



ATHARVA

Sept'25
Edition 82

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Editor's Note

We are delighted to bring you this edition of the SCIT magazine, a reflection of the vibrant culture, academic spirit, and dynamic events that define our institute.



Ganeshotsav 2025

SCIT Ganeshotsav 2025 was a vibrant celebration that brought the community together in devotion, joy, and cultural harmony, honoring Lord Ganesha with unity and enthusiasm.



SPROUT IT 2025

SPROUT IT 2025, SCIT's flagship E-Cell event, celebrated innovation and entrepreneurship with the theme "SYMCREIDIA – Symbiosis Drives Creative Ideas".



Onam 2025

Onam 2025 at SIC campus united SCIT, SCMHRD, and SIIB in a vibrant celebration of Kerala's tradition, culture, and joy.



Generative AI in Cybersecurity

SCIT's Guest Lecture Committee hosted Ajay Garg for a session on "Cybersecurity and Gen AI Use Cases", exploring how AI and automation are reshaping security and banking.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

26th National Seminar at SCIT

SCIT hosted the 26th National Seminar on “Digital Frontiers: From Responsible AI to Secure AI”, exploring the future of AI and cybersecurity.



The Journey: Data-to-Intelligence

SCIT’s DS&DA Guest Lecture Committee hosted Ms. Pooja Jain, Lead Data Engineer at Wavicle, for an insightful session on “From Data to Intelligence” on 21st September 2025.



Beyond Chatbots

The DS&DA Guest Lecture Committee at SCIT hosted Dr. Bhushan Garware, AI Consultant at Google, on 26th September 2025 for an engaging session on “Beyond Chatbots: The Era of AI Agents.”



CyberON 2025

CyberON 2025, SCIT’s flagship event by Team Matrix, was held with the theme “Threads of Trust” during Cybersecurity Awareness Month, promoting collaboration and awareness for a safer digital future.



Future Ready Tech

SCIT hosted Mr. Dhiraj Shirsat from NielsenIQ on September 29, 2025, for a session on “Future Ready Tech: Navigating AI, Cloud, and Beyond”, exploring next-gen digital transformation.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Digital Transformation

The ITBM Guest Lecture Committee hosted Mr. Rishikesh Utpat on September 30, 2025, for an interactive session on “Digital Transformation in BFSI and Future Skill Gaps”.



Navratri Celebration at SCIT

SCIT celebrated Navratri on September 30 with joy and devotion, as the Cultural Committee organized an evening of dance, tradition, and unity.



Faculty Spotlight

Highlighting the expertise, achievements, and contributions of SCIT's distinguished faculty members.



Senior Scoop : Tales & Tips

A little Insights from Senior Committee Members: valuable advice and experiences shared by seniors to guide and inspire students.



EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the September 2025 edition of Atharva, dear readers! As the monsoon skies slowly clear to make way for the festive season, the SCIT campus has been brimming with devotion, cultural vibrance, entrepreneurial spirit, and thought-provoking discussions – truly reflecting the dynamic essence of our community.



The month commenced with Ganeshotsav 2025, a celebration that filled the campus with music, colors, and a deep sense of togetherness as students came together to welcome Lord Ganesha with devotion and enthusiasm. This was followed by Onam 2025, where the campus came alive with the vibrant traditions of Kerala – intricate Pookalams, cultural performances, and a grand Onam Sadhya that brought everyone together in joyous celebration. The festive spirit culminated with Navratri 2025, where the sports arena echoed with Garba and Dandiya, celebrating devotion, energy, and unity in true SCIT style.

This month also witnessed SPROUT IT 2025, a flagship event that celebrated innovation and entrepreneurship. The platform encouraged budding visionaries to present their ideas, engage with industry leaders, and nurture an entrepreneurial mindset.

On the academic and professional front, September was marked by a series of insightful guest lectures and national-level events. Sessions such as “The Journey: Data-to-Intelligence”, “Generative AI in Cybersecurity: Practical Use Cases and Emerging Trends”, and “Beyond Chatbots: The Era of AI Agents” offered valuable perspectives on the evolving AI landscape. Guest lectures on “Future Ready Tech: Navigating AI, Cloud and Beyond” and “Digital Transformation in BFSI and Future Skill Gaps” broadened students’ understanding of industry transformations and future competencies.

The 26th National Seminar on “Digital Frontiers – From Responsible AI to Secure AI” brought together thought leaders from academia and industry to explore the ethical, technological, and security dimensions of AI. Complementing this was CyberON 2025, which emphasized awareness, collaboration, and secure digital futures through engaging discussions and activities.

As we look back, September at SCIT stands as a harmonious blend of culture, innovation, and intellectual exchange – setting a vibrant tone for the festive months ahead.

