



BITS PILANI

**GLOBAL 30 UNDER 30
AWARD WINNERS**

2022

Dedication

This award recognizes all those young BITSians who thought and acted differently, who challenged the status quo, rewrote the rules, and created their own paths. To the leaders and innovators, researchers, academics, creators, entrepreneurs, business leaders, engineers, scientists, concerned samaritans and social entrepreneurs who are distributed in every corner of the globe.

To the best example of what it means to be a BITSian.

We salute your achievements.



Vice Chancellor's Message

Congratulations to the winners of BITS 30 under 30, a well-deserved accolade! It is heartening to see the winners (and the nominees as well) carve their own paths, do much more beyond the 'traditional', and leave a distinct impact on the society. Each one of you exemplifies the education received at BITS Pilani, a transformational leader in making, and someone with a zeal of leaving a footprint that would be remembered forever. I am sure this is just the beginning of what you can contribute, create, change, or accomplish – we'll be hoping and keenly looking for greater and worthwhile outcomes.

We are proud of you and your achievements!

Souvik Bhattacharyya
Vice Chancellor
BITS Pilani

Thanks to the BITS 30 under 30 Judges

Thanks to our illustrious judges for their efforts in choosing this year's winners

 <p>Prof. Ranendra N Saha Former Vice Chancellor (Acting) BITS & Former Director BITS (Dubai)</p>	 <p>Abhinav Asthana Founder & CEO Postman</p>	 <p>Akila Krishnakumar Chair Social Venture Partners</p>	 <p>Gerard George Professor of Mgmt, Georgetown University</p>
 <p>Gurindar Sohi Chair Professor U of Wisconsin-Madison</p>	 <p>Harsh Bhargava Chairman, BITSAA</p>	 <p>Mukul Chawla Partner & Head of Growth Equity, KKR</p>	 <p>Mythreyee Ganapathy Product Leader Google</p>
 <p>Nikhil Srivastava Partner and MD, Head of India Private Equity PAG</p>	 <p>Prem Jain CEO, Pensando Systems</p>	 <p>Ramanan Laxminarayan Founder & Director One Health Trust</p>	 <p>Ranjani Varadan Science Educator & Former VP of R&D, Impossible Foods</p>
 <p>Rashmi Badwe SMD & EVP TIAA</p>	 <p>Samba Natarajan SVP, Growth Markets, PayPal</p>	 <p>Shashi Warriar Author & Writer</p>	 <p>Srinu Santhanam Former USA National Cricket Team Member</p>

Team 30 Thanks & How we did it

When we started the Under 30 awards in 2005, it was intended to highlight young achievers, and inspire future generations of BITSians. The Global 30 Awards this year set a record, receiving over 600 nominations for 450 outstanding individuals. After several rounds of judging, we selected 50 deserving winners. The fact that our 30 under 30 awards has 50 winners itself is an indication of not only the complexity of this task, but demonstrates that these awards have achieved their intended purpose.

The number of nominations a person received did not matter, nor the category, nor how thoroughly applications were filled. The team made sure everyone got a fair shot.

This herculean effort was made possible by 16 **illustrious judges** (see previous page) who completed multiple rounds of judging. It was backed by an operating and research team including **Deepak Kuckreja, Nidhi Aggarwal, Anusha Apparaju, Prameela Konduru** and the **BITSAA Communications team**. All deserve many thanks.

I'd like to single out and thank **Deepak Kuckreja** for his dedicated efforts through this entire process. **Nidhi Aggarwal** assisted in researching nominee backgrounds, and was supported by **Anusha Apparaju** and **Nikita Singh** in writing bios. The **Communications team** did a great job to get the word out, and **Prameela Konduru**, BITSAA CEO provided us with the resources to run a smooth process.

We are proud of the process and the results. Thanks team, and congrats winners.

Anupendra Sharma

Founder & Chair, 30 under 30 Awards

CoFounder, BITSAA
























Announcing the 2022 Winners (1 of 2)

 Aaksha Meghawati Machine Learning, Apple	 Akarsh Shroff Cofounder, Spark	 Akhil Singh Cofounder, Questt	 Akhil Tripathi CTO, Exly	 Aman Srivastava COO, Thinkerbell Labs
 Anamika Aggarwal Postdoc, CERN	 Anand Satheendran Norwegian U of S&T	 Aniruddh Mishra CEO, ApniClass	 Anomitra Banerjee Corp Dev, Times Internet	 Anupam Maurya CEO, KnotsbyAMP
 Anupam Soni Senior Associate, Fireside Ventures	 Anurag Prasad CoFounder, Visit	 Anwaya Aras Engineering Manager, Uber	 Ashlesha Trehan Table Tennis	 Ashutosh Mundhada Cofounder, YourPhysio
 Balakrishnan Raghavan Research Scholar UC, Santa Cruz	 Bharath Rajeeva Integration Engineer, Intel	 Chetan Anand Co-Founder, Visit	 Dharmendra Chaudhary CEO, Sakhi Mahila Milk	 Dinesh Reddy Carnegie Mellon
 Hasith Goli Film Director	 Jitendra Pant Global Director, Caron	 Kaveri Singh Asst Commissioner, GST, UP Government	 Kunal Arora VP, Growth GoMechanic	 Mohit Bhardwaj McGill University

Listed alphabetically by first name

Announcing the 2022 Winners (2 of 2)

 <p>Mohit M Rao Manager, Decision Science, LinkedIn</p>	 <p>Nabanita De Founder, Nabanita De Foundation</p>	 <p>Nayan Goyal Principal, PE, Ontario Teachers</p>	 <p>Nikhil Londhe Product Development The Timken Company</p>	 <p>Nikhil Mittal Digital Experience Head, Trident Group</p>
 <p>Nitish Varma CEO, wealth42</p>	 <p>Niyati Parmeswaran Group Product Manager, IBM Watson</p>	 <p>Paras Mehendiratta Rolling Stock Indian Railways</p>	 <p>Prateek Jain Deputy Collector, Nainital (IAS)</p>	 <p>Pratimaan Dey Deputy Manager Hindustan Aeronautics</p>
 <p>Raghavender Sahdev CEO, NuPort Robotics</p>	 <p>Sahithya Anumolu Co-founder Inqui-lab Foundation</p>	 <p>Sanskriti Dawle CEO Thinkerbell Labs</p>	 <p>Saurabh Ladha CEO, Doxel</p>	 <p>Shruthi Vishwanath Singer and Composer</p>
 <p>Somya Agarwal Taekwondo</p>	 <p>Srinivas Prasad NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory</p>	 <p>Tanisha Varalwar CEO Tsara Cosmetics</p>	 <p>Tanmaya Sanghvi VP, Oxane Partners</p>	 <p>Urmish Thakker Principal Researcher, SambaNova Systems</p>
 <p>Vandith P S R Assistant Professor, ISB</p>	 <p>Venkata Vunnava Sustainability Scientist, Amazon</p>	 <p>Vidya Madhavan Founder Schmooze</p>	 <p>Vinay Chamola Head of IoT, Assistant Professor, BITS Pilani</p>	 <p>Vrushali Prasade CTO, Pyxis One</p>

Listed alphabetically by first name

Winners In Six Categories

Arts, Literature, Music & Culture

Name	Current Position
Anand Satheendran	Erasmus Scholar in Norwegian University of Science and Technology
Anupam Maurya	Founder and CEO, KnotsbyAMP
Balakrishnan Raghavan	PhD Research Scholar at University of California, Santa Cruz
Hasith Goli	Film Director
Shruthi Vishwanath	Singer and Composer

