Greetings esteemed dignitaries, honoured guests, respected Principal sir, teachers, valued members of staff and my dear friends. It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you all to the Inaugural Ceremony of Tatva Moksh Lakshya 2018, our annual festival.

This festival represents the culmination of a year's hard work, toil and tireless effort on the part of the students of SIESGST, aided by the invaluable support of our teachers and members of staff. The various events and activities span the cultural, technical, literary, entrepreneurial and athletic fields, and are crafted to ensure a truly memorable experience for you. The theme of the festival is Utopia: a perfect world. We love to bemoan the state of our society, decrying the injustices and imperfections that we ourselves may be party to. But we seldom lift a finger when it comes to improving and enhancing our surroundings and taking them one step closer to the utopia we so desire. The word 'Utopia' traces its origins in Greek and roughly translates to "no-place" or a place that doesn't exist. However, the team behind TML'18 have set out to defy this sentiment, by vowing to create a truly Utopian college festival.

This student council was formed with the ambition of scaling up the role that our college played in benefiting the lives of our students, and the world at large. On assuming the role of President, I aspired to unite the various teams within the extend student council, and working towards this greater effort. I am happy to conclude that this goal is well on the way to being met. As I stand before this august gathering, I would like to take this opportunity to recount the immeasurable achievements, accolades and milestones achieved by the teams and chapters within this Council and the greater GST student community.

The ball was set rolling in April by the formation of the Student Council, followed by the NSS council, and the various Student Chapter councils of CSI, IETE, IEEE, SAE, EDC, ISHRAE and IPI. Interviews were conducted across campus to enable the same. The various teams spent the summer formulating their activities, event calendar and agendas for the year ahead. In an effort to unite and enhance the Social Media presence of our college, the functioning of the dedicated Social Media Team, was strategized.

As the new semester began, the NSS Unit seeked to reinforce important government initiatives with a celebration of International Yoga Day in June, a Tree Plantation drive that saw the planting of 52 saplings in July, and a Cleanliness Drive in the spirit of the Swachh Bharat Initiative. The newest additions to the GST Family were welcomed with the FE Orientation programme. Weekly meetups under the GST Developers' Program have been

conducted to help the advanced skill development in the fields of Web, App and Robotics by esteemed alumni and members of the Technical Team. The student clubs of our college, Aarambh, Moksh, Aagmi, and the Literary Club, did us proud at the Zonal Level competitions of the Mumbai University Youth Festival, with participants securing the first position in the English Debate, On-Spot Painting, Non-Percussion Instrument and the Hindi One Act Play events. The award for Best Actor was secured in the same at the District level. We made our mark in competitions across the city, securing the award of Best Actress in the IPTA Hindi One Act Play competition, and the first position in Dance competitions held in colleges throughout Mumbai. The social media campaign, LitBuzz, was launched, with the aim of providing a medium to display the literary and artistic creativity of our students out to the world. A workshop on the Internet of Things was conducted by alumni of our college in association with the Technical Team. The CSI chapter organised workshops on the Bootstraps framework, Image processing using Python.

September-December

September welcomed Engineer's Day which was commemorated by Cognition, our annual technical festival. The Technical Team developed the website and Android app for the festival, both of which were well received by the attendees of the fest. The CSI Chapter conducted a Web Development competition, and three new technical events were introduced by the Tech team during the fest. The NSS volunteers held street plays on a wide range of social issues, and the annual Blood Donation drive was conducted, witnessing participation from across the campus. The Cultural Team of the college elevated the annual Traditional Day to a celebration of cultures and state dresses from India's rich tapestry, under the banner of Riwayat. The celebration of Indian culture continued into Garba Night later in the year. The Women's Development Cell organised seminars on Menstrual disorders and hygiene, and Women's Rights. The Placement activities at our college witnessed 20 industry leading companies such as TCS, Reliance Industries, Tetra-pack, Decathlon Sports and Sanmar Group visit our campus and recruit many of our achieving students. The Entrepreneurship Development Cell invited many business leaders, CEOs and illustrious speakers such as Prasad Menon, Gaurang Shetty, Suhani Mohan, Abhishek Kulkarni and Nayan Bheda for the Orientation, Panel discussions, and speaker sessions.

