

## Vidyalkar Entrepreneurship Summit lights spark of innovation

In the words of the celebrated author Mark Twain, "Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do, so throw off the bowlines, sail away from safe harbor, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore, Dream, Discover."

On one such voyage of discovery, the VIT Entrepreneurship Cell, in collaboration with the VSIT Entrepreneurship Cell organized a grand Entrepreneurship Summit 2016 on Friday, 12 February. The event attracted a huge response of over 250 participants from both the institutes.

Mr. Pradeep Tagare, Director, Intel Capital and Mr. Nitin Potdar, Founder Trustee of Maxwell foundation inaugurated the Summit and gave a general overview of what exactly entrepreneurship is, the attitude of an entrepreneur, and on being innovative. As the team representing our college at National Entrepreneurship Challenge 2015 won the first prize, the members of the team were felicitated.

The next session was about idea generation. The session was conducted by Mr. Tanish Thakker and Mr. Ankur Khara from Zone startups, an accelerator. Any venture needs an idea, but having just an idea is not enough. The speakers told par-



ticipants about the need for research on a particular idea, the validation of the idea, and once validated how exactly one should go about it.

The third session was a panel discussion on 'Funding Ecosystem in India'. The experts in the field, Mr. Rohit Bhagwat, Mr. Murtuza Haryanawalla and Mr. Rohit Singh discussed about



funding a startup, stages of funding, and which funding system is followed in India. They also discussed and answered the questions by the participants about the same.

The last session which again was a panel discussion got a young and enthusiastic panel of speakers who themselves are founders of

different startups. Mr. Mayur Mundada, founder at Ambition Box – a startup which collects reviews and experiences of campus interviews which can be helpful for students preparing for the same, Mr. Abhijit Patil co-founder at Dimension NXG – A 3D printing startup started at IIT, Bombay, Ms. Jui Gangan, founder at Cycle Chalo! – A startup encouraging cycle sharing in India, Mr. Swapan Rajdev co-founder and CTO Haptic – which is a personal assistance app and Mr. Hitesh Lalwani-Purple Squirrel, a startup in eduventures, which organizes workshops and IVs to make students in colleges more industry-ready. The session gave participants a general overview of different hurdles faced while 'starting-up' and some domain specific difficulties, as all the startups were from different domains such as services, applications, manufacturing and social sector. Some of the common things which everyone emphasized were perseverance, patience, and hard work.

In spite of organizing such an Entrepreneurship Summit for the first time on the Vidyalkar campus, the event was a great success and the Entrepreneurship Cells of the two institutes are all set to organize many such events in the near future which will help light the spark of entrepreneurship among youth.



## VIT students emerge triumphant in National Entrepreneurship Challenge 2015!

A team of students from Vidyalkar Institute of Technology did the institute proud by winning the National Entrepreneurship Challenge 2015, a competition held by IIT-Bombay for a span of almost four months. During the four months, the team completed 35+ tasks like debate, discussions, business module canvas, SWOT analysis, competitions, social awareness campaigns, case studies and many more challenges. The final rounds consisted of two group discussions followed by presentation about NEC journey and sustainability of Entrepreneurship cell



by the shortlisted teams. As first time participants in NEC, the competition inspired the team to form the student body of the Entrepreneurship Cell. The team also conducted two big seminars, Illuminate and Envoyage with 100 and 250+ students respectively, in collaboration with IIT, Bombay which helped in enhancing awareness about entrepreneurship among students. The NEC win is a milestone achieved at the very start of the Entrepreneurship Cell thereby setting the right tone for earning further accolades.

- Sanket Sonar  
Chairman, E-Cell, VIT

### Vidyalkar students who made India Proud at International Olympiads...



**Gold Medalist**  
in 9<sup>th</sup> International Earth Science Olympiad  
This is the first time India has won Gold Medal in this category



Neel Karia



Neel receiving an award at 9<sup>th</sup> International Earth Science Olympiad held at Brazil.

**Gold Medalist**  
in International Astronomy and Astrophysics Olympiad



Arney Patwardhan



Arney receiving a gold medal at International Astronomy and Astrophysics Olympiad held at Indonesia.

# LET'S SHARE!

## VISIT TO VANAVASI KALYAN KENDRA

God has given us two hands, one to receive with and other to give with—this is what we had made as a motto of our “Let’s Share” group of Vidyalankar Polytechnic volunteers.

