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VisionUVCE
Rejig to Reform

Sampada

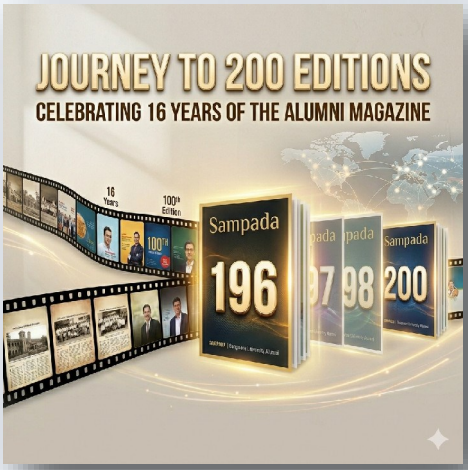
Your window to UVCE

196TH EDITION

4 More Editions To Go...

EDITORIAL

When we did 150th edition of Sampada, we thought 200 is a far-fetched idea. Now, with the 196th one ready to be published, it is getting closer to reality. We are always ready to hear from you to make it more memorable. So, let us know what you expect from this special edition on this milestone being achieved. We also wish to print it and circulate among the alumni. In order for that to happen, we call for Ads and Best Wishes from you. Please help in reaching out to people to place an Ad in the 200th Sampada edition.



Since exams are going on, the campus is a bit low on activities. But, even then, you can read about the activities under IEEE & MARVEL in detail inside this edition. We are glad to update about the work completed and Renovated Hostel Handover Ceremony inside. We are thankful to all the donors who supported this initiative. We understand that the life of many alumni was shaped by the hostel and those 4 years of hostel stay will always be a part of them. Even the last time, we did the "Hostel Visit" event, many senior alumni mentioned the fond memories of the place. From UVCE Graduates Association, the idea was to create the same atmosphere to the current students and make them feel better. We know it is not completely under our control to make it happen and there are many factors involved. But trying within the constraints possible is always our motto !!

There are other couple of updates about the initiatives from UVCE Graduates Association that we would like to share with our readers so that you are aware about them.

"UVCE Meet N Greet" at HMT Museum was successful. The overall idea is the informally catchup with alumni, students across various locations of namma Bengaluru. This will help us become mor aware of some amazing spots within our city and also build a sense of community. Over the past couple of years, we have been meeting at various locations and we are open for suggestion. Would you like to recommend any place that we should visit and invite other UVCEians too?

For the Mentorship initiative, we have received the required number of alumni volunteers. We are working on mapping of the students to the mentors. Since the exams are going on, we are taking time to start the initiative. Each of the UVCEGA scholarship (or certification support) awardee will be assigned a mentor to help them develop their skills and guide them about the future opportunities.

Along with Maj Gen Neelakantappa, few of us from UVCEGA Executive committee met the BoG Chairman, Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, IAS (Retd.) and discussed about how alumni can work with the college to help and support in any possible manner. It was a very promising meeting where many of the initiatives already taken up by UVCEGA was appreciated and also couple of additional requirements were brought up. We will be working towards the same and make sure to build a stronger bond with the college authorities.

We have always understood the necessity to keep the alumni, members of the Association informed about the things happening, initiatives underway, upcoming events and more. Due to less participation, we had started Quarterly meeting (instead of Monthly) since few months back. We plan to have the next Quarterly Meeting on 23rd May 2026 (Online) at 7PM and it is open to all the UVCE alumni. Please join with your friends to know about the initiatives, future events and how you can join hands with us. Looking forward to meet you online

- Satish, 2009 Batch

RENOVATED HOSTEL HANDOVER CEREMONY

UVCE GRADUATES ASSOCIATION

100/4, Bull Temple Road, Bangalore-19 | www.uvcega.org
Regn No: DRB2/SOR/18/2019-20

RENOVATED HOSTEL HANDOVER CEREMONY

16TH MAY, 2026 | SATURDAY | 10 AM
UVCE BOYS HOSTEL, K R CIRCLE

From UVCEGA, we have renovated 50 rooms and got the entire old block of the Boys Hostel Renovated. We invite all the alumni, faculty and students to join us during the handover of this renovated hostel block to college authorities !!

