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THE ALLIANCE

BRINGING NSIT TOGETHER

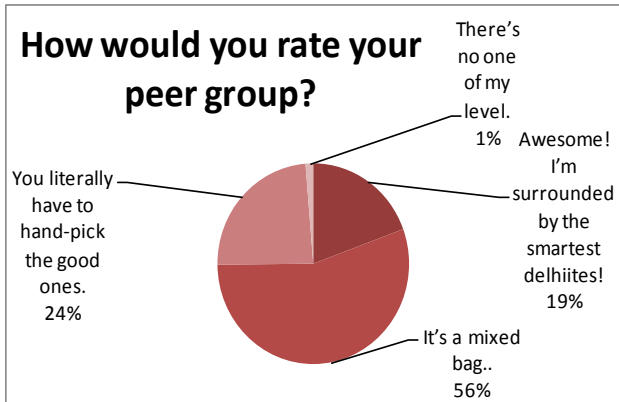
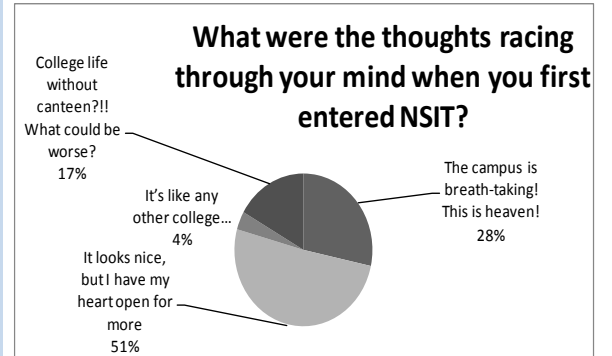
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ISSUE 4.0

NSIT SPEAKS OUT

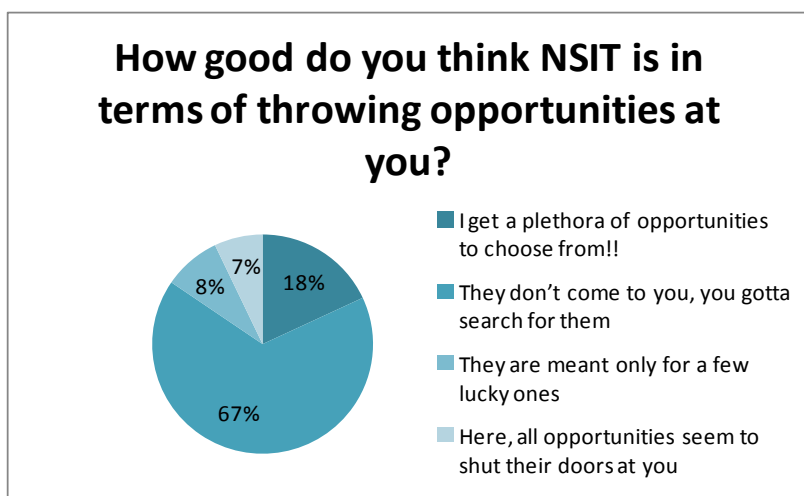
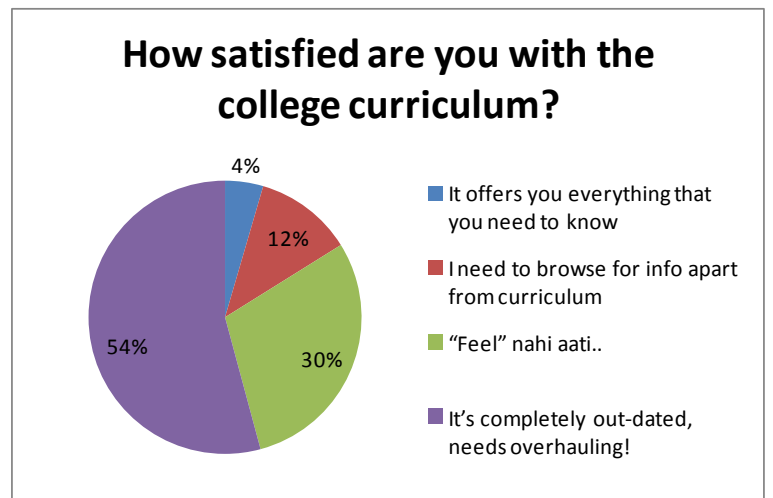
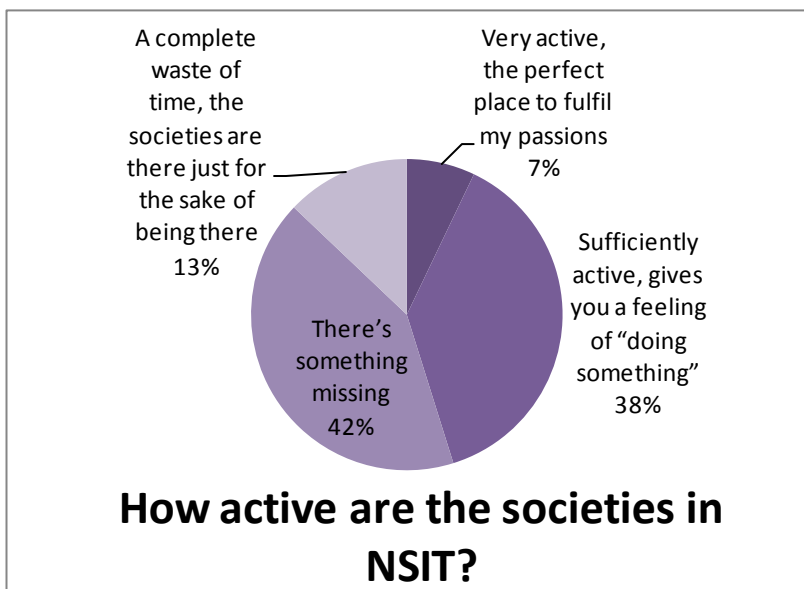
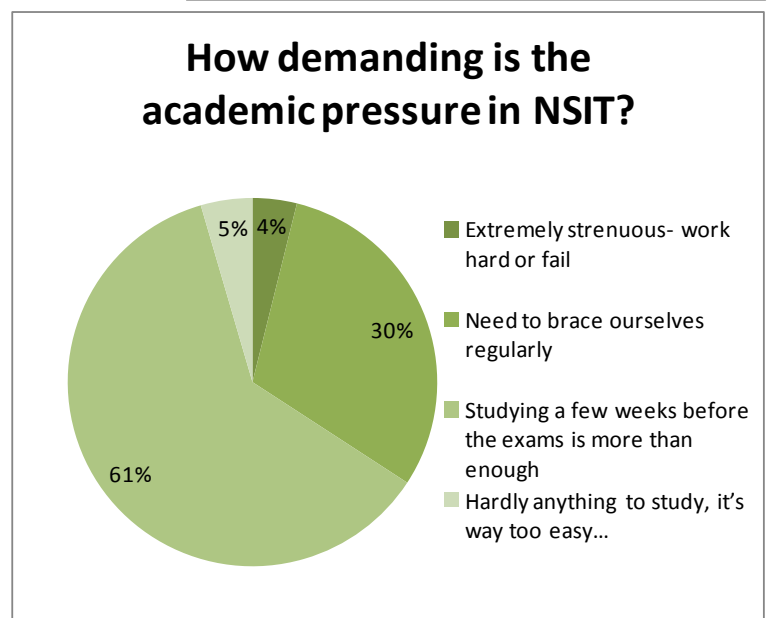
Since its inception, Alliance has come a long way from being ‘a newspaper’ to being ‘the newspaper’. Throughout our course of 1 year we have done all that we could to deliver news and bring NSIT together like never before. So as we draw to the completion of our first year, we decided to get a candid opinion from our readers about Life @NSIT. We conducted a survey wherein a set of 10 questions were framed and asked from a desired sample size. The results are compiled here and lucidly portray the dimensions of our world. Plunge into the analysis and reminisce. What’s your take?

