



CELEBRATING CENTENARY



STUDENT ALUMNI INTERACTION CELL, IIT (BHU), VARANASI

Alma Communiqué

Alumni Newsletter (Jul '22)

Read about the updates in RnD, the life journeys of fellow alumni, and the memories made at LC!



Institute Updates



1. IIT (BHU), Varanasi, and Shraman Foundation, USA, signed an MoU for scholarships to undergraduate students. Shraman Foundation, USA shall offer initial scholarships to 30-40 students currently enrolled in B.Tech./IDD (first four years) at IIT (BHU), Varanasi. Students with family income up to Rs. 5 lakh and following other criteria laid down in the MoU will be awarded approximately Rs. 70,000 annually. Students with the least family income will be preferred. Female applicants in the PwD category will get appropriate weightage.



2. The family members of a 1942 graduate, Sh. Jinendra Kumar Jain, B.Sc. Engineering (Mechanical and Electrical), donated Rs. 5 lakh to start a one-time scholarship which will be a reimbursement of the total amount of tuition fee of the student after successful registration in each semester. The scholarship shall be awarded to one student of B.Tech. first year in any discipline selected by the Institute Scholarship Committee based on merit-cum-means criteria and shall continue for the four years of his/her B.Tech. program subject to some conditions.



3. IIT (BHU) signed an MoU with Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), USA for joint academic and research activities on 25th July, 2022. The said MoU was signed by Dr. Michael Rao, President of VCU and VCU Health System, and Prof. P. K. Jain, Director, IIT (BHU). The potential collaboration shall include, exchange of faculty members, students (U.G./P.G. and Ph.D.), educational materials and academic publications, and joint research publications. The potential research areas of collaboration include, Electric Vehicle and Research, Pharmaceutical/Biochemical Engineering, AI, Vision and Cyber Security, Materials Science and Engineering, and any other research area upon mutual consent.



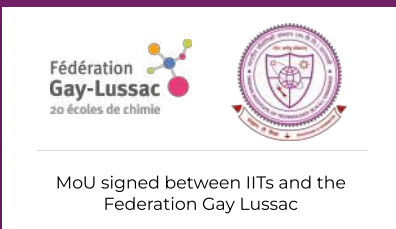
4. The I-DAPT Health Hackathon was successfully concluded at I-DAPT Hub Foundation, IIT (BHU), Varanasi, from 28th to 29th July, 2022 to boost critical and emerging technologies in the health-tech sector. Fifteen teams from all over India were invited to exhibit their prototypes/live models and posters to explain the working principles in front of jury members and invitees. Prizes were given in two categories, Category-1 Students and Category-2 Startups. IIT (BHU) will provide all technical and mentorship supports to the winner teams to build their prototypes into value-added products.



5. Banaras Hindu University and IIT (BHU) have joined hands to facilitate IPR filing on collaborative research in Science, Technology, and Humanities. The two institutions inked a MoU on 3rd August, 2022 for the purpose. BHU Registrar, Prof. Arun Kumar Singh and Dean of Research & Development, IIT (BHU), Prof. Vikash Kumar Dubey signed the 5-year MoU. The understanding will give a fillip to IPR and patents covering multi-disciplinary research. The coming together of the two institutions will open and offer multiple avenues to explore new products and IPR. As per the MoU, the two institutions will file joint Intellectual Property Rights/Patent applications.



6. IIT (BHU), Varanasi, and the Defence Research Laboratory (DRL-DRDO), Tezpur, signed an MoU on 22nd July, 2022 to establish close linkage and functional coordination, facilitate joint proposals for funds, recognize qualified DRL-DRDO scientists as Ph.D. supervisors/guides/co-guides/teachers, and recognize DRL-DRDO as a recognized research center at IIT (BHU). The document was signed by Prof. P. K. Jain, Director IIT (BHU), and Dr. D. V. Kamboj, Director of DRL, in the presence of Director General (Life Science), DRDO, Dr. U. K. Singh.



7. An Umbrella Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between an Indian network of Indian Institute of Technology and a French network of engineering schools members of the Federation Gay Lussac. The MoU was signed between the two networks of institutions on 12th July, 2022 for a period of five years. This collaboration shall include, exchange of faculty members, students (bachelors, masters and Ph.D.), educational materials and academic publications, and joint research publications.



Connect back with your Alma Mater

Alumni can now connect with their fellow batchmates by registering themselves on the official alumni portal created by the office of Dean (Resource & Alumni Affairs). It will keep the alumni updated about the various developments in the Institute.

