# MSBTE

MAHARASHTRA STATE BOARD OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION, MUMBAI

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NEWS LETTER

News, Views and Insights


**Theme**

**Social Media Impact on Student's Academic Performance and Well-being**

**Inside....**





**Theme for the Next Issue:**

**Drone Technology: Applications and Challenges**

## Higher & Technical Education Department & DTE Amongst Toppers in Govt's First 100-day Program


Hon'ble Shri. Devendra Fadnavis, CM, & Hon'ble Shri. Eknath Shinde, Dy. C M, Maharashtra, honoured Dr. Vinod M Mohitkar

A 100-day programme has been designed by Maharashtra Government under the direction of Hon'ble Shri. Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister, Maharashtra State, to set the foundation for the Government's five-year term. This initiative aimed at streamlining Government processes and improving the daily lives of citizens. The State Government has adopted a performance evaluation system which is a part of a comprehensive accountability exercise, with each department assigned specific deliverables to achieve within the stipulated time frame. The main goal was to foster a results-oriented culture within the administrative machinery. The Quality Council of India evaluated the first phase, the 100-day programme, focusing on ten criteria, including website efficiency, office infrastructure, grievance redressal mechanisms, investment-friendliness, citizen accessibility, and use of technology. The results of this exercise were announced on 1st May 2025. There were two parts of 100-day program, one was improving Government offices and the other was implementing new policies. A total of 12,500 State Government offices in the state participated in the drive to improve offices. Additionally, the 48 departments in the Government had come up with 902 policy decisions to implement. Of these, 706, or 78 percent, were completed. Twelve out of the forty-eight departments within the Maharashtra Government have secured a perfect score in their performance review, based on the 100-day targets set by Hon'ble Shri. Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister, Maharashtra State. Proudly, Department of Higher & Technical Education was one of them.

The Hon'ble Shri. Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister and Hon'ble Shri. Eknath Shinde, Deputy Chief Minister, felicitated the Government officials for implementing the 100-day programme on 7th May 2025. On this occasion, Dr. Vinod M Mohitkar, Director, Directorate of Technical Education, was felicitated with Best Commissioner/Director Award. Speaking on this occasion, Hon'ble Shri. Devendra Fadnavis said, "The 100-day programme campaign is not just about management but also about accountability, transparency and efficient administration for the public good. These excellent officers have set an example for others."

## Visit of Officials from MeitY to MSBTE, Mumbai

Dr. Pramod Naik, Director, MSBTE, welcoming Ms. Tulika Pandey, Scientist 'G' & Group Coordinator at MeitY

Ms. Tulika Pandey, Scientist 'G' and Group Coordinator at the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, visited MSBTE on 22nd April , 2025. This visit is part of the joint efforts between the Centre and State following the MoU signed by MSBTE and NIELET (an Institute under MietY) to create the Centre of Excellence in all Government Polytechnics throughout the State.

Dr. Pramod Naik, Director, MSBTE, Mumbai, welcomed her and the meeting began with the presentation by MSBTE official regarding establishment of "Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Industry 4.0 Technologies in various Govt. Polytechnics in the State of Maharashtra." Ms. Tulika Pandey was pleased with the initiative MSBTE, Mumbai, took to establish CoEs in Polytechnics because it shows a desire to utilize diploma students' abilities rather than just their skilled labour.

Ms. Pandey suggested several recommendations, including preparing a repository of Problem Statements from stakeholders for design and development of the curriculum, offering NSQF-aligned courses through CoEs, connecting CoE with End User Agencies and Industries, mapping raw materials used in CoEs, and serving as a training hub for nearby institutions and MSMEs. Ms. Pandey visited CoE established at Govt. Polytechnic, Mumbai, with the MSBTE team. At the end of the visit, Dr. Pramod Naik expressed gratitude to MeitY, as Maharashtra will be the first state to implement this initiative with the support of the GoI. He also sincerely thanked Ms. Tulika Pandey for her valuable guidance.

Ms. Tulika Pandey visiting CoE at Govt. Polytechnic, Mumbai along with MSBTE Officials

# Message from Director, MSBTE, Mumbai

**Dear Readers,**

I am pleased to present this edition of our Newsletter which focuses around a theme that is highly appropriate in today's world: "Social Media Impact on Student's Academic Performance and Well-Being." Social media has emerged as an undeniable force in contemporary life, especially for students. Although it offers opportunities for learning, networking, collaboration, and self-expression, its overuse and lack of regulation can result in distractions, diminished academic concentration, and mental health issues. I personally feel that students will be far more prepared for using social media if they are taught to recognize conflicts of interest and fallacious reasoning, as well as to not take everything they read at face value. Accordingly, the important role which our educational institutions play in managing students' social media use cannot be overstated. Thus, I would like to draw the attention of our institutes towards certain constructive measures (few already being practiced) to promote balanced social media usage among students:

*Few strategies for Institutes to promote balanced social media use among students include raising awareness of media literacy, developing responsible usage guidelines, encouraging offline activities, creating positive online spaces, providing mental health support, engaging parents, monitoring usage & effectively using technology.*

**Raising Awareness and Fostering Media Literacy:** Organize workshops on social media's psychological effects, such as dopamine loops and misinformation. Invite digital wellbeing experts to offer strategies for moderation. Integrate social media literacy into the curriculum to promote responsible social media use.

**Develop Responsible Guidelines and Practices:** Develop and communicate clear guidelines for responsible social media use, emphasizing issues such as online harassment, cyberbullying, and maintaining academic integrity. Encourage faculty members to demonstrate responsible social media conduct in a professional and ethical manner. Introduce mindfulness and self-regulation techniques to assist students in recognizing when their social media usage becomes excessive.

**Foster Engagement in Offline Activities:** Promote participation in extracurricular activities, sports, clubs and hobbies to offer students with alternative avenues for entertainment and social interaction. Create designated zones on campus where students can unplug from their devices and engage in various offline activities.

**Establish a Constructive Online Environment:** Initiate campaigns encouraging students to share uplifting content on social media, fostering a positive atmosphere while showcasing success stories of balanced social media engagement alongside their educational commitments.

**Develop Mental Health Support Systems:** Ensure the availability of easily accessible and confidential counselling services to address problems related to anxiety, depression, and body image issues caused by social media. Incorporate meditation techniques to assist students in cultivating emotional regulation skills and managing anxiety.

**Parental Engagement:** Collaborate closely with parents to offer them with strategies for managing social media use at home. This may encompass informational newsletters, parent seminars, and guidelines for setting digital boundaries at home. Establish avenues for parents to communicate with the institution about their concerns regarding their children.

**Monitoring and Feedback**: Frequently survey students regarding their social media usage. Use this information to modify programs and initiatives. Provide students with a means to anonymously report issues related to social media, such as cyberbullying or excessive use, enabling the institution to tackle these issues in advance.

**Utilizing Technology:** Guide and encourage students on the use of the apps like Digital Wellbeing, FocusMe, Screen Time, Moment, etc. and explore their features in a practical setting. By utilizing these apps, students can effectively monitor and manage their social media usage, allowing them to set time limits, block distracting apps during study periods, and gain valuable insights into their digital habits, ultimately fostering better focus and productivity.

I am sure that by implementing these measures, institutions can significantly contribute to enabling students to responsibly manage the intricacies of social media while fostering a healthy equilibrium between their online and offline activities. This, in turn, will contribute to improved academic performance, enhanced mental wellbeing, and a more rewarding and enjoyable academic experience.

Now let us focus on important happenings at MSBTE. Recently, MSBTE hosted two delegations, the first one, led by Ms. Tulika Pandey from MeitY, was focused on the MOU which MSBTE signed with NIELET to establish a Centre of Excellence in Government Polytechnics in Maharashtra. The second delegation came from the Directorate of Technical Education, Tamil Nadu, with a focus on our curriculum design, evaluation methodologies, industry linkages, and skill development initiatives. Both delegations engaged in valuable discussions with our senior officials, and we look forward to the impactful collaborations that may arise from these exchanges.

I hope this edition of our Newsletter serves as a helpful guide for polytechnic institutions, faculty, and parents. It presents actionable strategies to foster digital mindfulness, set healthy boundaries, and build a digitally literate student community. Together, let's nurture a generation of diploma holders who are not only technically skilled but also socially responsible and emotionally resilient.

Wishing all our stakeholders continued growth, success, and well-being.

Warm regards,

**Dr. Pramod Naik**
Director, MSBTE, Mumbai

*"When your mental health becomes impacted by social media then it is time for a detox."*

— Germany Kent

*"Get in the habit of asking yourself: 'Does this support the life I'm trying to create?'"*

— Torey C. Richards

**Dear Readers,**

According to Statista, there were approximately 5.24 billion social media users worldwide as of February 2025, amounting to 67.9% of the global population. Current issue of the MSBTE Newsletter addresses a serious theme impacting the lives of students i.e., multifaceted influence of social media on academic performance and mental well-being. So, as an introductory note, let us glance through the evolving role of social media along with a review of its history, current state, and future trends.

