



## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

### Teaching Entrepreneurship to Engineering Students



Engaging students in the learning process using activities that motivate and challenge students to remain on task is probably one of the most frustrating events in the teaching learning process. But if you know your students' profiles, you have a better chance at keeping them on task to completion of any given assignment or activity. In a differentiated classroom,

activities are suited to the needs of students according to the mixed ability levels, interests, backgrounds, etc.

The educational benefit of what we teach extends beyond startups to include entrepreneurial innovation in established companies as well. We have tremendous potential to impact economic growth by teaching those with ideas how to put them into context. Engineers form the backbone of technological creation in our society and represent the core of creative energy that allows us to lead the world in productivity and standards of living. Engineering students are very smart and pick up material very fast. For many of them, this is the first "business" class they've ever taken, and it opens up a new world of possibilities. The students are bright and motivated and they know that they will be entrepreneurs in the future and are desperate to prepare themselves for this challenging path. They know that they need the skills and knowledge we are teaching, and they absorb the material with enthusiasm.

The students are hungry for practical business skills, are diligent workers, are appreciative, and are genuinely open to learning. They feel tension about their career path and are eager to explore the options available to them. It is more challenging to teach students with little or no prior knowledge of business. That being said, the potential to inspire technical students to act on their entrepreneurial instincts outweighs any additional teaching burden. Engineers and scientists are extremely altruistic. They would rather change the world than get rich quick. They demonstrate incredible generosity and

their work ethic is remarkable. Engineers and scientists will walk through walls to solve a problem. Engineers and scientists sometimes lack a foundation in basic finance and accounting, but they learn fast if you give them a primer. They often don't know the basic language of business, but pick it up faster than most business people pick up technology terms. Entrepreneurship is inherently risky. By teaching it, we are enticing young people to work long hours, to devote themselves to their companies rather than to loved ones, and to entice others to join them, even though a number of new companies fail. It is safer to join a big company, although perhaps less exciting and with a lower upside but good for acquiring work experience. They may be provided with introductory information and a taste of entrepreneurship and they could potentially go into a real-world setting with the over-confidence that they can handle any situation without continuous learning.

It is absolutely essential that students are involved in their own education. Learning is dealing with issues and thinking about things. If there is a structured classroom where there's all lecturing, there's almost no learning taking place, because in a lecture mode, there isn't much thinking by the students," and it is said that "It's a kind of a transference from brain, thro mouth, of teachers into ears, up to of students brains, and eventually out of the pencil and onto the paper. Mistakes are a part of practice. Everyone makes sad of them. Counsel the student to "be gentle with" himself and not to be upset when mistakes happen. After all, they disappear also instantaneously.

Thus the art and science of teaching engineering students in particular and other professional students in general is of paramount importance for building economically strong country with exploration of optimal capability of young students and builders of tomorrow's world. In this way we find that the teachers (young and old) are actually the foundation for tomorrow's world equipped with latest technological advancement and strong economic base.

**Prof. Pratapsinh K. Desai**  
President, ISTE

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- International Conference on **Sustainable Engineering and Technology (IconSET 2018)**, organised by ACS College of Engineering, Bengaluru in association with Raja Rajeswari College of Engineering, Bengaluru during 19-20 April, 2018. For details contact **The Organising Team** (IconSET 2018). Email: acsce.energy@gmail.com
- International Conference on **Micro-Electronics, Electromagnetics and Telecommunications**, organised by Dept. of Electronics & Comm.Engg., BVRIT Hyderabad College of Engineering for Women, Hyderabad, September 8-9, 2017. For details contact : Mobile : 91+09666837310; Email : icmeet2k17@gmail.com.
- International Conference on **Intelligent Communication and Computational Techniques (ICCT'17)**, organised by Manipal University, Jaipur, December 22-23, 2017. For details contact : **Alka Chaudhary**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of IT. Mobile : 09571658111; Email : alka.chaudhary@jaipur.manipal.edu.
- International Conference on **Soft Computing and Mathematical Modelling (ICSCMM-2017)**, organised by KIET Group of Institutions, Ghaziabad, U.P., December 22-23 December, 2017. For details contact : **Dr. C.M. Batra**, Convener, ICSCMM. Phone : 09873725677; email : cm.batra@kiet.edu.
- International Conference on **New and Renewable Energy Resources for Sustainable Future (ICONRER 2017)**, 2-4 February, 2018, organised by Dept. of Mechanical Engineering, Swami Keshvanand Institute of Technology, Management & Gramothan, Jaipur. For details contact : **Shri Ashish Nayyar**, Convener (ICONRER-2017). Phone : 09785449998. Email : iconrer2017@skit.ac.in.
- National Seminar on **Promotion of Skills and Technologies for Sustainable Rural Development in India**, 31-8-2017 to 1-9-2017, organised by National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research, Chandigarh. For more details contact : **Dr. U.N. Roy**, Seminar Convenor. Email : usaroy@rediffmail.com, Mobile : 094117581530, 09417569559.
- Third International Conference on **Cognitive Computing and Information Processing (CCIP 2017)**, 15-16 December, 2017, organised by Dept. of Computer Science & Engineering and Information Science & Engineering, JSS Academy of Technical Education, Bengaluru. For information email at : ccip2017b@gmail.com.
- 10th NABS-National Conference on **Recent Trends in Life Science : Research, Practices and Application for Sustainable Development**, September 7 & 8, 2017, organised by Department of Botany and Zoology, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore. For details email : lifescienceconference2017@gmail.com; secretarynabs@gmail.com

Only sharp and well focussed photographs with ISTE Logo and Banner in the background shall be considered for publication.