Contact: Lt. Sukumar Rao (Retd.) 9845387380 | www.uvcega.org

OLD HOSTEL BLOCK RENOVATION UPDATE

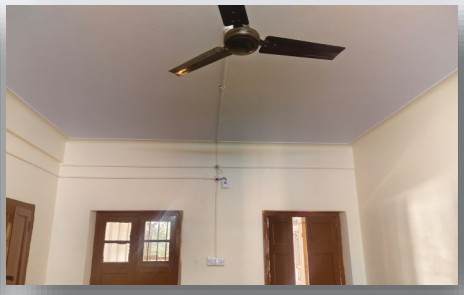
Whenever we speak to alumni about the most cherished memories from college, many of them mention hostel stay. Not now, right from the beginning it has an emotional connect with the students and the alumni. Even when we were in college during 2005-09, we saw many alumni visiting the hostel during “Hostel Day” or “Rajyotsava” events and have food along with the hostelites. There always has been a special bonding. Some of us did not stay there but have spent good amount of time in our friends rooms. Even then, the condition of the rooms were not good. Later, the new block of hostel came up and we were all excited that students will finally get a better space to stay. But, it was not long before we realized the old block will continue in order to counter the increased number of seats in college.

From UVCEGA, we had taken up the waterproofing of the roof of the old hostel block last year. Our Vice President, Lt Sukumar Rao (Retd) during his visit to monitor the work had seen the dire conditions in which the students were living, especially in the old block. Some of you might have read the article about the worsened conditions of hostel in Sampada by Adrian, a few editions back. Sukumar sir took it up with his 1984 Mechanical batchmates during their 40 years reunion. Dr Paul Vizhian, who had retired as Director of UVCE, also his batchmate, agreed that something had to be done in this regard. They raised some funds within their batch. That’s how it was decided to start the initiative of renovating the interior of the rooms (masonry work, electrical work, painting).

We did not wait for the funds to be raised completely. We had trust and confidence on the alumni. So, Sukumar sir and Paul sir along with some of their contacts started the work in one room as model room. Once that was done, we started reaching out alumni for support and at the same time started the renovation of 3 rooms at a time. In that way, work would continue without disturbing all the students simultaneously and we could raise the funds in parallel. We estimated 20,000/- as the cost of work per room and for 50 rooms, it would be around 10 Lakhs. What was not taken into account was the dilapidated state of the outside structure too. Without this being taken care, the interiors could again go back to previous condition. We did not want to loose the momentum and continued the renovation work on external structure of the building - walls, corridor, aisle walls etc and painting too. This would require another 6.5 to 7 Lakhs in addition. We went ahead and have successfully completed the work. With the alumni support, we also got a water filter installed in the hostel.

Now, we intend to hand over the old block officially to the college authorities and we wish to have your presence amongst us. It is a simple gesture of thanks for believing in “Giving Back to UVCE”. Request all of you to join us this Saturday, 16th May at 10AM. We are sure you would love to visit your old room and relive those wonderful memories along with your friends.

- Satish A G, 2009 Batch



IEEE UVCE UPDATES

April was marked by a series of impactful initiatives by IEEE UVCE, creating opportunities for learning, service and professional growth. A major event of the month was the Basic First Aid Care Workshop for Road Crash Victims, organized with NIMHANS on 15th April. This Lay Responder Care Training covered CPR/ BLS, bleeding control, fracture first aid and emergency response techniques, equipping participants with essential life-saving skills while emphasizing timely action and community responsibility.

Continuing its focus on technical excellence, IEEE UVCE PES organized a webinar on “Engineering a Sustainable and Resilient Energy Future” on 22nd April as part of PES Day celebrations under the theme “Innovation Today, Engineering Tomorrow” delivered by Mr. Venkatesh V C, Senior Manager - AI at ABB, the session explored the role of Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence in modern power systems, covering operational efficiency, predictive maintenance and sustainability while encouraging innovation and critical thinking.