Ganeshotsav 2025: A Celebration of Devotion and Togetherness

On September 5, 2025, the Atrium at SCIT was filled with devotion and positivity as the Ganeshotsav celebrations began with the traditional pooja and aarti of Lord Ganesh. The divine aura was unmatched — rhythmic claps echoed in perfect sync, while the heartfelt chants of “Ganpati Bappa Morya, Mangal Murti Morya” created an atmosphere of pure devotion. Receiving the prasad of modaks felt like receiving the blessings of Bappa himself, setting the perfect tone for the evening.

The celebrations then moved to the Sports Arena, where the beats of the Dhol Tasha Pathak roared with energy. Paying homage to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and Bappa, the powerful rhythms shook not just the ground but seemed to touch the skies. The crowd joined in with chants of “Ganpati Bappa Morya”, while students danced in unison, their steps perfectly synced with the beats of the dhols — a moment that captured both cultural pride and collective joy.

The cultural showcases that followed further elevated the evening. Team Eklavya presented Bappa ke Sandesh, a thought-provoking play that highlighted the values of equality, success, and brotherhood. The stage then lit up with Symbeats, whose electrifying performance felt like lightning bursting through clouds of pink gulal. Soon after, Konnect Band filled the air with soulful musical rhythms, blending melody and spirit in perfect sync, carrying the celebration closer to Bappa’s divine presence.

The night concluded with a fun-filled DJ session, where students danced with joy and enthusiasm, bringing together devotion, culture, and celebration in one seamless flow. Ganeshotsav 2025 at SCIT was more than just a festival — it was an experience of unity, tradition, and the vibrant Life at SCIT.

-Divyansh Vyas





SPROUT IT 2025: Celebrating Innovation and Entrepreneurship at SCIT

Under the E-Cell banner, the iTELF committee of SCIT organised its flagship annual entrepreneurship event SPROUT IT 2025 on 13 September with the theme, 'SYMCREIDIA- Symbiosis Drives Creative Ideas'. The whole day featured a series of dynamic and engaging events that kept the students captivated throughout the day.

It started with a grand welcome of all the esteemed guests comprising of the chief guest Mr. Darshan Nandkishore Kapadia, Co-founder of ABS Consulting Corp. and other investors like Mr. Nilesh Vohra, Mr. Tushar Shetty, Mr. Bharat Oswal, Mr. Suman Sengupta and Mr. Amit Bora whose presence added immense value to the event, followed by the Lamp lighting and a fantastic speech from the Director and Deputy Director of SCIT, Dr. Dhanya Pramod and Dr. Kanchan Patil respectively about the importance of entrepreneurship and innovation in today's business landscape. The event continued with an inspiring speech by Mr. Darshan N. Kapadia in which he explained the three E's of entrepreneurship, i.e., Envision, Execute, and Evolve, and how to make one's entrepreneurial journey successful. Last, the opening ceremony ended with a thank-you vote from Professor Dr. Raghav Sandhane.

After a brief break, the event kicked off with the main highlight of the day, Biznovator, where participants pitched their innovative business ideas to the investors in hopes of getting funding for their ventures. Other events followed were MUN- a debate competition, Capital Crunch, where participants tested their strategy and risk-taking as they navigated market stocks and funding opportunities. In Full House, participants played a game similar to housie, and in Case Quest, students solved and presented the case. The event concluded with a melodious performance by Konnect, the SCIT musical band, and the DJ night, where students danced to their heart's content.

-Shiv Pratap Singh

Onam 2025: A Celebration of Unity, Tradition, and Joy

The SIC campus celebrated the vibrant spirit of Kerala on September 15, 2025, as the Cultural Committee organized a grand Onam celebration. Students, staff, and faculty from SCIT, SCMHRD, and SIIB came together, making the occasion a true reflection of unity within the Symbiosis family. The day beautifully blended devotion, tradition, and joy, creating memories that will be cherished for years to come.

The morning began with the creation of the Pookalam, a colourful flower rangoli designed by students. Symbolizing prosperity and harmony, the Pookalam stood as a vibrant centrepiece of the celebration. By the afternoon, the campus came alive with the much-awaited Onam Sadhya, an authentic Kerala feast served on banana leaves. From Kaalan and Aviyal to Sambhar, Rasam, Pachadi, and Paayasam, every dish carried the true flavors of Kerala. The cheerful service by students and staff, along with the aroma and warmth of the delicacies, added to the festive spirit.

The cultural evening further elevated the celebrations as students dressed in Kerala's traditional attire — Kasavu sarees, Mundu, and jasmine garlands. The stage lit up with soulful musical renditions, the graceful Thiruvathirakali, and energetic dance performances on Malayalam favorites like "Jimikki Kammal" and "Manasilayo", as well as Bollywood hits, captivating the audience throughout.

