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CST NEWSLETTER

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Student Exchange Programme at UPV, Spain



Cover Story: Inaugural Visit of Honorable Vice Chancellor Dasho Chewang Rinzin.

Honorable Vice Chancellor of the Royal University of Bhutan (RUB), Dasho Chewang Rinzin, made his inaugural and familiarization visit to the College of Science and Technology (CST) on February 6-7, 2025 .



In focus: ICSciEnTec 2025

The third international conference Conference on Science, Engineering and Technology (ICSciEnTec 2025) was successfully held from April 28 to 30, 2025, at Namgay Heritage in Thimphu, bringing together 122 researchers, academics, industry professionals, and students from Bhutan and abroad.

Insights: Year 2024 Student Employment Statistics

As of June 2025, 90.36% of the 2024 cohort has been employed

Campus Recruitment Event: 2025

160+

JOB OFFERINGS

Where Talent Finds a Home: Over 18 recruiters participated in the campus drive, offering nearly 160 job openings for the 211 student graduating cohort

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A Momentous Visit

Inaugural Visit of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dasho Chewang Rinzin to CST

February 6-7, 2025

We are honored to share that the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of the Royal University of Bhutan, Dasho Chewang Rinzin, paid his inaugural and familiarization visit to the College of Science and Technology on February 6–7, 2025. This momentous occasion marked his first official visit to a constituent college since assuming the esteemed role of Vice Chancellor, making it a moment of pride and significance for the CST community.

During his visit, Dasho Chewang Rinzin engaged with faculty, staff, and students, inspiring all with his visionary guidance. He emphasized the profound role of education in fulfilling the far-sighted aspirations of His Majesty the King, encouraging a culture of dedication, integrity, and excellence.
Dasho highlighted the importance of acquiring relevant knowledge and adaptive skills to navigate a fast-changing, technology-driven world. He highlighted the growing importance of technical professionals in Bhutan's development and urged students to embrace emerging opportunities and responsibilities.

Highlighting the transformative journey Bhutan is currently undergoing, Dasho urged the CST community to work together, embrace innovation, and take the lead in building the nation's future in alignment with His Majesty's vision. His message left a lasting impact on the audience, inspiring a stronger sense of responsibility and commitment to national progress.

The CST fraternity extends its sincere gratitude to Dasho Chewang Rinzin for his inspiring presence and reaffirmation of Royal University of Bhutan's commitment to academic and institutional growth. His visit serves as a powerful reminder of our shared mission to advance education, foster innovation, and contribute to nation-building.



3rd International Conference on Science, Engineering and Technology (ICSciEnTec 2025) Successfully held in Thimphu

April 28-30, 2025

The 3rd International Conference on Science, Engineering, and Technology (ICSciEnTec 2025), jointly organized by the College of Science and Technology (CST) and the Construction Development Corporation Limited (CDCL), was successfully held from April 28 to 30, 2025, at Namgay Heritage in Thimphu.

The conference brought together 122 participants, including researchers, academics, industry professionals, and students from Bhutan and abroad, with international delegates from Nepal, Malaysia, and Sweden. The event provided a collaborative platform for sharing innovative research, fostering interdisciplinary discussions, and strengthening professional networks in the fields of science, engineering, and technology.

Over the three days, the conference featured 21 paper presentations by Bhutanese researchers, 16 poster presentations, and multiple parallel technical sessions covering diverse topics. Expert-led discussions and interactive Q&A sessions facilitated meaningful knowledge exchange.





Attendees included 19 participants each from CST and CDCL, 2 volunteers from the Royal Society for STEM, and 36 invited guests from various organizations, enhancing institutional research engagement and student participation.



Beyond academic sessions, the event incorporated cultural activities and a site visit for international delegates, blending professional discourse with an appreciation of Bhutan's heritage. The inaugural ceremony, graced by distinguished dignitaries, set an inspiring tone for the conference.

The conference reinforced CST's vision of becoming a leading institution in science and technology education while supporting Bhutan's national goals in sustainable development and technological advancement. By promoting research collaboration and innovation, the ICSciEnTec 2025





contributed to positioning Bhutan as an emerging hub for scientific progress.

Moving forward, the conference proceedings will be published to disseminate research findings, and CST plans to establish long-term collaborations through joint projects, workshops, and future conferences. These efforts will be integrated into curriculum development and community outreach, ensuring lasting benefits for Bhutan's academic and technological growth.

The success of ICSciEnTec 2025 highlights the growing importance of research and innovation in driving Bhutan's sustainable development.



Celebrating the Legacy of Mr. Kazuhiro Muramatsu

A Japanese Educator's Journey in Bhutan.

-Tashi Tobgay Choden, ICE Programme

After 16 years of dedicated service, the College of Science and Technology (CST) bids farewell to Mr. Kazuhiro Muramatsu, a beloved educator whose wisdom, humility, and passion for teaching have left an indelible mark on the institution. As he prepares to return to Japan for retirement, we reflect on his remarkable journey, his contributions to CST, and the cultural bridge he built between Japan and Bhutan.

A Name with Meaning:
Roots and Reflections.

Mr. Muramatsu's name carries a story of heritage and identity. His family name, Muramatsu, translates to "village pine tree," hinting at his ancestral roots in rural Japan. His given name, Kazuhiro, combines "first" (as the eldest son) and a nod to a revered monk, reflecting Bhutanese-like naming traditions. This connection between cultures became a theme in his life, one that would later flourish in the mountains of Bhutan.



From Engineer to Educator

Before joining CST, Mr. Muramatsu's career was as dynamic as it was diverse. He began as a research associate in Japan, transitioned to software engineering at NEC Corporation, and later contributed to government research institutes. After a decade in tech, he shifted to academia, teaching IT and leading a Computer Education Centre.

His journey to Bhutan was unexpected. Initially assigned to Pakistan as a JICA Senior Volunteer, security concerns redirected him to CST in 2009—a twist of fate that would define the next 16 years of his life.

His Classroom Memories and Life Lessons

At CST, Mr. Muramatsu found joy in teaching and connecting with students. He fondly recalls the growth of the institution—from offering just two programs in 2009 to 10 programmes for undergraduate and two for master's today. Though the expanding faculty made it harder to know everyone personally, his commitment to students never wavered.

One of his most poignant memories spans the COVID-19 pandemic. After returning to Japan following his father's passing in 2020, Bhutan's airport closure stranded him for 10 months. Undeterred, he taught CST students online while caring for his mother—a period he cherishes for its blend of duty and familial warmth.

