



**NEWSLETTER FROM SASTRA DEEMED UNIVERSITY      VOL 23      IV QUARTER      2023**

### **MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**



I am immensely proud to reflect on the significant recent events in our esteemed institution, which underscore our unwavering commitment to excellence, and innovation. The signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between CREATE

Trust and SASTRA Deemed University for the ethnoscientific screening of indigenous paddy varieties through Human Clinical Trials marks a pivotal moment in our dedication to advancing research and addressing critical agricultural issues.

Our University's graduation ceremonies, spread across three memorable dates, were remarkable occasions graced by esteemed dignitaries such as Shri Deepak Kota, Shri S. Sarathi, Shri Sriram Viji, Shri Prem Singh, and Prof. Sreekanth Yagnamurthy. Their speeches emphasised the importance of lifelong learning, creativity, and embracing challenges, resonating deeply with our graduating students.

Elsevier's unveiling of the 'updated science-wide author databases of standardised citation indicators' recognised the outstanding scholarly contributions of our faculty members and researchers. Notably, 11 individuals from SASTRA Deemed University were acknowledged for their significant contributions across diverse fields, highlighting the global impact of our research endeavours.

Prof. K.S. Rajan, Dean, School of Chemical and Biotechnology, represented India at the prestigious 'Going Global 2023' conference in Edinburgh,

facilitating discussions on tertiary education and networking with international stakeholders. Subsequent visits to esteemed institutions enhanced our understanding of student mobility issues and promoted collaboration opportunities. Dr. P. Suganthi, along with a team, was awarded a Short-term Empirical Research Project by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR). This project aims to assess the socio-economic impact of the Year of Millets Scheme 2023 on stakeholders in select districts of Tamil Nadu, aligning with the UN's designation of 2023 as the 'International Year of Millets'.

SASTRA Deemed University's selection as one of the recipients for the establishment of 5G labs nationwide by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India, underscores our institution's expertise in engineering and technology and opens up opportunities for collaboration. The inauguration of the 36th chapter of the National Human Resource Development Network (NHRDN) and the launch of innovative products developed at our Technology Business Incubators further demonstrate our commitment to skill development, and indigenous innovation.

Our collaboration with CREATE, aimed at raising awareness about the medicinal and nutritional benefits of organic products through ethnoscientific human clinical trials, highlights our dedication to collective challenges. I am also delighted to share the incredible achievement of the Association of Bio-Inspired Leaders and Entrepreneurs at SASTRA-TBI (ABLEST), which was honoured with the title of Best Technology Business Incubator (TBI) in tier III cities at Global Bio-India 2023. This prestigious recognition is a testament to ABLEST's dedication to encourage innovation and supporting startups

in the biotechnology sector. CEO Dr. S. Anuradha's leadership and vision have been instrumental in spearheading the development of healthcare solutions originating from rural Thanjavur.

These events exemplify SASTRA's dedication to facilitating innovation, entrepreneurship, and societal impact, positioning as a leader in higher education and research.

### **Prof.S.Vaidhyasubramaniam**

#### **Vice - Chancellor**

#### **MoU**

On December 12th, 2023, an MoU was signed between CREATE Trust and SASTRA for conducting ethnoscientific screening of indigenous paddy varieties through Human Clinical Trials. Prof. R. Chandramouli, Registrar, SASTRA Deemed University, underscored the pressing need to tackle issues related to food, health, and nutrition. Similarly, Prof. John Bosco Balaguru, Dean Sponsored Research, reaffirmed the institution's dedication to collaborative research efforts.



#### **Graduation Day 2023**

SASTRA Deemed University proudly celebrated its graduation day across three memorable dates: September 16th, 17th, and October 7th, 2023. The ceremonies were graced by esteemed dignitaries, including Shri Deepak Kota, Director of Global IT Support at Kellogg's, Shri S. Sarathi, Group President of Anand Group and Joint Managing Director of HL Mando Anand India Pvt. Ltd., Shri Sriram Viji, Managing Director of Brakes India Pvt. Ltd., Shri Prem Singh, President of Group HR at JK Organisation and National President of the National HRD Network, and Prof. Sreekanth Yagnamurthy, Principal of the Regional Institute of Education, Mysuru.

These distinguished speakers delivered the graduation address and had the honour of awarding degrees to the graduating students. They highlighted the significance of lifelong learning, risk-taking, and embracing challenging tasks. Emphasising that metacognition and creative thinking are integral to success, they urged students to cultivate both intellectual prowess and compassion in their personal and professional lives. The graduation ceremonies provided students with invaluable insights and inspiration from experienced industry leaders.



#### **Elsevier Top 2 Percent List**

Elsevier recently unveiled the 'updated science-wide author databases of standardised citation indicators,' which encompassed a comprehensive selection of 2,10,198 scientists across diverse fields. Notably, among this esteemed cohort, 89 researchers affiliated with 11 Tamil Nadu State Universities and 143 from 17 Deemed Universities within the state were acknowledged. Remarkably, 11 individuals from Shanmugha Arts, Science, Technology & Research Academy (SASTRA Deemed University) were among those recognised for their scholarly contributions.

#### **Going Global 2023**

Prof. K.S. Rajan, Dean, School of Chemical and Bio-technology (SCBT), represented India as part of the delegation at the 'Going Global 2023' conference in Edinburgh from November 20th to 22nd, 2023. The conference focused on various concerns regarding tertiary education, particularly Trans National Education (TNE), facilitating networking with international higher education stakeholders. Subsequently, from

November 23rd to 24th, 2023, visits were made to the University of Manchester, the University of Birmingham, and the University of Liverpool. These visits enhanced understanding of student mobility issues and nurtured collaboration opportunities.



### Extramural Funded Project

In September 2023, the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Ministry of Education, awarded a Short-term Empirical Research Project titled “Unveiling the Transformative Power of ‘The Year of Millets Scheme 2023’. Assessing Socio-economic Impact for Sustainable Growth in the Select Districts of Cauvery Delta Region of Tamil Nadu” to Dr. P. Suganthi, Assistant Professor, School of Management, SASTRA, along with a



with a team of researchers. This collaborative project involves experts from diverse disciplines including Dr.Sagayam, School of Chemical and Biotechnology, Dr.Abirami, School of Arts, Sciences, Humanities and Education, Dr.Jayanthi, School of Management, and Dr. Emily Jenifer, School of Computing. Aligned with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation’s (FAO) designation of 2023 as the ‘International Year of Millet,’ the study aims to assess the penetration of initiatives under the scheme among stakeholders

such as farmers, Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), and consumers in select districts of the Cauvery Delta Region. The research grant will be utilised to evaluate the socio-economic impact of the ‘Year of Millets Scheme 2023’ initiatives.

### 5G labs

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India, plans to establish 100 5G labs nationwide, with seven Engineering Colleges and Deemed Universities in Tamil Nadu set to benefit. Significantly, SASTRA Deemed University is one of the beneficiaries. The government will cover 80% of capital expenses and 100% of operational costs for four years, promoting collaboration with start-ups and MSMEs.

