



Vision of the Department

To be recognized as a Centre of Excellence in the field of Computer Engineering where learners are nurtured in scholarly environment to evolve into competent Computer Engineering professionals to benefit society

Mission of the Department

1. Evolve a curriculum which emphasizes on strong engineering fundamentals with the flexibility to choose advanced courses of interest and gain exposure to tools and techniques in Computer Engineering.
2. Encourage a teaching-learning process in which highly competent faculty share a symbiotic association with the institutes of repute.
3. Facilitate creation and dissemination of knowledge through a digitally-enabled learning environment.
4. Develop academic and infrastructural facilities with modern equipment and other learning resources and encourage reciprocal sharing with other institutes through networking.
5. Establish a centre of excellence to enhance academia – industry partnership and work on collaborative projects.

Programme Educational Objectives (PEO)

1. To enable the pursuit of knowledge in the field of Computer Engineering and contribute to the profession and employability of the students.
2. To engage in research, generate the employment through entrepreneurship and work effectively in multidisciplinary environment.
3. To understand the human, social, ethical and environmental context of their profession and contribute positively to the needs of individuals and society at large.

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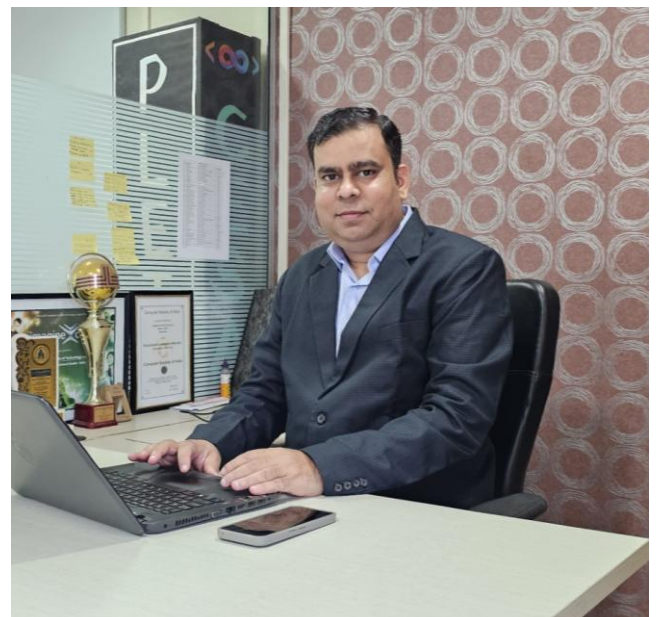
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DR. RAVINDRA SANGLE

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT, COMPUTER ENGINEERING

It gives me immense pleasure to present this edition of BYTES, which highlights the academic excellence, research contributions, and vibrant student activities of the Department of Computer Engineering. This issue showcases faculty achievements in research, professional development, and scholarly service, alongside the accomplishments of our students and alumni. Through initiatives by CSI-VIT and GDG-VIT, including hackathons, technical competitions, speaker sessions, and innovation-driven events, our students continue to strengthen their technical, leadership, and problem-solving skills. These experiences, combined with industry exposure and experiential learning, prepare them to excel in a rapidly evolving technological landscape. As we embrace emerging areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, and Cloud Computing, we remain committed to nurturing competent, innovative, and socially responsible engineers. I congratulate all contributors to this edition and wish our students, faculty, and alumni continued success in their future endeavors.





The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write,
but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn

