

# Nirma University Newsletter

Volume 13 • Issue 3 & 4  
July - December 2021

## Major Highlights of this Issue



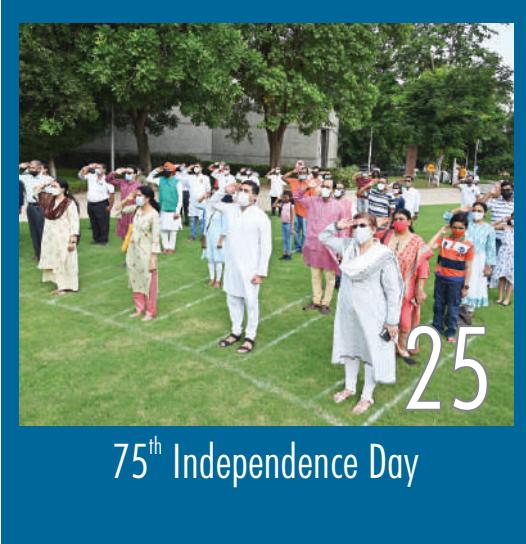
-   Nirma University ranks overall at 9<sup>th</sup> position in the Private Universities ranking list
-   Students win the National Robocon Championship 2021
-   Students win the Championship trophy in Asia's biggest solar vehicle championship
-   Nirma University held its 30<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony on Dec 17, 2021
-   Electric vehicle (EV) charging station inaugurated at the campus
-   Establishment of Faculty Chair Professor Positions to promote research and academic work

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# Message from the Director General's Desk



Dear Reader,

Wish you a Very Happy 2022!

At the time of writing this piece, the country is set to face the third wave of Covid-19. It has been almost two years that we are reeling under the dark shadow of the pandemic. People suffered from Covid-19; lives and livelihoods were adversely affected. Countries across the world were destabilised and their economies were slowed down severely. At the same time, humanity united to counter the menace of the pandemic. The human spirit prevailed and ingenious ways to fight the disease were invented. Ultimately, it was proven that Covid-19 could slow down the pace of human progress, but it cannot demoralise and demolish us.

Higher education institutions (HEIs), like other organisations, were seriously buffeted by the onslaught of the Covid-19. However, they regrouped fast; switched over to online teaching; provided innovative learning solutions; and, maintained touch with the student community. It does not mean that learning was as usual. Online teaching is not a substitute of face-to-face teaching. But, there was no other substitute. As a result, the HEIs moved from the thriving

mode to the surviving mode and served the student community.

In the process, many students faced the loss of learning. For some, engagement went down. Learning is a social and interactive process. Students did not have ample opportunities to socialise and interact with one another. They could not discuss and debate the subject matter. They could not work together on field projects. They missed several co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Long time on screen created mental lethargy and fatigue. Many students became hesitant to return to the campus. Some students forgot note taking skills. Others could not work on their personal development.

Amidst such a situation, we at Nirma University, adopted a hybrid mode of learning. We encouraged students to come to the classroom. Simultaneously, we did not force them to attend offline classes. We enthused them to come for lab work and library use. We also followed Covid-19 protocol and motivated students to take care of their own health as well as that of their friends.

Our placements were excellent in spite of partial closure of face-to-face classes. It shows the competence and commitment of our students. They learned and mastered subject knowledge. They were in continuous touch with the placement team and actively participated in the process.

We are committed to enhance the learning of students in the new year. We are sure that we shall benefit from

certain features of online learning, like international lectures, interaction with experts, etc. But, we cannot ignore the value of offline learning. Learning on the campus has to be strengthened.

New Education Policy-2020 has given a host of recommendations that would facilitate learning on the campus. We are ready to implement many of those recommendations. For example, all our undergraduate programmes shall be of four-year duration from the academic year 2022. Similarly, more internships shall be introduced in each programme. In addition, more tutorials shall be initiated. The students shall have more flexibility in choosing their majors and minors. Of course, changes in assessment shall accompany the changes in curricula.

So, we are ready to commence a new era of learning and development for our students. Experiential learning, internship, active citizenship, and research acumen shall characterise it.

Thanking you.

Anup K Singh, PhD  
Director General

## Rankings

- Nirma University ranks overall at 9<sup>th</sup> position in the Private Universities ranking list released by India Today in Aug 2021 edition.
- Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University has been ranked 20<sup>th</sup> amongst the Pharmacy Institutes of India in the National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2021 released on Sep 9, 2021.
- Institute of Management, Nirma University is ranked 6<sup>th</sup> Best Private B-school in the Supreme B-School category by CSR- GHRDC B-school survey published in the Competition Success Review, November 2021 issue.

## Awards

### IP Hall of Fame Award conferred on Institute of Law

The IPPO Ahmedabad, an IP Promotion and Outreach Organisation has recognised the 'IP Awareness and Dissemination' activities of the Centre for IPR, Institute of Law, Nirma University under its IP Hall of Fame Honours on Sep 30, 2021.

The recognition in the form of an Award has been made in two categories:

The IP Campus of the Year Award, 2021 (Legal) to the Centre for IPR, Institute of Law; and IP Academician of the Year Award, 2021 (Legal) to Ms Gunjan Arora, Head, Centre for IPR, Institute of Law.



## Institute of Pharmacy signs an MoU with RIWATCH

An MoU is signed between the Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University; and the Research Institute of World's Ancient Traditions Cultures and Heritage (RIWATCH), Arunachal Pradesh on Dec 11, 2021. The purpose of the MoU is to promote interaction between the two institutes in mutually beneficial areas like research collaboration in terms of projects, training and education, ecosystem development, knowledge exchange, etc.

## MoUs

### Institute of Technology signs an MoU with Finecure Pharmaceuticals Ltd

The Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Institute of Technology, Nirma University signed an MoU on Nov 23, 2021 with Finecure Pharmaceuticals Ltd, a globally renowned research-driven multinational healthcare company with its branch offices, factories, and affiliates in several countries across the globe. The purpose of the MoU is to carry the collaborative research work on the planned innovative ideas as well as to provide project-based learning opportunities to the students of the institute.



# Students

## Achievements

### SAE Nirma Collegiate Club wins the Championship Trophy

Team Stallions (SAE Nirma Collegiate Club) representing the Institute of Technology, Nirma University won the Championship trophy in Asia's biggest solar vehicle championship ESVC 2021 (Electric Solar Vehicle Championship) organised by ISIE India in Chandigarh from Dec 24-28, 2021 at Chandigarh Group of Colleges, Jhanjeri. Team

Stallions won the ESVC championship and earned a total cash prize of more than Rs 1.5 lakh. Among a total of nine rounds including technical inspection round, acceleration test, brake test, hill climb test, cross-pad test, off-road test, solar round, autonomous round, and endurance round, the Stallions were ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in 8 rounds. 22 teams from different parts of the country participated in the competition.

The students who were a part of this team include Aman Vaghasiya, Darshan Mehta, Deep Patel, Harshit Patel, Hitarth Parikh, Hitarth Patel, Ibrahim Bootwala, Jash Patel, Jayant Bhavsar, Jaydeep Rathod, Kashish Chandak, Mohammed Rushnaiwala, Prutthak Patel, Vedant Raval, Vivek Jasani, and Vivek Mehtani from Mechanical Engineering; Adarsh Nanda, Akshar Chaukiyal, Ansh Asija, Anupam Agarwal, Ashmit Rai, Chirag Monani, Maharshi Sharma, Pranjal Gupta, Pratik Rathaur, Sagar Samtani, Shyamal Pathak, Stavan Sanyal, Yuvrajsinh Chauhan from Electrical Engineering; Henil Gajjar, Mayur Das, Prince Bansal, Riththika Sukanandan, Trushti Selarka from Electronics and Communication Engineering; and Princy Patel from Instrumentation and Control Engineering.



## International Robocon 2021

Team Nirma Robocon of the Institute of Technology secured 7<sup>th</sup> position at the International Robocon 2021 hosted by China through online mode on Dec 12, 2021 wherein 21 teams of different countries participated. Team Nirma won the Nagase Award for excellence. While the winning team completed the full game in 40 seconds, Team Nirma completed the full game in 45 seconds. Team Nirma has secured the highest International Rank amongst all the Indian teams who have represented the country so far in all the previous competitions for the past 20 years.



Robocon is a robotic contest, organised by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), brings together over 20 countries of the Asia Pacific Region to compete and learn newer technologies. Since 2002, every year one of the member broadcasters hosts this international event. Robocon provides a foundation for young robotics and creates an innovation cycle.

Team Nirma Robocon has been participating in the International Robotic contest Robocon organised by Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) every year since 2002. Team Nirma Robocon has won the National Championship nine times so far and represented India at the international event in the year 2002 (Japan), 2003 (Thailand), 2006 (Malaysia), 2008 (India), 2011 (Thailand), 2014 (India), 2015 (Indonesia), 2018 (Vietnam) and 2021 (hosted by China in online mode).

## National Robocon Championship 2021

The National Robocon Championship 2021 was organised by Doordarshan in association with IIT Delhi through online mode in three stages. Team Nirma Robocon reached the finals on Aug 18, 2021 and won the National Championship title for the 9<sup>th</sup> time. A total of 63 teams from various engineering institutes of India participated in the event. Nirma is the only team in India that completed the theme and that too in just 54 seconds. Team Nirma Robocon comprising students of Institute of Technology, Nirma University (Dhrumil Shekhda, Kushal Sheth, Jigar Boda, Abhay Vasjariya, Parth Gajara, Arya

Kargathara, Aryan Batra, Harsh Chotali, Vivek

Sondagar, Dhyey Chavda, Dev Bhagat, and Prapti Bordoloi) will now represent India at the international competition hosted by China on Dec 12, 2021 in online mode.



Robocon is an International Robotic Contest organised by ABU every year since 2002 and hosted by various countries of the Asia-Pacific region. The host country declares the Theme of the competition a year ahead and based on the same Theme each country first hosts the National level competition in their respective country. The winner of the national competition represents the respective country at the international event.

## SHODH Fellowship

The Doctoral students of Institute of Pharmacy, Ms Ruchi Shitala Prasad Yadav, Pharmaceutical Chemistry; Ms Dhruvi Kumari Kiritsinh Solanki, Pharmaceutics; Mr Abu Sufyan Chhipa; Mr Joshi Mit Nileshkumar; and Ms Khushboo Govind Faldu, from Pharmacology are selected for the SHODH (Scheme of Developing High-quality research) Yojna 2020-2021, by the Department of Education, Government of Gujarat. Each student will receive a stipend of Rs 15,000 per month for two years.



## SAE India Southern Section Aero Design Challenge 2021

Team Arrow comprising students from Institute of Technology, Nirma University (Vedant H Soni, Vivek Pragda, Yashkumar Patil, Jayraj Gohel, Harshvardhan Saxena, Jemin Mangukiya, Dhaval Joshi, Devansh Rana, Divyesh Ranpariya, Kaushik Thumar, and Pranshav Gajjar) received the 1<sup>st</sup> position in the Overall Performance Award Category and 2<sup>nd</sup> position in the Best Design Report Award Category in the SAE India Southern Section Aero Design Challenge 2021 in the Micro Class Category in Aug 2021. The online event had five scoring stages, namely: Video presentation, Design report, Technical presentation, Fabrication report, and Application report. More than 30 teams from colleges across the nation including NIT Agartala, Vellore Institute of Technology, BITS, VIT Pune, SRM University, Bannari Amman Institute of Technology competed for the Micro Class category.



## Robofest Gujarat 2.0

Harsh Hiteshkumar Mandaliya, Piyush Vishwakarma, and Nikita Nair, students of semester-VII, Industrial Design from Institute of Design, Nirma University have cleared the second stage (Proof of concept) and won a cash prize of Rs One lac for the next level of the Robofest Gujarat 2.0 competition organised by Gujarat Council on Science and Technology (GUJCOST) on Aug 24, 2021. Among the seven categories declared, they took part in the Powered Exoskeleton Category. The team designed a wearable rehabilitation and assistance device for patients suffering from knee and elbow fracture. The device is easy to operate, requires less maintenance, and is significantly recovery-oriented.

Similarly, the team of Shekhda Dhrumil, Boda Jigar, Vasjariya Abhay, Raval Mann, and Garara Parth from Institute of Technology, Nirma University won the Proof of Concept stage with award money of Rs Two lac in the Four-Legged Robot Category on Aug 24, 2021. The team is selected for the final stage of the competition wherein the team needs to submit the final prototype by Nov 2021.



## Other Achievements

- Rajesh Gupta and Tejal Rathod, PhD scholars, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Institute of Technology received an "Excellent Contribution Award" for the paper titled "Faith: Trusted Chain Network for Non-Cooperative D2D Communication Underlying HetNet" in the International workshop on Systems, Safety, & Security (IWSSS 2021) in association with 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Electronics, Computers and Artificial Intelligence (ECAI 2021) held virtually in Pitesti, Romania, July 1-3, 2021.
- Mr Bharat Patel, PhD Scholar, Institute of Pharmacy secured 1<sup>st</sup> position in the e-presentation of poster entitled 'Exploring novel design and evaluation of Mechanical Pressurise Implantable Pump using 3D Printing Technology' in the GUJCOST & DST sponsored International e-Conference on 'Revolutionary Applications of 3D – Printing Technology in Pharma and Healthcare System' organised by Arihant School of Pharmacy and Bio-Research Institute, Adalaj, Gandhinagar during Aug 12-13, 2021.
- Jyot Makadiya, student of Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Institute of Technology, Nirma University along with his teammates Dr Usman Tariq from the American University of Sharjah and Dr Abhinav Dhall from IIT Ropar stood third in the openEDS 2021 deep learning research challenge track 1 3d eye semantic segmentation. The contest hosted on EvalAI and sponsored by facebook-research concluded on Aug 8, 2021.
- Akanksha Shah, a student of the Institute of Design, Nirma University won the 'Toy Design Challenge' hosted by i-Hub and United World Institute of Design (UID) on Sep 24, 2021. She received a grant of Rs 1,13,500 from the chief guest, Shri Jitubhai Vaghani, Cabinet Minister of Education, Science & Technology, Government of Gujarat. She has designed a game for Alzheimer patients (60+ age), who have problems with memory, identification, Visio-special orientation (visualisation), judgment, problem-solving and decision making, sentence formation and calculation, and numbers. The game helps to slow down the progression of their disease, improves memory, thinking, judgment, problem-solving and visualisation. The game involves activities like identification, linking, matching, solving, sorting, category grouping or classification, sequencing, arranging, memorising and then replicating, solving, placing, matching the memorised thing, etc. Along with this, the game would also provide fun and enjoyment and uplift their mood, morale, and confidence.



- Aarush Sharma and Akshat Mishra from the Institute of Law were adjudged as the Grand Finalists at the NALSAR Inter-Varsity British Parliamentary Debate held on Sep 17-18, 2021.
- Priyanshi Rachchh and Aarush Sharma from the Institute of Law were the Grand Finalists of the Peral Parliamentary Debate, 2021 organised from Sep 24-26, 2021 by BITS Hyderabad.
- Aman Kadri, Alay Raje, and Srishty Bajaj from the Institute of Law were the national winners at the 14<sup>th</sup> NALSAR - Justice B R Sawhney Memorial Moot Court Competition held during Oct 7-9, 2021. Srishty Bajaj was declared the best researcher and Alay Raje was declared the second-best speaker.
- Shrinkhla Tiwari from the Institute of Law was adjudged as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Mediator at the 4<sup>th</sup> SYAR National Mediation Competition organised by Society for Young Advocates and Researchers in collaboration with PSL Advocates and Solicitors during Oct 17-19, 2021.
- Mr Rajesh Gupta, a Full-Time Research Scholar, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Institute of Technology is in the list of Top 2% of scientists across the globe published by Stanford University in its Oct 2021 report. (<https://elsevier.digitalcommonsdata.com/datasets/btchxktzyw/3>)
- Aadesh Shinde from the Institute of Law has been adjudged as the winner of the National Rounds of the Elocution Competition 2021 organised by the Institute of

- Company Secretaries of India. The ICSI National Elocution Competition was held on Oct 28, 2021 in online mode and the results of the same were declared in Nov 2021.
- The team comprising Devansh Jain and Shinjani Agnihotri from the Institute of Law secured 2<sup>nd</sup> position in the Padma Vibhushan N A Palkhivala Memorial National Research Paper Competition, 2021 held on Nov 28, 2021. The competition was jointly organised by the All India Federation of Tax Practitioners (AIFTP), the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) Bar Association, The Goods and Service Tax Practitioners Association of Maharashtra (GSTPAM), and Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai.
  - Bhujal Varia from the Institute of Architecture & Planning won the Prof D S Meshram National Best Thesis Award, 2021 in the category of Undergraduate Planning Students for her research thesis titled 'Water Conservation and Harvesting in Semi-Arid Region of Rajasthan: Study of Rural Areas in Jaipur District'. The national award is annually given by the Institute of Town Planners, India as recognition of exceptional research being carried out in the field of Planning.
  - Suchetna Chakraborty from the Institute of Law (semester III) won a bronze medal in the All India Inter University Aquatics (W) Championship in Butterfly 200 metres event organised at KIIT Bhubaneswar under Khelo India University Games 2021 during Dec 22-26, 2021.



