

DISHA



1996-97

The Annual Magazine of
Sardar Patel College Of Engineering

In Memoriam



Shri Kulapati Dr. K. M. Munshi



BHARATIYA VIDYA BHAVAN'S

Sardar Patel College of Engineering

Mumbai

DISHA



ANNUAL ISSUE

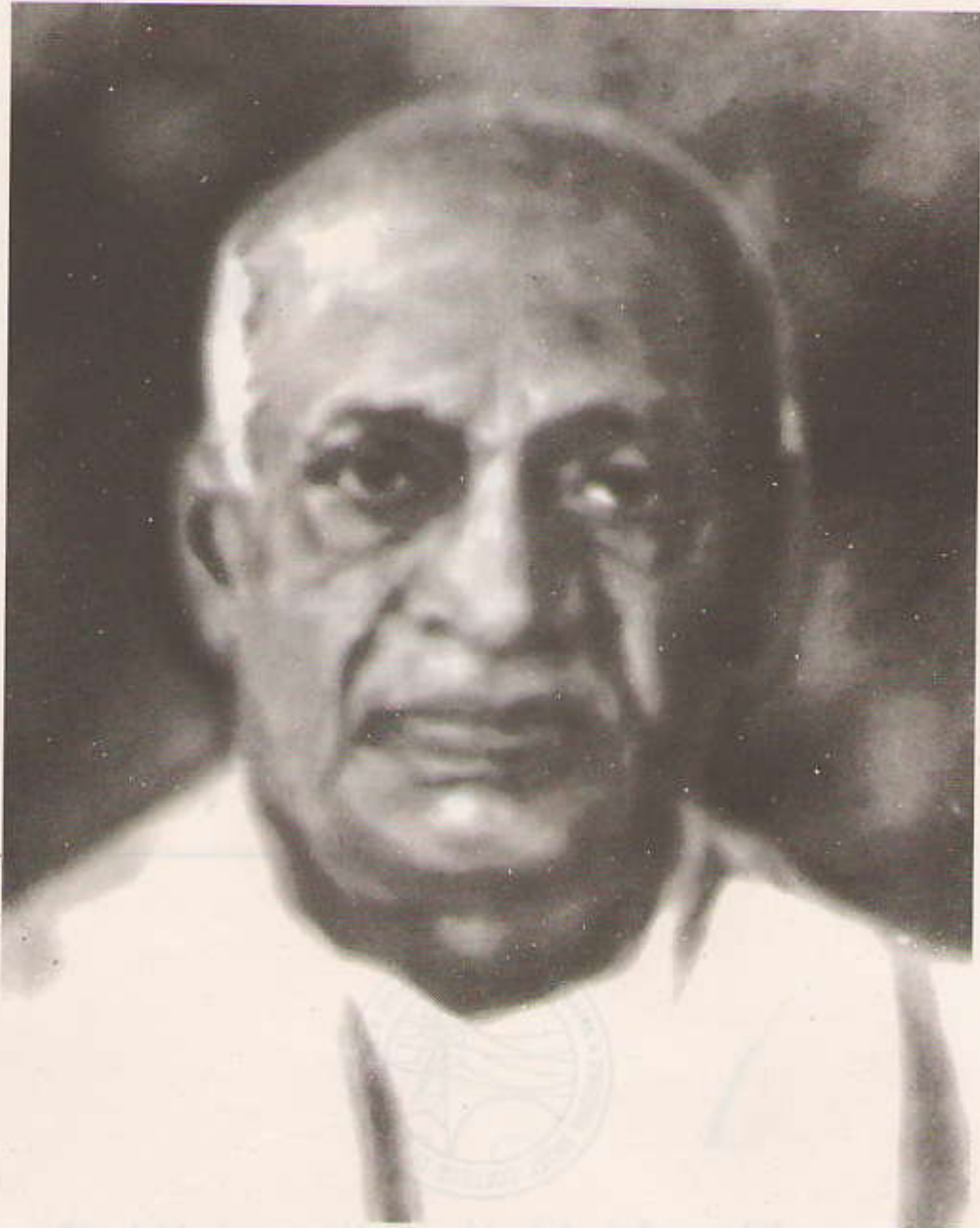
1996-97

Disha 1996-97

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“I have considered myself a soldier in the service of
Hindustan and shall be a soldier to the end of my life.
May I cease to exist when I deflect from this path of service.”



Shri Sardar Patel

Disha 1996-97



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The Editors Viewpoint



For the past few months, as the Magaazine Secretary of the college, I have been pondering over the question 'What is the Essence of **Disha**?' And now with my task (a task I had never perceived would be so tough) nearly complete, I realise how wrong shakespear was when he said 'What is in a name'. For **Disha** is not merely a name but is a

force that drives our college magazine (in which we all take price) to perfection **Disha** gives direction to talent, it channelises the efforts of several gifted students and is a conglomeration of serious literature, articles caricatures, sketches, poetry and other creative, imaginative and wondrous (even bizarre!!) Products that the minds of budding engineers produce. It has been our sincere effort to make **Disha** '97 all this and much more.

The joy of having been elected the Magazine Secretary brought along with it the realisation of what a daunting task I had ahead of me. But it was this realization that drove me to start Operation Budget (Collection of funds for the magazine) as early as I did and with strong support from the magazine ex-officio, Ms. Shubha Pandit we soon accomplished this mission. Though money is still the most efficient labour saving device, it did not make our job any easier.

Disha '97 boasts of many innovations and attempts at giving the magazine a new look with no compromise on substance. All this was possible because of the sheer enthusiasm of the magazine committee and the passion that each member associates with his work. The caricaturing section something the magazine lacked but not any All credit to Nikhil Jadhav for not just realising but realising it so beautifully. The cover realising the unity among the five faculties is the brainchild of Hardeep S. are proud to say that for the first "pun intended" a logo for the literary talent prevalent in

meant if I said that the competition was a success. was overwhelming and it

was a pity that I could choose only one winner. It was equally heartwarming to see the enthusiasm in the students to submit articles for the magazine. What started as a trickle turned into a flood and soon I was moving around with not one but two files containing not my assignments and submissions but essays, informative reports, sketches, poems, jokes etc. (The list is endless). Editing the numerous articles was a thankless job but I would be betraying my feelings if I failed to mention that I enjoyed every moment of it. Every article reflected a different attitude, a different opinion. The experience was comparable to that of meeting people from different walks of life and exchanging news & views on a variety of issues.

If **Disha** '97 is all that I have said it, is, it is because of the efforts of the determined few who have helped me tremendously in publishing a magazine of this magnitude. First and foremost I would like to thank Anandram Kulkarni for his guidance and support. Illustrations accompanying the articles are what make a good magazine better and the credit for this goes to Shireekant Vijaykar and Hardeep Singh Kharbanda. Saurabh Sinha's editorial talents are evident from the fact that the Hindi Section with an increase in the number of pages has been given a new lease of life. Too many cooks spoil the broth But two cooks certainly don't as proved by Harshad Patil & Sushil More whose combined efforts have produced a superlative Marathi Section. And last but certainly not the least I would like to thank Ms. Shubha Pandit for her valuable inputs and for standing by me at all times.

Conceiving, Nurturing and Delivering **Disha** '97 has been a tiring yet joyful experience. But a twinkle in your eyes and a smile on your lips as you read **Disha** '97 will be the crowing glory of our efforts.

