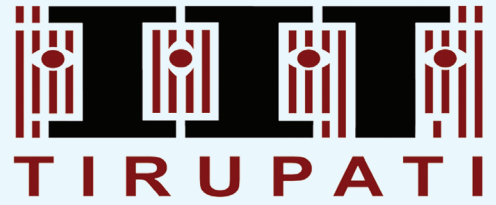


# समवेद

A Biannual Newsletter of IIT Tirupati

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान तिरुपति



Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2018

## The Inception

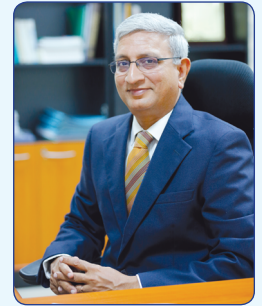
Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati (IITT) was announced in 2014 by the Government of India along with five other new IITs at Palakkad, Jammu, Bhilai, Goa, and Dharwad. IIT Tirupati launched its academic programme with the support of its mentor Institute, IIT Madras, on August 5, 2015 from a temporary campus situated in Tirupati. Consequent upon the approval of the President of India to *The Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Act, 2016*, on August 09, 2016, and its subsequent publication in *The Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II* on August 10, 2016, IIT Tirupati was accorded the status of *Institute of National Importance*.

IIT Tirupati is the first among the IITs announced in 2014 to have laid its foundation stone in its permanent campus site that is located on Yerpedu-Venkatagiri Highway, 14 km from the Tirupati International Airport. The transit campus is fast coming up in one corner of the permanent campus site and would be operational by the next academic year (2018). Consultant for preparing the master plan, architectural and engineering design of the permanent campus has been appointed. It is expected that within a few years the Institute would be able to put in place an excellent infrastructure required to house a strong student community and world class faculty, state-of-the-art laboratories, etc. on the permanent campus.

Currently, the Institute offers admissions to B. Tech programme against 120 seats in the branches of Civil Engineering, Computer Science and Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering (30 seats in each discipline). Admissions to B. Tech in Chemical Engineering, and M. Tech in Computer Science and Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering are going to be offered from the ensuing academic year. Further, with focus on research, IIT Tirupati has also started admitting students to its MS (Research) and PhD programmes. The Institute also completed the first round of faculty recruitment in June 2017. The next round of faculty and staff recruitment has been initiated.

## Prof. K. N. Satyanarayana, Founder Director, IITT

Prof. K. N. Satyanarayana obtained his B. Tech degree in Civil Engineering from IIT Madras, and MS and PhD degrees from Clemson University, USA. Since 1991, he has been a faculty member at the Dept. of Civil Engineering, IIT Madras. He is the recipient of many academic awards including the Project Management Institute (India) Distinguished Scholar Award (2011). He is the Chairman of the Academic Advisory Group, PMI India; the Vice-Chairman, Board of Advisors of The Glass Academy; an Expert Member on the Board of Management of Building Materials & Promotion Council, and he also serves as an Independent Director on five company boards.



## From the Director's Desk

We are very happy to launch our newsletter SAMVID - a window to the happenings at IIT Tirupati. We, initially, plan to bring out the newsletter biannually; as the activities at the Institute grow, we intend to increase the frequency. We invite your comments on improving the newsletter.

We have set out to establish an Institute of national importance with global outlook and local relevance. The Institute started with the guidance and support from the Mentor Director Prof. Bhaskar Ramamurthi, faculty and staff of IIT Madras. The Andhra Pradesh Government has been highly supportive with the allotment of 530 acres picturesque site for setting up a modern campus. The construction of the campus has commenced. We have been able to attract some outstanding faculty members to join the Institute. The academic programmes are being expanded to include more departments, masters and doctoral programmes. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Govt. of India, has lent its full support in establishing the Institute with adequate funding, approvals and guidance. We look forward to a great future to be a lead player in education and research at the national and international levels.

## CAMPUS AT A GLANCE

IIT Tirupati is currently functioning from *its temporary campus*, situated on the Tirupati-Renigunta road in the premises of Krishna Theja Group of Institutions. The *permanent campus* is set to come up at a site in Merlapaka Village, Yerpedu (Mandal) with a scenic mountain backdrop. Meanwhile, to meet the immediate requirements, construction of a *transit campus*, in one corner of the permanent site, is underway and is very close to completion. For planning and designing the permanent campus, the Institute has already appointed a Master plan Architect. The constructions are set to begin soon.