IEEE UVCE also organized a competitive quiz initiative to test student’s aptitude, problem-solving skills and awareness of IEEE. The quiz offered participants a chance to earn IEEE Membership through merit-based performance, with the top 50 performers receiving membership. By combining aptitude challenges with IEEE-related questions, the initiative encouraged technical thinking and greater student involvement within the IEEE community.

Additionally, Team IEEE UVCE attended the IEEE Bangalore Section 50th Anniversary Celebration on 26th April, marking five decades of the Section’s journey since 1976. The event featured keynote addresses, panel discussions, commemorative activities and the unveiling of the 50 Years Magazine, highlighting its growth and contributions over the years. Overall, April was a month of learning, participation and engagement for IEEE UVCE.

OBITUARY

We are deeply saddened to inform the UVCE alumni community of the passing of Venkatesh Kamath of the 1972 batch, who passed away on 24th April His passing is a great loss to the alumni fraternity, and he will be remembered fondly for his association with UVCE and the bonds they shared with their batchmates and friends. He was a regular attendee to most of the events organized by UVCEGA from past many years.

On behalf of UVCE Graduates Association, we extend our heartfelt condolences to his families and loved ones. May his soul rest in peace.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

We have taken the article from the college magazine "Creator" from 1971-72. There are some interesting write-ups, creative poems, photographs and more in this magazine. The idea is to remind our readers of UVCE to go down the memory lane of the college days and how you can imagine those golden days of life via such simplistic but brilliant articles (written from the student perspective almost 5 decades back) are still relevant !!

The Head Quarters

It was the 'D-I', day. The headquarters was a sea of busy people. A continuous stream of them seemed to pour into it, as if a vital dam somewhere had just breached. Excitement ran high, you had only to put out your hand to catch it. Being in this atmosphere made you feel important. Everyone going about his business in his own hurried way, determined to finish the work before somebody comes in to beat him to it. Everyone eager to contribute his own little mite to the running of the headquarters.

In one corner preparations were being made to make room for the more important ones. With acute shortage of tables around, two small tables were put together to serve the purpose of a big one needed. Somebody had just then brought in the important papers. Heavily guarded as they were, they drew a huge crowd. Every newcomer invariably made a bee line for this table, only to be told to keep away. This was where the important decisions would be made. Yes, the V.I.Ps were expected any moment now.

The din of the spirited discussions dies down a little as the first of the V.I.Ps is sighted. As he approaches the headquarters, a gripping silence falls over it. Everybody stops to look at him. He moves to the make-shift conference table, everyone making way for him and his top aides they take their seats and he pulls a file towards himself. The rest eagerly wait for the others to join them. Everybody is lost in his own thoughts at the important table. One by one, all seem to grow restless. One of them looks at his wrist watch only to find it is not the scheduled time yet. Something at the other end of the room catches his eye. He turns around to take a closer look at the table. The others are on their way now. He turns back to the table as they arrive. Having paid their respects to each other, they all settle down.

Now begins the stock-taking of the grim realties of the situation. The aides, one by one, give the information they have collected. You can feel the tension growing. Everybody around eagerly watch the deliberations at the table from a distance, a trifle hesitant to approach it. Then somebody brings in the latest information. As if actuated by it they go into a whole-hearted discussion. While one points out the weak points of the enemy yet another suggests what he thinks is the best strategy to counter the rival's activities. More and more strategies are discussed. The pros and cons of each are carefully bought out. Then somebody comes up with a bright idea "first let's take a complete inventory of our strength in the field". He is profusely congratulated. Accordingly items favorable to them are tested. Slowly the list grows longer and longer. At last smiles break out on their worried faces. Yes, they are certainly better off than the..... They are ready to meet the challenge and are confident of a decisive victory. The important decisions are recorded. The final strategy is evolved with great care. Everyone is given a definite task to complete.

It is decided that they will meet again just hours before 'H-HOUR', to take note of the latest developments and to make the necessary changes in the all important strategy.

