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Newsletter

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COVER STORY · A FIRST FOR AACST

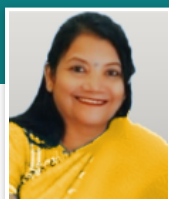
AACST's First Professional Body & Student Chapter



Lighting the lamp of learning at Wainganga College of Engineering and Management, Nagpur, on 1 October 2026.

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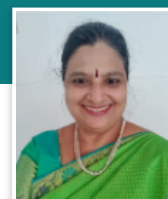
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FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S DESK

A Month of Firsts: From Campus to Cloud

"Every chapter we open on a campus is a classroom without walls."

October began with a first. On 1 October, at Wainganga College of Engineering and Management, Nagpur, AACST inaugurated its first Professional Body and Student Chapter on an institutional campus. Standing before a full auditorium of MCA and CSE students and faculty, I was reminded that an association grows strongest where it meets young learners directly: in their classrooms, in their questions and in their ambitions.

The month proved the same point online. Our National Data Science Bootcamp, *From Data to Deployment*, organised with G H Rasoni Skill Tech University, Nagpur, brought together 166 participants from Nagpur to Hyderabad and from Kota to Karnataka. Five evenings took them from a Python refresher built on IPL cricket data to machine learning, generative AI and placement preparation. On 12 October we also opened the year-long Faculty Development Program, *Emerging Technologies with Microsoft*, our third-anniversary gift to teachers and free for every participant.

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month, and this issue opens a new space that I hope will become a permanent home for ideas: **The Article Space**. Our Associate Editor, Dr. Chitra Ravi, writes on AI agents and the responsibility that must travel with them, and Dr. Melita Luke reminds us how much can hinge on a single click. Two articles, one message: intelligence and trust must both be designed with care.

November brings three self-paced courses on AACST Learning HUB, *Power BI*, *Data Science in the Age of GenAI* and *Quantum Computing*. I invite every member to take part, to write for these pages and to bring a colleague along.

As the lamps of Diwali are lit across the country, may they light new ideas in our classrooms too. Wishing you and your families a bright, safe and joyful festive season.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

THIS ISSUE AT A GLANCE**1st**PROFESSIONAL BODY &
STUDENT CHAPTER**166**

BOOTCAMP PARTICIPANTS

15CITIES & STATES
REPRESENTED**12**MONTHLY FDP SESSIONS
WITH MICROSOFT**2**

INVITED ARTICLES



INAUGURATION • 01 OCTOBER 2026 • WCEM, NAGPUR

The First AACST Professional Body & Student Chapter

AACST reached a milestone on 1 October 2026, when Wainganga College of Engineering and Management (WCEM), Nagpur, an autonomous institute, inaugurated the **AACST Professional Body and Student Chapter**, the first such chapter of AACST at an institution. The ceremony drew a full house of MCA and CSE students and faculty.

After the lighting of the ceremonial lamp and a welcome, Chief Guest **Dr. Abha Khandelwal**, Founder, AACST and Director, AACST Learning HUB, spoke on the role of professional associations in academic and professional growth and urged students to take part actively and keep learning.

Faculty members who joined the AACST Professional Body received membership certificates on stage. The chapter will bring workshops, expert talks, national quizzes and Learning HUB courses to the campus.

Dignitaries

- Dr. Sangeeta Deshmukh – Director, WCEM
- Dr. Rohan Ingale – Dean, IQAC, WCEM
- Dr. Vijayashree Mohobiya – WCEM Professional Body Coordinator

Coordinator

- Dr. Deepali Bhende – HOD, MCA Department, WCEM



IN THE NEWS



Lokmat Times, Nagpur First (Page 2), 6 Oct 2026: "AACST chapter launched to promote innovation at WCEM" · Instagram @wainganga_college_official

INVITED ARTICLES · OCTOBER 2026

The Article Space

Ideas worth a pause. Each month, members and experts share their perspective on the technologies reshaping how we teach, learn and live.