### Temporary Campus

The Institute has leased a three-storey building along with sufficient space in the premises of Krishna Theja Group of Institutions to accommodate the academic requirements of the first few batches of B. Tech students. Several new installations have been carried out on the temporary campus building to provide the students with an optimum environment for learning. In particular, IIT Tirupati has created the necessary infrastructure including classrooms and laboratories on its temporary campus to meet the expectations and requirements of the students. The Institute has two well established laboratories for basic sciences, one workshop, two computer laboratories and two engineering laboratories to conduct practical sessions. The classrooms have all the required furniture, desktop computers with internet access, projectors, screens and audio systems along with appropriate treatment for the improved acoustics. Also, a 120-seater electronic virtual classroom has been set up with video conferencing facility on a 1-GBPS bandwidth connection to the National Knowledge Network (NKN).

Other facilities available at the temporary campus are -

- ◆ **Central Library:** Equipped with KOHA open source integrated library software with Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC).

- ◆ **Dining Hall:** 6000 sqft pre-engineered steel building, constructed using Fast-track Technology in a record time of 45 days.
- ◆ **Hostels:** Different batches are currently housed at different hostels; girls' hostel is located in the vicinity of the academic building. All hostels have 24x7 WiFi, washing machine, TV, water cooler, computer room and gymnasium facilities.
- ◆ **Transportation:** Institute buses regularly commute between the hostels and the academic block.
- ◆ **Medical Facility:** An MoU is signed with Sri Ramadevi Multi Super-speciality Hospital, Tirupati to provide a cashless medical facility to its students, faculty and staff. A doctor visits the Institute daily from 10:00 a.m. to 05:00 p.m.



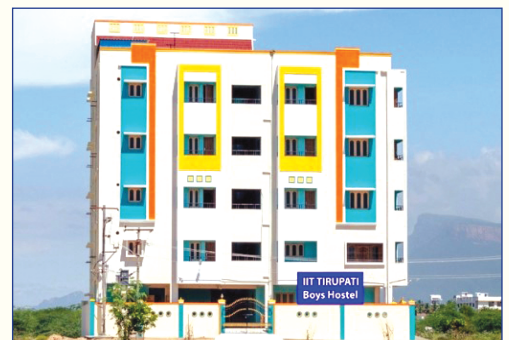
Computer Lab at IIT Tirupati



Girls' Hostel, IIT Tirupati



A view of the temporary campus academic building



Boys' Hostel, IIT Tirupati



## Permanent Campus

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has provided land to the Institute to an extent of 530.49 acres for the development of the permanent campus located on the Yerpedu-Venkatagiri Highway in Merlapaka Village. The permanent campus site is 22 km from Tirupati town, and 14 km from the Tirupati International Airport. M/s Suresh Goyal and Associates, a Delhi based architecture design studio and research lab, has been appointed as the Master plan Architect for planning and designing the permanent campus. The permanent campus is expected to be operational by the year 2020, and is designed to eventually accommodate 12,000 students in the coming decades. In order to preserve the ecology of the permanent campus site, a detailed Ecological Management Plan (EMP) was prepared by Care Earth Trust, a Chennai based NGO.

## Transit Campus

In order to meet the immediate requirements, it was decided to construct a transit campus, which would later be integrated with the overall master plan of the permanent campus. This campus includes hostel facilities to house 600 students, along with laboratories/workshops, dining hall, class room complexes, residential blocks, and indoor and outdoor games. The transit campus is set to occupy about 35 acres of land in the permanent campus site. Most of the buildings of the transit campus are being constructed using Fast-track Construction Technologies like Glass-Fibre Reinforced Gypsum (GFRG) and Pre-Engineered buildings. The transit campus facility is expected to be operational by July 2018.



