

Suits, Smiles, and Start: Inside MBA Orientation Day

MBA life begins at woxsen

By Mounika Duvvada

The MBA orientation, held from July 14 to 18, welcomed the classes of 2025-2027, merging creativity with business principles. Engaging activities, such as case crunches, foster critical thinking and teamwork. This vibrant start set the stage for a transformative journey, encouraging students to embrace innovative problem-solving in their future endeavours. The event spanned five days filled with numerous business-related lectures & activities. It began with a warm welcome for the guests, featuring meaningful lectures aimed at introducing the new batch of attendees.

The Chief Guest, Shri Satyabrata Mohapatra, Chief General Manager of the State Bank of India, addressed the audience on the first day. Distinguished speakers such as Dr. Raul V. Rodriguez, Vice President of Woxsen University, and Mr. Vishal Khurma, CEO of Woxsen University, shared their insights in various sessions. Other notable speakers included Dr. Uma Ananda, Vice

Chancellor, and Ms. Madhavi Shankar, Co-Founder & CEO of SpaceBasic, Inc., who discussed topics like AI in MBA. A panel discussion featured industry leaders, and alumni shared their experiences in specialised sessions. Overall, the event aimed to provide valuable knowledge and networking opportunities

for the new batch of students.

The new MBA batch is divided into five departments: Marketing, Finance, Human Resources (HR), Data Analytics, and Entrepreneurship, with each department comprising teams of five students. Throughout the event, participants are tasked with solving two cases per

day. At the conclusion, faculty members will assess the students with a quiz of 15 questions related to the cases. "The event was highly engaging, as students demonstrated strong curiosity in researching information about their cases, utilising resources such as the library. Overall, Case Crunch not only enhances

learning but also fosters teamwork and critical thinking among students," said MBA representative Preeti Bisht.

Beyond academics, the new batch actively participated in various events, including sports competitions and the Freshers' Got Talent show. Participants engaged in different games, showcasing their skills and unique talents. The Freshers' Got Talent event provided an excellent platform for individuals to express themselves creatively, highlighting the diverse abilities within the group. Such experiences not only helped in building friendships but also enriched their overall college life.

The MBA orientation at Woxsen University served as a dynamic catalyst for the incoming classes of 2025-2027, blending academic rigour with opportunities for personal growth and collaboration. The lecturers are ready, the students are excited, all eyes are on the journey ahead—hoping to make the learning worth the ride!



Master of Business Administration students on orientation day. Photo source: creatives

Woxsen Students Win Big with ₹57.75 Lakh Grant at MSME Idea Hackathon 4.0

Students champion sustainability and self-reliance with this big win

By Kruth Aryan

Three students from Woxsen University, Vaishnavi (BBA, 2025), Sojith Koganti (B.Tech, 2026), and Drithi Sadhupati (B.Tech, 2027), have secured a combined grant of ₹57.75 lakhs at the prestigious MSME Idea Hackathon 4.0, organised by the Ministry of MSME, Government of India. Their innovative ideas stood out nationally for tackling pressing social, environmental, and economic challenges through sustainable and tech-driven approaches.

Vaishnavi's project breathes new life into a rare stone craft tradition from Uttar Pradesh. Using Shajar, a naturally patterned stone, she envisions cre-

ating high-end home décor and tableware tailored for European export markets. With the grant, she aims to scale operations, support local artisans, and position India's heritage craftsmanship on the global design map.

Sojith is tackling India's over-reliance on imported robotics parts, with nearly 95% coming from China. His project proposes setting up an indigenous robotics motor manufacturing unit, contributing to India's Atmanirbhar Bharat vision. The funding will go toward prototyping and infrastructure for local production, making robotics more accessible and affordable. Drithi's project supports the fish-



MSME Idea Hackathon winner. Photo source: creatives

ing community with biodegradable fishing nets embedded with IoT sensors. These smart nets monitor marine conditions and optimise fishing while reducing ocean pollution. Her initiative

also empowers local artisans through training, aligning with government sustainability schemes and preserving marine ecosystems. This trio's success underscores how young minds, when support-

ed with the right mentorship and funding, can drive high-impact innovation. Their ₹57.75 lakh grant is not just a win for Woxsen, but a bold step towards a more sustainable and self-reliant India.

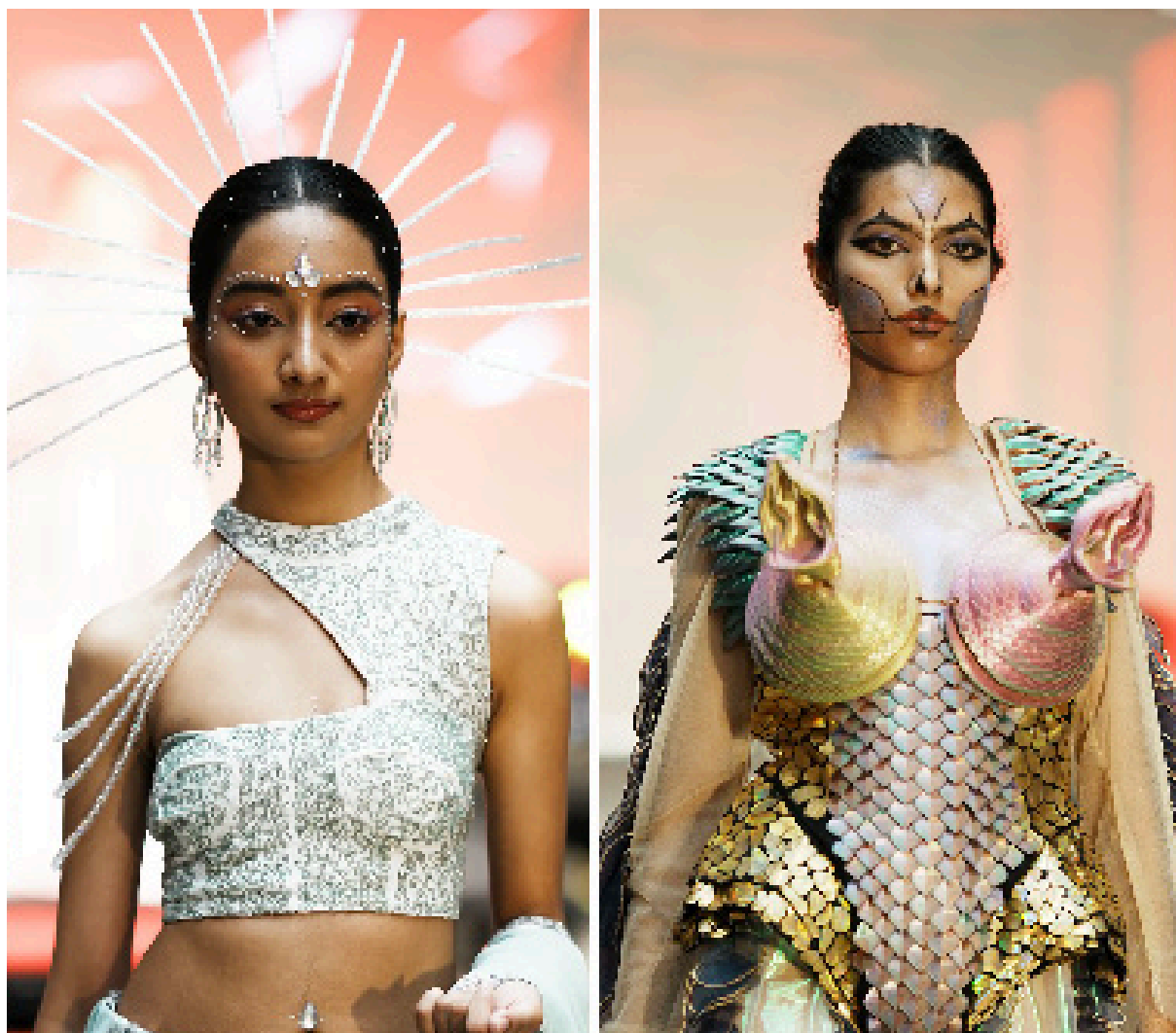
Design Vanguard Lit Up T-Works, Hyderabad