A visit to Vanvasi Kalyan Kendra, which works for the welfare of Adivasi children, was organized on 6 February 2016. We hardly ever count our blessings and quite often we take things for granted since all our requirements are fulfilled by our parents. But there are many children and youngsters who are deprived of basic amenities such as sufficient food, clothes, books, stationery, electricity, medical facilities and many more. An appeal was made to all students and staff of Vidyalankar Polytechnic to generously share their books, grains, toys and clothes with underprivileged ‘vanavasi’ kids.

This recent journey of “Let’s Share” was initiated at our college from 1 to 6 February. Various helping hands shared something they could with these needy children. The joy we saw on the faces of those kids was priceless. We arranged various activities for our friends over there, such as marble spoon, sack race, running race and drawing competition.



The children who won in the events were awarded medals by the Principal Mr. Ashish Ukhidve and Prof. Vaishali Malakar. We danced and sang with them. Moreover we had delicious food which they made for us. Our teachers taught some lessons and organized a workshop. We also visited Mahalakshmi Temple.

At the end, it was a transformational visit for all of us. We not only went

to share some time with them, but also learned a lot from them. It was a wonderful experience as we felt inner peace and joy which results from sharing amidst the awe-inspiring beauty of nature around us. From this visit we not only learned to be satisfied with what we have but also learned to appreciate the worth of extending a helping hand wherever we could.



## Brand Ambassador Program by L & T Infotech held at VIT

L&T Infotech has decided to visit only a few engineering colleges for campus recruitment, VIT being one of them. Based on an extensive internal survey conducted by the company to select the few chosen engineering colleges, some of the parameters included the number of students joining the company from the lot selected, the performance of students in the company, the number of students working in the company for many years and their contribution. After this exercise, the company launched the “Brand Ambassador Program initiative” at VIT on Thursday, 11 February 2016.

Senior HR personnel from the Campus Recruitment Team from L&T Infotech were present at the event. Prof. D. N. Krishna, VIT Training and Placement Officer initiated the event, followed by Dr. Ankush Sharma, COO, VIT who welcomed the L&T Infotech personnel. Third Year students of engineering comprised the target audience and there were about 350 students present for the event. Ms. Priyanka Allen, HR Executive, explained the importance and the key initiatives of the program under which the activities such as soft skills development and technical training of the students on the campus, Faculty Development Program, workshops, guest lectures and industrial visits will be conducted in the near future to further enhance employability of students.

Mr. Prasad Akerkar, Head of Campus Recruitment Team, L&T Infotech introduced the Brand Icon, Mr. Pradeep Kotkar, who is VP & Head, Strategic Planning. A technical quiz was also conducted during this event. There were five teams and each team consisted of students from each department. Two students Oindrilla Chatterjee from Third Year Electronics and Kushal Soonderji from Third Year Electronics and Telecommunication were selected as Brand Ambassadors from VIT at L&T Infotech. VIT alumna Ms. Shraddha Rao, Software Engineer at L&T Infotech is the company’s Brand Ambassador at VIT. The event ended with Q & A session by Mr. Joji George, Sr. Manager, Campus Recruitment & Campus Springboard Team. Such collaborative events add great value to the industry-institute interface.

— Prof. D.N. Krishna  
TPO, VIT

## VIT conducts Degree Distribution Ceremony



was VIT alumnus Mr. Jaideep Patel, Head, Digital Enterprise, NGM India at Tata Consultancy Services.

In the second session the graduates of Bachelor of Engineering in Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, Electronics Engineering, Biomedical Engineering and Master of Management Studies were

awarded degree certificates. The Chief Guest for the session was VIT alumnus Mr. Sachin Pai, Regional Business Manager - Western Region for (Enterprise Performance Management) at Oracle.

The Vidyalankar Campus was bustling with enthusiasm and nostalgia as the graduates of the Engineering and Management programmes of the 2015 batch were awarded degree certificates. It was a proud moment for the parents of the graduates to witness the successful culmination of an important phase of their wards’ education. For the graduates, the event proved to be a fitting finale to the four transformational and exciting years at Vidyalankar Institute of Technology.

On Saturday, 23 January 2016, on behalf of the University of Mumbai, Vidyalankar Institute of Technology conducted its Degree Distribution Ceremony for the batch of its students who graduated in 2015. The degree certificates were sent to the college by the University and were distributed by the college.

