

My name is Mandar Dani and I am a proud alumnus of Zeal College of Engineering and Research. This institute has equipped me with all the necessary tools to make a name in this rapidly changing world of work and has made moulded me into a confident young professional ready to take on the world.

The campus life has been vibrant right from the start and has made my learning experience a truly enjoyable one. Throughout my course, I have made it a point to take part in the various co-curricular activities held by the College. Be it improving English proficiency or taking part in sports, I never limited myself. I personally took part in personality development classes offered to all students by ZCOER which has benefitted me immensely in preparing myself for the professional world. I would like to mention that we had an opportunity to take part in an online workshop on Solar Energy offered by Delft University of Technology, Netherlands under a college initiative organized by ZCOER. For my B.E. project, I worked on the Development of a Biomass Cookstove for its performance guided by Prof. Ashish Gandigude Sir. It helped us learn skills like teamwork, leadership, resource management, and research. We were awarded for our project at the SGGS innovative project competition. This experience helped me secure my first job in a company that manufactured enclosures for diesel generators, reiterating the importance of hands-on exposure for professional success.

After completing my B.E., I worked as a Production Engineer at Sai Sound Control Systems Pvt. Ltd. For one year then I moved to Surya Industries Ltd. and worked as a Production Manager for 2 years. Then I started preparing for my Masters. My dream was to become an Aerospace Engineer with sufficient industrial experience. I am currently pursuing a Master's degree in aerospace systems engineering from University of Alabama in USA and am planning to major in Rocket Propulsion. I plan to pursue a PhD from the same University upon completion of my Masters.

The current pandemic has forced many of us to rethink the way we think about our future and has taught us to embrace change to the max. Lastly I would like to offer a piece of my experience to the next generation of brilliant engineers and encourage them to be curious to explore the extents of the knowledge they can seek. After all, it is our job as engineers to make the best possible solutions for the increasingly complex problems of this world. To conclude, I would like to say that I am immensely thankful to

my family and the Faculty of Zeal College for standing by me like a rock while I found my feet in this world.