



Fresher's Issue '25



Dojma



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Editor's Note

Welcome to the BITS Goa Campus, Freshers!

College will be joyful and at times it will be demanding. Enjoy your college life, but keep in mind that nothing outranks your well being. If you're ever feeling down, stressed or even homesick, don't hesitate to reach out. You can talk to your peers, mentors, seniors and avail the campus health services.

No grade, deadline or event is more important than you, it's okay to slow down and change plans. College is a community, so check in on your friends, and let your friends check in on you and remember, your seniors will always have your backs.

If you're struggling, or need to talk to someone, reach out.



DoJMA Dictionary

A

Av

Short for average. Get used to hearing this because in some time all you will care about will be this.

ACB

Short for Academic Counselling Boards. If all goes well, this will be the last time you hear about it. Just keep your CG high and you should be good.

B

B-Dome

That one building that's in all the campus photos. For some reason this is where all the freshers gather during their first week to jam. No shame in joining.

Birla Mandir

The Radha Krishna Temple that was definitely not built on land meant for OUR swimming pool but we're not one for politics. To be fair, it is very pretty.

BST

Short for BITS Standard Time. Basically the word we throw around when any event starts an hour later than it's supposed to (which ALWAYS happens).

BT

You know how things sometimes just aren't going your way. Yeah, that tends to happen a lot here. So much so that we've coined a term for it.

C

CatSoc (Pss Pss Pss Pss)

OnlyPaws. Featuring Mites, Mogu and Pablo, this WhatsApp group shares photos of and takes care of cats.

Compre

Short for Comprehensive exams. The big bad. The greatest threat to student life. Watch as you resolve to start studying a week before these bad boys only to end up starting your syllabus the night before the exam (DON'T DO THIS)

.

C-Side

That part of campus where...wait, why are there so many guys here?

D

DisCo

No. This one's serious. The Disciplinary Committee is the body which handles serious disputes on campus. Have all the fun you want, but don't get caught breaking any rules that'll land you in a room with these guys.

DoJMA

Only the greatest department club on campus (we're not biased).

D-Spine

It's like someone decided to make one stretch of the campus like a 5-Star hotel. Seriously, it's so pretty



E

E Grade

For some reason this doesn't stand for a regular E grade, it means Exposed? Exposed of what? Avoid at all costs.

ES

Short for Electrical Sciences. This will be your first course from the Electrical Department and boy will you remember it. 'How low could my scores really go?' Trust me, no matter how low your number is, this course will blow away all your expectations.

F

Fafa

That lame abbreviation that you find cringeworthy for the first few weeks but find yourself using inadvertently by the end of the first month. Short for 'fatafat' , used most by coordinators asking you to show up for GBMS.

FK

Short for Food King. Also the birthplace of this article.

G

Ghot

Ever wonder why the average is always above what you scored? It's thanks to these guys. Shunned by society except during exams (when their notes become objects of desire), you're not gonna see them throughout the year.

GD

Short for Group Discussion. Yeah it's all fun and games when you're engrossed in wordy battles during inductions but wait till the recruiter asks you to do the exact same thing. Yeah, we'll see who's laughing then.

H

Hitchhiking

Something you may have only seen in movies, this is something you will be very tempted to do very soon. That monthly allowance does not hold a candle to the taxi mafia.

I

IC

Not the cafeteria you gluts (refer to our piece on campus eateries for that one). The Instructor in-Charge is not someone you want to mess with. When people say 'IC kuch bhi kar sakta h' , they really aren't kidding. From attendance to surprise quizzes to makeups, IC ka aashirvaad har jagah kaam aayega.

J

Jain Section These guys might not be able to eat potatoes and onions, but their section of the mess might just save your butt when you're in a tough spot. Paneer as a replacement for potatoes?! Really? (When the supposed nerf becomes a buff)

K

Kids' playground First and foremost, why are you reading this, you creep? As beautiful as the actual playground is, it is STRICTLY off-limits. Not because of the kids, oh no. The clown dustbin under the flickering lights is sure to give you goosebumps (oh, also you might get a DisCo) (refer to D).

L

Lite

When life gets you down and when everything seems bleak, just take lite. The embodiment of chill, don't disregard it as a mere phrase, when in reality it is a state of mind.



M

Maggi Revolution

Let them eat eake Maggi!

Malakar

:(
See Shetty Megamart >:(

Midsem

1. A preview of how bad life will be if you don't study for Compres.
- DON'T TAKE LITE! (Also see, BT)
2. That mysterious event after which attendance skyrockets again. Experts are still trying to understand why.

N

NAB

Short for New Academic Block. It's like beauty poured out of the D-Spine (See D-Spine) and enriched all the land through which it flowed. Makes for a gorgeous view at nighttime.

NC

1. (Let's start with the bad news first) Short for Not Cleared. The state you will find yourself in if you take a course too lite for too long. The silver lining here is that you have to do it again. Also, you to do it again.
2. (Onto the good news) Short for Night Canteen. The night was dark, the last slide had been read, and the belly was rumbling. Alas the clock had struck midnight. Behold, your saviour - The NC! Seriously, why did mess food suddenly get so good?

