

ALMA COMMUNIQUE

Alumni Newsletter (Sep '23)

Institute Updates



1. IIT (BHU), Varanasi, organized its 12th Convocation Ceremony at the Swatantrata Bhawan on 6th October, 2023. Dr. Samir V. Kamat, Secretary, Department of Defense (R&D) and Chairman, DRDO, graced the event as the Chief Guest, and Dr. Kota Harinarayan, Chairman of the Board of Governors and Prof. P. K. Jain, Director, IIT (BHU) were also present at the ceremony. With over 1641 graduands being awarded their degrees, the event witnessed the distribution of 136 medals to 66 medal holders for their exemplary performance. Furthermore, on this occasion, the Institute honored the recipients of the Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna Awards 2023-24, felicitating three alumni who attended the ceremony among the nine awardees.



2. Dr. Samir V. Kamat, Secretary, Department of Defense (R&D) and Chairman, Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), inaugurated the DRDO Industry Academy-Centre of Excellence (DIA-CoE) at IIT (BHU) on 6th October, 2023. The center will aim to reduce India's defense imports and make it self-reliant in the defense field by developing indigenous defense technologies. Under DIA-CoE, DRDO will establish technical facilities and infrastructure required for technological development programs in various verticals. In the first phase, three verticals - powder metallurgy, functional electronics materials, and high-power microwave sources and devices, were selected for research.



3. The 12th edition of the IITBHU Model United Nations conference was organized from 29th September, 2023 to 1st October, 2023. The opening ceremony was attended by Yogesh Chabria, founder of Happionaire Way, a bestselling author, and a keynote TEDx speaker, and the closing ceremony witnessed Anil Trigunayat, former Indian ambassador to Jordan, Libya, and Malta, as the Chief Guest. The conference aimed to foster deliberations on global challenges among young minds nationwide and covered various topics, including the globalization of healthcare, climate change, the effects of capitalism, and many more.



4. The inauguration ceremony of Mental Wellness Week at IIT (BHU), organized by the Wellness Council at the Student Counselling Services on 8th October, 2023, was attended by Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Finance Minister, Government of India. At the event, the Finance Minister addressed the students, motivating them to find work-life balance, and shared details of various initiatives of the Central Government for the mental well-being of every citizen.



5. The first phase of the mission to achieve carbon neutrality, which was launched on Independence Day by Prof. P. K. Jain, Director, IIT (BHU), concluded successfully with an event on Gandhi Jayanti. Under this campaign, the Institute adopted the Ghoshila, Rameswaram, and Hirampur villages and conducted household surveys and awareness programs. Promoting carbon neutrality in daily life, the mission proceeded with an awareness march taken out by Kasturba Mahila Inter College in Ghoshila village and a carbon-neutral case study competition held for IIT (BHU) students on 28th September, 2023.

Research and Development

For any institution to be deemed as progressive and advancing, the level of attention provided to its RnD sector proves to be a significant measure. Recognizing the necessity of innovative research, IIT (BHU), Varanasi continues to make huge strides in this respect and put in complete effort towards the execution of its research projects.

Between 1st September, 2023 and 30th September, 2023, seven patents have been filed, 32 published and 2 granted, out of which one was filed in 2017 and another in 2019.

Title	Filing Date	Granting Date
A method to enhance thermal stability and efficiency in porous fluoropolymer hybrid membrane	31-07-2017	18-09-2023
A novel anti-coagulant formulation and a method of preparation thereof	27-03-2019	28-09-2023

Patents Granted in September

Furthermore, a total of 49 testing and consultancy projects were carried out this month, which received funding amounting up to Rs. 11,24,808.

Department/School	Name of Funding Agency	Period of the Project Sanction	Total Cost of Project in Rs.
APD, MEC	IKS, AICTE	02 Years	10,00,000
CHE	BRNS	03 Years	86,36,000
BME	DBT	05 Years	52,50,000

Projects Sanctioned in September

Media Section



IIT (BHU)'s DIA-CoE Aims to Achieve Self-Reliance in India's Defense Sector



IIT (BHU) Students Delve into Global Challenges at MUN Meet

Faculty Achievements

Dr. N. K. Mukhopadhyay, Professor at the Department of Metallurgical Engineering, IIT (BHU), has been elected as a fellow of the Indian National Science Academy during its Annual General Meeting. He has been recognized for his contributions to academia, and his fellowship will be effective from 1st January, 2024.



Dr. Pralay Maiti, Professor at the School of Materials Science and Technology, IIT (BHU), has been elected as a fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE) for his contributions to the field of 'Engineering and Technology'. His fellowship will officially commence on 1st November, 2023.