Leadership & Professional Achievement

Name	Current Position
Anomitra Banerjee	Manager of Corporate Development, Times Internet
Anupam Soni	Senior Associate, Fireside Ventures
Anwaya Aras	Engineering Manager, Uber
Kaveri Singh	Assistant Commissioner, GST, Government of Uttar Pradesh
Kunal Arora	Vice President, Growth, GoMechanic
Mohit M Rao	Manager, Decision Science, LinkedIn
Nayan Goyal	Principal, Private Equity, Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan
Nikhil Mittal	Branding and Digital Experience Head, Trident Group India
Niyati Parmeswaran	Group Product Manager, IBM Watson
Paras Mehendiratta	Head of Rolling Stock Maintenance Unit, Indian Railways
Pratimaan Dey	Deputy Manager (Aircraft Tooling), Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
Tanmaya Sanghvi	VP, Oxane Partners Limited

Academia & R&D

Name	Current Position
Aaksha Meghawati	Machine Learning Engineer at Apple
Anamika Aggarwal	Postdoctoral Engineer, CERN
Bharath Rajeeva	BE Integration Engineer, Intel
Dinesh Narapureddy	PhD Student at Carnegie Mellon
Jitendra Pant	Global Director of Research and Innovation at CARON
Mohit Bhardwaj	PhD Student at McGill University
Nikhil Londhe	Product Development Specialist at The Timken Company
Srinivas Prasad M N	Postdoctoral Researcher, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory
Urmish Thakker	Technical Lead and Principal Researcher, SambaNova Systems
Vandith P S R	Assistant Professor, ISB
Venkata Vunnava	Sustainability Research Scientist at Amazon
Vinay Chamola	Head, IoT Research Group and Assistant Professor, BITS Pilani

Sports and Talents

Name	Current Position
Ashlesha Trehan	National Level Table Tennis Player / Captain of Maharashtra A Team
Somya Agarwal	National Level Taekwondo Player / Gold Medalist in Taekwondo

Social Entrepreneurship & Community Building

Name	Current Position
Akarsh Shroff	CoFounder and Director, SPARK NGO
Aman Srivastava	Co-Founder and COO, Thinkerbell Labs
Aniruddh Mishra	Founder and CEO, ApniClass
Nabanita De	Founder and CEO, Nabanita De Foundation
Prateek Jain	Deputy Collector and Sub Divisional Magistrate, Nainital (IAS)
Sahithya Anumolu	Co-founder, Inqui-lab Foundation
Sanskriti Dawle	Co-founder and CEO, Thinkerbell Labs

Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Invention

Name	Current Position
Akhil Singh	Co-Founder at Questt
Akhil Tripathi	Founder and CTO, Exly
Anurag Prasad	Co-Founder at Visit
Ashutosh Mundhada	Cofounder, YourPhysio
Chetan Anand	Co-Founder at Visit
Dharmendra Kumar	Founder and CEO, Sakhi Mahila Milk Producer Company
Nitish Varma	Founder and CEO, wealth42
Raghavender Sahdev	Founder and CEO, NuPort Robotics
Saurabh Ladha	CEO at Doxel
Tanisha Varalwar	Founder and CEO, Tsara Cosmetics
Vidya Madhavan	Founder at Schmooze
Vrushali Prasade	Chief Technology Officer and Co Founder, Pyxis One

Open category winners are listed in the category that best represents their achievement.

Table of Contents: Bios & Page Numbers

Aaksha Meghawati	13
Akarsh Shroff	13
Akhil Singh	14
Akhil Tripathi	14
Aman Srivastava	15
Anamika Aggarwal	15
Anand Satheendran	16
Aniruddh Mishra	16
Anomitra Banerjee	17
Anupam Maurya	17
Anupam Soni	18
Anurag Prasad	18
Anwaya Aras	19
Ashlesha Trehan	19
Ashutosh Mundhada	20
Balakrishnan Raghavan	20
Bharath Rajeeva	21
Chetan Anand	21
Dharmendra Chaudhary	22
Dinesh Narapureddy	22
Hasith Goli	23
Jitendra Pant	23
Kaveri Singh	24
Kunal Arora	24
Mohit Bhardwaj	25

Mohit M Rao	25
Nabanita De	26
Nayan Goyal	26
Nikhil Londhe	27
Nikhil Mittal	27
Nitish Varma	28
Niyati Parmeswaran	28
Paras Mehendiratta	29
Prateek Jain	29
Pratimaan Dey	30
Raghavender Sahdev	30
Sahithya Anumolu	31
Sanskriti Dawle	31
Saurabh Ladha	32
Shruthi Veena Vishwanath	32
Somya Agarwal	33
Srinivas Prasad M N	33
Tanisha Varalwar	34
Tanmaya Sanghvi	34
Urmish Thakker	35
Vandith P S R	35
Venkata Vunnava	36
Vinay Chamola	36
Vidya Madhavan	37
Vrushali Prasade	37

WINNER BIOS

Aaksha Meghawati

Machine Learning Engineer at Apple

Category: Academia / R&D



MS, Language Technologies, Carnegie Mellon University
Msc, Mathematics, BITS Pilani
BE, Computer Science, BITS Pilani

Aaksha is a published researcher in Natural Language Processing conferences like Interspeech and ICME and is currently a Machine Learning Engineer, working on Siri at Apple. She has received various awards including James R. Swartz Entrepreneurial Fellow Award (2016), NSF Research grant for her MS at Carnegie Mellon University and BITSAA Mantra Award for Outstanding Leadership in BITS. She has also been an invited speaker at various events including Apple Machine Learning Summit and Tech Spark (2020). Apart from work, she has held various positions in BITS including Athletics Team Captain, BOSM medal winner and Chief Mentor at Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership group.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/aaksham/>

Akarsh Shroff

CoFounder and Director, SPARK

Category: Social Entrepreneurship & Community Building



BE, Computer Science, BITS Pilani

Akarsh co-founded SPARK, an NGO when he was 17 and raised ₹60 Lakhs through microdonations and CSR support. SPARK works with hospitals, provides food support to migrant workers, develops child welfare and educational projects. He is also Founder and CEO of Grey Night, a BITS Pilani incubated and seed-funded conservation startup building advanced tracking systems for wildlife monitoring. At BITS, Akarsh was the founding member of GGI Impact Lab, and worked at Enactus, a community of social entrepreneurs. His contributions in the social sector has fetched him the Diana Award (2021), conferred by the Duke of Sussex and the Duke of Cambridge. Akarsh has also won various awards including Forbes India Leadership Awards (2021), Forbes India Teenpreneur (2020), Ashoka Young Changemaker (2020), BITSAA Mantra Award for Social Leadership and Hult Prize Kuala Lumpur (2020). He has written for Times of India, Education Times and the Hindu.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/akarsh-shroff/>

Akhil Singh

Co-Founder at Questt

Category: Entrepreneurship, Invention & Innovation



Msc. Tech, Information Systems, BITS Pilani, Goa

Akhil is a serial entrepreneur. He started his entrepreneurship journey from his college days, where he was the co-founder of Cubito. Cubito attempted to bridge the gap between public and private modes of transportation and was identified as one of the most inspiring startups by Yourstory in 2013. After graduating from college, he co-founded invol.in, which works with leading news channels of India including TimesNow and Etnow to engage users. Akhil is the co-founder of Questt, a remarkable homework app that aims to save over 90% of a

teacher's time and gamifies mundane homework tasks for students.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/akhil-singh-26a20330/>