ARTICLE 01 · ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

AI Agents: Empowering Humanity Through Intelligent and Responsible Innovation

AI agents provide us with an ability to rethink the way to accomplish many things, ranging from working to learning, from governing to inventing, and including overcoming the key challenges faced by humanity. There is a great responsibility of making sure that intelligent machines serve humanity and not compromise its values.

An AI agent is an intelligent software system that can perceive its environment, understand goals, plan actions, use tools, and perform tasks autonomously or semi-autonomously to achieve a specific objective with minimal human intervention. For example, an AI travel agent can understand our travel preferences, search for flights and hotels, compare prices, prepare an itinerary, and if authorized make bookings on our behalf.

The Power of AI Agents to Transform Society

The value of AI agents lies in the ability to enhance human capabilities and offer efficient services across domains.

- **Healthcare:** AI agents can help doctors to analyze patient information, detect risks, fix appointments, and help predict diseases, thus greatly improving the efficiency of healthcare delivery.
- **Education:** Intelligent agents can contribute to personalized learning by adjusting lessons according to the needs of every student and providing them with support whenever necessary.
- **Agriculture:** AI agents can help farmers optimize irrigation, monitor crop health, anticipate weather-related risks, and use resources more efficiently.
- **Environment:** They can support energy management, disaster preparedness, and environmental monitoring.
- **Business and public administration:** AI agents can streamline repetitive processes, improve customer service, analyze complex information, and help public institutions deliver services more effectively. This can give people more time to focus on creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, and meaningful human relationships.



Dr. Chitra Ravi

Director of Academics,
Department of Computer
Science
Maharani Lakshmi Ammanni
College for Women
Autonomous, Bengaluru

ARTICLE 01 · CONTINUED



AI agents + human potential: healthcare, education, agriculture, environment and public administration. Image courtesy: the author.

"Efficiency without accountability represents danger. Intelligence is incomplete without compassion."

Responsible AI

In the absence of accountability, an AI agent that acts unsafely, mishandles information, promotes discrimination, or operates without supervision is hazardous. Efficiency without accountability represents danger. Intelligence is incomplete without compassion. Innovation can destroy the society it intends to uplift.

Therefore, responsible utilization of AI must be based on several principles.

- **Control and accountability:** Any decisions that have implications for health, rights, and freedom should be made with some human intervention.
- **Privacy and protection of data:** AI agents should only collect the data which is necessary for specific legal purpose, with consent, and security measures in place.
- **Fairness and inclusion:** Technology must be tested for biases and designed according to the principle of serving people in different groups of the society.
- **Transparency and explainability:** People should be informed when they interact with AI and understand its shortcomings and have ways to object to its important decisions.
- **Security and control over autonomy:** AI agents must function within the boundaries of the pre-defined permissions.
- **Human dignity and social well-being:** Automation must be accompanied by efforts to reskill workers, support affected communities and ensure that the gains of productivity are shared fairly.

Ethics must be embedded in the design, development, deployment, and continuous evaluation of AI agents.

Conclusion

AI agents represent a transformative opportunity to reshape society by combining technological intelligence with human potential. From healthcare and education to agriculture, environmental protection, and governance, they can improve efficiency, expand opportunities, and help address some of humanity's most pressing challenges. The true success of AI agents will depend on how responsibly they are designed, deployed, and governed.

— Dr. Chitra Ravi, Director of Academics, Department of Computer Science, Maharani Lakshmi Ammanni College for Women Autonomous, Bangalore

ARTICLE 02 · CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

One Click, Too Much Trust: Cybersecurity Awareness in Everyday Digital Life



Dr. Melita Luke
Vice Principal
Yenepoya (Deemed to be
University), Bengaluru Campus

One Click, Too Much Trust

Cybersecurity Awareness in Everyday Digital Life

Secure Your Digital Life
Simple habits. Stronger security.

