aug 2021
Dr Tata Narasinga Rao	ARCI – International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials	Energy Storage Technologies: Challenges and Solution	Chemistry	10 Nov 2021
Prof DB Ramachary	School of Chemistry, University of Hyderabad	Asymmetric Organocatalysis: Sustainable Tool for Synthetic Chemistry	Chemistry	26 Nov 2021
Prof Ghanashyam S Acharya	Department of Ophthalmology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA	Ocular Drug Delivery Nanowafer - Design and Applications	Chemistry	27 Nov 2021
Prof Subhrangsu S Mandal	Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, The University of Texas at Arlington, USA	Chromatin Modifications and LncRNAs in Epigenitics, Health and Disease-What a Chemist Can Do!	Chemistry	27 Nov 2021
Prof Ganesh Pandian Namasivayam	Institute of Integrated Cell- Material Sciences, Kyoto University, Japan	Smart Biomaterials for Precision Medicine	Chemistry	27 Nov 2021
Prof Jayanta Haldar	New Chemistry Unit and School of Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore, India	Polymeric Biomaterials for Tackling Bacterial, Fungal and Viral Infections – Objectives, Obstacles and Opportunities!	Chemistry	27 Nov 2021
Prof Mrinmoy De	Department of Organic Chemistry, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India	Functionalized 2D MoS2: Detection and Elimination of Pathogenic Bacteria	Chemistry	27 Nov 2021

Guest Lecture by	Organization	Topic of the Talk	Department	Date
Prof Santosh Kumar Misra	Department of Biological Sciences and Bioengineering, Indian Institute of Technology – Kanpur, India	Personalized Biomedical Approaches for Improving Functional Outcomes of Advanced Therapeutic Methods	Chemistry	27 Nov 2021
Prof Reeta Sony	Centre for Studies in Science Policy (CSSP), School of Social Sciences (SSS), Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi	Intellectual Property Rights and Startups for Civil Engineers	Civil Engineering	29 Sept 2021
Mr Kaniska Ghosh	Doctoral Student, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Kharagpur	The Demonstration on the Microsimulation Software VISSIM	Civil Engineering	30 Sept 2021
Ms P Swetha	Student of M.S, Department of Civil Engineering, Georgia Tech University, and alumni of BITS Pilani Hyderabad Campus	Sharing Her Experience on Preparing for a Masters's Abroad	Civil Engineering	1 Oct 2021
Prof G P Raja Sekhar	Fellow of National Academy of Sciences, India; Professor, Department of Mathematics; Dean, Faculty of Sciences; Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur	Mathematical Modelling of Tumor Growth and Mechanical Behaviour	Mathematics	11 Sept 2021
Prof Patrick Das Gupta	University of Delhi, India, Chern- Simons Gravity, Torsion	Dark Energy and Super Massive Black Holes from a Dynamical Four-Form	Mathematics	26-28 Oct 2021
Prof L Sriramkumar	IIT, Madras, India	Small Scale Signatures of Nontrivial Inflationary and Post-Inflationary Dynamics	Mathematics	26-28 Oct 2021
Prof Surhud More	IUCAA, Pune, India	Weak Lensing Cosmology from the Subaru Hyper Suprime-Cam Survey	Mathematics	26-28 Oct 2021
Prof Tanmoy Paul	Jadavpur University, India	Decoding the Phases of Early and Late Time Reheating through Imprints on Primordial Gravitational Waves	Mathematics	26-28 Oct 2021
Mr Srinivasa Ramakrishna	Intel, Bangalore	Current Trends and Intro to FinFets Technologies	Electrical & Electronics Engineering	16 Oct 2021

Guest Lecture by	Organization	Topic of the Talk	Department	Date
Mr Srinivasa Ramakrishna	Intel, Bangalore	Intro to FinFets Technologies and Methodology (Design System Architecture)	Electrical & Electronics Engineering	30 Oct 2021
Mr Srinivasa Ramakrishna	Intel, Bangalore	Design Flow and Methodology (Design System Architecture)	Electrical & Electronics Engineering	6 Nov 2021
Mr M Rajeshwara Chary and Mr K. Narender	BHEL	Introduction to the Different Divisions and their Working Environment of BHEL, Hyderabad	Mechanical Engineering	4 Jun 2021
Mr G Krishna Rao	RCI, DRDO	Introduction to Missile Developed by DRDO	Mechanical Engineering	20 Sept 2021
Ms Pinki Kumari, Mr Vinod Kumar, Mr Soumendu Ray, Mr Saurav Gupta, Mr Sushant Kumar, Mr Rajesh Sharma, Ms Tanvir Kaur and Mr Sujit Kumar Das	The Indian Steel and Wire Products Ltd (ISWPL),	Rod Mill Operations, Wire Mill Operations, Maintenance, Quality Assurance, Business Excellence, Safety, Health & Environment	Mechanical Engineering	23 Nov 2021