Editor



## QUOTE FOR THE MONTH

### Definition of Time

Slow when you wait. Fast when you are late. Short when you are happy. Long when you are sad. Endless when you are in pain. Everything is determined by your feelings and your psychological conditions and not by clocks.

## WIT AND WISDOM

- Never blame anyone in your life. Good people give you happiness. Bad people give you experience. The worst people give you a lesson. And the best people give you memories.
- Health does not always come from medicine. Most of the time it comes from peace of mind, peace in the heart, peace of soul, It comes from laughter and love.
- Failures, setbacks, weaknesses none of these can stop you as long as your desire to succeed overpowers the negativity in your mind. Just tell yourself one thing when you wake up in the morning - Be positive.
- Every little smile can touch somebody's heart. No one is born happy, but all of us are born with the ability to create happiness.
- A stone is broken by the last stroke of Hammer. This does not mean that the first stroke is useless. Success is the result of continuous efforts.
- We get comfort from those who agree with us..but we get growth from those who criticise us. So let us take criticism positively towards own improvement and growth.
- All beautiful relationships do not depend on how well we understand someone, but it depends on how well we manage the misunderstanding.
- Never hate those people who feel jealous for you, but respect their jealousy, because they are the ones who think that you are better than them.
- A correct decision can double the confidence and a wrong decision can double the experience. So no need to worry about both situations, just continue to put in your efforts.
- Don't worry about what others think. Just focus on yourself and be positive. Some people are always negative, so do not let it bother you.



## ACTIVITY FOR THE MONTH

### TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION

#### Life Long Learning for Engineers

All the Chapters/Student Chapters may conduct Seminars/Workshops on the above topic and send the recommendations to the Headquarters for the needful.

## NEWS FROM ISTE FACULTY CHAPTERS

### GUJARAT

- **Birla Vishvakarma Mahavidyalaya Engineering College, Vallabh Vidyanagar** organised ISTE approved and TEQIP-II sponsored one week Short-Term Training Programme on **Statistical Analysis for Scientific & Technical Research & Development** during 6th to 11th March, 2017.



Dignitaries on the dais during the Inauguration of STTP.

- The Chapter also organised ISTE approved and TEQIP-II sponsored two days National Workshop on **Recent Advances in Earthquake Engineering** during 20th to 21st March, 2017.



Dignitaries on the dais during the Inauguration of Workshop.

### KERALA

- **Mohandas College of Engineering and Technology, Anad, Trivandrum** conducted one week ISTE approved Faculty Induction Programme on 23-1-2017. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. S. Sheela, Principal and the presidential address was delivered by Dr. Ashalatha Thampuran, Director. The Chief Guest of the function was Dr. K.P.P. Pillai, former Principal CET, Trivandrum and delivered the inaugural address. The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Shalini A. Nair, Chairman, ISTE MCET Chapter.



Dignitaries on the dais during the Inauguration of programme.

### KARNATAKA

- **Bheemanna Khandre Institute of Technology, Bhalki** conducted three days National Level Techno-Cultural Fest **MEGABYTE-2K17** and workshop on **Challenges & Opportunities in Renewable Energy Systems for Sustainable India**. The Chief Guest of the function was Dr. Shivraj Khandre, Ex. Vice Chancellor, Dr. Bhabasaheb Ambedkar Marathawad University, Aurangabad. The function was inaugurated by Prof. Pratapsinh K. Desai, President, ISTE and presided over by Er. Eshwar Khandre, Chairman SVE Society Bhalki & Minister of GOK, State Municipalities. The Guest of Honour was Dr. H. Naganagonda, Director, National Training Centre for Solar Technology.



Dignitaries on the dais during the Chief Guest address.



Prof. Pratapsinh K. Desai, President, ISTE inaugurating the event.

- **Vivekananda College of Engineering and Technology, Puttur (D.K.)**, organised **World Water Day** on 22-3-2017. Leaflets on awareness of water, sponsored by Shri Saraswathi Charitable Trust, Puttur, were released on this occasion. Dr. Lakshman Nandagiri, Professor, Dept. of Civil Engg., NITK Surathkal was the speaker on this occasion.



Inauguration of "World Water Day" by the dignitaries on the dais.

