Dear Members,

Past one year has been an effort of establishing the Institution on a sound basis in the changed environment. We worked towards restoration of recognition of the Institution via earnest interactions with concerned authorities. We pursued programs to improve the image of the institution. Our Centres proactively organized professional seminars and workshops that contributed towards academic advancement of student members, be it utilization of solar energy to resolve environmental crisis or creating awareness about technological tsunami of Big Data or Cyber Security by arranging invited talks during events like World Telecommunications Day, Foundation Day and on any specially organized occasions.

We contributed our bit in the development of strong startup ecosystem in the country through IETE’s recent initiative of organizing Innovation Meets. It is a series through which we hope to foster innovative thinking, strengthen R&D ecosystem and nurture the entrepreneurial culture in the community.

IETE publications have shown marked growth in terms of global outreach, impact factors, downloads, citations, quick decision rates by the peer reviewers, number of submissions and stringent acceptance rates. I am confident that the quality of IETE Journals will spur the institution to greater heights. I am grateful to our illustrious editorial team members, including the ones from IITs and IISc for their unwavering support and determination of shaping our journals.

We are happy to inform our members that IETE will soon be publishing a book authored by one of our illustrious academicians, Prof SC Dutta Roy, DFIETE on the topic ‘Circuits, Systems and Signal Processing’. This will meet the persistent demand from students for gaining insights into relatively more difficult topics to understand and assimilate.

I take this opportunity to welcome newly elected Governing Council Members for the term 2017-2020 and wish them all success in their tenure. At the same time, I thank and acknowledge the understanding and commitment of my fellow Governing Council Members, Past Presidents for their support and cooperation of IETE Secretariat. I am proud of IETE corporate, students and organization members who have been a source of strength, generating feeling of progress and achievement.

I keenly look forward to your participation in the 60th Annual IETE Convention being held at Kochi on 16-17 September 2017, where discussions will be focused on “India’s March towards Digital Economy”. This would be a step further in the IETE’s charter towards developing and helping society at large.

As I pass on the baton to my successor, Prof (Dr) KTV Reddy, this is the last column that I write from the President’s Desk. I feel extremely fulfilled with the work that was undertaken and accomplished during my tenure as IETE President.

Jai Hind!

Lt Gen (Dr) AKS Chandele
PVSM, AVSM (Retd)
IYTE President Elect- 2017-18

Prof (Dr) K T V Reddy, former Director, Pranveer Singh Institute of Technology, Kanpur has been elected as the President IETE for the term 2017-18. He shall be taking the reins from his successor Lt Gen (Dr) AKS Chandele, PVSM, AVSM (Retd) on 17th Sept 2017 during Annual IETE Convention at Kochi. While serving the IETE Governing Council as a member since 1999 and as various Committee heads of the Institution, he has proven his strength as a professional. Having gained deep insights into the line of work with more than 3 decades of impeccable professional standing, he is widely commended and credited for his role in teaching, research and administration.

The youngest President elected in the history of IETE, is a BTech in Electronics and Communication Engineering from NBKRIST, SV University Tirupati, MTech and PhD in Electrical Engineering with specialization in Communications from IIT Bombay. His areas of interest are RF, Microwave and Wireless Communication.

During his teaching career at Fr C Rodrigues Institute of Technology (FCRIT), Vashi, he cultivated, promoted and developed the Dept of ET to the extent that it started being considered as one of the best institutes under University of Mumbai. His systematic approach in documentation helped FCRIT to get its due accreditation. He introduced post-graduation courses at Terna Engineering College, Nerul and Padmabhushan Vasanthadapatil Prathishan’s College of Engineering, Sion, Mumbai, as its Principal. He developed sustainable industry–institution linkages and placements for the colleges. He shouldered the responsibilities of changing culture by setting up commitment factor amongst faculty members and importance for discipline, thus improving overall results.

Under his strong guidance, two students completed PhD while seven other students are pursuing their thesis, 12 students have completed ME/M Tech thesis and more than 100 students, their UG projects. As an avid academician, Prof Reddy has addressed and contributed to numerous national and international seminars and conferences.

His contribution in promoting IETE Students Forum (ISFs) has been creditable. He inaugurated over 30 IETE–ISF’s in and around Mumbai colleges. Has served IETE Mumbai Centre in various capacities and under his Chairmanship, IETE Mumbai acquired premises for the Centre in 2009. His efforts have been laudable for organizing successfully IETE ATC–2009 and 2012 at Mumbai. Prof Reddy is a Fellow of IETE, Senior Member of IEEE and life Member of ISTE, ACM, and CSI.

His services have been acknowledged by various organizations by conferment of several prestigious awards. He has also been cited in Who’s Who in Science and Engineering, USA for the year 2007; selected amongst 2000 outstanding scientists in the world in 2008 and has served in various Committees/ Boards of the Mumbai University and as an expert visiting member of AICTE and UGC.

Congratulations to Prof (Dr) K T V Reddy on his success and best wishes as he embarks upon his new responsibilities.

Newly Elected IETE Distinguished Fellows – 2017

We are very pleased to announce that Shri R K Gupta and Brigadier Lakshman Singh, VSM (Retd) has been elected as IETE Distinguished Fellows, 2017. The new IETE Distinguished Fellows will be honoured during the inaugural session of 60th Annual IETE Convention, scheduled to be held at Kochi on 17th Sept 2017.

Shri R K Gupta, (DF-048346) is a Past President of the Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers (2010-12); Former President of Broadcast Engineering Society (India) (2000-02) and former Engineer-in-Chief of Doordarshan. He has held key positions in AIR & Doordarshan for more than three decades. He has been responsible to bring Free to Air DTH of Doordarshan ‘DD Direct +’ in a record time. He modernized the network of Doordarshan and introduced digitalization in a big way. As Director, he was responsible to implement FM plan of All India Radio in Northern India.

The honours conferred on him and laurels bestowed include: “Life Time Achievement Award 2012” from Broadcast Engineering
Society for his outstanding contribution to Broadcasting & promotion of ICTs for spread of education in the country; “ABU Engineering Excellence Award – 2004”, for his significant contribution to the development of Digital TV and DTH in Asia–Pacific region; “Eminent Engineer Award – 2002” by Institution of Engineers and “Bharat Excellence Award-2011” by Friendship Forum of India, amongst others. He participated in a number of National and International seminars and conferences at USA, Japan, UK, Switzerland, Netherland, Turkey, Singapore, Malaysia, Bhutan and Oman. He was instrumental in taking vital policy decisions pertaining to Spectrum Management, Digital Compression, HDTV and Digital Radio at the World Radio Communication Conference WRC-2003 at Geneva and 40th General Assembly of ABU at Istanbul. The other coveted appointments adorned by him include: the Chairman of National Working Group (NWG) – 6 of ITU-R for 2003; the Vice-Chairman of Technical Committee of Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union, ABU in 2002 and the Chairman of Panel of Judges for ABU Engineering Excellence Award for the year 2003.

Shri Gupta has been associated with the Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers (IETE) for a long time. He served as Chairman Membership & Centre Committee (M&CC), Chairman Technical Programme Committee (TPC) and finally rose to its apex position as President for the term 2010-12. His affinity towards students’ community obligated him to introduce IETE Students Day, which now has become an annual feature in the charter of IETE. He has been closely associated with the implementation of Edusat Project of Indira Gandhi National Open University, IGNOU which employs DVB-RCS technology to provide Interactive Education in Virtual Classroom mode. Shri Gupta has been Member, Governing Council AICTE from 2010-2012; Member, Board of Management, Indira Gandhi National Open University from 2011-2014. Shri R K Gupta was Independent Director on the Board of Sambhaav Media Ltd in 2014-15. He was the President, Doordarshan Cricket Club (DDCC) during 2002-04, which illustrates his love and keenness for sports as well.

Shri R K Gupta is also the Fellow and Chartered Engineer of Institution of Engineers (India).

Brigadier Lakshman Singh, VSM (Retd) (DF-043034), a passionate writer, poet and a courteous individual, was commissioned in Corps of Signals in the Indian Army from prestigious Indian Military Academy (IMA) Dehradun in June 1955 and served for over three decades. He has done Master’s in Physics from Lucknow University and MBA from Institute of Defence Management. His areas of specialization are electronics and telecommunications. He retired as Dy Director General from signals Directorate, Army Headquarters in 1985.

Brig Lakshman led an accomplished career including a long tenure with the Defence Research & Development Organization (DRDO) while in service and later with the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), India’s external intelligence agency, followed by a stint with the ECIL as their Defence Advisor. He has been the Dean, Faculty of Communication Engineering, MCET Mhow. He has extensive experience in setting up of Defence Communication, EW (Electronic Warfare) and EMI/EMC (Electromagnetic Emission and Compatibility) systems. He has also been the Member Secretary of JEMCAB (Joint Electromagnetic Interference and Compatibility Board).

His professional experience and his desire for social contribution as a mentor, with unstinting support to young students from Electronics & Telecom, made him actively associated with IETE for more than 2 decades. He successfully completed three terms in the IETE Governing Council and was appointed Vice President of the Institution. He facilitated the student community to interact and network through a portal IETE ELAN (e-learning & Networks). He has been the Founder Member and Vice Chairman of IETE Noida Centre and was instrumental in the progress of delivering live / recorded lectures through Educational Satellite (EDUSAT) to other IETE Centres with receiving facilities. His current areas of interest include Digital Security and Behavioural Sciences.

Brig Lakshman Singh is a veteran of Sino-Indian conflict of 1962 in NEFA (now Arunachal Pradesh) and was actively involved in the 1971 operation for the liberation of Bangladesh. He has authored a book on his experiences of the 1962 Operations titled ‘Letters from the Border and other Less Told Stories’. His second book ‘A Soldier’s Journey through Life with two Wives’ was released in March 2009. His third book, ‘Smiles, Tears and Heartbreaks’ is available as e-book on Smashwords.com link http://www.smashwords.com/books/view/387577.

Congratulations to the elected 2017 - IETE Distinguished Fellows!
Life Time Achievement Award -2017

Lt Gen Ashok Agarwal, PVSM (Retd) (DF- 060216) has been conferred with the Life Time Achievement Award-2017 of the Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers. He has served IETE as its President during the years 2008-10 and is a Distinguished Fellow of the institution.

Lt Gen Agarwal was commissioned in the Indian Army in the Corps of Electronics & Mechanical Engineers (EME) after BTech in Telecom. Later he obtained the degrees of MTech (Control Systems) from IISc Bangalore, MSc (Electronic Design) from Cranfield University, UK and MSc (Information Engg) from City University, London. He served Indian Army in various capacities involving repair & maintenance, design & development, and production of various Armed Forces Electronics, Telecom and Electronic Warfare equipment. He was elevated to the rank of Lieutenant General and was appointed as Director General Quality Assurance in the Ministry of Defence. During his service of nearly 39 years, Gen Agarwal had the distinction of participating in three important operations, one with China, and the other two with Pakistan. He held important assignments including one in the Ministry of External Affairs as First Secretary in the High Commission of India, London. For his distinguished services in the Army, Gen Agarwal was awarded Param Vishishit Seva Medal (PVSM) by the President of India. He is a veteran, professional, technocrat and an expert in Electronics, Telecom & IT. Presently, he is working for AVG Technologies Inc. USA, as its Head of Operations, India & Sri Lanka, specialized in Anti-Virus products for mobile phones, PCs and tablets. He is a well-travelled man who has trotted the globe. He is a US Green-card holder and spends two to three months in US every year.

Congratulations to Lt Gen Ashok Agarwal, PVSM (Retd) on being selected for the IETE Life Time Achievement Awardee -2017 by the Institution of Electronics & Telecommunication Engineers. This award will be conferred on him at the inaugural session of 60th Annual IETE Convention at Kochi on 17th Sept 2017.

News from Headquarters

49th World Telecommunication and Information Society Day – 2017

IETE Headquarters observed 49th World Telecommunication and Information Society Day on the theme ‘Big Data for Big Impact’ on 17th May 2017. Lt Gen Ashish Ranjan Prasad, AVSM, VSM, ADC, Signal Officer-in-Chief graced the event as the Chief Guest. President IETE, Lt Gen (Dr) AKS Chandele, PVSM, AVSM (Retd) extended a warm welcome to him. Prof (Dr) KTV Reddy, Chairman, Technical Programmes and Publicity Committee and former Director, PSIT, Kanpur welcomed the guests. The invited dignitaries on the dais were-

Shri PK Garg, former Wireless Advisor to Government of India; Ms Rama Vedashree, CEO, Data Security Council of India and Ms Rashmi Verma, Founder and Executive Director, Mapmy India.

Shri PK Garg in his address sketched historical background of establishment of International Telecommunication Union, at Paris when 20 European countries signed the landmark charter on 17th May 1865, paving the way for synergistic global cooperation in the vital field. He mentioned that India joined ITU in 1868 -- eight years before discovery of telephone by Graham Bell in 1876.