On April 27, in an electrifying celebration of creativity, innovation, and forward-thinking design, Woxsen School of Arts and Design (SOAD) hosted the latest edition of Design Vanguard 2025 at T-Works, India's largest prototyping centre. The event brought together student ingenuity, industry expertise, and the boundless possibilities of human-centred design under one vibrant roof.

Titled "Tomorrow by Design: Nurturing Future Creators," this year's edition was more than just an exhibition—it was a pulsating platform of ideas, showcasing how young designers from Woxsen are reimagining the future through design that is sustainable, immersive, inclusive, and functional.

The event was graced by a distinguished lineup of guests who have made their mark across sectors. Dr. K. Veera Brahmam, Director at DRDO's Advanced Lab, set the tone with insights into innovation for national development. Shri Srikanth P.V., Head of the Bureau of Indian Standards, emphasised the value of standardisation in design excellence. Shayak Sen, Head of Design at Myntra, shared his experiences shaping the future of fashion-tech, while legendary production designer Sabu Cyril brought in his cinematic perspective on storytelling through space and material. Woxsen Vice President, Raul Rodriguez & School of Arts and Design (SOAD) Dean graced the event as hosts.

At the core of the event was a dynamic showcase



of five future-focused sub-themes. From Wearable Innovation featuring 3D-printed garments, performance wear, and celebrity couture, to Immersive Realities with VR games and interactive digital storytelling—the creativity was boundless. Sustainable & Accessible Spaces highlighted eco-conscious homes, inclusive design, and multifunctional furniture, while Play, Learn & Create introduced gamified tools for education and life skills. The exhibit concluded with Mobility & Smart Systems, showcasing next-gen vehicle concepts, smart UX designs, and assistive tech shaping tomorrow's transportation.

One of the most awaited moments of the event was the unveiling of J.QORK—India's first campus-born sustainable lifestyle brand. Crafted by Woxsen's design scholars, J.QORK offers a fresh take on luxury—rooted in sustainability, mindful design, and exceptional craftsmanship. Adding colour and flair to the day was the much-celebrated Runaway Fashion Collection, where over 20 design collections stormed the ramp. Titles like La Belle Époque, Serpentine Synthesis, Revura, and Ethereal Nebula brought unique themes to life through fabric, form, and storytelling, turning the runway into a canvas of imagination.

Workshops in origami and painting ran alongside the main event, allowing visitors to engage hands-on and experience the creative process themselves. More than an



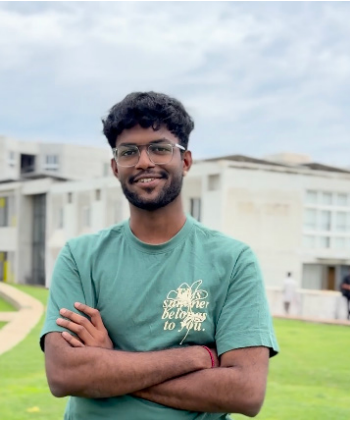
From a nervous hello to a confident bye: The internship transformation

Lessons of growth, grit, and getting hands dirty in professional work

By Kiyara Kamlesh

“Honestly, I faced a lot of ups and downs. I did a lot—from picking up garbage to meeting politicians.” This line from a student intern sums up what many are starting to realise: internships aren’t just a checkbox on a resume. They are often humbling and unpredictable, capable of redefining a student’s outlook on their future profession.

At Woxsen University, students across different disciplines step into internships with open arms, often expecting structure, formality, and maybe even a bit of glamour. Instead, they encounter reality in its truest form. One student recalled getting scolded on their very first day. But instead of backing away, they stayed, ob-



Students interviewed regarding internships. Photo source: Woxsen Times

served, and grew. Another key insight came from an intern in the finance sector, where multitasking was the norm. “We were working on multiple projects at once. I learned the importance of time management, because only then could I give my best output for everything.” This bal-

ancing act between pressure and performance is a skill that many don’t acquire until much later in their careers. One intern addressed a common myth: the portrayal of litigation as dull or intimidating. “You know how they show courts in movies? Litigation was always shown as

something that’s boring. But in reality, it’s the complete opposite.” Firsthand exposure shattered stereotypes and revealed the dynamic, intellectually stimulating side of the profession that textbooks often miss. But perhaps the most heartening takeaway was the shift in social perception. In-

terns often feel like outsiders in professional spaces—too young, too inexperienced, or too temporary. Yet this barrier can be broken down with one simple action: conversation. “Don’t be tense. Talk to the people around you. Ask questions. Everyone might seem super serious, but if you talk to them, they’ll help you,” shared one student. This advice rings especially true for first-year interns. Internships expose you to hard truths, unexpected kindness, and the behind-the-scenes workings of industries we thought we understood. To all students preparing for future internships: go in with an open mind, ask every question, and make every mistake count.

Defense or Discovery: What Should Nations Prioritize?

