



# Newsletter May '23

## *Congratulations*



**Dr.G.V.SELVAM**

Congratulations to our beloved Vice-President Dr. GV Selvam for his successful completion of PhD

## *Highlights*

- Stars Day
- Campaign Against Drug Abuse
- Workshop on importance of Reptile Conservation and Breeding Program
- Turtle Day

# STARS DAY

27/05/2023

Anna Auditorium



The 6th Annual STARS meet was held with great enthusiasm and excitement on the 27th of May 2023. The STARS Day celebration serves as one of the numerous philanthropic activities undertaken by Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) in its ongoing commitment towards the development of its students. This event marks a significant milestone in the institution's efforts to support meritorious yet financially disadvantaged children by providing them with a comprehensive support. The STARS initiative is an ambitious scheme designed to offer deserving students a 100% fee waiver for

their academic and hostel facilities, and basic medical expenses. 212 STARS students from the class of class of 2021 & 2022 were given free laptops. Since its inception in 2008, this commendable program has successfully benefitted a total of 871 students. As a token of giving back to the institute, nearly 10 STARS alumni students handed over a cheque of INR. 11.36 Lakhs towards Universal Higher Education Trust. Honourable Chancellor Dr. G. Viswanathan delivered the Presidential Address urged the students to have individuality and show character. Mr. Sankar Viswanathan - Vice President, Ms. Kadhambari S. Viswanathan - Assistant Vice President, Dr. T. Jayabarathi - Registrar - VIT, Dr. Samuel Rajkumar - Director, Career Development Centre, Dr. C.D. Naiju - Director, Students' Welfare, Dr. S. Meenakshi STARS Coordinator addressed the gathering.



STARS day witnessed the esteemed presence of Tmt. J. Innocent Divya I.A.S., Managing Director of Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation. She expressed her profound admiration for the occasion, describing it as magical and heartwarming. Her words resonated with the audience, further uplifting the spirits of the participants. Er. Elavarasu Krishnan, Vice President - Product Development at Dell Technologies and an illustrious alumnus of VIT, graced the occasion as

the guest of honour. In his address to the students, he emphasized the importance of giving back to society generously. Drawing from his experiences, he urged the young minds to utilize their knowledge and skills acquired at VIT to make a positive impact on the world around them. His inspiring words served as a guiding light, for the students to become active contributors to the betterment of society.

# CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRUG ABUSE

05/05/2023

Men's Hostel



On May 5, 2023, the Office of Students' Welfare at VIT Vellore took a significant step towards combating drug abuse by organizing a signature drive named "Say No To Drugs" as part of the Campaign Against Drug Abuse (CASA) at VIT Men's Hostel near Atal Bihar Vajpayee Block (Q-Block). This drive aimed to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of drug abuse and its impact on individuals and society as a whole. The event received a distinguished inauguration by the esteemed presence of the Pro Vice Chancellor, Dr. Partha Sarathi Mallick, who signed a large signboard to commemorate the occasion in the

presence of Office of Students' Welfare team, men's hostel officials. Following the inauguration, students were actively encouraged to express their opinions on drug abuse and contribute to the cause by signing the signboard as a pledge to steer clear of drugs and advocate for healthier lifestyle choices. The event witnessed an impressive turnout, with a multitude of students engaging in vibrant discussions and participating wholeheartedly in various activities.

The CASA event was a resounding success, effectively disseminating awareness about the perils associated with drug abuse while promoting the importance of embracing healthier alternatives. It not only emphasized the need to address drug abuse as a pressing public health concern but also fostered a culture of consciousness and support within the student community at VIT Vellore. The initiative encouraged students to take a proactive stance against drug abuse and instilled in them a sense of responsibility towards their own well-being and the well-being of their peers.

By organizing the "Say No To Drugs" signature drive, VIT Vellore's Office of Students' Welfare demonstrated its commitment to nurturing a drug-free environment and fostering a generation of informed and responsible individuals. The event acted as a powerful reminder that collective efforts are crucial in overcoming the challenges posed by drug abuse and in building a healthier and safer society for all.



# WORKSHOP ON IMPORTANCE OF REPTILE CONSERVATION AND BREEDING PROGRAM

20/05/2023

Sathanur, Tiruvannamalai district, Tamil Nadu

The Nature Club, organized a workshop in Sathanur village of Tiruvannamalai district, Tamil Nadu in association with TNFD and BCF. The workshop aimed to highlight the importance of reptile conservation and breeding programs. To kick off the event, a team of 47 students and a faculty coordinator set out from the VIT Vellore campus at 6:00 am on May 20, 2023. Dr. V Sai Saraswathi, the faculty coordinator, guided the students throughout the site, providing briefings about the various reptiles and bird species found in the area.