Lt Gen (Dr) AKS Chandele, PVSM, AVSM (Retd), President IETE, in his address highlighted the role & activities of the institution. Keynote speaker, Ms Rama Vedashree emphasized three V’s that characterize ‘Big Data’ -- namely,
Volume, Variety and Velocity. It’s the ‘Velocity’ aspect of the data which is so crucial to impact corporate performance. She remarked that as much as 80% of the gigantic data being generated is ‘Unstructured’: e.g. photos, SMS, emails etc. Today’s challenge in view of this enormous variety of data is to obtain ‘Actionable’ information. This is made possible by what is termed ‘Advanced Analytics’. Earlier, this phenomenon was known as ‘Business Intelligence’. In present context, we encounter the term, BDA, i.e. Big Data Analytics -- the field, where majority of job openings are available. Thus, there is a dire need to re-skill today’s IT work-force. She explained that drivers of ‘Big Data’ include Digital payments, banking and financial services, modern diagnostic health services and so on. Impact of Big Data Applications is equally sweeping. Citizens, be they in urban or rural areas, have rising aspirations. To meet their expectations, governments need to provide optimum governance besides efficient transportation, health and secure financial services, while giving due regard to privacy. All these become feasible via leveraging Big data analytics that enhance productivity, while ensuring fraud detection and entailing customer segmentation. Cognitive computing will dominate the future.

Keynote speaker, Ms Rashmi Verma revealed that all data involves location-based significance. Therefore her company focused on map-based analytics that enhance operational efficiencies in whole range of applications such as public services, last mile delivery, e-commerce, business intelligence, e-commerce, social media and so on. She predicted that we are heading towards quiet a disruptive milieu, where electric cars will dominate the scenario and we will not own a car, but nevertheless avail its use possibly on shared rental basis to cut costs and be environment-friendly. She remarked that most car companies will be bankrupt! Another scary prediction was that 70-80% jobs will disappear in the next decade, entailing continuous need for re-skilling. She highlighted the phenomenon of leapfrogging in India, where for example, in some rural pockets people who never got hold of a traditional landline now merrily use affordable smart-phone to avail host of government’s digital-enabled services. She was enthusiastic that Impact of Big data Analytics shall usher effective waste management, forest fire detection, location-based concentrated pollution-control strategies, tackling parking issues, combating electromagnetic radiations, and noise – in essence enhancing our lifestyle.

Chief Guest, Lt Gen Ashish Ranjan Prasad, AVSM, VSM, ADC, Signal Officer-in-Chief asserted that future wars will see proliferation of sensors, where each soldier will be embedded with tiny sensors to convey real-time field information to plan an unmatched battle strategy. Such ‘Big Data’ shall naturally feature two more V’s, namely ‘Veracity’ and ‘Value-addition’. Outlining the challenges ahead, Lt Gen Prasad explained the imperatives of cost-effective analytics for implementing management cycles in a speedy time-frame for heterogeneous data. All in all, the impact of ‘man behind the machine’ is to be kept in mind so that we have access to technically-proficient people in each segment. Issues like ‘secure storage’ of personal data to avoid theft that may cause acute embarrassment assume paramount importance. He remarked that the new scenario will fundamentally alter the relationship between citizens and the governments. He was optimistic that improved governance made possible via Big Data analytics shall usher a new phase of Enhanced Quality of Human Life.

Ms Shikha Srivastav Group Leader, C-DoT, demonstrated the use of innovative ‘Panic Button’ on smart phones developed and designed by C-DoT for ensuring user-security, especially useful for persons trapped in distressed situations.

The audience comprised of Past Presidents, Distinguished Fellows, Governing Council Members, Corporate Members, Students and staff of IETE and officials from other Departments/ Organisations.

The ceremony ended with the presentation of mementoes to the dignitaries by the President, IETE and a summing up & vote of thanks by Maj Gen PK Jaggia, VSM (Retd), Secretary General, IETE. The programme ended with the National Anthem.
The 2\textsuperscript{nd} Innovation Meet of the Institution was organized on 29\textsuperscript{th} Aug 2017 at IETE HQ. Shri PK Gupta, Chancellor, Sharda University and Chairman SGI was the Chief Guest.

In his address, Shri Gupta while lauding the government’s visionary initiatives like setting up of National Innovation Foundation, said that while US spends 2.7\% of its GDP on R&D, India’s figure of 0.85\% is a matter of serious concern. Recalling the government’s intent to set up world-class universities on the lines of Harvard, he rued that there was no clear-cut roadmap to achieve this objective. A conscious approach to nurture creativity is a must at all levels of education -- from school to college. According to him, a student should be trained to be passionate about study, about doing PhD, as today, reputed universities are keenly looking for PhD students. He asserted that the next economic boom will be in the area of multidisciplinary-research embracing biology and engineering.

Giving background of the event, Lt Gen (Dr) AKS Chandele, PVSM, AVSM (Retd), President IETE remarked that via this initiative, IETE has facilitated an inspiring dialogue among industry, academia and R&D Labs to create an ecosystem geared towards deepening the innovation culture in our economy and society. He expressed deep satisfaction at the enhanced level of participation this year. Prof (Wg Cdr) Pradeep Prabhakar (Retd), Zonal Coordinator & Chairman, Board of Research, Innovations and Standards (BoRIS) lauded the infectious enthusiasm of participants from reputed R&D Labs like CDoT, CDAC, CEERI, CSIO, CEL and industries namely, Accuster Technologies & autokartz.com besides educational institutes such as Amity and Sharda University Greater Noida, BITS Pilani, ACE, Hyderabad, Aligarh Muslim University etc.

Prominent speakers included Dr Tanya Singh, Amity University, Noida; Shri Bharat Ravichandran, C-DOT; Shri Dheeraj, CSIR-CEERI, Pilani; Dr Pankaj Dalela, C-DOT; Ms. Garima Chandel, ITS Engg College, Greater Noida; Shri Achu Chandran, CSIR-CEERI, Pilani; Shri Yashwardhan Varshney, Aligarh Muslim University; Shri Anoop Agarwal C-DOT; Shri Kashif I K Sherwani, CSIO-CSIR, Chandigarh; and Dr Rakesh Kumar Sehgal, CDAC Mohali, Shri Siddhanshu, Accuster Technologies Pvt Ltd; Dr J L Raheja, CSIO, CEERI, Pilani; Shri Abhinav Bhargava, Manipal Institute of Technology, Manipal. Working models titled, Pathology Lab in a Box, High Definition Flexible Endoscope, LTIVA-Hotplate, Automated Solar Panel Cleaning, T-Baby Suit, Gyansetu, were demonstrated in the Exhibition. The Chairman, BoRIS announced that full details about the event will be uploaded on IETE website.

Maj Gen PK Jaggia VSM (Retd), Secretary General IETE HQ, concluded the programme with vote of thanks.
Shri S Ramaswamy (F-044315) has done his graduation in engineering from IETE. Thereafter he joined Indian Engineering Service in All India Radio in 1971. Earlier served in ITI and LRDE, Bangalore. During his services with AIR & Doordarshan, he established High Power Radio Stations with Complex Antenna Systems and had been instrumental in setting up about 100 TV relay centres in southern states: Andaman, Nicobar & Lakshadweep islands including large numbers at the interior/border areas of North Eastern states. Has led the Doordarshan team to Athens for TV Coverage of Olympics 2004. Was awarded with Akashwani Awards thrice for technical excellence. As Chief Project Consultant, after retirement, he conceived & implemented Digital TV Head ends with OFC connectivity in Tamil Nadu State. As Chairman IETE Chennai (2014-16), he expanded the ISF membership base under Centre’s aegis. A number of training programmes/workshops were conducted at IETE Centre and nearby Engg Colleges. He successfully conducted National Technical Paper Contest in 2015. The financial position of the Chennai Centre improved under his chairmanship.

Prof S K Khedkar (F-050956), is MSc (Maths), ME (Telecom), LMISTE, CEng, M-CSI, FIE and FIETE. He possesses 45+ years of teaching and educational, administrative experience in engg colleges in Maharashtra State as Principal, Vice-Principal, Professor, Member Academic Committees of Universities, Chairman of FE Admission Committee (1993-1997) etc. Has worked on various academic bodies of University of Pune and Dr BA Marathwada University, Aurangabad. Former UPSC/MPSC Electronics panel expert. Authored well-received 18 textbooks on Electronics and Instrumentation and presented 11 technical/research papers at various seminars/symposia. Guided 40+ PG students for dissertations. Has more than 3 decades of association with IETE in various capacities including ex-officio member of IETE Governing Council (2014-2016). Managing Editor of biannual “IETE National Journal of Innovation and Research” and Editor, (quarterly) IETE News Bulletin published by Pune Centre. Prof Khedkar & his coworkers assert striving hard to make IETE Pune Center a vibrant unit to propagate the IETE culture.

Prof (Dr) Ajay P Thakare (F-121223), a graduate engineer (Electronics & Telecommunication) from Govt COE, Pune; M.E (Electronics) from Govt COE, Amravati & PhD (Electronics) from Amravati University, has vast professional experience of 27 years including 3 years in Defence University at Addis Ababa, East Africa. Presently he is working as Professor and HoD, Electronics and Telecommunication at Sipna COET, Amravati. He has published over 82 papers and possesses 2 patents and copyrights. Guided 49 students for M.E programs and about 300 students at UG level. Receptor of IETE- Brig M L Anand Award-2015. IETE Amravati Centre has bagged the Award of Best Centre during his Chairmanship in 2016 and he is also credited with successful conduct of IETE MTS-2014.

Prof (Dr) Bhima Prabhakara Rao (F-133044) obtained BTech and MTech degrees in Electronics and Communications Engineering in 1979 & 1981 respectively from SV University, Tirupathi. His doctoral degree is from IISc, Bangalore in 1995. He has 35 years of experience as faculty, HoD, Director (IST), Dir of Evaluation, Dir (Foreign Universities and Relations), Dir (Admissions), Rector and Vice-Chancellor-in-Charge. Under his guidance 20 doctoral degrees have been awarded and 252 research papers published. He has authored a text book entitled “Probability Theory and Random Processes” (PHI). Has served IETE Kakinada Sub-Centre as its Vice President and Chairman during 2011-2016. He has fellowships of IE, IETE, Senior member IEEE and other sister societies.

Prof S Vijaya Bhaskara Rao (F-134124) has an MSc, (Physics) and PhD degree in Physics from SV University, Tirupati. He is currently Dean, R&D, SV University, Tirupati & Dir, UGC-SVU Centre created by UGC, New Delhi which has been recognized as major national facility by UGC and where a world-class ‘Meteor Radar’ is established for the first time in the University in country. He is also the Principal coordinator for the University for Climate change programme. Specialises in Atmospheric Science and Communications with 24 years of teaching and research experience in electronic, communications and radars. Participated in ‘Antarctic expedition’ where he installed a monostatic sodar system. Published over 130 papers and guided 35 students for PhD. Supervised 12 major research projects founded by UGC, CSIR, DST, ISRO etc. with a total outlay of Rs.10 crores. Recipient of many prestigious national awards, Prof Bhaskara actively organized several conferences which include recent 104th Indian Science Congress at Tirupati.

Dr Kottareddigari Jaya Sankar (F-174479) received BTech degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering from S V University, Tirupati, and ME and PhD degrees from the Dept of ECE, Osmania University, Hyderabad, Telangana in 1988, 1994, and 2004 respectively. In 1992 he joined as Asst Prof in the ECE Dept at Vasavi College of Engineering Hyderabad and presently is the Principal & HoD of ECE. He actively campaigns to collect funds for poor children under various programmes / Schemes. Served as ExeCom member of the IETE Hyderabad center for 2008-2010, 2012-2014 as its Chairman for the term 2014-2016. He has 24 years of teaching experience in Electromagnetics, Antennas, Digital Communication and Microwave and Radar Systems. His research areas of interest are in Coding Theory, RF & Wireless Communications and Genetic Algorithm based antenna design. He has published over 50 research papers. He is Senior Member IEEE.

Brigadier (Dr) VD Abraham, SM (Retd) (F-177298), has a doctorate degree from INTU, Hyderabad. This distinguished Officer has adorned coveted appointments of Dy Dir EME of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka & Kerala and Brigadier EME of North Command. He was also the Vice Chancellor of Oriental University, Indore. An engineer by profession, daring leader decorated with gallantry award by President of India, excelled as a researcher, innovator, educationalist, mover of organization with charisma. He was Army Leader of 15th Expedition to Antarctica, brought laurels. He designed and developed Infantry Mortar Laying Instrument, substitute to German made Instrument, Indigenized the Dewar Detector Cooler with the help of BARC Trombay and a multipurpose Test Station for all types of T1 and Night sight for INSAS rifle. Decorated with three national awards and served IETE Centers of Meerut, Vadodara & Chennai as Executive member and was in Governing Council IETE (2011-14). He is also known for his social reform works.