By Geetha Sahithi K

On 30th July 2025, a debate titled “Where Should Federal Priorities Lie?” was held at the Law Block Moot Court. The Debate Club hosted the event in collaboration with Spectrum, The Science Club. The event shed light on the ethical, economic, and strategic dimensions of

federal budget allocation. The central theme of the debate revolved around a pressing question: Should federal priorities lie in Defense Funding or in Medical and Scientific Research? The panel of judges included Dr. David J. Meyer (Dean, School of Business), Dr. Kon-

rad Gunesch (Dean, School of Liberal Arts and Humanities), Dr. Pep Lluís Esteva (Dean, School of Technology), and Dr. Beauty Pandey (Associate Dean, School of Sciences). Both Teams presented compelling arguments, drawing comparisons between India and the US to frame their perspectives. The debate touched on global tensions, with each side highlighting how federal priorities could shape a nation’s resilience and progress. The event went on for a duration of 2 hours, but no common ground was reached. The team advocating for Scientific and Medical Research Funding emphasised the operational costs of excessive defense spending and argued that prioritising military budgets often comes at the ex-

pense of public health and scientific innovation. Drawing on the global experience of Global pandemic Covid 19, to underscore the urgent need for robust scientific research, arguing that lives could be saved with better preparedness. The team also discussed the long-term benefits of investing in medical research, such as breakthroughs in treatment and disease prevention. On the other hand, the team supporting defense spending emphasised that national security is the foundation for all other societal functions. They argued that without safety and stability, institutions responsible for healthcare and research cannot exist. Stressing that survival precedes healthcare, the team argued

that a secure nation enables the freedom and functionality needed for scientific progress. They further asserted that defense infrastructure enables and protects the very freedoms and capabilities required for scientific advancement. Before the final verdict, a live poll showed most attendees favoured prioritising medical and scientific research. The panel praised the clarity and structure of the arguments but suggested future debates include deeper analysis. The discussion underscored a key dilemma in national budgeting—balancing long-term innovation and public health with the need for security as a foundation for progress. The debate revealed that federal priorities are deeply interconnected.



The court in session. Photo source: School of Law

Bombed Education and Broken Futures: 625,000 Gaza and 2.4 million Syrian war-hit students affected.

War is systematically obliterating schools in Gaza and Syria, and the world's response is failing an entire generation.

By Mokshitha

In Gaza and Syria, prolonged conflict has smashed classrooms and banned learning. Gaza's education system has been all but destroyed all schools in Gaza have been closed for 625,000 students and 87.7% of school buildings have been damaged or destroyed. The toll is horrific over 5,479 Gaza students and 261 teachers have been killed since October 2023. Relief agencies note that, since hostilities began, hundreds of Gaza schools have taken direct hits. Roughly 625,000 children have had no access to education. Syria's war is equally brutal. UNICEF reports over 7,000 schools damaged or destroyed, leaving some 2.4 million Syrian children out of school (nearly half the school-age population). A global education survey confirms attacks on schools spiked in 2022–23, listing both Palestine and Syria among the worst-hit countries. In practical terms, entire cohorts of children are growing up in school uniforms and backpacks, but with no schools to return to.

The institutional response has been woefully inadequate. United Nations agencies and donors repeatedly promise to “educate in emergencies,” yet funding and action lag far behind. For example, the UN's education fund, Education Cannot Wait, committed only about \$2 million for Gaza (out of \$36 million pledged for the Palestinian territories) – “a drop in an ocean of needs,” as relief officials admit. UNICEF itself warns of an 88% funding gap for education in Gaza. In Syria, eleven years of war and political division have fragmented schools un-



War affected students. Photo source: War Child Organisation

der rival curricula; a Middle East Institute analysis warns that “failure of donors to prioritise education” in Syria is fast creating a lost generation. Meanwhile, on the ground, Palestinian children in Gaza have seen UNRWA schools turned into shelters for displaced families, and Israel's blockade has curtailed even humanitarian schooling efforts. Across both crises, global education appeals are drastically underfunded: rhetoric and lofty plans run headlong into bureaucratic bickering and limited budgets.

The impact on children and societies is catastrophic. Psychologically, children in Gaza and Syria now live with constant fear and trauma. Save the Children reports that war has stripped Gaza's children of all “stable routine” and “opportunity to learn or play” – vital protections that mitigate lasting mental harms. Hundreds of thousands of Gazans already needed mental-health support before this war; without school or safety, child trauma is now endemic. Economically and socially, losing education deepens the cycle of poverty and violence. Studies consis-

tently link prolonged school absence to higher child labour, early marriage, and lost lifetime earnings. Before Syria's conflict, primary school attendance stood at 98%; a Syrian child born in the war's first year today may have missed many grades, a true “lost generation”. Disrupted learning also undermines national recovery. Analysts warn that without education, Syria's children will have “reduced life expectancy, [and] inhibited economic growth”. In Gaza, thousands of classrooms lie in rubble, promising only a bleak future unless schools are rebuilt.

Schools have also been militarised as battlegrounds. Forces on all sides have used schools as firing positions, weapons depots, or barracks – flagrantly violating international law. A global report finds that armed groups “increasingly occupied” schools for military use in 2022–23. In Gaza and Syria, there are mounting documented cases of airstrikes on schools and use of educational facilities by fighters. These attacks are “grave violations” of children's rights. Save the Chil-

dren and others demand that all parties endorse the Safe Schools Declaration and respect education's protection. So far, those norms have often been ignored, and children remain trapped in classrooms that are de facto warzones.

The scale of this crisis calls for bold action. Donors and governments must turn short-term aid into long-term investment—rebuilding schools, training teachers, and providing alternative learning where needed. Emergency programs should also offer psychosocial support and safe learning spaces. Agencies like Education Cannot Wait need major funding boosts to ensure no child is left behind. Meanwhile, the global community must protect education by enforcing the Safe Schools Declaration and holding violators accountable through UN and ICC action against attacks on schools.

Only with these steps – strategic educational investment and international accountability can we begin to salvage Gaza's and Syria's shattered schooling. Otherwise, this generation will truly be robbed of its future.

Internship Openings

1) Marketing Intern - AntiChurn

Apply by: 5 Aug

Platform: LinkedIn

2) Digital Marketing Internship – Edge & Essence

Apply by: 22 Aug

Platform: Internshala

3) ReactJS Developer – Eleven Software Solution Pvt. Ltd.