The evening then moved outdoors with a lively Tug of War, which brought participants and spectators together in an atmosphere of thrill and excitement. The day concluded with an electrifying DJ Night, where the entire campus danced with joy and enthusiasm. Onam 2025 at SCIT was more than a festival — it was a vibrant expression of culture, unity, and the joyous spirit of Life at SCIT.

-Divyansh Vyas



Generative AI in Cybersecurity: Practical Use Cases and Emerging Trends

In today's fast-evolving digital world, cybersecurity threats are growing more sophisticated while the tools to combat them become smarter. In a recent session on "Cybersecurity and Gen AI Use Cases", organized by the Guest Lecture Committee, innovator and cybersecurity expert Mr. Ajay Garg shared how generative AI, data science, and automation are transforming security and banking.

He began by stressing the power of continuous learning, urging professionals to stay curious and embrace new skills to stay ahead of evolving risks. Data accuracy, he explained, is the foundation of security. Using MongoDB databases and carefully designed synthetic datasets, organizations can train AI models to detect anomalies, strengthen compliance reporting, and safeguard sensitive transactions. Techniques such as prompt engineering refine AI outputs, while AI-driven peer review improves coding quality and reduces reliance on manual checks. Generative AI is already reshaping financial services, powering fraud detection, anti-money laundering, robo advice, and supply chain optimization, while authentication tools like LDAP and OAuth provide stronger access control. Real-world cases of phishing scams, ransomware attacks, and insider threats highlighted the urgent need for firewalls, careful verification of links and payments, and airtight privacy frameworks. Mr. Ajay also described cybersecurity simulations, AI-based fraud algorithms, and research groups that use AI to summarize technical papers and stay ahead of emerging challenges.

While the potential of Gen AI is immense—from automating test cases to spotting hidden transaction networks—Ajay cautioned against rushing into production. Careful adoption, robust compliance, and continuous upskilling are essential to harness AI safely. His message was clear: in an age where AI can both protect and threaten, curiosity, caution, and constant adaptation are the keys to cybersecurity success. Prof. Anshul Saxena thanked Ajay for his insightful contributions, highlighting the importance of knowledge sharing in advancing cybersecurity and AI-driven solutions.

-Keerthana Sheeja



26th National Seminar at SCIT: Digital Frontiers – From Responsible AI to Secure AI



The Symbiosis Centre for Information Technology successfully hosted the 26th National Seminar on “Digital Frontiers: From Responsible AI to Secure AI”. The event brought together students, faculty, and industry leaders for an engaging discussion on the evolving intersections of Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity.

The seminar commenced with introductions by hosts Jai Yadav and Anjali Sah, followed by a ceremonial lamp lighting led by Director Dr. Dhanya Pramod and a panel of speakers shaping the future: Mr. Anvay Paranjape, Mr. Arieddin Sheikh, Dr. Biswajit Mohapatra, Mr. Shaunak Sontakke, and Mr. Viral Thakkar. Director Dr. Dhanya Pramod inaugurated the event by underscoring the growing significance of AI, Generative AI, and Cloud technologies, citing examples like NVIDIA's breakthroughs, while emphasizing SCIT's commitment to advancing research and education in technology and cybersecurity. The day's highlight was a thought-provoking panel discussion, moderated by Dr. S. Vijaykumar Bharathi, Professor at SCIT, which explored the challenges and opportunities in the next wave of digital transformation. Mr. Shaunak Sontakke emphasized the importance of reliable guardrails in cybersecurity, while stating that collaborative environments best nurture agility and authorization. Dr. Biswajit Mohapatra stressed that the guiding principle must be AI for all and AI for the goodness of all.

Adding an industry perspective, Mr. Arieddin Sheikh discussed issues such as AI hallucinations and manipulations on customer-facing platforms, elaborating on how these vulnerabilities can lead to significant financial and reputational losses. Mr. Viral Thakkar encouraged the audience to unlearn outdated practices and embrace emerging technologies, while also mentioning DeepSeek and its strong foundational build that makes it particularly effective in today's AI landscape. Bringing the discussion full circle, Mr. Anvay Paranjape highlighted the importance of human accountability in technology, remarking that “the why runs the world”. The session concluded with an interactive Q&A, allowing students to gain practical insights from industry leaders. Bringing it all together, Dr. Kanchan Patil, Deputy Director at SCIT, thanked the speakers and applauded their visionary perspectives.

A special mention was given to Dr. Dhanya Pramod and Dr. Anil Jadhav for being featured in Stanford University's Top 2% Scientists List (2025). Dr. Kanchan Patil concluded with a powerful reminder: “AI helps us think smarter, while cybersecurity ensures we sleep better”. The 26th National Seminar not only illuminated pressing issues of responsible and secure AI but also reaffirmed SCIT's role as a hub for meaningful dialogue between academia and industry.