O

OLT

Short for One Last Time. Voh din bhi kya din the. That time of the

year when every fourthie relives their glory days. One. Last. Time. (They aren't dying, they're just graduating. Don't worry)

P

Pragati

This one's simple. It's a stationery shop. Well, two stationary shops.

Power Cut

Aah, electricity. As a species, we cooked all those years ago, but phir bhool gaye. Recent studies show that their likelihood increases 10 fold in case there's an eval the next day. Agar grades ko poori shiddat se bhi chaho, toh power cut tumhari le lega. The list of beautiful ironies with this one is simply endless. Three electrical courses in an engineering college, but no uninterrupted supply. Last year, we had a blackout the night before the ES compre. This really strikes a nerve. And will probably force you to strike a match.

Q

Quanta

The academic portal which will screw you over during digital evals. DO NOT forget your password.

QuantaAWS

When Quanta met Jeff Bezos. Not to be confused with Quanta, especially when an eval is around the corner.

Quark

The 'tech' fest of our campus. Nerds by day, nerds by night.



R

Rain

Occupational hazard faced by devices of DoJMA.

RR

Short for- Are you done whining already? Suck it up. Bohot ho gaya RR.

S

SAC

Like most other places on campus that are not eateries, it demonstrates the 'Law of the crowd' perfectly. While being so full for the first couple of weeks that it'll be hard to find a place for you to stand in, by the time Compres begin, it becomes deserted enough to mistake it for Antarctica (if not for the blistering heat of course).

Spree

The 'sports' fest of our college. Athletes by day, athletes by night.

T

Tanki

The best view point on campus just happens to be one we can't legally go to.

Tracker

God made Trips, we made him the menace he is.

U

Uncle Peter's Pancakes

Overpriced pancakes. But well they came on Shark Tank.

V

VGH

The Visitor's Guest House. The venue for all department dinners, and most conferences that happen on campus. Yeah, there's really nothing fun about this one.

W

Waves

The cultural fest of our campus. Nashedis by day... oh wait.

X

eX

Don't worry, nahi banegi.

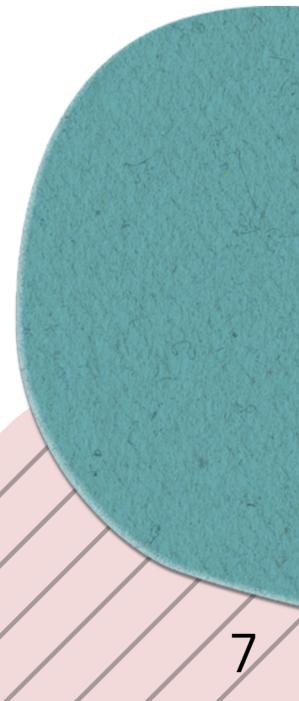
Y

Yeahhh we couldn't think of anything for this one.

Z

Zari

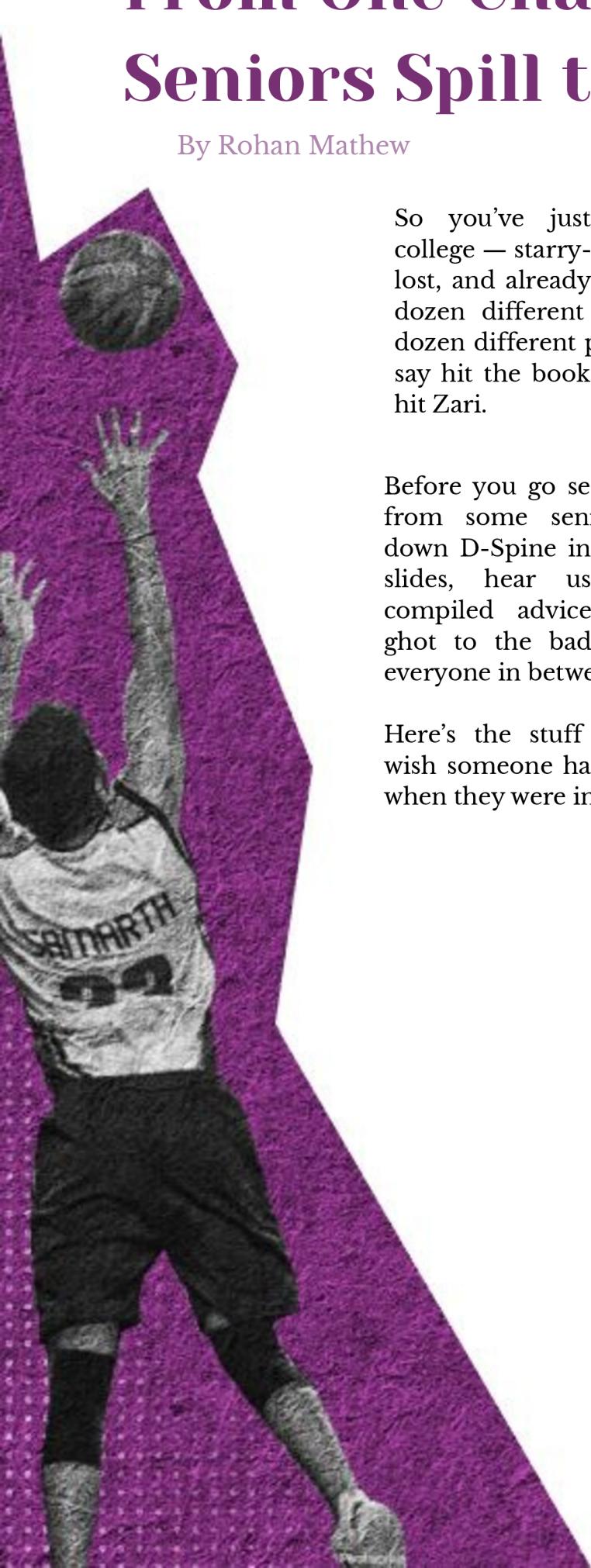
The place with the second highest concentration of BITS students after BITS itself. Don't ask us why.