Apply by: 17 Aug

Platform: Internshala

4) Platform: Internshala

Software Development – NEO INNOVATIONS

Apply by: 26 Aug

Platform: Internshala

5) HR Intern – TheTri-Tech

Apply by: 29 Aug

Tasks: Recruitments, onboarding, training, employee engagement, HR compliance

Platform: Internshala

6) Business Development (Sales) – Teach Maven

Apply by: 31 Aug

Platform: Internshala

7) Auditing & Accounting – Madhu Mantri and Associates

Apply by: 28 Aug

2025

Platform: Internshala

Time to Ghost American Trade?

By Jovita Thomas Lanka

It's 1:20 AM, my coffee's cold, and I'm reading about U.S. President Donald Trump's latest tantrum—a 25% tax wall on India's exports to the U.S. How did the world get hooked on Uncle Sam's market? Can we simply stop selling them and trade somewhere else? What would that do to India and America? And who'd suffer more? Grab a snack, and let's talk like it's a late-night hostel session.

Why's Everyone Obsessed with the U.S.?

Imagine the U.S. as the largest shopper in a worldwide bazaar, purchasing \$3.8 trillion worth of merchandise annually—iPhones from China, drugs from India, vehicles from Japan. For India, the US is our number one buyer, purchasing \$90 billion worth of such things as \$14 billion in phone components, \$13 billion in drugs, \$12 billion in gems, and \$7 billion in machinery. That is, 18% of our exports, 5-7 million jobs—individuals producing phones in Bengaluru or chopping gems in Surat. The dollar is the world's Wi-Fi—80% of transactions are done in it. We stockpile dollars to sta-

bilise our rupee. Also, the U.S. invests \$10 billion annually in India and has a huge army, so nations do not want to get into trouble like having sanctions that freeze bank accounts. It's like the U.S. is the cool kid whom everyone would love to impress, but Trump's tariffs are frustrating. So, why not dump them?

Could We Ghost the U.S.?

Suppose all countries—India, China, even U.S. friends like Canada—cut off trade with the U.S., ghosting your biggest client. Sounds like a mic drop, but is it feasible? Nope. One, everyone's too interlinked. The U.S. purchases that such that India and China would suffer if we walked away. It's as if boycotting your best customer—you must find new ones in a hurry, but who can absorb \$3.8 trillion? Possibly China or Europe, but they'd only take 70% of it, and it's a bother—shipping charges (₹800/kg to Africa) and rigid regulations (Europe's green standards) erode profits. Second, getting every nation to comply is like asking your class to skip a test. American allies such as Japan won't cooperate—they require the

U.S. market. Even BRICS nations (India, China, Russia) don't easily coordinate; China requires U.S. consumers. The U.S. can retaliate—block your bank or impose sanctions, billions lost. It's akin to wrestling with someone who has the Wi-Fi code. There's a 1-2% possibility this occurs in 2025, perhaps



India, US & taxes. Photo source: Shutterstock

5% in 2028 if tariffs are 50%. What happens to the U.S.? If the world stops buying from the U.S., its \$25.5 trillion economy contracts by 20%. No Chinese phones or Indian medicines means prices go up 30-50%—prices increase by ₹10,000 for a phone! Agricultural and technology companies lose \$350 billion in sales. The dollar falls 20%, and their stock market collapses, erasing \$20 trillion. Shelves lie empty and cause

chaos, and poverty reaches 25%. But the U.S. strikes back, producing more at home (such as chips with a \$52 billion strategy) and catches up in 5-10 years, albeit weaker.

What Happens to India?

Halting our \$90 billion U.S. exports damages us badly. We lose \$70-80 billion, reducing

such as China and low-wage Vietnam make it difficult.

Who Hurts More? India.

Our \$70 billion loss is 2% of our economy; the U.S.'s \$150 billion blow is 0.6% of theirs. We lose millions of jobs; they receive more expensive phones, but may get new sellers (China, Mexico) within a year. The U.S. dominates dollars and can sanction us. We require their technology more than they require our products.

Can India Move On?

We can't entirely ditch the U.S., but we can require them less: • Explore New Markets. Export \$40 billion to China (mobile phones), UAE (diamonds), and Africa (medicines) by 2027 through trade agreements. • We can sell at Home. Drive \$10 billion of phones and drugs domestically through Amazon India. • Exchange medicines for Russian oil, bypassing dollars. By 2028, we might reduce U.S. dependence to 10%, expanding our \$4 trillion economy. 3 AM, coffee exhausted, I see it: we can't break up with America forever, but we can trade smarter and remind

What Is Normal, Really?

By Palagummi Ananya DeeptiW

We throw around the word "normal" as if it holds weight, like it's an anchor of truth or a compass pointing in the right direction. But more often than not, it's neither. It's just... convenient. It's a placeholder for what's frequent or what's easy to explain. But dig a little deeper, and you realise that normal is often just another illusion we agree not to question.

One of the biggest missteps we make is equating common with normal. Just because something happens frequently doesn't mean it's something we should accept. Common is about occurrence; normal, in its ideal form, is about acceptability. They're not the same. Burnout in corporate culture is common, but is it normal to be exhausted all the time? The world's full of things that happen often, but that doesn't automatically earn them a pass. Some of the best things in life, like deep focus and au-

thentic friendship, are uncommon, but arguably more normal if we define normal by what's ideal, or worth striving for.

In statistics, "normal" is about the bell curve; the centre of the distribution, the average behaviour. It has no opinion, no judgment. If 80% of people retire at 60, that's considered a normal retirement age. If 70% live paycheck to paycheck, that too becomes a statistical norm. But statistics describe, not prescribe. What's normal in data is not always what's desirable in life. Take investing as an example. An average retail investor tends to react emotionally to market falls. But a rational investor stays calm, rides the storm, maybe even buys more. This isn't common. They're statistically abnormal, but financially wiser.

When we shift from numbers to values, normal starts to mean something else. It becomes

a question of what ought to be. Shouldn't kindness be normal? Shouldn't we value people more than profits? But if someone in a boardroom suggests prioritising people over short-term earnings, they're sometimes seen as naive, or worse, unfit for leadership. That's when you realise normal isn't always aligned with what's good. It's often aligned with what's comfortable for the system in place. We live in a world where conformity is rewarded and questioning is inconvenient.

Culture and society further complicate the picture. What's considered normal varies wildly depending on geography, generation, and context. In some cultures, living with your parents into your 30s is a sign of strong family values. In others, it's seen as a failure to grow up. Individualism vs Collectivism. Today, therapy is embraced as a wellness tool. A generation

ago, it was taboo. Social norms shift constantly. And yet, people are quick to label anything outside the current box as "weird," "wrong," or "not normal." We normalise what's easiest to accept, not necessarily what's best.