An amalgamation of thoughts, wondrous scenic beauty plus the missing canteen, the wishes of the students seem to slowly attain fulfillment with the opening of the new canteen.

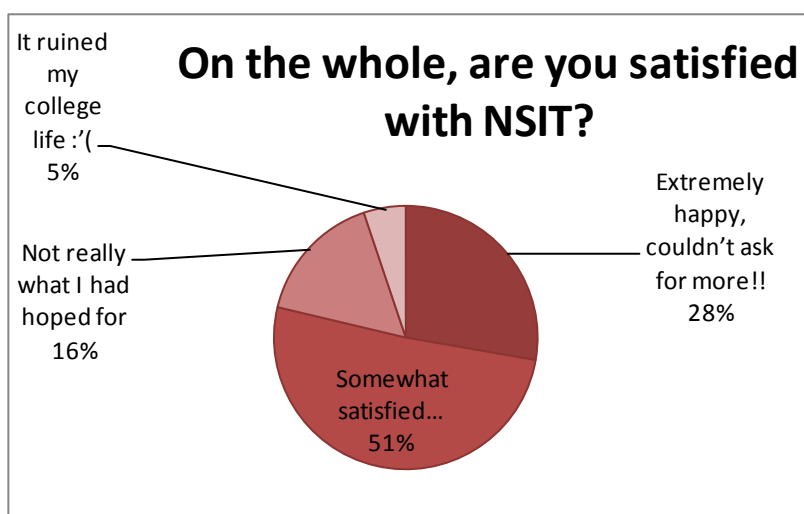
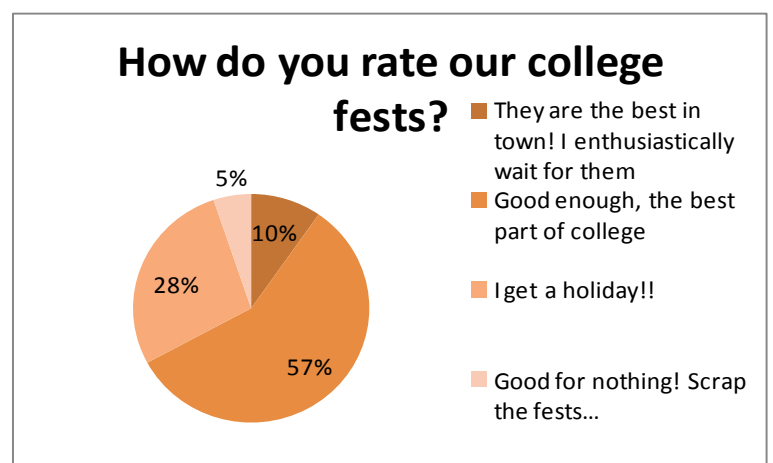


It is a “Mixed Bag” says 56% of the crowd. We all can't fall together so we need to hunt for the right ones.

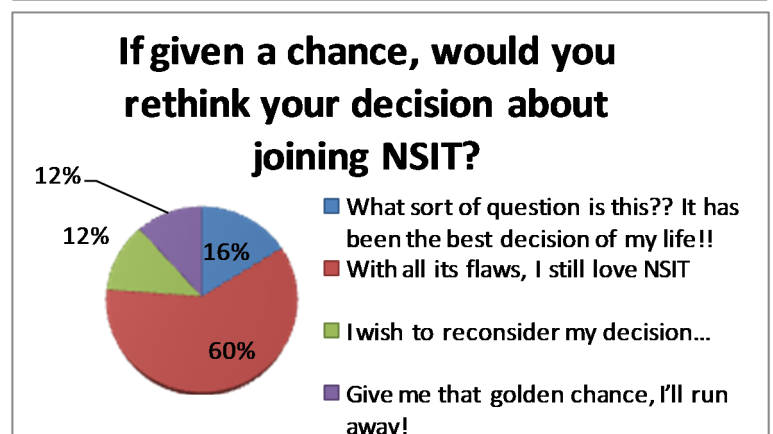
NSITians- the great intellects?? Is that what we are to draw from the poll (61% feel it's just a cake walk). Don't forget the hidden reason behind this. Studying just for grades is way too easy here.



An expected sentiment- a majority of nsitians feel that the best part of the college life are its fests. But what is disconcerting is the fact that 28% students are rather indifferent about them, choosing a day off over the fun n frolic!



This one brings a smile to your face. With 51% students only somewhat satisfied with the college, it's a delight to find that 60% students still do not wish to rethink their decision of joining NSIT. There is a magical bond of attraction, an ‘X’ factor that makes you fall in love with this place!



STUDENT VOICE

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON HOW TECHNICAL YOUR COLLEGE IS?