Akhil Tripathi

Co-Founder and CTO, Exly

Category: Entrepreneurship, Invention & Innovation



Msc. Tech, Information Systems, BITS Pilani

Akhil started his entrepreneurial journey co-founding Blend Ventures, a community around experiences related to food. He went on to co-found 3 more ventures. A serial entrepreneur, he developed the Android app from scratch at Cerebry, an AI startup in Edtech space. His next venture, MyScoot was part of Y Combinator batch 2019 and raised \$1.7 million in June 2019. MyScoot with 26 employees is a platform to host/attend social experiences. Rebranded as Exly during

the COVID-19 pandemic, the venture pivoted towards empowering creators to turn into entrepreneurs. Exly is a one-stop solution for independent professionals, creators, artists, and influencers to launch, manage, and grow their business online.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/tripathiakhil/>

Aman Srivastava

Co-Founder and COO, Thinkerbell Labs

Category: Social Entrepreneurship & Community Building



BE, Computer Science, BITS Pilani, Goa

Aman is the co-founder and COO of Thinkerbell Labs, the company that created a device, Annie, to teach a visually impaired person to read, write, and type in Braille. Aman handles strategy, growth, business development, marketing and investment for the company. He launched a Social Impact startup at BITS and was a Mantra Award winner. Aman's activities included the Basketball Team, Aerodynamics Club, and being part of the QUARK festival team. After graduating from BITS, he was selected as a fellow in the first cohort of The Inclusion Fellowship 2016 to support entrepreneurs, engineers, designers, policy makers who are working towards inclusion of people with disability.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/amankaransrivastava/>

Anamika Aggarwal

Postdoctoral Engineer, CERN

Category: Academia / R&D



Ph.D, High Energy Physics, Radboud University and CERN

M.Sc, Physics, BITS Pilani, Pilani

BE, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, BITS Pilani, Pilani

Anamika is a Postdoctoral Researcher in particle physics at CERN, one of the world's largest and best known nuclear research organizations. At CERN, She is part of the ATLAS collaboration, a general-purpose particle physics experiment. ATLAS has investigated a wide range of physics, from the search for the Higgs boson to extra dimensions and particles that could make up dark matter. Anamika pursued her PhD also in High Energy Physics. She has five publications in the area of particle physics, specifically related to the famous Higgs boson.

Linkedin: [linkedin.com/in/anamika-aggarwal-b2a702103](https://www.linkedin.com/in/anamika-aggarwal-b2a702103)

Anand Satheendran

Erasmus Scholar in Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)

Category: Arts, Literature, Music & Culture



BE, Electronics and Instrumentation, BITS Pilani, Goa
Masters in Dance, Erasmus program, NTNU
MBA, IIM Kozhikode

Anand is a proficient singer, musician and dancer with expertise in various arts - Flute, Madhalam, Carnatic music, Kalaripayattu and four dance forms - Bharatanatyam, Kathakali, Ottanthullal, Kuchipudi. For his talent, he has been recognized as the first person to win at the All Kerala State Kalolsavam, the biggest cultural event of its kind in Asia. Anand has also won various awards at Kerala State level dance festivals and full scholarship for Adishakti "Source of Performance Energy" residency. His expertise in his talent has won him the Erasmus scholarship for International Master's in Dance at NTNU and Kha foundation grant for dance exchange program with PARTS School for Contemporary Dance, Belgium. Apart from working on his art, he has held various positions in college ranging from Founding member and Treasurer of SPICMACAY, BITS Pilani Goa and Coordinator of Dance club to Technical Head, National School of Drama Satellite Festival.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/anandsatheendran/>

Aniruddh Mishra

Founder and CEO, ApniClass

Category: Social Entrepreneurship & Community Building



Msc, Economics and Finance, BITS Pilani

Aniruddh is passionate about social issues and has actively worked with NGOs since childhood. After graduating from BITS, he founded ApniClass to address gaps in the education sector in an organized manner. ApniClass provides high-quality digital education content to all in twelve major Indian regional languages along with English. The company has worked with various state governments on their digital learning initiatives including Rajasthan (SMILE), Jharkhand (DigiSATH) and Madhya Pradesh (DigiLEP) and provided them with free digital content. ApniClass is also in collaboration with India's largest NGO "Pratham" as a content provider.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/aniruddh-mishra/>

Anomitra Banerjee

Manager, Corporate Development, Times Internet

Category: Leadership and Professional Achievement



Manager, Corporate Development, Times Internet

Young India Fellow, Ashoka University

BE, Mechanical Engineering, BITS Pilani Dubai

Anomitra is a member of the CEO team at Times Internet, responsible for VC investments and M&A deals. Prior to this, he was a strategy consultant with EY, consulting on National ID, Transport, Agriculture and Health issues in SouthEast Asia and Africa, an advisor to UNDP on startups in Cambodia, and an intern at McKinsey. Anomitra has won international awards in Mechanical Engineering, Finance and

Research from the International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition (IMECE) (Canada), International Conference on Finance and Accounting (Sri Lanka), the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and the UAE Undergraduate Student Research Competition. He is the Curator of the Gurgaon hub of The World Economic Forum Global Shapers and an angel investor in startups. Anomitra was awarded the Kusumben Kothari Scholarship as a Young India Fellow at Ashoka University and holds a Bachelors in Mechanical Engineering from BITS Pilani, Dubai.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/anomitra-banerjee-751132116/>

Anupam Maurya

CEO at KnotsbyAMP

Category: Arts, Literature, Music & Culture



M.Sc, Chemistry, BITS Pilani

BE, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, BITS Pilani

Anupam is founder and CEO of KnotsbyAMP, wedding photography and filmmaking company. Their startup has been featured in Indian and international publications like Asian Photography, Hello Magazine India, Wedisson Awards, WeddingSutra and Better Photography. He has received various recognitions including Best Video Editor, Wedding Photographer of the year award, Best Wedding Film, Great Indian

Wedding Award (2019), Best Wedding Photos and also won 5 International Awards for Best Photograph. Anupam has been published in Hello, Travel and Leisure Magazine and ranked as Top 10 Wedding Photographers by them and as Top 20 Wedding Photographers in India by Canvera. Apart from handling the activities of the company, he is also a Brand Influencer for Nikon.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/anupam-maurya-8a18231a/>

Anupam Soni

Senior Associate at Fireside Ventures

Category: Leadership & Professional Achievement



PG Diploma, Liberal Studies, Young India Fellowship, Ashoka University
BE, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, BITS Pilani

Anupam began his leadership journey at BITS with his stints as Cultural Secretary and while leading the Student Placement Committee. After graduation, he worked at Cisco Systems, where he won multiple awards for best performer, service excellence, customer service and leadership excellence. He was supported as a Young India Fellow at Ashoka University by IndUs Bank. Anupam directed a short film about female foeticide, 'Thaali Bajao', which resulted in reduction of cases in the villages wherever it was screened. He learnt fundraising at NGOs like Nirmaan and StepOne, and currently works in Venture Capital. as a Senior Associate at Fireside Ventures. He has co-architected 12-month incubation-support programs for Bigbasket and Flipkart and is a Board Observer on emerging startups in India.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/anupamsoni/>

