

Hello, dear fresher. Welcome to BITS Hyderabad, a place you'll call home for the next few years. I hope that by the time you finish reading this Magazine, you'll understand this college better and that it will help you in your time here. You will learn to manage life beyond academics, settle in these walls, and figure out the nitty-gritty of life on campus. You're in for an exciting time, and I'll try my best to share what I kept in mind during my first year and what worked for me.

Your first few days will be hectic, with you getting lost in the academic blocks, crossing 10k steps daily, and rushing from place to place on campus. You will also discover the freedom that comes with college, the fact that you can roam the campus anytime with no restrictions (maybe you'll have a curfew for the first month). Don't spend all your free time in your room. The campus is huge and sometimes scary, but college is about new experiences. Roam the campus, check out the sports grounds, the outlets, and their menus, and figure out how academic blocks are named.

Don't worry too much about academics, but don't completely neglect them. Figure out what method of studying works for you, and be consistent. Being consistent will pay off in the long run, as opposed to studying everything at the last minute. College is all about balance, and try to find a schedule that works for you. Dualites, yes, your first-year CGPA matters a lot, but try to find time for yourself amid the rush for grades. Find some extracurricular activity you like, maybe a club or association that does work you like, and apply to them. There is a pressure of socializing and finding friends in college, and joining clubs, departments and associations will help you find your group. There are many people in college, and you'll find the peer group you want.

SURVIVAL GUIDE Remember to speak up for yourself if need be; your voice counts even if you are a fresher. It might be ironic, but you might feel lonely on a campus surrounded by thousands. Remember that your peers and seniors are always there to help you, no matter what. The issue might be academics, personal life, extra-curriculars, clubs, or anything else. It's okay not to know everything, but keep learning and be kind to yourself and others. Soon, you'll be using the word "lite" everywhere, and you'll know what outlet to go to when you miss dinner and what ice cream you like the best on campus. Good luck, dear fresher, and we hope that you have a wonderful time at BITS.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

LAN Cable - a suitable LAN cable is essential as not all hostel rooms get good wifi speeds.
Q Locks - you would need one lock for your almirah and one shared lock for your room. Keeping your rooms locked whenever you are not in them is a good habit.
Q Whiteboard marker and duster - the whiteboards in your room are beneficial tools for writing down formulae/discussing topics or questions with your friends; make good use of them.
Q Night Lamps - if you study late into the night, buy one so that you do not disturb your roommate's sleep.
Q Calculator - Casio fx-991EX scientific calculator is the most popular.
Q Curtains - they are not provided with your rooms; you would require them if you enjoy privacy.
Q Laundry Bags - a necessity to carry clothes to CP or the weekly in- hostel laundry.
Q Lab Coats - you require the blue one for workshop practice and the white one for chemistry and biology lab.
Q Extension Boards - you will have two sockets near your desk in the hostel, and you will need more.
Q Bucket and mug - during the winter, mainly if you are not used to cold showers (the showers do not have hot water), these are a must. Taps connected to the solar heater are separate.
Q Dustbin - for cleanliness.

Containers - to keep any snacks you might need during late study sessions.
K Mattresses - these are available for purchase when you reach the campus near your hostel. Remember to buy pillows, pillow covers and bed sheets too!
K Umbrella - obviously, you'll need it for the rain and when summer rolls around the corner.

Other important things to have on campus/buy before coming to campus:

UPI - Almost every single vendor on campus accepts UPI, and the ATM on campus mainly gives out 500 rupee notes, so UPI is often less of a hassle, and it would be better if you have it Facebook Account - There are many groups where you can interact with seniors and alumni, sell or buy items, and check for club and association announcements, among other things like travel; having a Facebook account is necessary to access these groups SWD App - The All Night Canteen runs on the SWD App, where the advances you pay are used for food. Keep in mind, however, that if you go above the limit, you will have to pay the extra amount in the fees for the next semester Splitwise - a great way to keep track of shared expenses for outings and everything else.

INTERACTIONS AND INTROS

While making friends on campus and meeting new people, you will also come across the seniors of BITS. This is how you will have to introduce yourself. Giving your introduction or “intro” is just a formality, and here is its general format.

Your Name ID - 2024CCPSXXXXH [CC - Branch Code, XXXX- Your unique four-digit number] Your Hometown Your hobbies and interests

Feel free to share your hometown, hobbies, and interests. This is a major conversation starter and a great way to bond. Your first few interactions might not go your way, depending on the type of seniors you have met. It is okay if you don't connect with the senior talking to you, but never hesitate to participate in these interactions. All seniors take such interactions with genuine good intent, and the primary goal is to establish a meaningful dialogue and connection between you and your seniors. These seniors will be your guiding support throughout your college journey, offering insights into academics, clubs, internships, and advice on any issues you may face.

However, if you ever find yourself not at ease or in discomfort during any interaction, you have the right to walk away and withdraw from the conversation, and no senior will stop you from doing this. If any senior overlooks your objection, persists, and troubles you, you can approach the Anti-Ragging Committee. Their contact information is listed below and again in the Important Contacts section of the Magazine.

BASICS OF BPHC ACADEMICS

Let's delve into the organizational structure and functioning of the academic system at BPHC.

COURSES

At BPHC, courses replace subjects as primary educational units. These well-designed curricula cover various topics and comprise different evaluative components. The scope and intervals for topics and exams are largely left to the discretion of the I/C (Instructor in Charge) but the syllabus rarely sees a large shift from previous batches.

CREDITS

Each course is assigned a certain number of credits, indicating the effort required and its impact on your CGPA. In a semester, you must enroll in a minimum of 9 and a maximum of 25 credits. The total credits of all courses for a semester should fall within this range, and no exceptions are made in this regard.

PRACTICE SCHOOL

BITS provides you with an internship opportunity twice before the completion of your degree- Practice School-I (PS-I, worth 5 credits) and Practice School-II (PS-II, worth 20 credits). PS-I is a two month long summer internship that you are required to do after your 2 - 2. It requires a fee payment and you do not receive a stipend. On the other hand, PS-II is a semester-long paid internship that single degree students can choose to do in either semester of your last year, i.e. 4 - 1 or 4 - 2, and dual degree students have the option to do a dual PS instead of only one. The Practice School System allots you a PS Station on the basis of your CGPA, while taking your preferences into consideration.

VARIETIES OF COURSES

BITS offers three main types of courses:

1. Standard Courses: These are the most common and make up the majority of your coursework. They consist of three components;
 - a. Lectures: Here, you will learn the fundamental theory and concepts of the course. Usually, there are three lectures per week for 3 & 4 credit courses. 2-credit courses generally have 1 or 2 lectures per week>
 - b. Tutorials: In tutorial classes, you solve problems related to the topics covered in lectures. These sessions have a smaller number of students per section but a larger number of sections scattered across several days of the week, allowing a convenient choice of slot and easy clarification of doubts. Typically, tutorials occur once a week.
 - c. Practical: Some courses (typically 4-credit courses) include a practical component. During practical sessions, you perform experiments relevant to the theory studied in lectures. These sessions can be enjoyable but are often evaluated.
2. Labs are typically 1-unit (sometimes 2 units) courses solely focused on conducting weekly experiments. They provide hands-on experience that complement the standard courses, despite lack of theoretical content>
3. Formal projects: These courses have a standard weightage of 3 credits, and are evaluated on the basis of a semester-long project undertaken with a professor. You need not worry about these until the end of 2nd year usually, but some people do apply for projects earlier. Informal projects do not contribute to your CGPA in any form.

To get a better understanding of how to prepare for individual first-year courses, the SWD portal has suggestions and advice.

CDCs

Core Disciplinary Courses are mandatory courses directly related to your chosen branch of study. Unlike other courses (electives), you cannot drop these from your semester schedule. Graduation will not be possible without obtaining a valid grade in these courses.