### NHRDN chapter

On October 24, 2023, SASTRA Deemed University proudly inaugurated the 36th chapter of the National Human Resource Development Network (NHRDN). With a robust membership exceeding 100 individuals, this chapter is dedicated to enhancing skills and capabilities, particularly focusing on farmers and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Thanjavur district. NHRDN President, Shri Prem Singh commended the University for swiftly establishing the chapter, recognising its potential to make a significant impact on skill development in the region. Vice-Chancellor Prof. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam reaffirmed the University’s unwavering commitment and pledged full support to the initiative.



Prof. V. Dhanu Mani, Dean, School of Management, spearheads the Thanjavur chapter, with the goal of expanding membership to include a diverse range of stakeholders, including corporate executives, faculty, students, businessmen, and farmers across four districts.

## SASTRA launches nine tech products

On November 8, 2023, Smt. Nidhi Bansal, Scientist G & Director of Directorate of Technology Development Fund, DRDO, India, launched nine innovative products developed at SASTRA Campus's Technology Business Incubators. These products encompass a diverse range of solutions, including an Organ Transport Box designed for efficient medical deliveries via drones, a natural supplement to enhance milk production in cows, and Ubot& Aryan mobile robots catering to telepresence and educational needs. Additionally, paceB offers a solution for diagnosing and managing movement disorders while Safe Lockers provide advanced security features. Robot by Robonetics Automation aids in hazardous environments and intralogistics while the e-toggle solution facilitates stress-free irrigation for agriculture. During the launch event, Smt. Bansal emphasised the importance of allocating 25% of the defence R&D budget for indigenous technology development. She also encouraged participation in initiatives such as the iDEX challenge and Dare to Dream Schemes to promote the Make in India and Made for World initiatives.



## Global Bio-India Award

At Global Bio-India 2023, the Association of Bio-Inspired Leaders and Entrepreneurs at SASTRA-TBI (ABLEST) clinched the title of Best Technology Business Incubator (TBI) in tier III cities. The prestigious award was bestowed upon ABLEST by DBT Secretary Shri Rajesh Gokhale on December 6, 2023. ABLEST, boasting a roster of over 45 incubates, showcased innovative products such as a 3D printed organ transport box and a smart mosquito repellent. With a state-of-the-art BSL-3 facility, ABLEST provides a nurturing environment for therapeutics and diagnostics

startups, with support from BIRAC and DBT. Through its participation in the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme, ABLEST contributes to the growth of the Tamil Nadu bionest cluster by offering seed money to budding entrepreneurs. CEO Dr. S. Anuradha expresses her pride in pioneering the development of healthcare solutions originating from rural Thanjavur.



## SASTRA holds free medical camp in Chennai

On December 9, 2023, SASTRA's Chennai campus partnered with Sri Ramachandra Hospital, Porur, to organise a complimentary medical camp for more than 300 residents affected by the recent rains in Ashok Nagar, Vadapalani, Virugambakkam, and K.K. Nagar. Led by cardiologist Dr. JSN Murthy, a team of six doctors provided medical examinations to the patients. Around 40 individuals, including six children, were identified for further assessment, with nine requiring surgical procedures. These surgeries, encompassing cardiac, general, ophthalmological, and orthopaedic interventions, will be conducted at Sri Ramachandra Hospital, with SASTRA covering the expenses. Additionally, attendees received free medication, health guidance, and counselling on adopting healthy practices.

## Nutritional value to indigenous paddy

CREATE, an NGO, collaborates with SASTRA Deemed University to raise awareness about the medicinal and nutritional benefits of organic products through scientifically proven methods. An MoU was signed for ethnoscientific human clinical trials on traditional Tamil Nadu paddy varieties. Tests will be conducted at SASTRA's well-equipped lab. Shri Duraisingam, CREATE chairman, emphasises consumer awareness of food origins and safety.

At a workshop, he highlights the need for evidence-based information dissemination to combat prevalent non-communicable diseases. Prof. R. Chandramouli, Registrar, underscores addressing food and health-related issues and their nutritional significance.

## Conferences

The 6th PMAA – Biennial International Conference on “New Frontiers, New Approaches: Ethical Performance Management in a Developing Country” was held at SASTRA Deemed University, Thanjavur from November 29th to December 1st, 2023. Organised by City Union Bank – Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Centre for Development Studies and the School of Management, SASTRA, in collaboration with the Performance Measurement Association of Australasia, the conference featured distinguished guests such as Prof. Ralph Adler, Prof. Maasimo Sargiacomo, Prof. Roland Spekle, and Smt. Pooja Chawla Sanghavi. It aimed to address pressing issues in performance management, with over 40 research papers presented by international researchers and professors.



## Workshops

On October 28th, 2023, Department of Education organised a one-day workshop on Emboss Painting for II and III B.A., B.Ed., /B.Sc., B.Ed. students. Dr. S. Brindha, the organiser and



conducted a demonstration on Emboss Painting. Following this, painting kits were distributed to students. All students actively engaged in the activity, completing their paintings and presenting them for display.

On November 17, 2023, School of Civil Engineering conducted a curriculum development workshop to gather feedback on the B.Tech. Civil Engineering and M.Tech. Structural Engineering programmes. Faculty members and student representatives from both programmes attended the meeting, where students shared their perspectives on the existing curriculum and their expectations for improvements.

The Math Company organised two ‘Monthly Elevate’ virtual workshops on October 4th and November 20th, 2023. Smt. Sharmila Ail, Manager & Coach, led the session on October 4th with 200 student participants via Zoom. On November 20th, Shri P.Aravindhnan, Senior Associate, conducted the programme with 120 student participants.



A workshop aimed at influencing consumers towards organically farmed produce was held at SASTRA Deemed University, Thanjavur on December 12th, 2023. Co-organised by CREATE Trust and SASTRA, the event aimed to address concerns about health and nutrition. Dr. Duraisingam, Chairman of CREATE, stressed the importance of sharing evidence-based information with consumer influencers such as food writers, bloggers, media, and organic farmers. Smt. C. Kayalvizhi, Assistant Commissioner, Commercial Taxes Department, Trichy division, emphasised the need for organic farming certification through NPOP. Dr. A.Sathya, Associate Professor, SASTRA Deemed University, discussed strategies for expanding the consumer base for organic food, and Dr. Mani Maaran highlighted ancestral food and health systems. Siddha practitioner Dr. Savariraj Shayam

and allopathic doctors enriched the audience with knowledge on the benefits of consuming organic and heritage foods. Shri Suresh Kanna, Project Director at CREATE, welcomed participants, and Shri Satheesh Kumar delivered the vote of thanks.

On December 15th, 2023, Dr. R. Sriranjani, School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering led a workshop on IoTSEN 2023-24. The participants gained practical experience in software installation, sensor data monitoring, publishing data to cloud and MQTT servers, and implementing real-time IoT applications.



