



CELEBRATING CENTENARY



STUDENT ALUMNI INTERACTION CELL, IIT (BHU), VARANASI

Alma Communiqué

Alumni Newsletter (Jun '22)

Read about the facilities at IIT (BHU), its research culture, and its journey from IT to IIT!



Glory of the past,
through the eyes of the future!



1. IDAPT Hub Foundation of IIT (BHU), Varanasi and National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai have jointly launched an online global certification course on 'Data-Driven Supply Chain Transformation 2022' in collaboration with Prof. David Simchi-Levi from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA, under the PM Gati Shakti initiative. It is a 30-hour weekend-only course, from 16th July to 21st August, 2022. The course will help develop a fundamental understanding of the digital transformation of supply chains. Registrations are now open for the course; more information about it can be found on the websites of NITIE and IIT (BHU).

2. The Jay Chaudhry Lecture Series on Software Best Practices, made possible by a generous contribution from Sh. Jay Chaudhry, IIT (BHU) graduate (EEE '80) and CEO & Founder of Zscaler to the IIT (BHU) Foundation, will start on 16th July, 2022. The lecture series aims to teach industry's best practices to students pursuing a career in software. These lectures, by IIT (BHU) alumni who are industry experts and academic stalwarts, will be held every Saturday from 10 AM to 12 PM IST.

3. The 8th International Day of Yoga was celebrated on 21st June, 2022 at the IIT (BHU) Gymkhana Ground with great enthusiasm. Around 1200 people attended the Yoga Camp led by *yoga guru* Kush Pandey and *yoga scholar* Priyanka Saraswati, which lasted fifty minutes and featured a range of *asanas*. Director of IIT (BHU), Prof. Pramod Kumar Jain, and Dean of Students Affairs, Prof. Lal Pratap Singh, also graced the occasion. The event culminated with prize distribution to the winners of Yoga Camp by Dr. Satish Kanaujia, Councillor, Games & Sports, IIT (BHU).

4. IIT (BHU) has named its main library in honor of Sh. Shreenivas Deshpande, a 1948 graduate of the College of Technology, in recognition of the generous contribution of US \$1 million by Dr. Desh Deshpande and his wife, Mrs. Jaishree Deshpande. Now, the main library is known as the Shreenivas Deshpande Library. The naming ceremony was held live on 24th June, 2022 in the presence of several dignitaries, including the vice-chancellor of Banaras Hindu University, Prof. Sudhir Jain, at the Institute.

Shreenivas Deshpande Library



The Shreenivas Deshpande Library is a two-story building spread on an area of approximately 45,000 sq. ft., collectively supporting the Institute's teaching, research, and extension programs. The library is

accessible to all students, employees, and faculty members, with the library membership. Besides having an excellent print collection of over 1,42,000 books, journals, theses, reports, standards, and pamphlets, the library also provides access to over 15,000 electronic journals and more than 2,500 electronic books and databases in science, engineering, and technology. The library is open for use everyday from 8 AM to 11 PM, and offers various facilities to the users, like a collaborative learning space, document delivery service, remote access facility, e-library, reading room facility, faculty reading space, meeting/presentation space, etc.

Research activities and publications are supported through various research support tools that the library provides, including Turnitin and Ouriginal (plagiarism detection softwares), Grammarly, and EndNote (a citation management software). Further, the library also organizes programs for promoting publications, through initiatives like the authors' workshops. It maintains records for the Institute,



faculty members, e-resources for remote access, and school/department-wise publications, and helps provide data for institutional ranking.



Following the upgrade of the seating facilities, the library now provides space for more than 600 users with a laptop charging facility for each seating. The collaborative learning spaces are helpful for users to be able to

learn and discuss together, so they can work on projects in a group. There is a separate reading room available for the faculty members. The conference room is equipped with a projector and a whiteboard, with the capacity to seat 25 people, for academic meetings or presentations. The searching and browsing facility is available via 50 terminals installed in the e-library section. The entire library area is under CCTV surveillance and Wi-Fi enabled.