- Use long, unique passwords & a password manager
- Enable multi-factor authentication
- Keep systems & apps updated
- Review app permissions
- Keep secrets out of code & use trusted libraries
- Backups, monitoring & secure key storage

Phishing messages
Fake e-Challan & authority scams
Impersonated customer care
Malicious apps
Credential stuffing & data theft

Individuals
Think, verify, act responsibly

Institutions
Educate, train, build resilience

Developers & Organisations
Design secure. Manage risk.

Think before you click | Verify before you trust | Secure before you deploy

Safer People. Safer Systems. A Stronger Digital Future.

Think before you click · Verify before you trust · Secure before you deploy. Image courtesy: the author.

The Human Factor: When Trust Becomes a Vulnerability

A message warns that a bank account will be blocked unless the account holder updates their details immediately. It carries a familiar logo, convincing language, and a link that appears genuine. In a moment of anxiety, one click may expose sensitive information to cybercriminals. Such incidents demonstrate that cybersecurity threats do not always

exploit technical weaknesses, but they often exploit human emotions, trust, and urgency.

Phishing messages, fraudulent e-Challan notifications, fake customer-care numbers, and digital-arrest scams illustrate how attackers manipulate their victims. Even technically proficient individuals are vulnerable when distracted or under pressure. Risks include password reuse, insecure storage of credentials, accidental exposure of application programming interface (API) keys, and approval of unexpected multi-factor authentication requests.

ARTICLE 02 · CONTINUED

From Personal Safety to Secure Computing Practices

Confidentiality, integrity, and availability must be maintained throughout the data lifecycle—from collection and storage to sharing, retention, and secure deletion. Organisations should classify sensitive information, enforce access controls, maintain appropriate backups, and restrict access to encryption keys and critical resources. Every user, application, and service should receive only the permissions necessary to perform its intended function. Secure defaults, regular monitoring, and well-tested recovery procedures can prevent a single compromised account from escalating into a major security incident.

Building a Culture of Cybersecurity Awareness

Cybersecurity demands consistent habits and institutional commitment. Individuals should use long, unique passwords managed through reputable password managers, enable multi-factor authentication, update operating systems and applications promptly, and review app permissions regularly. Unexpected links and attachments should be

treated cautiously, and requests involving payments, credentials, or confidential information should be verified through independently obtained official contact details.

Educational institutions can strengthen cyber resilience by integrating cybersecurity awareness into computer science curricula, conducting simulated phishing exercises, organising hands-on security workshops, and encouraging responsible vulnerability reporting. When a mistake occurs, prompt reporting can limit the damage. Affected credentials should be changed, compromised sessions revoked, and relevant institutional security teams or service providers notified without delay.

Cybersecurity is a culture of informed trust, continuous learning, and responsible digital citizenship. The next suspicious message deserves a pause, while the next software deployment deserves security by design.

In an increasingly connected world, think before you click, verify before you trust, and secure before you deploy.

— Dr. Melita Luke, Vice Principal, Yenepoya (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru Campus

01 · INDIVIDUALS

Think before you click

02 · INSTITUTIONS

Verify before you trust

03 · DEVELOPERS

Secure before you deploy

AACST CYBER SAFETY CORNER · FESTIVE SEASON

Before Diwali shopping, a 30-second safety check

- 01 "Too good to be true" festive offers are often phishing links.
- 02 You never need a UPI PIN to receive money.
- 03 Type the shopping site's address yourself; avoid links in messages.
- 04 Report fraud at once on helpline 1930 or cybercrime.gov.in.

THE ARTICLE SPACE • IN THE NEWS

Laurels & Limelight

Celebrating achievers from our academic community who made headlines this month



The Hitavada

Vidarbha Line | 2026-10-15 | Page- 6
ehitavada.com

Dr Kishor honoured with Gondwana varsity's National Achiever Award

■ Chandrapur Bureau
CHANDRAPUR, Oct 14

DR S B Kishor, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Computer Science at Sardar Patel Mahavidyalaya, Chandrapur, has received the first National Achiever Award-2026 from Gondwana University, Gadchiroli, for his overall academic, research, and professional contributions at the national and international levels. He was presented with the award during the university's 15th Foundation Day celebrations.