- Aadesh Shinde and Pruthvirajsinh Zala from the Institute of Law won the Speech Competition in their respective category at the Youth Parliament of India 2021 organised by the Karnavati University in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Government of India on Dec 4-5, 2021.
- Nishant Patel, Khushboo Patel, Trishala Pahuja, Devashish Daga, and Kunal Shah from the Institute of Management stood third in the 'GO Quant Camp Factor' investing competition hosted by Bloomberg in association with GIFT City under the aegis of IFSCA on Dec 8, 2021.
- Kanchan Lohana, MPharm Semester-I student secured the second position in the SCOPE state-level debate competition on the topic 'Freedom of the individuals is a myth' organised by SCOPE- A Gujarat Government Initiative held on Dec 18, 2021.

## Achievements @ University Level

### Deshraag

As a part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations, to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of India's Independence, the NSS Unit and Students Welfare Board, Nirma University organised 'Deshraag' an online Patriotic Solo Song Competition for Nirma University students on Aug 13, 2021. A total of 34 students participated in the event. Shri Mayankbhai Dave, Managing Trustee and Director-Surmadhur, Institution of Music & Dance, Gandhinagar, adjudged the event. Yaman Parmar from the Institute of Technology stood first. Aditi Mishra and Gaurav Agrawal from the Institute of Law stood second and third respectively.

### Essay Writing Competition

The NSS Unit and Students Welfare Board, Nirma University organised an Online Essay Writing Competition on the theme 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' on Oct 2, 2021 to mark the 152<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. A total of 40 students participated in this competition. Dr Harmik Vaishnav, School of Liberal Studies, Pandit Deendayal Energy

University evaluated the essays. The first three winners were given cash prize of Rs 1000, Rs 750, and Rs 500. Heeral Neema from the Institute of Technology stood first, Anjali Sharma from the Institute of Law stood second, and Tanya Chaturvedi from the Institute of Management stood third.

## Raas Garba Competition

The Students Welfare Board, Nirma University organised an Online Raas Garba Competition during Oct 7-14, 2021. The students, faculty, and staff uploaded their videos on the link shared with them. A total of 20 students and 8 faculty-staff participated in this competition. Mr Tusharbhai Vyas, Choreographer, and member of Vaarso - The Traditional Group was invited to evaluate the performances. The first three winners in both students and faculty-staff categories were given prize money of Rs 2000, Rs 1500, and Rs 1000. Among the students, Priyanshi Doshi from the Institute of Design stood first, Pragya Rathore from the Institute of Law stood second, and Heet Ankur Shah from the Institute of Technology stood third. In the Faculty-Staff category, Dr Niyati Acharya from the Institute of Pharmacy stood first, Ms Drashti Patel from the Institute of Pharmacy stood second, and Dr Vaishali Dhare from the Institute of Technology stood third.



## ATHENA 2.0

The Centre for Entrepreneurship, Nirma University organised, Athena 2.0, a week-long business plan competition for the students of Nirma University during Oct 23-30, 2021. The objective of the Business Plan Competition was to provide a meaningful learning experience to students who are interested in pursuing an entrepreneurial opportunity at some point in their career. The teams were challenged to conceive a new service or product offering, and then create a business plan and concept pitch video aimed at convincing potential investors to finance the business. Out of the 16 registered teams, six teams were shortlisted for one-to-one mentoring from the ecosystem experts and develop their ideas and prepare the final pitch. The judges included Ms Ashika M Dhokai, founder of Snapseaarch- a platform providing recruitment services to MNCs and business conglomerates; Mr Dhruv Mamtora, founder Start2Startup - a firm that guides and supports budding startups; and Ms

Rashmika Shah, Coordinator, Centre for Entrepreneurship, Nirma University. The team comprising Mansi Jain, Eksha Nasha from Institute of Management, and Nikhil from the Institute of Law were adjudged the winners. This team believes in "A milligram of prevention is worth a kilogram of cure." They came up with a Disease Prevention Kit (Fresh juice + essentials kit). The kits will be developed to provide reliable and affordable medicines in the form of tasty juices and other essentials for people suffering from ailments.

TOP 10 GLOBAL CAUSES OF DEATH (IN LAKH)

Cause	Deaths (in Lakhs)
Heart diseases	95
Stroke	94
Diabetes	58
HIV/AIDS	31
Tuberculosis	30
Lower respiratory infections	20
Ischaemic heart disease	18
Preterm birth complications	15
Neonatal sepsis	14
Neonatal tetanus	13

MARKET RESEARCH

Why Indore?

- The country's cleanest city
- Lower cost of set up
- An Aspiring Youth looking for opportunities

Target market

- Suffering from disease.
- Willing to prevent any deficiency
- Health-conscious people.
- Friends or relatives who are looking for a meaningful gift

Age: Above 20  
Status: Middle-class to Upper Class

Disease

As reports suggest, these diseases take time to heal, and the patients are advised to take fluid diet. Also, the patients with such diseases usually start losing hope and need to be cheered up.

TEAM 5  
Jucify

e-cell | NIRMA UNIVERSITY SSIP

## Other Achievements @ University Level

- AbhimaNU, the Central Sports Committee along with the Students Welfare Board, Nirma University organised an Online Quiz on 'Fit India Freedom' on Sep 4, 2021 for the students of the university. Parth Shah from the Institute of Technology, Saksham Agrawal from the Institute of Management, and Monal R Savaliya from the Institute of Technology were declared the winners.
- AbhimaNU, the Central Sports Committee along with the Students Welfare Board, Nirma University organised an Online Chess Competition on Sep 18, 2021. Naitik Sanghavi from the Institute of Technology secured the first position, followed by Aaditya Shah, and Aryan Anand, both from the Institute of Technology, securing second and third positions, respectively.
- On the occasion of NSS Day, an online poster-making competition on the theme 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' was organised by the Student Welfare Board and NSS on Sep 24, 2021. A total of 35 students participated in the event. Ms Suvarna Das, Art Facilitator, Zydus School for Excellence, Godhvi was invited as an expert to evaluate the posters. Shruti Jha from the Institute of Law secured the first position, Aparajita Singh Jadon from the Institute of Design came second, and Swati Sarowa from the Institute of Management secured the third position.

- On the occasion of the 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of the renowned poet Shri Zaverchand Meghani, a university-level singing competition was organised during Sep 17-20, 2021. Ms Ami Joshi, Music Educator, Nirma Vidyavihar was invited as the judge. Purvi Dabhi from the Institute of Architecture & Planning secured the first position, followed by Monil Mandalia from the Institute of Management, and Pratheeeksha from the Institute of Architecture & Planning.



## Students' Speak



**Mr Pranav Agarwal**

4<sup>th</sup> year, Department of Mechanical Engineering,  
Institute of Technology

### The journey has just begun...

As a high school student, I had a very different image of what engineering would be. I always thought of engineers as curious people who tinkered with all kinds of stuff. It was only on entering college that I had my first reality check. I spent my freshman year rethinking all my life choices that led me here as my engineering experience was not what I thought it'd be. It was only until the cusp of my second year in college that things started to change. I joined the team Con-Sol-E that represents our university in the Mitsubishi Electric Cup. Even though my major was Mechanical Engineering, I was still very eager to explore other domains like Image Processing, Machine Learning etc. and I am forever grateful to Prof Harsh Kapadia and Prof Alpesh Patel for giving me that opportunity.

As the work for the competition progressed, I realised I had signed up for more work than I bargained for. We worked day and night under constant supervision and pressure but if given the opportunity, I would do it all over again in a heartbeat. I learned so many new engineering related concepts, how to come up with solutions and ideas on the fly, managing budget and procuring components. Above all, I made a bond with my team mates that I am confident will last for years to come. Our hard work paid off and our Institute won the competition for the first time ever. Never did I realise that this would just be a stepping stone for me.

I took part in the Smart India Hackathon 2020 (Software Edition) along with some of the friends I had made while working in Team Con-Sol-E. Even though we weren't confident, as no one in our team was a computer science major in a software competition, we managed to clear the Institute level and the intermediary round. At the national level, which took place virtually due to pandemic, we were completely overwhelmed. It seemed nearly impossible to meet the criteria that had been set by the jury. We worked without food or sleep for three days straight, which was the entire duration of the competition, all the while trying our best to not lose hope and as luck would have us, we won.

There's still more to it as, out of the six members in our team, two (myself included) further qualified as representatives of India in the ASEAN-INDIA Hackathon 2021. We were put together in a team of six students selected randomly from the representatives of other countries. Our problem statement was to come up with a blockchain based system to help streamline the supply chain logistics in international shipping. Coordinating with different government entities, working with people from different nationalities and being made the team leader of such a gifted bunch was the kind of exposure and responsibility I never expected and was glad I got it. My year and half long journey that started with the institute level round of Smart India Hackathon and ended at the completion of ASEAN-INDIA hackathon, culminated with my team being crowned the international winners as well receiving multiple funding offers for our blockchain based system.

It would unfair of me to not mention all the leeway my faculties from the mechanical department gave me that helped in managing my college work along with these competitions. My biggest lesson was to never stop being curious and that all it takes is effort and the confidence to dream big that will get you where you want to be.



# Campus Attractions

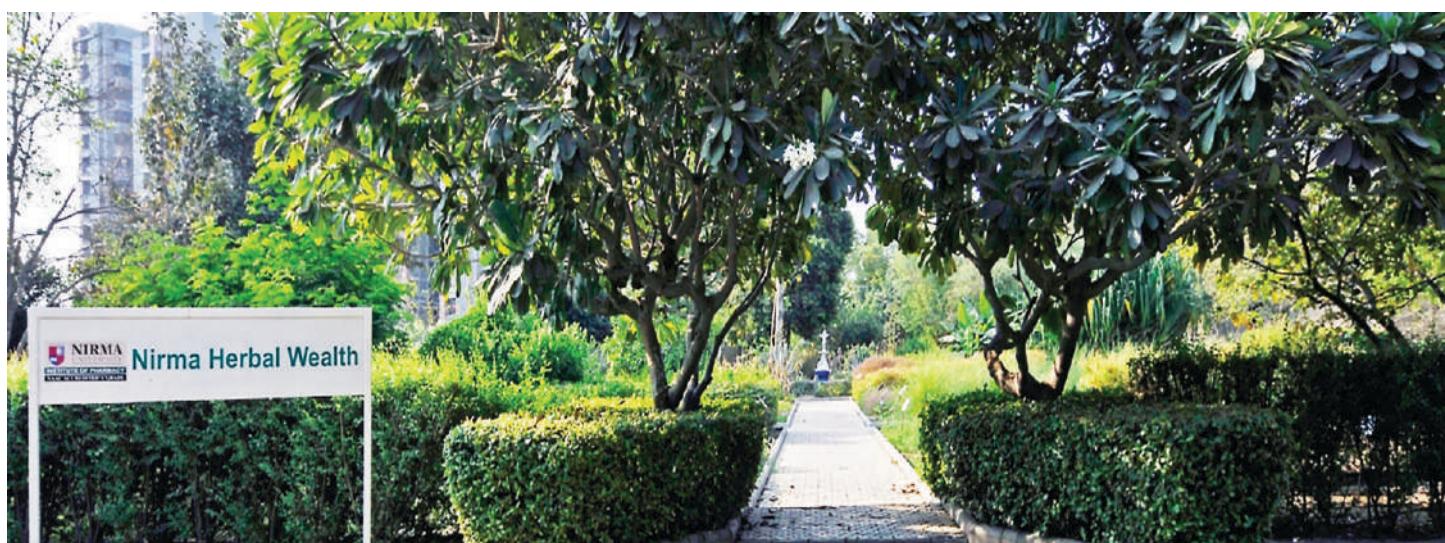
## Nirma Herbal Wealth

The Department of Pharmacognosy, Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University houses a well-developed medicinal plant garden "Nirma Herbal Wealth" covering a total area of 3356.5 sq. meters with more than 153 varieties of species and 500 plants extending the scope to carry out research on medicinal plants.

The garden houses a variety of medicinally important herbs, shrubs and trees spread in a well-defined area. The plants grown here are useful in the practical sessions of Pharmacognosy and Herbal Drug Technology. This well-developed medicinal plant garden provides a strong impetus for herbal drug research and to impart training to the graduate students. It supplies crude raw material and fresh plant specimens essential to carry out herbal drug and natural product-related research by the graduate, postgraduate and doctoral students.

Students of the Institute of Pharmacy use the botanical garden to collect the herbs for their routine practical work as well as for research work during their project. Students collect the plant parts based on their project need to prepare extract and isolate the important phytoconstituents with therapeutic importance. The collection of plants is also useful to prepare herbarium specimens by undergraduate students.

Some of the trees available at the garden include Terminalia arjuna (Arjuna), Saraca asoca (Ashoka), Moringa oleifera (Drumstick), Azadirachta indica (Neem) and Ficus carica (Anjeer). Some of the important plant species are Datura metel, Commiphora mukul, Gmelina arborea, Cymbopogon citratus, Vetiveria zizanoides, and Plumbago zeylenica.