There is a facility of Institutional Repository for maintaining the Ph.D. theses, dissertations, publications, etc. An email service and 'Ask the Librarian' link on the website answers more than 25 queries on a daily basis, about article requests, plagiarism checks, and other library and research related issues. Multiple e-resources are available on the library webpage (<https://www.iitbhu.ac.in/cf/lib>) for users across the globe.



Ramesh Srinivasan SAC

In 2018, when our esteemed Director, Prof. Pramod Kumar Jain joined the Institute, he conceptualized the Ramesh Srinivasan Student Activity Center (RS-SAC). The idea was to create a world-class Indoor Sports complex, which caters to almost every activity. This was made possible by the generous support of Sh. Ramesh Srinivasan (MET '82).

On 8th November, 2019, the foundation stone ceremony was performed by Mr. Ramesh Pokhriyal, the M/o the then-HRD Ministry, and on 22nd June, 2022, the Opening was done by our Hon'ble Director Prof. Pramod Kumar Jain.



An indoor activity center was a major requirement of the Institute, that would cater to the needs of the students all year round. The RS-SAC houses almost all sports and games viz.

state-of-the-art gymnasium, a 4-court badminton hall that can be used as multipurpose hall to organize basketball, volleyball, handball and even tennis, 2 squash courts, 2 table-tennis halls (one each for students and staff), a taekwondo hall with 2 arenas, 2 boxing rinks, a yoga hall, a carrom and a chess hall and a big multi-use hall.

All the halls of RS-SAC are air-conditioned and synthetic/wooden floored as per requirement.

Innovation @ IIT (BHU)

On 1st June, 2022, RKVY-RAFTAAR Agri-Business Incubator (R-ABI), IIT (BHU), Varanasi, announced the launch of COHORT-5 for ANKURAN (Pre-seed stage) and PRASFUTAN (Seed stage) under the RKVY-RAFTAAR Scheme of the Govt. of India. Applicants for ANKURAN might be farmers, students, or young people developing novel ideas. An Agripreneurship Orientation Program will be held online, following which, the chosen entrepreneurs will be qualified for a pre-seed stage award of up to Rs. 5 lakh for developing their product prototype. Startups that already have an MVP are eligible to apply for PRASFUTAN. Under this, selected entrepreneurs would be eligible for a seed-stage award of up to Rs. 25 lakh for scaling



their product, after two months of training and mentorship. On 14th June, 2022, the funding agency, the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW), sent a sanction letter for the 2nd tranche of COHORT-1 and

COHORT-2, amounting to Rs. 50 lakh which will be distributed to 10 startups. Finally, startups from the Ideation Innovation & Incubation (I-3) Foundation attended the Singrauli Investor's Meet on 28th May, 2022, held in Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh.

Did you know?



The Dept. of Indian Post issued a Rs. 5 commemorative postal stamp on the centennial of IIT (BHU) in 2019. Our Hon'ble Prime minister, Sh. Narendra Modi, published this elegant postal stamp along with the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Sh. Yogi Adityanath during a special event at IIT (BHU) on the holy occasion of Ravidas Jayanti.

Research and Development

Keeping up with the rise in Research and Development environment, the Institute signed an MoU with Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India, on 15th June, 2022.

Department	Name of funding agency	Period of the project sanction	Total cost of project in Rs.
EEE	Ornate Agencies Pvt. Ltd.	1 year	10,08,000
MAT	BRNS	3 years	14,84,800
CSE	ICAR	3 years	1,53,89,064

Between 1st and 30th June, 2022, two patents were granted to the Institute, and two new patents were filed. A total of three projects were sanctioned for the month of June, amounting to a total of Rs. 1,78,81,864. The Institute undertook 39 consulting/testing projects from 1st to 20th June, 2022, with cumulative funding of Rs. 1,15,22,413.