## NEWS FROM ISTE FACULTY CHAPTERS

### MADHYA PRADESH & CG

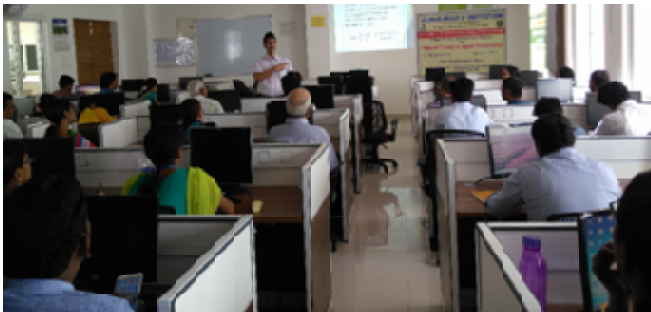
- **Lakshmi Narain College of Pharmacy, Bhopal** organised one day National Conference on **Recent Advances in Nanomedicine and Nanotechnology : Strategies and Innovations** on April 22, 2017. The Chief Guest for the programme was Dr. N.K. Jain, Emeritus Professor, RGPV, Bhopal and Mrs. Poonam Chouksey, Vice Chairman, LNCT Group; Dr. Anupam Chouskey, Secretary, LNCT Group; Dr. Ashok Rai, OSD, LNCT Group were graced the inaugural function.



Dignitaries on the dais during the inauguration of National Conference.

### TELANGANA

- **Anurag Group of Institutions, Ghatkesar, Telangana** conducted three days Faculty Development Programme on **recent Trends in Signal Processing** from 24th to 27th April, 2017.



FDP at a glance.

### TAMILNADU & PONDICHERRY

- **Kings College of Engineering, Punalkulam, Thanjavur** conducted **Technical Crossword Competition** on 22-2-2017. The Chapter also organised Technical Paper Presentation on **Environmental Challenges and Remedies Today**. The one day technical seminar was also organised on **Internet of Things** delivered by Mr. P. Rajapiriyam, AP/ECE Dept. on 2-2-2017.



Technical Crossword competition at a glance.

- **KLN College of Information Technology, Pottapalayam** organised a guest lecture on **Investors Awareness Programme** during 8-3-2017. Mr. S.R. Ramesh, Programme Director, Sadhana Learning Academy, Chennai delivered the guest lecture and Dr. A.S.S. Sekar, Professor & HOD, Civil Engg. Dept. delivered the presidential address. The programme was coordinated by Dr. P. Vasuki, Professor, ECE Dept. and Secretary, ISTE Chapter.



Dignitaries on the dais during the guest lecture.

- **Velammal Engineering College, Chennai** conducted National Conference on **Emerging Research and Advances in Mechanical Sciences (ERAMS-2017)** on 18-3-2017.



Releasing of conference proceedings by the dignitaries on the dais.

- **Mookambigai College of Engineering, Tiruchirappalli** organised a seminar on **Digital Economy** on 27-4-2017. Dr. M.G. Venugopalan, Director presided over the function.
- The Chapter also organised the inaugural function of Intellectual Property Rights Cell on 22-3-2017. Mr. D. Ravi, Chief Executive inaugurated the IPR Cell. Dr. R. Elangovan, Principal presided over the function and Dr. M.G. Venugopalan, Director addressed the gathering. Dr. B.P. Upendra Roy, Head of Training & Placement presented a seminar on **Intellectual Property Rights** and briefed about patents, trademarks, copyrights, geographical index and laws governing.



Dignitaries on the dais during the seminar.

## ISTE STUDENTS AWARD 2017

NOMINATIONS are invited from the ISTE student members of all Government, Aided and Unaided Institutions for the various **ISTE STUDENTS AWARD 2017**. The forms are available in the website "[www.isteonline.in](http://www.isteonline.in)". Therefore, all Head of the Institutions/Chapter Chairmen/Faculty Advisors are requested to kindly advise the students of the ISTE Students Chapters to visit ISTE Website, download nomination form, read the instructions carefully and send their nomination to ISTE New Delhi before the last date. **Last date for submission of all the nominations to ISTE Hqrs., New Delhi is August 31, 2017** The Awards will be given to winners during the **20th ISTE Annual Students Convention to be held during October, 2017**.

### A. NATIONAL AWARDS

**1. Kerala Government Engineering Design National Award** instituted by the Government of Kerala during the XV Annual Convention of ISTE held at Thiruvananthapuram in December 1985. This Award is meant to promote and encourage creativity, innovation and design talents in engineering degree students.

**Eligibility :** Any student in engineering or technology who is studying in an institution during this year or who is completing the degree course at any time during this year is eligible to compete for the award. Only FIRST DEGREE (no post graduate) students are eligible. Try individually or in groups of TWO only.

**Award Details :** Cash Prize (Rs.3000/- for First, Rs.2000/- for Second and Rs.1500/- for Third), a Medallion and Certificates to winners and also to all participants.

**2. NIT, Kozhikode National Award for the Best B.Tech. Project from Engineering Colleges** instituted by National Institute of Technology, Kozhikode to promote research in the areas of :

- Civil & Architecture Engineering
- Mechanical & Production Engineering
- Electrical & Electronics Engineering
- Computer & Communication Engineering

**Eligibility :** Students undergoing under-graduate programmes leading to B.E./B.Tech. degree in any Engineering Institution in India including the IITs, NITs, State Level Engineering Colleges, University Colleges and Engineering Dept. of Universities.

