Pimpri Chinchwad Education Trust's
Pimpri Chinchwad College of Engineering
International Relations Cell, PCCOE
Office of International Relations and Students International Relations Cell
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Samvaad Overseas Editorial

It is with great pleasure that the Dean International Relations Office and the Students International Relations Cell at PCCOE present to you Volume 3, Issue 9 of “Samvaad Overseas”, under the esteemed guidance of our honourable Director, Dr. Govind N. Kulkarni.

Through Samvaad Overseas, we aim to highlight PCCOE's global engagement endeavours, partnerships with universities or organisations worldwide, collaborative initiatives, academic exchanges, and research engagements that enhance cross-border knowledge sharing.

This newsletter showcases academic and research exchange opportunities, highlights international conferences, guest visits, and celebrates faculty and student achievements on the global stage. It also covers key events that enhance our institute’s global presence and foster international collaboration. We hope Samvaad Overseas is both informative and inspiring as we strengthen global ties. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

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Explore Germany 2026: Where Education, Industry and Culture Meet

On 8 September 2026, the International Relations Cell, PCCoE, together with the RWTH International Academy, India Office, hosted Explore Germany 2026 at the Architecture Hall. Six experts guided students through study, work and life in Germany.

Date:
8 September 2026

Mode:
Offline

Sessions:
6 Expert Talks

THE OPENING

The programme began with registration and a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony. Dr. Roshani Raut, Dean, International Relations, PCCoE, delivered the welcome address. Dr. Sandeep Patil, Director, RWTH India Office, Pune, and Dr. Govind Kulkarni, Honourable Director, PCCoE, then spoke about the importance of international exposure in higher education and professional development.

The partnership between PCCoE and the RWTH International Academy, India Office, brought academic and industry perspectives together. This helped students make informed decisions about higher education, internships, research, career planning and international mobility.



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Explore Germany 2026: Where Education, Industry and Culture Meet

SIX SESSIONS, SIX PERSPECTIVES

Automotive Safety and Simulation

Mr. Ajay Chavan, Skoda Auto Volkswagen India. Covered crash simulation, CAE model building, restraint-system development and physical testing of complete vehicles, showing how engineering principles turn into real-world vehicle safety.

Industry and Higher Education

Mr. Swapnil Kulkarni, Chemperion GmbH. Explained how industrial functions from R&D to logistics work together, and introduced the TU9 Alliance of leading technical universities. Also discussed eligibility factors such as GRE, IELTS, German-language skills and industry experience.

German Language and Pathways

Mrs. Vaishali Dabke, Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan, Pune. Spoke on learning German, study and research routes, and working while studying. Highlighted Ausbildung, the vocational pathway that combines learning with practical training.

Working and Living in Germany

Mr. Chetan Patil, Liebherr CMC Tec India. Drew on his experience across India and Germany to explain punctuality, direct feedback, Feierabend (the time after work), health insurance, public transport and everyday life.

Skills over Rankings

Mr. Nilesh Bang, SKF. Emphasised that in the German professional world, skills and the ability to apply learning matter more than university rankings. Encouraged students to keep building technical knowledge and practical capability.

Student Life and Careers

Mr. Girish Khodke, Khodke Solutions. Covered Werkstudent jobs, industry-based Master's theses, job applications and the move to full-time work. Also described Germany's flat workplace hierarchies, direct communication and work-life balance.

"In Germany, skills and learning matter more than university rankings."

EXPLORE GERMANY. **PREPARE FOR THE WORLD.**

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Explore Germany 2026: Where Education, Industry and Culture Meet









THE KEY TAKEAWAY

Going abroad is as much about preparing for daily life and workplace culture as it is about getting an admission. The six sessions gave students a complete picture of Germany as a destination for education, research and careers, and showed why classroom learning, industry exposure and cultural readiness need to go together.

The programme was coordinated by Dr. Anjali Shrivastav (Event Coordinator and Associate Dean, International Relations) and Dr. Sonal Shirke (Co-coordinator). It closed with a vote of thanks to the speakers, the RWTH India Office and all participants.

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PCCoE at ESTCON 2026, Penang, Malaysia

PCCoE took part in the 9th World Engineering, Science and Technology Congress (ESTCON 2026), hosted by Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS on 8–9 September 2026. The themes were Energy Security, Regenerative Futures and Sustainable Living.

PCCoE received the Co-organiser Award for its contribution to the congress.



ABOUT THE CONGRESS

ESTCON brings together researchers, academicians and industry professionals to share research and discuss emerging challenges in engineering, science and technology.