During the expedition, the students had the opportunity to spot various reptiles, including crocodiles, as well as pigeons, and several fish species such as Asian Arowana, Oranda, and Oscar. At the Sathanur Crocodile Park, the workshop transitioned into an interactive session led by Dr. Kalairasan, a senior herpetologist and the director of Snake Park. Dr. Kalairasan shared insights into crocodile breeding and feeding mechanisms, techniques for identifying breeding spots, reptiles' ability to protect themselves from predators, and the water conservation program implemented at the Sathanur Dam. The students actively engaged with the resource person, asking questions and seeking clarification about reptile breeding and conservation.

The workshop concluded around 3:30 p.m., providing an enriching experience for the participants. The session not only covered theoretical aspects but also included practical demonstrations. Dr. Kalairasan took the lead in explaining reptile conservation and breeding mechanisms, as well as the water conservation strategies implemented at the Sathanur Dam. The students gained extensive knowledge about reptile breeding and feeding techniques, the significance of reptile conservation, species adaptability within ecosystems considering factors such as temperature and food availability, and habitat suitability.

Overall, the workshop cum interactive session successfully educated the students about reptile conservation and management, equipping them with both theoretical and practical knowledge. The event concluded on a positive note, and the team returned to the VIT Vellore campus by 7:00 p.m.



# TURTLE DAY

23/05/2023

Guindy National Park



On 23rd May 2023, Nature Club organized a visit to Guindy National Park and Snake Park, Chennai on the occasion of Turtle Day which was attended by a group of 37 nature enthusiasts along with Dr. Sai Saraswathi. The conservation of turtles was instigated by the Mr. Kalaivedhan, forest ranger, Guindy Children's Park, Chennai and his team. Mr. C. S. Kooteswaran, Chief Editor of DT next facilitated our students with importance of conservation of turtles in marine life and its impact on the ecosystem, verge to extinction of Olive Ridley Turtle and their conservation strategies demonstrated through video. A thorough understanding of turtle conservation, reptile conservation includes

snake and crocodile. Guindy Snake Park officials presented their knowledge about the identification mark of venomous and non-venomous snakes. A complete lecture about the reptile kingdom was given by Dr. Aengles, Scientist, ZSI, Govt. of India. Students visited the 3D animated augmented centre to know more about the species behaviour. By observing the clay models of those species, students gained a comprehensive understanding of the various bird and animal species living in different ecosystem. The Conservation of the Olive Ridley Turtle at the Forest Department hatcheries, East Coast Road, Chennai were well explained through documentary video by Forest Ranger and his team. Students also observed all three crocodile species present in India. After stepping into the museum, they were greeted by the sight of specimen immersed in preservative chemicals. With the rangers closely overseeing their activities, the students had the unique opportunity to hold and touch a snake firsthand.

Participants got a complete idea of understanding the natural behaviour of snakes and their habitat. The distinction between venomous and non-venomous snakes was enlightened to them. Species identification, handling of numerous snakes-both venomous and non-venomous is cultivated on a larger extent.

Furthermore, the significance of Turtle Conservation was highlighted in the renowned DT Next Newsprint publication. The article emphasized the importance of preserving and protecting this endangered species, shedding light on the various conservation efforts in place to safeguard Turtles and their fragile habitats.



# EVENTS OF THE MONTH

## International Labour Day

**Uzhaippin karangal  
Tamil Literary Association**

A poster making competition where an art of A4 paper size either hand drawn, or e-posters was expected followed by the explanation of the same in the written format emphasizing the theme "Recognising the labourers/working class" was to be submitted by participants in the google form given.

## PyM-OL the way!

**ALPHA BIO CELL (ABC) (CLUB)**

A pymol workshop taken by Saniya Dhadge(Research head) included the introduction of Pymol from scratch i.e. from the installation to the analysis of various molecules and what can you learn from the results.

## SOS Conversation

**SMILE OVER STRESS (SOS) (CLUB)**

An online event intended to bring out a conversation on "Solitude vs Loneliness.", by discussion. The participants can join the conversation by sharing their points of view on the topic. It was an interactive session where they can interact with each other by maintaining the discussion.

