

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Addresses Bharat Innovates Deep-Tech Pre Summit At IIT Bombay; India's Top Deep-Tech Startups Take The Spotlight



Hon'ble Union Education Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan delivering the valedictory address during the Bharat Innovates Deep-Tech Pre Summit 2026 at IIT Bombay

The **Bharat Innovates Deep-Tech Pre-Summit** concluded on 22nd March, 2026, at IIT Bombay, marking a transformative step toward India's global R&D leadership. The event showcased 137 startups across 13 thematic areas, selected from over 3,000 applications received nationwide.

The Pre-Summit served as a precursor to the **"Bharat Innovates 2026"** international showcase, which will take place in France later this year as part of the India-France Year of Innovation 2026, announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, **Shri Narendra Modi**. This initiative aims to present India's most promising deep-tech ventures to global investors and partners.

The final day was headlined by **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**, Hon'ble Union Minister of Education, who addressed 175 investors and industry leaders, emphasizing that *"innovation must move from labs to markets to create real impact"*. The Minister noted that India is uniquely positioned to develop scalable, cost-effective solutions for the Global South and can significantly contribute to global leadership.



Shri Dharmendra Pradhan interacting with IIT Bombay innovators during a walk through of the exhibition stalls at the summit

Shri Pradhan also interacted with innovators across diverse sectors including, Energy, Climate & Sustainability, Semiconductors, Space & Defence, Healthcare & MedTech, Advanced Computing, Biotechnology, Mobility & Smart Cities and Industry 4.0, showcasing cutting-edge, research-driven solutions, during a walkthrough of the exhibition stalls and IIT pavilion showcasing institutional innovations.



The distinguished gathering included **Dr. Vineet Joshi**, Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education; **Prof. Abhay Karandikar**, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology; **Dr. K. Radhakrishnan**, Chairperson, Board of Governors, IIT Bombay; and **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director, IIT Bombay.



The two-day event, which began on 21st March, was inaugurated by **Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood**, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India and Chairperson of the Prime Minister's Science, Technology & Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC). In his inaugural address, Prof. Sood emphasized the importance of deep-tech innovation in shaping India's technological leadership and global competitiveness, while highlighting the role of academic institutions, research ecosystems and startups in advancing cutting-edge technologies.



In his address, **Dr. Vineet Joshi**, Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, stressed the need for education to extend beyond academics to drive societal impact through integration with industry.



Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, remarked that the summit "*not only addresses the country's problems but also pushes us towards a globally competitive environment*".



Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, Chairperson, Board of Governors, IIT Bombay and former Chairman, ISRO, inspired the cohort, stating, *"You are going to write a new history for India. When you go to France, you will be ambassadors of India. Make India proud"*.

Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director, IIT Bombay, welcomed the delegates and participants, highlighting the collaborative effort of the IIT and IISc ecosystem in nurturing India's deep-tech innovation pipeline. He noted the strong response to the summit, with over 3,000 applications indicating the growing depth of India's innovation landscape.



The inaugural session also featured inspiring deep-tech entrepreneurship journeys from IIT campuses, with insights from **Mr. Manoj Meena**, Co-founder, *Atomberg Technologies* (IIT Bombay) and **Prof. Rahul Purwar**, Founder, *ImmunoAct* (IIT Bombay), who shared their experiences of building globally recognized deep-tech ventures.

The Bharat Innovates Deep-Tech Pre-Summit at IIT Bombay marked an important milestone in India's

innovation journey by bringing together startups, academia, investors and policymakers on a single platform. The selected startups are expected to represent India's deep-tech ecosystem at Bharat Innovates 2026 in Nice, France, further strengthening the country's position as a global hub for technology-driven innovation and fostering impactful international collaborations.

IIT Bombay Celebrates 67th Foundation Day

The Indian Institute of Technology Bombay celebrated its **67th Foundation Day** on 10th March, 2026, by honouring the contributions of its faculty members as well as alumni who have left their mark in their chosen fields of profession. The event marked more than six decades of academic excellence, pioneering research and global contributions in science, technology and innovation.

The Foundation Day function was graced by the Chief Guest **Prof. (Dr.) Balram Bhargava**, Padma Shri; National Academy of Sciences Meghnad Saha Distinguished National Chair; Immediate Past DG of ICMR; Immediate Past Secretary, Department of Health Research, GoI; Former Chief of Cardiothoracic Centre, AIIMS, New Delhi and Former President of National Academy of Sciences, India.



Director of IIT Bombay Prof. Shireesh Kedare addressing the audience during the 67th Foundation Day

The Foundation Day ceremony began with a welcome address by the Director of IIT Bombay **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, who highlighted the Institute's remarkable journey, its continued pursuit of academic and research excellence. **Prof. Kedare** said, "When we review our journey and look ahead, the challenges are many. We need to change the way we teach and we do research. We need to focus on exciting students to learn, be excellent in research and be relevant to industry and society".



Chief Guest of the function Prof. (Dr.) Balram Bhargava delivering the keynote address

IIT Bombay conferred the **Prof. S.C. Sahasrabudhe Lifetime Achievement Award (2025-26)** on **Prof. Rajiv Dusane**, Department of Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science, in recognition of his outstanding contributions as teacher, researcher and administrator, during the Foundation Day celebration.

(Retd.) Prof. Rajiv Dusane, Department of Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science (C) receiving Prof. S.C. Sahasrabudhe Lifetime Achievement Award 2025-26

The Chief Guest of the function **Dr. Balram Bhargava**, in his address, said, "As India approaches the 80th year of independence, our journey demonstrates how science, innovation and determination can transform national challenges into opportunities. From the Green and White Revolutions to breakthroughs in space, healthcare and digital technologies, India has shown that with the right mindset and commitment, we can achieve remarkable progress. Institutions like IIT Bombay play a pivotal role in nurturing this spirit of innovation and excellence and its alumni continue to carry India's flag proudly across the world".





Prof. K. G. Suresh, Department of Physics, receiving 'Prof. S.C. Bhattacharya Award for Excellence in Research in Pure Sciences' 2025



Prof. Radhey Shyam Jangid, Department of Civil Engineering, receiving 'Prof. H.H. Mathur Award for Excellence in Research in Applied Sciences' 2025

The '**Prof. S.C. Bhattacharya Award for Excellence in Research in Pure Sciences (2025)**' was conferred on **Prof. K. G. Suresh**, Department of Physics for his outstanding contributions in the area of *Magnetism in Intermetallics, Spintronics, Magnetic Skyrmions, Topological Materials*. The '**Prof. H.H. Mathur Award for Excellence in Research in Applied Sciences (2025)**' was conferred on **Prof. Radhey Shyam Jangid**, Department of Civil Engineering, for his outstanding contributions in the area of *Seismic Base Isolation, Earthquake-Resistant Design, Stochastic Earthquake Analysis, Inerter-Based Control Devices*.



The awardees along with Chief Guest Prof. (Dr.) Balram Bhargava (first line, extreme right) and IIT Bombay functionaries during 67th Foundation Day celebrations

The Institute honoured select alumni of IIT Bombay with Distinguished Alumnus Awards (DAA) for their outstanding contributions and excellence to their profession, society and the global community.

The Distinguished Alumnus Awardees (DAA) 2026 include:

Mr. Kirat Patel

B.Tech., Mechanical Engineering, 1975

Mr. K. B. S. Anand

B.Tech., Mechanical Engineering, 1977

Prof. Y. S. Prakash

B.Tech., Electrical Engineering, 1988

Dr. Subrata Rakshit

B.Tech., Engineering Physics, 1988

Prof. Srinivasan S. Iyengar

5-Year Integrated M.Sc., Chemistry, 1990

Prof. Prashant P. Shenoy

B.Tech., Computer Science and Engineering, 1993

Mr. Abhay Pandey

B.Tech., Computer Science and Engineering, 1993

Dr. Ranjit Rath

M.Sc., Earth Sciences (Applied Geology), 1994

Dr. Kalyan Handique

B.Tech., Chemical Engineering, 1995

Dr. Mahesh Kumar

B.Tech., Computer Science and Engineering, 1999

Dr. Sachin Katti

B.Tech., Electrical Engineering, 2003

The Young Alumni Achiever Award (YAAA), instituted in 2011, recognizes alumni under the age of 40 who have demonstrated exceptional accomplishments in their chosen fields.

The **Young Alumni Achiever Awardees 2026** include:

Prof. B. Aditya Prakash

B.Tech., Computer Science and Engineering, 2007

Prof. Aditya Ramdas

B.Tech., Computer Science and Engineering, 2009

Prof. Gauri Joshi

Dual Degree, Electrical Engineering, 2010

Mr. Sibarata (Shibam) Das

B.Tech., Civil Engineering, 2012

Mr. Rohit Agarwal

B.Tech., Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science, 2012

Mr. Sneh Vaswani

Dual Degree, Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science, 2013

Ms. Ashima Mittal

B.Tech., Civil Engineering, 2014

In line with IIT Bombay's commitment to sustainability and cleanliness, the **Institute Cleanliness Awards** were presented during the Foundation Day celebrations. The awards recognize the dedicated efforts of academic departments, Section 8 companies, hostels and non-academic units that actively contribute to maintaining a clean and green campus.

The winners listed below were selected following a detailed assessment by a committee led by **Prof. Prakash Nanthagopala, Associate Dean (Environment, Health and Safety – EHS), IPS**. Each winner was felicitated with a **Rotating Trophy** and a **Certificate of Appreciation**.

Winners of Clean Campus Drive Phase-IV

Rank	Category	
	Academic Unit	Non-Academic Unit
1st position	Department of Earth Sciences	Hospitality Section
2nd position	Department of Industrial Engineering and Operations Research	Gymkhana
3rd position	Department of Mechanical Engineering	Hospital Section
	Section-8 Company	Hostel
1st position	IIT Bombay- Monash Research Academy	Hostel - 01
2nd position	Technology Innovation Hub Foundation for IoT and IoE	Hostel - 10
3rd position	Green Energy and Sustainability Hub	Hostel - 18
	Zonal Areas of Junior Engineers	For Photos visit: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1xcCPgRRz8Zbwk_YRBH8GEcko3ZE1o9rb?usp=sharing
1st position	Er. Amol Deshmukh (Zone13-Lake Side Area)	
2nd position	Er. Ani. P. P (Zone 1 - Hostel Area)	
3rd position	Er. Prashant Bote (Zone 6 - Central Area)	

**Padma Shri Conferred On Professor Emeritus Juzer Vasi
For Outstanding Contributions**

Prof. Juzer Vasi (Professor Emeritus at Department of Electrical Engineering), former IIT Bombay Deputy Director and a distinguished academician - widely respected name in the field of semiconductors and microelectronics, has been conferred the **Padma Shri**, India's fourth-highest civilian award, in recognition of his extraordinary lifetime contribution to science and engineering. The Institute congratulates him on this bestowed honour by the Government of India.



A New Landmark for Indian Entrepreneurship

On 9th March, 2026, the **Desai Sethi School of Entrepreneurship** at IIT Bombay unveiled a landmark six-storey, 115,000-square-foot facility dedicated to innovation and entrepreneurship. Purpose-built from the ground up, the space represents a rare initiative—possibly the first-of-its-kind in India and among a very few globally.

The facility houses:

- * state-of-the-art makerspaces where ideas become prototypes
- * Tinkering labs for hands-on experimentation
- * Design studios for translating vision into reality
- * Micro factories for scaling concepts
- * Co-working spaces where students, faculty, and entrepreneurs collaborate
- * Business planning centres to shape ventures, and
- * Faculty offices embedded within it all - creating a living ecosystem of mentorship and creation



More than just a building, the facility serves as an integrated infrastructure designed to bridge the gap between academic invention and market-ready innovation, reflecting India's growing commitment to nurturing the next generation of deep-tech entrepreneurs.

The facility was inaugurated by **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director of IIT Bombay, along with the **Prof. Milind Atrey**, Deputy Director (Academics, Research and Translation). It was made possible through the vision and generosity of benefactors **Bharat Desai** and **Neerja Sethi**.

This milestone highlights IIT Bombay's continued commitment to fostering entrepreneurship, innovation and real-world problem solving. The Institute looks forward to the many ideas, startups and collaborations that will emerge from this new hub and shape the future of entrepreneurship.



IIT Bombay Holds Spring Session Of 64th Convocation, Awards Degrees To 400 Graduating Students



Director of IIT Bombay Prof. Shireesh Kedare addressing the students

The Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay) held the **spring session of its 64th Convocation** at the Institute's Convocation Hall, conferring degrees on students who successfully completed their academic requirements between August 2025 and February 2026.

During this special convocation ceremony, a total of **430** degrees were awarded, including **269** PhD degrees (comprising dual degrees such as MTech/ MSc/ MPhil + PhD). In addition, **161** degrees were conferred across various academic programmes, including **44** Executive MBA (E-MBA) degrees.

The Spring Convocation Session enables eligible students to receive their degrees prior to the main convocation ceremony, thereby facilitating timely progression into professional roles and advanced academic pursuits without delay.

The ceremony was graced by **Mr. Motilal Oswal**, Chief Executive Officer and Co-founder of Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd., as Chief Guest. The proceedings were presided over by **Dr. Sharad Kumar Saraf**, Officiating Chairperson of the Board of Governors, IIT Bombay. Degrees were formally conferred by **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director, IIT Bombay. **Dr. K. Radhakrishnan**, Hon'ble Chairperson of the Board of Governors, joined the ceremony virtually.



Chief Guest Mr. Motilal Oswal delivering the Convocation address

In his address to the graduating cohort, Chief Guest **Mr. Motilal Oswal** said, “You are graduating at a remarkable time in history, when technology, AI and innovation are reshaping the world. This is your opportunity to build, lead and contribute meaningfully. Invest in yourself, stay curious, practice ethical leadership and remember that true success lies in balanced growth - of career, health, relationships and inner peace. My life mantra is ‘learn, earn and return’: learn with humility and give back to society”.

Dr. Radhakrishnan’s address, delivered by Dr. Sharad Saraf on his behalf, stated “IIT Bombay is in a collective pursuit of global leadership in science, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship and is poised to emerge as a preferred destination for the international student community. Our nation looks to its graduates to shape the future, even as they build their own, contributing meaningfully to the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047”.

Congratulating the students, their families and faculty members, IIT Bombay Director **Prof. Shireesh Kedare** said, “Our graduates are equipped not only with strong technical foundations but also with the ability to think critically, innovate and lead responsibly. We wish them great success as they embark on their professional and academic journeys”.



Dr. Sharad Saraf, Officiating Chairperson of BoG, IIT Bombay addressing the audience

The ceremony was attended by **Prof. Vijay Ramani** (Senior Vice Provost for Graduate Education and International Affairs) and **Jessica Klingler Cissell** (Assistant Provost, Graduate Education and International Community) from Washington University in St. Louis, USA, along with graduating students, faculty and families who assembled to commemorate this significant academic milestone.