ELECTIVES AND MINORS

Now let's discuss some important aspects that may not be immediately relevant in your first year (as course selection is limited), but they hold great significance.

ELECTIVES: In addition to your CDCs, you have the option to take up courses falling under three categories:

1. Disciplinary Electives (DEI): These courses align with your branch and CDCs. It is recommended to take them from the 2-2 semester, although some ambitious students opt for them in their 2-1, meaning they'll study

alongside third and fourth-year students (a challenging prospect). To graduate, you must complete a minimum of 4 disciplinary electives (12 credits). This allows you to explore your branch of study in domains of your preference instead of having to finish more CDCs:

2. Humanities Electives (HuEI): These courses are more diverse and enjoyable, attracting many students who are eager to pursue their passions. During the swap period, you may observe a rush as students try to secure these courses (and drop them just as fast during the drop period). To graduate, you need to complete a minimum of 3 humanities electives (8 credits). These courses often relate to social studies, literature, philosophies, cinematic arts, and social theory.
3. Open Electives (OpEI): These courses are open to anyone who meets the prerequisites. They provide an opportunity to explore subjects outside your core curriculum, potentially enabling you to pursue a minor or fulfill any unfulfilled Huel interests. You must complete a minimum of 5 open electives (15 credits) to graduate.

PREREQUISITES: For certain courses, you must have already completed specific prerequisites to be eligible for enrollment. Planning is crucial, so consult the bulletin or seek advice from seniors to ensure you meet the requirements.

MINOR: By paying a nominal fee (though not insignificant by BITS standards), achieving the CGPA cutoff, and fulfilling the course requirements for the chosen minor, you can earn an additional degree. Planning your minor courses starting from your second year is recommended depending on your minor.

How do CGPA and grading work?

It's pretty simple - really. The grading system works as follows: "A"=10, "A-"=9, "B"=8, "B-"=7, "C"=6, "C-"=5, "D"=4, and "E"=2 grade points.

You multiply the number of credits/units of a course with the points corresponding to the grade obtained; this resultant number makes up the grade points for that particular course. Take a summation of grade points across all courses in a semester and divide it by the total number of credits undertaken that semester; this gives your SGPA (Semester Grade Point Average). Do the same for all courses across all semesters and this results in your CGPA (Cumulative Grade Point Average).

For example, let's say you take 2 courses, Engineering Graphics (2 credits) and General Biology (3 credits) for the semester. In the end, you scored a B in Engineering Graphics and an A- in General Biology.

$$\text{Your SGPA will be: } (2 * 8(B)) + (3 * 9(A-)) / (2 + 3) = 8.6$$

Most courses usually give a B- or 7 at the average mark. Any grade other than the 8 valid grades mentioned above (such as an NC or RC) will require you to either repeat a course (in case of a CDC) or supplement those missed credits (in case of disciplinary electives, humanities electives, open electives).

IMPORTANT RESOURCES

College is going to be a lot different than school. It can often be stressful at times to gather notes, past year papers, etc. as half of the students don't even attend classes. Here are a few links that can help you out (Use your BITS email ID in all of these links as they won't work otherwise):

1. Impartus (<https://a.impartus.com/> (<https://a.impartus.com/>)) Impartus is the video lecture storehouse of all the lectures (of the lecturers you are enrolled in during timetable registration). The video lecture will be uploaded within an hour after the completion of the lecture. So, in case you missed the lecture, you can watch it later and take down the notes. You can always use your friends' credentials to log in and listen to other lecturers too. Impartus becomes a life savior during the mid-semester examinations and comprehensive examinations for many students. But, remember that Impartus works only in the lecture halls where there is a video recording facility and the lecturer has his/her mic turned on.
2. Course Management System (<https://cms.bits-hyderabad.ac.in/> (<https://cms.bits-hyderabad.ac.in/>)) CMS is an app designed by our BITS Hyderabad students for faculty to communicate with students. The faculty uploads all the lecture slides, tutorial problems, and mark lists, and shares information about changes in lecture venue, extra classes, evaluative timings and dates, etc. It is unanimously the most important app one has to have on the campus. (Note that some professors might opt for Google classroom as primary source of communication so make sure to pay attention to their announcements)
3. BPHC Digital Library (<http://libraryopac.bits-hyderabad.ac.in/> (<http://libraryopac.bits-hyderabad.ac.in/>)) BPHC digital library is also available as an app. The digital library is the e-library of the campus wherein you can find all the e-books, research publications, catalogs, and previous year's papers in here along with a handful of e-resource links. You can also use it to know the book issue status.
4. Google-Drive Links (Students' Union Drive first year and Acads Drive) These links provide a plethora of previous year lectures, practice sheets, and useful resources for all your first-year courses, so make sure to get these from your seniors.
5. ERP Portal (<https://erp.bits-pilani.ac.in/> (<https://erp.bits-pilani.ac.in/>)) ERP portal is a platform where you can access your grade sheets, fee demands, course information, and personal information and also this is where you register for your courses for the semester. It is more like a visiting portal than a resource link for everyone on campus.
6. SWD App (<https://swd.bits-hyderabad.ac.in/> (<https://swd.bits-hyderabad.ac.in/>)) Student Welfare Division, or SWD, handles the non-academic aspects of campus life, this is the place where you'll participate in mess registration, purchase campus merchandise, and much more. SWD has a dedicated room in the C-block, and its very own app. The student body of the SWD is called the nucleus. For any queries and issues regarding campus life, you can approach the student representatives of the SWD using the following link.
7. Handouts for you (<https://handoutsforyou.vercel.app> (<https://handoutsforyou.vercel.app>)) This website is a database where you can find all information about our campus academics, from course handouts to placement records.
8. Chronofactorem (www.chrono.crux-bphc.com (<http://www.chrono.crux-bphc.com>)) A mock scheduling website made by our very own coding club, this is a website where you experiment with the placement of lecture hours throughout your week and try to come up with the best schedule for your semester. This application is mostly used before the semester begins to create mock timetables.

9. Good Old Books Yep, you're gonna need these for practice and open-book exams. You do have an option to buy new books from the Book Syndicate, but it's wise to buy older ones from your seniors, as you might not want to see the books after you're done with them. The old books will be on sale on WhatsApp groups or on the BPHC Buy & Sell facebook group at the start of semester, usually at prices lower than new ones. Make sure to check prices of the new books before you approach your seniors as there's a tiny chance you'll be charged higher.

FINANCIAL AID OFFERED AT BITS Despite the exorbitant fees that BITS charges you per semester (3-3.5L), it also offers you ways to lower the financial burden, which is how most students at BITS study despite their financial backgrounds.

You can opt for financial aid in three ways: Loans, Scholarships and SAF.

LOANS

There is an SBI bank right here on campus, where you can apply for loans and manage your bank account if you cannot pay your fee for the semester. The process varies from person to person, so we'll give some key points that can help:

1. For the loan application, the bank employees will guide you through the loan process, so take it easy. If you don't have a bank account yet, you can create one there.
2. If you're a minor, you'll be given a bank account, but you're not allowed online banking. So you can only deposit or withdraw cash from your bank account, which you can do at the ATM just next to the bank.
3. BITS is classified by SBI as an A institution, hence the upper limit for loan is 40 lakh without collateral security. The interest rate floats around 8-9%. It is simple interest for the duration of your degree + 1 year, and then compounded for 15 years.

Contact the SBI branch on campus for more information regarding loans.