## Raise the Redlight: Speak for A Cause

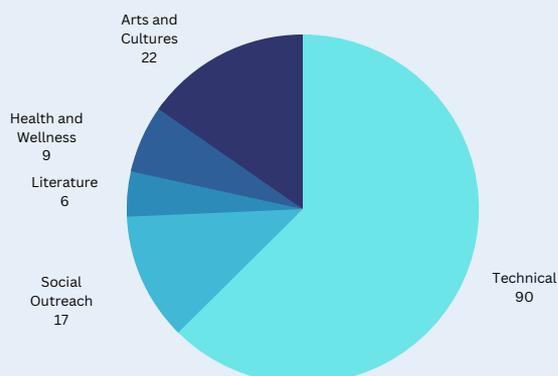
**THE HINDU EDUCATION PLUS CLUB (THEPC)  
(CLUB)**

The event was conducted as an offline public forum where participants were encouraged to share their opinions on substance abuse based on given prompts. The event promotes open dialogue, spreading awareness and supporting the campaign against substance abuse.

## CASA : Harmful effects of substance Use and prevention:

**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL  
ENGINEERS (ASME) (CHAPTER)**

ASME-VIT organized a CASA (Campaign Against Substance Abuse) event on the Harmful Effects of Substance Abuse and Prevention. by our honourable guest speaker, Dr. Perna Maheshwari, MBBS, MD Psychiatry, National Institute Mental Health and Neuroscience, Bangalore, as she spoke of the truth about this societal scourge which is wreaking chaos in the lives of our people and society by large.



# EMINENT TALKS



Dr. **Sahana Punashetty** is an MBBS, MS OBG, Mch Gynaecology, and Oncology. She is also an Assistant Professor at the Department of Gynaecology and Oncology at Christian Medical College, Vellore, Tamil Nadu. She guided students about She health in an event **Fem Talk** organized by **Biotech Research Society of India**.



Dr. **Monica T** is an MBBS, MS OBG, Mch Gynaecology, and Oncology. She is also an assistant Professor at Department of Gynaecologic and Oncology at Christian Medical College, Vellore, Tamil Nadu. She guided students about She health in an event **Fem Talk** organized by **Biotech Research Society of India**.



Dr. **Neerja Thergaonkar** is Senior Clinical Psychologist for NICU and Oncology at Addenbrooke's Hospital, United Kingdom. She has been working as a consultant child & adolescent psychologist for the past 21 years. Her work primarily consists of neurodevelopment assessments, working with children with developmental delay, autism, ADHD, learning disability, cerebral palsy to name a few. She talked about She health in an event **Fem Talk** organized by **Biotech Research Society of India**.

Mr. **Jayant Vishnu Nanduri** is a fourth-year Computer Science student at VIT Vellore and a terrific coder. Along with being winner of the Smart India Hackathon, he has also won many hackathons organised by VIT. He was ex-intern at Samsung Prism and is currently interned with a Japanese company. He was a guest speaker for a **IEEE-PCS** event, **Code Connect** to mentor students.



Dr. **Akella Sivaramakrishna** is a Higher Academic Grade Professor in the Department of Chemistry at VIT Vellore. His main areas of research include polymeric sciences and organometallic chemistry, among others. He has more than a decade of experience working in the field of research and education. He is known for his approachability, intellect and kindness among the students. He was speaker for the event **Nexus** organized by **SIGMA XI**.

# EMINENT TALKS



**Dr. Rita Bhattacharjee** is a Counselling Psychologist, Head Counselling Division at VIT Vellore. She spoke about the various forms of substance abuse and their effects on individuals and society. She also discussed the importance of seeking help and support for those struggling with addiction. The event was well-attended and the audience was thoroughly engaged throughout the lecture. She was speaker for the event **CASA: Molecular Minds** organized by **Society of Petroleum Engineers**.

**Dr. Radhakrishnan Delhibabu** is an Associate Professor at the School of Computer Science in VIT Vellore. His main areas of research include applied mathematics, theoretical computer science, machine learning and artificial intelligence. He has a plethora of experience in various roles, from engineer, entrepreneur to researcher. He has studied in at taught at some of the most prestigious institutes in the world, often assuming positions of responsibility. He was speaker for the event **Vanguard** organized by **SIGMA XI**.



**Mr. Raju Mahadevan** is the director of techno specialist consulting engineers at Ernakulam. He is specialised in tensile structures. He has extensive knowledge about steel and tensile structures. Our esteemed speaker dives deep into the applications of steel structures in modern construction, highlighting their strength, versatility, and durability in the event **The Strength of Steel: Exploring the Design and Construction of Steel Structures** organized by **American Society of Civil Engineers**.

**Dr. K. V. Sathish** is a researcher at the National Remote Sensing Centre, ISRO. He is specialized in the field of ecosystem ecology, conservation biology, climate change and systematic botany. His work majorly focuses on forest dynamics, species distribution modelling, remote sensing biodiversity, protected area management, climate change vulnerability and phenology of Himalayan forests. He mentored students in the event **Habitat Suitability Modelling for Biodiversity Conservation and Management** by **Nature's Club**.