Media Section

आइआईटी बीएचयू का मुख्य पुस्तकालय अब श्रीनिवास देशपांडे के नाम पर

IIT (BHU) names its main library in honor of Sh. Shreenivas Deshpande

NITIE Mumbai and IIT BHU Launch Global Online Certification course on Data-Driven Supply Chain Transformation

IIT (BHU) and NITIE launch an online global certification course

Infrastructure Updates

The construction of Dhanrajgiri - II Hostel was recently completed and it is now occupied by the newly admitted students. It has 403 rooms stretched across S+7 floors.



Morvi – II Hostel is currently in the advanced stage of its construction. It will comprise of 576 rooms stretched across S+10 floors, with three dining halls, lifts, and 12 common rooms: 2 large and 10 small ones. The two hostels will together add 2000 seats in our hostels.

Internship/Placement Updates

Students of the Institute have witnessed unprecedented opportunities, with offers from numerous reputable companies across various fields. IIT (BHU)'s Training and Placement Cell, made a remarkable effort to streamline the hiring procedure for both the candidates and the employers. As of 7th July, 2022, 381 reputable companies across dynamic profiles made 1318 offers to the students. Apart from this, the cell also provided internships to around 151 students from other institutions.



Reputed companies like Microsoft, Google, Goldman Sachs, Sprinklr, Trilogy, Greenlight, AAC Mining, Infosys, Procter and Gamble, De Shaw, Salesforce, Disney+Hotstar, Mathworks, Amazon, Fractal Analytics, BNY Mellon, TATA AIG, Visa, WINZO Games, Persistent, Walmart, etc., offered internships/placements to the students.

Students' Updates



E-Cell IIT BHU recently organized a session on new-age marketing tactics with Ms. Arushi Sana (Co-Founder, NYK Daily) and Sh. Nikhil Chandwani (Co-Founder, NYK Daily; Times Writer of the year 2022). The discussion focused on Bragging Rights on Social Media and Social Responsibility for startups. A webinar, in collaboration with bewakoof.com on the 'INs and OUTs of Entrepreneurship' by Ms. Aditi Pai (CFO, Bewakoof), was also organized.

Student Counselling Services conducted a panel discussion on 'Acing Internships' with college seniors, who guided the students on getting internships in SDE, Analytics, Product Management, and Core & Research profiles. 'Chit Chat with Seniors 3.0': Instagram live sessions hosted by the freshers where they interact with the graduating batch, were also organized. Further, they conducted a 'Heritage Walk', for the freshers to help them explore Banaras.



ShARE, IIT (BHU) successfully completed their Startup Projects - 2022, in which the junior members collaborated on specially crafted problem statements with real-world startups, including AyuRythm, ELAI AgriTech, GreenPod Labs, Plush, and ZiptraX CleanTech, while being mentored by their respective project managers. With their ability to

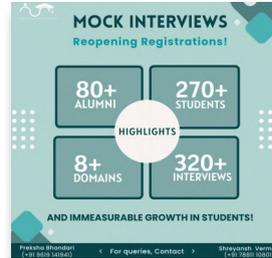
rethink and reinvent solutions, the members were able to unleash the potential for change, putting companies on the road to success in the sustainable business environment.

Alumni Updates

SAIC continued with its flagship 'Student Alumni Mentorship Programme', conducting sessions on Consulting and Product Management as a part of its weekly panel discussion series, with prestigious alumni in the respective domains providing guidance to the students. The cell also conducted 300+ successful student interviews



under the 'Alumni-Guided Mock Interviews Initiative'. These interviews gave students a real-time experience of their upcoming internship interviews and helped them better prepare for one the most important opportunity of their careers. Moreover, an interactive and insightful session on 'Entrepreneurship by acquisition' was also organized in collaboration with E-Cell IIT BHU which was mentored by Sh. Manvendra Saxena (CER '09), CEO of Contract Sweeping Services. Another session on 'Deferred MBA Programs' was conducted in collaboration with the Business Club, IIT (BHU) and Sh. Piyush Ranjan (MET '12), Founder and Chief Consultant, Management Masters, as the speaker.