Anurag Prasad

Co-Founder at Visit

Category: Entrepreneurship, Invention & Innovation



MSc, Biological Sciences, BITS Pilani
BE, Chemical Engineering, BITS Pilani

Anurag is co-founder of Visit, providing a Health Benefits Platform that holistically covers preventive to curative care ranging across daily health goals management, wellness, EAP program, teleconsultation with general physicians and specialists, cashless OPD benefits, hospitalization insurance Ecards integration and soft copy based claim processing. He has also been recognized with the Forbes 30 under 30 Asia (2020) Award. At BITS, he was a part of various ventures as CFO of Conquest, managing all sponsorship and cofounder of 11Estates, providing an end to end House hunting solution. He was also an executive member of CEL on campus. At CEL, he worked on brand development, strategic planning, sponsorship and forming long-term relationships with growth stage startups.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/aprasad1993/>

Anwaya Aras

Engineering Manager, UberEats

Category: Leadership and Professional Achievement



MS, Computer Science, UC San Diego
BE, Computer Science, BITS Pilani, Goa

Anwaya is an Engineering Manager at Uber where she has been for five years. After completing her masters in CS at UC San Diego, she joined Uber, where she worked on Uber's fraud detection platform, helped build AI-based speech recognition, and currently leads the Consumer Engagement team at Uber Eats. Uber profiled her in their careers section recently. Anwaya was one of 20 women in Asia Pacific / Australasia awarded the Google Anita Borg Scholar Award for her contributions to Computer Science. At BITS also, she volunteered for underprivileged kids at Nirmaan, and handled activities in the Department of Sponsorship and Marketing. She holds a Masters in Computer Science from UC San Diego and a BE in Computer Science from BITS Pilani Goa.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/anwaya-aras-13058b24/>

Ashlesha Trehan

Table Tennis Player

Category: Sports & Talents



MBA, Business Analytics, BITS Pilani (WILP)
BCom, KJ Somaiya

Ashlesha is an accomplished table tennis player. She had a keen interest in sports from a very young age. At school, she was captain of the Throwball and Table Tennis teams. She has participated in various international tournaments including the Bahrain Jr and Cadet Opens, as well as the Asian Juniors Table Tennis Championship. Ashlesha represented TTG Vogelsberg in the German Table Tennis League for 3 years (2017-2020), and has represented the Maharashtra 'A' State Team for 7 consecutive years. She has won many gold, silver and bronze medals representing at school, college and state level as well as for the Railways. Ashlesha works as Junior Accounts Assistant at the Central Railway in Mumbai.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ashlesha-trehan-14991619a>

Ashutosh Mundhada

Cofounder, YourPhysio

Category: Entrepreneurship, Invention & Innovation



BE, Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering, BITS Pilani
Diploma in Business Law, WB National Univ of Juridical Sci

Ashutosh started his leadership journey at BITS where he was elected to General Secretary of Student Union as well as Inventory and Finances Head of the Students Council for Cultural Activities. After graduating from BITS, he co-founded YourPhysio with another BITSian free from Back and Joint Pain via physiotherapy. YourPhysio raised \$350K and was recognized as '30 Startups to Watch' by Inc42. Ashutosh is Vice President of BITSAA International Nagpur Chapter and a member of Shapers Community Nagpur Hub (part of World Economic Forum). He has won recognition at several academic competitions including the Physics Olympiad, International Olympiad of English Language, MTSE Scholar and International Mathematics Olympiad. LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ashutosh-mundhada-2039796a>

Balakrishnan Raghavan

Research Scholar, Cross Cultural Musicology, UC Santa Cruz

Category: Arts & Literature



BE, Computer Science, BITS Pilani, Goa
Sanskrit Linguistics, Savitribai Phule Pune University
PhD, Cross Cultural Musicology, UC Santa Cruz

Balakrishnan is an accomplished vocalist and student of music. He is pursuing a PhD with a Regents Fellowship at University of California and is researching the idea of gurukulam in the 21st century. His recognition includes the Flow Fund Grant for Independent Art Practice and the Art Omi Music Fellowship to collaborate with other musicians and composers from around the globe. At BITS Pilani, he was an active member of Music Club, Abhigyan and SPICMACAY chapter, and various music vocal competitions that he has won. At Snehadhara Foundation, he brought his interests in music and education together to explore the healing powers of music within the context of autism. He was a guest faculty member at Spastics Society of Karnataka, an NGO dedicated to the welfare of people with Neuro-Muscular and Developmental Disabilities. Balakrishnan was a consultant with Thorogood Associates for six years before he decided to pursue his passion for music full time.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/balakrishnan-raghavan-86249727/>

Bharath Rajeeva

Research Engineer at Intel
Category: Academia / R&D



PhD, Materials Science and Engineering, University of Texas, Austin

MSc. Chemistry, BITS Pilani, Goa

BE. Electrical and Electronics, BITS Pilani, Goa

Bharath is a Research Engineer at Intel with interests ranging from nanofabrication, plasmonics, optical materials to basic numerical simulation. He has won various awards including Intel Divisional Award, Friends of Alec Graduate Student Fellowship, George J. Heuer.

Jr. Ph.D. Endowed Graduate Fellowship, Harris L. Marcus Graduate Fellowship and Canadian Commonwealth scholarship. In his academic life in BITS, Bharath won Indian Academy of Science (IAS) Summer Research Fellowship and Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY) scholarship. He holds five patents and has 22 publications in the area of material science.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/brbharath/>

Chetan Anand

CoFounder and COO, Visit
Category: Entrepreneurship, Invention & Innovation



BE, Mechanical Engineering, BITS Pilani, Pilani

After graduation from BITS, Chetan co founded Visit, an On-Demand Healthcare Application for patients and practitioners. He heads Service and Operations at Visit, taking care of the supply network of doctors and specialists for telephonic consultation through Telecom-driven IVR services. He was named a Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia Awardee in 2020 in Healthcare and Science. Chetan started his entrepreneurial journey at BITS when he founded a community-based technology platform

which allows users to ask and answer questions related to trading, finance and economics. At the Entrepreneurship Club, he worked on Conquest, BITS Pilani's International Startup Conclave and Startup Sphere, a knowledge sharing platform for BITSian startups. He won a Bronze Medal at an International Biotech Convention and a Double Gold Medal at the International Young Mathematicians Convention before he joined BITS.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/chetan-anand-9b741758/>

Dharmendra Chaudhary

CEO, Sakhi Mahila Milk Producer Company

Category: Entrepreneurship, Invention & Innovation



PGP, Finance, BITS Pilani

B.Tech, Dairy Technology, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal

Dharmendra started his career journey in Dairy industry, where he was the zonal incharge of Mehsana District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Limited. Currently, he is CEO of Sakhi Mahila Milk Producer Company Ltd. The company had 170 Crore turnover in FY 2020-21 of the company within 5 years of inception. Under his leadership, the company has expanded its operation in 650 villages in four districts of Rajasthan and launched the innovative model "Fresh Milk on wheels" and achieved 10000 L milk sale every day in retail. Dharmendra has received various awards including CEO of the year award by Agriculture today (2021) for best performance in the industry, best farmer producer organization award by Economics Times (ET) in 2019 and also best startup award organized by agriculture today in 2020.