The event was broadcast live on: <https://www.youtube.com/IITBombayOfficialChannel>



Graduating students taking pledge during spring convocation

The following students were awarded the academic prizes for the year 2024-2025 on the basis of their academic performance (weighted SPI average) during previous two semesters:

III Year B.S. (2023 Batch)					
Sr. No.	Roll No	Name	Prize	Prize amount	Department
1	23B3321	Dhairya Kantawala	I	Rs. 3000	Mathematics
2	23B3307	Nirav Rajendra Bhattad	I	Rs. 3000	Mathematics

IIT Bombay Celebrates 77th Republic Day



Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director, IIT Bombay, hoisting the National Flag on the 77th Republic Day

The **77th Republic Day** celebrations commenced with the unfurling of the National Flag by **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Institute's Director at the Institute's Gymkhana ground. IIT Bombay security staff and NCC saluted the National Flag. Prof. Shireesh Kedare addressed the gathering and shared his best wishes with the IIT Bombay community. He felicitated former Deputy Director and distinguished academician **Prof. Juzer Vasi** and congratulated IIT Bombay alumnus **Mr. Shashi Shekhar Vempati**, on being conferred the **Padma Shri** - the fourth-highest civilian award of the Republic of India.

Mr. Raj Nair was the Chief Guest of the function. An AI enthusiast, entrepreneur, investor, strategy consultant and a widely travelled adventurer across the world, Mr. Raj Nair currently serves as Chairman of Avalon Consulting, AGR Knowledge Services and Germinait Solutions, and is the co-founder of Hornback e-Mobility, which created the world's first full-size diamond-frame foldable e-bike. Mr. Nair

received his B.Tech. (Hons.), Metallurgical Engineering in 1971 from IIT Bombay and later completed his MBA in Marketing and Finance from IIM Ahmedabad in 1973. He is a recipient of IIT Bombay's Distinguished Service Award (2016) and Distinguished Alumnus Award (2019). Deeply committed to giving back, he has personally funded and built the 10XGMP facility at IIT Bombay.

During the event, the Director awarded certificates to **winners** of an essay writing competition held during **Vigilance Awareness Week 2025**. Security Officers, guards, staff from IIT Bombay and NCC cadets were felicitated during the event. The celebrations were marked by wonderful performances filled with the spirit and fervour of the Republic Day celebrations by students of Aman Day Care Centre, IIT Bombay Campus School, PM SHRI Kendriya Vidyalaya, IIT Mumbai, NSS and IIT Bombay. More than 2000 members of campus community attended the function.



Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director, IIT Bombay and Chief Guest Mr. Raj Nair felicitating Prof. Emeritus Juzer Vasi (center) on being awarded the Padma Shri



Chief Guest Mr. Raj Nair addressing the gathering on the occasion of Republic Day at IIT Bombay



Students performing during the Republic Day cultural program



Students showcasing talent and patriotism at the Republic Day

Winners of Vigilance Essay Competition 2025

STUDENTS

Prize	Name and Roll No.	Department
First Prize	Saurabh Suman (1st year, Ph.D, Roll No. 25D0898)	Department of Mechanical Engineering
First Prize	Sarvesh Kumar (4th year, B.Tech, Roll No. 22B0758)	Department of Civil Engineering
Second Prize	Shubham Anand (4th year, Ph.D, Roll No. 22D1503)	Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management
Third Prize	Aditi Mishra (1st year, Ph.D, Roll No. 25D1235)	Centre for Climate Studies
Third Prize	Pranav Shirke (2nd year, MBA, Roll No. 24M2403)	Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management

EMPLOYEES

Prize	Name	Department
First Prize	Mr. Vikash Mishra	Dean (International Relations) Office
Second Prize	Mr. Chandra Prakash Nagar	IIT Bombay Hospital
Third Prize	Ms. Anjali Raghunathan	Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering
Third Prize	Mr. Amit Kumar Yadav	Academic Section

DST Secretary Prof. Abhay Karandikar Inaugurates PARAM Rudra Supercomputer At IIT Bombay



(From L-R): Mr. Sanjay Wandhekar, Senior Director, C-DAC, Pune; Dr. Hemant Darbari, NSM Mission Director; Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Secretary (DST); Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director, IIT Bombay and Ms. Sunita Verma, Group Coordinator (MeitY) during the inauguration of PARAM Rudra supercomputing facility at IIT Bombay

Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Secretary, Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India inaugurated a state-of-the-art supercomputing facility, **PARAM Rudra**, established by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) at IIT Bombay today.

The 3 Peta FLOPS high-performance computing (HPC) system has been developed and deployed under the Build Approach of the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM). PARAM Rudra is based on indigenously designed Rudra servers developed by C-DAC and manufactured in India, reinforcing the Government of India's Make-in-India initiative. The system is powered by C-DAC's indigenous software stack and incorporates advanced Direct Contact Liquid Cooling (DCLC) technology for enhanced efficiency.

In his address, **Prof. Abhay Karandikar** highlighted that the PARAM Rudra facility will significantly strengthen computational research, benefiting over 200 faculty members and 1,200 students at IIT Bombay, as well as researchers nationwide. He noted that the facility will catalyse innovation in areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Biotechnology and Advanced Manufacturing, while also supporting startups and industry-driven research.

Ms. Sunita Verma, Group Coordinator, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) emphasised that the Rudra-based cluster marks a major milestone in India's indigenous supercomputing journey and underlined the importance of sustained investments in HPC systems, software, microprocessors and networking to advance towards exascale computing.

Dr. Hemant Darbari, NSM Mission Director, stated that with this addition, 38 supercomputers with a cumulative capacity of 44 Peta FLOPS have been commissioned across the country under NSM. He also mentioned that PARAM Rudra facility at IIT Bombay will also augment research prospects of several institutions in and around Mumbai and help in collaboration and scientific outcomes.

The National Supercomputing Mission is jointly steered by MeitY and DST with C-DAC and IISc Bengaluru as the implementing agencies. The mission focuses on building a comprehensive indigenous supercomputing ecosystem through its four pillars: Supercomputing Infrastructure, Applications Development, Research and Development and Human Resource Development.

Mr. Rajesh Agarwal, Hon'ble Chief Secretary, GoM Visits IIT Bombay

IIT Bombay had the pleasure of hosting **Mr. Rajesh Agarwal**, Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra (GoM), on 19th January, 2026, along with his delegation comprising **Mr. Virendra Singh**, IAS, Secretary, GoM; **Mr. Parimal Singh**, IAS, Project Director, Nanaji Deshmukh Krishi Sanjeevani Prakalp; **Ms. Richa Bagla**, IAS, Principal Secretary, Accounts & Treasuries; **Ms. Sapna Kapoor**, Deputy Director General & SIO, National Informatics Centre (NIC); **Ms. Sneha Lotankar**, Senior Technical Director, NIC; **Mr. Gangashankar Singh**, NIC; **Mr. Sachin Belose**, CTO, MahaIT (Maharashtra IT Corporation Ltd.); **Mr. Prathamesh Raut**, Consultant, MahaIT; **Ms. Simran Bansal**, Consultant, IT Office and **Mr. Rishikesh Shirke**, Consultant, Chief Secretary's Office.



Mr. Rajesh Agarwal, Hon'ble Chief Secretary, GoM (center) along with IIT Bombay functionaries during his visit to IIT Bombay

Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director, IIT Bombay welcomed the delegation in the presence of **Prof. Milind Atrey**, Deputy Director (Academics, Research and Translation); **Prof. Sachin Patwardhan**, former Dean (Research and Development) and **Prof. Leena Vachhani**, Associate Dean (R&D), together with Professors-in-Charge, faculty and staff from various IIT Bombay centres.



Mr. Rajesh Agarwal (center) with Prof. Vikram Vishal (PiC, IITBRPF) (third from right), Mr. Rajappa Tadepalli (CEO, IITBRPF) (second from left), along with others

During the visit, Mr. Rajesh Agarwal toured the Centre for Semiconductor Technologies (SEMIX), the Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE) and ASPIRE IIT Bombay Research Park Foundation (IITBRPF), where he engaged with faculty and staff on strategic AI initiatives. Concurrently, the remaining members of the delegation interacted with the BharatGen team at IIT Bombay.

The visit enabled substantive discussions on strengthening collaboration in education, startups, translational research and innovation; fostering academia-industry partnerships and exploring the deployment of IIT Bombay's sovereign LLM, BharatGen, across key sectors to accelerate India-centric innovation and societal benefit.

SCAN Annual Symposium 2026

The **Sunita Sanghi Centre of Aging and Neurodegenerative Diseases (SCAN Centre)** organized its **annual symposium** to commemorate its third anniversary, with the theme **“Neurodegenerative Disorders in India: Current Practices and Challenges”** during 9th-10th January, 2026.

The symposium was inaugurated by **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director, IIT Bombay, followed by insightful addresses by the **Prof. Sachin Patwardhan**, former Dean (Research and Development); **Prof. Upendra V. Bhandarkar**, Dean (Alumni and Corporate Relations) and inspiring words from **Mr. Sharad Sanghi**, the Centre's esteemed donor. This event featured eminent clinicians and distinguished professors across the country.

Globally, the population aged 60 years and above is projected to double by 2050, reaching over 2 billion. In India, the elderly population is expected to increase from the current 10% to nearly 20% in the coming decades. This rapid demographic transition poses significant challenges, particularly with respect to age-related neurological conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, Dementia and Parkinson's disease.

In this context, the symposium aimed to enhance understanding



of the pathology of neurodegenerative diseases, their biomarkers, underlying mechanisms and ongoing research initiatives at leading institutions nationwide. The distinguished speakers delivered insightful presentations that provided the audience with a comprehensive overview of the current neurodegenerative research landscape. Additionally, the sessions addressed methodologies for early detection, advances in therapeutic strategies, emerging vaccine research and policy frameworks, supported by evidence from the **Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (LASI)**.

The interactive question-and-answer sessions fostered thoughtful discussions and

underscored the importance of strengthening collaboration between clinicians and the scientific research community.

The Symposium served as a vibrant platform for knowledge exchange, interdisciplinary dialogue and collaboration, reinforcing SCAN's commitment to advancing research and clinical practice in aging and neurodegenerative diseases in India. Additionally, the poster session showcased ongoing research by students and researchers, encouraging academic exchange and constructive feedback.

The Institute extends its sincere gratitude to all the speakers, participants and collaborators who contributed to the remarkable success of the event.



IIT Bombay Celebrates World Hindi Day And National Youth Day

On the occasion of **World Hindi Day** (10th January, 2026) and **National Youth Day** (12th January, 2026), the Institute's Hindi Cell organized a series of academic and cultural activities at IIT Bombay.

An Inter-Collegiate Debate Competition on the theme "*The Growing Impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on Today's Youth: A Support or a Challenge*" witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of various colleges. Participants presented compelling arguments both for and against the topic and were evaluated by a panel of judges based on language proficiency, subject knowledge and presentation skills.



Chief Guest Prof. Nagesh D. Pawar addressing the audience on World Hindi Day at IIT Bombay

Commemorating National Youth Day, a quiz competition was conducted on 12th January, 2026, for students and staff members. The quiz focused on the life and teachings of Swami Vivekananda, World Hindi Day and contemporary Institute-related events.



The Prize Distribution was held during the Valedictory Ceremony, which was graced by the Chief Guest **Prof. Nagesh D. Pawar**, B. K. Birla College, Kalyan, along with Institute functionaries, including **Prof. Ravindra Gudi**, Deputy Director, (Finance, Infrastructure and Administration (FIA)); **Prof. Ambarish Kunwar**, Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering; **Mr. Ganesh Bhorkade**, Registrar and **Mr. C. P. Joglekar**, Joint Registrar (General Administration). Certificates and prizes were awarded to the winning participants.

Addressing the gathering, **Prof. Gudi** highlighted National Youth Day as an opportunity to strengthen leadership qualities, positive thinking and a commitment to nation-building among the youth.

Prof. Nagesh D. Pawar emphasized the philosophy of Swami Vivekananda as a guiding light for young minds, inspiring self-confidence and a spirit of service to the nation.

Mr. Ganesh Bhorkade, Registrar, IIT Bombay, shared that the ideals of Swami Vivekananda continue to inspire today's youth towards morality, discipline and self-reliance.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by **Ms. Vaishali Bahulkar**, Hindi Officer, IIT Bombay.



IIT Bombay Observes National Youth Day

In celebration of **National Youth Day** and the **164th Jayanti of Swami Vivekananda**, the **Institute Cultural Council of IIT Bombay** hosted an inspiring evening on 19th January, 2026, at its campus.

The event featured two distinguished speakers—**Dr. Kiran Bedi**, India's first woman IPS officer and former Lt. Governor of Puducherry, who shared insights on leadership and youth empowerment and **Pravrajika Divyanandaprana of Sri Sarada Math**, who spoke on self-management and unlocking the potential of the human mind.

The session brought together the IIT Bombay community for an engaging and reflective celebration of youth, leadership and inner growth.



IIT Bombay also observed **Mental Strength Week** during 12th–18th January, 2026, in commemoration of the **164th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda** on 12th January.

As part of this initiative, **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director inaugurated a two-day exhibition of **Mind Gym** by **Manashakti Research Centre**, organised by the **Student Wellness Centre**. The exhibition highlights the importance of mental strength, focus and inner resilience—values strongly emphasised in Swami Vivekananda's teachings.

Through interactive mind-training and experiential activities, the exhibition invites all campus residents to pause, reflect and strengthen their minds during today's fast-paced and often stressful times.



Students engaging in interactive activities that challenge focus, creativity, and problem-solving, as Director Prof. Shireesh Kedare observes a live demonstration on cognitive control during the Mental Strength Week event at IIT Bombay

SEDEMAC Mechatronics Pvt. Ltd., The First-Of-Its-Kind Faculty-led Deep-Tech Startup In India Achieves IPO Milestone

A graduate company of Society for Innovation & Entrepreneurship (SINE), IIT Bombay, **SEDEMAC Mechatronics Pvt. Ltd.**, has gone public, marking an important moment for India's academic startup ecosystem and the country's growing deep-tech innovation landscape. This is also the second IPO from the SINE IIT Bombay ecosystem, the first being IdeaForge, founded by alumni of IIT Bombay.

Incubated at SINE in 2008, SEDEMAC was founded on research undertaken by **Prof. Shashikanth Suryanarayanan** and his students at IIT Bombay. SEDEMAC's journey from academic research to a publicly listed company reflects the growing impact of research-driven entrepreneurship emerging from India's premier institutions. The company's growth demonstrates how



Prof. Shashikanth Suryanarayanan, Founder & Managing Director, SEDEMAC Mechatronics and Professor at IIT Bombay (center); Amit Dixit- Founder & Joint Managing Director at SEDEMAC Mechatronics with Ashish Chauhan, CEO of NSE (left)



innovations originating in university laboratories can evolve into globally relevant technology solutions addressing real-world industrial challenges.

SEDEMAC's achievement underscores the role of IIT Bombay's innovation ecosystem in nurturing research-led startups and advancing India's deep-tech entrepreneurship landscape. Overall, SINE, IIT Bombay graduate companies have reached \$ 3.9 billion valuation mark.

IIT Bombay functionaries with National Stock Exchange (NSE) CEO Ashish Chauhan (fourth from left)

IIT Bombay Celebrates Women's Day With Shakti Week 2026

IIT Bombay celebrated **Shakti Week** during 8th-13th March, 2026, on the occasion of **International Women's Day**, featuring a series of talks and panel discussions with enthusiastic participation from the Institute community.

The week began on 9th March with the **Radhika Rajan Women Leadership Lecture**, where **Dr. Sarita Ahlawat** (Co-founder & MD, **BotLab Dynamics**) delivered an inspiring talk titled **"From Early Failures to World Records: The Story of BotLab Dynamics"**.