The early social media platforms aimed at the general public and were created to facilitate digital connections among friends. Eventually, they turned into areas that embrace commercial enterprises, brand promotion, and gathering of user information. As user bases expanded, smaller communities emerged within these broader networks, transforming them into tools for local organization and discovering new links. Significant engagement levels made social networks important platforms for public figures to communicate their messages to a vast audience without relying on traditional media.

**History of Social Media in a Glimpse!**

- 1969: The internet's forerunner, ARPANET, was created.
- 1973: Talkomatic, multi-user chat room, was developed.
- 1997: Six Degrees emerged as first notable social media platform.
- 1999: LiveJournal & Blogger introduced Blogging to internet.
- 2001: Friendster made online networking widely popular.
- 2002: LinkedIn, networking platform for professionals, created.
- 2003: Myspace became popular platform for sharing music.
- 2004: Mark Zuckerberg established Facebook.
- 2005: Reddit & YouTube were created.
- 2006: Twitter & Tumblr rose as platforms for microblogging.
- 2010: Instagram & Pinterest began emphasizing visual media.
- 2011: Snapchat launched short video sharing.
- 2012: Google+ launched in social media but closed down later.
- 2015: Discord launched features like live text, video streaming.
- 2016: TikTok was launched, gained popularity in US.
- 2020: Clubhouse & BeReal were launched
- 2021: Gettr, platform in alt-tech space, introduced.
- 2022: Truth Social was initiated by U.S. President Donald Trump.
- 2023: Nostr & Bluesky, decentralized platforms, launched while Twitter revealed “Threads”

At present, the landscape of Social Media is characterized by unceasing growth, with new users joining ever day and platforms like YouTube, Facebook and Instagram remaining prominent ones. Issues like distorted information, cyberbullying, and the potential for addiction remain important concerns. However, trends are now shifting, with a growing emphasis on genuine connections, community engagements, and social media's role as a discovery and search engine.

**Future Trends of Social Media**

Social media platforms are evolving rapidly, making it challenging to forecast their future with precision. Nevertheless, experts have identified several plausible trends that are becoming apparent now. Technological advancements and changing user behaviors are expected to shape the future landscape of social media. Emerging trends indicate that these platforms will increasingly transform into more immersive and interconnected environments.

- **Immersive Experiences of Augmented Reality (AR) & Virtual Reality (VR) :** As AR and VR technologies progress, they are expected to significantly enhance the social media experience. With the rise of the metaverse, users are having the opportunity to engage with virtual avatars, participate in virtual events, and navigate virtual environments, thereby fostering more immersive and interactive social connections.
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI):** AI is already playing a role in social media, from chatbots to algorithmic content recommendations. In the future, AI will enable even more advanced personalization, automate content creation and allow delivery of hyper-targeted messaging at scale.
- **Focus on Privacy and Well-being:** As users grow more concerned with privacy, one may see a shift toward decentralized social media platforms. Blockchain technology could play a role in how users control their data and interact on social platforms, giving them more ownership and reducing reliance on centralized platforms.
- **A Global Village:** Social media might further break down geographical barriers, allowing us to connect with people from all over the world and learn about different cultures. One can imagine collaborating on projects with classmates from other countries or even participating in global discussions about important issues.
- **Niche Social Platforms**: While major social media platforms will likely continue to dominate, there is room for niche social networks catering to specific interests and communities. These platforms can provide a more focused and tailored experience for users, connecting people with shared passions.
- **Transient Content**: The popularity of disappearing content, as seen on platforms like Snapchat and Instagram Stories, is likely to remain strong. Users may prefer sharing content that does not leave a permanent digital footprint, fostering more spontaneous and sincere interactions.
- **Cross-Platform Integration:** Social media platforms are likely to become more interconnected, enabling users to seamlessly share content across different networks. This cross-platform integration could lead to a more cohesive social media experience and stronger social connections.
- **Regulation:** As social media's influence on society grows, governments may introduce more stricter regulations to ensure transparency, prevent misinformation, and safeguard user rights. Social media firms will have to deal with a complicated regulatory environment.

The path of social media's development, marked by continuous innovation and an ever-evolving landscape, promises an exciting, although challenging, journey ahead. We have the opportunity to shape this journey of our students consciously, ethically, and inclusively to ensure social media continues to serve them and not the other way around. As well said by Abhijit Naskar, a Neuroscientist, “It is okay to own a technology, what is not okay is to be owned by technology.”

**Shri. Umesh Nagdeve**
Secretary, MSBTE, Mumbai

# Tamil Nadu Technical Education Delegation Explores MSBTE's Proficiency in Technical Diploma Education

Dr. Pramod Naik, Director, MSBTE, presenting a memento to Smt. J. Innocent Divya, IAS, Commissioner, DTE , Tamil Nadu

A high-level technical education delegation, led by Smt. J. Innocent Divya, IAS, Commissioner, Director of Technical Education, Tamil Nadu, visited the Maharashtra State Board of Technical Education (MSBTE) on 29th April 2025. The visit intended to explore and learn about MSBTE's best practices in diploma education, curriculum development, assessment & evaluation and skill development initiatives. The delegation comprised of Dr. M. Shyamala, Assistant Director, Planning; Dr. E. M. Srinivasan, Additional Director (Polytechnic); Shri. P. Thilagaraj, Special Officer, Curriculum Development; and Shri. Balaji Bhaskaran, Associate Vice President, Academics, Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation.

The delegates were warmly welcomed by Dr. Pramod Naik, Director, MSBTE, who presented Smt. J. Innocent Divya with a bouquet & memento, signifying the collaborative essence of the visit. Following the welcome, a Senior MSBTE official made a

Senior Officials of MSBTE, Mumbai, interacting with Commissioner & delegates of DTE, Tamil Nadu

comprehensive presentation providing an overview of the MSBTE's operation, activities and achievements.

The delegation held in-depth discussions with MSBTE officials, concentrating on multiple facets of technical education such as: Curriculum Design, Industry Partnerships, Assessment and Evaluation, and Skill Development Programs. The visit has actually resulted in a valuable exchange of knowledge and best practices paving way for potential collaborations, ultimately contributing to the advancement of technical education in both states.

## Training Program on Leadership & Team Building for Officers of MSBTE

The Maharashtra State Board of Technical Education held a 3-day Leadership and Team Building Training Program, in partnership with Princeton Academy, Mumbai, for its Officials from 21st to 23rd March 2025, at Aamby Valley in Lonavala, Pune. The training involved 29 officers from MSBTE's headquarters in Mumbai and its regional offices in Mumbai, Pune, Chh. Shambhajinagar, and Nagpur took part in the training. The event began with an address by Shri Pramod Naik, Director of MSBTE.

Participants learned about team building using Tuckman's Team Development Model and explored topics like lead a team to success, leadership effectiveness, team building, effective communication & motivation, and leading the change, among others. They also learned about ownership & accountability in a team, distinction between quality and quantity in teamwork,


Officers attended Training Program with Director & Secretary of MSBTE

cross-functional teamwork, and how teams overcome the silo mentality and collaborate. There was an entertaining cultural night for relaxation. The final day focused on emotional intelligence, workplace behaviour, conflict management, and models for high-performance teams. This highly interactive and thought-provoking program nurtured the participants' leadership capabilities; as well as provided them with leading-edge skills and know-how to drive their leadership capabilities. Participants learnt the key competencies to become a successful 'Leader' to exercise influence amongst their team members.

## Glimpses of MSBTE Events.....

The 42nd meeting of Governing Council was held under the Chairmanship of Hon. Shri. Chandrakant Dada Patil, Minister, H &Tech. Education, on 25th Feb. 2025 at Mantralaya.

The 58th meeting of Governing Board of MSBTE was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vinod Mohitkar, Director, DTE on 13th Feb. 2025 at MSBTE Office, Mumbai.

Shri. B. Venugopal Reddy, Addl. Chief Secretary, Higher & Technical Education Department, visited MSBTE office, Mumbai on 13th March 2025

# Researcher Perspective on Impact of Social Media on Academic Performance of Students

**Introduction**: In today's digital-first world, social media has become deeply ingrained in the lives of students. Platforms such as Instagram, TikTok, X (formerly Twitter), WhatsApp, and Facebook not only serve as channels for social interaction but also influence how students learn, engage, and manage their time. While these platforms offer new avenues for academic collaboration and resource-sharing, concerns about their detrimental effects on student performance have been growing steadily. The academic implications of social media usage are complex, influenced by factors such as usage patterns, platform type, individual self-regulation, and institutional guidance.