Congratulations to all!
IETE recognizes outstanding achievements amongst its members and other professionals in the broad areas of Electronics, Telecommunication, Computers, Information Technology and related disciplines through annual/biennial awards. This year IETE received highest ever number of nominations, which is a testimony to mounting popularity of IETE its awards. The Awardees -2017 for various IETE Awards including academic awards are as follows. Except for a few, most of the awards will be presented during 60th Annual IETE Convention scheduled to be held in Sept 2017 at Kochi.

**IETE MAIN AWARDS**

- **IETE - Ram Lal Wadhwa Award**  
  Awardee: Dr Ranjan Kumar Mallik, IIT Delhi
- **IETE - Hari Ramji Toshniwal Award**  
  Awardee: Shri Tata Sudhakar, Scientist-‘F’, National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai
- **IETE - Bimal Bose Award**  
  Awardee: Dr Sanjeet Kumar Dwivedi, Senior Research Scientist, Danfoss Power Electronics, Denmark
- **IETE - Lal C Verman Award**  
  Awardee: Shri Hemant Pandurang Chaudhari, AISSMS’s Institute of IT, Pune
- **IETE - Flt Lt Tanmaya Singh Dandass Memorial Award**  
  Awardee: Shri Surender Singh Saini, Principal scientist, CsIo, Chandigarh
- **IETE-Prof K Sreenivasan Memorial Award**  
  Awardee: Prof (Dr) Debabrata Das, Professor, IIIt Bangalore,
- **IETE - Hari Ramji Toshniwal Award**  
  Awardee: Shri Tata Sudhakar, Scientist-‘F’, National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai
- **IETE - Bimal Bose Award**  
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- **IETE - Hari Ramji Toshniwal Award**  
  Awardee: Shri Tata Sudhakar, Scientist-‘F’, National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai
- **IETE - Bimal Bose Award**  
  Awardee: Dr Sanjeet Kumar Dwivedi, Senior Research Scientist, Danfoss Power Electronics, Denmark
- **IETE - Lal C Verman Award**  
  Awardee: Shri Hemant Pandurang Chaudhari, AISSMS’s Institute of IT, Pune
- **IETE - Flt Lt Tanmaya Singh Dandass Memorial Award**  
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  Awardee: Prof (Dr) Debabrata Das, Professor, IIIT Bangalore,
IETE Best Papers’ Awards Given for Articles Published in 2016 IETE Journals

<table>
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The Academic Awards awarded for excellence to IETE Students awardees this year are as follows.

- **SUBRAMANIAN THYAGARAJA AWARD** – No recipient in the award this year.
- **AMIETE COUNCIL AWARD** – No recipient in the award this year.
- **AMIETE COUNCIL AWARD** – II for securing the highest percentage with 6.5 GPA and above marks and completing Part I of Section B in one attempt with exemptions.

**JUNE 2016**

AMIETE (ET) : ARTI TIWARI– 206187 GPA = 6.6 (Under Scheme 2010)
GURRAM HARISH 236002 GPA = 6.6 (Under Scheme 2014)

**DECEMBER 2016**

AMIETE (ET): SAVITA KUMARI– 236383 GPA = 6.5 (Under Scheme 2014)
AMIETE (CS): P LATHA– 235688 GPA = 8.16 (Under Scheme 2014)

AMIETE COUNCIL AWARD – III for securing the highest percentage with 6.5 GPA and above marks and completing Part II of Section B (Except Project) in one attempt without exemptions.

**JUNE 2016**

AMIETE (ET): KRISHNA PRASAD SATAMRAJU– 219460 GPA = 7 (Under Scheme 2010)

**DECEMBER 2016**

AMIETE (ET): BHAGAVATULA SHIVA VIKRAM– 235570 GPA = 8.5 (Under Scheme 2010)
UMMADISHTTY NAGA CHOWDAIYAH– 235806 GPA = 6.8 (Under Scheme 2014)
PRAGYA– 236006 GPA = 6.8 (NEW Scheme)

- **SMT RADHABAI KAPRE GOLD MEDAL AWARD** for securing the highest percentage with 6.5 CGPA and above marks and completing AMIETE in 4 years attempt without exemptions.

**JUNE 2016**

AMIETE (ET): NITISH YADAV– 231496 CGPA = 7.92 (Under Scheme 2010)
AMIETE (CS): GAURAV GHILDIVAL– 230614 CGPA = 8.11 (Under Scheme 2010)
AMIETE (IT): SADAB– 230461 CGPA = 6.66 (Under Scheme 2010)

**DECEMBER 2016**

AMIETE (ET): SHAHEEN FATIMA– 233471 CGPA = 7.66 (Under Scheme 2010)
AMIETE (CS): SIMRAN BAGGA– 233912 CGPA = 7.18 (Under Scheme 2010)

HARI MOHAN MEMORIAL AWARD – No recipient in the award this year.

AMIETE – GOPAL M DANDEKAR MEMORIAL AWARD to a girl student securing the highest percentage with 6.5 GPA and above marks and completing AMIETE (Considering ET, CS & IT streams of current Jun & Dec Exams together) in four years without any exemptions.

**JUNE 2016**

AMIETE (CS): SNEHA KUMARI– 230388 CGPA = 7.77 (Under Scheme 2010)

**DECEMBER 2016**

AMIETE (ET): SHAHEEN FATIMA– 233471 CGPA = 7.66 (Under Scheme 2010)
AMIETE (CS): SIMRAN BAGGA – 233912 CGPA = 7.18 (Under Scheme 2010)
DIPIETE COUNCIL AWARD – I – No recipient in the award this year.

DIPIETE COUNCIL AWARD – II – No recipient in the award this year.

DIPIETE COUNCIL AWARD –III for securing the highest percentage with 6.5 GPA and above marks and completing Part-I of Section B in one attempt without any exemptions.

JUNE 2016
DIPIETE (ET): APPOLU NIRANJAN REDDY– 235627 GPA = 8.25 (Under Scheme 2010)

DIPIETE COUNCIL AWARD – IV for securing the highest percentage with 6.5 GPA and above marks and competing PART-II of Section B in one attempt without any exemptions.

JUNE 2016
DIPIETE (ET): APPOLU NIRANJAN REDDY– 235627 GPA = 7.66 (Under Scheme 2010)

DECEMBER 2016
DIPIETE (ET): RANAJIT MUDULI– 225159 GPA = 6.66 (Under Scheme 2010)

DIPIETE COUNCIL AWARD – V for securing the highest percentage with 6.5 CGPA and above marks and completing DIPIETE in 3 years without any exemptions.

JUNE 2016
DIPIETE (Cs): PRAMItA RAnI– 235532 CGPA = 7.52 (Under Scheme 2010)

DIPIETE – Gopal M DAnDEkAR MEMORIAL AWARD to a girl student securing the highest percentage with 6.5 CGPA and above marks and completing DIPIETE (Considering ET & CS streams of current Jun & Dec Exams together) in three years without any exemptions.

JUNE 2016
DIPIETE (Cs): PRAMITA RANI– 235532 CGPA = 7.52 (Under Scheme 2010)

New IETE Professional Activity Centre (PAC) at Perth, Australia

Spreading its wings to cross-borders, IETE has opened a new Professional Activity Centre at Perth, Australia with help of its Fellow IETE member, Shri Atul Garg, who is also conferred with the title of JP (Justice of the Peace) by the Governor of the State of Western Australia—a statutory position under Western Australian Justices Act 1902, given to people of high integrity and record of community service.

Though IETE PAC is still in its infancy, the member & his team of could arrange for few meetings together. The team assures of full cooperation to steer clear any legal, financial hassles. We are thankful to this bunch of alluring people who have taken the onus of establishing a full fledged IETE PAC overseas to assist the international student community in acquiring knowledge in the areas of discipline of interest to IETE. The newly inaugurated PAC would conduct mandatory activities as well as Continuing Professional Education Programmes to meet the needs of the this region. The Committee members for IETEPAC Australia as approved by IETE Governing Council are: Chairperson – Atul Garg, JP (Perth), Deputy Chairperson – Tarun Dewan (Perth), Secretary – Pramod Kapoor (Perth), Treasurer – Davishi Verma (Perth), Committee Member (Media) – Ramona Chauhan (Perth). The Committee members have organized three meetings so far, which have been interactive and fruitful in terms of technical presentations on current topic by the committee members.

We are indeed grateful to our fellow brethren / corporate members, who with their dint of unbounded enthusiasm and passion are proactive in furthering the aims and objectives of India’s premier professional Institution: IETE.
# New Members of IETE enrolled/upgraded during May - July 2017

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AHMEDABAD

• Under **Utilization of Solar Energy and Power Plant for the development of Smart City and Villages** programme the Centre organised expert talks by Ms Pooja Kanade, Technology Consultant, on “Solar Photovoltaic Power Plants” on 30th Apr 2017. Shri V K Jain, Centre Chairman welcomed participants and introduced IETE’s activities. He highlighted need for resources preservation and utilization of abundant solar energy for resolving severe environmental degradation. He advocated for viable roof-top type power plants. Former IETE president, Smt Snriti Dagur was also present and informed the participants about ongoing HQ activities. Various Government schemes, ambitious targets, exemptions and places for installing Solar plants were also taken up. The other expert Shri Rajendra Gaikwad, Scientist SAC/ISRO delivered his talk on “Practical Approach on Solar Energy”.

• A visit to “GIFT City – Gandhinagar” was organized by the Centre for corporate members, engineering students, and their families on 13th May 2017. GIFT - Gujarat International Finance Tech-City, is designed as a hub for the global financial services sector with state-of-the-art connectivity, infrastructure and transportation access. It aspires to cater to India’s large financial services potential by offering global firms a world-class infrastructure and facilities. It is estimated that this project would provide 500,000 direct and an equal number of indirect jobs. The visiting members were explained the model of the High-Tech GIFT City, via a film with concept, opportunities ideas, case study etc. in a highly interactive mode. The hospitality courtesy was extended by Shri Pankaj Kumar Gupta, Sr VP-ICT, Gift City, Gandhinagar; Shri Ashish Desai GM, IT; Shri Parth Joshi,Mgr, Smart City and Coordinator Shri Dhyan Trivedi. It was an educative visit.

• **49th World Telecommunication and Information Society Day** on “Big Data for Big Impact” was organized jointly with IE(I), Gujarat and CSI, Ahmedabad Chapter on 17th May 2017 and supported by Broadcasting Engineers Society (BES), Gujarat Innovation Society (GIS) and Association of Computing Machinery (ACM). Shri V K Jain Chairman, IETE Ahmedabad, in his address highlighted activities and technical contribution of these institutions. He emphasized importance of Big Data for innovation and growth. He also touched upon the applications of new technologies like Smart Sensor, Cloud Information, Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Mobile devices etc. The video message from Prof Hulin Zhao, Secretary- General, ITU was played during the function, which was attended by more than 150 members of participating organizations/ associations, professionals, academicians and students.

Dr Bharat Patel, Council Member, IEI and convener WTISD-2017 and Dr Sandeep Vasant, Chairman, CSI Ahmedabad chapter addressed the audience. Shri Navin Vasoa, President IEI presided. Shri Sanjay Sinha, Chairman, BES Ahmedabad introduced the Chief Guest Dr Pradeep Kumar Hota, ITS, CGM, BSNL Gujarat Telecom Circle. Insightful presentation by Chief Guest with factual statistics was interesting and noteworthy for professionals working in telecommunication area. Two theme speakers, Shri Manish Soota, VP, Cignex Datamatics and Shri Vijay Shah, Head Marketing India, Apttus discussed the current trends, issues and challenges and the opportunity for computer professionals and students in the field of big data. Shri Niraj Shah, Treasurer, CSI AC proposed a vote of thanks.

ALLAHABAD

To perpetuate interest in fields of research, Prof S N Ghosh had made an endowment to IETE Allahabad Centre to organize
every year a research level lecture from an eminent scientist of India & abroad and recognize his outstanding contribution and achievements in the field. The Allahabad centre therefore organizes this lecture every year by eminent experts.

This year this prestigious award was conferred to **Prof Satya Prakash Khare**, Ex Professor University of Allahabad & former Pro VC of Chaudhary Charan Singh University Meerut. The award was conferred by the **Dr R P Mishra** Ex VC University of Allahabad on 17th Aug 2017 at IETE Allahabad Centre. The Chairman Er RN Mishra welcomed the guests. The awardee delivered his award lecture on the topic “Physics of MicroParticles”.

**AMRAVATI**

The Centre arranged for a one-day workshop-cum hands-on training on “Computer and Internet” on 12th Jul 2017 at the Dept of IT of ISF- Vidarbha Youth Welfare Society’s Prof Ram Meghe Institute of Technology & Research Badnera, Amravati by **Dr P V Ingle**, HoD/IT, as a resource person. Targeted audience for this workshop was women candidates who were working as cleaning and maintenance staff within college campus. Workshop was divided into three parts followed by hands-on practice, viz. Computer Fundamentals (Hardware, Software, Operating System); Introduction to Internet (Searching of Required Information using Search Engine, Browsing & Introduction to E-mail).