On 10th March, **Ms. Amit Ganatra** (IIM Ahmedabad alumna and bestselling author) presented **"The Woman Conundrum."** This was followed on 11th March by a panel discussion, **"Courage Under Fire: What Women in Defence Teach Us,"** featuring Wing Commander **Uvena Fernandes** and Squadron Leader **Swati Rathore**, who shared insights from their careers.

A panel discussion on **"Success in STEM"** was held on 12th March with **Prof. Leena Vachnani, Prof. Aswani Yella, Prof. Mythili**

Vutukuru, Ms. Jayshree Nayak and **Ms. Rajshree Duggani**, highlighting opportunities and challenges for women in STEM fields.

The week concluded on 13th March with a talk by **Ms. Chitralekha Vaidya** (CEO, **Varshasookt Pvt. Ltd.**) titled **"Death by Wellness: Toxins in Disguise"**.

Shakti Week 2026 served as a meaningful platform to celebrate the achievements, resilience and contributions of women across diverse domains.

IIT Bombay Hosts 55th National Safety Week



The **Fire and Safety Section at IIT Bombay** observed **55th National Safety Week** under the theme **“Engage, Educate & Empower People to Enhance Safety”**. The event was inaugurated on 5th March at P. C. Saxena Auditorium, featuring expert insights on fire and safety, along with appreciation awards recognizing contributions to safety.

Throughout the week, various activities were conducted, including:

- Three fire mock drills in Academic, Hostel, and Residential buildings, conducted in collaboration with the Mumbai Fire Brigade
- A Chemical Safety Workshop for research scholars

- Three CPR and Basic First Aid sessions for the IIT Bombay community conducted by experts.
- Digital and manual poster and slogan competitions, along with a Safety Quiz for the IIT Bombay community
- Safety Discussion with Hostel Management
- Two Leadership Safety Walks at project sites
- Road safety awareness drive

The event concluded on 11th March with an awards ceremony, reaffirming IIT Bombay's commitment to fostering a safe and secure environment.



IIT Bombay Hosts Tohoku University Delegation For Global Immersion Program

The **Office of International Relations, IIT Bombay**, recently hosted a **five-day Global Immersion Program** (9th–13th March, 2026), in collaboration with **Tohoku University, Japan**, welcoming 10 students accompanied by three faculty members to the campus. The program was designed to provide participants with comprehensive exposure to the research, innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem at IIT Bombay. It



commenced with welcome addresses and presentations by Institute leadership, including **Prof. Sudarshan Kumar**, Dean of International Relations; **Prof. P Seshu**, Professor-in-Charge of the IIT Bombay-TU Japan Cell; **Prof. S. Kulkarni**, Dean of Academic Programmes; **Prof. Atul Srivastava**, Associate Dean of Students Affairs and faculty leads from the IIT Bombay–Tohoku University Double Doctoral Degree Program. During the visit, the delegation also had a brief meeting and interaction with **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director of IIT Bombay.

During the week, the visiting students engaged with IIT Bombay faculty across several focus areas, including materials science, robotics, energy and sustainability, disaster mitigation and digital health. The program also included visits to key innovation and research facilities such as Biomedical Engineering and Technology Innovation Centre (BeTIC), the IIT Bombay Research Park, the Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE), the Technology Innovation Hub (TIH) and the Centre for Excellence in Nanoelectronics, providing participants with first-hand insights into IIT Bombay's vibrant research and startup ecosystem.

The program concluded with a campus tour, cultural interactions and a Mumbai city visit, further strengthening academic and cultural connections between the two institutions. This Global Immersion Program is the third in the series, which began in March 2025. This reflects the growing partnership between IIT Bombay and Tohoku University, fostering global learning opportunities, academic collaboration and cross-cultural exchange.

The Institute extends sincere appreciation to the student volunteers and the team members of the Office of Dean (International Relations) for their efforts in coordinating and organizing this program.

Strengthening India–Japan Research Collaboration With LOTUS 2025 Programme



The Institute is delighted to share that 30 collaborative research projects involving IIT Bombay faculty members have been selected under the **LOTUS 2025 Programme**, in partnership with 12 leading universities and research institutes in Japan.

The collaborations span institutions such as *University of Tsukuba, Hokkaido University, Tohoku University, NIMS, Kumamoto University, Kobe University, AIST, Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology (OIST), RIKEN, Nagoya University and the University of Tokyo*, reflecting the growing depth of India–Japan academic partnerships. The selected projects span diverse research areas and will foster joint research, researcher mobility and knowledge exchange between IIT Bombay and Japanese partner institutions.

To mark this achievement, the Office of International Relations, IIT Bombay hosted an informal get-together for the selected faculty members, providing meaningful interactions and idea exchange. The event was further enriched by the presence of representatives from the Consulate General of Japan in Mumbai.

This initiative reflects IIT Bombay's continued commitment to strengthening global research collaborations and fostering deeper academic engagement with leading institutions in Japan.

IIT Bombay Signs MoU With SAMEER

IIT Bombay signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research (SAMEER)**, Mumbai, on 8th January, 2026.

The MoU was signed by **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director, IIT Bombay and **Dr. P. Hanumantha Rao**, Director General, SAMEER, in the presence of **Mr. Rajesh Harsh**, Programme Director (Human Resources & Technology Management), SAMEER; **Dr. Sunita Verma**, Group Coordinator (R&D Division), MeitY; **Prof. Milind Atrey**, Deputy Director (Academics, Research and Translation (ART)), IIT Bombay and **Prof. Sachin Patwardhan**, former Dean (Research and Development (R&D)), IIT Bombay, along with faculty members from IIT Bombay and scientists from SAMEER.

The signing ceremony took place during the **SynergyX Workshop**, hosted at the SAMEER campus in IIT Bombay, aimed at fostering synergy and exploring collaborative R&D in advanced technologies. The workshop also featured technical presentations and a visit to SAMEER's Technology Arena, highlighting self-reliance and indigenous solutions for the country in the areas of microwaves, millimeter waves and advanced communication technologies.

This partnership seeks to strengthen joint research, academic collaboration and translational outcomes across areas including medical devices, RADAR systems, antennas, 5G/ 6G technologies, opto-electronics, quantum technologies and environmental monitoring.

The Institute looks forward to impactful research, shared infrastructure, active student engagement and the establishment of translational research hubs through this collaboration.



(From L-R): Prof. Milind Atrey, Deputy Director (ART), IIT Bombay; Prof. Sachin Patwardhan, former Dean (R&D), IIT Bombay; Dr. P. Hanumantha Rao, Director General, SAMEER; Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director, IIT Bombay and Mr. Rajesh Harsh, Programme Director, SAMEER during the MoU exchange

IIT Bombay Signs MoU With Columbia University To Launch AI Centre For Manufacturing



Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director, IIT Bombay and Prof. Soulaymane Kachani, Senior Vice Provost, Columbia University, exchanging the MoU in the presence of Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Education (center)

IIT Bombay and Columbia University, USA, signed and exchanged an MoU in the presence of **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**, Hon'ble Minister of Education, to establish a Centre of AI for Manufacturing on 12th February, 2026. The function, held at Bharat Mandapam, Delhi, was also graced by **Dr. Sukanta Majumdar**, Hon'ble Minister of State for Education; **Dr. Vineet Joshi**, Secretary, Higher Education; **Mr. Sanjay Kumar**, Secretary, School Education & Literacy and **Mr. S. Krishnan**, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

The delegations were led by **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director of IIT Bombay and **Prof. Soulaymane Kachani**, Senior Vice Provost of Columbia University. Leaders of this initiative, **Prof. Vishal Misra**, Vice Dean for Computing and AI at Columbia Engineering and **Prof. Mani Bhushan**, Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Bombay, were also present.



The Ministry of Education has initiated four AI centres till date. The "**Columbia-IIT Bombay Centre of AI for Manufacturing**" is a joint research and translation centre aimed at building robust, scalable and human-centric AI systems for real-world manufacturing. Several industry partners are in the process of joining the Centre.

(From left to right): Prof. Mani Bhushan, Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Bombay; Prof. Soulaymane Kachani, Senior Vice Provost at Columbia University, USA; Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director of IIT Bombay and Prof. Vishal Misra, Vice Dean for Computing and AI at Columbia Engineering, during the announcement of the MoU at the Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave 2026

IIT Bombay And UIUC, USA Sign MoU For Undergraduate Exchange Programme



Prof. Colleen Murphy, Interim Associate Chancellor and Vice Provost for Global Affairs and Strategies, UIUC and Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director of IIT Bombay during signing of the MoU

On 16th February, 2026, **IIT Bombay** hosted a high-level delegation from the **University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), USA** for the academic engagements aimed at advancing the proposed **IIT Bombay–UIUC Undergraduate Exchange Programme**.

The visit featured leadership interactions, curriculum discussions, faculty presentations and the **formalisation of the UG Exchange Programme through an MoU signing ceremony**. The UG Cohort Exchange Programme has been designed to enable students from both institutions to visit each other's campuses and learn, innovate and grow together through joint academic engagement, shared cohorts, cross-cultural exposure and global professional pathways.

The first trial cohort is planned for AY 2026-27, targeting 3rd-year undergraduate students, with opportunities for IIT Bombay students to undertake a two-month internship in the United States after their third year, with earning potential. The pilot phase will commence with six departments — Department of Aerospace Engineering, Department of Chemical Engineering, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Department of Civil Engineering, Department of Electrical Engineering and Department of Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science.

The programme is envisaged as the foundation of a broader long-term strategic partnership, with future expansion into postgraduate exchanges, joint or integrated degree programmes, cotutelle pathways, collaborative research initiatives and wider global innovation partnerships. This engagement marks an important step towards strengthening IIT Bombay's global partnerships and building a sustained academic collaboration with UIUC.

IIT Bombay And Indian Army Sign MoU For Research, Software



(Center) Maj Gen Harsh Chhibber and Prof. Milind Atrey, Deputy Director (Academics, Research and Translation), IIT Bombay, along with others during signing of the MoU

The **Indian Army** and **IIT Bombay** formalised a strategic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to advance collaborative research, software innovation and talent development. The partnership aims to harness Army–academia synergy and accelerate the development of indigenous technological solutions in emerging domains. By combining the Indian Army's operational expertise with IIT Bombay's research strengths, the collaboration seeks to drive innovation in future military technologies. The MoU was signed in the presence of **Maj Gen Harsh Chhibber** and **Prof. Milind Atrey**, Deputy Director (Academics, Research and Translation), IIT Bombay, along with representatives from the Indian Army and BharatGen, IIT Bombay.

Indo-Japan Partnership: IIT Bombay Signs Letter Of Intent With Hokkaido Prefecture

On 15th January, 2026, **IIT Bombay** and the **Prefecture of Hokkaido, Japan**, marked a significant milestone with the **signing of a Letter of Intent**, following a high-level meeting between senior leaders from both sides held at the official residence of the Consul General of Japan in Mumbai.

The IIT Bombay delegation was led by **Prof. Milind Atrey**, Deputy Director (Academics, Research and Translation (ART)), **Prof. P. Seshu**, Professor-in-Charge, IIT Bombay–Japan Collaboration Cell (IITB-TU Japan Cell) and **Prof. Santosh Gharpure**, Dean (Faculty Affairs (FA)).



Mr. Kano Takayuki, Vice-Governor, Prefecture of Hokkaido, Japan (center) and Prof. Milind Atrey, Deputy Director (ART), IIT Bombay, India (center), exchange MoU in presence of Prof. P. Seshu (IITB-TU Japan Cell PiC) (right) and Prof. Santosh Gharpure, Dean (FA) (left)

The Hokkaido Prefecture delegation was led by **Mr. Kano Takayuki**, Vice Governor, Prefecture of Hokkaido, **Mr. Koji Yagi**, Consul General of Japan and senior officials from the Bureau of International Affairs, including **Ms. Hiroe Mikami** and **Mr. Makoto Takahashi**.

The discussions reaffirmed a shared commitment to advancing mutually beneficial talent development and exchange between IIT Bombay and Hokkaido government, Japan. Both sides agreed in principle to implement collaborative projects under a forthcoming Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) focused on talent development and exchanges. The collaboration aims to nurture talent capable of bridging universities and industries across both regions, thereby strengthening academic–industry linkages.

This initiative aligns with the Japan–India Action Plan on Human Resource Exchange and Cooperation, signed by the Prime Ministers of both countries in August 2025 and reflects a shared vision for long-term cooperation, innovation and growth. Together, IIT Bombay and the Prefecture of Hokkaido look forward to fostering global talent and deepening Indo-Japan academic and industry partnerships.

IIT Bombay And NIMS Japan Join Hands For Virtual Research Centre



Dr. Kazuhiro Hono, President of NIMS Japan and Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director of IIT Bombay, during signing of MoU

IIT Bombay has signed an MoU with the **National Institute for Materials Science (NIMS), Japan**, to establish a **Joint Virtual Research Centre** dedicated to strengthening collaborative research in advanced materials. The MoU was formally exchanged between **Prof. Shireesh B Kedare**, Director of IIT Bombay and **Dr. Kazuhiro Hono**, President of NIMS Japan.

This Joint Research Centre will provide a robust platform for faculty members and researchers from both institutions to engage in cutting-edge research in the fields of Materials Science, exchange scientific expertise and build long-term collaborative partnerships. The initiative will further facilitate extended research stays for IIT Bombay faculty and graduate students at NIMS Japan through various programs, including the NIMS Internship Scheme, the International Cooperative Graduate Program (ICGP), JST-LOTUS and the JST Sakura Science Program.

Both institutions envision the Centre as a world-class hub for scientific innovation—advancing the frontiers of materials research, shaping global academic and industrial perspectives and nurturing the next generation of world-class scientists.

IIT Bombay Strengthens India–Canada Collaboration On Carbon Capture

During the recent visit of Prime Minister of Canada **Mark Carney**, to India in late February, the leaders underscored solutions for carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) as a key area of cooperation offering a significant opportunity for the sustainable production of energy and critical minerals. Prime Minister Carney was accompanied by a Canadian high-level delegation that included senior ministers, provincial leaders and leading CEOs.

Reinforcing its commitment to advancing CCUS research and innovation, the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay strengthened partnerships with leading Canadian organisations, including the Petroleum Technology Research Centre (PTRC).

Prof. Vikram Vishal from the Department of Earth Sciences and Convener, National Centre of Excellence in CCUS, IIT Bombay and **Mr. Erik Nickel** of PTRC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in presence of the Saskatchewan Premier, Scott Moe on 2nd March, 2026, in New Delhi.



(From left to right) PTRC CEO Erik Nickel, Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe and IIT Bombay Professor Vikram Vishal during signing of the MoU

During the visit, IIT Bombay showcased its patented Direct Air Capture technology and presented a symbolic “Maple Leaf” design carbonate salt to Prime Minister Mark Carney. The piece was crafted from 100% CO₂ captured directly from the air, demonstrating how scientific innovation can transform climate challenges into tangible solution

With the support of partners across academia, industry and government, IIT Bombay continues to build bridges that advance innovation, sustainability and shared climate goals.

IIT Bombay Partners With KPIT Technologies To Advance AI-Driven Mobility Research And Product Innovation



Mr. Kishor Patil, Chief Executive Officer, KPIT Technologies Limited and Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director, IIT Bombay, during MoU signing ceremony

IIT Bombay has signed a collaboration agreement with **KPIT Technologies Limited** to strengthen industry–academia engagement in AI-driven mobility and related domains.