**Negative Impacts: Distraction and Reduced Academic Focus**

The most prominent concerns is the distraction social media poses during study hours. Research by Junco (2012) found that students who frequently used social networking sites while studying had lower GPAs and reported more academic problems than their peers. The frequent checking of notifications, messages, and feeds can fragment attention and reduce the cognitive bandwidth available for learning tasks. Moreover, the addictive nature of short-form content on platforms like TikTok and Instagram Reels exacerbates procrastination, often leading to poor time management and incomplete assignments. A study by Lepp, Barkley, & Karpinski (2015) further corroborates these findings, revealing that high social media usage correlates negatively with academic performance and life satisfaction among college students. This is especially critical in higher education, where sustained focus and independent learning are vital for success. When students prioritize online interactions over academic responsibilities, their academic performance tends to suffer.

**Positive Potentials: Collaboration and Learning Resources**

Despite these drawbacks, social media also offers distinct academic benefits when used strategically. Educational groups on Facebook, class-specific WhatsApp chats, and Reddit forums dedicated to academic subjects enable peer-to-peer learning and quick access to helpful resources. YouTube has emerged as a powerful educational platform, offering tutorials, lectures, and study guides on virtually any subject. Platforms like LinkedIn and ResearchGate help students connect with academics, follow research trends, and explore professional opportunities. Social media can also support collaborative learning. According to Greenhow & Lewin (2016), when integrated into formal learning environments, social media can foster student engagement, enhance motivation, and promote reflective learning. For instance, instructors using closed social media groups for class discussions have observed increased participation from students who may be less likely to speak in traditional classroom settings.

**Moderating Factors: Usage Patterns and Digital Literacy**

The key determinant in whether social media has a positive or negative impact on academic performance lies in the nature of its use. Students who use social media for academic collaboration, educational content consumption, and professional networking are more likely to see neutral or even beneficial effects on their academic outcomes, while those who use it predominantly for entertainment and passive scrolling tend to exhibit lower academic performance. Digital literacy is crucial in this context. Institutions that invest in teaching students about mindful digital consumption, privacy, and time management equip them with the skills needed to use social media responsibly. The integration of digital wellbeing curricula and productivity tools such as screen time monitoring and focus apps (e.g., Forest, Freedom) can help students balance their online and academic lives.

**Conclusion and Recommendations:** In short, social media's influence on academic performance is neither inherently harmful nor universally beneficial—it depends on how, why, and when it is used. To harness its positive potential and mitigate negative consequences, a multifaceted approach is required. Students must be encouraged to develop self-regulation and digital discipline, while educators should incorporate social media mindfully into learning environments. Future research should continue exploring platform-specific effects and strategies to promote academic success in the digital age.

**Dr. Mukesh B Shinde**
Sr. Research Scientist, Zuventus Healthcare Ltd (R&D), Pune

## Social Media Impact on Students' Academic Performance and Well-being

In today's digital age, social media has become an inseparable part of students' lives. Platforms like Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok are not just tools for social connection but also influence how students learn, behave, and perceive themselves. While social media offers educational opportunities & fosters creativity, excessive usage impacts academic performance & mental health.

**Pros of Social Media in Academia**

**Access to Educational Resources**: Platforms like YouTube and Reddit offer tutorials, peer discussions, and explanatory videos on complex topics.

**Enhanced Communication**: Students can collaborate on projects, share notes, and engage in study groups using platforms like WhatsApp and Facebook.

**Exposure to Global Perspectives**: Social media connects students with diverse thoughts, cultures, and academic insights, fostering a broader worldview.

**Skill Development**: Creating content helps develop soft skills like communication, creativity, and even basic video editing or graphic design.

**Cons of Social Media in Academia**

**Decreased Attention Span**: Constant notifications and scrolling can reduce focus and the ability to concentrate during study sessions.

**Procrastination and Poor Time Management**: Students often get distracted, spending hours online that could be used for academic tasks.

**Mental Health Concerns**: Exposure to unrealistic lifestyles and peer comparison can lead to anxiety, depression, and low self-esteem.

**Cyberbullying and Privacy Issues**: Students are vulnerable to online harassment and may unknowingly share personal information.

**Popular Social Media Platforms and their Benefits for Students**

**YouTube**: Excellent for visual learners; hosts educational

**(Cont. on Page No. 09)**

# Using Social Media as a Tool for Teaching-Learning Process

Learning has always been a continuous process for human beings. It is a compound phenomenon that has come up with a variety of theories including historical and philosophical perspectives. Nevertheless, the ways and needs of learning have transformed over a period of time and there have been varied perspectives on this transformation.

Social networks have been recognized as a fertile learning environment, particularly in encouraging the exchange of knowledge. Students primarily use online communities and groups to read, exchange textbooks, make joint decisions, or share learning materials. Applications of popular social media platforms have been explored in both formal and informal learning environments. Integration of social media platforms as a learning tool has been theorized by reviewing the contribution of social media and highlighting their specific outcomes.

There are various benefits of using social media in education like facilitating real-time communication between teachers and students, peer-to-peer interaction, asking questions easily, share ideas and collaborate on projects outside of the traditional classroom setting. One can get access to a wide range of resources like library, tutorials, videos, articles, expert advice, online courses etc. It promotes the concept of digital library. It helps in enhancing engagement in online discussions, create multimedia content, and share their work with others while it also motivates students to learn by providing opportunities for self-expression, creativity and collaboration. Social media also prepares students for the future as the social media is an integral part of modern society and the workplace, so students know how to use it effectively for their future success. Students should learn how to build online networks, connect with the professionals and leverage social media for career development. But at the same time, teachers and students should be aware of the privacy settings and potential risks associated with using social media. It's important to establish clear guidelines for using social media in the classroom and to ensure that it is used responsibly and ethically. It is also imperative that students should be encouraged to use social media in a balanced way and to avoid excessive use that could negatively impact their studies and career opportunities.

Teachers can use social media to share announcements, updates and resources with the entire class or specific groups. Teachers also use social media as a medium to get new resources to support their lessons, activities to teach particular concepts, bulletin board ideas, information on new apps to do a follow up of certain topics as well as to network and know what is happening in institutes all over the world.

The bottom line is that social media is a big part of our day-to-day life and there's no point of keeping it away from the education process. Social media can be a valuable tool for both teaching and learning, facilitating communication, collaboration and access to resources, while also promoting digital literacy and engagement.

**Mr. Rajesh Kamalkishor Mantri**
Government Polytechnic, Khamgaon

## Generative AI & Social Media: Impact on Academic Performance

The digital transformation of the 21st century has significantly redefined the educational landscape, with technological advancements such as Generative Artificial Intelligence - which includes tools like ChatGPT, DALL·E, GitHub Copilot, and other large language and image models - and social media are becoming deeply embedded in the academic lives of students. While both have introduced powerful tools that can enhance learning experiences, improve access to knowledge, and foster collaboration, their impact on academic performance is multifaceted and increasingly complex. This abstract explores the interconnected influence of generative AI and social media on students' academic outcomes.

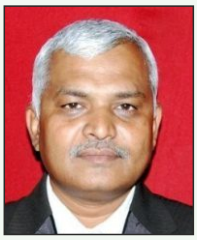
When generative AI and social media intersect, the outcomes can be more complex. For instance, AI-generated content is widely circulated on social media, potentially spreading misinformation, reducing the value of human-created academic content, or encouraging passive consumption rather than active learning. Furthermore, generative AI tools are now being embedded into social media platforms themselves—allowing users to auto-generate captions, summaries, or even entire video scripts. This integration may reduce the effort and engagement required in content creation, contributing to a surface-level engagement with academic material. Despite these concerns, there is potential for generative AI and social media to be used synergistically to support academic success. When integrated thoughtfully into the classroom, generative AI can provide real-time feedback, adaptively respond to individual learning needs, and enhance the accessibility of education for students with disabilities. Social media can serve as a platform for sharing AI-assisted learning resources, fostering academic discourse, and encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration across geographical and cultural boundaries. Teachers and institutions can also leverage these tools to deliver hybrid or flipped classroom models, where students learn foundational concepts online through curated content and engage in deeper discussions during in-person sessions.

To maximize the positive academic impact of generative AI and social media, educational institutions must implement guidelines, and training programs that promote responsible and ethical use. Digital literacy and critical thinking skills must be emphasized, enabling students to discern reliable sources, use AI tools as supplements rather than substitutes, and engage meaningfully with content. At the policy level, there is a need for clearer frameworks around academic integrity in the age of AI, as well as mental health support systems to address the psychosocial impact of digital overexposure.