Linkedin: <http://linkedin.com/in/dharmendra-chaudhary-77651b44>

Dinesh Narapureddy

PhD Student at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU)

Category: Academia / R&D



PhD, Robotics, CMU

BE, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad

Dinesh became interested in robotics in college, where he worked on medical robots. Post his graduation, he pursued research in IIIT Hyderabad and then later on PhD in CMU. His interest lies in combining machine learning with 3D Computer Vision for improved perception of robots. As part of his research he has 12 publications and has won various awards including Best Paper Award at IEEE Intelligent Vehicle Symposium, Qualcomm Innovation Fellowship (\$100K award), AMAZON Go PhD Fellowship, Microsoft Research Travel grant, IROS student scholarship, Amazon PHD fellowship for research on Multi Camera systems and Qualcomm PHD fellowship for futuristic smart cities. He also has multiple patents and open source projects from his research contributions.

Profile: <https://dineshreddy91.github.io/>

Hasith Goli

Filmmaker

Category: Arts, Literature, Music & Culture



Bachelor of Pharmacy, BITS Pilani

Hasith began sharpening his managerial and creative chops during his stint as Coordinator for the institute's Dance Club. He put his managerial skills to use in sales and marketing at MapmyIndia, Snapdeal and FreeCharge. At 25, he plunged into film-making full-time and honed his craft by working on short films and as an Assistant Director on two Telugu features films. Hasith made his directorial debut with the much critical and public acclaimed "Raja

Raja Chora", a crime comedy drama chronicling a thief trying to pull off a heist wearing a fortune changing crown. Raja Raja Chora was considered one of the biggest hits of Telugu Film Industry

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/hasith-goli-6266291b/>

Jitendra Pant

Application Scientist and Global Scientific Liaison, Caron Products

Category: Academia / R&D



Postdoctoral Researcher, 3D Tissue Engineering, University of Michigan

PhD, Bioengineering, University of Georgia

ME, Biotechnology, BITS Pilani

BTech, Biotechnology, ICFAI University

Jitendra is an expert in medical devices and biomaterials. His research area ranges from artificial pancreas, Immunotherapeutics, antibacterial and Antithrombotic materials to tissue engineering. He co-founded inNOveta Biomedical LLC which attracted funding from leading US organizations. His research work has resulted in 24 publications and 7 patents. Jitendra has won various grants, fellowships and more than 30 national and international awards, including the BMES (Biomedical and Engineering Society) Award, University of Georgia 40u40 Award, Chair's Award for Excellence in Graduate Research and the Best Research Award in Bio Innovation Summit. He is a regular speaker at scientific conferences and has also been TEDx Speaker on Healthcare and Antibiotics. He is an editorial member of 5 international journals in the area of biotechnology.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jitenpant/>

Kaveri Singh

Assistant Commissioner, GST, Government of Uttar Pradesh
Category: Leadership & Professional Achievement



M.Sc, Chemistry, BITS Pilani
BE, Chemical Engineering, BITS Pilani

Kaveri started her leadership journey in BITS as a Hostel representative, a group leader of Wall Street Club and an Events Coordinator. After BITS, she worked as an Associate with Quality Council Of India with Chairman, Adil Zainulbhai (Ex-MD, McKinsey India and Secretary General, R.P Singh. Kaveri has organized Udyog Manthan, a series of webinars on Quality and Productivity in Indian Industry to create a compendium of policy recommendations. She worked on the development of tech platform Unnati to digitally enable livelihood access for 200 million workers, and the transformation of FCI. She was selected in the state civil services and currently is Assistant Commissioner, GST in Noida. During training, she received the 2nd Prize for Exemplary Performance at Tax Officer's Training Institute. She has been a core Member of BITSAA International and CMs Abhyudaya Yojana.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/kaveri-singh-bitsp/>

Kunal Arora

VP, Growth, GoMechanic
Category: Leadership & Professional Achievement



BE, Chemical Engineering, BITS Pilani, Goa

Kunal started his career at OYO, where he was promoted every year till leading Ancillary Revenue for newly launched OYO Flagships. Thereafter, he joined Go-Mechanic, a venture backed company with investments from Tiger Global and Sequoia Capital. At Go Mechanic, he started several successful initiatives that led to annual promotions, rising from senior manager to VP of Growth over a five year period. Kunal helped launch GoMechanic Private Labeled Accessories and currently leads the Insurance Vertical. He is one of the youngest CXOs on the Plexus Insurance Roundtable for CXOs of insurance companies. At BITS, he founded Crazywheelzz, a food delivery startup.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/kunal-arora297/>

Mohit Bhardwaj

PhD, Physics, McGill University
Category: Academia / R&D



PhD, Physics, McGill University
M.Sc, Physics, BITS Pilani
BE, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, BITS Pilani

Mohit is a researcher in multi-messenger astronomy, RF electronics, communication, and applied statistics. He has given invited lectures related to Fast Radio Bursts at Harvard and Cambridge and has 32 publications with more than 1820 citations. Mohit has won several awards including Relève étoile Louis-Berlinguet Award (Canada),

Governor General's Innovation Award, Fonds de recherche du Québec Research Award, the Ragan Graduate Award and the CAASTRO Research fellowship. During his Academic life in BITS, he was President of Radio Astronomy Club and Renewable Energy Club and won various recognitions in the field of Physics including Prof. I J Nagraath Excellence Award, Mitacs Globalink Research Award, APOGEE Best Project Award (Physics) and APOGEE Best Project Award (Energy).

Linkedin: <https://www.mohit-bhardwaj.com/>

Mohit M Rao

Manager of the Data Science Team at LinkedIn.
Category: Leadership and Professional Achievement



MTech, Data Science and Engineering, BITS Pilani (WILP)
BTech, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Mahatma Gandhi University

Mohit has worked with leading multinational companies, and been recognized for his contributions at every stage. His recognition includes the Mercedes-Benz R&D Innovation Award, EY Golden Beam Award, EY Superstar Award, EY Extra Miler Award, EY Customer Service Champion, Dimension Data Eureka Awards and Microland Excel Award. At LinkedIn, he was nominated for the SK Global awards,

and currently leads the data science team. Mohit has posted technical videos on his YouTube channel discussing various technologies ranging from AI to REST.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mohitmohanrao/>

Nabanita De

Founder and CEO, Nabanita De Foundation

Category: Social Entrepreneurship & Community Building



MS, Computer Science, University of Massachusetts Amherst
BE, Computer Science, BITS Pilani, Dubai

Nabanita started her social entrepreneurship journey with Nabanita De Foundation, helping people to get back to work after a long hiatus in their career. The organization has reached 93 countries since inception. She has represented the Foundation as a speaker at events organized by Unicef, Unesco, and the United Nations. Apart from running the foundation, she has volunteered with UNICEF in various capacities including fundraising, food support, inclusion of girls in technology. She is currently working at Uber as a Cloud Security Engineer, where she has been recognized with the Uber Trust and Security Award (2021) and Make Security Better Award (2021). Nabanita was the CFO of Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership and as the Student Senator and Masters Representative to solve issues related to graduate students. She is also founder of FiB, a fake news detection Chrome extension for Facebook and founder of Covidhelpforindia.com.

Linkedin: www.linkedin.com/in/nabanitaai

Nayan Goyal

Investment Associate, Private Equity at Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan

Category: Leadership and Professional Achievement



MBA, IIM Calcutta
BE, Computer Science, BITS Pilani

Nayan is an Investment Associate at Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Limited, focussing on direct and co-investment opportunities in India, Australia and other south-east asian emerging markets. He joined investing right after his graduation from IIM Calcutta. At BITS, Nayan developed leadership skills as General Secretary of the Student Union. He also started two ventures at BITS including Airmed Pathology Private Limited and Code9. Nayan won several awards at IIM including the Gold Medalist Award, Dean's List Award, IIM Calcutta Roll of Honor, the OP Jindal Management Scholar (OPJEMS), India Carbon Scholar and DAAD Scholar. He was a Merit Scholar at BITS.