The partnership will support fellowship programmes, research, and consultancy initiatives, fostering innovation and knowledge exchange. The agreement was signed in the presence of **Mr. Kishor Patil**, CEO, KPIT Technologies, and Director, IIT Bombay, along with senior representatives from both institutions.

This collaboration is expected to create new opportunities for research excellence, product innovation, and talent development.

IIT Bombay Signs MoU With NIT Agartala



IIT Bombay and **NIT Agartala** have signed an MoU on 15th December, 2025 at the IIT Bombay campus to strengthen academic cooperation.

This MoU enables early admission for NIT Agartala students into IIT Bombay's M.Tech., Ph.D., and direct Ph.D. programmes, opening new avenues for advanced learning, research and academic progression.

The MoU was signed by **Prof. Shireesh B. Kedare**, Director, IIT Bombay and **Prof. Sarat Kumar Patra**, Director, NIT Agartala. **Dr. Paramvir Singh**, Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical

Engineering, NIT Agartala; **Prof. Santosh J. Gharpure**, Dean (Faculty Affairs) and Acting Dean (International Relations) and **Mr. Vikash Mishra**, Administrative Superintendent, Office of International Relations, IIT Bombay were present.

The presence of senior academic leadership and administrative representatives from both institutions underscored the importance of this collaboration. It reaffirmed the shared commitment of IIT Bombay and NIT Agartala towards strengthening academic cooperation, research engagement and student opportunities.

IIT Bombay Signs MoU With CCRH To Advance Homoeopathy Research

The **Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH)** has signed an MoU with **Indian Institute of Technology Bombay** for a second venture on 24th February 2026. This initiative reinforces the ongoing commitment of both institutions to validating homoeopathic interventions through cutting-edge technological parameters and advanced scientific research.

The collaboration aims to undertake a fundamental research study titled: "*In Vitro study of the efficacy of Calcarea phosphorica (3X & 6X) and Symphytum officinale (6CH, 12CH & 30CH) loaded bone scaffolds for bone regeneration*".

The MoU was officially signed by **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director, IIT Bombay and **Dr. Subhash Kaushik**, Director General, CCRH.



The study team present during the MoU signing included **Prof. Jayesh Bellare** (Emeritus Fellow) and **Prof. Abhijit Majumder** from Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Bombay; **Dr. Ritika Hassija Narula**, Research Officer/ Scientist-2, CCRH and **Dr. Pratap Walase**, Assistant Professor, GHMC, Maharashtra, in the presence of **Prof. Milind Atrey**, Deputy Director (Academics, Research and Translation); **Prof. Ravindra Gudi**, Deputy Director (Finance, Infrastructure and Administration) and **Prof. Sachin Patwardhan**, former Dean (Research and Development).

IIT Bombay Partners With Hudson River Trading

IIT Bombay, in partnership with **Hudson River Trading**, facilitated via its Indian affiliate entity HRTI Private Limited, is proud to announce the establishment of the **IIT Bombay-HRTI Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Next Gen Visual and Multimodal AI**. This marks India's first dedicated facility for developing foundational, India-centric Vision AI capabilities at scale.

Supported by a long-horizon CSR initiative, the Centre addresses a critical national gap: the scarcity of large-scale visual and multimodal AI solutions tailored to the Indian context. As a hub for national research and innovation, the CoE will advance foundational and translational research in computer vision, vision-language models, generative AI, geospatial and medical imaging and embodied AI.

A core priority involves building high-quality datasets, benchmarks and models grounded in Indian realities and powered by advanced AI compute and open research platforms. Beyond academic excellence, the Centre is committed to talent development and deploying AI solutions across healthcare, infrastructure and governance.

The Institute deeply values HRT's commitment to this mission and looks forward to the transformative societal impact this partnership will deliver.



Prof. Upendra Bhandarkar, Dean (Alumni and Corporate Relations), IIT Bombay and Mr. Arnab Mandal, Director – HRTI Private Limited during signing of the MoU

IIT Bombay Signs MoU With UAlbany, Hosts Leading U.S. Universities



The **Office of International Relations, IIT Bombay** hosted a senior leadership from **University at Albany (UAlbany), USA** on 12th January, 2026. The delegation comprised **Havidán Rodríguez**, President; **Carol Kim**, Provost and Senior Vice President; **Kesh Kesavadas**, Vice President for Research and Economic Development and **Nathaniel Cady**, Associate Dean (Research). The visit aimed to explore new avenues for academic and research collaboration with IIT Bombay. A **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** was signed, marking an important step towards strengthening institutional collaboration. The delegation engaged in detailed discussions with IIT Bombay leadership, including

Prof. Shireesh B. Kedare, Director; **Prof. Sudarshan Kumar**, Dean (International Relations); **Prof. S. Kulkarni**, Dean (Academic Programmes) and **Prof. Santosh Gharpure**, Dean (Faculty Affairs).

The discussions focused on identifying concrete and mutually beneficial collaboration opportunities. The visit also included interactions with the teams at Koita Centre for Digital Health and SEMiX at IIT Bombay, highlighting shared strengths in digital health, semiconductor research and innovation. The discussions laid a strong foundation for translating dialogue into impactful global partnerships.

Reflecting the depth and scale of IIT Bombay's international engagement with US, the Office of International Relations hosted senior delegations from four U.S. universities on the same day, including **Case Western Reserve University**, led by **Eric W. Kaler**, President, along with **Matthew R. Geis**, Executive Vice President; senior faculty members from **Virginia Tech** and senior leadership from **Olin Business School, Washington University in St. Louis**, including **Mike Mazzeo**, Dean and **Markus Baer**, Vice Dean.

One of our distinguished alumni **Mr. Shailesh Mehta** was also present at the meeting with Case Western Reserve University.

The Institute expresses its sincere gratitude to the U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai for their kind support in facilitating these engagements.

Beyond The Campus And Classroom: A Field Visit To Mumbai's Coastal Ecosystems



On 14th March, 2026, **Prof. Sarmistha Pattanaik**, instructor for *HS 629: Ecology, Development and Society* at IIT Bombay, organized a one-day field visit as part of the course's Teaching-Learning-Assessment (TLA) framework. This compulsory experiential component brought together students from M.Tech, M.A.-Res and PhD programmes enrolled in the PG institute elective interdisciplinary HASMED course.

The visit explored key ecological and social landscapes across Mumbai, focusing on three themes: mangrove ecosystems and their socio-ecological significance; Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) policies and governance; and the artisanal

*koliwad*s, traditional fishing villages inhabited by the the *Koli* community, in areas like Worli, Juhu and Versova.

Students visited the mangroves near Bhandup Pumping Station, a biodiversity-rich wetland ecosystem within Thane Creek (CRZ-I); fishing villages in Juhu and Versova to learn the historical settlement patterns of the Koli community in the northern Mumbai CRZ-I Intertidal and Ecological Areas and CRZ II; and flamingo habitats along Thane Creek, a Ramsar site recognised by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The visit included expert guidance on mangrove ecology and CRZ classifications under the 2019 notification.

The field study highlighted the critical role of mangroves in protecting Mumbai's coastline, supporting biodiversity and sustaining local fishing livelihoods. Students gained first-hand insights into environmental challenges, urban transformations and climate impacts on coastal communities.

Reflecting on the experience, students described the visit as eye-opening and transformative. Interactions with local residents deepened their understanding of real-world ecological and livelihood issues, encouraging them to rethink urban development beyond conventional perspectives.

IIT Bombay Hosts Padma Shri Awardee Mr. Satyanarayan Nuwal



Mr. Satyanarayan Nuwal being felicitated by Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director of IIT Bombay and others during his visit to the Institute

IIT Bombay was pleased to host **Mr. Satyanarayan Nuwal**, Founder and Chairman of *Solar Industries India Ltd.*, for a thoughtful interaction with our faculty. His sharp insights, strategic perspective and deep technical understanding enriched our discussions and offered meaningful reflections for our academic community. What resonated deeply was his inspiring journey from humble beginnings to building one of India's leading industrial enterprises. His story stands as a powerful reminder of the impact of resilience, vision and unwavering commitment.

IIT Bombay felicitated him and extended heartfelt congratulations on being conferred the *Padma Shri*, a well-deserved recognition of his contributions to industry and nation building.

The Institute expresses heartfelt appreciation for his time, insights and meaningful interaction with the IIT Bombay community.



Mr. Nuwal visiting a laboratory at IIT Bombay, interacting with faculty and researchers while exploring advanced technological facilities

IIT Bombay Hosts High-level Delegation From French Higher Education Associations

The Indian Institute of Technology Bombay welcomed a high-level delegation from leading **French higher education associations** on 19th December, 2025, as part of its continued efforts to strengthen international academic collaboration and global engagement.

The visiting delegation represented *France Universités*, *Conférence des Grandes Écoles (CGE)* and *Conference of Deans of French Schools of Engineering (CDEFI)* CEDEFI, along with



officials from the Consulate General of France in Mumbai. The visit aimed to gain deeper insights into India's higher education ecosystem, research landscape and IIT Bombay's internationalisation strategy.

The delegation included **Prof. François Louis André Pernot**, Counsellor for International Relations, France Universités; **Mr. Antonio Bento de Oliveira Neves**, Officer for European and International Affairs, France Universités; **Mr. Hugues Brunet**, Director General, Conférence des Grandes Écoles; **Ms. Marie Sarah Salvan**, Head of International Relations, Conférence des Grandes Écoles; **Ms. Jelena Đorđević**, Officer for International Relations, Conference of Deans of French Schools of Engineering (CDEFI); **Dr. Philippe Maurin**, Attaché for Higher Education and Scientific Cooperation, CG France; **Mr. Angel Fortin** and **Ms. Ainaen Han** from the Consulate General of France in Mumbai.

The meeting was attended by **Prof. Milind Atrey**, Deputy Director (Academics, Research and Translation); **Prof. Suvarn Kulkarni**, Acting Dean of International Relations and Dean of Academic Programmes; **Prof. Dipanshu Bansal**, Department of Mechanical Engineering and **Mr. Vikash Mishra**, Administrative Superintendent, Office of International Relations, who highlighted IIT Bombay's vision for deepening international academic cooperation.

The interaction at IIT Bombay featured a comprehensive presentation on the Institute's academic structure, research strengths, innovation ecosystem and global partnerships. Discussions also explored opportunities for enhanced collaboration between Indian and French institutions in areas such as student mobility, joint research initiatives and institutional partnerships.

Following the meeting, the delegation was taken on a brief campus tour, offering them a first-hand experience of IIT Bombay's vibrant academic environment and infrastructure.



IIT Bombay And Washington University In St. Louis Launch 11th Cohort Of Joint Executive MBA Program

IIT Bombay, in collaboration with Washington University in St. Louis, launched the **11th cohort of the Joint Degree Executive MBA (EMBA) Program** at the IIT Bombay campus, marking another milestone in the long-standing academic partnership between the two globally reputed institutions. Jointly delivered by IIT Bombay's Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management and Washington University's Olin Business School, the EMBA program offers global faculty engagement, international immersion and exposure to best-in-class management practices.

The launch ceremony was attended by senior academic leaders, distinguished faculty members and industry professionals, who welcomed the incoming cohort and marked the commencement of the academic journey for Executive MBA Batch 11. The event commenced with welcome remarks by **Mr. Gopal Shukla**, CEO of the IIT Bombay–WashU Joint EMBA Program. The inaugural address was delivered by the Chief Guest **Mr. Aspi Patel**, Chief Technology Officer, Aditya Birla Group, who spoke on the importance of continuous learning, strategic leadership and adaptability in an evolving global business environment.

The ceremony also featured addresses by **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director, IIT Bombay, senior faculty members from IIT Bombay and representatives from Washington University in St. Louis, including **Prof. Mike Mazzeo**, Dean of the Olin Business School and **Prof. Markus Baer**, Vice Dean of Executive Education.



IIT Bombay Hosts ICONS 2026

The **Industrial Research Consultancy Centre (IRCC)**, IIT Bombay, held its flagship workshop - **International Conference on New and Emerging Concepts (ICONS)** during 20th – 21st February, 2026 on the theme **“Critical Raw Materials”**.

IIT Bombay has been recognized as a **“Centre of Excellence in Critical Minerals, Metals and Materials (CMMM)”** under the **National Critical Mineral Mission**. In line with this National Mission, the workshop leveraged and showcased the unique strength of IIT Bombay, spanning across the entire value chain of Mines-Minerals-Materials-Magnets-Market.



Attended by over 175 participants, the workshop catalysis extensive discussions and opened new collaborative opportunities with a wide spectrum of stakeholders from academia, government, industry and policymakers. The brainstorming sessions delved deep into all aspects of the Mission with the participation

from vibrant government decision makers, industry experts who detailed scientific and technological challenges. The discussions and knowledge exchange are already shaping up as meaningful collaborative projects.

Inauguration Of The New Office Of The Dean (International Relations) At IIT Bombay

Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, inaugurated the new office of the Dean (International Relations) at the Rahul Bajaj Technology Innovation Centre on 2nd February, 2026. The ceremony was attended by **Prof. Ravindra Gudi**, Deputy Director (Finance, Infrastructure and Administration); **Prof. Milind Atrey**, Deputy Director (Academics, Research and Translation) along with Deans, Associate Deans, former Deans, the Registrar, section heads and their teams.

On the occasion, Prof. Kedare also formally **launched the new website of the Office of the Dean (International Relations)**. The platform introduces immersive 360-degree campus views and features a high-resolution 4K drone tour film produced by the IR Office, offering partners and prospective collaborators a dynamic and panoramic glimpse of the Institute's academic spaces, student facilities and natural landscape.

The gathering reflected the Institute's continued commitment to strengthening global engagement and advancing international partnership collaborations with professionalism, efficiency and institutional excellence. The Director highlighted the importance of leveraging the newly available infrastructure and digital initiatives to further streamline collaborative processes and enhance global partnerships.



Inauguration Of The New Office Of The Dean (Administrative Affairs) At IIT Bombay



On 1st January, 2026, **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director, inaugurated the new office of the Dean (Administrative Affairs) **Prof. Nand Kishore** in the Nandan Nilekani Main Building, IIT Bombay. Institute functionaries, including **Prof. Ravindra Gudi**, Deputy Director (Finance, Infrastructure and Administration (FIA)); **Prof. Milind Atrey**, Deputy Director (Academics, Research and Translation); **Prof. K V Krishna Rao**, former Deputy Director (FIA); Deans, Associate Deans, former Deans and **Mr. Ganesh Bhorkade**, Registrar, graced the inaugural function.

The presence of Section Heads and the respective teams reflected their commitment to the Institute's strong administrative framework and its continued emphasis on professionalism, efficiency and institutional excellence. The Director emphasized on further improving the processes and procedures for administrative affairs by utilizing the newly available infrastructure more efficiently on the occasion.

Ground-Breaking Ceremony Of The Staff Residential Building

On 16th March, 2026, IIT Bombay marked a significant milestone with the **ground-breaking ceremony** of its upcoming residential building, **Type II-B Staff Quarters**, at lakeside, on the campus.

The event was graced by the august presence of **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director; **Prof. Milind Atrey**, Deputy Director (Academics, Research and Translation); **Prof. Ravindra Gudi**, Deputy Director (Finance, Infrastructure and Administration); along with Deans, Associate Deans, the Dean IPS project team, staff members and other distinguished guests. The ceremony commenced by a ceremonial address and a symbolic ground-breaking.