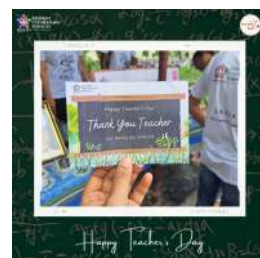
Dr. Satyabrata Jit, Professor at the Department of Electronics Engineering, IIT (BHU), received the IETE-Prof. SVC Aiya Memorial Award (2023) at the 66th Annual IETE Convention in Pune, conducted on 16th September, 2023, in recognition of his exceptional leadership as a research mentor.



Dr. Vishal Mishra, Assistant Professor at the School of Biochemical Engineering, IIT (BHU) is awarded with membership of the National Academy of Science India (NASI) Prayagraj from 2023 onwards. He has been awarded in the 'Science and Society' category for his exemplary contributions to the promotion and popularization of science and technology in society.

Student Updates

The Student Counselling Services-SAKHA, through its various councils, organized a range of activities this month. The Wellness Council hosted a heartwarming Teacher's Day event, garnering enthusiastic participation and highlighting the special bond between students and teachers. The Academics Council successfully organized 'Acing MidSem' and 'Remedial Classes', where 45+ experienced seniors and academic mentors guided over 400 freshers in preparation for their first college exams and offered valuable guidance on effective self-study strategies. The International Exchange Council conducted a guiding session on the MITACS program, benefiting over 60 students.



At the Social Service Council, the Kashi Utkarsh club conducted career-guided sessions for *basti* students. The Sahyog Club celebrated National Sports Day by organizing games and promoting values of discipline and sportsmanship in honor of Major Dhyan Chand on his birth anniversary. The Health and Hygiene Club started a Medicine Collection Drive in hostels, collecting medicines for distribution to those in need.

Events @ IIT (BHU)

Strillion (FMC Weekend Theme Launch)

The theme launch event of the 10th edition of FMC Weekend - 'Strillion' was organized on 9th September, 2023, and was graced by Mr. Dhruv Sehgal, a celebrated writer and filmmaker of 'Little Things'. This year's theme is 'Euphoria of Expression', which perfectly mirrors the Council's long-standing commitment to artistic innovation. Furthermore, it encapsulates the pure delight of expressing individuality through various digital art forms, highlighting the transformative power of creative storytelling in the digital age.



Student Alumni Interaction Cell (SAIC)



SAIC, in collaboration with SARC, IIT Bombay, organized events at the Institute level under SARCathon, a series of Pan-IIT competitions. Under the Alumni Visiting Faculty Program, five alumni took offline classes in September, and mid-semester examinations for all the four courses were conducted.

Alumni Achievements

Sh. Vijai K. Sharma (MEC '61), former Additional General Manager at Indian Ordnance Factories, has recently published two notable books - 'Elbow Support in Life', which is a self-development book authored by him, and 'Drifting Dunes', a collection of general discussions in which he serves as the co-editor.



Sh. Raju Tolani (CER '83), Managing Director at Schmolz + Bickenbach India Pvt. Ltd., was part of the Indian men's bridge team that won the silver medal at the Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou, China. He was one of the four members on the start list for the final session of the event, held on 6th October, 2023.

Sh. Udai Singh (EEE '91) has been appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of Schneider Electric Infrastructure Ltd. for the next three years. Previously, he served as the Vice President of Schneider Electric India Pvt. Ltd., and for more than 30 years, he held various roles in areas of sales, marketing, projects and contract management, and manufacturing operations.



Sh. Rajeev Gupta (CHE '93), CEO at Resource Development International (India) Pvt. Ltd., has been transforming the nation by nurturing scientific temperament. Regarding this, he had a meeting with Sh. Manoj Sinha (CIV '79), where they discussed the development of Jammu and Kashmir, especially in the education sector. He had also moderated a session with Sh. Rohit Kumar Singh (EEE '84) and various CxOs, diplomats, and top functionaries from European Countries.

Sh. Shubham Sahay (ECE '14), Assistant Professor at IIT Kanpur, has been selected as an Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE) Young Associate for 2023 and shall formally be inducted during the INAE Annual Convention being held at Bhubaneswar on 9th-11th December, 2023. He has also been chosen as a recipient of the 2023 IEEE Electron Devices Society Early Career Award, one of the Society's highest honors.

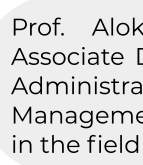


Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna Awards 2023-24

IIT (BHU) holds immense pride in its alumni community, which continues to carry forward the 100+ year legacy of its alma mater. Honoring the excellence of alumni, who have made significant contributions in their domains, the Institute conferred nine alumni across six different categories with the Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna Awards 2023-24.



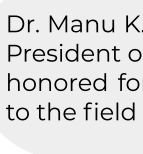
Sh. Ghanshyam Prasad (EEE '88) (Chairperson in Central Electricity Authority) received the award for contribution under Profession category.



Prof. Alok Gupta (MIN '88) (Senior Associate Dean of Faculty, Research and Administration at Carlson School of Management) was honored for his work in the field of Academics.