Cultural Bridges: Japan and Bhutan

Mr. Muramatsu often drew parallels between his homeland and Bhutan. Both nations' Buddhist traditions, he noted, cultivate gentleness, respect, and modesty in their people. Yet the working cultures diverged sharply. In Japan, grueling 14-hour days were the norm; in Bhutan, he found a slower, more humane pace, a balance that allowed him to thrive.

Though he missed Japanese cuisine he embraced Bhutan's peace and simplicity. His advice to colleagues and students mirrors this philosophy: "Enjoy your life. You only live once. so make the most of it."

As Mr. Muramatsu prepares to retire, he leaves with cherished memories of Bhutan's tranquility and the camaraderie of CST. His plans are simple: "No more work, just peace." His legacy remains in the minds of students he inspired, the institution he helped grow, and the cross-cultural bonds he strengthened.

The CST family will forever remember Mr. Muramatsu for his kindness, dedication, and the quiet wisdom he brought to every interaction. As we bid him farewell, we extend our deepest thanks for his years of service and wish him a retirement filled with joy, relaxation, and perhaps a long-awaited taste of home.

"The pine tree returns to its village, but its roots remain in Bhutan."



8th Annual Joint Faculty Research Meet (AJFRM 2025)

February 13-14, 2025
Venue: College of Science and Technology (CST)

The 8th Annual Joint Faculty Research Meet (AJFRM 2025), held from February 13 to 14, 2025, at the college of Science and Technology(CST), marked another successful chapter in CST's ongoing commitment to strengthening academic research and collaboration within the Royal University of Bhutan (RUB). Initiated by the College of Science and Technology in 2015, the event brought together faculty researchers from partner institutions - Jigme Namgyel Engineering College (JNEC), Sherubtse College, and the College of Natural Resources (CNR).

Day 1 Highlights- February 13
The opening day featured seven paper presentations, along with a hands-on drone training session. The event showcased research spanning multiple disciplines in science and technology, and reflected the growing culture of innovation among faculty members across RUB colleges.







Day 2 Highlights- February 14

The final day featured three more paper presentations, followed by a field visit to Bhutan Brewery Pvt. Ltd. and Milarepa Lhakhang. The site visit not only provided insights into real-world industrial practices and applications of research, but also connected participants to Bhutan's spiritual heritage, a unique integration of modern innovation with the country's deeply rooted values.

The event also exemplified CST's mission "to generate new knowledge through research and innovation to fulfill the needs of society." By engaging in impactful research, fostering collaboration, and exploring practical applications, the AJFRM continues to contribute to national development and societal well-being.

We look forward to building on this momentum in future editions, deepening our commitment to research excellence and innovation.



CST Establishes STAR-C Bhutan: Advancing Solar Energy Education and Innovation

April 10, 2025

The College of Science and Technology (CST), in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (MoENR) and the International Solar Alliance (ISA), is proud to announce the establishment of the Solar Technology Application Resource Centre (STAR-C, Bhutan). This state-of-the-art facility is envisioned as a national hub for solar energy training, testing, knowledge sharing, and innovation.

Aligned with CST's vision, STAR-C strengthens the college's commitment to sustainability, capacity building, and applied research. It also supports CST's mission of generating new knowledge to serve societal needs, while contributing to Bhutan's broader renewable energy goals.

From Concept to Reality:

The establishment of STAR-C was formalized through a Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on April 14, 2024, between MoENR, the Royal University of Bhutan (RUB), and ISA. Under the MoU:

- MoENR serves as the national nodal agency overseeing implementation and coordination with ISA.
- CST provides infrastructure and will operate the center;
- ISA supports the procurement of equipment, training of trainers, and two years of operational funding (2025-2027).

By April 10, 2025, the installation of STAR-C's indoor and outdoor equipment was completed, representing an investment of Nu. 8 million. The newly developed 226 m² facility houses an advanced training hall, office space, and various solar energy systems designed for demonstration and hands-on learning.

Key Installations Include:

Indoor:

- Solar pumping system prototypes (submersible & surface pumps)
- Standalone DC power kit
- Switchgear and control panels for hands-on training.







Outdoor:
- 5 kW Hybrid PV System with net metering (powers STAR-C independently)
- 300-liter Solar Water Heating System (installed in CST's kitchen)
- Four solar streetlights

Retrofitted Systems:
- 7.5 kW off-grid rooftop PV
- 5 kW and 15 kW grid-connected systems (now powering the CST library reading rooms)

Altogether, CST now supports a 27.5 kW integrated solar PV system across its campus.

Capacity Building: Empowering Energy Leaders

As part of STAR-C's outreach, two solar mini-grid training programs were organized from April 17–25 and May 5–13, 2025, benefiting 42 participants from government agencies, corporate firms, and the private sector—all with an electrical engineering background. Training was delivered by experts from the NTPC School of Business and CST's Electrical Engineering Department with funding support from ISA.

Key Contributors:
- Mr. Cheku Dorji, Assistant Professor, CST – STAR-C Focal Person
- Mrs. Tashi Choden, Executive Engineer, MoENR
- Mr. Felipe Saliba, Chief, Knowledge Division, ISA, New Delhi
- Faculty and staff from CST's Electrical Engineering Department
- Mr. Kelzang Dorji, SHD Member, STAR-C

A Vision for the Future

The official launch of STAR-C is tentatively scheduled for October 2025. Looking ahead, CST plans to offer a series of short-term training programs for stakeholders, raise awareness about solar energy applications, and forge regional and international partnerships with other STAR-C centers to foster knowledge exchange.

In the long term, the aspiration is to elevate STAR-C into a Testing and Standardization Centre for solar technologies, serving not just Bhutan but the wider region.

National Impact

STAR-C contributes directly to Bhutan's goal of achieving 5,000 MW of solar energy capacity by 2040-part of the national strategy to diversify the country's renewable energy portfolio. By educating students, engineers, and professionals in solar applications, CST is playing a vital role in realizing this national priority.



Student Exchange Programme at UPV

Building Bridges: An Exchange student's Cross-Cultural Journey.

A conversation with Ms. Ugyen Tshomo, a Third-year student pursuing Instrumentation and Control Engineering (ICE) at CST, currently on a student exchange programme at the Polytechnic University of Valencia (UPV), Valencia, Spain.

1. Could you briefly introduce yourself and share which program you are currently enrolled in at CST?

Hi! I'm Ugyen Tshomo, a third-year student pursuing Instrumentation and Control Engineering at CST. I'm someone who loves being actively involved in college life, I used to be a core member and Vice Focal of Y-PEER club and also the Designated Access Person. I enjoy joining clubs and participating in activities that push me beyond academics!

