VOICE of VIGNAN

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Early Steps to Endless Skies

VIGNAN'S UNIVERSITY

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From the Editorial Desk

Shaping Futures, the Vignan Way

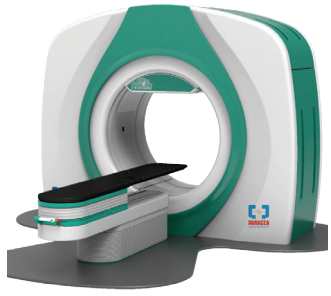
As the monsoon breathes new life into our land, this edition of VOICE of VIGNAN captures a similar spirit-of renewal, growth, and forward movement. Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology & Research continues to stand tall as a beacon of holistic education, innovation, and societal transformation. This month's stories echo a recurring theme: ***empowerment through purposeful learning****. Whether it is the remarkable strides in cybersecurity with hybrid IDS systems, the insightful Faculty Development Program on smart mobility, or the life-changing internship experiences in South Korea, every page reveals how Vignan is shaping futures in laboratories, classrooms, and far beyond.*

We celebrate collaborations-MoUs with Panacea Medical Technologies and NIT Rourkela, partnerships that don't just exist on paper but bloom into real-world opportunities for students and faculty. Vignan's commitment to experiential learning and research is further evident in its robust patent activity and high-impact publications. Our students are not just learners but leaders. From winning accolades at state and national levels to driving sustainability conversations and biodiversity awareness, they are proof that knowledge, when rooted in values, can spark real change. Events like the Mahotsav-2026 Core Team selection or CRT sessions are sculpting tomorrow's leaders-resilient, reflective, and ready.

We also take a moment to honour the legacies that inspire us-like the tribute to N. T. Rama Rao, whose life reminds us that true leadership is about serving society. And in remembering literary titan Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, we are reminded that the power of storytelling is universal and enduring. As we continue on this journey, we remain anchored in our vision: to ignite curiosity, nurture innovation, and prepare responsible global citizens. Each step we take is one toward collective growth-of minds, communities, and the nation.

Dr. M. Malakondaiah
Advisor, VFSTR

16
Vignan's University at EFY Expo 2025
Vignan's University proudly participated in the Electronics For You (EFY) Expo 2025, held from May 15 to 17.



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Bridging Classrooms and Clinics
In a major stride toward enhancing practical learning and industry engagement, VFSTR signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Panacea Medical Technologies Pvt. Ltd.,

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My Internship Journey at Chungnam National University, South Korea

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When Shine Betrays The Hidden Cost of Polished Rice
Dr. Jyothi (name changed), a 48-year-old lecturer from a reputed college in Vijayawada, has dedicated over two decades to teaching and mentoring students- many of them first-generation learners. .

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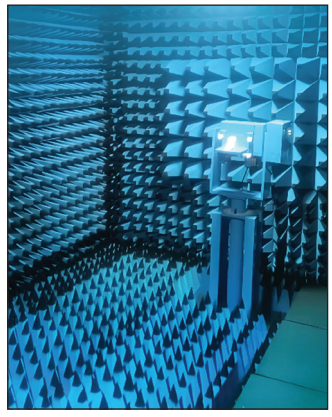
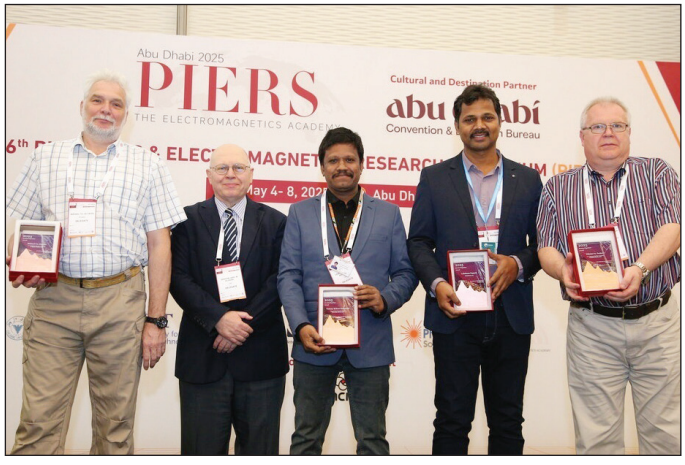
Anechoic Chamber - ECE Department
The Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE) is excited to announce the upcoming launch of a new Anechoic Chamber, a cutting-edge facility currently being set up on the first floor of N Block.





18
Global Laurels and Academic Leadership
At the prestigious 46th Photonics and Electromagnetics Research Symposium (PIERS 2025) in Abu Dhabi, Dr. Kishore was one of only ten scholars worldwide to receive the Session Organizer Award.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

5th JUNE

Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research (VFSTR) marked World Environment Day on June 5, 2025, with a thought-provoking online guest lecture centered around. This year's global theme: "Beat Plastic Pollution." Organized by the Centre for Environmental Pollution and Control (CEPC) in collaboration with the Department of Chemistry, the event focused on the growing environmental and health crisis posed by micro and nanoplastics-an often invisible but deeply harmful pollutant. The session began with a welcome address by Dr. MSSR Tejaswini, Co-convener, who stressed the significance of environmental awareness in today's world. Prof. Koya Prabhakara Rao, Head of the Department of Chemistry, reaffirmed VFSTR's commitment to sustainability and fostering ecological responsibility. Dr. MVK Srivani introduced the guest speaker, highlighting his academic excellence and impactful research.

The highlight of the event was the keynote lecture delivered by Dr. Gopala Krishna Darbha, Associate Professor and Associate Dean of R&D at IISER Kolkata. His talk, "The Hidden Threat of Micro and Nanoplastics: Implications for Societal Sustainability," was both eye-opening and deeply impactful. Dr. Darbha explained how microplastics-tiny plastic particles often overlooked-are now alarmingly present in water, soil, and even our food systems. He explored how these pollutants accumulate in the food chain, affect marine life, and can potentially pose serious health risks to humans. The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Dr. Shubhalakshmi Sengupta, Convener, CEPC, who praised the speaker for his valuable insights and the participants for their enthusiastic involvement. With close to 100 attendees including students, researchers, and faculty members, the program left a lasting impression and renewed VFSTR's pledge to promote environmental awareness and responsibility.

This celebration of World Environment Day was not just another academic event-it served as a timely reminder that tackling plastic pollution requires not only policy and innovation, but also collective consciousness and action from every individual.

by
Srinikhi - II CSE

CRT Training

Empowering Students for Placement Success

At Vignan's University, preparing students for successful careers goes beyond academics. As part of its continuous commitment to student development, the university organized an intensive Campus Recruitment Training (CRT) program from May 15 to May 27. Designed to equip students with the skills and confidence needed to excel in placement drives, this training was held offline on campus, with additional online sessions planned during the summer break to ensure uninterrupted learning.

The CRT program is a key initiative supported by renowned training partners such as Talent Shine and Logic Works. It aims to build a strong foundation in technical knowledge, aptitude, and communication, essential components for students preparing to face competitive recruitment processes at top-tier companies.

One of the standout features of the program is its hands-on technical training. Students receive comprehensive instruction in Python and Java, two of the most sought-after programming languages in the current tech industry. These sessions are designed not only to teach syntax and logic but also to help students develop real-time problem-solving capabilities that are often tested in technical interviews. Alongside technical training, a significant emphasis is placed on Aptitude and Reasoning. Students practice various modules in Arithmetic Reasoning, Quantitative Aptitude, and Logical Thinking-skills that are crucial for clearing written assessments during recruitment. The sessions are practical and engaging, ensuring that students are not just learning but mastering the strategies required to tackle these sections with confidence.

The Campus Recruitment Training(CRT) reflects Vignan's University proactive approach to student development, ensuring they are well-prepared and confident when facing placement interviews. With expert guidance, rigorous practice, and continuous support, students are set on the path to success in their professional journeys.

To maintain the momentum of learning, daily attendance is recorded for every session. This allows for consistent participation, and with training sessions monitored by mentors, the overall quality and engagement levels remain high. This close supervision ensures students stay on track and benefit fully from the program. Another integral aspect of the CRT program is mentor support. Students are encouraged to clarify their doubts and seek guidance from experienced mentors. Whether it's understanding complex concepts or gaining insight into interview dynamics, this mentorship fosters a supportive and growth-oriented environment.

The broader goal of the CRT is to ensure career readiness. Beyond technical and analytical skills, the program helps students enhance their communication, group discussion, and personal interview performance. The sessions are carefully curated to help students transform into confident, job-ready individuals who can stand out in competitive placement processes. In essence, Vignan's CRT initiative is more than just training-it's a stepping stone that empowers students to dream big and take confident strides towards their career goals.

by
D. Varsha
III Biotechnology

ECHO *of* GREATNESS

A TRIBUTE TO A LIFE THAT STILL INSPIRES

Vignan pays heartfelt tribute to Sri Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao for his 103rd Jayanthi. N.T. Rama Rao, a towering figure in Indian cinema and politics. Revered as a cultural icon, he had brought mythological characters to life on screen and later transformed the public service with his visionary leadership as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for four terms. His legacy of dedication, discipline, and deep love for the people and their welfare would always continue to inspire generations.

The NTR Vignan Library paid a heartfelt tribute to the legendary Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao (NTR) on the occasion of his 103rd birth anniversary. Revered not only as a cinematic icon but also as the former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh (1983-1995), NTR's legacy continues to inspire generations across the state and beyond. Students, faculty, and administrative staff came together in unity to honor his life, work, and unwavering commitment to social welfare and Telugu pride.

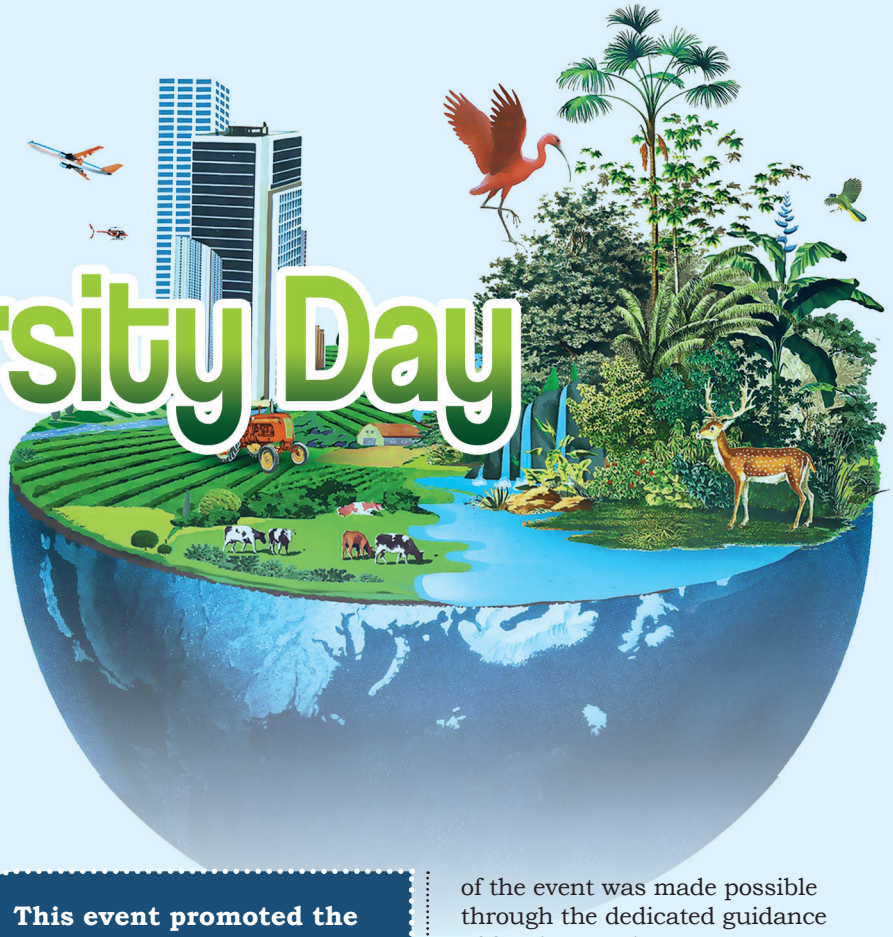
The celebration began with a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony, symbolizing knowledge, wisdom, and enlightenment. As the flames flickered, participants reflected on NTR's remarkable journey-from his iconic roles in Telugu cinema to his transformative political leadership. His values, vision, and contributions still echo within the very ethos of the NTR Vignan Library, which proudly carries his name.

