Research project -

This project was a very significant and difficult undertaking for me, as it was the first time I had ever done formal research. But I learnt a lot from the process, including Python (for which I also did a course before starting research) and machine learning (which I taught myself through youtube and other resources), problem solving and critical thinking, writing a formal scientific paper, peer-review process, etc. Throughout the project I was collaborating with a mentor (also a co-author), which significantly helped me in the process. I learnt the benefit of discussing ideas and getting things reviewed. Another very big learning was how to present research, since I also had to present my research paper at a conference (ICECET 2022).

The difficulties I faced were mostly due to my inexperience in machine learning, where I was unable to get models to perform accurately. I overcame this by rigorous research and spending a lot of time on experimentation. It was also the first time I was writing a paper, so my first-draft was very poor, but through multiple revisions and suggestions, I was able to produce a paper that got accepted in the conference. I also learnt about the importance of citation and academic honesty in formal research.

If I had to do it again, I would probably spend more time doing research and learning before starting the experimentation itself. Overall, it was a great experience in which I learnt a lot and benefited from at having my paper accepted and published.

Evidence - https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9873073

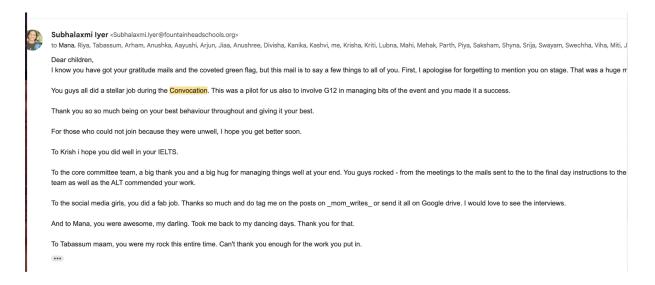
Volunteering at Convocation -

In this experience, I volunteered in the convocation of the batch of 2023. I helped seat guests, distribute gifts, and organise the venue before the event. It was a fun group event, where I learnt a lot about event-management, and also worked upon my communication skills. Throughout the event, I had to ensure that I completed my responsibilities, was well-behaved, and listened to group-leaders and teachers. Doing this also helped inculcate discipline and maturity in me.

Something I realised after the event was that I had not been in touch with group-leaders as to what I had to do, which sometimes led to delays in my work. Since then I have tried to improve upon this by always ensuring that expectations are clear before starting any work, and not being afraid to ask questions.

Evidence Doc -

https://docs.google.com/document/d/18r rKfUwXMTR2wVqgxiv70jD2rcV5piHOOLBraZegCk /edit?usp=sharing





Environmental Blog -

I have published a blog on Medium, where I talk about environmental issues of global and local significance. My intention was to spread awareness of these issues, and I feel that my blogs do fulfil that to a large extent. I have also been able to communicate about solutions to these problems that individuals can implement at a personal level. In writing these blogs, I have learnt a lot myself since I had to do extensive reading and research before writing.

The major challenge I faced was that very few people read my blog since I was a first-time writer. I tried to overcome this by SEO and sharing on social media, but only got limited success. However, I hope to continue writing and eventually have enough posts that my work starts getting noticed.

Another challenge I faced was that I started out strong by publishing a post every 2-3 weeks, but over-time due to time constraints I was unable to meet this deadline. I hope to improve my time-management skills and be able to write frequently again.

Evidence - https://medium.com/@s.krish.patel1/wildfires-what-how-why-bd84f94cc6f2