## Comprehensive list of plants along with Medicinal Uses

BOTANICAL AND COMMON NAME	MEDICINAL USES		
<i>Abrus precatorius</i> (CHANOTHI)	Neuro-Protective, Antiepileptic,	<i>Alangium salvifolium</i> (ANKOL)	Antidiabetic, Anticancer, Diuretic
<i>Acacia catechu</i> (BAVAL)	Astringent, Anti-diarrheal	<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i> (GARLIC)	Antibiotic, Antidiabetic
<i>Acacia concinna</i> (SHIKAKAI)	Hair Cleanser, Foaming Agent	<i>Aloe vera</i> (KUVARPATHU)	Laxative, Anti-Wrinkle, Anti-Ageing
<i>Achyranthes aspera</i> (APAMARG)	Induction of Labor, Cessation of Postpartum Bleeding	<i>Alstonia scholaris</i> (SAPTAPARNI)	Antibacterial, Antioxidant
<i>Adansonia digitata</i> (GORAKH IMLI)	Hepatoprotective, Analgesic	<i>Amomum subulatum</i> (BADI ILAICHI)	Antibacterial, Analgesic
<i>Adhatoda vasica</i> (VASAKA)	Antibacterial, Bronchodilator	<i>Annona reticulata</i> (SITAPHAL)	Antidiarrhoeal
<i>Aegle marmelos</i> (BILVA PATRA)	Treatment of Dysentery, Peptic Ulcer	<i>Annona squamosal</i> (RAMPHAL)	Anti-Diabetic, Antioxidant
<i>Ailanthus excelsa</i> (ARDUSO)	Antiviral, Hypoglycemic	<i>Arachis hypogaea</i> (MAGFALI)	Neuroprotective, Anti-Inflammatory
		<i>Argyreia nervosa</i> (SAMUDRA SHOSH)	Antimicrobial
		<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> (SHATAVARI)	Immunomodulator, Anti-Ulcerogenic



<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (NEEM)	Antipyretic, Hypoglycaemic	<i>Caesalpinia Sappan</i> (RED WOOD)	Hepatoprotective, Hypoglycaemic
<i>Bacopa monnieri</i> (BRAHMI)	Relaxant, Neuroprotective	<i>Cajanus Cajan</i> (TUVERA)	Hypocholesterolemic Anti-plasmodial
<i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i> (BALSAM)	Jaundice, Anthelmintic, Wound Healing	<i>Calendula Officinalis</i> (MARIGOLD))	Anthelmintic, Cytotoxic
<i>Balspermum montanum</i> (DANTIMUL)	Cathartic, Anthelmintic, Diuretic	<i>Calophyllum Inophyllum</i> (UDI)	Antiulcer, Antiviral, Anti HIV Activity
<i>Bambusa arundinacea</i> (BAMBOO)	Anti-Diabetic, Anthelmintic,	<i>Calotropis Gigantean</i> (SAFED ANKDO)	Anti-Inflammatory, Anti-Pyretic
<i>Barleria prionitis</i> (KANTASHELIYA)	Hepatoprotective, Analgesic	<i>Capparis Decidua</i> (KERDO)	Anti-Inflammatory, Anti-Pyretic
<i>Basella alba</i> (CEYLON SPINACH)	Anticancer, Anti-Inflammatory	<i>Carica Papaya</i> (PAPAYA)	Anti-Inflammatory, Digestive
<i>Bauhinia purpurea</i> (PURPLE ORCHID)	Antidiabetic, Analgesic	<i>Ehretia Laevi</i> (VADHWAARDI)	Anti-Inflammatory, Antidiabetic,
<i>Bignonia magnifica</i> (LASANVEL)	Anti-Inflammatory, Anti-Pyretic	<i>Elaeocarpus Ganitrus</i> (RUDRAKSH)	Hepatoprotective, Anti-Epileptic
<i>Bixa orellana</i> (SUNDARIO)	Coloring Agent	<i>Emblia officinalis</i> (AMLA)	Antioxidant, Immuno-Modulator
<i>Boerhavia diffusa</i> (PUNARNAVA)	Anti-Inflammatory, Antipyretic	<i>Enicostemma littorale</i> blume (MAMEJVO)	Anti-Malarial, Anti-Diabetic
<i>Butea Monosperma</i> (PALASH)	Diuretic, Aphrodisiac	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> (NILGIRI)	Analgesic, Antipyretic
<i>Caesalpinia Bonducella</i> (KANKREJ)	Adaptogenic, Anthelmintic	<i>Feronia limonia</i> (KOTHI)	Antitumour, Antifungal



<i>Ficus amplissima</i> (PIPALI)	Antispasmodic, Anti-Inflammatory	<i>Ixora parviflora</i> (IXORA)	Whooping Cough, Tuberculosis
<i>Ficus benghalensis</i> (BANYAN TREE)	Hypolipidemic, Hypoglycemic,	<i>Jasminium grandiflorum</i> (JUI CHAMELI)	Antimicrobial
<i>Ficus carica</i> (PAPAIYA)	Anti-Cancer, Hepatoprotective,	<i>Jasminum sambac</i> (MOGRO)	Anti-Amoebic, Febrifuge
<i>Ficus glomerata</i> (FIG TREE)	Anti-Diabetic, Hepatoprotective	<i>Jatropha curcas</i> (JAMALGOTA)	Anti-Microbial, Anti-Oxidant
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i> (FENNEL)	Anti-Carcinogenic, Anti-Inflammatory	<i>Kalanchoe pinnata</i> (POI)	Analgesic, Febrifuge
<i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i> (LIQUORICE)	Anti-Ulcer, Expectorant	<i>Lawsonia inermis</i> (MEHANDI)	Hepatoprotective, Anti-Fungal
<i>Gmelina arborea</i> (MADHUMATEE)	Antidiuretic, Antipyretic	<i>Leptadenia reticulata</i> (DODI)	Wound Healing, Diuretic
<i>Gymnema sylvestre</i> (MARDA SING)	Anti-diabetic, Anti-Obesity	<i>Madhuca indica</i> (MAHUDO)	Anti-Ulcer, Hepatoprotective
<i>Helicteres isora</i> (HATADI)	Anti-Ulcer, Hepatoprotective	<i>Mangifera indica</i> (AMBO)	Anti-diarrheal, Anti-Rheumatic
<i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> (SARSAPARILLA)	Anti-diabetic, Hepatoprotective	<i>Manilkara hexandra</i> (RAYAN)	Anthelmintic, Stomachic
<i>Hibiscus rosa sinensis</i> (JASUD)	Antioxidant	<i>Manilkara zapota</i> (CHIKOO)	Flavouring Agent In Jams and Ice-Creams
<i>Holarrhena Antidysenterica</i> (INDRAJEEV)	Anti-diarrheal, Colitis	<i>Mentha piperita</i> (PUDINA)	In Migraine, Headache
<i>Ipomoea batatas</i> (SWEET POTATO)	Anti-Diabetic, Hypertension	<i>Mimosa pudica</i> (LAJAMANI)	Diuretic, Emetic

<i>Mimusops elengi</i> (BARSOLI)	Anthelmintic, Febrifuge	<i>Plantago ovata</i> (ISABGOL)	Laxative
<i>Moringa oleifera</i> (SARAGVO)	Anti-Rheumatic, Immunity Booster	<i>Pluchea lanceolata</i> (RASNA)	Rheumatoid Arthritis
<i>Morus alba</i> (SETUR)	Anti-Bacterial, Anti-Diabetic	<i>Plumbago zeylanica</i> (CHITRAK)	Anti-Dysentery, Cardiotonic
<i>Murraya koenigii</i> (CURRY LEAVES)	Anti-Diabetic, Aids Digestion	<i>Plumeria acuminata</i> (LAL CHAMPO)	Febrifuge, Purgative
<i>Musa acuminata</i> (BANANA TREE)	Astringent, Anti-Fungal	<i>Polianthes tuberosa</i> (RAJANIGANDHA)	Diuretic, Emetic
<i>Nerium indicum</i> (LAL KAREN)	Anti-Neoplastic, Sedative,	<i>Polyalthia longifolia</i> (ASOPLAV)	Ani-Ulcer, Anti-Hyperglycemic
<i>Nyctanthus arbor-tristis</i> (RAATRANI)	Anti-Viral, Anti-Fungal	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i> (KARANJHI)	Anti-Diabetic
<i>Nymphaea caerulea</i> (BLUE LOTUS)	Anti-Diabetic, Hepatoprotective	<i>Premna obtusifolia</i> (MOTI ARNI)	Cytotoxic, Anti-Oxidant
<i>Ocimum basilicum</i> (DAMRO)	Anti-Bacterial, Anti-Inflammatory	<i>Prosopis cineraria</i> (KHIJDO)	Asthma, Dysentry
<i>Ocimum citriodorum</i> (LEMON BASIL)	Anti-Fungal, Anti-Bacterial	<i>Punica granatum</i> (POMEGRANATE)	Astringent, Anti-Diabetic
<i>Ocimum gratissimum</i> (RAM TULSI)	Anti-Bacterial, Immunomodulator	<i>Randia dumetorum</i> (MINDHALA)	Emetic, Anti-Inflammatory
<i>Ocimum sanctum</i> (BASIL)	Hepatoprotective, Cardio Protective	<i>Rauvolfia tetraphylla</i> (SARPGANDHA)	Anti-Hypertensive, Tranquilizer
<i>Ocimum tenuiflorum</i> (SHYAM TULSI)	Hepatoprotective, Anti-Bacterial	<i>Rhaphanus sativus</i> (WHITE RADISH)	Carminative
<i>Oroxylum indicum</i> (TETU)	Diaphoretic, Anti-Rheumatic	<i>Ricinus communis</i> (CASTOR)	Laxative
<i>Pandanus odorifer</i> (KETAK, KEVADA)	Diuretic, Tonic	<i>Rosa centifolia</i> (ROSE)	Aphrodisiac, Blood-Purifier
<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i> (KHAJUR)	Anti-Oxidant, Tonic	<i>Santalum album</i> (SANDALWOOD)	Diuretic, Anti-Hyperglycemic
<i>Phyllanthus fraternus</i> (BHUMYA-AMLAKI)	Anti-Oxidant, Immunomodulator	<i>Sapindus mukorossi</i> (ARITHA)	In Migraine Headaches, Eczema
<i>Phyllanthus reticulatus</i> (KAMBOI)	Blood Purifier, Carminative	<i>Saraca asoca</i> (ASHOK)	Anti-Diabetic, Anti-Inflammatory
<i>Pithecellobium dulce</i> (GORAS AMLI)	Astringent, Anti-Pyretic	<i>Scaevola taccada</i> (BHADRAKSH)	Antipyretic, Anti-Coagulant

<i>Sida rhombifolia</i> (MAHABALA)	Emollient, Anti-rheumatic	<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i> (KHUS)	Anti-Septic, Flavouring Agent,
<i>Solanum indicum</i> (BHOY RINGANI)	Anti-Cancer, Laxative	<i>Vigna radiate</i> (MUGBEAN)	Anti-Tumor, Anti-Septic, Anti-Diabetic
<i>Sterculia urens</i> (INDIAN TRANGACANTH)	Suspending Agent	<i>Vinca alba</i> (SAFED BARMASI)	Anti-Cancer, Anti-Hypertensive
<i>Syzygium jambolanum</i> (JAMBOO)	Anti-Diabetic	<i>Vinca rosea</i> (LAL BARMASI)	Anti-Diabetic, Sedative
<i>Tamarindus indica</i> (IMLI)	Anti-Fungal, Anti-Oxidant	<i>Vitex negundo</i> (NAGOD)	Anti-Pyretic, Astringent
<i>Tephrosia purpurea</i> (SARPANKHO)	Anthelmintic, Anti-Pyretic	<i>Vitis quadrangularis</i> (HADSAKAR)	Wound Healing, Dental Care
<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> (ARJUNA)	Hypotensive, Anti-Atherogenic	<i>Vitis vinifera</i> (GRAPES)	Astringent, Laxative, Stomachic
<i>Terminalia bellirica</i> (BAHEDA)	Analgesic, Anti-Diarrhoeal		
<i>Terminalia catappa</i> (BADAM)	Hepatoprotective, Anthelmintic		
<i>Terminalia chebula</i> (HARDE)	Anti-Tussive, Cardiotonic		
<i>Thespesia populnea</i> (PARAS PIPADO)	Anti-Oxidant, Anti-Inflammatory		
<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i> (GALO)	Anti-Diabetic, Anti-HIV		
<i>Tylophora indica</i> (DAMVEL)	Anti-Asthmatic, Expectorant		

### List of Seasonal plants along with medicinal uses

<i>Allium cepa</i> (ONION)	Anti-Hypertensive, Hypolipedemic
<i>Allium sativum</i> (GARLIC)	Anti-Hypertensive, Hypolipedemic
<i>Argemone Mexicana</i> (DARUDI)	Diuretic, Anti-inflammatory
<i>Brassica Campestris</i> (MUSTARD)	Anti-inflammatory





<i>Capsicum annuum</i> (CAPSICUM)	Counter-irritant	<i>Spinacia oleracea</i> (SPINACH)	Hepatoprotective, Anti-bacterial
<i>Coriandrum sativum</i> (DHANA)	Carminative, Aromatic	<i>Trianthema portulacastrum</i> (SHANKHPUSHPI)	Anti-diabetic, Anti-inflammatory
<i>Lagenaria siceraria</i> (BOTTLE GUARD)	Anti-Diabetic, Immunomodulator	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> (CHOTA GOKHRU)	Diuretic, anti-hypertensive
<i>Solanum melongena</i> (BRINJAL)	Anti-Bronchitis, Skin Infections	<i>Trigonella foenum-graecum</i> (METHI)	Anti-diabetic, Anti-inflammatory
<i>Solanum tuberosum</i> (POTATO)	Removes blemishes	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i> (CHOTA DHATURA)	Laxative, Sedative
<i>Solanum xanthocarpum</i> (KANTAKARI)	Laxative, Carminative	<i>Zea mays</i> (MAIZE)	Thickening agent in food and soups



# Innovative Initiatives

## Electric Charging Station @ the University

An electric vehicle (EV) charging station was inaugurated at the Nirma University campus on Aug 15, 2021 by Dr Anup K Singh, Director General, Nirma University. The charging station is installed under the Go Electric campaign scheme of the Gujarat Energy Development Agency (GEDA). The EV charging station is installed at Nirma University by M/s Mindra Green Energy LLP, Ahmedabad. This charging station comprises two fast chargers for two and three-wheelers; and a slow charger for the four-wheeler. With this, the Nirma University became the first university of the Gujarat state to host and promote the Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure. The facility is available for the staff, faculty, and students of the university. This charging station will help students develop their competence in the e-mobility segment, promote research and innovation, and help to spread social awareness on electric vehicles.



## Inauguration of RAINBOW Centre

The RAINBOW Centre (Realising Aspirations, Interests, and Brilliance of Young Women) was inaugurated on Dec 10, 2021 at the Institute of Management, Nirma University. The centre has been co-funded by ERASMUS+ (European Union) with the objective of capacity building of women to empower them with enhanced skills and provide them career counselling. The objective of the Centre is to encourage young women from Indian universities to enter the labour force.



# Events and Activities

## Inauguration of Cell Culture Facility @ Institute of Pharmacy

The Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University inaugurated its Cell Culture Facility on Oct 21, 2021. The lab was inaugurated by Shri K K Patel, Vice President, Nirma University. The Cell Culture Lab is equipped with state of art facilities and is constructed as per the Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) guidelines to meet the critical requirement for the research in pharmaceutical sciences nowadays for the study of disease pathways and effects of a drug or chemical. This facility will boost the research in the area of cancer, neuropharmacology, metabolic and allergic disorders etc.



## Workshop on Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

The Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Institute of Technology, organised an online workshop on 'Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning' in collaboration with Vodafone Idea Foundation during Oct 2-4, 2021. The workshop was conducted by Mr Jonathan Rajiv, Senior Programme Manager, Vodafone Idea Foundation. During the programme, apart from the lectures, there were hands-on sessions on various concepts related to Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

## Centre for Continuing Education signs MoU with TIME Pvt Ltd

An MoU has been signed for a duration of three years, from 2021 to 2024 between Triumphant Institute of Management Education (TIME) Pvt Ltd and Centre for Continuing Education (CCE), Nirma University, Ahmedabad on Aug 10, 2021. Mr Satish Kumar Taak, Centre Director, TIME Institute, Ahmedabad, and Dr Yogesh N Trivedi, Head, Centre for Continuing Education, Nirma University represented their respective organisations.

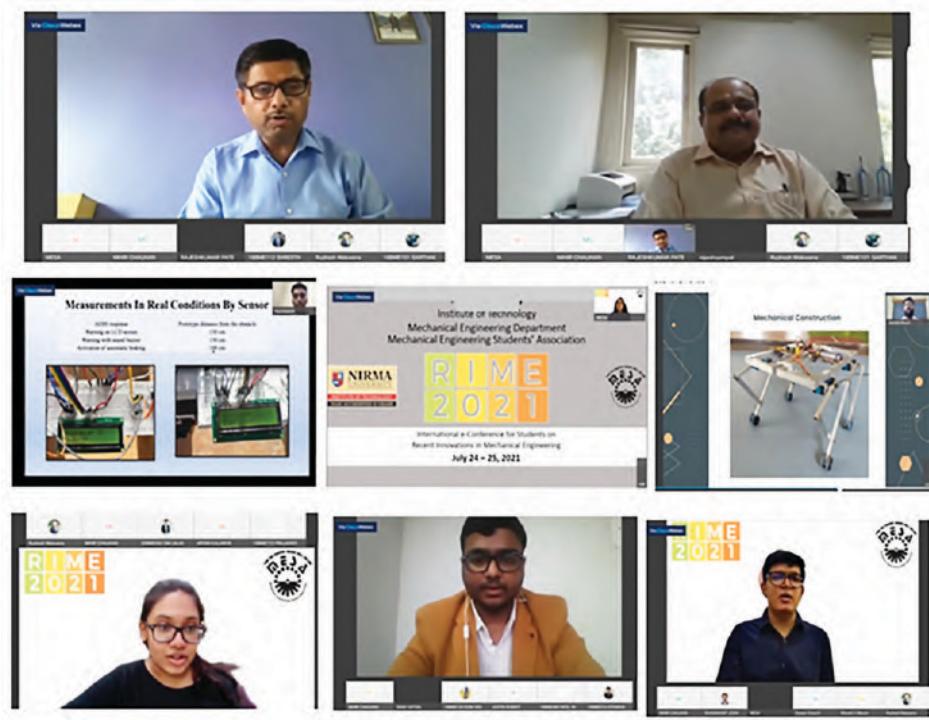
The salient features of the MoU are:

- Conducting a training programme on 'Preparation for CAT examination' for the benefit of students of all the institutes of Nirma University to seek admission in Management schools of India.
- The lectures will be conducted in Nirma University premises by the experts of TIME Pvt Ltd every Saturday and Sunday without disturbing the regular schedule of students.
- The students can avail all the Online and Offline resources provided by TIME Pvt Ltd.