On this occasion, the librarian presented an update on the library's latest developments. Among the key highlights was the implementation of DSpace, a digital repository system that enhances access to academic and research resources for students and faculty alike. Another major step forward is the introduction of remote access services, which now allow students to use library materials from anywhere, supporting a more flexible and inclusive digital learning environment.

Beyond being a place to borrow books, the library has taken steps to foster intellectual curiosity and critical thinking. A great example is its weekly book review competition, "Turning Pages," which encourages students to read more, reflect deeply, and express themselves creatively. This initiative is a testament to the library's broader mission of nurturing lifelong learners and active thinkers. The 103rd NTR Jayanthi was more than a commemorative event-it was a celebration of vision, knowledge, and growth. Through both remembrance and progress, the NTR Vignan Library reaffirmed its dedication to academic excellence, intellectual development, and student engagement. The event beautifully captured the spirit of NTR's legacy, reminding everyone present of the power of ideas, service, and education.

by
M. Ramya Sri
II AI&ML

International Biodiversity Day



Vignan's University proudly celebrated International Biodiversity Day on May 12th, 2025, in collaboration with the Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board. The event was jointly organized by the Centre for Environmental Pollution Control (CEPC) and the Department of Chemistry, School of Advanced Sciences and Humanities (SASH), with the core aim of spreading awareness about the importance of biodiversity and sustainable living. This year's theme, "Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development," set the tone for a day filled with creativity, learning, and purpose.

Students enthusiastically participated in a range of competitions, including essay writing, painting, and photography, where they beautifully expressed their thoughts on environmental protection and conservation. Among the many impressive entries, two students- Ch. Sanjana and D. Narendranadh from 1st B.Tech-stood out by winning at the state level. Their efforts were recognized in a grand award ceremony held on May 22nd at Thummalapalli Kalakshetram, Vijayawada, where none other than the Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Environment, Sri Pawan Kalyan Garu, personally presented them with mementoes and certificates.

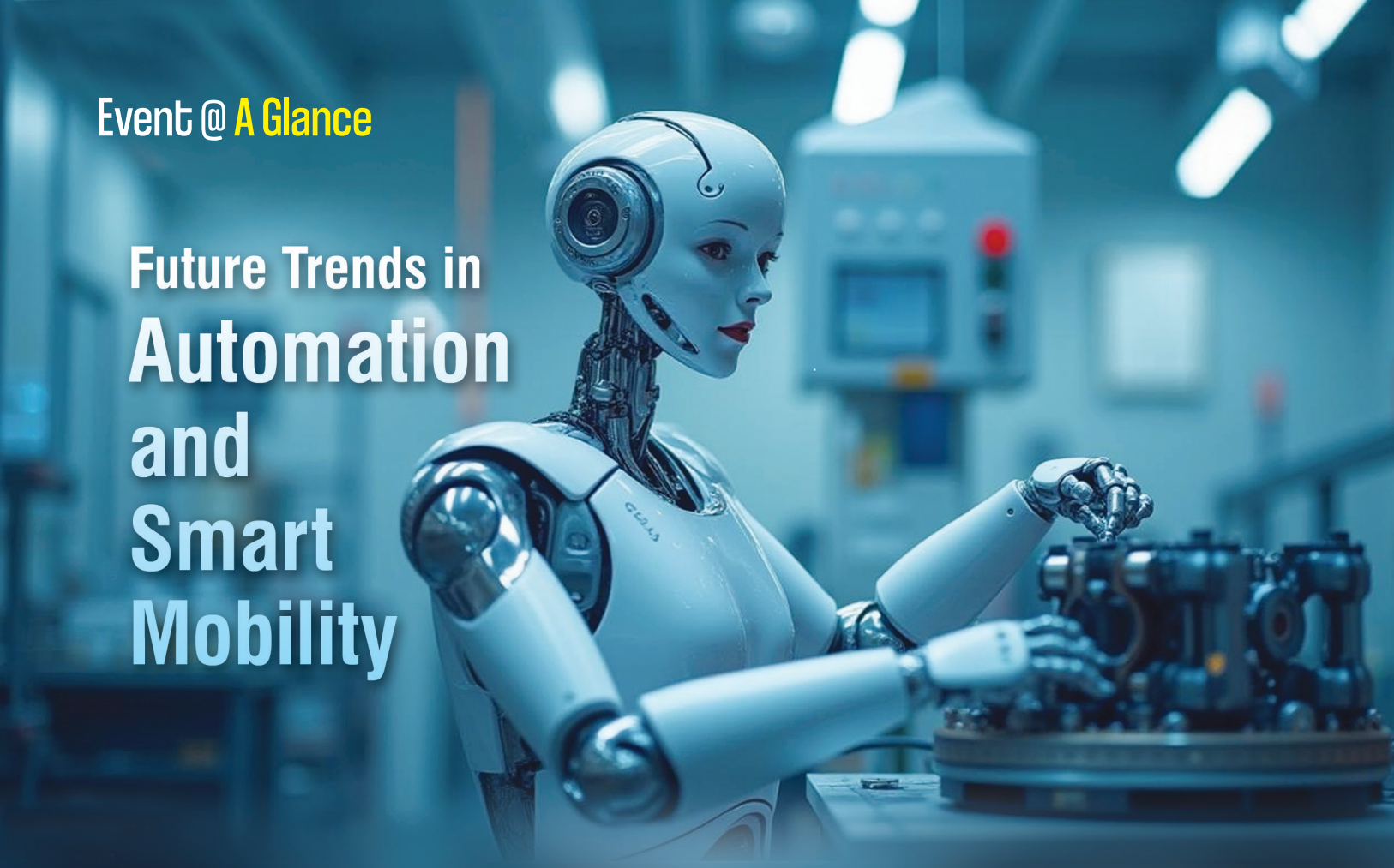
This event promoted the theme "Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development." Students participated in essay, painting, and photography contests, with select entries winning state-level recognition. Working models on biodiversity and sustainability were also showcased. The celebration highlighted student innovation and reinforced the importance of environmental conservation

Adding further value to the celebration, students also displayed innovative working models based on themes such as biodiversity, conservation, and hydroelectric energy. These models offered practical insights into environmental challenges and showcased creative student-driven solutions aimed at preserving nature. The success of the event was made possible through the dedicated guidance of faculty members Dr. M.S.S.R. Tejaswini, Dr. M.V.K. Srivani, and Dr. Shubhalakshmi Sengupta, whose mentorship encouraged students to explore environmental issues more deeply and engage in meaningful contributions.

More than just a celebration, the event served as a powerful reminder of our responsibility to live in harmony with nature. It inspired students to think critically, act sustainably, and be active voices in the global movement for biodiversity conservation. Through such initiatives, Vignan continues to nurture not just academic excellence but also socially responsible, environmentally conscious citizens of tomorrow.

by
M. Ramya Sri
II AI&ML

Future Trends in Automation and Smart Mobility



In line with its mission to align academic learning with industry-relevant skills, Vignan's University conducted an impactful Faculty Development Program (FDP) titled "Future Trends in Automation and Smart Mobility" on 28th May 2025. The program brought together faculty members from various disciplines to explore how emerging technologies are shaping homes, industries, and infrastructure in today's fast-changing world. With a strong focus on automation, smart systems, and sustainable energy, the FDP aimed to strengthen teaching practices and guide students toward real-world innovation.

The event featured two highly engaging sessions delivered by seasoned industry professionals- Mr. Suraj Razdan and Mr. Rishabh Singh, both senior managers with deep expertise in smart technologies and energy systems. What made the sessions stand out was not just the theory, but the rich blend of real-time applications, demonstrations, and case studies that bridged the gap between classrooms and cutting-edge industry practices.

By facilitating knowledge exchange between academia and industry, the program empowered educators to integrate modern technologies into teaching and research. It strengthened the university's focus on building a future-ready academic ecosystem where innovation, sustainability, and automation converge.

Mr. Suraj Razdan led the first session on "Wiser," a modern home automation solution that allows centralized control of daily utilities through smartphones and voice assistants like Alexa or Google Assistant. Faculty were introduced to concepts like smart lighting, automated security, and energy optimization integrated with solar systems. For instance, one demonstration showed how lighting systems adjust automatically to natural sunlight to conserve energy, while another showcased how "scene creation" could allow an entire room's lighting, curtains, and sound to change with one click for a "Movie Mode" or "Work Mode." Mr. Razdan also emphasized the broader impact of such technologies in elder care, accessibility for differently-abled individuals, and sustainable building design.

The second session, delivered by Mr. Rishabh Singh, focused on how automation is revolutionizing industries through predictive maintenance and smart energy solutions. Using compelling examples, he explained how companies like Tata Steel and Infosys are already using IoT sensors, smart

HVAC systems, and digital twins to optimize efficiency and prevent breakdowns. From smart meters in cities like Pune and Bhopal to remote microgrids that combine solar and battery storage, the session illustrated how digital tools are creating a more sustainable and data-driven future. Mr. Singh's insights showed how predictive technologies not only reduce operational costs but also contribute significantly to environmental goals.

Beyond the technical knowledge, what truly made the FDP impactful was its interactive approach. Participants engaged in thought-provoking Q&A sessions, discussing real-life implementation challenges such as cost analysis, scalability in Indian infrastructure, and potential collaborative research with industry experts. These dialogues sparked ideas on how institutions can contribute to the broader goals of innovation and sustainability.

The FDP offered more than just exposure to advanced tools-it opened new perspectives on how teaching, research, and curriculum design can evolve to reflect current industry demands. Faculty members left the session with a better understanding of how AI, IoT, and smart energy systems can be integrated into everyday learning. The sessions also encouraged interdisciplinary collaboration and highlighted exciting career paths for students in smart cities, energy systems, automation, and mobility.

In conclusion, the "Future Trends in Automation and Smart Mobility" FDP was not just a training session-it was a forward-looking step toward creating a more connected, innovative, and future-ready university ecosystem. As artificial intelligence and sustainability continue to shape our world, programs like this ensure that educators are not only equipped with the latest knowledge but are also empowered to pass it on in meaningful ways. Vignan's University commitment to such initiatives reflects a deep understanding that educators play a key role in bridging technology and society, and in preparing students to become the changemakers of tomorrow.

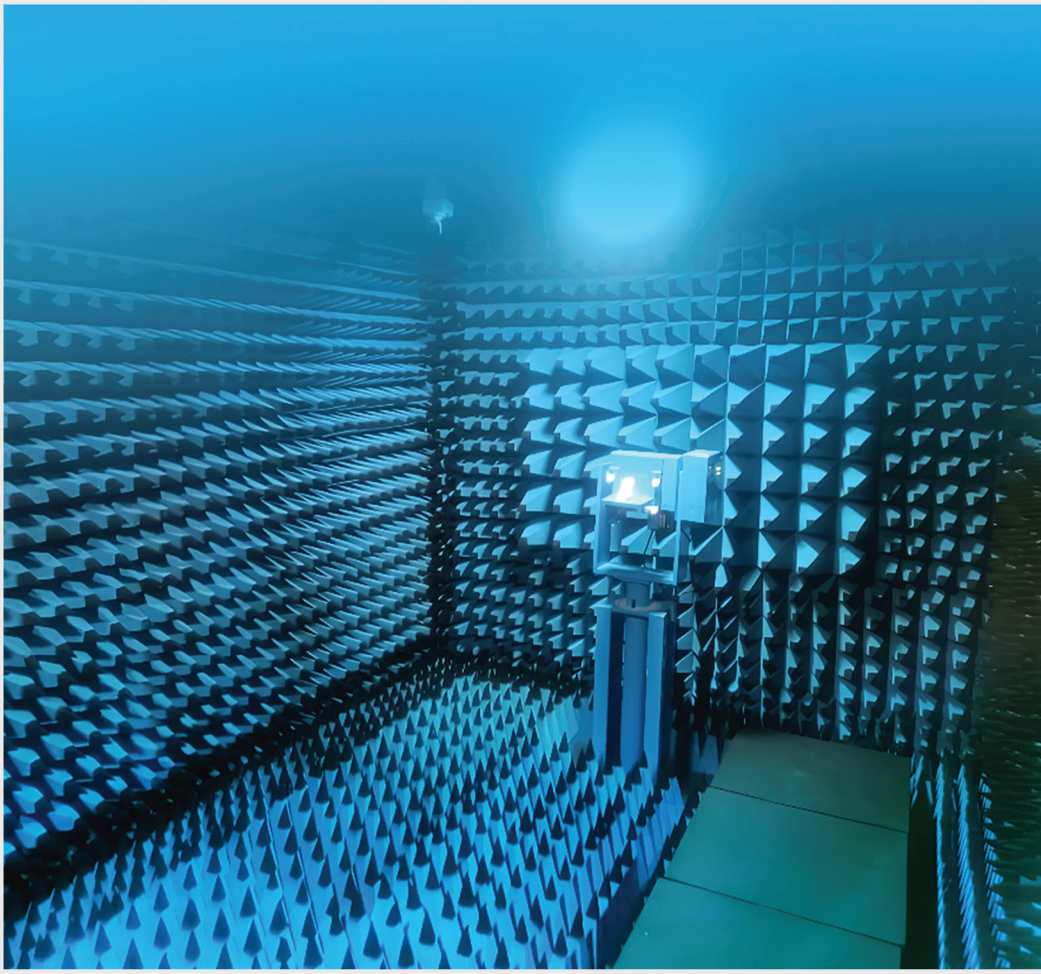
by
Mukesh Pandey
I CSE

Upcoming Facility

Anechoic Chamber

- ECE Department

The Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE) is excited to announce the upcoming launch of a new Anechoic Chamber, a cutting-edge facility currently being set up on the first floor of N Block. Expected to be fully operational between July and August 2025, this chamber will significantly boost the department's research and testing capabilities in wireless communication and antenna systems.