On December 18, 2023, a workshop titled “Learning Outcomes and Criterion-Based Evaluation” was held for faculty members from School of Civil Engineering and other departments at SASTRA. Prof. T. R. Neelakantan, Dean, School of Civil Engineering and IQAC Coordinator, delivered an interactive lecture on Outcome-Based Evaluation, emphasising the use of rubrics and criterion-based assessment. Participants engaged in hands-on exercises to develop learning outcomes, review question papers, create concise rubrics, and implement criterion-based evaluation methods.



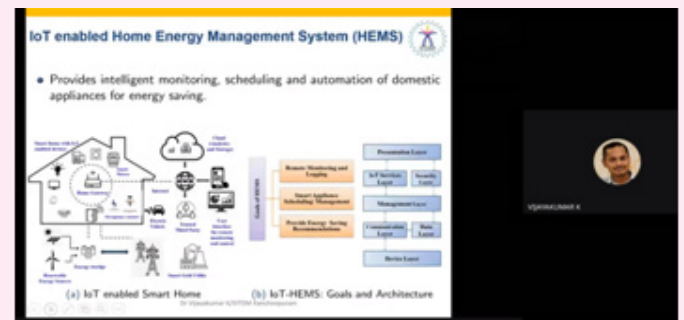
### Knowledge Lecture Forums

School of Civil Engineering hosted a guest lecture as part of the Knowledge Leadership Forum (KLF) on October 27th, 2023. Dr. Prakash Nanthagopalan, Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay), delivered a lecture on “Utilizing agro-based residues and recycled aggregates,

along with managing construction and demolition waste, highlighting the process involved from waste to the final product.



As part of the Knowledge Lecture Forum (KLF) session on October 30th, 2023, Dr. Vijayakumar Krishnasamy, Associate Professor, School of Computer & Electrical Engineering, IIITDM, Kancheepuram, led a webinar titled ‘AI & IoT in Smart Grid’ for III B. Tech. students of SEEE. Approximately, 200 participants had the chance to learn about how Artificial Intelligence is used in smart grid technology.



### Faculty Development Programmes

On December 4th, 2023, School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering organised a Faculty Development Programme (FDP) aimed at delving into the Personal Embedded Trainer (PET) – Version 2.0. Over fifteen faculty



members and research scholars from both Thanjavur and Kumbakonam campuses enthusiastically engaged in the workshop. Dr. J. Siva and Dr. N. Raju from SEEE acted as resource persons, guiding the participants to acquire hands-on experience in developing embedded applications using PET Version 2.0 within an open-source development environment.

From December 11th to 16th, 2023, School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering hosted a week-long AICTE Training and Learning Academy (ATAL) Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on “AI-Enabled Reconfigurable Surfaces and Devices for 6G Communications,” financially supported by ATAL Academy. Led by Prof. Dr. K. Thenmozhi, Dr. A. Rajesh, Dr. Ramya Vijay, and Dr. P. Yogeswari, the programme commenced with an inaugural ceremony featuring Dr. D. Sriram Kumar, a Professor at NIT, Tiruchirapalli, as the Chief Guest. Participants also enjoyed industrial visits and hands-on sessions with electromagnetic simulators, in line with the Bharat 6G initiative.



School of Civil Engineering at SASTRA Deemed University, Thanjavur, organised a six-day Faculty Development Programme (FDP) from December 11 to 16, 2023, titled “Recent Developments in Geospatial Techniques, Hydrological Systems, and Waste Remediation,” supported by AICTE’s ATAL FDP initiative.



Dr. G. Swaminathan from NIT, Tiruchirappalli,

inaugurated the event. Coordinated by the Centre for Advanced Research in Environment (CARE), the FDP aiming to facilitate exploration of cutting-edge advancements and practical skills in geospatial techniques, hydrology, and waste management for educators, researchers, and professionals.

### **School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering**

On November 17th, 2023, SASTRA IEEE SB received approval for an IEEE AP-S student chapter. The inauguration of the chapter was conducted by Dr. S.S. Karthikeyan, Associate Professor at NIT and Former IEEE AP-S Chair of the Madras Section. Dr. S.S. Karthikeyan delivered the inaugural address, followed by a keynote session on “Smart Antennas.” The event was attended by members of IEEE SB, IEEE AP-S, RFCoE faculty, and the research team, who all benefited from the session.



Dr. N.R. Raajan, Associate Professor, School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering, along with his team, aided government officials in tallying the number of pilgrims who visited Sri Annamalaiyar Temple in Tiruvannamalai during the Karthigai Deepam Festival in November 2023. He is

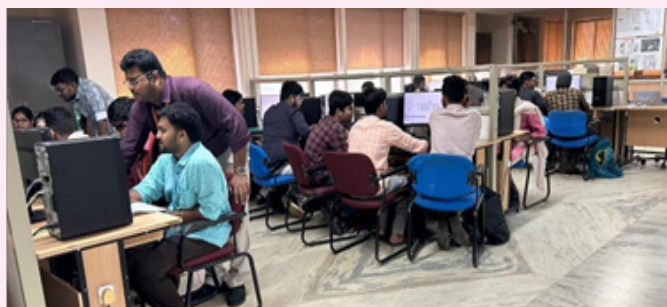


briefing Smt. P. Amudha, IAS, Principal Secretary of Tamil Nadu, Shri Mohan, IAS, the Collector of Tiruvannamalai, Shri Kannan, IPS, the Inspector General of Police for the North zone, Shri Muthuswami, IPS, the Deputy Inspector General of Police for Vellore, along with sub-collectors and

superintendents of police about the technical procedures involved.

## School of Computing

From December 18 to 23, 2023, the Team VLSI at the School of Computing, SASTRA Deemed University, organised an insightful Winter School Certification on VLSI - Theory & Practice for Beginners. This certification comprised two modules: Analog VLSI and Digital VLSI. In the Analog VLSI module, participants delved into MOS device physics, MOSFET regions of operation, second-order effects, and single-stage amplifier design optimisation methodologies. The curriculum also included hands-on experience in simulating basic MOS fundamentals and differential amplifiers using LTSpice software. The programme covered crucial aspects such as path calculation, power dissipation, logical efforts, and the application of various CMOS techniques for designing arithmetic and sequential subsystems, facilitated by the Microwind EDA tool.



## School of Chemical & Biotechnology

Prof. M. Vijayan, a renowned structural biologist, dedicated over 50 years to the Molecular Biophysics Unit (MBU) at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru. In honour of his profound contributions to Indian science, especially in structural biology, the Bioinformatics Center (BIC) and the Centre for Research in Infectious Diseases (CRID), SASTRA Deemed University, jointly organised the Prof. M. Vijayan Memorial Annual Symposium on Structural Biology and Bioinformatics of Infectious Diseases on October 8th & 9th, 2023. The symposium, inaugurated by Prof. Shekhar C. Mande, featured keynote speakers including Prof. Vijayan's Ph.D. and Postdoctoral students. The speakers were Prof. J. Venkatesh Pratap (CDRI, Lucknow), Prof. Bichitra Kumar Biswal (NII, New Delhi), Prof. Saikrishnan Kayarat (IISER, Pune), Prof. N. T. Saraswathi (SASTRA, Thanjavur), Prof. Krishna (Pondicherry University),

Prof. Desk Deepak Singh (Panjab University), Prof. Siddhartha Roy (IICB, Kolkata), Prof. Prem Singh Kaushal (RCB, Faridabad) and Prof. Thyageshwar Chandran (NIT, Warangal).

