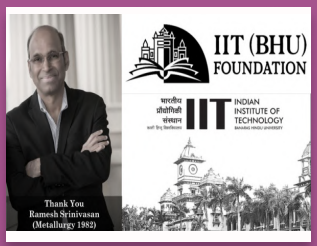
Alma Communiqué
Alumni Newsletter (Sep. 2021)

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



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान
IIT
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY

Institution of the 'Late Sudha Prasad Endowment Scholarship'

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Announcement of the 'Shyama Varshney BENCO-64 Best Educator Award'

Hindustan Times

IIT-BHU presents best teacher award to five

VARANASI : For the first time Indian Institute of Technology-Banaras Hindu University (IIT-BHU) organised the Best Teacher Award 2021 to felicitate selected teachers of IIT-BHU, on the occasion of Teacher's Day on Sunday. Five teachers of IIT-BHU were awarded in four different categories i.e. in UG first-year category, Dr Arnab Sarkar, associate pro-

(L-R) Dr Rakesh Kumar Singh, Prof Dr Dhananjay Pandey and Prof Pramod Kumar Jain.

Institute Updates

1. IIT (BHU) Foundation Inc., a US-based non-profit association of IIT (BHU) alumni, received a $1.3 million gift from our alumnus Sh. Ramesh Srinivasan (MET '82), President & CEO - Agilysys Inc., USA, for setting up a Students Activity Center (Sports) at the Institute. In recognition of his generous gift, the Students Activity Center (Sports) would be named as '*Ramesh Srinivasan Students Activity Center*'. The Students Activity Center will be a place where students will enhance their leadership and collaboration skills through participation in team sports and other activities. Well-rounded students with intellectual ability equal to their emotional intelligence is a hallmark of IIT (BHU), and his gift will help ensure that this continues to be true in the future. This is the largest ever single gift to IIT (BHU), Varanasi, signifying a new chapter in alumni support for the alma mater.

2. Dr. Badri Prasad (MET '66) has donated generously for the institution of the '*Late Sudha Prasad Endowment Scholarship*', in honor of his wife. This endowment scholarship shall be awarded every year to a selected female student of any discipline of the B.Tech./IDD first-year program in the Institute on merit-cum-means criteria. It will be disbursed from the annual interest earned from the corpus at Rs. 3,000/- per month for a duration of 10 months in each academic year over the course of four years of the B.Tech./IDD program, subject to the student's satisfactory performance in each semester. From the fourth year onwards of the commencement of the scholarship, four students shall receive the scholarship simultaneously, each belonging to the I/II/III/IV year of B.Tech./IDD Program, respectively. The scholarship shall begin from the academic session 2022-23.

3. The Institute has announced the '*Shyama Varshney BENCO-64 Best Educator Award*', instituted by alumni of BENCO 1964 batch in memory of their batchmate Late Shyama Varshney, to be conferred on a faculty of erstwhile BENCO unit of the Institute every year. This award is being conferred on Dr. R. K. Singh, an Associate Professor at the Department of Electrical Engineering, for displaying overall excellence in teaching. The award carries a citation apart from a cash amount Rs. 25,000/- (Rs. Twenty Five Thousands Only). Dr. R. K. Singh will be felicitated very soon.

4. On Teachers' Day, in an event to celebrate teaching and Dr. Radhakrishnan's significant contribution to education, IIT (BHU) honored its teaching faculty. Five professors were awarded the 'Best Teacher Award - 2021' in four different categories. Dr. Arnab Sarkar in UG First year, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Mahto in PG classes, Dr. Abhishek Kumar Srivastava and Dr. Rakesh Kumar Singh jointly in UG Sciences and Humanities, and Prof. Vikas Kumar Dubey in the UG Engineering category, won laurels for their exemplary passion and dedication to train future leaders.

Placement/Internship Updates

With the dedicated efforts of the Training and Placement Cell, the internship/placement season is being successfully conducted. As of 3rd October, 2021, we have seen 227 pre-placement offers and 419 paid internship offers in diverse job profiles. The highest pre-placement and internship stipends offered are Rs. 52,50,000/- per annum and Rs. 2,00,000/- per month, respectively, with the average being Rs. 22,02,555/- per annum and Rs. 74,287/- per month, respectively.

