



IIT HYDERABAD FRESHERS' GUIDEBOOK

2025-26



SNIPPETS FROM SENIORS WHO'VE BEEN THERE

With conflicting emotions of excitement, nervousness, relief and homesickness, I stepped foot on this campus two years ago at the start of a journey very similar to what you, as a fresher, are going through. No matter how prepared I, or anyone else, was when we first came to campus, we all faced some challenges while learning to adapt to this new lifestyle. So, to give you an idea of a fresher year at IITH, I have tried to collate the thoughts and experiences of a bunch of people whom I interviewed. In the answers are some of the challenges we faced, how we dealt with them, and what we wish we had done differently.

Q Looking back, what were some of the biggest challenges you faced when you first joined IITH? How did you overcome these issues? If there were any tips you could give to the incoming freshers, what would they be?

One of the main issues that most of us faced was the overwhelming loneliness before you get to know people properly. Although the college environment forced us to interact and make friends, there was always that bit of hesitation in all of us before initiating that first conversation. Language barriers and incompatible sleep schedules were reasons that made our lives much more difficult, because if I could point out the one common thing that helped every one of us to overcome whatever academic or life problem we had, it was the friends we made during our first semester.

A few useful tips from your seniors on how to make friends - having some common topic to talk to people about - it may be sports, anime or even the monotonous classes you attend everyday- could well be the start of an amazing friendship. Our campus





has several icebreaker events like the freshers' orientations, and while they may seem boring from the outside, there is always the potential to interact with a much larger group of people.

As for the other issues- the most obvious one is adapting to the new academic routine. There is no one to hold you accountable for your work other than yourself. Having a to-do list or anything similar to help keep track of your tasks and deadlines is a very helpful tool, and it will definitely come to your aid during crunch times, with deadlines and exams piling up one after another.

On the topic of academics- even though it forms the core of what we do here in college, a lot of your seniors, including myself, are of the opinion that you should definitely enjoy your first year and not fixate yourself on academics. The academics are something that will naturally beg for your attention as required and there are always ways to cover them, like asking your friends or seniors for help. The first year is when we had the luxury to explore and resume hobbies that we left in pursuit of a good rank. We highly recommend picking up a sport if you don't play one already and to try and participate in the various events that are held on campus, like Milan or Diesta. A really strong request made by one of the interviewees was to never be underconfident in your skills and to just go out there and showcase your talent.

Q What would be your opinions on the freshers joining clubs at IITH and what do you think they should keep in mind while joining them?

IITH boasts a wide range of clubs from Sci-Tech: Robotics, Astronomy, AI-ML; to cultural: fashion, anime, music and much, much more. These clubs are not only a place to pursue your passion but also to network well beyond your class or pod group with a bunch of like-minded batchmates and seniors. Joining clubs just for the sake of PORs (Positions of Responsibilities) may seem appealing, however, it is much better to join clubs that you feel interested in. If

you are not drawn to anything in particular and are willing to explore, try out being a volunteer in various clubs during your first year and then make a decision on whether you would like to join it. Join these clubs to keep yourselves busy, but before diving in, do your research on how the club functions by either talking with your seniors or by experiencing it first hand as a volunteer.

Q Are there any places on Campus or in Hyderabad that you think the freshers must try and visit?

To add a fun question to an otherwise highly reflective interview, the interviewees were asked to give their thoughts on places freshers should definitely visit in their time at IITH. Hyderabad is never short of options when it comes to places to explore. From ancient landmarks like Charminar and the Qutub Shahi Tombs to the modern landscapes of Hi-Tech city, and a plethora of adventure sports such as Go-Karting and Paintball, there is never a shortage of places to explore. Even within campus, there are so many places that feel absolutely magical after dark. The library, the pathway toward the academic blocks and the lawn near the main gate are a few must-visit places on campus. Some of the interviewees gave creative responses, citing multiple places to visit both within and outside campus, but what really made those places special were the friends they were with.

So, is this to say that following most if not all of these bits of advice will make your IITH experience the smoothest sailing ever? Not at all. There are always things that come up to throw you off your guard. A bad grading scheme in a course, a rough patch of small issues, a sticky situation you landed yourself in.

But, if you were to take one thing away from this article- it is that you will never have to face any issue alone. This four-year journey is going to shape you into a more confident and capable version of yourself and this extraordinary environment at IITH is going to ensure that happens.