What we accept as normal is sometimes deeply flawed. Shallow conversations, toxic relationships, financial anxiety, constant distraction—these have become part of everyday life for so many people. We don't even stop to ask whether this should be the case. Entire systems rot from within while still being called "standard."

And that's why I am a fan of Realism. I've learned to stop asking if something is normal. I ask: Is it useful? Is it sustainable? Does it make sense in the long run? Normal should be a moving target, something we evolve, not something we enforce. If you've ever felt like you

didn't fit into the usual mould, whether that's in how you think, what you value, or how you live, maybe you're not abnormal (maybe). Maybe you're just not average. And that's not a flaw. That might be clarity.

There is a need to redefine what "Normal" really is, or not really... Why do we need to define it anyway? The good news is we get to shape the norms we live by. We don't have to accept what's common just because it's common. We can choose what we want to normalise: better conversations, meaningful work, emotional intelligence, slow mornings, healthy boundaries, curiosity, and courage. It should be to conscious choice. So next time someone says "that's not normal," smile a little. Maybe you're just not operating on outdated defaults. And maybe, just maybe, that's the new normal in the making.

The Economics of Proxy War

By Thanmayee Thotakura

In today’s world, not all wars are fought by those who start them. Powerful puppet masters pull the strings from afar, while others are left to fight, suffer, and survive. For the people living in the conflict, it would mean years of instability, falling economies, and shattered livelihoods all for a war that isn’t truly theirs. Proxy wars are often showcased in the name of geopolitics, ideology, or national security, but beneath it all, they are deep economic systems. While governments justify their involvement as strategic or moral, the prolonged nature of these conflicts hides a darker truth: war can be profitable not for those fighting it, but for those financing it. This article explores the economics that fuel and sustain these wars

Hidden Hands, Hidden Profits

Proxy wars aren’t just about fighting on the battlefield; they are done across borders, and to know how and who profits, we have to follow its money and motivation. Major governments provide weapons, money, and military training to allied groups, allowing them to pursue their strategic goals without taking any political risk of sending their troops. Religious organisations sometimes send donations labelled as humanitarian aid to fund the war, while diaspora communities send money to groups tied to their identity, believing they are defending faith and justice, while it only fuels the fire. At the same time, corporations, especially in the energy and mining sectors, fund conflict zones in exchange for exclusive contracts and access to resources. Defence firms often offer discounts or incentives, knowing that the war will eventually pay them back through profits. Criminal networks also seize the opportunity in war zones for arms trafficking, drug smuggling, and even human trafficking. These syndicates strike deals with local warlords, providing weapons and funding in



Photo source: AI

return for control and protection for their illegal operations. With money as investments, war becomes business.

War’s Unseen Smuggled Routes

The true financing of these conflicts flows not through banks, but through shadows, a ghost economy of smuggled goods and hidden currencies. Financing of proxy wars is largely done through informal systems, with money moving without a trace. One very old traditional method is hawala (or Fei Ch’ien in East Asia), a trust-based system which leaves no digital footprint. Another method is smuggling goods like gold, arms, drugs and antiques to sell on the black market for financing the war, as seen when ISIS looted priceless art and antiques in 2014 for their illicit operations. Beyond that, underground banks and informal currency exchanges (like cash couriers) convert dirty money into clean funds outside the formal oversight. Shell companies, NGOs, and trade manipulation appear to be legal on paper but launder money through fake deals, charity money redirected for sponsoring arms and salaries and money laundering disguised as business expenses.

Cryptocurrency has changed the game now. Groups like Hamas and ISIS

have openly raised crypto donations through social media, using coins like Bitcoin, Monero and stablecoins to hide their tracks and hold value in unstable regions.

When governments get deep into proxy wars, they either print more currency or borrow heavily to continue the cycle, but this comes at a cost; the wages of the common man fall behind the inflated prices and devalued currency. The GDP rises because

of government expenditure on emergency constructions, weapons production and other war necessities, where on paper every penny spent on war convoys and tanks is counted as economic output, but in reality, is redirected for destruction. This thus creates an illusion of development while society grows poorer and more indebted.

Syria’s civil war turned into a proxy battleground, with countries like the U.S.,

Russia, Iran, and Turkey backing different sides. As the fighting dragged on, local militias made money by smuggling oil and grain, while corporations profited from reconstruction deals. Foreign aid and military spending kept the economy alive on paper, but every day, Syrians faced inflation, shortages, and destruction. In the end, the war became less about Syria and more about those who stood to gain from its ruins.

In every case, those making money from war have little reason to make peace. As long as war pays in influence, in contracts, or in control, peace remains a threat to profit. Each has an interest in continuing the conflict, which explains why proxy wars often drag on despite immense human and economic costs. Ending proxy wars means more than stopping weapons. Therefore, any genuine attempt to de-escalate or resolve proxy wars must first confront and dismantle the complex web of financial beneficiaries that thrive on their continuation. Peace, for many, remains a direct threat to profit.

Year	Approximate. SYP per USD	Estimated Annual Inflation (CPI)	GDP (in billions)	Estimated Poverty rate
2010	46.17	4.4% (Pre-War Average)	60B	12%
2014	150-180	50 - 70% (Estimated)	30B	60%
2022	3,400-4,500	64% (Estimated)	15B	80%
2024	13,000-14,000+	141%	9B	90%

Source: The figures presented in the table are compiled from reports by the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) DataMapper, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), World Food Programme (WFP), Al Jazeera, LIMS (Local Initiative for Market Studies), and analyses from economic research institutions such as Chatham House and the Syrian Center for Policy Research (SCPR). Exact figures may vary slightly across sources and reporting periods due to ongoing volatility and differing methodologies.

Woxsen Summer School 2025: AI Code Challenge Ignites Young Minds

By AI Research Centre (AIRC), Woxsen University

The AI Research Centre at Woxsen University made a powerful impact at this year’s Woxsen Summer School 2025 with its dynamic AI Code Challenge Session, designed to inspire and empower the next generation of tech leaders. Held as a real-time, high-energy event, the session immersed student developers in

a hands-on coding experience that mirrored real-world tech industry challenges. Guided by university mentors, participants tackled complex problems under tight deadlines, encouraging not just technical proficiency but also critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration. The session emphasised



experiential learning, with a strong focus on foundational programming skills, adaptability, and the development of a growth mindset. By weaving together elements of artificial intelligence, data science, and problem-solving, the challenge provided students with a valuable glimpse into the demands and excitement

of modern technology careers. Standing out as a highlight of the Summer School program, the Code Challenge demonstrated Woxsen University’s commitment to equipping young innovators with meaningful, future-ready skills through engaging and impactful educational experiences.