Prof. Vedagiri Perumal, Dean (Infrastructure Planning & Support (IPS)), delivered the welcome address and highlighted the salient features of this residential building. He mentioned that the building will comprise a ground floor plus 21 floors with 3 level covered podium parking, with a total built-up area of approximately 1.5 lakh sq. ft. It will accommodate 76 two-bedroom, hall and kitchen (2BHK) flats along with essential supporting facilities.

Prof. Atrey and Prof. Gudi emphasized the importance of the project in strengthening the campus infrastructure. Prof. Kedare appreciated the efforts of the Dean IPS team and reiterated the Institute's continued commitment to enhancing residential facilities for staff members.



Envisaged by the Dean IPS project team, this project reflects IIT Bombay's focus on providing modern and comfortable on-campus residential infrastructure for staff members.



IIT Bombay Inaugurates 3D-Printed Security Cabin On Campus

Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director, IIT Bombay inaugurated a state-of-the-art 3D-printed concrete security cabin, marking a significant milestone in sustainable construction and advanced manufacturing technologies in India on 5th January, 2026. The structure was unveiled in the presence of Institute functionaries, faculty members, researchers and students from the Department of Civil Engineering.

"This innovative cabin, designed and fabricated entirely using 3D concrete printing technology, demonstrates the Institute's commitment to leveraging cutting-edge research for real-world infrastructure solutions. The project showcases the integration of digital fabrication, sustainable materials and automated construction methods, enabling rapid, cost-effective and environmentally-conscious building solutions," said **Prof. Kedare**.

Developed jointly by the Department of Civil Engineering and the IIT Bombay 3D Concrete Printing Lab, the cabin was printed using a customized concrete mixture that was developed in-house, that ensures high durability and structural performance while minimizing material wastage. From concrete mixture development, parametric design, structural design to execution, the entire project was driven by the students of IIT Bombay. The printing process was completed in less than 30 hours, illustrating the potential of additive manufacturing to revolutionize small-to-medium scale infrastructure on campuses, industrial facilities and urban and rural sites.

Prof. Ravindra Gudi, Deputy Director (Finance, Infrastructure and Administration), highlighted that this 3D concrete printer was procured through the Institute of Eminence (IoE) Funds and is helping both internal and external users print structures that are not only aesthetically pleasing but also have excellent thermal comfort. The printed security cabin will now serve as a functional unit at Hostel 10, providing both a demonstration platform for future research and a tangible example of India's progress toward automated, sustainable construction technologies.

Prof. Najeeb Shariff, Professor-in-Charge of the project said, *"This project represents IIT Bombay's efforts to translate research into practical innovations that redefine conventional construction practices. 3D concrete printing holds immense promise for rapid construction of houses, infrastructure and post-disaster re-development across India"*.



Newly Reconstructed Hostel 4 Dining Hall-The Institute's Largest Dining Facility - After Distinguished Alumnus Dr. Pramod Chaudhari



(From left to right): IIT Bombay functionaries Prof. Vedagiri Perumal, Dean (Infrastructure Planning and Support); Prof. Upendra Bhandarkar, Dean (Alumni and Corporate Relations); Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director of IIT Bombay (center) along with Dr. Pramod Chaudhari (center) and others during the launch ceremony

IIT Bombay is proud to acknowledge the latest act of generosity by **Dr. Pramod Chaudhari**, Founder Chairman, *Praj Industries Limited* and IIT Bombay Distinguished alumnus (B. Tech., Mechanical Engineering, 1971), whose philanthropic leadership continues to strengthen both academic and residential life at the Institute. His recent contribution has made possible the creation of a new, modern dining space at the **800-capacity Hostel 4 Dining Hall** - the hostel where he lived during his undergraduate years. In recognition of his lifelong engagement and enduring commitment to the Institute, IIT Bombay has named this newly reconstructed facility in his honour. It now stands as the largest dining hall on the IIT Bombay campus.

This contribution builds on Dr. Chaudhari's longstanding dedication to advancing IIT Bombay's mission. Over the years, he has supported several transformative initiatives, including the Parimal and Pramod Chaudhari Centre for Learning and Teaching, which fosters pedagogical innovation; the Pramod Chaudhari Alumni Continuing Education Centre, which advances lifelong learning for alumni; the Bio Processing Laboratory; endowed Chair Professorships and the DBT-Pan IIT Programme.

Speaking on the occasion, **Dr. Chaudhari** said, *"I am deeply touched by the honour my alma mater has*

paid me. Especially since my desire to contribute to society was heavily influenced by my time at IIT Bombay, where I was exposed to ideas of social responsibility and philanthropy. Among the experiences that most shaped my values at the Institute, those in Hostel 4 remain closest to my heart. I still remember the many meals shared, the warmth and dedication of the staff and the countless conversations with friends and batchmates that bonded us forever. The dining hall was a place of community, camaraderie and togetherness. Seeing the newly reconstructed space and knowing it will continue to nurture student life gives me great joy and I hope it remains a home for laughter, learning and lifelong memories for generations to come."

Reflecting on Dr. Chaudhari's wide-ranging contributions, **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director, IIT Bombay, said, *"We are deeply grateful to Dr. Chaudhari for his generosity and lifelong commitment to IIT Bombay. His philanthropic support over the years has enriched the Institute in countless ways. The reconstructed Hostel 4 Dining Hall will be a fitting complement to the enduring spirit of engagement and community that Dr. Chaudhari exemplifies"*.

Celebrating Languages, Celebrating Diversity



On 20th February, 2026, IIT Bombay commemorated **International Mother Language Day** with a vibrant celebration dedicated to honouring and promoting the richness of our languages.

The occasion brought together students, faculty and staff in a shared effort to celebrate India's extraordinary linguistic diversity. A series of thoughtfully curated programmes were organised to

encourage the preservation, appreciation and everyday use of native languages.

The celebration served as a reminder that language is more than a medium of communication. It is a carrier of identity, heritage and collective memory. Through this initiative, IIT Bombay reaffirmed its commitment to nurturing inclusivity and safeguarding the linguistic tapestry that defines our nation.

IIT Bombay Celebrates National Bird Day 2026

The **National Bird Day 2026** was celebrated at IIT Bombay on 5th January, 2026, marking the culmination of 'Bird Watching Month' organised by the **Biodiversity Lab, Office of the Dean IPS, IIT Bombay**.



The day began with the **inauguration of the 'Bird Map of IIT Bombay'** at Soneri Baug by **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director, IIT Bombay in the presence of **Prof. Milind Atrey**, Deputy Director (Academics, Research and Translation (ART)), **Prof. Ravindra Gudi**, Deputy Director (Finance, Infrastructure and Administration (FIA)), **Prof. P. Vedagiri**, Dean (Infrastructure Planning and Support (IPS)) and **Prof. Prakash Nanthagopalan**, Associate Dean (Environment, Health and Safety (EHS)), **IPS**. The map, designed by **Pitta Labs**, showcases the rich avian diversity of the campus.

The programme featured engaging activities for school students, including a bird *origami* workshop by **Origami Mitra** and a bird introduction workshop conducted by campus resident **Ms. Megha Gupta**. A guided bird walk led by the Guest of Honour, **Mr. Adesh Shivkar**, offered participants an immersive experience of the campus birdlife.

The formal event featured a guest talk by the Chief Guest **Dr. Sumiti Saharan**, Neuroscientist and Regional Coordinator, Bird Count India. **Prof. Rajesh Patkar**, Lead, Biodiversity Lab, outlined the vision and mission of the Biodiversity Lab. Prof. Kedare interacted particularly with the school children, encouraging values of conservation and sustainability in young minds. **Prof. Nanthagopalan** highlighted that the IIT Bombay campus alone is home to almost 20% of the total bird species recorded in India. **Prof. Vedagiri** drew an insightful correlation between thermodynamics and bird migration. **Dr. Saharan** emphasised that bird watching is an activity open to people of all ages and that becoming a birder simply requires curiosity and patience.

The addresses were followed by a prize distribution ceremony for competitions conducted in two categories, namely Bird Photography and Essay/ Creative Writing on bird experiences. Entries were categorized into school students, IIT Bombay students and campus residents where they were evaluated by a competent screening committee and further vetted by the Guest of Honour. Supported by the Offices of the Dean IPS and Facility Management, the event brought together students, faculty, staff and campus residents in a shared celebration of biodiversity and the rich birdlife of IIT Bombay.



IIT Bombay Students Find Lessons In Self-Reliance At A Konkan Village



In late January, IIT Bombay students spent three days in Rajwadi, a quiet cluster of hamlets in Ratnagiri district, as part of the Group for Rural Activities' **Gram Bhraman** rural immersion programme.

Their guide was **Satish Kamat**, a former Pune journalist who traded city life to return to his village roots. As founder of the People's Empowering Movement, he has spent years building the one thing no government scheme can deliver on demand: community trust. Under his quiet leadership, villagers located underground water streams, built pipeline networks, constructed a check dam for year-round irrigation and connected their dairy output to a regional cooperative with transparent digital payments, all through Shramdaan, voluntary collective labour. The camp's sharpest finding was about absence. Migration to Mumbai and Pune has

gutted Rajwadi's middle generation, leaving the elderly to maintain the village. The local school, well-staffed and government-equipped, enrolls just twenty children. Yet the village is not abandoned, during Holi and Ganesh Festival, the diaspora returns, renewing bonds that geography has stretched but not broken.

The students also encountered a village quietly diversifying: dairy farming, poultry, goat-rearing and a newly irrigated Rabi season have reduced dependence on monsoon paddy. A geothermal hot spring beside the ancient Someshwar Temple hints at an eco-tourism future still taking shape.

What the students carried back was harder to quantify than any data point: the sight of a community solving real problems not by waiting for help, but by showing up for each other.

Launch Of WRCB Bioinnovation Laboratory



(From left to right): Prof. Ashutosh Kumar, PiC of WRCB; HiMedia Laboratories Founder & CMD Dr. Gangadhar M. Warke and co-founder Mrs. Saroj G. Warke; Prof. Upendra Bhandarkar, Dean (ACR), Dr. Vishal Warke, Director R&D Cell Culture and Immunology, HiMedia Laboratories and others

The **Wadhvani Research Centre for Bioengineering (WRCB)-Bioinnovation Laboratory at IIT Bombay** has officially opened its doors with the support of HiMedia Laboratories Pvt. Ltd.

This cutting-edge facility is equipped with advanced cell culture and molecular biology tools and technologies, providing a strong foundation for breakthrough research and collaboration. The inauguration also showcased the Open SPR System (Medispec), marking the lab's first industry-academia collaboration. This new lab will support researchers in advancing knowledge, building partnerships and creating impactful discoveries.

"The WRCB Bioinnovation Laboratory, a CSR initiative of HiMedia Labs Pvt Ltd at IIT Bombay, is a small but significant step towards making Bharat Atmanirbhar in key biotech areas by Amrit Kaal 2047", shared **Dr. Vishal Warke**, Director, R&D Cell Culture and Immunology, at HiMedia Laboratories.

Training Program By Administrative Training Centre (ATC) Of IIT Bombay



The **Administrative Training Centre (ATC) of IIT Bombay** organized its **2nd Training Program** during 1st-4th November, 2025 to strengthen the professional effectiveness of administrative officers and staff from HEIs.

Participants from IIT Jammu, IIM Lucknow, BITS Pilani - K K Birla Goa, National Sports University in Manipur, NMAMIT, TIFR, IISER Pune, IIT Delhi, Dolat-Usha Institute of Applied Sciences and Dhuru Sarla Institute of Management and Commerce, IIT Roorkee, IIT Indore, NISM, BITS Pilani (Hyderabad), NITK Surathkal, School of Open Learning (University of Delhi), Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women, Delhi; IIM Mumbai and IIT Bombay attended.

Speakers included:

- **Prof. Shireesh Kedare**, Director, IIT Bombay
- **Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri**, Ex-Director, IIT Bombay
- **Prof. P. Seshu**, Ex-Director, IIT Dharwad
- **Mr. Rajiv Verma**, Ex. Director and Consultant (Central Vigilance Commission, New Delhi)
- **Prof. Ravindra D. Gudi**, Dy. Director (FIA), IIT Bombay
- **Prof. Milind Atrey**, Dy. Director (ART), IIT Bombay
- **Prof. K. V. K Rao**, Ex-Dy. Director (FIA), IIT Bombay
- **Prof. Nand Kishore**, Dean (AA), IIT Bombay
- **Prof. P. Vedagiri**, Dean (IPS), IIT Bombay
- **Prof. Suryanarayana Doolla**, Dean (SA), IIT Bombay
- **Mr. Ganesh Bhorkade**, Registrar, IIT Bombay
- **Ms. Priyanka Atal**, Chief Legal Officer, IIT Bombay
- **Prof. Ashish Pandey**, SJMSOM, IIT Bombay
- **Prof. D. B. Phatak**, Padma Shri awardee and Former Chairman of Board of Governors, IIT Indore
- **Mr. D Jaishankar**, Indian Audit and Accounts Service (IA&AS) (Principal Accountant General (Audit-I), Government of Maharashtra
- **Mr. Adil Zainulbhai**, Chairman of Board of Governors, IIT Goa and IIT Ropar; former Chairman Capacity Building Commission, Government of India
- **Lt. Cdr. Nisha Singh** (Retd.), Chief Administrative Officer of IIM Mumbai
- **Dr. Jahnvi Kedare**, Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, T.N. Medical College, B.Y.L. Nair Ch. Hospital, Mumbai
- **Mr. Santosh Kumar Mahur**, Asst. Labour Commissioner (Central), Mumbai
- **Mr. Navneet Manohar**, Principal Additional Director General of National Academy of Direct Taxes, Regional Campus Mumbai
- **Mr. Datta Nalawade**, Dy. Commissioner of Police, Mumbai
- **Prof. Sneha Khandekar**, Nirmala Niketan College

IIT Bombay Hosts High-level Delegation From Canada



(From L-R): Mr. Matt Jeneroux, Prof. Nishant Sharma, Mr. Maninder Sidhu, Prof. Sudarshan Kumar, Mr. Martin Barratt and Prof. Neeraj Kumbhakarna during their visit to SINE, IIT Bombay

IIT Bombay was pleased to host a Canadian high-level delegation on 28th February, 2026. The delegation was led by Hon'ble **Mr. Maninder Sidhu**, Minister of International Trade and included **Mr. Matt Jeneroux**, MP, House of Commons; **Mr. Kevin Lamoureux**, Chief of Staff, Ministry of International Trade; **Mr. Martin Barratt**, Senior Trade Commissioner, CG of Canada, Bengaluru; **Ms. Charlotte**, Global Affairs Canada; **Mr. Aladin Legault d'Auteuil**, Trade Commissioner, Global Affairs Canada and **Mr. Joachim Rocha**, Trade Commissioner, Trade Office of Canada, Ahmedabad.

The delegation met **Prof. Sudarshan Kumar**, Dean (International Relations), **Prof. Neeraj Kumbhakarna**, Associate Dean (Infrastructure, Planning and Support) and team of office of International Relations. Discussions focused on strengthening partnerships with existing Canadian university collaborators and identifying active partners to further deepen engagement. Key research themes included applications of AI and ML across sectors, Health tech innovation and other emerging areas of strategic importance. The Hon'ble Minister assured support in exploring funding avenues to further enhance joint research collaboration between IIT Bombay and Canadian Universities.