**Award Details :** Cash Prize Rs.2000/- each for the above four disciplines, Medallion and Certificates.

**3. Baba Banda Singh Bahadur Engineering College National Award for the Best B.Tech. Project related to Sustainable Development from Engineering Colleges** announced by Sardar Prakash Singh Badal, former Chief Minister, Punjab and instituted by the Management of Baba Banda Singh Bahadur Engineering College, Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab during 8th National Students Convention of ISTE during October 2005 to promote research in sustainable development in the area of :

- Civil Engineering & Architecture
- Mechanical Engg. & Production Engineering
- Electrical Engineering & Electronics
- Computers & Communication Engineering
- Information Technology & Management
- Agricultural Engineering

**Eligibility :** Final year students undergoing under-graduate programmes leading to B.E./B.Tech. Degree in any engineering institution in any of the above discipline in India including the IITs, NITs, State Level Engineering Colleges, University

**Award Details :** Cash Prize Rs.2000/- each for the above six disciplines, Medallion and Certificates.

### B. REGIONAL AWARDS

**1. Devinder Singh Bansal Memorial Award for Best B.Tech. Project in Mechanical Engineering and Allied Branches in the State of Punjab** instituted by Mrs. Anup Kaur Bansal and Dr. A.S. Bansal donated a sum of Rs.1 lakh to ISTE to Institute a State Level Award in the area of Mechanical Engineering and Allied Branches (it includes Mechanical Engg., Production Engg., Automobile Engg., Industrial Engg., Agricultural Engg. and Farm Machinery) in the memory of their late son Shri Devinder Singh Bansal.

**Eligibility :** Students undergoing under-graduate programmes leading to B.E./B.Tech. Degree in Mechanical Engineering and Allied Branches in any Engineering College in Punjab.

The Award consists of a Cash Prize of Rs.7000, a Medallion, and a Citation.

**2. ISTE-NARSEE MONJEE Award for Best Project work done by Polytechnic Students in Maharashtra State** instituted by The Narsee-Monjee Educational Trust, Mumbai for Final Year students of Polytechnics for their Project Work.

## ISTE STUDENTS AWARD 2017

**Eligibility :** Final Year Diploma students in Maharashtra State graduating in B.T.E. approved Diploma Courses in Engineering/Technology/Architecture/ Pharmacy can apply through their Polytechnics.

Both Group Projects and Individual Projects will be acceptable. **However, the Group size should not exceed 4 STUDENTS.**

**Selection of Award :** A Panel of Judges consisting of representatives of DTE, ISTE and Narsee-Monjee Trust will select the Best, Second Best and Third Best Projects.

**Award Details :** Cash Prize (Rs.2500/- for First, Rs.1500/- for Second and Rs.1000/- for Third), a Medallion and a Certificate.

**3. Maharashtra State Engineering Design Award** for Engineering Students (Degree Level) instituted by the Government of Maharashtra to promote and encourage creativity, innovation and design talents in engineering degree students.

**Eligibility :** Any student in engineering or technology who is studying in an institution in Maharashtra State during this year or who is completing the degree course at any time during this year is eligible to compete for the award. Only FIRST DEGREE (no post graduate) students are eligible. Try individually or in group of TWO only.

**Award Details :** Cash Prize (Rs.3000/- for First, Rs.2000/- for Second) a Medallion and Certificates to winners. In case two students work on a project and get the award, the cash prize will be shared between the two, certificates will be given to both, but the medallion will be given to the leader of the group only.

**4. Punjab Technical University Award for Young Engineer Innovators** for the Best B.Tech. Projects by the students of Engineering Colleges affiliated to Punjab Technical University in the Punjab State. The Award was instituted by Punjab Technical University by donating a sum of Rs.11 lakhs to encourage the students and to stimulate the spirit of inventiveness among the technical students in order to honour and recognize their creative talent with a mission to harness their performance for the benefit of society and the nation in the following disciplines:

- Civil Engineering & Architecture
- Mechanical, Production Engineering, Industrial Engineering and Automobiles etc.

- Electrical Engineering & Electronics Engineering
- Computers and Communication Engineering & Information Technology
- Chemical Engineering, Bio-Technology & Food Technology etc.

**Eligibility :** Final year students of the above branches undergoing under-graduate programmes leading to B.E./B.Tech. Degree in the institution affiliated to Punjab Technical University including the NITs, University-Colleges, Engineering Depts., Engineering & Technology Colleges etc.

**Award Details :** Cash Prize, Medallion and a Citation.

**5. Best Students Chapter Award** (One from each Section)

An Award consisting of a plaque and a certificate will be given to the Best Students Chapter in each Section (provided there are at least 10 Student Chapters in the Section) based on their performance during the period January 1 to September 15 as judged by the concerned Section Managing Committee. The Award will be presented during the National ISTE Students Convention during October, 2017. The Award consists of a Certificate and a Medallion. Sections are requested to recommend the name of Best Students Chapter as judged by them to ISTE Hqrs. New Delhi by September 15, 2017.

### ISTE Best Student Award 2017 (one from each student chapter)

All Student Chapters Managing Committees are requested to kindly select one best student from their Student Chapter on the basis of overall performance of the student members. The name of student selected may please be sent to their Section under intimation to ISTE Hqrs., New Delhi. The ISTE Section will give the **Best Student Award 2017** to the Students during the **Section Level Students Convention**. Student Chapters are kindly requested to get in touch with their Section regarding date, time & venue of the Convention.