2. What motivated you to apply for the student exchange program in Spain?

I've always loved to travel and explore new experiences. When I heard about the student exchange program, I saw it as the perfect opportunity, not just to grow academically, but also personally. Spain has always been a dream destination, and when CST offered me the chance to study there, it truly felt like a dream come true!





3. Which university or institution are you currently attending in Spain, and what courses are you taking there?

I'm currently attending Technology Industrial Engineering at the Polytechnic University of Valencia. The courses I'm taking are really exciting! For example:

- Recruitment Skills_QB – where we learn about data-driven hiring and modern recruitment strategies,
- Soft Skills Workshops for Engineers in Life Sciences II – focused on team dynamics and talent management,
- And of course, Spanish classes – because when in Spain, you have to learn Spanish, right?

4. How does the academic environment in Spain compare to that of CST?

The Polytechnic University of Valencia is huge compared to CST! I got lost for the first few days here. The facilities are amazing and so diverse, it's really eye-opening. Experiencing such a vibrant academic environment has been inspiring, and I hope to bring some of these ideas and insights back to CST.

5. What has been the most enriching academic experience for you so far during this exchange?

The diversity of students I've met here has been incredible. Sharing cultures, perspectives, and stories has been one of the highlights. Also, the university regularly invites guest speakers who are experts in their fields. For instance, in April, we had a session with Mr. Javier Padros on modern recruitment strategies. His talk gave me a broader perspective on talent acquisition and how to present myself confidently in the job market.

6. How have you adapted to the new culture and lifestyle in Spain? Were there any cultural surprises or challenges you faced initially?

Oh, definitely! The language barrier was a real challenge at first, especially since this was my first time traveling outside Bhutan. Everything felt unfamiliar. But having my fellow CST mates with me made it feel like an adventure. Gradually, we adapted and started enjoying every moment, new faces, new food, and lots of new memories.

7. Have you had the opportunity to explore Spain outside the classroom? If so, could you share any memorable experiences or places you've visited?

Yes, and one of the most memorable experiences was a spontaneous beach day! After class, a few of us from the exchange program decided to head to the beach around 7 PM, it was still bright out (days are longer here). We played, took photos, and stayed out until 9. But we forgot to bring extra clothes, so we walked back freezing and covered in sand! It was chaotic but so fun, and a memory I'll never forget.

8. How has this exchange program contributed to your personal growth or changed your perspective, both academically and culturally?

This program has changed me in ways I didn't expect. Interacting with experienced professors, guest lecturers, and a diverse group of students has boosted my confidence, broadened my mindset, and helped me grow not just academically but personally too. It's truly been a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and I'll carry its lessons with me forever.

9. What have you learned from interacting with students and faculty members from different parts of the world?

Initially, I was shy and self-conscious about approaching people. But in my Spanish class, everyone was from different countries, and I slowly realized we had more in common than I thought. Once I started opening up, I was welcomed warmly by both students and faculty. The professors here are super approachable, which makes asking questions or clearing doubts so much easier.

10. In what ways do you think this international exposure will benefit your future academic or professional endeavors?

It's reshaped the way I look at myself and the world. The knowledge I've gained, the confidence I've built, and the networks I've created will support my academic and professional journey. I feel better prepared for the challenges ahead, wherever they may take me.

11. What message or advice would you give to other CST students who might be interested in applying for student exchange programs in the future?

Go for it, without a second thought! It's hard to explain the impact in words because it's something you have to experience for yourself. Be open to new challenges and embrace the unknown. It'll enrich your life in more ways than you can imagine.

12. Lastly, what do you miss most about Bhutan while being abroad?

RED. CHILLI. I miss Bhutanese food so much, nothing quite hits like home food. As they say, there's no place like home-especially when it comes to food!

"No matter what task you are assigned with or whatever responsibilities that you need to shoulder, give it your best! No matter how trivial or inessential that task seems as long as it has been assigned to you, you need to carry it out with due diligence and give it a 100%".

-His Majesty the King of Bhutan



CST Business Idea Competition 2025 (CST BIC 2025)

May 9, 2025

The CST Business Idea Competition 2025 was held on May 9, bringing together 12 teams and 50 students who pitched innovative business ideas to foster an entrepreneurial mindset and culture within the student community. The event highlighted creativity, problem-solving skills, and the spirit of innovation.

We were honored to have esteemed judges from the Bank of Bhutan, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Employment, and a senior CST faculty member. They carefully evaluated the ideas and provided valuable feedback to inspire and guide our students.

Top 3 Business Ideas at CST BIC 2025:
1st Place: Team SSO (Small Shop Outlet): A team of five second-year Software Engineering students developed a no-code e-commerce platform builder that enables small businesses to set up an online shop in under 3 minutes.

2nd Place: Smart Agri-Tech: A collaborative team of fourth-year IT and ECE students presented an AIoT-based smart farm security system featuring a frequency repellent to enhance farm safety.

3rd Place: One-Stop Book: Six second-year Software Engineering students created a platform allowing users to book facilities such as sports venues and services like salon appointments.

Team SSO proudly represented CST at the RUB Business Idea Competition on May 29, competing against nine other colleges. While the team did not secure a win, this in no way diminishes the strength of their idea or the quality of their presentation. Their efforts reflect true innovation, commitment, and the potential to create meaningful impact.

Looking ahead, students interested in further developing their ideas are encouraged to seek support from the college. Please reach out to the Incubation Centre Head, Mr. Sangay Phuntsho. Additionally, the Incubation Centre remains available as a dedicated space to nurture and refine projects.

We are proud of all the participants' journeys and excited about what lies ahead. Events like BIC play a crucial role in nurturing innovation and fostering the entrepreneurial spirit among our students.

Airbus Delegation Visits College of Science and Technology, Strengthening Industry-Academia Ties

May 22, 2025

On May 22nd, 2025, the College of Science and Technology (CST), under the coordination of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, hosted a high-profile delegation from Airbus, marking a significant milestone in fostering collaboration between academia and industry. The delegation was led by Dr. Jocelyn Tristan Pierre Gaudin, Vice President and Head of Engineering at Airbus India and South Asia, reflecting Airbus's recognition of CST's growing prominence in the region and its commitment to preparing students for global opportunities.

The event drew participation not only from students pursuing engineering disciplines such as Mechanical, Electrical, Electronics and Communication, Instrumentation and Control, Civil, Information Technology, and Geology but also from final-year Bachelor of Business Administration (Human Resource Management) students from Gedu College of Business Studies (GCBS). This diverse attendance showed the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration and the broad relevance of industry engagement across academic fields.

