Mentoring is a particular form of relationship designed to provide personal and professional support to an individual. The mentor is generally more experienced than the mentee and makes use of that experience in a facilitative way to support the development of the mentee. The mentoring relationship provides a developmental opportunity for both parties and can thus be of mutual benefit. In a nutshell, a student mentor’s role may be perceived to be facilitative, supportive and developmental for the student community in general and the first year students in particular.

The orientation program began on 27th July 2015 with the welcome of the students, their parents, dignitaries, faculty members and Chief Guest of the event Dr I. K. Bhat, the Director of the institute, who graced the occasion with his presence.

Followed next was lamp lighting ceremony accompanied by Saraswati Vandana.

Next, a brief description of the institute, which included the motto, history and reputation of college along with recent achievements was given by the anchors Chitransh Gaurav and Shruti Trivedi.
The students were then shown a brief presentation on Student Mentorship Program by Saket Kumar, Chief Mentor, Chemical Engineering Department. The students were acquainted with the opportunities they will be receiving under the Student Mentorship Program and all the support and guidance that they will be getting from the SMP team.

Then the students were addressed by the First Year Coordinator Dr. Dinesh Kumar, who welcomed the students and gave them an introduction regarding the academic disciplines.

Dean Student Welfare Prof. Dilip Sharma, next discussed miscellaneous affairs of the institute namely financial aid and scholarships, student welfare, code of conduct.

Followed next was a brief on importance of sports in student life, its role in acceptance at various organisation and sports curriculum of the institute, by Subir Debnath.

This was followed by Dr S D Bharati, Chief Warden, who discussed about the housing environment at the institute, the facilities and infrastructure active in the hostels, mess and hostel maintenance committees, mess council and the food of mess.
After that, Dr. Madhu Agarwal, coordinator Creative Arts and Cultural Society, illuminated the audience about various societies active in the institute and their roles.

Librarian of the institute, Mr. Deep Singh., explained in detail about the vast inventory of literature available at the library, both in form of book as well as e-books. He talked about the intelligent trolley, RFID and KOHA schemes implemented at the library or Learning Resource Centre, to make issuing of books hassle free. He also proposed implementation of digital library in coming years. Further, all the facilities present at the library were given a short mention, like wifi, LAN, reading halls, journals.

Prof. Ravindra Nagar, Dean Academic Affairs, after that presented a brief on academic structure of the institute, along with grading scheme and results.

Dr. Lava Bhargava, Associate Dean PG, enlightened the students about various electives which can be opted by the students and their importance in research, and he elaborated about PG programs offered at the institute.

Dr. Kailash Singh, Associate Dean UG, explained about the undergraduate structure of the institute which the new first year entrants should be acquainted with.
Next, Prof. Awadesh Bhardwaj, Dean Research and Consultancy, discussed the importance of entrepreneurship and how innovation and incubation centre set up at the college can facilitate in shaping and honing startups at the institute. He further discussed the vital role of development of new technologies and how MNIT should play a role in it.

Dr. Rohit Goyal, Dean Planning and Development and Coordinator Student Mentorship Program, also welcomed the students and motivated them to excel in their respective fields. He also mentioned the features of SMP and the guidance that the students will be getting through it.

The esteemed Director, Dr. I. K. Bhat., then expressed his cultivating ideas. He exhorted students to prefer research, entrepreneurship over on campus placement, education should be knowledge oriented rather than placement oriented. Students should try to attain overall development in sports, extra-curricular activities in addition to academics. He illuminated the audience about state of the art infrastructure of the campus, ranging from Material Research Centre to VLTC. Followed after that, was an informative documentary, with the objective of propagating noble virtues and peace in the society and specially its youth, was shown by Raja Vidya Kender, with a full feature length of 45 minutes.