The award was presented by Dr. Atul Vaidya, Vice-Chancellor of Laxminarayan Innovation Technological University, Nagpur, along with Dr Prashant Bokare, Vice-Chancellor of Gondwana University, Gadchiroli. Avishyant Panda, Collector of Gadchiroli; Dr. Shriram Kawale, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Gondwana University; and Dr. Anil Hirekan, Registrar of Gondwana University, Gadchiroli, among others, were also present.

Dr. Kishor has 26 years of teaching experience and 19 years of research supervision experience. He holds two PhD degrees, seven patents (including Australian patents), and five copyrights. Having guided 18 PhD and six MPhil scholars, he currently serves as the Chairman of the Board of Studies in Computer Science. Additionally, Dr. Kishor contributes his expertise



Dr S B Kishor receiving the first National Achiever Award-2026 during the 15th foundation day of Gondwana University, Gadchiroli.

as a Board of Studies (BoS) member across nine universities and autonomous colleges accredited with NAAC 'A' grade or higher.

Dr Kishor has authored 82 books, including 23 published by international publishers (reaching 150 titles including re-editions). He has published 45 research papers in reputed journals and earned Best Paper Awards at both an international conference in London and a national conference. Furthermore, he has served as a resource person for over 200 academic programmes--including more than 150 under UGC-MMTTC, ASC, and HRDC -- training over 32,000 research scholars and faculty members.

Beyond academia, Dr Kishor has donated blood 22 times and pledged his eyes for organ donation. He has also penned 60 newspaper articles, mostly on research-related subjects, published in 'The Hitavada'.

Attributing his success to those who supported him, Dr Kishor expressed gratitude to his family members, mentors, former Vice-Chancellor Dr V S Ainchwar, late former Vice-Chancellor Dr Ravindra Mangal, Dr Vilas Godki, Dr Vinay Chavan, Dr K Dixit, office-bearers of Gondwana University, Board of Studies members, colleagues, staff members, friends, and his students.

Dr Kishor was warmly congratulated on his achievement by Principal Dr Pramod Katkar, Vice-Principal Dr Swapnil Madhamshettiwar, Sarvodaya Shikshan Mandal President Arvind Porddiwar, Secretary Prashant Potdukhe, Vice-President Sudarshan Nimkar, and members Manohar Tarakunde, Sagunatai Talandi, Sandip Gaddamwar, Rakesh Patel, and Jinesh Patel, along with the teaching and non-teaching staff of the college.

HONOUR ROLL • 2026

Dr S B Kishor

Associate Professor & Head, Dept. of Computer Science, Sardar Patel Mahavidyalaya, Chandrapur — first recipient of Gondwana University's **National Achiever Award-2026**, presented on the University's 15th Foundation Day.

26

years of teaching

82

books authored

45

research papers

7

patents, incl. Australian

18

PhD scholars guided

150+

sessions at UGC-MMTTC / UGC-HRDC-ASC

32K+

scholars & faculty trained

22

times a blood donor

Chairman, Board of Studies in Computer Science, and a BoS member across nine universities and NAAC 'A'-grade autonomous colleges.

Heartiest congratulations from the AACST family to our Editor & Chief Reviewer, Dr Kishor, on this well-deserved recognition of a lifetime of scholarship, mentoring and service.