In conclusion, generative AI and social media are double-edged swords in the academic lives of students. When used wisely, they can serve as transformative tools that enhance learning, increase accessibility, and foster creativity. When misused, they can lead to dishonesty, distraction, and cognitive disengagement. The key lies not in rejecting these technologies, but in understanding and guiding their role within the educational ecosystem. Students, educators, and policymakers must collaborate to ensure that the digital tools of today become catalysts for deeper learning, rather than shortcuts that undermine it.

**Mr. V. N. Raje**
Principal, GES College of Pharmacy (D.Pharm), Limb Satara

# Warning Signs of Social Media Addiction Among Students



Social media plays a significant role in students' lives, but excessive use can lead to addiction with serious consequences for academic performance, mental health, and social development. **Recognizing the warning signs early can help students maintain a healthy relationship with these platforms.**

**Key Warning Signs to Watch for:**

- **Excessive Screen Time:** When students spend hours scrolling through feeds instead of studying or sleeping, it's cause for concern. Rajashree an 18-year-old final year student, spent over 4 hours daily on WhatsApp and Instagram, resulting in incomplete homework and constant yawning in class.
- **Emotional Dependency -** Watch for anxiety, irritability, or stress when unable to access social media. Diploma students became visibly agitated whenever their phone battery died or when they found themselves in areas without Wi-Fi access.
- **Academic Decline -** Mahesh, a diploma student, saw his percentage drop significantly after developing a habit of checking notifications during study sessions. Each interruption led to approx. 20 minutes of scrolling before returning to study, ultimately causing him to fail in MSBTE end semester exam.
- **Social Withdrawal -** Rajesh began avoiding polytechnic events while spending hours perfecting his online persona. This pattern signals a concerning shift when students prefer digital interactions over real-life connections.
- **Increased Tolerance -** Just like other addictions, social media addiction often requires increasing amounts of time online to achieve the same feeling of satisfaction.
- **Unhealthy Comparisons -** Students who constantly compare themselves to others they see on social media often develop low self-esteem and negative self-image.

**Simple Steps for Healthier Habits**

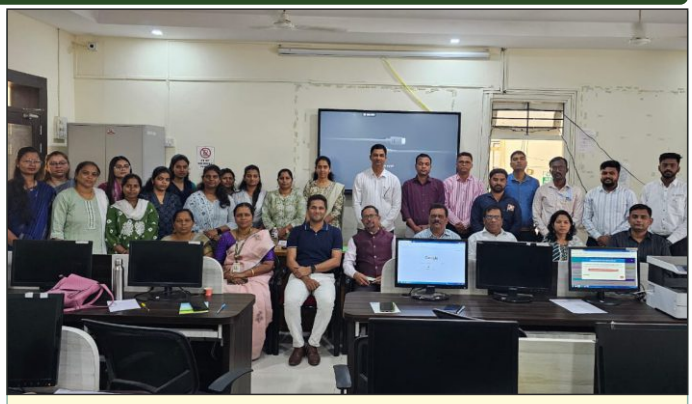
- **Create Phone-Free Zones -** Polytechnics that implemented phone-free periods report improved student engagement and concentration.
- **Set Time Limits -** Using built-in screen time management tools can help students become aware of how much time they're spending online.
- **Prioritize Face-to-Face Interactions -** Encourage activities that involve in-person social connections.
- **#Model Healthy Technology Use -** Parents and educators should demonstrate balanced technology habits themselves.

The goal isn't to eliminate social media, but to develop healthier usage patterns. By recognizing these warning signs early, students can learn to use social media as a tool that enhances rather than diminishes their academic and social development. Digital wellness programs that teach mindful technology use have shown promising results in helping students create healthier relationships with social media.

**Mr. Suryakant Nawle**
Head, Diploma Stream, Atma Malik Institute of Tech. & Research, Shahapur

## MSBTE Sponsored Faculty Development Programs 2025

FDTP on "**Blockchain Technology and Its Future Application**" was organized by Computer Engineering Department of **Sou. Venutai Chavan Polytechnic, Pune**, from 6th to 10th January 2025. This program was aimed at enhancing the knowledge about Blockchain Technology & its applications.



Govt. College of Pharmacy, Karad, hosted a FDTP **"Integrating Sustainability in Higher Education: SDG-IV"** from 3rd-7th March 2025. The program focussed on embedding sustainability in academic, institutional, & research practices in alignment with **SDG-IV - QUALITY EDUCATION**

A FDP on topic **"Industrial IoT System Design Using Python & Drone Technology in Allied Fields"** was conducted from 7th to 11th Jan. 2025 by ET&C deptt. of **SGGS Polytechnic, Nashik**. The program had interactive workshops, GD & training, fostering collaborative learning and innovation.


A FDTP on **'Trends in Sustainable and Green Energy Technologies'** was organised by Deptt. of Electrical Engg., **Govt. Polytechnic, Bramhapuri**, from 10th to 14th Feb. 2025. The objective was, educating on the theoretical and practical aspects of advanced renewable and bioenergy technologies.

Is social media a cobweb? At first glance, it might seem like a strange comparison. Yet, when we think deeper, the answer appears to be yes. Like cobwebs, social media platforms are intricately designed by us to stay connected. Initially, the intentions behind creating these platforms were undoubtedly positive—connection, communication, and collaboration.

However, as these platforms have grown and evolved, we have become so deeply entangled in them that escaping their grasp feels almost impossible. In this digital era, we—the netizens of the AI age—often find ourselves living more in the virtual world than in reality. From the moment we wake up until we fall asleep, and sometimes even in our dreams, social media is with us. It has touched every corner of our lives—and education is no exception.

Social media has had a profound impact on the education ecosystem, influencing students, teachers, and even parents. Among these, students are the primary stakeholders. Today, it is evident that a large portion of students' time is spent on platforms such as Instagram, WhatsApp, Face book, and Telegram. They engage in creating and editing videos, posting pictures, and interacting with content through likes and follows. These platforms have become an integral part of their daily routine. Rather than rejecting this trend, the education sector has begun to adapt. Recognizing the direction in which the world is moving, educators and institutions are now embracing social media. This shift has led to a transformation in how learning happens. Social media platforms are being used to share updates about assignments, class schedules, tutorials, and important deadlines. In many ways, they have become a digital guide, keeping learners informed and engaged.

Moreover, social media often acts as a source of inspiration and informal learning. It can offer students access to tutorials, lectures, and educational content that might not be available in a traditional classroom setting. With a smart phone and internet connection, any learner, anywhere in the world, can explore a wide range of subjects—from science and mathematics to arts and languages. In this way, social media has become a multidisciplinary teacher. However, like every coin, social media has two sides. While it offers numerous opportunities, it also brings challenges. When used wisely, it can help unlock students' potential. For instance, a viral story about a student from a regional school cracking a top-level exam like the UPSC can motivate thousands of others. But excessive use can lead to problems such as anxiety, distraction, and emotional imbalance. The line between the virtual and real world begins to blur, and many users struggle to navigate both. Social media is, after all, a human creation. In this age of artificial intelligence, it has grown beyond its original purpose and now shapes how we think, feel, and learn. The education sector, too, has been transformed by its influence—sometimes for better, sometimes for worse.

In a nutshell, social media is not merely a tool; it is a powerful force. Its impact on education is undeniable. The key lies in how we use it—wisely, responsibly, and purposefully—to support learning and personal growth in a constantly evolving world.

**Gayatri Pravin Chatare**

Electrical Engineering, Govt Polytechnic, Bramhapuri

## Social Media: A Modern Weapon

It is said that "Excess of Anything Can Lead to Destruction", this seems to be very realistic in today's scenario. Today, we must ask few questions to ourselves - aren't we too much involved in social media? Isn't social media taking control of our mind? The way we think; the way we react and all our actions are somehow related to the social media. Being a youth of a developing country, I think social media is like a medicine which must be used in prescribed quantity only, otherwise, it might become toxic to the lives of youth. Nowadays, I see many of youngsters using social media as a medium of connectivity to world, but only few of them are actually using it in right manner as they use it for the betterment of the society both locally as well as globally. What about the huge crowd which is using social media just for sake of fun! Generally, there is a big silence, when people ask about the future of the youth of this country.

Today, social media is playing vital role in the career development, as a huge chunk of students uses it as medium of learning new things, enhancing their skills. While few others use it as a medium to become 'Influencer' by sharing their live experiences with people. However, there is a crowd of students which waste its precious time just to see other people's activity on social media be it Reels, Memes or Shorts. There is no one to guide this crowd. Rather, they don't give attention to people guiding them. If we travel across the rural areas of our country, we might notice groups of youngsters sitting at various places doing Virtual Gaming. These people don't discuss critical issues surrounding them like limited access to quality education and healthcare, inadequate infrastructure, economic hardship, and lack of decent work opportunities & social mobility. This is seriously an issue of grave concern which needs to be addressed.