— Alvin Toffler



DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

- Dr. Suja Jayachandran delivered an expert session on “Large Language Models in Clinical Applications” during the ISTE-approved FDP on AI & Machine Learning for Engineering and Healthcare Applications organized by VIT.
- Dr. Suja Jayachandran serves as a reviewer for reputed Scopus-indexed journals, including Scientific Reports, Discover Artificial Intelligence, and Computers & Education: Artificial Intelligence.
- Dr. Suja Jayachandran successfully completed the AI-Driven Software Development STTP (Pantech & SVNIT) and the NPTEL FDP on Introduction to Soft Computing.
- Dr. Suvarna Bhat served as a Session Chair at the International Conference on Smart Systems for Sustainable Development 2026.
- Dr. Suvarna Bhat contributes as a reviewer for leading Scopus-indexed journals, including Artificial Intelligence Review, Signal, Image and Video Processing, and BMC Oral Health.
- Dr. Suvarna Bhat is an Editorial Board Member of the peer-reviewed journal Academic Trends and Innovative Research.
- Dr. Suvarna Bhat participated in the national workshop on “Machine Learning for Image Processing: Fundamentals, Recent Advances, and Real-World Applications” organized by VIT Vellore.
- Mr. Mahesh Ashok Khandke presented a research paper on satellite image deblurring using Deep Learning and Walrus Optimization at ICICGR 2026.
- Mr. Mahesh Ashok Khandke successfully completed the AI-Driven Software Development STTP organized by Pantech Solutions in collaboration with SVNIT, Surat. Also participated in the FDP on “AI-Driven NLP & LLMs for Sustainability” organized by VESIT in association with the Institution’s Innovation Council (IIC).
- Dr. Amit K. Nerurkar, Dr. Swapnil Sonawane, Dr. Sanjeev Dwivedi, Dr. Ravindra Sangle successfully completed the AI-Driven Software Development 1 Month Internship organized by Pantech Solutions in collaboration with SVNIT, Surat.
- Dr. Swapnil Sonawane served as a Session Chair at ICICT 2026, providing insightful moderation and contributing significantly to the success of the conference.
- Dr. Amit K. Nerurkar successfully completed the 12-week NPTEL course on Computer Networks and Internet Protocol with an Elite certification, ranking among the top 2% of learners nationwide.
- Dr. Ravindra Sangle, Dr. Amit K. Nerurkar, Dr. Swapnil Sonawane, Dr. Sanjeev Dwivedi presented the research paper “A Review of Secure Health Tracking Using Smart Technology” and received the Best Paper Presentation (Virtual) Award at the 9th International Conference on Multi-Disciplinary Research Studies and Education (ICMDRSE-2026), held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Department Staff

MRS. SONALI SURVE

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE



EDUCATION QUALIFICATION:

B. Com

WORKING EXPERIENCE:

9 YEARS

AREA OF SPECIALIZATION:

Excel & Advanced Excel

MS-Office

Google Workspace

MS. SAYLI PATIL

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE



EDUCATION QUALIFICATION:

B.M.S (Bachelor of Management Studies)

WORKING EXPERIENCE:

1 Year

AREA OF SPECIALIZATION:

Excel & Advanced Excel

Tally ERP 9

Advanced Tally with GST

“

The important thing is not to stop questioning.
Curiosity has its own reason for existing.
— Albert Einstein

”

Student's Speak

MINAKSHI SAHOO

I joined Vidyalankar Institute of Technology in September 2024, and my journey here has been one of learning, growth, and self-discovery. As a student of the Computer Engineering Department, I have had the privilege of being part of a department that not only emphasizes academic excellence but also encourages students to explore opportunities beyond the classroom. The seamless coordination between the faculty, staff, and students creates an environment that is both supportive and inspiring, making every student feel valued and motivated to achieve their best.

The Computer Engineering Department has provided me with numerous opportunities to learn, innovate, and develop holistically. Beyond imparting technical knowledge, the department has fostered a culture of collaboration, curiosity, and continuous improvement. I take immense pride in being a part of a department that consistently strives to nurture students both academically and personally.



Minakshi Sahoo
SE-B

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Ravindra Sangle Sir, our Head of Department, whose visionary leadership and dedication have created a progressive, student-centric environment that promotes academic excellence, innovation, and holistic development.

I am also deeply thankful to Dr. Amit Nerurkar Sir and Dr. Sachin Deshpande Sir for their invaluable guidance throughout my journey at VIT. Through CSI VIT and TEDxVIT, Dr. Amit Nerurkar Sir constantly encouraged me to step beyond my comfort zone, challenge myself, and strive for excellence, significantly contributing to my academic, technical, and personal growth. I am equally grateful to Dr. Sachin Deshpande Sir for his mentorship through TEDxVIT, which helped me develop confidence, professionalism, leadership, and teamwork skills. My involvement with CSI VIT and TEDxVIT has been among the most defining aspects of my college life. CSI VIT strengthened my technical foundation while providing opportunities to organize events, collaborate with peers, and develop leadership and teamwork skills. TEDxVIT broadened my perspective by allowing me to work with creators, entrepreneurs, and distinguished personalities, giving me valuable exposure to large-scale event management, communication, networking, and professional growth.