Linkedin: <https://sg.linkedin.com/in/nayan-goyal-b7632357>

Nikhil Londhe

Product Development Specialist at The Timken Company
Category: Academia / R&D



PhD, Mechanical Engineering, University of Florida
MS, Mechanical Engineering, University of Florida
MSc, Mathematics, BITS Pilani
BE, Mechanical Engineering, BITS Pilani

Nikhil is a subject matter expert in tribology and mechanical engineering at Timken Company's R&D center. He is the recipient of the Walter D. Hodson Award for 2017, from Society of Tribologists and Lubrication Engineers (STLE) in recognition of the best paper published by society from a lead author under the age of 35. He also received the Graduate School Doctoral Dissertation Award at the University of Florida and the INSPIRE Scholar Award from Govt of India. He has written 11 research publications and 8 presentations. At BITS, he launched project "Umang" to fund school education of poor meritorious students in rural parts around Pilani.
Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/londhenikhil/>

Nikhil Mittal

Branding and Digital Experience Head, Trident Group India
Category: Leadership and Professional Achievement



M.Design, NID
BE, EEE, BITS Pilani

Nikhil first became interested in design at BITS, at the Creative Activities Club. After graduating from BITS, he completed his Masters in Design from National Institute of Design and joined the Trident Group, a major manufacturing company supplying world famous brands including Ralph Lauren, Calvin Klein and Kohl's. In less than four years he rose from Graphic Designer to initially head of Branding and PR, and to Head of Branding and Digital Experience. In addition to handling print advertising, he manages worldwide fairs like Heimtextil and the US Market Week. He credits extracurricular activities at BITS in exploring the creative field as his core career.
Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/nikhil-mittal-b2a7377a/>

Nitish Varma

Founder & CEO, wealth42

Category: Entrepreneurship, Invention & Innovation



MSc, Physics, BITS Pilani, Goa

BE, Electronics and Instrumentation, BITS Pilani, Goa

Nitish started his career as the founding member of the engineering team at Paytm. After that, he became the CTO and AVP of TripFactory.com, a technology solution for inbound and outbound Holiday travel. He managed roles across product, technology, business, finance and operations. Currently, Nitish is the CEO of wealth42, a technology solution to simplify personal finances - plan, invest, borrow and save. At BITS, Nitish was Chief Coordinator of the Department of Sponsorship and Marketing and a member of the Council for Student Affairs.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/nitishvarma/>

Niyati Parmeswaran

Group Product Manager, IBM Watson

Category: Leadership and Professional Achievement



MS, Computer Science, UT Austin

BE, Computer Science, BITS Pilani, Dubai

Niyati is a Group Product Manager at IBM Watson where she has filed more than 30 patents. For her contributions in Computer Science she has won the Google Anita Borg Scholarship Award and also holds a Gold medal in the National Cyber Olympiad and Silver medal at the International Informatics Olympiad. At BITS she was recognised with the Director's Gold Medal for Overall Outstanding Achievement, the Mantra Innovator of the Year Award and the BITSAA Travel Scholarship for her work on a GPS Based Tracking System. Niyati received the Padam Shri Kanji Maishri Scholarship for her research in prediction and preventing epileptic seizures and also finished in the Information System Category at the UAE National UG Research Competition for the deployment of a seamless Virtual Health Care System. On Campus, Niyati she was involved in activities of Public Speaking/Literary Club and Mathematics Association.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/niyatiparmeswaran/>

Paras Mehendiratta

Head of Rolling Stock Maintenance Unit in Indian Railways
Category: Leadership and Professional Achievement



MBA, Business Analytics, BITS Pilani (WILP)
MEng, Mech & Space Engg, Hokkaido University, Japan
BE, Mechanical Engineering, BIT Mesra

Paras is currently heading a rolling stock maintenance unit in Indian Railways at Deputy Director level with an annual budget of around 50 crores and a workforce of 1200 employees. He has contributed significantly to the Indian Railways Development, where he has saved around Rs 3 crore annually by revising manpower deployment in maintenance. Paras was also responsible for starting the first ever Vistadome Service in Northeast India. Paras' efforts have fetched him National Railway Award for outstanding services and National Award for Best Project. He was also recognized by the honorable minister of railways for starting additive manufacturing in Indian Railways. At BIT Mesra, he was also the recipient of KVPY scholarship from DST, GOI and MEXT Scholarship by the Government of Japan. LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/parasmehendiratta/>

Prateek Jain

Deputy Collector and Sub Divisional Magistrate, Nainital (IAS)
Category: Social Entrepreneurship & Community Building



MA, Economics, IGNOU
MA, Public Management, Jawaharlal Nehru University
MSc, Biology, BITS Pilani, Pilani
BE, Mechanical Engineering, BITS Pilani, Pilani

Prateek is a Deputy Collector and Sub Divisional Magistrate in Nainital in the Indian Administrative Services. He has been recognized across several local/regional media channels for his efforts into leading initiatives during COVID Management. He launched a website www.mynainital.in to digitize administrative operations. He also initiated the 24*7 COVID call center for providing quick medical response, arranged Oxygen cylinders and Oxygen concentrators. Prateek has also been involved in rural development where he organized several walkathons and initiatives such as "Bike Rally", reaching out to 50+ villages to educate 300+ women and enhance Breast Cancer Awareness among them. He has also been awarded the Rural Entrepreneurship Award for motivating women of 600 plus Self Help Groups. Prateek is also involved in bringing Sustainable tourism in the Himalayas as part of which he has conceptualized Clean-Up Nainital Campaign. He has also been the nodal officer in Rudraprayag's District Ganga Protection Committee and led Source Segregation Project for Municipal Solid Waste Management in the Himalayas.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/prateek-jain-73678348/>

Pratimaan Dey

Deputy Manager (Aircraft Tooling), Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.
Category: Leadership and Professional Achievement



MTech, Design Engineering, BITS Pilani (WILP)
BE, Mechanical Engineering, Jabalpur Engineering College,

Pratimaan is currently Deputy Manager with over eight years of experience in Aircraft tooling design, manufacturing, calibration and clearance of assembly jigs and fixtures at Hindustan Aeronautics, responsible for the setup of the production line for India's fourth generation aircraft. He has led multiple teams of skilled technicians to establish the series production line for Light Combat Aircraft - Tejas Fighter, Naval and Trainer Variants. Pratimaan was selected for the company's internal merit scheme for excellent performance, and has won awards for his work at HAL. In college, he was awarded the Vice Chancellor's scholarship and was an active member of an NGO called 'A Giggles Welfare Organization'.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/pratimaan-dey-83a13923/>

Raghavender Sahdev

Founder and CEO, NuPort Robotics
Category: Entrepreneurship, Invention & Innovation



MS, Computer Science, York University
BE, Computer Science, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad

Raghavendra became interested in Computer Vision based Robotics during his Masters from York University in Canada. He won grants and scholarships worth \$56,500 of funding, and was recommended for the best Masters Thesis award for his research. Raghavendra has published several papers on Computer Vision. After graduation, he was an AI Scientist in Residence and Senior Computer Vision Research Engineer at Huawei. Currently, he is the CEO of NuPort Robotics, Canada's First Autonomous Trucking Company. NuPort has applied proprietary autonomous driving technology to automate transportation for supply chains and have raised \$1.5 Million USD in funding. The company has received coverage in Invest Ontario, Food Logistics and TechCrunch.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/raghavender-sahdev/>