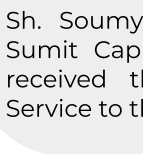
Sh. Sudhir Singh (CIV '93) (CEO and Executive Director of Coforge) received the award for his contribution to the field of Industry/Entrepreneurship.



Dr. Manu K. Vora (CHE '68) (Chairman and President of Business Excellence, Inc.) was honored for his exceptional contributions to the field of Public Life.



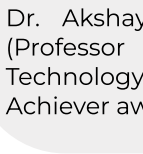
Sh. Vikash Agrawal (CHE '95) (Chairman of Levrx Technology Inc.) received the award for Distinguished Service to the Institute.



Sh. Soumyo Sarkar (MEC '79) (CEO at Sumit Capital/ Advisory Council, Fintso) received the award for Distinguished Service to the Institute.



Sh. Prateek Maheshwari (MEC '11) (Co-Founder of Physics Wallah) received the Young Alumnus Achiever award.



Dr. Akshay Kumar Rathore (EEE '03) (Professor at Singapore Institute of Technology) received the Young Alumnus Achiever award.



Sh. Abhilash Sridharan (MET '08) (Partner at McKinsey & Company) received the Young Alumnus Achiever award.

The 12th Convocation Ceremony

Resounding the Grand Legacy



Convocation, marking the last day of many as students, not only signifies the end of their academic journey, but also is a celebration of cherished memories, friendships and experiences through college life. The day

of 6th October, 2023, witnessed the transition of the Batch of 2023 into graduates. In traditional attire, *uttariya* around their neck, and faces lit with excitement, the graduands tinted the Swatantrata Bhawan in festive colors.

With unabated efforts and far-sighted vision, Bharat Ratna Mahamana Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya Ji laid the foundation of this Institute. And the students, with complete dedication, follow his footsteps as they carry this glorious legacy with every step in their life.

Dr. Samir V Kamat, Chairman of Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), served as the Chief Guest for the ceremony. Furthermore, Padma Shri Dr. Kota Harinarayana, Chairman of IIT (BHU)'s Board of Governors (BoG), a former DRDO scientist and past President of the Aeronautical Society of India, with Prof. P. K. Jain, Director of IIT (BHU), graced the occasion with their presence.



Rejoicing Achievements

Celebrating unmatched accomplishments, 1641+ students received their degrees and were set to fly high and conquer the world. The environment reverberated with excitement as the medal winners stepped on the stage to collect their hard-earned achievements. A total of 136 medals were awarded to 66 graduands.

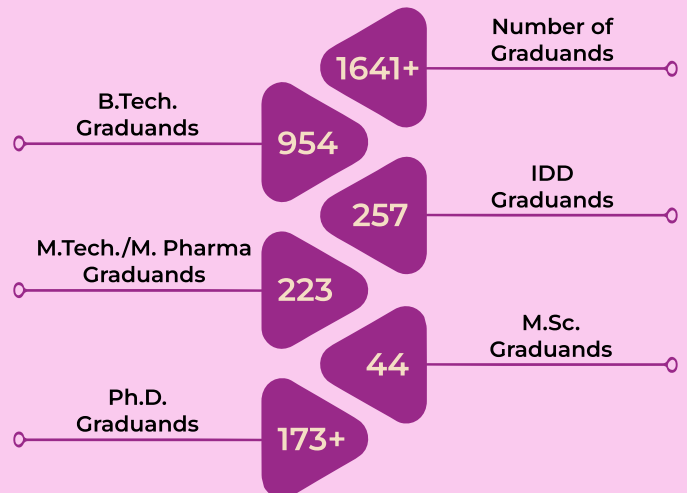


Divyansh Chandra Roy
(ECE '23)
President's Gold Medalist



Raghav Soni
(ECE '23)
Director's Gold Medalist

Reeling through the Numbers



Reminiscing the Sweet Days

"On this day, a lot is to be said and a lot is to be set in stone, so that no little moment of this golden era gets lost amidst the pages of time."

As the air in the Swatantrata Bhawan lobby echoed with a symphony of emotions, the Student Alumni Interaction Cell warmly accompanied graduands down the memory lane!

The 'Wall of 2023' became a collection of endearing moments, embroidered in sentiments of happiness, nostalgia and melancholy. It was in no time that the white space had been covered by advices, *shayaris*, shoutouts, etc. penned down by the graduands. And if the wall was not enough for them to let it all out, 'Pin Your Memories' presented them with another opportunity. Showcasing snippets of both the offline and online days, as well as the transition through various phases of their college journey, this Spotify based banner reflected the true essence of 'Woh din bhi kya din the'.



It went all the more specific with 'Nostalgic Notes', through which SAIC questioned graduands about their favourite Banarasi delicacy and most loved activity in college, prompting them to add their own on sticky notes. Not to forget the YouTube themed 'Photobooth', where they joined in groups holding college-related props, as all the joy and love was captured!

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 alumniicell@iitbhu.ac.in.

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