The visit was followed by an interaction at Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE) with **Prof. Nishant Sharma**, Professor-in-Charge and **Mr. Shaji Varghese**, CEO, where discussions were held on mentorship and

startup collaborations between the IIT Bombay and Canadian entrepreneurship ecosystems. They also toured select startups incubated at SINE and interacted with founders to understand the innovation journey. The delegation had a particularly engaging discussion with one of the startups working on advanced screening solutions for the early detection of Down syndrome in unborn babies in pregnant women.

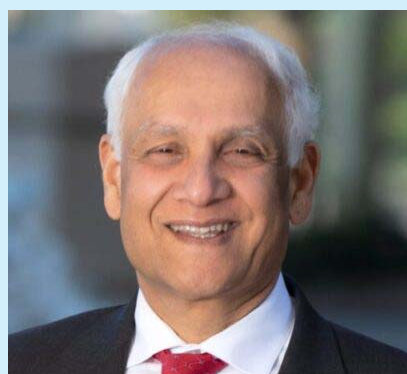
The delegation also visited the IIT Bombay Research Park and met CEO **Dr. Rajappa Tadepalli** and discussed more about industry-academia partnerships and translational research initiatives. The visit concluded with a shared commitment to building meaningful bridges between researchers, innovators and entrepreneurs at IIT Bombay and leading Canadian institutions, thereby deepening the India-Canada partnership in research, innovation and entrepreneurship.



Institute Colloquium / Lectures



Prof. Rama Govindarajan, Professor, ICTS–TIFR, Bengaluru, delivered Prof. C. V. Seshadri Distinguished Institute Lecture titled *“Cooperative Settling”* on 10th February 2026



Prof. Pramod Khargonekar, Distinguished Alumnus of IIT Bombay, Distinguished Professor, University of California, Irvine, delivered the N.R. Kamath Distinguished Lecture titled *“Future Of Work And Workers In the AI Era”* on 28th January, 2026



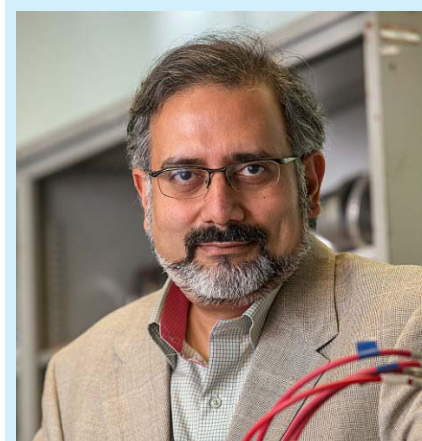
Prof. Nitash P. Balsara, The Charles W. Tobias Professor in Electrochemistry, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, University of California, Berkeley, California, delivered an Institute Lecture titled *“Movement of Polymer Molecules under Electric Fields and Relevance to Rechargeable Batteries”* on 21st January, 2026



Prof. Chandrashekhar Khare, Department of Mathematics, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), California, United States, delivered an Institute Colloquium titled *“A Tale of Two Symmetries”* on 19th January, 2026



Prof. Vivek Shenoy, Eduardo D. Glandt President’s Distinguished Professor, School of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, delivered an Institute Lecture titled *“The Living Genome as an Active Material”* on 22nd January, 2026



Prof. Abhay Deshpande, State University of New York (SUNY) Distinguished Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Stony Brook University, delivered an Institute Colloquium titled *“Understanding the Glue that Binds Us All”* on 12th February, 2026

Prof. Bruce Hajek, Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Former Editor-in-Chief, IEEE Transactions on Information Theory Member, U.S. National Academy of Engineering, delivered the Prof. N. R. Kamath Distinguished Institute Lecture titled *“On Scaling Cryptocurrencies – Payment Channels and Bridges”* on 2nd March, 2026



Dr. Sarita Ahlawat, Co-founder and Managing Director of BotLab Dynamics, delivered the Radhika Rajan Women Leadership Lecture titled *“From Early Failures to World Records: The Story of BotLab Dynamics”* on 9th March, 2026



Prof. J. N. Moorthy, Professor, Department of Chemistry, IIT Kanpur, Director, IISER Thiruvananthapuram, delivered Prof. C.N.R Rao Distinguished Lecture titled *“Rational Molecular Design of Functional Organic Materials”* on 25th March, 2026

Notification

Prof. Shrikrishna V. Kulkarni, Department of Electrical Engineering, has been appointed as new Dean (Research and Development) w.e.f. 2nd March, 2026

Prof. Kamendra Sharma, Department of Chemistry, has been appointed as the next Head of Centre for Sophisticated Instruments and Facilities (CSIF) w.e.f. 27th November, 2025

Prof. Rohit Srivastava, Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering, appointed as first Professor-in-Charge of Medical Technology Research and Innovation Centre (MED-TRIC) w.e.f. 22nd October, 2025

Prof. Prakriti Tayalia, has been appointed as the first Professor-in-Charge of the newly established IITB- Alkem Centre for Applied Immuno-Therapeutics and Regenerative Medicines w.e.f. 3rd February, 2026

Prof. Chandra Sekher Yerramalli, Department of Aerospace Engineering, has been appointed as the first Professor-in-charge of the newly established Translational Research Yielding Solutions for Tomorrow (TRYST) w.e.f. 17th March, 2026

Prof. Sai Vinjanampathy, Department of Physics, has been appointed as the next Professor-in-Charge (PiC), Centre of Excellence in Quantum Information Computing Science & Technology (CoE-QulCST) for a period of three years w.e.f. 24th March, 2026

Prof. Siddhartha Santra, Department of Physics, has been appointed as the first Co-Professor-in-Charge (Co-PiC), Centre of Excellence in Quantum

Information Computing Science & Technology (CoE-QulCST) for a period of three years w.e.f. 25th March, 2026

Prof. Swaroop Ganguly, Department of Electrical Engineering, has been appointed as the next Professor-in-Charge of IITB Centre of Semiconductor Technologies (SEMIX) w.e.f. 31st January, 2026

Prof. Girish Dalvi, has been appointed as the first Associated Head of IDC School of Design, IIT Bombay w.e.f. 23rd January, 2026

Prof. Arghadeep Laskar, Department of Civil Engineering, has been appointed as a Warden, Hostel No. 19 w.e.f. 21st January, 2026

Prof. Nagendra Velaga, Department of Civil Engineering, has been appointed as a Warden, Hostel No. 14 w.e.f. 5th February, 2026

Prof. Srinivasa Rao Gangumalla, Department of Earth Sciences, has been appointed as a Associate Warden, Hostel No. 19 w.e.f. 21st January, 2026

Prof. Archak Mittal, Department of Civil Engineering, has been appointed as a Associate Warden, Hostel No. 17 w.e.f. 2nd February, 2026 and Associate Warden, Hostel No. 04 w.e.f. 23rd February, 2026

Prof. Avijit Majhi, Department of Civil Engineering, has been appointed as a Associate Warden, Hostel No. 04 w.e.f. 23rd February, 2026

Prof. Uday Khedker, has been appointed as the Interim Head, Department of Computer Science and Engineering w.e.f. 26th March, 2026

Student News

RoboSub 2025: Matsya 7 Delivers A Strong Performance

At **RoboSub 2025**, held in USA, the **AUV-IIT Bombay** team delivered a strong competitive performance with the newly developed **Matsya 7**, securing 4th place in the semifinals and 6th place in the finals. The results reflected the vehicle's reliable autonomy, effective mission strategy and consistent real-world task execution.

RoboSub challenges student teams to design and build fully autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs) capable of performing complex real-world missions — from navigation and perception to manipulation, torpedo shooting and object detection — all without human control.



Vehicle, Matsya 7, the latest and most advanced in a decade-long evolution of AUVs from IIT Bombay, showcased:

- Advanced autonomy - flawless navigation through a 9-pole slalom course
- Robust computer vision - real-time detection and tracking of underwater objects
- Precision mechatronics - stable torpedo launches and precise actuation control
- System reliability - consistent performance through multi-stage missions

This remarkable achievement was made possible through the unwavering support of IIT Bombay, under the invaluable mentorship of **Prof. Leena Vachhani**, Associate Dean (Research and Development) and (Centre for Systems and Control) and **Prof. S. R. Kotha** (Department of Chemistry), along with guidance from faculty and Institute functionaries who have supported the team throughout its journey.



Ms. Sonali Singh, a PhD scholar from the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS), secured the **first prize** in the **Cultural Activity category** at the **International Youth Biodiversity Conference 2026**, held from 20th-23rd February and organised by the

Telangana Biodiversity Board. The competition was based on the theme **“Biodiversity for Life: Skilling Youth for a Green Future”**.

She also achieved **second position in the Videography Contest category** and received a **recognition badge from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF)** for winning first prize.



Dr. Tanmoy Das, a former PhD scholar under the supervision of **Prof. Deepankar Choudhury** (Department of Civil Engineering), has secured First Position in the Best PhD Thesis Ranking (F.Y. 2025–26),

awarded by the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. His award-winning thesis is titled **“Analysis of landslide triggering mechanisms under rainfall and earthquake conditions considering parametric uncertainties”**. Dr. Tanmoy is currently advancing his research as a Postdoctoral Fellow at UTS, Sydney, Australia.

Outstanding Achievement: IIT Bombay's iGEM Team Secures Silver Medal At Paris Competition



The **Team iGEM IIT Bombay** has secured a **silver medal** in the **International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) Competition 2025**, held in Paris, France. The competition is the world's premier synthetic biology event, bringing together over 400 teams from leading global universities to showcase innovative solutions to real-world problems.

The iGEM team, under the guidance of Principal Investigators **Prof. Kiran Kondabagil**, Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering and **Prof. Saket Choudhary**, Koita Centre for Digital Health (KCDH), developed an impactful project aimed at tackling Biofilm Infections through an engineered protease based solution which can safely degrade tough Biofilms and kill the dormant bacteria they harbor. The project's goal is to establish a sustainable and safe therapeutic option for infections associated with Bio-Medical devices (such as Catheters, Breast Implants, Prosthetic Joints), also infections in Cystic Fibrosis, Contact Lenses etc.

TU Wien, Austria Host IIT Bombay Students In Winter School 2025



About 10 IIT Bombay students participated in **Winter School 2025**, hosted by **TU Wien, Austria**, during 13th–25th November, 2025, under the theme “**ESG in Practice: India Meets Austria**”. The program commenced with the IFM Congress, where students had the opportunity to learn from industry leaders and academic experts. Faculty members from IIT Bombay, along with the Office of International Relations team, also participated in the IFM Congress to explore potential trilateral collaborations involving IIT Bombay, TU Wien and Industry, further strengthening engagement with corporate partners.

The program offered an enriching learning experience through lectures, site visits and interactive sessions focused on smart technologies, workplace management, digital transformation, IoT, AI-based safety systems and green energy solutions. As part of the industry immersion, students visited the IBM Innovation Hub and VERBUND, Austria's leading electricity utility and

one of Europe's largest hydropower producers. These visits provided first-hand exposure to advanced technological applications, sustainable energy solution and innovation-driven industrial ecosystems.

During the second week, students participated in intensive, hands-on Design Thinking workshops, where they applied their learning to real-world ESG and sustainability challenges.

The highlight of the concluding weekend was the **Design Thinking Hackathon**, in which students worked on industry-based problem statements and demonstrated creativity, teamwork and innovative thinking. The Winter School concluded with final presentations, where IIT Bombay students showcased their solution-oriented outcomes.

Students also experienced Vienna's vibrant culture through the informal networking events, sightseeing and exploration.

ACCESS Awards 2025

IIT Bombay is delighted to announce the winners of the **ACCESS 2025 (Accelerating Climate, Energy & Sustainability Solutions) Awards** Initiative supported through the generous contribution of IIT Bombay alumni **Dr. Vinaya Kapoor** (B.Tech., Chemical Engineering, 1992) and **Dr. Samir Kapoor** (B.Tech., Electrical Engineering, 1992), these awards reward some of the trailblazing ideas aimed at addressing the pressing challenges of climate change.

The ACCESS 2025 winning teams for the theme 'Climate Impacts and Adaptation':

1st Prize - Team SWIMS Innovators



Pratham Pandit, Duggam Gao, Tamas Saha, Manthan Goyal, Twara Desai, Yashvardhan, Sudhindra Sahoo, under the mentorship of Prof. Archak Mittal, Prof. Subimal Ghosh, Prof. Vishal Dixit and Prof. Suyash Bire, created India's first climate-adaptive infrastructure intelligence platform fusing real-time weather intelligence with traffic and road condition monitoring.

2nd Prize - Team SunSpring

Pranitha P T, Anuj Bangad, Shubham Tiwari, under the mentorship of Prof. Sandip Saha and Prof C Subramaniam, presented their idea to bottle sunlight for equitable access to clean drinking water.



The ACCESS 2025 winning team for the theme 'Climate Mitigation and Finance':

1st Prize - Team ACTIONN



Dewashish Tiwari, Runjhun Brijesh Shah, Tenneti Rathna Kumar, under the mentorship of Prof. Chandra Venkataraman and Prof. Yogendra Shastri, presented a scalable, data-driven model that links clean cooking solutions with carbon finance and plan to facilitate carbon credit generation, rural entrepreneurship and climate-aligned livelihoods.

The ACCESS Awards is managed by Centre for Climate Studies and Development and Relations Foundation, Dean (Alumni and Corporate Relations Office (ACR)) at IIT Bombay.

IIT Bombay–Linked Startup Wins National-level Award



Rad AI Pvt. Ltd., a startup founded by **Prof. Kshitij Jadhav**, (Koita Centre for Digital Health (KCDH), IIT Bombay; Chief Project Coordinator, AI Centres of Excellence, Ministry of Education, Government of India), has been recognized among the **Top 10 AI & Cancer Startups in India** under the **IndiaAI–NCG Cancer AI & Technology Challenge (CATCH)** at the **India AI Impact Summit 2026** during 21st–22nd February in New Delhi.

Rad AI's **MAMMO-Q** is an AI-driven breast mammography screening and reporting platform that delivers rapid, standardized outputs, including automated image quality checks, lesion detection, breast density evaluation and structured clinical reports within ~1 minute per study. Designed for real-world deployment on existing mammography systems, the platform ensures operational reliability and clinical relevance.

The IndiaAI–NCG CATCH initiative is a national programme aimed at accelerating high-impact AI solutions across the cancer care continuum—from screening and diagnostics to clinical decision support. The project is being developed in collaboration with Max Healthcare, enabling clinical validation and seamless integration into hospital workflows.

IIT Bombay congratulates **Prof. Jadhav** and **Rad AI Pvt. Ltd team members Dr. Bharat Aggarwal** and **Mr. Aniket Aman** on this achievement.

IIT Bombay Team Wins The Hackathon Challenge-IEW 2026



IIT Bombay has won the **Hackathon Challenge – India Energy Week (IEW) 2026** among seven premier institutes, recognising its innovative problem-solving in energy technology. **Soutik Bhakta** and **Prof. Kumar Hemant Singh** from the Department of Earth Sciences,

IIT Bombay, were awarded for **Aura**, an AI-driven unified reservoir analysis platform using a semi-supervised CNN transformer framework. The award included a trophy, certificate and prize money of Rs. 1 lakh.