SCHOLARSHIPS The college also offers you a chance to lift some of your financial burden through your academic performance, yes - the almighty CGPA. The scholarships, however, are applicable only on your tuition fee (mind you, you still gotta pay your hostel and mess fee alongside some other miscellaneous fees)

1. Merit Scholarship As the name suggests, the students with high academic performance (which will be represented by their rank in the batch and CGPA) will be offered a scholarship regardless of their income status or their branch. Students need not apply for this scholarship and will be automatically awarded.
2. Merit-cum-Need Scholarship (MCN) The MCN scholarship takes your parents' total annual income into consideration. That is, if your parents earn a total income less than the amount set by the college (it was around 12 LPA last year). You need to apply for this scholarship when the notification arrives in the SWD portal so keep on a eye on it. The documents required will be mentioned in the notification.

For a general idea of the merit scholarship, the cut-off for receiving a 100% fee waiver was around 9.8 CGPA, and for a 40% scholarship was around 9.5 CGPA. These cutoffs, although very harsh on students who can score to the lower margin and miss, represent the college's emphasis on merit and consistency.

STUDENT AID FUND (SAF)

This fund aims to provide assistance to talented students whose families cannot provide for their education without financial assistance. This is an annual scholarship unlike the Merit and MCN scholarships and the amount of scholarship varies from student to student, based on academic performance and financial circumstances.

The notification for this too will be released on the SWD portal and the required documents are almost the same as those required for MCN.

THE ACADEMIC BLOCK

Most of your lectures will be in the F block, mainly F102, F103 (on the right side of the amphitheatre) or F104, F105 (which is on the left side). You will encounter F106 on the left before you reach the amphitheatre. You may also have a few lectures in F108 or F107, which you walk past when you enter through the D block entrance and go straight ahead to the F block. Your labs for engineering graphics and computer programming are also easily accessed through the D block entrance. (You'll have your computer programming labs in the D-block and I-block, but your lab exam will probably be in the D block). The library lawns have the lecture halls on one side, opposite to the library. The other two sides are the auditorium and the stage. Many tutorial classes will be held in the G block, which is where the library is. Your Chemistry lab will be in the B block, while your Physics and Biology labs will be in the A block on the first and ground floors respectively. Some courses will also have tutorial classes in the new academic block, often shortened to NAB, which is located behind the auditorium.

The iconic large chessboard is in the middle of the H, I, J, and K blocks, together known as the NAB (in an anticlockwise order from the H block, which is located directly ahead of the G block). To the left of the F block, you'll find the Workshop, which is where you'll have your Workshop Practices course, as well as some electronics labs for your seniors. The Auditorium is where all major events happen, such as comedy nights, music and dance performances, orientations, movie screenings by RAF, general body meetings (GBMs), and other official stuff. It has seats aplenty, is air-conditioned, and has multiple entryways. There are two eateries in the Academic block; Isthara, the main food court, and a Cafe Coffee Day outlet, serving fresh food, tea, coffee and other refreshments. Directly opposite the auditorium, across the library lawns, is the C block, more on that below.

LIBRARY

In the acad block, between G103 and G104, you'll find the library. A haven for readers, as well as for those who want to study in peace and quiet, the library consists of two floors, and a few sections which we'll get to. As you enter the library you have to keep your bags and other belongings in storage rooms, but you're allowed to take laptops, books, stationery and chargers as you require. To your left you'll find facilities like washrooms, drinking water, as well as a stationery where you can buy what you need and get printouts of material. Further ahead you'll find the Reference sections on your left and right, where you can use reference books and textbooks to help with your academics (although keep in mind that you're not allowed to issue them), and as you proceed you'll find a large hall with circular tables flanking either side, as well as bean bags for your leisure. Further yet is the Reading section, a large area with numerous tables that seat four, as well as racks of books both academic and not. To the right are separate cubicles for those who enjoy studying in solitude. The upper floor of the library is a huge hall which has cubicles, tables for four, as well as tables for larger parties who want to study as a group. The library opens at 9 am, and usually stays open till 11 pm on weekdays, with the timings being a bit different on the weekends. These timings get extended to later in the night during the mid-semester and comprehensive exams. The library is air-conditioned, and has charging ports for when your devices run low. Happy studying!

C BLOCK (Important)

AUGSD: The Academic-Undergraduate Studies Division manages every aspect of your educational journey – from arranging classes and allotting instructors to the anxiety-inducing moment of grade releases. Should you ever seek guidance or need to voice concerns about your academics, they are just a hop skip and jump away.

SWD: The Student Welfare Division handles the non-academic part of your stay on campus. They play a crucial role in processing financial assistance claims and diligently collect your fees. Additionally, they are responsible for managing hostel and mess allotment, ensuring you have a place to call home during your time here.

Timetable Division (TTD): As the name suggests, the Timetable Division takes charge of your schedule on campus. They expertly arrange the timing and locations for lectures, tutorials, and practicals. When you need to book a room within the academic block, they are the ones to approach.

Practice School Division: This division deals with PS-1 and 2. It approaches various companies so that opportunities can be provided to the students. The companies are then properly listed and each student gets to select one based on their needs and interests.

MEDICAL CENTRE

The Medical Centre (often simply called MedC), located near CP, serves as the campus's main destination for all your medical needs. Housing personnel of various specialisations, the MedC is where you go to get your medical woes resolved. They have a couple of ambulances to respond to emergencies on campus, as well as to transport patients to centres within the city should it be needed. All medical personnel may not be available whenever, but their presence (or lack thereof) will be intimated via email. Should you require a make-up for a lab or an evaluation due to medical reasons, the MedC is where you go, where the qualified authorities will write you a form that will serve as proof for you to send mails to the concerned faculty.

HOSTELS

There are three main first-year hostels on campus: Valmiki, Gautam, and Malviya. The first two are boys' hostels and the third is the girls' hostel, though not exclusively for first years. Valmiki is on the side of the OFG (check miscellaneous) closer to the gate, while the other two are close to the SAC. They all have sand volleyball/badminton courts in their center and vending machines for a quick snack.

When you move in, your room comes equipped with necessities: A bed, table, a whiteboard and a cupboard. (The mattress for the bed will have to be bought separately) You can access the internet through the LAN port in your room; this also gives you access to DC++. (Check our guide for specific instructions)

MESS

There are two main dining halls (mostly called messes) on our campus, aptly named messes 1 and 2, on opposite sides of the hockey field. Their allocation is done every month, through the mess registration on the SWD website. Of these, Mess 1 is generally more sought after, with open seats in the mess sometimes unavailable in two to three minutes. A possible reason for this could be that Mess 1 has a kind of bustle about it, while Mess 2 has a calmer atmosphere. Food-wise, each mess has its strong points and weak ones. They are the breeding ground of friendships, where friends all gather around a table, occasionally testing the physical limits of space.

Usually, as the semester progresses, students, tired of the monotony, end up buying food from the shops inside the mess using the SWD website or from the outlets in front of each mess. On special occasions, the caterers of each mess provide a better variety of food, one that doesn't make you question every life decision you've made. For students that need a second (or a better) dinner, the saviour that is the ANC (All Night Canteen) provides from 10 PM to 2 AM. In exam season, it comes in clutch for the weary souls- those who couldn't find the strength to make it to the mess during the day.

CP

Our campus has a hub where you can get pretty much anything and everything you'll need. Called CP, short for Connaught Place (ring a bell, Delhi people?), ours might not be as big or grand, but it sure provides you with every necessity you may have as a student here on campus. Let's take a closer look at some of the shops, shall we?