During the visit, Dr. Gaudin and the Airbus team interacted with students, gaining insights into their aspirations, assessing their potential, and exploring avenues for future partnerships. The interaction served as a vital platform to discuss internship opportunities, recruitment prospects, and potential academic-industry collaborations, providing students with invaluable exposure to global career pathways in aerospace and technology.

The event strongly aligns with CST's mission and vision by supporting industry-academia collaboration, enhancing student employability, promoting excellence in education through real-world applications, and elevating the institution's reputation on an international scale. Furthermore, it contributes to national goals by exposing Bhutanese students to global industry standards, fostering STEM education and innovation, and facilitating connections between Bhutanese institutions and multinational corporations.



Annual Student Research Meet 2025 (SRM 2025)

May 12, 2025

The 8th Annual Student Research Meet (SRM 2025) was held on May 12, 2025, coinciding with the celebration of Zorig Day. Since its inception in 2017, this flagship event has provided an essential platform for students to showcase their year-long research efforts, share innovative findings, and strengthen the culture of inquiry and evidence-based learning within the College of Science and Technology (CST).

This year's SRM introduced poster presentations alongside oral presentations, expanding opportunities for student participation and engagement. Seven teams-one from each programme-presented their research orally, while 18 compelling poster presentations were displayed, reflecting the breadth and depth of student innovation.

The event exemplifies CST's vision of being "A centre of excellence in science and technology enriched with GNH values" by promoting academic excellence, creativity, and socially responsible research that balances scientific progress with Bhutan's unique Gross National Happiness principles. Through interdisciplinary collaboration and practical problem-solving, students contribute to sustainable development and the well-being of society.

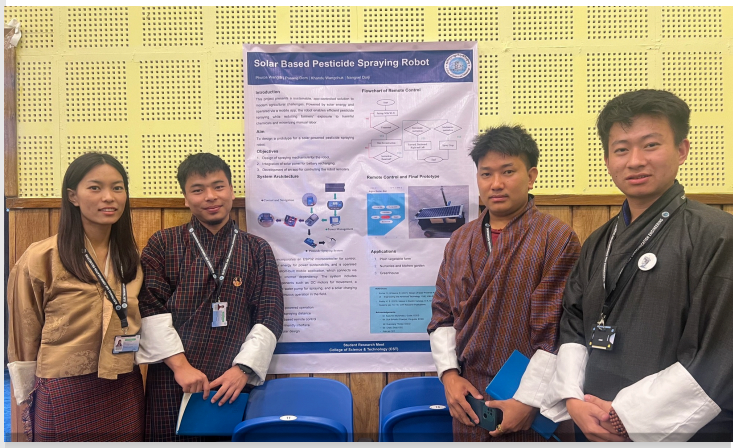
Top Oral Presentations:

- Contemplative Center by Sudip Sharma, Architecture Department
- AIoT-Based Smart Farm Security with Frequency Repellent System – a joint project by IT and Electronics & Communication Engineering students
- Improving the Strength of Cold Mix Asphalt Concrete through Numerical Optimization by Civil Engineering students

Top Poster Presentations:

- Smart Irrigation Water Distribution System by Information Technology students
- Detailed Design and Analysis of a Modern HVAC Solution for CST's Convention Hall, Incorporating Indoor Environmental Quality by Electrical Engineering students
- Solar-Based Pesticide Spraying Robot by Electronics and Communication Engineering students

The SRM continues to inspire innovation, critical thinking, and research excellence among our students, nurturing future leaders who will uphold and advance the values of science, technology, and Gross National Happiness. We look forward to the next SRM with great anticipation.





Celebrating a Decade in Space: Bhutan Space Week 2026 to be Hosted at CST

Bhutan Space Week (BSW) 2026 will mark a significant milestone-ten years since Bhutan's foray into space exploration. The event will be hosted by the College of Science and Technology (CST), continuing its tradition as a national celebration of science, innovation, and the visionary leadership of His Majesty The King, whose aspirations led to the launch of Bhutan's first satellite, BHUTAN-1, in 2018.

Launched in 2020 by the then Department of Information Technology and Telecom (now GovTech Agency), Bhutan Space Week commemorates the birth anniversary of His Majesty the 5th Druk Gyalpo and aims to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers. Over the years, it has grown into a platform for promoting space science, nurturing innovation, and showcasing Bhutan's growing capabilities in space technology.

BSW 2026 will feature four major events:

- **National Space Challenge (NSC):** A competition for high school students across the country.
- **Mission Idea Contest (MIC):** A platform for undergraduate students from Royal University of Bhutan (RUB) colleges to pitch innovative space-related ideas.
- **Symposium:** A forum for researchers, educators, and students to engage in dialogue and share insights on space science and technology.
- **Space DIY Activities:** Hands-on space-themed projects for younger students within Phuentsholing Thromde.

These programs are designed to engage students at all levels-fostering curiosity, promoting STEM education, and encouraging collaboration across institutions. The 2026 edition promises broader participation and deeper impact, particularly through interactive and research-based events.

BSW 2026 is a collaborative initiative led by CST, with support from the Ministry of Education and Skills Development (MoESD), the Royal Society for Science, Engineering and Mathematics (RSSTEM), the Royal University of Bhutan (RUB), and the GovTech Agency as the principal driving force.

As Bhutan reflects on a decade of progress in space exploration, BSW 2026 will serve as both a celebration and a springboard for future aspirations-lighting the spark of scientific pursuit in young Bhutanese minds.



The Fourth SQUARES Project Meeting successfully held in Thimphu, Bhutan

October 1-3, 2024

The fourth meeting of the SQUARES Project was held at the Office of the Vice Chancellor, Royal University of Bhutan, Thimphu, from October 1–3, 2024. The meeting was coordinated by Dr. Tashi, SQUARES Project Coordinator from the College of Science and Technology. The main objective of the SQUARES project is to bridge the educational skill gap between Higher Education Institutions (HEI), industry, and the professional employment market in Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan in the fields of engineering education and quality management in universities.

The objectives of the fourth meeting were to address the following:

- Review the project's progress in terms of management and deliverables
- Report on the financial status of the project
- Decide on the next immediate steps
- Conduct a mixed-mode conference on skill gaps in higher education

The meeting was attended by representatives from the following SQUARES project partner universities:

- College of Science and Technology, Bhutan
- Daffodil International University, Bangladesh
- Far Western University, Nepal
- Gdańsk University of Technology, Poland
- National University of Sciences and Technology, Pakistan
- Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia
- Tribhuvan University, Nepal
- University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
- University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan
- University of Sannio, Italy

Day 1: Meeting

On the first day of the meeting, the hosting team from the College of Science and Technology welcomed all participants to Bhutan and initiated the agenda. Key updates included a presentation on the project's progress since the last meeting in July. Alejandro Lyons Ceron shared an analysis of a stakeholder questionnaire survey, identifying critical areas requiring intervention by the SQUARES project. The meeting also included discussions on the project's budget status. Maciej Sawicki provided an update on budget transfers to partner universities for various project phases and equipment purchases. Additionally, the team explored suitable platforms for developing teaching materials. Professor Wojciech presented an analysis of various online teaching and learning platforms and later led a session on transportation management systems.

