

SAMTHANG HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome to the latest edition of Samthang
Highlight your go-to source for all the
wonderful events and updates



Since its establishment on June 26, 2003, through the esteemed inauguration by His Excellency Lyonpo Sangay Ngedup. The Technical Training Institute (TTI) Samthang has been dedicated to its mission of providing socially responsible technical and vocational education and training (TVET) to meet Bhutan's evolving needs. As we reflect on the first half of 2025, we recognize a period characterized by significant growth, empowerment, and innovation.

Our achievements range from fostering financial literacy and promoting menstrual health awareness to launching transformative new academic programs and expanding our campus infrastructure. These initiatives underscore our commitment to advancing our vision of becoming a premier TVET institution in Bhutan. This newsletter serves to highlight these accomplishments and invites you to collaborate with us in shaping a skilled, inclusive, and sustainable future for our nation.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Financial Literacy Program: Empowering Trainees with Bhutan National Bank
- Men Speak Up: Leading Menstrual Hygiene Awareness on May 28, 2025
- Alumni Spotlight: Ms. Sonam Wangmo's Inspiring Return
- UN Peacekeeping Force Training: Second Cohort Begins April 15, 2025
- Major Expansion: Transforming Skills Training with a USD 32M Project

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT: A SUCCESS STORY RETURNS



Ms. Sonam Wangmo, a distinguished alumna of TTI Samthang and the proprietor of Beauty Beyond Salon in Thimphu, recently returned to the institute to share her expertise and success story with current trainees. n April 10, Ms. Wangmo conducted a two-day masterclass on advanced manicure techniques, integrating

theoretical instruction, live demonstrations, and hands-on practice. On April 10, Ms. Wangmo conducted a two-day masterclass on advanced manicure techniques, integrating theoretical instruction, live demonstrations, and hands-on practice. Day one covered essential topics such as nail anatomy, functions, common diseases, various nail shapes, tool utilization, and an introduction to gel polish and Gel-X techniques. This was followed by live demonstrations of ten trending nail art designs, including French tips, marble, 2D, and 3D art, after which trainees practiced under her direct guidance.

Day two focused on gel polish and PVC extension application, featuring a detailed step-by-step demonstration. Trainees then worked in pairs, applying the techniques while receiving personalized feedback and professional insights from Ms. Sonam Wangmo.

Her inspiring trajectory from trainee to successful salon owner serves as a compelling testament to the achievements attainable through passion and skill.

Her visit not only enhanced the technical knowledge of our trainees but also significantly boosted their motivation and pride.

TTI Samthang extends its sincere gratitude to Ms. Sonam Wangmo for her invaluable contribution and for serving as an exemplary role model.



SECOND COHORT OF UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE TRAINING

TTI Samthang is pleased to announce the commencement of training for the second cohort of UN Peacekeeping Force trainees. The new batch was officially welcomed on April 15, 2025, marking the beginning of a three-month intensive training program. This specialized curriculum encompasses Heavy Vehicle Driving, Excavator Operation, and Backhoe Operation.



This bespoke training is integral to a collaborative initiative aimed at equipping individuals with the technical proficiencies essential for peacekeeping missions under the auspices of the United Nations. The curriculum is meticulously designed to adhere to international standards, integrating classroom instruction, practical field training, and simulated task environments.

Beyond machinery operation, the training places significant emphasis on discipline, safety awareness, problem-solving, and teamwork—all critical attributes for operating effectively in complex and high-