Rahul Chari

Magazine Secretary
(S.E. CoMP)

Magazine Committee

Ms. Shubha Pandit -	Magazine Ex-Officio
Rahul Chari -	Magazine Secretary

Editors

English Section -	Rahul Chari
Hindi Section -	Saurabh Sinha
Marathi Section -	Harshad Patil & Sushil More

Members

Hardeep Singh Kharbanda, Parth Pandya



ANNUAL REPORT 1996-97

To inform the Council about the progress made by the College during the year 1996-97.

a. Academic performance of the students:

The performance of the students in the University examination conducted during May/June 1996 was excellent. Shri Vora Adnan Z. Secured First Rank in the University in B. E. (Civil) examination. Kum. Agashikar Sonali R. Secured First Rank in the University in the B. E. (Electrical) examination. Shri Kabra Anand S. Secured Second Rank in the University in the B. E. (Mechanical) examination. Out of First Five ranks in the University, S. P. C. E. bagged One Rank in Civil, Two Ranks in Electrical, Three Ranks in Mechanical. The overall result of F. E., S. E., T. E., and B. E., examinations held in May/June 1996 is given at the end of this item.

b. Achievement of Higher Qualification by Faculty :

- i. The outstanding achievement this year is that Shri P. V. Nattu, Assistant Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering successfully defended his thesis entitled 'Analysis Design, Development and Performance Investigation of Two Stage Starting cycle Cryo Cooler' at I.I.T. Mumbai. He was sponsored by the College for the Ph. D. Programme under the Quality Improvement Programme of Government of India during the years 1993-96.
- ii. Shri P. Shrivastava, Assistant professor in Civil Engineering has been selected for Ph. D. Programme under Quality Improvement Programme of Government of India. He will be joining I. I. T., Powai in July 1997 to pursue Ph. D. in Transportation Engineering.

c. Promotions of Faculty Members :

- i. Smt. Shubha Pandit Lecturer in Electrical Engineering Department has been promoted as Assistant Professor in Electrical Engineering.

The following members of faculty are temporarily promoted as Assistant Professor.

- ii. Smt. Prachi Gharpure, Lecturer in Electrical Engineering Department has been promoted temporarily as Assistant Professor in Electrical Engineering Department.
- iii. Shri P. Shrivastava, Lecturer in Civil Engineering Department, has been promoted temporarily as Assistant Professor in Civil Engineering.

d. Paper presented by Faculty Members:

- i. Dr. J. V. N. Rao presented a paper on 'Unaided Courses in an Aided Institution problems and prospects -A case study' at the 20th Annual Convention of I.S.T.E. held at Malaviya Regional Engineering College, Jaipur held on 4-6th January, 1997.



- ii. Dr. B. N. Pandya, Vice-Principal presented a paper co-authored by Smt. M. U. Gokhale, Lecturer in Communication Skills on 'Role of Teacher in the Overall Development of a Technical Institution' at the ISTE 1st State Level Convention held at Walchand College of Engineering, on 29th November 1996.
 - iii. Dr. P. V. Natu, Assistant Professor in Mechanical Engineering presented a paper entitled 'Cyclic Analysis of 2 stage Stirling Cycle Cryo Cooler' at the 16th International Cryogenic Engineering Conference (ICEC 16) held at Kitakyuslu, Japan in May 1996.
 - iv. Dr. P. V. Natu, Assistant Professor in Mechanical Engineering again presented a paper entitled 'Parametric Analysis of 2 stage Stirling Cycle Cryo Cooler' at the 15th National Symposium on Cryogenics held at New Delhi, September 1996.
 - v. Dr. S. Y. Mhaikar published a paper on 'Investigation on Soft Clay Subgrade Strengthening using Geocells' in the Journal of Construction & Building Materials, U. K. in November 1996.
 - vi. Shri M. M. Kulkarni, Assistant Professor in Civil Engineering Department who is presently doing Ph.D. at I.I.T. Powai presented a paper entitled 'Monitoring of Daily Integrated Exposure of Outdoor Workers to Respirable Particulate in an Urban Region' at the 5th Annual Conference on 'Atmospheric Sciences and Application to Air Quality' organised in University of Washington, 'SEATTLE' Washington State USA from 18th June to 21st June 1996.
 - vii. Smt. Seema Verma, Lecturer in Computer Engineering, presented a paper entitled 'Electric Devices' at a conference held at Regional Engineering College, Bhopal in January 1997.
- e. Summer/Winter Schools/Seminars conducted:
- i. Shri M. M. Shah and Shri G. T. Thampi jointly conducted a 4 week Winter School on C & C++ from 26th November to 20th December 1996 for Staff Members. 35 Teachers participated and took benefit of this course. This course was sponsored by AICTE, New Delhi. an amount of Rs. 60,000/- was sanctioned for this purpose.
 - ii. A two-week course in Heating, Ventilation and Air-conditioning was conducted by the Department of Mechanical Engineering from 9th December 1996 to 20th December 1996, for working professionals from the industry. Dr. P. V. Natu was the coordinator for the course.
- f. Starting of new courses :
- Approval from the AICTE has been obtained for starting time M. E. (Mechanical) course with Machine-Design Subjects (Part Time). The course will be started from coming academic year 1997-98.
- g. Infrastructural facilities created:
- 1. Two new electronic laboratories have been set up with all necessary infrastructures.
 - 2. A new Computer Centre for Electronics and Computer department has been setup with 15 pentium server 15 pentium nodes connecting in star for 100 MBPS data transfer.



3. Library system has been computerized with the grant of Rs. 4.5 lakhs received from A.I.C.T.E under Modernization of Library scheme. One pentium with 5 nos. of 486 nodes, scanner with library software, dot matrix printers and 1 No. of Air conditioner have been procured.

4. A sophisticated Audio Visual System Proxima has been purchased at Rs. 2.75 lakh with the grant received for F. E. (O.M.S.) admission work.

h. F. E. Admission Work (3rd & O.M.S. Rounds)

For the First Time, Government of Maharashtra assigned a challenging task of affecting First Year Engineering Admissions of round 3 & Outside Maharashtra State (O.M.S.) candidates. About 10,000 applications were received from the O.M.S. candidates. The whole admission process was computerized. On line admissions were made at the rate of about 1 candidate per half a minute. for O.M.S. round about 5000 admissions were made in 5 days. The faculty, staff and student volunteers worked day & night with a unity of purpose and completed the work very systematically and in time. The work was very well appreciated by the candidates and their parents. A report on the Admission Work published in Indian Express, Mumbai Edition, dated 11th August 1996 is enclosed at the end of this item.

Examinations	Appeared	1st Dist	1st Class	2nd Class	Pass Class	Total Passes	% of Passing	A. T. K. T.	Total Promoted	% of Promoted
F. E. (C/M/E/EC/CT)	385	—	63	51	44	158	41.03%	90	248	64.41%
S. E. (Civil)	78	—	19	17	12	48	61.53%	13	61	78.20%
S. E. (Mech)	88	—	29	20	06	55	68.75%	13	68	77.27%
S. E. (Electrical)	82	—	27	13	11	51	61.19%	19	70	85.36%
T. E. (Civil)	58	—	34	08	07	49	84.48%	04	53	91.37%
T. E. (Mech)	78	—	34	10	19	53	67.94%	12	65	83.33%
T. E. (Electrical)	90	—	29	17	16	62	68.88%	06	68	75.55%
B. E. (Civil)	73	05	48	08	02	63	86.30%	—	—	—
B. E. (Mechanical)	70	14	39	14	—	67	95.71%	—	—	—
B. E. (Electrical)	65	03	32	11	06	52	80.00%	—	—	—



General Secretary's Report



After a grand and successful SPACE 97 I recall some memorable events which took place since we got elected. The period has been hectic and time surely has passed by at a frenetic pace. We have worked as a close-knit body and are proud to say that we were objective in our approach with no bias in thought as well as in selecting people for various jobs. The only criterion was the end result and selecting talent, dedication and hard work rather than individuals. I must emphasise that our efforts have paid rich dividends. We have eliminated the feelings of groupism prevalent earlier by following the credo of criterion and objectiveness in our approach.