From One Chapter to the Next: Seniors Spill the Real Advice

By Rohan Mathew



So you've just landed in college — starry-eyed, slightly lost, and already being told a dozen different things by a dozen different people. Some say hit the books. Others say hit Zari.

Before you go seeking gyaan from some senior walking down D-Spine in shades and slides, hear us out. We've compiled advice from the ghot to the badmaash, and everyone in between.

Here's the stuff they really wish someone had told them when they were in your shoes.

1. Don't Just Survive - Explore, Experiment, Enjoy

"Try everything - ML, electronics, web dev, clubs, fests, weird electives. Lock in what excites you. But don't become a nerd. Talk to seniors, get roadmaps. Get out of your comfort zone - it's the only way to grow."

The first year is the perfect playground. Learn a little about everything and everything about something. College is where you start figuring yourself out - and that's worth doing slowly.

2. Classes Matter (But So Does Bakchodi)

"Class chale jaana bhai log; no, you're not doing it on your own. At least not on time. Make good friends and don't be a regular at Pooja's ek do baar chalta hai. Talk to seniors and take lite"

A lot swear by the "lite lo" mantra, but one truth stands: go to class. CGPA is crucial in the first year, especially for dualites but even for singleites as cg recovery gets tougher as you go on to your second year. If not lectures, attend the Tuts and solve PYQs but above all keep having fun and take lite.



3. Mental Health > GPA

"Life comes from you, not at you. Don't lose your college years to depression and anxiety. Experience everything that college has to offer, please don't be closed in your room, don't be in your mind. Let everything be an experience in college. Life gets serious afterwards, you get jobs, some get masters, friends drift apart, relationships end, but such is life. Experience it to the fullest. Nothing is ever that deep." You're not alone in feeling lost. Just breath, there's support everywhere, from your mentor to that chill senior you met at the gym. Let college happen to you.

4. Find Your People - But Don't Idolize Anyone

"Being an introvert I never thought I would interact with seniors but joining clubs/departments helps a lot in getting out of your comfort zone and meeting some amazing people. Don't let this campus culture die kiddos, it's for you only."

Clubs aren't just resume stuffers, they're where you'll find your people. Whether it's a department pulling off a fest or a club vibing over chai and chaos, this is where friendships blossom. Step out, especially if it's awkward. That's how it all begins.

5. Don't Fall for the Hype

"Don't assume finance/non-core is the only path. Talk to

profs. Try STEM before you ditch it for the money."

It's easy to chase the highest package. But this is your story. Whether it's research, writing, robotics, or design - it's valid. Don't be afraid to take the road less walked.

6. Stay Sober(for the most part), Stay Smart

"Enjoyment is not equal to Nashe. Don't let peer pressure ruin you. Keep a balance in acads , extra curricular and enjoyment"

There's nothing wrong with letting loose once in a while (most of us do). But know your limits, and don't do it just because everyone else is. Enjoy responsibly, and don't let it mess with the things that actually matter.

7. You Are Enough

"Never feel you are not enough. You may be not fit for this college you may not score as much as others, have a low GPA, wont get 20+LPA. That doesn't make you stupid. Deep down there will a voice which whispers what you came here to do. Trust it. It will give you freedom you never imagined. "

Being surrounded by so many talented and hard working people you sometimes come to doubt yourself, always remember you belong here. Even on days when it doesn't feel like it. You're allowed to fail, to restart, to doubt, to dream. There's no straight path - and that's okay.

8. One Final Note

"Simple straight roads are a myth."

Your path will twist. That's part of the deal. You're not supposed to have it all figured out. Just show up - to class, to friends, to yourself. Trust that it'll come together.