Day 2: Conference on Skills Gaps in Higher Education

The second day featured a conference focused on addressing skills gaps in higher education. It included four sessions delivered in a mixed-mode format—two online and two offline. The event schedule was shared with students and staff of the College of Science and Technology via the College website and official Facebook page.

Day 3: Cultural Exposure Tours in Bhutan

Beyond the formalities of the meeting, guests embarked on a captivating cultural odyssey—wandering through the living museum of Simply Bhutan, marveling at the serene grandeur of Buddha Point, and exploring the majestic Tashichhodzong. Encounters with the rare Takin at the national zoo offered a glimpse into Bhutan's national animal and heritage, while the awe-inspiring hike to Taktsang Monastery in Paro crowned the day with spiritual splendour and breathtaking views.





CST Team Attends Project Kickoff Meeting and International Week in Germany

May 12-18, 2025

A team from the College of Science and Technology (CST) visited Hochschule Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences and Arts (HSBI), Germany, from May 12-18, 2025. The visit marked the official launch of the "Bhutan Meets Germany" project, funded by DAAD, and coincided with HSBI's vibrant International Week.

The team was led by Dr. Cheki Dorji (President, CST), Dr. Chimi Wangmo (Programme Leader, Water Resources Engineering), and Mr. Namgay Tenzin (Head of Department, Electrical and Electronics Engineering). The team received a warm welcome at the Minden Campus by Prof. Frank Hamelmann, the project coordinator.

At the Bielefeld Campus, the team joined more than 100 participants from 35 countries for the International Week opening. They took part in cultural exchanges, campus tours, and workshops centered on sustainability in science and industry.

Highlights included visits to HSBI's advanced laboratories and a sustainability workshop, during which Dr. Cheki Dorji and Mr. Namgay Tenzin shared insights into Bhutan's higher education system and energy landscape.

The visit provided valuable exposure to Germany's practice-oriented education model and strengthened academic ties between the institutions. Key outcomes from the meetings include:

- Student exchange to Germany in December 2025
- Faculty visits from Germany to Bhutan in March 2026
- Development of joint online courses
- Translation of study materials

This collaboration marks a significant step toward fostering academic, research, and cultural exchange between Bhutan and Germany.





Safeguarding the Himalayas' Water Towers: Third REFRESH Workshop

June 12-13, 2025

The Himalayas, often called the "Water Towers of Asia," are the lifeline for millions, providing freshwater ecosystem services (FES) through major river systems. However, climate change and growing anthropogenic pressures threaten these critical resources. To address these challenges, the College of Science and Technology (CST), under the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)-funded REFRESH project, hosted its third workshop, "Himalayan Freshwater: Assessing Services and Vulnerability," on 12th June 2025 in Paro, Bhutan.

The event brought together experts, policymakers, and stakeholders from Bhutan, India, and Nepal to assess vulnerabilities, review policies, and co-develop strategies for resilient water management in the region. The workshop aimed to achieve several key objectives:

- **Disseminate Research Findings:** Share outcomes from the REFRESH project, which has been mapping and characterizing freshwater ecosystems in selected Himalayan-river basins since October 2022.
- **Assess Vulnerabilities:** Examine the impacts of monsoon variability and climate extremes on freshwater ecosystem services across Bhutan, India, and Nepal.
- **Review Policies:** Analyze existing water and environmental policies in three countries and identify gaps and opportunities for enhanced sustainability.
- **Foster Stakeholder Engagement:** Facilitate interdisciplinary dialogue among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to co-develop adaptive water management strategies.



The workshop featured a blend of academic presentations, panel discussions, and interactive sessions. Over 20 participants, including hydrologists, climate scientists, policymakers, and environmental professionals attended the workshop.

The event presented the research findings from catchment-level assessments of freshwater availability and vulnerability and the influence of monsoon variability on Himalayan water systems. The event also discussed the policy frameworks and regional cooperation mechanisms for sustainable water management. Additionally, the event included institutional visits to key water sector agencies in Bhutan, offering participants first-hand insights into local challenges and solutions.

The REFRESH project, running from October 2022 to September 2025, is a collaborative effort involving institutions from Bhutan, India, and Nepal. The project team includes: Dr. Ashutosh Sharma (Proponent), IIT Roorkee, India and Collaborators: Vivek Gupta (IIT Mandi), Sumit Sen (IIT Roorkee), Vishal Singh (National Institute of Hydrology), Tshering Cheki (CST, Bhutan), Shivam Gupta (Central Agricultural University), and Pratik Singh Thakuri (Nepal Engineering College).

By hosting this event, CST reinforces its role as a hub for environmental research and policy dialogue, aligning with nation's priorities:

Environmental Sustainability: Supports constitutional mandate for environmental conservation and Gross National Happiness (GNH).
Climate Resilience: Contributes to the National Environment Strategy and Water Act by providing data-driven insights for adaptive water management.
Academic Excellence: Enhances research capacity and fosters student involvement in critical climate and water-related studies.

The workshop informs policy formulation and resource management at local and national levels. Strengthen cross-border collaboration for integrated water resource management and provide academic institutions with research data for curriculum development and future studies.





Further, the project team will also publish and disseminate findings through policy briefs and research papers. The team aspires to advocate the integration of workshop outcomes into government strategies and academic programs and sustain collaborations for long-term monitoring and knowledge-sharing across the region.

The third REFRESH workshop marks a pivotal step toward safeguarding Himalayas' freshwater resources. By bridging research, policy, and practice, the event has laid the groundwork for resilient and sustainable water management across Bhutan, India, and Nepal. As the project nears its conclusion in September 2025, the insights generated will continue to shape regional efforts in preserving these lifelines for future generations.



Enhancing Engineering Excellence: CST Hosts Training on Construction Quality Management

June 1-7, 2025

The College of Science and Technology (CST) successfully launched a six-day training program on Construction Quality Management for Engineers, a nationwide capacity-building initiative aimed at enhancing the skills and competencies of Bhutanese field engineers engaged in infrastructure development. This strategic initiative is jointly organized by CST in collaboration with the Royal Civil Service Commission (RCSC) and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport (MoIT), in alignment with the Government's mission to foster talented professionals and strengthen public infrastructure through a skilled engineering workforce.