Media Section

प्रतिदिन 153 करोड़ रुपये कमा रहे आइआइटी बीएचयू के पढ़े जय चौधरी

जय चौधरी ने सरकारी स्कूल से की पढ़ाई

IIT (BHU) alumnus becomes the 10th richest Indian

Hindustan Times

IIT-BHU researchers isolate bacterial strain that separates toxic metal from waste water

Isolation of Bacterial Strain

IIT BHU के पूर्व छात्र ने दिए 9 करोड़ 65 लाख रुपये

रमेश श्रीनिवासन साल 1982 बैच तत्कालीन आईटी के मेटलर्जी विभाग के छात्र रहे हैं.

IIT BHU: अनुदान देने वाले पूर्व छात्र ने कहा, मैं खुद को भाग्यशाली मानता हूं कि मुझे आगामी छात्र गतिविधि केंद्र में योगदान करने का मौका मिला.

Sh. Ramesh Srinivasan gifts $1.3 million to IIT (BHU), Varanasi

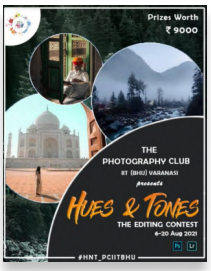
Students' Updates

E-Cell organized Design Rush'21, a UX-UI design making competition. An 'Ask Me Anything' session was conducted with Mr. Pushkal Srivastava, founder of GetMeAShop and Head of Mojo Commerce at Instamojo. Workshops on Web 3.0 Technologies and Product Deck Making were also organized. A bootcamp on Idea Validation was conducted, along with a webinar on User Research and Validation with Mr. Syed Adil, founder of Curio Revelio, and Mr. Vemuri Ramana, Maker Expert at thingQbator-Nasscom foundation, respectively. For the Founder's Speak sessions, a session was conducted with Mr. Ankit Agrawal, co-founder Dare2Compete.

The **Student Counselling Services** organized an Economics Bootcamp in collaboration with the Business Club, IIT(BHU). The 'Placement Diaries' was launched and a two-hour long Resume Mastery Workshop was conducted.

#IITBHUREADS4.0 by SCS, conducted 'Bringing Books To Action'. HeartOut celebrated Teachers' Day to honor Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and all the teachers. On 10th September, the Wellness Team of SCS informed the students about YourDOST, and Dr. Laxman Yadav, the Campus Counselling Psychologist.

The **Film and Media Council** conducted and presented an interactive session with the teachers. The results of 'Hues and Tones' were declared, and the first part of the 'Kitchen Closeup Album' was launched. The 'Ping's Sermon' was released and a video on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi was published. Apart from releasing regular updates of Weekly Digest and Quest, the Council also presented a project on Engineers' Day and conducted workshops on editing and scriptwriting. They took part in the IFP scriptwriting competition and published a post on colors and directors.



The **Social Service Council** continued with the Edunnovation series. Yoga classes were given to school students by the Health and Hygiene Club, and work on the Eyegaze project is being undertaken by the Social Projects' Club. The volunteers at Kashi Utkarsh continued their interaction with the children of the *bastis and* video conferences were conducted on Teacher's Day, National Wildlife Day, and Sports Day.

ShARE IIT BHU's team of Ankit Pandey, Akshay Akash, Akshat Mehta, and Rohil Shah, won the national-level consulting competition organized by ShARE and the French Auto - mobile giant, Valeo. The team worked on topics related to the future of mobility in India and became national winners among 200+ participants from the top IITs, IIMs, BITS and SRCC. A workshop was conducted on 'Group Discussion: Do(s) and Don't(s)' followed by a practical GD for 100+ students.

Achievements

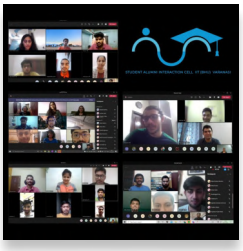
Prime Minister's Research Fellowship

Four students were selected as PMRF Fellows for December 2020 cycle for pursuing their PhD at IIT (BHU), Varanasi under the prestigious 'Prime Minister's Research Fellowship (PMRF)' Scheme. The scheme entitles the scholars to monetary benefits which include research grants of Rs. 2 lakh per annum for a period of 5 years.

Name	Department
Preeti Ranjan	School of Biochemical Engineering
Ravi Kumar Singh	School of Materials Science and Technology
Rohit Jha	Department of Metallurgical Engineering
Srishti Paliwal	School of Materials Science and Technology

Alumni Updates

SAIC concluded the Mentorship Session series by conducting a final session on Software Development. The Alumni Guided Mock Interview initiative, aimed to help the students ease the placement and internship pressure through one-on-one mock interviews with experienced alumni, has witnessed a total of 220+ interviews till now.