Alumni Achievements

Sh. Shobhit Shubhankar (CHE '15) released his book, 'Startup Compass', a guide to the journey of a startup. With each chapter signifying a stage in the journey, the book contains insights and experiences of multiple successful entrepreneurs of the startup ecosystem in India making it an excellent read for budding entrepreneurs to understand and learn from.



Startup Success Stories



QueueBuster, co-founded by Sh. Arun Tangri (CSE '06), has raised INR 63.3 crore (US \$ 8.16 million) in a Series A funding round led by Chiratae Ventures, Omidyar Network India, and Flourish Ventures. DMI Alternative Investment Fund (the Sparkle Fund) and Unaprime Investment Advisors (an exclusive banker to QueueBuster) also participated in this round. The company will now focus on merchant growth, product enhancements, and the scaling of its distribution network.

Spardha Learnings Pvt. Ltd., co-founded by Sh. Saurabh Srivasta (CHE '01), raised Rs. 8 crore in a pre-Series A2 round led by Inflection Point Ventures, a Gurugram-based angel investment firm. Spardha will use the raised funding for hiring across sales and operations, product upgrade, and focus on brand building and marketing to further expand its presence in the global market.



Upholding the legacy: IT-BHU to IIT (BHU)

Rooted in the magical city of Varanasi is, the country's oldest yet one of the youngest premier institutes, our Indian Institute of Technology at Banaras Hindu University. As the Institute marks the 10th year of integration with the Indian Institute of Technology system, it is essential to remember how this change came to be and the legacy of 100 years that backed it all up.

IIT (BHU), as we know it today, began in 1919 as the Benaras Engineering College (BENCO) with 75 students, two departments, and two hostels. As the nation struggled for independence, the Institute thrived hard and created engineers who paved the way for a new dawn. Bringing in new opportunities for these talented students, the College of Mining & Metallurgy (MINMET) and the College of Technology (TECHNO) were started in 1923 and 1932, respectively.

The Institute has always been ahead of its time, organizing the techno-management fest, Technex, since the 1940s, while the cultural fest, Sparsh (now known as Kashiyatra), and the sports meet, Spardha, since the 1980s. These early initiatives helped the students get exposure and the Institute stood firmly ahead of its contemporaries.

From 1968-71, BENCO, MINMET, and TECHNO were amalgamated, and the Institute of Technology, Banaras Hindu University (IT-BHU) was established. From 1972, IT-BHU started accepting students for undergraduate courses through IIT-JEE, and for postgraduate courses through GATE, along with other IITs at the time. By 2012, IT-BHU comprised of thirteen departments, three interdisciplinary schools, three centers of Advanced Studies, three Special Assistance Programmes, and several Central Facilities.