An anechoic chamber is a specialized, soundproof and echo-free space that absorbs electromagnetic wave reflections and shields the test setup from external radio frequencies. This carefully controlled environment allows for highly precise measurements of antenna behavior, device radiation patterns, electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), and overall system performance-essential for developing next-generation communication systems.

Some of the key features of the facility include a fully shielded RF environment, ensuring no outside interference during tests. The interior will be lined with broadband absorbers to eliminate reflections, enabling accurate suppression of electromagnetic waves. The chamber will also house equipment for both near-field and far-field antenna testing, as well as advanced setups for evaluating technologies like MIMO, 5G, and mmWave antennas. Additionally, it will be seamlessly integrated with advanced simulation and measurement software platforms, supporting a holistic approach to design and analysis.

The new chamber is set to serve multiple purposes. It will act as a research hub for cutting-edge innovations in wireless technologies and electromagnetic systems. Students will benefit directly through project work, thesis research, and practical exposure to advanced testing environments. It will also provide industry-level testing support, enabling collaborative research with external labs and companies.

Moreover, the chamber will empower ongoing and future work in Internet of Things (IoT), 5G communication, radar systems, and wearable antenna technologies-all of which are critical in today's rapidly evolving tech landscape. With this facility, the ECE department reaffirms its commitment to pushing the boundaries of academic excellence and fostering industry-aligned innovation. It will become a cornerstone for advanced learning, experimentation, and collaboration.

by
Dr. M. Pachiyaannan Muthusamy
Assoc. Professor,
Dept. of ECE

Learning Beyond the Campus

A Faculty's Industry Immersion Experience in India's Clean Energy Hub

A Visionary Initiative to Align Academia with Industry

At Vignan's University, the Faculty Industry Immersion Program (FIIP) stands as a forward-thinking initiative designed to connect academic learning with real-world industrial practice. Through this program, faculty members spend meaningful time within industry settings, gaining hands-on experience with cutting-edge technologies and modern operational practices. The goal is not just to refresh technical knowledge-but to build stronger research partnerships and shape curricula that are aligned with the fast-evolving needs of today's industries. In doing so, faculty become crucial links between classroom learning and industry innovation, helping students gain a more practical and future-ready education.

One of the standout participants of this FIIP's first phase was Dr. Charles David, Associate Professor and In-Charge Faculty - Biogas Facility, Department of Biotechnology, VFSTR. Dr. David underwent his industry immersion at GPS Renewables Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru, the world's largest biogas engineering company and a torchbearer of India's transition to green fuels.

GPS Renewables is at the forefront of clean energy innovation, spearheading the development of biogas, BioCNG, ethanol, and green hydrogen infrastructure. With a robust in-house R&D foundation and strategic alliances with global climate tech leaders, the company is revolutionizing India's energy landscape. One of their most ambitious undertakings is a joint venture with Oil India Ltd. to establish eight Compressed Biogas (CBG) plants across the country, an initiative poised to play a critical role in India's Net Zero vision.

Dr. David was attached to the Bioprocess Design and Optimization R&D Team, where he worked on live projects, participated in the operations and maintenance of large-scale biogas plants, and gained hands-on experience in bioprocess design and by-product valorization-key components for improving efficiency and sustainability in clean fuel production.

Participation in the Faculty–Industry Immersion Program has had a profound impact on teaching, mentorship, and research at the university. Speaking about his experience, Dr. David shared:

"The immersion gave me invaluable insights into process design, operational challenges, and the real-world dynamics of bioenergy production. These learnings have reshaped how I approach classroom instruction and lab design. I've introduced advanced analytical techniques and practical case studies drawn directly from my time at GPS Renewables."

The program's influence is already visible in several key areas:

- Curriculum Enrichment: Real-world case studies and practical examples have been seamlessly integrated into course content.
- Innovative Teaching Methods: Inspired by industry exposure, faculty now incorporate tools such as simulation-based learning and project-based assessments.
- Research and Collaboration: The immersion experience has opened avenues for future joint research initiatives with industry partners.
- Student-Centric Growth: Students now benefit from more relevant coursework, informed mentorship, and stronger guidance on industry-aligned projects and careers.

This impactful journey would not have been possible without the vision and support of the university's leadership. Dr. Charles David extends his heartfelt thanks:

"I sincerely thank the management and authorities of Vignan's University for offering me this invaluable opportunity. It has been a truly transformative experience not just for me, but also for the students and peers I interact with every day."

Looking ahead, as Vignan's University continues to champion programs like FIIP, it underscores a crucial philosophy: that education and industry must move in tandem. By equipping faculty with real-world insights, the university ensures that its students are not only academically sound but also industry-ready, prepared to lead in sectors that define the future.

by
Dr. Charles David
Assoc. Professor,
In-Charge Faculty,
Biogas Facility,
Dept. of BT

Guest Lecture on
ROADMAP FOR ADVANCED ENERGY STORAGE

The Department of Chemistry at VFSTR (Deemed to be University) organized a guest lecture titled "Roadmap for Advanced Energy Storage", delivered by Dr. Narendra Kurra, Assistant Professor at the School of Chemistry, IIT Hyderabad. Dr. Kurra is a renowned researcher recognized for his contributions in electrochemistry, nanomaterials, and energy storage systems.

This insightful lecture aimed to explore the current status, innovations, and future prospects in energy storage technologies. Dr. Kurra highlighted the significance of efficient storage systems in supporting renewable energy integration and ensuring grid stability. Key topics included classifications of storage systems, advancements in lithium-ion and solid-state batteries, development of supercapacitors and hybrid systems, and breakthroughs in electrode and electrolyte materials.

The session also addressed challenges related to scalability, performance, and environmental sustainability, while encouraging interdisciplinary research. What made the session especially valuable was its strong emphasis on connecting theoretical concepts with practical innovations.

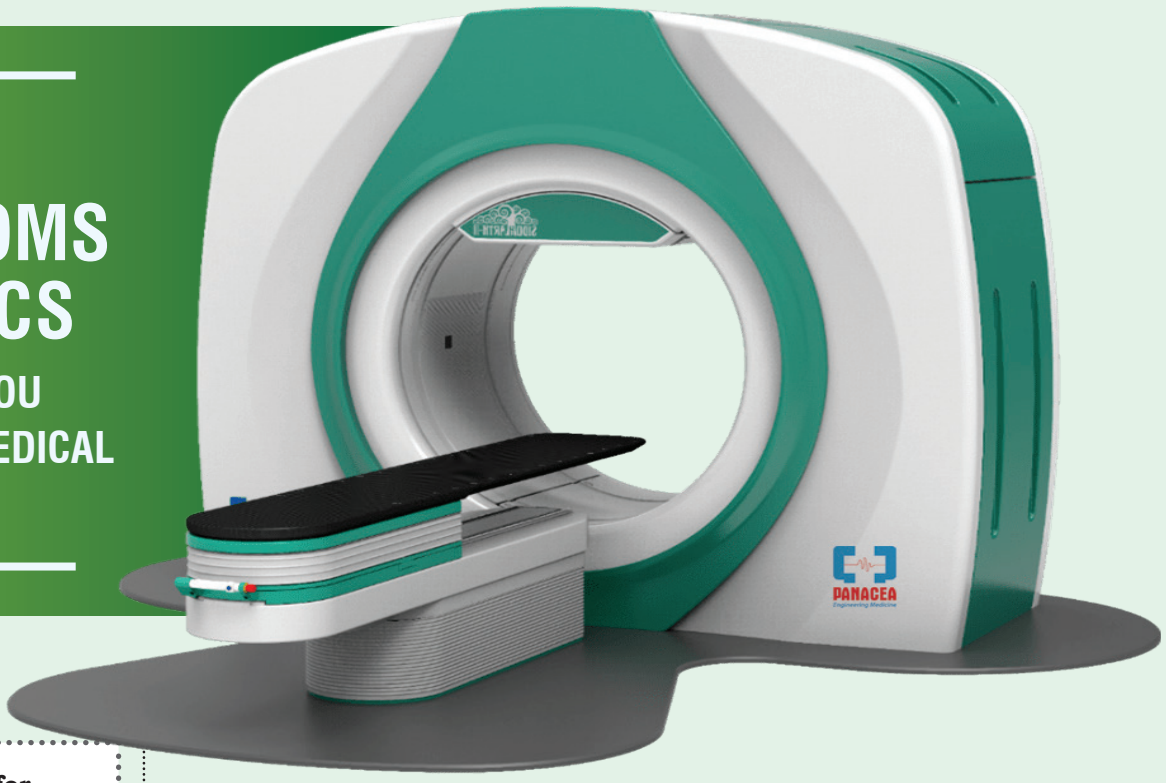
Dr. Kurra's examples helped bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world applications, motivating students and young researchers to see the broader impact of their work. Attended by students, scholars, and faculty from various departments including Chemistry, Physics, Energy Engineering, and Materials Science, the lecture left a lasting impression. It inspired many to consider research paths in sustainable energy technologies and to look at collaboration-not just within academia, but also with industry-as a critical step toward impactful innovation.

This guest lecture stood as a testament to VFSTR's commitment to equipping its academic community with future-focused knowledge and fostering a research culture that responds to the global energy crisis with creativity, science, and purpose.

by
Srinikhi - II CSE

BRIDGING CLASSROOMS AND CLINICS

VFSTR SIGNS A MOU WITH PANACEA MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES



Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology & Research (VFSTR) has signed an MoU with Panacea Medical Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Karnataka, marks a significant step in strengthening academia-industry collaboration for the BME and ECE departments. Spearheaded by the Office of Industry Relations, this partnership offers students enriched exposure through guest lectures, hands-on internships, industrial visits, and collaborative research opportunities while also opening promising avenues for placements and core technical skill development, highlighting Vignan's strong focus on experiential, real-world learning.

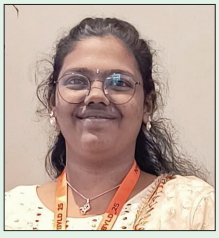
In a major stride toward enhancing practical learning and industry engagement, Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology & Research (VFSTR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Panacea Medical Technologies Pvt. Ltd., based in Kolar District, Karnataka. This collaboration marks a significant development for students of Biomedical Engineering (BME) and Electronics & Communication Engineering (ECE), connecting classroom knowledge with real-world medical technology applications.

The MoU was facilitated by the Office of Industry Relations and Outreach at Vignan, to enrich academic experiences through industry-aligned opportunities. It focuses on hands-on exposure, knowledge-sharing, and bridging the gap between academic curriculum and cutting-edge innovations in healthcare and electronics.

Since the partnership began, the impact has been tangible. Industry experts from Panacea have delivered insightful guest lectures on emerging trends in medical technology, while students have had the opportunity to visit Panacea's facilities, gaining first-hand exposure to real-time applications and devices used in advanced diagnostics and therapy. Internships are now being offered to eligible students, with discussions underway to support collaborative research and even PhD mentorship. These developments are also paving the way for placement opportunities in core technical sectors.