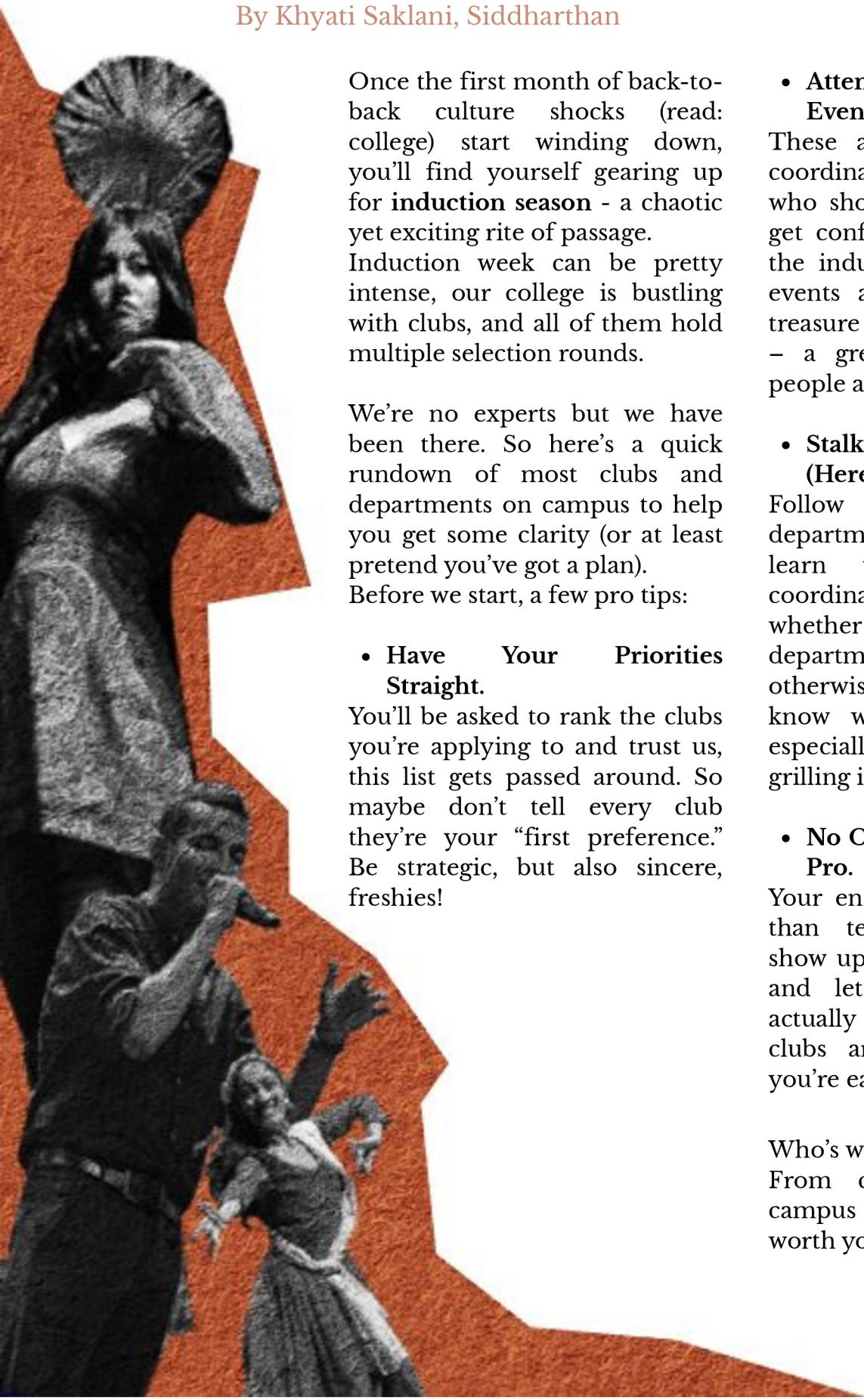
To every fresher reading this: Enjoy the bakchodi of first year but don't let it overtly affect acads, things will always work out. Don't panic. We seniors will always be there for you all. :)





Beginner's Guide to Departments and Clubs

By Khyati Saklani, Siddharthan



Once the first month of back-to-back culture shocks (read: college) start winding down, you'll find yourself gearing up for **induction season** - a chaotic yet exciting rite of passage.

Induction week can be pretty intense, our college is bustling with clubs, and all of them hold multiple selection rounds.

We're no experts but we have been there. So here's a quick rundown of most clubs and departments on campus to help you get some clarity (or at least pretend you've got a plan).

Before we start, a few pro tips:

- **Have Your Priorities Straight.**

You'll be asked to rank the clubs you're applying to and trust us, this list gets passed around. So maybe don't tell every club they're your "first preference." Be strategic, but also sincere, freshies!

- **Attend Pre-Induction Events.**

These aren't just for show - coordinators do take note of who shows up. And you might get confronted about it during the induction. That said, these events are actually fun (think treasure hunts, debates, quizzes) - a great way to meet new people and boost your chances.

- **Stalking Is Totally Fine (Here).**

Follow the clubs and departments on Instagram, learn the names of the coordinators, and figure out whether it's a club or a department (rookie mistake otherwise). At the very least, know what the club does - especially before walking into a grilling induction.

- **No One Expects You to Be a Pro.**

Your enthusiasm matters more than technical expertise. So show up excited! Ask questions, and let them see that you actually want to be there. Most clubs are happy to teach if you're eager to learn.

Who's who & what they do:
From chasing stories across campus to covering every event worth your attention,



DoJMA does it all. We report, we design, we edit, and yes - we definitely grill CSA candidates. If reporting and storytelling in any form excites you, there's a place for you here. Also, it might just be the best club on campus. But hey, we're not biased.

Ever wondered where all the aesthetic B-Dome photos magically appear from? Chances are, they sprouted from **DoPy(Department of Photography)**. If you've got an eye for the perfect frame, this club might just be your calling.