We have worked hard at fulfilling our election promises. The proposal of an open access library and refreshment stall in college are maturing and will soon be on ground for everyone to make use of. A separate placement officer has been appointed and will be resuming office soon. All this has been made possible because of the keen interest shown by the principal and the guidance given by him. He wishes to see the college change for the better by experimenting on existing resources and bringing in new technology. We all owe our gratitude to him for his sincere encouragement and follow up.

We are trying to build assets for the Gymkhana which will help the next year's committee to build on and be even more successful. Availability of these assets (sound system compute hardware) would enhance our professional competence and give us the cutting edge over other colleges. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Prof. A. S. Chavan for guiding us through all events. I also thank Prof. G. T. Thampi and Prof. R. M. Joshi for their help during SPACE and Annual Day respectively.

My message to all SPCE'ites is "Be enthusiastic, participate in all activities, have fun and most important **Stay United**".

Bharat Puri
(General Secretary)



Cultural Secretary's Report



Summer is round the corner bringing all the cultural activities of the season to an end, taking a deep sigh, I sit back in gratitude remembering and thanking all those people who have helped and supported me throughout the year.

We began with the first of our activities which was Techno break '96. We hardly had a week's time to prepare but with effective co-ordination and hard work we put up a grand show. I thank all the Techno break Committee members, organisers and volunteers for their unstinting help. I congratulate S. E. (Comp) for bagging the TECHNOBREAK shield.

Just after our semester exams got over, we started working in full force for SPACE '97. As we started off, it was difficult for us to get sponsorships. But in due course, ⁴ele time, fortune favored us and we became more confident. The Entire Space Committee pulled up its socks, rolled up its sleeves and we could put up a grand show.

Finally on the 10th and 11th of Feb., the SPACE '97 shuttle was launched. Having an appreciable amount of participation from all colleges it seemed very cool. However it was for the first time that the quadrangle was packed to its maximum capacity on both the days for the evening shows.

I deeply thank all the Gymkhana Committee members, the space committee, the volunteers and all those incharge of security for helping make SPACE '97 a memorable chapter in the history of S.P.C.E.

But then how can I forget to thank all the First Year students who were a major work force for SPACE '97 and helped making SPACE '97 a success.

The year's activities ended with the Rose Day and Annual Day on 28th February and 1st March. It was very fortunate for us that Shri C. R. Alimchandani and Shrimati Alimchandani graced the function with their distinguished presence. I thank the Annual Day Committee members and all the student volunteers for all their help. I deeply thank all the professors in charge of the various committees under whose guidance we made Annual Day a success.

Last but not the least I thank our Principal Dr. J.V.N. Rao, Vice-President of the Gymkhana Committee, Prof. A. S. Chavan, Prof. G. T. Thampi, Space incharge and Bharat Puri for all the guidance and encouragement. We look forward to the same zeal in the forthcoming years and here's wishing the next panel the very best of luck.

Vishal Bhargava
(Cultural Secretary)



SPORTS SECRETARY'S REPORT



Many a man never fails because never tries. But we tried - and we succeeded. The year 1996-1997 has been one of the most happening years in the Sports History of SPCE. And it gives me immense pleasure and satisfaction to present to you a summary of this year which has been exactly what I

aspired it to be.

The efforts of all those people who strived hard and put in their best to make this sporting year a success, have no gone in vain. A few among them are Amar N. Sameer N, Irfan P., Nikhil S. and Anuj.

The sporting year of 1996-97 started with Football. The Football team of SPCE is steadily improving. Players like Sameer Nigam, Anuj Pawa and Sandeep Mhatre have displayed match-winning performances when required.

Further we move to Badminton where not only the Boys' team captained by Amar Nayegandhi but also the girls, team has shown great spirit and enthusiasm. The Girls' team reached the quarter finals of the intercollegiate tournament showing that with a little more effort they would definitely improve. Unfortunately, SPCE could not participate in the inter-collegiate cricket and Table-Tennis tournaments due to the odd semester exams which were held around the same time. The intra-college T.T. tournament was successfully completed. A new hero emerged, who amidst capable players showed tremendous fighting spirit is winning the title. He is none other than Prashant K. of FE (Elec). The TT Doubles and Carrom Doubles as well as singles are presently going on and are due completion. And for the first time is SPCE Girls' singles TT Tournament was organised and is progressing smoothly.

Salil Surendran won great respect for our esteemed institute by finishing 3rd in the Intercollegiate chess tournament. Salil was selected in the university team. Even there he continued his marvellous performance by winning 7 games out of 9 and helped Mumbai unit win the title.

I must mention here that the facilities in the Gymkhana have greatly improved. T.T. rackets,

carrom coins, strikers and powder have been bought and are made available to the desiring students, on an I-card basis. A new carrom board has been bought and a TT table will also be bought for the girls' in the near future. Also new equipment has been provided in the gymnasium

Finally we come to my favorite part of the report **Cricket**. This game is both played and watched with maximum fervor and excitement in SPCE. It all started with Inter-Faculty tournament. The electrical faculty defended their title like true champions outplaying the Mechanical faculty in the finals. In the Inter-Class cricket tournament, last years' favourites TE(Civil) finally broke their SEMI-FINAL jinx and won the tournament beating SE(M) in the finals. Here I must mention Mahesh more of TE(C) who showed a lions' heart is bowling out the TE(Elec) class in the quarter-finals (3-0-8-4). Also, there were fighting knocks Viraj, Subhash, and Sandeep which ensured a TE(Civil) victory. The performance of Rajesh Mhatre of SE(M) was also commendable. The Cricket season ended with the Inter-year tournament in which was again BE v/s SE and TE v/s FE. The FE's are a talented lot and with Amar Phadnis heading them, they did look a formidable side. It was just their lack of experience that proved to be their falling. In the other match the SE's beat the BE's in a humdinger of a match. However in the finals it seemed that they were out of gas as the TE's romped home without many problems.

SPCE will soon boast of playing two more sports volleyball and Basketball. The ground near the workshop is being cleared and levelled for setting up the courts. Infact many of us ourselves had cleared a part of this ground so that it could be used for the Box cricket Tournament which was organised for SPACE-97.

Last but not the least I wish to thank Prof A. S. Chavan (Sports incharge) who showed tremendous enthusiasm & made sure I the best of my effort. I also profusely thank Prof D. Y. Joshi (Indoa Games), Prof. N. C. Panickar (Gynasiun), Prof. C. S. Nerurkar (Football), Prof. Maurya (Cricket), for their valuable guidance and co-operation.

Doing little things well is a step towards doing big things better. On this note I end my report and wish luck to everyone who wishing to make things better.

- Nirav Shah
(Sports Secretary)



Ladies' Representative's Report



Dear fellow students,

As the academic year 1996-97 draws to a close, it is time, now, to review our achievements. I was euphoric on being elected the ladies Representative by an overwhelming majority. I'm justifiably proud that my co-female students have elected me as their spokeswoman.

Unfortunately, though, the post of the LR. is overshadowed by those of the G.S., M.S, S. S. and C. S.

In addressing this letter to you, as a Ladies Representative through the DISHA magazine, I am actually setting a precedent. (Which by itself is an achievement). During my tenure, I involved myself actively in helping organize SPACE '97 and the Annual Day. I have also managed to secure a T. T. table for the girls.

I take pride in the fact that the girl students won accolades in the Fashion show and Visual Impact. Kudos to Ruchika Singh (T. E, Electrical) and Charisma (F. E, Electronics) -

Ruchika for taking the initiative and coordinating the events in the most wonderful manner and charisma for her excellent competing.