Link to the portal - <https://alumni-reg.iitbhu.ac.in/>

Nominations for DAA

The Institute invites nominations in the attached prescribed format for the Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna Award, IIT (BHU), Varanasi, which is to be given to a person who has obtained a degree from IIT (BHU) or its predecessor (IT-BHU/ BENCO/ MINMET/TECHNO) to recognize his/her outstanding contributions in one of the following seven categories:

i) Profession, ii) Academics, iii) Research and Innovation, iv) Industry/Entrepreneurship, v) Public Life, vi) Distinguished Services to the Institute, vii) Young Alumnus/Alumna Achievers Award below 45 years (03 Awards)

Any of the following can nominate:

1. Heads of the centrally funded academic/research institutions and public sector units
2. Presidents of National Scientific and Engineering Academies & Societies
3. Secretaries of Departments, Ministries dealing with Science and Technology
4. Head of the prominent organization in India and abroad
5. An eminent person of repute
6. Self-Nomination will also be accepted

The last date for receiving nominations is **17th August, 2022**. The nominations in the prescribed format may be sent through email to the Office of the Dean (Resource & Alumni Affairs), IIT (BHU), Varanasi.

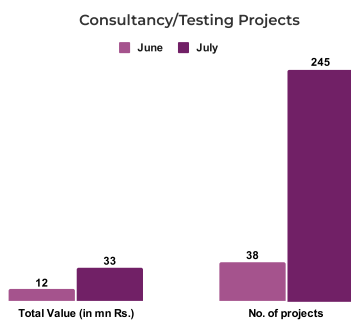
Email: dora@iitbhu.ac.in

With CC to: resource@iitbhu.ac.in

The notice, guidelines and prescribed format ([pdf](#), [docx](#)) for nominations for DAA can be found [here](#).

International nominations are also invited.

Research and Development



Keeping the prestige of the Institute as high as ever, the students and faculty members have continued experimentation to make amazing discoveries. Before July, two international MoUs were signed with the University of Siegen, Germany, and the University at Buffalo (UB),

The State University of New York, IIT Delhi, IIT Kanpur, IIT Bombay, IIT Jodhpur, and Ashoka University, Sonapat. National MoUs were signed with Farmanex International Pvt. Ltd. and Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Govt. of India, New Delhi. The Institute was granted two patents in July and a new patent has also been filed.

Media Section



MoU signed between IIT (BHU) and BHU



I-DAPT Health Hackathon at IIT (BHU)



MoU signed for joint academic and research work with VCU

Internship/Placement Updates

The month of July marked the beginning of the internship season with pre-placement talks and tests. Till 31st July, 2022, 93 students have earned Pre-Placement Offers (PPOs), and 171 students have bagged paid internship offers from several reputed companies like Microsoft, Google, Goldman Sachs, Sprinklr, Procter and Gamble, De Shaw, Salesforce, Uber, ITC, Instabase, APT Portfolio, etc.

Package	PPO	Internship
Maximum	Rs. 91,18,716 p.a.	Rs. 2,50,000 p.m.
Average	Rs. 28,13,536 p.a.	Rs. 1,44,395 p.m.

Students' Updates



E-Cell IIT (BHU), in association with SAIC, conducted an interactive session on 'Entrepreneurship by Acquisition' which was delivered by Sh. Manvendra Saxena (CER '09), the former President & CEO of Contract, Statewide Construction & Szeremi Sweeping Services. An intriguing idea-generation

event named 'START-BUCKS' was launched with a prize pool of more than Rs. 10,000 to bring out the inner entrepreneur of students. Its motive was to brainstorm and come up with unique and innovative ideas.

The Student Counselling Services conducted a session on the occasion of the 8th International Yoga Day with Sh. Animesh Jain (MEC '15), and another one on practicing yoga for wellness with Ms. Malvika Gupta. To elaborate on the opportunities in the IT industry, they held a session on 'Everything about IT industry'. The college's counseling psychologist, Dr. Laxman Yadav, took a session to share some tools and tips to make the best of one's college life. Captain Richik Sinha Roy led a guidance session to help students build a robust resume. A series of panel discussions were organized to tell about their journey to getting jobs at their dream companies.



Under the Social Service Council, the Sahyog Club was consistent in its task of calling the students even during their vacations. Kashi Utkarsh has completed his visit to interact with the sophomores, while other visits are in process. Under the Social Projects Club, DIC shortlisted various projects, namely Krishi, Agtech, Gardenio,

Eyegaze, and Terrific Lights. They are currently working on these projects, and their mid-term evaluation is completed.

