BYTE STREAM

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (ISM)
DHANBAD

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

An Insight into the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, IIT (ISM)

> " A program is never less than 90% complete, and never more than 95% complete."
>
> — Terry Baker

Agglomeration 1.0

There was an unfamiliar excitement and buzz all over the New Academic Complex Auditorium in the afternoon of the 18th of January as the participants of the Agglomeration 1.0 started to fill in the places. The next two days were truly going to be a period of innovation and collaboration for them. The energetic and lively presence of organisers along with volunteers meant that the stage was set for the mega event to kick off.

And it did take off quite nicely as the auction, the first in line in turn of activities, got underway in the middle of the afternoon. The auction provided a free and fair method for the teams to acquire their desired problem statement. There were in total 10 problem statements up for grabs through bids. The auction culminated late in the evening with each team bagging 1 problem statement in the main round or lightning round of the auction.
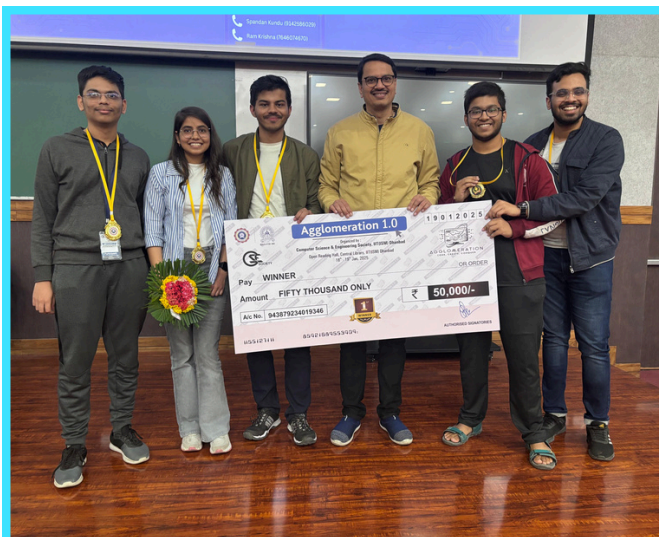
Then it was time for the hackathon to commence officially. The teams took hold of their places in Central Library as the colossal event took off after a couple of hours into the dusk. The whole floor was brimming with discussions, strategies, ideas and solutions as teams tried to brainstorm among themselves. Laptop screens started filling with codes and keyboards started typing as teams started trying to put life into their ideas.

What added to the beauty of the coding event was a sumptuous dinner for all. The teams had their dinner obviously because one can't code with an empty stomach. The night passed on silently outside the library but it was all buzzing inside. The teams persisted with the cold night to accomplish their tasks.

After completing their tasks, teams pushed all their codes and product reports on GitHub and proceeded toward their hostels to catch some sleep.

Late in the afternoon, it was time for the teams to present their products and solutions to the panel of judges, who were evaluating their work. After all the presentations finally, it was time to announce the winners of the event. The teams gathered one last time again at NAC Hall to know their fate. Team Binary Bandit, led by Mr. Vibhanshu Sharma, was the winner of the event followed by Team 202, led by Mr. Kollakota Siva Sai which came as first runners-up. Team GTA VI, led by Mr. Rudraksh Sachin Joshi, came as second runners-up. The winning teams were presented with medals and prizes by Prof Chiranjeev Kumar, Prof Dharavath Ramesh, Mr Shubham Varshney, Mr Spandan Kundu, and Mr Ram Krishna. It was also a bittersweet feeling for the CSES office bearers as their term had come to an end.

The event indeed was an AGGLOMERATION of budding talent, youth energy and ideas as they tried to CODE, CREATE and CONQUER.

From College to Big Tech: Skills That Matter

Under the Centenary Celebrations of the college, the CSE dept conducted an alumni talk on the eve of Republic Day. The talk featured Mr Abhishek Chattopadhyay, a CSE Class pass out of 2019 batch and a recipient of the President of India Gold Medal. Mr Abhishek is currently working at Amazon, Seattle and heads a team of 5 engineers.

The session was titled "From College to Big Tech: Skills That Matter". During the talk, he emphasized that along with tech skills, soft skills viz communication, leadership and collaboration too are very essential to thrive in the tech world. He also shared insights from his current role where his team works to safeguard the platforms against any abuse using data science and engineering. Talking about preparation for an AI-powered future, he said that the future belongs to those engineers who can bridge the gap between traditional software development and AI capabilities. At the end of his talk, he too shared some precious advice for budding software engineers. He urged them to invest heavily in fundamentals and be excellent communicators. The biggest takeaway from his talk was being pragmatic and not chasing anything blindly. The talk was followed by a Q&A session. After the session, Mr Abhishek was felicitated with a college memento by Prof Chiranjeev Kumar, HOD CSE.

New Year's Day Celebration

The New Year celebration on January 1st was marked by two significant ceremonies. The first gathering was held with all faculty members, officers, and staff of the CSE department. It featured warm greetings, reflections on the past year's achievements, and discussions about upcoming departmental initiatives. Later in the day, the Executive Committee members of CSES, including President Prof. Chiranjeev Kumar, FIC Prof. Dharavath Ramesh, Treasurer Prof. Pranay Saha, Secretary Spandan Kundu, and Joint Secretary Ram Krishna, gathered on behalf of the students of the department. This ceremony included a cake-cutting event, and the members exchanged best wishes for a successful and prosperous year ahead, reaffirming their commitment to fostering innovation, collaboration, and excellence within the CSES community.

Guest Talk by Dr. Rashmi Priya

Dr. Rashmi Priya completed her PhD in 2022 from our department under Dr. Dharavath Ramesh and is currently working as a research associate at the University of Missouri, Columbia (USA). An interactive session with her, from 12:15 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. on January 30, took place in our department's seminar hall. She discussed post-PhD opportunities and current trends in foreign universities, outlining her journey from ISM to the University of Missouri.

During the session, she provided valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities of pursuing research abroad, emphasizing the importance of networking, publishing impactful research, and securing funding. She also addressed queries from students and faculty, sharing practical tips on improving research profiles for international opportunities. In the future, she will organize a seminar on writing proposal letters to secure postdoctoral positions abroad, aiming to guide aspiring researchers in successfully navigating the application process.

PhDs Awarded in the month of January 2025

Awardee	Supervisor	Thesis Title
Priyanka Roy	Prof. Soumen Bag	*DEVELOPING DIFFERENT STRATEGIES TO IDENTIFY FORGERIES IN HANDWRITTEN DOCUMENTS*
Divya Rani	Prof. Sachin Tripathi	*DISTRIBUTED AND TRANSPARENT AUTHENTICATION SCHEMES FOR IoT BASED APPLICATIONS*
Thirumal G	Prof. Chiranjeev Kumar	*STUDY AND DEVELOPMENT OF LINEAR IIoT-BASED TIME CRITICAL SYSTEMS*

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