



St. Francis Institute of Technology
DEPARTMENT OF BASIC SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES (F.E.)
Title of the Practice: PRAYAS 23

Academic Term: Jan-Jun 2023

Title of the course: PRAYAS 23

Department: Department Of Basic Science and Humanities (F.E.)

Report from the Course Coordinators

Prayas 2023, the flagship event of the Department of Basic Science and Humanities, was special for many reasons. This year we got the sponsorship of IEEE along with ISTE, with a participation of more than 150 students. With 32 project presentations, the turnover this year had been more than ever before.

The event was conducted on 19th of April 2023, from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm. The chief-guest for this year was none other than our very own alumni, Mr. Hiren Tank, who currently works as a Solutions Architect with TCS. Hearing our own protege share his experiences of how college shaped him and guided him on the path of success, filled our students with a renewed zeal for their project ventures and a pride for our Institution.

Prayas 2023 was effectively organized by the entire First Year Department, led by the FE HOD and Assistant HOD, Dr. C. Hariprasad and Ms. Grishalda Dsouza. The entire event was coordinated by Dr. Poonam Hemnani, along with Ms. Belinda Misquitta and Mr. Sainath Ghosalkar. It was backed by both the teaching and non-teaching staff of the First Year Department. We also had a team of 21 student volunteers who took care of arrangements like photography, logistics, compering and feedback collection.

The inaugural event began at 10:00 am with the college anthem. After the lighting of the lamp, the Head of the Department of First Year Engineering, Dr. C. Hariprasad delivered the welcome address. Dr. Poonam Hemnani, Prayas coordinator, gave the highlights of Prayas 2023. After this, our chief guest, Mr. Hiren Tank was welcomed to deliver his keynote address. Mr. Tank spoke about how SFIT has always encouraged students to grow - not only as professionals with a zest for learning - but also as individuals who give back to the community through their service. On this note, our chief guest declared Prayas 2023 Open. The inaugural session was concluded by a vote of thanks by Ms. Belinda Misquitta, the coordinator for Prayas 2023.

This year, we had 32 project groups from various subjects of interest. In order to ensure the smooth running of all presentations, the projects were displayed on different stalls around the college auditorium. Along with 9 subject teachers as guides, we also had 7 committee heads of different technical student committees serve as project mentors. A team of 6 judges visited the stalls and gave their detailed comments and suggestions for improvement to each of the project groups.

Prayas 2023 concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony from 3:30 - 4:30 pm. Winners of the best working model and Posters were selected on the basis of specific criteria and awarded cash prizes. Along with the chief guest, we had Mr. Dattatray S. Sawant, the Student



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Activities Committee Chair of IEEE Bombay section, to grace the occasion as the Guest of Honour. The ceremony concluded with a video highlighting the glimpses of Prayas 2023.

Parents, Participants and visitors were asked to fill separate feedback forms to share their suggestions with the First Year Engineering Department. Most participants shared that Prayas helped them gain confidence, subject knowledge and encouraged them to work on more innovative projects. Parents of participants who attended Prayas also shared their satisfaction with the overall organization of the program. Our team of 6 judges also expressed that they were content with the level of technical knowledge displayed by first year students, while also sharing some constructive feedback.

A huge sense of gratitude is owed to the chief guest, college dignitaries, coordinators, subject experts, the entire staff, the project guides, participants and volunteers!

Belinda M.

Ms Belinda M.

S. Sainath G

Mr. Sainath G

(Coordinators)

Poonam

Dr. Poonam Hemnani

(Convenor)