The Ceremony was more than just a formal occasion for the conferral of degree certificates; it was a time-honored ceremony that celebrated individual student achievement. A much awaited event in every graduate’s life, it signified not just the culmination of years of hard work in the acquisition of a formal education, but it also

marked his formal entry into the professional world where he would apply his knowledge.

A large gathering comprising the graduating students, their parents and faculty of VIT attended the grand ceremony held in the Vidyalankar Auditorium. The event started with a rendition of a prayer to the Goddess Saraswati. Along with the guests, the Principal, Dr. S.A. Patekar, the Vice Principal Prof. Varsha Bhosale and the Heads of the respective Departments were seated on the dais. In the first session, the graduates of Bachelor of Engineering in Information Technology and Computer Engineering were awarded degree certificates. The Chief Guest for the first session



# INDIA 2025: A VISION FOR THE NEXT DECADE



## Mr. Manoj Kalke

Mr Kalke shared his views on renewable energy and its sources. He talked about green energy and appealed to people to be self-sufficient in terms of consumption rather than using it at the right direction and amount. He gave many fascinating examples like carbon panel for solar energy, and talked about Norway's solar panels on roads, irrigation system in collaboration. Mr. Kalke also informed us about a plant of salt water which converts into portable water supply. Many innovations can take place with the help of renewable energy for the betterment of society. One such example is Mahanagar gas pipeline which gives supply 24\*7. Mr Kalke has given an insight to using renewable energy at every stage of our life so that maximum population can get aware of these sources to use them efficiently in the coming time.

## Mr. Anthony Lobo

Mr Anthony Lobo enlightened the audience with various corporate ethics in relation to Human Resources. Mr. Lobo talked about sustainable development which Tata Consultancy practices to achieve objectives in their respective domains. India is the only country to mandate CSR which was an interesting fact to get introduced to. Mr Lobo got us introduced to National Voluntary Guidelines and CSR's Companies Act. Keeping all these in mind we will hope to see an end to poverty. CSR 2025 will change the demographic scene of India.

## Dr. Vivek Sawant

Dr. Vivek Sawant started with a question that how is IT going to affect by 2025? Dr. Sawant talked about a society where every child and student must bring cultural change which should focus on long term goals. The breakthrough path in all these is the new knowledge created by Information Technology. He spoke of mega trends which focus on Digitalization, Mobile and Virtualization which can lead us to success. To achieve all these, our social media can play a very important role in seeing India prosper. Digital freelancing can be made a good option to create career options. India 2025 must plan to convert the world into a complete democracy. Dr. Sawant enthralled the audience by summarizing how technology has become a pivotal part in our lives which can affect us at every stage.

The Valedictory Function of the conference was held on 23 January. The Urbanisation Track had the Best Paper Award under the name of Prof. Vivek Gupta. Prof. Devyani Ganpule won the Best Paper Award for the ICT Track, Prof. Susanta Datta and Prof. Mohan Iyer for CSR Track and Dr. Siddhesh Patil on Renewable Energy. Among the students, Mitesh Naik and Tanvee Javkar presented an impressive paper on the topic "Smart Garbage Collection". The conference provided a knowledge-sharing platform and motivated the audience to take up research and bring a distinct change in the current scenario of globalization and technology. Enriching presentations and discussions were held throughout the two days of the conference, during both official proceedings and lateral events.

As Albert Szent Gyorgyi said, "Research is four things: brains with which to think, eyes with which to see, machines with which to measure and fourth, money." Thinking enables exploration of the vast sea of knowledge which otherwise remains uncharted, giving way to research. To emphasize on the importance of research in academics, the R & D Committee of Vidyankar School of Information Technology organised V-CMT 2016: The 3rd National Multi-Disciplinary Conference on 'India 2025: A vision for the next decade on Urbanization, Renewable Energy, Corporate Social Responsibility, Information and Communication Technology'. The event was a two-day National Conference having research paper presentations in various areas of Commerce, Management & Technology. The objective of V-CMT was to sensitize the academic community about these four crucial issues.