The workshop was coordinated and conducted by **Prof S P Thakare** with the assistance of **Prof (Ms) S I Saudagar**, Asst Prof at IT Dept of the college.

**BANGALORE**

The Centre organized following technical activities:

- **02-04 Jan 2017**: A three-day workshop on “Speech Signal Processing” in association with Dept of EC, MS Ramaiah Institute of Technology, Bangalore. The event was graced by **Dr TV Ananthapadmanabha**, CEO, Voice and Speech Systems, Bangalore; **Dr TV Suresh Kumar**, Registrar Academics, MSRIT; **Dr S Sethu Selvi**, HoD/EC, MSRIT; Shri C Satyanandan, Centre EC member; Shri CG Raghavendra, EC Member and Shri VC Sadashiv, AP, MSRIT.

- **22-02-2017**: For exploring the possibility of Java and Android courses at Oxford College of Science, **Prof HS Bhatia**, Hony Secretary, organized a presentation by Shri Vikrant Bagh at the college premises.

- **19-03-2017**: A one-day workshop on “Signals & Systems” by **Dr TC Manjunath**, HoD/EC, Dayananda Sagar of Engineering College, Bangalore. 50 candidates attended.

- **23-4-2017 to 20-5-2017**: Summer School in Electronics and Computer (SUSIEC-17) was inaugurated by **Prof BS Sonde**, former VC, Goa University and former Dean, Faculty of Engineering, IISc, Bangalore. School students studying in 9th and 10th std participated and were provided theory and practical training in the areas of engineering. This program was sponsored by many organizations. M/s ASM Technologies sponsored scholarships and several prizes for the best projects. The Summer school concluded on 20th May 2017 with a session of demonstration of projects followed by valedictory function. **Prof BS Sonde**, Past President, IETE and **PadmaShri (Dr) M Annadurai**, ISRO were the Chief Guests for valedictory function. **Shri Rabindra Srikanth**, MD of M/s ASM Technologies Ltd. and **Mrs Preeti Rabindra**, patron of SUSIEC-17 also graced the last session.
**12-5-2017:** The Centre in association with Global Academy of Technology (GAT), ECE Dept organized 3rd National Conference on “Recent Trends in Electronics and Communication”, 60 papers were presented. The Chief Guest Dr Shyam Vasudev Rao, Co-founder of Forus Medical Pvt. Ltd, released the 3rd national conference proceedings and departmental Newsletter ECE360. He delivered a talk on the topic, “3-Netra”- an eye care device, new invention for quick & easy method to repair child’s eye. Other dignitaries on the dais included: Sri Venkatappa, Addl Secy, NEF; Dr Rana Pratap Reddy, Principal, GAT and Dr Manjunatha Reddy H S, HoD, ECE.

**17-5-2017:** Prof BS Sonde, former VC of Goa University and Dean, Faculty of Engineering, IISc, the Chief Guest, delivered Prof SVC Aiya Memorial Lecture during the World Telecom & Information Society Day celebrations. Shri Devadasan Kizapat, CTO, M/s Unpickle Analytics Solution Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru, the expert speaker spoke on the theme of the day “Big Data for Big Impact”. Shri Rabindra Srikantan, MD of M/s ASM Technologies Ltd., the patron of SUSIEC-17, was the Guest of Honour.

**29-5-17 to 1-6-2017:** A four-day intensive course on Radar Signal and Data Processing (RSDP-17) was organized. More than 60 students from various organizations, viz. BEL, HAL and DRDO Labs participated. Keynote address was delivered by Dr George M Cleetus, FNAE, Outstanding Scientist and Former Director, LRDE, DRDO. Shri Sudarshan Rao P was the course director. Dr DC Pande, Imdt Past Chairman presided over the inaugural function. In the Valedictory function, Dr PK Menon, founder of Optimal Synthesis Inc., USA, delivered the keynote address. Shri C Mahesh, Chief Scientist, CRL and Prof G Poornima, HoD, ECE, BMSCE were the Chief Guests. Prof GK Venkatesh, Vice Chairman presided. Faculty members were also present.

**Prof BS Sonde, former VC of Goa University and Dean, Faculty of Engineering, IISc, DFiete & Past President addressing the audience during WTISD-2017 at Bangalore.**

**Prof R K Sinha, Dir CSIR-CSIO, Chandigarh and Centre Chairman, delivering his address during WTISD-2017 at IETE Chandigarh Centre.**

**Prof N S Nagaraja Memorial lecture** was delivered by Dr M Nageshwara Rao, Assoc Dir, ISRO Satellite Centre, Bengaluru on “An Indian Satellite for Navigation Applications” on 25th Jun 2017. The speaker explained the concept of augmented navigation systems clearly with a focus on our very own augmentation system GAGAN. While touching upon the design aspects of a satellite constellation for navigation, the details of Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System were highlighted. Working principle of an Atomic Clock which is the heart of any navigation satellite was also described. President IETE, Lt Gen (Dr) AKS Chandele (Retd) also addressed the gathering and distributed IETE-IRSI (83) Awards to awardees. Other notables on the occasion were: Shri G Ramesh, Centre Chairman; Prof G K Venkatesh, Vice-Chairman and Prof HS Bhatia, Hony Secy.

**CHANDIGARH**

The Centre organised 49th World Telecommunication & Information Society Day on 7th Jul 2017. Prof R K Sinha, Centre Chairman, gave broad overview on theme topic, Big Data for Big Impact. He highlighted the power of big data for development and how it aims to turn imperfect, complex, often instructed data into actionable information. Shri Surender Singh Saini, Hony Secy read out the message released for the
day by Mr Houlin Zhao, Secretary General, ITU. Shri Ritesh Kumar, Scientist, CSIR-CSIO Chandigarh also spoke on the theme topic. Around 70 candidates including scientists, IETE corporate members, students of ISF, ISTC and IETE Centre attended. Vote of thanks was proposed by Dr P K Awasthi, Centre Hony Treasurer.

CHENNAI

- World Telecommunication & Information Society Day 2017 was celebrated on 17th May 2017 with 90 participants on the theme “Big Data for Big Impact”. Shri Tata Sudhakar, Vice Chairman, Chennai Centre, delivered the welcome address and touched upon the history and development of World Telecommunication Union. The role of ICT in the theme was lucidly explained by Chairman Dr Swarna Ravindra Babu and Chief Guest Sri Srinivasan Ramachandran, Addl. Director General, South Zone, All India Radio & Doordarshan, Chennai. Felicitations talks were given by Shri H R Mohan, Vice Chairman, IEEE Madras Section, Sri R Ramadoss, Hony Secretary, IE, TN Centre, Dr S S Sridhar, Chairman, IET Chennai Network, Sri T R Vasudeva Rao, Chairman, CSI, Chennai chapter. Members from professional societies attended the function, which was covered by Doordarshan, AIR & Print media. Dr C Sheeba Joice, Hony Secretary, IETE Chennai proposed vote of thanks.

GUWAHATI

The Centre celebrated 49th World Telecommunication and Information Society Day on the theme “Big Data for Big Impact” on 17th May 2017. Shri Prasanta Saikia, Centre Chairman, spoke about the significance of the day and relevance of the theme. Prof Bijoy Goswami, Dept of ECE, Assam Engg College, Guwahati delivered the keynote address. Shri Tahiruddin Ahmed, Sr faculty read out the message of the Secretary General, ITU on the theme. The day was attended by corporate members, IETE students and other invited guests of Assam Police Radio Organisation.

DELHI

- The Centre organised a technical lecture on 9th Apr 2017 by Shri M B Goswami to create awareness of digital procedures among IETE and IGNOU students.
- The 49th World Telecommunication Information Society Day was organized on 17th May 2017 with the speaker Dr Tarun Rawat, Asst Professor, NSIT, Delhi, who delivered a talk on “Big Data and Big Impact”. It was attended by about 25 students.

HYDERABAD

- An MoU was signed between IETE Hyderabad Centre and Shri Vadrevu Seshagiri Rao Memorial Charitable Trust (VSRMC Trust), Hyderabad for conducting Professional/ Technical Courses in IETE Campus.
- 49th World Telecommunication and Information Society Day was celebrated in association with CTMS and FTAPCCI on the theme: “Big Data for Big Impact” on 17th May 2017 at FTAPCCI Auditorium. Dr G Laxminarayana, Centre Chairman, presided over the programme. Prof (Dr) D Linga Reddy, Secretary, IETE delivered welcome address. Shri Eatala Rajender, Hon’ble Minister for Finance and Planning, Govt of Telangana was invited as the Chief Guest. Former Union Defence Minister Shri Pallam Raju, Shri J Satyanaryana, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, UIDAI and Dr KPC Gandhi, Founder
Chairman of Truth Labs India, graced the occasion along with around 150 other participants. Shri J Satyanaryana, and Dr KPC Gandhi inaugurated the celebrations and also delivered “13th Dr TH Chowdary – CTMS Endowment Lecture”. Dr TH Chowdary, former IT Advisor, Govt of AP, as a moderator, conducted a panel discussion on: Big data for Big Impact. Dr TH Chowdary was felicitated on the conferment of Padmasree award and all the panelists were honoured with mementoes. Dr KVNSVPL Narasimham, Chairman, Technical Programmes and Publications sub-committee proposed vote of thanks.

- The Centre organized Shri UV Warlu 17th Memorial Lecture on 6th Jun 2017 on “Emerging Trends in Broadcasting with special focus on Mobiles” by Dr YVN Krishna Murthy, Distinguished Scientist & Director NRSC, ISRO, Hyderabad. scientists, professors, students and members from Centre attended the function. The Centre Chairman Dr G Laxminarayana presided over the function.

- The Centre also organized Prof KK Nair 14th Memorial Lecture on 10th Jun 2017 on “Indian Light Combat Aircraft - LCA - Tejas - Avionics Systems” by Shri PNAP Rao, Winner of IETE - B V Baliga Memorial Award 2016, former Outstanding Scientist & Project Director Aeronautical Development Agency (DRDO).

- A meet of ISF Coordinators with Centre Chairman for the planning of workshop was organized for the 2017-18 academic year.

- The Centre conducted training on Asset Mapping activity of RR district of Telangana State under EPRIS project from National Remote Sensing centre, Hyderabad/ISRO. This pilot project is being carried out with help ISF students from different colleges in Hyderabad. IETE Hyderabad centre is providing training for the participants. So far, the following ISFs/ Engineering colleges were involved in this activity, namely- Sphoorthy Engineering College, Hyderabad; Nalla Malla Reddy Engineering College, Hyderabad; CMR Technical Campus, Hyderabad; Vidy Jyothi Institute of Technology, Hyderabad; Mahaveer Institute of Technology, Hyderabad and KG Reddy College of Engineering & Technology, Hyderabad.

**JAIPUR**

- With an attempt to familiarise rural women with digital literacy, an event “Digital Literacy for rural Women” was organized on 20th Jul 2017 by ISF-Banasthali Chapter under the IETE Jaipur Centre. The event was led by Dr Seema Verma, Convenor IETE, Banasthali University chapter. A team of five IETE students accompanied by Ms Suneepta, Ms Pooja Shrivasta and Ms Vartika Kulshreshta went to Banasthali village to educate women on digital literacy. The team included Ms Bhavya Mehrotra, Chairperson, Ms Abhihita Mishra,
Trustee, **Ms Tanya Jain**, **Ms Shreya Indoliya** and **Ms Shalome Dillu**—student ambassadors. The event was attended by over fifty rural women. Ms Suneeta highlighted the importance of having bank accounts, safety while using ATMs and internet banking. She spoke on the use of mobile applications for net banking. The session taught women how to efficiently manage and invest their money which is one step closer to being independent. The talk was concluded by a small quiz which made the session interactive. Hosting a quiz contest in the end made sure everyone was attentive throughout the lecture. The session drew to a close with prize distribution. Participants expected such more sessions to be conducted in near future.

- Women are the core of existence of any and every part of universe. It is indispensable to overlook their valuable contribution. Keeping in pace with the present requisites, ITEE proposed one week training programme on Internet Uses under the banner of ‘Digital India’. A one-day workshop activity was organized by the ECE Dept, Poornima College of Engineering on 24th July, 2017. This was a noble effort supported by **Dr Om Prakash Sharma**, Director, Poornima College of Engineering and **Dr Garima Mathur**, HoD, in which 7 students of 3rd year, Khushboo Chhabra, Jyoti Singh, Laksh, Prashant, Arya Rawat, Ayushi Parashar, Divya along with 3 faculty members, Gaurav Saxena, Manish Kumar Sharma, Anila Dhingra visited a school Unique shine Children Academy in Chaksu village. This effort was supported by **Mr Trilok Kumar Sharma**, Principal, Unique Shine Children Academy. This activity was aimed to enlighten urban/rural housewives about the wonders that internet technology offers in easing day-to-day life.