For all things artsy, we've got not one but two inspiring clubs **Kala** and **AnD(Department of Arts 'n' Deco)**. While Kala leans into live art, performances, and expressive showcases, AnD brings the chaos and colour with jaw-dropping paintings, installations, and fest decor that somehow materialize overnight.

FMaC(Filmmaking Club) has all the film geeks covered with their well written and wonderfully directed short films, they give the BITSian life quite a cinematic twist.

MuSoc(The Music Society) is home to a diverse group of talented musicians offering a space for every kind of performer.

If a cappella is more your style, **Synchronoise** brings together beatboxers and singers to create stunning vocal harmonies, no instruments needed!

For a blend of music and poetry **Abhivyakthi** will be the perfect fit. And if you love all things classical you'll feel right at home in **Srutilaya**.

Student debaters and literary enthusiasts can count on **LDC(The Literary and Debating Club)** for a spirited community of sharp debaters and a packed calendar of literary events.

Been told you're funny? Dream of doing stand-up? **FUCC(Fun Unlimited Comedy Club)** is a community of comedy lovers working to grow the campus comedy scene and keep everyone laughing while they're at it.

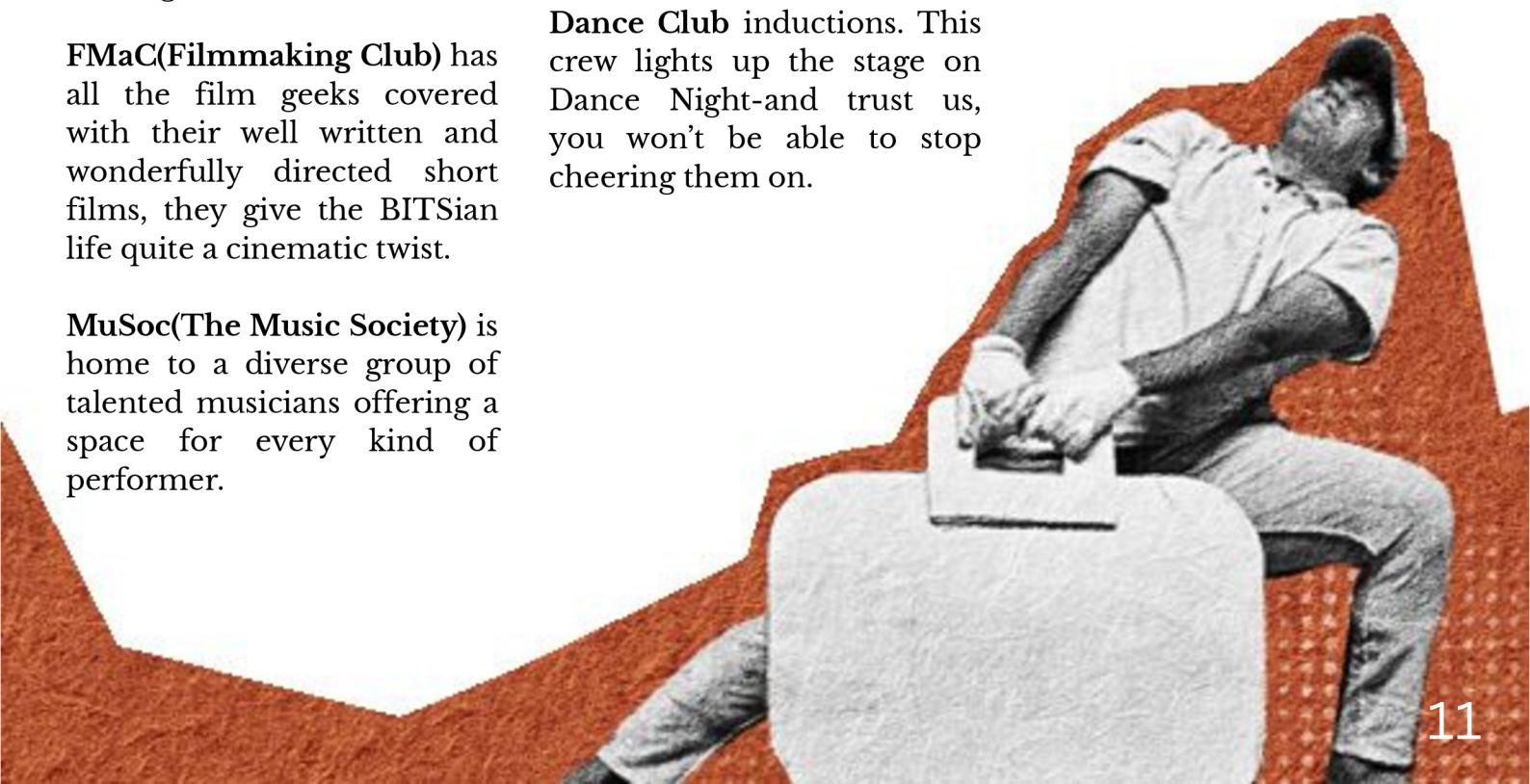
All dancers assemble for **Dance Club** inductions. This crew lights up the stage on Dance Night-and trust us, you won't be able to stop cheering them on.