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural

Gas and **Dr. Neeraj Mittal**, Secretary of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, presented the awards at the 4th edition of India Energy Week 2026, held in Goa during 27th–30th January, 2026.

IIT Bombay Conducts Lectures On Nobel Prizes 2025

The **Industrial Research and Consultancy Centre (IRCC)** organized the inaugural session on Nobel Prizes 2025

Lectures in the disciplines of Physics, Physiology/ Medicine and Chemistry on 15th January, 2026. The subsequent session covering the Economics and Literature categories was held on 20th January, 2026. These lectures highlighted the significance of the work leading to Nobel Prizes.

Prof. S.V. Kulkarni, Dean (Research and Development), gave introductory remarks about the programme.

Category	Speaker [Prof.]	Laureate(s) [Prof.] and Awarded work	Title of talk
Physiology/ Medicine	Prof. Sushil Kumar , Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering	Mary E Brunknow, Fred Ramsdell, Shimon Sakaguchi "for their discoveries concerning peripheral immune tolerance"	Discovery of central immune tolerance mechanism that prevents harming the body
Chemistry	Prof. Sanjog Nagarkar , Department of Chemistry	Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson, Omar M Yaghi "for the development of metal-organic frameworks"	Metal Organic Framework: Why The World's Smallest Lego Set Matters
Physics	Prof. Kantimay Das Gupta , Department of Physics	John Clarke, Michel H. Devoret, John M. Martinis "for the discovery of macroscopic quantum mechanical tunnelling and energy quantisation in an electric circuit"	SLUGS, SQUIDS and macroscopic variables in Quantum Mechanics
Economic Sciences	Prof. Pintu Parui , Department of Economics	Joel Mokyr ("for having identified the prerequisites for sustained growth through technological progress"), Philippe Aghion and Peter Howitt ("for the theory of sustained growth through creative destruction")	Innovation-Driven Economic Growth: Why It Matters

Presentation By Rakesh Mathur Research Awardees

The **Office of Dean (Research and Development)**, IIT Bombay organised a presentation by the recipients of the Rakesh Mathur Awards for Excellence in Research – 2025 of their work for the IIT Bombay academic community on 24th March, 2026. The presentations were focused on the significance of the work leading to these research awards.

Prof. Shrikrishna V. Kulkarni, Dean (Research and Development) gave introductory remarks about the programme.



Speaker: Prof. K. G. Suresh, Department of Physics
Recipient of Prof. S. C. Bhattacharya Award for Excellence in Pure Sciences 2025

Title: Soft, Hard and Smart Magnetic Materials from the Intermetallics Family



Speaker: Prof. R. S. Jangid, Department of Civil Engineering

Recipient of Prof. H. H. Mathur Award for Excellence in Applied Sciences 2025

Title: Earthquake-Resistant Design of Structures

Awards and Distinctions

Prof. Shrikrishna V. Kulkarni, Department of Electrical Engineering, has won the “**INAE Outstanding Teacher Award**” for having excelled in the field of teaching. He also won the “**Best Paper Award**” at the International Conference on Transformers (TRAFOTECH Global 2025) organized by IEEMA (Indian Electrical and Electronics Manufacturers Association)

The joint proposal of **Prof. Debabrata Maiti**, Department of Chemistry, with ACTREC–Tata Memorial Centre (**Dr. Vikram Gota**), entitled “**TechnoHeritage Ayurveda: Data-Driven, IoT-Powered Innovations Enhancing Safety, Evidence, and Sustainability in Traditional Therapies**,” was selected among 21 proposals globally from 1,175 submissions under the WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre – Health & Heritage Innovations (H2I) Open Call

The research work of **Prof. Biplab Banerjee**, Centre of Studies in Resources Engineering, has been selected to be presented at the **AI Impact Summit 2026** under “**Research Symposium on AI and its Impact**” theme, which aims to “showcase the most impactful and best-reviewed research emerging from India-based conferences”

Prof. Maryam Shojaei Baghini, Department of Electrical Engineering, has been honoured for the **Best Faculty Award** by VLSI Society of India (VSI), awarded during VLSID 2026

Prof. Vikram Gadre, Department of Electrical Engineering, has been bestowed **PCEMS 2025 Lifetime Achievement Award** by Department of Electronics and Communications Engineering, VNIT Nagpur. **Prof. Gadre** (Lead Incharge) and his team also, on behalf of IIT Bombay, received the **Samvaad Award** at the Aadhaar Samvaad event, for **R&D Partnership in Contactless Biometrics** partner with Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)

Prof. Deepankar Choudhury, Department of Civil Engineering, has been appointed as a **Chairperson of the Building and Works Committee (B&WC)** of the Indian Institute of Management Mumbai. Prof. Choudhury also delivered the prestigious **47th IGS Annual Lecture of the Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS)** during its annual conference, the Indian Geotechnical Conference (IGC-2025) on 18th December, 2025 held at NIT Jalandhar, Punjab, India

Prof. G.V. Sreekumar, IDC School of Design, authored chapter “**The Grammar of Design**” was published in “**Design India Yearbook 2025-26**”, edited by **Sudhi Sharma** published by IndiDesign Pvt Ltd. ISBN: 978-81-982835-0-4

Prof. Prasanna Gandhi (Inventor), Department of Mechanical Engineering, on behalf of IIT Bombay, received the **ICMR Innovation Excellence Recognition — Gold** for his Indian Patent No. 554978 titled, “**High Precision Surgical Robotic Platform for Cooperative and Teleoperated Minimal Invasive Surgeries**,” jointly held with ICMR

Prof. Rashmi Gupta, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, has been appointed to the **editorial board** of the **Discover Psychology Journal** (Publisher: Springer Nature) <https://link.springer.com/journal/44202/editorial-board>

Prof. Shankaranarayanan S, Department of Physics, has been elected as **Secretary** of the **Indian Association of General Relativity and Gravitation (IAGRG) Council**

Prof. Nagappan Ramaswamy, Department of Chemical Engineering, has been offered the position of **Associate Editor** for the **Electrochemical Society Advances (ECSA)** journal

Prof. Surya Durbha, Head, Centre of Studies in Resources Engineering, has joined the **Editorial Board of Scientific Reports**, Nature publishing group as an **Editorial Board Member**

Prof. Amrita Banerjee, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, has joined the **Editorial Board** of the journal, **Metaphilosophy**, published by WILEY

Prof. Varun Bhalerao (Department of Physics), Principal Investigator of the **IIT Bombay-led GROWTH-India Telescope team**, has been awarded the **ASI Zubin Kumbhavi Award** (Observational and Instrumentation work in Astronomy and allied fields) by the Astronomical Society of India. This telescope is jointly owned and operated by IIT Bombay and the Indian Institute of Astrophysics Bangalore

Prof. Subimal Ghosh, Department of Civil Engineering and Convener Centre for Climate Studies, has been elected as a **fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences**

Prof. Neela Nataraj, Department of Mathematics, has been appointed as the **Chairperson of the Indian National Committee for the International Mathematical Union (IMU)**

Prof. Kasturi Saha, Department of Electrical Engineering, has been invited to join the Editorial Board of **Scientific Reports**, Nature publishing group as an **Editorial Board Member**

Prof. Pradeep Dixit, Department of Mechanical Engineering, has been appointed as **Guest Editor** for **IEEE Transactions on Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology (IEEE- TCMPT)**, a reputable journal in the field of Semiconductor Packaging

Prof. Anindya Datta, Department of Chemistry, has been elected as a **Fellow** of the **Indian Academy of Sciences 2026**

A student project titled “*if (smile) {capture();}*”, created by **Mr. Rintaro Fujita**, an exchange student and mentored by **Prof. Sugandh Malhotra**, IDC School of Design, has been conferred the **Finalists' Award** in the Student Category / Interactive Arts at the 2025 Asia Digital Art Award FUKUOKA (ADAA)

Conferences/ Symposiums

The **CMinDS and BharatGen**, on behalf of IIT Bombay, in collaboration with the Government of Maharashtra, hosted a conclave on **AI for Science**, a pre-summit event as part of the **India–AI Impact Summit 2026**, on 8th January, 2026. **Prof. Mani Bhushan**, Department of Chemical Engineering, was the convener.

The **FOSSEE Project at IIT Bombay** organized a symposium on **Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) OpenFOAM (Open Field Operation and Manipulation)** during 8th-9th January, 2026.

The **Department of Chemistry, IIT Bombay**, organized an **IoE-sponsored SSCP Symposium** on **“Porous Framework Materials for Chemical Separation & Triboelectric Energy Generation”** on 20th January, 2026. **Prof. Ramaswamy Murugavel**, was the convener.

“AI in Mobility: For a Better Society—Advancing Road Safety, Connected Vehicles, and Intelligent Logistics,” as part of pre-summit initiative of the AI Impact Summit 2026, was organised on 31st January, 2026 at IIT Bombay. **Prof. Archak Mittal**, Department of Civil Engineering, was the coordinator.

The **Indian Membrane Society (IMS)** and the **Gogri Hub for Membrane Research, IIT Bombay**, jointly organised an international conference on **“Membranes for Decarbonization and Sustainability (MDCS) & 2nd Conference on Applied Membrane Technology and Translational Research (AMTTR-2)”** during 12th-14th February, 2026 at IIT Bombay. **Prof. Swatantra P. Singh**, PiC - Gogri Hub for Membrane Research, IIT Bombay, was the convener.

The **Wadhvani Innovation and Translation Centre (WITC)** organised **SynBio’26, a Synthetic Biology Conference** on 21st February, 2026 at IIT Bombay. **Prof. Ashutosh Kumar**, PiC-WITC, was the convener.

The **Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Bombay**, organized its **annual flagship event Chemical Engineering Conclave 2026** on 27th February, 2026 at IIT Bombay. **Prof. Abhijit Majumder** and **Prof. Guruswamy Kumaraswamy** were the faculty coordinators.

The **Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management, IIT Bombay**, in collaboration with **Optiver AI Innovation Lab, IIT Bombay**, organized a National Symposium on **AI Innovation in BFSI Services** on 28th March, 2026. **Prof. Rajendra M. Sonar** was the convener.

Paper Presentations

A paper titled **“A Modified RoCoF-Based requencey Control Strategy or Grid-Forming ind Turbine Power Plants in 100% enewble Energy Systems”** has received the **Best Paper Award** at the IEEE Electrical Power amd Energy Conference (EPEC) 2025, held during 15th-17th October, 2025 in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. **Aaqibr Manzoor, Dhiraj Khadka, Prof. Zakir Rather, and Prof. Suryanarayana Doolla** from Department of Energy Science and Engineering, IIT Bombay and **Prof. Hao Wang** (Monash University, Melbourne, Australia) were the authors.

Link: <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/11230462>



In the
Wilderness



Photo Credit :

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Workshops

The **IIT Bombay Research Hub for Green Energy and Sustainability (GESH IITB)** hosted a round table workshop on **Bio-Based Chemicals and Sustainable Innovation**, through UK-India collaboration, funded by the Royal Academy of Engineering – Frontiers Programme, Supergen Bioenergy Hub, University of Nottingham, on 3rd January, 2026. **Prof. Rahul Nabar**, Adj. Professor (IIT Bombay, Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Bombay) and **Dr. Parimala Shivaprasad** (Assistant Professor, Chemical Engineer, Director at SMDR Ltd, Founder of Retra) were the moderators.

The **FOSSEE Project at IIT Bombay** organized a hands-on workshop on **OpenFOAM (Open Field Operation and Manipulation)** on 9th January, 2026

The **Koita Centre for Digital Health - KCDH, IIT Bombay**, organized a two-day workshop on **Digital Transformation of Hospitals** during 10th-11th January, 2026, IIT Bombay. **Prof. Ranjith Padinhateeri**, PiC (KCDH) and was spearheaded by **Col (Dr) Kalyani Addya** (Retd), Professor of Practice, KCDH.

The **Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Bombay**, organized a two-part workshop by **Dr. Alberto Anrò**, University of Turin, titled **(Part-I): Perception, Cognition, and Minimal Inference: A Comparative Study of Non-Verbal and Nameability in Nyya-Vaijñānīka** on 14th January 2026 and **(Part-II) Inference Without Language. A Nyya Framework for Non-verbal Cognition** on 21st January, 2026. **Prof. Ranjan Kumar Panda**, was the host.

The **Centre for Sophisticated Instruments and Facilities (CSIF), IIT Bombay**, organized a workshop on **Raman Spectroscopy** 16th January, 2026. **Prof. Anil Kottantharayil** was the convener.

The **Grid Integration Lab, IIT Bombay**, organized a 2-day national workshop on **Future-Ready power System in India: RE Integration,**

Storage, EVs & Grid Modernization during 20-21st January, 2026. **Prof. Zakir Hussain Rather** was the convener.

The **Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Bombay**, organized a brainstorming workshop on **Assessment of Completed and Ongoing Cement Concrete Roads** for Engineers of the BMC (BrihanMumbai MahanagarPalika), representatives of Quality Monitoring Agencies, and contracting agencies as part of the ongoing road concretization project under BMC on 30th January, 2026. **Prof. K. V. Krishna Rao**, **Prof. P. Vedagiri** and **Prof. Solomon Debbarma** were the coordinators from IIT Bombay.

The **Ashank Desai Centre for Policy Studies, IIT Bombay**, organized a research workshop titled **Streamlining Qualitative Data Analysis with the MAXQDA application** by **Ms. Sarah Nazamuddin Harniswala** (PhD Scholar, ADCPS, IIT Bombay) on 9th February, 2026. **Prof. Rahul S. Sapkal**, was the convener

The **Psychophysiology Laboratory, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Bombay**, organized **AAN-DI (E4.1) TOT Workshop on Understanding Emotions in Neurodivergent Individuals** under Digital Transformation for NeuroDiversity Inclusion in Africa and Asia" Erasmus+ sponsored by European Union on 14th February, 2026.

The **Department of Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science, IIT Bombay** conducted an SCPP Workshop on **Tribocorrosion of Materials: Fundamentals to Applications** on 23rd February, 2026. **Prof. Darothi Bairagi**, was the convener.

The **Indian Institute of Technology Bombay**, in collaboration with the **Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Intellectual Property Management (RGNIPM), Government of India, Nagpur** under **National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission (NIPAM)**, organized an online workshop on **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) & Patents and Design filing** on 25th February,

2026. **Prof. Leena Vachhani**, Associate Dean (Research and Development (R&D)) and **Ms. Pallavi Agarwal**, Technical Officer (Dean R&D Office) were the coordinators from IIT Bombay.

The **Department of Economics Innovation Lab, IIT Bombay** organized a hands-on stata workshop on **heterogeneous treatment effects estimation** by **Prof. Partha Deb** (Hunter College, City University of New York; National Bureau of Economic Research) on 11th March, 2026. **Prof. Tara Shankar Shaw** was the Professor-in-Charge.

The **Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Bombay** and **FedEx Centre for Advanced Logistics and Analytics, IIT Bombay**, organized a two-day workshop on **Port Landside Planning, Operations, and Logistics** during 16th-17th March, 2026. **Prof. Gopal R. Patil** was the convener.

The **Centre of Excellence - Oil, Gas and Energy (CoE-OGE), IIT Bombay**, in collaboration with **ASPIRE IITB Research Park Foundation, IIT Bombay**, hosted an executive workshop and strategic roundtable on **Quantum Frontier 2026: Demystifying the Global Landscape** on 23rd March, 2026. **Prof. Yogendra Shastri** was the Professor-in-Charge.

