Date: June 15th, 2016

TechTimes

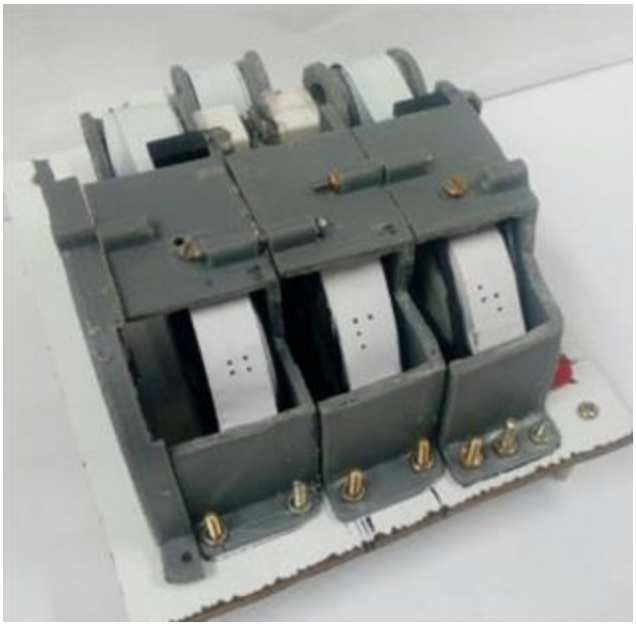
VISVESVARAYA NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

SUMMER
MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The projects under the mentorship program for the juniors include a self-balancing bot, a Rubik's cube solver, and a ball tracking bot.

The objective behind the program is to utilize the students' free time and introduce them to the basic tools of robotics so that they may get well acquainted in order to take up better and useful projects in future.

e-Braille Reader



There are more than 285 million visually challenged people in the world and 90% of these reside in low income settings. Visually challenged readers face a dramatically limited choice of book titles.

The thing that really frustrates people who have limited or no vision at all, is the time gap between books being published in standard print and then in Braille formats. This space typically lasts anything from three to six months. The newbies in their early years face difficulty getting textbooks adapted, as there is no audiobook equivalent or alternative, and a specialist Braille embosser must be used to translate from print to Braille; this can take weeks, and so in turn can leave them behind in their education. Even after getting these books in hand, the visually challenged people do not have the freedom to carry them as and where they please- They are too heavy to take anywhere – something which takes the fun out of reading.

Thus, availability, cost, and portability seriously limits the reading competency of these people. So we thought, why not make an economical and portable device, bridging the gap between the electronic domain of knowledge and the visually impaired. After all, why can't these people browse the internet or use WhatsApp!

Keeping in mind the visually challenged person's reading and writing habits, the device is designed to take an electronic file as input and then display the corresponding characters from their conventional braille script. The characters come one by one at the slits (provided in the outer casing), eventually covering the entire text.

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