From street plays to theatrical performances **Drama Club** does it all. Whether you want to create meaningful art, dive into storytelling or if you're a little dramatic - this might be the place for you.

Whether you love designing outfits or owning the ramp, the **Fash Club** is where style meets creativity on campus.

If telling stories with nothing but movement, precise expressions and gestures sparks your interest, **Mime Club** is the family of silent storytellers you need to look out for to make the loudest noise on stage.

If giving back is your thing, **Nirmaan** and **Abhigyaan** are where your efforts can truly make a difference. Abhigyaan focuses on educating underprivileged children while Nirmaan tackles education, healthcare and employment through their verticals.





DevSoc(Developers' Society) has every coder covered from intense hackathons to building real-world apps like fest portals and even the iconic CSA Times!

Ever dreamt of building an F1 car? Or found yourself fascinated by the inner workings of engines, suspensions, and everything automotive?

SAE(Society of Automotive Engineers) is where those dreams start taking shape (literally).

If stars and galaxies fascinate you, **SEDS Celestia** is your gateway to the cosmos. From building rovers and rockets to stargazing at their iconic Star-Party, there's a universe of opportunities waiting for you.

The world of robotics is ever-evolving, and **ERC(Electronics and Robotics Club)** offers a glimpse into it. From building a humanoid robot to recreating Wall-E, ERC is all about keeping the spirit of robotics alive and thriving.

While our college may not offer a degree in aeronautical engineering, it offers the next best thing —

AeroD(Aerodynamics Club). From building drones and planes to diving into competitions and research, they bring the skies to campus.

Cybersecurity gets a chance to thrive on campus through the nationally ranked **BitsKrieg**. The club dives into cutting-edge research, conducts workshops and participates in top level events!

SARC(Student Alumni Relations Cell) keeps the BITSian spirit alive by connecting alumni and students through mentorship, networking, and campus events. A perfect fit if you value community and connections

If you like Ted Talks and organising events **TEDxBITSGoa** could be a perfect fit. They run one of India's oldest TEDx events. The inductions are demanding and competitive but if you make it, it is totally worth the work.

BITSMUN is the engine behind BITS Goa's flagship MUN, home to India's oldest and largest model UN conferences. From delegate affairs to sponsorships, PR and logistics, BITSMUN takes care of every aspect of the event.

Wall Street Club and **SOFI** are your gateway to the world of stocks, trading, and financial strategy. If you're looking to dive deep into real-world investing and develop the instinct to navigate the markets, this is your financial playground.

From real-world consulting projects to case competitions, **BGCC(BITS Goa Consulting Club)**, **180DC** and **DWDG** train you to think like a consultant. If you're a strategic thinker and have a knack for problem solving, these clubs are your launchpad into the world of consulting.

Fests can't happen without money, and that's where **DoSM(Department of Sponsorship and Marketing)** comes in. If you've got the charm to pitch and the nerve to close deals, this is your playground.



Behind every fest is some serious number crunching. **DoFAM(Department of Finance and Assets Management)** handles budgets and assets—managing over ₹3.5 crore with precision. From fund allocation to cost control, they make sure every rupee is spent wisely.

Events like laser tag, paintball, silent disco, and prom add that magical touch to every fest. The team behind it? **DoCW(Department of Creative Works)**. They bring wild ideas to life and create unforgettable experiences.

DoSaR(Department of Surveillance and Registration) keeps the fest chaos in check—handling registration, crowd control, and surveillance. If you're alert, responsible, and calm under pressure, this is your zone.

From college participants to celebrity guests, **DePP(Department of Publicity & Public Relations)** spreads the word. They manage outreach, publicity, and build the buzz. If you've got people skills and PR instincts, this is your spotlight.

Lights, sound, and stage don't run themselves. **Backstage** handles the tech and logistics that power every event. If you like production, planning, or just getting things done—this is where the magic begins.

CEL(Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership) is BITS Goa's startup hub. They host Coalescence, featuring icons like Ashneer Grover and Ankur Warikoo. If you want to ideate, pitch, and hustle your way into the startup world—CEL is where your journey begins.

Quark, Spree, and Waves—the trinity of BITS Goa fests, each powered by its own Controls team. From robot battles to

flashy road shows, **Quark Controls** handles our tech fest. **Spree Controls** runs our sports fest, managing matches, crowds and unforgettable nights. **Waves Controls** brings the cultural flair to one of India's biggest fests, from dance battles to celebrity performances.

Cultural Committees: Homesickness is normal when you first get to college. Cultural committees like **Maharashtra Mandal, Telugu Samiti, and Punjabi Virsa** help you stay connected to your roots. There are also plenty of unofficial state-based WhatsApp groups – so don't hesitate to reach out. If connecting with people from similar backgrounds helps, there's a space for you here.

And finally – enjoy the inductions!

It might feel overwhelming, but it's your first real step into BITSian life. Put yourself out there, and you'll find some amazing, like-minded people.





Mess Distress: Save Yourselves!

An overview of the eateries around campus

By Manav, Aamil

Food is comfort. As freshers, most of you are embarking on a new journey, a journey without the solace of your home and family. It's going to be a great ride, but when you need comfort, the best thing to do is hang out with friends over a snack. Scattered across campus are a wide variety of eateries apart from the mess, which will inevitably seem boring and repetitive.