## RIME 2021

A two-day e-conference on "Recent Innovation in Mechanical Engineering" was organised by the Mechanical Engineering Students Association (MESA) during July 24-25, 2021. RIME 2021 received 35 papers across the country, and 21 research papers were selected to be published in the e-proceedings with ISBN numbers. These papers were from diverse fields in mechanical engineering, including material science, hydrogen internal combustion engine, boiler technologies, CFD analysis, robotics, metal forming, etc. The chief guest on the first day was Mr Rajesh Sampat, COO, InspirOn Engineering Pvt Ltd, and the expert on the second day was Mr Sitanshu Bhatt, General Manager, Linde Engineering Pvt Ltd, Vadodara. Dr Rajesh N Patel, Director, Institute of Technology, Nirma University, and Dr Kaushik M Patel, Head of Mechanical Engineering Department, were also present at the e-conference.



## Utkrishta 2021

Utkrishta, the management conclave of the Institute of Management, Nirma University was organised on Sep 17-18, 2021 on the theme 'Bounce Back India: Embedding Growth and Resilience'. The objective of the conclave was to acquaint the students with the ever-evolving cultures in the domains of IT, Marketing, Finance, Human Resources, Operations, Management Education and learning. Speakers for the first session on 'Resilient Leadership and People Management' included, Mr Rajiv Arora, SVP group HR, Adani Enterprises Limited; Mr K S Bakshi, Group CHRO, Interglobe Enterprises; Dr Vipul Singh, DVP and Head of Human Resources, ADP; and Mr Shravan Kumar, Director HR, Darwin Box. The second session was on 'Rebooting Manufacturing in Technological Disruption' conducted by Mr Rakesh Gandhi, MD, Hitachi; Mr Nikhil Agarwal, CEO, C3i Hub, IIT Kanpur; and Mr Ramakrishna Pandey, MD-Hella India. Mr Snehanshu Gandhi, Co-founder, Kaagaz Document Super App; Mr Amit Didolkar, Director Regional Sales, Citrix; Mr Animesh Sinha, Chief of Marketing, Tata Steel; Mr Sanjay Mohta, International Business, Jubilant Foodworks Ltd were the key speakers for the third session on 'Business Model-A Catalyst for Marketing Competitiveness'. The fourth session was on 'Fintech-Fueling Financial Revolution'. Dr Jose AV, VP- ESAF Small Finance Bank Ltd, and Mr Sameer Parwani, Dy VP Digital Banking and Transformation, Axis Bank were the key speakers.

## Research Colloquy – A seminar series on Research Practices

'Research Colloquy' is the Initiative taken by the Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University to have guest lectures on research practices and processes undertaken by experts on different topics related to architecture, planning, and allied disciplines. It aims to expand one's horizons and knowledge, and understand different perspectives and thought processes pursued in research of varied nature.

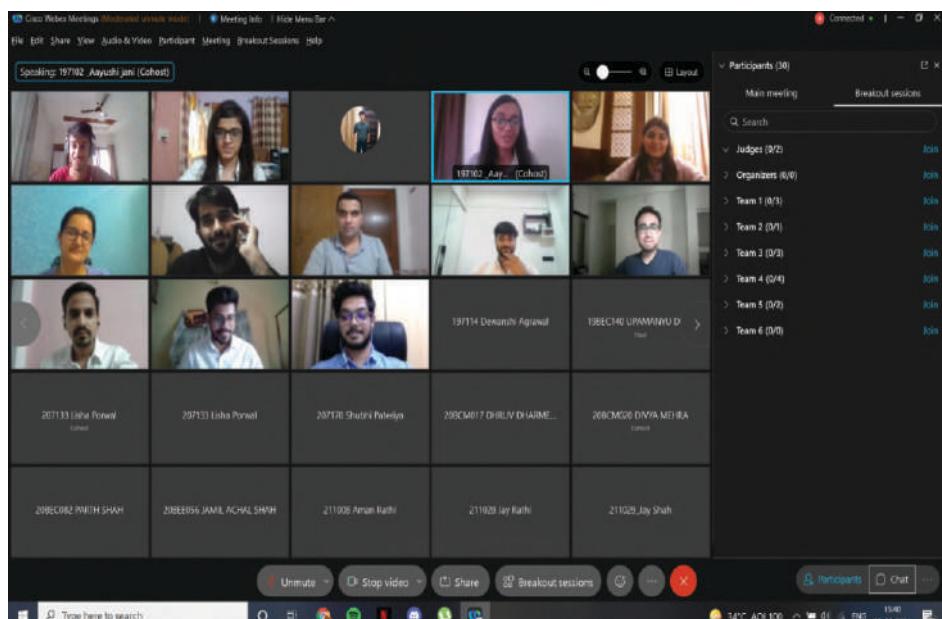
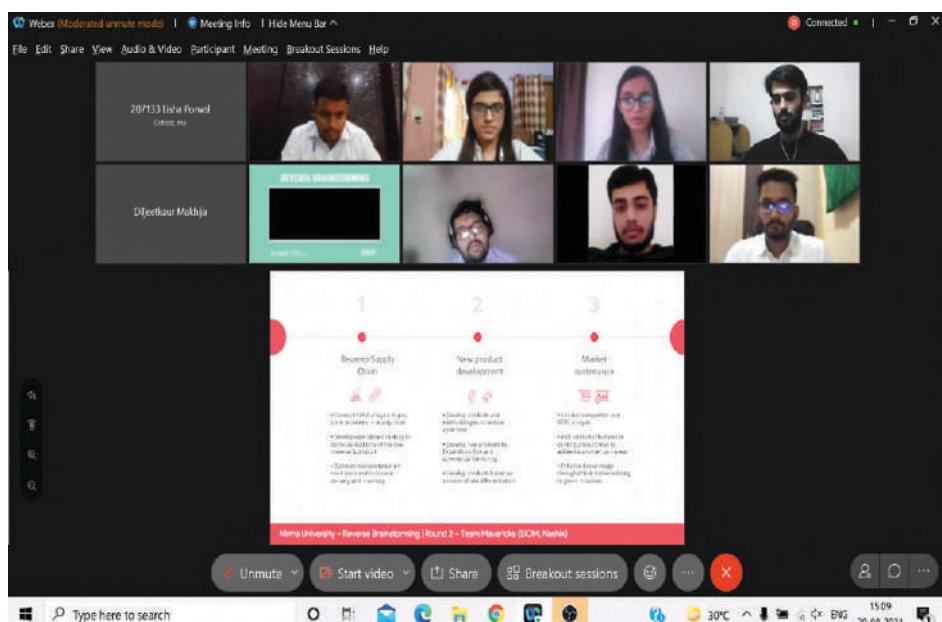
Some of the seminars conducted under these series are:

- 'Asking Questions and Getting Answers' by Prof Punita Mehta, an academician and a practicing Architect based in Baroda on Aug 7, 2021.
- 'Research Methods for Process documentation' by Prof Krishna Patel, a former design educator at NID, ex-Dean of the NID PG Campus, Gandhinagar, and currently Professor at the Institute of Design, Nirma University on Aug 21, 2021.
- 'Man vs Machine: On the Impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Architecture' by Prof Laurent Lescop, ENSA, Nantes, France on Oct 16, 2021.

## Reverse Brainstorming

Centre for Entrepreneurship, Nirma University organised 'Reverse Brainstorming', a team event open to all college students across India on Aug 20, 2021. In the first round, the 48 participating teams were provided with a situation statement from which they had to identify a problem and suggest a solution to resolve it.

In the second round, a case study was provided to the six finalist teams. They had to identify a problem, which was then assigned to another team to solve along with one more problem statement which was common for all. Mr Jagrat Jhamb (Founder- The Brand Folks) alumnus of Nirma University and Ms Diljeet Kaur Makhija, Assistant Professor, Institute of Management, Nirma University adjudged the event. Operations Management students from Symbiosis Institute of Operations Management - SIOM, Nashik were declared as the winners, and HR and Operations Management students from Welingkar Institute of Management, Development & Research, Mumbai were the runner-ups. They received cash prizes worth Rs 3000 and Rs 2000 respectively.



## Technocalypse 2021

The Mechanical Engineering Students' Association (MESA) hosted Technocalypse 2021 on Sep 18-19, 2021. MESA has been hosting this event since 2011 as a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activity where students of various schools from Gujarat are invited on the campus with the main aim of enlightening the school students about the field of automobiles and robotics. This year's online event had a participation of 408 students from 23 different schools across Gujarat. Technocalypse 2021 consisted of two events namely Autocalypse (Automobile workshop) and Robocalypse (Robotic workshop). Participants had the choice to participate in any one of the two events i.e. Autocalypse or Robocalypse.

The first day of the event was devoted to expert talks and workshops, and the second day had the Idea Presentation contest where the school students came up with innovative and interesting ideas in the field of Robotics and Automobiles. In this competition, K D Ambani School, Jamnagar; and P V Modi School, Jamnagar won the Best Idea Award in Robocalypse and Autocalypse respectively, and were felicitated with the trophy and cash prize of Rs 1500 each.



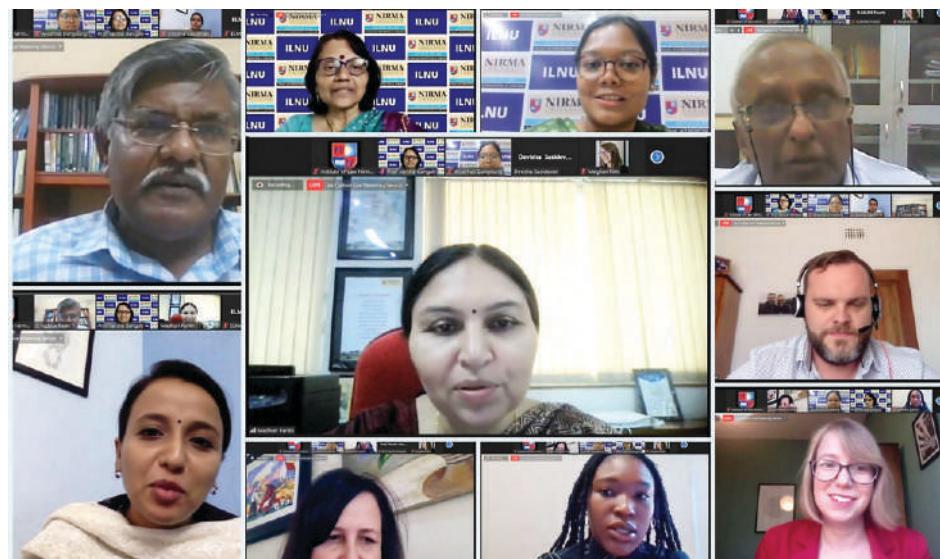
## Celebration of World Habitat Day 2021

World Habitat Day was celebrated at the Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University on Oct 5, 2021 on the theme 'Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world.' The event was held in hybrid mode. Mr Probir Banerjee, President of PONDYCAN (Pondy Citizens' Action Network), an NGO committed to preserving and enhancing the natural, social, cultural, and spiritual environment through a collaborative approach spoke on 'Collaboration for an Integrated Planning and Development of Pondy Bioregion.' The session gave the viewers a new perspective on sustainability.



## Webinar on Labour and Market Access

A webinar on 'Labour and Market Access' was held at the Institute of Law on Oct 16, 2021. The speakers at the event were Prof Elmarie Fourie, HoD- Department of Public Law, University of Johannesburg; Prof Babu Mathew, Professor, National Law School of India University, Bangalore; Dr Devisha Sasidevan, Assistant Professor, Centre for Livelihoods and Social Innovation, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai; Prof Irudaya Rajan, Chairman, The International Institute of Migration and Development, Kerala; and Prof Marius Van Staden, Associate Professor, Department of Public Law, University of Johannesburg. The first sub-theme of the session was 'Future of the workforce: Legal developments and the informal economy in India and South Africa'. The second sub-theme of the session was 'Climate change and vulnerabilities of migrant workers'.



## ILNU-UJ Seminar Series

As part of a four-part webinar series on 'Social Justice Continuum in Comparative Context: Indian and South African Perspectives on Equality, Labour Law and Legal Education', Institute of Law in collaboration with the Faculty of Law, University of Johannesburg; organised the first seminar on the theme of Equality and Anti-Discrimination Law on Sep 18, 2021. The speakers at the event were Miss Meghan Finn, Lecturer, Department of Public Law, and Miss Leoni Van der Merwe, Lecturer, Department of Practical Business Law, University of Johannesburg; Mr Anand Grover, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India; Mr Manvendra Singh Gohil, Founder, Lakshya Trust, Champion of rights of LGBTQI+; and Miss Shreya Srivastava, Assistant Professor, Institute of Law, Nirma University. The first technical session was on 'The Rights and Realities of LGBTQI+ Communities' and the second on 'Commitments to CEDAW'.

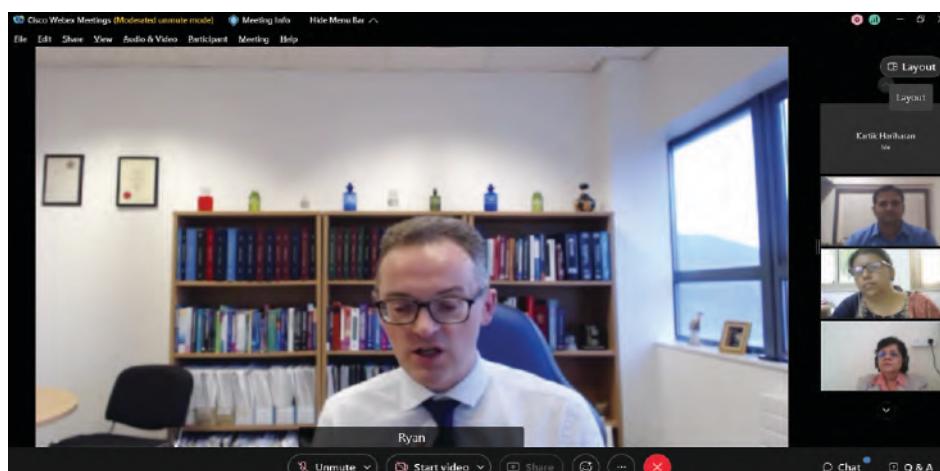
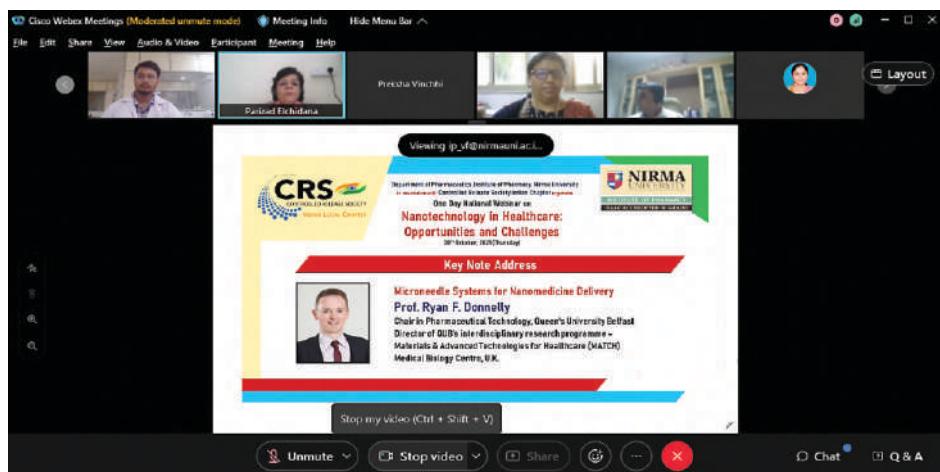
## NIRMAN: The National Technical Symposium

NIRMAN - A three-day national technical symposium was organised by the Student Association, OrCES (Organisation of Civil Engineering Student) Civil Engineering Department, Nirma University from Oct 22-24, 2021. More than 600+ students registered across the state. Technical events like Tech-Trio, Placement Guru, Technical housie, Paper/Idea Presentation; and Non-technical events like Open-mic and Online Extempore were organised as part of the symposium. The event was inaugurated by the guest of honours, Shri P R Patel, Chief Engineer R & B Department, Government of Gujarat; and Shri Mukesh Raval, Advisor L&T Ltd (Retired Project Manager at Statue of Unity). Mr Taral Shah, MD at the Shivalik Group was invited for a talk show with fellow participants present and discuss the future and difficulties faced in the Real Estate industry.