January

The new year began with the NSS Camp which was held in the Veluk village, Murbad District. We were greeted back to college by the first issue of the revamped Gazette, which has been developed into a fortnightly newspaper. In the spirit of learning from those who stood before us, the Reconnect alumni interaction and meet-up was conducted. A session for council members with alumni members of the council helped us glean valuable insights into the functioning of the college. The BAJA ATV Asura 3.0 made us proud with a record breaking performance at the BAJA SAE INDIA 2018 student design contest, completing 7 laps in the Endurance test. The second ever TEDxSIESGST conference was held, inviting

inspirational speakers to share their interesting and diverging perspectives. The aim of SIESGSTarena: the CodeChef campus chapter, to cultivate the culture of competitive coding was accelerated with the organisation of monthly coding contests, and the Turing Cup, competitive programming competition. The sportsmen and women of our college made us proud by securing the Runners Up position in the Season Ball tournament organised by our college, and by SPIT. We also won laurels in various athletics events, and the Mumbai University Taekwondo competition.

February

With the increasing number of events conducted at our college, witnessing greater participation, a First Aid workshop was conducted for members of the Council and Second Year students in partnership with the Apollo Hospital. The council established our PayTM payment system to ease the participation of students from across the city of Mumbai and beyond, in college events. The third week of February celebrated the worlds of technology and world politics with the second edition of Bytecamp: our 24 hour hackathon, and the fourth iteration of the SIESGST Model United Nations. The following week was celebrated as Gravitas Week, featuring workshops and speaker sessions on networking by Amruta Pendse, and storytelling by Akshay Gajria of Tall Tales. The IEEE chapter conducted a workshop on the exciting subject of Haptic Robotics. February was concluded with a weekend dedicated to the assistance of cherished, noble causes. The GST Dream Run, our annual charity marathon across 6 kilometers, generated ₹2.2 lacs for the DESIRE Society, in support of the child victims of HIV/AIDS. This was followed by the public launch of Hymn Humanity: the charity band comprising SIES students and alumni. I felt proud watching students of our college, performing in a celebrated auditorium, under the guidance of a reputed musician, for the redevelopment of the Gotheghar tribal school.

March

The national level paper presentation Techxter 7.0 was conducted by the IETE student chapter. As TML approached and the hype soared sky high, the two day festival launch witnessed the casts of Marathi film Dry Day and Hindi film Baa Baaa Black Sheep visit our campus and promote their movies. We celebrated Women's Day with a T-Shirt painting contest and an interactive session with YouTuber mostlysane. This TML will be celebrated alongside Impressions, a celebration of Printer's Day by the IPI. The Technical Team has developed an app for TML and Impressions in an effort to spread the mission of digitisation across the college, with the Impressions app to be revealed later today. This is enhanced by the development of the TML Software mascot, Media Bot, and the Smart Campus initiative, taken up by the Technical Team.

Conclusion of Yearly Recap

This was just a glimpse of the numerous student led activities that have been championed at GST over the past year. And there is a lot still in store for the following month, including workshops and the National level project competition Innovations by the CSI chapter,

activities under the E-yantra cell continuing our close association with IIT-Bombay, and so much more.

Mission as President

Being elected the first woman President of the GST Student Council, after having fulfilled the duties of a coordinator, I felt challenged by the prospect of having to dive head first into unchartered waters. My aim to unite the various factions of the student council and revitalise the team weighed me down, but it was incomparable to the weight of expectations from all corners, on the first female President. This unique position presented its own set of hurdles that I hadn't foreseen. However, in the words of Yai Vargas, "When life hands you a difficult situation where you feel undervalued and disrespected, be bold and brave enough to know your worth." I am truly elated to say that the various activities and initiatives taken up this year have helped further the goal I set for this council, and share with many who stood in this post before me. This of course would not be remotely possible without the support of the mentors and guides who have helped me along the way.

Thank You Note

I am very thankful to Principal sir for his invaluable support and cooperation, that has helped us take the events at GST to unforeseen heights. Sir, your valued insights and advice have helped me steer this council to this newfound level of success. I am honoured to have our esteemed guests, Mrs. Prajakta Verma and Mr. Rajesh Desai, with us, gracing this auspicious occasion. I would like to convey the heartfelt gratitude of the entire council to our office staff, for all the assistance you have provided us in all our endeavours. The spirit of our council is embodied by none other than our very own Council Incharge, Sumitra Padmanabhan ma'am whose care and steady hand of guidance have sustained this council through its lows and highs. Thank you ma'am for standing by us through thick and thin, and providing us opportunities to learn and grow from our mistakes. I would like to congratulate every single team of the student council, the student chapters and student clubs for raising the bar of the holistic educational experience provided at SIESGST. Lastly, I would like to thank all the invisible hands that worked tirelessly, the students of our GST community, who have helped me in realising my aspirations for our college, and whose camaraderie in the face of adversity has helped us triumph over the hurdles that faced us in meeting our goals.

I would like to conclude by quoting author Maya Angelou, who said this on encountering failure - "You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it."