PCCoE'S PARTICIPATION

About 10 PCCoE faculty members presented research papers, and five of them also served as Session Chairs. The delegation gained expert feedback, met researchers from other countries and explored future collaborations.

- **10 faculty presenters**
- **5 session chairs**
- **1 Co-organiser Award**

PCCoE at ESTCON 2026, Penang, Malaysia

TIMELINE

1. **Day 1 – Inauguration**

Welcome by Tan Sri Dr. Mohd Hassan Marican, Chancellor, UTP. Officiating address by YB Datuk Chang Lih Kang, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Malaysia.

2. **Day 1 – Keynotes**

Energy Security in Transition by Datuk Ir. (Dr.) Bacho Pilong, PETRONAS. Engineering Resilient Energy Systems for a New Order of World by Prof. Niall Mac Dowell, Imperial College London.

3. **Day 1 – Gala Dinner**

An evening of networking among delegates, where PCCoE received the Co-organiser Award.

4. **Day 2 – Keynotes**

Prof. Nadia Magnenat Thalmann, University of Geneva, on regenerative quantum AI. Dato' Seri TPr (Dr.) Maimunah Mohd Sharif on designing low-carbon futures with AI and digital innovation.

5. **Day 2 – Valedictory**

Closing speech by Ir. Mohamed Firouz Asnan, President and CEO, UTP, and Chairman, ESTCON 2026.

THE PCCoE DELEGATION

Dr. Rachana Patil, Dr. Deepti Khurge, Dr. Pooja Bidwai, Dr. Shriya Mundhe, Dr. Supriya Mahadevkar, Mrs. Rohini Tambe, Mrs. Trupti Deshmukh, Mrs. Shailaja Pede, Mrs. Pallavi Dhade, Mrs. Rakhi Pagar

RESEARCH FROM PCCoE

- AI for rare-weather road scene synthesis in autonomous driving
- Deep learning for diabetic retinopathy screening and grading
- Blockchain and LLMs for smart agricultural logistics
- Carbon-aware elastic scaling for cloud workloads
- Multi-agent AI for climate disaster early warning
- Edge AI smart cricket coach for low-resource sports environments

PCCoE at ESTCON 2026, Penang, Malaysia









BEYOND THE SESSIONS

Delegates also toured a project exhibition of student and faculty innovations in sustainability, energy and emerging technologies. It showed how research ideas turn into working prototypes.

WHAT PCCoE FACULTY TOOK AWAY

- Energy security and sustainability must go hand in hand.
- AI and digital innovation are becoming central to low-carbon solutions.
- Collaboration between academia, industry and policy makers is key to solving real-world problems.

Build Your Own Model: Hands-On with Nugen

On 25 August 2026, the Microsoft Learning Student Chapter (MLSC) and the PCCoE IEEE Student Branch, in association with the International Relations Cell, hosted Build Your Own Domain Aligned Model, a hands-on workshop on the Nugen platform for third-year IT students.



SET UP → EXPLORE → BUILD → MANAGE

INSIDE THE SESSION

Guided by Nugen domain experts, students worked through the platform from start to finish: creating an account, exploring its features and services, building AI models and managing projects.

WHAT STUDENTS WALKED AWAY WITH

Of the 51 students who took part, 33 built their own models and completed the workshop with certification. All participants received $150 in Nugen API credits after registering. The session also gave students a starting point for collaborating on projects and contributing to the open-source community.

Led by Dr. Ashvini C. Ladekar (MLSC Faculty Coordinator) and Dr. Roshani Raut (Dean, International Relations).

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PCCoE–JETRO Visit to Japan 2026: Strengthening India–Japan Collaboration

Pimpri Chinchwad College of Engineering (PCCoE), Pune, strengthened its engagement with Japanese industries and institutions through a JETRO-sponsored visit by Dr. Roshani Raut, Professor and Dean – International Relations, from 27 September to 2 October 2026.

Date:
27 Sep – 2 Oct 2026

Cities:
Nagoya, Saitama, Tokyo

THE VISIT

The visit aimed to explore opportunities in student internships, placements, academic exchange, joint research, and industry–academia collaboration. It included interactions with JETRO officials, Japanese industry representatives, senior JETRO leadership, and officials of Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI).



NAGOYA: JETRO INDUSTRY SEMINAR

On 29 September 2026, Dr. Raut took part in the JETRO Industry Seminar at WINC Aichi, Nagoya. The seminar focused on business opportunities in Pune and the recruitment of skilled engineering talent. It was attended by 14 industry delegates.