## National webinar on Nanotechnology in Healthcare: Opportunities and Challenges

A National webinar on 'Nanotechnology in Healthcare: Opportunities and Challenges' was organised by the Department of Pharmaceutics, Institute of Pharmacy in association with Controlled Release Society Indian Chapter (CRSIC) on Oct 28, 2021. The chief guest of the inaugural function Prof Dulal Panda (Director, NIPER Mohali, Punjab) provided an outlook on the importance and requirement of nanotechnology to alleviate various diseases. Dr Anup K Singh (Director General, Nirma University) delivered the presidential address in which he spoke about the dire need for developing novel drug delivery systems on the rise in the number of diseases. Eminent speakers from India and across the globe shared their insight into the evolving area of nanotechnology in healthcare.

Prof Ryan F Donelly (Chair- Pharmaceutical Technology, Queens University Belfast, Director of QUB's interdisciplinary research programme, Materials & Advanced Technologies for Healthcare (MATCH) Medical Biology Centre, UK) gave a keynote address on 'Microneedle Systems for Nanomedicine Delivery.' Dr Sanjay Garg, Professor, University of South Australia City West Campus; Prof Tin Wui Wong, Professor, Non-Destructive Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Research Centre, Smart Manufacturing Research Institute, Universiti Teknologi MARA; Dr Amirali Popat, Director of Research School of Pharmacy, The University of Queensland Brisbane; Dr Ajay Khopade, Vice President R&D Formulations, Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd; Dr Vandana Patravale-Vice President, CRS-IC Executive committee and Convener of the event, and Professor, Institute of Chemical Technology delivered talks on topics related to nanotechnology.



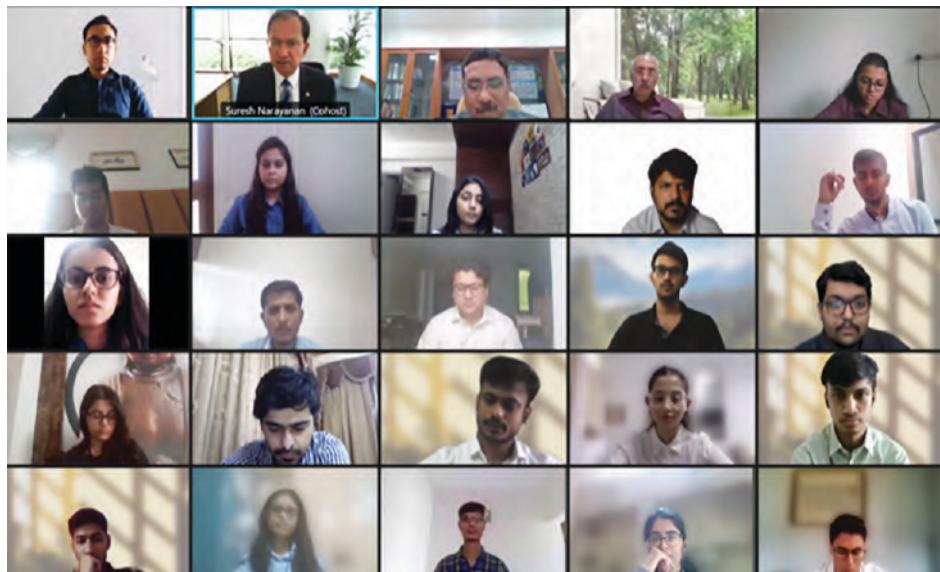
## Celebration of 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day

Nirma University celebrated the 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day amid high patriotic spirit and fervour. The celebrations began with flag hoisting and singing of the national anthem followed by a community address by the Director General, Nirma University. Given the current situation, only the heads of the University, institutes, departments, and section heads were present on campus for the flag hoisting ceremony.



## Silver Jubilee Celebrations at Institute of Management

The Institute of Management, Nirma University celebrated its Silver Jubilee on Sep 24, 2021. The Institute marked the Silver Jubilee Celebration in a hybrid mode and reached around 1600 attendees through various platforms. The event had the CEO Lecture series and Cultural performances as part of the events. Mr Suresh Narayanan, Chairman and Managing Director, Nestle India Limited, addressed the gathering by congratulating the institute for achieving 25 years of excellence. He also stressed the significance of social and digital skills and recommended continual effort and learning.



## Rashtragaan

As a part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, singing of the National Anthem of India was one of the major event. In this context, a total of 151 faculty, staff and students of Nirma University recorded and uploaded their national anthem video on the link provided by the government, and received e-certificates by the government.

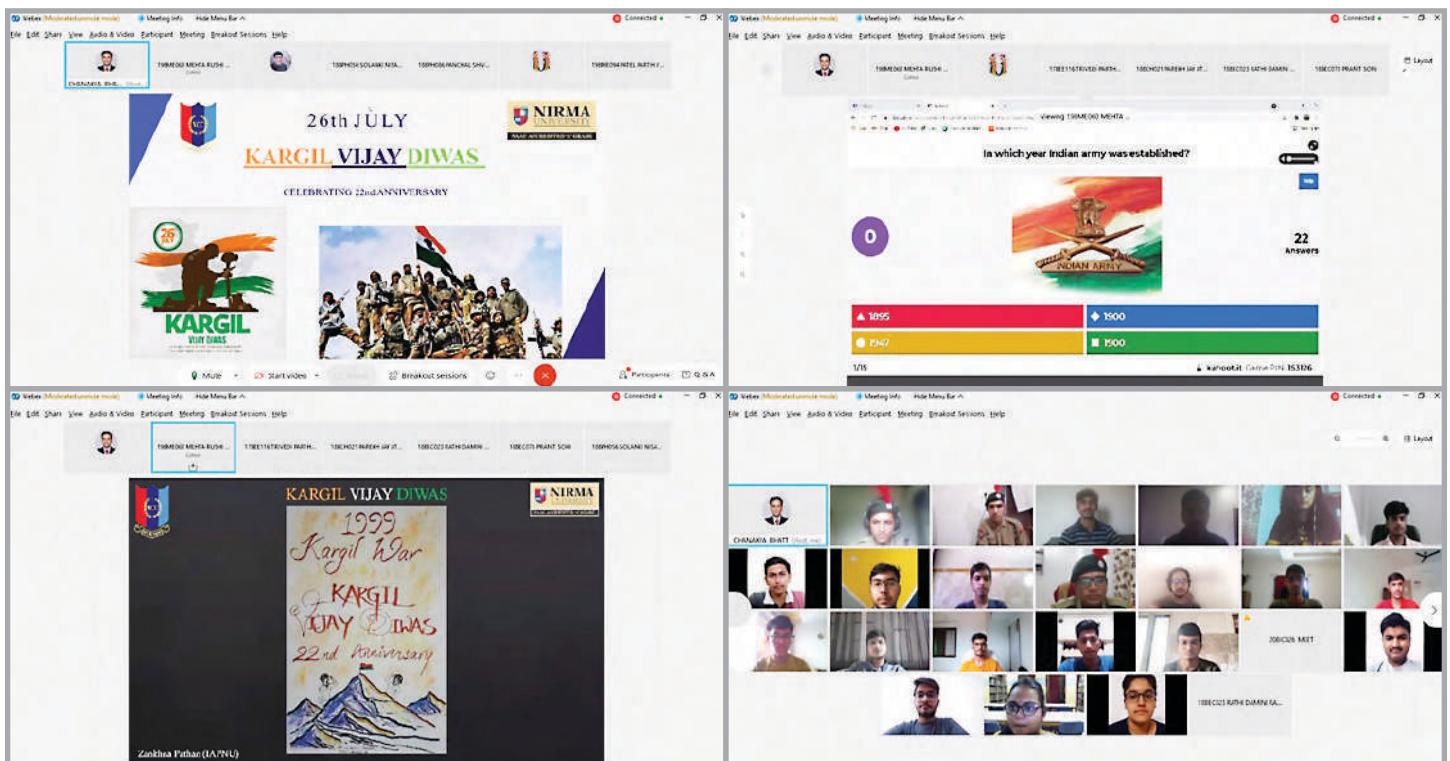
## Fit India Freedom Run 2.0

On the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day, NSS Unit and Student Welfare Board, Nirma University jointly organised Fit India Freedom Run 2.0 on virtual mode during Aug 13-17, 2021 under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. A total of 177 people from Nirma University including students, faculty and staff enthusiastically participated in activities like running, jogging, walking, cycling, gym/yoga exercises. Participants submitted a photograph of their activity through google form and were thereafter honored with an e-certificate.



## Kargil Vijay Diwas

The NCC Unit at Nirma University celebrated the 22<sup>nd</sup> Kargil Vijay Diwas on July 26, 2021 to remember the heroes and martyrs of the Kargil war and to spread awareness amongst the youth about the importance of Kargil in India. The online event was attended by all the NCC cadets. CPL Harshal Patil introduced the audience to the history of Kargil, its importance from Siachen's point of view, and how it is a strategic location between Pakistan and China that monitors movement on National Highway NH-1. Further, how the Indian Army started "Operation Vijay", the Indian Air Force started "Operation Safed Sagar", and the Indian Navy started "Operation Talwar" in the context of the Kargil war was also shared. Homage was paid to the Param Vir Chakra awardees, Mahavir Chakra awardees, and Vir Chakra awardees. An online display of artwork prepared by students on the Kargil theme was also held. CDT Shivam Padmani organised a quiz based on the theme of Kargil which was well received by the audience.



## Hindi Diwas Celebrations

Hindi Diwas was celebrated by the Institute of Commerce with great zeal and enthusiasm on Sep 14, 2021. Shri Bhagwant Anmol, renowned Hindi novelist, Speech therapist, and Motivational speaker was the chief guest. Shri Anmol through video conferencing reiterated the significance of mother tongue and motivated students to take pride in the national language. He shared that language is not only a medium of communication but reflects the culture of a society. He motivated the students to be socially responsible and engage in reading beyond the syllabus. Besides this, LITWITS - the literary club of Institute of Commerce, Nirma University organised various competitions like Poetry Recital, Hindi short stories, Poster making, and Online quiz for the students of Nirma University to mark the celebrations of Hindi Diwas 2021.



The NSS unit of the Institute of Law organised a reel, video making, and a quiz competition apart from its online event. The reels highlighted the basic information about the Hindi language, its origin, associated dialects, and the richness of Hindi literature.

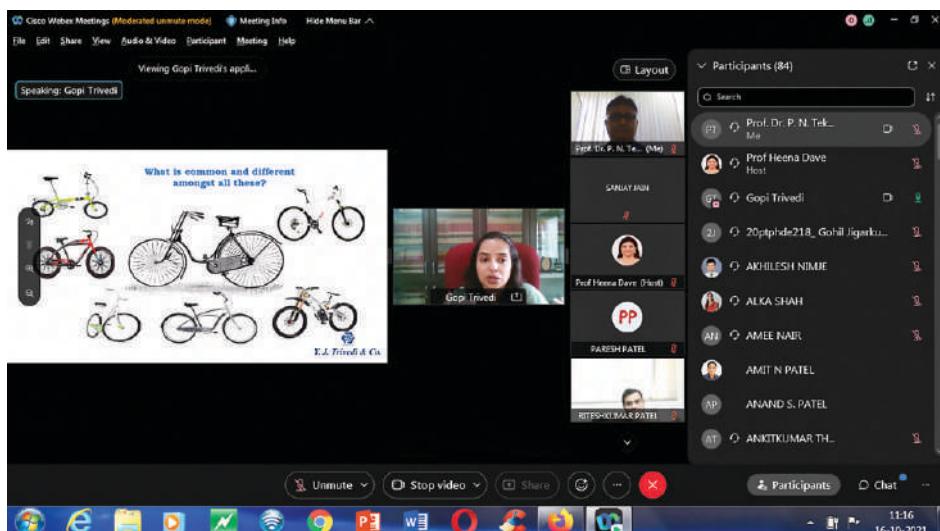
## Webinar on Business Ethics and Corporate Governance

The Institute of Commerce, Nirma University organised a webinar on 'Business Ethics and Corporate Governance' on July 28, 2021. Dr (CA) Nilesh Suchak, Associate Professor, R J Tibrewala College of Commerce, and Member of Ad-hoc BoS of Institute of Commerce, Nirma University illustrated the need for Business Ethics and Corporate Governance and discussed the case studies of Vijay Mallya and Nirav Modi in the said reference. Around 95 participants from 3<sup>rd</sup> year joined the webinar.



## Webinar on Aspects of Design Registration in India

A Webinar on 'Aspects of Design Registration in India' by Ms Gopi Trivedi, a patent attorney and a Senior Partner of Y J Trivedi & Co was organised by the Directorate of Research and Innovation (DRI), Nirma University on Oct 16, 2021. Ms Trivedi explained the difference between the patents and the designs in India. She provided information about the procedure for the design registrations and their significance. She also discussed the types of designs that can be registered and shared an in-depth understanding of their classification. In addition to that, she narrated the current scenario of design registrations in India and abroad. Heads of Institutions, Heads of the Departments, Deans, and more than 95 faculty members from the constituent Institutes of Nirma University were present in this webinar.



## Design Thinking Bootcamp

The Centre for Entrepreneurship, Nirma University organised a Design Thinking Bootcamp on Oct 9-10, 2021. Mr Karmjitsinh Bihola, founder of Innodesk Designovation Services, a design-driven innovation strategy firm to foster entrepreneurship, intrapreneurship, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills was the resource person. During the bootcamp, the students learned about hands-on building and an empathetic approach to daily life problems. Mr Bihola also enlightened the students with the difference between intrapreneur and entrepreneur and discussed how the conventional way of thinking and education has been detrimental to our creativity.

## ANVESH 2021

ANVESH, the annual doctoral conference for scholars in business management research was organised by the Institute of Management on Dec 17-18, 2021. The inaugural address was given by Dr Rishikesh T Krishnan, Director, IIM Bangalore. Chief Guest for the Valedictory session was Dr Bhimaraya Metri, Director, IIM Nagpur.

## Training on Biomedical Waste Management

A training programme on Biomedical Waste Management was organised on Dec 21, 2021 at the Institute of Pharmacy. Biomedical waste needs to be discarded with care to prevent cross infections. Dr Pallav Shah, Consultant Pathologist and Quality Manager, Zydus Hospital, Ahmedabad delivered training to the faculty members of the Institute of Pharmacy and Institute of Science, PhD scholars, and laboratory assistants.