This achievement has been made possible by the committed efforts of late Dr. G. Sitaramanjaneya Reddy Garu, Prof. Pitchaiah, Prof. Vijaya Ramu, Dr. Vijaya Krishna (Dean - Placements), and Mr. Narasimha (Manager - Corporate Relations), whose vision and coordination brought this partnership to life.

The MoU with Panacea not only enriches the academic fabric of VFSTR but also reinforces the university's commitment to empowering students with the skills, exposure, and industry readiness needed to thrive in a rapidly evolving technological landscape. This collaboration is a promising example of how meaningful partnerships can open new doors-for research, innovation, and the careers of tomorrow.



by
Srivalli Katyayini
I CSE

Empowering Vignan's Scholars

A Capacity Building Programme Sponsored by ICSSR

The two-week ICSSR-Sponsored Capacity Building Programme in Social Sciences and Humanities had empowered early-career scholars with research skills, ethical insight, and interdisciplinary approaches while pursuing their research goals. While having a focus on Indigenous Knowledge Systems and sustainable development, the event fostered innovation, collaboration, and academic excellence among the research scholars, students and also the faculty of Vignan.

Vignan's University recently hosted the ICSSR-Sponsored Two-Week Capacity Building Programme in Social Sciences and Humanities, beginning on May 19, 2025. The inauguration took place in the presence of the Honourable Vice-Chancellor and several respected dignitaries from across India's academic and research communities. This programme was specially designed to support early-career researchers, faculty members, and scholars by offering them an intensive, hands-on learning experience to strengthen their research skills and understanding of advanced methodologies.

A unique aspect of the programme was its focus on blending India's traditional value systems with the demands of modern research and technology. Speakers emphasized the importance of nurturing not just academic knowledge but also creativity, ethical thinking, and innovation. The sessions encouraged scholars to approach research in a more integrative and multidisciplinary manner, urging them to go beyond rigid academic boundaries and adopt a broader, more connected perspective.

One of the key themes that resonated throughout the programme was the revival of India's Indigenous Knowledge Systems. Experts highlighted the need to incorporate these traditional wisdoms into current research practices to address pressing social, economic, and environmental issues. Discussions also touched on topics like sustainability, cultural heritage, and social transformation, linking them to the nation's ongoing developmental journey.

Supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), the programme brought together 30 selected participants from across the country. These scholars took part in interactive workshops, engaging panel discussions, and practical sessions on academic writing, research design, and data analysis. The carefully structured curriculum encouraged meaningful dialogue, collaboration, and skill-building, tailored to the needs of upcoming social science researchers.

The vibrant learning environment at Vignan's University, combined with expert mentorship and peer interaction, created a space where participants could grow intellectually and professionally. This initiative not only equipped scholars with valuable tools and perspectives but also contributed to building a stronger, more connected academic community. It reflected Vignan's commitment to fostering excellence in research, while also embracing India's cultural roots and future aspirations.

by
K. Trisha Sri
II CSE

Soaring to New Heights

ECE Student Earns International Recognition

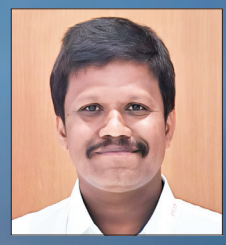
It's a proud and inspiring moment for the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering at Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research (Deemed to be University), Vadlamudi, as our final-year student, Mr. Sarikonda Gopi Krishna Raju (Reg. No. 231LA05010), has been awarded a prestigious international travel grant of USD 800 by the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society (AESS). This recognition places him among a select group of students globally and reflects the quality of talent nurtured at Vignan.

Mr. Gopi Krishna Raju will represent Vignan's University at the IEEE AESS Student and Young Professionals (SYP) Congress 2025, taking place from August 13–15, 2025, in Nairobi, Kenya. This esteemed international event brings together exceptional students, young professionals, and researchers from around the world who are passionate about aerospace and electronic systems. It is not just a platform for networking but a launchpad for leadership and innovation in the global tech space.

Dr. Venkata Kishore Kothapudi expressed heartfelt congratulations and said, *"This is the ultimate achievement of interdisciplinary guidance and strategic planning to support student career growth. I'm proud to see our student representing Vignan's on a global platform."*

This recognition stands as a powerful reminder of what focused effort, quality mentorship, and an empowering academic environment can achieve. Gopi Krishna Raju's journey to the international stage serves as a beacon of inspiration for fellow students, showing that with passion and perseverance, even the biggest global opportunities are within reach.

The Vignan community celebrates this milestone and sends best wishes for his continued success-may this experience further shape him into a future leader in aerospace technology and inspire many others to reach beyond boundaries.



by
Dr. Venkata
Kishore Kothapudi
Assoc. Professor, ECE,
IEEE Senior Member

Vignan's University at

EFY Expo 2025

Bridging the Gap Between Academia and Industry

Vignan @ EFY Expo 2025 showcased innovation and industry-ready education from their students while highlighting our cutting-edge Ph.D. programs for professionals in Electronics and Electrical Engineering streams, who are interested in strategic academia-industry collaborations. It is a step closer to shaping future-ready talent through real-world learning.

Vignan's University proudly participated in the Electronics For You (EFY) Expo 2025, held from May 15 to 17, showcasing its commitment to bridging the gap between academic learning and real-world industry needs. Represented by the Office of Industry Relations and Outreach, the university set up a vibrant and engaging booth that attracted attention from industry professionals, educators, and students alike.

The booth highlighted some of Vignan's most impactful initiatives, especially its efforts in strengthening industry-academia collaboration. One of the key points of interest was the university's specialized Ph.D. programs tailored for working professionals. These programs reflect Vignan's belief in lifelong learning and encourage research that directly addresses challenges faced in today's industries.

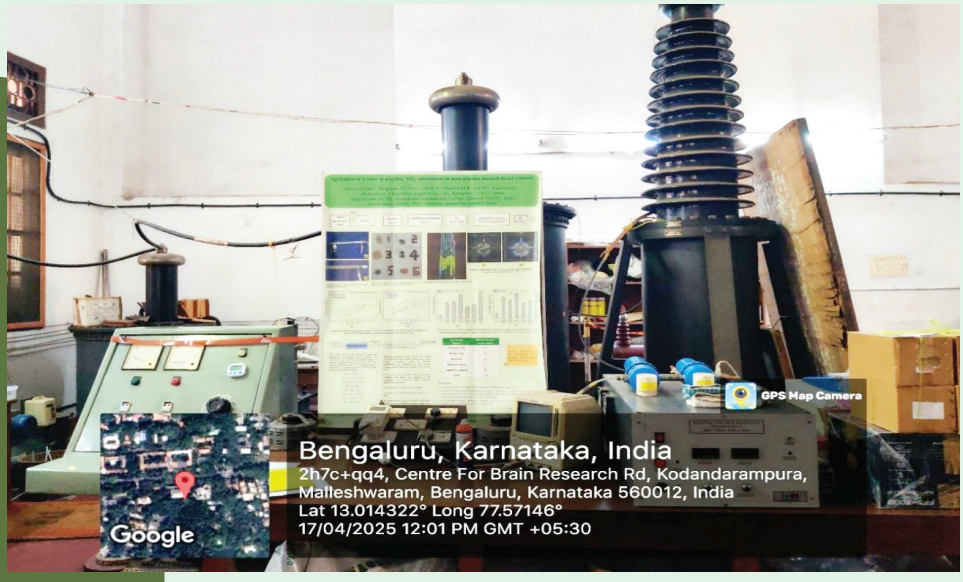
One of the standout moments of the expo was a presentation delivered by the Director of Industry Relations, titled "Revolutionizing Industry-Academia: A Blueprint for Future-Ready Talent." This session focused on three core ideas: using collaboration as a catalyst for growth and innovation, embedding experiential learning into education to better prepare students for real-world challenges, and creating academic environments that function as centers of excellence aligned with industry expectations. The EFY Expo served as an excellent platform for Vignan's University to engage with thought leaders, industry experts, and policymakers who share a common vision of transforming education into something more dynamic, practical, and forward-looking. These interactions not only highlighted Vignan's ongoing efforts but also reinforced its commitment to nurturing graduates who are both academically sound and professionally capable.

The university extends sincere thanks to the organisers of EFY Expo 2025 for providing such a meaningful and collaborative space. The event further energised Vignan's mission to develop future-ready students and to continue its journey as a leader in education and innovation.

by
A. Rishitha
II CSE

Exploring Sustainable Innovations

Mr. Sumit Gawai Completes Advanced Cold Plasma Packaging Training at IISc Bangalore



Mr. Sumit gained a strong foundation in the fundamentals of cold plasma technology and the behavior of reactive species that are generated during the process. He explored surface modification techniques that make packaging materials more functional and efficient. The program also included insights into safety guidelines and regulatory aspects, helping him understand how to apply these technologies responsibly in real-world contexts.

Mr. Sumit Ragho Gawai, an assistant professor and postgraduate researcher from the Department of Food Technology (SAFT) at Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology & Research (VFSTR), recently completed a prestigious one-month training program at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore. Held between April 16 and May 15, 2025, the program focused on the use of Cold Plasma Treatment (CPT) for enhancing the properties of composite food packaging films (CFPF).

This training was a key component of Mr. Sumit's ongoing Ph.D. research, which is centered on developing sustainable food packaging materials that are both environmentally friendly and effective in preserving food quality. The main objective of the training was to explore how cold plasma technology can improve essential properties like barrier strength, mechanical durability, and antimicrobial resistance in packaging films-crucial factors for extending shelf life and ensuring food safety.

A major highlight of the program was the hands-on exposure to surface and volume discharge systems-cutting-edge configurations used in advanced cold plasma research. Working closely with expert researchers and using state-of-the-art equipment, Sumit was able to translate theoretical concepts into meaningful, practical learning.

Reflecting on the experience, Sumit shared, "This training has been immensely beneficial in strengthening my technical knowledge and practical skills related to plasma-assisted packaging technologies. It has further motivated me to contribute to the development of innovative, eco-friendly food packaging solutions."

Upon completion of his final research analysis, Sumit will be awarded a Certificate of Completion from IISc Bangalore, marking an important academic and professional milestone in his doctoral journey. Vignan's University congratulates Mr. Sumit Gawai on this significant achievement and looks forward to the innovative contributions his research will bring to the field of sustainable food packaging.

by
Mr. Sumit Ragho Gawai,
Asst. Professor,
Dept. of FT

Global Laurels and Academic Leadership

Dr. K. Venkata Kishore Impact Beyond Borders

Dr. Venkata Kishore Kothapudi, Associate Professor in the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering at Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology & Research (VFSTR), continues to make an outstanding mark in global academic and research circles. With an unwavering commitment to innovation, mentorship, and international collaboration, his recent accomplishments reflect not only personal excellence but also elevate Vignan's presence on the global research stage.

At the prestigious 46th Photonics and Electromagnetics Research Symposium (PIERS 2025) in Abu Dhabi, Dr. Kishore was one of only ten scholars worldwide to receive the Session Organizer Award. His session, the only one from India to be recognized, focused on "Advances in Multi-Band IF, RF, and Microwave Active, Passive, and Antenna Components for Aerospace, Defense, and Space System Applications." In his role as chair, he presented three original research papers, introducing cutting-edge developments in compact, reconfigurable antennas and multiband circuits-technologies that are shaping the future of aerospace and defense communication systems.

His dedication to guiding young talent is equally commendable. Under his mentorship, final-year ECE student Mr. Sarikonda Gopi Krishna Raju was awarded the prestigious IEEE AESS International Travel Grant of $800. Mr. Raju will represent Vignan's at the IEEE Student and Young Professionals (SYP) Congress in Nairobi, Kenya this August-an extraordinary opportunity to learn, network, and contribute on a global platform.

Beyond research and mentorship, Dr. Kishore is actively involved in shaping academic discourse as an editorial leader. He serves as an Academic Editor for high-impact international journals such as IET Circuits, Devices & Systems, International Journal of Antennas and Propagation, and

Scientific Reports. Notably, he is also a Guest Editor for the CubeSat Technologies Collection, working alongside renowned scholars from China and the UK to curate pioneering research in small satellite systems.

His influence extends to academic events too. At IEEE SPACE 2025 in Bengaluru, Dr. Kishore will serve as Program Chair for both the 3-Minute Thesis (3MT) contest and the Young Faculty Laureate Program (YFLP)—platforms aimed at fostering concise research communication and empowering early-career faculty. He also co-chaired the "Advanced Antenna Design" session at WAMS 2025 with Prof. Sukomal Dey of IIT Palakkad, encouraging meaningful discussions on future antenna and defense technologies.