IBGAA, in collaboration with SAIC, released the 5th article of the IIT BHU Alumni Startup Showcase Series, covering the inspiring story of Blue Sky Analytics, a geospatial data intelligence app which was co-founded by our alumna Ms. Abhilasha Purwar (CHE '12).

Alumni Achievements

Dr. Sukumar Bandhopadhyay (MIN '70)

He has recently been awarded the 'Robert Stefanko Distinguished Achievement Award in Mineral Engineering' by the College Of Earth and Mineral Sciences at the Pennsylvania State University. He completed his B.Sc. and M.Tech. in Mining Engineering from IIT (BHU) and was also honored with the 'IIT BHU Alumnus of the Century In Making Award' during the Centenary Celebrations in 2019. He has served as a Professor for more than three decades at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He is currently the director of Mining Analytics, International (MAI), a consulting firm with expertise in AI, big data, and data analytics.

Dr. Akhlesh Lakhtakia (ECE '79)

He was recently honored by the Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE) with the '2022 SPIE Smart Structures and Materials Lifetime Achievement Award'. This award recognizes his enormous contributions to smart structures and materials and his huge impact on the field's community. He had completed his B.Tech. and D.Sc. in Electronics and Communication Engineering from IIT (BHU) in 1979 and 2006, respectively. Currently, he is Evan Pugh University Professor and Charles Godfrey Binder Professor of Engineering Sciences and Mechanics at the Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Deep Jariwala (MET '10)

He is an assistant professor in the Department of Electrical and Systems Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania and has recently been given the Intel Rising Star Faculty Award. Dr. Jariwala is a device and materials engineer with ample experience in semiconductor fabrication, processing, and characterization. He has received several other professional awards, including the Army Research Office Young Investigator Award, Forbes Magazine 30 Scientists Under 30, TMS Frontiers of Materials Award, etc. To read more about his journey: ***click here.***

Alumni Startup Success Stories

1. Tynker, the world's leading K-12 creative coding platform, co-founded by our alumni, Mr. Srinivas Mandyam (CSE '90) and Mr. Krishna Vedati (CSE '91), was acquired by Indian EdTech decacorn BYJU'S for $200M.
2. ZestMoney, co-founded by our alumna Ms. Priya Sharma (MET '01), which offers a range of 'buy now, pay later' services, has raised $50M Series C funding from Australian peer Zip Co Limited.
3. Edureka, founded by our alumnus Mr. Lovleen Bhatia (EEE '02), was acquired by Kalpathi AGS Group-owned Veranda Learning for Rs. 245 Crore ($33M).
4. CuriousJr, a startup of our alumni - Mr. Amit Shekhar (CIV '14), Mr. Janishar Ali (CIV '15), and Mr. Mridul Ranjan Sahu (CIV '15), has raised $1M in the seed round. It is set to partner with WaterBridge Ventures and Enzia Ventures.
5. DataChat Inc., co-founded by our alumnus Mr. Jignesh Patel (CSE '91) in 2017 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, has raised $25M funding in Series A round, led by Redline Capital and Anthos Capital.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, 2020

Bringing laurels to the Institute, the IIT (BHU) fraternity witnessed 17+ selections in the UPSC Civil Services Examination 2020. The selected candidates are listed below.

AIR	Name	Dept.	AIR	Name	Dept.
13	Gaurav Budania	MIN '16	412	Rakesh Singh	MEC '17
25	Vaibhav Rawat	CSE '17	417	Dheeraj Yadav	CSE '16
26	Pulkit Singh	MEC '15	477	Jay Vikas	MEC '19
31	Y Megha Swaroop	EEE '12	488	Yadav Suryabhan	MEC '18
40	Ananth Dwivedi	CSE '12	531	Hemant Kumar	CIV '16
52	Ashish Kumar Mishra	MEC '18	537	Hirdesh Patel	CIV '16
122	Anshul Jain	CIV '16	636	Kuldeep Meena	EEE '15
165	Narendra Rawat	CHE '13	696	Rajkumar Meena	ECE '18
282	Altamash Ghazi	MEC '18			

**The list might not be exhaustive. Please email us if you find a name missing.*

Alumni In Focus - Sh. Jay Chaudhry (ECE '80)

He reached the milestone of becoming the tenth richest Indian, according to the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich list 2021. He is an alumnus of IIT (BHU) of the batch of 1980 from the Department of Electronics Engineering. After spending years in the tech industry, he founded CipherTrust, Airdefense Inc., CoreHarbor, SecureIT, and finally Zscaler. Despite the rough beginning of starting his own venture, his hardwork paved the path to a successful career - with many more achievements to come. To read more about his journey from Banaras to the United States: ***click here***.