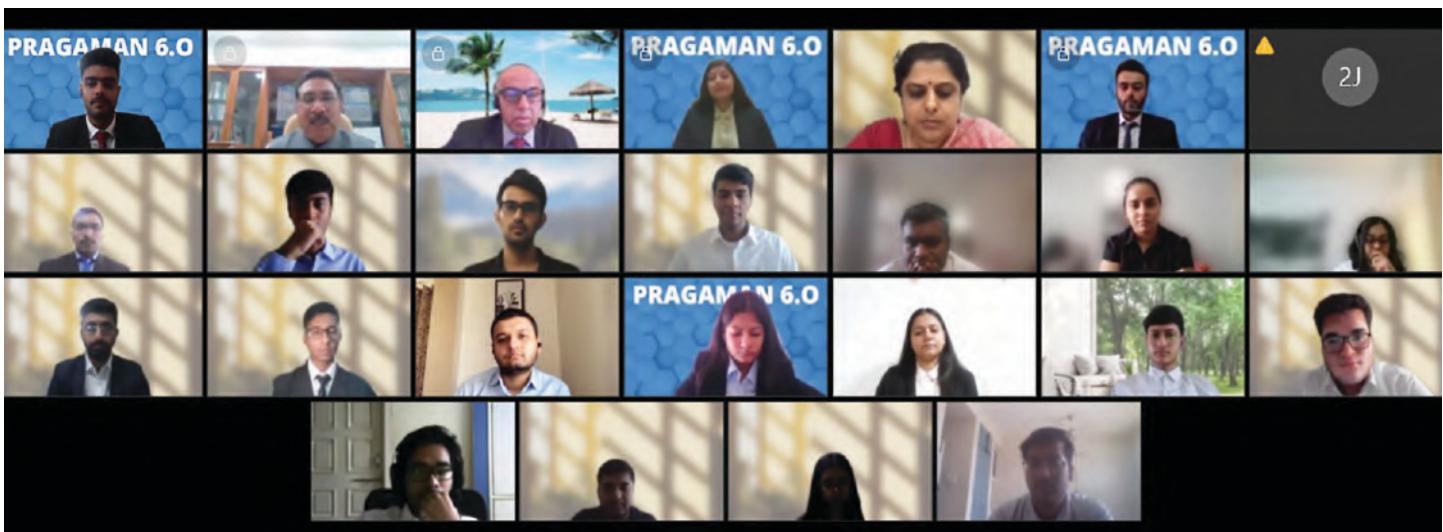
## Induction Training Programme for faculty members

A University level Induction Training Programme was conducted on Oct 30, 2021 for the newly joined faculty members of Nirma University. The objective of the programme was to support the faculty members to understand the rules and regulations, happenings, and expectations of the university.



## Pragaman 6.0

Pragaman 6.0, a one-day Conclave for young aspiring entrepreneurs from the student fraternity was organised by the Institute of Management on Nov 26, 2021. Speakers during the conclave include Padma Shri Sanjeev Bikchandani, co-founder, Info edge; Mr Anubhav Dubey, Founder, Chai Sutta Bar; Mr Aditya Gadge, Founder & CEO, Equalifi; Mr Anurag Asati, co-founder, The Kabadiwla; and Mr Arjun P Gupta, Founder & CEO, Smart Joules Pvt Ltd. The event saw the participation of 900 students.



## Felicitation by the Ahmedabad Red Cross Society

The NSS Unit of Nirma University was felicitated by the Ahmedabad Red Cross Society (Blood Bank) for organising Star Blood Donation Camp and for their invaluable contribution in saving the lives of needy patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. The event was organised at Ahmedabad Management Association (AMA) on Dec 30, 2021. The Chief Guest of the event was Shri Narharibhai Amin, a Member of Parliament. Prof Jayesh Patel, Officer-in-Charge, Students Welfare Board, and Dr Bhavesh Parekh, Programme Coordinator, NSS received the award on behalf of the Nirma University.



## 30<sup>th</sup> Convocation

Nirma University held its 30<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony on Dec 17, 2021 in hybrid mode where 2,383 students from various institutes of the University received their degrees. The Chief Guest for the occasion was Mr Shrikant Madhav Vaidya, Chairman, Indian Oil Corporation Limited. Dr Karsanbhai K Patel, President, Nirma University, presided over the event. This year Nirma University conferred degrees to 48 PhD, 758 postgraduate, and 1577 graduate students. Among the graduating students, 1548 were male students and 787 were female students. Of the 48 PhD students, 29 were male students and 19 were female students. The University also presented 60 medals to 53 students for their exemplary performance in academics. Out of these 25 were male students and 28 female students.



## Other Events

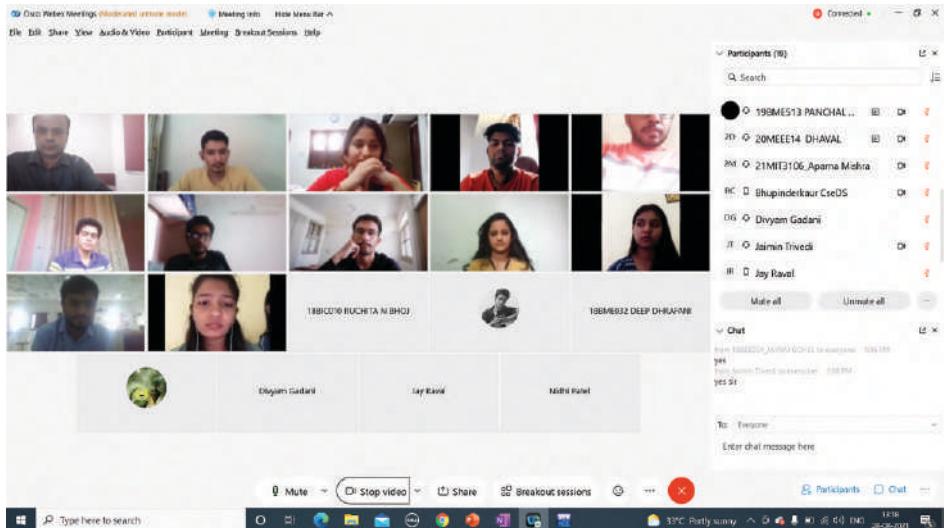
- A National level webinar on 'Optical Wireless Communication: Challenges and Opportunities' was organised during Aug 6-7, 2021 funded by the Gujarat Council on Science and Technology (GUJCOST). The keynote address was delivered by Dr Raghunath Shevgaonkar, Emeritus Professor, IIT Bombay on 'Optical Fiber: A Information Super Highway'. Other sessions were conducted by Dr Yogendrakumar Prajapati, MNIT Allahabad; Dr Vivek Bohara, IIIT Delhi; Dr Sanya Anees, IIIT Guwahati; and Dr Anirban Bhowal, INRS-EMT Montreal, Canada on areas like the design of FSO link, Optical links in Optisystem, and FSO channel BER analysis in MATLAB software which are utilised in the industry for design and simulation of OWC links.
- ISA Student Chapter, Instrumentation and Control Engineering Department, Institute of Technology organised 'ISA NextFounder's Summit 21', from July 30 to Aug 1, 2021 to provide a platform for someone having a business idea in their mind to get a suitable team and incubator for the development of their product. 50 participants from across India were a part of this event. They were guided by Ms Megha Bhatt, Education based Startup owner; Ms Shikha Shah, Agriculture based start-up owner; Ms Kriya Doshi, Entrepreneurship trainer; Mr Daxee Soni, Start-up owner; Mr Satya Mehta, multiple business owner; and Ms Harsiddhi Shah, AIC GUSEC speaker on methods to develop and showcase their products. They were also given a chance to pitch their ideas in front of esteemed incubator partner GUSEC and Jury. The startup idea of Team Alumno, Ed-Tech based start-up was adjudged as the winning entry. They received an opportunity to be selected for the incubation process. Their main idea is to develop a student-based tutor community. The team members include Zeel Pandya (Institute of Management, Nirma University), Bhavik Chauhan (Institute of Technology, Nirma University), Vatsal Parmar (Ganpat University), and KNGL Reshwanth (VIT Vellore).
- The IEI Students' Chapter, Civil Engineering Department, Institute of Technology in collaboration with The Institution of Engineers (India), Gujarat State Centre, and Organisation of Civil Engineering Students (OrCES) organised a state-level technical quiz competition 'Civista' for the Civil Engineering students of diploma and degree engineering colleges of the state of Gujarat on Aug 14, 2021. Gaurav Bambhaniya, Parul Institute of Engineering & Technology received a cash prize of Rs 1000 for securing the first position; Karshanbhai Kanjariya, Birla Vishwakarma Mahavidyalaya received a cash prize of Rs 750 for securing the second position; and Panth Shah, Nirma University received a cash prize of Rs 500 for securing the third position.
- An International Webinar on 'Testing and Verification of VLSI Design' was organised at Institute of Technology during Sep 3-4, 2021. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr Manoj Singh Gaur, Director, IIT Jammu.
- A five-day National Webinar on 'Rietveld Refinement of XRD Data' was organised during Sep 13-17, 2021 at Institute of Technology, Nirma University. Dr Brajesh Tiwari, Assistant Professor, IITRAM, Ahmedabad; and Dr Devang Shah, Assistant Professor, and Head, Government Arts and Science College, Bavla, Ahmedabad, delivered the expert talks on various topics related to the workshop.
- In the ongoing Nirma University - SUNY Binghamton University alumni lecture series, a session on 'A data-driven approach that balances the crew schedule operability and cost' was conducted by Dr Duaa M Serhan, Operations Research Consultant, American Airlines on Oct 22, 2021.
- The Centre for Intellectual Property Rights, Institute of Law organised a panel discussion on 'TRIPs Waiver for Covid Vaccines: Key Aspects Related to IPR' on July 24, 2021. The Panellists for the discussion were Mr Essenese Obhan, Managing Partner, Obhan and Associates; Ms Namrata Chadha, Partner, K&S Partners; Ms Archana Shanker, Senior Partner, Anand and Anand.
- The Electronics and Instrumentation department organised an online training on 'MELSEC IQ-R programmable logic controller' on Oct 29-30, 2021 under the MoU with Mitsubishi Electric. A total of 34 students from various branches of the Institute of Technology participated in this training programme.



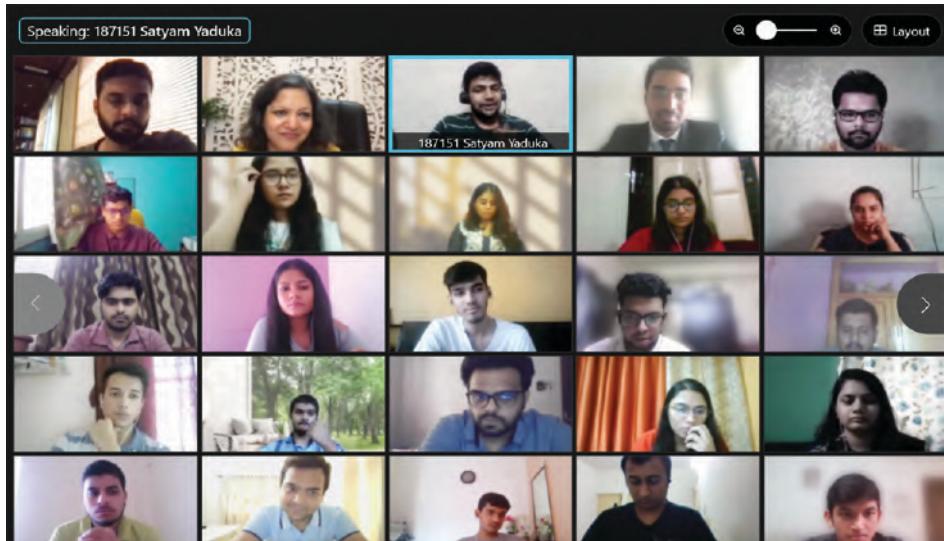
- The Women Development Cell and ITNU organised a session on 'Life and General Insurance' on July 24, 2021 delivered by Dr Milind Joshipura, Professor, Chemical Engineering Department, Institute of Technology, Nirma University.
- The Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Institute of Technology organised a GUJCOST-sponsored one-week International Short Term Training Programme (STTP) on 'Blockchain Technology, Research Avenues, and its applications' from July 12-17, 2021. It was virtually attended by a total of 543 participants from 17 countries.
- The Electronics and Communication Engineering Department, Institute of Technology organised a one-week National Level Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on "Internet of Things (IoT) for Agriculture" sponsored by AICTE ATAL Academy

from July 19-23, 2021. Dr Ashutosh Dutta from Johns Hopkins University, USA gave the keynote address and Prof T G Sitharam, Director, IIT Guwahati addressed the participants in the inaugural function. 200 participants comprising faculty members from diverse fields like Electronics Engineering, Computer Science, Agricultural Universities, from 22 different states of India participated in this FDP.

- A training programme on 'Programming in C' under the banner of Centre for Continuing Education (CCE) was organised during Aug 14-Sep 11, 2021 by Prof Jatin Dave, Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering; Prof Pooja Shah, Assistant Professor, and Prof Bhavin Shah, Assistant Professor, both from CSE department. Some of the topics covered include Introduction to C, Programming concepts, Conditional statements, Looping in programming, Functions in C, 1D and 2D Arrays, Structures in C, Concepts of File handling, and Hardware interfacing.



- As a part of the Corporate Lecture Series, the Kaizen Committee of the Institute of Management organised a webinar on Aug 14, 2021. Ms Deepali Naair, CMO of IBM, India & South Asia shared her views on how marketing has evolved from the past to the present and how marketing in the future will be like.



- An online training programme on 'GOT 2000', was conducted by Mr Kiritsinh Chauhan, Mitsubishi Electric India Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad on Aug 7, 2021. A total of 80 students from Civil, Mechanical, Electronics & Communication, Chemical, Instrumentation & Control, and Computer Engineering departments of the Institute of Technology attended the training.

- A talk on 'Green and Sustainable Architecture' by Prof Charanjit Singh Shah, an Architect and Infrastructure expert, Art and Architecture critic, Founding Principal of Creative Group, and Chairman of Smart Habitat Foundation was held at the Institute of Architecture on Sep 15, 2021.

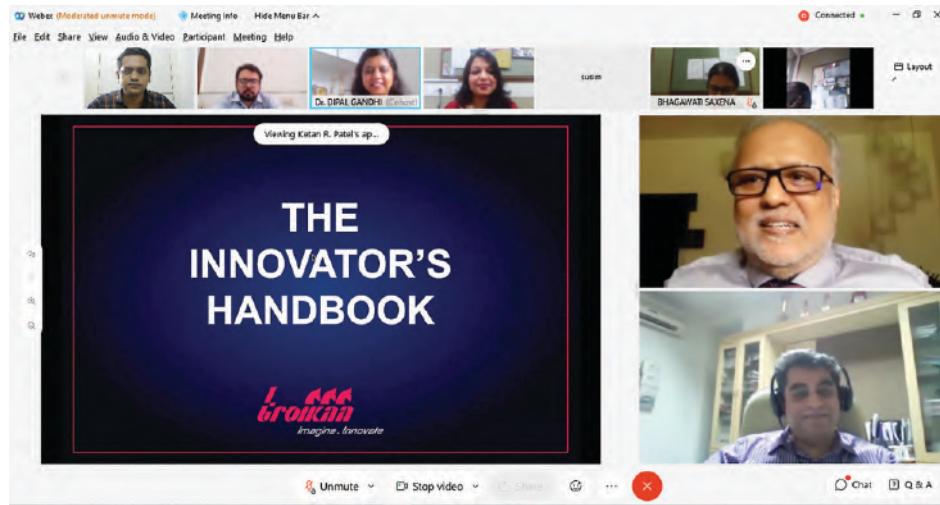


- As part of the Engineer's Day Celebration on Sep 15, 2021, an expert lecture on 'Fundamental of Geographical Information System (GIS) and Applications' by Dr Ramesh S V Teegavarapu, Professor, Florida Atlantic University, USA was organised by the Organisation of civil engineering students and Civil Engineering Department, Institute of Technology, Nirma University. An expert lecture on 'Into an Engineer's mind' by Mr Sarvam Miyani, General Manager at G6 SuperHomes was organised by the ISA student chapter, Nirma University.