I take this opportunity to thank all the girls of S.E. computers and S. E. Electronics in general and Parool Mody and Bharat Puri in particular for all the assistance and support they extended to me.

As I ponder over the year gone, there are some tasks which have remained unfinished due to constraints of time.

With best wishes to all future incumbents of the L. R. post of S.P.C.E.

Sandya Prabala
(Ladies Representative)



Sardar Patel College of Engineering Gymkhana Committee (1996-97)

President	:	Dr. J.V.N. Rao (Principal)
Vice-President	:	Prof. A. S. Chavan
General Secretary	:	Bharat Puri
Cultural Secretary	:	Vishal Bhargava
Magazine Secretary	:	Rahul Chari
Sports Secretary	:	Nirav Shah
Lady Representative	:	Sandhya Prabala

Class Representatives

F. E. Civil	:	(1) Sheth Nikhil S.	S. E. Elxt	:	(1) Rayn Pais
		(2) Maurya Sandeep Kumar			(2) George Koshy
F. E. Mech	:	(1) Pahurkar Amit M.	S. E. Comp	:	(1) Doshi Aalok
		(2) Handore Kishor K.			(2) Paleja Prashant
F. E. Elect.	:	(1) Shah Vasudev	T. E. Civil	:	(1) Patel Irfan
		(2) Tambe Ganesh			(2) Sandal Amit
F. E. Elxt	:	(1) D'silva Siddarth	T. E. Mech	:	(1) Kasar Tushar D.
		(2) T. Ninan Koshy			(2) Phanashikar Kailas D.
F. E. Comp	:	(1) Patrao Jason	T. E. Elect	:	(1) Vijaykar Shreekant
		(2) Seth Arvind			(2) Totlani Kamlesh S.
S. E. Civil	:	(1) Dali Prasad	B. E. Civil	:	(1) Barve Parag s.
		(2) Mishra Dhananjay			(2) Deshpande Sandeep
S. E. Mech	:	(1) Sawant Gajanan	B. E. Mech	:	(1) Kembhavi Ashish A.
		(2) Dubey Manish			(2) Waghe Prashant
S. E. Elect	:	(1) Mody Sachin			
		(2) Phadnis Mangesh			



The following are the prizes awarded to the students of this college for the year 1995-96

Kulspati's Gold Medal

Shri Vora Adnan Zoch

For securing First Rank in First Attempt amongst student of this college and First Class with Distinction in BE (Civil) examination held in May 1996.

Shri Kabra Anand Shreevallabha

For securing First Rank in First Attempt amongst student of this college and First Class with Distinction in BE (Mech.) examination held in May 1996

Miss Agshikar Sonali Ravindra

For securing First Rank in First Attempt amongst students of this college and First Class with Distinction in BE (Elect.) examination held in May 1996.

Kulspati's Silver Medal

Shri Patel Nikhil Shirish

For securing Second Rank in First Attempt amongst students of this college and First Class with Distinction in BE (Civil) examination held in May 1996.

Shri Desai Hemang Amul

For securing Second Rank in First Attempt amongst students of this college and First Class with Distinction in BE (Mech.) examination held in May 1996.

Miss Gaitonde Suruchi B.

For securing Second Rank in First Attempt amongst students of this college and First Class with Distinction in BE (Elect.) examination held in May 1996.

Shri Pruthvish Narayandas Kislawalla Prize of Rs. 100/- each

Shri Pandit Indraneel Ajitkumar

For securing Highest marks in First Attempt amongst students of this college at FE examination held in May 1996 and joined in SE (Elect.) in the year 1996-97.

Shri Mahadevan Aravind

For securing Highest marks in First Attempt amongst students of this college at SE (Elect.) examination held in May 1996 and joined in TE (Elect.) in the year 1996-97.

Shri Gandhi Bhavesh M.

For securing Highest marks in First Attempt amongst students of this college at TE (Elect.) examination held in May 1996 and joined in BE (Elect.) in the year 1996-97.

Miss Agshikar Sonali Ravindra

For securing Highest marks in the first attempt amongst the students of this college at B.E. (Elect.) examination held in May, 1996.



Shripad Rao Dubhashi Prize of Rs. 75/-

Shri Bhanushali Girish J.

For securing highest marks amongst our successful college students in the subject of 'Building Design & Drawing' in TE (Civil) Sem. V examination held in November 1995.

Smt. Ahilyabai Tembe prize of Rs. 100/-

Shri Vaity K. Naresh

For securing Highest marks amongst the students of B.E. (Civil) Class in the subject of 'Design & Drawing of Concrete Structures' in BE (Civil) Sem. VIII examination held in May 1996.

Shri R. N. Joshi Prize of Rs. 100/-

Shri Vora Adnan Zoeb

Has been awarded Prof. R. N. Joshi Prize for securing the highest marks in Sem. VII & VIII (Civil) taken together and passing separately during 1995-96.

Dr. Pranal Patel Foundation Prize of Rs. 500/- each

Shri Deshpande Sushilendra A.

Has been awarded Dr. Pranal Patel Prize for securing the highest percentage of marks in FE (Mech.) examination at the first attempt during 1995-96.

Shri Guha Sourabh Sunil

Has been awarded Dr. Pranal Patel Prize for securing the highest percentage of marks in SE (Mech.) examination at the first attempt during 1995-96.

Shri Naik Sameer V.

Has been awarded Dr. Pranal Patel Prize for securing the highest percentage of marks in TE (Mech.) examination at the first attempt during 1995-96

Shri Jayanti Satytanarayana Prize of Rs. 50/- each

Shri Dahanuwala Dipesh H.

For securing Highest marks among the students of T. E. (Civil) class in the subject 'Structural Analysis' Sem. V at the T. E. (Civil) examination held in December 1995.

Shri Marathe Memorial Prize of Rs. 500/- each

**Shri Jena Basantkumar K.
(F. E. Mech)**

For securing highest marks among the students of FE Sem. I & II examination in the subject of 'Engineering Mechanics' held in 1995-96.

Shared by three Students

1. Shri Acharya Sanjay V.
1. Shri Guha Sourabh S.
1. Shri Samant Anant K.
(S. E. Mechanical Class)

For securing highest marks among the students of SE (Civil & Mech.) Sem. III examination in subject 'Strength of Material' held in November 1995.



**Jadhavpur University Alumni Association
(Bombay Branch) Trust of Rs. 1000/- Each**

Shri Dahanuwala Dipesh H.

For securing highest marks in First Attempt amongst students of this college in the T. E. (Civil) examination held in May 1996.

Shri Gandhi Bhavesh M.

For securing Highest marks in First Attempt amongst students of this college in the T. E. (Elect.) examination held in May 1996.

**Indian Water work Association (Bombay Centre)
Cash Prize of Rs. 400/-**

Shri Patel Nikhil S.

For securing Highest of marks among the students of B. E. (Civil) Class in the subject of 'Environmental Engg.' at Sem. VII examination held in December 1995.

**Dr. G. A. Mhaskar & Dr. B. M. Joshi Prize for Students of
B. E. (Elect.) Class for Standing in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Position.**

Miss Agshikar sonali R.

Rs. 150/- each

Miss Gaitonde Suruchi B.

Rs. 125/- each

Miss Ghevde Pratima S.

Rs. 100/- each.

Merit prize of Rs. 100/- each (or books worth the amount) awarded by the department of structural engg. to the students obtaining the First Class and Getting maximum number of marks in all (Structural subjects taken together at the FE (Civil), SE (Civil), TE (Civil) & BE (Civil) examination held in the year 1995-96.

Shri Sarvaiya Mithesh A.

F. E. (Civil)

Shri Amaldar Balasaheb S.

S. E. (Civil)

Shri Dahanuwala Dipesh H.