Training Schedule and Key Highlights

The first cohort of 34 field engineers from across various Dzongkhags and Thromdes participated in the inaugural training held from 1–7 June 2025.

The opening ceremony was graced by Dasho Dr. Tshering Cigay Dorji, Commissioner, RCSC; Mr. Kelzang Dorji, Officiating President, CST; and Mr. Tashi Drukpa, Chief Engineer, Engineer Management Division, Department of Infrastructure Development, MoIT.

The closing ceremony of the first cohort on 7 June 2025 was attended by Mr. Karma Dupchuk, Director General, Department of Infrastructure Development, MoIT, and the President of CST.
The second cohort commenced from 9–14 June 2025, with an inaugural address by Mr. Karma Dupchuk. In total, the program is designed to train 15 cohorts and will continue until December 2025.

Participants and Program Structure

Each training batch includes 35 to 40 participants, comprising Assistant Engineers, Building Inspectors, and Chief Dzongkhag Engineers representing various Thromdes, Dungkhags, and Dzongkhags. The training incorporates hands-on sessions, site visits, and case studies to enhance the understanding of structural integrity, safety, and regulatory compliance. Participants also visit industries in collaboration with the Perfect Group of Companies to gain insight into material quality standards practiced in Bhutan.



Key Resource Personnel

The program is jointly developed and delivered by a dedicated team of experts:

- Mr. Chimi, Training Manager, Continuous Learning Center, CST
- Mr. Tashi Drukpa, Chief Engineer, EMD, DoID, MoIT
- Mr. Prasad Khadal, Assistant HRO, RCSC
- Dr. Ugyen Dorji, Assistant Professor, CST
- Mr. Nima Drukpa, Assistant Professor, CST
- Mr. Sangay Phuntsho, Lecturer, CST
- Mr. Tshering Tobgyel, Lecturer, CST
- Mr. Nimesh Chhetri, Lecturer, CST
- Mr. Tashi Dorji, Assistant Lecturer, CST
- Mr. Tekindra Neopaney, Assistant Lecturer, CST

Strategic Purpose and National Alignment

This initiative represents a critical step toward realizing the “High Performing Workforce” vision set forth in the RCSC Strategic Roadmap 2025–2030. It supports CST’s vision of being a center for excellence by providing a robust platform for continuous education, professional training, and knowledge dissemination in construction quality assurance.

The program also highlights the importance of collaboration between academia and government agencies in addressing national development goals. through human capacity development and technical expertise.

Way Forward

The training will continue through the end of December 2025, covering all planned cohorts. In the future, CST and its partners aim to expand the scope of training to include other stakeholders and agencies engaged in project management and quality control, thus further institutionalizing best practices in Bhutan’s infrastructure development



Fostering Civic Responsibility: ECB Conducts Civic Education Program at CST

April 14, 2025

On 14th April 2025, The Election Commission of Bhutan (ECB) organized a Civic Education Program at the College of Science and Technology (CST) as part of its nationwide initiative to promote civic awareness and democratic participation among Bhutanese youth. The event highlighted the crucial role of young citizens in shaping the country's democratic future.

The session commenced with a welcome address from the college administration, followed by an interactive presentation by ECB officials. The program included the fundamentals of civic education, the structure of Bhutan's electoral system, and the importance of voting as both a right and a responsibility.

A remarkable quote from the Election Commissioner of Bhutan resonated with attendees:

"Voting is not just a right-it is a duty that shapes the future of our democracy,"
- Election Commissioner of Bhutan

The awareness initiative provided insights into the roles and responsibilities of elected representatives, the significance of free and fair elections, and the need for informed and responsible voting. The program also encouraged open dialogue, allowing participants to engage directly with ECB representatives, fostering a deeper understanding of civic participation.

The program left a lasting impact, as shared by CST students:

"This session helped me realize that our participation matters, not just during elections but in holding our leaders accountable too."
-Ugyen Penjor, 3rd Year Architecture





"I had little understanding of our electoral process before today. Now I feel more confident and prepared to vote when the time comes."
- Karma Tashi Phuntshok, 3rd Year IT Student

The ECB's initiative underscores the vital role of youth in sustaining a resilient and inclusive democracy. By equipping students with civic knowledge and a sense of duty, the program ensures that future voters will participate thoughtfully and purposefully in Bhutan's democratic processes. As Bhutan prepares for upcoming elections, such initiatives empower young citizens to become informed, active, and responsible voters, securing the nation's democratic foundations for generations to come.



Keeping CST Clean and Green: Solid Waste Management at the College of Science and Technology

In alignment with Bhutan's national commitment to environmental sustainability, the College of Science and Technology (CST) has initiated a comprehensive Solid Waste Management program. This initiative aims to reduce environmental impact, promote responsible waste practices, and instill a sense of environmental stewardship among students, faculty, and staff.

At the core of this effort is the segregation of waste at the source. All members of the CST community are encouraged to classify waste into three categories: biodegradable, non-biodegradable, and recyclable. Biodegradable waste is composted in designated pits maintained near each building. The compost produced from food and garden waste is then used to enrich CST's kitchen gardens and landscaped areas. Non-biodegradable waste is transported to a specialized Waste Transformation Yard, a pioneering facility among Bhutanese colleges. Equipped with a baling machine, plastic shredder, & paper shredder, this center processes recyclable materials like PET bottles, aluminum and office paper. These machines compact and prepare the waste for recycling, significantly improving waste handling efficiency and minimizing landfill contribution. The initiative has been well-received by both staff and students, who recognize it as both a responsibility and a reflection of CST's dedication to sustainable living.

Dr. Cheki Dorji, President of CST, shared, "This initiative goes beyond managing waste—it serves as an educational model for sustainable living. With community engagement and appropriate technology, we are paving the way for a greener future."

Through continued participation and awareness, CST is proudly emerging as a model institution, demonstrating that sustainable waste management is achievable with coordinated efforts and the right infrastructure.



CST Literary Club Celebrates World Creativity and Innovation Day

April 21, 2025

The Literary Club of the College of Science and Technology (CST) marked World Creativity and Innovation Day with a poster competition centered on the theme “Academic Integrity and the Ethical Use of AI” on 21st April 2025. The event aimed to inspire students to engage critically with the growing influence of artificial intelligence in academia while reflecting on ethical responsibilities in education.

With the rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in education, students are increasingly engaging with technologies that offer both opportunities and challenges. While AI can support learning, research, and creativity, its misuse can compromise academic integrity; a core value in any educational institution. Therefore, under the guidance of Ms. Thinley Wangmo, Associate Lecturer in the Science and Humanities Department and Literary Club took this initiative to raise awareness, encourage reflection, and promote ethical practices among students as they navigate the digital learning landscape.