1. Fruitful: This spot offers fresh juices, delicious brownies, rolls, tea, french fries, and more. There are omelets, boiled eggs, paneer, and other high-protein stuff that you as a gym goer will need.>
2. Book Syndicate: The only bookstore on campus. While it's often wiser to buy books from seniors, if you need new books, you can find them here with some discount\
3. Karuturi: A stationery shop that stocks everything you need for academics and beyond. It's a go-to place, especially during open-book exams\
4. Hair Salon: A decent salon offering all basic facilities for grooming\
5. Gift Shop: Despite its small size, this shop offers a wide variety of items, including sports goods, mugs, gift wrappers, and more\
6. Fruit & Vegetable Shop: A reliable spot for fresh fruits and vegetables at reasonable rates, comparable to big online platforms\
7. SBI bank- SBI Bank on our college campus offers a range of services, including account opening and study loans. With an SBI ATM on-site, cash withdrawals are convenient\
8. Pharmacy: This is the place to go for any required medication, and yes, sometimes, dealing with academic stress might require some paracetamol.
9. Laundry Shops: For those who prefer not to wash clothes on their own, these places are favorites. Though the rates are decent, be cautious about clothes getting misplaced. There are two of them that remain closed on different days, so you can give your clothes in either<
10. Agarwal General Store: As the name suggests, this store offers all your general grocery needs, from buckets and mugs to instant noodles and chips. (editor's note: do we mention the 5% discount on most things?)
11. Heritage Stationery Shop: Similar to Karuturi, you can get printouts and all kinds of stationery here. Additionally, there's a DTDC courier service available<
12. Gift Shop (another one): In addition to gifts, this shop stocks LAN cables, buckets, and more. Inside the shop, there's also a ladies' parlor offering services like threading and haircutting<
12. Tea Time: An outlet where you get freshly cut fruits and fruit juices, as well as many kinds of tea, coffee and milkshakes, with biscuits and other snacks to go with them.

Additionally, most parcels you order online will be delivered in CP (near one of the entrances, close to SBI and the medical store). If not here, you'll find them near Mess 1. The delivery partner will contact you when they're there, so you can collect your parcel from them, or send a friend to collect it for you if you're busy.

Our CP might not have the grandeur of Delhi's Connaught Place, but it's a convenient and essential part of college life, catering to the diverse needs of students and making our daily routines a little easier

FOOD OUTLETS

Oh, this is the fun part. Sometimes you're really REALLY just done with mess food, and craving something a little more appealing to your taste buds. Or maybe you're just looking for a cup of coffee to help you get through gruelling all nighters. Whatever your need, the food outlets on campus are sure to provide you with whatever you're craving. Here's a brief intro to most of the food outlets:

1. Nescafe: An outlet where you get both hot and cold beverages like tea, iced tea, and various kinds of coffee, along with some food items too. There's one in the lawns in front of Vishwakarma hostel, and another one in NABe
2. Isthara: The food court in the academic block. You can get breakfast, lunch and snacks from the food court, fresh fruit juices, delectable frankies, and hot tea and filter coffee.Q
3. Cafe Coffee Day: Another option for getting your caffeine in while in the acad block. You can get freshly brewed coffee for cheap, as well as some items like cookies, sandwiches, juices and chips.Q
4. Wich Please: An outlet that serves exactly what's advertised. Sandwiches. It is an entirely vegetarian stall and serves till late at night. The dishes are fairly priced. The costlier triple layered sandwiches are worth the cost. You also get sweet dessert sandwiches and a few kinds of Maggie
5. Hotspot: We can't mention Maggi without mentioning Hotspot, can we? Many, MANY kinds of Maggi are available here, as well as sandwiches, momos, omelettes, biryani (yes, the actual one), rolls, chicken tikka, the list goes on. You can also get coffee and tea for when you need some caffeine in your bloodstream
6. SFC: The campus's resident burger spot. You can get mouth-watering burgers, as well as other fried snacks like nuggets and the like. You can also get Red Bull here (for when Sting doesn't do the trick).
7. Yummy's: The oldest, cheapest, and a crowd favourite, Yummy's is a go-to place for tons of bored-of-mess-food students. They have a short menu, serving noodles, sandwiches, (not precisely) biryani and rice bowls that give you a break from the mess food you will get used to¹
8. Thickshake: For all the milkshake and ice cream lovers, here's your haven. Get normal milkshakes and thickshakes, scoops of ice cream, as well as other snacks¹
9. Amul: It's an Amul parlour. They serve ice-creams, drinks, and chocolates. EXTREMELY busy during summertime, when this place basically becomes a necessity to visit¹
10. Vijay Vahini: An outlet that serves a variety of curries and starters to eat with rotis and parathas, as well as rice and noodle options. They serve both North and South Indian dishes. It is a go-to option for homely meals and friend group dinners¹
11. Fruitful: An outlet in CP that offers burgers, momos, shakes, cookies, cakes, and other stuff. Most notably, it sells food high in protein like omelettes, boiled eggs and paneer, which – along with its proximity to the gym – makes it the perfect choice for gymgoers. They have reasonable prices, and very cordial owners and staff, but their only problem is their inconsistency with opening dates and timings¹
12. BITSian Pleasant: A fine dining restaurant mostly for parties. They serve soups, oriental and north Indian entrées, main course, delectable kebabs, biryani, and more. The decor is pleasant to watch. One can purchase sodas from the refrigerator next to the cashier. A bit pricey to say the least, but the more people you need to feed, the better.'

SAC AND SPORTS

The campus has plenty of facilities for all the sports lovers out there, there's something for everyone so there's no need to worry.

1. Hockey Field: A big field that separates the two messes. No one calls it Hockey Field, though; it's mostly called OFG (Old Football Ground) because it used to be the old football ground (who would've thought)
2. Kabaddi Ground: There's a kabaddi field near OFG, where some of the most high-octane matches happen during sports fests
3. Volleyball Courts: There are two volleyball courts within a metal cage so the ball doesn't go out of bounds, it's well-lit by floodlights too.

As you go along, you'll find CP, and beyond it, there are a couple more sports grounds, as well as the famous Student Activity Centre (SAC)

4. Tennis Courts: There are two tennis courts where team players and casuals can practice their game
5. Basketball: Two courts with a marked three-point line, equipped with floodlights and a seating area commonly known as the 'bleachers.' Know this place like the back of your hand as this is where most first-time interactions occur. Watch out for the inductions!
6. Football and Athletics: Right past the basketball court, there is a large football field that is circled by a 400m track, called the New Football Ground (NFG). Both athletics and football events occur here.
7. Swimming: A recently opened facility, the swimming pool is a recreational area with a pool that is 25m long and 1.5m deep. Timings are strict and so is the swimwear allowed.?
8. Cricket: A little further beyond NFG and the swimming pool, you'll find the cricket grounds.

Soon you'll spot the big beautiful building in all its glory, the Student Activity Centre. It's the hub of all major recreational activities, and has two floors with the following facilities:

On the lower floor, you'll find

1. Three pool tables and one billiard table along with the necessary equipments.
2. A punching bag where you could catch your peers venting out for all the misfortunes they face.
3. A dance room where you might catch a few dancers from Swaranjali preparing for the next fest.
4. Further in, a squash room. Bring your equipment.
5. Two badminton courts along with plenty of walking room along the sides. Usually the most in-demand sport on campus as it is rarely empty. Bring your equipment.
6. The gym has two floors. Weights (lower floor) and cardio/plyometrics (upper floor) Both sections of the gym are well equipped with machines and weights and the only requirement is to wear proper gear and maintain hygiene.

As for the upper floor, it's where most clubs and departments hold their meetings, rehearsals, and game nights. Notable places include the ELAS, VFX, music, chess, carrom, photography, dramatics and Arts and deco rooms. A common hangout spot on the first floor is the balcony - a place where you may find the occasional musician or people from ELAS or Arts and Deco. This balcony overlooks RNT with a nice view of nature below. Be careful while walking on the upper floors, though. Nobody wants to tip over that random can of paint!

The SAC also houses the Tinkerer's Lab, one can find this student bunker under a staircase between the football grounds and the basketball courts. It's a place usually occupied by members of ARC/Aeolus and is the workspace of some of the brightest minds on campus.