T. E. (Civil)

Shri Vaity Keshav Naresh

B. E. (Civil)

Ms. Anuradha Krishnan

Communication Skill Prize awarded by
Struct. Dept. for F. E. Class.





Merit Prize on the basis of Merit in the Preceding Examination held in May/June 1996

Class	Student	Class	Student
F. E. Class	Shri Chari Rahul Vardha (Comp.) Shri Deshpande Sushilendra A. (Mech.) Shri Pandit Indraneel Ajitkumar (Elect.)	T. E. Mech.	Shri Naik Sameer V. Shri Merchant Sameer A. Shri Narvenkar Harshad D.
S. E. Civil	Shri Amaldar Balasaheb S. Shri Shah Apurva J. Shri Chipkar Sandesh s.	T. E. Elect	Shri Gandhi Bhavesh M. Miss Joglekar Meghana S. Miss Desai Prema J.
S. E. Mech.	Shri Guha Sourabh Sunil Shri Chennupati Jechand C. K. Rao Shri Bhide Amol Mahadeo	B. E. Civil	Shri Vora Adnan Zueb Shri Patel Nikhil Shirish Shri Kulkarni Shashikant Eknath
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The English Section



Mandar
23/6/96



Essay Writing Competition

1ST PRIZE

Leisure in Mumbai is "Mission Impossible"

At this juncture when Mumbai is at large shrouded by the sombre clouds of selfishness and greed, generated by the misplaced desire for illusory WEALTH, fleeting FAME and transient NAME, those benefactors who comprehended the viciousness of these aberrating paths seem to have been buried along with their ideals in some remote and inaccessible crypts of the memory bank.

In this golden age of Satan the hustle and bustle, the ups and downs, the frustrations and

depressions have together hurled the wheel of life of the Mumbaictes into the bottomless abyss full of stygian smoke.

Being the Industrial capital of the country, Mumbai cannot afford to sleep. Dealings worth crores of rupees taking place every hour more than emphasise the direct relation between time and money - but, they leave no time to spare, the sad result being that 'leisure' has become anonymous to us Mumbaites. The rich and voracious with capital V, striving incessantly



fiscal enhancements while the poor are striving for two square meals a day.

The younger generation is supposed to harbour superlative leisure, but the combined impact of the academic, parental and socio-economic pressures debates them from their right of juvenile recreation.

At this point, let us move a few thousand years back, when man, a troglodyte, lived in caves. He lived on anything balderdash he could find. His needs were few, his desires limited. Then came Satan with his magic wand and waved it thrice bestowing with illusory desires for wealth, name, fame and at the same time taking away the most precious gift, leisure. Mr. Satan still reigns supreme in Mumbai as we can very well see.

Speed is the order of this day. Everything moves according to a precise time scheme. No sooner do we get up in the morning than starts the race against time from flossing and flushing to catching the bus or train that takes us to our college or office. There is no stopping after this

and the age of the fast forward proves itself once more so that a person coming home is just like a dormant volcano which may give away at any instant of time and who prefers to cool down by just sitting down idle or passing away into deep slumber.

If we think a bit deeply we realise that the total absence of leisure can be attributed to the growing discontent in our minds waxing us to sprint on the path of progress. The philosophy of our life can best be described by the verse,

**No time to turn at Beauty's glance,
and watch her feet how well they dance,
No time to wait till her mouth can enrich,
that smile her eyes began**

But we hope that a day will come when life in Mumbai will 'Ring in', sufficient leisure to its people for individual development and in turn for universal upliftment and leisure in Mumbai won't be 'Mission Impossible' but will be 'Escape to Victory'.

- Amit Temurnikar
(S. E. CMPN)

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Disha 1996-97



a mid summer day-dream

It was one of those afternoons, when I sat idle, in a pensive mood waiting for those beautiful daffodils to flash upon my inward eye-without any success. Maybe, Wordsworth had taken me for a (poetic) ride. This time, I was going to blame my lows on... 'LIQUIDITY CRUNCH': screamed the headline of the newspaper and I screamed with delight for I had found my scape-goat! Just when I was beginning to feel elated, a bunch of neurons in the left part of my right brain (generally incharge of sabotaging my happiness) made me aware of another crunch, the 'LEADERSHIP CRUNCH'. Right from the smallest committee 'we know', to the world's biggest organisation 'you know': everyone is facing a leadership crisis today.

Suddenly, there was thunder and lighting and lo! when the smoke had cleared, there stood before me the men I admire, nay adore (the women I presumed had given me the slip a la Mr. Wordsworth). Seeing my shocked, dumbstruck face, **Alexander the Great** smiled and said 'We know what you are thinking and we are here to answer your queries'.

'How does one lead?' I began by asking him, who has dazzled us by the brilliance of his military exploits. 'That's easy' said the leader of armies. 'First, you orient the masses in the right direction towards the goal, much in the way I turned Bucephalus, my prize horse towards the sun and away from the darkness of his shadow. I coaxed and soothed him and finally mastered him. People can be led easily when they respect the leader and willingly perform near - impossible deeds' advised **Alexander** who has reached an eminence of human grandeur which has not be equalled.

What do people look for in leaders, what makes people even want to sacrifice their life for a leader? I looked questioningly towards **Hannibal**, one of the greatest military leaders the world has

seen. His reply: 'As men are unique, so are leaders. Qualities of a good leader broadly are: moral and physical courage, realism of the man of action, astuteness, singleness of aim, a skilful discernment, opportunism to seize a golden moment, strength of character, incorruptible integrity, courage to tap the vastness of an opportunity where others see none, though not necessarily in that order'. **Hannibal** should know. In 2nd century B. C., he set out with 70,000 men, horses & elephants to do the mad, unbelievable thing of crossing the Alps and attacking the impregnable Italy. **Hannibal** did the mad, unbelievable thing.

'How far can a leader go without reference to morality in fulfilling his ambitions?' I could see a sarcastic smile playing on the lips of **Niccolo Machiavelli**, the founder of the science of modern politics, as he knew my question was directed towards him. 'Well, there is indeed a fine line dividing the moral and the amoral and the world is quick at pointing fingers. But a combination of audacity and diplomatic prudence with a clever manipulation of ruthlessness & firmness is a pre-requisite for a leader to survive. Deeds which are done for establishing a safe position and not continued afterwards may not be considered amoral. It would be better if possible, to be loved and feared at the same time, but it is better to be feared when one has to choose the alternative' replied the unscrupulous schemer who has added a noun & an adjective after his surname to the English language.

'But then, how can a leader retain a 'human face', in what ways can he adopt the 'middle path'? I asked **Abraham Lincoln**. The man needs no introduction. His greatness lies not in his meteoric rise from a log cabin to the White House, but in his work for his country (during the civil war) and for humanity (in abolishing slavery). He replied 'A leader must have this fact etched in his memory that he is



a leader, only because there are followers; sort of cause-effect relationship. People love leaders who hold them to high standard and take them to the limit, provided leaders set those standards and limits by personal example. Men who sit on a pedestal and dream, deluding themselves to be visionaries, pretty soon find that they are like the captain of a ship : a deserted and fast sinking one. Understanding the demands of his times and knowing the pulse of his people, leads them in the right direction".

"How can a leader gauge difficult times and how can he boost the morale during such times ?" I queried "I'll answer that", said **Sir Winston Churchill**, the great war time Prime Minister of Great Britain - "Any leader undoubtedly must possess certain perspicacity, an idea of the things to come. But initially, if the dice does not roll in his favour, a leader must confront the people with the stark reality. (**"I've nothing to offer but blood, tears, toil and sweat!"**) At the same time, he must strike a chord in the hearts of his people with a tone of grim, even unyielding defiance". (**"We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds,**

we shall fight in the fields and in the streets; and even if, which I do not for a moment believe, this island were subjugated, then our empire beyond the seas guarded by the British fleet, would carry on the struggle until in God's good time...").