With over 30 participants from diverse disciplines, the competition became a dynamic platform for Students designed thought-provoking posters that explored key issues such as the importance of academic honesty, the risks of plagiarism in a digital age, and the ethical challenges posed by AI in learning. The entries not only showcased artistic talent but also stimulated meaningful conversations about integrity in education.

The winning posters were unveiled on World Creativity and Innovation Day and prominently displayed along the Mani Dhungkor pathway, leading to the academic block, where they served as a source of inspiration for the campus community. To ensure lasting impact, the selected works were later converted into acrylic posters and installed in the college library’s study hall, reinforcing the message of ethical scholarship.

Beyond celebrating creativity, the event reinforced CST’s commitment to fostering ethical professionals and promoting responsible innovation. By encouraging students to critically assess AI’s role in academia, the competition aligned with the college’s broader vision of integrating scientific excellence with GNH (Gross National Happiness) values. It also resonated with national priorities, including digital literacy, educational quality, and ethical conduct in academic and professional spaces.
Looking ahead, the Literary Club plans to continue organizing initiatives that bridge creativity, ethics, and national development, furthering CST’s mission and contributing to Bhutan’s progress in education and technology.





CST's Pride- Celebrating Excellence at the Second National Skills Competition 2025

May 9-11, 2025

From May 9 till 11, 2025, the vibrant atmosphere around the Clock Tower in Thimphu was electric as talented young minds from across Bhutan gathered to compete in the National-level Mobile Application Development Competition. The event showcased innovation, technical prowess, and the spirit of healthy competition.

During the competition, our Bachelor of Engineering in Information Technology (BE IT) students, demonstrated exceptional skill and dedication and secured the position as listed below:

- Karma Thapkhey – 1st Place
- Dendup Tshering – 3rd Place
- Dago Tsheiring – 4th Place

Over three rigorous days, participants were challenged to develop a fully functional mobile application with the following features:

Day 1: Authentication system with document upload (PDF, audio, camera)
Day 2: Personal portfolio with CRUD (Create, Read, Update, Delete) functionality
Day 3: Trade-specific quizzes, profile badges, and a real-time leaderboard

The College of Science and Technology extends its heartfelt gratitude to the organizers, judges, and mentors for their unwavering support and for creating a platform that nurtures innovation and excellence. Tashi Delek to our champions! Your success inspires us all to strive for greater heights in technology and beyond.





Students Champion Environmental Awareness through Creativity and Action

In celebration of Earth Day 2025, the Environmental Club of the College of Science and Technology (CST) launched a college-wide video competition aimed at raising environmental awareness and fostering creative expression among students. Held from 16th to 21st April, the initiative drew enthusiastic participation from 795 students, with each class contributing short, impactful videos centered around sustainability, environmental conservation, and responsible living.

The competition format encouraged public engagement-videos were uploaded to the Environmental Club's official Facebook page, where 60% of the final score was determined by the number of likes, while 40% was evaluated by a panel of judges. The winning entries, announced on May 2, were awarded cash prizes of Nu. 3,000, Nu. 2,000, and Nu. 1,000 for first, second, and third places respectively.

This initiative not only celebrated Earth Day but also served as a powerful educational tool, empowering students to think critically about the environmental challenges of today and tomorrow. It reinforced CST's commitment to nurturing ethical, environmentally responsible graduates, in line with its mission to generate knowledge that fulfills societal needs and its vision of becoming a centre of excellence enriched with GNH values.

Sustaining Action Through Monthly 'Zero Waste Hour' Campaigns

Alongside creative awareness initiatives, CST students have also remained actively engaged in hands-on environmental stewardship through the Zero Waste Hour campaign. As part of this national initiative launched by Her Majesty The Gyaltsuen, CST has been conducting a monthly cleaning campaign on the 2nd day of each month, involving over 795 students and 32 final-year Environmental Club members.

Organized class-wise and coordinated by final-year club members, the campaign focuses on a dedicated stretch from the college gate to Tin Kilo, ensuring cleanliness and waste management in this commonly used public route. The activity takes place after class hours, typically starting at 4:30 PM, and lasts about two hours, reflecting the students' dedication beyond academic obligations.

The Zero Waste Hour campaign fosters community well-being, strengthens civic responsibility, and cultivates a deep respect for Bhutan's pristine environment. It directly supports our country's national goals of waste reduction, sustainable development, and the GNH philosophy by blending personal action with national service.

Looking Ahead

Building on the success of these two initiatives, CST's Environmental Club plans to scale its efforts by organizing ongoing clean-up drives, campus greening projects, and capacity-building activities on environmental sustainability. These events demonstrate CST's holistic approach to education-integrating innovation, community service, and national development priorities.

Through a blend of creativity and action, CST students continue to embody the values of environmental stewardship, ethical leadership, and social responsibility-principles that are at the heart of both the college's mission and Bhutan's national vision for a greener, happier society.





Hands-On Learning Meets Campus Improvement: Vocational Club Installs Cloth Hangers Across CST Hostels

In an exemplary blend of practical learning and student-led infrastructure development, the Vocational Club of the College of Science and Technology (CST) successfully executed a large-scale project to install durable cloth hangers across multiple student hostels during the Spring Semester of 2025. The initiative was carried out from March 26th to April 26th, with support from the Dean of Student Affairs (DSA) and the club's advisor, Purna Bdr. Mongar.

The project aimed to improve hostel living conditions while simultaneously offering students real-world training in drilling, painting, welding, and masonry. A total of 32 club members, all CST students with interests in vocational and technical skills, participated actively in this hands-on initiative.

The project was implemented in three key phases across different hostel areas. In the RK and the HF hostels, 340 L-shaped hangers were installed across 170 rooms. In NK Hostel, students fixed T and angle steel hangers in 32 rooms. The third phase involved installing 27 T-shaped steel poles in the open area between HA-HB and HC-HD hostels to provide outdoor drying solutions. The work included dismantling old bamboo and wooden hangers and securely installing steel poles using concrete and screws, ensuring long-term durability.

The activities were supported by mechanical technicians, the college carpenter, and the gardener, who provided technical and logistical assistance.

The project directly benefited hostel residents by improving daily convenience and hygiene, while also giving Vocational Club members a valuable opportunity to apply their theoretical knowledge in a practical setting. Through this experience, students gained hands-on training, teamwork, and project execution skills, reinforcing the importance of service learning.