Next up, was the cultural program that featured dance performances by various groups, karaoke song performances, instrumental vocal performances.
The second day of the orientation program, 28th July 2015, started with the visit around the MNIT Campus. Seventeen teams were made with each team comprising of thirty freshers; supervised by three sub-mentors and one mentor. Out of this, two groups were made. The first group started from Central Lawn and went towards Air Toast and Centre of Tribology. Later they headed towards Hostel Office via Dispensary. Then they headed over to PMC, made their way to the temple and finally ended the visit at the Prabha Bhawan. The second group also started from Central Lawn, but went the reverse way to avoid overcrowding. During this visit, mentors and sub-mentors went over the rules and regulations of the Institution and made them aware of the importance of the aforementioned landmarks. Refreshments were then served, hence concluding the campus visit. The next event on the schedule for the second day was the poster making competition which saw around two hundred participants competing with great enthusiasm and determination, some on groups and others individually. The time limit was ninety minutes. The students displayed their skills and conveyed their messages through their posters, which came out to be 150 in number. There were two topics for this event: Remembering the late Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and “Clean MNIT Green MNIT”. The sub-mentors supervised the event, providing all the essential materials and stationery for the activity. Afterward, the students returned to their hostels for a break, only to come back to the other fun activities planned for the second half.
In the second half, the students were educated about the importance of their health, hygiene, nutrition and fitness. Dr. Vandana Gupta along with others spoke to the freshers about the importance of bodily maintenance, especially when one is away from home for the first time. She also talked about fitness like muscular fitness, which was an eye opener to most of the audience. After this, she made the students aware about the harmful effects of smoking and drinking, with informative videos and infographics. The perils of these actions were explained thoroughly and in an interesting manner by using scientific facts and figures. Dr. Gupta was then joined by Dr. Shekhawat, who talked about HIV-AIDS and how it affects the body. After the talk, the students were made to sign a declaration, promising that they wouldn’t smoke or consume alcohol in the campus premises.

The students headed towards the Sports ground. Many fun events were lined up for the Freshers. The event started with warming up exercises including running, jogging and stretching. The mentors and sub-mentors watched over three hundred plus students in the crowd. After the warming up, Freshers were looking forward to start the proceedings and have fun. The games awaiting them were Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Volleyball and Tug-of-War. The later was conducted in the form of an inter-branch competition. Mechanical Branch was crowned the winner with Electronics and Communication Branch ending as runner-ups. The event concluded at 7:30 pm with refreshments marking the end of an eventful Day Two.
The final day of the three-day orientation program commenced with a refreshing yoga session. Around 500 enthusiastic students showed up at the designated venue, Prabha Bhawan. The energizing yoga session lasted for an hour from 7.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. The refreshments were then served.

With the aim to make the prestigious college campus and the lovable mother earth greener and cleaner, tree plantation and cleanliness drives were organized by the SMP team members. Director Prof. I.K. Bhat joined the drive, thus inspiring freshmen to be more responsible and apprised citizens. Over 600 students, being guided through the course by the dedicated sub-mentors, mentors and chief mentors, participated ardently and took a step towards a new change. This small initiative with a greater vision decorously began at 8.30 a.m. and ended at around 11.00 a.m. The exhausted but diligent students were then served with refreshments. With this, the morning session came to an end.

The evening session began at 5.30 p.m. in Prabha Bhawan. The freshmen were introduced to the various societies and clubs of the college.

The clubs which were introduced included the college’s robotics club-ZINE, SAE BAJA-a club for the automobile enthusiasts, the cognizant ENERGY CLUB, the newly formed QUIZZERATI and APT CLUB. The milestones achieved and the sports facilities available in the campus were discussed. The ED CELL’s members, with their aim to groom students into successful entrepreneurs gave a brief presentation.

At around 7:00 p.m., HIS GRACE CHANCHALAPATHI DASA arrived in Prabha Bhawan. His enlightening and motivating speech lasted for 75 minutes and ended at around 8:15 p.m. The final vote of thanks was paid by Dr. Jyoti Joshi, HOD department of physics. The cultural performances meant to be performed by the freshmen were cancelled on the account of sad demise of the great former president Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.

The 3-day extravaganza came to an end with the provision of refreshments.