The Credit Transfer Courses offered during the summer break after the fourth semester were another enriching experience. They provided the flexibility to pursue courses aligned with our interests and career goals while offering practical learning from industry experts. These courses effectively bridged the gap between academics and industry expectations, equipping us with valuable skills and insights.

My experience with the Cultural Council was equally rewarding, teaching me teamwork, coordination, adaptability, responsibility, and the importance of working with people from diverse backgrounds. These experiences contributed immensely to my personal development and appreciation for collaboration.

I would also like to thank every faculty and staff member of the Computer Engineering Department for their constant support, guidance, and genuine concern for student growth and well-being. Looking back, I realize that VIT has given me much more than an education—it has provided me with opportunities, mentors, experiences, and values that will remain with me for a lifetime. I am truly proud and grateful to be a part of the Vidyalankar family and the Computer Engineering Department, which has played a vital role in shaping both my academic journey and my personality.

--Minakshi Sahoo (SE-B)

“

The meaning of life is to find your gift.
The purpose of life is to give it away
— Pablo Picasso

”

KNOW AN ALUMNUS: Srishti Agrawal

They say you get ahead by standing on the shoulders of giants. What no one tells you is that the giants have to be willing to bend down and lift you up first; and at VIT, mine did.

I graduated from the Computer Engineering department in 2021. Like a lot of students, I came in unsure of exactly where the degree would take me, and left with a foundation that turned out to matter more than I realized at the time.

Today, I am a PhD student in Human-Computer Interaction at Purdue University and a Doctoral Researcher at the DVC Lab. My research looks at how to build better human-technology relationships, and sits at the intersection of human-AI trust calibration, digital communities, and cognition. It's a mix of computer science and the more human, qualitative side of research: not just how technology works, but how it actually affects the people using it.



Srishti Agrawal

Along the way I have been fortunate to publish and present work at venues like CHI (Yokohama, Japan, 2025), NeurIPS 2024, ASSETS (New York, USA, 2023), and IDC (Chicago, USA, 2023), among others. Before this, I worked at the Military Family Research Institute, was part of NASA's Mars mission, and contributed to several other projects that I am incredibly proud and grateful for. I also interned at several places, many of which VIT first opened the doors to.

Looking back, a lot of where I've ended up traces directly to the teachers and the department that shaped me. I'm grateful to Vice Principal Dr. Varsha Bhosle, whose presence and guidance set a tone for the whole department. I owe a great deal to Dr. Dilip Motwani, who was not only a teacher but also the person who sparked my curiosity for cybersecurity and blockchain. Dr. Motwani has remained a constant mentor I can reach out to and count on to this day. I'm equally grateful to Dr. Nerurkar, who taught me the value of stepping beyond the syllabus, whether through CSI VIT or TEDx, and whose steady belief and support are a big part of the confidence I carry today. Amadas Sir instilled a sense of discipline that has stayed with me.

Prof. Amit Aylani introduced me to HCI, the field I've now built my career around. And many other teachers at VIT have quietly shaped me; the CMPN department as a whole offered guidance, encouragement, and memories I'm still grateful for. My time at VIT let me meet wonderful people and good friends; some of whom are still the people I count on to this day. The CMPN department gave me more than a degree; it gave me people who believed in me before I had any reason to believe in myself, and a place that felt like it was rooting for me every step of the way. That's not something every institution can claim, and it's something I carry with pride.

To the students reading this: it's okay to not have it all figured out; but stay true, stay curious, and stay determined to work toward something. Find a goal you're genuinely passionate about, one that brings you happiness and gives back to society. I'm always happy to connect with anyone walking a similar road.