The Night Canteens

One of the most common shared experiences we've all had is having a banging meal from a night canteen and thinking "How are these the same guys who prepare our mess food?"

Fondly called ANC, CNC and DNC, they are an extension of the respective messes, operating from 11pm to 2am. They are the reason your sleep schedules are going to take a complete U-turn, and your best friends during exam season. Each of the night canteens have its own merits – ANC is known for its superior refrigerator stock and dosas, CNC for its menu's variety and DNC for its North Indian dishes.

Food King

Run by a South-Indian team, you'll find the best dosa on campus here. Period. Located opposite CH-1's entrance, nestled just outside the library walls, FK also offers its famous Oreo shake, cold coffees, maggi and sandwiches. Another usual spot for seniors' treats (make sure to rob them to the fullest here).

Ice N' Spice

People may try telling you INS doesn't have the best shawarma in BITS Goa. Our word of advice is to ignore such people. Sodas and shawarma are the most popular items in this chaotic, fun environment. A visit here guarantees a good time, all thanks to PK Bhaiya and his famed antics. You can find him and his beloved food outlet just opposite AH1.



Subspot and Amul

By the entrance of CC lab, you'll find Subspot, where you can get yourselves pancakes, waffles, rolls, burgers and the best maggi. Perfect for a small snack, the place is almost always busy, especially just after any eval. As you hear constant shouts of "Chicken roll!" which you'll grow to love, walk yourself over to Amul where you get a wide range of icecreams, cold drinks, tea and coffee.

Gajalaxmi

As firsties, you probably won't encounter the first ever non-mess eatery on campus, but ask any senior, and they'll tell you all about Gaja's famous vadapav. More than the food, a chat with the Gaja uncle is sure to brighten anyone's day.

Red Chillies

"RC", overlooking the SAC and sports facilities, is BITS Goa's very own dine-in restaurant, offering delicious meals from a widespread menu. Though the price range here is slightly higher than elsewhere on campus, the place is always buzzing with activity. If your seniors REALLY like you, you'll get treated here. Steaming hot naans and tandoors at affordable rates, what's not to like?

Institute Cafeteria (IC)

In the heart of B-Dome, conveniently close to the Lecture Theatres, lies the most expansive, and probably the busiest eatery on campus. IC is where you'll find yourselves between classes, debating whether or not to attend the next one. A variety of North Indian chaat items, fruit bowls, vada pavs, and of course, the fabled Nescafe coffee, are crowd favourites here. We recommend you try both Nescafe and the Shetty outlets here for a quick bite. We DO NOT recommend you miss classes though.

Others

Don't worry, you fresher guys, there's something on offer for you too. Outside of DH-1 you'll find the Relish food truck. Its location and pricing make it an extremely tempting option when walking back to the hostels from the B-Dome. Make sure to try their Porotta-chicken and oreo shake.

There is also a Domino's outlet opening near DH-5. Set up over the summer while we were at home, we cannot say much about the quality and consistency there. It is Domino's though. It'll be great. And tough on our wallets.



Go Broke or Go Woke: BITS Fee Hike

What was once an emblem of academic aspiration is fast becoming a cautionary tale in unchecked privatisation. From ₹15,000 in 1998 to a projected ₹6.3 lakh per year in 2025, BITS Pilani's tuition has ballooned by a staggering 4,067%, far outpacing inflation, wage growth, and the capacity to pay. Despite recording an over ₹300 crore operating surplus in 2022, the Pilani Campus recently imposed a 9.8% tuition hike and a 58.6% rise in hostel fees.

But the blow doesn't end there. Beneath the advertised figures lies a minefield of hidden costs:

- One-time payments - admission fees, caution deposits, student union and aid fund charges
- Advances that exceed ₹12,000
- Practice School (PS-I and PS-II) fees, charged even when internships are remote or online.