*A view of the Permanent Campus Site*



*Permanent campus layout*



*Construction of the transit campus at full swing. From left to right: Director laying the foundation stone of the transit campus (March 2017); construction of the hostels and workshop/lab buildings (Jan 2018)*

## IIT TIRUPATI FACULTY PROFILE

### Chemistry

**Dr. Arun K. Manna**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, JNCASR Bangalore

**Dr. Debasish Mondal**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IACS Kolkata

**Dr. Rajib Biswas**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IISc Bangalore

### Civil Engineering

**Dr. K. N. Satyanarayana**  
Professor  
PhD, Clemson University, USA

**Dr. Abhijit Ganguli**  
Associate Professor  
PhD, Univ. Libre de Bruxelles,  
Belgium

**Dr. B. Krishna Prapoorna**  
Associate Professor  
PhD, Arizona State Univ., USA

**Dr. M. Nithyadharan**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. Prasanna V. Sampath**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, Michigan State Univ., USA

**Dr. Shihabudheen M. Maliyekkal**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. B. Janaki Ramaiah**  
Visiting Faculty  
PhD, IIT Delhi

**Dr. B. Radhika**  
INSPIRE Faculty  
PhD, IISc Bangalore

### Computer Science & Engineering

**Dr. Venkata Ramana Badarla**  
Associate Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. Kalidas Yeturu**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IISc Bangalore

**Dr. G. Ramakrishna**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. Ravi Prakash Iyer**  
Visiting Faculty  
PhD, UC Berkeley

**Dr. V. Mahendran**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. Sridhar Chimalakonda**  
Visiting Faculty  
PhD, IIIT Hyderabad

### Electrical Engineering

**Dr. Rama Krishna Sai Gorthi**  
Associate Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. K. P. Naveen**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IISc Bangalore

**Dr. N. N. Murty**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IT BHU, Varanasi

**Dr. P. S. Sai Krishna**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. Prashanth Vooka**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. Subrahmanyam Gorthi**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, EPFL, Switzerland

### Humanities & Social Sciences

**Dr. A. Raghuramaraju**  
Professor  
PhD, IIT Kanpur

**Dr. Chandra Sekhar B.**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, MIDS Chennai

**Dr. P. S. Dwivedi**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, DHSG Central University,  
Sagar

**Dr. Rahul A. Sirohi**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, University of Illinois, USA

**Dr. V. Vamshi Krishna Reddy**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, University of Hyderabad

### Mathematics

**Dr. V. Raghavendra**  
Professor  
PhD, IIT Kanpur

**Dr. Durga Prasad Challa**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, Johannes Kepler  
University, Austria

**Dr. Ishapathik Das**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IIT Bombay

**Dr. S. Rajesh**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. Srijanani Anurag Prasad**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IIT Kanpur



## RECENT ACADEMIC EVENTS

### Mechanical Engineering

**Dr. K. Krishnaiah**  
Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. D. V. Kiran**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IIT Bombay

**Dr. N. N. Kishore**  
Professor  
PhD, IIT Kanpur

**Dr. Madan Mohan A.**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IISc Bangalore

**Dr. E. Anil Kumar**  
Associate Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. P. Venkataraman**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, NTU, Singapore

**Dr. N. Venkaiah**  
Associate Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. Sriram Sundar**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, Ohio State Univ., USA

### Physics

**Dr. P. C. Deshmukh**  
Professor  
PhD, Nagpur University

**Dr. T. S. Natarajan**  
Professor  
PhD, IIT Madras

**Dr. B. Koteswara Rao**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, IIT Bombay

**Dr. Rudra Sekhar Manna**  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, Goethe University,  
Frankfurt, Germany

### Conferences/Workshops Organised

- ◆ The Department of Mathematics organised a workshop on *Functional Analysis* in collaboration with the National Board for Higher Mathematics from December 11 to 23, 2017.
- ◆ The 3rd year B. Tech Civil Engineering students, along with the faculty members visited the *Polavaram Project* site on December 2, 2017. This visit provided the students an opportunity to understand various geotechnical challenges posed by the subsoil conditions, and the methodologies/techniques adopted by the engineers to tackle those challenges using state-of-the-art heavy equipment.
- ◆ Civil Engineering Association (CEA), IIT Madras conducted a *Mini CEA* session for the students of the Dept. of Civil Engineering of the Institute, and other Engineering Colleges on October 7, 2017.