CLUBS, SOCIETIES, DEPARTMENTS AND ASSOCIATIONS

CULTURAL CLUBS:

- **ELAS (English Language Activities Society):** ELAS focuses on promoting the English language and literature among students. It conducts a variety of activities such as debates, quizzes, writing competitions, and literary discussions. ELAS aims to enhance students' language skills and foster a love for literature and effective communication²
- **Hindi Tarang:** Immerse yourself in the enchanting world of poetry and soul-stirring shayaris! Welcome to Hindi Tarang, the cherished literary heaven of BPHC. They also invite poets to talk and organize fun events like Antakshari, and Apun ka Bollywood, apart from other fun events and competitions²
- **Fashion Club:** Life goes on Fashion. They organize Glitterati, our annual fashion event, as well as themed photoshoots and retro walks on Hindi Divas²
- **Comedy Club:** Everyone awaits their show during fests, they write and perform comedic skits about relatable college situations. It's relatively difficult to get into this club. Want to become SU president? Join this club, says the insider talk*
- **Gourmet (Culinary Club):** Interested in cooking amazing dishes and cuisines? Here is an exclusive club for you! Do grab a bite at their food stalls during fests, they are pocket-friendly²
- **Cypher (Dance Club):** It's a close-knit club for all the dancers (all forms except classical). Super hard to get in but if you think you got the moves, make sure to give it a try²
- **AMP (Audio and Music Production Club):** It's a club dedicated to audio and music production. It deals with Music Production of original tracks, Sound Engineering & Design, and DJing.
- **Designers Anonymous (Design Club):** Interested in graphic designing? This club is for you. They mostly work on creating digital art using software like Adobe Photoshop, Figma, Procreate, etc
- **Crimson Curtain (Dramatics Club):** Theatre and Drama enthusiasts and got the skill for it? This club is your playground. You can steal the spotlight here! It could be in the form of acting, scriptwriting, video editing/graphic designing
- **Esports Club:** If sitting in front of the screen playing games for hours is the most fun for you, Esports club has got you covered. With extensive gaming events throughout the year, this club is very much in demand
- **Journal Club:** The journal club encompasses all things writing. We like editing, designing, and writing magazines and articles. Along with covering on-campus news, we also write on current affairs, our interests, and our thoughts
- **Movie Club:** The movie club takes charge of presenting an array of fantastic films. However, their involvement in the world of cinema doesn't end there. Members also contribute to the club by writing movie reviews, engaging in editing tasks, and even exploring the art of filmmaking. It's a versatile and dynamic space for movie enthusiasts to celebrate and appreciate the magic of the silver screen
- **Music Club:** Among the most exclusive clubs on campus, the Music Club stands out as a sought-after group to join. True to its name, this club showcases an array of talented vocalists and instrumentalists, skilled in playing various instruments like violin, keyboard, guitar, tabla, and many more. The captivating music they produce is undeniably contagious, leaving a lasting impact on anyone who listens

- **Quiz Club:** Quiz Club is a dynamic quizzing community that hosts monthly quizzes covering a wide range of topics. The club aims to rekindle the joy of quizzing, offering numerous events throughout the semester. If you're fascinated by current affairs, trivia or intriguing facts, the quiz club provides the perfect setting to indulge your interests.
- **Photog:** As one of the most vibrant clubs on campus, the photography club of BPHC, known as Photog, remains incredibly active. Throughout the year, Photog members are constantly engaged in their passion for photography. It's quite common to spot them on a random evening, eagerly attempting to capture the mesmerizing beauty of a sunset from the new academic terraces
- **Sanskrit and Foreign Languages Club (SaFL):** SaFL is the perfect club for multilingual enthusiasts or linguaphiles who love engaging in a variety of fascinating events throughout the day. The club offers various divisions, such as French, Korean, German, Spanish, and Japanese, where members can immerse themselves in different languages and cultures
- **Shades (Arts Club):** The right place to bring out your art skills is Shades. It deals with all kinds of drawings, paintings, sketching, etc. Their art pieces can be observed around the library, SWD Office, and many more places
- **Swaranjali:** Swaranjali deals with various forms of classical dance and music which have originated from various parts of India. The club with its talented members represents the diverse and exquisite culture of our country
- **VFX Club (Video Effects and Editing Club):** VFX Club deals with video editing, shooting and animation. They shoot actively and are involved with most of the clubs/depts of the campus. Whenever any club/ department is in need of a video, they're there to save the day
- **Paradox:** The Magic Society of BPHC. Masters of card tricks and flairs, sleight of hand and more.

TECH CLUBS

- **cruX:** It is the programming and computing club of the college, full of like-minded people brought together by a love of coding. They cover domains like web development, machine learning, game development, app development, and competitive coding.
- **SEDS (Students for the Exploration and Development of Space):** The aerospace club of BITS Hyderabad. "Space or nothing."
- **IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers):** IEEE is a student branch of the global IEEE organization. It aims to provide students with opportunities to develop their technical skills and knowledge in the fields of electrical and electronics engineering
- **ACM (Association for Computing Machinery):** ACM is the student chapter of the global ACM organization. It focuses on advancing computing as a science and profession by organizing workshops, seminars, and coding competitions
- **Ad Astra:** Are you fascinated with the night sky and the mysteries beyond the skies? Then Ad Astra is perfect for you. They are the astronomy and astrophysics club of the college, united by their love for the stars and beyond
- **BITS SOS:** The Society for Open Software is a group of Open Source enthusiasts whose mission is to acquaint BPHC with open-source software and to increase the adoption of GNU + Linux among students and faculty alike
- **Aeolus:** The Aerial Robotics, that is, drones and RC planes club of BPHC
- **ARC:** The Automation and Robotics Club, dedicated to robotics and automation projects and competitions
- **BHCG:** BITS Hyderabad Consulting Group, offering consulting services and practical experience to students
- **BlockSoc:** The Blockchain Society, centered on blockchain technology and cryptocurrency education
- **SAE:** The Society of Automotive Engineers, involved in automotive engineering and vehicle design competitions
- **Traders@BPHC:** A club dedicated to finance and trading, offering workshops and trading simulations

- GDSC: Google Developer Student Clubs are university based community groups for students interested in Google developer technologies. Students from all undergraduate or graduate programs with an interest in growing as a developer are welcome.
- Wall Street Club: Focused on finance, investment, and economics, with activities like investment challenges and financial analysis workshops.

TECH ASSOCIATION!

- CSA (Computer Science Association)
- PHoEnix (ECE, ENI, and EEE Association)
- MEA (Mechanical Engineering Association)
- ACE (Association of Chemical Engineering)
- CEA (Civil Engineering Association)
- The Economics Association
- AXIOM (Mathematics Association)
- SPECTRUM (Physics Association)
- ALCHEMY (Association of the Chemistry Department)
- SYNAPSIS (Biological Sciences Association)
- PANACEA (Association for Pharmacy Students)

STUDENT BODIES

- Anti Ragging Committee: Anti Ragging Committee offers immediate support for all kinds of problems you face. Be it the anxiousness of being a fresher or having an inappropriate interaction with a senior to prejudice and harassment; we are here for you at all timeD
- BITS Embryo: BITS Embryo is a non-profit organization that invites and hosts eminent speakers at campus events, including but not limited to Vicky Kaushal, R Madhavan, Rakesh Sharma, Anurag Kashyap, Kiran Bedi, APJ Abdul Kalam, Shashi Tharoor. With a wide array of teams, from Communications & Content to Tech and Event Management, you're sure to find a place you fit in and are passionate about. BITS Embryo's teams are fluid and work together tirelessly as a single unit to deliver such amazing sessions to our campus students'
- BITSMUN: BITS Model United Nations (BITSMUN) is an annual conference organized by students, simulating United Nations committees to discuss global issues and foster diplomacy and negotiation skills'
- E Cell: E Cell is the Entrepreneurship Cell at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad, they organise Launchpad, the annual entrepreneurship summit.
- I Cell: I Cell is the Innovation Cell at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad. I-cell is a part of the Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE) and works in collaboration with Technology Business Incubator (TBI)\$
- Law Society: The Law Society at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad, organizes Mediation, Mock Trials, Debates, Articles, Law Review, Constitutional Review, etc\$
- RAF (Recreational Activities Forum): RAF at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad, organizes Orientation, movie screenings, Teachers' Day celebrations, day trips and outings, match screenings, and Bon Voyage\$
- SARC (Student Alumni and Relation Cell): SARC at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad, manages convocations, alumni talks, reunions, campus visits, yearbook publications, and the BITS Echo newsletter\$
- Toastmasters: BPHC chapter of the Toastmasters International organization that operates worldwide for the purpose of helping people develop communication, public speaking, and leadership skills\$