Alumni Speak



Saurabh Gupta —
MITS, Adobe systems

"I think NSIT provides enough technical environment to the students who enter fresh after completing the high

school course. At NSIT, students get multiple fields to study and they have enough facilities to do projects involving various technologies.

However, due to a bit older syllabus, for some domains, students don't get enough exposure and acquainted with latest technologies. As a result, they have to face tougher competition while making a place in prestigious firms in India or abroad."

Student Speak

"If you look at the past research record of all faculty members and the technical initiatives taken by them, our college seems to be pretty much technical. The main areas of problem according to me are

a) Its not possible for every student who enters into first year to make the research pillars stand for himself (sharpen his technical acumen). He needs help, its the lack of student-teacher, senior-junior interaction which furthers the problem

b) Lack of technical perspective and technical Ex-



Robin (4th year)
ECE 4th year

posure. The fault is more from the students side rather than from teacher or curriculum side. Its we who rather than studying technical stuff run for MBA classes and other non-technical activities"

"In my opinion, NSIT at present, very unfortunately, reflects a continuously degrading technical environment; with outdated curriculum, lack of resources, research work being 'not upto the standard' and most of the students running after 'non-tech' jobs blindly, without even giving a thought to pursue tech-oriented career for which they enrolled in one of the premier technical institutions of India, NSIT."



Chandan Gupta,
MPAE 3rd year



Shashank Shekhar Suri,
COE 2nd year

"Our college has ample technical stuff going on, enough to keep everyone with technical inclination interested and involved. There are opportunities available in all technical fields. If you have interest, finding good stuff won't be much of a headache. "

NSIT is all about TECHNOLOGY as the name suggests.

From the time I have been in this college ,this place has been a technical hotspot for me.I have learnt a lot about what I knew and more about what I didn't.

Technical is probably the best term to describe NSIT.



Apoorva Sharma,
COE 1st year

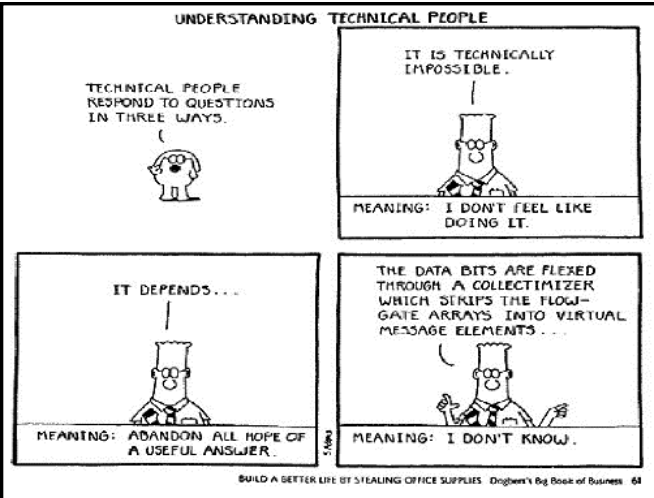
HOW TECHNICAL IS OUR COLLEGE?

Gazal Gupta

The term "technical" is defined in the dictionary as relating to proficiency in practical skill. NSIT has consistently been ranked among the top 10 technical institutes in the country. However, what is the true meaning of technical that our college seems to be embracing.

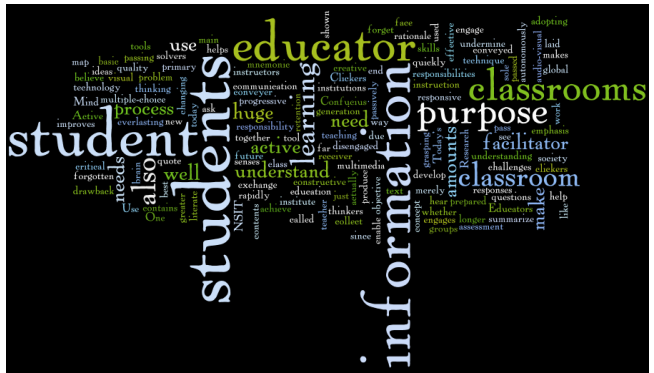
The students having grilled themselves to the core embark into this new world with certain dreams about their future. Hearing about the noble laureates being recognized for their exemplary contributions towards science, the successful expeditions of the astronauts, the major advances made in computing and the daily newspapers blearing about an invention in one or the other field, they aspire to one day feel the same pride. But after spending not more than 7-8 months in college the students are talking about the non-tech opportunities available for them. If you still think "non-tech" occupies a meager part only, give it a second thought: Considering the fact that the fest's like E-Summit and ICube are becoming more eye-grabbing and the "technical" fest Innovsion being marketed as a techno-managerial fest. Our thinking has modulated over time and hence we don't really have a justification for these. But had you been thinking about building a non-tech profile when you had joined college? It would be a no. So what are your thoughts on "How technical is our college?"

The exposure given to the students in our college to pursue their technical interests is not very encouraging. The faculty needs to be brought up to the mark to be able to acquaint the students about the latest and detailed technical aspects. Also the teachers themselves feel that at times the time table committee does not put that extra bit of effort in allocating the courses efficiently according to the expertise of the teachers. This blunder precludes the students from getting a chance to interact with the best in a particular field. Our library, although having gone a major change recently, is still found wanting up gradation of books and their arrangement remains a major concern. Improving the infrastructure takes a lot of effort and nobody in NSIT



GURU GYAAN — Dr Amita Pandey

The primary purpose of education has been to pass huge amounts of information by educator or teacher to the receiver, the student. A drawback of this teaching technique is that the student is disengaged from learning process and the information is quickly forgotten. With changing global needs, today the institutions should be more responsive to needs of the students and also how well students are prepared to face future challenges in the society. This will produce a new generation of students who are creative, critical thinkers, and problem solvers.



One way to achieve above objective is by adopting constructive classrooms in which information is no longer passed passively to students. Such classrooms are also called active classrooms where students work in groups or autonomously, more emphasis is laid on communication skills as well as exchange of ideas. Active classroom uses multimedia for instruction purpose, which contains text, and audio-visual contents. Mind map and mnemonic together can be used as an effective tool due to their visual quality. Use of all these tools doesn't undermine the basic purpose of educator. When we use all our senses it

wants to pass through the endless processes to get their suggestion implemented. For this, a higher number of academicians should form a part of senior faculty and administrative authority. The lack of internet and wi-fi facilities in the campus has only aggravated the demeaning failure to provide access to a vast pool of knowledge. However, the students are also to blame in this aspect as their quench for knowledge also seems to be limited because even if there is inadequacy on the part of teachers, how many of them actually thoroughly go through their books and look for references. Their learning is restricted to only be able to obtain good grades. Due to this rote curriculum, even when certain teachers offer challenges to students, they are met with a lack of enthusiasm. The so-called technical clubs need to provide some more opportunities for not only the proficient ones but also the novices to learn and grow. IEEE, CSI, Motorsports and Bullethawk are a few of these which at least keep the spark alive though they need to be more revolutionary with their way of doing things.