IIT Tirupati students at Polavaram Project site



Prof. V. Raghavendra addressing the participants of the Functional Analysis Workshop



Mini CEA Session at IIT Tirupati

## INVITED LECTURES HELD AT IIT TIRUPATI

- ◆ **Dr. Vishal Saraswat**, Visiting Scientist. R. C. Bose Centre for Cryptology and Security, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata delivered a colloquium talk on “Cryptography and its Applications in Information and Cyber Security” on January 4, 2017.
- ◆ **Prof. Sadanand Gokhale**, Director, LNM Institute of Information Technology, Jaipur delivered a colloquium talk on “New Paradigms in Engineering Education” on January 23, 2017.
- ◆ **Mr. Glenn Robinson**, Managing Director of XLR8 Andhra Pradesh delivered a special interactive talk on February 22, 2017.
- ◆ **Prof. S. R. Valluri**, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Western Ontario, London, Canada delivered a colloquium talk on “An Overview of the Remarkable Lambert-W Function”, on February 24, 2017.
- ◆ **Prof. S. T. Manson**, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Georgia State University, Atlanta, USA delivered a colloquium talk, “The Physics of Atoms: Where We Are, and Where We Are Going” on March 8, 2017.
- ◆ **Prof. Deshdeep Sahdev**, a particle theorist, in leading groups at Cornell University, Univ. of Pennsylvania, and the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (Italy) delivered a colloquium talk on “Resolving Atoms and a Lot More in Our Own Backyards” on March 22, 2017.
- ◆ **Prof. J. N. Reddy**, Regents Professor of Mechanical Engineering in Texas A&M University delivered a talk on “Numerical Simulations in Engineering: The Third Scientific Methodology” on August 8, 2017.
- ◆ **Prof. Rani Sadasiva Murty**, Professor at Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, Tirupati delivered a special lecture on “Management Ethos - Ancient Indian Knowledge Perspective” on August 9, 2017.
- ◆ **Dr. Balaji Subramanian** from University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) delivered a talk on “Drone Based Experimental Investigation of Flow around Multi-MW Wind Farms in Flat and Complex Terrains” on August 28, 2017.
- ◆ **Mr. S. Sankar Raj**, a Certified Ethical Hacker from Prompt Infotech, gave a talk on “Digital India Awareness Program” on August 30, 2017.
- ◆ **Dr. Paventhan Arumugam**, Additional Director (R&D) with ERNET India, delivered a talk on “Emerging IoT Open Standards & Protocols” on September 9, 2017.
- ◆ **Mr. M. Desanna**, a Senior Research Staff in Central Research Laboratory (CRL), Bharat Electronics (BEL), Bangalore, delivered a talk on “Introduction to Tactical Communication Systems” on September 11, 2017.

## RECENT FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

### Journals

- ◆ Rajeswari B, Srivalasan, Ramarao N, and **R. K. Sai S. Gorthi**, “Active Learning Based Optimised Training Library Generation for Object Oriented Image Classification”, *IEEE Transactions on Geo Science and Remote Sensing*, Sept. 2017.
- ◆ **Rajesh, S.**, “On Existence of Fixed Points for Pointwise Eventually Nonexpansive Mappings”, *Journal of Fixed Point Theory and Applications*, Volume 19, No. 3, Sept. 2017.
- ◆ Saha, G., and **K. P. Biligiri**, “Novel Procedural Pragmatics of Dynamic Semi-Circular Bending Test for Fatigue Evaluation of Asphalt Mixtures”, Road Materials and Pavement Design, Taylor & Francis, UK, Sept. 2017.
- ◆ Srinivasu, D. S., and **N. Venkaiah**, “Minimum Zone Evaluation of Roundness using Hybrid Global Search Approach”, *International Journal of Advanced Manufacturing Technology*, Volume 92, Issue 5-8, Sept. 2017.
- ◆ Radhakrishnan, M., **S. Rajesh**, and S. Agarwal, “Some Fixed Point Theorems on Non-convex Sets”, *Applied General Topology*, Volume 18, No. 2, Oct. 2017.
- ◆ Khan, V., and **K. P. Biligiri**, “Evolution of Tyre/ Road Noise Research in India: Investigations using Statistical Pass-by Method and Noise Trailer”,



International Journal of Pavement Research and Technology, Elsevier, UK, Oct. 2017.