Source: [The Hitavada](#), Vidarbha Line, 15 October 2026, Page 6 • Chandrapur Bureau

AACST EVENTS • OCTOBER 2026

Completed & Ongoing Events

COMPLETED



NATIONAL LEVEL • ONLINE

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DATES
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TIME
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11 Oct	Machine Learning • Valedictory

166
 PARTICIPANTS

15
 CITIES & STATES

5+1
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 VALEDICTORY



PARTICIPANT SPEAKS



“The workshop was an amazing experience! I learned many new things, and everything was explained very clearly. The session was interactive, informative, and enjoyable. Thank you for organizing such a wonderful workshop. Looking forward to attending more workshops like this!”

— A PARTICIPANT, DATA SCIENCE BOOTCAMP

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INAUGURATION

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 1 Oct 2026 • Inauguration at WCEM, Nagpur • see cover story

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Upcoming Events

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4 Superposition, Entanglement & Interference	11 Errors in Quantum Computing
5 Multi-qubit Systems & Tensor Products	12 Quantum Simulation & Hardware
6 Quantum States, Measurement & Probability	13 Hands-on: Quantum Circuits with Qiskit
7 Quantum Gates & Unitary Matrices	


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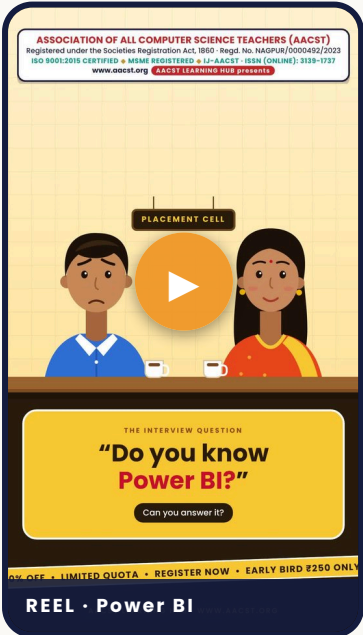

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 Founder, AACST

CONTACT
Dr. Ojas Garg
 Co-Director, AACST Learning Hub
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Quantum Computing: from qubits to Qiskit
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IMPORTANT WORLD AROUND NEWS · OCTOBER 2026

Google cultivates "magic states" on Willow

Google Quantum AI reported magic state cultivation on its Willow processor, cutting errors 40-fold and reaching 99.99% logical fidelity for T-states, a key ingredient for fault-tolerant quantum algorithms. 16 Oct

A manufacturable molecular qubit

NVision Quantum announced a peer-reviewed *Nature* paper validating an organic molecular qubit with a photonic interface, and a partnership to place such qubits on photonic chips. 28 Oct

OpenAI introduces GPT-6.1 Terra

A model aimed at tool use, coding and computer interaction, released through staged access. 26 Oct

Quantinuum sets an error-correction record

Quantinuum's Helios system reached 99.9995% logical fidelity, about ten times better than its own September record, on its path to fault-tolerant quantum computing by 2029. 19 Oct

Meta opens Muse Spark weights

Meta released open weights for Muse Spark, an 816-billion-parameter mixture-of-experts model with a one-million-token context that accepts text, image, video and audio. 15 Oct

Google DeepMind previews Genie 4

An interactive world-simulation model with native audio and text steering, now with trusted testers. 27 Oct

WORTH READING · TECH BRIEFS

Clef. Cloudflare's open-weight "decision models" return typed answers with probabilities instead of free text. 1 Oct

Beam 1.0. Reflection released an open-weight mixture-of-experts model for coding and agent work under Apache 2.0. 16 Oct

Kimi K3.1 Pro. Moonshot's successor to K3 adds image and video understanding with a one-million-token context. 24 Oct

DAYS TO REMEMBER · NOVEMBER 2026

Computer celebration days this November

5 NOVEMBER · FIRST THURSDAY

(UNESCO) International Day against Violence and Bullying at School, including Cyberbullying

Declared by UNESCO Member States in 2019 and observed on the first Thursday of November, the day calls on schools and families to keep learners safe in classrooms and online.

TRY THIS · Show students how to block, screenshot and report abuse, and how to report cybercrime at cybercrime.gov.in.