Faculty In-charge of Innovision Professor Khushil Saini shares a very meaningful thought, "Innovision provides a good opportunity for students to learn more. However, the fest's can be used more for their intellectual and cultural growth if the focus doesn't divert." He also emphasizes that an industry-oriented basic level syllabus should be designed for first two years and industry cum research oriented syllabus for 3rd & 4th years. We all agree with the fact that the Victorian age syllabus being taught needs to be upgraded keeping in mind the need to increase the "practical applications". This would surely change the current staggering figure of around 99% of students wishing to keep MBA as an open option while hardly 30% even thinking of pursuing higher education in technical fields. A research shows that 40% of students feel that it might have even be better had they opted for BSc courses.

We all must appreciate the recent efforts that are being made to promote and appreciate the research efforts put in by students. An Open House presentation is taking place in COE/IT department on 2nd Novemeber to give a chance to all the 3rd and 4th years to present their research works which will be judged by a panel comprising of prominent faulty members. We hope that such initiatives will be taken to promote research interests among the students.

Ultimately, be it the infrastructure, the curriculum, or the challenges; it has always been a two way play. The administrators need to show more dynamism to bring about these changes and the students need to realize that "you get as much as you demand". So be courageous, take charge and approach the authorities and ensure that it is done because this is our future that we are discussing.

makes learning everlasting since it engages more of our brain to process it. Educators can also do formative assessment whether students are grasping the main concept, which is being conveyed, by use of clickers. Clickers in the classroom enable instructors to rapidly collect and summarize student responses to multiple-choice questions they ask during the class. This helps to engage students in the classroom. Research has shown that active learning improves understanding and retention of information.

Today's educator is just not conveyer of information but he is actually a facilitator. A facilitator has far greater responsibilities than merely passing huge amounts of information. The sole purpose of educator should not be only to make a student literate but to help them to develop rationale thinking, and responsibility. NSIT is a premier technology institute having the best of educator and student, what we need is to understand the need of student and make some progressive changes in our classrooms. In the end I'll like to quote Confucius " I hear and I forget, I see and I believe, I do and I understand."

Dr. Amita Pandey completed her doctorate from Jawaharlal Nehru University in the field of Life Sciences. She pursued her interest in science at University of California Berkeley by doing first a post-doctorate in which she discovered a novel pathway involved during the process of hyphal fusion in *Neurospora crassa*. Then working as a research specialist, she studied the pathways involved in establishing the neuronal network in *C. elegans*. This multidisciplinary experience has provided an insight into the existing similarities at the molecular level across the plant and animal kingdom. She has continued pursuing her interest in science and started teaching as a guest faculty in the Division of Biotechnology at NSIT since August, 2011.

FROM THE EDITOR’S DESK

“An idea is like a virus. Resilient, Highly contagious. And even the smallest seed of an idea can grow. It can grow to define or destroy you” – I find this statement totally apt to describe the way Alliance grew in our minds.

The idea to bring together the multifarious segments in NSIT and combine them into a strong unit, so that opportunities are available not to a limited number of students but to everyone. It took us by the storm and an organization “The Alliance – Bringing NSIT Together” was formed.

Like any new organization, Alliance had its ups and downs but with completion of one year, with four editions to its credit, and formation of a stable and enthusiastic team we can proudly say that Alliance is

here to stay for long. Though it was treated as any other society opened for a meager resume point, but we believe the team has negated all the arguments by its work. The team has constantly experimented with new sections and produced a new perspective of NSIT by its dedication towards doing something productive and different be it forming a timeline of NSIT by collecting pictures of NSIT from last 25 years, which was made possible by exploring all previous annual reports and official picture albums and by contacting about 150 alumni and our first Director Dr B N Mishra, be it formulating a detailed statistical column on the CAT percentile, GMAT and GRE scores of a whole batch, which was made possible only by calling 500 people from the batch or be it developing the first ever society

active meter for the fresher’s, which was brought into existence by developing a fully impartial algorithm based on the events, competitions and workshops organized by every society.

After working for one year as the editors, handling the working of the team passing on the responsibility becomes a big task and successfully performing that is a major relief. Some major areas to stress upon in the future remain the inculcation of alumni contribution to the college and increasing the level of senior junior interaction that has dipped to the lowest level. But now that a formal structure is in place, we can look forward to more focus on these tasks and even better work.



Mansi Aggarwal and Rajat Goel

THE COLLEGE SPACE STORY

Toshit Agarwal

“Anything the mind can conceive and believe, it can achieve.”

You might have heard this phrase many times but may not have believed that it can actually lead to something unique. Here’s a true story of how three people from our very own college not only proved this phrase to be true but have also benefitted the students of NSIT.

The idea originated in Siddharth Mehta’s mind who thought that facebook as a social networking site was too diverse to help students of different batches to interact. He then collaborated with Sahil Gulati (founder of NSIT Portal) and Tushar Gupta to form College Space. These students of Second Year, Instrumentation and Control Engineering, then set off on a journey to explore and make their small dream a reality. The team after researching on the idea set out to work in the first week of June.

The idea of CollegeSpace is a combina-

tion of two ideas, which aimed to form a network of NSITians, wherein they wanted to combine the social and academic experiences of the students. One, the social networking website, other the NSIT-Portal , which gave updates about the latest happenings in the college and society details.

With endless hours spent on innovating and testing their ideas, the site was finally put up for launch in a month’s time, on 4th July, 2011. The website boasts of amazing social networking as well as giving students all the academic details they ought to know. With features like pages, groups, instant messaging and others, this site is no less than any other social network already avail-

able. The website also has some amazing additional features like music player, Word-A-Day, Quotes, and News etc.

