



Publicity and Media Cell

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PRESS RELEASE

IEST, SHIBPUR COMES BACK WITH THE 85TH EDITION OF REBECA-2026, ANNUAL CULTURAL FEST

Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur, formerly known as Bengal Engineering College (B.E. College), Shibpur is the second oldest Engineering college in the Indian subcontinent. With a legacy of 170 years, it organizes REBECA, Asia's first Engineering College fest. Having derived its name from the "Reunion and Bengal Engineering College Annuals", it plays a pivotal part in the life of the Institute students, fondly known as "BEings". REBECA, the annual cultural fest of IEST, Shibpur, is not just a fest; it is an experience that remains etched in the memories of BEings forever. What started off as a nostalgic reunion of old friends has now skyrocketed into a gala event of four days. This year, the cultural extravaganza returns in its 85th avatar, from 19th to 22nd March, 2026, and promises to turn the campus into a grand stage for talent.

Stylized along the lines of our beloved Durga Pujo, REBECA starts with Saptami or the Classical Night. A grand Inauguration Ceremony, graced by Prof. Tathagata Roy, ex-Governor of Tripura and a celebrated alumnus of the Civil Engineering Department from the 1966 batch as Chief Guest, Prof.V.M.S.R. Murthy, Director, IEST, Shibpur and Prof. Debdulal Das, Dean (Students' Welfare) will mark the opening of the annual cultural fest on 19th March 2026. The night will be followed by a rich showcase of the Indian Classical Arts by the likes of Pt. Tarun Bhattacharya, decorated Santoor player and a host of other renowned artists, namely Sushmita Patra, Ankita Bhattacharyya and Nilanjan Ghoshal along with classical performances by our talented students. The next day, Ashtami, or the BEings' Night will be "By the BEings, For the BEings". Dedicated to the immense student talent of IEST, Shibpur, this night will provide a grand platform for raw creativity and campus spirit with solo acts to bands, dance and dramatics. The most personal night of the fest, it will be further elevated by performances from Somlata and the Aces, The Folk Diariz and Kunal Grover. The third night, Nabami or the Kolkata night is the heart of the show. An ode to the City of Joy, this night will see the stage host Fakira, a legendary folk-fusion band from Kolkata, Anurag Halder, Prithibi and many others to create a soulful symphony from the heartbeats of the city. This night promises to transcend all boundaries of language and region and make all hearts beat as one to the sweet rhythm of Nabami. Lastly, Dashami or the Mumbai Night is the finale of the show, the grand closing night of REBECA 2026. Featuring Bollywood artists like Nakash Aziz, this night will be the final showdown, high on energy and production, leaving the attendees with an electrifying experience of a showstopper finale.

REBECA stands as a confluence of tradition and modernity, where talent finds its stage. With a legacy of 85 years of cultural excellence, it has grown into one of India's most anticipated college festivals. Beyond hosting artists who will set the stage ablaze, REBECA remains deeply rooted in its purpose of providing a very important platform to the budding student talents, giving them the necessary shove to take on the world with confidence.



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