

## **STES Racing Team of Sinhgad Institutes ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in Overall performance at Formula Bharat 2021-22**

Competing with the brightest engineering talent with teams from IIT's, NIT's and other prestigious institutions from across the country, comprising of over 1250 participants from 43 teams across 17 States, STES Racing team of Sinhgad Institutes bagged the 4<sup>th</sup> position in overall performance in Formula Bharat Virtuals FBV 2021-22 with top slot going to IIT Kharagpur.

This season introduced a new format for dynamic events, with the commencement of REV-IT, a virtual racing initiative organised by Formula Bharat in partnership with IR sports, where drivers practiced long hours accumulating over 3000 hours of virtual driving experience to eventually race wheel to wheel with competing drivers. Change in format of the event was the introduction of Virtual Racing "Rev-it" in collaboration with IR Esports. Competing teams raced wheel to wheel virtually comprising of 3 different sub-events, namely Drag, Hillclimb, and Endurance.

Displaying great perseverance and hard work, STES Racing emerged as overall 4<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Design event and 8<sup>th</sup> in Business Logic Case. Amit Hulsure as the Vehicle Dynamics Lead and Team Manager, Hrishikesh Sutar as the Powertrain Lead, Akshay Salunke as the Drivetrain and Cooling Lead, Pradyumn Jaiswal as the Brakes lead, Danish Tamboli as the Electronics & Financials lead, Sreelakshmi Nair as the Business Logic Case lead and Shaonak Khatavkar as the Team lead comprised the STES Racing team of energetic, motivated, enthusiastic budding engineers.

The event ran for two months where teams competed in track events Drag, Hill climb, and Endurance. Drivers were Shaonak Khatavkar, Pradyumn Jaiswal for Drag, Amit Hulsure, Amey Bhavsar for Hill climb and Amit Hulsure, Danish Tamboli for Endurance. The Drag and Hill climb were one-timer events purely scored on basis of fastest lap times whereas the Endurance consisted of both Qualifying lap times for deciding the Grid place as well as the final result at which driver finishes. STES Racing came out victorious securing 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Hill climb event and Overall 3<sup>rd</sup> rank winning a cash prize of Rs 10,000/-

Amit, driver for Hill climb and Endurance was delighted to participate in the event. He says, "This virtual racing challenge gave us an opportunity to engage with top notch contenders in a fun event while applying engineering knowledge in vehicle dynamics. We exhibited our driving skills on world renowned tracks in one of the most powerful, historical and celebrated cars - the Lotus 98T." Sreelaxmi Nair says that the coming years will see STES Racing to go green with their Electric Vehicle design. On behalf of the entire team Shaonak Khatavkar, the team lead, thanked STES Management for motivation, support and guidance at all times. Says Shaonak, "The Team is immensely thankful for the continuous technical and emotional support provided by our institute. We firmly believe that none of this would have been possible without the support and guidance from our Principal and Faculty Advisors Dr. Amar Pandhare and Prof. Dhananjay Khankal who constantly helped us throughout the event."

Congratulating the team, Prof. M. N. Navale Founder President of STES said, " besides enhancing knowledge in engineering, project management and team work, such competitions give immense learning to the budding engineers to test theoretical knowledge in practical context. Notwithstanding the lockdown, the performance exhibited by the student team and faculty advisors is exemplary. I congratulate them and wish them best of success in their future endeavors."