- **SWD (Student Welfare Division):** SWD at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad, ensures the well-being of every student by addressing their needs and concerns. The Division also handles activities such as fee collection, disbursement of institute scholarships, coordination for various fests, maintenance of student accounts related to mess advances, and hostel accommodation arrangements.
- **TEDx: TEDxBITSHyderabad** is an independently organized TED event at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad, featuring talks by guest speakers on diverse ideas and topics.
- **180 Degrees Consulting (180 DC):** A branch of 180 DC, the largest student-run consulting service in the world operates in BPHC. They take up consulting projects from NGOs, non-profits, startups and other such organizations.
- **Election Commission (EC):** The Election Commission (EC) is the body responsible for conducting timely, free and fair elections for all the organs making up the SU. It consists of six members who ensure that the constitution is upheld by the elected position holders and they also act as moderators during the General Body Meets (GBMs). It is an independent, autonomous body which helps to create a democratic notion on campus.
- **Corroboration and Review Committee (CRC):** The CRC is a six member body which verifies all the expenses and incomes of the Student Union (including the four major fests). They also take up the responsibility of reviewing and approving the budgets for the above activities and unholding the BPHC Procedures Manual.
- **Internal Complaints Committee (ICC):** The Internal Complaints Committee is a body dealing with cases regarding sexual harassment and abuse. They are easily approachable and handle such cases with the maximum possible form of anonymity, care and sensitivity; taking the most appropriate form of action for each case. The anonymity of the complainant is of the utmost importance to them if that's what is demanded for, along with providing counseling to the best of their abilities if the complainant has been mentally disturbed, as the comfort of them is the top priority of the ICC.
- **Students Mess Council (SMC):** The Students' Mess Council (SMC) is entrusted with the very important tasks of coming up with the mess menu, negotiating prices of the per-day meals and ensuring an overall smooth flow of the mess activities. They occasionally take feedback from the General Body on the quality of the dishes and the variety of the menu. Facilities like ANC and special dinners on various occasions are bestowed upon by them. The student members for SMC are elected by the GB.
- **Vendors Management Committee (VMC):** The Vendor Management Committee (VMC) is authorized to look after the contracts of the vendors and food outlets on campus, along with negotiating prices of the items they serve and to guarantee a hassle-free environment. They take feedback from the GB on the quality of the dishes served, and services provided by these vendors, and then continue to take the necessary decisions.
- **Students' Anonymous (SA):** Afraid of expressing yourself because they'll judge you or may even mock you? No worries, SA, a student body associated with NSS BPHC, is there to help you with difficult times. It exists as a forum for any student to express their complaints regarding any discomfort, discrimination, or harassment and will be available to listen to anyone who may need someone to talk to. Your identity will not be revealed, so you can comfortably open up and lighten your mind.
- **Computer Center and Information Technology (CCIT):** The CCIT at BPHC ensures that everyone on campus is connected to the internet and to the outside world by handling the LAN network and BITSWifi. They also maintain the computer labs and are helpful for the students facing problems with the internet connectivity on campus. They are open during office hours and also have a 24x7 online portal for grievances.
- **Student Grievance Redressal Committee (SGRC):** The Students' Grievance Redressal Committee consists of professors and student representatives who take note and address any of the grievances students face on campus. You can take up any issues with the professors or approach the student representative directly.

DEPARTMENTS

- **Controlz:** The line between order and disorder lies in logistics. One of the most efficient departments on campus, they oversee the logistics of Atmos and Pearl. From arranging transport and accommodation for guests to event scheduling and management, they ensure the smooth running of all operations. If you wish to develop your organizational and leadership skills and are keen to know how things work behind the scenes during the fest, this department is for you
- **Firewallz:** The backbone of Arena, the sports fest of BPHC, Firewallz looks after the logistics of Arena from the inauguration ceremony to the prize distribution. If you wish to be a part of the biggest department on campus and acquire management skills, Firewallz is for you
- **Department of Photography (DoPY):** In DoPY, we believe in the power of pictures over words. Committed to our philosophy, our primary responsibility is to capture and document all three fests through captivating photographs. If you are a photography enthusiast seeking the perfect platform to showcase your talent, DoPY is the ideal department for you.
- **Department of Sponsorship and Marketing (DoSM):** DoSM comprises a dedicated group of individuals who work tirelessly to uphold the reputation of BPHC fests as some of the best in India. Their primary focus lies in securing new sponsors, maintaining existing and past sponsorships, and raising funds for all three fests. If you consider yourself witty, innovative, and possess excellent negotiating skills, this department offers the perfect opportunity for you to contribute your talents and make a significant impact
- **Lights and Sound Department (LSD):** The LSD takes charge of organizing and overseeing all sound and lighting aspects for various student-run events on campus, including the fests. With a year-round commitment, they ensure the seamless execution of events by providing the necessary technical support and expertise in sound and lighting management. If you have a passion for creating captivating atmospheres and ensuring top-notch audiovisual experiences, LSD is the department where you can make a significant impact
- **Department of Professional Events (DoPE):** DoPE is responsible for securing artists for pro shows, handling their accommodations, and working closely with them during the fest. Gain valuable experience in event management and artist coordination
- **Department of Public and Public Relations (DePP):** DePP is responsible for promoting all three campus fests through various means, including cold calls, organizing offline trips, and workshops. As a member of DePP, you have the opportunity to enhance your skills in Digital Marketing, Search Engine Optimization, and more
- **Department of Visual Effects (DoVE):** DoVE specializes in videography, video editing, and visual effects. Leading up to the fest, they create captivating fest trailers and logo reveals. During the fest, they diligently capture all the festivities. After the fest, they skillfully edit the recorded clips to craft an impressive aftermovie. If you have a passion for creating stunning visual content and capturing memorable moments, DoVE offers an exciting role for you
- **Department of Recreational Activities (DoRA):** DoRA is the powerhouse behind all the fun-filled events at BPHC. From Know Your Homies to Virtual Escape Rooms, and from Blind Dating to offline Treasure Hunts, DoRA organizes a diverse range of enjoyable activities for everyone to participate in and make lasting memories.
- **Department of Arts and Decorations (AnD):** This creative team is dedicated to beautifying our campus and creating a fantastic aesthetic ambiance during the fest. They specialize in crafting life-size models using innovative and unconventional methods. Joining this department only requires your enthusiastic spirit and a knack for innovative thinking
- **Department of Security and Hospitality (DoSH):** DoSH takes charge of ensuring the safety and security of Atmos and Pearl. They handle event registrations, guest accommodations, and collaborate with security consultants to

provide security during the pro shows. Joining DoSH grants you access to the green room, the opportunity to meet artists, and allows you to interact with numerous individuals, making it a rewarding experience

- Department of Technical Arts (DoTA): As the backbone of technical support for our fests, DoTA is a team of skilled graphic designers and app/web developers

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONSS

- Baithak: Represents Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana, Punjab, Delhi NCR, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand
- Sangam: Represents Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, and the Northeast
- Brindavanam: Represents the Telugu states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
- Kasturi: Represents Kannadigas and the state of Karnataka
- Umang: Represents Gujaratis and the state of Gujarat
- Maithri: Represents Malayalis and the state of Kerala
- Maharashtra Mandal (MaMa): Represents Marathis and the state of Maharashtra
- Geetanjali: Represents Bengalis and the state of West Bengal
- Tamil Sangam: Represents Tamilians and the state of Tamil Nadu
- Utkal Samaj: Represents the Odia and the state of Odisha.