While there are people who get connected via social media platform for engaging in social work – providing food, cloth and stationery to poor students. In addition, social media helps to collect funds for the affected people, sometimes medical emergencies can also be addressed. But on the other hand, some other people indulge in fraudulent practices by using social media platforms to cheat innocent people. Nowadays, since teenagers are getting their individual handsets, who are not fully matured to understand its appropriate usage, sometime enter into a very difficult situation which impacts their academic performance and mental wellbeing during formative years of their life which in turn affects their overall personality development. Not only that, social media is taking control of adult people's mind, and a few anti-social media handlers are spreading fake news. Due to this, certain impulsive people become aggressive and get involved into unnecessary troubles or quarrels which is raising questions like - Where we are progressing today? Besides, today sometime people measure an individual's success based on his or her social media performance, which is also an issue of serious concern. Nowadays, we all talk about India's Amrit Kaal happening by 2047; to make it really happen, the social media's constructive role is of immense importance. There is an urgent need to run campaigns in villages, towns and cities to make people aware about the right way to use this "Modern Weapon - Social Media".

**Pushpak Siddharth Bhalerao**

Electrical Engg.,Godavari CoE & Polytechnic, Jalgaon

# Social Media Vs Traditional Media in Education

Traditional media refers to conventional means of mass communication like text books, newspapers, magazines & journals, radio, and television. These are typically curated, edited, and distributed by institutions following rigorous standards. Social media, on the other hand, includes platforms like YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), LinkedIn, and emerging educational apps like Kahoot and Edmodo. They offer real-time, user-generated content, democratizing the production and dissemination of knowledge.

**Accessibility and Reach:** Traditional media, while reliable, often has limited accessibility. Textbooks and journals can be expensive and sometimes outdated by the time they are published. In terms of accessibility and reach, social media is unmatched as someone with a smartphone and internet connection, can access, create, and disseminate information.

**Integrity and Engagement:** Traditional media follows a one-way communication model providing established authority and credibility where students are passive recipients. Social media facilitates dynamic, interactive and global engagement with challenges like misinformation and distractions.

**Learning Style and Personalization:** Traditional media generally promotes linear learning: a structured syllabus, chapters, and end-of-term evaluations. Social media enables personalized and self-paced learning. Algorithms suggest videos, courses, and articles based on a student's preferences and history.

**Cultural and Social Implications:** Traditional media has long played a role in preserving culture and language through textbooks and curriculum designs aligned with national education policies. Social media, in contrast, exposes students to global cultures and perspectives, fostering multicultural awareness. However, this can sometimes lead to a dilution of local identities, an issue particularly sensitive in culturally rich countries like India.

**Conclusion:** Both social media and traditional media have vital roles to play in education. The future of education lies in integrating both effectively: using textbooks for foundational knowledge and social media for engagement and real-time updates. Educational policies must ensure that students are trained to critically assess the quality of information, no matter the source. An intelligent blend of the old and new media will empower the next generation of learners to think critically, act responsibly, and innovate endlessly.

**Satyprakash Panigrahi**
SY D. Pharm., Deptt. of Pharmacy, Armed Forces Medical College, Pune

## Power of AI and the Influence of Social Media: A Boon or a Bane for Studies?

Education today is no longer limited to books and teachers. Now, Generative AI and social media have become powerful companions for students. These tools are reshaping the academic journey sometimes acting as a support, they can boost learning, spark curiosity, and make studies more exciting. But when misused, they can easily become a source of distraction. The future of learning isn't about choosing between tradition and technology - it's about striking the right balance.

**Generative AI: A Fast Track to Knowledge:** In today's digital world, Generative AI tools like ChatGPT, Google Bard, and Bing AI have become essential companions for students, acting as on-demand tutors and creative collaborators. These tools simplify complex concepts, break down difficult topics into easy-to-understand explanations, and help students grasp subjects faster and more effectively. Whether it's preparing notes, drafting assignments, or creating full-fledged project presentations, AI can do it all in just a few clicks saving valuable time and energy. Even more impressive is the round-the-clock assistance they offer, making learning flexible and self-paced. This constant support not only boosts confidence but also encourages independent learning and curiosity. However, this convenience comes with a caution. Relying too much on AI can gradually weaken a student's ability to think critically, solve problems independently, and express original ideas. The key is to use AI as a guide - a tool to enhance your knowledge, not replace your thinking. When used wisely, Generative AI can be a powerful partner in the journey of learning, helping students reach new heights without compromising their creativity and individuality.

*Let AI boost your brilliance - not dim your individuality.*

**Social Media: A Learning Tool or a Digital Distraction?** From a motivational reel to an in-depth tutorial, social media is more than entertainment. It's an active player in modern education:

- YouTube = Free tutorials, how-to videos, and concept explanations
- Instagram = Daily motivation, micro-learning content
- WhatsApp = Study groups, doubt-solving, teamwork.

**But with every scroll, comes the danger:** Endless reels X Distracting memes X Notifications pulling attention away from studies. What starts as a 5-minute break turns into hours lost - and grades affected. It all comes down to how we manage time and control temptation.

**Shrutika Sudhirrao Nakate**
CO Engg., Government Polytechnic, Achalpur

**(Industry Speak Cont. from Page No. 05)**

channels covering everything from science and maths to language learning and career advice.

**Reddit**: Offers student-centric communities like r/Ask Academia and r/College where experiences, doubts, and advice are exchanged.

**LinkedIn**: Helps students build a professional identity, network with mentors, and discover internships or learning opportunities.

**Instagram (when used mindfully)**: Accounts that focus on study tips, mental health awareness, and motivational content can support academic goals.

**Conclusion:** As generative AI becomes more integrated with social platforms, AI-driven tools like ChatGPT can support learning by explaining difficult concepts, generating study material, and even helping with essay drafts. But over-reliance on AI can dilute critical thinking and original thought. The fusion of social media and AI is likely to make educational content more personalized, interactive, and accessible. Yet, it's essential to balance its usage with real-world engagement and disciplined learning. Institutes, parents, and students must work together to create a healthy digital environment that enhances rather than hinders academic success.

**Mr. Amit More**
Manager, Digital Marketing, Accenture Solutions Pvt Ltd, Mumbai

Chh. Sambhajinagar & Nagpur Region

**LSBM's Padmashri Dr. V. B. Kolte College of Engineering, Malkapur, Buldhana (28th January 2025) (Electrical Engineering Group)**


First Prize: Gaurav Adhao and Ramkrushna Mundokar from Padm. Dr. V. B. Kolte CoE, Malkapur, Buldhana


Second Prize: Avadhuth Bodke and Tukaram Mane from Gramin Technical and Management College, Vishnupuri, Nanded


Third Prize: Gaurav Adhe and Ajit Donadkar from Government Polytechnic, Bramhapuri

**NIT Polytechnic, Nagpur (29th January 2025) (Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering Group)**


First Prize: Vishal Girhepunje and Tanishk Hatekar from Government Polytechnic, Gondia


Second Prize: Pooja Nadekar and Sneha Chinchamalatpure from Government Polytechnic, Nagpur


Third Prize: Lucky Bagde and Aaryan Kachhavah from NIT Polytechnic, Nagpur

Mumbai and Pune Region

**Government Polytechnic, Pune (30th January, 2025) (Civil Engineering Group)**

First Prize: Mayur Chaudhari and Nilesh Shinde from Government Polytechnic, Pune


Second Prize: Aashika Singh and Guddi Singh from Government Polytechnic, Pen

Third Prize: Dnyanesh Mulik and Sumit Maurya from Agnel Polytechnic,Vashi

**Anjuman-I-Islam's A. R. Kalsekar Polytechnic, New Panvel, Navi Mumbai (27th January 2025) (Computer Engineering Group)**

First Prize: Kaivalya Sonawane and Samarth Bhirud from V.P.M's Polytechnic, Thane

Second Prize: Ansari Ahmed and Qazi Arif from Abdul Razzak Kalsekar Polytechnic, Navi Mumbai

Third Prize: Varun Patil and Omkar Kashiram Gorule from Navjeevan Education Society Polytechnic, Mumbai

## Puranmal Lahoti Government Polytechnic, Latur (21st March 2025)

Chh. Sambhajinagar Region


**First Prize** - Sarthak Kulkarni, Athrava Pachpande, Sai Khairnar and Utkarsh Amrutkar from Govt. Polytechnic , Nashik won for project 'Leakage Current Detection Safety Shoe' **and** Kirti Kalgane, Saraswati Rathode, Sayali Pawar, Priya Kadam and Diksha Khajure from BLM COET, Latur, for project 'Women Safety Device'