Additionally, a lecture series bearing Prof. Vijayan's name commenced with a talk by Prof. Mande on October 8th, 2023, continuing until September 2024, with contributions from Prof. Vijayan's academic successors. These events commemorate Prof. Vijayan's legacy and nurtured collaboration and advancements in structural biology and bioinformatics. Organised by Dr. S. Thamocharan, Prof. N. T. Saraswathi, Prof. Vigneshwar Ramakrishnan, and Prof. R. Jayapradha, with support from SERB, DBT, and SASTRA Deemed University, the symposium showcased the enduring impact of exceptional individuals like Prof. Vijayan on scientific progress.



## Plasma Compendium

Following the successful blood donation camp in September 2023, Plasma Compendium and Red Ribbon Club (RRC), in collaboration with Thanjavur Medical College, organised the second blood donation camp at SASTRA Deemed University



on October 30th, 2023. A commendable total of 104 units of blood was donated by SASTRA students. The camp was inaugurated by the Dean of Thanjavur Medical College and overseen by Dr. Saraswathi. Donors received certificates, and Plasma members

followed up with them after donation.

On November 6th, 2023, the Plasma Compendium and Red Ribbon Club (RRC) organised an awareness talk on the topic “Anemia and its Consequences.” The session was conducted by Dr.R.V.S. Velmurugan, Blood Transfusion Officer at Thanjavur Medical College.



### **Bio-Inspired Design (BID) Contest 2023**

“Biology for Engineers” is a course designed for I year B.Tech. and M.Tech. (5 yrs integrated) students at SASTRA Deemed University, starting in 2018. The course includes a contest, formerly known as BIOCONTEST, to nurture learning and innovation in biology-based engineering solutions. The Biological Innovations Display (BID) encourages students to present creative models or posters under the theme “Pioneering Inventions from Biological Inspirations.” Held on November 25th, 2023, at the Technology Development Centre (TDC), the event attracted over 320 students in 73 teams from both SASTRA main and SRC campuses. The winning teams received a cash prize of Rs. 1000/- along with certificates, and all participants were awarded participation certificates.



The Chemical Engineering Alumni gathering, marking 25 years of the discipline at SASTRA Deemed University, took place on December, 24,

2023, at the Thanjavur campus. Around 100 alumni from graduating batches spanning 1998 to 2023 attended, reminiscing about their experiences with current students. Esteemed teachers who laid the foundation of chemical engineering at SASTRA, including Dr. Arul Gnanaraj, Shri C. Asokan, and Shri K. Ragunathan, graced the event. Dr. P. Rajagopal, a prominent faculty member from the early years, shared nostalgic anecdotes, recalling hands-on learning experiences like ice-cream making and industrial visits. Dr. Arul Gnanaraj extended warm wishes to alumni and current students, highlighting revered teachers like Prof. K. N. Somasekharan and advocating for a value-driven career. Shri C. Asokan emphasised the potential of chemical engineers in marine chemistry while Shri K. Ragunathan discussed the adaptability of chemical processes to technological advancements and sustainable practices. Prof. K. S. Rajan, Dean, School of Chemical and Biotechnology, reflected on the growth of Chemical Engineering at SASTRA and its alignment with evolving professional and institutional needs. Dr. V. Ponnusami, Associate Dean, proposed avenues for alumni-institute interaction, including recruitment, career counselling, and professional mentorship. Alumni shared their SASTRA experiences, offering insights and advice to current students, encouraging them to maximise their learning opportunities.



### **School of Mechanical Engineering**

On October 14, 2023, MECASSO organised Sakshama, a technical event for School of Mechanical Engineering students featuring various activities. The inauguration included an invocation song, a welcome address by Kum. Shrinidhi, and an opening speech by Prof. S. Pugazhenthii, Dean, School of Mechanical Engineering, followed by Kum. Preetham’s vote of thanks. Activities included a Tech Debate, Automobile Expo, Auto Quiz, XFLR5 workshop, Design Competition, Mechanical-themed Treasure Hunt, Altair Workshop, and Dismantling and Mantling of Gear Box and Engine.



## School of Civil Engineering

### HINGES 2023

Hinges 2023, the eagerly awaited national-level annual technical student festival for Civil Engineering, started with a remarkable inaugural ceremony at the School of Civil Engineering, SASTRA Deemed University on October 6th, 2023. Dr. S. Chidambaram, a Research Scientist at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, inaugurated the event and delivered an inspiring keynote speech, stressing the importance of innovation and sustainable practices in civil engineering. The theme “EcovateX” embodies eco-friendly practices, emphasising innovative approaches, with the letter “X” symbolising modernity and green initiatives for the future. Technical and non-technical events showcased participants’ skills, with a workshop on Building Information Modelling (BIM) also organised. The event concluded on October 7th, 2023, with prizes awarded to winners and a motivating valedictory address by Dr. B. Ramesh Babu, Chief Scientist at CSIR-CECRI, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu, highlighting the significance of developing young talent and promoting innovation in civil engineering for sustainable progress.



### Green Building Congress 2023

The 21st edition of the Green Building Congress

2023, sponsored by the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC), took place at the Chennai Trade Centre (CTC) in Chennai, India. Our delegation of final-year B.Tech. students from the School of Civil Engineering, SASTRA Deemed University, participated in a thought-provoking conference on Green and Low Carbon Products and Materials on November 25th, 2023. The sessions covered a wide range of topics, including waste-to-resources, alternative and cost-effective building materials, and trends in low-carbon construction.



### Survey Camp

Annually, as part of the ‘Surveying and Geomatics’ course, a survey camp is organised for II year undergraduate Civil Engineering students. This programme provides practical outdoor training, exposing students to demanding surveying tasks in challenging landscapes. Participants learn to carry out accurate surveys using traditional and contemporary tools such as chains, tapes, levels, theodolites, total stations, and GPS devices. Through this hands-on experience, students acquire skills in planning field surveys, analysing terrain obstacles, formulating mapping strategies, and operating surveying equipment, meeting the standards required in the surveying industry.



Fifty-one II year undergraduate Civil Engineering students took part in a three-day Survey Camp from November 16-18, 2023, at Kunnandarkoil hill in the Pudukottai District. They were supervised by faculty members, Dr. S.E. Saranaathan and Dr. V.SathyaKumar.

