State your future goals, the technology challenges you are passionate about, and your personal motivations to pursue the field of technology (200 words).

Edit(200 words)-

As the screen displayed the sum of first n numbers, I still clearly remember the sense of wonder and accomplishment I had experienced on executing my very first program. Since then, as I have ventured further into the world of technology, there has never been an instance when I haven't been taken aback by the simplicity of an idea or the magnitude of its influence.

These are the very goals I envision myself working towards- to develop technology with the potential to transform people's lives, but not without offering them a sense of wonderment when they come across it.

The technological challenge I most look forward to is the integration of Machine Learning in Medical Sciences. I feel that though advancements in Machine Learning have been utilized for research in medicine, its full potential and more direct applications remain to be unlocked.

Another challenge I would like to work towards is data security. With services today increasingly becoming cloud-based and content customized to user preferences, safeguarding users' data has emerged as the need of the hour.

Above all, I aim to ensure that whatever technology I work upon is accessible to all and contributes towards bridging the existing technical divides.

Describe an event that has impacted your life, either in a negative or positive way. If the same event were to recur, what would you do differently and why (200 words)?

During my entire school life, I had been an excellent student who was used to achieving whatever she aimed for. So, when I prepared for two years for engineering entrance exams and gave up on everything else, to say my disappointment was paramount when I didn't deliver the results expected of me would be an understatement. Even when I was admitted to one of the most reputed institutions in the country, the relief was short-lived since it wasn't in the course I had vied for. I commenced college without any hopes of being satisfied or finding success again.

Two years later, I find myself grateful for where I ended up.

I realized that my fear of failure was so profound, I had forgotten to enjoy what I was pursuing. If I could do it again, I would prepare without constantly wondering whether my efforts would pay off, and would deal differently if things didn't work out the way I intended.

Every now and then, I catch myself imagining what could have been; but I have learned to trust the process, and to believe that eventually, diligence does pay off- if not always in the way we expect it to.

There is less representation of women in the technology field. What challenges have you faced, or anticipate facing in your pursuit of the field of technology (200 words)?

Edited(200 words)-
The participation of women in the field of technology has always remained significantly less due to several discriminatory factors, and while there has been a promising increase in representation, we today face the problem of being seen as "women engineers" rather than simply as engineers.
For instance, to encourage participation in technological events, several competitions have made it mandatory to have at least one female member. This turned out to be the reason I was approached by a team for one such event, and not because of the technical skills I had developed. Since that incident, I have worked on honing my skills and tried to ensure that people view me as an asset. While most have responded positively, the harsh reality remains that women always have to go a step further to prove their credibility.
Thus, apart from workspaces still being unsafe for women in general, this is also an obstacle I anticipate ahead in my career- from being disregarded for promotions to my competence being repeatedly scrutinized due to, say, recruitment through a women-only drive.
So while the issue of under-representation is being tackled on several fronts, the question of acceptance remains to be resolved.

Why do you think you are deserving of the Adobe WIT Scholarship? What unique qualities do you bring to the Adobe WIT Scholarship program? What do you expect in return from the program (200 words)?

In 11th grade, my Physics teacher had told me I had excellent work ethics and to this day it remains the compliment I hold in the highest regard.

I have never been someone whom things have come easily to, neither have I been gifted with any extraordinary talents- but what I have lacked in natural ability, I have made up for in discipline and diligence, and have never let the student in me fade. I wasn't the most talented at school or the brightest. But I have often been ranked among the best.

More than anything else, this is why I feel I deserve this scholarship-because in a world where people increasingly tend to change their course at the slightest inconvenience, I have persevered.

If selected for the program, I most look forward to the mentoring offered as I have always valued guidance, and receiving the same at crucial stages in life can go a long way in shaping us as individuals. The prospect of interning at Adobe is equally thrilling, as I hope to both gain from the company's expertise and work on exciting technologies, while also bringing something new to the table and contributing in some capacity.

Who is a role model that you look up to? Describe this person and why do you consider that person as a role model (75 words).

An extraordinarily brilliant woman, my mother has excelled in every field she has pursued; and time and again, she has given it all up to give our dreams the wings to fly, and to ensure they are never clipped by the same compromises.

But her sacrifices have never stopped her from striving to put her talents to use, thus giving me the courage to go after my dreams, and to be unafraid of beginning again.

A woman who shot for the stars and reached, astronaut Kalpana Chawla has been my role model since childhood. Coming from humble beginnings, she dared to pursue what few others only imagine, and overcame every adversity in her path to realising her dream. She broke the shackles of convention all her life, and she inspires me to wake up everyday and never stop working towards my goal, however distant or unreasonable it may seem.

OR

My father is the person who inspires me, for he has overcome every adversity to provide us with a good life. He has seen a time when it was difficult to pay for his father's cancer treatment and afford all expenses of an infant. An average student since childhood, he stood first in the advocates' examination that took place when his father was on deathbed, never letting his struggles get the better of him.

Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic
-Arthur C. Clarke

Fingers shaking, apprehensive and excited in equal measure, I pressed the keys Ctrl+ F9, and before I could blink the screen displayed the sum of first n numbers; that was the first program I had ever executed, and the sense of accomplishment and wonder I felt at the time is clearly etched in my memory. Since then, as I have navigated my way further into the world of technology, from programming to Web Development to Machine Learning, there has never been an instance when I haven't sat back in amazement at the simplicity of the idea and at the magnitude of influence attached to it. These are the very facets that have driven me to pursue this field and that I envision myself working towards- to develop technology that has the potential to bring about a significant change in people's lives, and at the same time offering them a sense of wonderment each time they come across it.
Our current computing technologies have undoubtedly transformed every aspect of our lives, but the one that I most look forward to is the integration of Machine Learning in Medical Sciences. While working on a project related to the same, I realized that though advancements in Machine Learning have been utilized in research in medicine, it's full potential and more direct applications remain to be explored. This is thus one of the technological challenges that I feel strongly about, with the other one being data security. With more and more services increasingly becoming cloud-based and content customized to user preferences, the vital task of ensuring data security has largely been ignored. The consequences of compromisation of data have repeatedly been felt in the past few years, thereby making safeguarding users' data the need of the hour.

While these are some of the areas I wish to explore, above all, I aim to ensure that whatever technology I work on is accessible to all and contributes towards bridging the existing technical divides.