#### Student Events

#### NSS

#### **Donation Drive**

NSS BPHC organized a donation drive starting from 26 December 2021. Books, papers, clothes, electronic waste, and recyclable and reusable waste were collected from the students' rooms of various hostels. The goods donated were collected and sent to Arunodya Orphanage for the benefit of the children. The drive was a huge success, and NSS plans on doing more such events in the future.



#### Sports Day Talk

On the occasion of India's 9th National Sports day, NSS organized a talk with our beloved Dr Karthik Venkateshan on 29 August. Karthik Sir enjoys playing tennis almost every evening and participates in other sports. His dedication towards sports and cultivating a hobby is remarkable, and he gave students a fun talk on the importance of sports in daily life.

#### **Rotaract Club**

#### Talk by Prof Kannan Ramaswamy

Rotaract hosted an interactive session with Prof Kannan Ramaswamy, Associate Professor, Physics Department, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus on 17 August 2021. He spoke of making undergraduate learning engaging and rewarding for a diverse student body. His efforts to improve the academic culture on campus are awe-inspiring.

#### Talk on Altruistic Internship

Rotaract Club hosted Ms. Gauri Singh on 11 September, in a Facebook live session focused on 'What does the energy system of the future look like and how will it impact us?". Ms. Gauri Singh, Deputy Director General at International

Renewable Energy Agency, is a renowned leader in the world of Sustainability. The talk was very insightful as a part of the Altruistic Entrepreneurship series of Rotaract Club in collaboration with E-Cell, BPHC.

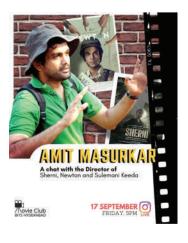
#### Talk on Sustainable Menstruation

Billions of tampons and pads go to landfills every year worldwide, which take up to 500 years to decompose. To shed light on the pros and cons of various period products and bust all myths and doubts about using a menstrual cup, Rotaract Club hosted an informative session with Ira Guha on 16 August, the Founder & CEO of the menstrual cup brand 'Asan.'

#### Movie Club

#### Live Session with Amit Masurkar

The Movie Club organized a live session on Instagram with Amit Masurkar the director of acclaimed films such as the recently released Sherni, Oscar contender Newton and the contemporary classic SulemaniKeeda. journey from being an engineering student to the theatre was insightful and exciting for all students.



#### Diwali Events

Diwali celebrations took place in full swing at BITS Pilani Hyderabad Campus as it saw students' first offline semester after the COVID-19 pandemic. Regional Organisations - Baithak and Sangam, with the help of the SUC, planned activities over two days while strictly following COVID protocols. Celebrations started on





4 November, with a rangoli competition, and then Lakshmi Puja was performed later in the evening. Students also had a special dinner in the Mess, following which they took part in a ramp walk and released sky lanterns into the air. DORA ad organized a team-based game called Mafia, to rejoice during the offline semester. The celebrations ended on a high note on 5 November 2021 with a Jam and Open Mic Night organized by the Music Club as students gathered around a bonfire.

#### 'Fervour' - Official Fresher's Welcome

With the start of a new academic year, an eager and excited group of freshers was looking to showcase their unique skills and talents to the entire campus. Fervour, the official freshers' welcome, was conducted online for the 21st batch in the last week of November. This was the very first event where the 21st batch could interact with their seniors and each other. There were several events conducted by clubs like ELAS, Hindi Tarang, SAFL, Dance club, Music club, and Comedy club as well as some by the Fervur organizing committee. It was a fun week for the freshers and made them feel at home at BITS.

#### Embryo / E-cell

#### PM Talk

BITS Embryo and the Product Management Division of BHCG organized a talk with Nivedan Vishwanath and Ishan Khasnis after their selection for Flipkart's APM Role. The talk elucidated their experience in Product Management and the month-long hiring challenge posed by Flipkart.