NGOs

- ENACTUS: Team of social entrepreneurs committed to using business as a catalyst for positive social and environmental impact+
- ETHOS: Professional development club of BPHC
- Nirmaan: Nirmaan is a student-run social outreach chapter that conducts events on education, skill development, and social leadership. They conduct Ignite, an annual social fest to help underprivileged kids from orphanages nearby. They also conduct JOGW, Project Parikshar, and Manthan+
- NSS(National Service Scheme): Implemented by the Centre's Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, NSS provides the opportunity to take part in government-led community service. Not to be confused with Nirmaan.

SPORTS TEAMS

- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Chess
- Football
- Hockey
- Lawn Tennis
- Skating
- Squash
- Table tennis
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Volleyball

NEWLY ESTABLISHED

- Student Welfare and Mentorship Committee: This is a committee of seniors for mentorship and guidance of first years+
- Vidrohi Systems: The amphibious robotics club which delves into a plethora of offbeat and innovative technological projects for competitions

IMPORTANT GROUPS AND CONTACTS

To survive on this campus, you need to get onto Facebook. The campus runs on Facebook groups, so go on, make an account! You don't want to miss all the inductions posts (on Shoutbox), or the thoughts of the most opinionated people on campus (on Free Expressions Group)! Now that I've mentioned some of these Facebook Groups, allow me to explain how essential each of these groups will be for the rest of your campus life#

1. BPHC Shoutbox: The main Facebook group for BPHC is where all information, right from induction notices to competition announcements, will be posted by the PORs of the respective clubs and departments,
2. BPHC Free Expressions Group: This is the place where you can ask and get real advice on academics and where you can influence the decisions of the SUC,
3. Lost and Found BPHC: The name says it all! It is a big campus and we're all prone to losing things sometime or the other. Do not worry for the good samaritans of BPHC always come to the rescue and all of that happens in this group,
4. SMC@BPHC: The Student Mess Council is the body that decides what you will be eating in the Mess throughout your college years. They post the monthly menu on this group and any grievances regarding the food in the mess can be addressed on this group,
5. Out Of Context BPHC: The group where people post the most hilarious jokes, memes, and conversations without giving any context.
6. Humans of BPHC (HoBPHC): Managed by the Journal Club (yup, that's us), HoBPHC allows the campus residents a platform to share inspiring stories and experiences. Residents of all backgrounds, whether students, faculty, or vendors that empower the general body are a part of this community
7. Travel@BPHC: When you live on the outskirts of the outskirts of Hyderabad, you will want to connect with people so you don't need to travel alone and can split the taxi fares! This group helps you connect with such people
8. Buy & Sell@BPHC: This is the place where you can buy & sell things that you will need on campus throughout your years in college
9. Free Shitposting Group: Being a true BITSIAN means being part of the vibrant meme culture here on campus. BPHC shitposting is crucial to the environment on campus
10. VMC@BPHC: The Vendor Management Committee looks after all the outlets on campus and any complaints regarding the outlets on campus will be addressed on this group 11 BITSians for each other BITSians from the past, present, and future will be present in this group to help you out in any way possible.
11. BITS2MSPHD This is the go-to group for any questions you might have regarding Masters or PhD studies. Join this group to learn more about the wonderful seniors from BITS who have studied in various universities for higher studies!

Anti-ragging Committee: As the name suggests, the Anti-Ragging Committee deals with any issues related to ragging on campus. If at any point throughout your college life- you are made to feel unsafe, uncomfortable, or otherwise disturbed by the actions of your seniors/ juniors/ batch mates, contact any member of the Anti-Ragging Committee. Feel free to approach a senior or professor you trust, if you feel intimidated at the thought of

approaching a formal body. These are the numbers of the members of the Anti-Ragging Committee: 1. Preetam Reddy Basarahalli - +91 63057 58220 2. Prayag Rath - +91 94053 27980 3. Shailendra Allam - +91 89780 54810 4. Golipally Srinija Reddy - +91 93471 76004 5. Adithya Nama - +91 63005 66976 (Academic Counseling Cell: The Academic Counseling Cell (or ACC for short) aims to provide academic counseling to any student in need of it. While the ACC was established to deal with student problems related to academics, they do not restrict themselves to only academic issues.

If you're in requirement of any assistance, simply pop at their doorstep and they shall assist away.

Disciplinary Committee: The Disciplinary Committee deals with alleged breaches of college rules. This includes the standard drinking/smoking and extends to vandalism of the institute's or peer's property and hostel violations as well Internal Complaints Committee: The Internal Complaints Committee deals with any problems related to harassment, assault or abuse- physical, sexual, or otherwise on campus – by providing complaint redressal mechanisms Queer Consortium: A campus-wide support network for allies furthers the larger discussion around inclusion and acceptance of the community ANCHOR and MPOWER: Anchor is the pan-campus Gender and Sexuality Cell and an LGBTQ+ community organization by and for the students of BITS Pilani. They work towards fostering inclusivity for queer students and educating the student body on a spectrum of LGBTQ+ topics.

FESTS

PEARL

The cultural fest of BPHC, which grew into a national-level college cultural fest with participation from more than 50 colleges across India is usually the last official fest of the academic year. Color, joy, and vigor usually infest the air during this time. Pearl has hosted many celebrities of vernacular, national, and international renown over the years since its inception. Each of the three days of the festival ends with a performance by a celebrity performer or band. Make sure to join the fun with your clubs as well, to get a hands-on experience and unique perspective! Members of cultural clubs also get the opportunity to perform on opening night in front of a roaring home crowd in our auditorium.

ATMOS

Atmos (Assimilation of Technically MOtivated Souls), the first fest every fresher would experience, is generally held in October. This fest gives you a chance to channel the technical genius in you. ATMOS hosts a myriad of inter-college technology and management-related competitions and group discussions, where students from across the nation battle to ace. These competitions cover various fields of interest, attracting many participants and a large audience, the most prominent ones being Robowars and Drone racing events. Apart from this, numerous open workshops are conducted to help students explore new avenues. ATMOS is also a platform where prominent leaders from various sectors are invited to conduct talks. The three days of ATMOS are bound to make memories for life.

ARENA

Arena, BPHC's annual inter-college sports fest is the most energetic and power-packed fest, organized in January, a super exciting month, with 3 more exciting days for Verba Maximus. It's a fest where one can enjoy, both inside the court as a player or outside it, and witness thrilling matches that very often leave you speculating till the very last minute.

ARENA sets up a unique atmosphere on the campus, with students from different colleges exploring it, floodlights livening up the night, a ton of food stalls set up and people gathering close to keep a watch on the scoreboards. A place where players bond over games and skills are chiseled, ARENA is one of the fests that attracts a lot of footfall.

VERBA MAXIMUS

Verba Maximus is the unofficial literary fest of BPHC. Members of ELAS and JC, this is your time to shine! Unlike other fests, there are no holidays while this fest is being organized, though you will still see food trucks and a long line for coupons in front of either mess. Events include both speaking and writing contests and for those members who get to work behind the scenes, the lack of stressful work combined with a lot of goofing around, this patch of spring will rejuvenate your mind for the upcoming exam season.