Just keep showing up, keep trying and never let go of that curiosity to explore. Welcome to the beginning of the journey of your transformation.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CLUBS OF IITH

Like every college, IIT Hyderabad has a huge variety of clubs keeping the campus buzzing with activity. On top of maintaining the campus vibe, they are also a great way for students to increase their technical and life skills, and take their mind off of academics for a while.

Many of these clubs are also gateways to new career paths and opportunities, with many students using skills they built during their time in the club to land lucrative positions in many organizations.

Other clubs are a way for students to relax and unwind, pursue hobbies and rekindle creativity lost along the gruelling path of entrance examinations.

We'll go through all the clubs of IITH and what they do. Hopefully, you can find some clubs you're interested in joining through this.

SCI-TECH CLUBS



Aero : The Aeronautics & Drone Designing Club is a community dedicated to explore the world of planes and drones. We build cool stuff in our projects, organize interesting & engaging events explaining aerodynamics in a simple way, & conduct exciting competitions.
aero@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



Cepheid : The Astronomy & Astrophysics Club of IIT Hyderabad. We bring awareness to the student community in the field of Astronomy and Astrophysics. We conduct various events, talks and other activities as a group.
cepheid@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



Elektronika : The Electronics & Signal Processing club. People interested in electronics & signal processing work together here, build projects & learn from one another. We also conduct sessions & contests to spread knowledge with the rest of the community. We also participate and represent IIT Hyderabad in various competitions, including Inter IIT Tech Meet.

elektronica@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



Kludge : The Information Security and Networking Club. Our mission is to build a community where students can explore and grow in information security and networking through events, workshops and talks. We strive to make these complex fields more approachable and engaging for all learners.

kludge@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



Infero : The Algorithmic and Logical Reasoning Club. We are a bunch of fellows who take care of everyone's problems in our own nice geeky way. We think logically and talk reasonably but well, we are too clumsy and lazy to act, our programs do it instead ;)

infero@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



Lambda:The software development club, focusing on building software, applications, and websites that benefit the entire IITH community. As part of these efforts, we have developed the Main Gate Application, IITH Dashboard, & many others. Whether you're a seasoned coder or a complete beginner, Lambda provides an inclusive environment to grow. Join us to dream, develop, & accomplish extraordinary things with technology.

lambda@iith.ac.in



Epoch: is a club that helps students learn and grow in AI and Data Science. Members can join hands-on sessions, hackathons, and work on projects in areas like Computer Vision, NLP, and more. It's a great place to connect with peers and gain practical experience.

epoch@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



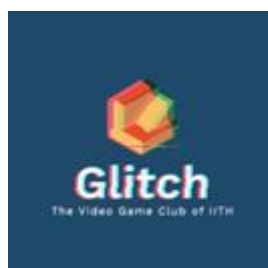
Robotix : We form a dynamic hub for enthusiasts passionate about robotics, machine learning, electronics, and mechanical modeling. Our club is dedicated to fostering innovation and technical excellence through hands-on projects and collaborative learning. We take pride in our diverse portfolio of cutting-edge projects, ranging from the intricate design and flight of Ornithopters to the advanced engineering of Drones. Our members gain practical experience in integrating machine learning algorithms with robotics, developing sophisticated electronic circuits, and constructing robust mechanical systems.

robotix@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



Torque : The Automobile and Design club. It's dedicated to fostering the passion of automobile enthusiasts. Our mission is to enhance mechanical knowledge among students. We conduct regular sessions, work on hands-on projects, and participate in competitions. Like other college automobile clubs, we host workshops, collaborate on vehicle design and construction, and engage in industry visits and networking events to provide a comprehensive learning experience.

torque@iith.ac.in



Glitch : We unite gamers and creators through esports & game development.

glitch@gymkhana.iith.ac.in

BlockSpace : The Blockchain and Crypto Club of IITH, where students gather to explore and discuss the world of decentralized systems and digital currencies. We offer workshops, discussions, and projects to deepen understanding and foster innovation in this rapidly evolving field. Join us to learn, collaborate, and be part of the future of finance and technology!