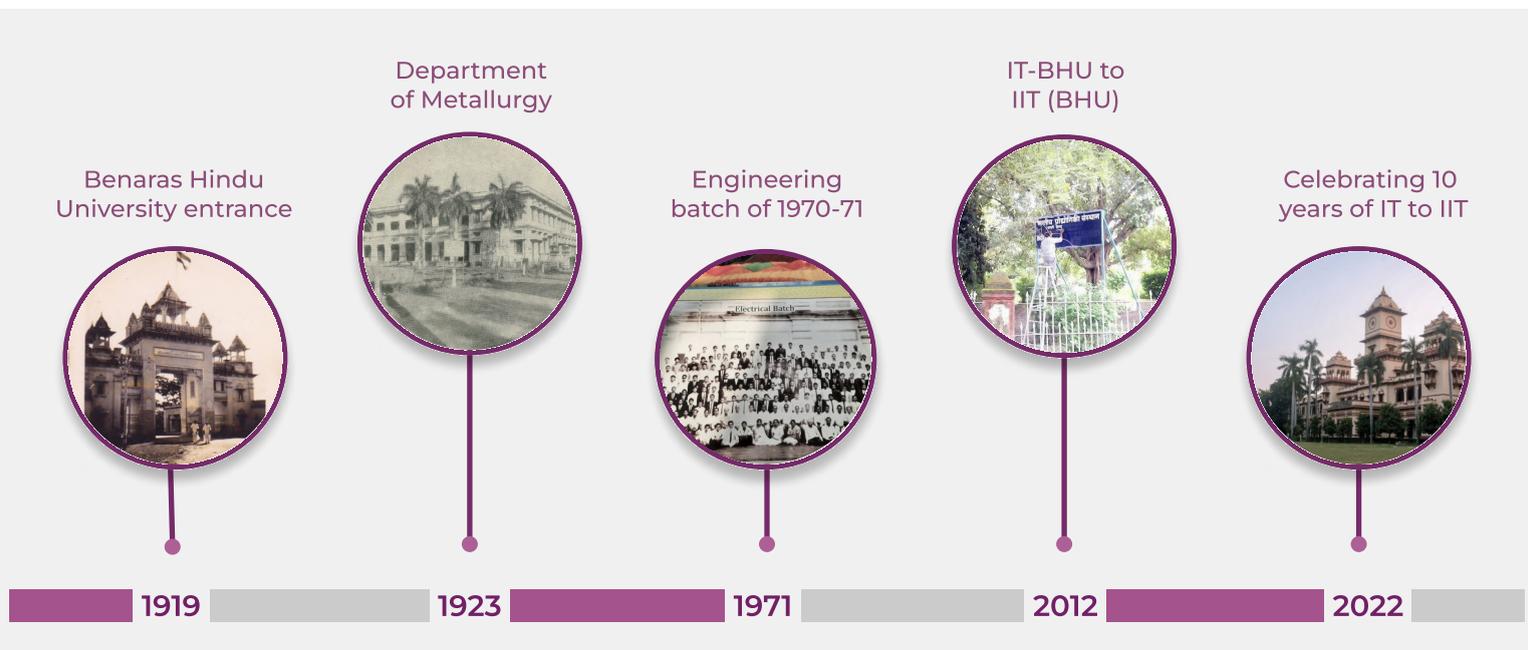
The Lok Sabha was informed on 22nd March, 2005, that the Government was considering the report of the S. K. Joshi Committee. The committee requested an expert group to assess the suitability of transforming seven institutions throughout India to the level of IITs, including the Institute of Technology (BHU), Varanasi. Since then, IT-BHU has been the only institute to reach the requirements and be raised to the level of IIT.

On 17th July, 2008, following years of assessment and survey, the Press Information Bureau released "In principle, approval for taking over the Institute of Technology, Banaras Hindu University – a constituent unit of the Banaras Hindu University, a Central University, and its conversion into an Indian Institute of Technology and integrating it with the IIT system in the country." The BHU Executive Council approved this request.

After years of effort from the Government, faculty, and the students of IT-BHU, on 29th June, 2012, as per the Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Act, 2012, the Institute of Technology was declared an independent body and renamed IIT (BHU), Varanasi.

Throughout the years, the college has carried various names, each adding to its rich legacy. Completing its tenth year of integration with the IIT system, the Institute is proud to have sixteen departments, three interdisciplinary schools, and one Humanities & Social Sciences Section backed up by a vast network of illustrious alumni.

After ten years of being an IIT, supported by its amazing 100-year legacy, the Institute continues to produce world-class engineers of high character, probity, and honor.



SAIC is grateful to the Director, Dean (Resource & Alumni), Alumni Associations, and the entire IIT (BHU) fraternity for their constant support and blessings. We look forward to your valuable feedback. To share information for future editions, reach us at alumnice11@iitbhu.ac.in.

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