## Alumni Corner

On November 18, 2023, Dr.Senthil Kumar, Head of Environment at Delhi International Airport Limited, GMR Group, New Delhi, and a graduate of the 2001 batch, visited the School of Civil Engineering. During his visit, he engaged with faculty members and delivered a talk to final year students on “Prospects of Civil Engineering in Consultancy and Construction Engineering.”



## Field Visit

On November 18, 2023, third-year B.Tech. students and four faculty members from our University’s School of Civil Engineering embarked on a day-long excursion to various water infrastructure sites. They conducted a comprehensive field study, examining hydraulic systems at the GA Canal, gaining insights into canal design principles and hydraulic jump phenomena. The visit to Thenperambur Dam provided valuable lessons on dam engineering, focusing on inlet structures, flood gate operations, and energy dissipation methods. Additionally, they explored the Syphon Well at Kalvirayanpettai, understanding its gravitational force-driven fluid flow mechanism. Finally, the Sarkarpalayam Water Treatment Plant demonstrated essential water treatment processes, from collection to chlorination.



On November 21, 2023, B.Tech. Civil Engineering students embarked on a field trip to explore construction sites, including the Indoor Stadium, ASK Phase III & IV, and a Reverse Osmosis plant. They witnessed advanced construction techniques, structural arrangements, and water treatment processes, enhancing their practical understanding of civil engineering concepts.



## School of Management

The inauguration of the National Human Resource Development Network (NHRDN) Chapter of Thanjavur took place at the SASTRA campus on October 24, 2023. Dr. T.V. Rao, the Founder & Mentor of NHRDN and former professor of IIM, Ahmedabad, inaugurated the Chapter, while Shri Prem Singh, President, NHRDN, India, presided over the function. Prof. S. Vaidyasubramaniam, Vice-Chancellor, SASTRA Deemed University, delivered a special address. Prof.Sridharan from NHRDN, Chennai introduced the office bearers of the Chapter, and Smt. PreethiRajagopal administered a pledge to them.



## Silver Jubilee Celebrations

On October 14, 2023, the valedictory ceremony marking the culmination of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the School of Management, SASTRA

Deemed University, Thanjavur, took place. Dr.SubramaniRamakrishnan, Vice President of UPS Technology Center, Chennai, served as the chief guest, releasing the Silver Jubilee Souvenir, a book comprising Management Case studies. Prof. S. Swaminathan, Dean, Planning and Development & Director (CeNTAB), SASTRA, along with Prof. R. Chandramouli, Registrar, SASTRA, honoured the attendees with their presence.



## School of Law

### Moot Competition

Students from School of Law, SASTRA Deemed University, Chi. Naganathan Ramaswamy Iyer, and Chi. Prahalth from the V year B.A., LL.B., (Hons.) programme, along with Kum. Savithri from the V year B.B.A., LL.B., (Hons.) programme, secured the 2nd runner-up position in the 63rd Padma Vibhushan N.A. Palkhivala Memorial Virtual National Moot Court Competition 2023. The competition was held by Maharashtra National Law University on October 29, 2023.



Kum. Arya Anushree and Kum. Jenitha Dharshini from V year B.B.A., LL.B., (Hons.) program, along with Chi. Damodar Narayana from V year B.A., LL.B., (Hons.) programme, emerged as the winners of the 6th Surana & Surana Constitutional National Moot Court competition organised by KLE College of Law, Bengaluru on November 26, 2023. Additionally,

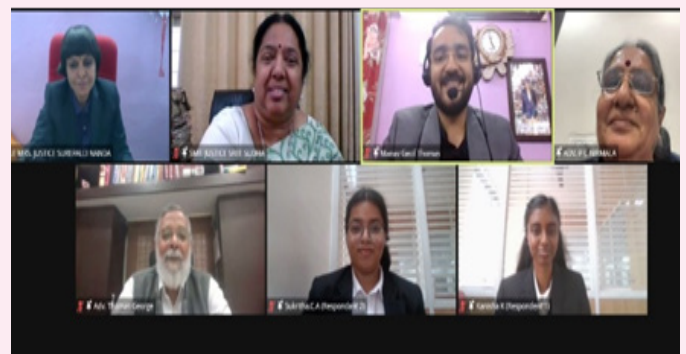
Kum. Jenitha Darshini was honoured as the best speaker, and Kum. Arya Anushree received the 4th best speaker award.



Chi. S.A. Iniyavan Abdullah, Chi. R.K. YuvanSriram, and Chi. S. Nandhaa Kishore, V year B.B.A., LL.B., (Hons.) programme, were declared as the winners of the 3rd National Moot Court Competition organised by the School of Law, Amity University, Mumbai on November 2, 2023.

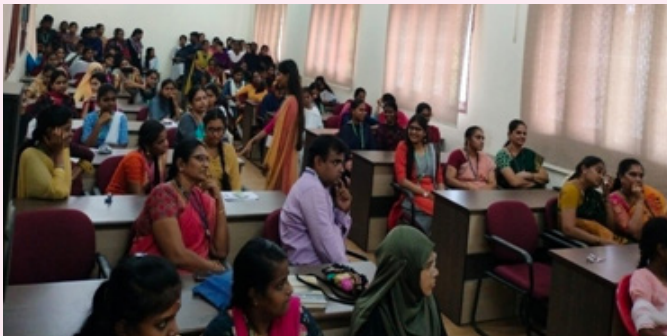


Kum. C.A. Sukritha from III year B.A., LL.B., (Hons.) programme and Kum. Kanisha from II year B.B.A., LL.B., (Hons.) programme have been recognised as the runners-up in the 4th National Virtual Moot Court Competition, 2023, organised by Thomas George And Associates, Hyderabad on December 9th and 10th, 2023.



## School of Arts, Sciences, Humanities and Education

On October 5th, 2023, SASTRA Deemed University marked World Teachers' Day with a grand celebration held at the VDV Seminar Hall, organised by the Department of Education. Dr. Usha Ajithkumar, Head of the Department, extended a warm welcome and expressed gratitude to teachers for their invaluable contributions. The event was a sincere homage to educators dedicated to shaping future generations, showcasing the university's ongoing commitment to honouring and prioritising their vital role in society.



## First International Mathematics Conclave

Department of Mathematics, School of Arts, Sciences, Humanities and Education, SASTRA Deemed University, organised the First International Mathematics Conclave from November 23 to 25, 2023, coinciding with Fibonacci Day. Prof. Karmeshu, renowned for his Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award, inaugurated the event and delivered a lecture on "Power of Mathematical Modelling and Systems Approach." The conclave featured 20 distinguished Mathematicians, recipients of prestigious awards like the Steele Prize and Padma honours, who shared insights in various Mathematical domains. Over 150 research papers were presented during hybrid parallel sessions, focusing on emerging areas such as Algebra, Topology, and AI. Funded by the National Board of Higher Mathematics, the conclave attracted around 200 delegates from academia and industry, offering a unique opportunity for participants to engage with leading scholars.