The website’s NSIT Portal section gives regular updates about the latest happenings on the campus. Academic section of the site contains a strong collection of academic data, including video lectures, exam papers, study notes, study guides etc. There is another miscellaneous section named 'More', which is open even to non-members. It consists of movies, games, sitcoms ,novels etc.

Within 3 months of its launch the website has gained a huge popularity amongst NSITians which is depicted by the num-

ber of members on their site which recently crossed the 1000 mark. Also the site has got more than 80,000 views till date out of which 3000 were on the day just before the mid semester exams for previous year papers.

CollegeSpace has also become an advertising hub of all societies as they post all their event updates on the site. Moreover, it was after the launch of CollegeSpace that people got to know that there are around 30 societies and Special Interest Groups in NSIT.

In future, CollegeSpace plans to collaborate with various coaching institutes so that they can get discounts especially for NSITians.

Personally, I feel that it’s a great initiative and the people behind it are working very hard to make it a success. Wishing them luck for future, I hope that they’ll keep blessing the lives of NSITians.

If you still have not visited www.collegespace.in, Visit today!!



CITIUS, ALTIUS, FORTIUS

Nitin Garg



Praveen Saroha
Director Physical Education, NSIT

Sports body for past 12 years and acquired the post of the Director, last year.

With the past year proving to be one of the most illustrious and productive for sports related developments in college, we decided to interview, the man under whose guidance all of it was made possible. Here’s an interview with Praveen Saroha (Director, Physical Education).

Q: How long have you been associated with NSIT?

A: I’ve been part of the

Q: How would you reflect on the past year?

A: I think that the sponsorship provided to us by the corporate-houses like Adidas, Pepsi and Mawana Sugars for our Sports Week speaks volumes of how far we’ve actually come. I am very happy with the grand success achieved by the inaugural Sports fest, Utkarsh where we had 14 teams participating from colleges across India. I am pretty sure that we’ll continue having it annually to step up the rich sports legacy that we wish to build in the college.

Q: Any recent developments that you’d like to talk about?

A: In terms of infrastructure, I am pleased to announce that the step-sitting arrangement project around the athletics track has been completed. Concurrently, I’d like to add that coaches for Cricket, Basketball, Yoga and a gym instructor have been finalized and will probably join by end of October.

like to share with us?

A: Yes, I’d like to talk about 3 major projects that we’re currently working on. Firstly, we’ve put forward a proposal to set up Sports Academies of Cricket, Football and Lawn Tennis, and I am delighted with the favorable response we have received from the Commercial Licensing Committee. What these academies will bring to the plate is professional training at reasonable prices and maintenance of sports grounds and infrastructure to match the international standards . Needless to say, these will be on experimental basis and their success will lead to establishment of more such academies. Secondly, we’ve passed a tender for state of the art gymnasium which shall be completed within 2 months. Finally, we’ve also put forward a proposal that the grounds be maintained by professional curators, and not the horticultural department (who are obviously not adept at doing so), as is presently being done.

Q: Are there any projects in the pipeline that you’d

NSIT Football League							
After an absence of almost 6 months, the football league is back to get the adrenaline pumping of all the football devotees in college. There have been major changes this time around, with new captains and completely new teams, namely the Blues, the Blacks, the Whites and the Reds. To follow the developments on facebook, visit http://on.fb.me/pAqjNc	S C O R E B O A R D						
	Teams	Matches Played	Won	Lost	Draw	Points	Goal Difference
	Blues	2	1	1	0	3	0
	White	2	1	0	1	4	+1
	Black	2	1	0	1	4	+1
Red	2	0	2	0	0	-2	

FLEETWOOD MAC

Arjun Singh

For this edition of Alliance I'm going to write about Fleetwood Mac, a British-American band with its time changing music genres ranging from bluesy sounds to pop-rock. The band has been playing for more than three decades, however, along the way, suffering numerous line-up changes and hiatuses. Funnily though the group's namesakes have been the only original members left in the band (it's named after the drummer Mick Fleetwood and bassist John McVie). It has had two different periods of success, first during the late sixties British blues bloom, when they were lead by Peter Green. The second period was the one in which they got mainstream success after the advent of Lindsey Buckingham and his then girl-friend Stevie Nicks. You definitely must have heard Nicks sing 'Edge of Seventeen' in the movie 'The School of Rock'.

During 1975-1987 the five member lineup of Fleetwood, McVie, Buckingham, Nicks and Christine McVie propelled them to the big stage. In 1975 Fleetwood Mac released their eponymously titled album. It went

five times platinum in the US. Christine McVie, the lead keyboardist of the band belted out hits like 'Over my head', 'Say you love me' and 'World turning' while Stevie sung hits such as 'Rhiannon' and 'Landslide'. Rhiannon is a very mystic song about a welsh witch, this mysticism is felt with the guitar picking and quiet but pounding drum beat that makes its way through the whole song. Talking about Landslide Nicks said that she wrote this song while she was contemplating going back to school or continuing on with guitarist Lindsey Buckingham. She wrote the song while visiting Aspen, Colorado sitting in someone's living room:

"Looking out at the Rocky Mountains pondering the avalanche of everything that had come crashing down on us...at that moment, my life truly felt like a landslide in many ways."

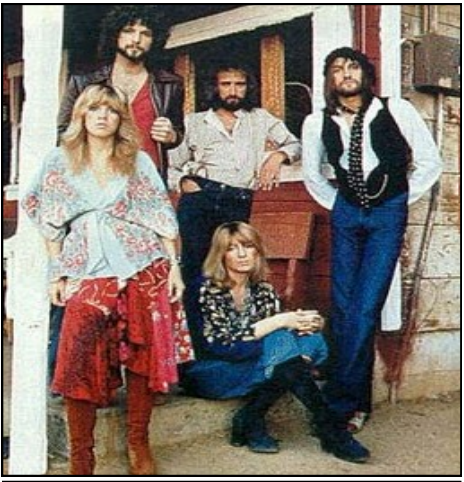
But the best song would have to be 'I'm afraid'. The angst ridden vocals by Lindsey, the heavy chords, the powerful solo and the drowning drumming make it a great listen. Songs like these make you cringe about why he is so unrecognised as compared to the other guitar legends.