IEEE IMAS (International Microwave and Antenna Symposium) 2025 is a highly anticipated global event jointly organized by the IEEE MTT-S International Microwave Symposium (IMS) and IEEE AP-S Young Professionals. It brings together leading experts and innovators in the fields of microwave theory, antenna systems, and signal propagation.


THE ELECTROMAGNETICS ACADEMY

Certificate

— SESSION ORGANIZER AWARD —

Subcommittee 4

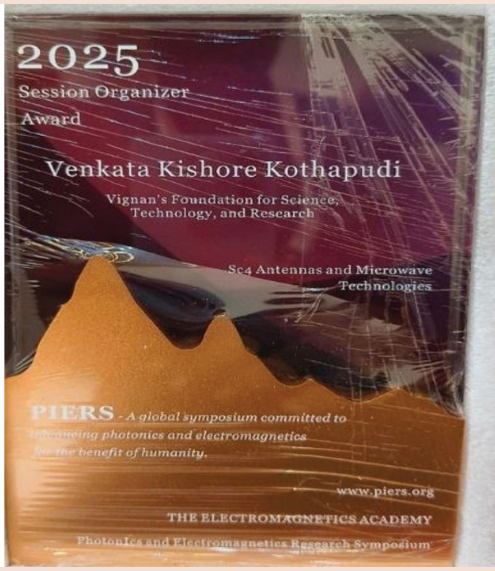
Venkata Kishore Kothapudi

Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology, and Research, India

Session Title: Advances in Multi-Band IF, RF, and Microwave Active, Passive and Antenna Components for Aerospace, Defense and Space System Applications across L/S/C/X/Ku/K/Ka Bands

Kazuya Kobayashi
Chuo University, Japan
PIERS 2025 Award Committee Chair

Ibrahim Elfadel
Khalifa University, UAE
PIERS 2025 Abu Dhabi General Chair



Adding further pride to this achievement, Sarikonda Gopi Krishna Raju, a B.Tech Electronics and Communication Engineering student from the Class of 2026, has also been selected as a Student Ambassador for IEEE IMAS 2025. He will represent VFSTR and the IEEE Guntur Sub-Section, part of IEEE Region 10 (Asia-Pacific).

As ambassadors, both Dr. Kothapudi and Gopi Krishna Raju will play a crucial role in spreading awareness about the event, encouraging participation, and connecting with professionals, researchers, and fellow students from across the globe.

Cont'd ... next page

Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research (VFSTR) including Dr. Krishna Kishore Kothapudi, are also proud to share that ten students from the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering have been selected as Student Ambassadors for the prestigious IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society (AESS) Student and Young Professionals (SYP) Congress 2025. This international event is scheduled to take place from August 13–15, 2025, in Nairobi, Kenya.

The selected ambassadors are: Sarikonda Gopi Krishna Raju, Shaik Amman, Sana Sultana, Shaik Nashfatha, Shaik Shoaib, Manikanta Javvaji, Maheswara Reddy Gogula, Janaki Ramaiah Gavini, Siva Nageswara Rao Sunkara, and Karthik Durga Prasad Injeti. Among them, Siva Nageswara Rao Sunkara and Karthik Durga Prasad Injeti belong to the Class of 2025, while the rest are from the Class of 2026.

These students will proudly represent VFSTR and the IEEE Guntur Sub-Section, under the Hyderabad Section, Asia-Pacific Region-10, as they help promote and support this globally recognized event. As Student Ambassadors, they will be responsible for creating awareness, encouraging wider participation, and playing a key role in the event's outreach and engagement activities. Their selection is a testament to VFSTR's commitment to international academic engagement, leadership in emerging technologies, and nurturing of global talent in engineering and research.

In his own words, "I express my deepest gratitude to VFSTR for empowering me to pursue academic and professional excellence. I remain committed to the growth and success of our institution." Dr. Venkata Kishore Kothapudi's journey is a powerful testament to what's possible when passion meets purpose. Through his leadership in interdisciplinary research, editorial stewardship, and student mentorship, he continues to build a legacy of innovation, global collaboration, and academic excellence. His story is an inspiration not just to aspiring researchers, but to the entire Vignan community.

by
Dr. Venkata
Kishore Kothapudi
Assoc. Professor, ECE,
IEEE Senior Member

Enhancing Network Security with a Hybrid Intrusion Detection System

Using SNORT and Machine Learning

by
Jahnavi Kamepalli
II CSE-CS

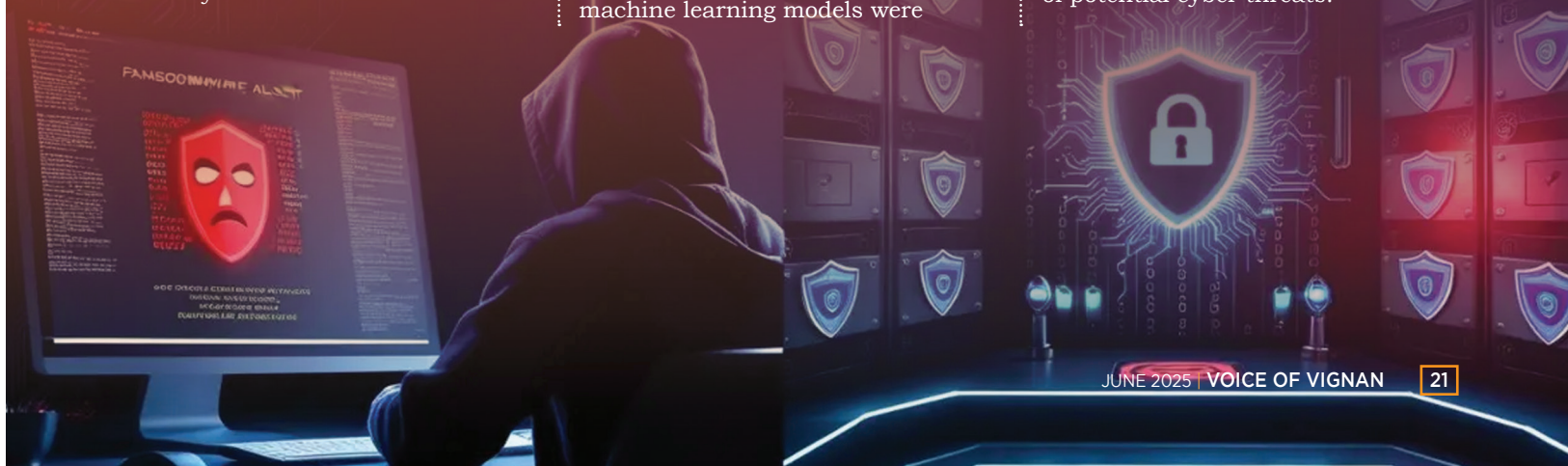
A student-developed hybrid Intrusion Detection System combines SNORT with machine learning, boosting the detection of both known and unknown threats. It sis observed that while SNORT efficiently detects signature-based attacks, machine learning models like Logistic Regression and Decision Tree handle novel threats, achieving 99.98% accuracy. This sure is, a smart blend that ensures faster, adaptive, and more reliable network security.

In today's fast-paced digital world, cybersecurity has become more crucial than ever. As technology evolves, so do cyber threats—becoming smarter, more complex, and harder to detect. Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS) play a key role in defending against such attacks by monitoring network traffic and identifying suspicious activities. One of the most commonly used IDS tools is SNORT, a signature-based system that detects threats using a predefined set of rules. While SNORT is effective at catching known attacks, it struggles when it comes to identifying new or evolving threats-especially zero-day attacks that haven't been seen before.

To overcome these limitations, a hybrid Intrusion Detection System was developed by combining the strengths of SNORT with powerful machine learning techniques. This hybrid approach merges the speed and reliability of rule-based detection with the adaptability of anomaly detection powered by machine learning.

In the first stage of the project, SNORT was used to analyze the NSL-KDD dataset, a widely used benchmark for evaluating IDS performance. The dataset, which simulates various network attacks, was processed and converted to a format compatible with SNORT. Custom rules were set up to detect different types of attacks, including Denial of Service (DoS), Remote to Local (R2L), User to Root (U2R), and Probe attacks. While SNORT performed well in identifying attacks it had signatures for, its accuracy dropped when faced with newer or more complex attack patterns. This led to the second phase, where machine learning models were brought in to improve detection. A set of classifiers-including Logistic Regression, Decision Tree, Random Forest, and Support Vector Machine (SVM)-was trained to analyze the traffic that SNORT had missed. Among them, a hybrid model combining Logistic Regression and Decision Tree gave the best results, achieving a detection accuracy of 99.98% with very few false alarms. This success was largely due to the blend of supervised and unsupervised learning techniques, which helped the system adapt to unfamiliar threats more effectively.

The final system represents a smarter and more flexible approach to network security. By fusing traditional signature-based methods with machine learning, it can not only catch known threats quickly but also adapt to identify new ones. In the future, this system could be enhanced further with real-time implementation, deep learning integration, and better interpretability for cybersecurity professionals. This hybrid IDS model stands as a promising step toward building more robust, intelligent, and future-ready cybersecurity systems-helping both organizations and individuals stay one step ahead of potential cyber threats.



Expanding Horizons Through Science and Technology

My Internship Journey at Chungnam National University, South Korea

As part of an international research internship, I worked on antimicrobial peptides and extracellular vesicles-cutting-edge projects addressing global health challenges. This experience enriched my scientific knowledge, offered invaluable mentorship, and deepened my understanding of Korean culture and global research collaboration.

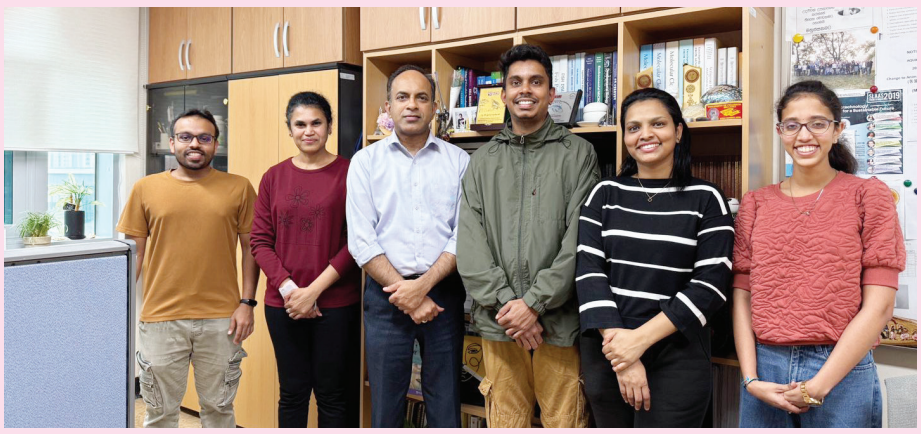
True learning begins when we step beyond our comfort zones-and my journey to Chungnam National University (CNU) in Daejeon, South Korea, proved just that. As part of an international internship opportunity facilitated by Vignan's University, I had the extraordinary chance to immerse myself in advanced research, global collaboration, and a rich cultural experience that broadened both my academic and personal horizons.

At CNU, I worked on two research projects that addressed some of today's most pressing global health challenges. The first focused on studying **Antimicrobial Peptides (AMPs)** as potential treatments for **antibiotic-resistant *Streptococcus iniae***. This pathogen not only threatens aquaculture but also poses a zoonotic risk. Our research aimed to explore how AMPs-naturally occurring defense molecules-could serve as powerful, sustainable alternatives to traditional antibiotics.

The second project delved into the isolation and characterization of Extracellular Vesicles (EVs) from *Shigella flexneri*, a notorious pathogen. These vesicles are involved in bacterial communication and infection mechanisms, and studying them gave me valuable insights into microbial virulence and host-pathogen interactions.

Both projects lie at the frontier of medical research aimed at tackling urgent global health challenges. In the AMPs project, I explored how naturally derived peptides could serve as effective alternatives to conventional antibiotics, particularly against antibiotic-resistant strains of *Streptococcus iniae*-a significant pathogen in aquaculture and a potential zoonotic threat.

Simultaneously, I got immersed in the isolation and biochemical characterization of extracellular vesicles released by *Shigella flexneri*. EVs play a critical role in intercellular communication, and studying them provides insights into bacterial virulence, immune modulation, and novel biomarker discovery.



