

TEDxXIE 21st March 2025

MIRAGE UNRAVELED

TEDxXIE 2025 – *Mirage Unraveled*, the 10th edition of TEDxXIE, came to life within the Seminar Hall of Xavier Institute of Engineering, transforming a familiar academic space into a stage for powerful ideas. Anchored in TEDx's enduring belief in "*Ideas Worth Spreading*," this year's theme invited the audience to look beyond illusions, question assumptions, and uncover deeper truths hidden beneath surface realities. The event brought together a dynamic lineup of speakers from diverse disciplines, each offering perspectives that challenged perceptions and sparked meaningful reflection. From personal journeys to thought-provoking insights, every talk contributed to a collective experience that was both intellectually stimulating and emotionally resonant.

The success of the event stands as a testament to the tireless efforts of the entire organizing team, whose dedication and teamwork transformed an ambitious vision into a memorable reality. Spearheaded by Organizer and Licensee Nanditha Ramesh and Co-Organizer Aditya Chindarkar, and strengthened by the invaluable guidance of Convener Prof. Tejal Deshpande, the team worked with passion, precision and purpose. Their collective commitment not only brought the theme to life but also created a platform where meaningful ideas could spark dialogue, reflection and lasting impact.



Speaker 1: Shreya Krishnan

Shreya Krishnan, Mrs. India Universe 2017 and Vice President of Marketing and Communications at Anviti Insurance Brokers, exemplifies leadership across diverse arenas. Redefining stereotypes within the pageant space while excelling in the corporate world, Shreya's story is one of balance, resilience, and authenticity. At TEDxXIE, she spoke about breaking illusions around identity and success, encouraging attendees to embrace every facet of who they are. Her words served as a powerful reminder that confidence and clarity emerge when we challenge limiting narratives.



Speaker 2: Ami Shroff

Ami Shroff, one of India's most celebrated mixologists and flair artists, brought an electrifying energy to the TEDxXIE stage. Renowned for blending technical mastery with theatrical performance, Ami has showcased her craft across more than 20 destinations in India and internationally. From fire artistry to precision-driven mixology, her journey reflects fearless creativity and discipline. Through her talk, she explored the art of reinvention and the courage to carve unconventional paths, inspiring the audience to pursue passion with precision and confidence.



Speaker 3: Aruna Rekha

Aruna Rekha, an acclaimed Kuchipudi exponent and trained Indian classical vocalist, enriched the event with her profound connection to India's artistic heritage. As the founder of Natya Rasika, she has dedicated her life to preserving and promoting classical dance through immersive training and performance. On stage, Aruna spoke about the delicate balance between tradition and innovation, emphasizing how questioning and reinterpreting inherited narratives can breathe new life into timeless art forms. Her insights resonated deeply, reminding the audience that heritage evolves when nurtured with intention.



Guest Performer: Victor Dey

Victor Dey, a talented playback singer known for his soulful renditions of beloved Bollywood melodies, elevated the atmosphere with his captivating performance. With a voice that effortlessly carried emotion and nostalgia, he immersed the audience in a journey through timeless songs. His dynamic stage presence and heartfelt delivery created moments of collective joy and reflection, offering a refreshing musical interlude between powerful ideas.



Speaker 4: Debalina Chakraborty

Debalina Chakraborty, a Learning and Development specialist and image consultant, brought clarity to the often-misunderstood realm of personal and professional identity. With expertise in communication, impression management and leadership presence, she has empowered countless individuals through coaching and corporate workshops. During her talk, Debalina unpacked the subtle narratives we carry about ourselves and how refining expression and confidence can transform both perception and opportunity. Her message encouraged the audience to lead with authenticity and intention.



Speaker 5: Ssanjay Gaggani

Ssanjay Gaggani, a recognized name in Indian television and film, brought his experiences from the entertainment industry to the TEDxXIE platform. Known for his versatile performances and commanding screen presence, Sanjay reflected on the realities behind the spotlight. He spoke candidly about resilience, growth and navigating change in a competitive industry. His journey underscored the importance of perseverance and self-belief, leaving the audience motivated to confront their own challenges with determination.



Speaker 6: Prachi Agarkar

Prachi Agarkar, culinary artist and MasterChef India finalist, shared her journey of blending creativity with strategic thinking. With an MBA and a strong entrepreneurial spirit, Prachi has crafted a distinctive path in the culinary world, where flavors become stories and dishes become expressions of identity. On stage, she spoke about innovation in unexpected spaces and the courage to pursue passion beyond convention. Her narrative inspired aspiring creators to trust their instincts and embrace experimentation.



Speaker 7: Ayush Kumar Singh

Ayush Kumar Singh, photographer and creative innovator, captivated the audience with his reflections on perspective and storytelling. Through his lens, Ayush transforms ordinary moments into powerful visual narratives, encouraging viewers to see beauty in the overlooked. At TEDxXIE, he spoke about curiosity as a catalyst for creativity, highlighting how questioning the obvious can unlock extraordinary possibilities. His journey inspired attendees to explore the world with artistic courage and embrace imagination without limits.



The evening drew to a close with Prof. Tejal Deshpande extending sincere appreciation to each speaker for sharing their stories, insights, and lived experiences with such openness and conviction. Her words of gratitude reflected the essence of the TEDx platform - where collaboration, curiosity and courageous conversations come together to spark meaningful change. The acknowledgment served as a fitting conclusion to a day that left the audience thoughtful, energized and inspired to learn and grow.

The triumph of *Mirage Unraveled* was the result of countless hours of dedication from a passionate organizing team whose commitment was visible in every detail. From conceptualization to execution, their unity and perseverance transformed vision into reality. As we celebrate the impact of this edition, we carry forward the spirit of TEDx that is continuing to nurture ideas, challenge perceptions and create ripples of positive change within our community and beyond.