Sahithya Anumolu

Co-founder, Inqui-lab Foundation

Category: Social Entrepreneurship & Community Building



BE, Computer Science, BITS Pilani, Goa

MSc, Economics, BITS Pilani, Goa

Sahithya started her social entrepreneurship journey during her college days where she was a member of the education based NGO called Nirmaan. After college, she became a Teaching Fellow at Teach For India, where she was recognized for her teaching techniques in the classroom. After that, Sahithya co-founded a social impact venture, Inqui-lab Foundation, which nurtures the problem-solving capacity of every child, by seeking student ideas and reinforcing positive actions. Inqui-lab has worked with over three thousand children, worked with 7,000 student ideas and helped build over one thousand prototypes. Sahithya is also involved in Indus Action to help Anganwadi children, and Krishi Sakha App to help farmers gain knowledge about agricultural schemes. At BITS, she was the Coordinator of the Dance Club and Core member of the Department of Publicity. She is a Board member of the Annapurna College of Film and Media and a 2021 World Economic Forum Fellow.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sahithyaa/>

Sanskriti Dawle

Co-Founder and CEO, Thinkerbell Labs

Category: Social Entrepreneurship & Community Building



BE, Computer Science, BITS Pilani, Goa

Sanskriti started her social entrepreneurship journey in college with a social impact startup for the visually impaired and was a Mantra Award winner. After graduation, she turned her project into Thinkerbell Labs. The product, 'Annie' is the world's first Braille literacy device that helps a visually impaired person to independently learn how to read, write, and type in Braille while making others get involved in their education. Sanskriti handles growth, business development, and production at Thinkerbell Labs. At BITS, she was involved in the Quark festival, Quiz Club, Drama Club, Literary and Debating Club. Sanskriti was awarded the Prof. Suresh Ramaswamy Memorial Award for exceptional innovation and creativity in the fields of science and engineering. She spoke at TEDx BITS Goa and presented her invention at PyCon 2014 in Montreal, Canada. She is a firm believer of doing good for others.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sanskritidawle/>

Saurabh Ladha

Founder and CEO, Doxel.ai

Category: Entrepreneurship, Invention & Innovation



MS, Management Science and Engineering, Stanford University
BE, Electronics and Communication Engineering, BITS Pilani Dubai

At BITS, Saurabh co-founded BITS Embryo and BITS360 for the Dubai campus. Then in his last two years, he founded and led the team of engineers that built UAE's first fully autonomous unmanned aerial vehicle, which stood first at the International Aerial Robotics Competition in North Dakota, USA. After pursuing his MS from Stanford University, Sourabh co-founded Doxel.ai, which predicts costly delays and cost overruns on construction projects. At 26, he was also featured

in the Forbes 30 under 30 list for Enterprise Technology in 2018.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/saurabh-ladha-3b801812/>

Shruthi Veena Vishwanath

Singer and Composer

Category: Arts, Literature, Music & Culture



MSc, Economics, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad
BE, Chemical Engineering, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad

Shruthi is a singer and composer specializing in Nirguni, Bhakti and Sufi music. Classically trained, her work extends beyond musical concerts to highlighting voices of marginalized poets from South Asia. She makes music and allied arts accessible through curriculum, facilitating digital spaces and presenting series highlighting women artists. She has performed at leading stages at the Jaipur Literature Festival, UC Berkeley, IIT Bombay, Mahindra Kabira Festival amongst others. Her work has been supported by the Sandbox Collective and India Foundation for the Arts. Shruthi has received the Changemaker Award from IAPAR Festival (2020) and completed a residency at the highly selective Art Omi residency at Hudson, New York in 2019. For her work, she has also received the Sahapedia Fellowship Indonesian Arts and Culture Scholarship, and she has received extensive coverage in leading publications.

Profile: www.shruthivishwanath.com

Somya Agarwal

National Level Taekwondo Player
Category: Sports & Talents

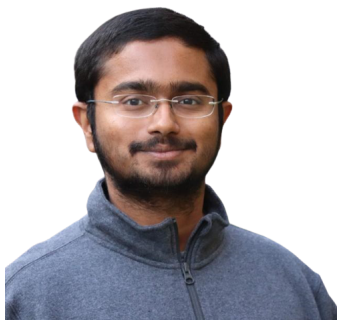


MTech, Software Systems, BITS Pilani (WILP)
BCA, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Management College, Meerut

Somya is accomplished at Taekwondo, a South Korean martial art. She won the Gold medal at the Sixteenth National Taekwondo ITF Championship 2019 and a silver medal at the UP Taekwondo Championships held in 2021. Somya loves badminton and has won awards at the college level. She currently works for Wipro
Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/somya-agarwal-19090518b>

Srinivas Prasad M N

Postdoctoral Researcher, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory
Category: Academia / R&D



MS/PhD, ECE, UCLA
BE, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, BITS Pilani, Goa

Srinivas is an expert in wireless communications, especially in designing antennas and RF systems. He joined UCLA for a Masters and PhD, researching magneto mechanical antennas for Ultra Low Frequency (ULF) Transmission. During his PhD, he worked at Nokia Bell Labs and in R&D at Corning. After graduating from UCLA, he joined NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) as a Postdoc. His research interests include millimeter wave antenna and passive RF component design. Srinivas has 19 publications and has won various awards including Engineering Achievement Award for Student Welfare, UCLA (2020), JPL Postdoctoral Fellowship (2020), ICEAA IEEE-APWC Best Paper Award (2021) and JPL Voyager Award for individual contribution (2021). Apart from work, Srinivas has also been the President of the Graduate Indian Student Association and US Chapter Relations Manager at BITSAA International.
Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/prasadisrinivas/>

Tanisha Varalwar

Founder and CEO, Tsara Cosmetics

Category: Entrepreneurship, Invention & Innovation



BE, Chemical Engineering, BITS Pilani, Dubai

Tanisha graduated from BITS Dubai campus in 2017. Armed with a lifelong passion for beauty products and knowledge of compositions from her engineering degree, she started her own venture, Tsara Cosmetics, immediately after graduation. In July 2020, she introduced a home-grown, toxin- and cruelty-free make-up range and a tightly curated selection of lipsticks, to conscious Indian consumers. She updates traditional Indian formulations and works with natural ingredients. Her aim is to build a relevant, responsible and innovative brand in the beauty industry. Introducing Indians to the experience of quality products with clean ingredients. She is on the way forward with implementing sustainable packaging, natural and organic ingredients certified by Ecocoert in her products.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/tanisha-varalwar-5bb158a0/>

Tanmaya Sanghvi

VP at Oxane Partners Limited

Category: Leadership and Professional Achievement



MSc, Economics, BITS Pilani, Goa
BE, Computer Science, BITS Pilani, Goa
MSc, International Finance, HEC, Paris

Tanmaya is the youngest business head at Oxane Partners, leading the Independent Valuations vertical which serves world's leading private equity, hedge funds and asset managers across US and Europe. At BITS, she was cofounder of BrainBought and coordinator for the Department of Finance and Asset Management for Quark Festival.