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PCCoE–JETRO Visit to Japan 2026: Strengthening India–Japan Collaboration









SAITAMA: TALENT AND INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION

The engagement continued in Saitama on 30 September 2026, where 13 industry delegates took part in discussions on talent development and institutional collaboration.

WHAT WAS DISCUSSED

- Student recruitment and internships
- Joint research
- Faculty and student exchange
- Industry-sponsored projects
- Japanese language training

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PCCoE–JETRO Visit to Japan 2026: Strengthening India–Japan Collaboration

FOUR AREAS OF COLLABORATION

Japanese Language Minor
14-credit multidisciplinary minor for Japan-focused careers.

Technical Training
Industry-oriented training aligned with Japanese companies' needs.

Joint Innovation
Joint Projects with Japanese Industry Partner.

Student Challenges
Industry-defined,real-world problems for students.

"Technical skills, Japanese language and cultural understanding prepare students for global careers."

JAPAN FACILITATION CENTER

A proposal to strengthen the Japan Facilitation Center at PCCoE has been submitted to JETRO for consideration and support.







PCCoE thanks JETRO, METI, participating Japanese industries and PCET management for their support.

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PCCoE Students Gain Global Exposure at UTP, Malaysia

Six PCCoE students completed the two-month International Internship at Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP), Malaysia, from 22 July to 22 September 2026.



PCCoE continues to strengthen its international academic engagement by giving students global learning and internship opportunities. The internship offered exposure to a diverse learning environment and helped students build their technical and professional competencies. It also gave them insight into global academic and research practices.

THE INTERNS

Six PCCoE students took part in the internship:

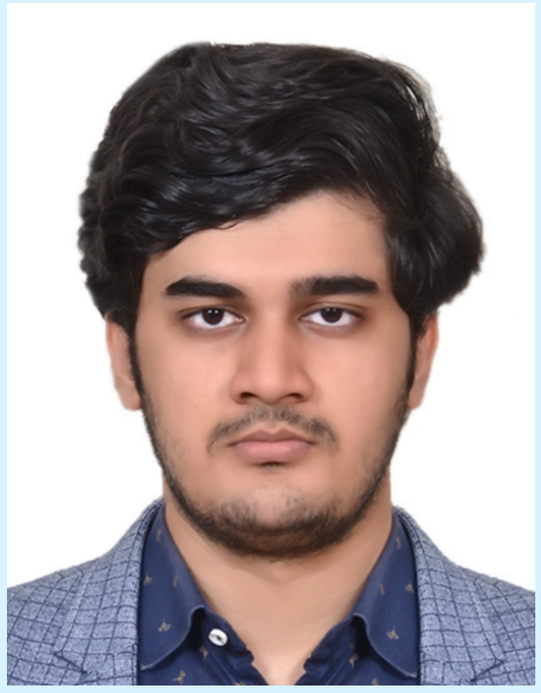
- Prathamesh Mode – Electronics & Telecommunication
- Varad Rane – Information Technology
- Arshia Joshi – Information Technology
- Shreeyash Patil – Computer Engineering
- Om Kadu – Computer Engineering
- Parth Shetake – Mechanical Engineering

Extended! Varad Rane received a one-month extension of his internship in online mode, continuing until 22 October 2026.

GLOBAL COMPETENCIES. **GLOBAL COLLABORATIONS.**

PCCoE Students Gain Global Exposure at UTP, Malaysia

VOICES FROM UTP



Prathamesh Mode | Electronics & Telecommunication
Project: Machine learning for the security of industrial control systems, Department of Computing, under Dr. Fasee Ullah

“The project was in the area of machine learning for the security of industrial control systems. It was quite unlike coursework. I had to read through a large body of published work, narrow down a question worth asking, set up experiments to test it and then make sense of what came out of them. There was a great deal for me to learn and explore along the way, and the two months went quickly.

Dr. Fasee Ullah was very helpful and patient with me throughout. He gave me a clear direction at the start, kept me from going down paths that would not have led anywhere useful, and was available whenever I needed to talk something through. I learned a lot from the way he approached a problem, and I am thankful for the time he gave me.

UTP is an excellent host institution. The campus environment was professional and supportive, and spending two months in Malaysia was an experience I would recommend to any student considering an international attachment. Being around a different academic culture and an international student community changed how I think about my own work.