--Srishti Agrawal (CMPN, 2017-2021)

“

The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education

— Martin Luther King Jr.

”

GDG: The Last Standing Ronin

APRIL 01, 2026



The event successfully fostered a competitive and engaging learning environment through an anime-themed coding competition featuring multiple elimination rounds. Participants tackled debugging, data structures and algorithms (DSA), and rapid problem-solving challenges, enhancing their coding proficiency, analytical thinking, and creativity. The competition promoted technical excellence, confidence, teamwork, and healthy competition among students while making learning both interactive and enjoyable.

GDG: The Age of AI Agents : Speaker Session

APRIL 02, 2026

“The Age of AI Agents” successfully introduced students to the rapidly evolving domain of Agentic AI and autonomous systems, providing valuable insights into the future of intelligent technologies. The session enhanced participants' understanding of AI agents, automation workflows, decision-making mechanisms, and real-world applications across various industries. It encouraged critical thinking about the opportunities and challenges associated with autonomous systems while inspiring students to explore innovation, research, entrepreneurship, and career pathways in Artificial Intelligence. The event fostered curiosity, technical awareness, and a deeper appreciation of the transformative potential of intelligent systems in solving complex real-world problems



GDG: The Way of Ghost: Bluff & Bid

APRIL 03, 2026



The Way of Ghost: Bluff & Bid” successfully blended coding, strategy, and decision-making into a unique and engaging competitive experience that enhanced participants' analytical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving abilities. The event encouraged students to think beyond conventional coding challenges by applying logic, confidence, adaptability, and strategic planning in high-pressure situations. Through interactive rounds involving critical thinking and calculated decision-making, participants developed resilience, communication skills, and the ability to make informed choices under uncertainty.

The competition fostered creativity, healthy competition, and collaborative learning while providing an enjoyable platform for students to strengthen both their technical and interpersonal skills.



The science of today is the technology of tomorrow
— Edward Teller



GDG: The Invasion: 12-Hour Hackathon

APRIL 04, 2026

The “HackBuild 2026 – 12 Hour Hackathon,” organized by Google Developer Groups On Campus VIT in collaboration with GDG UMIT, successfully brought together students from diverse technical backgrounds to solve real-world problems through innovation and technology. The event fostered a collaborative environment where participants worked in teams to brainstorm ideas, design scalable solutions, and develop functional prototypes within a limited timeframe, simulating an industry-level development experience.



CSI-VIT ENTHUSIA: FLAGSHIP

MARCH-APRIL 2026



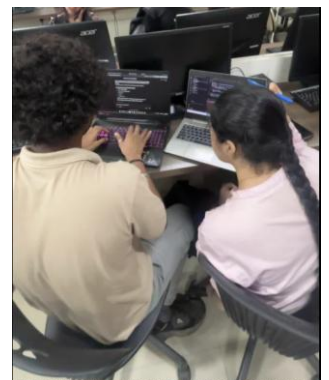
Design Paradox: Design Paradox encouraged creativity, innovation, and user-centric thinking through unique UI/UX and product design challenges. Participants showcased their skills in branding, storytelling, and problem-solving while collaborating to create impactful design solutions. The event successfully promoted a strong culture of design excellence and innovation.

MindMare: MindMare enhanced participants' strategic thinking, teamwork, and decision-making skills through engaging, high-pressure challenges. The event encouraged analytical thinking, adaptability, and effective communication while fostering healthy competition. It successfully combined entertainment with intellectual growth and collaborative learning.



Parallax: Parallax provided an immersive hacker-escape experience that strengthened teamwork, communication, and logical reasoning. Participants solved progressively challenging puzzles under time constraints, simulating real-world troubleshooting scenarios. The event effectively blended gamification with technical problem-solving and collaboration.

Grid Rush: Grid Rush promoted algorithmic thinking, coding efficiency, and advanced problem-solving through challenging Sudoku-based competitions. Participants demonstrated strong logical reasoning and optimized solutions for complex constraints. The event successfully fostered technical excellence, innovation, and inter-collegiate collaboration.





We tend to overestimate the effect of a technology in the short run and underestimate the effect in the long run.