-Ishank Gupta

The Journey: Data-to-Intelligence

The Guest Lecture Committee of DS&DA at SCIT organized an insightful session with Ms. Pooja Jain, Lead Data Engineer at Wavicle, on 21st September 2025, who brings over eight years of experience in the field. The lecture, “From Data to Intelligence”, was designed to enhance students’ understanding of the data-driven world.

Ms. Jain began by simplifying data retrieval, connecting it to everyday activities such as mobile phone usage. She explained how platforms like Instagram and YouTube generate and utilize digital data to understand consumers and refine user experiences. She then guided students through the end-to-end data lifecycle, covering collection, transformation, storage in cloud-based lakes and warehouses, securing data, and finally performing in-depth analysis. At the core of this discussion was the architecture of ETL/ELT pipelines, which she emphasized as essential for modern data management.

Highlighting the skills needed to excel in this domain, she stressed that mastering data requires more than technical expertise. Statistical understanding, technical proficiency, model development, and strong business communication were outlined as vital competencies for today’s professionals. She further elaborated on how AI and ML applications are reshaping industries, including healthcare, finance, e-commerce, aviation, manufacturing, automotive, agriculture, logistics, supply chain, and sports and entertainment. Importantly, she underlined that data engineering and data analytics are interdependent, making it necessary for professionals to build capabilities in both.

In conclusion, Ms. Jain spoke about the promising future of the field, particularly the convergence of data engineering and cloud engineering. The session ended with an engaging Q&A, where students clarified industry-related queries and gained valuable insights from her experience. A warm vote of thanks marked the end of the lecture, which not only broadened perspectives but also inspired students to embrace continuous learning as future data professionals.

-Ishank Gupta



Beyond Chatbots: The Era of AI Agents

The Guest Lecture Committee of DS&DA hosted Dr. Bhushan Garware, AI Consultant at Google with 14 years of experience, on 26 September 2025 for an engaging session on the rise of AI Agents. The lecture commenced with an introduction of the speaker and a token of appreciation presented by Dr. Ajey Kumar, professor at SCIT.

Dr. Garware traced the evolution of computing, contrasting the past, when computers acted as passive machines with users as the cognitive drivers, with the present, where data is provided to machines that independently apply logic. He highlighted how deep learning relies heavily on labelled datasets, and mislabelling can be detrimental, thus emphasizing the importance of Generative AI and, specifically, Large Language Models (LLMs).

To contextualize their use, he illustrated the development of a Travel App. In this example, Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) emerged as a key technique, enriching LLMs with external knowledge. A live demonstration revealed that while prompts are crucial, LLMs by themselves cannot achieve the necessary autonomy; this is where AI Agents come into play. He clarified that not all chatbots are agents, as true agents combine LLMs with decision-making capabilities. Using LangChain Agents, he demonstrated Python-powered workflows and explained deployment pathways from laptops to the cloud through agent frameworks and engines, supported by Agent Development Kits. He further explored the transition from single-agent RAG toward multi-agent RAG, aligning with the broader shift from digital transformation to agentic transformation.

Looking ahead, Dr. Garware predicted a paradigm where Agents as a Service could potentially replace SaaS. He cautioned, however, that agents are prone to hallucinations and cannot be blindly trusted, stressing that autonomy should only be invoked when absolutely required. The lecture concluded with an engaging Q&A session, followed by a vote of thanks to Dr. Garware for his invaluable insights into the rapidly evolving world of AI Agents.

-Ishank Gupta



CyberON 2025 – Building Awareness, Collaboration, and Secure Futures

CyberON 2025, the flagship event of Team Matrix at Symbiosis Centre for Information Technology (SCIT), was celebrated with the theme Threads of Trust during Cybersecurity Awareness Month. The event integrated industry expertise, student involvement, and knowledge-sharing to highlight safe online practices.

The event began with the traditional lighting of the lamp, followed by a welcome address from Dr. Kanchan Patil, Deputy Director, SCIT, who emphasized cybersecurity awareness. The Keynote Address by Mr. Manish Prabhu, Director of Engineering & Site Lead, CISO Org at Microsoft, focused on Zero Trust, TCB, device assurance, cryptography, and cyberattacks, enriched with real-life experiences. An engaging panel discussion followed, covering application and network security, ethical hacking, and the opportunities and risks of Generative AI. Mr. Murari Ramuka emphasized the need to stay updated in the AI era, while panelists provided practical insights and answered participant questions in an interactive Q&A.

The opening ceremony in the auditorium concluded with the felicitation of speakers and panelists, a group photo capturing the spirit of collaboration, and the Vote of Thanks by Dr. Vidyavati R, who emphasized the importance of people, process, and technology in cybersecurity.