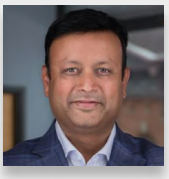
IIT (BHU) Foundation

Mission

The IIT (BHU) Foundation, a non-profit body formed by our esteemed alumni, aims to be the enabler in the Institute's transformation. For this, it will monitor the use of funds for various projects under three major pillars of focus - Campus Infrastructure, Research Sponsorship and Faculty Support, Scholarships and Financial Aid for Students.

Board Members

Arun Tripathi
(MEC '97)
President



Vikash Agrawal
(CHE '95)
Secretary

Naresh Jain
(MEC '67)
Chairman

Ramesh Srinivasan
(MET '82)
Board Member

Soumyo Sarkar
(MEC '79)
Board Member

Prof. Pramod Kumar Jain
Director, IIT(BHU), Varanasi
Ex-Officio Board Member

Animesh Pathak
(CSE '03)
Ex-Officio Board Member

Prof. Rajeev Srivastava
Dean (Resource & Alumni), IIT(BHU), Varanasi
Ex-Officio Board Member

Inspiring Alumni

Sh. Ramesh Srinivasan
(MET '82)

Sh. Ramesh Srinivasan is a graduate of the batch of 1982 from the Department of Metallurgical Engineering. After his graduation, he went on to get an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore in 1984. His journey of gaining extensive experience in the business field and becoming an accomplished CEO comes from the various organizations he has worked with and led. He has time and again demonstrated leadership success in technology, enterprise software, and general management across multiple industries and is currently the President & CEO of Agilysys (Nasdaq: AGYS). Before his appointment at Agilysys, he served as the CEO of Ooyala Inc. in Santa Clara (Silicon Valley), California, the President & CEO of Innotrac Corporation, and spent nine years of his professional career at Bally Technologies Inc. (NYSE: BYI), where he was eventually promoted to President & CEO and member of the Board of Directors.

As an expression of gratitude for the great success in his professional life, Sh. Ramesh Srinivasan recently made a generous donation of $1.3 million towards the construction of a Students Activity Center (SAC) for sports at the Institute. This is the largest single gift ever made to IIT (BHU), ushering in a new chapter of alumni support.

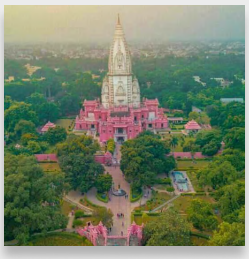
Reflecting on his time as a student at the Institute and the significance of the opportunities that the Institute offered, he commented, "I am deeply grateful for everything IIT (BHU) has done for me including this terrific opportunity to give back. IIT (BHU) had a great positive influence on my life during my early years and helped me become a complete human being. Across academics, sports, cultural activities, debating and everything else, the Institute taught me many valuable lessons which have stayed with me all my life. I consider myself extremely lucky to have been given this chance to contribute to the upcoming Students Activity Center which should benefit everyone at the campus I have fond memories of."

Upcoming Students Activity Center (Sports)

Did You Know?

The beloved Kul Geet of our Institution - "मधुर मनोहर अतीव सुन्दर, यह सर्वविद्या की राजधानी" - was composed by Dr. Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar, who was a Professor at the University for 19 years. The Kul Geet was sung for the first time in the year 1923.

In 1930, a chimney was established behind the Department of Mechanical Engineering. The 30-metre tall chimney was known as BENCO chimney which provided electricity to half of Varanasi. The iconic chimney was re-erected during the Institute's centenary celebrations.



On 10th March, 1931, the foundation stone of the campus' Vishwanath Temple was laid by Saint Taponidhi Krishnaswami. It was located at the center of the arc of the campus. The construction of the Vishwanath Temple was completed at the end of 1966.

The main entrance gate and boundary walls of our University were built in 1941. The donations for the construction of the gate were made by the Maharaja Sahib of Balrampur, Maharaja Pateshvari Prashad Singh. The gate came to be known as the 'Singh Dwar'.

In the years 1968-71, the three colleges (BENCO, MINMET and TECHNO) were merged into one and the Institute of Technology was established. Dr. Gopal Tripathi became the first Director of IT-BHU. From 1971-72, students were admitted through IIT-JEE for UG courses and GATE for PG courses.

After decades of effort, finally, it was on 29th June, 2012, that the Institute of Technology was declared as an independent body by a separate Act of Parliament. The Institute was henceforth renamed and came to be known as the Indian Institute of Technology (BHU), Varanasi.

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 alumnicell@iitbhu.ac.in.

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