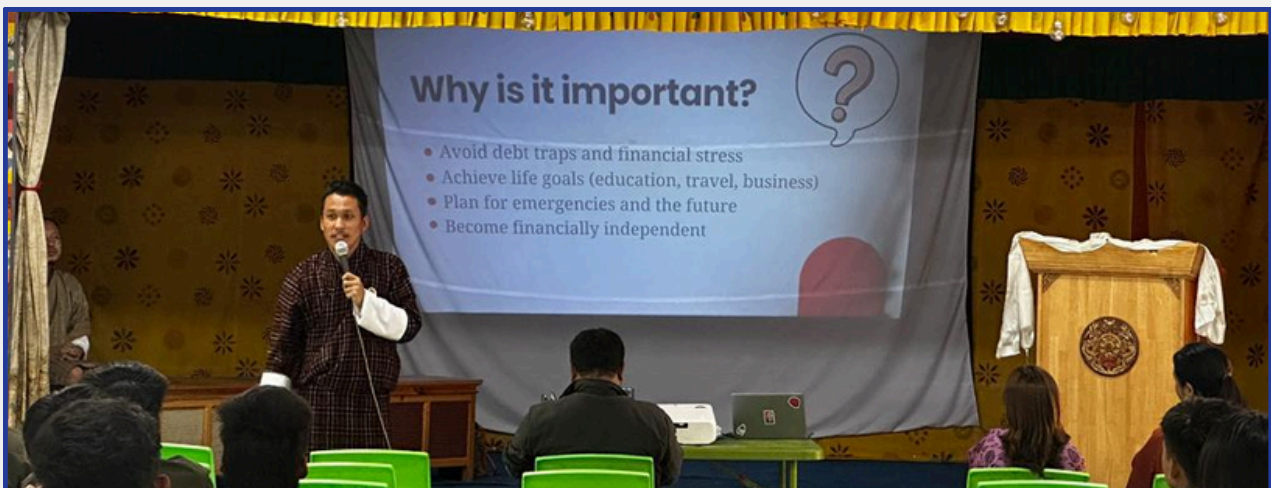
pressure peacekeeping environments. Our trainers at TTI Samthang are dedicated to developing not only skilled operators but also responsible and confident peacekeepers capable of effective field performance.

The institute takes immense pride in its participation in this meaningful mission and is honored to contribute to preparing individuals for global service. We extend our best wishes to the new cohort for their training and express profound respect for their forthcoming contributions to global peace and humanitarian support.

FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM: EMPOWERING TRAINEES FOR A SECURE FUTURE

TTI Samthang recently hosted a comprehensive Financial Literacy Program, meticulously conducted by the Bhutan National Bank (BNB). This initiative was strategically designed to equip our trainees with fundamental and advanced financial knowledge, thereby fostering personal and professional empowerment.

The session engaged participants with critical topics such as intentional budgeting, cultivating disciplined saving habits, understanding prudent investment principles, and mastering personal finance management within an increasingly complex economic landscape. The training was both informative and highly interactive, encouraging participants to evaluate their current financial practices and adopt more strategic, sustainable approaches.



As young individuals transition from education to employment, financial literacy becomes an indispensable life skill, directly influencing their capacity for economic independence and long-term security. By demystifying financial concepts and promoting practical tools, this program significantly contributed to nurturing financial confidence and responsibility among participants.

Such collaborative efforts between esteemed financial institutions and educational establishments exemplify a shared commitment to holistic community development. TTI Samthang extends its profound gratitude to the Bhutan National Bank for their expert facilitation, generous support, and sustained dedication to fostering inclusive, knowledge-driven progress.

Through these partnerships, we continue to champion initiatives that uplift and empower individuals, thereby establishing a foundation for a more informed, resilient, and financially secure society.

TTI SAMTHANG UNDERGOES MAJOR EXPANSION TO TRANSFORM SKILLS TRAINING IN BHUTAN

In a significant stride towards transforming vocational education in Bhutan, the Technical Training Institute (TTI) Samthang is set to undergo a major expansion, aligning with Bhutan's broader Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) reform strategy.

The Ministry of Education and Skills Development (MoESD) marked this milestone with a Salang Tendrel ceremony on March 28 to officially launch the construction of new infrastructure across the 11-acre institute campus. This ambitious project, funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) at a cost of USD 32 million, will include a Creative Arts Block, a dining hall, internal road networks, and upgraded water and sewer systems.



A key highlight of this expansion is the introduction of five new creative and technical courses, reflecting growing interest and demand in emerging industries: Hair and Beauty Therapy, Sound Technician, Movie Making, Lighting Technician, and Electric Vehicle Technician.

These new programs are anticipated to prepare Bhutanese youth for the creative and green economies of the future," stated the Officiating Director of the Department of Workforce and Skill Development. Beyond physical expansion, the project strongly emphasizes inclusion and partnership. The new infrastructure will be disability-friendly, ensuring full access to training opportunities for persons with disabilities. The institute also plans to collaborate closely with private training providers and civil society organizations (CSOs) to diversify and enrich its training ecosystem.