Later, in the day, the focus shifted to the games, challenges, and competitions organized by Team Matrix, which saw enthusiastic participation from groups across multiple colleges. Activities included CTF (Capture the Flag), where teams solved puzzles and broke challenges to collect digital flags for points; Data Heist, a word search puzzle based on technology and cybersecurity terms; Maze, a treasure-hunt style challenge where teams solved tasks to exit in the shortest time; and 7th Sense, an activity-based contest testing speed, accuracy, and problem-solving.

CyberON 2025 reflected its theme, Threads of Trust, blending learning with engagement and inspiring participants to build a secure digital future.

-Soumen Sahoo



Future Ready Tech: Navigating AI, Cloud and Beyond

On September 29, 2025, SCIT hosted an insightful guest lecture by Mr. Dhiraj Shirsat, Digital Technology Leader at NielsenIQ. The session offered an in-depth look at how the convergence of artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and cybersecurity is driving the next wave of digital modernization.

The lecture began with Mr. Shirsat tracing the evolution of enterprise technology –from traditional on-premise IT systems to what he described as “The Great Migration” toward a cloud-first approach. He highlighted the limitations of legacy infrastructure, including high operational costs, limited scalability, and security gaps, while emphasizing how cloud adoption addresses these challenges. According to him, the shift has enabled organizations to unlock seamless scalability, enhanced security, and faster innovation. To simplify complex concepts like IaaS, PaaS, and SaaS, he used a relatable “Pizza Analogy”, showing how each model offers a distinct level of management and control.

He then turned to the transformative impact of AI, noting that it is no longer a futuristic idea but an essential part of today’s business landscape. Companies are investing heavily in AI to automate operations, drive innovation, and secure a competitive advantage. The COVID-19 pandemic, he explained, significantly accelerated this shift, with 75% of companies adopting remote work and 60% fast-tracking their cloud migration.

A major highlight was the growing role of AI in cybersecurity. As threats become more sophisticated, AI-powered tools are enabling smart monitoring, predictive defense, and real-time adaptation to new risks. Mr. Shirsat emphasized that these advancements not only strengthen digital resilience but also demand continuous learning and vigilance. The session concluded with an engaging Q&A, where students actively participated in lively discussions, making the lecture both enriching and memorable.

-Sudhashri R. Naik



Digital Transformation in BFSI and Future Skill Gaps

The ITBM Guest Lecture Committee organized an insightful session on September 30, 2025, featuring Mr. Rishikesh Utpat, Global IT Leader, IT Strategist, and Digital Transformation Expert. Breaking away from conventional presentations, Mr. Utpat initiated an interactive discussion, encouraging collective learning with the students. Through engaging incidents from his professional journey, he emphasized the importance of having meaningful stories in life and career.

The session offered an insightful look into the changing world of digital transformation, emphasizing that true change depends on how organizations adapt, not just on what they change. Mr. Utpat explained how leading businesses navigate transformation by aligning their strategies with clear objectives and embracing continuous evolution. He unpacked the why and what behind change, illustrating how roles are shifting in response to new digital demands. Highlighting the synergy between people, processes, and technology, he emphasized that transformation initiatives should always be guided by business goals. He also reflected on the expanding role of AI within the BFSI sector and how, in this changing environment, human skills such as empathy, adaptability, and critical thinking are becoming increasingly essential.

The session encouraged lively discussions and collective learning, with students actively participating in a Q&A segment, making it an enriching learning experience for all. The event concluded with Dr. Shaji Joseph, Professor, SCIT, presenting a token of appreciation to the speaker. The Guest Lecture Committee extended thanks to everyone involved, with special gratitude to Dr. Joseph.

-Divyansh Vyas.



Navratri Celebration at SCIT: Unity Through Dance

The air at SCIT on 30 September was electric with devotion and excitement for the college's Navratri celebration. Organized by the vibrant Cultural Committee, the evening was a beautiful tapestry of tradition and togetherness.

The night began serenely with the sacred aarti of Goddess Durga. The collective prayers created a powerful, tranquil atmosphere, inviting the goddess's blessings for an evening of joy. Many came forward to perform the aarti to show their devotion.

A special highlight was the dhunuchi dance, a magnificent Bengali tradition proudly presented by the SCIT's students. Dancing gracefully with flaming censers, they wove patterns of light and smoke, their powerful moves and synchronised steps leaving everyone in awe. It was a brilliant showcase of SCIT's rich cultural diversity.

Then came the moment the students were all waiting for: the Garba! As the first rhythmic beats filled the air, the energy shifted. Students, a blur of colourful chaniya cholis and kurtas, flowed onto the dance floor. Circles upon circles formed, with everyone clapping, twirling, and stepping in unison. The complex and simple steps merged into a single, joyful celebration.

For those hours, the students danced to their hearts' content, forgetting all the worries in the world. It felt like a community bound by music and tradition. The SCIT Garba night was more than an event; it was a pulsating heartbeat of shared culture. It created memories of unity and pure, unadulterated fun that the students will cherish forever.

