

## Hello fellow Zealians!

I am Sumit Thigale. After completing my HSC from the renowned N.M.V Junior College, I started my Mechanical engineering journey at Zeal in 2010. My experience at Zeal was very enriching from an academic as well as professional perspective. It helped me build a strong foundation of engineering fundamentals while also helping me develop other qualitative skills such as leadership and team-building. I made a lot of friends during my time at Zeal with whom I had some incredible experiences. Engineering studies was a roller-coaster ride during which the professors held us through the ups and downs and made sure that we didn't lose our confidence. All the professors had good technical know-how and were approachable as well; in fact, I am still in touch with many of my professors. The theoretical concepts were intertwined with the knowledge of practical applications. The college workshops and labs were well equipped. I have always been at the forefront of organizing & participating in technical and cultural events; I enjoyed the challenge of serving as the President of the 'Mechanical Engineering Student's Association'. During my time as the president, we successfully conducted and coordinated several events such as Nirmaan, blood donation camps, and industrial visits. Along with my friends, I also conducted Robo-race workshops for junior students. My B.E. project gave me an opportunity to implement the concepts which I had learnt during my studies in a more practical setting. It helped me cement my knowledge which proved to be useful in my work and also for my masters. I always had my mind set on doing my Masters in Germany. However, I wanted to develop my professional skills further before I could embark on this journey. I worked at Preci-Forge and Gears Pvt. Ltd. as a Quality engineer. While working there, I not only got an opportunity to hone my intuitive and logical capabilities, but also acquired the much required insight and preparedness expected from a Mechanical engineer.

My family has been a great support throughout this journey. Without them, I would not have been able to achieve my goals and live my dreams. My friends were also an integral part of this journey. They made me a better person and stuck with me through the thick and thin. Last but not the least, my engineering professors were very supportive. Their constant encouragement helped me to pass all the academic stages with flying colors. I am very grateful to all of you for giving me a solid foundation.

Lastly, I would like to thank Prof. Ashish Gandigude Sir for giving me this opportunity to share my thoughts and experiences. I felt overwhelmed when I read the news regarding the huge human flag made by our students. Being from Zeal, I

was really proud of it. There many more memories and experiences attached to this college and this space is not enough to fit all of it.

Be healthy, be safe.