The 1977 album 'Rumours' found tremendous worldwide success. It got them the Grammy for the album of the year and went on to sell 40 million copies all over the world. The album is about breakups and divorce. Stevie and Lindsey were breaking up. John and Christine divorced the previous year. Mick was going through a divorce with his wife. And to top it off, their addiction with cocaine had become out of control. All of this fuelled the ultimate breakup album. In 'Dreams', Stevie explains that Lindsey only pretends to not hate her because of the music they are forcing themselves to create. In return Lindsey uses beautiful guitar picking (the most underrated guitarist ever, again) and nasty lyrics to say he'll never go back to Stevie. Stevie threatened to quit the band if they added "Go Your Own Way" to the album. But you can't blame them because it's such a great song. The chorus is one of the catchiest lines known to man. But every line in the song is about how Lindsey doesn't want Stevie in his life any longer. The album ends with the chilling "Gold Dust Woman". The cowbell and bass create a creepy atmosphere as Stevie sings about how cocaine is destroying her life. The guitar playing at the end is wicked and

crazy, as you hear wild screaming in the background.

The band recorded 'Tango in the Night' in 1987, their last full length album.

I suggest you to buy 'The Very Best of Fleetwood Mac'. It features the successful Californian era of the band (1975 onwards) including live performances from their 1997 concert, 'The Dance'. I would recommend you the song 'Go Insane'. Lindsey Buckingham's solo performance tells you the level of guitarist he is.



Fleetwood Mac - 1975-05-03 - Passaic, New Jersey

FRESH ON CAMPUS

Shrey Bansiwala (Guest Writer)

Another year, another batch of students, yet a new celebration

As the students fresh out of high school embarked on their journey of college life, they were warmly welcomed by the institute with the fresher's party. And the freshers definitely agreed that they could not have asked for more.

The "Fresher's 2011" was organised in collaboration with "Hindustan times". It was a mega event for the freshers, filled with ample of pomp and show and a plethora of 'college masti'. Though the change in venue at the last moment (due

to inevitable reasons) had led to a mild inconvenience, the 'fuchchas' did not refrain from having fun in every possible way that they could.

The show opened with the Mr. and Ms. Fresh Face event hosted by the HT group. It had quite a few attention-grabbing rounds. Interested students were called at random on the stage. While the guys showed off their brawns as they ramp walked in style and competed in the push-ups, the girls were not far off in putting their best foot forward, showing some interesting dance moves along with the oh-so-splendid cat walk. The participants had definitely stumped the billowing mob with their charisma. A series of other events-

like T-shirt designing were also organised for the students. The winners were awarded attractive prizes as well.

The dais was then taken over by our own college hosts- Toshit Agarwal and Neha Meena. They anchored the much awaited inter branch talent competition. The crowd waited anxiously as the first branch- instrumentation and control engineering geared up for their band performance. The prevalent inter branch rivalry and one's patriotism towards one's own branch was summed up in two short words- 'sucks' and 'rocks'. While some performances had disappointed the audience, there were others, like the ECE dance performance and the belly dancing by the ICE and IT branch, which left the crowd baffled and dumbstruck! KUDOS to all the participants, no matter how their performances went, for gathering up the courage to face the angry mass and for entertaining them at the same time!!

All in all, the freshers' party came across as a refreshing retreat from the mundane initial days of the college that had seemed no different from school to the students (except the fact that they had got a good ride-dance from their uniforms!!) It was only the freshers' party that brought in the fervor of college life amongst the first years and gave them a reason to feel that there is much more to look forward to.

Student Co-ordinators

1. Toshit Agarwal
2. Sahil Gulati
3. Ankush Agarwal



RESONANZ 2011

Toshit Agarwal

The bell has rung. Black cat has been seen.
The 'WITCHES' will come true. Pumpkins are gleaming.
Moon laughs and whispers..

"Where frequencies Diverge..
Where parallels Converge..
Get 'Resonated'..
Where Ecstasies Merge!!!"

Resonanz - The Bliss Reawakens....This 'Halloween' !

With this the promotion for Resonanz'11 began, promising to be a joy ride for both the first and second years as it was the first Resonanz for both. With pumpkins kept and scarecrows set, the theme of the fest (Halloween) was well presented.

The fest started on a high note with the inaugural play performed by Ashwamedha. It was followed by Inter Branch skit competition "Natyamanch" in which ECE was crowned as winner and IT were the runner's up. The highlight of Day 1

was Panache-The Fashion Parade which caught attention of every student of NSIT. Models oozing with confidence NSIT's glamour quotient had reached new heights. The first round was ethnic wear followed by a party round. The first position was shared by IT and BT. And ECE stood second.

The Day 2 began with "Rangmanch"- An Interbranch Dance competition. The event saw some amazing and unique performances by various branches. The best and most entertaining was by IT which helped them grab the first position. Rangmanch was followed by Mr. N Miss Reso contest

in which Kush Pratap Singh Bhadauria was crowned as Mr. Reso and Garima Basumtaryas as Miss Reso. A performance by Saumya Gupta of ECE, Second Year, during Mr. N Miss Reso mesmerized everyone specially the hostellers. He presented his self written poem "Hostel main paani nhi, baaki sab theek h" and audience had no words but just applauses for its appreciation.

The mega event on Day 2 was Zephyr which saw the band Pratigya performing live. The crowd enjoyed the performances and danced to their tunes.

In all, Resonanz 2011 was a success and has kept the tradition of this fest ALIVE!!!



PROFESSOR PROFILE: DR DURU ARUN KUMAR



Dr. Duru Arun Kumar

Esha Puri

Dr Duru Arun Kumar will take you away from mind-boggling calculations and the cold logic of science and math. Our social sciences and management professor makes us appreciate the importance of human aspects in technology. Meticulous and assiduous, she thoroughly enjoys her

pursuit. Her commitment and dedication towards her work is truly awe-inspiring. Excerpts from the rendezvous-

Q. How long have you been teaching in NSIT and how has the experience been?

A. I started teaching in NSIT in 1999. I would describe my journey as a mixed bag of experiences. It has been wonderful to interact with the students and my subject has allowed me to exercise great flexibility in terms of content and methodologies. However, a little more encouragement towards the subject is required.

Q. What are your areas of responsibility?

A. Initially I was taking up Technology and Society and English. Later I also volunteered to teach report writing, business and technical communication, industrial management and personal management. I am a part of some student initiatives and societies like SPIC MACAY, Rotaract and DebSoc.

Q. Being in NSIT, majority of the students have a technical bent of mind. How do you bring them to perceive the

importance of your subjects?