Upon completion, the upgraded facilities will alleviate current accommodation shortages and significantly enhance the learning environment for both staff and students. This expansion is projected to increase the institute's capacity from 300 to over 2,000 trainees by 2027, positioning TTI Samthang as a leading center for vocational excellence in Bhutan.

This initiative is an integral part of the government's nationwide effort to modernize the TVET sector, create sustainable employment pathways, and equip youth with the essential skills required to thrive in a rapidly changing global landscape.

ADVANCING MENSTRUAL AWARENESS: A COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE

In a progressive and impactful initiative, TTI Samthang observed Menstrual Hygiene Day on May 28, 2025, to advocate for enhanced awareness, dignity, and equitable access to menstrual health education. This year's program was particularly notable as it was led by male staff members, demonstrating a powerful commitment to breaking gendered silence surrounding menstruation and fostering ally-ship in promoting women's health and rights.

In addition to substantive discussions, hygiene kits were distributed to participants as a gesture of practical support. The event concluded with a pledge-signing activity, inviting attendees to commit to advocating for menstrual equity, respect, and awareness within their homes, workplaces, and communities.



The observance of Menstrual Hygiene Day at TTI Samthang transcended a symbolic event; it represented a meaningful stride toward dismantling societal taboos and championing gender inclusivity. By actively engaging men in advocacy and dialogue, we advance closer to a future where menstruation is understood, respected, and supported as a natural aspect of life.

We remain steadfast in our commitment to fostering an environment where every individual, regardless of gender, plays an active role in promoting health, dignity, and equality.

Shaping the Future of Creative Industries

Discover the Power of Audio: Sound Technician Program Now Open!



In a media-driven world, sound constitutes a critical element of storytelling. Whether it is the clear dialogue in a film, the dynamic energy of a concert, or the subtle background ambiance in a podcast – sound imbues every moment with life.

At our institute, the Sound Technician BQF Level II course offers aspiring audio professionals an ideal pathway into this dynamic industry.

Curriculum Overview:

This hands-on training program encompasses foundational electrical theory through to professional audio recording and post-production. Participants will:

- Set up and operate professional sound equipment.
- Record, mix, and master audio for live and studio settings.
- Manage audio editing software and apply creative sound effects.
- Acquire skills in field recording, stage production, and studio mastering.

Career Opportunities:

Sound technicians are in high demand across various sectors, including film production, event management, radio broadcasting, music studios, and corporate media teams. With audio increasingly central to content creation and immersive media, the skills acquired will be highly relevant and future-proof.

Relevance in Today's World:

From film and music to events and gaming, high-quality sound is indispensable. For individuals passionate about technology, media, or music, this course provides the technical foundation to transform interest into a sustainable profession.

This is an opportune moment to shape the future of sound. Join our Sound Technician program and become an essential contributor behind the scenes.



Lights, Camera, Your Future! Enroll in the Video Maker Program

Every narrative merits visualization. In the current era of reels, short films, and digital documentaries, visual storytelling exerts unprecedented influence. The Video Maker BQF Level II course at our institute is meticulously designed for Gen Z creators who aspire to translate their concepts into impactful visuals.



This dynamic, industry-focused course provides comprehensive training in:

- Developing scripts and storyboards.
- Shooting and framing cinematic scenes.
- Operating cameras, lighting, and sound equipment.
- Editing footage, designing audio, applying color grading, and finalizing production for screening.

Career Pathways:

Graduates can pursue exciting roles such as:

- Film/TV content creators.
- Corporate videographers.
- Freelance editors and cinematographers.
- Social media producers and YouTubers.

Relevance and Demand:

Video content dominates digital platforms. The ability to shoot and edit professional videos is a highly sought-after skill across business, entertainment, education, and personal branding domains.

Why Learn With Us?

Our curriculum is aligned with national competency standards and delivered through immersive, project-based learning. Additionally, we offer:

- Skilled trainers with practical production experience.
- Access to cutting-edge equipment, including DSLR cameras, lighting kits, stabilizers, and editing suites.
- OJT opportunities to gain valuable real-world exposure.

Your Vision Deserves the Screen:

Join the Video Maker program and acquire the skills to direct, shoot, and edit stories that captivate and connect audiences.

Elevate Your Career: HydraFacial Integration in Hair & Beauty Therapy Training!