Once more there was thunder, lightning and my heroes vanished behind a cloud of smoke. Their advice, I believe is applicable in any age, any century, for any leader. These are time tested means and gained by these leaders the hard way : in war, during peace, in Parliament, on battlefield. It is time, we turn back the pages in history, and take lessons to ensure that posterity too, may have such golden pages to look back to.

Napoleon once said, "**Courage is like love : it feeds on hope**" and went on to say "**Men must be led by iron hand in a velvet glove**". The difficult task lies in ensuring the right combination of iron and velvet. Therein lies the success of a true leader.

Anandram Kulkarni
(T. E. Civil)

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Disha 1996-97



A Matter of Thoughts

How significant is the movement of thought ?
Thoughts that develop conflict,
Thoughts that give pleasure,
Thoughts that create technologies,
Thoughts that arouse fear,

Born out of the 'knowledge' stored in the brain cells,
which blends with dust on the death of the being,
Isn't this a material process ?

There must be something beyond thought....

Yes Awareness,
Awareness through observation,
Observation through consciousness,

Consciousness that blooms into immeasurable silence,
The silence that ends the fear, the sorrow, the greed, the
anger,
The silence that blossoms into supreme Intelligence

Radha Patel
SE (Comp)

Victory

Cups, bringing with champagne,
As longing eyes, swell with tears
Victory torches all around
And with them funeral pyres
Yes, the war was won

The bomb, setting forth an explosion ?
No, but a heart-rending scream-
For it shattered not the enemy barracks
But an ambitious dream
yes, the war was won.

Sten-guns, mercilessly spewing bullets-
(Lucifer's own creation)
First death is distributed all around
And then congratulations
Yes, the war was won.

High death-tolls in enemy camps
in ours-relatively less
The basis of the victory ? !!
The comfort for distress ?!!
Yes the war was won.

Smiles and roses for the victors,
For a frail heart, all is lost
Does victory really matter now
When a loved one's life is its cost ?
War, it can never be won

Vishal Gupta
(F. E. Mech)



And Nature Reigned Supreme

Ten very ordinary looking people—that's what they were, the bunch assembled in the conference hall of the D.R.D.O. (Defence Research and Development Organisation).

However, nothing could be further from the truth than calling them ordinary. For they were unarguably the ten most powerful people in the world—scientists and heads of various organisations.

The Year was 2090 A.D. The 'Population explosion' which, in the 1980's had seemed to be a distant, hazy sort of thing, had occurred. What had followed had been sheer slaughter—men slaying men for a piece of bread, neighbours looting neighbours for a little money, total power shutdown due to over loading of power stations, vast unemployment.

Man's dream to colonize other planets had remained a dream. With the crude means of interplanetary transport that man employed viz., burning fantastic amounts of fuel in a tincan (called a rocket) man could never hope to travel far.

It was under such circumstances that the present conference had been called.

'So dear friends, we have finally reached a decision,' the old, bearded man, Dr. Bhattacharya, head of the United Nations said. To him, all this felt like a bad dream. Nobody said anything; there wasn't anything to say.

Dr. Jones, head of the U. S. defence supply organisation intoned in a shaken voice, 'Unfortunately, Yes'. Dr. Bhattacharya was too engrossed to hear. He continued, 'seven days from now, we fire all these missiles.' He pointed to an array of blinking red lights on a map of the world.

'The plan, in short is as follows. The only way to save mankind from wiping itself off is to wipe it

off and start afresh. On the predetermined date, missiles carrying neutron bomb war heads will strike all the countries in the world, annihilating all life forms, but leaving non-living structures intact.

A day before this day, called D-day, a satellite containing ten infants, carefully selected and placed under suspended animation will blast off from Sriharikota. Computers aboard the satellite have been programmed to release these infants from suspended animation, train them in all the knowledge acquired by mankind over the span of their civilisation and land them on earth, a hundred years from D-day. The infants will then, built a new civilisation, which hopefully, will not commit the same follies as their forefathers'.

The same ten people now, were orbiting the earth in a space-shuttle, watching their beloved earth with tearful eyes. Feeling that they would not be able to witness the destruction of mankind, they had programmed the shuttle to self-destruct, five minutes before D-day.

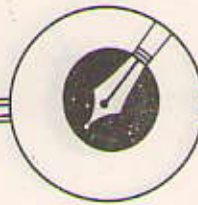
Seven minutes before D-day, and something happened. America tore up in the middle, like a paper being ripped apart. An earthquake! But such a catastrophic one? Australia drifted off its moorings and joined Asia. England was swallowed up by the sea. Before their very eyes, Antarctica opened up, spewing out zillions of megatons of molten rock. A giant whirlpool swallowed up the Pacific.

As they watched dumfounded, they were all struck with the same thought, 'Who are we tiny humans to maintain nature's balance? Nature created us, nature sustained us, nature can destroy us, nature will recreate us'.

A single explosion engulfed the shuttle and everything disappeared in a blinding flash of light.

Nature had preserved herself.

Indraneel A. Pandit
S. E. (Mechanical)



Mumbai on The Map

Last Sunday evening, I met an old friend of mine at a local restaurant. We chatted over greasy dosas, watery sambar and fiery pav bhaji about things, in general. The conversation soon turned to the state of affairs (all kinds) in Mumbai.

My friend began criticising the new government for its policies and (in) actions. I protested: "On the contrary they've done so much for the city in such a short time. The people have got exactly what they wanted."

"What do you mean?"

"The voters voted for change", I explained. "And change is what they got-right from the city's name to the name of every major railway station, road, stadium, you name it-actually, don't, for they might change it anyway."

"But it's so confusing, so annoying at times!"

"These changes are important to live up to our identity, man."

"All right, Mr. 'identity', how about the thought of the 'cool dudes' and 'hot chicks' of St. Xavier's college buying a ticket or pass to what sounds like a village full of goldsmiths in order to get to college? Or the sight of almost a lakh young girls and guys thronging to see their favourite rock stars at what sounds more like an akhara? It really lives up to its identity, doesn't it?"

I must admit he had me stumped there. I managed to squeeze out somehow: "It's all in the way you perceive things, yaar. Now look at the Enron row. Many of us cursed the unprecedented power cuts we had each evening while talks were on. But they created such a romantic atmosphere and young couples could be seen heading towards their favorite power cut-hit joint..."

"Talk about pleasing the minorities!!" he interrupted.

"In fact, you're right, they've taken very good

care of the minorities in the city. Why, just look at the magnificent golf course in the heart of the suburbs, to cater to those who can afford it..."

He gave up. "You have to have an answer for everything, don't you? But I'm still not convinced. Call me cynical, but I fail to see what they've done for the city."

"You must be blind then, buddy. Can't you see, they've put Mumbai on the map!!"

"But it was already on the map..."

"Under the name of Bombay. But that's a different story."

Hardeep Singh
S. E. (Computers)

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S. P. C. E. I bow to thee

When I first approached the portals of SPCE in October 1993, a gamut of questions raced through my mind. 'How will the college be?', & 'Have I made the right choice?' were the foremost amongst them. Besides the exterior of our college did nothing to allay my fears, what with the peeling paint and broken water pipes. The person who coined the cliché, 'Never judge a book by its cover', certainly knew what he was talking about because behind the not so encouraging facade of our college, I found an institution with a congenial atmosphere, 'cool' students and an unparalleled academic record.