Strategy, for they had to win the student elections. The venue of the meeting will be the same headquarters, the "COLLEGE CANTEEN"

- Ashok, Final Mechanical (1972)

ECELL INTERVIEWS

Aravind Seshadri, COO of Marutee Design and co-founder of Iksha Foundation, represents the hands-on engineer who never stopped building. From his unconventional schooling at The Valley School to leading operations at an engineering services company, his journey reflects a commitment to practical learning, continuous improvement, and giving back. Along with fellow UVCE alumni Srini (Managing Director) and Ananda (CTO), he's part of a leadership trio that believes in doing good engineering above all else.

Could you give us a brief introduction about yourself?

I'm Aravind Seshadri, born and raised in Bangalore. I studied at The Valley School for ten years — a school with no exams where children learn freely through experiential education. That's where I discovered my love for working with my hands, building things. Whether it was jigsaw puzzles or Lego sets, I was always creating something. Even today at Marutee Design, I'm still building — just electric two-wheelers instead of toys.

I joined UVCE in 1993 and graduated in 1997. UVCE was quite active with industry then, and I got recruited by Kirloskar Toyoda Textile Machinery (KTTM) as a graduate trainee through campus placement. After nine months, I left for the US to pursue my master's in Mechanical Engineering (1998–2000), then worked there for six years. In 2006, I moved back , partly for better idli and sambar, but also because opportunities had changed. Companies like Honeywell and GE had set up engineering centers here. I worked at a small company for four years, then an MNC for 12 years, did some consulting, and for the past year, I've been COO at Marutee Design, where we help companies with their product development.

What role did UVCE play in shaping your journey?

UVCE holds a special place in my heart. The first year was typical , lots of branch changes. But I knew I wanted mechanical engineering. Years two through four gave us deep exposure to mechanical subjects, and we had some really passionate teachers who made you want to attend class.

We had excellent facilities — a big wind tunnel that few colleges had, multiple labs, and a CAD/CAM lab where I did my final year project. We even had a guide from GTRE (Gas Turbine Research Establishment) who gave us real work to do. The campus itself was special — the old trees, the open space in front of the library, right in the heart of the city but so calm.

I was captain of the basketball team for three years. We'd play right next to the canteen — literally grab lunch, play basketball, then head to class. Milagro was our big annual festival with rock shows and fashion shows. The best times were just sitting around tables in the canteen, everyone bringing different food, discussing everything and nothing.

With over 24 years across research, manufacturing, and automation, what were your most important lessons?

There are two approaches to engineering: perfect everything before release, or prototype quickly and learn. I'm hands-on, I like the rapid prototyping approach. It's helped me deliver faster.

I learned early in my first US job that I'm not cut out for pure research. We did excellent work for the Department of Defense, but it ended with reports, not products. I realized if I wanted research, I'd have done a PhD. I wanted to build things people actually use. So I switched to a nanotech company called Zyvex — meeting customers, getting feedback, closing that loop was invaluable.

Through my career, I discovered I'm good at making improvements — identifying problems and optimizing solutions. Making things faster, better, stronger, lighter. At a company called Nordson in Bangalore, I transitioned from hardcore engineering to process optimization and operations. My father was a chartered accountant, so I inherited a knack for numbers. That led me to Lean and Six Sigma, minimizing variation and waste. Eventually, I started consulting, helped a furniture company streamline processes and then Srini , my UVCE classmate said Marutee Design needed help scaling up. I joined as a consultant in December 2024, found exciting work and young talent, and here I am.

What excites you most about being COO at Marutee Design?

Even though I support the Managing Director across finance, customers, and engineering, what really excites me is the constant learning. We're an engineering services company working across electric vehicles, charging stations, potentially drones, unmanned aerial vehicles, maybe underwater submarines in the future. Every project brings new technology, cutting-edge challenges.

I interact with customers extensively — understanding their dreams and goals, then figuring out how to make it happen through engineering. On the backend, we have freshers, people with 2–3 years' experience, and veterans with 9–10 years. Helping everyone become better engineers is incredibly rewarding. You learn a lot in college, but practical application often gets lost when you're focused on marks.