When Parents Became Books: Human Library at MBA Onboarding

By Wellness centre

As part of the three-day MBA onboarding program, the Wellness Centre at Woxsen University curated a powerful and emotional experience — the Human Library, where parents became the “Human Books.” In this heartfelt session, parents shared deeply personal stories — of resilience, identity, and life lessons — with an audience of newly admitted MBA students as well as fellow parents. Their experiences offered a rare chance to engage in open,

meaningful conversations that encouraged empathy, reflection, and human connection across generations. The initiative aimed to help students and families begin their journey with a deeper understanding of leadership, vulnerability, and lived realities — beyond academic orientation. The Human Library emerged as one of the most impactful highlights of the onboarding program, and the Wellness Centre expresses sincere gratitude to all the partici-

pating parents, listeners, and volunteers who made this experience so memorable. The event saw overwhelming participation and genuine emotional engagement, with many describing it as “eye-opening” and “profoundly moving.” It fostered a strong sense of community and shared humanity, reminding everyone that leadership starts with listening. By the end of the session, stories had not only been heard — they had been truly felt.

Woxsen’s AI Research Centre Takes the Court: Merging Sports with Smart Tech

By AI Research Centre (AIRC), Woxsen University

In a bold stride from theory to action, the AI Research Centre at Woxsen University, under the leadership of Dr. Rajesh Kumar K V, is revolutionising how athletic performance is analysed—by bringing artificial intelligence directly to the basketball court. Titled “AI x Sports Performance – From Lab to Field,” this cutting-edge project leverages computer vision and data science to monitor player movements, analyse

poses, and generate real-time performance metrics during live basketball games. These insights empower coaches and trainers to make data-backed decisions, customise training regimens, and improve in-game strategy on the fly. What sets this initiative apart is its practical application of advanced AI in live sports environments, offering a scalable solution for both elite teams and community-level programs. Beyond enhancing gameplay, the sys-

tem also contributes to injury prevention and player development—areas increasingly reliant on data and technology. This groundbreaking work underscores Woxsen University’s commitment to innovation, placing its AI Research Centre at the forefront of sports-tech research. As the boundaries between sports and science continue to blur, Woxsen is leading the way in showing how AI can redefine athletic performance in the modern era.

Dead Spider, Living Innovation: Woxsen’s Breakthrough in Necrobotic

By AI Research Centre (AIRC), Woxsen University

Woxsen University AI Research Centre is delighted to announce the release of the book “Necrobotics for Healthcare Applications and Management,” released by Academic Press in February 2025. The book is a pioneering effort at delving into how dead organisms, such as spiders, can be utilised as useful devices in medical robotics, providing sustainable and innovative solutions in surgical and biomedical fields. Co-authored by global experts—Dr. Raul Villama-

rin Rodriguez, Dr. Hemachandran K, and Dr. Rajesh Kumar K V—the book addresses both the technical and ethical dimensions of necrobotics. It presents real-world applications and examines the implications of using organic materials in robotic systems. Already featured in ABC Tecnología, Spain, the publication highlights Woxsen University’s commitment to pushing the boundaries of research at the intersection of biology, robotics, and healthcare innovation.



School of Sciences

Workshop on Hydrogen: Challenges and Opportunities – A Resounding Success! Woxsen University

On July 21st, the School of Sciences at Woxsen University hosted an engaging and forward-thinking workshop titled “Hydrogen: Challenges and Opportunities”, bringing together leading minds in science and research to delve into the transformative role of hydrogen in shaping a sustainable energy future.

The event began with an inspiring address by Dr. Daya Shankar, Dean of the School of Sciences, who set the tone for the day with his

vision for science-led solutions to global environmental challenges. His opening remarks encouraged participants to think beyond conventional energy systems and embrace innovation in the pursuit of sustainability.

The workshop featured a series of enlightening sessions by distinguished experts in the field. Dr. Subrata Das, Principal Scientist at CSIR-NIIST, Trivandrum, provided a comprehensive overview of hydrogen’s classification



by colour and explored cutting-edge methods for green hydrogen production. Buildamined hydrogen’s role as an energy carrier, placing special focus on Liquid Organic Hydrogen Carriers (LOHCs) and their potential to address storage and transport challenges in the hydrogen economy.

The final session was led by Dr. Venkat, who took the audience into the skies with a discussion on the use of hydrogen in aviation. His talk underscored hydrogen’s po-

tential to revolutionise the aerospace industry and reduce its carbon footprint, paving the way for greener air travel. The workshop not only deepened the understanding of hydrogen’s possibilities but also created a vibrant space for dialogue, collaboration, and innovation. It stands as a testament to Woxsen University’s ongoing commitment to research-driven solutions and its dedication to playing an active role in the global sustainability movement.

Internship Highlights in the School of Sciences

We’re proud to spotlight Yagnashri and Keerthana, B.Sc. (Hons.) 3rd year students from Woxsen University, who have completed their internship at Manna Biotech! During their internship, they immersed themselves in cutting-edge biomedical research, gaining practical exposure to Biomedical Techniques, Cell Culture, Next-Generation

Sequencing (NGS). Armed with valuable skills and unforgettable experiences, Yagnashri and Keerthana return to campus ready to apply their learning and inspire their peers. Ms. T Gowri Priya completed her internship with 24-7 Intouch India Pvt. Ltd. from 1st May to 1st July 2025 in the IT Department. Her sincere efforts were greatly appreciated by the team.



Dr. T. Santhosh Kumar Breakthrough Research Advances Clean Energy Solutions

Woxsen University proudly celebrates the remarkable achievement of **Dr. T. Santhosh Kumar**, Assistant Professor at the School of Sciences, whose latest research article has been published in the prestigious SCOPUS- and SCIE-indexed journal *Colloids and Surfaces A: Physicochemical and Engineering Aspects* (Elsevier), which holds an impressive Impact Factor of 4.9. Titled “Enhancing electrochemical performance of $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4/\text{ZnO}$ composite nanostructures through interface engineering for oxygen evolution reaction”, the study marks a significant advancement in the field of energy science. Dr. Santhosh Kumar’s



work delves into the strategic use of interface engineering to improve the electrochemical performance of composite nanostructures—an area with powerful implications for sustainable energy technologies. This cutting-edge research not only enriches the scientific community’s understanding

of electrochemical systems but also aligns with the global push toward greener alternatives. In particular, the study supports **UN Sustainable Development Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy**, echoing Woxsen University’s larger commitment to research that fosters sustainability and real-world impact.

