

Summary Report

Director's Address for First-Year Engineering Students - AY 2026-27

Vishwakarma Institute of Technology, Pune 37

Department of Engineering, Sciences and Humanities (DESH)

Venue: VishwaMandap, VIT Kondhwa Campus

Date: 16 September 2026

Introduction

The **Department of Engineering, Sciences and Humanities (DESH), VIT Pune**, organized the **Director's Address for First-Year Engineering Students and their Parents** on 16 September 2026 at Vishwamandap, VIT Kondhwa Campus. The programme marked an important beginning to the academic journey of the newly admitted FY B.Tech students of Academic Year 2026–27. Parents were also invited to participate and understand the academic environment, opportunities, expectations, and overall development journey of their wards.

Saraswati Puja and Saraswati Vandana

Each session commenced with **Saraswati Puja and Saraswati Vandana**, seeking the blessings of Goddess Saraswati, the symbol of knowledge, wisdom, learning, and creativity. This auspicious beginning set a meaningful and positive tone for the programme and symbolized the commencement of a new academic journey for the first-year students.

Three Separate Sessions with Common Conduction

Considering the strength of FY B.Tech students across various programmes, the Director's Address was conducted in **three separate branch-wise sessions**, while maintaining a common programme structure for all sessions.

The three sessions were scheduled as follows:

- **Session 1:** 9:00 am to 10:30 am: CE, CSE-SE, CSE-IOT and CSE-DS branches
- **Session 2:** 11:30 am to 1:00 pm: IT, CSE-AI, ME and CV branches
- **Session 3:** 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm: AIDS, CSE-AIML, EnTC and ICE branches

The respective **Heads of Departments of the concerned programmes** attended their respective sessions and were present on the dais along with the Director and DESH representatives.

The presence of the respected **Dean Academics, Dr. Parikshit Mahalle**, further enriched the session and reflected the Institute's commitment towards academic excellence and the holistic development of students.

The common programme sequence for each session comprised:

Anchoring by Dr. Deepali Deshpande → Saraswati Pujan & Saraswati Vandana → Director's Address → Address by HOD-DESH, Prof. (Dr.) Shilpa Lambor → Vote of Thanks by Dr. Anup W. Ingle

Highlights of the Director's Address

The address by **Honourable Director, Prof. Dr. Rajesh M. Jalnekar**, was highly inspiring and provided students and parents with a broader perspective on engineering education and the opportunities available at VIT.

The Director emphasized that the four-year engineering journey should not be viewed merely as a pathway to obtaining a degree. Students were encouraged to **Dream, Learn, Grow, Belong and Succeed** by making meaningful use of the academic and developmental opportunities available to them.

A major emphasis was placed on developing a combination of **knowledge, technical skills, practical experience, innovation, values and social responsibility**. Students were encouraged to move beyond conventional classroom learning and focus on applying their knowledge to real-world problems. The importance of **Project-Based Learning (PBL), practical learning, experimentation, innovation and application-oriented education** was highlighted.

The Director also emphasized the importance of becoming **industry-ready from the early years of engineering**. Programming, problem-solving, communication, teamwork, leadership, decision-making, technical writing and professional ethics were identified as important aspects of a successful professional career.

Students were encouraged to explore diverse opportunities including **industry internships, research, innovation, entrepreneurship, higher education, placements, competitions, clubs and extracurricular activities**. The importance of emerging technologies and continuous self-learning was also highlighted.

The address further underlined the significance of **research, patents, consultancy, industry collaboration, international exposure and the strong alumni network**. Students were encouraged to identify real-world challenges, develop innovative solutions, create prototypes and explore possibilities of transforming ideas into useful products or ventures.

An equally important message was the need for **holistic development**. Academic excellence should be complemented by participation in technical, cultural, sports and social activities, while maintaining personal values, discipline, empathy and social responsibility.

Overall, the Director's Address was **highly motivating and thought-provoking**, encouraging students to make the most of their four years at VIT and develop themselves as capable, innovative, responsible and future-ready professionals.

Glimpses of the Event



Address by HOD-DESH

Prof. (Dr.) Shilpa Lambor, HOD-DESH, addressed the students and parents and provided valuable guidance regarding their transition into engineering education. She congratulated the students for becoming proud VITians. Dr. Lambor highlighted that engineering is simply not about becoming engineers, but at VIT, we will teach students to think like engineers. The importance of attending lectures and understanding core concepts is an inherent part of academics. Students were also advised to take care of their mental and physical health, along with participation in various co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Her presence and interaction further strengthened the connection between the students, parents, faculty and the Institute.

Participation of Parents and Students

The enthusiastic participation of **students and parents** added significant value to the programme. The interaction provided parents with an understanding of the Institute's

academic environment and developmental opportunities, while students received valuable guidance at the very beginning of their engineering journey.

Vote of Thanks

The Vote of Thanks was delivered by **Dr. Anup W. Ingle**, who expressed sincere gratitude to the Director, Dean Academics, HOD-DESH, respective Heads of Departments, faculty members, parents, students, volunteers and the Management of VIT, Pune for their support and participation.



Conclusion

The Director's Address was a **meaningful and inspiring orientation programme** for the FY B.Tech students and their parents. It provided an encouraging start to the Academic Year 2026–27 and conveyed a clear message that the VIT journey is about much more than academics - it is about **learning, application, innovation, opportunities, professional growth and responsible citizenship**.

The programme was conducted smoothly through the three scheduled sessions with active support from the respective HODs, faculty members, coordinators, volunteers, students and parents. The official schedule also marked **16 September 2026 as the commencement of academics, with teaching scheduled to begin from 21 September 2026**.