Ananda , Srini, and I are completely aligned: products from Marutee Design must be well -engineered. That's something I'm genuinely proud of.

You co-founded Iksha Foundation, which has supported 270+ children. What inspired this?

A group of friends and I always wanted to give back. We'd already supported education for household help as families — our maid's children, our driver's kids. My parents had done this, and we wanted to do something bigger.

A friend from The Valley School and I connected with a doctor who performed surgeries for children with eye cancer (retinoblastoma). These children came from very low-income families , daily laborers and small landowners. Financial aid was desperately needed. This cancer is highly curable with timely treatment and proper funding, it just needs awareness. We partnered with the late Dr. Bhujang Shetty at Narayana Netralaya, who said if we could provide funding, they'd absorb hospital and consultation charges. We covered chemotherapy and all consumables.

We started with two kids in 2010. I don't know how we reached 270, but it's been incredible — five kids one year, 17 the next, then 40. We're now known across India as the NGO supporting children with eye cancer. We've partnered with hospitals in Pune, Bangalore (Narayana Netralaya, Shankara), and Centre for Sight in Hyderabad.

Treatment cost was about one lakh per child annually in 2010, now in 2026 it's around two and a half lakhs depending on spread. The government's CSR bill has helped tremendously — initially we relied on cousins and friends, but now corporates support us.

The most rewarding part? Seeing kids I watched being carried by their mothers now heading to college, choosing PCMB, talking about pharmacy. Fifteen years watching them grow into young individuals, it's incredible.

What does it take to turn concepts into successful products?

First, understand the problem you're solving and whether people actually need your solution. There's a story about space travel : Americans spent millions developing an anti-gravity pen because ballpoint pens don't work in zero gravity. Russians just used pencils. Before spending money, make sure there's a real market need.

Then comes engineering rigor. Use FMEA — Failure Mode Effect Analysis. Identify where things can fail and prevent those failures. Build something robust for all situations it'll face.

But honestly, it's rarely a one-person job. You need a team, someone good at engineering, someone at marketing, someone at sales. Many startups have 2–3 people with complementary skills. The most important qualities are being extremely passionate and very quantitative, everything needs numbers and engineering behind it to last.

How did you gain hands-on experience beyond college?

Internships are crucial, students ask for them now, which is great. In our time, it wasn't common. The industry is open to this now.

Also, early career isn't about money, it's about diving deep into engineering. My first salary barely covered the basics, but I learned everything. I'd work the 6 AM shift, stay extra hours voluntarily, just to learn more. We had fewer distractions then — no smartphones, no Instagram. I'm not saying those are bad, but nothing replaces hands-on building, working with your hands, seeing prototypes, discussing with seniors, and understanding their experiences.

Spend more than eight hours initially. Don't worry about finances if your basic needs are covered. There's always a gap between education and reality. Syllabus changes help, but practical, hands-on work through yearly internships is the best way to grow.

How important are cross-functional skills versus deep specialization?

There are two paths: master one thing (the technical ladder) or manage people and processes (the managerial ladder). You need to choose. Since we're talking about engineering, you probably won't do much marketing initially, so building a team for other functions makes sense.

But understand the big picture. Know what customers really want. Communication is crucial — and it's as much about listening as talking. People often attend meetings but don't truly listen. Learn to listen, not just hear. Ask questions, clarify doubts immediately. Both written and verbal communication matter for overall growth.

Our accent might be off, our words occasionally wrong — no problem. People understand. They might laugh initially, but if you're persistent and genuinely seeking answers, they'll support you. You can specialize deeply or know multiple things, but you can't master everything. Have some knowledge of everything, but focus intensely on one area. For me, it's mechanical engineering and process optimization for my job, plus Iksha Foundation. Understanding your focus while maintaining broader interest is the way to grow.

What were your toughest challenges, and how did you build resilience?

In the US, we were building a nanomanipulator — a device with extremely precise, small movements for IC industry failure analysis. We tried building small motors repeatedly and kept failing. We realized we needed to run tests continuously, 24 hours. So we worked in shifts — sometimes morning, sometimes night, just continuous focused effort. That persistence helped us succeed.