We are pleased to announce the integration of HydraFacial technology into our Hair and Beauty Therapist program. This represents a significant advancement in modernizing skincare education and addressing the growing demand for advanced, non-invasive aesthetic treatments.

What is HydraFacial?

HydraFacial is a globally recognized skincare treatment that synergistically combines cleansing, exfoliation, hydration, and antioxidant protection, delivering immediate and discernible results. With no downtime and notable skin rejuvenation, HydraFacial has become an essential offering in luxury salons, skin clinics, and wellness centers.

Rationale for Integration:

The beauty industry is undergoing rapid evolution, necessitating continuous curriculum updates. Contemporary clients seek visible, rapid, and safe treatments, to which salons are responding by incorporating technologies like HydraFacial. By introducing this into our training, we are equipping learners with future-ready skills that provide a distinct competitive advantage.

Target Participants:

This specialized training is now available to:

- Pre-service learners currently enrolled in the Hair and Beauty Therapy program.
- In-service professionals seeking to enhance their skills and diversify their salon offerings.

Learning Outcomes:

Participants will gain proficiency in:

- Principles of hydradermabrasion and skin physiology.
- Hands-on training with HydraFacial equipment.
- Client consultation and safety protocols.
- Skin assessment and treatment customization.
- Post-care recommendations and service pricing strategies.

Benefits to Participants:

- Certified add-on skill.
- Enhanced employability in premier salons and clinics.
- Ability to attract high-end clientele.
- Increased revenue-generating potential for practicing therapists.

Expert-Led Training:

Our sessions will be facilitated by qualified and experienced beauty professionals proficient in the latest skin technologies. The training incorporates live demonstrations, practical application, and assessment-based certification.

ENHANCING OUR CAMPUS: PRESERVING CULTURE AND PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY

TTI Samthang is dedicated to fostering a dynamic, inclusive, and sustainable campus environment that cultivates both personal development and cultural pride. In 2025, we implemented significant enhancements to our recreational facilities and environmental practices, thereby nurturing a holistic learning environment for our trainees and staff.

To honor Bhutan's rich cultural heritage, we introduced a dedicated Khuru Bachu arena on campus, revitalizing the traditional Bhutanese game of Khuru (dart-throwing). This recreational space has rapidly become a vibrant hub of activity, hosting regular tournaments that engage trainees, staff, and the local community. Khuru Bachu promotes physical fitness, teamwork, and camaraderie while actively preserving a cherished cultural practice. This initiative has generated considerable enthusiasm among participants, with trainees independently organizing weekly matches that strengthen community bonds and instill pride in Bhutanese traditions. By integrating traditional games into campus life, we reinforce our commitment to holistic development, ensuring our trainees mature into skilled professionals and culturally grounded individuals.



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Trainees and staff actively participate in sorting recyclables, organic waste, and compostable materials, supported by clearly labeled bins and consistent awareness campaigns. Workshops conducted in early 2025 educated participants on the critical importance of effective waste management, reducing environmental impact, and supporting Bhutan's national vision of sustainability. This initiative has not only enhanced the aesthetic appeal of our 11-acre campus but has also cultivated a profound sense of environmental stewardship within our community. By embedding sustainable practices into daily routines, we empower our trainees to contribute meaningfully to a greener, more responsible future.

These concerted efforts underscore TTI Samthang's commitment to fostering a campus environment that harmoniously balances cultural preservation, physical well-being, and environmental responsibility. We encourage our community to participate in Khuru Bachu tournaments and support our waste segregation initiatives, collectively building a stronger, more sustainable institute.

ELEVATING LEARNING: MOODLE AND BOOK HEAVEN TRANSFORM EDUCATION

In 2025, TTI Samthang integrated innovative tools to significantly enhance its teaching and learning methodologies. This included the introduction of Moodle as a dynamic e-learning platform and the launch of the "Book Heaven" library system, both designed to enrich our educational ecosystem. These initiatives are consistent with our mission to deliver high-quality, accessible TVET that empowers Bhutan's youth.