The **Koita Centre for Digital Health (KCDH), IIT Bombay** in collaboration with **National Disease Modelling Consortium** and the **Women's Collective Forum**, organized a one-day workshop on **Digital Health, AI for NCD Surveillance and Universal Health Coverage** on 24th March, 2026. **Prof. Ranjith Padinhateeri** (Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering), was the Professor-in-Charge.

The **IIT Bombay-Honeywell Centre of Excellence in Future Skills & Innovation (IHCFISI)**, organized a one-day workshop on **Future Skills for Sustainable Development** on 28th March, 2026. **Prof. Bakul Rao** (Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas), was the Professor-in-Charge.

Research in focus

IIT Bombay's New Study Shows The Mucus Paradox In Our Lungs

Researchers at IIT Bombay reveal how excessive mucus creates gaps in our lungs' defences, leaving us vulnerable to allergic attacks.

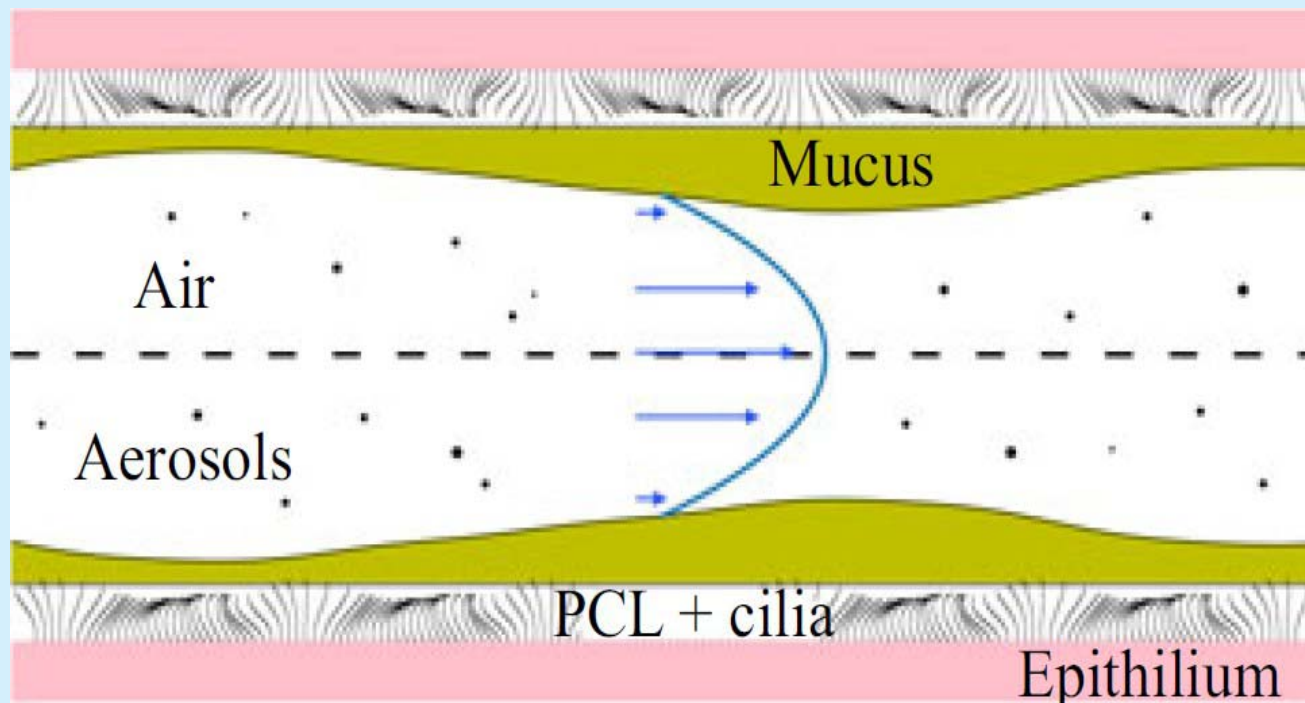


Illustration of the airway with inhaled aerosols being transported by the respiratory airflow

Sources: Authors of the study

The airways of our lungs have a naturally engineered defence mechanism that gets activated when any foreign material, even microscopic, enters the airways by secreting a fluid called mucus to trap it. But, for millions of people living in cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru and other metros, the rising levels of air pollution have been posing a persistent health hazard, despite our in-built defences. The heavy smog-filled air is causing severe respiratory issues for everyone, children and adults alike.

Now, a recent study from the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay) has found that as mucus volume increases in response to pollution (or a foreign material) in the airways, its defence does not improve. Instead, the increased mucus

volume ends up creating narrow 'humps' that leave large patches of the airway walls completely exposed. This patchy landscape could explain why excessive mucus is detrimental, potentially allowing fine soot particles to penetrate deep into our systems and triggering asthma attacks.

The study conducted by **Swarnaditya Hazra** and **Prof. Jason R. Picardo** has been published in the *Journal of Fluid Mechanics* and focuses on the middle airways. These are the branching pipes of the lung that lie midway between the windpipe and the terminal air sacs. The air flow, which is swirling and chaotic in the windpipe, calms as it enters the small middle airways.

In this specific region, the physics of the mucus layer is governed

by a phenomenon known as the Rayleigh–Plateau instability, which is the same mechanism that causes a thin stream of water to break into droplets. It is driven by surface tension, which pulls the mucus into ring-like collars or 'humps' along the tube.

One of the most striking findings of the research is that adding more mucus to the system actually worsens the protection. "A significant fraction of soot particles has submicron sizes; such tiny particles would deposit on the airway wall by diffusion if the wall is left exposed. Our work shows that the mucus coating, which lines the airways, becomes more patchy as its volume increases", explains **Prof. Picardo**.

While it might seem logical that more fluid would lead to greater

coverage, the researchers found that it was not so. *“To be clear, our finding is that a more voluminous mucus film gathers into humps that are deeper but narrower; consequently, the mucus-depleted zones expand. This is indeed counterintuitive”*, adds **Prof. Picardo**.

He explains that the team had actually anticipated this result theoretically before even running their computer simulations. Using a combination of stability and equilibrium theory, they predicted that surface tension would draw the film into these concentrated humps. *“It was gratifying to find our expectations borne out”*, he adds.

For residents of high-pollution zones, this finding is more than a mathematical curiosity; it is a matter of respiratory survival. Soot particles, common in urban environments, are often submicron in size or thousands of times thinner than a human hair. These tiny particles move through a process called diffusion and they are highly likely to land on any exposed part of the airway wall. When mucus becomes patchy due to its high volume, it leaves the lung walls vulnerable.

“Beyond the lack of coverage, excessive mucus can also lead to the physical plugging of the airways, obstructing the very air we need to survive,” notes **Swarnaditya**, citing one of their other works.

This research also sheds light on the ‘vicious cycle’ of rapid-onset asthma. When a person with asthma inhales an allergen, their body reacts by secreting more mucus. According to the IIT Bombay study, this hyper-

secretion causes the mucus to gather into those narrow humps, exposing more of the airway wall to the very allergens that caused the reaction in the first place.

Prof. Picardo suggests this could amplify the allergic response: *“Allergen deposition triggers mucus oversecretion and airway constriction... this in turn would result in more of the wall becoming exposed to allergens, whose subsequent deposition would amplify the allergic response”*.

While further work is needed to link fluid mechanics to cellular responses, the study provides a physical basis for why some asthma attacks escalate so rapidly.

The study also tracked how particles of different sizes navigate this bumpy internal landscape. Large particles, which have more inertia, are unable to follow the air as it curves around a mucus hump. They crash into the front of the hump and get trapped, a process called inertial impaction. Small particles, meanwhile, are tossed around by air molecules and tend to land in the bare valleys. However, there is a ‘Goldilocks’ zone of intermediate-sized particles that are neither heavy enough to crash nor light enough to drift. These particles can navigate past the humps and escape the lung’s defences entirely.

This discovery has massive implications for the pharmaceutical industry. Currently, most research into inhaled drugs focuses on the very beginning of the respiratory tract (the nose) or the very end (the air sacs). The ‘middle airways’

have long been a mystery. By understanding how these mucus humps form and where they catch particles, scientists can begin to design ‘designer drug particles’ that land exactly where they are needed. **Prof. Picardo** notes that the grand objective is to build a comprehensive model of the entire lung network.

“Our work contributes to this by providing insight into aerosol deposition in the mucus-bearing middle airways, which had not been studied before”, **Prof. Picardo** says.

The researchers also looked at the ‘ciliary elevator’, the tiny, hair-like structures that beat to move mucus out of the lungs. They found that while these hairs are crucial for cleaning the lungs over several minutes, they are far too slow to influence where a particle lands during the split second of an inhale. The air travels hundreds of times faster than the mucus moves, meaning the humpy geometry of the mucus is essentially a fixed obstacle course for every breath we take.

This research highlights the beauty and complexity of the physics within our own bodies. By using mathematical models *“with imagination and reasoning”*, as **Picardo** puts it, the team has mapped a hidden world that dictates how we interact with our environment. Clearly, there is more than what we know about how these systems work. In any case, whether it is a life-saving medication or a speck of soot, the journey of every inhaled particle is decided by the rolling hills and barren valleys within our airways, which is an interesting finding.

Article written by: Sudhira HS

Link to published work: <https://doi.org/10.1017/jfm.2025.10606>

Appointments

Dr. Rajasekhar Anguluri, has been appointed as Assistant Professor Grade I in the Centre for Systems and Control Engineering w.e.f. 29th December, 2025



Dr. Rajat Namdeo Patle, has been appointed as Assistant Professor Grade II in the IDC School of Design w.e.f. 31st December, 2025



Dr. Ved Dilip Beloskar, has been appointed as Assistant Professor Grade II in the Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management, IIT Bombay w.e.f. 1st January, 2026



Dr. Srinwanti Hazra Chaudhury, has been appointed as Assistant Professor Grade I in the Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management at IIT Bombay w.e.f. 9th January, 2026



Dr. Rambabu Singh, has been appointed as Assistant Professor Grade I in the Department of Earth Sciences at IIT Bombay w.e.f. 12th January, 2026



Dr. Tuhin Roy, has been appointed as Assistant Professor Grade I in the Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering at IIT Bombay w.e.f. 12th January, 2026



Dr. Wricha Mishra, has been appointed as Associate Professor in the IDC School of Design at IIT Bombay w.e.f. 19th January, 2026



Dr. Anshul Yadav, has been appointed as Assistant Professor Grade II in the Department of Civil Engineering at IIT Bombay w.e.f. 21st January, 2026



Dr. Nived Chebrolu, has been appointed as Assistant Professor Grade I in the Department of Computer Science at IIT Bombay w.e.f. 02nd February, 2026



Dr. Anwesha Mukhopadhyay, has been appointed as Assistant Professor Grade II in the Department of Electrical Engineering at IIT Bombay w.e.f. 10th February, 2026



Dr. Aditya Desai, has been appointed as Assistant Professor Grade II in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering w.e.f. 24th February, 2026



Dr. Arunselvan Ramaswamy, has been appointed as Associate Professor in the Department of Industrial Engineering and Operations Research w.e.f. 27th February, 2026



Retirements on 31st January, 2026

Prof. Bhalchandra Puranik, Department of Mechanical Engineering, retired (voluntarily) after 21 years of service



Mr. Vijay Jambure, Administrative Associate (P), N.C.C, retired after 36 years of service



Mr. Prakash Ranade, Sr. Attendant, Department of Electrical Engineering, retired after 40 years of service



Retirements on 28th February, 2026

Prof. Alok Goyal, Department of Civil Engineering, retired after 36 years of service



Prof. Preeti S. Rao, Department of Electrical Engineering, retired after 26 years of service



Ms. Vrushali D. Sansare, Sr. Assistant Registrar, Internal Audit and Grievance Redressal Section, retired after 40 years of service



Mr. Bharat Ghodake, Sr. Security Guard, Security Section, retired after 33 years of service



Mr. Ratikant Agasti, Multi Skilled Assistant C, Hostel No - 03, Centralized Hostel Management System, retired after 38 years of service



Retirements on 31st March, 2026

Ms. Pranali Kharat, Sr.



Administrative Superintendent (P), Electrical Maintenance Division, retired after 35 years of service

Ms. Geeta Shewde, Sr. Trained Graduate Teacher, Campus School, retired after 31 years of service



Mr. Dilipkumar Solanki, Sr. Multi-Skilled Assistant, Public Health Office, retired after 26 years of service



Mr. Pollookaran Lonappan Paul, Multi Skilled Assistant C, Hostel No - 01, Centralized Hostel Management System, retired after 35 years of service



IIT Bombay Receives Aashirvad Innovative Work Award 2025



IIT Bombay has been conferred with the prestigious **Aashirvad Innovative Work Award 2025**. It was awarded under the 33rd *Aashirvad Bhasha-Setu Award:2025* in recognition of the Institute's exemplary and innovative contributions.

Aashirvad, a distinguished literary, social, and cultural organization, has been steadfastly engaged in the promotion and advancement of the Hindi language for over 56 years.

Ms. Vaishali Bahulkar, Hindi Officer, along with members of the Hindi Cell attended the award ceremony.

Obituary

IIT Bombay is deeply saddened by the untimely demise of its students:



Palla Vivek Reddy
(First year, M.Tech., Department of Civil Engineering) on 6th March 2026.



Lay Deshbhratar
(Third year, Department of Physics) on 19th March, 2026.



Omkumar Borse
(Third year, Department of Aerospace Engineering) on 19th March, 2026.



Shreyansh Sharma
(Final year, Department of Mechanical Engineering) on 19th March, 2026.

The Institute extends its deepest condolences to their family and loved ones.

CEP courses scheduled during April, May and June 2026			
No	Course Title	Course Coordinator/ Department	Duration
Open Programmes : (April 2026)			
1	Renewable Energy and Sustainability	Prof. Anish Modi, Department of Energy Science and Engineering	April 13, 2026 (5 days)
2.	Investment Strategies and Portfolio Management In The Age Of AI	Prof. Ashish Singh, Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management	April 21, 2026 (25 days)
3.	Strategic Project Management	Prof. Priyank Sinha, Department of Industrial Engineering and Operations Research	April 26, 2026 (7 days)
4.	Integrated Supply Chain And Project Management	Prof. Priyank Sinha, Department of Industrial Engineering and Operations Research	April 27, 2026 (8 days)
5.	Advanced Executive Programme For Global Supply Chain Management	Prof. Omkar Palsule-Desai, Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management	April 27, 2026 (5 months)
Open Programmes: (May 2026)			
6.	Design Thinking For Young Minds	Prof. Nishant Sharma, IDC School of Design	May 2, 2026 (2 days)
7.	Partner People Performance(P3) Executive Program For Schneider	Prof. Dinesh Sharma, Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management	May 5, 2026 (5 days)
8.	Data Analytics For Process Monitoring And Predictive Modeling	Prof. Mani Bhushan, Department of Chemical Engineering	May 13, 2026 (3 days)
Open Programmes: (June 2026)			
9.	Agentic AI	Prof. Arpit Agarwal, Department of Computer Science and Engineering	June 1, 2026 (5 months)
10.	Beginners Product Design And Prototyping Workshop	Prof. Sandesh Ramu, IDC School of Design	June 6, 2026 (2 days)