#### QC Talk

Queer Consortium and BITS Embryo had a live talk with Prof Bittu Kaveri Rajaraman, Head of the Department, Psychology and Associate Professor of Biology and Psychology at Ashoka University. Prof Rajaraman is a neuroscientist and a relentless advocate for the Dalit and Queer Communities. It was an interactive conversation dissecting issues in the queer community stemming from age-old stigma and tackling the same.

#### Robin Singh Talk

BITS Embryo hosted a talk with Robin Singh, a co-founder of Peepal Farm – an NGO based in Himachal Pradesh, that rescues stray animals. Mr. Singh went from being a programmer to starting this organization, battling depression with tenacity. It was an insightful talk as

he endures to spread awareness on mental health and veganism for a healthier lifestyle.

#### **UPSC Talk**

BITS Embryo hosted three alumni from the Pilani and Goa Campuses to advise students on UPSC examinations after their exemplary performance in 2020. A UPSC aspirant needs to be highly motivated and perseverant throughout the preparatory phase. This talk with Jayansh Singh Rathore, Divyanshu Choudhary, and Divyanshu Nigam provided a platform for them to gain perspective and push through unwaveringly.

#### Non-Tech Talk

BITS Embryo conducted a talk on non-tech placements with recently graduated students. It was an enlightening session with Aditya Mishra – Strategy and Operations in Revolut, and ShardulTamane – Associate Product Manager in Groww. They addressed work opportunities and perks pertaining to product management, strategy, and operation.

#### Talk by Revathy Pillai

As Netflix released the second season of the critically acclaimed Hindi web series Kota Factory in 2021, BITS Embryo invited Revathi Pillai, who played Vartika Rawal in the show. The talk was fascinating as she spoke about her upcoming projects and her experience working with people from the industry.

#### ARC Tech Expo

The Automation and Robotics Club hosted a Tech Expo for the General body on 21 November. The club members



showcased a few of their interactive projects like LED Matrix, 2D mapping Bot, and POV Wand to the attendees. The event proved to be a good place for the club to display their ongoing projects as well as to spark an interest in the students for doing such projects of their own.

# **Community Welfare Activities**

#### **Independence Day**

75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day was celebrated on 15 August 2021 at BITS Pilani Hyderabad Campus. Professor G Sundar, Director, BITS Pilani Hyderabad Campus hoisted the National Flag.



#### **COVID Second Wave Pandemic Management in the Campus**

With the rapid increase of incidents of corona virus spreading across the country, the Institute facilitated in creating safer workplace by implementing various preventive and precautionary measures. Symptomatic patients visiting medical center were tested with rapid antigen test. Accordingly, quarantine was advised along with their family members for a period of seven days. Moreover, contact tracing was done of symptomatic

patients and rapid antigen test/RT-PCR was advised. A COVID team was formed comprising of doctors, nurses, superintendents and housekeeping members. This COVID team delivers medicines and essential grocery to the affected patients. High risk elderly patients and children with comorbidities were given special attention and necessary blood tests were conducted in laboratory of medical center.

#### **Activities Conducted by Animal Welfare Committee**

The Animal Welfare Committee has successfully neutered 34 community dogs, vaccinated all dogs with anti-rabies and 7 in 1 vaccine. The committee has also been monitoring the dogs' health and has been instrumental in getting them to care when necessary. The committee's adoption drive has resulted in the placement of more than 15 pups in good homes.









# Digital Artworks by BITS Students







By YSN Kiran

By Esha Shekhar

By Mohammad Aijaz

# Introducing New Faculty (July-December 2021)

The new faculty members who have joined between 1 July and 31 December 2021.

PSRN	Name of the Faculty	Designation	Department	Date of Joining
H0808	S Gurunarayanan*	Senior Professor	Electrical & Electronics Engineering	17 Sep 21
H0812	Vijay Kumar Tadakamalla	Visiting Professor	Humanities and Social Sciences	7 Oct 21
H0814	Ahmed Kamal	Sr Professor Emeritus	Pharmacy	18 Oct 21
H0817	Vivekananda Mukherjee	Professor	Economics and Finance	8 Nov 21
H0820	Abhijeet Rajendra Joshi	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Pharmacy	13 Dec 21
H0822	Joyjit Mukherjee	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Electrical & Electronics Engineering	18 Dec 21

<sup>\*</sup> Transferred from Pilani Campus

# **Editorial Team**



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