blockspace@gymkhana.iith.ac.in

CULTURAL CLUBS



Vibes : The music club of IITH . We conduct regular jamming sessions, guitar sessions, vocal sessions etc. to encourage learning new things and having fun. We want to bring out the musician in everyone. Join us if you love to sing, play or write music!

vibes@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



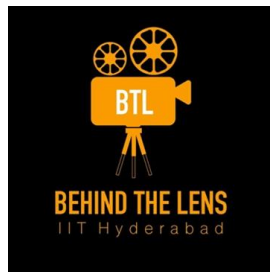
RDM : Rang De Manch is the official drama club. It is a platform where students can show off their acting skills. It presents a bunch of amazing events round the year, from stage and street performances to mimes and comedy acts that entertain the junta thoroughly. The club aims to entertain people and spread messages for the betterment of the society through mimes,street plays etc. Rang De Manch is a home to all lovers of acting. A plethora of talented individuals who join every year to take forward IITH's rich legacy in dramatics. From writing plays, to direction and performance, members get to learn the skills required for each of these jobs.

rangdemanch@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



InFocus : The photography club of IITH. We capture creativity and campus moments through the lens.

infocus@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



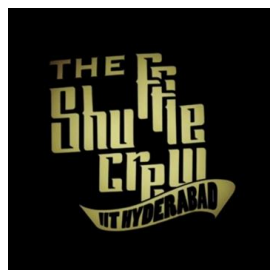
BehindTheLens : is the Film Making Club of IITH which exists to foster the appreciation and study of film making. The purpose of our club is to give students the opportunity to approach all aspects of film and film making in a serious, meaningful, and in-depth manner.

behindthelens@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



EBSB : Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) is a cultural club that brings together the rich tapestry of India's diverse cultures and traditions. We take immense pride in celebrating our unity in diversity through various events and festivals that showcase the beauty and depth of Indian culture. Our vision is to organize events at a scale almost equal to or much greater than our past tenure. We would want to come up with further innovative events that cover the rich culture and heritage of uncovered parts of India.

ebsbclub@campus.iith.ac.in



Shuffle crew : IIT Hyderabad's dance club is a lively and vigorous student organization focusing on promoting dance culture in the campus. It offers opportunities for students to express themselves in different dance categories such as classical or modern and street dances such as hip-hop and break-dancing. We arrange for weekend classes and dance-offs as well as competitions to create the spirit of teamwork and innovative ideas amongst dancers.

dc@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



Otaku : The anime and manga club. Our vision is to promote Japanese culture and its art forms through events and foster a community of anime and manga enthusiasts.

otaku.club@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



Litsoc : The Literary Society of IITH. A vibrant hub for all things intellectual, expressive, and creative, we have a diverse collective of students who celebrate the power of words, ideas, and stories across different mediums. LITSCOC comprises five active clubs:

- Books & Movies Club – For the avid reader and cinephile, we host screenings, book discussions, reviews, trivia nights and cross-medium conversations.
- Debate Club – A platform for spirited debates, public speaking workshops, and critical thinking events like MUNs and panel discussions.
- Quiz Club – From general knowledge to niche trivia, we host quizzes that challenge the brightest minds.
- Writing Club – A haven for storytellers, poets, and writers, offering workshops, contests, and publishing opportunities.
- Word and Board Games Club – Fostering strategy, fun, and community through classic and modern games.

lit_soc@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



Gesture : The Official Art Club is a space to create, design and discover oneself in the traditional and modern realms of art and craft. Every year, our team comprises like-minded people who bring out the best of creativity in themselves for the ultimate betterment of Gesture. We are deeply passionate about art, and highly encourage people to join the group for any sessions or collaborations. Gesture is a strong platform for artistic talent and exploration.

gesture@gymkhana.iith.ac.in



Inventure : The Inventure Meditation Club aims to create a nurturing environment where students can embark on a journey of self-discovery, inner calm, and enhanced focus. Through practical experiences of meditation, we intend to equip our fellow students with valuable tools to navigate the challenges of academic life with resilience and mental clarity.



Silhouettes : is the FASHION CLUB of IITH which aims to build a community where fashion is more than clothing - it's a language of self-expression. By uniting everyone drawn to the cause, we strive to cultivate a culture of creativity, diversity, and exploration. Through events, collaborations, and daily inspiration, we create an artistic space where ideas flow freely, boundaries blur, and fashion becomes identity.