- ◆ Gopakumar, G., M. Swetha, S. S. Gorthi, and R. K. Sai S. Gorthi, "CNN based Malaria Diagnosis from Focus-stack of Blood Smear Images Acquired using Custom-built Slide Scanner", *Journal of Biophotonics*, Nov. 2017.
- ◆ Patnaik, U., P.K. Das, C. S. Bahinipati, and O. N. Tripathi, "Can Developmental Interventions Reduce Households' Vulnerability? Empirical Evidence from Rural India", *Current Science*, 113(10), Nov. 2017,
- ◆ Mondal, P. C., V. Singh, A. K. Manna, and M. Zharnikov, "Covalently Assembled Monolayers of Homo-and Heteroleptic Fell-Terpyridyl Complexes on SiO<sub>x</sub> and ITO-Coated Glass Substrates: An Experimental and Theoretical Study", *Chemphyschem*. 18(23), Dec. 2017.
- ◆ Sharma R., and E. Anil Kumar, "Study of Ammoniated Salts based Thermo Chemical Energy Storage System with Heat Up-gradation: A Thermodynamic Approach", *Energy*, Volume 141, Dec. 2017.
- ◆ Singh, V. K., and E. Anil Kumar, "Thermodynamic Analysis of Single-stage and Single-effect Two-stage Adsorption Cooling Cycles using Indigenous Coconut Shell based Activated Carbon-CO<sub>2</sub> Pair", *International Journal of Refrigeration*, Volume 84, Dec. 2017.
- ◆ Patnaik, U., P. K. Das, and C. S. Bahinipati, "Development Interventions, Adaptation Decisions and Farmers' Well-being: Evidence from Drought Prone Households in Rural India", *Climate and Development*, Dec. 2017.
- ◆ Dwivedi, P. S., "A Study of Comparative Linguistico-Philosophical Foundations through the Translations of Bhartrhari and Saussure" *International Journal of Translation*, Vol. 29, Dec. 2017.
- ◆ K. P. Biligiri, "Sustainable Roadway Infrastructure - Solutions for Smart Cities", *India-EU Dialogue Smart Cities: Sustainable Urbanisation*, organised by Heidelberg University, Taj Gateway Hotel, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 14 October 2017.
- ◆ K. Anush. Chandrappa, and K. P. Biligiri, "Laboratory-Field Investigations of Pervious Concrete Pavements: A Smart City Initiative", *5th IRF Middle East Regional Congress & Exhibition*, Dubai, UAE, 29-31 October 2017.
- ◆ K. P. Biligiri, Veena Venudharan, and Gourab Saha, "Cracking Performance Investigation of Asphalt-Rubber Gap-Graded Mixtures: Emphasis on Aggregate Gradation", *5th IRF Middle East Regional Congress & Exhibition*, Dubai, UAE, 29-31 October 2017.
- ◆ K. P. Biligiri, "Cracking Performance Investigation of Asphalt-Rubber Gap Graded Mixtures: Emphasis on Aggregate Gradation", *5th IRF Middle East Regional Congress & Exhibition*, Dubai, UAE, October 29-31, 2017.
- ◆ C. S. Bahinipati, and U. Patnaik, "Can Increasing Human Development and Income Reduce Impact from Natural Disasters? Empirical Evidence for Floods in India" in *INSEE-KILA, an International Conference*, Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), Thrissur, November 8-10, 2017.
- ◆ Vinod Kumar Singh, and E. Anil Kumar, "Estimation of Thermodynamic Properties of CO<sub>2</sub> Adsorption on Activated Carbon", *6th International Conference on Advances in Energy Research (ICAER 2017)*, IIT Bombay, December 12-14, 2017.
- ◆ Tinku Kumar, D. V. Kiran, and Navneet Arora, "Probing the Influence of Welding Current and Filler Wire Inclination on the Temperature Distribution in Aluminium and Steel Joining", *International Conference on Advances in Materials and Processing: Challenges and Opportunities*, IIT Roorkee, 1st December 2017.
- ◆ M. Mohandoss, A. Nelleri, and S. M. Maliyekkal, "Optical Properties of Sunlight Reduced Graphene Oxide", *International conference on Nanotechnology: Ideas, Innovations and Initiatives-2017*, Indian

## Conferences

- ◆ C. S. Bahinipati, and P. K. Viswanathan, "Can Wide Scale Diffusion of Resource Efficient Technologies Reduce Groundwater Utilization? Evidence from Water Scarce Regions of Gujarat, India", *15th GLOBELICS International Conference* in Athens, Greece, on October 11-13, 2017.