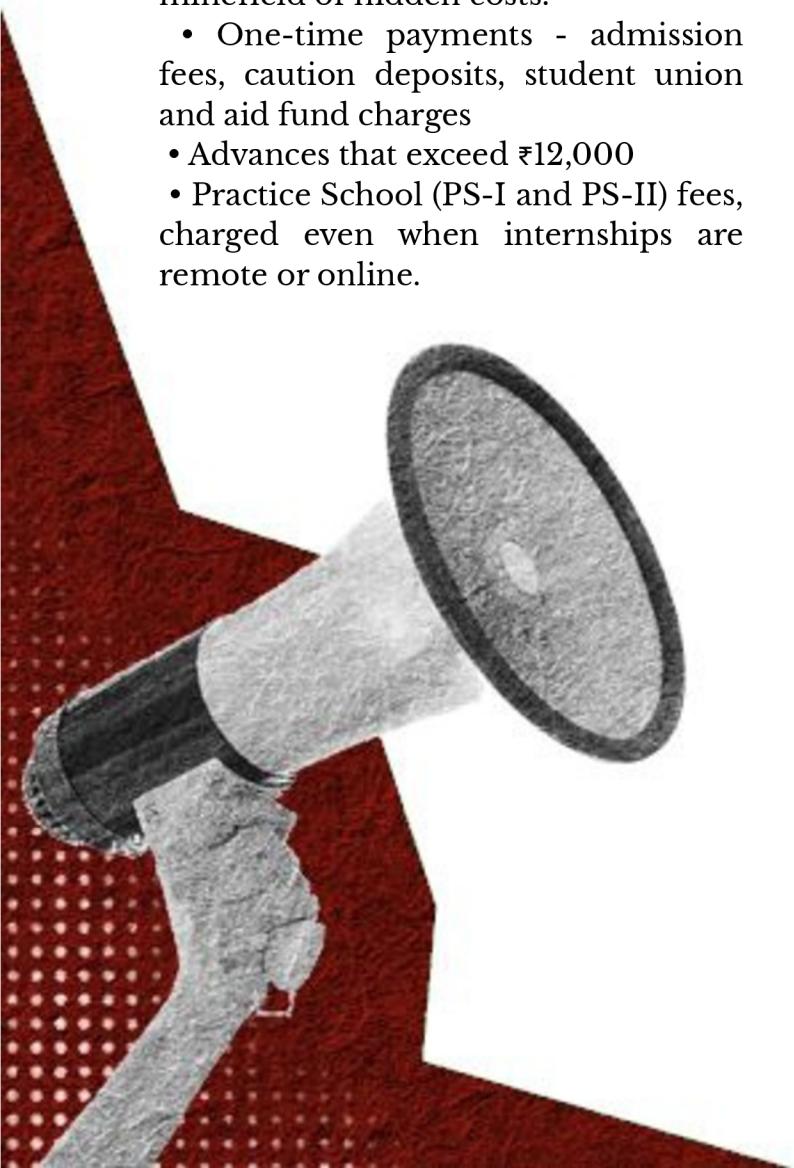
Add PS relocation, housing, and commute expenses to the mix, and for middle-class families walking a tightrope, these aren't fine prints - they're dealbreakers.

Merit or means? That line is blurring fast. Students aren't just paying tuition, they're gambling their family's financial security. Fee escalations are constant, yet there is no public breakdown, just blind trust wrapped in a ribbon of legacy.

BITS claims every rupee goes back into institutional development - citing inflation, self-sustenance, and the absence of government funding. In 2025–26, as shiny new branches in nano-science and semiconductors roll out and a ₹60 crore DST grant boosts research ambitions, one wonders: why are students still footing the bill for teaching labs, faculty hiring, infrastructure, and salaries?

Yes, Research brings prestige, but the cost of chasing it is increasingly borne by students.

This isn't just about affordability. It's about vulnerability. When life throws a curveball, medical crises, job loss, emergencies, families are left navigating financial storms while their savings sit locked in institutional accounts.





For an institute with a price tag this high, student aid supports a significant portion of the enrollments. While there are multiple dedicated loan alternatives, SBI(State Bank of India) BITS Scholar loan scheme among others. Most work on a simple system: about 8-8.5% interest rate, with a repayment duration up to 15 years, and a moratorium period of course duration plus one additional year,(where no repayment is demanded but interest may accrue) intended to give the student time to find a job. Some banks may require collateral to extend the credit limit while a few others don't lend beyond ₹30 lakh to begin with, leaving the enrolled students caught in a recurring cycle of debt.

If B.E. students are feeling the pinch, students enrolled in the 2+2 and dual degree programmes are caught in the crossfire and disproportionately impacted, to say the least.

The MCN(Merit-cum-Need) scholarship, intended to ease the burden on students with an annual family income below ₹15 lakh, often only partly serves its purpose for the reality is far too obscure and selective: only a fraction genuinely benefit. In many cases recipients come from financial backgrounds that may not accurately reflect the need-based criteria. Meanwhile, those marginally above the threshold are excluded, adding a quiet layer of frustration to an already burdensome journey. Additionally, it also stiffly relies on academic excellence inflicting a deal of added pressure. Consequently, BITS Pilani—once a dream institution for the aspirational few, is inevitably subject to being weighed against its value.

“Despite years of meticulous financial planning and scoring 380 in BITSAT, our daughter was forced to abandon her admission”, revealed an applicant’s father. In recent years, the student community has been discontented with fee hike outbreaks: several BITSians from the Pilani Campus hit the ground protesting to roll back the hike, detailed petitions were signed by thousands of students demanding to lower the escalating fees. “Make BITS affordable”, “BITS Pilani: it’s supposed to be magic, not tragic”, read some student-held placards during the rallies which, reported by some, were intended to preserve the spirit of BITS while a few others claimed that the protests were emblematic of broader concerns about affordability in higher education and highlighted the importance of student advocacy in addressing institutional policies.

It is worth noting that on several occasions the issue has been formally raised with the authorities, yet one wonders whether the administration is deferring action by saying “we’ll review”. While meaningful change may take time and the desired outcome remains to be seen. What matters is making concerns visible and sustaining dialogue; consistent, student-led advocacy moves the needle.



Meet the Team

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to all the writers and editors who have dedicated their time, effort, and creativity to bring this newsletter to life. Your commitment and passion have played a crucial role in making this possible.

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Thank you, esteemed readers. Your ongoing support motivates us to enhance our content and deliver the best possible experience.

Best regards,
The DoJMA Team.