-Shiv Pratap Singh



UNVEILING INSIGHTS

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Apoorva Vikrant Kulkarni (Professor)



Q: With the rapid changes in technology and industry demands, how do you ensure that your teaching stays relevant and impactful for students?

A: In my two decades of academic and industry experience, I have learned that relevance in teaching does not come from chasing every trend, but from building a bridge between enduring fundamentals and emerging realities. At SCIT, I make it a point to integrate live case studies, industry collaborations, and insights from my ongoing research into the classroom.

More importantly, I encourage students to question assumptions and apply theory in practice through projects and discussions. This balance of core concepts with contemporary practices ensures that learning remains meaningful and prepares students for both immediate opportunities and long-term adaptability.

Q: Cult brands often go beyond products and build communities. In your view, what truly sets a cult brand apart from a successful but ordinary brand?

A: This is a question close to my heart. Reason being that the topic of my PhD.

A cult brand is not built merely on quality or marketing—it thrives on emotional resonance and a shared sense of identity. In my research and teaching, I often highlight how cult brands evoke belonging; they make customers feel like insiders of a movement rather than mere consumers. Unlike an ordinary brand, which may satisfy a need, a cult brand nurtures values, stories, and rituals that people relate to deeply.

This community dimension—where people champion the brand almost as an extension of themselves—is what sets it apart. For students of management, understanding this emotional and cultural fabric is essential because it reflects the future of branding in an era where loyalty is far more psychological than transactional.

Q: Many students dream of launching startups but hesitate due to risks. What advice would you give to someone torn between a secure job and an uncertain startup journey?

A: I often remind students that entrepreneurship is not only about taking risks but also about managing them wisely. With 21 years of observing both industry professionals and young entrepreneurs,

I have seen that timing and preparation make all the difference. A secure job builds financial stability, networks, and learning, while a startup offers freedom and innovation. My advice is to first sharpen your skills, identify your unique value proposition, and start small—even as a side hustle—before fully committing. Passion is important, but so is resilience and patience.

Ultimately, it's not a choice between risk and security, but about creating a path where your career equips you to handle both.

Q: If you had to describe your hometown in one memory, food, or feeling, what would it be and why?

A: For me, the essence of my hometown can be captured in the simple joy of sharing a traditional meal during festivals. The aroma of freshly prepared dishes, the warmth of family conversations, and the cultural rootedness they bring back are irreplaceable.

That memory symbolizes belonging, simplicity, and continuity—values that I carry even into my professional life. It reminds me that just as food nourishes, traditions anchor us, and in education too, it is the values behind the knowledge that truly shape us.

SENIOR SCOOP : TALES & TIPS

From Guest Lecture Committee (ITBM)



**Chaitanya
Baweja**



**Siddhi
Kshirsagar**

Q: If your committee journey was a book chapter, what would its title be?

A: "Beyond the Auditorium" – Because the true learnings weren't just from the stage, but from the late-night planning, countless calls, and the little backstage stories that shaped the bigger picture of my MBA.

Q: Looking back, what has been the most defining moment of your MBA journey so far?

A: That moment of balance—handing the guest a warm welcome while ensuring students were equally engaged. It taught me the art of managing expectations on both sides with grace (and sometimes quick improvisation).

Q: What's one personal talent or hobby that MBA life surprisingly helped you sharpen?

A: Asking the right questions during conversations with guests. What began as small talk turned into a skill—learning to frame thoughtful, meaningful questions that sparked deeper discussions and left lasting impressions.

Q: Which guest lecture or industry interaction left the strongest impression on you, and why?

A: Mr. Sanjeev Somani's session, "Campus to Corporate," was truly impactful. He clearly explained the student-to-professional transition, emphasizing mindset, essential skills, and personal branding. His practical insights gave me the confidence to prepare for the corporate world.

Q: Which subject did you think would be a nightmare but turned out to be interesting?

A: With my engineering background, finance seemed like a subject I'd struggle with. But thanks to Mugdha ma'am, who made learning engaging through activities like the Monopoly game and experiential sessions, finance quickly transformed from something challenging into an exciting subject.

Q: Which friendship or bond at SCIT do you think will last you a lifetime?

A: At SCIT, I've made many friendships, but the bond I'll truly cherish for a lifetime is with Abhishek. His invaluable guidance in academics, career choices, and personal growth, and the priceless lessons, advice, and support he's shared, remind me that MBA life is not just about classrooms, but also about people who inspire and uplift us.

From iTELF Committee



**Harsh
Vardhan**

Q: Which skill you picked up in your committee work do you think will help you most in your career?

A: Leading my committee taught me stakeholder management and adaptability. Balancing diverse expectations, motivating my team, and ensuring deadlines under pressure strengthened my ability to lead with empathy while driving results. This combination of people skills and execution focus will help me immensely in my career.