Inauguration of State-of-the-Art Research Laboratory at School of Sciences

In a significant step toward enhancing scientific inquiry and innovation, the School of Sciences at Woxsen University has inaugurated a newly established research laboratory dedicated to fostering hands-on learning and advanced research.

This cutting-edge facility is designed to empower

students with the tools and environment necessary to immerse themselves in real-time experimentation and multidisciplinary exploration. From initiating independent research to participating in collaborative scientific projects, students will now have greater access to a space where ideas can be tested, refined, and brought to life.

Equipped with modern instrumentation and built to meet the demands of contemporary scientific education,

the lab is a testament to Woxsen’s commitment to creating an academic ecosystem that blends theoretical knowledge with practical application. It supports the university’s vision of producing graduates who are not only academically strong but also industry-ready.

By expanding its infrastructure for experiential learning, Woxsen University continues to lead the way in shaping future scientists, innovators, and thought leaders in the field of science and technology.



School of Architecture and Planning

Hyderabad, India – As a prelude to the much-anticipated ADoBE’25, the Architecture Scholars hosted a compelling event on “The Historic Water Systems of Hyderabad,” exploring how the city’s centuries-old water heritage can inform sustainable urban design for the future.

The event opened with the inauguration of an exhibition showcasing the works of renowned conservation architect GSV Suryanarayana Murthy. The inaugural session was graced by the Chief Guest and senior leadership from Woxsen University, including the Vice Chancellor, Vice President, Registrar, and CEO, who collectively emphasised the importance of heritage-sensitive urban planning in today’s rapidly changing cities.

The day featured insightful presentations by esteemed speakers. Dr. Matthias Ripp, World Heritage Coordinator from the City of Regensburg,



Up next: ADoBE’25 – Reimagining the Lakefront, this September. Stay tuned!

Germany, shared global best practices on heritage-led urban regeneration. Ms. Pooja Agrawal of DRONAH Foundation, Gurugram, and Ms. Madhulika Choudhary, Founder of Dhruvansh NGO, discussed community-driven approaches to water conserva-

tion. Mr. GSV Suryanarayana Murthy elaborated on Hyderabad’s historical water systems, while Mr. Maheep Singh Thapar, Managing Director of ADAPT Technologies, and Mr. Sajjad Shahid, historian and architecture conservator, shed light on the

intersection of history, technology, and sustainability.

A key highlight of the event was the dynamic panel discussion titled “Water, Heritage, and Urban Futures,” where experts delved into the critical conversations surrounding the conservation of

water systems, their cultural legacy, and the potential of such systems in future urban development. The panellists explored how modern cities, especially those facing challenges related to water scarcity and environmental sustainability, could draw inspiration from historical practices to develop smarter and more resilient infrastructure.

The event also highlighted the role of young architects and faculty members who contributed significantly to sparking this much-needed dialogue about sustainability, smart cities, and responsible urban planning. Their active participation reflected the growing interest among the younger generation in preserving the city’s water heritage while adapting it for future needs. Immense credit goes to the young architects and faculty for sparking this much-needed dialogue on sustainability and responsible urban planning.

School of Law

Polaris Aligned Curriculum

The School of Law implements the Polaris-aligned, activity-based curriculum that emphasizes practical learning and the development of core legal skills. By incorporating industry experts and subject-matter specialists into each course, students gain exposure to real-world legal challenges through hands-on activities such as workshops, simulations, and interactive discussions. This approach bridges the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, preparing students for the evolving legal landscape. Recent Polaris activities included a Case Analysis and Problem-Based Facts Presentation under the Special Contract course, followed by a Plaintiff

v. Defendant Role Play Simulation held on 1st July 2025. Additionally, a Group Discussion on Contemporary Issues in Property Law

was conducted on 8th July 2025. These activities enhanced analytical thinking, legal reasoning, and advocacy skills among students.



Faculty & Student Achievements:

The Intersection of Intermediary Liability and Copyright Litigation in India: An Evolving Discourse” has been accepted for publication, indexed in Taylor & Francis-Routledge conference proceedings, published by Prof. Nehal Ahmad Nadwi, School of Law, Woxsen University.

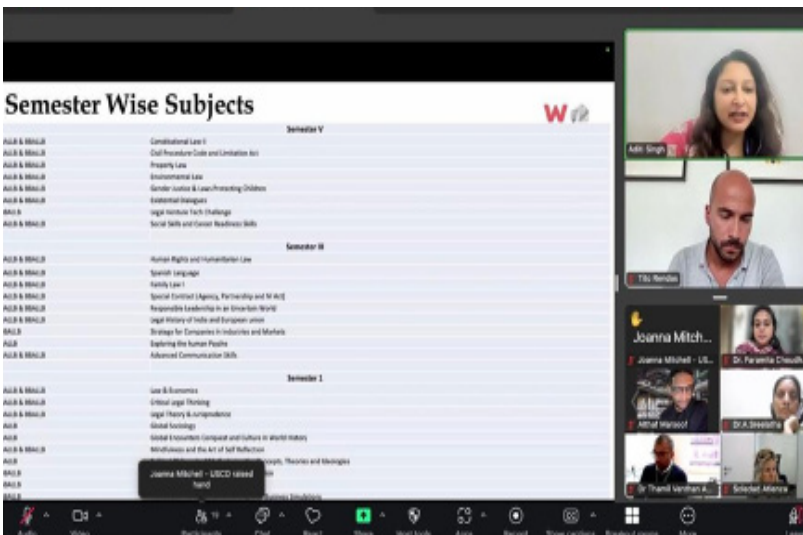
The Book Chapter titled “Modernising the Judicial Infrastructure in the State of Bihar” is accepted for publication for the forthcoming book “Rethinking Legal Frameworks: Contemporary Challenges and Future Directions.” (Peer reviewed) by Prof. Nehal Ahmad Nadwi, School of Law, Woxsen University.

Junior Scholar, Mohammed Mustafa, attended a NYAYAVANI FOUNDATION Webinar 1.0 on Judiciary and Litigation as a Career by Adv. N.B. Tiwari, Supreme Court of India.