— Roy Amara



STUDENT ARTICLE BY SOUMITRA RAJGURU : AI Is Not the Bubble , LLMs Might Be: Are We Mistaking LLMs for AI?

Ask ten people what AI is today, they will most likely mention ChatGPT, Gemini, or Claude. But is AI just only a chatbot? It is very easy to think “AI = LLMs” right now because ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude dominate the conversations. But Large Language Models are just one specific neighbourhood within a massive, decades-old metropolis.

Artificial Intelligence is the broader field of building systems that can perform tasks that normally require human intelligence. LLMs are only one part of this much larger field, alongside computer vision, robotics, reinforcement learning, optimization, and many other fields.

LLMs becoming “AI” wasn’t a sudden change in the underlying mathematics. It was a massive shift in public psychology, combined with a brilliantly timed user interface and a corporate marketing gold rush.

Language has always been our ultimate benchmark for intelligence. Earlier AI milestones like IBM’s Deep Blue and Google’s AlphaGo impressed us, but we still viewed them as powerful calculators. Language changed that. When AI began communicating, writing code, and explaining ideas in plain English, it crossed a psychological threshold and felt more human.

LLMs existed before 2022, but ChatGPT made them accessible through a simple chat interface. Yet, AI has always been part of our lives—Google Maps predicts traffic, Netflix recommends content, and hospitals use AI for medical imaging. None of these systems are LLMs.

If AI is much broader than LLMs, why do they dominate the conversation? History provides an answer. During the dot-com era, companies flourished simply because they were associated with the internet. Many failed, but the technology itself transformed the world. Revolutionary technologies rarely fail; unrealistic expectations often do. Today, every organization wants to be “AI-powered,” and LLMs have become the public face of AI because they are easy to demonstrate and understand. This does not mean AI is overhyped—it means one visible application is receiving most of the attention.

At the same time, organizations are beginning to ask whether LLMs justify their computational, financial, and energy costs. Not every problem needs a language model. Fraud detection uses anomaly detection, recommendation systems use specialized algorithms, and autonomous vehicles depend on computer vision and sensor fusion.

Large Language Models have made AI accessible to millions, but they are only one part of a much larger field. The future of AI will also include robotics, computer vision, reinforcement learning, and intelligent systems solving problems we have yet to imagine.

As engineers, our goal should not be limited to learning prompts. We must understand the broader landscape of Artificial Intelligence and identify where each technique creates the greatest impact. Chatbots may be our first interaction with AI, but they should be the beginning of the journey, not the destination.

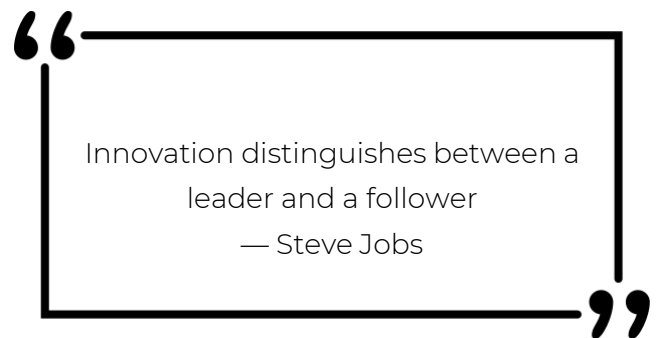
--Soumitra Rajguru (SE C)



SOUMITRA RAJGURU
SE-C

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **FDP ON CYBER SECURITY AND DATA PROTECTION IN THE DIGITAL ERA: UNDERSTANDING THE DPDP ACT WILL BE HOSTED IN JULY 2026.**
- **ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR ODD SEMESTER OF 2026-27 WILL BE CONDCUTED IN JULY 2026.**
- **CSI-VIT WILL HOST PODCAST ON EMERGING TRENDS AND TECHNOLOGIES IN JULY 2026.**
- **CSI-VIT WILL HOST CXO MEET IN COOLABORATION WITH CYBERFRAT IN AUGUST 2026.**



THE EDITORIAL TEAM

DR. AMIT K. NERURKAR
Chief Editor