What made this internship truly transformative was not just the cutting-edge research, but the mentorship, collaboration, and cross-cultural engagement that accompanied it. The mentors at CNU were deeply supportive, generously sharing their knowledge and resources. I also had the opportunity to interact with international scholars, which fostered vibrant discussions, exchange of ideas.

Beyond the laboratory, I immersed myself in the rich Korean culture-exploring historical sites, enjoying local cuisine, and understanding the work ethic and academic culture that defines South Korea's globally respected scientific community. Daejeon, known as the "Silicon Valley of Korea," provided the perfect backdrop for a student of science to thrive, innovate, and aspire.

What truly enriched this experience wasn't just the science-it was the mentorship and vibrant research culture. My mentors- **Prof. Mahanama De Zoysa, Dr. Chamilani Nikapitiya, and Mr. Hasitha Madhawa Dias**-offered unwavering support and shared their knowledge generously. Engaging with international scholars and researchers from different countries fostered a spirit of collaboration and sparked meaningful scientific discussions that pushed me to think beyond textbooks. I also extend my sincere appreciation to **Prof. Vijaya Ramu Dirisala**, former Dean of Promotion, Collaborations & Faculty Affairs (PCF), and currently Dean of Academics, Assessment and Awards & Faculty Affairs (AAA&FA), and Dean of the School of Biotechnology & Pharmaceutical Sciences, whose unwavering support and commitment to student development made this international research opportunity possible. I wasn't alone-six of my friends from Biotechnology and Food Technology also participated in a student exchange program at the University of Malaysia Kelantan, wherein they gained valuable cross-cultural experiences and technical insights through the program. These are made possible through the MoUs signed by then Dean, PCF and his office.

As I return home enriched with knowledge, skills, and global perspectives, I carry forward a renewed sense of purpose-to contribute meaningfully to the scientific community and work towards solutions that transcend geographical and cultural boundaries. I also hope to encourage fellow students to embrace such global opportunities, for they are truly life-changing.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to both Chungnam National University and Vignan's University for giving me this once-in-a-lifetime experience. This journey has strengthened my belief that science knows no borders, and collaboration is the key to solving the challenges that face our world today.

by
Krishnna Priyaa Bala
Biotechnology

Vignan's University
Bids a Heartfelt Farewell to International Students

On May 27, 2025, Vignan's University hosted a touching and unforgettable farewell ceremony at the Sangamam Seminar Hall, honoring 20 international students from Sudan and Togo who successfully completed their academic journeys. The event was filled with gratitude, emotion, and celebration—marking the end of one chapter and the beginning of another in the lives of these vibrant and resilient young achievers.

The event opened with warm words from Prof. Sharada Allamneni, Dean of International Students, and Dr. Nagendra Howji, Associate Dean. They expressed deep appreciation for the students' academic efforts and the cultural diversity they brought to Vignan's community. The students hailed from a wide range of disciplines-2 from M.Tech, 1 from MBA, 4 B.Tech, 6 BCA, 1 BBA, and 6 from B. Pharmacy-each leaving behind a legacy of friendships, memories, and global spirit.

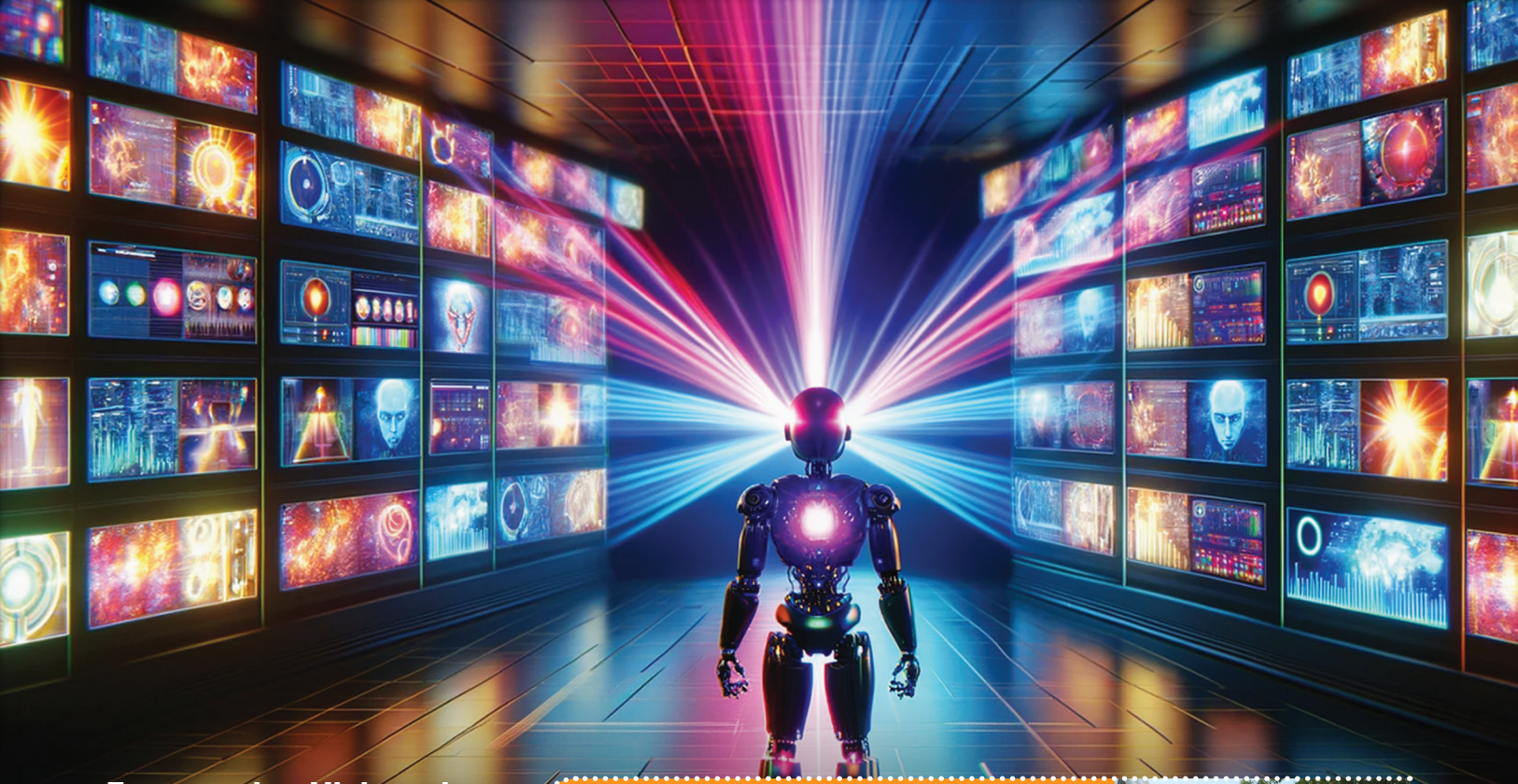
Adding to the meaningful atmosphere, dignitaries including Dr. Phanikumar, Chief Warden; Dr. Jithendra Chimakurthy, Head of Pharmacy; and Dr. M. S. S. Rukmini, Dean of Student Affairs, delivered heartfelt messages. They encouraged the students to hold on to the values they've learned at Vignan-integrity, resilience, leadership, and a global outlook. Dr. Phanikumar sparked an engaging discussion by asking, "What is special about India? What have you learned here?" The students lit up, sharing their love for Indian hospitality, cultural richness, and the warmth they felt throughout their stay. Prof. Sharada spoke from the heart: "You came here as strangers, but you leave as family. Vignan will always be your home." Dr. Rukmini reminded students to chase dreams with confidence, not just to seek jobs, but to become job creators. Col. Prof. P. Nagabhushan, the Vice Chancellor, left a lasting impression with a stirring message on character, compassion, and seeing the world as one family. And Chancellor Dr. Lavu Rathaiah offered powerful advice for the future: "The world is changing fast-keep learning, build real-world skills, and be ready for what's ahead."

The evening came alive with colorful cultural performances-traditional dances from India, Nepal, and Africa-celebrating the spirit of unity in diversity. These performances brought smiles, cheers, and even a few tears, as they captured the emotional essence of shared memories and friendships built across borders.

The celebration concluded with a joyful farewell dinner, where laughter echoed and stories flowed freely. It was a fitting end to a day filled with warmth, pride, and heartfelt goodbyes. The farewell ceremony was more than just a send-off-it was a celebration of courage, growth, and global connection. As these students return to their countries, they carry not only academic achievements but also the spirit of Vignan-ready to make a difference in the world.

Each student was honored with a certificate of appreciation and a memento. Some took to the stage to share personal reflections-stories of overcoming cultural challenges, making new friends, and discovering a second home at Vignan. One BCA student from Sudan said, "Coming to India was a leap of faith, but Vignan gave us more than education-it gave us family." Another from Togo shared, "I leave with a degree, but also with the discipline, unity, and values that will guide me forever."

by
Mukesh Pandey
I CSE



Empowering Visionaries Core Team Selections for Mahotsav 2026

The Core team Selection for Mahotsav-2026 is to be considered as a prestigious one as well as a spirited and well structured three interactive round event, which solely focuses on assessing creativity, clarity and leadership skills of a the nominees.

This selection event has rounds that include from brain storming sessions ro reflective thinking and final presentations, in a very transparent process that inspires a cuture of innovation and teamwork through leadership

The selection process for the Core Team of Mahotsav-2026 unfolded with great energy and excitement on May 24th, at the N-Block First Floor Seminar Hall, starting sharp at 8:15 AM. This much-anticipated event brought together some of the most enthusiastic and creative minds on campus, as 7 students vied for the Student Convenor role and 29 nominees competed for Core Organiser positions.

The selection journey was designed thoughtfully, featuring three engaging and interactive rounds that tested candidates on their leadership skills, innovation, and clarity of vision. The day kicked off with the Team Round, where nominees were divided into groups, each guided by a student mentor. Each team was assigned two topics focusing on Zonal Events and Mahotsav itself. After a one-hour brainstorming session, students translated their ideas into visual representations using charts and then presented them. These presentations were closely evaluated by both the student mentors and a faculty panel for creativity, team dynamics, and presentation effectiveness.

After a short refreshment break, the second round tested candidates on their reflective thinking and sensitivity. The session began with questions related to Mahotsav-2025, followed by a selection of unique and thought-provoking questions sourced from an online survey. Each participant had to choose four questions to answer, explaining their choices and reasons for omitting the rest. This round highlighted the nominees' ability to think critically, express themselves clearly, and reflect deeply on their perspectives.

Post-lunch, the final Oral Presentation Round began. Candidates came forward with well-organized, personal roadmaps for Mahotsav-2026, offering fresh, creative concepts along with thoughtful reflections on past challenges and how to overcome them. This session provided a platform for each participant to shine as a visionary and a planner, showcasing not just ideas but also a clear direction for execution.

The event concluded with the announcement of results, officially ushering in the new leadership team for Mahotsav-2026. More than just a selection process, this event was a celebration of collaboration, responsibility, and innovation. It served as a powerful reminder that when students are empowered with the right opportunities, they can lead with purpose and leave a lasting impact. The journey to Mahotsav-2026 has officially begun- and it promises to be bigger, bolder, and brighter.

by
M. Ramya Sri
II AI&ML

When Shine Betrays

The Hidden Cost of Polished Rice

by
Dr. L. Srinivasa Raju
Cancer Research

Dr. Jyothi (name changed), a 48-year-old lecturer from a reputed college in Vijayawada, has dedicated over two decades to teaching and mentoring students-many of them first-generation learners. As a single mother, her life revolves around balancing classes, academic reviews, thesis evaluations, and constant health checks-daily readings of blood pressure and blood sugar, meals skipped, and rest pushed aside.

"How's Pavan?" the campus nutritionist asks gently during their monthly wellness check. Pavan (also name changed) is Dr. Jyothi's 19-year-old son, a second-year engineering student in Guntur. Bright, thoughtful, and fiercely independent, he's her source of pride and strength. But lately, something's off.

"He's tired all the time," she admits. "Doesn't sleep well. Seems drained. He skips breakfast and mostly eats hostel food-polished white rice and chips."

She hesitates, her voice trailing off. The signs are there: dull skin, a lack of focus, frequent body aches, and a quiet flatness in his voice during late-night calls. What she once thought was just the pressure of college now feels like something more-early signs of metabolic fatigue, maybe even creeping pre-diabetes.