Q: If you could have one superpower for a day to survive MBA life, what would it be?

A: “CTRL+Z for Life”

My superpower would be a real-life CTRL+Z button. Imagine undoing that slip in a cold call, a messy group project email, or even the moment I volunteered for too many committees. MBA survival is about learning, but having a redo option—even for a day—would make the ride a lot smoother.

Q: If you had to pitch yourself as a startup in 30 seconds, what would the tagline be?

A: “Driven by curiosity, powered by collaboration.” If I were a startup, my USP would be blending creativity with execution. Just like a startup thrives on innovation, adaptability, and teamwork, I bring those elements to every challenge—turning obstacles into opportunities and ensuring sustainable growth.



**Karthik
Subhash**

Q: What's the one experience that made you feel truly proud to be part of iTELF committee?

A: Many such instances which make me realise this. I would like to highlight the most recent - working with the new iTELF team. With their immense effort in a short time, they established a platform where young entrepreneurs can get their first pair of wings through SproutIT in SCIT. They are really just a wonderful lot. And it makes my heart warm that I, along with my fellow SPOCs, can continue to impart the generational knowledge and wisdom to them. Love my iTELF family..

Q: What's the most fun or quirky thing that has happened during any iTELF event?

A: All events are fun throughout, can't think of a specific one. But as you may know, majority of the fun and quiriness lies in our parties.

Q: What's one superstition, ritual, or lucky charm you rely on before exams or events?

A: Before every major exam/event, I tell myself that if you do well, then post this, you're setting off to have all of your favourite food like you have unlimited cash. Now that I've successfully baited myself into doing my best in them, we feast (we = me, myself & I)

From Guest Lecture Committee (DS & DA)



**Nakshatra
Zaware**

Q: What's the most exciting part of organizing a guest lecture?

A: The most exciting part of organizing a guest lecture was actually the unofficial meetings we had with our committee members prior to the Guest Lecture. It wasn't just about planning an event—it was about the bonding, the inside jokes, and the teamwork that turned even stressful moments into fun memories.

Q: If you could relive one SCIT memory, which one would it be?

A: If I could relive one SCIT memory, it would be the late-night chit-chat sessions with my friends. Those unplanned conversations, filled with laughter, deep talks, and endless food, became the most cherished part of my journey here.

Q: Which quote or mantra kept you motivated during tough days here?

A: Honestly, there wasn't a single mantra or quote that kept me going—it was the people around me. My friends, family, and mentors played a huge role in motivating me during tough days. Having that circle of people who genuinely believed in me was far more powerful than any quote could ever be.



**Rohan
Patil**

Q: How did your committee experience change the way you look at collaboration and responsibility?

A: Being part of the Guest Lecture Committee taught me that collaboration isn't just about splitting tasks—it's about working in sync and having each other's backs. I also learned that responsibility isn't only about doing my bit but making sure the whole team pulls through. It made me value open communication, trust, and adaptability much more.

Q: If you had to give one piece of advice to juniors about making the most of MBA life, what would it be?

A: Don't treat the MBA as just classes and placements. Jump into committees, events, and projects—you'll learn more about teamwork, leadership, and yourself there than anywhere else. Make friends, explore, and try new things because these two years go by really fast.

Q: If you could describe your MBA journey in just 3 words, what would they be?

A: Challenging, Transformative, Rewarding.

From Sports Committee



Shaniya Joseph

Q: What's one thing you wish more people understood about your committee's work?

A: I wish people knew that even though our committee works on the ground and behind the scenes, it's still so rewarding. I joined to reconnect with sports after being caught up in academics, and while we aren't always on the field, the joy of seeing an event come alive makes it worth it. The spirit of sports isn't just about playing, it's also about creating those moments for others.

Q: What's the funniest or most unexpected thing that happened during a sports event?

A: At SIU Futsal 2024, we'd travel from SCIT to Lavale by bus. My senior had this habit of playing "Jatt Don't Care" on repeat, knowing I hated it. Slowly, it became an inside joke, and now whenever the song plays, I can't help but smile. Funny how something irritating at first can turn into one of your happiest memories.

Q: If you could gift your juniors one "survival kit item" for MBA life, what would it be?

A: If I could gift juniors one "survival kit item", it would be patience. From sleepless nights to deadlines and internship stress, it really helps you stay steady. And for the lighter side, I'd add Nescafe's Lemon Iced Tea it's been my little hack to survive tough days.



Aakash Jadhav

Q: If you could pass one golden tip to juniors joining committees, what would it be?

A: Stay consistent and approachable. Committees thrive on teamwork, so don't hesitate to take initiative while also uplifting others. Remember, it's not just about events, it's about building a culture where everyone feels included and inspired. Small efforts create the biggest impact.

Q: What role have your peers played in shaping your MBA experience?