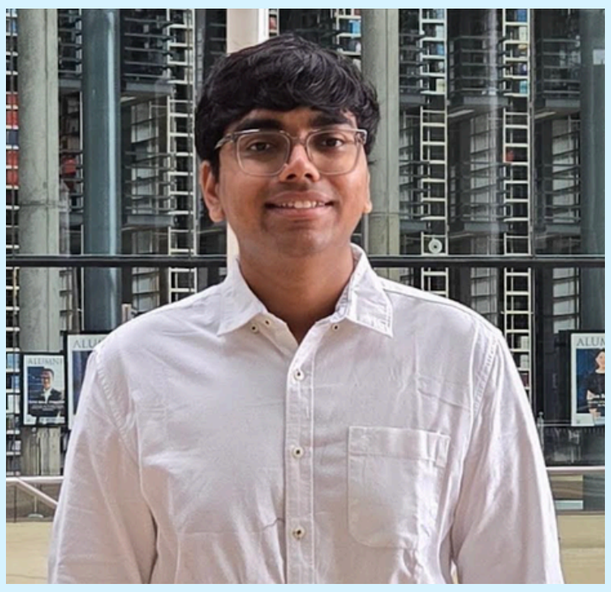
I am grateful to the Office of the Dean, International Relations at PCCoE for arranging this opportunity, and to UTP for making the programme available to students from partner institutions. I would encourage any student with an interest in research or in international exposure to apply.”

GLOBAL COMPETENCIES. **GLOBAL COLLABORATIONS.**

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PCCoE Students Gain Global Exposure at UTP, Malaysia

VOICES FROM UTP



Varad Rane | Information Technology
Project: Poultry inspection system,
under Assoc. Prof. Ts. Dr. Norshakirah Binti Ab Aziz

“My project was a poultry inspection system. I worked on the computer vision side: finding birds in video of a slaughter line, counting them, and testing whether a simple movement measure could tell their condition. It was nothing like coursework. I had to read research papers, label thousands of video frames with a team, train and compare detection models, and then check my own results honestly.

One example stayed with me. A model I trained on unreviewed labels scored better than the clean one before it, and only careful checking showed why that score could not be trusted. That taught me more about real machine learning than any exercise could. I also learned that a result is only worth reporting once it has been tested on data the model has never seen. When I did that on a second video, the detector found far fewer birds than expected, and reporting that openly was more valuable than a high score.

Dr. Norshakirah guided me patiently. She gave me clear direction, let me own the technical work, and was available whenever I needed to talk something through. I also learned a great deal from working with my teammate Aiman, and from writing up the results as a conference paper draft, which pushed me to explain the work properly and to say plainly what is not finished.

UTP is an excellent host institution. The campus was professional, supportive and well equipped, and spending two months among an international student community changed the way I think about my own work and about studying abroad. The people were kind, accommodating and helpful, and I travelled to Ipoh, Penang, the Cameron Highlands and Kuala Lumpur. The last month continued online, which worked well because the project was already running.”

PCCoE Students Gain Global Exposure at UTP, Malaysia

VOICES FROM UTP



Arshia Joshi | Information Technology
Project: Vision Transformer-based classification of chest X-ray images, Department of Computing, under Assoc. Prof. Ts. Dr. Said Jadid A Kadir

“My project was on Vision Transformer-based classification of chest X-ray images. It was very different from coursework. I had to review a large body of published work, compare nine model architectures under identical conditions, and then work out why models that looked excellent on validation data did much worse on unseen test data. Finding the answer was one of the most rewarding parts of the programme, and the two months passed quickly.

Dr. Said Jadid A Kadir was very supportive and patient with me throughout. The clear direction I received at the start, the feedback on my work and his readiness to talk through problems whenever I was stuck kept the project focused. I learned a great deal from the way my supervisor approached research questions, and I am thankful for the time given to me.

UTP is an excellent host institution. The campus environment was professional and welcoming, and spending two months in Malaysia is an experience I would recommend to any student considering an international attachment. Working within a different academic culture and alongside an international student community broadened how I think about my own work.

I am grateful to the Office of the Dean, International Relations at PCCoE for arranging this opportunity, and to UTP for opening the programme to students from partner institutions. I would encourage any student with an interest in research or international exposure to apply.”

PCCoE Students Gain Global Exposure at UTP, Malaysia

VOICES FROM UTP



Shreeyash Patil | Computer Engineering
Project: AWS Lambda cold-start latency and cost study, under Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hitham Seddig Alhassan Alhussian

“My two months at UTP under the Research Attachment Programme were the most formative stretch of my undergraduate journey. I arrived with cloud engineering experience and left having carried a research project from an open question to a measured dataset, a predictive model and a paper.