Tanmaya won the BITS Mantra Award for Outstanding Leadership. She worked at Credit Suisse as a Risk Analyst after graduation, before attending HEC for a Masters in International Finance, where she graduated with the Highest Honors. She has been a volunteer with Amref Health Africa, Habitat for Humanity International and the Ocean Conservancy.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/tanmayasanghvi/>

Urmish Thakker

Principal Software Engineer, Stealth Startup
Category: Academia / R&D



MS, Computer Science, University of Wisconsin Madison
BE, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, BITS Pilani

Urmish is a deep learning and machine learning systems researcher with 24 publications and 5 patents. He completed his masters at the University of Wisconsin Madison, and then worked for a number of years at leading companies including Texas Instruments, AMD and ARM. His work has been widely cited in academia and covered extensively in the media like EETimes, ZDNet, BusinessWire and Analytics India Magazine.

He was also the founding member of TinyML Perf, MLCommons to evaluate and showcase their hardware for resource constrained devices. He has talked on neural networks, and research in compression algorithms. Many universities including UIUC, UIC have also invited him to deliver guest lectures. LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/urmishthakker/>

Vandith P S R

Assistant Professor, ISB
Category: Academia / R&D



MSc (Tech), Information Systems, BITS Pilani Goa
PhD, Management Information Systems, Purdue University
Masters, Economics, Purdue University

Vandith is currently Assistant Professor of Information Systems at Indian School of Business. After graduation from BITS, Vandith pursued Masters and then PhD from Purdue University where he won the Purdue Research Foundation Fellowship, the Dean's Best PhD Student Award and the Best Paper Award on Information Technology Systems. On completion of his PhD, he returned to India and joined the Indian School of Business. He has 25 published and conference papers in Information Systems. Vandith has managed service camps at Godavari Pushkaralu and Krishna Pushkaralu, feeding 35,000 people every day, as well as with the Indian Army's relief group during Kedarnath, Uttarakhand flood relief. At Purdue he founded the Krannert Research Symposium, was President of Krannert Doctoral Student Association and also the Senator of Purdue Graduate Student Government. At BITS, he was President of Film Club, and was active in both Backstage and Publicity. LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/vandith/>

Venkata Vunnava

Sustainability Research Scientist, Amazon
Category: Academia / R&D



MSc, Biological Sciences, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad
BE, Manufacturing Engineering, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad
MS/PhD, Environmental Sustainability, Purdue University

Venkata started his research journey in the sustainability domain during his Masters and went on to pursue it for PhD. Currently, he is Sustainability Research Scientist at Amazon and has published a total of 8 papers and 1 patent in his domain. His research work has been featured in various news publications like manufacturingglobal.com, waste-management-world.com and floridanewstimes.com. For his work, Venkata has received various awards including Best Research Presentation award at ISIE Americas Conference (2020), International Travel Grant to present research work in International Society of Industrial Ecology Conference in Beijing and Young Professional Scholarship to participate in Sixth Symposium on Industrial Ecology for Young Professionals.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/gargeyavunnava/>

Vinay Chamola

Assistant Professor, BITS Pilani
Category: Academia / R&D



ME, Communications Engineering, BITS Pilani
BE, EEE, BITS Pilani, Pilani
PhD, ECE, National University of Singapore

Vinay is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering at the Pilani campus. He is also the Co-Founder and President of Medsupervision, a healthcare startup which provides an interface to consult with doctors. After his PhD, he worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the National University of Singapore in the area of Internet of Things. He is a senior member of the IEEE, an editor at Ad Hoc Networks, IEEE Internet of Things Magazine, IET Networks and IET Quantum Communications, and has served as lead co-chair for various workshops like IEEE Globecom and IEEE INFOCOM workshops. He has nearly 140 publications in leading journals. He has received IETE Brig ML Anand Award, and the best paper award from the IEEE Consumer Electronics Magazine. At BITS, he is involved in setting up IOT TinkerLab, and has attracted many grants.

Profile: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/vinaychamola/profile>

Vidya Madhavan

Founder, Schmooze

Category: Entrepreneurship, Invention & Innovation



MBA, Stanford Business School.

BE, Manufacturing Engineering, BITS Pilani

Vidya is the founder and CEO of Schmooze, one of the fastest growing dating apps in the US, where it matches people based on their similar taste in memes. Schmooze has raised \$3.5 million in funding and has received extensive coverage from TechCrunch, Nasdaq, ProductHunt and 35 plus media for its innovative take on dating. At BITS, Vidya was active at Renewable Energy Club, the education based NGO Nirmaan, and was the founding captain of the women cricket team. After graduation, she worked in McKinsey for two years. After McKinsey, she headed the Growth Team at 1mg, a digital health marketplace. After growing 1mg both offline and online, Vidya joined Stanford's MBA program where she received Stanford's Botha-Chan fellowship for Entrepreneurship. Vidya is a nationally ranked whistler and has represented India in Masters of Musical Whistling.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/vidya-madhavan/>

Vrushali Prasade

Co Founder and CTO, Pixis

Category: Entrepreneurship, Invention & Innovation



BE, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, BITS Pilani, Goa

After graduating from BITS with a EEE degree, Vrushali cofounded Absentia Virtual Reality and built the Norah AI platform that can generate game designs and structures in response to simple commands. She then co-founded and became the CTO of Pixis One, an AI cloud product designed to help marketers scale their digital marketing performance. Pixie has raised \$124M over three rounds. She has five patents in areas ranging from Feature Extracting Processor to Deep Learning. On campus she was involved with Table Tennis and Mime Club.

Linkedin: <https://in.linkedin.com/in/vprasade>

Award Categories

Leadership & Professional Achievement: Leadership applies to BITSians who have demonstrated leadership throughout their lives during school, at BITS and today by being elected or nominated to many positions of responsibility in any area (E.g.) Student run organizations at school, at BITS. Professional Excellence is for those who may have demonstrated tremendous achievement in the workplace. Alums should have received awards, rapid promotions, high value responsibility at a relatively young age or should have contributed significantly towards defining key events in the industry.

Academia / Research & Development: This category recognizes the contribution of BITSians in the field of Research and Development, Teaching and Education. Nominees should have received accolades, awards, been accepted into academic programs or research centers to work on high profile projects, scholarly publications or should have headed research centers in academia / industry. For instance, working with famous professors on seminal research topics, co-authoring papers , receiving awards of recognition at conferences or through journals.

Social Entrepreneurship & Community Building: Awarded to alumni for being recognized or doing service in the community that has made a difference.

Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Invention: Entrepreneurship is for BITSians who have demonstrated spectacular ability to build and run successful companies at an early age. Innovation seeks those who have for award-winning innovations, or patented inventions in technical areas. It is awarded for the successful implementation of a radical idea or concept. (E.g.) Development of a software program that is now widely downloaded on the internet.

Art, Music, Writing & Culture: Awarded to alumni for excelling in arts, music, writing & culture, and continuing to pursue their passion through public performances. BITSians who may have published books or written many articles on one or more subjects in prominent publications or held exhibitions to display their creations.

Sports & Talents: Awarded to alumni for excelling in sports or at other talents at school, BITS, and continuing to pursue sport in the community, and winning awards/prizes for doing so. E.g. A top tennis player who has won tournaments while at school, BITS and continues to play competitive tennis and wins after graduation in his or her city, a national or international chess player, rubix cubes or an authority on Yoga.

Open: A culture of Success: This category is for recognizing BITSians who have received accolades in different areas of their lives that don't fit any of the groups above.

For past winners visit

<https://www.bitsaa.org/page/30U30>