**Executive Secretary, ISTE**

## NEWS FROM ISTE STUDENTS CHAPTERS

### KARNATAKA

- **Dayananda Sagar College of Engineering, Bengaluru** organised National Level Students Symposium **Chemovation 2017** on 6-7 April, 2017. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. N. Chikkanna, Chairman, Indian Institute of Engineers, Karnataka State Centre. During the inaugural function Sri Galisway, Secretary DSI; Dr. CPS Prakash, Principal; Mr. A. Raja Shekhar, Principal Consultant at PRENTAC; Dr. R. Ravishankar, Convenor and Prof. Mahadeva Raju G.K. were also present on the state. The Valedictory function was graced by Prof. Sangappa S.B., ISTE Executive Council Member along with Prof. K.A. Badrinarayan, Hon. Secretary, Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, Bangalore Regional Centre.



Release of proceedings of the event by the dignitaries on the dais.



Dignitaries during the valedictory function of "Chemovation2017"

- **Adichunchanagiri Institute of Technology, Chikkamagaluru** conducted two days National Conference on **Emerging Trends and Advances in Information Technology (NCETAIT-2017)** on 7th & 8th April, 2017 in association with ISTE Karnataka Section. The function was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Dr. Jayanna H.S., Professor, SIT, Tumkur Dr. C.K. Subbaraya, Principal AIT presided over the function and Dr. Pushpa Ravikumar, Professor & Head, Dept. of CS&E, AIT was the convenor of the function.



Dignitaries on the dais during the inauguration of National Conference.

### MAHARASHTRA

- **Pankaj Laddhad Institute of Technology and Management Studies, Buldana** organised conference and technical event **Convergence-2017** on 9-4-2017. A total 689 students from various institutes participated the event. The event was inaugurated by the Guests of Honour Dr. G.R. Bamnote, Chairman, CSI Amravati Chapter; Dr. H.R. Deshmukh, National Executive Council Member; Dr. A.P. Thakare, Immediate Past Chairman, IETE Amravati Centre Amravati; Dr. P.S. Gawande, Executive Committee Member, IETE Centre; Dr. D.M. Dakhane, Member IETE Center Amravati and the programme was presided over by Hon. Shri Ravindraji Laddhad.



Dignitaries on the dais during the inauguration of "Convergence-2017".

- **Amrutvahini College of Engineering, Sangamner** organised guest lecture on **Overview of Competitive Examinations** on 26-3-2017. The expert lecture was delivered by Prof. V.B. Ahire, Sangamner College, Sangamner.



Student participants and faculty members during the guest lecture.

### PUNJAB, CHANDIGARH, H.P. & J&K

- **Guru Nanak Institute of Management & Technology, Ludhiana** organised an Inter-Class Competition **'Indispensable IT'** on 23-3-2017. The students took part in various events such as Digi-collage, Lan gaming, Poster display, Green Thoughts, IT Quiz, PPT making, Logo designing, Caption contest, Video Resume, Anokhi App whereas students of MCA assisted in coordinating the event. The Chapter also organised **Prof. Gurbir Singh Sarna Memorial Inter-college Competition-2017**. It was an inter-college managerial abilities competition comprising Technical Events like Webpage Development, Debugging, Logo Designing, Powerpoint Presentation, Literary events like Debate, What an Idea, Inspirational Speech etc. Around 300 students from different colleges affiliated to PTU, Panjab University etc. participated in the event. Lt. Gen. I.S. Singha, AVSM. VSM was the Chief Guest of the event and gave the prizes to the winners. Dr.(Col.) H.S. Singha, Director addressed the participants.

## NEWS FROM ISTE STUDENTS CHAPTERS

### RAJASTHAN

- **Poornima College of Engineering, Sitapur, Jaipur** organised a visit to Sewage Treatment Plant, Pratapnagar on the occasion of World Water Day on March 22, 2017 with the prior permission from Jaipur Nagar Nigam. The purpose of the visit was to acquaint the students with the process of municipal waste water treatment. Dr. Bina Rani and Dr. Susmita Sharma, working as Associate Professor in Dept. of Chemistry & Environmental Engg. were the coordinators of the visit.



Faculty and Students during the visit to Sewage Treatment Plant.

- The Chapter also organised Quiz Competition on **World Earth Day** on April 22, 2017.



Faculty and Students during the Quiz Competition.

### TAMIL NADU & PONDICHERRY

- **Paavai Engineering College, Namakkal** organised International Conference **Adaptive Technologies for Sustainable Growth (ICATS-2017)** on 17-3-2017. Shri CA. N.V. Natarajan, Chairman, Paavai Institutions presided over the function. The conference was inaugurated by Smt. Mangai Natarajan, Correspondent, Paavai Institutions. The Chief Guest of the ICATS'17 was Mr. Pierre-Louis Moroni, President and CEO, Seat Air Systems, Inc., Dr. M. Devi, Principal, Paavai Engineering College proposed the vote of thanks.



Dignitaries on the dais during the inauguration of International Conference.

- **Sri Ramakrishna Institute of Technology, Coimbatore** organised ISTE sponsored guest lecture on **Technologies that Aid Persons with Disability** on 14-3-2017. Dr. Paulraj, Principal & Chairman ISTE Students Chapter presided over the

function. The Chief Guests were Dr. K. Ganesan, Secretary, ISTE TN&P Section and Shri Rajarajan, Manager, European Union Livelihood Projects, Cheshire Homes, Coimbatore.