This initiative supports CST's commitment to skill-based education and reflects the values of responsibility, collaboration, and self-reliance. With the success of this project, the Vocational Club aims to continue similar efforts, including the maintenance of installed infrastructure and the expansion of service-based learning across campus. The initiative marks another step toward building a community of students who are not only academically equipped but also ready to contribute meaningfully to society.





CST Campus Recruitment Event 2025

Where Talent Finds a Home: 18 Recruiters. 160 Slots. 211 Graduates

June 20-25, 2025



The CST Campus Recruitment Event commenced on June 20, 2025, marking the start of a six-day platform where opportunity meets talent. This year, we are proud to present 211 graduates from seven academic programmes, ready to embark on their professional journeys.

The event attracted 18 recruiting organizations from both national and international sectors, reflecting the wide-ranging interest in CST graduates and the expanding network of industry partners.

We are pleased to share that approximately 160 job slots are being offered, as part of this recruitment drive. This strong response reflects the exceptional calibre of CST students and the growing confidence of industry partners in the capabilities of our graduates.

We look forward to sustained interest and participation from organisations in the years to come, and to nurturing partnerships that extend well beyond this event.









211
GRADUATES

211 students graduating in 2025, across 7 different academic programmes

18
RECRUITERS

18 recruiters from various governmental and private organizations

160+
JOB OFFERINGS

About 160 job offerings across various international and national organizations.



Upcoming Conference: ICSciEnTec 2026 to be held at OVC, Thimphu

The Conference on Science, Engineering and Technology (ICSciEnTec) 2026 will be held at Thimphu, from the 28th to the 30th of April, next year. ICSciEnTec is an annual international conference organized by R10 IEEE Bhutan Subsection, College of Science and Technology(CST), Royal University of Bhutan and Construction Development Board of Bhutan(CDCL) in collaboration with the Centre for Renewable and Sustainable Energy Development (CRSED) and the Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction and Community Development Studies (CDRR&CDS).

Important Dates:

Conference Date : 28th -30th April 2026
Submission of full paper: 15th June 2025-30th November, 2025
Notification of Acceptance : 31st December, 2025
Registration of participants : 1st January 2026-15th February 2026
Submission of Camera Ready paper : 7th January 2026

Registration Fees & Activities

1) US$ 350 for International Academicians and professionals
2) US$ 200 for International Students
3) Nu. 5000 for Bhutanese Academicians and Professionals
4) Nu. 1000 for Bhutanese Students

Payment Method

Participants should pay their registration fee by bank transfer to the account details given below and email a copy of the registration form and a transaction record to treasurer_icscientec.cst@rub.edu.bt

Payment account details

A/C Name: College Development Fund
Bank Name: Bank of Bhutan
Branch: Phuentsholing Main Branch
A/C No: 100050967



Ms. Sonam Chuki/ Ms. Namgay Om
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Thematic Areas:
Science, Mathematics and Environmental Engineering, Civil Engineering, Architecture, Structural Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Power and Energy Systems, Computer Science, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Engineering Geology, Instrumentation and Control Engineering, Information Technology and Transportation Engineering

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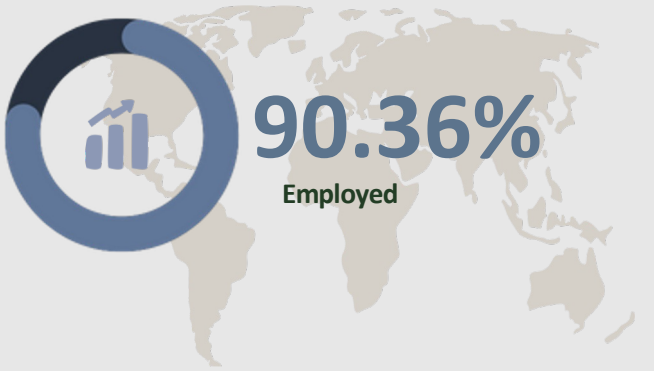
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- Connect with other key agencies and participants

Insights: Year 2024 Student Employment Statistics

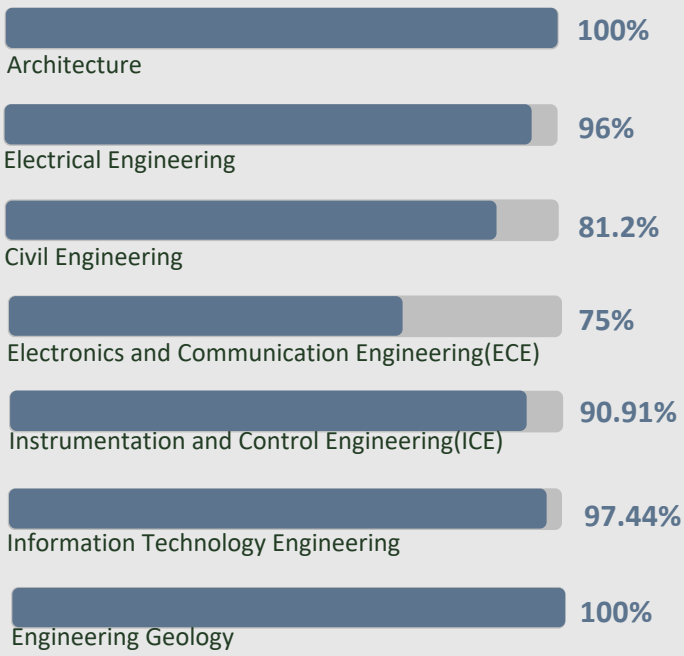
Key insights into the employment statistics for the 2024 cohort of graduates. About 90.36% of the students from the 2024 cohort, have been employed as of June, 2025.

197
Total Graduates
In the Year 2024

178
Total Graduates employed
as of June, 2025



Programme -Wise Employment Breakdown



Class of 2025 in Pictures: To Success, Joy, and Bright Beginnings

The future is calling — and the Class of 2025 is ready to answer! As the Class of 2025 turns the tassel and steps into a new chapter, we celebrate not just your achievements — but the journey that brought you here.

May your paths ahead be filled with purpose, success, growth, and happiness. Congratulations, graduates — your adventure is just beginning!

2025
Class of 2025

211
Total Graduates In the Year 2025

7
Seven Different Programmes



BE Civil Engineering(CE), Class of 2025



BE Civil Engineering In-service, Class of 2025



BE Electrical Engineering(EE), Class of 2025



BE Information Technology (IT), Class of 2025



Bachelor of Architecture, Class of 2025



BE Electronics and Communication Engineering(ECE), Class of 2025



BE Instrumentation and Control Engineering (ICE), Class of 2025



BE Engineering Geology(EG), Class of 2025

"What we lack in numbers, we must make up for with discipline, devotion, hard work, loyalty, and intelligence."

-His Majesty the King of Bhutan

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