During my master's, I focused intensely on something that wasn't yielding results. A family friend told me something valuable: "Every dead end is an answer saying that's not the way. Find another route." That perspective shift — seeing failures as information, not defeat and constant persistence have been key to my career success.

How can engineers contribute to society beyond their jobs?

Engineering drives the world. Just the other day, I was riding behind a two-wheeler and noticed the shock absorbers struggling with Bangalore's bumpy roads. I realized how critical proper design is — it works great on highways, but fails in city potholes. People pay good money for vehicles that should last. That's engineering's impact.

Knowingly or unknowingly, engineers contribute to everything. If you can see the big picture and do something additional, that's wonderful. I had time and passion to help people, so Iksha happened. Yes, there are long work days, then updating Facebook for Iksha, filing taxes, doing the accounts. But passion gives you energy.

It's a healthy balance beyond just engineering. Everyone should cultivate a hobby — singing, dancing, whatever. As you grow older, maybe teach others what you love. That's giving back too.

What advice would you give UVCE students who want to create impact?

Don't force it. Let meaningful work come to you naturally. Don't say, "This year I must start an NGO." I graduated in 1997, Iksha started in 2010 almost 13 years later.

Find a cause you're genuinely aligned with, a problem close to you. It might be stray dogs, environmental issues, education — whatever resonates. You don't have to start something new, join existing initiatives. If you're passionate, you'll naturally spread the impact.

Keep an eye out for how you can help others, and it will happen. Don't force it.

Any final advice for UVCE engineers?

There's lots of talk about AI and ML transforming everything. It's moving faster than I expected, but fundamentals remain crucial. Know your basics, but stay aware of what's coming. Don't believe everything online — search "are potatoes good for you" and you'll find articles saying yes and others saying no. Everything's in moderation.

Do your basic engineering, but always follow new trends. If you only focus on what used to be done, you'll never catch up with industry. Stay updated on the latest developments.

Reading and research are irreplaceable. Stay in touch with people in industry, that's one of the best learning methods. Read articles, follow news. Being informed about new technologies is what keeps you relevant.

And remember , continuous learning never stops.

This article is published in collaboration with Entrepreneurship Cell UVCE which is striving for entrepreneurship development within UVCE. They have started this new series of interviews with Entrepreneurs from UVCE. So, we will be publishing the same in Sampada and make sure it reaches more wider audience through our readers. To read the article online, click here

UVCE MEET N GREET - A WALK THROUGH TIME

One of the most cherished traditions of the UVCE Graduates Association has been our periodic “Meet & Greet” gatherings. Informal yet meaningful occasions where alumni reconnect, exchange stories, and rediscover Bengaluru through places of cultural, scientific, and historical significance. Over the years, these gatherings have taken us across several iconic corners of the city: the serene stretches of Cubbon Park, the botanical grandeur of Lalbagh, the intellectually stimulating Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum, and the peaceful surroundings of Sankey Tank, among others.

This time, however, we chose to venture northward, to a place that beautifully captures India’s industrial spirit and engineering legacy: the HMT Heritage Centre and Museum. The decision was especially fitting for multiple reasons. For one, many distinguished alumni of UVCE have contributed to HMT over the decades. Equally compelling was the shared fascination many of us hold for mechanical watches that perhaps our parents/grandparents owned. Those intricate little marvels of engineering that quietly defined generations.

For those unfamiliar, HMT — Hindustan Machine Tools, was once among India’s proudest public sector enterprises. Established in 1953, HMT became synonymous with industrial growth, precision manufacturing, machine tools, tractors, and of course, its legendary watches. At a time when owning an HMT watch was considered a rite of passage, the company stood as a symbol of self-reliant Indian engineering and manufacturing excellence.

On a pleasant Saturday morning, we (a group of 10 consisting of 6 alumni and 4 students) arrived at the museum just as its doors opened. There was a quiet excitement in the air. A mix of nostalgia, curiosity, and camaraderie. After exchanging greetings and catching up with one another outside the premises, we purchased our tickets and stepped into the Heritage Centre.