- The Chapter also organised a National Conference on **Emerging Trends in Instrumentation System and Project Expo (NCETIS'17)** on 17-3-2017. The programme was inaugurated by Mr. Jaganathan Seshadri, Head-Internal Learning and Branding, Kalycito Infotech Pvt. Ltd., Coimbatore.



Distribution of certificate to the participants by the guests.

- **Nadar Saraswathi College of Engineering and Technology, Theni** celebrated the Women's Day on the topic **Food Habits and Personal Hygiene** on 8-3-2017. the function was presided over by Shri K.S. Kasiprabhu, Joint Secretary, NSCET, Theni and the Chief Guest of the function was Dr. C. Jeachandran, Chief Surgeon, Government Medical College & Hospital, Thenni



Dignitaries on the dais during the inauguration of Women's Day celebrations.

- **Kongunadu College of Engineering and Technology, Trichy** organised one day national level workshop on **MATLAB for Beginners** on 10-3-2017. Mr. M. Dharmalingam, ISTE Faculty Advisor welcomed the participants and Dr. R. Asokan, Principal, Presided over the function. Shri T. Yuvarajan, Assistant Professor, ECE Dept. proposed the vote of thanks.



National Level workshop at a glance.



## CONVOCATION ADDRESS

### **23rd Convocation of Nirma University, Ahmedabad on 24-4-2017 delivered by Prof. Ved Prakash (Former Chairman, University Grants Commission, New Delhi)**

Hon'ble Dr. Karsanbhai K. Patel, Chairman, Nirma Education and Research Foundation and President of the Nirma University, Dr. Anup K. Singh, Director General, Nirma University, Members of the Faculties and Staff of the University, Graduates of the Year, Invited Guests, friends from Media, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I feel it a privilege and an honour to be invited to deliver the Convocation address of Nirma University, Ahmedabad. I learn with interest that Dr. Karsanbhai K. Patel, a Padma Shri Awardee, established the Nirma University in Ahmedabad in the year 2003. In its journey of twelve years, the University that was established as the first Private University in the State of Gujarat, with the objective of developing high quality professionals which reflect and demonstrate values that the University stands for, through innovation and continuous improvement in facilitation of learning, research and extension activities has done exceedingly well. The University has set up 10 Institutes/Departments.

I congratulate you, young scholars, as you were a part of this Alma Mater for getting the best out of it in the meaningful years of your life. You are graduating from this university today with distinctions, honours and achievements. The seal of this university on your achievements will remain your prized possession for all times to come. The learning for which you had an opportunity to imbibe at this university will be remembered by you in whatever walk of life you enter after leaving the portals of this institution. Alma Maters are unique institutions which provide enriching insights which influence your accomplishments in the experiences that you gather later in life. I give my best wishes for the bright future of all of you.

The higher education scenario in the country presents an interesting example of a meteoric rise in the number of institutions as well as the enrolments since our independence. There were only 20 universities and 500 colleges with 0.1 million students at the time India attained independence. This has increased to 844 universities, including institutions of national importance, and 40,700 Colleges. The enrolments in Universities in the country has increased by 26.37 times, in the Colleges 58 times, since 1950. Besides this the number of Teachers has increased 52 times.

Even though there is a significant growth in student enrolment in higher education, especially in the last two decades, the GER in higher education is still lesser than the world's average GER (27%) and much lower than that of developed nations. In spite of the expansion of higher education that has been witnessed so far, the country still needs to enhance access and expansion to meet the aspirations of the youth population craving to taste the benefits of higher education and to contribute to the social and economic development of the country. We will require more institutions of higher education with particular focus on catering to the needs of the youth belonging to the under-privileged and un-served areas. The regional imbalance that we experience today will have to be mitigated by taking a pro-active stance for providing access and expansion not only among the marginalized sections of population but to consciously provide for opportunities for education of young people including girls belonging to scheduled castes (SCs), scheduled tribes (STs),

minorities, other backward classes (OBCs) and physically and mentally challenged young population.

In an ageing world, India is poised for reaping demographic dividends. About 12.8 million young persons are joining the working class every year. It is expected that the labour force in India is likely to increase by 32% over the next 20 years while it will decline by 4% in industrialized nations. India will have a large productive population of 75% by 2025. There is, however, a mis-match between population and educational infrastructure which is evidenced by the fact that the density of higher education institutions is more in the western and southern states whereas the demographic advantage is in the north, east and northeastern states.

It is interesting to note that 96% of enrolment in higher education is in the state and private university system. Any attempt at improving and consolidating the situation will require a new mission mode to incentivize state institutions based on academic, administrative and governance reforms. This problem is being addressed through the National Mission on Higher Education through Rashtriya Uchttar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) following the success of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Rashtriya Madhyamic Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) at the school level.

Today's reality of higher education demands focus on the four Es of Expansion, Equity, Excellence and Employability. We need to enhance the GER, create new infrastructure, strengthen state institutions and enhance teaching capacities. An equally important concern is to ensure gender parity, reach the unreached, bridge the urban rural divide and address the educational needs of all social groups towards attaining the goals of inclusive education. Expansion and equity is not enough if excellence does not become our watchword. Mandatory accreditation of institutions, their periodic assessments, enriching faculty resources and focus on research and innovation are the key interventions we need to nurture towards quality and excellence.