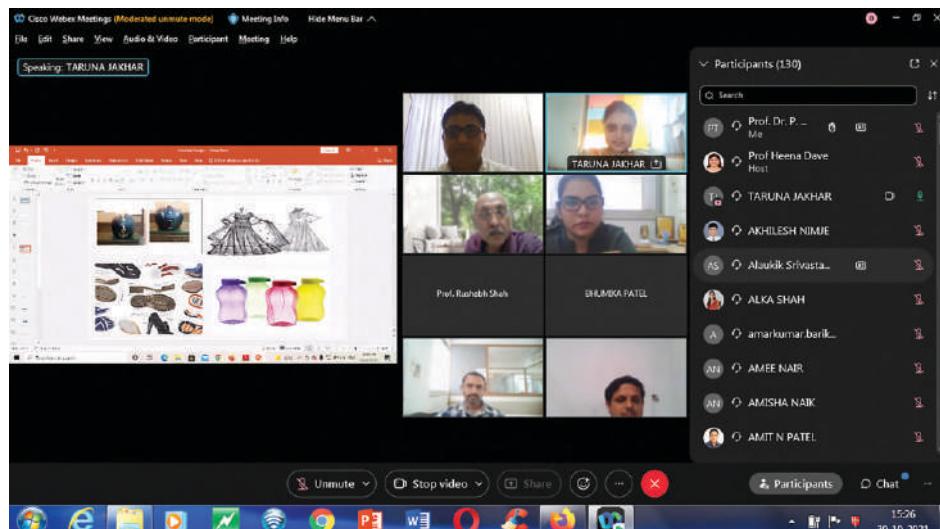
- A workshop on 'Distribution System Analysis' was organised by the Department of Electrical Engineering, Institute of Technology in collaboration with the Centre for Continuing Education, Nirma University on Sep 18-19, 2021. The sessions were conducted by Prof Tarun Kumar Tailor, Prof Chintan D Patel, and Prof Sunil Kumar Shukla, all associated with Nirma University as Assistant Professor/s. A total of 36 participants attended the workshop.
- An expert lecture on 'Gujarat's Initiatives in Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation' was delivered by Mr Shwetal Shah, Technical Advisor, Climate Change

Department, Government of Gujarat on Sep 27, 2021, organised by the IGBC Student Chapter, OrCES, and Department of Civil Engineering, Nirma University.

- The UG Research Council, Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University organised an online expert session on 'Handbook for Innovators' by Dr Ketan R Patel, Chairman & Managing Director, Troikaa Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Ahmedabad on Sep 18, 2021.



- On the occasion of Concrete Day on Sep 6, 2021, the Department of Civil Engineering, Institute of Technology, Nirma University under the Indian Concrete Institute Student Chapter organised a State Level Quiz competition for the undergraduate and postgraduate students, and professionals from the civil engineering domain across Gujarat. Approximately 550 members participated in the event which included students from around 65 engineering colleges. Dhruv Thakkar from the Institute of Technology, Nirma University was the top performer. Sagar Shah from CEPT University and Mihir Soni from Dharmsinh Desai University stood second and third, respectively.
- Prof Gunjan Arora, and Prof Taruna Jakhar, Institute of Law, Nirma University delivered a webinar on 'Overview of Patents and Industrial Designs' on Oct 30, 2021. The event was organised by the Directorate of Research and Innovation (DRI), Nirma University. Heads of Institutions, Heads of the Departments, Deans, and more than 140 faculty members from the constituent Institutes of Nirma University were present in this webinar.



- A session on 'Three Pillars of Growth' was conducted by Ms Mahima, Director, Eart Foundation, Ahmedabad, Gujarat for the students of the Institute of Commerce on Oct 8, 2021.

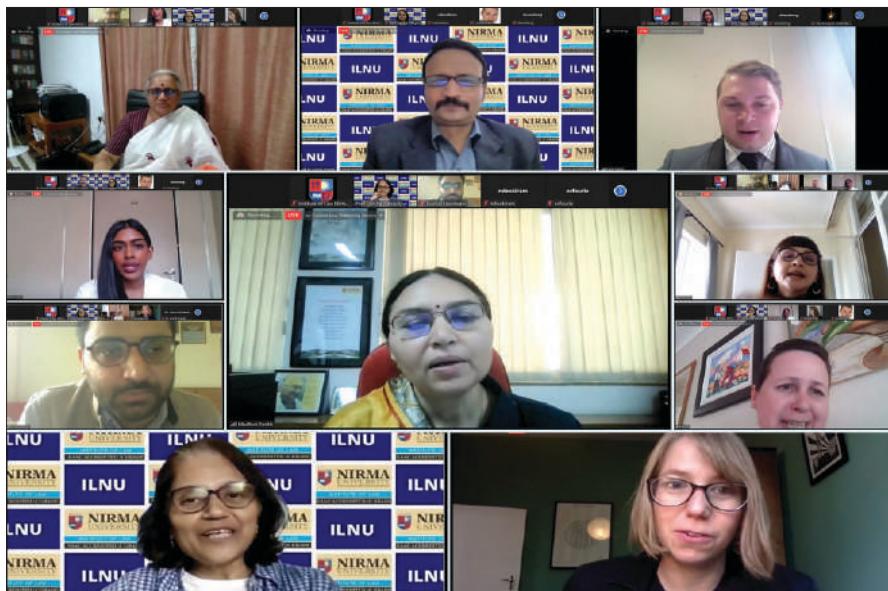
- 'Importance of Legal Aid activities for law students' by Hon'ble Justice Gita Gopi, High Court of Gujarat was held on Oct 16, 2021 at the Institute of Law. The session focused on the importance of and role played by legal aid clinics in law schools.
- An expert talk on 'Sustainability related to Concrete and Construction' by Prof Donguk Choi, President, Asian Concrete Federation, Professor at School of Architecture and Design Convergence, Hankyong National University, South Korea was held on Oct 29, 2021 for the MTech CASAD students and faculty members of the department.
- Expert Talk on 'Design Thinking' by Mr Sayantan Mukherjee, a teacher, mentor, and coach in the domain of innovation & entrepreneurship was organised by the ISA student's chapter on the occasion of Foundation Day Celebration of Institute of Technology on Oct 4, 2021.



- A workshop on 'Personal Finance' by Mr Arpit Arora, a finance expert was organised by the Rotaract Club of Institute of Management in collaboration with AISEC Ahmedabad on Oct 9, 2021.
- A guest lecture on 'Applications of Nano Drug Delivery Systems for Cardiovascular Diseases' by Dr Yashwant Pathak, Professor, School

of Pharmacy, Material and Advanced Technologies for Healthcare, Tampa, USA was conducted by the Institute of Pharmacy on Nov 30, 2021.

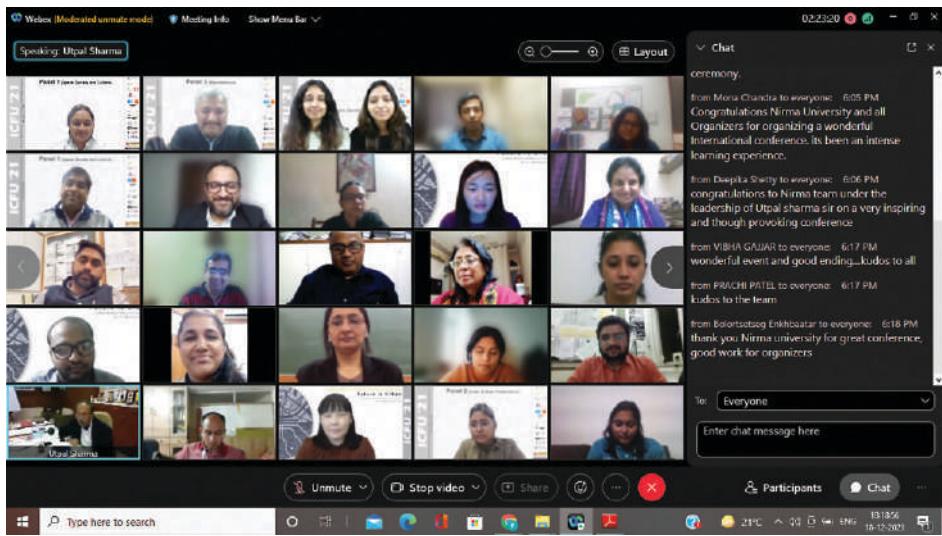
- The fourth edition of the webinar series of Institute of Law, Nirma University in collaboration with the Faculty of Law, University of Johannesburg, South Africa was organised on the theme 'Law, Technology and Social Justice' on Nov 20, 2021. The speakers at the event were Dr Usha Ramanathan, Senior law researcher; Dr Arun Prasad, Assistant Professor, Institute of Law, Nirma University; Dr Samantha Huneberg, Senior Lecturer, Department of Mercantile Law, University of Johannesburg; and Dr Louis Koen, Assistant Lecturer, Department of Public Law, University of Johannesburg.



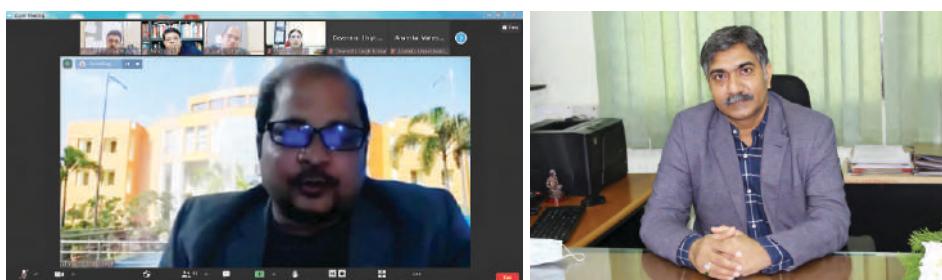
- A talk on 'The occurrence and monitoring of contaminants of emerging concern' by Prof Sudarshan Kurwadkar, Professor, California State University, USA was conducted by the Institute of Technology on Nov 19-20, 2021.
- Dr Arun Soman, Associate Dean of Research, Iowa State University visited the Institute of Technology on Nov 10, 2021 as part of an ongoing MoU between the two institutes. He provided counselling on higher studies and internships at ISU.
- The campus recruitment cell of the Institute of Law organised an online training session on 'How to prepare for judiciary' by Ms Anshu Sharma, Ex- Addl Civil Judge, Gujarat Judiciary and Pioneer of MOVE law Academy on Nov 11, 2021.
- An expert session on 'Public-Private Partnership in Highway Projects' by Mr Aditya Jain, Advocate on Record at the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India was organised by the Institute of Law on Nov 19, 2021.
- An expert session on 'Foreign funding in India' by Dr Mukul Shastray, Vice President, Welspun Group, and Legal Head, Welspun Enterprises Limited was organised by the Institute of Law on Nov 27, 2021.
- A webinar on 'Green Patenting' by Ms Vindhya Gupta, Assistant Professor, ILS Law College, Pune was organised by the Institute of Law on Nov 27, 2021.
- As part of the Expert Lecture Series on AI & Law organised by the Institute of Law on Nov 27, 2021, Dr Antonio Bernardi, Visiting Researcher, Heidelberg University, Germany spoke on 'Financial Markets & AI', and Dr Maitreyee Wairagkar, Postdoc Research Associate, Biomechatronics Lab spoke on 'AI & Ethics in Healthcare & Related Areas'.

- A distinguished lecture on 'Custody and Guardianship' by Justice Roshan Dalvi, Former Judge of Bombay High Court was conducted by the Institute of Law on Nov 15, 2021.
- An expert lecture on 'Indian Judiciary: Firewall to Indian Elections' by Shri Parindu K Bhagat who holds vast experience in the field of electoral laws and practices was organised by the Institute of Law on Nov 23, 2021.
- An expert session on 'Practice of Writ Petition before High Court and the Supreme Court' by Hon'ble Mr Justice C K Thakker as part of the Constitution Day celebration was conducted by the Institute of Law on Nov 26, 2021.
- A webinar on 'Diversity and Inclusion' by Ms Smriti Handa, Global Talent Acquisition Director, Reckitt was conducted by the Institute of Management on Nov 15, 2021.
- A webinar on 'SERB Funding Schemes available for Women Researchers' by Dr Shilpi Paul, Scientist F, Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), DST, Government of India was conducted by the Directorate of Research and Innovation (DRI), Nirma University on Nov 20, 2021.
- A national webinar on 'Transportation Geotechnics' was organised by the Department of Civil Engineering, Institute of Technology with support from GUJCOST, Government of Gujarat during Dec 20-24, 2021. A total of 15 sessions of 2 hours each were conducted in the 5-day programme through online mode.
- Prof Prosenjit Ganguly, Animation Screenwriter, Designer, Voice Artist, and Mentor presented a talk to the Institute of Design students on Dec 3, 2021. The talk revolved around storytelling, stories converted to visuals and vice versa, and how images communicate a thousand things.

- Institute of Architecture & Planning along with its 16 partner institutes organised the first International Conference on 'Future is Urban': Livability, Resilience & Resource conservation from Dec 16-18, 2021.



- The Institute of Law organised an online Panel Discussion on 'Changing Terrains of Fundamental Rights Protection in India' on Dec 4, 2021. The panellists for the discussion were Dr Uday Shankar, Professor and Registrar, Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur; Dr Yogesh Pratap Singh, Professor and Registrar, National Law University, Odisha; and Dr Afroz Alam, HoD, Department of Political Science, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad.



- An expert session on 'Infrastructure Law: Electricity Sector' by Mr Prabjot Singh Bhullar, Independent Legal Counsel, Infrastructure Law was held on Dec 8, 2021 at the Institute of Law.

- A lecture on 'Changing Contours of Public Policy in India' by Ms Binsy Susan, Partner in the Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Company was organised by the Institute of Law on Dec 9, 2021.

- The Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Institute of Technology organised a Scopus Indexed '4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Futuristic Trends in Networks and Computing Technologies' on Dec 10-11, 2021, technically collaborated with Springer Nature.

- Mr Mrugen Rathod, a Sculptor by profession, had an interactive session with the students of the Institute of Design on Dec 14, 2021. With his drive to protect nature and make people aware of the life that is being destroyed, Mr Mrugen talked about his projects in different areas of the world involving the use of different materials, but the common factor of them all was their message, to protect the wildlife and its habitat. The students were not only inspired by the art but also deeply moved by the thought.

- In the ongoing Nirma University - SUNY Binghamton University alumni lecture series, a session was conducted by Dr Tian He, Operations Research Engineer, Intel Corporation on Dec 17, 2021. The title of her talk was 'Pick-and-Place Machine Optimisation in Semiconductor Industry'.

# Extension Activities

## NSS Day

On Sep 24, 2021 the NSS day was celebrated by the NSS unit of the Institute of Commerce, Nirma University. On this occasion, Prof Udai Lal Paliwal, Director; Dr Ashutosh Pandey, NSS Officer; faculty members of Institute of Commerce; and the NSS volunteers took the pledge to continue working with dedication in the service of the nation. A total of about 35 NSS volunteers were present in the pledge-taking ceremony.

The NSS unit of the Institute of Law also organised an oath-taking ceremony for the faculty members and the NSS volunteers. The event started with a pledge where the volunteers vowed to work with dedication to serve and strengthen the freedom and integrity of the nation. The pledge was presided over by Mr Akshat Jain, Chairperson, NSS Unit, ILNU. Following this, shlokas derived from Upanishads were recited by the Core members of the NSS unit.



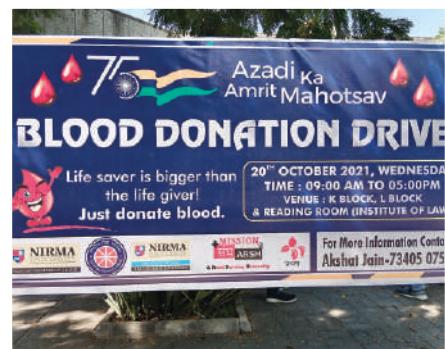
## Visit to Old Age Home

The NSS volunteers and Social Committee Club members of the Institute of Commerce visited Hiramani Old Age Home, Ahmedabad on Nov 22, 2021. The students spent quality time with the inmates and brought a smile on their faces. The students had conversations with them over snacks and enjoyed Garba together. They also distributed some medicines for daily use.



## Blood Donation Camp

The NSS unit of Institute of Law conducted a blood donation camp in collaboration with Prathama Blood Centre on Oct 20, 2021 in the Nirma University campus as a part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. Nirma University students, faculty members, and staff members collectively donated 251 units of blood. 40 NSS volunteers worked tirelessly for making this event successful.



## Legal Awareness Campaign

The NSS wing of the Institute of Law visited the panchayat office of the Valad village on Nov 12, 2021 and conducted a legal aid and legal awareness campaign. The village Sarpanch Mr Pankaj Vyas and Talati Mr Jayesh informed the villagers to attend this event and made the necessary arrangements. During the camp, the Institute of Law team talked about the issues such as Access to justice, Availability of Legal Aid to people, the procedure of legal aid, and also Digital Literacy, Health, Hygiene, and Sanitation. The session concluded with a question and answer round. The team also conducted this drive at the canteen of Nirma University on the same day. The Canteen Manager Mr Jeetubhai made the necessary arrangements in relation to arranging the mess staff for the awareness programme.