OTHER CLUBS



International Relations Cell : is made up of a group of bright and committed undergraduate and post-graduate students with great supervision by Authorised personnels. The International Relations Cell makes an effort to encourage and create a suitable setting for committed young minds to develop and carry out recommendations for opening doors for international exchanges of students and academic staff with top-notch institutions. The institute is internationalised in order to encourage this method of collaboration with other institutions.



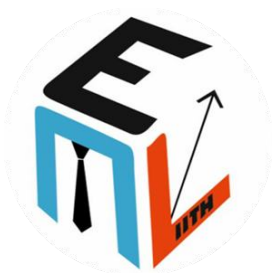
E-Cell : is a vibrant and dynamic platform that nurtures entrepreneurial skills among students. It aims to foster a startup culture, encouraging students to develop their ideas into viable business ventures. The cell acts as a catalyst for startup incubation, offering resources, mentorship, and networking opportunities. "E-Cell is more than a platform; it's a catalyst for entrepreneurial success."



Alumni Cell : The Alumni Cell IIT Hyderabad is dedicated to :-
~Building Alumni Connections : Facilitating networking, events, and interactions among alumni.
~Supporting Current Students : Offering mentorship, career advice, and internship opportunities.
~ Strengthening Institute-Corporate Ties : Engaging with industry partners for recruitment, research, and development collaborations



Finance and Consulting Club : We are the primary club for all finance and consulting related stuff on campus, and as we all know, finance and consulting are the two jobs an IIT seeks at some or other point in their life without fail :) We work to improve awareness of topics of consulting, product management and finance through regular sessions and competitions.



Extra Mural Lectures : We work to bring decorated personalities from eclectic domains on one platform to talk about various subjects like art, social work, economics, psychology, sports, science etc. and inspire our IIT Hyderabad fraternity with insights that they could induce in their lives .



Tinkerers' Lab : is a student run maker-space and technical society with a well equipped technical team pushing forward to motivate the agenda of Techno-entrepreneurship across the campus. We take and carry the flag of Tinkering and support all the crazy ideas any student on campus may have and make them into a reality. We also focus very extensively on spreading knowledge on various technical domains such as Machine Learning, Mechatronics and Software Development. Our agenda is not to study topics in solitude, rather we promote integration within these topics to prepare industry level projects in your BTech, to make your CV stronger than ever.

tl@iith.ac.in



Sunshine : Supporting student well-being through counselling and establishing meaningful connections. The program aims to provide the incoming students with a cordial environment to make their transition to the IITH way of life as smooth and fun-filled as possible.

It comprises a team of representatives from faculties and students across various departments and three professional psychological counsellors available for confidential face-to-face counselling. Students can drop into their offices or contact them by telephone and email. Students can even contact them via the Sunshine Application for Android. office.sunshine@campus.iith.ac.in



TEDxIITHHyderabad : is an initiative to bring the spirit of TED to the community of IIT Hyderabad. It's the initiative of TED here at our campus, and we stay true to the motto of TED - "Ideas Worth Spreading." We organize annual TEDx talks where different personalities from different walks of life are invited to share their stories and inspire the students of our campus. From science to cinema to the corporate world, we have a wide range of speakers and stories that truly have moved the world and left a mark.
tedx@sa.iith.ac.in



Prayas : is a student-led club at IIT Hyderabad with a mission to support and guide underprivileged students, particularly those from government schools. The club focuses on helping these students prepare for scholarship exams like NMMS and conducts awareness sessions on topics such as cleanliness and health. Every Saturday, volunteers visit nearby government schools to mentor students, providing them with guidance and encouragement. Additionally, the club visits a local orphanage to spend time teaching, playing games like cricket and chess, and engaging with the children to bring joy and learning into their lives.

Academic Affairs Council : Our main motive to promote and address Academic related issues. The Academic Affairs Secretary shall be the Chairman of this Council and shall lead, organise and coordinate all its activities. The members of the Council shall be the UG, PG and PhD representatives and the welfare secretary of the Student Gymkhana, and it shall lead the CR and SUGC Council.

EVENTS



Diesta : The annual inter-departmental tournament of IITH. Bringing together all students in a department to compete in various athletic, cultural and technical events to find out what the most organized and talented department is.