The nutritionist nods knowingly. She's seen it before-young people running on empty, living off quick carbs that give them nothing back. Polished white rice, so common

in hostel meals, is all shine and no strength. It fills the stomach, yes-but leaves behind no fiber, no magnesium, no real fuel for the body or mind. They sit with the quiet weight of that realization: sometimes illness doesn't show up in test results, that disease doesn't always announce itself. Sometimes it emerges in poor concentration, in a body that no longer wakes up alert, in hunger that lingers no matter how many meals. And for a boy just crossing into adulthood, and a mother who has witnessed too much decline in too many young minds, that truth now feels urgent.

The Silent Impact of a Shiny Grain

Polished rice, or white rice, is widely eaten for its soft texture and long shelf life. But the milling process that makes it look good also strips away its most important parts: the bran and germ. What's left is mostly starch-easy to cook but empty of the nutrients students really need to power through classes, late-night study sessions, and sports practice.

In the academic hubs of Guntur and Vijayawada, thousands of students arrive every year from across Andhra Pradesh and beyond. And for many of those students and young adults, especially those living away from home, food choices are often driven by taste and convenience. As a result, polished white rice becomes a staple in their diet. However, relying heavily on it can silently affect their health, as it offers little beyond empty calories and lacks the vital nutrients needed for energy, focus, and overall well-being during these crucial years of growth and learning.

Unpolished Rice: A Small Change, A Big Difference

Imagine a young student grabbing dinner after a long day. It's late, they're tired, and all they want is something fast and familiar-a plate of polished rice with some curry. But what if switching to unpolished (brown) rice could help them sleep better, stay sharper, and feel stronger?

Unpolished rice is rich in fiber, B vitamins, magnesium, and powerful antioxidants. It digests more slowly, keeping energy levels steady and preventing blood sugar spikes. That means fewer mood crashes, better focus, and more resilience over time.

Magnesium helps regulate how our cells use glucose-steering it toward healthy energy production instead of feeding the wrong kinds of growth, like in the early stages of disease. Antioxidants in the bran, like γ-oryzanol and ferulic acid, protect the body from damage and inflammation. Together, these nutrients act like a shield for the body and mind, quietly doing the work that polished rice simply can't.

Imagine a single cell in your body as a tiny factory, humming with energy to keep you running, laughing, and learning. These cellular factories rely on fuel - glucose and glutamine - to power their work. But sometimes, rogue cells, like those that could become cancerous, turn greedy. They gobble up glucose and glutamine in abundance, growing uncontrollably and threatening the harmony of the body. Here's where unpolished rice steps in, like a wise guide, gently steering these factories toward balance.

A 2024 study even showed that eating unpolished rice for just six weeks helped reduce waist size and body weight, while improving digestion and focus. For students, this could mean better performance in sports, stronger immunity, and fewer sick days.

Each bowl of unpolished rice meal is a small act of care for each student, a step toward a future free from worry.

Unlike polished rice, which loses its nutrient armor in the milling process, unpolished rice retains its natural goodness, offering a shield against diseases that prey on metabolic chaos. The fiber, about 3.5 grams per cup, keeps their digestive system running smoothly, preventing the bloating or constipation that can distract them during classes. It also promotes satiety, helping them feel full longer on smaller portions, which is crucial for maintaining a healthy weight during adolescence when peer pressure and body image concerns peak. Its lower GI helps regulate blood sugar, reducing the risk of type 2 diabetes, a growing concern even among younger populations.

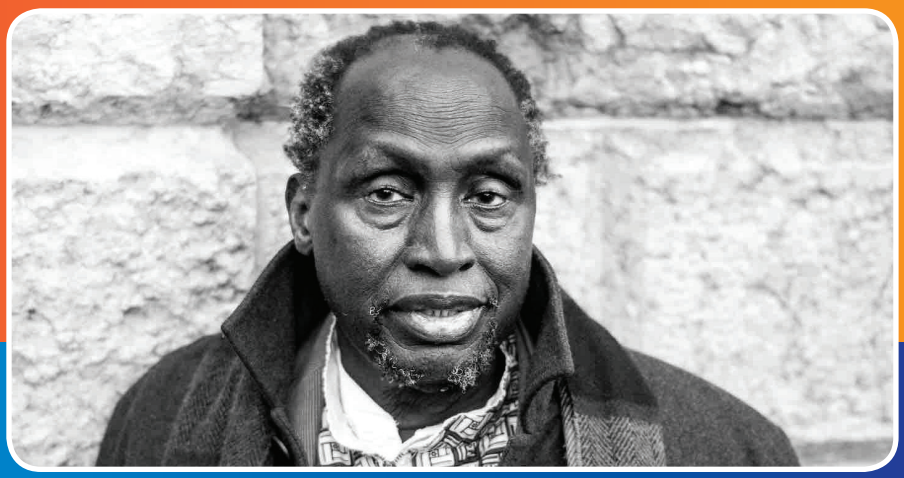
In the final reflection, there's a powerful metaphor. The moon, polished and glowing, seems flawless from afar-but its surface is lifeless and barren. The earth, rough and untamed, is where life blooms. Similarly, in our obsession with polished perfection-whether in food or lifestyle-we sometimes forget that the real nourishment lies in the unrefined, the grounded, the whole.

Choosing unpolished rice is more than a dietary decision. It's a step toward self-care, toward clarity, and toward balance. For students navigating some of the most challenging and defining years of their lives, this simple change can offer a powerful foundation-not just for academic success, but for lifelong wellness.

In each bite of unpolished rice lies a message: "Slow down. Feed your mind. Fuel your future."

Ngugi wa Thiong'o: A Titan of African Literature and Resistance

(5 January 1938 – 28 May 2025)



Africa's rich heritage of oral traditions, indigenous governance, and cultural practices was profoundly disrupted by European colonization beginning in the 15th century. Initially driven by trade, European powers later imposed violent colonial rule, leading to centuries of exploitation, cultural erosion, and political oppression. In Kenya, colonized by the British in the late 19th century and formally declared a colony in 1920, resistance culminated in the Mau Mau uprising of the 1950s. Led by figures like Jomo Kenyatta and Dedan Kimathi, this rebellion, though brutally suppressed, galvanized Kenya's path to independence in 1963 and inspired broader anti-colonial movements across Africa.

Against this backdrop of struggle and resilience emerged Ngugi wa Thiong'o (5 January 1938 – 28 May 2025), a Kenyan writer, scholar, and activist whose work became a cornerstone of African literature and decolonial thought. Deeply influenced by African oral storytelling, which he termed "orature," Ngugi viewed literature as a powerful tool for resistance and cultural reclamation. His early education at the Gikuyu Independent School, established in defiance of missionary control, instilled in him a lifelong commitment to indigenous values and self-determination.

Ngugi's literary career began with *Weep Not, Child* (1964), the first major English-language novel by an East African writer. This poignant work explored the personal and societal toll of British colonialism and the Mau Mau rebellion. *The River Between* (1965) examined the tensions between Christian missionary influence and Gikuyu traditions, while *A Grain of Wheat* (1967) offered a complex, multi-perspective narrative of Kenya's independence struggle. His 1977 novel *Petals of Blood* delivered a searing critique of neocolonialism, exposing post-independence corruption and the betrayal of nationalist ideals.

As a lecturer at the University of Nairobi, Ngugi championed the decolonization of academia. He played a pivotal role in transforming the English Department into the Department of African Literature and Languages, advocating for a curriculum rooted in African experiences and languages.

His radical 1977 play, *I Will Marry When I Want*, co-authored with Ngugi wa Mirii and performed by rural workers, confronted economic injustice and political repression. Its provocative message led to Ngugi's imprisonment without trial in 1977. While incarcerated, he made the transformative decision to abandon English as his primary literary language, writing *Devil on the Cross* (1980) in Gikuyu. This marked the beginning of his lifelong commitment to linguistic decolonization, emphasizing the power of African languages to resist cultural domination. Forced into exile after his release, Ngugi lived in the UK and later the United States, where he continued to write and advocate for African cultural sovereignty. His later works, including *Matigari* (1986), a satirical allegory of post-colonial Africa, and *Wizard of the Crow* (2006), a sprawling critique of authoritarianism, cemented his global influence. His memoirs, such as *Dreams in a Time of War* (2010), offered intimate reflections on his life and Kenya's turbulent history. In 2020, *The Perfect Nine*, an epic poem written in Gikuyu, made history as the first indigenous African-language work longlisted for the International Booker Prize, showcasing Ngugi's enduring commitment to his native tongue.

Ngugi wa Thiong'o passed away on 28 May 2025 in Buford, Georgia, but his legacy endures. As a literary giant, cultural crusader, and unrelenting advocate for African liberation, he harnessed the power of language and literature to reclaim and celebrate African identity. His work continues to inspire generations to resist oppression and embrace their cultural heritage.

by
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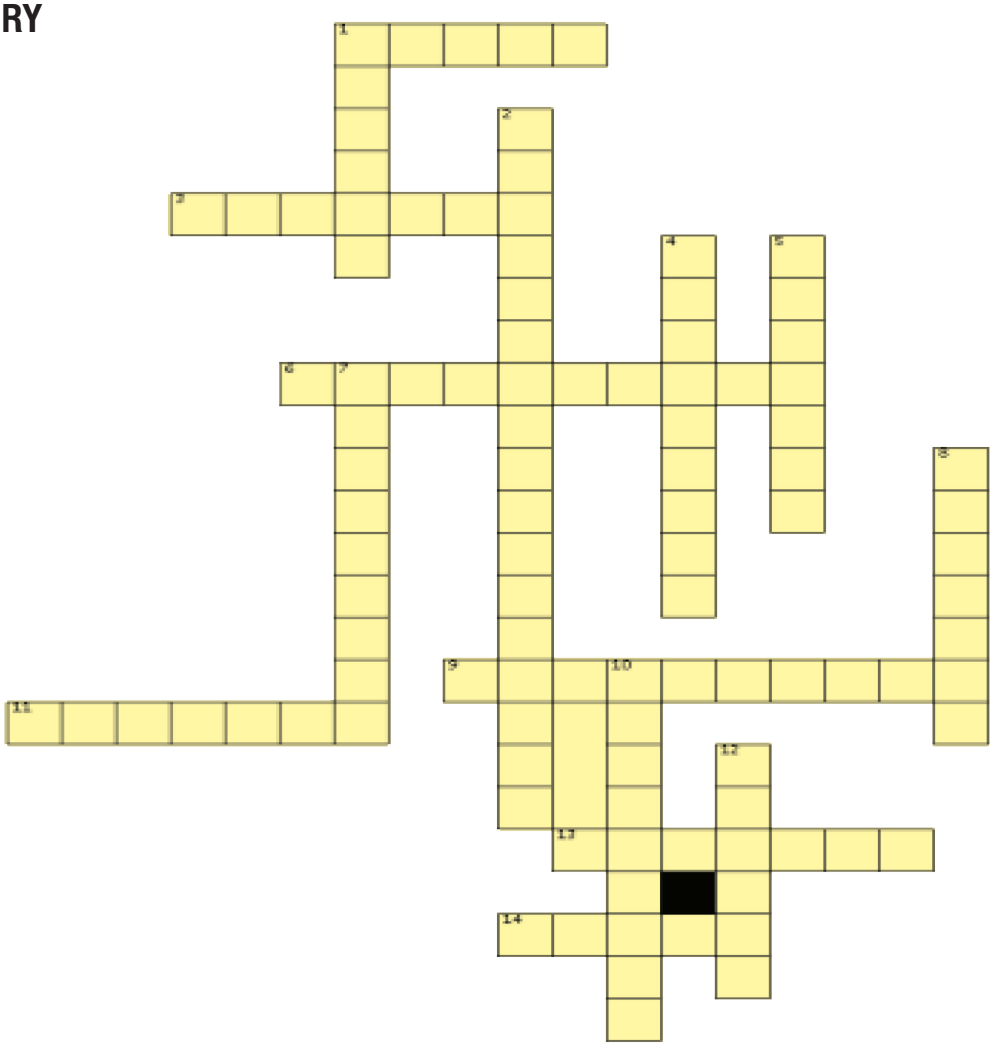
Publications - High Impact Factor Journals in May 2025