**Runner-up Prize -** Dikshant Gaikwad, Ujjwal Malpure, Krushna Rumale, Bhakti Patil and Sejal Gite from MVPS'S RSM Polytechnic, Nashik for project 'Advanced CNG Booking System Using FASTag Technology' **and** Aditya Aher, Satyam Nale, Sarthak Ghorpade, Samarth Nagare from Dr. Vikhe Patil IoT, Loni, Ahmednagar, for project 'Multi-Purpose Agricultural Machine'

## Shivajirao S. Jondhle Polytechnic, Asangaon, Thane (18th March 2025)

Mumbai Region

**First Prize** - Monish Shah, Aarya Joshi, Krish Salian and Yash Vyas from Zagdusing Charitable Trust's Thakur Polytechnic, Kandivali, Mumbai, for project 'Dhvani - The Sound You Feel'

**Runner-up Prize** - Om Jadhav, Aditya Patil, Jay Patil and Parth Chogale from Smt. Geeta D. Tatkare Polytechnic, Roha, Raigad for project 'Design and Fabrication of Flood Rescue Water Boat'

## Government Polytechnic, Amravati (20th March 2025)

Nagpur Region


**First Prize** - Rushikesh Jadhao, Ayush Mahure, Kunal Patle, Manisha Bairagi and Snehal Chopde from GP, Arvi for project 'Experimental Study of Synthesis of Fuel Energy from Waste Coconut Shell' **and** Harshdeep K. Bamrah, Vishvesh Paturkar, Shreya Raut, Pratik Lanjewar, Vaidehi Utane from GP, Nagpur for project 'Neuro-Eye Controlled Toy Car'

**Runner-up Prize -** Nishant Bhoyar, Vedant Bagde, Yash Puri, Shrawani Akre and Arya Nandankar from Raisoni CoE&M, Nagpur for project 'Smart Hot Axle Box Detection and Cooling System Using IoT for Indian Railway' **and** Yash Mahulikar, Mayur Ingle, Prathmesh Chude, Prathmesh Thakare and Yuvraj Uke from GP, Murtizapur for project 'Automatic Rebar Bending Machine'

## New Institute of Technology, Kolhapur (24th March 2025)

Pune Region


**First Prize -** Rajwardhan Jagdale, Aditya Jogdande, Amit Pundekar and Abhishek Patil from Institute of Civil & Rural Engg, Gargoti, Kolhapur for project 'A3R City Defender'

**Runner-up Prize -** Viwaan Kanitkar, Harsh Sutar, Parth Suryavanshi, Paras Kavitkar and Parth Mirajkar from New Institute of Technology, Kolhapur for project 'Head Controlled Mouse Cursor with Voice Commands for Handicapped Person'

## Vishweshwarayya Abhiyantriki Padvika Mahavidyalaya, Almala, Latur

In a rural town, a technical college was established in 2008 with a vision: "To provide quality technical education in rural area". Vishweshwarayya Polytechnic, Almala, Latur, offering technical diploma in Mechanical Engg., Computer Engg. and Electrical Engg., initially faced challenges like inadequate transportation facilities, poor Internet facility, continuous power load shading, water scarcity, financial problems and students' issues (came from farming families with no background in higher education). However, it overcame all these challenges over the years with its unwavering focus on imparting quality education, practical training, industry tie-ups, and soft skills development. Institute used approaches like: Setting up on-campus workshops in partnership with local industries; Offering free skill development camps; Providing scholarships and flexible fee structures and Emphasizing English Communication and Computer literacy.

**Key Highlights of its Success Story in a rural context**

**Quality Education and Faculty:** Despite resource limitations, Vishweshwarayya Polytechnic is striving hard to provide quality education with dedicated and qualified faculty members who understand the challenges and opportunities of rural education. It focuses on innovative teaching methods & practical learning. It has Audio-Visual Classrooms, Interactive boards etc. Mentorship programs helped students adapt to professional environments.

**Industry Collaborations:** Its Industry partnerships ensure that students learn exact skills employers need. Besides, strong industry linkages are fostering practical training, internships and placements.

**Focus on Holistic Development:** It emphasizes holistic development of students, including life skills, personality development, and awareness of social issues like tree plantation, blood donation etc. relevant to rural life. Strong focus on life skills prepare them not just for jobs, but for leadership roles.

**Leveraging Technology:** Despite infrastructure challenges, institute is finding ways to leverage technology for online learning, digital literacy, and access to broader educational resources.

**NBA Accreditation:** The institute has got first time NBA accreditation in 2019 & became first NBA accredited institute in Marathwada followed again in 2022, when it got NBA accreditation second time.

**Green Campus:** The institute actively promotes and integrates sustainable and eco-friendly practices into its operations and culture by focusing on initiatives like natural resource conservation, energy efficiency, waste management, and environmental education.

**National Level Technical Events:** "Vishwa-Vertex", a national-level technical event, in its 15th edition in 2025, features various competitions like technical quizzes, hackathons, paper presentations, and project competitions. The event aims to enhance the confidence and knowledge of the student.

**Sports Activity:** Every year, its students participate and win in IEDSSA G-2 zonal sports like Kho-kho, Badminton, Chess, Carom, etc. Institute's Cricket Team consecutively became three-time winner in Inter Zonal Level Competition.

**Community Impact:** Local families saw an improvement in their economic status, and many students became the first in their families to enter professional careers.

**Women Empowerment:** Special programs encouraged girls to enrol, leading to a 50% female student ratio in the institute.

**Conclusion:** Established in 2008, the institute has distinguished itself through NBA accreditation, consistently strong academic results, and a robust placement record, despite being located in a rural area. A well-structured mentor system supports students' academic and personal growth, while active participation in sports and a variety of extension activities promote holistic development and social responsibility. The institute's emphasis on community engagement and student welfare, alongside modern infrastructure and industry linkages, makes it a model for quality education and all-round development in a rural setting.

## Success Story of a Diploma Holder: From Struggles to Triumph in Electrical Manufacturing

Vaibhav Bhaskar Kapadane, an inspiring entrepreneur and proud alumnus of Rajeshree Shahu Maharaj Polytechnic, Nashik, has turned his dreams into reality through sheer determination and hard work. His journey began after he completed his diploma in Mechanical Engineering in 2014.

With a passion for entrepreneurship, he enrolled himself in an Entrepreneurship Development Program at Udyogvardhini Nashik, where he gained valuable insights into starting and managing a business. Armed with required knowledge and a burning desire to succeed, in 2015 Vaibhav founded 'Power Cab Industries', specializing in the manufacturing of electrical wires and cables, in 2015. While simultaneously pursuing his engineering degree, his entrepreneurial journey was full of challenges. When he graduated in 2017, Power Cab Industries was struggling, operating at a loss of Rs. 22 lakhs. Many would have considered giving up, but Vaibhav's resilience and commitment to his vision drove him to work harder than ever. Over the years, the company not only recovered from its losses but also began to thrive. He embraced innovative strategies, sought advice from mentors, and tirelessly networked within the industry to turn around his business. Through meticulous planning, refined production processes, and a focus on quality, Vaibhav gradually transformed Power Cab Industries into a successful venture, a testament to his unwavering spirit and business acumen.

Recognizing his remarkable turnaround and contributions to the industry, Udyogvardhini Nashik honoured Vaibhav with the title of "Business Icon Nashik" which not only celebrated his achievements but also positioned him as a role model for aspiring entrepreneurs in the region. In addition to running his successful business, Vaibhav has taken on the role of a mentor and speaker, sharing his experiences and insights with engineering students at various colleges. His sessions inspire young minds to embrace entrepreneurship, emphasizing the importance of perseverance and learning from failures. Actually, Vaibhav Bhaskar Kapadane's story is a powerful reminder that success is not merely a destination but a journey filled with challenges and learning. As he continues to grow his business and mentor the next generation, Vaibhav's legacy will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on the entrepreneurial landscape of Nashik and beyond.

**Mr. Vaibhav Bhaskar Kapadane**
Chief Executive Officer, Power Cab Industries, Nashik

### VIDYARTHI AWARDS 2025


Civil Engg. 3rd year students from Rajarambapu Institute of Technology, Diploma, Sangli, secured First Rank in the 'VIDYARTHI AWARDS 2025' organized by PCERF, Pune, and B.G. Shirke Construction Tech Pvt. Ltd., during the CONSTRO 2025 International Exhibition. Their project under the guidance of Prof. A. M. Kadamon "Redeveloping the flood-affected Satapewadi Bridge" earned them a trophy, certificates, and a cash prize of ₹20,000.