As an integral component of the conclave, a one-day Boot Camp focused on 'Mathematics in Industry' was tailored specifically for school students on November 25th, 2023. The camp included interactive MATLAB sessions, a quiz programme,

and visits to informative stalls. Approximately, 200 students from local schools in Thanjavur and its vicinity enthusiastically took part in the event.



As an integral component of the B.Sc., B.Ed., and B.A., B.Ed., (4-year Integrated) curriculum, a group of 70 IV year student teachers visited Dolour High School for Deaf and Hearing Impaired in Ponmalaipatty, Trichy on December 18, 2023. The purpose of the visit was to familiarise themselves with the facilities and educational strategies tailored for students who are deaf and hearing-impaired.



Department of Education conducted a one-week TNTET Crash Course 2023 from November 27th to December 1st, 2023. Experts from various departments, including Education, English, Mathematics, and Chemical and Bio-technology, were invited to deliver lectures relevant to the TNTET syllabus. The student teachers greatly benefited from the course, marking it a resounding success.



## Corporate Relations and Department of Training and Placement

From July 2023 onwards, a cumulative of 1092 job offers has been extended to the graduating students of the 2023-24 academic year. Among them, 946 individual students have secured placements, facilitated by visits from 108 companies. Some notable recruiters include KVB, Unicore Constructions, Accenture, PayPal, Tiger Analytics, Collins Aerospace, Societe Generale, L&T Constructions, and Bosch.

### Voice for BT Contest

The BT and BEST contests, sponsored by Novozymes and organised by the Association for Bio-Technology Lead Enterprises, were held at SASTRA Deemed University on October 6, 2023. 41 students from 21 institutions across Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Kerala participated. Rajalakshmi Engineering College and VIT secured the top positions in the BEST contest while Chi.K.P. Harish from SASTRA Deemed University, Kum. Anuja Bejoy from Karunya University, and Kum. Riya Ann Sheen from NMAM Institute of Technology won the top prizes in the Voice for BT Contest. Winners received cash prizes and certificates, and top two winners from each zone would advance to the National level contest in New Delhi. Prof. S. Swaminathan, Dean, Planning & Development, presided over the event, with Prof. V. Badrinath as the guest of honour. Dr. G.S. Krishnan delivered the keynote address, Shri Narayanan Suresh gave opening remarks, and the judging panel included Dr. Sowmya Suresh, Dr. D. Sudhakaran, and Dr. Rajesh Sathyamoorthy.



### Study Abroad Programmes

On October 27, 2023, EducationUSA, a programme funded by the U.S. Department of State, held an information session titled "Studying in the US" at SASTRA Main Campus. Smt. Shanthi Mohan, EducationUSA Advisor, led the session, covering

topics such as the application process, university selection, financial aid options, crafting strong applications, student visa procedures, and pre-departure preparations.

### Science Exchange Programme

For the fourth consecutive time, SASTRA Deemed University students and faculty were chosen for the esteemed SAKURA Science Exchange Programme. A group of nine students from School of Computing, School of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, and School of Chemical and Biotechnology, along with two faculty members, Dr. N. R. Raajan from SEEE and Shri M. Raja Subramanian from the Office of International Relations, visited Tokyo City University, Japan, from December 3rd to 9th, 2023. During their visit, the Indo-Japan delegations engaged in collaborative activities and spent time in respective labs, encouraging academic cooperation between SASTRA and Tokyo City University.



On November 16th, 2023, Shri M. Ganesh Thirunavukkarasu, Regional Head of Academic Interface Programme (Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry) at TCS, addressed about 200 final year students at SASTRA regarding current IT industry hiring trends, particularly in digital hiring.

### Faculty Achievements

Dr. Ramya Vijay, Assistant Professor, School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering, incubated





at FIRST TBI, introduced “e-Toggle: an automatic remote irrigation controller based on timers” on November 8th, 2023. Similarly, Dr. N. S. Manigandan, Associate Dean, School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering also incubated at FIRST TBI, unveiled “UBOT: a teleconference robot” on the same date.

### Students' Achievements

Kum. Namuni Sneha, a research scholar under the guidance of Dr. S. Kiruthika, School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering, received the Chancellor Award and a cash prize of Rs. 3000 for her oral presentation at the Indo-South Korea-Thailand 3rd International Conference on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology for Energy, Environment, and Biomedical Applications (INEEBA-2023). The conference was held at Vinayaka Mission's Kirupananda Variyar Arts and Science College in Salem from October 1st to 2nd 2023.



Team Infnlty, the official cybersecurity team of SASTRA Deemed University, participated in Invente, the annual technical fest of SSN University, on October 7, 2023. Four teams, competed in two events: Flag Frenzy and Hackers Asylum. Impressively, they clinched the first and second positions in Flag Frenzy and secured the third place in Hackers Asylum, accumulating a total prize money of Rs 11,500. Notably, the team currently boasts an all India rank of 13 on CTF - Time.



Chi. K. P. Harish, a final year Biotechnology student at SCBT, clinched the top prize in the southern region of the “Voice for BT” competition held at SASTRA Deemed University, on October 6, 2023. This esteemed event stands as the sole Indian inter-collegiate public speaking contest tailored for biotechnology students. Organised by the Association of Biotechnology Enterprises (ABLE) with backing from Novozymes South Asia, the competition witnessed participation from 21 institutions offering biotechnology programmes across the South zone. Alongside the accolade, Chi. Harish also received a cash prize of Rs. 25,000.



Kum. T. Deepika Valavan, a student of III B.Sc., B.Ed., (Mathematics), along with her team, clinched the 3rd Prize and a cash award of Rs. 4,000 in the Tamil Drama Competition held by Tamil University, Thanjavur on November 9, 2023.



## NCC

### 4(TN) Girls

Captain Vandhana Singh Raghuvanshi was honoured with a promotion for her outstanding service in NCC. Additionally, Cadet Under Officer Vutukuru Rohitha and Sergeant Pooja Thiyagarajan were recognised for their remarkable performance in IDC culturals 2022.



### 06/34(TN), INDEP BOYS WING COY

On October 19, 2023, Prof. S. Swaminathan, Dean, Planning and Development, SASTRA Deemed University, hosted a High Tea event to honour the AITSC 2024 National Winners, CPL. B. Logesh and CPL. Anshuman Ranjan. All cadets were invited to join in the celebration, marking a moment of pride and recognition for their remarkable achievement.



On October 23, 2023, Ayudha Poja was celebrated at the NCC OFFICE with devotional songs accompanied by music played by cadets of 06/34(TN). The atmosphere was filled with reverence and devotion as cadets came together to pay homage through music and prayer.

On October 29, 2023, DakshinDharshan, a Map Reading Event, was conducted near the village of SASTRA Deemed University. The team of 06/34(TN) divided into two groups, and the cadets demonstrated effective map reading skills. It was a successful exercise that showcased the proficiency of the cadets in navigating and interpreting maps.



CDT S. Harith was selected and successfully participated in the National Level Trekking camp held from November 18 to 27, 2023, in Kolhapur, Maharashtra. It was a remarkable opportunity for personal growth and outdoor adventure, showcasing Harith's dedication and endurance.