A. I believe that for a more holistic education, students must have a humanistic approach. Understanding the various ethical issues in sciences and the different perspectives is as important as learning the technical aspects. I include projects and assignments to give the students an outlook towards the practical problems faced. A factory visit to a Vadilal ice-cream unit made students aware about the poor hygiene level prevalent there. Visiting small-scale industries, they were appalled by the working conditions of the workers. In management courses, I accommodate case studies as a part of the course.

Q. What are your areas of interest from research point of view?

A. My main domains in research are higher education, technology and globalisation, employment issues and women empowerment.

Q. What is the procedure of taking up projects under your guidance?

A. Students usually come up with their own ideas. Nevertheless, I can suggest

topical issues from editorials, etc. Students of all branches are welcome provided they find genuine interest in their topic of research. Some topics taken up in the past have been issues related to brain drain, foreign education bill and its impact.

Q. How many projects are currently being mentored by you?

A. There are 3 projects I am guiding presently. One is a research on ethical values of individual scientists involved in the large science projects. The others are based on women’s employment in informal sector and technology development in IT sector.

Q. What are your suggestions for students looking forward to research in social issues or in the technical sphere?

A. Research is sincerely a very humbling experience. It is replete with learning and discovering new things all along the way. But it demands passion and commitment. Students should not weigh the projects by its quick credit value but should pursue it dedicatedly till the end.

WISDOM TREE

Shivangi Saxena

INTRODUCTION

Artificial intelligence is defined as the study of how to make computers do things which, at the moment, people can do better. Artificial intelligence is a combination of computer science, physiology and philosophy. AI can be described as the attempt to build machines that think and act like humans that are able to learn and to use their knowledge to solve problems on their own. The element that is common in the fields of AI is the creation of machines that can “think”.

AI has grown from a dozen researches involving thousands of engineers and specialists; ranging from programs capable of playing checkers, to systems designed to diagnose a disease.

There is AI because we want computers to understand human reasoning and visa-versa. In all a mutual relationship it is.

The Hurdles

While we have come a long way since the days of the first auto-pilots, a lot remains to be done. One must remember that the animal brain is a highly complex network. Developing purely logic-based programs (as we see in the computers of today) can only create machines, and not intelligence.

The second problem that needs to be overcome is that of inference. The machines of today are bounded by rational thinking - an out of the box way of thinking is not their forte. But for them to be intelligent, irrational thinking is also needed at times.

Thirdly, there is the problem of Integration - to be successful; an AI must be able to integrate two or more dissimilar events which occupy our daily life.

AI FUN FACTS

The elite who basked in the AI sunshine:

- [John McCarthy](#) -- Father of AI, also developed the LISP language.
- [Marvin Minsky](#) -- Founder of the MIT AI laboratory.
- [Alan Turing](#) -- Known for the Turing test; researched computer-nature relationship.

Also, the **Do you know fact?**

In May, 1997, an IBM super-computer called *Deep Blue* defeated world chess champion Gary Kasparov in a chess match. **Want to know more? Read on**

In NEWS

The father of artificial Intelligence - who inspired a million sci-fi fantasies that robots could one day live alongside humans - has recently died at the age of 84. The death of the Silicon Valley innovator follows those of Apple co-founder Steve Jobs and C programming creator and UNIX co-developer Dennis Ritchie earlier this month.

Guess the heaven needs some more stock of ‘intelligence’!

Eliza: An agony aunt armed with semiconductors and 'intelligence' . Eliza was a computer program written by Joseph Weizenbaum at MIT between 1964 to 1966. Though initially thought, that the program could mimic human behavior via artificial intelligence, it basically tricks you into replies by string substitution and canned responses. It emulates a Rogerian psychotherapist. Thus it became one of the first chatterbox in existence. To try therapy with eliza click on the following:

http://www-ai.ijs.si/eliza-cgi-bin/eliza_script

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE APPLICATIONS

- Game playing**

You can buy machines that can play master level chess for a few thousand rupees. There is some AI in them, but they play well against people mainly through brute force computation--looking at hundreds of thousands of positions

Pac-Man was the first game with fledgling AI. Pac-Man had definite enemy characters that seemed to conspire against you, moved around the level just as you did, and made life tough.

Pac-Man relied on very simple AI techniques.

- Speech recognition**

Speech recognition technology is also on the rise in the field of customer service call centers. Instead of pushing "1" for service or "2" for complaints; you now talk directly with the computer and learn your bank balance, when your last car payment was received and obtaining answers to a wide variety of frequent customer service questions. Some of the companies now using speech recognition technology to answer customers questions are: Bank of America, Sprint, United Airlines, Sony, Sears, Ticketmaster and Nike.

Want a dog, but dont want to feed or walk it? Poo Chi is an interactive dog made by Tiger Electronics. The dog responds to commands through voice recognition.

- Expert systems**

A “knowledge engineer” interviews experts in a certain domain and tries to include their knowledge in a computer program for carrying out some task. One of the first expert systems diagnosed bacterial infections of the blood and suggested treatments. It did better than medical students or practicing doctors, provided its limitations were observed. Its interactions depended on a single patient being considered.

- Heuristic classification**

One of the most feasible kinds of expert system given the present knowledge of AI is to put some information in a fixed set of categories using several sources of information. An example is advising whether to accept a proposed credit card purchase. Information is available about the owner of the credit card, his record of payment and also about the item he is buying and about the establishment from which he is buying it (e.g., about whether there have been previous credit card frauds at this establishment).

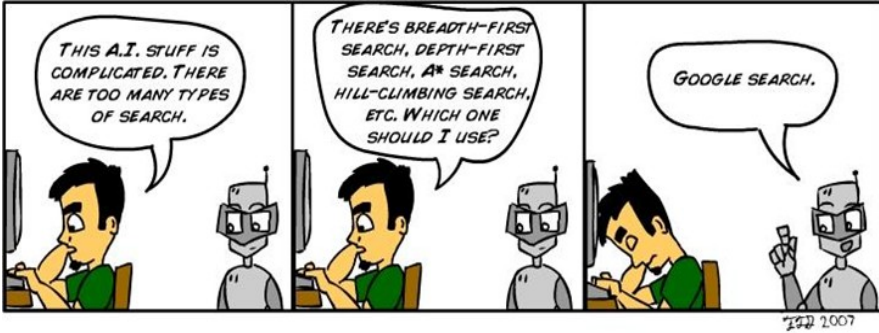
- Finance**

Banks use intelligent software applications to screen and analyze financial data. Software programs that can predict trends in the stock market have been created which have been known to beat humans in predictive power.