LAUNCHPAD

Launchpad is the annual entrepreneurship summit conducted by E-Cell of BPHC. It is an event filled with internship opportunities, events, exciting workshops, and many young entrepreneurs pitching their innovative ideas. This time 'Pitcher's Pilot' was also organized, an event inspired by SharkTank, which was a bliss to the eyes.

TRAVEL In the course of a few weeks, the magnificent campus of 200 acres will start to feel small and less fun to you, and you will want to go out in the city to have a blast. However, our campus is on the far outskirts of the city, so much so that just the name of our college is enough of an excuse for cab drivers to cancel the rides. However, there is no need to worry as the following will guide you through both your pre-planned and last-minute outing plans with your friends.

One thing you all should understand is in college life at BITS Hyderabad, your best friend is no person but bus no. 212. It is the only bus that comes to the campus gate and travels to Secunderabad railway station. It makes your travel easier and cheaper, with just 35 rupees you will be able to reach the nearest metro station, i.e. the Parade Ground metro station, from where you can reach any corner of the city. Timings for 212 are usually updated on the Free Expression Group (FEG) Facebook group.

In case you ever miss 212, because of your ever so punctual friends, there is no need to worry as you can take any of the other buses that go to Parade Ground, from the bus station near Thumkunta/Tandoor restaurant. There are plenty of rickshaws available in front of the gate that will take you to Thumkunta for a fixed price of 100 rupees, for 5 people or less; if the number of passengers exceeds 5, then the price becomes 20 per person. On a side note, it is very much advised to save the contacts of these rickshaw-walas because if you are anywhere near the campus or somewhere between the campus and Alwal, they come to pick you up if you call them. Coming back to the buses to Parade Ground, there is a bus stop in front of Tandoor restaurant where buses come every 10 minutes. Ask the driver if the bus goes to Parade Ground and gets in, you will most probably be standing as the buses are quite full. In short, the crucial part of your travel, i.e. to reach Parade Ground will take you 40-60 mins and 60 rupees at max.

Try to carry cash, as UPI might not always be available here.

Once you reach Parade Ground, all you gotta do is put in the place you wanna go to on Google Maps and check the nearest metro station from that place. Book a metro ticket to that place, which can be easily done via Paytm: all you gotta do is scan the QR codes present near every metro station ticket counter. A metro ticket costs between 10-60 rupees depending on where you want to go. Hyderabad metro has 3 lines, red, blue, and green. Using the map of the metro routes, just check whether you have to change lines at whichever junction. The journey in the metro will usually not take you any longer than 30 minutes, depending on where you are going. After reaching the desired station, you can easily find rickshaws lined outside the metro station. However, it is convenient and easier to book an OLA or Uber rickshaw, if you are bad at negotiating the fare.

To be honest, coming back to campus is one of the most hectic and cumbersome tasks. After 10:15 pm the metro closes, and after 9 pm cab drivers use their upper hand. Even if you book by Ola/Uber or any other app, the cab driver will call you and ask what is the destination, and if you say BITS Pilani, they will either do one of three things– Cancel the ride, say that they are coming and then cancel the ride, or outright ask for extra money than what the app says (and they might STILL cancel the ride). To tackle the first 2 scenarios; you don't say BITS Pilani directly, but say Shamirpet. In response, they'll still have the same reason that they won't get a ride back, but at least in this case they might come and be willing to think of the third scenario. As harsh as it may sound, you will have no choice but to pay a little more than what the app says, otherwise, no cab driver will take your ride. 100-200 rupees works, but not more than that.

To save yourself from all this trouble, try not to stay out too late, as buses still run from JBS to Tandoor, or Thumkunta till 8. So that's your best and cheapest option.

Finally! You have been successful in going out with your friends. Keep practicing and who knows one day your Goa plan may come true as well.

TRAVEL OUTSIDE CAMPUS - OUTSTATION [AIRPORT AND RAILWAY STATION] To go home and come back to Hyderabad, the options most students use are air and rail. So to get from the airport and multiple railway stations, the cab drivers charge exorbitant fares since our campus is fairly far from the city center. A ride to the airport will set you back about 1600 to 1800 rupees for a cab, and the fares for Secunderabad or Nampally stations will cost you about 1000 rupees.

To leave campus, you can either book a cab from the multiple agencies who ply to campus or if you're lucky enough, you may even find an Ola or Uber driver nearby. When coming to campus, as mentioned before, they'll probably ask for extra money due to reasons. Do not let them scalp you out of a lot of money in the name of ORR toll. Always agree on the price and route of your commute and never give more than 100-200 rupees extra if your haggling fails.

Hence, we also have a few groups to make your commute to the airport and railway stations easier in your pocket by sharing cabs and splitting the cost. Our Facebook group Travel@BPHC, and a new app named Rideshare BPHC (by the campus dev group CRUX) will help you find people going at the time and date of your travel plan.

BITS LINGO

Lite It's a way of life here at Bits, a façade to hide away all your inner pain and to delulu your way away from CG. It means that the issue is "light" or doesn't matter which isn't always the case. "How did the quiz go?" "Lite, bro." "How's your sem CG?" "Lite, bro."

Tuts It stands for tutorial classes where you solve problems. Some tuts like EG are evaluative, but most aren't.

Ghots Someone still stuck in their JEE phase who studies all the time. It becomes impossible to have a normal conversation with them without talking about academics. But it's more of a praise than an insult.

Verti The dream that remains a dream for most freshers. It is the chance to get upgraded to a better branch awarded to the highly meritorious.

PHoEnix (Perpetual Hankerers of Electronix) A term used to collectively refer to all EEE, ECE, and ENI students. A dualite is fuelled by the fear of ending up in the highly dreaded phoenix. The stressful evals, the heavy workload, and the pressure among students will ensure you come out of BITS electrocuted.

BST It stands for BITSian standard time. It varies from IST by a minimum of 30 minutes. So every event you attend- inauguration, artist's pro shows, comedy nights, and cultural nights, expect it to be delayed by 30 minutes at least.

ERP The site handles registration for courses, and fee payment, and displays your grades (if it loads up that is).

ANC It stands for 'All Night Canteen'. You make orders on SWDPay on the SWD app/website and it is the place to satisfy your midnight cravings. Money is spent like it's free here till the deductions sheet comes out. It is one of the best things that our campus has to offer, make the most of it.

DISCO You wouldn't want to be anywhere associated with this. It stands for the Disciplinary Committee. (it's also the short form for Discrete Structures in Computer Science, a 2-1 CDC)

ROCKS A large collection of you guessed it: huge rocks. You must have seen this by now. The piece of architecture that stands out in our campus. Climbing the rocks is a fun activity for friends and couples alike.

LL and RNT (refer to map) LL, running from the main gate to Vishwakarma Bhawan, stands for Lover's Lane but contradictory to its name it's isolated. RNT refers to Road Not Taken, and it's the stretch of road going from SAC to New Academic Block.

Makeup If you miss an evaluative, you can redeem yourself with makeup. General advice- take it only for labs and don't miss any exams. The makeup papers are way harder than the regular ones and you don't know if you'd even be granted one.

Interaction When a senior asks you for one, or to give an "intro", you follow the format- name, ID number, where you are from, and your hobbies. It may or may not be accompanied by a task. It is always fun and opens you up.

DC++ That LAN cable of yours isn't just good for providing high-speed internet, you know. Enter DC++, a software that allows peer-to-peer sharing of files over the LAN. The campus WiFi has some restrictions and a 10GB data limit, which can be frustrating if you want to download or upload multiple files. That's where DC++ comes in. It allows you to connect to other users connected to the LAN, share files with them, and access files that they share. The files shared include terabytes of games, movie shows, movies, and music on the entertainment side, as well as videos, slides, courses, and other material on the academic side. With DC++, you can download and upload files freely without limits.