

Manjunath C

It is a common sight in petrol bunks to see drivers twisting their necks to see the meter while refuelling their cars. There are others who get down from the car and check the meter board.

Mr. Manjunath and Aishah, final year students of Vijaya Vittala Institute of Technology have developed a novel and innovative solution under the guidance of Dr. Dinesh K Anvekar, R & D Director at the institute.

The product developed by them - a small digital device or meter which can be fixed to the pump head. The reading of the meter gets reflected on the mirror of the vehicle and the driver can clearly see the meter reading sitting comfortably in the car.

Although similar devices are already in use, the distinguishing feature of the device developed by the students is the appearance of image in laterally inverted form. This enables one to see the meter reading through the rear view mirror from within the car.

Manjunath and Aishah say this product would be of immense help and convenience for senior citizens and the physically challenged. In fact, they say that the struggles faced by these people was the inspiration behind the idea to develop this product.



Manjunath (L) and Aishah (R), final year Computer Science students of Vijaya Vittala Institute of Technology seen inset demonstrating the digital fuel meter developed by them under the guidance of Dr. Dinesh Anvekar (Center), Director, R & D, Vijaya Vittala Institute of Technology

This simple device has a micro-controller chip and a digital display unit. The students mention that they just spent a meagre Rs. 2000/- for the development of this product.

The students add that they intent to develop the product further. The next plan is to eliminate the wires, include a battery and reduce the size of the display for convenience in usage.

The guidance & mentoring of Dr. Dinesh Anvekar, Director, Research & Product Innovation Cell at Vijaya Vittala Institute

of Technology, Bangalore was instrumental for converting the student's idea into a fully functional product. Dr. Dinesh is all praises for the young inventive minds. He mentions that a patent has been filed for the device and the patent would be granted soon.

The budding engineers who are just graduating say that this is their first baby step towards research and development.

They young minds have a few more projects in their mind and are planning to take them up in the near future ●