ShARE IIT (BHU) conducted a session titled 'Convince - The Power of Persuasion' which elaborated on becoming better leaders by making others feel entirely at ease around them, pay attention, and trust their judgement. The chapter has also launched the initiative 'Caseletters'- a series of weekly cases to hone students' critical-thinking skills. It is building a problem-solving community that grows together.



Alumni Updates

SAIC continued with its flagship Student Alumni Mentorship Program, conducting weekly panel discussions on 'Data Science' and 'Data Analytics', where experienced alumni talked about the skills required to succeed in the respective industries. Additionally, the Cell commenced with its Alumni

Visiting Faculty Program for the odd semester of 2022-23. Currently, four courses are being offered under the initiative with more than 170 students registered for each.

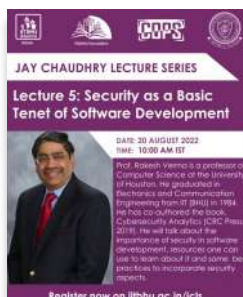


Jay Chaudhry Lecture Series



The Jay Chaudhry Lecture Series on Software Best Practices, aimed at educating the students, pursuing a career in software, on the industry best practices is being held at the Institute. These lectures were made possible by the generous contribution of Sh. Jay Chaudhry (ECE '80), CEO & Founder of Zscaler, to the IIT (BHU) Foundation. The lectures are conducted by our alumni who are industry experts and academic stalwarts, and take place every Saturday from 10 AM to 12 PM IST.

The upcoming lecture in the series would be held on 20th August, 2022 at 10 AM. The session would be taken by Prof. Rakesh Verma (ECE '84), a professor of Computer Science at the University of Houston. He will talk about the importance of security in software development and the best practices one can adopt to incorporate security aspects.



Alumni Achievements



Sh. Deep Jariwala (MET '10), assistant professor at the Dept. of Electrical and Systems Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania, has been awarded the 2022 Young Scientist Prize in semiconductors by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP), in recognition of his pioneering studies on exciton-polaritons and electronic heterostructures of two-dimensional semiconductors. The award was presented at International Conference on the Physics of Semiconductors in Sydney, Australia.

Sh. Sumeet Arora (ECE '95), the Chief Development Officer at ThoughtSpot, has gotten his book, 'Design of Secure IoT Systems: A Practical Approach Across Industries', published. Including guidelines from a team of experts, the book features industrial automation case studies and simulation examples from a wide range of fields in the industry. With the help of this book, one will be able to discover how to design and engineer IoT devices and networks with trust and security.



Dr. Rajendra Prasad Singh, an alumnus of IIT (BHU), Varanasi [B.Tech. (MEC '69) and M.Tech. (MEC '71)], is appointed as the new Chairperson of the Board of Governors, IIT Kharagpur. Dr.

Singh is currently the Chairperson of the Board of Governors, IIT Bhubaneswar and is additionally conferred with the responsibility of IIT Kharagpur. He was, formerly, the Chairman and Managing Director of Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.

Startup Success Stories

OneCard, co-founded by Sh. Anurag Sinha (EEE '99), galloped into the unicorn territory with their recent Series-D funding of US \$ 100 million, which was led by Singapore's sovereign fund, Temasek, which invested Rs. 375 crore. The round also saw participation from various giants such as Sequoia Capital, Ocean View Investment, QED Holdings, Matrix Partners, and Hummingbird.



Alumni Diaries



My journey started as a 16 1/2-year-old boy who arrived in Varanasi after spending 11 years at school in Delhi. The admission back then was based on the PCM aggregate. I had a chance to join IIT Delhi, where I got selected, but since I was not getting a Chemical Engineering option there, I decided to branch out and moved to BHU. In BHU, we had boys from every nook and corner of India. As a fresher at the University, I got the no. 1 hostel there: Annie Besant Hostel.

During our second year, we were shifted to the BHU campus and allotted Morvi hostel; the college timing was 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM. The time spent with seniors came with memorable experiences of a lifetime.

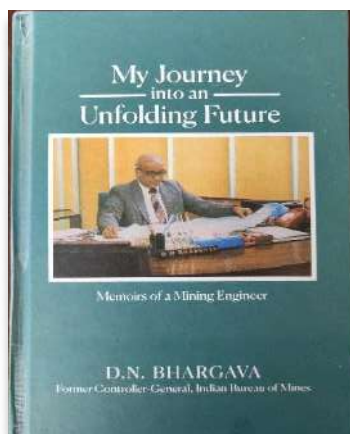
Dr. Gopal Tripathi was the Head of the Chemical Engineering Department at that time, under whom the specialty was Petroleum Refinery Engineering; the course was very comprehensive and ranked as one of the best in the country.