The students gave the power point presentation about the use of various policies of government such as Net Banking, Aadhaar card and *Bhamashah* card i.e., how it can be useful to smoothen daily life. Students also created awareness about uses and benefits of internet banking in rural areas. Other policies introduced were: Sarwa Shiksha Abhiyan; *Indira Mahila Yojana*; *Balika Samridhi Yojana*; *Rashtriya Mahila Kosh*; *Mahila Samridhi Yojana* and Employment and Income Generating Training-cum-Production Centers.

**KAŅPUŘ**

The Centre, IEEE UP Section and IE(I) Kanpur Centre, jointly celebrated **49th World Telecommunication and Information Society Day** on the theme “**Big Data for Big Impact**” on 17th May 2017 at IIT, Kanpur. **Er Mahendra Pati**, Sr GM, BSNL Kanpur, graced the event as Chief Guest, while **Prof Kripa Shanker**, Former Vice-Chancellor of UPTU and **Prof JP Saini**, Dir AITH Kanpur were the Guests of Honour. Welcome address was delivered by **Dr US Yadav**, Immdt Past Chairman. The message from ITU was read by **Dr DP Mishra**, Chairman, IE (I), Kanpur Centre. The keynote speaker **Er Navpreet Singh**, IIT Kanpur spoke on “Big Data and Data–Driven innovation: Benefits, Impact and Opportunities”. The Chief Guest & Guests of Honour also expressed their views on the theme topic. 80 members participated.

**KOČHI**

49**th World Telecommunication & Information Society** was celebrated by the Centre also on 17th May 2017. **Dr TK Mani**, Centre Chairman presided. Later, he read out the message received from **Houlin Zhao**, ITU Secretary General & spoke on the theme “Big Data for Big impact”. **Fr (Dr) Jaison Paul Mulerickal CMI**, Professor, Dept. of Computer Science & Engineering, Rajagiri School of Engg & Tech, Kakkanadu graced the event as the Chief Guest and addressed the gathering on the theme topic. Memento was presented to him on behalf of IETE Kochi Centre by **Er NM Kumar**, Former Chairman, IETE Kochi Centre. Dr K Vasudevan, Hony Treasurer and Dr MV Rajesh, Hony Secretary, IETE Kochi Centre also spoke during the event.
KOLKATA

The Centre observed the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day on selected theme “Big Data for Big Impact” on 17th May 2017. The technical talks were delivered by Shri Himadri Ghosh, Ex Sr Manager Consultant, IBM (India), the Chief Guest and Shri Rajib Sarkar, Director, EBIW Information Analytics Pvt Ltd.

MUMBAI

• The Centre in association with Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Technology (RGIT), Mumbai conducted a technical talk on “Cyber Security: Importance and Applications”, by Shri SN Kulkarni, Senior Consultant, Tata Consultancy Services, Mumbai on 17th Mar 2017. He talked about its importance and its need in present scenario. He explained the term ethical hacking and its difference from illegal hacking. Other notables present were: Dr UV Bhosle, Principal & Centre Chairman; Prof Uttara Gogate, Centre Hony Secretary, Prof SD Patil, Faculty Coordinator ISF–RGIT and EC Member and Prof KG Sawarkar, HoD, RGIT; Shri Khurana PS, Shri SR Agrawal, former Secretary General, IETE HQ and Prof Madhuri Rotge. Inaugural speech was given by Dr UV Bhosle. Faculty members & good number of students were present. Vote of thanks was proposed by Prof Uttara Gogate, Centre Hony Secretary.

MHO

World Telecommunication & Information Society Day was observed at IETE Sub Centre, MCTE Mhow on 13th May 2017. Prof (Dr) Seema Keshariya, Hony Secy, welcomed the audience. A technical lecture on the theme “Big Data for Big Impact” was delivered by Col Haridas, MCTE, Mhow. A quiz competition on this theme was conducted in three rounds for the students of JE (NE) courses. First round had three sessions related to questions on communication, IT & Cyber Security and Spectrum. Second round was a rapid fire round in which questions related to Big Data were asked. The third was a buzzer round. Five teams of 2 students each participated in the competition. L/Nk Sunil Kumar & L/Nk T K Sahoo of JE (NE) 148 course won first prize and two teams JE(NE) 145 & 146 respectively were declared as 1st & 2nd runners up. All participants were felicitated with certificates and the winner teams were given cash prizes. The quiz was conducted by Lt Col Siddharth Upadhay, FCE, MCTE, Mhow. The target audience included 15 permanent staff officers and 105 students of JE (NE) courses. The vote of thanks was given by Prof (Dr) Seema Keshariya, Hony Secy, who also organized the quiz.
An event was organized to felicitate the winners of various events held under ISF’s of different engineering colleges in Mumbai under the banner of IETE Mumbai Oscillations 2017 during the months of Feb-March 2017. The valedictory programme of this event was conducted at Don Bosco Institute of Technology, Mumbai on 3rd Apr 2017. Valedictory talk was given by Dr Sudhakar Mande, HoD, DBIT EXTC & Navi Mumbai Centre Chairman. The Chief Guest, Dr JW Bakal in his keynote address stressed upon the importance of ISFs /student bodies. Highlights of the occasion were presentation of a small video by IETE DBIT ISF, showcasing various initiatives of the ISF in terms of workshops and competitions held in the academic semester. A wrist band of IETE DBIT ISF was released on the occasion and all the EC members of IETE Mumbai were presented with the same as a token of gratitude by IETE DBIT ISF. Other speakers included: Prof Lakshmi V, DBIT; Dr Tanuja Sarode, Centre Hony Treasurer and Shri Melroy Cordeiro, Chairperson, IETE DBIT ISF.

49th World Telecommunication and Information Society Day was jointly organised by IETE Mumbai Centre & Navi Mumbai Centre, IET Mumbai Network, IEEE AES/SOC Bombay Chapter and BESI (I) Mumbai Chapter on 18th May 2017. Dr Udhav Bhosle, Chairman Mumbai Centre, delivered the welcome address. Shri SR Aggarwal, graced the occasion as Guest of Honour and shared his views on the topic. Shri SC Khasgiwal, Chairman, BES (I) read out the message of Shri Houlin Zhao, ITU Secretary General. The speaker Shri Hirak Mukherjee delivered an interesting talk on the theme and explained about its worldwide impact on IT industry and other areas. The event ended with question-hour session.

A three-day workshop on Basic and Recent Trends in Electronics Based Laboratories was conducted at ISF Padmabhushan Vasantdada Patil Pratishthans College of Engineering, Sion Mumbai, during 28th-30th Jun 2017. The Chief guest for the event was Dr JW Bakal, Principal, S S Jondhale College of Engg; Guest of Honor Prof Uttara Gogate, Centre Hony Secretary. The aim and necessity to conduct this event was given by Prof Nilima Zade, HoD/EXTC and Dr Alam Shaikh, Principal PVPPCOE. Faulty members Prof Suvarna Bhise and Prof Harsha Sanap, Asst Prof/EXTC extended their full support. Ms Sayali Shinde, Design Engg EoS Power Systems & Mrs Priyanka Shetty, Academician were speakers of the first day session on Design of the PCBs. Next day Shri Prashant Priyadarshi, AP/SPIT Mumbai, spoke on DSP & 8051 programming. The topic on concluding day was AFG & MSO operation by the veteran Industrialist Shri Shanshank Pradhan, proprietor, SAN Instruments Ltd, Mumbai.

NASHIK

The Centre jointly celebrated the 49th World Telecommunication and Information Society Day-2017 on the theme ‘Big Data for Big Impact’ on 17th May 2017 at Sanchar Bhavan, Nashik in association with BSNL, Nashik. The Chief Guest Shri Nitin Mahajan, (ITS) – GM, BSNL, Nashik, highlighted the role of Telecommunication & IT in today’s scenario. He mentioned about the bandwidth availability and connectivity that plays a key role in the growth of country’s economy, enormous growth in tele-density in the past decade and was of the view that India should take this advantage and effectively use the ICT tools to leverage sustainable development. The Guest Speaker Er Tushar B Kute elucidated various concepts of Big Data, challenges, vulnerabilities and security issues, open-source software, especially the Operating Systems like Linux and its importance. The Centre Chairman Dr D M Chandwadkar, Centre Chairman & HoD/ET, Karmaveer Kakasaheb Wagh Institute of Engineering Education & Research, Dr S S Morade, Hony Secretary, Shri SA Bhadane, Hony Treasurer and Mrs Apurva Jakhadi, Space Educator & Special Invitee also spoke during the occasion, which was attended by telecom engineers of BSNL, including Shri M R Kulkarni, Head, Internet section, BSNL; and IT professionals like Shri MB Sangale, Jr Manager, Mobile Section.

IT Professionals coming together to celebrate WTISD - 2017 at IETE Nashik Centre.

NOIDA

Technical Lecture by Dr Ranjit Singh, FIETE, on “Significance & Utility of ISM Microwave Band” on 30th Jul 2017 highlighted that ISM bands do not require licence but have attracted attention of developers the world over for
cost-sensitive applications. It was told that familiar applications are found in microwave ovens, RF process heating, medical diathermy, cordless phones, Bluetooth devices etc. Currently these bands have found applications in installation of Wi-Fi that helps to bridge Digital Divide. Case studies of deployment of ISM bands for providing communications and Internet access to remote areas were shown. Contributions of NGOs like Digital Empowerment Foundation were highlighted.

Audience included Secretary General, Maj Gen P K Jaggia, VSM (Retd) and local IETE Members.

**PALAKKAD**

- The WTISD-2017 was celebrated jointly with IE(I), Palaghat local Centre on 17th May 2017. Er A Kesavan, Chairman, IE(I), presided over the function. Welcome remarks were given by Dr K Geetha, Centre Chairperson while Shri M S Ajayan, Hony Secretary read out the message of ITU Secretary General. Er K Unnikrishnan, Hony Jt Secretary IE(I), introduced the Chief Guest, Shri K Sasidharan, DGM, ITI Palakkad, who delivered the keynote address on “Big Data for Big Impact”. He explained the influence of recent trends and developments in data field and its growing impact in all walks of life. Er Unnikrishnan, proposed vote of thanks.

- Internship Training Program in two batches was organized by the Centre during 3rd-7th & 10th-14th Jul 2017. It was envisaged by Kerala Technical University (KTU) for the benefit of engineering students for exposure in practical fields. The program included industrial visit for familiarizing them to the activities of industry. The valedictory session was chaired by Dr K Geetha, Chairperson Palakkad Centre. Certificates were distributed by Shri CK Haridas, IETE South Zone Coordinator. Prof C Pradip and Shri P Suresh spoke on the occasion.

**PUNE**

- Dr KR Phadke Memorial Award lecture by Shri Sanjay Katkar, MD, CTO and Founder of Quick Heal Technologies Limited (IT Security Solutions Company) on “Career Designs Options and My Experiences” was organized at Sinhgad Technical Education Society’s RMD Sinhgad School of Engineering on 27th Apr 2017. Shri GK Dawara, Centre Chairman delivered the welcome address and highlighted the contribution of late Dr KR Phadke. The speaker and awardee was introduced to the gathering by Dr RD Kharadkar, Vice-Chairman. The awardee was conferred upon the award by Shri GK Dawara and Prof SK Khedkar, Immdt Past Chairman.

- **A Project competition** was organized at RMD Sinhgad School of Engineering on 27th Apr 2017. 87 groups from engineering colleges Pune and other cities participated. Experts who evaluated projects against criterion such as innovative ideas, usefulness to society, publication in journal were: Dr YH Dandawate, Dr VV Shete -MITCOE, Dr Manisha Jadhav - MMCOE Mr Sagar Vanarse -CCOE, Dr Yogesh Angal - BSCOER, Prof Suvarna Kulkarni, Dr Anil L Wanare, Prof Mandar Khurjekar, Prof SK Khedkar , Shri KR Shende, Prof Rajeshwari Thadi, SKNSITS Lonavala, Dr Chopade, PCCOE, Prof Moreshwar Mukhedkar, DYPCEO Ambi, Prof Rajashri Suryavanshi, Prof AM Bongale, Prof Nitin Davande and Dr Manish Sharma DYPCEO Akurdi. The winners of the First Prize were: Alisha S Shaikh, Priyanka V Jadhav, Radhika V Kulkarni from RMD Sinhgad School of Engineering for their Project; “Embedded Technology based Smart Semi-autonomous Vehicle”. Second Prize went to: Mahesh Kumar, Chandan Sharma, Navjot Monga from MIT Academy of Engineering, Pune, for “Disturbance Rejection of Servo System using classical Control”. Third Prize was bagged by: Apurva Thakare, Neha Reddy, Anklesh Panchal from Bharati Vidyapeeth’s College of Engineering For Women, Pune for “Segway-Transporter”. 

**Glimpses of WTISD 2017 celebration at Palakkad Centre**

**The awardee, Shri Sanjay Katkar, MD, CTO and Founder of Quick Heal Technologies Ltd. being honoured on the occasion.**
The World Telecommunication & Information Society Day - 2017 was celebrated by the Centre on the theme “Big Data for Big Impact” on 17th May 2017 in association with IE (I) Pune, IEEE Pune Section IET Pune Chapter. Shri D C Dwivedi, PGM, BSNL Pune, was the Chief Guest and Dr Sandeep Deshmukh, Big Data, Hadoop and Apache Apex Trainer & Consultant, was the Guest of Honour on the occasion.