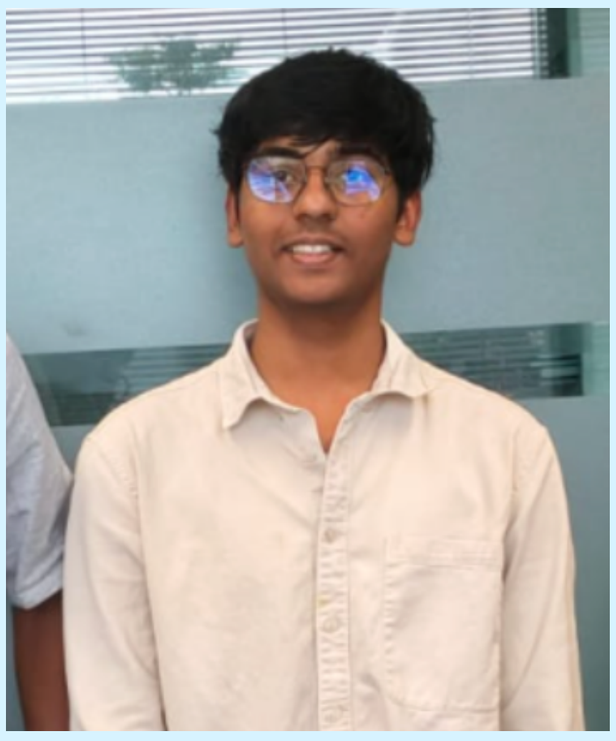
My offer letter listed a topic outside my main area, so I proposed my own: a large-scale study of AWS Lambda cold-start latency and cost after AWS began billing the initialisation phase in August 2025. Dr. Hitham accepted the idea but asked me to tighten it. He challenged how I phrased my claims, how I structured the experiments, and how I would prove my method worked. Those challenges taught me that good research is defended and refined, not simply proposed.

The result was a study of 192 Lambda configurations and 38,400 measured invocations across two AWS regions. Before the full experiment, I ran a pilot to confirm that all 200 test invocations were true cold starts. That habit of validating the method first is something I will carry into every project. I also built the infrastructure as code, designed the data pipeline, analysed the results statistically and trained a model that recommends the best configuration for a given workload.

Working with a mentor from another country taught me to communicate concisely and to take feedback as a gift. The work is now being prepared for submission to international venues. I am grateful to Dr. Hitham, UTP, and PCCoE with its International Relations Cell for this opportunity, and I strongly encourage fellow students to apply.”

PCCoE Students Gain Global Exposure at UTP, Malaysia

VOICES FROM UTP



Om Kadu | Computer Science and Engineering
Project: Quantitative reasoning calibration in autonomous LLM agents (QuaRCAA), under Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hitham Seddig Alhassan Alhussian

“My research focused on quantitative reasoning calibration in autonomous Large Language Model agents. The work went well beyond regular coursework. I explored empirical prompt design, built iterative benchmarking pipelines across different machine learning tasks, and evaluated how explicit warnings and feedback influence model overconfidence and decision reliability.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hitham was extremely supportive throughout the internship, offering invaluable strategic direction, academic guidance and constructive feedback that kept the research focused and methodologically sound. I am equally grateful to his teaching assistant, Mr. Shamsudeen Adamu, a PhD student who worked closely alongside me, provided consistent weekly guidance and helped me especially in the initial phases of my research.

UTP provided an exceptional, professional research environment with great resources and a vibrant international community. Spending two months conducting research in Malaysia broadened my academic perspective and was an amazing experience.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the Office of the Dean, International Relations at PCCoE for facilitating this opportunity, and to UTP for hosting the programme. I strongly encourage students interested in research and global exposure to make the most of this attachment.”

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CALL FOR PARTICIPATION: AI & ROBOTICS SUMMER SCHOOL 2027

PCCoE's International Relations Office invites students from all engineering branches, First Year to Final Year, to join a two-week Artificial Intelligence & Robotics Summer School at Ruhr University Bochum, Germany, from 14 to 27 February 2027.

WHAT YOU'LL EXPERIENCE

- Interactive lectures by academics and professionals
- Lab sessions, practical exercises and case studies
- Cultural and social activities
- A Ruhr University certificate with 3 ECTS-equivalent credit points

FEES AND DEADLINES

- Early Bird: €1,800 (full payment by 10 November 2026)
- Regular: €1,950 (11 November to 5 December 2026)
- Final payment deadline: 5 December 2026

Small note: Flights and visa expenses are not included.

HOW TO APPLY

Register online, upload your CV and complete the payment, visa, insurance and documentation requirements.
Registration Link: https://forms.gle/ySAWzquRP7KzCAMXA

LEARN GLOBALLY. INNOVATE CONFIDENTLY. SHAPE THE FUTURE!

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