When we graduated in 1968, there were not many jobs available. I was selected in the campus interview as a management trainee in DCM, the 5th largest business house in those days, and I moved back to my hometown, New Delhi. Thereafter, I worked in the Indian corporate sector for about 25 years, and then branched out as an entrepreneur in 1991. Today, I am the Managing Director of a private limited company established by me. I cherish my time and experience at IT-BHU, and believe it gave me an excellent foundation to build my corporate career.

I am sure the present academic leadership of IIT (BHU) has instilled in the young boys and girls the spirit of persistence, diligence, and fortitude we picked up during our time. In the coming decades, technology in AI, computers, and every sphere will shape our lives. Young students must be prepared for these challenges and build their acumen in line with the changing times.

- Sh. Chander Prakash Ratra, (CHE '68)

My Journey into an Unfolding Future



Sh. Deoki Nandan Bhargava, a graduate of the Mining Engineering batch of 1953, climbed to the top of his professional ladder within just 20 years of his graduation from our prestigious Institute. Starting from just some practical training during summer vacations and conducting mineral processing operations on a laboratory scale as a research student in 1953, he moved to his job as an Assistant Quarry Manager in

1954 and began managing limestone production.

Sh. Bhargava gained four and a half years of rich experience in handling problematic matters and was picked up by Nangal Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. (NFCL) for the post of Quarry Manager to manage an already chosen quarry at Morni Hills limestone deposit. He expressed his doubts about assessing the reserves using his previous experience and expertise in the matter. After re-assessment, the deposit was considered too small to justify any investment for developing a quarry project. An alternate limestone deposit in Rajasthan was offered and his role was reduced to coordination of limestone supplies between the Government of Rajasthan, other suppliers of limestone, and the NFCL.

However, he later decided to move to another organization where his professional skills as a Mining Engineer could be

utilized to the fullest. In July 1965, he joined the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) as Deputy Chief of Mines, even at a lower starting salary than was paid by NFCL. During the subsequent years, he managed an iron ore mine and moved up the ranks at IBM. Sh. K. S. Mahapatra, the Head of the Department at IBM, conveyed his confidence in Deoki Nandan to the Ministry, and Bhargava led IBM from August 1973 up to his superannuation in April 1989.

Under his leadership, IBM grew and was even appreciated for its diversified activities by a review committee headed by Sh. R. Ganapati.

After retiring from IBM, Bhargava worked as a Mining Engineering Professor for two years. He also worked as a Commonwealth Expert at the Ministry of Mines and Energy, the Namibia Republic, where he led a team to draft the Minerals (Exploration & Mining) Act and advised the Ministry on short-term and long-term support for the small-scale Mining Sector of Namibia.

The detailed account of his experiences in life is covered in his memoirs titled - My Journey into an Unfolding Future. The book is about the author's adventures in the Management of Opencast Mines and later in the field of Public Administration as the Head of the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM).

It is now available for sale in India and the net income from the sales proceeds have been earmarked for donation to two already identified institutions engaged in supporting senior citizens, widows, poor students, and Adivasi citizens.

A Tea Stop: Stories from Limbdi Corner

Limbdi Corner, situated at the heart of the Institute, has a special place in the college life of every IIT (BHU) graduate in the past three decades. A regular hangout spot, this is where the students stop for a sip of hot tea after a tiring day of classes and assignments. Breakfast at the mess is often skipped for *samosas* and *kachoris* sold here all day.

Everyone's favorite, the owner of the small shop at LC, has been serving batches after batches of students with love and care. He fondly remembers many incidents that have embraced his 34 years of career here. Recalling one such event, he says, "I still remember everyone's names - Kapil Rao, Shukla Ji, Bhutani, Bhardwaj. They had fantastic bonding with me, as well as my children, and used to spend a lot of time together. When someone among the mess workers or guards or the staff at LC got ill, students used to take them to the hospital and pay for their treatment."

A perfect depiction of the respect and love that the students have for him, this is one amongst several other heart-warming incidents.

Times have changed, and so has the environment at Limbdi Corner. Remembering the old days, he recalls how there used to be only eight girls in the entire college who rarely came to LC. He says, "The number has increased significantly by almost 30%. Now many girls come here and buy things from me fearlessly."



Placing his interaction with the students of the IIT (BHU) and the satisfaction of helping others above all financial gains, the '*LC waale bhaiya*' is an inspiration for all who choose to interact with him. A part of the daily routes of every student during college, LC also remains one of the places that alumni visit back on trips to their alma mater.

————— [To read more on Limbdi Corner, click here](#) —————

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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