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International Board of Studies (BoS) Meeting:

The International Board of Studies (BoS) meeting was a significant academic event aimed at reviewing and formally approving the proposed curriculum for the academic

year 2025–2026. The meeting brought together renowned legal scholars, industry professionals, and international academic collaborators to ensure the curriculum aligns with globally benchmarked standards in legal education. The focus was on integrating comparative le-

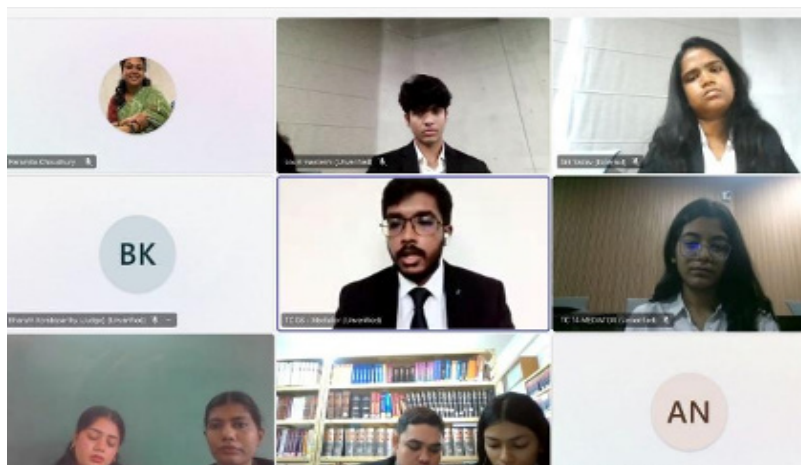
gal perspectives, promoting interdisciplinary approaches, and embedding practice-oriented learning. Emphasis was placed on updating the curriculum to reflect current global trends and equipping students with the skills necessary for transnational legal practice. The BoS ensured that the revised

academic structure fosters innovation, critical thinking, and real-world application, thereby preparing students for the evolving demands of the legal profession. This collaborative effort marks a step forward in enhancing the academic excellence and global relevance of the legal programs offered.



Lex Pax Mediation Competition 1.0

The School of Law successfully organised the first edition of the Lex Pax Mediation Competition on the 11th and 12th of July 2025 at the national level. The event witnessed participation from 13 prestigious teams representing various universities across India. The competition was structured into multiple rounds, including preliminaries,



quarter-finals, semi-finals, and the grand finale. Esteemed judges from different parts of the country,

comprising experienced legal professionals and mediation experts, were invited to adjudicate each round,

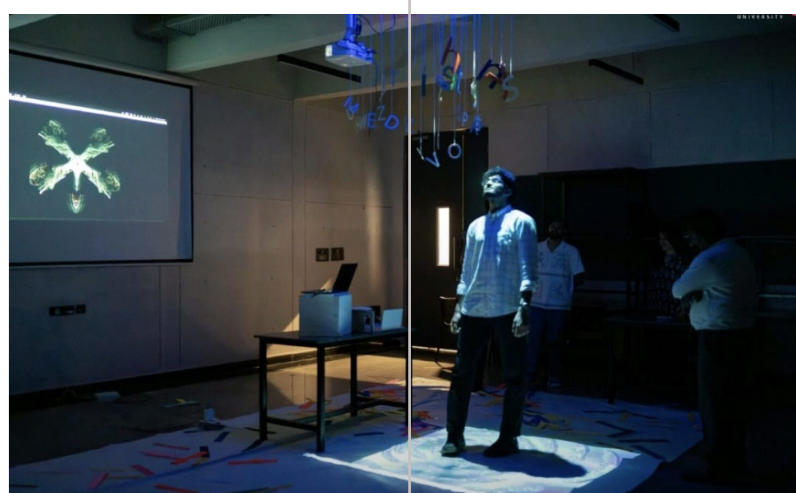
ensuring fairness and high standards of evaluation. The competition aimed to promote the importance of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) methods, particularly mediation, by providing a practical platform for law students to enhance their negotiation and conflict resolution skills. The event marked a significant step towards fostering a culture of peaceful dispute resolution in the legal education landscape.

School of Arts and Design

GENDER & GESTURE Symposium 2025

“Thinking Beyond Visual” Photography School of Arts & Design, Woxsen University, believes that higher education must be a space for both learning and unlearning. On 25th July, they gathered as a community--students, faculty, and thought leaders--to engage in a layered, honest conversation around gender, representation, and the power of photography to communicate beyond what is seen. The Gender & Gesture International Photography Symposium was not about conclusions, but about creating space for discomfort and critical reflection. It

invited audience to explore identity, gesture, and cultural norms in all their complexity, and to rethink how we frame narratives through the lens.



A Celebration of Creativity, Collaboration & Curated Spaces

5th year students of Communication Design for curating an exceptional exhibition as part of their Exhibition Design course at the School of Arts & Design, Woxsen University. It was just an exhibition—it was an experience. A seamless in-

terplay of space, art, music, and narrative that spoke volumes of your design thinking, collaborative spirit, and ability to translate abstract concepts into powerful spatial storytelling.

This exhibition stood as a testament to what happens when creativity meets intent. Every corner reflected thoughtful design, every detail told a story.

Upcoming events in Hyderabad

(By Sai Nishanth)

1) No DSLR, No Expensive Lights

Master mobile photography with just natural light and minimal gear.

Place: Sri Laxmi Sai Towers

Date: 2 Aug - 31 Aug

2) Pichwai Painting Workshop

Explore the intricate world of traditional Indian art.

Place: Mokobrew Bar

Date: Aug - 24 Aug

3) The August Fest - Startup Conference

Celebrate innovation, network with founders, and witness disruptive ideas.

Place: HITEX Exhibition Centre

Date: 9 Aug - 10 Aug

4) Business Networking Meetup

Meet fellow professionals and pitch your ideas or ventures.

Place: The Headquarters Space Orbit

Date: August 9

5) Young Entrepreneurs Summit (YES) 2025

A stage for tomorrow's changemakers—ignite your journey!

Place: Parade Ground, Secunderabad

Date: 23 Aug - 24 Aug

6) Akshayakalpa Organic Farm Visit

Get a taste of sustainable living with this hands-on organic farm experience.

Place: Akshayakalpa Farm

Date: 3 Aug - 28 Sept

7) Study in Europe – Global Opportunities Fair

Plan your future with expert guidance on overseas education.

Place: Global Tree Immigration Consultant

Date: 2 Aug - 20 Aug



A big hello to our newest readers from the incoming batch and a warm welcome back to our returning students.

This year marks a special shift for Woxsenites! We're on a mission to become the only fully student-led media publication at Woxsen University. That means every idea, every article, every layout decision will reflect student curiosity, creativity and writing.

We're also expanding our presence both offline and online, aiming to bring more visibility & interaction to everything we publish. Whether you prefer flipping through pages or scrolling through posts, we'll be right there with content that connects and informs.

We're excited to bring in more mentorship, guest contributors, and media-focused learning experiences that align with every school and course on campus. Here's to a year of stories that lead, and a publication that grows with you!

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