11 NOVEMBER

(India) National Education Day

Marks the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, independent India's first Education Minister; observed since 2008.

TRY THIS · Share one free digital-learning resource, such as a SWAYAM course or an open textbook, with your class.



20 NOVEMBER

(Global) Name Your PC Day

A light-hearted day to give your computer a name of its own, and a good reminder for labs and IT teams to tidy up device names, asset tags and inventory records.

TRY THIS · Rename lab machines with a clear scheme (for example LAB2-PC07) so faults, logs and tickets are easy to trace.



30 NOVEMBER

(ACM) Computer Security Day

Started in 1988 to remind users to protect their computers and data.

TRY THIS · Update your OS and browsers, turn on multi-factor authentication, and check that your last backup restores.

Dates from the Computer Celebration Day calendar.

CONFERENCE NEWS · NOVEMBER 2026

Computing conferences across India this November

From Goa to Greater Noida, November brings a full calendar of national and international meetings on AI, cybersecurity, data science and intelligent computing, each a chance for members to present, listen and build networks.

- 2-4**
 NOV 2026
 INTERNATIONAL

ICTCon 2026 · International Intelligent Computing and Technologies Conference
 Goa **HYBRID** | ictcon2026.cit.ac.in
 Hosted by IIT Goa and the National Forensic Sciences University (Goa Campus), three days on AI, machine learning, cybersecurity, digital forensics, IoT, deep learning and data science.
- 5-6**
 NOV 2026
 INTERNATIONAL

RICE 2026 · Research in Intelligent Computing in Engineering
 Goa **HYBRID** | riceconference.in
 Organised by CMR Engineering College, Hyderabad, with technical sponsorship from the IEEE Maharashtra Section; tracks span AI, machine learning, signal processing, IoT, big data, NLP and smart manufacturing.
- 16-17**
 NOV 2026
 NATIONAL

NCCDFI 2026 · National Conference on Cybersecurity, Digital Forensics and Intelligence
 Dr Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi | nccdfi.nielitkohima.in
 Organised with NIELIT and supported by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), with a focus on cybersecurity, digital forensics, cyber intelligence and national digital security.
- 18-20**
 NOV 2026
 INTERNATIONAL

AISUMMIT 2026 · International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies
 Bennett University, Greater Noida | bennett.edu.in/aisummit2026
 Held in association with the University of Florida, covering artificial and computational intelligence, machine learning, cybersecurity, blockchain, cloud computing and IoT.
- 19-21**
 NOV 2026
 INTERNATIONAL

ICCAIML 2026 · International Conference on Computation of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
 Manipal University Jaipur **HYBRID** | [jaipur.manipal.edu · FoSTA events](https://jaipur.manipal.edu/FoSTA%20events)
 The second edition focuses on AI, machine learning and computational technologies. Proceedings are planned with Springer CCIS; authors should confirm publication and indexing terms with the organisers.
- 20-22**
 NOV 2026
 INTERNATIONAL

ICon INDIA 2026 · International Conference on Intelligent Networks and Data-driven Intelligent Applications
 Pondicherry University, Puducherry **HYBRID** | iconindia2026.aconf.org
 Brings together AI, data science, intelligent computing, 6G, cloud and edge computing, IoT and cybersecurity; IEEE technical co-sponsorship is listed.
- 26-28**
 NOV 2026
 INTERNATIONAL

ICDEC 2026 · International Conference on Data, Electronics and Computing
 SVNIT, Surat | icdec.org/2026
 Organised by SVNIT Surat and the COMSYS Educational Trust, with sessions on AI, machine learning, computing, image and video processing, signal processing and electronics.

Dates and details as announced by the organisers. Please confirm on the official websites before registering or submitting papers.

POLICY WATCH

C-DAC, under MeitY, invited providers to supply up to 10,000 AI compute units for the IndiaAI Mission (reported 13 Oct). The IT Minister said on 26 Oct that a consultation paper on AI regulation will follow "in the coming weeks."

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