## Visit to Sabarmati Jail

The Legal Aid Clinic, Institute of Law, Nirma University celebrated 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' from Nov 10-14, 2021. The faculty members and students visited Central Jail, Sabarmati, Ahmedabad and provided Legal Awareness to the under trial and convicted prisoners (male and female) about their different legal rights. The team resolved the queries of the prisoners on legal matters. Mr D L Patel, Clinical Professor, Retired Principal District Judge provided a brief explanation about provisions of bail and their possibilities to under trial and convicted prisoners. The Institute of Law faculty and students team also performed a play on the theme 'Issues and challenges faced by the family members of prisoners'.



## Swachhta Campaign

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India organised the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan from Oct 1-31, 2021 under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The NSS unit, Nirma University appealed its community members to join the Swachhta Campaign from Oct 22-31, 2021. Students of Nirma University voluntarily joined in this campaign by cleaning the campus, their home as well as the area around their home. All the participants were honoured by e-certificate.

## Other Activities

- The NSS group at Nirma University along with the Students Welfare Board created an awareness on the Andh Kanya Prakash Gruh Talim Kendra's Diya making initiative. The kendra makes diyas for the Diwali festival every year, the sale of which helps them financially. Students, faculty, and staff actively engaged in purchasing diyas made by them and contributed to this noble cause.
- On the occasion of the Foundation Day of the Institute of Technology on Oct 3, 2021, the Organisation of Civil Engineering Students (OrCES) arranged various societal activities. Students distributed food kits containing cooking oil, food grains including rice and wheat flour to 51 labourers residing in the labour colony of Nirma University. Also, brunch was arranged for around 30 children residing at the labour colony followed by some games.
- ISA Students' Chapter organised a meet-up session for the specially-abled students of Prakash School, Ahmedabad on Oct 28, 2021. The club members interacted with the students and distributed cookie boxes as a Diwali gift.

# Faculty

## Awards and Achievements

### Establishment of Faculty Chair Professor Positions

Dr Nityesh Bhatt, Institute of Management; Dr Sanjay S Patel, Institute of Technology (Chemical Engineering); and Dr Priti Mehta, Institute of Pharmacy have been awarded the 'Faculty Chair Professor positions' by the Nirma Limited. The objective of creating the Nirma Ltd Chair is to promote research and academic work in the concerned area. The Chair would take up sponsored research projects in the concerned area and publish papers in reputed journals. In addition, they could also carry out research projects for Nirma Ltd for the sponsoring organisation.



- Dr Mayur Patel, Dr Snehal Patel, and Dr Bhoomika Patel from the Institute of Pharmacy have been recognised as one of the top 2% of scientists across the globe published by Stanford University in its Oct 2021 report.  
(<https://insights2techinfo.com/indian-researchers-in-stanford-universitys-top-2-most-influential-scientists-list-for-the-year-2020/>)



# Life Experience



Prof Pooja Shah

Assistant Professor

Department of Computer Science & Engineering,  
Institute of Technology, Nirma University

## Derelict Melodies

I entered my cubical and instead of the roar of an AC compressor something melodious touched my ears. I could not believe at first as compressor has been dominating the peace of our work space. I thought my ears were ringing. But the melody continued. The guitar strings were filling music in the dreary exam afternoon. I went to the window. Right in front of it there is a bench and on it was the source of that melody. Two persons sitting facing exactly opposite to our window; one listening and another playing guitar and singing. It was sweet, I stood there for a couple of minutes till the song ended. As I clapped for them, they noticed

my presence. They said, Ma'am we knew you like music so we were playing it here. With a grin I tried to continue with my work but my heart was still there, outside the window. I went to the window again and asked if he can sing my favourite song "Give me some sunshine..." He instantly obliged. I felt so privileged at that moment.

I realised that these sort of sweet simple privileges were always there but probably I noticed it for the first time. I realised that in every moment there are so many melodies trying to overpower the roars around but we rarely notice. We are so busy with our schedule and complaining about how hectic things are, that we miss to see what our loved ones are doing for us which in turn is a great help for coping up with our so called hectic schedule. We miss to see that someone who stays at home all day long is longing for our smile and a few minutes uninterrupted talk. We miss to see that the peon who does every chore running here and there has a shine in his eyes when we appreciate him and also has a sad face when we scold him. We miss to see that kid of our maid who keeps on noticing us with a dream of someday achieving our kind of lifestyle. We so easily say if something is not tasty or up to our liking but we rarely acknowledge the effort that goes into it.

So many people do so many things for us to make our life simpler, easier, and have been a part of our journey in what we are today. But do we really acknowledge?

If we can spare time to complain about the noisy AC roar why cannot we spare time to be blessed with a surprise melody? If we can spare time to curse the wrong why cannot we spare some to acknowledge the right? Why cannot we have that positive perspective to lead to a positive self and thus effect people around us in a positive way? Why not?

Let's give time to those melodies that heal the ambient noise.



## Achievements

- Mr Harsh Gupta, an alumnus of Institute of Commerce, Nirma University (batch of 2017-2020) has been awarded the 'Certified Management Accountant (CMA) Scholarship' from the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA), USA. The scholarship funds 100% of the cost of pursuing the CMA programme at the United States of America to the recipient for three years. IMA is the worldwide association of accountants and financial professionals in the business. Founded in 1919, IMA is one of the largest and most respected associations focused exclusively on advancing the management accounting profession.
- Ms Priti Patel, an alumnus of MCA, Computer Science and Engineering Department has started a Women Empowerment Academy. She is a Karate Black Belt holder and a National level player in the Judo game. Her academy provides Self-Defence training to girls in various schools, colleges, hostels, companies, and villages and districts of Gujarat.



## Alumni Talk

- Dr Pavan Srivastava, alumni of Institute of Pharmacy, and faculty, Allen Career Institute, Gandhinagar delivered an online talk on "Aliphatic Amines: Basicity, effect of substituent on basicity and Reactions" to BPharm, Semester II students on July 12, 2021.
- A talk on 'OpenCV - Understanding usage and significance' by Mr Shivam Patel, an alumnus from the Department of Computer Engineering, Institute of Technology, currently pursuing masters at Carnegie Mellon University, USA on Sep 4, 2021.
- A talk on 'Building Your Attitude for Corporate World' by Mr Smit Ghelani, an alumnus of IT branch, Institute of Technology, and currently the owner of Shree Dhan Laxmi Chemicals and Shree Bhavani Iodates, Ahmedabad on Sep 13, 2021. Mr Smit discussed various career opportunities and about what skills a computer engineer should possess to make a better career in the corporate world.
- A talk on 'Armed Forces as a Career Option' by Ms Rachana Jadeja, an alumnus of IT branch, Institute of Technology, and currently serving the Indian Army with the rank of a Major on Sep 16, 2021. Ms Rachana discussed various career opportunities for computer engineers in the Armed forces. She also shared her life experiences in the Indian Army with the students.
- A webinar on 'Essentials of Startup and Business Development' was conducted by the alumni of Civil Engineering Department, Institute of Technology, Mr Pranshu Jain, Director, PwC India, Ahmedabad; Mr Sanil Bhatia, Founding leader - Pharmaceuticals Business, Udaan.com, Bangalore; and Mr Abhishek Gupte, Doctoral student, Leonard B Stern School of Business, New York University, New York, USA on Sep 18, 2021.
- Shivani Chaudhari (ARM), Vinayak Sharma (IBM Infineon –Cypress), Ashutosh Bhargava (Cadence), Abhishek Raj (Qualcomm), Tejas Mutthal (NXP Semiconductor), and Nikunj Moradiya (Mentor Graphics, NVIDIA); alumni of the Electronics and Communication Engineering Department, Institute of Technology had an online

interaction with the 7<sup>th</sup> semester EC students of Nirma University on Sep 21, 2021.

- As a part of the ongoing Nirma University-Binghamton University Alumni Lecture Series, a talk on 'Applying Deep Learning techniques to Reinforcement Learning problems' was delivered by Mr Nisarg Vyas, CEO, InFocusp Ltd, and an alumnus from the Department of Computer Engineering, Nirma University on Sep 24, 2021.
- The Electronics and Communication Students' Organisation (ECO) organised an online session on 'Study Abroad' on Oct 9, 2021. A total of 114 students from various branches of the Institute of Technology participated in the session conducted by the alumni of Nirma University. The sessions were conducted by Mr Amit Degada, pursuing PhD from University of Kentucky, USA; Mr Shivang Dalal, pursuing MS in Information Management from University of Washington, Seattle, USA; Mr Rishi Pandya, pursuing MS in Finance from the University of Texas at Dallas, USA; Mr Deep Pujara, pursuing MS in Signal Processing and Communication, Arizona State University, USA; and Mr Rishabh Patadia, pursuing MS in Big Data Analytics in Georgian College, Canada.
- Alumni members of Electronics and Communication Engineering Mr Devang Gajjar, Sr Design Engineer, Intel, Bangalore; Mr Timir Soni, Design Engineer, eInfochips; Mr Mitul Mevada, Ms Modini Ayyagiri, Mr Vinayak Sharma, Mr Pranjal Shrivastava from Infineon; and Mr Vimal Zalariya, Silicon Validation Engineer, Google conducted the various mock interview sessions for

the EC students on Oct 2, 2021. The event was organised by the Electronics and Communication Students' Organisation, Institute of Technology.

- On the occasion of the Foundation Day of the Institute of Technology, the Mechanical Engineering Students' Association (MESA) arranged an alumni interaction on Oct 4, 2021. Mr Bonny Dave (Co-Founder, Trestle Labs) interacted upon his journey of a start-up; Mr Hoozefa Shaikh (Rotating Equipment Engineer, Linde Engineering India) and Mr Visamy Shah, (Sr Engineer, Gujarat Gas Ltd) explained how to fit in the industrial environment to be a successful professional.
- The Chemical Engineering Students' Association (CHESA) arranged an alumnus interaction conducted by Mr Parin Shah, currently working as R&D head at P K Enterprise on Oct 4, 2021.
- A session on 'Water Management and Industrial Wastewater Treatment' was conducted virtually by Mr Himanshu Bhutia, an alumnus of Institute of Technology, currently Environment Incharge, Aarti Industries Limited on Oct 25, 2021.

- Mr Nikunj Patel, an alumnus of Institute of Technology, currently working at Thermex Limited shared his experience at Thermex and threw some light on the safety in chemical industries on Oct 19, 2021.
- Mr Harshal Trivedi, an alumnus of the Institute of Technology, Nirma University (currently CEO, Tusker AI) was invited to the Nirma University - SUNY Binghamton University Alumni Lecture series on Nov 19, 2021. He gave a talk on 'Revamping End-to-End Business Verticals with AI-Automation'.

## International Alumni Expert Lecture Series @ Institute of Pharmacy

Institute of Pharmacy Nirma University Alumni Association (IPNUAA) organised 'International Alumni Expert Lecture Series' during the month of Oct 2021. Around 30 alumni members from prestigious Universities and Pharma Organisations across the world delivered technical talks and shared their expertise and experiences. The series

provided an excellent opportunity to students for enriching their knowledge and interacting with the alumni. Below are some of the sessions conducted under this series:

- 'Preclinical Research and Development' by Ms Sweta Raval, Research Associate II, Symvivo Corporation, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada.
- 'Computer Aided Drug Designing Methods' by Ms Krishna Gajjar, Lead Certified Pharmacy Technician, Austin, Texas, USA.
- 'Human Stem Cells Based Platforms for Phenotypic Disease Modeling and Drug Screening for Neurodegenerative Diseases' by Dr Ronak Patel, Postdoctoral Research Scientist at Columbia University Medical Centre, New York, USA.
- 'Outlook of Instrument Qualification and Computerised System Validation' by Ms Kirti Zinjuwadia, Regulatory, Validation and Quality Compliance Manager, White Collar Technologies Inc, Providence, RI, USA.
- 'Recent Advances in Roller Compaction Technology' by Mr Neel Sukhadia, Pharmaceutical Engineer, Gilead Sciences, San Mateo, California, USA.



- 'Pharmacy Practice in Western Countries' by Mr Parth Shah, Staff Pharmacist, Virden Drugs & Reston Drugs, Canada.
- 'Pharmacoeconomics: An Overview' by Dr Farah Pathan, Healthcare Associate, Boston Strategic Partners (BSP), Boston, MA, USA.
- 'Understanding Protein Functions using Molecular Dynamics Simulations' by Dr Neha Vithani, Postdoc Research Associate, Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, USA.
- 'Lab Management - After Studying Sciences' by Ms Pruthvi Shah, Lab Manager, LEAF Pharmaceuticals, Woburn, MA, USA .
- 'Drug Release Testing of Nanoformulations using Dispersion Releaser (DR) Technology' by Dr Harshvardhan Modh, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow (Wacker Research Group), National University of Singapore, Singapore.
- 'The Future Depends on what you do Today' by Dr Sukrut Soman, Associate Director, CMC Drug Product, BioNTech SE, Germany.
- 'Novel Dry Powder Formulations of Aluminum Salt-Adjuvanted Vaccines for Intranasal Administration' by Dr Sachin Thakkar, Sr Research Associate, Process Development Scientist, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA.
- 'Addressing the issue of Poor Aqueous Solubility in Drug Product Development' by Dr Heta Desai, Scientist I at Pace Life Sciences, USA.
- 'Multiparticulate Targeted Drug Delivery Systems and Intellectual Aspects' by Dr Santnu Patel, Director of Formulations R&D, Atai Life Sciences, Centereach, New York, USA.
- 'Out of Specification for the analytical results' by Dr Kunti R Shah, QC Analyst, Thermo Fisher, Brampton, Ontario, Canada.
- 'Developing a Forensically Relevant Single-Cell Pipeline for Human Identification' by Ms Nidhi Sheth, PhD candidate at Rutgers University and National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Graduate Research Fellow, USA.
- 'Current Trends in Pharma Chemistry at Canada' by Mr Nikum Sitwala, Chemist-3 at Toronto Research Chemicals, Greater Toronto Area, Canada.
- 'Analytical Characterisation of Protein Biologics: Current Industry Practice' by Dr Shaunak Pandya, Principal Scientist, Kashiv BioSciences LLC, Piscataway, NJ, USA.
- 'Lipid based delivery of Antidiabetic drug for treatment of Mesothelioma-A Rare Thoracic Cancer' by Dr Snehal Shukla, Senior Scientist, Formulation and Manufacturing Process Development, Pfizer Inc, USA.
- 'Pharmaceutical Sciences and Cheminformatics' by Dr Hitesh Patel, Scientific Software Developer, Cheminformatics, OpenEye Scientific, Washington DC-Baltimore Area, USA.
- 'Overview of FDA Regulations for Medical Devices' by Ms Vaidehi Mehta, Regulatory Affairs Specialist, Medtronic, Minneapolis-St Paul, USA.
- 'Targeting Phospholipase D4 Attenuates Kidney Fibrosis' by Dr Priyanka Trivedi, Sr Toxicologist, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, NY, USA.
- 'Nanocarrier-mediated Enzyme Replacement Therapy for Lysosomal Storage Disorders' by Dr Melani Solomon, Senior Scientist, Formulation and Drug Product development, Catalent Pharma Solutions, Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA.
- 'Clinical Study Protocol Writing' by Ms Drasty Vora, Medical writer, NutraSource, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- 'Collaboration between International Regulatory Agencies to Facilitate Earlier Global Access in formulation development for Novel Cancer Treatments' by Mr Kandarp Prajapati, Director, Global Regulatory Affairs (Oncology), Sanofi Genzyme, Boston, USA.
- 'T cell based Immunotherapy for treating cancer and viral infections' by Dr Mithil Soni, Postdoctoral fellow, Columbia Centre for Translational Immunology, New York, USA.
- 'Regulatory Approval Process for approval of medical device in US' by Ms Jonali Ramani, Regulatory Affairs Manager, LFB-USA, USA.
- 'Brown Adipose Tissue: The thermostat of our body' by Ms Nidhi Kuksal, PhD candidate, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada.

## Activities

### Friendly Cricket Match

The Institute of Commerce, Nirma University Alumni Association organised a Friendly Cricket Match between the alumni and the Current Batch of BCom (Hons) of Institute of Commerce on Dec 5, 2021 at Nirma University Sports Ground. The event began with alumni winning the toss and electing to bat first. The alumni team emerged as the winners.



## Editorial Board

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