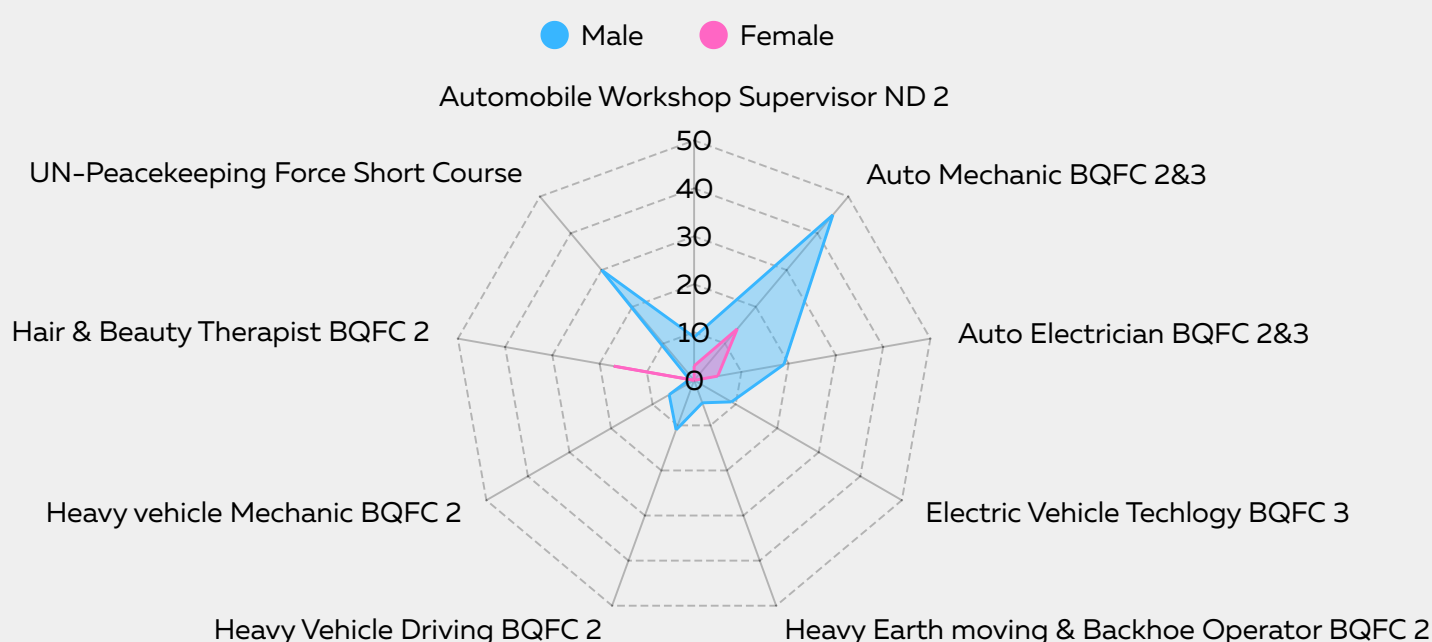
Moodle, a globally recognized learning management system, has fundamentally transformed our training delivery. Trainers now upload course materials, quizzes, and interactive assignments, enabling trainees to learn at their own pace, access resources anytime, and engage in online discussion forums. This flexible, technology-driven approach enhances the comprehension of complex topics such as Heavy Vehicle Driving and Sound Technician skills, fostering independent learning and collaborative engagement. By integrating Moodle, we ensure our programs remain cutting-edge, preparing trainees for the demands of a digital world.

Complementing this, the "Book Heaven" library system provides seamless access to a diverse collection of technical manuals, industry journals, and e-books specifically curated for our curriculum. Housed within a modern, user-friendly digital platform, Book Heaven allows trainees to explore resources on-site or remotely, effectively supporting research for courses like Video Maker and Hair and Beauty Therapy. Regular workshops are conducted to train students and staff on navigating the system, thereby promoting a culture of continuous learning.

Collectively, Samthang Moodle and Book Heaven empower our trainees with the essential tools for academic and professional excellence, ensuring TTI Samthang remains a leader in innovative, inclusive education. We invite our community to explore these invaluable resources and join us in shaping a knowledge-driven future.

TRAINEE ENROLLMENT OVERVIEW: JUNE 2025

TTI Samthang is pleased to report on the current strength and diversity of its trainee community as of June 2025, comprising 173 dedicated individuals committed to vocational excellence. The Trainees Information Board indicates a robust enrollment across various trades, with 144 male and 29 female trainees participating in both regular and short-course programs.