V-CMT was inaugurated on 22 January by Mr. Nitin Potdar, Partner, J. Sagar Associates, Advocate and Solicitor. The first day of the conference started with the keynote address by Mr. Potdar which was followed by paper presentations by staff members from VSIT and other institutes. Mr. Potdar started his speech mentioning about Vidyankar which always motivates its students to go beyond academics. He also talked about global milestones which are required for every decade; be it in economical, technological or political fields. He took us all through different changes that the internet went through and is still evolving in the recent times.

On the first day, the conference had three parallel tracks; one session for ICT Applications to key sectors chaired by Dr. Siby Abraham and Mr Anjum Mujawar; the other session for Urbanization chaired by Dr. K.G. Dawani and Dr. Hanif Lakdawala and the third session for Renewable Energy and Corporate Social Responsibility's Paper Presentation was chaired by Dr. Gurusamy and Dr. K. Venkatesh.

The second day of the conference on 23 January started with the panel discussion with ex-



perts like Dr. Vivek Sawant, MD and CEO, Maharashtra Knowledge Corporation Limited (MKCL), Ms. Sulakshana Mahajan, Researcher in Urban and Women's issues and Author, Mr Anthony Lobo, Advisor-CSR, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and Mr Manoj Kalke, Director, Computers Integration Technologies Pvt Ltd and Certified Solar Expert. The panel discussion was initiated and made enthusiastically interactive by the moderator Ms Devayani Ganpule, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Ramnarian Ruia College. The panel discussion underlined the context and background of three key sectors of ICT, Urbanization, Renewable Energy and Corporate Social Responsibilities. The following is the gist of the main ideas shared in the discussion

## Ms. Sulakshana Mahajan

In her opening remarks, Ms. Mahajan spoke about the drastic urbanization in western India. She stressed on thinking globally so that

we all can become global citizens. She encouraged people to pursue every opportunity that comes their way to first make changes in society which will eventually contribute towards the development of the nation. Economic reform has already unleashed investment and growth offering its citizens rich opportunities. Surging growth and employment in cities will prove a powerful magnet. 300 million Indians currently live in towns and cities. Within 20-25 years, another 300 million people will get added to Indian towns and cities. This urban expansion will happen at a speed quite unlike anything that India has seen before. It took nearly forty years for India's urban population to rise by 230 million. It could take only half the time to add the next 250 million. If not well managed, this inevitable increase in India's urban population will place enormous stress on the system. The concluding remarks by Ms. Mahajan were an urge to be responsible citizens with all the opportunities of urbanization.



## Moral Signs

Two wrongs don't make a right...  
Then why take revenge, why fight?

Just as a burnt child dreads fire  
Dread violence and don't let your license of non-violence expire

Never deceive, never be a liar  
Good people are who we must admire

Be young and on fire  
Full of hope and desire  
Work hard, perspire, and inspire  
Someday you'll glitter like an emerald,  
shine like a sapphire

Aspire to do great deeds  
Contemplate and calculate all your good deeds

Who is morally the richest, you need not enquire  
'Coz you will be the next one on the tier!

- Danyl Fernandes  
Vidyalankar Polytechnic

# VSIT CELEBRATES ANNUAL FESTS VERVE AND VIGOUR



College festivals are the most effective way of bringing together youth with diverse talents on the same platform where opportunities are in store for them to unearth their hidden talents and skills along with the benefits of social interaction. Every year Vidyalankar School of Information Technology celebrates its much awaited event of the year “Verve” and “Vigour”. As the names suggest, these events are all about energy, zeal and enthusiasm which was quite evident among the students and staff members. Vidyalankar always welcomes new and innovative ideas which have also been instilled in students along with their outstanding academics. The festival also had many celebrity judges making their presence felt where Mr Swapnil Joshi has quoted “Vidyalankar is a congenial campus for promotions”.

The two-day affair had a lot of hit events like Rap Battle, Street Dance, Beg Borrow Steal, B-Boing, War of DJs and Fashion Show. The announcements of Mr and Ms VSIT marked the culmination of Verve hence making way for Maay Marathi to begin. Maay Marathi was filled with cultural performances on singing, dancing and instrumental music serving as media for students to present and share the richness of Marathi culture through their performances. The highlight was the spectacular performance of Dhol Tasha on which melodious note ended Maay Marathi. The event was well-planned and executed with utmost discipline by the Student Council 2015-16 with the valuable support of NSS volunteers. VSIT students and staff enjoyed the electrifying atmosphere of the annual fests to the hilt.