The experience began in a beautifully curated hall chronicling the history of HMT. Large displays narrated the remarkable journey of the organization: its rapid expansion, key milestones, manufacturing achievements, leadership, collaborations, and contributions to India’s industrial development. Particularly heartening for us was the realization that several prominent personalities associated with HMT and its growth had roots in UVCE itself. It was impossible not to feel a sense of pride standing amidst that history.

As we progressed deeper into the museum, the focus shifted from the organization’s history to the fascinating world of horology. The exhibits explained the anatomy of a mechanical watch. The movement, gears, balance wheels, springs, dials, hands, and cases all presented in a way that was both educational and engaging. We spent considerable time examining the individual components of watches and learning how each part was manufactured with astonishing precision.

One of the highlights was seeing the original machinery used in watch production. Rows of lathes, tooling systems, polishing setups, and specialized industrial equipment stood preserved almost like frozen moments from a bygone manufacturing era. Walking through those rooms felt less like visiting a museum and more like stepping directly into an operating factory floor from decades past. The old kilns and workshop equipment added another layer of authenticity to the experience.

Further ahead, we entered galleries displaying an extraordinary collection of HMT watches. Vintage classics, elegant dress watches, robust utility models, commemorative editions etc. Each piece seemed to tell a story of its own. Conversations naturally drifted toward memories of parents and grandparents who once proudly wore HMT watches every single day. In many ways, these watches were not merely timepieces, they were cultural artifacts woven into the fabric of Indian households.

The museum also showcased HMT's collaborations and industrial partnerships over the years, offering a glimpse into how Indian manufacturing evolved through technological exchange and innovation. On the first floor, Newspaper articles documenting the relatively recent establishment of the museum provided context on the effort taken to preserve this legacy for future generations.

We walked around old industrial equipment, factory machinery, tractors, and large-scale tooling systems that once powered HMT's manufacturing operations. Tractor rides were also being offered for visitors. An amusing and nostalgic touch that many of us debated trying, though we ultimately settled for admiring them from a distance.

Of course, no UVCEGA gathering is complete without a group photograph. Against the backdrop of HMT's industrial legacy, we gathered together for a memorable picture. One that symbolized not just friendship and alumni bonding, but also a shared appreciation for engineering heritage.

Before concluding the visit, we stopped by the souvenir shop, where a variety of HMT watches were on display and available for purchase. Among the most interesting pieces was a special "Operation Sindhoor" edition watch, which drew considerable attention and discussion among the group.

As the morning drew to a close, we gathered one final time for a short informal discussion before dispersing. The visit had been far more than a casual outing. It was a reminder of Bengaluru's industrial history, India's manufacturing aspirations, and the timeless relationship between engineering and nation-building.

More importantly, it reinforced something that lies at the heart of every UVCEGA Meet & Greet. The joy of reconnecting with fellow alumni while collectively rediscovering the stories, institutions, and legacies that shaped our city and our profession.

We now look forward with equal enthusiasm to the next gathering, the next conversation, and the next journey through history.

- Adrian P Isaac, 2023 Batch

MARVEL UPDATE CORNER

Despite students being occupied with their internal and external lab examinations, the Marvel R&D Lab maintained significant momentum. We successfully completed the relocation of all equipment to our new facility, while simultaneously conducting technical workshops and achieving active participation in various competitions.

MARVEL Shifting

The shifting process from the old Marvel R&D Lab to the new R&D Lab space in the Rock Garden building has been fully completed. All equipment, tables, and cupboards have been moved and arranged in the new space. Reliable connectivity is essential for the lab to function properly and for students to carry out their work without interruptions.

Though, we are facing challenges like getting the internet connection to the new space, having it cleaned regularly etc, we are trying to keep the energy high.