On November 30, 2023, CPL. B. Logesh was honoured with a cash prize of Rs. 2000 by Group Commander Col. Sunil Bhatt, VSM, from NCC HQ, Trichy. This recognition was bestowed upon him in appreciation of his unwavering dedication exhibited throughout all the training camps. It stands as a testament to his commitment and hard work within the NCC.

L/CPL S. Hareshwaran was selected to participate in the National Level Trekking camp held from December 15 to 22, 2023, in Belgaum, Karnataka. His participation in this prestigious event reflects his commitment to adventure and outdoor pursuits, highlighting his skills and dedication.

CDT Sajan Ganapathy participated in the Annual Training Camp 1 held from November 21 to 30, 2023, at PMIST, Vallam, Thanjavur. His involvement in this training camp demonstrates his commitment to learning and developing his skills as a cadet.

17 cadets participated in Annual Training Camp 2 from December 20 to December 29, 2023, at Thanthai Hans Rover College, Perambalur. They demonstrated their skills and teamwork, winning the Gold medal in the Volleyball game. This achievement highlights their dedication and sportsmanship.

## **NSS**

As a part of the Meri Mitti Mera Desh Campaign and the Prime Minister's initiative, the NSS unit of SASTRA organised a rally and soil collection camp on October 13th, 2023. Soil was gathered from nearby villages, and students of SASTRA took a pledge on PanchPran during the event.

On October 15, 2023, SASTRA Deemed University NSS Team celebrated the birthday of Bharat Ratna Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam with great fervour and enthusiasm. To honour his legacy, a Youth Rally was organised, commemorating his vision and dedication to youth empowerment and national development.

NSS conducted a crowd control camp during the Sadhaya Vizha celebration at the Big Temple in Thanjavur on October 24th and 25th, 2023. NSS volunteers played a crucial role in managing the crowd, ensuring smooth and organised darshan for the devotees visiting the temple.



On October 28th, 2023, NSS students collectively pledged to promote Khadi products. This pledge was taken by students across all schools affiliated with the NSS, demonstrating their commitment to supporting and popularising Khadi goods.

On October 25th, 2023, NSS students commemorated the birthday of Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, India's First Deputy Prime Minister, by taking a pledge to uphold national unity, integrity, and security. Dr. Usha Ajith, Head, School of Education, delivered a special lecture titled "Committing ourselves to strengthen the Unity, Integrity, and Security of India" to emphasise the importance of these values.

During vigilance awareness week, NSS SASTRA collaborated with IOB to raise awareness about anti-corruption through a talk, pledge, and rally on November 3, 2023. The Chief Manager of IOB, Thanjavur, discussed vigilance, prohibition, and the eradication of bribery.

As part of Deepavali festivities, NSS conducted a social awareness camp on November 9, 2023, at Govt. School, Thirumalaisamuthiram. The camp focused on educating children about firework safety, imparting the significance of Diwali, and instilling moral values.



NSS students from SASTRA Deemed University actively participated in a rally organised by the Collectorate of Thanjavur as part of World Heritage Week on November 20, 2023.



NSS organised a career awareness camp at SASTRA Deemed University, for 90 students from nearby government schools in Thanjavur. Dr. V. Vijay Anand, Programme Coordinator, conducted an informative session on competitive exams, skill-oriented courses, and various academic disciplines including Engineering, Arts, and Law.

On November 27, 2023, 12 NSS student volunteers from SASTRA Deemed University, assisted the authorities of Thanjavur Big Temple during Somavaram Poornima Sanghabhishekam.

On December 8, 2023, as part of the ViksitBharath @2047 Campaign, approximately 2400 ideas were submitted on the MyGov portal. Dr. V. Vijay Anand, NSS Programme Coordinator and Nodal Officer, motivated students by raising awareness about ViksitBharath, including the current state of the country, its development, and the role of youth in nation-building.

## Sports

SASTRA Deemed University triumphed in basketball, volleyball, badminton, football, and table tennis (men's category), along with table tennis and badminton (women's category), at the "FLASH-23" tournament. Held at the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management, Thanjavur, on October 18th and 19th 2023, our SASTRA teams emerged victorious in basketball (both men's and women's), table tennis (both men's and women's), and women's badminton while also securing the runner-up position in men's badminton.



SRC

## Graduation Day 2023

On October 28, 2023, SASTRA Deemed University's Kumbakonam campus reverberated with the joyous celebrations of Graduation Day. Distinguished guests, Prof. Asit K. Barma, Director of Bharathidasan Institute of Management, Tiruchirapalli, and

Shri R. Lakshminarayanan, General Manager of City Union Bank Limited, Kumbakonam, graced the occasion as esteemed speakers. Their speeches resonated with wisdom, highlighting the importance of continuous learning, resilience, and ethical leadership in the journey ahead. In a poignant moment, Prof. Asit K. Barma and Shri R. Lakshminarayanan, also had the privilege of conferring degrees upon the deserving graduates, symbolising the culmination of years of hard work and dedication.

## 19th Annual International workshop on SrinivasaRamanujan

SASTRA Deemed University hosted the 19th Annual International Conference on SrinivasaRamanujan at its dedicated center honouring the Mathematical genius on December 20, 21, and 22, 2023. Distinguished Mathematicians from India, USA, and UK presented talks on research topics inspired by SrinivasaRamanujan.

Dr. T. Ramasami, Former Secretary of DST, Government of India, highlighted the need for a significant transformation in Mathematics education at the school level to enhance research at higher levels. At an award presentation ceremony organised by SASTRA Deemed University at the SrinivasaRamanujan Centre in Kumbakonam on December 22, 2023, he conferred the SASTRA Ramanujan Award for the years 2022 and 2023 upon two exceptional Mathematicians, Dr. Yunqing Tang and Dr. Ruixiang Zhang, from the University of California. Prof. S. Swaminathan, Dean, Planning and Development, extended a warm welcome to the attendees. Following that, Dr. V. Ramaswamy, Dean of SRC, expressed gratitude with a vote of thanks. This award ceremony marked the conclusion of the annual three-day international conference on



Srinivasa Ramanujan, a tradition upheld by SASTRA at its campus in Kumbakonam.

ELCOM DIAS and EXACT organised a two-day workshop on October 6th and 7th 2023, facilitated by ShriAnvesh Reddy from Innovian Technologies. With over 70 participants, students were trained in Raspberry Pi 3 kit, engaging in projects like LED programming, sensor integration, and mobile device communication. Two teams were selected for a national Raspberry Pi competition at IIT Varanasi in March 2024.



Under the auspices of the Com-Man Forum, the Association for students of Commerce and Management Studies, Shri Rajasekaran, MBA graduate from the International Business School (U.K.), delivered a guest lecture on October 10, 2023, focusing on the topic “Young Entrepreneur’s Mindset.” He shared insights from the case study of S. PeriyasamiMoopanar textile shop in Kumbakonam. He emphasised the importance of mind set for business success.