Prof (Dr) G S Mundada was the convener.

Conferment of Prof SVC Aiya Memorial Award-2016 for excellence in telecom education was organized under the aegis of IETE Pune Centre, in association with Prof SVC Aiya Memorial Trust, Pune on 27th May 2017. Dr (Mrs) Priti P Rege, Professor/ET, College of Engineering, Pune, recipient of the award spoke on “Digital Watermarking for Image Authentication”. A citation and a cheque of Rs. 20,000 was presented to her. Prof G S Mani, Chair, IEEE Pune Section (2017) former Director & Dean, DIAT (DRDO) graced the function as the Chief Guest. Dr SR Jog, Past Chairman and Trusty Prof SVC Aiya Award Committee along with Shri G K Dawara, Centre Chairman, were present on this occasion.

RAJKOT

Commemorating the 49th World Telecommunication & Information Society Day, the Centre arranged talks on the theme Big Data for Big Impact on 21st May 2017. Dr Rahul Mehta, Hony Secretary delivered the welcome address. Er C M Devani, IBS (Retd), Past Chairman spoke on the history of the Day. Shri V K Kathiriya, former AE-DDK Rajkot, read out the message given by ITU Secretary General. Keynote speakers invited were: Shri Jay Dave, AP/CE, School of Engg, R K University Rajkot and Shri Raviraj Sinh S Vaghela, AP/CS, R P Bhalodia College Rajkot. Their lectures were very informative & impressive. Vote of thanks was delivered by Dr NB Kalani, Director Faculty of Technology, R K University Rajkot.

RANCHI

The Centre in collaboration with Indian Society for VLSI Education (ISVE) organized a two-day 2nd International Conference on Microelectronics, Computing & Communication Systems during 13th-14th May 2017, which was graced by Prof R K Pandey, Vice-Chancellor, Ranchi University(RU), as the Chief Guest. He assured for a suitable space for IETE Ranchi Centre in the Ranchi University Campus, wherein IETE will be required to provide free technical base support to Ranchi University students, faculties and staff members. Lt Gen (Dr) Aks Chandele, PVSM, AVSM (Retd), President IETE, gave an inspiring address. Prof AA Khan, Former VC, RU & Former Chairman IETE Ranchi Centre; Dr KK Thakur, CGMT, ARTTC BSNL Ranchi, Dr RK Singh, Former Prof, RU & Former Chairman IETE Ranchi Centre; Shri Sanjay Jha, Exec Chief Engr Govt. of Jharkhand & Past Chairman IETE Ranchi Centre were the invited speakers on the occasion. Shri Ajay Kumar, AGM (Admin) ARTTC BSNL Ranchi & Chairman IETE Ranchi Centre and Shri Prasad Vijay Bhushan Pandey, DoT Term Cell, ARTTC BSNL Ranchi & Chairman ISVE Ranchi delivered the welcome remarks. Dr A Srinivasulu, Vignan’s University, Guntur was the Keynote.

Releasing the Souvenir
Speaker. Four technical sessions of the event were focused on: Microelectronics & Signal Processing; VLSI Design & Communication Systems; Embedded System & Signal Processing and Grid Energy & Robotics. Program ended with a valedictory session and certificate distribution by the session chairman, ISVE & IETE Ranchi Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and other dignitaries.

SHIMLA

A special talk on “Role of ICT in Development of Smart Cities” was delivered by Prof (Wg Cdr) Pradeep Prabhakar (Retd), IETE Governing Council Member & Zonal Coordinator (North) at Akashwani Shimla on 1st Aug 2017. He highlighted two important aspects in his address namely- the infrastructure of ICT and the physical infrastructure which are needed for development of Smart Cities. He pointed out bottlenecks in ICT technologies and the progress being made in the domain. He also gave the comparative example of physical infrastructure of places like Chandigarh (modern city) and Shimla (old city). He was of the view that solution for Smart Cities varies accordingly. The lecture was well taken. The speaker was introduced by the Centre Chairman, Shri V K Upadhyay.

VADODARA

The WTISD-2017 was celebrated on 17th May 2017 in association with Dept of EE, The M S University of Baroda (MSU), Vadodara. Dr Vijay Shah, Vice Chairman IETE Vadodara, introduced the theme on Big Data: Big Impact. Shri Tushar B Kher, Centre Chairman welcomed the Chief Guest, Shri PS Tamhane, Dir, SkillFro Technologies Pvt Ltd, Vadodara. Besides reading out the message from Secretary General ITU, he spoke on “Ransomware” a topic of current relevance. Shri PS Tamhane, in his address gave a very interesting analogy about the “Gurukul System” and Data Technology. The participants included corporate delegates from ONGC, BARC, ABB, members from CSI, IE, IMM, Electrical Engg. Alumni Association, academicians and students from MSU, Parul University and BIT. Vote of thanks was proposed by Dr Mamta C Padole, Centre Hony Secretary.

To share your insights with peers you are requested to contribute overview type articles, case studies, for consideration towards publication in IETE Journal of Education.
IETE Students’ Forum Activities

The response from ISFs has been overwhelming and we have tried to cover all the events in short. In case any news has been inadvertently missed out, it shall be covered in the next issue, if brought to notice. The technical events reported by IETE Students Forums (ISFs) during past months are as follows in chronological order.

♦ A three-day workshop on “Speech Signal Processing” was organized by IETE Bangalore Centre in association with ISF at EC Dept of MS Ramaiah Institute of Technology, Bangalore during Jan 2–4, 2017. Eminent personalities that graced the event were: Dr T V Ananthapadmanabha, CEO, Voice and Speech Systems, Bangalore; Dr T V Suresh Kumar, Registrar Academics, MSRIT; Sri C Satyanandan, EC member, IETE, Bangalore Centre; Dr S Sethu Selvi HOD, E&C Engg, MSRIT; Sri CG Raghavendra, EC Member, Bangalore Centre and Sri VC Sadashiv, Asst Prof, MSRIT.

♦ A four-day Faculty Development Program on “Raspberry Pi and its Applications in IoT” was successfully conducted by the Dept of EC Engg, CS Engg and Telecom Engg, in association with IEEE, ISTE, and CSI-India under the banner of IETE at ISF KS Institute of Technology (KSIIT), Bangalore during Jan 18-21, 2017.

♦ ISF at Er Perumal Manimekalai College of Engineering, Hosur was inaugurated by Prof HS Bhatia, Hony Secretary, IETE Bangalore Centre on Jan 28, 2017.

♦ ISF at Dept of E&TC, Vidya Pratishthan’s Kamal Nayan Bajaj Institute of Engineering and Technology (VPKB IET), Baramati, Pune, conducted a workshop on “Raspberry Pi” in four batches on different dates in Feb & Mar 2017. Prof Madhav N Arotale, Dept of E&TE successfully mentored 120 students from E&TC Dept. Feedback received was positive.

♦ ISF at Ambala College of Engg & Applied Research, Devsthali, Ambala Cantt, organized a two-day workshop on “Python – A Software Language” on Feb 4th & 22nd, 2017. It was headed by Prof Ashok Kumar, ACE & coordinated by Er Devashish Kumar of Codroid Hub. In his address Prof Ashok Kumar said that the purpose of such workshops was to make engineering students industry-ready. Around 40 students attended. ISF faculty members Er Chandar Mohan and Er Preeti Khera were also the part of the workshop.

♦ ISF at ECE, Sri Shakti Institute of Engineering and Technology, Coimbatore conducted two-day workshop on Mobile Servicing during Feb 17-18, 2017. Shri C Arun Kumar, IETE Coimbatore Centre, Student Coordinator, from Amrita School of Engg, Coimbatore, the chief guest on the occasion gave presentation on ‘Emerging Trends in Mobile and Wireless Technology’ and talked on recent research trends on mobile communication developments and industrial applications. 35 students attended. The ISF also conducted another two-day workshop on ‘Hardware Design and Analysis’ during Jul 21 & 26-27, 2017 through a resource person Shri Arvind Govindraj, Regional Manager, (ULT Technologies), Bengaluru. He encouraged the students to visit industries on regular basis to gain practical knowledge and real time experience. Dr G Ramadoss, Principal SS IET in his address mentioned the role & importance of electronics in the current scenario. Shri S Raja, ISF Coordinator & AP/ECE proposed the vote of thanks. 35 students attended.

♦ ISF at Dept of ECE, MVJ College of Engineering, Kadugodi, Bengaluru organized a guest lecture on “Technology trends in IOT and Wireless Communications leading to 5G” by Dr M H Kori, IETE Bangalore Centre on Feb 21, 2017.

♦ ISF at GITAM School of Technology, Bangalore organized a guest lecture on “Research Trends In Wireless Communication – 4G & Beyond” on Mar 2, 2017 for ECE students by the same speaker Dr M H Kori from IETE, Bangalore Centre.

♦ ISF at Dept of ECE of Sri Ramakrishna Institute of Technology, Pachapalayam, Coimbatore conducted a “Project Expo” coordinated by Dr A N.Jayanthi, on Mar 22, 2017. 43 students (in 16 batches) presented their project work. Jury Members included – Dr RMS. Parvathi, Dean/PG Studies; Prof (Dr) C Ganesh,HoD/EEE; Prof (Dr) H Mangalam, HoD/ECE and Dr S Anila. Assoc Prof/ECE. The winners of the first prize were – Shri S Sriram, III Yr/ ECE-B; Shri E P Vijai, III Yr/ECE-B & Shri N Gopal, III Yr/ECE- for the project titled: Blue Tooth Controlled Robot. The winners of the second prize were: Shri S Saanjeev, II Yr/EEE; Shri P Nagarchunan, II Yr/EEE and Shri S Shreerengan, II Yr/EEE for the project: Home Automation Using Androids App.

♦ ISF at Dept of ET, Padre Conceicao College of Engineering (PCCE), Verna-Goa, was inaugurated by Shri Deepak Chodankar, Sr Vice President, SimNet VLC on Mar 23, 2017, who advised the students to make use of such facilities available at IETE chapters to enhance expertise and verifiable skills as it is the only way to thrive in competitive world. Centre Chairman, Prof (Dr) HG Virani, HoD/ET, Goa Engineering College, Farmagudi, provided an overview of the activities of IETE and emphasized on the opportunities & funding options available for technical activities. Dr KR Pai, HoD/ETC, PCCE, spoke of high quality of IETE technical publications. Ms Avita Lotlikar, faculty co-ordinator ISF, provided a brief overview of the activities planned like paper presentations, workshops, seminars and guest lectures. The objective of such activities was to enhance technical proficiency of students and maintain the academic leadership in the state of Goa. Vote of thanks was proposed by Shri Vaibhav Vernekar.

♦ ISF at Dept of ECE, Lakireddy Bali Reddy College of Engineering, Mylavaram, organized a student technical fest ALFRESCO-2017 on Mar 25, 2017. Various programmes conducted in it were: paper presentation, project expo, quiz, circuitrix, extempore and art & craft etc. Over 600 students participated. Prizes were awarded in each event. Prof (Dr) E V Krishna Rao, IETE Co-ordinator and Prof Ramesh Reddy guided the event.

♦ Dignitaries present during inauguration of ISF at Dept of ECE, Sphoorthy College of Engineering, Hyderabad were Dr G Laxminarayana, Chairman; Prof A Sarveswara Rao Vice Chairman, IETE Hyderabad Centre and Shri Terala Lingam, former Scientist-“SF”, NRSC, Hyderabad on Apr 3, 2017. The Chief Guest, Dr
G. Laxminarayana and Guest of Honour, Prof A Sarveswar Rao delivered awareness lectures on ISF activities at various places, which motivated participants. A guest lecture on “Satellite Communications”, was delivered by Shri Terala Lingam, former Scientist-SF, NRSC, Hyderabad. The ISF also conducted a three-day national conference during Jul 22-24, 2017. EC members Dr KVNSVPL Narasimham, Prof A Sarveswar Rao, Vice Chairman of IETE-Hyderabad Centre and Shri TT Lingam, Coordinator, IETE Hyderabad Centre attended and delivered invited talk during the conference.

ISF at Krishna Institute of Technology (KIOT), Kanpur organized a talk on “Benefits of Joining ISF Chapter” by Dr C P Verma, Hony. Secretary, IETE Kanpur Centre on Apr 4, 2017. He briefed about 150 students on the role & activities of IETE. Other speakers for the event were: Dr Mirnal Mitra, Asst Prof, KIOT and Dr Vaibhav Yadav, Dir, KIOT, Kanpur.