Probation Co-ordinators for IoT Domain

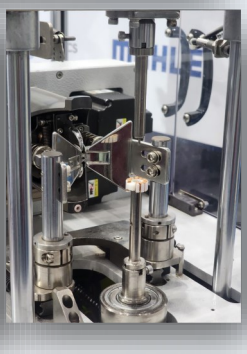
After the selection process for the coordinators, they were given a probation period of one month during which they were assigned technical and soft-skill related tasks to complete. The probation period concluded last month, and the results for the new coordinators of the IoT domain will be announced after the semester-end examinations.

Drone Expo Visit

A group of 12 students from MARVEL, UVCE attended the Drone Expo 2026 held at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Bengaluru. The visit was supported by the college, and the objective was to explore current advancements in UAV technologies, industry practices, and identify opportunities for collaboration, procurement, and student development within MARVEL R&D Lab and the institution. Some of the major highlights of the visit are:

- Established contact with industry representatives associated with SolidWorks. They have agreed to visit our college and conduct an initial free workshop/demo session. This session will act as a training program for students, with potential for extended collaboration.
- Gained insights into missile interceptor technologies and their working principles.
- Identified multiple companies specializing in: UAV components; Composite materials; Aerospace-grade fabrication; customised Battery Management Systems (BMS) and tailored battery pack solutions.
- Gathered contacts for: Internship opportunities; Technical mentorship; Future collaborations

The exposure by visiting the expo helped bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world implementations.



The Director asked all the coordinators from Marvel to identify students who were interested in participating in a drone expo. The coordinators took responsibility for organizing the travel and managing the journey to the venue. In this way, apart from technical skills, MARVEL is also providing opportunity to develop co-ordination and managing logistics abilities.

Workshop by UVCE Alumni

The PCB design workshop initiated by Anand Sir, an alumnus of UVCE from the ECE 2019 batch, continued last month after being paused earlier due to the ongoing first-year examinations. During the session, students were guided on how to select the right components while designing a PCB, giving them better practical understanding of the design process.

BotWorks

BotWorks is a long-term robotics initiative by MARVEL for students who want to build bots with purpose, depth, and continuity. BotWorks focuses on participating in competitions across the state by focussing on:

- Designing a single, high-quality robotic system
- Improving it steadily through testing and iteration
- Deploying it across competitions as opportunities arise

Started in January, 2026, the current focus of BotWorks is on building and refining RC Car and Line Follower Bot, with an emphasis on robust design, control, and performance. After couple of months initial efforts, teams have participated in more than half a dozen competitions within a span of 3 months:

Malnad College of Engineering, Hassan (Enigma 2026 - RoboRace); Presidency University, Bengaluru (SteelWaves - RC Ralley); Channabasaweshwara Institute of Technology, Gubbi (RoboRace); Sri Siddhartha Institute of Technology, Tumkur (RoboRace); Acharya Institute of Technology, Bengaluru (RoboHabba 2026 - RoboRace); JSS Academy of Technical Education, Bengaluru (Yantrix - RoboRace).

We are glad to inform that more students interested in robotics, electronics, mechanical design, or control systems are encouraged to participate as part of BotWorks.

Competitions

Last month, the BotWorks RC team participated in a competition conducted called RoboRace by SSIT Tumkur, where they secured first place. This achievement is a great encouragement for the entire BotWorks team, who worked tirelessly in designing and building the bot.

After participating in couple of competitions, it was realized that different wheels were necessary for an effective tank-type drive mechanism. This resulted in redesigning and replacing the wheel setup. Due to the combination of wheel selection, dimension limitations, and mechanical issues, several redesigns and adjustments had to be carried out throughout the development process. These challenges ultimately helped improve the final bot design and overall understanding of the system.

One team from MARVEL has registered for the CANSAT competition organized by IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre) along with ISRO and the Astronautical Society of India (ASI). The objective is to design, build, and launch a 1 kg payload (CANSAT) that fits within a soda can-sized canister, designed to achieve 1000meters altitude for measuring atmospheric data or similar scientific missions. This competition bridges the skill gap between academia and the space industry, promoting the 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat' vision in space technologies.

We plan to reach out to our alumni for guidance and support once the semester exams are completed.

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