- Weather Forecast**

Neural networks are used for predicting weather conditions. Previous data is fed to a neural network which learns the pattern and uses that knowledge to predict weather patterns.

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SOCIETY SNAPSHOT

NSIT—IEEE

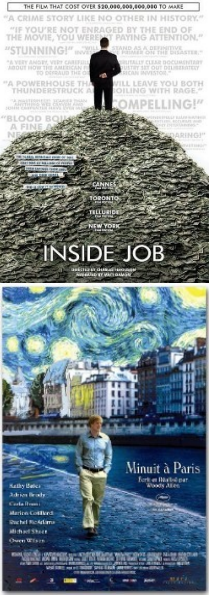
- GOLD Event– (August 24,2011)**
The speakers in the GOLD(Graduate of Last Decade) event were Ayush Jain, analyst with Grail Research, and Siddi Jaiprakash Design Engineer with Freescale Semiconductors with the talk focused on the career aspects for electrical engineers.
- WIE Event-(10th October'11)**
WIE IEEE NSIT organised a science workshop for underprivileged students of classes IV to VIII whereby groups of 40 students were divided into 2 parts and were taught by 4 IEEE members of 2nd and 3rd years.The main motive of the workshop was to increase awareness and impart knowledge to the students of different science experiments.
- WEBINAR**
A live Webcast with Achindra Bhatnagar(working in Microsoft) was organized on August 25 on the topic High Performance in Computing.



SPIC MACAY

SPIC MACAY organised one Shehani Concert of Classical Music by Pt. Daya Shankar, one Lecture Demonstration on Kathak by Smt. Kiran Segal and three movie screening-Shatranj Ke Khiladi (Satyaji Ray) and City Lights and The Great Dictator (both Charlie Chaplin) which were attended in huge no. by students of the college. The events were highly appreciated by the audience and the Chapter looks forward to organize bigger events in the future






Preview - NSIT's Film & Documentary Society

The society screened the following two movies on 17th October,2011. The event saw great participation and the attendees enjoyed the films:


- Inside Job – The film exposes the shocking truth behind the economic crisis of 2008. Inside Job won the 2010 Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature.
- Midnight in Paris - Manny, a writer or artist has longed to travel back in time to the sizzling Paris of the 1920s. In “Midnight in Paris,” the protagonist, Gil, a disenchanted Hollywood screenwriter gets to live exactly that fantasy.

NSIT Rotaract club

The club has recently been honored at the annual ceremony of District Rotaract for its community project- SANKALP which has been awarded the Best Project of the Year and the Best Project in the field of Literacy. Started by a group of enthusiastic Rotaractors in areas around JJ colony and Bharat Vihar, a ten minutes walk from NSIT this project aims at spreading education among the slum children. The classes take place 6 days a week, 2 hours daily. With an initial meager number of 8 children the count has currently reached upto 40. Having set a great example, the students are hoping to spread literacy in a wider section.




Welcome Changes In The Campus



Yes, it is here. Finally here! Zayca Catering Services brings into existence our very own college canteen! At reasonable prices, Nsitians can savour a variety of dishes at the eatery. Now all we ask for is a little more seating space!

The NSIT library has shifted to the first and second floor of the Library building. However, the location of the book bank remains unchanged. The newly operational floors were inaugurated by Mr Anand Prakash, Principal Secretary of Training and Technical Education, Delhi Govt. The ground floor, on the other hand, has been converted to a reading room where students can take their own material for study including their laptops. 6-7 internet points are also available for net access. However, the vast leap in area hasn't brought with it a proportional increase in the number of books. A lot more needs to be done. For the new floors, acquiring an AC back-up and cable points is an absolute necessity. It would be prudent to pitch in our voice through the suggestion box placed outside the ground floor!

EAD - Entrepreneurship Awareness Drive

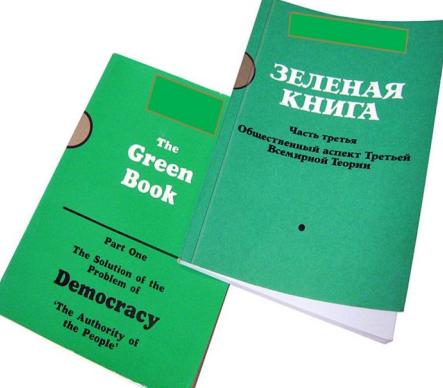


EDC (Entrepreneurship Development Cell) NSIT in association with E-CELL IIT KHARAGPUR organized Entrepreneurship Awareness Drive (EAD) 2011- DELHI on 4th October 2011 at NSIT. EAD-Delhi featured guest lectures by many eminent entrepreneurs and participation of the best startups of the country. The guest speakers for the event were Akshat Rathee-Chairman, NODWIN Group ; Dharmendra Yashowadhan -Co-founder/COO, IXiGO.Com and Amit Grover- Founder, NURTURE TALENT ACADEMY. EAD is a massive initiative taken to promote entrepreneurship and encourage students across the country to embrace the concept of entrepreneurship.

Do you have any questions regarding placements, college & career and want them to be answered?

Do you have something to say? Send in a letter to the editor.


Drop in a mail at nsit.newspaper@nsitonline.in



NSIT QUIZ CLUB Collaboration

Ques: The Green Book, inspired by Mao Zedong's Little Red Book, was required to be read by all citizens of a particular nation. Identify the author.

<http://nsit-qc.blogspot.com/>



JUNOON PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB Collaboration

Identify the place in NSIT where this picture was taken?

Mail us your answers at nsit.newspaper@nsitonline.in.

Alliance thanks Junoon—The Photography Club of NSIT and Gaurav Bhaduria for the pictures for the photos put in the edition.

THE NEWSPAPER TEAM

Mentors



Mansi Aggarwal
Coe 4 year

Rajat Goel
Coe 4 year

Arjun Singh
Ece 3 year
(Design)

Gazal Gupta
Coe 3 year
(Content)

EDITORS



Nilayan Das Gupta
Ece 3 year
(Content)

Nitin Garg
IT 3 year
(Manager)

Esha puri
Mpae 3 year
(Feature)

JOURNALISTS



Toshit Agarwal
Coe 2 year

Shivangi Saxena
IT 2 year