### First Prize in National Level Paper Presentation Competition

A team of students of Electrical Engineering Dept. of K K Wagh Polytechnic, Nashik, namely Prem More, Pragati Ghodake and Pranav Magar won First Prize in National Level Paper Presentation Competition organized by K B P Polytechnic, Kopargaon on 18th March 2025. Paper titled "Revolutionizing Sustainable Farming: Solar Powered Aeroponic System with Advance Automation".

### VESP 'Technothon 2025': A Hackathon for Diploma Engineers

Vivekanand Education Society's Polytechnic, Mumbai, hosted VES Technothon 2025, a 24-hour State-Level Hackathon for diploma engineers, on 1st & 2nd March 2025. Organized with VESP Alumni Association and IIC Cell, this event marked its leap from district to state level, drawing 125+ team registrations from 9 districts. After a rigorous selection process, 32 teams competed in the Grand Finale across 8 problem-statement verticals.

### State-Level Project Competition & Prakalp-2025

Computer Engg. students from Govt. Polytechnic, Ratnagiri, have brought pride to their institution by securing both the First Prize (Rs. 10,000) and the Second Prize (Rs. 7,000) at the prestigious State-Level Project Competition & Prakalp-2025, held at VPM's Maharshi Parshuram College of Engineering, Velneshwar on 25th March 2025. Prof. D. M. Shinde, Principal appreciated and congratulated the students for the achievement.

### Bronze Medal in 5th Junior National Kabaddi Championship 2025

Pavan Mamtaji Ghorpade, student of Civil Engg. of Sau. Sundarbai Manik Adsul Polytechnic, Chas Ahilyanagar, has secured the Bronze Medal at 5th Junior National Kabaddi Championship 2025. The event was held from 29th to 31st Jan. 2025 at LNCT University, Bhopal, M.P.

### First Prize in Athletics Inter Zonal Competition

Dinesh Phad, student of Mechanical Engg. of Pimpri Chinchwad Polytechnic, Pune won 1st prize in Athletics Inter Zonal Competition in Long Jump and High Jump. The event was held on 1st March 2025 at Samarth Polytechnic, Junnar in Pune.

### Gold Medal in National Aerobics Gymnastics Championships

Vishvesh Pathak, a Student from MIT Polytechnic, Chh. Sambhajinagar, has secured 1st Rank and Gold and Bronze Medals for Maharashtra in the National Aerobics Gymnastics Championship 2024-25 held in J&K by a FIG-sponsored organization from 12th - 14th Jan. 2025.

### First Prize in IEDSSA Inter-zonal Kabaddi Boys Tournament

A team of students from Smt. Geeta D. Tatkare Polytechnic, Kolad, has won First Prize in IEDSSA Inter zonal Kabaddi Boys Tournament held on 4th Mar. 2025 at Sharad Institute of Technology, Yadrav, Kolhapur.

### Second Prize in Carrom Doubles Championship

Students of 1st Yr. D. Pharm, Shivam Nangre and Harshad Patil from Vasantidevi Patil Institute of Pharmacy, Kodoli, secured 2nd Prize in the Carrom Doubles Championship organized by the SKS Pharma Sports Ass. in collaboration with IPA and APTI on 19th March 2025.

### First Prize at National-Level Paper Presentation


Ankita A. Maske and Sandhya A. Maske, 3rd yr students from Electronics Deptt. of Puranmal Lahoti Govt. Poly., Latur, secured First Prize at the National-Level Paper Presentation held at Vishweshwarayya Abhiyantriki Padvika Mahavidyalaya, Almala, on 5th Feb. 2025. Their paper, titled "IoT in Smart City and Industry," showcased innovative ideas and practical applications of IoT in modern urban and industrial environments.

### Industry-Academia Meet


Sant Gajanan Maharaj Rural Polytechnic, Mahagaon, Kolhapur in association with Brembo Brake Pvt. Ltd., Pune, successfully organized an Industry-Academia Meet on 21st February 2025. The event was attended by Training & Placement Officers and Principals from various polytechnics in Kolhapur district, fostering discussions on industry expectations, skill development, and career opportunities for students. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Polytechnics and Brembo Brake Pvt. Ltd. to provide students with enhanced industry exposure, internships, and skill-based training programs, ensuring they meet the evolving demands of the job market.

### Training of Trainers – Phase 2


Dr. Bhushankumar S. Sathe, Principal and Mr. Milind N. Bhoyar from Institute of Diploma in Pharmacy (Govt. Aided), Borgaon (Meghe), Wardha attended 'Training of Trainers – Phase 2' program on 22nd March 2025 at the Drug Information Centre – Maharashtra State Pharmacy Council (MSPC). The program was organized by Mr. Atul Ahire, President, MSPC, Mumbai.

### NPTEL Star Award

Mr. Dnyaneshwar. M. Jadhav, Training & Placement Officer, SPM Polytechnic, Kumathe, Solapur, was recently honoured as an "NPTEL Star" in three distinguished categories: The Discipline Star, NPTEL Enthusiast, and NPTEL Believer. This rare and prestigious recognition was conferred upon him for successfully completing nine certification courses under the SWAYAM-NPTEL initiative of the Government of India. He also received the State-Level 'Innovative TPO Award-2025' by MaTPO (Maharashtra Association of Training & Placement Officers) during a grand felicitation ceremony at Lonavala. Mr. Jadhav was also bestowed with "The Best Faculty Award 2024-25" by SPM Polytechnic.

### PhD Awarded

Dr. Shubhangi A Patil, HoD, KCTS Krishna College of Pharmacy, Karad, has completed her Ph.D. from Krishna Vishwa Vidyapeeth, Karad in 2025. Thesis "Phytochemical Screening & Evaluation of Antiobesity Activity of Psidium Guajava L. Leaves Extracts and Its Effect on Obesity Associated Hyperlipidemia and Oxidative Stress in Obesity induced Animals" was done under guidance of Dr. Pratibha S. Salve, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Pharmacology, Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences, Karad.

Dr. Shriram N. Bengal, Lecturer, Civil Engg., Govt. Polytechnic, Yavatmal has completed his Ph.D. from G. H. Raisoni University, Amravati, in Feb. 2025. Thesis "Experimental Investigation of Modified Concrete Using Organic Compounds" was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Sujesh Ghodmare, G H Raisoni University, Amravati and Dr. Chittaranjan Nayak, V.P.K. Bajaj Institute of Engg. and Technology, Baramati.

Dr. Gayatri R. Jagtap, HoD, Computer Deptt., Guru Gobind Singh Polytechnic, has completed her Ph.D. from Savitribai Phule University, Pune in Jan. 2025. Thesis "Privacy Preserving Algorithms & Techniques for Distributed Systems" was conducted under guidance of Dr. Dipak V. Patil, HoD, Computer Deptt. at R. H. Sapat College of Engg., Nashik.

### Faculty Achievements

Prof. S. R. Upasani, Principal, Guru Gobind Singh Polytechnic, Nashik, has been honoured with prestigious **"Skill Development Leadership Award 2025"** by the World HRD Congress on 18th February 2025. This recognition highlights his unwavering commitment to foster skill-based education and empower students for a brighter future.

Mr. Vinay Choudhari, HoD, Mechanical Engg. at RIT, Islampur, presented a research paper "A Review on Hybrid Non-Conventional Machining for Precise Machining of Hard-to-Cut Materials" at Intl. Conference on Sustainability & Emerging Technologies for Smart Manufacturing, held at Hanoi University of Industry, Hanoi, Vietnam on 22nd April 2025.

### State Level TechTalk Competition

Varsha A. Khandekar, Lect., IT, Govt. Polytechnic, Thane, was declared a winner in the State Level TechTalk Competition organized by Vidyalankar Polytechnic, Wadala, Mumbai, on 8th March, 2025 for the faculties of Diploma & Engineering Institutions. She had presented a talk on "Security Reference Architecture to enhance Quality of Service & Security in Wireless Sensor Network". This event was thoughtfully executed and intellectually engaged that truly captured the spirit and innovation of the next generation of tech professionals.

# Web 3.0 Transforming Social Media



The evolution of social media has been driven by the human inherent need for widespread communication & social interaction, bolstered by technological progress in the digital realm. Social media encompasses websites & applications that enable people to connect, share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content (like videos), and collaborate with each other. It is an internet-based platform where individuals can build online communities to engage in real-time communication.


**Evolution of Social Media: Web 1.0 to Web 3.0:** The early Internet, known as Web 1.0, was a read-only, static medium that merely shared information via simple HTML pages. The Internet then evolved into a dynamic, interactive space with the advent of Web 2.0, giving birth to social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Web 2.0 gave users the ability to create & share content, collaborate, and connect with others across the globe. Current era is witnessing the emergence of Web 3.0, more intelligent and decentralized version of the Internet.