- Institute of Technology, Roorkee, India, December 6-8, 2017.
- ◆ U. Kannan, A. Garg, A. Srivastav, P. C. Sabumon, and S. M. Maliyekkal, "Graphene-silver Coated Super Sand (GSCS) For Disinfection of Water", *International Conference on Nanotechnology: Ideas, Innovations and Initiatives-2017* Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, India, December 6-8, 2017.
  - ◆ M. Rajamani, S. K. Modak, R. Kannapiran, and S. M. Maliyekkal, "Unprecedented Cr (VI) Uptake Capacity of Granulated Boehmite Nano architecture", *International conference on Nanotechnology: Ideas, Innovations and Initiatives-2017*, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, India (Best Poster Award - Third Prize), December 6-8, 2017.
  - ◆ Dhananjay Misra, Vinod Kumar Sharma, and E. Anil Kumar, "Estimation of Enthalpy of formation of metal hydrides - Effect of Different Measurement Parameters", *6th International Conference on Advances in Energy Research (ICAER 2017)*, IIT Bombay, December 12-14, 2017.
  - ◆ S. K. Singh, and E. Anil Kumar, "Surface Remodelling of Zeolite 4A for CO<sub>2</sub> Capture: A Case Study", *6th International Conference on Advances in Energy Research (ICAER 2017)*, IIT Bombay, December 12-14, 2017.
  - ◆ P. S. Dwivedi, "Virtual Reality versus Real Virtuality: A Study in relation to Concurrence, Customization and Correlation", *International Conference on Technology, Religion and Cultural Identity: An Exploration from Comparative Multi-Polar Perspective*, organised by the University of Madras in collaboration with University of Belgrade, Serbia at the University of Madras on December 13-14, 2017.
  - ◆ Veena Venudharan, and K. P. Biligiri, "Investigation on Rutting Performance of Gap-graded Asphalt Mixtures: Study on Aggregate Gradation", *4th Conference of Transportation Research Group of India*, Mumbai, India, 17-20 December 2017.
  - ◆ Gourab Saha, and K. P. Biligiri, "Crack Growth Assessment of Asphalt Mixtures using Dynamic Semi-circular Bending Test", *4th Conference of Transportation Research Group of India*, Mumbai, India, Dec. 17-20, 2017.
  - ◆ Kaushik S. Kalmady, Adithya S. Kamath, G. Gopakumar, R. K. Sai S Gorthi, and Gorthi Sai Siva, "Improved Transfer Learning through Shallow Network Embedding for Classification of Leukemia Cells", *9-th International Conference on Advances in Pattern Recognition*, ISI-Bangalore, Dec. 2017.
  - ◆ Pinaki S, Deepak M, and R. K. Sai S. Gorthi, "Improving Isolated Bangla Compound Character Recognition Through Feature-map Alignment", *9-th International Conference on Advances in Pattern Recognition (ICAPR-2017)*, ISI-Bangalore, Dec. 2017.
  - ◆ Ayushi Jain, M. Deepak, and R. K. Sai S Gorthi, "Stacked Features Based CNN For Rotation Invariant Digit Classification", *International Conference on Pattern Recognition and Machine Intelligence (PReMI-2017)*, ISI-Kolkata, Dec. 2017.
  - ◆ B.Rajeswari, Srivalsan, N. Rama Rao, and R. K. Sai S Gorthi, "Batch Mode Active Learning Based Superpixel Library Generation for Very High Resolution Aerial Image Classification", *IEEE Workshop on International Conference on Computational Intelligence (ICCI)*, 2017, IIT Kanpur, Dec. 2017.
  - ◆ Pinaki S, M. Deepak, and R. K. Sai S Gorthi, "Automatic Attendance System using Deep Learning Framework", *International Conference on Machine Intelligence and Signal Processing*, IIT Indore, Dec. 2017.
  - ◆ P. S. Dwivedi, "Hinduism and Contemporary India: Towards Dialectics of Tradition, Modernity and Westernization", *International Conference on Ideas of Harmonious Coexistence: Religions and Philosophies of India*, organised by the JNU, New Delhi in collaboration with QJSP at JNU, New Delhi, December 27-28, 2017.
  - ◆ Sharma, V., R. Musarrat, S. Chimalakonda, and Y. R. Reddy, "Muse: A Musically Inspired Game To Teach Arrays and Linked Lists", In Chen, W. et al. (Eds.), *the 25th International Conference on Computers in Education*. New Zealand: Asia-Pacific Society for Computers in Education, December 2017.