S. No.	Department	Name of the employee	Indexing	Title of Article	Journal Name	Impact factor
1	EEE	Dr. Polamraju V. S. Sobhan	SCIE	A Convolutional Neural Network Based Energy Management System For Photovoltaic/Battery Systems In Microgrid Using Enhanced Coati Optimization Approach	Journal Of Energy Storage	8.9
2	Law	Ms.G.S.S. Neeharika	Journal Law	Gift City : A New Tax Haven For The Aviation, Marine And Space Sectors - Legal And Regulatory Insights	International Journal Of Law Management And Humanities	6.725
3	Law	Ms.G.S.S. Neeharika	Journal Law	From Lab To Law: The Complex Interplay Of Gmos Biotechnology And Bioinformatics	International Journal Of Law Management And Humanities	6.725
4	CSE	Mr. Kirankumar Kaveti	scopus unpaid	Modern Machine Learning And Deep Learning Algorithms For Preventing Credit Card Frauds	Indonesian Journal Of Electrical Engineering And Computer Science	6.2
5	CSE	Mr. Sk. Sikindar	scopus unpaid	Optimizing Intrusion Detection With Triple Boost Ensemble For Enhanced Detection Of Rare And Evolving Network Attacks	International Journal Of Electrical And Electronic Engineering & Telecommunications	4.1
6	Pharmacy	Dr. Prathap M	SCIE	Formulation, Optimization, And Ex Vivo Permeation Study Of Ritonavir-Loaded Solid Lipid Nanoparticles	Current Pharmaceutical Design	2.6
7	Pharmacy	Dr. Mithun Rudrapal	SCIE	Plant Based Therapies To Ameliorate Neuroinflammationin Parkinsons disease, Alzheimers disease, Andepilepsy A Narrative review	Chemistry And Biodiversity	2.3
8	BSH	Dr. N. Bhargavi	SCI	Investigating Thermal Radiation On Thin Films Of Casson Cu Ni Al2O3/Water Nanofluids For Enhanced Solar Thermal Performance	Proceedings Of The Institution Of Mechanical Engineers Part C: Journal Of Mechanical Engineering Science	1.8
9	EEE	Dr. Polamraju V. S. Sobhan	SCIE	A Single Source Nine-Level Quadruple Boost Inverter With Optimized Switching Technique For Ev Applications	International Journal Of Circuit Theory And Applications	1.8
10	BSH	Dr. G. Dhana Lakshmi, Dr. P. Sudam Sekhar, Dr. Debnarayan Khatua, Dr. Yookesh T L	scopus unpaid	Fuzzy Modeling Of Boundary Value Problems For Bingham Plastic Fluid Flow Between Two Parallel Plates	International Journal Of Applied And Computational Mathematics	0.369
11	CSE	Mr. T Narasimha Rao	scopus unpaid	Revolutionizing Healthcare With Large Language Models: Advancements, Challenges, And Future Prospects In Ai-Driven Diagnostics And Decision Support	Journal Of Theoretical And Applied Information Technology	0.168
12	CSE	Ms. V. Sai Spandana	scopus unpaid	Image Based Plant Disease Classification Using Convolutional Neural Networks	Tanz Research Journal	0.1
13	MBA	Mr. D. Yedukondalu	ABDC	E Commerce Business Models: Success Factors And Market Trend	Journal Of Informatics Education And Research	0.1
14	MBA	Dr. S. Gopi Srinivasa Rao	ABDC	The Impact Of Organizational Culture On Employee Engagement And Job Satisfaction In The Hospitality Sector: A Structural Equation Modeling Approach	European Economic Letters	-
15	MBA	Dr. Venkata Siva Varma Ch	ABDC	Impact Of Green Human Resource Management On Organizational Environmental Performance At Employee Level	Journal Of Informatics Education And Research	-
16	MBA	Dr. T. Priyanka	ABDC	Ai In Leadership- Decision Making And Strategy Formulation	International Journal Of Commerce And Management Research	-
17	Pharmacy	Dr. Prathap M	scopus unpaid	Design And Optimization Fast Dissolving Tablets For Felodipine Using Response Surface Approach	Letters In Applied Nanobioscience	-
18	Law	Mr. Romil Aryan	Journal Law	Patent Evergreening In The Pharmaceutical Industry: Legal Loophole Or Strategic Innovation?	International Journal Of Legal Studies And Social Sciences	-

LABORATORY



Across

1. A laboratory container with a narrow neck, often used for heating or mixing chemicals.
3. A tool used to measure or transfer small volumes of liquid.
6. A tool used to observe objects too small to be seen with the naked eye.
9. A machine that separates substances based on density by spinning
11. A device used to measure the acidity or alkalinity of a solution.
13. A lab instrument used to measure mass accurately.
14. A thin flat piece of glass used to hold samples for microscope observation.

Down

1. Used to channel liquids or fine-grained substances into containers with a small openin.
2. A device used to measure the intensity of light absorbed by a sample.
4. A machine used to sterilize equipment and media using steam under pressure
5. A lab apparatus used to deliver precise volumes of liquid
7. A device used to maintain optimal temperature for growth of microorganisms.
8. Used to mix solutions, often magnetic or manual.
10. A process of determining the concentration of a substance in a solution.
12. A container used to mix, heat, or hold liquids in the lab.

ANSWERS

Across : 1. Flask, 3. Pipette, 6. Microscope, 9. Centrifuge, 11. Phmeter, 13. Balance, 14. Slide
Down : 1. Funnel, 2. Spectrophotometer, 4. Autoclave, 5. Burette, 7. Incubator, 8. Stirrer, 10. Titration, 12. Beaker

Knowledge Check

1. The redefinition of the kilogram in 2019 is based on which fundamental constant? human body?
   A) Avogadro's number B) Planck's constant
   C) Boltzmann's constant D) Gravitational constant

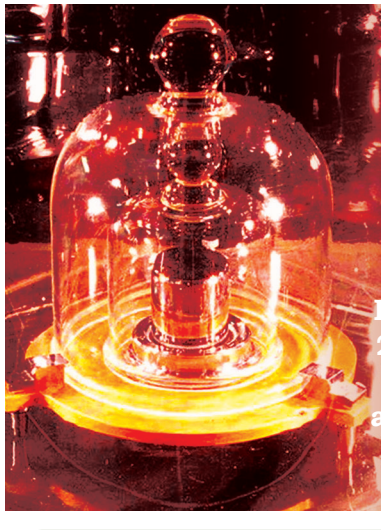
2. Which property of platinum makes it suitable for use in standard mass artifacts and high-precision laboratory instruments?
   A) High radioactivity B) High malleability
   C) Chemical inertness D) Magnetic susceptibility

3. Why was iridium alloyed with platinum in the original kilogram prototype?
   A) To make it radioactive B) To lower its melting point
   C) To increase hardness and reduce wear D) To increase corrosion

4. What is the modern method used to realize the kilogram since 2019?
   A) Watt balance (Kibble balance)
   B) Electrolysis
   C) Interferometry
   D) Cavendish experiment

5. Which international body is responsible for the definition and standardization of SI units, including the kilogram?
   A) UNESCOB) CERN
   C) BIPM D) ISO

Answers : *1. B) Planck's constant 2. C) Chemical inertness 3. C) To increase hardness and reduce wear 4. A) Watt balance (also known as Kibble balance) 5. C) BIPM (Bureau International des Poids et Mesures)*



Did you know?

Platinum is so chemically inert that it was used to create the standard international kilogram mass, which was a platinum-iridium alloy cylinder stored in France from 1889 to 2019. But in 2019, the kilogram was redefined - not by a physical object, but by a fundamental constant of nature: Planck's constant.

Call for Contributions to VOICE OF VIGNAN
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"The past has no power over the present moment" *– Eckhart Tolle*

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From the readers

An Evolving Experience at VFSTR

Being a student at VFSTR University has truly been a life-changing journey. It's more than just academics- VFSTR is where tradition meets innovation, and learning goes far beyond textbooks. The campus culture encourages critical thinking, creativity, and personal growth.

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The university's holistic approach integrates ethics, leadership, and teamwork into our learning. Failure is seen as part of the process, and exploration is always encouraged.

A heartfelt thanks to Voice Magazine for capturing the essence of campus life. Your stories remind us of the moments, lessons, and spirit that make VFSTR unforgettable.

by
G. Tapaswi
II CSE

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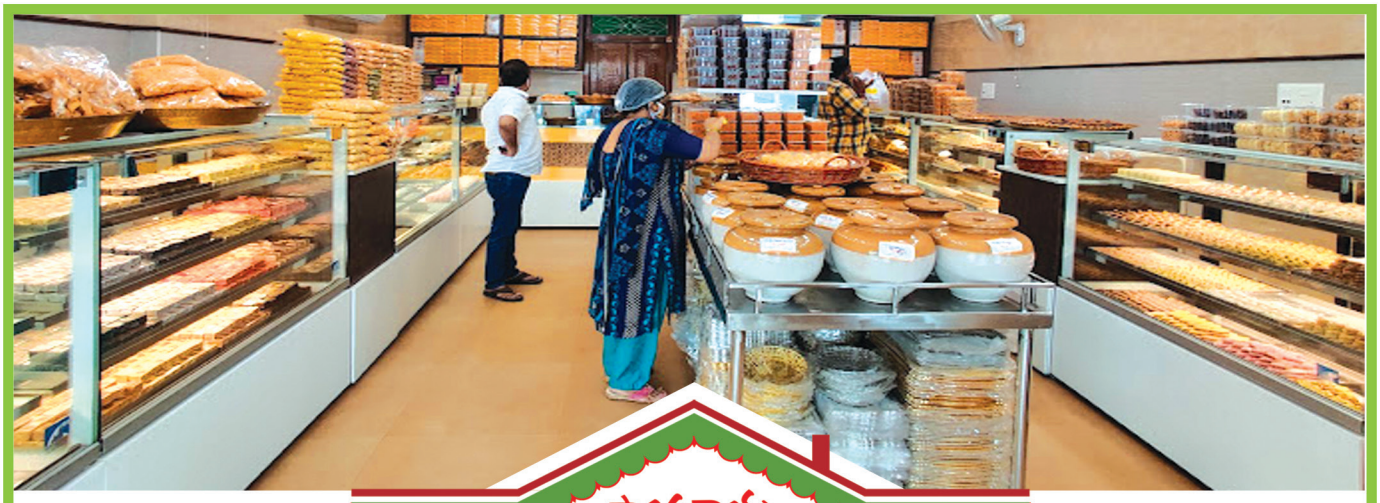

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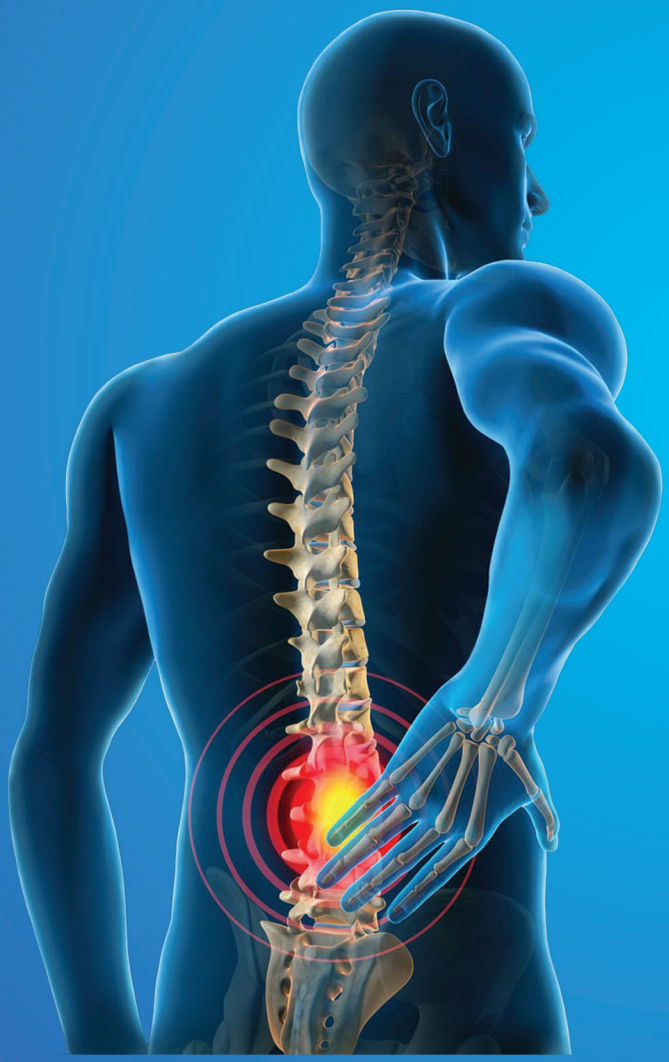

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