On October 14th, 2023, the Com-Man Forum organised a special lecture on the topic “Laws in Practice” featuring Shri Basil, a renowned advocate and alumni of SASTRA, SRC. He discussed distinctions between a lawyer and an advocate, as well as civil and criminal laws. Additionally, he

provided detailed explanations of legal concepts such as those found in the Negotiable Instruments Act, insurance laws, Transfer of Property Act, sales, partition of ancestral property, customary laws, and the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act.



On November 3, 2023, Elcom Dais and the Indian Society for Technical Education (ISTE) jointly organised a one-day workshop titled “Hands-on Training in Verilog HDL for FPGA Implementation.” Faculty members including Dr. A. Srinivasan, Dr. S. Saravanan, Dr. R. Ramya, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, and Dr. T. Nirmalraj from the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering at SRC served as resource persons. The workshop aimed to provide ECE students with practical training in implementing digital system designs using Verilog Hardware Description Language (HDL).

Shri MahendraBabu, Technical Lead at Maxwell Research Labs, Coimbatore, inaugurated ELCOM DAIS activities on October 5, 2023, with an online lecture titled “Recent Trends in Embedded Systems.” He discussed current applications and challenges, emphasising Industrial IoT, Machine Learning, and AI’s future and urging students to master them. Subsequently, new Office Bearers and Executive Members were introduced, and Kum. Kodithi Karuna Sree (IV B.Tech. ECE) delivered vote of thanks.



## SFOSS Association Activities

On November 6th, 2023, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, along with the SFOSS Association, conducted a workshop on “Mobile Application Development using MIT App Inventor.” Smt. P. Venkateswari, Assistant Professor, Department of CSE, acted as the resource person and guided the participants through topics such as setting up MIT App Inventor, understanding drag-and-drop interfaces, and creating mobile apps with various components.

SFOSS Association conducted a workshop on “Research challenges and opportunities in Image Processing” for final year postgraduate Computer Science students on November 9th 2023. Dr. J. Ganesh and Dr. S. Ranjeeth Kumar from the Department of CSE facilitated the session. The workshop covered topics including data set selection and pre-processing, importing and exporting data from Google Drive, and critiquing research articles in the image processing domain. Additionally, they demonstrated the implementation of machine learning algorithms in Google Colab.

SFOSS organised a workshop on “Interview Techniques and Resume Building” on November 9th, 2023. Shri S. Srivatsavan (IBM & ZOHO), Shri Lahari Vuppulapatti (JMAN, BNP PARIBAS), Shri Raavi Vijay Krishna (TATA ELXSI), and Shri Shiva Aruneshini M (DELOITTE) served as resource persons. The resource team shared their interview experiences and demonstrated how to tailor a resume for specific positions.

## Street Play Workshop

Special Enhancement Programme 1 - Street Play Workshop was conducted on December 27th and



28th, 2023. Shri Karthik and Smt. Apoorva, experienced theatre artists, served as resource persons. They trained students on street play techniques, assisted in script preparation, and supervised rehearsals. The theme centered around the 16 days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. After thorough practice, four groups performed their street plays on various sub-themes of gender-based violence in front of an audience of 200 students.

Special Enhancement Program 2 - Storytelling Workshop took place on December 29th and 30th, 2023. Smt. Sriradha, Smt. Italia, Smt. Ishita, and Smt. Arpita from the organisation “One Story at a Time” led the workshop. They conducted an engaging session where students learned storytelling through mime and gestures. The stories conveyed powerful messages on themes like Nature, Identity, Violence, and Equality. After adequate practice, students performed their stories in front of an audience of over 200 students. The event was honoured by the presence of Shri Scott E. Hartmann, Cultural Affairs Officer, US Consulate General Chennai, and Smt. Sohini Das Hartmann, Director, Association of Women in Business.



## NCC

On October 1, 2023, NSS volunteers actively participated in the Swachhata Hi Seva activity at Kumbakonam railway station. Approximately, 25 student volunteers cleaned the railway station premises. Additionally, on the eve of Gandhi Jayanti,



the NCC Unit organised *Swachhata Hi Sewa*, initiating an *EkTareekEkGhanta* cleanliness drive. NCC cadets cleaned the area and garlanded the Mahatma Gandhi Statue at Gandhi Park, Kumbakonam.

On October 4, 2023, approximately, 35 NSS volunteers and 25 NCC cadets participated in a Seed Bombing event as part of the Go Green Initiative.

On October 7, 2023, the Government of Tamil Nadu hosted a large-scale job fair at SRC Campus. Over 100 companies took part in the recruitment event.

On October 11, 2023, pledges for World Environment Day were administered in SRC classrooms.

On October 13th, 2023, 30 NSS volunteers from SRC took a Dengue awareness pledge at the RDO office in Kumbakonam. The awareness rally started from the RDO office and concluded at the Corporation office in Kumbakonam. Participants received certificates from Hon'ble M.P. Kalyana Sundaram and the Deputy Mayor.

From October 25th to November 5th, 2023, four cadets from SRC campus participated in a Basic Leadership Camp at KPR Institute of Engineering and Technology, Coimbatore.

On November 26, 2023, the 8 TN Bn NCC, Kumbakonam, NCC Headquarters organised a blood donation camp. SRC cadets participated by donating blood to the Government Hospital Blood Bank in Kumbakonam.

On December 14, 2023, a special campaign was held on the theme of the International Year of Millets 2023, as declared by the United Nations, under the auspices of the Government of India. NCC cadets, along with the cadets from Government Arts College, organised a rally in public to emphasise the importance of millets for fostering a healthy nation.



## **NSS**

Capt. T. Senthilnathan, NCC Officer, SRC, along with 13 cadets, participated in a Combined Annual Training Camp held at Swami Dayananda College of Arts and Science, Manjakudi, from December 22 to December 31, 2023. Additionally, Capt. T. Senthilnathan, served as the Deputy Camp Commandant. SRC cadets achieved numerous medals in various competitions conducted throughout the camp.

## **Certificate of appreciation**

NCC and Red Ribbon Club of SRC were honoured with appreciation certificates from the District Collector of Thanjavur for their consistent efforts in organising blood donation camps and contributing blood to the Government Blood Bank in Kumbakonam.

## **Polytechnic**

On October 14, 2023, Youth Awakening Day was commemorated with great enthusiasm and reverence. Dr. V. Vijay Anand from the School of Management at SASTRA delivered an enlightening lecture on the "Developmental Ideas Propounded by the Late Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam." The programme, presided over by Principal Shri R. Chandramouli, Shanmugha Polytechnic witnessed the attendance and active participation of approximately 55 NSS volunteers and staff members. The meticulous arrangements for the event were overseen by NSS Programme Officer Shri P. Balasubramanian, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering.



## **IT IS HAPPENING AT SASTRA**

### **Forthcoming event**

School of Civil Engineering is organising a one-day workshop on "Disaster Management in Geotechnics and Surveillance using Drones" on 2nd March 2024.