Although university as a system is for creation of new knowledge, in the changing scenario, employability has also become an important concern. There is a need for enhancing skill development initiatives and implementing National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) for mobility between vocational and main stream education. Industry-academia interaction has been proverbially weak and needs to be strengthened involving Public Private Partnership (PPP) models. Although this inter-linkage has been attempted, the research and development function through university-industry interface is not as prominent in the culture of our universities as it ought to be. The subject needs to be put on discourse to overcome barriers to a joint collaboration of curriculum and courses mutually relevant to both the university and industry. It may be worthwhile on the part of our university academics to make a detailed study of how this interface works effectively in the university system elsewhere in the world and outline strategies which can enhance such an interface with our industries in the country, and provide indigenous solutions to the problems critical for solution.

Equal Opportunity Cells (EOCs) in the universities and colleges has been an important intervention of the UGC. These

## CONVOCATION ADDRESS

Cells should work with the Internal Quality Assessment Cells (IQAC) to monitor the social diversity in the composition of the institution, the status of implementation of legally mandated reservation as applicable, progress in the implementation of schemes, educational performance of the SC/ST/Minority and OBC (non-creamy layer) students. There should be appropriate publicity of the schemes for all backward communities so that they can avail themselves of the facilities. The progress on the above parameters should be put on the website of the universities. I have no doubt that the Nirma University is in the forefront of addressing these concerns. Education today is impoverished if it fails to utilize the orientation that can be provided to it by technology-enabled interventions. There is a need to ensure connectivity amongst institutions of higher education through National Knowledge Network (NKN) which is now connecting 26,000 colleges/university/research laboratories. Another intervention is to exploit the National Mission on Education through ICT (NME-ICT) for qualitative improvement of curriculum transaction and exposure of teachers and students to the frontiers of knowledge.

Research and innovations are at the heart of developmental perspectives in higher education. The quality of research lays the foundation for the recognition of our institutions in their global ranking. This is a subject of concern as our universities need to improve their profiles, overcoming all barriers which hamper the growth and development of high-end research. Let me assure that there is no dearth of resources for supporting research, there is only a serious need for insightful minds to undertake interdisciplinary research which is the need of the hour. Innovation platform and innovation centres need to be established along with innovation and incubation parks, simultaneously participating in international collaboration.

Academic education needs to be interfaced with meaningful skill development initiatives for a fairly large number of young population may not be tuned to research and academic careers but they have the foundation of applying their acquired knowledge to the development of skills which can earn them a place of respect in the society. The foundation for this has to be laid in the school and the un-organized sector. Vocational education programmes in secondary and senior secondary school have not received the success they deserve in spite of the exaltations outlined in the Education Commission (1964-66). The issue of skilled human resource has received due attention in the higher education sector through the setting up of Community Colleges and Community Polytechnics, strengthening existing polytechnics and even enhancing stature of vocational education by bringing it into the domain of higher education by offering B.Voc. and Career-Oriented Courses in the university system.

Quality and excellence dimension in all domains of learning has to be the most prominent agenda of our university system. I find it very relevant to quote the Hon'ble President of India in this connection:

"The quality of education has to be the focus of our attention now. We can be world leaders in education, if only we discover the will and leadership to take us to that pinnacle. Education is no longer just the privilege of the elite, but a universal right. It is the seed of a nation's destiny. We must usher in an education revolution that becomes a launching pad for the national resurgence".

It is agreed that excellence in higher education is possible through greater autonomy coupled with higher and performance-linked funding for universities that sustain excellence. It can also happen through enhancing skill and pedagogic awareness of teachers for improving instructional dynamics besides expanding and reforming faculty development initiatives and incentivizing faculty and student mobility across institutions for cross fertilization of ideas.

There is also a possibility of enhancing technology-mediated teaching and learning and expanding e-resource availability to students and teachers. Also instituting awards to faculty for reflecting their achievements on global platforms can go a long way in promoting excellence. It is an accepted fact that an essential mandate of the university system is to teach and train high quality personnel who can face the challenging assignments of a dynamic society. Instituting curricular, pedagogical, assessment, research and organizational innovations can be an important intervention. Establishment of special incubation centres and research parks can provide a fillip to research and innovation. It will be relevant to provide special funding to research-intensive universities.

There is a need for clearer articulation of the concept of internationalization of higher education. Providing greater autonomy to institutions to enter into collaborative partnerships with the best universities abroad can be an important initiative besides working out areas of collaboration and exchange programmes. It would be relevant to design policy measures to attract foreign scholars to enroll in Indian universities. Augmenting the faculty with intellectual resources available outside the system in the form of professors can go a long way in meeting the need of faculty shortages.