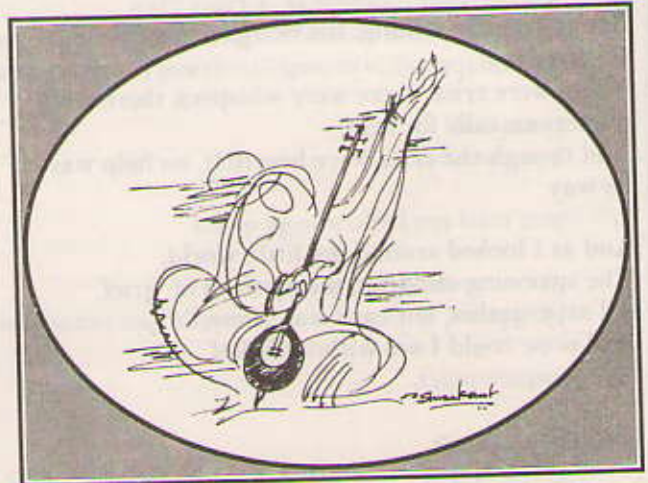
Adjusting to the rigours of engineering was never really a problem as our seniors were always by our side. They told us which books to buy, which lectures to attend, which not to attend (oops!) and everything else that was to be known. What really surprised me, was the number of extra curricular activities we had in our college, especially in the even semester. Who would have thought that the reputed SPCE could have so many 'distractions' to the academic pursuits of its 'scholars'. The more serious students excused their absence from various functions with some standard line which went like, 'Arre baba, how could we bunk prof lecture', or 'Mera Sheet complete karna tha yaar!' Initially I would get brainwashed by such over sincere hogwash, but later realised that balancing studies and extracurricular activities was an intricate art and if any student could master this art, he would shine through the rest of the bunch. Initially, the very mention of the word 'submission' would send a shiver down my spine, but as time and semesters passed by, the shiver reduced to an exciting tingle.

Now, as I pass through the twilight of my college life, I look back with fond memories. Life in SPCE was more fun than I had ever imagined. Compared to SPCE, junior college was a drag, and I am an ex-Mithibaite (the most freakout

college this side of Bombay), so I am not speaking through my hat. But let us not take away any credit from our faculty members. They have made SPCE what it is today. The encouragement and personal attention given to us ought to be appreciated. I distinctly remember our H.O.D calling up my parents because I had bunked more than my fair share of lectures. There have been numerous instances when our professors, especially from our structures department, have come to college on Saturdays & Sundays for extra lectures inspite of extenuating circumstances, to make sure that our portion was completed satisfactorily and on time. All the teachers I have come across have been 'gurus' in the true sense of the term as they have added generous doses of humanity and understanding to their knowledge and teaching skills.

I end this piece by thanking the teaching and non-teaching staff of the CIVIL Department on behalf of my class (B. E. Civil) for all that they have done for us. I also wish my juniors the best of luck and exhort them to keep the SPCE flag flying high.

Tehemton. Bhagwagar
(B. E. Civil)





An Unsung Hero

He walks on dry and lonely land,
And both his feet were bare,
He held in hand an unsheathed sword,
And matted was his hair

His eyes spoke of a victory,
And staggering though his feet,
He cared not for his misery,
Nor the sands, nor heat.

The surge of triumph that he felt,
For he had won the fight,
For the country that he loved,
Having given all his might.

Caring not for life nor death,
Had battled till the end,
But staggering now he walks,
And now his back is bent.

Yes, this man is homeward bound,
And soon forgotten will be,
For who has time for this wretched soul,
Who has time indeed !

Sindhu Kutty
(S. E. CMPN)

Hope

I remember the time of unfulfilled dreams,
But of happiness just an arm's length away,
I remember the time when the fields were lush-green,
And in the gentle breeze the green, green grass
would sway!

But as I kept watching, the evergreen grass
turned grey.
There were cries, there were whispers, there were
numerous calls for help,
And though the cries were heartfelt, no help was on
its way.

And as I looked around my little world,
The swooning children, the mothers of grief,
All sat together, but each was alone,
Still none could I see without belief.

In their eyes of pain, I could see hope,
And though they appeared to be weak,
there was undying strength in each of their souls,
To them the future appeared not bleak.

Each heart heavy with empty dreams,
Each soul fighting to go on,
Each body though staggering and weak,
The faith still remaining strong.

What I learn from you O! People, the people of woe,
What I gain from your leaden hearts, you may
never know:

The undying faith, the will, the strength, the
courage to cope,
For no man is greater than he, who lives with hope!

Sindhu Kutty
(S. E. CMPN)



- Which is the only word which has the same vowel repeated six times?
- What has more legs; A horse or No Horse?
- Make this equation correct without adding, removing or moving a single matchstick

$$X \mid + \mid = X$$

- The following are the only two words which have all vowels in the correct order:

A _ _ _ E _ IOU _

_ A _ E _ IOU _

- Decode the following message :
333 444 555 994 122
784 484 111 212
- Socrates lived $\frac{1}{6}$ the of his life as a child and remained a bachelor for the next $\frac{1}{4}$ th part of

his life. A son was born to him 5 years later. When the son had lived half his father's allotted time on this earth, he passed away. Two years later, Socrates too passed away.

Can you tell how long he lived?

- A man died leaving behind three sons. One day after his death, his lawyer read out his will which stated that his wealth of 1717 gold coins should be divided such that the elides son gets $\frac{1}{2}$, middle son gets $\frac{1}{3}$ and youngest son gets $\frac{1}{9}$ of the total wealth. No coins are to be meited.

How did the sons manage to solve this problem?

- Australia is the second largest island in the world. Can you tell which was the second largest island before Australia was discovered?
- Can you prove that the product of 4 and 5 is equal to the product of 2. and 10.

Four into five is twenty, and two into eleven is twenty too (22) !!

It was still Australia; so what if it wasn't discovered?

The lawyer put in 101 gold coins of his own to make a total of 1818. As per the will, the eldest son got $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1818 = 909. The middle son got $\frac{1}{3}$ of 1818 = 606. The youngest son got $\frac{1}{9}$ of 1818 = 202. This gave a total of 1717 coins and the clever lawyer took back his 101 coins.

Socrates lived for 84 years.

- Indivisibility
- No Horse. A horse has four legs. No horse has five or more legs. Get it !!
- Just turn the page upside down
- Abstemious
Facetious
- Add up the digits in each group and take the letter of the alphabet corresponding to the sum. Hence the decoded message is "I Love Spce"
8. It was still Australia; so what if it wasn't discovered?
9. Four into five is twenty, and two into eleven is twenty too (22) !!

ANSWERS

Sachin C. Desai
(S. E. Comp)



Hang On!

What time is it?, I asked my friend. 'Five,' he said. 'What ?!!, But it feels like it was 3:30 just ten minutes back. 'What I had just said was indeed one of the silliest things ever. But that's just what I'd felt when I heard 'Five'. I couldn't decipher how an hour and a half had passed and to me it felt like just ten minutes. Time's flying. It really is. Although this awareness about time is present in many, it normally resides in the depths of our subconscious minds. This was one of the moments when this awareness comes to the fore of our mind. This feeling hits us so bad that for a moment we stop doing whatever we are doing and wonder how things around us are moving so fast. Everything just zooms past us.

The duration of a second is still the same that it was 100 years ago. What is happening ? Change !! Everything is changing at such a rapid rate that our perception of time has changed and will keep changing till eternity. Hardly anything lasts for long. Infact hardly anything is made to last for ever, I mean for years to come. Consumer durables are now becoming consumer disposables. Everything is disposable these days. We started off with paper plates & glasses and we will definitely move on to paper clothing. Every kid loves to play with LEGO blocks, but these days even adults are not missing out on the fun. People are doing to their houses what kids are doing with their LEGO blocks.

The nature of relationships in our society is undergoing a drastic change. These days 'trial marriages' and live-in relationships are not exactly accepted but are definitely tolerated in our society. The durations of relationships are getting to be really short.