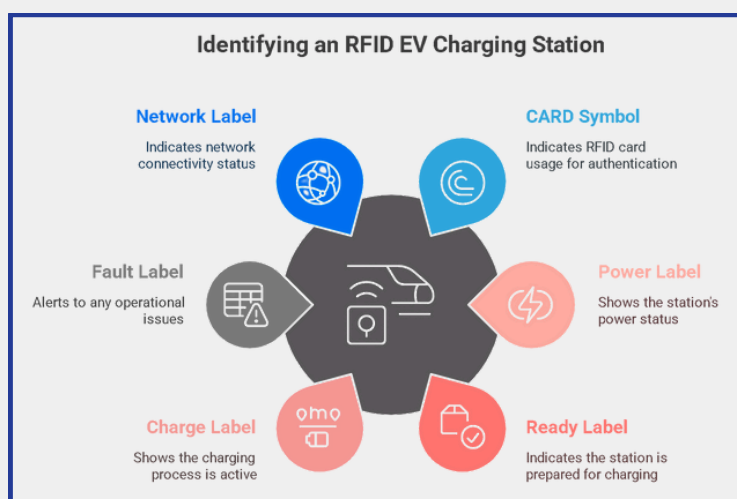
This diverse cohort, encompassing technical, creative, and peacekeeping disciplines, reaffirms our commitment to inclusive, high-quality Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). Through ongoing expansions and the introduction of new programs, TTI Samthang continues to empower Bhutanese youth for a skilled and sustainable future.

NEW EV CHARGING STATION DONATED BY ESTEEMED ALUMNUS PRABATH BISWA



The new EV charging station is a modern, card-operated unit that supports environmentally responsible transportation on campus. It includes a user authentication system, operational indicators (Power, Ready, Charge, Fault, Network), and a comprehensive usage log for monitoring access.

Samthang Technical Training Institute proudly announces the installation of a new RFID-enabled Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station, generously donated by alumnus Mr. Prabath Biswa. Currently working as an EV Technician at Bhutan Hyundai Motors, Mr. Biswa is a graduate of the Auto Electrical program at Samthang TTI. His donation reflects both his professional achievements and his commitment to sustainability and giving back to the institute that shaped his career.



Special features allow users to remotely control and monitor charging through smartphone apps, schedule charging sessions, and integrate with smart home systems.

This contribution aligns with the institute's vision of adopting green practices and cutting-edge technologies. It also serves as a meaningful example for current trainees and staff, highlighting how alumni can inspire innovation and contribute to positive change within the community.

The institute extends heartfelt thanks to Mr. Prabath Biswa for his generous support and continued engagement with Samthang TTI.

HONOURING WOMEN: SHE CAN AND SHE WILL



On the 8th of March, Samthang Technical Training Institute solemnly observed International Women's Day through a series of purposeful and reflective activities. Notably, the entire event was conceived and organised by the male staff of the institute, a gesture of profound respect and solidarity with their female colleagues and trainees. This initiative underscored the institute's collective commitment to fostering gender equity and celebrating the vital roles women play within the academic and vocational community.

The programme commenced with a contemplative butter lamp offering, a symbolic act of reverence intended to invoke blessings, peace, and continued empowerment for women. This ceremonial ritual created an atmosphere of solemnity and introspection, anchoring the day's celebrations in cultural significance and spiritual depth.



Following the ritual, a ceremonial cake cutting was held to commemorate the occasion in a spirit of warmth and camaraderie. Faculty members, trainees, and staff gathered in unity to share in this moment, which served as both a celebration of women's achievements and a reaffirmation of mutual respect across genders

The focal point of the day was the Wall Magazine Competition, wherein trainees from various departments exhibited exceptional creativity, critical thinking, and thematic sensitivity. The visual presentations addressed a broad spectrum of subjects, including women's rights, gender parity, societal expectations, and the historical contributions of women. Each display was both aesthetically compelling and intellectually engaging, providing a platform for dialogue and reflection. The competition not only amplified student voices on pertinent issues but also reinforced the importance of gender awareness in contemporary vocational education.

Photo Gallery



Photo Gallery



JULY 26, 2025

NEWSLETTER

CONTACT US

EMPOWERING MINDS, ENGINEERING FUTURE

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