## Awards and Achievements

- ◆ Prof. T. S. Natarajan received the *Eminent Scientist Award* by the KG Foundation, Coimbatore, for his outstanding contribution to Science and Technology in Educational Institutions.
- ◆ Prof. T. S. Natarajan was honoured with the prestigious IAAM Scientist Medal for the year 2016 at the American Advanced Materials Conference by the Royal Caribbean Cruise, Miami, USA.
- ◆ Prof. K. Krishnaiah received the *Life Time Achievement Award* given by VIT, Vellore for his outstanding contribution to Engineering Education and Research.



Prof. T. S. Natarajan receiving the prestigious KG Foundation Award

## Visitors to IIT Tirupati

- ◆ Shri Prakash Javdekar, Hon'ble HRD Minister, visited IIT Tirupati on September 12, 2016, and had an interactive session with the faculty members of IIT Tirupati and IISER Tirupati.
- ◆ Shri R. Subramanyam, IAS, Additional Secretary, MHRD, visited the permanent campus site of IIT Tirupati along with Prof. K. N. Satyanarayana, Mr. Siddharth Jain, Collector, and Mr. Nishanth Kumar, Sub-Collector, Chittoor District on December 24, 2016.



Shri Prakash Javdekar interacting with the faculty members of IIT and IISER Tirupati

## INSTITUTE EVENTS

**Institute Day:** IIT Tirupati celebrated its second Institute Day on April 7, 2017 with Prof. V. S. Raju (Former Director IIT Delhi) as the Chief Guest. The event was presided over by the Director. Prizes were given to the meritorious students, and the event ended with memorable cultural performances by the students.

**Orientation Programme:** The 3rd Orientation Programme was conducted on July 31, 2017 to induct the 2017-2021 batch of B. Tech students. The students and their parents were briefed about the academic programme and the facilities available at IIT Tirupati.



Prof. V. S. Raju distributing prizes to the students

The event was followed by an interactive session for the parents with the Director and Deans of the Institute.

**Faculty Development Programme:** IIT Tirupati, with the support of MHRD, organised a Faculty Development Programme from December 3 to 6, 2017. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. Rajeev Sanghal (Director, IIT BHU), and was conducted by Prof. Pradeep K. Ramancharla (IIIT Hyderabad). The workshop witnessed the participation of faculty members from other newer IITs like Palakkad, Goa, Bhilai, Dharwad, along with faculty from IISER Tirupati, NIT Surathkal, and other Universities.



Prof. Rajeev Sanghal (Director, IIT BHU) delivering the inaugural lecture at the Faculty Development Programme



**Vigilance Awareness Week:** IIT Tirupati observed Vigilance Awareness Week from October 30 to November 4, 2017 by conducting various activities like essay writing and poster making competitions, special lecture and Unity Run. The special lecture was delivered by Shri A. Ravi Krishna (IPS), Chief Vigilance and Security Officer, TTD on the theme “My Vision - Corruption Free India.” In order to spread vigilance awareness in the society, IIT Tirupati also organised a 5 km Unity Run from Ramanuja Circle to IIT Tirupati temporary campus; the run was flagged-off by the Director along with Shri Hari Kiran, Municipal Commissioner, Tirupati.

**Teachers’ Day:** The event was graced by the presence of Prof. P. S. Rao (Former Dean, IIT Madras) who shared his vast academic experience with the faculty and students of IIT Tirupati. The event was followed by felicitation of Prof. P. S. Rao by the Director.



