

## **Sinhgad Institutes Rocketry Team bags second position in Latin American Space Challenge 2021 - Only team from India**

Competing against 700 participants from 41 teams of 5 countries STES Rocketry team bagged second position in Latin American Space Challenge 2021. STES Rocketry team comprising of 12 members from different engineering streams, including 4 girls, was the only one team participating from India in this prestigious international rocketry challenge, competing virtually with their rocket 'Hero' in the entry-level of 0.5 km height target, solid motor category.

Due to COVID, teams weren't able to travel to Brazil to test out designs full scale, and hence this year's competitions were evaluated online. All the teams were judged by 4 parameters, namely Team Efforts, Technical Report, Design Implementation and Podium Session. Team Efforts were judged on Deliverables to be correct, complete and timely, Organization, Operation, and Communication. Technical Report was judged on Correctness, Completeness, and Analysis. Design Implementation was judged on Competency of Design, Strategic Design Decisions and Design Challenges. Finally, the Podium Session was judged on Technical Excellence and Innovation. Apart from Podium Session, STES Rocketry team successfully fulfilled all the parameters and thus secured 2nd rank in the category, in this largest experimental rocket and satellite engineering competition of Latin America.

Aasit Vora on behalf of the entire STES Rocketry team gives credit to their achievement to the constant support from Faculty Advisors Prof. Dhananjay Khankal and Prof. Gaurav Sandeep Dave in addition to the motivation and support from Principals, HODs and the Management of STES always encouraging and supporting students to pursue their ambition and achieve their goals at all levels. Such achievements, competing with over 700 participants on the global platform is possible only with persistent motivation and support of the Management and totally committed faculty advisors who are always available to guide and solve each and every challenge that the team faced.

Another team member Piyusha Patil, says, "With only 3 months of preparation, this team presented the design, college, state, and country at an international stage, while also bagging a remarkable achievement. Having students from multiple engineering disciplines helped in making the design decisions by introducing new perspectives that were previously overlooked". Besides Piyusha the team of 12 included three more female participants Gauri Mahore, Girija Vikas Wale and Saakshi Sule.

Fully charged up with the performance at LASC, STES Rocketry team has commenced preparations for the highly prestigious Spaceport America Cup 2022. More team members would be inducted into this project. Says Tanmay Kanmahale, Third Year Production Engineer student from the Rocketry team, "By participating in such global competitions, we not only aim to win prizes, but we also want to make rocket science a more popular subject to work in and promote STEM discipline amongst all students."