ISF at Dept of ECE, ATME College of Engineering, Mysore organized five-day workshop on LabVIEW during Apr 6-10, 2017, in association with NI LabVIEW Academy and SBJIT, Bangalore and sponsored by IETE Mysore Centre. Students from ATME College of Engineering, Mysore and various other Engineering Colleges, Mysore participated. The workshop focused on LabVIEW training, which is a graphical programming environment used to develop sophisticated measurement, test and control systems. It was coordinated by Dr Mahesh PK, Hod/ECE, Convenor Shri Yathisha L, Co-Convenor Shri Chandan GN, AP/ECE, ATME. Dr L Basavaraj, Principal, ATME College of Engineering, in his presidential speech advised students to take part in such workshops and make their resumes stronger to increase their chances of success in job interviews.

ISF at Dept of ECE of Bapuji Institute of Engineering & Technology, Davangere, was inaugurated with 52 student members on Apr 7, 2017 by Prof HK Harish, Chairman, IETE Shivamogga Centre and an Associate Professor at JNNE Shivamogga. In his introductory address, he talked about IETE’s importance and its benefit to students. He encouraged them to participate in such events to develop their technical knowledge. Dignitaries who graced the event included: Prof Y. Vrushabhdendrappa, Dir, Dr Subrahmany Swamy S, Principal; Dr BE Rangaswamy; Prof & Head/Biotechnology as Guests of Honour. Dr GS Sunitha, Prof & Head and Dr Suresh Chandra Mohan, Prof/ECE along with other Faculty and students were also present.

ISF at Dept of EE, Geeta Institute of Management & Technology, Kanipura (KKR) organized an industrial visit on Apr 18, 2017 for about 14 students. They visited the Mars EdPal Instruments Pvt. Ltd. Saha, Ambala, Oriented Scientific Apparatus Workshop (OSAW), Ambala Canti, Triode Electronics Industrial Area and Head-office of Triode Electronics (Assembly unit). Students learnt about assembly and maintenance of Electronic kits & Instruments and testing of electrical & electronic instruments. Visit was co-ordinated by Dr JS Arya, Er Surekha Aggarwal, Er Aman Tusia.

ISF at Dept of ECE, Sri Aurobindo Institute of Technology (SAIT), Indore, organized a two-day workshop on “Embedded Automotive Communication Protocol” in association with Embedded Systems Center of Excellence Intel Intelligent Systems Lab during Apr 22-23 2017, inaugurated by Shri Kishnul Trivedi, Vice-President, SAIT. This workshop was designed to provide hands-on experience on AVR microcontroller, Protius, I2C, CAN, SPI and LIN protocols. Shri Ankit Sharma, former faculty member of Dept of EC, SAIT was the resource person. Prof Apurva Gaiwak, Dir, SAIT & FIETE encouraged the students. Shri Amit Holkar and Shri Manoj Verma coordinated the workshop. 25 students participated.

ISF at Don Bosco College of Engineering (DBCE), Fatorda-Goa, was inaugurated at the Dept of ET on Apr 29, 2017. Shri Sachin Talwalkar, Associate Consultant, TCS, was the Chief Guest. Prof (Dr) HG Virani, Hod/ET, Goa College of Engineering and Chairman of IETE Goa Subcentre, attended the inaugural function. Rev. Fr Kinley D’ Cruz, Director; Dr Neena Panandiker, Principal; Prof Michelle Viegas, Hod/ETC; Prof Samantha Cardoso and Prof Vishnu Rathod IETE ISF coordinators, were other dignitaries on the dais. Fr Kinley inspired students to follow their passion and to work hard and aim at gaining knowledge through these forums. Dr Panandikar congratulated the students and encouraged them to take full advantage of the benefits provided by the association. Dr Virani talked of various benefits that IETE provides and various facilities available to students. Chief Guest Shri Sachin Talwalkar urged students to get exposure from different cultures and learn to serve society in a better way. He spoke on “An Introduction to Manufacturing Industries”.

New ISF at T S Srinivasan Polytechnic College, Chennai was inaugurated by Dr Swarna Ravindra Babu, Centre Chairman on Apr 29, 2017. About 200 members attended.

ISF at Dept of ECE, MLR Institute of Technology, Dundigal, Hyderabad conducted a three-day workshop from May 3-6, 2017. The ISF also organised a Guest Lecture on “Electronic Devices and Circuits” for II year ECE students by Dr KVnsVPL Narasimham, Chairman, Technical programmes and Publications Sub Committee, IETE Hyderabad Centre on Jul 29, 2017.

ISF at Lalbhai Dalpatbhai College of Engineering (LDCE), Ahmedabad, organized World Telecom & Information Society Day on May 17, 2017. Shri Harshvardhan Jani from Reliance Industries, delivered a talk on “Trends in Wireless Technology and the Societal Impact”. Shri VK Jain, Chairman IETE Ahmedabad Centre was the special guest and about 60 members including ISF students and faculty participated.

Dept of ECE at ISF Sambram Institute of Technology, Bengaluru, organized a National Level Inter Collegiate Project Competition “PRATIRA-2017” to commemorate World Telecommunication Day on May 17, 2017. It was inaugurated by Prof HS Bhatia, Hony Secy of the Bangalore Centre and Sri MP James, Div Head, PADP-MPG, ISRO. Guests of Honour were Sri P S Prashanth, C&DE, ISRO and Sri T Sunil, GM, ALS, Bengaluru. Principal Dr H G Chandranath presided over the function. Over 75 projects were showcased by more than 300 students from different part of the country. Projects covered IoT, embedded systems, Communication, Robotics, Energy resource, etc. out of which, three projects were adjudged as Best Projects. Dr CV Ravishankar presided over the Valedictory function. The ISF also conducted Graduation Day on May 28, 2017 in the presence of Shri G Ramesh, Chairman, IETE(B) as the Chief Guest while Prof HS Bhatia, Hony Secretary of the IETE Bangalore Centre was the Guest of Honour.
ISF Activities
ISF at Dept of ECE of BS Abdur Rahman Crescent University, Chennai, organised a training for Certified LabVIEW Associate Developer (CLAD) during Jun 5-12, 2017 in association with IE (I) and Optithought, Academic Partners of National Instruments, Bangalore. The participants were from Madras Institute of Technology, Alagappa University and Sathyabama University. The online CLAD exam was conducted by National Instruments on June 12, 2017 at NI competency Development Programme Lab/ECE. Out of 9 participants 2 cleared the exam scoring over 80% and certificates were distributed to participants.

A two-day national level workshop on “Embedded Zero Tree Wavelet Image Compression” was conducted during Jun 8-9, 2017 at ISF Nandha College of Technology (NCT), Erode by the ECE Dept Association for 2017-18. It was a CSIR sponsored programme. Dr N Kasthuri, Prof/ECE, Kongu Engineering College, Erode was the Chief Guest. His address was on Wavelet Image Compression, its basics, uses, features and applications and he also gave hands-on training using Matlab Coding etc. Dr S Nandagopal, HoD/ECE and Dr S Arumugam, CEO of Nandha Educational Institutions were present. Another one-day workshop on “Programming in Embedded Systems” was organized on Jul 4, 2017, where Shri R Rajkumar, MD, Conspar Technologies, Coimbatore was the Chief Guest and delivered a talk on Embedded Systems Basics. The Dept of ECE organized “Intra Department Meet” on Jul 7, 2017 wherein 28 students presented their papers. Students participated in the events like Technical Quiz, Multimedia and Ad-Zap. The winners were felicitated. The ISF organized an Industrial Seminar on “Internet of Things” on Jul 29, 2017. Shri Nirmal Saravanan, Co-Founder, Breathe Electronics, Chennai was the Chief Guest and spoke on the theme topic. An Industrial Seminar on “Cyber Security” was arranged on Jul 30, 2017 graced by Shri S Sankar Raj, MD, Prompt Info Tech, Coimbatore as the Chief Guest. Dr S Nandagopal, HoD/ECE, Dr R Nallusamy, Principal/NCT and Dr S Arumugam, CEO, Nandha Educational Institutions, Erode were present on the occasion. Dr S Arumugam and Dr R Nallusamy were the prominent speakers. The Chief Guest highlighted various aspects of Security.


ISF at K S Raghasamy College of Technology (KSRCT), Tiruchengode (TN) organized a guest lecture on Jun 23, 2017 by Dr R A Alaguraj on “Remote Sensing and Image Processing”. He vividly explained advantages, types and applications of Remote Sensing and Image Processing through satellite communication. Dr K B Jayanthi, HoD, IETE staff coordinator Dr P Babu added colours to the inaugural ceremony.

ISF of Kamraj College of Engineering and Technology (KCET), Virudhunagar, conducted “Project Expo” for 1st year students on Jun 23, 2017. Dr K Sarekesi, Dean/KCET presided. Dr R Suresh Babu, Prof/ECE, Shri T Palaniappan, AP/ECE, Shri S Alwyn Rajiv, AP/ECE and Shri S Wessley Moses Samdoss, AP/ECEorganised the event. Dr Christoper, Prof/Mechatronics, Shri G Srinivasan AP/ CSE and Mrs V Jeyalakshmi AP/ECE were the judges. Nearly 100 students participated. Winners included: Arunram Sundar R, Aswin Bharathi P & Bala Bharathi I (1st prize); Gajendra. N, Gayathri M & Giridhiri S (2nd prize) and M Harish Kumar, S Hari Bharath & P Inba Sagar- (3rd prize). The 2nd round of Project Expo for the 1st year students was arranged on Jul 15, 2017. Dr Anant Achary, Principal/ KCET presided. The organizers were Dr R Suresh Babu, Prof/ECE, Shri T Palaniappan, AP/ECE, Shri S Alwyn Rajiv, AP/ECE and Shri S Wessley Moses Samdoss, AP/ECE. In this batch, the 1st prize went to Vinoth Kumar MK, Vishnu Karthick S & Vishnuraj B; 2nd prize went to Shivani VM, Shradha DP & Shymaladevi M; 3rd prize went to Logesh. L, Sai Sethu Raman M and the 4th prize was bagged by Gunja Lakshmi S, Guru Abhinav M, Dr Anant Achary, Principal/KCET. The winners were awarded cash prizes and certificates.

ISF at Dept of ECE, Nandha Engineering College, Erode, conducted an industrial seminar “Robotics” on Jul 10, 2017 in association with IETE. Shri K Amrit Kumar Jothei, Sr Software Engr and Shri S Saravanand, Architect, Robert Bosch, Coimbatore were the resource persons for the event. Dr P Sukumari, Prof/ECE, Shri G Prabhakaran, AP/ECE and Prof R Murugasami, ASP/ECE also attended.

ISF at Dept of ECE & EEE, Narasaraopeta Engineering College (NEC), Narasaraopet (AP), conducted a Poster presentation competition on “Advanced Technologies” on Jul 14, 2017, wherein the Chief Guest was Dr K Ramananjeyulu. He delivered a guest lecture on “Genetic Algorithms and its Application to Image Watermarking”. He talked about the applications of genetic algorithms in image watermarking. The students were grouped into batches and gave their presentations. The best poster presentation was selected and given the first prize.

ISF at Dept of ECE, Velalar College of Engineering and Technology, Erode, organized an inaugural function of their fresh batch on Jul 15, 2017. It started with the lighting of inaugural lamp by the Chief Guest, Er E P Vimalanathan, Sr Manager-Instrumentation, Sakthi Sugars Ltd, Saktinagar. Shri P Senthilkumar, AP, IETE coordinator introduced the office bearers of ISF and the batches were given by the Principal, Dr M Jayaraman, who also delivered the presidential address. Dean Academics, Prof L Peter Stanley Babington was felicitated. Chief Guest delivered a lecture on “Recent Trends in Process Automation”, which greatly motivated the students.

A seminar on “Opportunities in Higher Education” was conducted by the ISF at Dept of ECE, Valliammai Engineering College, SRM Nagar, Kattankulathur on Jul 17, 2017. The Chief Guest Shri Murali K, Trainer, TIME, Chennai, delivered a lecture on “Opportunities in Higher Education”, and explained to students about the opportunities in different fields. Over 170 final year students and faculty members of ECE Dept attended.

ISF at BITS EDU Campus, Varnama, organized group discussions under the banner of IETE on Jul 21, 2017. The aim was to enhance the communication skills, leadership quality and inculcate confidence to speak and remove the stage fright, for II year students. Event was divided into two knock-out rounds and one final round of group discussion. 21 students participated. Seven finalists came face to face with each other in the final round. The topics chosen for discussions were: Has demonetization reduce the corruption?; Is GST beneficial or not? And is borderless world practically possible? The
event was judged by Prof Kashish Makhijani, Prof Twinkle Doshi & Prof Dharti Vyas, who guided the students to enhance their learning. The winner for group discussion was Ms Chirag. Ms Margi Patel was selected as 1st runner-up & Shri Siddharth Jani as 2nd runner-up. The ISF also organized an event on PCB designing for the students of 3rd Year (ECE) on July 27, 2017 with four sections, supervised by IETE Faculty co-ordinator Prof Kashish M Makhijani and Prof Purvi Zaveri. Certificates were distributed to the participants. Certificate Designing competition was also organized by the ISF, in which the participants were supposed to design a certificate. Winners in this event were: Shri Sharan Burla and Ms Swati Prasad for first two positions.