A: My peers have been my biggest support system, pushing me to improve, celebrating wins, and picking me up in tough times. From late night discussions to last minute event preparations, they made every challenge enjoyable. More than colleagues, they became teammates and friends who shaped my journey into something unforgettable.

Q: If your MBA life were turned into a Netflix series, what would its title be and why?

A: "The Extra Innings" because my MBA journey felt like going beyond the usual limits, pushing myself in academics, committee work, and personal growth. Just like in sports, the extra innings tested patience, resilience, and strategy, but also created the most memorable moments. Those challenges and victories made the experience truly unforgettable.

From MATRIX Committee



**Anubhav
Mathur**

Q: Which committee memory will you tell your friends or colleagues even years from now?

A: I will tell my friends about the story of my selection in the committee. Since, we were allowed to appear in any two committee's selection process out of which we would be selected for only one. At first, team Matrix was not my first preference but during my interview for Team Matrix, The best part was that I was the choice of both the committee and later I decided to be the part of Team Matrix. The journey here was so amazing that, Team Matrix was not my first choice and now I am the SPOC of this committee. One more special memory from this committee was to represent our college and committee securing 1st place in the White-paper contest, organized by MCCIA and Pune International Chapter.

Q: Which academic course or project truly pushed you out of your comfort zone?

A: Here in MBA the Finance subject/course has really pushed me out of my comfort zone. The challenges I faced to understand about the accounting and the basic terminologies related to finance was something I found difficult to deal with.

Q: What's the most "MBA thing" you've ever caught yourself doing in real life?

A: Managing an event, whether it is a family function, or marriages, I have found myself managing multiple things, all at once and get going with all the things and meeting the required deadlines and desired arrangements, I feel is the most "MBA thing" I have ever caught myself in.



**Krutika
Shetty**

Q: What's the most unexpected way your committee has influenced your personal growth?

A: SCIT unlocked my sponsorship superpower, pitching from chai tapris to CEOs! I learned to lead, hustle, stay calm in chaos, and turn a "no" into a "yes" with a smile.

Q: Which SCIT event or festival has been your all-time favourite and why?

A: Graffiti, hands down! And yes, I'm proudly biased... But Graffiti was madness and magic! Sleepless nights, chai breaks, last-minute chaos being on the core team made it unforgettable. Watching it all come alive and thousands of people enjoying? Pure goosebumps.

Q: Which Bollywood or OTT character do you relate to most in your MBA journey?

A: Rani Mehra from Queen! Loud, messy, stressed, always juggling something just like my MBA life. Through it all, I stayed true to myself, bounced back, and owned the journey.

From Cultural Committee



**Rituparna
Sarkar**



**Manas
Dharankar**

Q: What was the most challenging moment your committee faced, and how did you overcome it?

A: Two of the most challenging moments we faced while conducting cultural events in college were: first, organizing Garba Night for the very first time, which made us quite anxious during the preparations; and second, encouraging students to attend the Christmas event, as it was delayed by 2 hours and less crowd was there. However, these experiences taught me the importance of managing both time and people effectively to ensure the successful execution of events.

Q: What's one funny or unexpected incident from campus that you'll never forget?

A: I still remember a presentation back in Semester 1 when none of our group members were prepared. Unexpectedly, we were asked to present, and we had just 10 minutes to get ready. Somehow, we pulled it off—delivering in sync and confidently answering all the Q&As. Later, we laughed when we realized that some of our answers might not have been entirely correct!

Q: If you could swap lives with one batchmate for a day, who would it be and why?

A: I wouldn't swap lives with anyone because I am truly enjoying my MBA life with my friends, experiencing all the necessary ups and downs that come with it.

Q: Which committee project or event gave you the most pride to be part of, and why?

A: The Ganpati Festival was the event that gave me the most pride. Collaborating with the cultural committees of SIIB and SCMHRD to bring everyone together was incredible. It wasn't just a celebration — it was about representing my culture and that of SCIT to a diverse community. Connecting with people from different backgrounds to create something meaningful made it truly special. The bonds we built and the unity we fostered across SIC are what I'm most proud of.

Q: What surprised you the most about MBA life compared to what you expected before joining?

A: The intensity of MBA life completely surprised me. Compared to engineering, this felt like another level strict deadlines, continuous assignments, events, and exams left no dull moments. Balancing it all pushed me to adapt quickly, develop resilience, and sharpen my multitasking skills. The sheer pace and pressure were eye-opening but equally rewarding.

Q: If you could write a farewell note to your MBA self, what's the one line it would say?

A: "The pressure tested you, but the journey transformed you - carry that strength forward."

COMING UP NEXT



OUR COMMITTEE



**Prof. Vidyavati
Ramteke**

MENTORS

**Dr. Sirshendu
Arosh**



Blogging & Social Media



Photography



**Web
Development**



Graphic Designing



Videography