# EMINENT TALKS



Mr. **Eshwar Sundar** is a VIT alumnus and Software Engineer II at Microsoft, was speaker for the event **From campus to Corporation** by **IEEE-SSIT** on May 1st for an engaging discussion on his YouTube channel, focusing on the coding journey, roadmap, and how to make it in the tech industry. Leveraging his personal experiences and industry expertise, Eshwar provided valuable insights and guidance for aspiring programmers. He emphasized the importance of having a clear roadmap and direction when starting a coding journey.

Mr. **Gunjan Madaan** is a Software Engineer at Microsoft. She shared her expertise and insights on dealing with layoffs and how to overcome them in the tech industry through a discussion on **IEEE-SSIT** YouTube channel for the event **Navigating to the job market post Layoffs**. She highlighted the importance of maintaining a positive mindset and viewing layoffs as opportunities for personal and professional growth. She advised individuals to engage in self-reflection and assess their skills, continuously learn and stay updated with industry trends, network and build relationships within the tech community.



Dr. **Kavitha Fenn Arunkumar**, MBBS, DPM, DNB is the Executive Director and Consultant Psychiatrist at Hannah Joseph Hospital, Madurai, Tamil Nadu. She supports the hospital's human resources division in addition to practising psychiatry there. She educated and sensitized the students about the comorbidity of substance abuse and other psychiatric disorders and related aspects in the event **Drug abuse towards comorbidities and psychiratic disorders-An Alarm** by **Nature's Club**.

Mr. **Bhavin Shah** is Founder and CEO, SQVe Consultants and a passionate and experienced engineer with two decades of diverse engineering expertise, envisions enhancing the engineering profession through his multidisciplinary background and leadership roles, while actively promoting knowledge sharing and conducting research on earthquake-resistant design using buckling restrained braces. He talked about exciting advancements and emerging trends that are shaping the future of civil engineering in an event **Building tomorrow** by **American Society of Civil Engineers**.



# ACHIEVEMENTS



Ms. Tharushiya won a Gold Medal in the Pistol event and Bronze Medal in the Rifle event in the 8th State Airgun Championship 2023 held at Chennai.



Mr. Sujai Shakhivel (22BME0278) participated in the Northern Lights Coimbatore Cube Open 2023 and emerged as the overall winner. The event was conducted by the World Cube Association in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu from 27th to 28th May 2023. In the 8 events participated, Mr. Sujai won the prizes in 7x7 Cube Competition, 6x6 Cube Competition, 4x4 Cube Competition, 3x3 Cube Competition One-Handed, 2x2 Cube Competition & Megaminx Cube Competition.



We feel proud in sharing the achievement of VIT Music Club in the event Cradle of Culture organised by NMIT Bangalore from 19th to 20th May, 2023. The students had taken part in a number of music contests where they showcased their talents and won several laurels. In the 4 events registered, VIT Music Club members won 6 out of 7 prizes and earned 2 special mentions, thereby adding yet another feather to their journey of success.

Crescendo (Solo instrument )  
19/05/2023



Aditya Gautam	21BCT0280	First
Aditya Purohit	22BBT0025	Second
Rayan Banerjee	22MIC0063	Second

Ground Zero(Electric battle of bands):  
Team Name- Acids N' Bases  
Date-20/05/2023



Manav John Prince	20BCL0056
Siddhartha Pal	22BIT0024
Pranav Anand Leelaram	21BCE0464
Thomas ManiKurlen	22BME0750
Shiva Nair	21BCE0195
Smridh Jain	21BCI0349
Anup George Koshy	21BEC0770

X Factor(Eastern Solo Vocals):  
Date-20/05/2023



Shreya Lal	22BEC0479	First
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X Factor (Western Solo Vocals):  
Date-20/05/2023



Daniel Paul Samuel	22BDS0045	First
Tanvi Jain	22BCE0816	Second



# Be A College Star ? Scan the code and get a chance to be featured in the SW Newsletter. Join with Us Now!!



**Talent Forage:** We invite all our students to showcase their masterpieces with talent and skills. Submit your entries by 30th June: designs/articles /artworks or poems- based on the themes: **Yoga for Humanity / Power of Music.**



**VIT Click:** Click pictures inside/of the campus and mention date, time & location of the same to get a chance to be featured in the next SW Newsletter.



Golden hues falling in Men's Hostel corridor by Jayesh Ramchandani (21BCE0960)



**Jayesh Ramchandani**  
21BCE0960



**Khushi Parashar**  
20MIS0308



**Nitin Singh**  
20MID0232

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