**How Web 3.0 Social Media Works:** Web 3.0 frequently utilizes blockchain to store and manage user data, ensuring security and transparency. Web 3.0 platforms are often built as dApps, which are applications that operate on a decentralized network. Certain Web 3.0 platforms introduce their own native tokens, used for various purposes, such as rewards, governance, and transactions. Users possess enhanced control over their data, including the ability to store, share, and monetize it. Web 3.0 enables users to perform transactions directly with one another, without middlemen.

**Benefits of Web 3.0 Social Media for Students:**

**Decentralized Learning Communities**: Web 3.0 facilitates the establishment of open, collaborative spaces for educational content, enabling students to connect and learn from one another without dependence on a central authority.

**Real-time Responsible Interaction:** Students can participate in discussions, pose questions, and obtain feedback from peers and educators instantaneously, cultivating a sense of community and expediting the learning process. Besides, these platforms promote responsible participation in online communities and encourage respectful discourse.

**Collaborative Projects:** Web 3.0 platforms empower students to collaborate on projects, share resources, and contribute to a collective knowledge base.

**Decentralized Learning Resources:** Students can access and exchange a variety of learning materials, including educational NFTs and micro-credentials, on a decentralized platform.

**Personalized Learning Portfolios:** Web 3.0 enables students to create and manage a digital learning portfolio that showcases their achievements, skills, and experiences, illustrating their successful educational journey.

**Reward-Based Learning:** Students can receive rewards for their contributions to the learning community, promoting active involvement and engagement.

**Data Ownership and Control:** Web 3.0 platforms emphasize user data ownership, allowing students to manage their information and engage in online interactions more securely and privately.

**Decentralized Governance:** Web 3.0 platforms can be governed by the community, minimizing the risk of censorship and encouraging a more democratic online environment.

**Connect with Experts:** Students have the opportunity to engage with industry professionals and experts in their areas of interest, acquiring essential insights and networking possibilities.

**Explore Career Paths:** Web 3.0 offers access to novel career opportunities & educational resources, enabling students to explore various career paths and nurture sought-after skills.

**Blockchain and Web 3.0 Technologies:** Through exposure to blockchain technology & other Web 3.0 concepts, students gain vital experience that prepares them for future digital careers.

**Challenges of Web 3.0 Social Media:**

**User Adoption:** Web3 platforms must overcome steep learning curve and lack of user familiarity. Educating users about decentralized concepts is vital to encourage wider adoption.

**Scalability and Performance:** Decentralized networks can face scalability issues that impact platform performance, such as slow transaction times or high costs. Innovations in blockchain technology, like layer-2 solutions, are being developed to address these concerns.

**Governance and Moderation:** While decentralization promotes freedom of expression, content moderation becomes a complex issue. Striking a balance between free speech and preventing harmful content is an ongoing challenge.

**Regulation:** The regulatory framework for social media platforms built on Web 3.0 face challenges stemming from the decentralized nature of the technology, which makes it difficult to establish clear legal and regulatory guidelines.

**Emerging Social Media Platforms embracing Web 3.0 Design:** Minds, a decentralized platform prioritizing user privacy, freedom of expression, and monetization (users earn tokens for their contributions); Steemit, a blockchain-based platform that rewards content creation and curation through a unique token-based system; Lens Protocol, which offers a decentralized social graph enabling users to maintain ownership of their profiles and content.

**Importance of Virtual and Augmented Reality in Web 3.0 Social Media**: There is no doubt that VR and AR technologies will be important in shaping the future of Web 3.0 social media platforms. These are immersive experiences and interactive environments within a platform that provides users more engaging and realistic ways to connect with others, regardless of the distance separating them. Platforms like Facebook Horizon, VRChat, and Spatial feature shared environments where users can engage with one another. These social VR spaces facilitate communication, collaboration, & creativity, fostering deeper connections among users. The incorporation of AR technology in Web 3.0 social media platforms enhances user-generated content through digital overlays and interactive features which may involve filters, animations, & spatial audio, creating an engaging and immersive experience.

### Brainwaves 2k25


Technical Event 'Brainwaves 2k25' was organised by MIT Polytechnic, Chh. Sambhajinagar, on 25th February 2025. Poster Presentation, Technical Quiz Competition, Logo Making Contest, Model Making Competition, C-Coding & PPT Presentation are the technical events arranged. The event was inaugurated by Shri. D. R Dandgaval, Dy. Secretary, RBTE, Chh.Sambhaji Nagar.

### TECHMANTHAN 2025

Students of D. Pharmacy of Delight College of Pharmacy, Koregaon, Ms. Santoshi Sondekar and Mr. Prathmesh Dhore got 1st Prize In Pharma Model Making Competition namely TECHMANTHAN 2025, a National level technical festival held on 28th-29th Jan. 2025 at JSPM's Jaywantrao Sawant Inst. of Pharmacy, Pune.

### TECHNOVA 2K25

Dr. D. Y. Patil Polytechnic, Kolhapur, hosted State Level Technical Event TECHNOVA 2K25 on 13th March 2025. 560 students from all over Maharashtra participated in the event competing in 7 different technical events like Tech-Fusion: Engineering Challenge, Tech Recruitment, Graphinova, Cine-Quest, Posternova, Quizomania and Paper Innovation. The competition encouraged innovation and problem solving skills among participants.

### ISTE Sponsored Hands-on Workshop


A workshop on "Graphic Design Software and Design Considerations for different Printing Products" was organized by Printing Tech. Deptt., Govt. Polytechnic, Beed in collaboration with ISTE New Delhi from 5th to 7th March 2025. Mr. Abhishek Gunjkar, Prepress Exe., introduced Graphic Design Software & provided hands-on training. Mr. Vishal Jadhav shared information about forthcoming opportunities & scope in Prepress.

## *Feedback....*

I take immense pride in sharing my thoughts on one of the most impactful initiatives in our academic ecosystem - the MSBTE Newsletter. What makes this Newsletter truly special is its ability to *connect*. By featuring expert insights, student projects, and achievements of Students, Faculty, Staff and Institutes, it motivates young minds to think beyond textbooks and explore their creative potential. It has become a window into the ever-evolving world of technology - showcasing emerging trends, brilliant ideas, and real-world applications that spark curiosity and drive innovation. The ripple effect of this initiative is visible across campuses - students are more engaged, faculty feel more connected to the larger academic narrative, and institutes are rising to the challenge of excellence.

I sincerely thank the editorial team for their hard work and dedication. May this Newsletter keep inspiring our young engineers and continue to be a guiding light for technical growth across the state.

**Mr. Sachin Gore**, Principal, Kala Vidya Mandir Institute of Technology (Polytechnic), Malad, Mumbai

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the MSBTE for its continuous efforts in organizing and conducting various activities aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of diploma engineering students. The range of activities and initiatives mentioned in the latest MSBTE Newsletter reflects the dedication of the Board towards the holistic development of our future engineers. The diverse programs, competitions, workshops, and seminars conducted under the auspices of MSBTE provide students with invaluable exposure to both theoretical and practical aspects of their engineering discipline. These activities not only help in bridging the gap between classroom learning and industry requirements but also foster critical thinking, creativity, and teamwork among students.

The MSBTE Newsletter is an excellent platform to summarize these initiatives and highlight their impact. It is heartening to see how the Board has created avenues for students to engage with emerging technologies, stay updated on industry trends, and develop skills that will help them thrive in their careers. As an educator and a practitioner, I believe such initiatives are crucial in shaping the future of engineering education in our state. I look forward to continued collaboration between academic institutions and MSBTE to further enrich the learning experience of our students.

Once again, my heartfelt congratulations to all involved in organizing these activities and compiling the valuable insights into the newsletter.

**Dr. Hredeya Mishra**, Lecture, MVPS's RSM Polytechnic, Nashik

This is Pranay Yadav, an alumnus (2015 batch,ME) of G P Murtizapur. It was truly a pleasure going through the latest web edition of the MSBTE newsletter. As an alumnus I felt a deep sense of pride and affection while reading about the views of faculties and students on the dedicated theme, various activities conducted by Polytechnics, success stories, informative news of various activities and much more. This is the best example of available space utilization. In 16 pages, a reader can go through many aspects of information about technical field. The language is simple, impressive, and easy to read and understand. The layout is clean and professional, and the contents strikes a perfect balance between technical depth and readability. One suggestion I would like to offer is to include a small section on upcoming events and alumni engagement opportunities to strengthen the Alumni - MSBTE bond. It would be great to stay connected with MSBTE Newsletter always. All the best to dear students for your upcoming career journey.

**Mr. Pranay Yadav**, Sr. Design Engineer, Crane Process Flow Technologies, Pune



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