There is a need to introduce more efficient and productive models of improving the governance system. Reducing the burden of affiliation system through amendment of Acts by the state universities is an important concern. Developing an overarching regulatory framework for effective coordination of regulatory agencies is also the need of the hour. Quality education warrants an inspiring learning ambience on the campuses of institutions of higher learning. Combating the menace of ragging and ensuring ragging-free campus life is an important concern. The UGC has recently brought out a publication on Measures for Safety of Women on Campuses and the efforts needed for Gender sensitization. These are some of the positive initiatives for providing safe learning environment on our university campuses. The needs of expansion of higher education will require that new modes of delivery of higher education are articulated differently. In an ideal situation, the focus should be on delivery of quality higher education independent of the mode which means that the borders between "conventional", dual mode and Open and Distance Learning (ODL) should get blurred. ODL can be on a strong wicket only if it is played well and its processes are comprehensively addressed. A strong accreditation mechanism which emphasizes on internal quality checks and external reviews is important.

Let me end by wishing that the graduates coming out the portal of this great university will bring all the pride and glory to the institution and also to themselves by their performance in their actual life in whatever station of life they choose for themselves.

Thank you

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## ISTE STUDENTS CHAPTER INAUGURATION

### TELANGANA

- **Vardhaman College of Engineering, Hyderabad** ISTE Students Chapter was inaugurated on 22-2-2017. Dr. P. Venkata Ramana, Professor, Mech.Engg.Dept., MGIT, Hyderabad was the Chief Guest and inaugurated the Students Chapter. Dr. Sai Satyanarayana Reddy, Principal spoke on the importance of ISTE Students Chapter amongst students and guided students to actively participate in the ISTE activities in order to improve their personality development. Dr. P. Nageswara Rao, ISTE Faculty Advisor announced the activities to be conducted in 2016-17 under the banner of ISTE Students Chapter.



Chief Guest Dr. P. Venkata Ramana delivering the inaugural address.

News from Students Chapter contd.from pg.8.....

### WEST BENGAL

- **Bengal Institute of Technology, Kolkata** organised **Blood Donation Camp** and various activities as a part of Community Development Programme for under privileged children on February 16-17, 2017. More than 10 to 12 schools participate in this programme. It is an attempt to encourage the under privileged children for their drawing skill, recitations and sports activities.



Distribution of prizes to the winners during the programme.

## NEWS FROM ISTE SECTIONS

### DELHI SECTION

- ISTE Delhi Section organised two days Faculty Development Programme on the occasion of ISTE Annual Faculty Convention-2016 at Bharati Vidyapeeth's Institute of Computer Application & Management (BVICAM), New Delhi on 27-28 January, 2017. The theme of the convention was **Leveraging Technology for Quality Education**. Dr. Nitin Malik, Joint Registrar, Guru Govind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi was the Chief Guest. Dr. N. K. Gupta, Chairman, ISTE Delhi Section & Additional Director, Centre for Fire Safety & Management, New Delhi, was the Guest of Honour. Prof. M. N. Hoda, Director, BVICAM was the Presiding Officer, Shri. R. K. Vyas, National Hony. Treasurer, Computer Society of India & Prof. A. K. Saini, Professor, GGS Indraprastha University were also present on the dais.

The resource persons of the programme were: Dr. Vishal Jain, BVICAM, New Delhi, Prof. M. N. Hoda, BVICAM, New Delhi, Dr. Nimit Gupta, Fortune International Institute of Business, New Delhi, Dr. P. S. Grover, Delhi University, Delhi and Mr. Rajeev Jain, Corporate Trainer, Gurgaon. The programme was received by more than 35 participants. The objective of this FDP was to sensitize and expose the participants that typical Chalk and Talk methods alone in higher and technical education will not equip the students to face the corporate challenges of 21st Century. Teaching Methodologies will need to focus on **Problems, Projects and Activity Based Components** using ICT in a way that students are involved and engaged into the classroom activities so that their learning efficiency is enhanced.



Certificate distribution to the participants by the Chief Guest and dignitaries on the dais.



Group photo of dignitaries and participants.

### TAMIL NADU & PONDICHERY SECTION

- 5th ISTE Tamilnadu & Pondicherry State Polytechnic Students Convention was held at Excel Polytechnic College, Nammakal on 10-1-2017. The theme of convention was **Shaping Technical Students for Present Industrial Arena**. A total of 883 external and 217 internal participants from various colleges across Tamilnadu and Pondicherry attended the convention.

The Chief Guest of the function was Er. T.T. Paranthaman, Managing Director, PRD Rings India Pvt. Ltd., Thiruchengode and delivered the address. Dr. A.K. Natesan, Chairman, ISTE TN&P Section presided over the function and Rtn. PDG. S.P. Balasubramaniam, Past District Governor, RID 2892 was the Guest of Honour of the function. Dr. R. Samson Ravindran, Vice Chairman, ISTE TN&P Section felicitated the gathering. Dr. V.K. Shanmuganaathan, Principal Excel Engg. College and Dr. E. Palaniswamy, Principal, Excel College of Engg. & Technology also delivered the address. Dr. K. Ganesan, Secretary, ISTE TN&P Section delivered the vote of thanks.



Inauguration of the 5th ISTE TN&P State Polytechnic Students Convention by the Chief Guest and dignitaries on the dais.



Releasing of the Convention proceedings by the Chief Guest and dignitaries on the dais.



Dr. A.K. Natesan, Chairman, ISTE TN&P Section delivering the presidential address.

**Note : ISTE does not assume any responsibility for the information furnished and views expressed by the individuals.**

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