* IETE Documentary Competition, ’CONTRIVANCE-2017’ was organized by the students of ECE Dept of ISF at Poornima College of Engineering (PCE), Jaipur on July 29, 2017. The main objective of this was to give documentary knowledge and to provide an opportunity to students to demonstrate their learning experience. After the competition, students were able to show their skills and that boosted their confidence. The competition was judged on the basis of design, creativity, and knowledge about technology. The dignitaries present were Dr Om Prakash Sharma, Dir/PCE, along with the faculty of Dept of ECE, PCE. The winners included: Shri Kunal Chaudhary, Anamika Tiwari/II Yr and first runner up Shri Gaurav Gupta, Shri Adesh Sharma/II Yr. Dr Garima Mathur, HoD/ECE welcomed the participants. Dr Om Prakash Sharma in his motivational address emphasized on the importance of learning new technologies and tools. Shri Rajveer Marwal shared his valuable knowledge with the students.

* ISF at Mauli Group of Institutions, College of Engineering & Technology (MGICOET), Shegaon, organized a one-day workshop on “Proteus Software System Design” on Aug 14, 2017, guided by Prof NB Bhavarkar, ISF Coordinator & team and conducted by Artech Electronic Solution Provider, Amravati. Dr Ajay P Thakare, newly elected Governing Council Member, inaugurated the event with Dr CM Jadhao, College Principal & EC- IETE Amravati Center. Shri Aniket Tondhare guided the students on Proteus Software System Design, an electronic design automation tool and a virtual system modeling and circuit simulation application. About 63 ISF students from ET, CS and Electrical Dept participated.

1st IETE International Conference India-2018 (IICI-2018) on Technological Advances & Applications in IoT, Data Analytics, Big Data & 5G
May 2-4, 2018 Bengaluru, India

**Theme of the Conference:**

The theme chosen for the First IETE International Conference India – Technological Advances & Applications in IoT, Data Analytics, Big Data & 5G- is a rapidly expanding research area spanning the fields of computer science, information management, and has become a ubiquitous term in understanding and solving complex problems in different disciplinary fields such as engineering, applied mathematics, medicine, computational biology, healthcare, social networks, finance, business, government, education, transportation and telecommunications.

This conference provides a chance to research scholars, delegates, and students to interact and share their experience and information in technology innovation. IICI-18 can give an excellent international forum for sharing information and ends up in Advances in Technological Innovations in engineering Technology.

And also this special Conference is intended to report high-quality research on recent advances toward big data analytics, internet of things and 5G more specifically to the state-of-the-art approaches, methodologies and systems for the design, development, deployment and innovative use of machine learning techniques on big data and to communicate among various embedded devices using IoT. Internet of Things will be the ideal application for 5G. IICI-2018 invites High quality, State-of-art, Unpublished, Original research papers from academicians from both Govt. & Private, Practicing managers, Manufacturers & research scholars in the area of engineering and management.

Potential topics to be addressed in this conference include, but are not limited to the following:

- Software Defined Networking for Internet of Things,
- Towards Positioning, Navigation, and Location Based Services for IoT.
- Global Markets and Forecasts for Big Data.
- Deep learning and Artificial neural network for optimizing big data
- Sensor and Actuator Networks
- IoT system architecture and Enabling technologies
- IoT Protocols and Standards (IPv6, 6LoWPAN, RPL, 6TiSCH, WoT, oneM2M, etc.)
- Ultra-low power IoT Technologies and Embedded Systems Architectures
- Big data for Internet of Things (IoT) and IoE (Internet of Everything)
- Novel applications and services based on Big data for vehicular technology, VANET, and ITS.
- Software defined networking of wireless technologies for big data.
- Big data for radio access networks
- Wireless Sensor Network for IoT Security
- Intrusion Detection in IoT
- Identification and Authentication Issues.
- Big data for intelligent wireless signal processing
- Industry Cryptography, Key Management, Authentication and Authorization for IoT

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IETE deeply mourns the loss of its following worthy members and prays for noble souls to rest in peace.

Prof Yash Pal (HF-00032) an eminent scientist, creator of Space Applications Center, Ahmedabad and Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi breathed his last on 24th July 2017. He was the renowned Indian scientist Padma Vibhushan, educator and educationist, known for his contributions to the study of cosmic rays, as well as for being an institution-builder. Starting his career at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), he later remained Chairman of the University Grants Commission from 1986 to 1991. In 2013, he was awarded India’s second highest civilian honour, the Padma Vibhushan. He was the first Director of Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad, in 1973. In 2009, the MHRD set up a Committee on Higher education with Prof Pal as the Chairman, for examining reform of higher education in India. In his later years, he became one of the leading science communicators of the country.

The IETE community condoles the loss of country’s brilliant scientist and academician Prof Yash Pal. His lasting contribution to Indian education shall always be remembered. He was the Honorary Fellow of IETE since 1996.

Prof U R Rao (DF-007360) Distinguished Fellow of IETE, great visionary & cosmic ray physicist passed away on 24th July 2017. He was the father of India’s Satellite Programme. For many, he was a role model. Prof Rao was Chairman ISRO and also Founder Director of ISRO Satellite Centre. He was the Project Director of India’s first satellite Aryabhata. He was the student of Prof Vikram Sarabhai. As Chairman, Space Commission and Secretary, Department of Space (1984), Prof Rao accelerated the development of rocket technology, resulting in the successful launch of ASLV rocket and the operational PSLV launch vehicle, which could launch 2.0 ton class of satellites into polar orbit. Prof Rao initiated the development of the geostationary launch vehicle GSLV and the development of cryogenic technology in 1991. Prof Rao is recipient of many honours including Padma Vibhushan. IETE is saddened by demise of ISRO’s renowned space scientist and his contribution to the country’s space programme can never be forgotten.

Shri Shashi Kant Tewari (M146853L) former Deputy Director (E) Doordarshan Kendra MAU (UP) passed away on 4th February 2017 at PGI Lucknow at the age of 63 after brief illness.
Awards & Achievements

Professor Thomas Kailath (HF-00015) a legendary Stanford University Professor has been conferred Life Time Achievement Award by the US-based Marconi Society, dedicated to furthering scientific achievements in communications and the Internet. This is only the sixth time in the society’s 43-year history that the award has been given. Professor Kailath is Hitachi America Professor of Engineering, Emeritus, at Stanford University (US). The award recognizes Professor Kailath for his many transformative contributions to information and system science over six decades as well as his sustained mentoring and development of new generations of scientists. It acknowledges the wide range of his contributions to information theory, communications, filtering theory, linear systems and control, signal processing, semiconductor manufacturing, probability and statistics, linear algebra, matrix and operator theory, which have directly or indirectly advanced modern communications technology. He is the Honorary Fellow of IETE since 1986.

Brig S V S Chowdhry (Retd) (DF-017163) was recently conferred the prestigious Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Excellence Award by the India International Friendship Society. This Award was presented to him at an Awards Ceremony at New Delhi. Brig Chowdhry is a Distinguished Fellow and Past President of the IETE and also the Past President of the CSI. He has earlier received the Lifetime Achievement Awards from both the IETE and the CSI.

Prof C Murali (F-090040) was honoured as the best Professor in Electronics and Communication Engineering as a part of Dewang Mehta National Educational Awards Ceremony held at Vivanta, Taj, Panaji, Goa, on 16th Aug 2017. Prof Murali is a Vice-President and Co-Chairman Academic Committee IETE.

Dr Virendra Singh Chaudhary (M-183843L) has been awarded Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) degree for his thesis titled, “Performance Analysis of Nonlinear Channel Equalization using Neural Network” by Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology, Bhopal. He has served IETE as a coordinator, Hony Treasurer and Hony Secretary of IETE Bhopal Centre and is presently its executive committee member.

Inspiring Women Achievers

Mrs Neeru M Biswas, P Eng (F-055373) had been a professional engineer, educator, international consultant, and a volunteer social worker, with over a thirty-year long career in industry and academia – focusing on teaching and training in telecommunications and information management, industry-academia liaison, R&D work in design of electronic devices, development and policy projects in Asian countries, funded by the World Bank, CIDA, USAID and others.

She was formerly a professor in the Faculty of Business at Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada, and later, a visiting faculty at the MBA level in the National Management Program at Management Development Institute (MDI), India, at the Department of Management Science (DOMS), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Roorkee, India and at Centre for the Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC), Noida, India.

As a Professor of Administration and Information Management in the Faculty of Business at Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada, she had pioneered the development of an undergraduate degree program in Canada in Telecommunications Management. She has published papers in reputed telecommunication journals in the USA, Canada and India, and co-authored a book in the USA on Teleconferencing.

Mrs. Biswas began her telecommunications career in Toronto as a Senior Engineer at the Computer Communications Group of Bell Canada. Later, she spent about ten years with the Ontario Ministry of Government Services (MGS) in several technical and management capacities. Mrs. Biswas began her professional career as a Product Engineer (semiconductor devices) at Unitrode Corporation, Boston, USA. She had received her Master’s degree in Electrical Engineering (Electronics) from Brown University, USA and her Bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, India.

She is a Senior Member of the Institution of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), USA, a Professional Engineer (P.Eng.) in Canada, and a Fellow of the Institution of Electronics and Telecommunications Engineers (IETE), India, Neeru Biswas is an active volunteer in education of the under-privileged. She had spearheaded the setting up of a computer education centre for the visually handicapped at IETE, Noida Centre, while she was a member of the national council of IETE.
IETE Elections and Canvassing

Canvassing for votes during elections is generally proscribed by professional societies, and most, in fact, build the clause into their code of model conduct. Despite that, however, the practice of canvassing is widespread among professional bodies all over the world, undermining the principles of decency, merit, ethics and honesty by which their professional objectives are fostered.

In IETE too, the practice has been rampant, even for Council elections, Distinguished Fellowship election and Presidential election. This is very unfortunate, indeed. Earlier, in the pre e-mail, pre mobile-phone days, canvassing took place through telephone calls or inland letters, where the aspirant would describe in detail his or her achievements and what he or she promises to do if elected. The soliciting inland letter would usually be printed matter, and often, the choice of words bordered on superlative when highlighting one’s credentials. Some even tended to give the impression that it was a war to be won instead of an election to a responsible position! In reality, when elected, they behaved in exactly the opposite way. Often, an immediate act of misuse of position would be the printing of letterheads with “Member GC, IETE” appended to the name at IETE’s expense. What prestige and status this appellation provided, I still wonder. On an occasion when I have ventured to ask, I was told: ‘You are a well known personality and may not need this title. But, for me it fetches respect from IETE members, family, friends and colleagues at work. I get, invited to various symposia and conferences, and even get to inaugurate some! The mementos I get I treasure and display in my drawing room. Is this not desirable?”

To come to today’s scenario, canvassing messages have become all the more intrusive because of technology. One is bombarded with messages on cell-phones and via e-mails, mostly in bulk! Some even send voice recordings brashly declaring one’s self worth, and often the message is sent more than once to the same recipient! Today, when I got such a message three times on my mobile, I felt like calling this person and telling him: “Do you think that the IETE members are that gullible and that they will be moved by your bombastic words?” But better sense prevailed, for I knew it would be a counterproductive move. Also, what if I got to hear some choice words describing my meddlesome nature? A telephone conversation, I realise, is not the right medium for conveying the sentiment. I feel, however, the need to present my strong views on such conduct, and hence the use of this medium.

Another aspect that bothers me is the misuse of IETE hospitality for privileges like expensive accommodation for members at council meetings, conferences and technical meetings. It is a pity that people go out of their way using their spending power, time and efforts to get elected only so that they enjoy such privileges without much thought to the immense responsibilities that come with it. A dilution in the quality of professional attitude is but natural if the outcomes of elections are based on one’s canvassing might alone.

This is another deeply disturbing phenomenon distorting the IETE elections scene—the mentality of brotherhood or clanship among voters. If, for instance a service officer—be it defence or telecom or broadcasting— is a candidate, then all officers belonging to that service in the list of voters will vote for him or her; if a candidate is from a particular state, then all members from that state will vote for him or her. I feel this is unethical and not befitting the behaviour of IETE members who are expected to set high standards and provide a benchmark for society at large with their wholesome perspective.

Now that IETE is at a juncture where our existence has to be justified with renewed commitments and more sincere service, let us take the resolve to ban canvassing so that people truly desirous of rendering service get a chance to make it to the positions of power and responsibility. I have tried throughout my IETE membership to inspire successive Presidents to enact such an act. For whatever reasons, it has not borne fruit. I am an optimist, however, and I close this write up with a hope that this happens soon. I am proud of IETE and I think that all of you should, not just only formally, but also with conviction from within, support this resolve. May God bless IETE and give good sense to the majority!

A request: Please communicate your comments, if any, through email to the Managing Editor at mgeditor@iete.org with a copy to me at s.c.dutta.roy@iete.org.
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