Milan : The annual inter-hostel competition of IITH. It is the platform for students to showcase their athletic, cultural and technical prowess while putting the reputation of their hostel on the line.



Elan & ηVision - The Flagship techno-cultural fest of IITH : Bringing technology and culture together in a spectacular celebration of creativity.



Ayaam : IIT Hyderabad's annual design festival. Positioning design as a tool to address pressing challenges, empowering the community to shape a sustainable, equitable, and innovative future.



E-Summit : The annual flagship event of E-Cell IIT Hyderabad. Curating a platform for enthusiasts to connect with industry leaders, pitch ideas to investors, and gain invaluable insights through hands-on workshops and competitions.

Horizon

Horizon : The flagship event of the Finance and Consulting Club IITH. Offering students a unique opportunity to delve into the complexities of management and finance through workshops, case competitions, and expert-led sessions.

TEDx

TedX : Breaking free from the textbook rut and sparking intellect. Creating a space where students can engage with transformative ideas through a mix of TED talks and videos celebrating India's greatest minds.

THRUST

Thrust : Tinkerers Lab's annual techno-entrepreneurship fest. Providing a platform for students to showcase their innovative projects and challenge themselves through competitions.



INTER IIT : A GATEWAY TO THE EXTENDED IIT COMMUNITY

For many incoming students, the IIT journey holds a sense of excitement and curiosity that only a few experiences encapsulate better than Inter IIT.

So, what exactly is Inter IIT? As the name suggests, it's a prestigious pan-IIT competition where students from all IITs come together to showcase their talents, compete for excellence, and build a legacy to leave behind.

There are **three major Inter IIT events**:

- **Inter IIT Sports Meet:** A celebration of athletic excellence across a range of sports disciplines.
- **Inter IIT Tech Meet:** A platform for innovation and technical problem-solving at the highest level.
- **Inter IIT Cultural Meet:** A stage for artistic expression and cultural competition that unites creativity and talent.

Inter IIT also brings you the opportunity to travel to different IITs, work in teams with your friends and even network with those from other IITs. The pride of representing IITH in the competitions is just something else.

Beyond the competitions, Inter IIT is a rare opportunity to **travel, collaborate, and form lasting bonds** with peers from other IITs. It's not just about winning — it's about representing your institute, pushing your limits, and being part of a tradition that defines the IIT experience.

Let's break down the different categories of Inter IIT now :

Inter IIT Tech Meet

It is a contest between IITs to prove technical prowess justifying the T in IITs, and above all, it acts as a platform for students to solve industry-relevant problems from companies using technical skills.

The Inter IIT Tech Meet is a pan-IIT technical contest, which witnesses students across various IITs in the country working to come up with impactful solutions to problems that could impact millions. India is currently facing unprecedented challenges, and the best way to overcome these challenges is by bringing together the most innovative and ingenious minds of India. The Tech Meet is truly a colloquium of the best minds across the country. It consists of various problem statements spanning across technical fields set by a wide range of companies.

Inter IIT Sports Meet

Inter IIT Sports Meet is the premier platform for athletes across all IITs to show their prowess and compete for their college's reputation. It is the longest running inter collegiate meet where all IITs meet, having been held since 1961. From shotput, Javelin and 100m dashes to football, volleyball and cricket, there's an event for every kind of sport.

The 2024 sports meet was jointly hosted by IIT Indore and IIT Kanpur.

The IIT Hyderabad contingent showcased their athletic skills last meet, bagging multiple podium positions in the Aquatics meet especially.

Inter IIT Cultural Meet

Inter IIT Cultural Meet is THE place for all cultural aficionados to display their skills and nuance through various events. We all know the benefits of immersing oneself in at least one art form in one's free time, and what better way to do it than competing with like-minded people from all the other IITs?

With events ranging from poetry and quizzes to streetplays and group dance, the absolute variety of competitions ensures there's something for everyone to participate in, on top of keeping the vibe of the meet absolutely immaculate. This tenure, the cultural contingent is hugely motivated to get a good position in the Cultural meet, with preparations starting from right now. So if you're interested in any art or literary form, don't hesitate to go out there and give it a shot!

Inter IIT is one of the core experiences every IITian has to go through to complete the 'IIT experience'. Make the most of every opportunity given to you, and have a blast!