*Unity Run being flagged off by the Director along with Shri Hari Kiran, Municipal Commissioner, Tirupati*



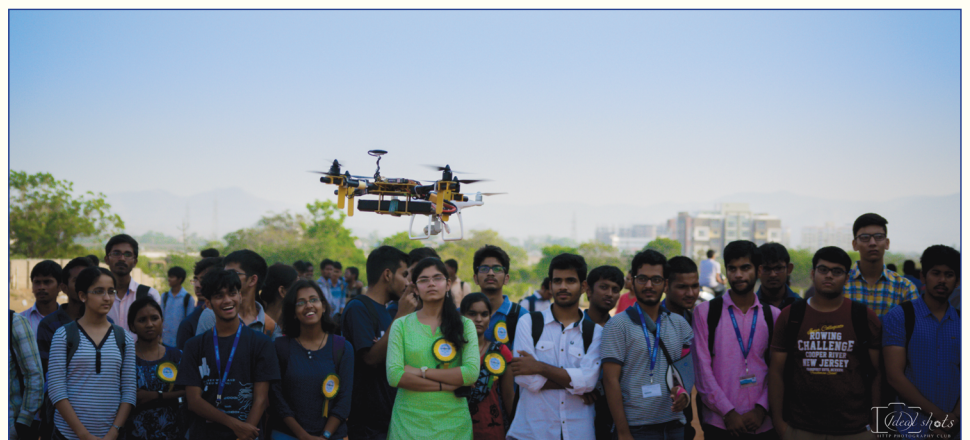
*Prof. P. S. Rao addressing faculty and students of IITT on the occasion of Teachers’ Day celebration*



*Shri A. Ravi Krishna, IPS, delivering lecture on the topic “My Vision: Corruption Free India”*

## STUDENTS’ CORNER

The students of IIT Tirupati are actively involved in organising technical events, workshops and social activities. Robokart and Astronomy workshops were among the technical events that were organised by the students. Students also organised a Technical Fest named ANFANG (meaning ‘Beginning’ in German) during March 25-26, 2017. Along with workshops and exhibitions (Drone show, Artificial Bird, Virtual Reality, Smart Vehicle), ANFANG also organised talks by eminent scientists such as Dr. V. Seshagiri Rao (Former Associate Director, ISRO) and Dr. Krishna Venkatesh (Director, CIIRC).





Along with technical activities, students of IIT Tirupati are also active in extra-curricular events. Students have initiated clubs on acting, music, photography, trekking, chess, etc. to cater to the interested and talented ones in the student community.



Students of IIT Tirupati also exhibit due social responsibility on their part. They regularly undertake NSS activities. Some of the recent NSS events/activities are:

- ◆ Awareness on Waste Management
- ◆ Blood Donation Camps
- ◆ Teaching at Nava Jeevan Blind Relief Centre
- ◆ Collecting and donating clothes to children in the Abhaya Kshethram Orphanage
- ◆ Demonstration of science experiments to KV students
- ◆ *Unnat Bharat Abhiyan* programme under which five nearby villages have been identified for improving the living standards of the local people



*Blood donation camp organised by the students of IIT Tirupati*

*IIT Tirupati students donating clothes at Abhaya Kshethram*

### YourDOST.com

Towards well-being of the students, IIT Tirupati inked an MoU with YourDOST.com on January 3, 2018 for providing online counselling service. The platform is committed to serve for consultation with expert counsellors in an anonymous mechanism and is available 24x7, 365 days. Communication mainly includes anonymous text based chat services and a limited number of audio and video sessions as well. The services are also open to the Institute faculty and staff.



## INTER-IIT SPORTS MEET

Students contingent from IIT Tirupati participated in the 52nd Inter-IIT Sports Meet held at IIT Madras during December 16-23, 2017. Ms. Sanugula Spandana (1st Year, Civil Engineering) gave a notable performance by securing fourth position in the women's high jump event.

Faculty and staff members from IIT Tirupati also made their presence visible by participating in the 24th Inter-IIT Staff Sports Meet hosted by IIT Madras from December 26 to 30, 2017.



*IIT Tirupati faculty and staff contingent at IIT Madras*



*IIT Tirupati students contingent at Inter-IIT sports meet held at IIT Madras*



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