Fashions hardly last for a season or two (atleast in the more affluent parts of this world). It may happen that you may see someone wearing something fashionable or trendy, which you think

you must have for yourself. But by the time you really make up your mind about the outfit it may no longer be trendy. So you've got to think real fast and act equally fast to keep up or you just might get left out. And that is surely not going to make you feel good. Even our college life is moving really fast. Its August and the freshies have just come to college. Senior guys are busy talking about that one pretty girl in some first year class and before we've realised its submission time. A few days more and the semester is over for good (?).

Everything is getting to be more temporary than ever. Transience is the very essence of our life today. The lifetime of various things and processes that make up our everyday life is reducing rapidly. More events are getting compressed in a very short period of time. Change is occurring much faster than it did, say, in the 15th or 17th century. It is because of this accelerated rate of change that our perception of time is ever changing. Some people love this pace at which things happen, but most feel utterly disturbed. They feel they are being pushed too hard by the fastness of (flying) time. They want to get off, get off this merry-go-round, that our life is. Its going faster and faster and for many its too much to take. But you get off once and thats it for you in this lifetime. Everything is going to just race past those who get off and thats going to make them feel even worse. So I guess getting off is not going to solve our problem. We have got to have a correct mindset to tackle this pace of things to come. If this scenario, to us, appears challenging and not disturbing we can probably still remain in the race and keep up with the times to come and make something of this life.

So just HANG ON in there !!!

Vikram Sardesai
(S. E. Electrical)



The Debt

Katargaon, a small, prosperous village in the interior of Gujrat was home to Haribhai and his wife Maniben. Haribhai was a landlord and God had showered on him the blessings of wealth. He, in turn was always eager to help the poor and the needy. Maniben was a worldly-wise woman unlike her extremely pious and selfless husband. She always cautioned him on letting go of his wealth indiscriminately. Though blessed with prosperity and a fervor to do work, Haribhai and Maniben always had one unfulfilled wish. They were childless. Perhaps, the satisfaction they got from helping others helped them ease their sorrows a little.

One fine morning, a young man by the name Kanti came to Haribhai in search of work. Kanti was a shattered man, having lost his land and ancestral home to the tyrannical zamindar. He had lost his parents and none of his relatives were ready to support him. The betrayal of his near and dear ones had left him a broken man. Haribhai was convinced of Kanti's truthfulness and decided to give him a job. It heralded the arrival of a new dawn in Kanti's life. Life had begun to smile on him and he recovered his lost wealth and confidence. Under the love and care of his patron, he blossomed like a flower in spring and achieved a lot in a small period. Tears welled up in his eyes when the time to separate from his benefactors and surrogate parents came and his voice quivered when he said, "I will always remain indebted to you.....".

Years passed after Kanti had left and Haribhai continued his good work. One year a terrible famine affected the district and Katargaon too was not spared. Food and water were a rare commodity and people and animals were beginning to fall like nine pins. Haribhai was at his doorstep all day distributing his wealth, grains or anything that could help the others; oblivious of the fact that his reserves of wealth were fast dwindling. Paying no heed to his wife's cautions, he sold of his land and house; and one day rose to find himself joining the ranks of the destitutes. With hardly

anybody staying in the village, Haribhai and his wife wandered around in search for food. It was one of the most gory sights they had ever seen. Carcasses of humans and animals were scattered around and men were going to the extent of killing each other for a bowl of rice. Indeed, when man braves a battle for survival he too is no different from an animal in the jungle. A tired, hungry and thirsty-man on seeing death and cannibalism all around him is driven to insanity.

At the outskirts of a village, Maniben saw a small child running around. She had worn golden ear-rings. Driven to insanity by the state of events, and in a fit of barbarism, Maniben strangled the child and took away her earrings. When she returned to her senses she realised her folly and was filled by a pang of guilt. Nevertheless, she continued the journey into the village with her husband who was unaware of the grave sin she had committed.

The two distraught elders felt a sigh of relief when they met Kanti in the village. The sight of his surrogate parents in such dire straits brought tears to his eyes. He took them home with him and served them with all his heart, listening to their tale of sorrow, while they quenched their hunger and thirst. Some time later, a servant called Kanti to the doorstep and mournfully placed his daughter's body in front of him. Haribhai had gone of into deep sleep and the child's mother too was not at home. The shattered Kanti mourned silently on seeing his daughter's body. Releasing that she was clutching something tightly in the palm of her hand; he opened it only to be shocked greatly by the revelation that it was a piece of torn cloth from a sari exactly similar to that worn by Maniben!

A volcano of emotions exploded in Kanti's mind. Should he have her punished for that? But they are my benefactors. I am indebted to them. Should I forgive this sin committed in a fit of insanity? Kanti found himself face to face with a very cruel turn of events. Regaining his senses, he made a decision. He took his



daughter's body to the terrace of his bungalow and dropped it from the top. He then instructed his servants that everyone be told that the child had died by falling from the terrace while playing; for he knew that even if he could have forgiven Maniben, a mother would never forgive anyone who killed her child.

Standing in a corner, Maniben watched the proceedings with stunned silence. As she watched Kanti covering up his daughter's murder to save her

just because they had supported him in his bad days, the sight left an indelible mark of gratitude in her mind. She did realise finally that the only reason she was alive was her husband's good work. Filled with sorrow, she confessed her sin to her husband who consoled her by saying that Kanti had indeed repaid his debt. But the father in him had made a supreme sacrifice. She hence owed her life to him and his family. The debt still remained.

Parth Y. Pandya
S. E. (CMPN)

Battles

Just to tell you my spine hasn't broken till date,
And my will is not shattered by my rotten fate,
And to tell you that I intend to hold on tight,
Cause I know all my decisions were right.

Failure stinks in all my vivid dreams
You smile, cause I can't stop my screams
But my black days I've thrown in the past This is just to tell you
I've found my rhythm at last.

I don't feel so low now
I will make it, though I don't know how just right now
The only soul today I trust is me
This is just to tell you that I've broken free.

Today I know you can label me a loser
And I know a beggar ain't no chooser
These days will end for the good ones to begin
You have many battles to lose and I have many to win.

We have to wait and see who makes it to the top
Who keeps on runnin' and who's gonna stop
I believe and I think I can
This is just to tell you I'll be a strong man

Failure and desperation today blur my sight,
I hear the world giggling at my plight,
I'll make it big and I'll tackle every odd
I'm gonna be strong and I swear it on God
I'm struggling my dreams will come true,
This is just to tell you
I'll get over you.

Prasanna Karhade
S. E. (Comp.)



The Internet

If you haven't already heard of the Internet, you must probably be from Mars. According to conservative estimates there are 50 million people already on the Internet, and this amount is growing exponentially. The Internet is supposedly revolutionizing the way people gather business and communicate with each other. The Internet is also said to be holding volumes of data on every conceivable topic.

While everybody is talking about the Internet very few people know actually how the Internet works. This article aims to answer this question in very simple terms.

What is the Internet?

Initially, the Internet was a information network of computers set up by the US Military in the 70s to provide on line information to its important centres. It was extended to a few US Universities to exchange data and consequently students got access to it. However it grew so popular after that, that more and more people started using it. As a result, for security purposes the Internet was declassified, and some parts were provided to the general public. This was the Web. So the Web gradually extended around the world, and was then called the World Wide Web (WWW) or just the Internet.

Very simply put the internet is a worldwide connection of computers using dedicated telephone lines, satellites etc., such that the information is available through the internet. But when you have more than 50 million people connected, this becomes complicated. For this a set of standards (called protocols) are set. Now each computer to be connected on the internet must conform to some standard protocol, like the TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet protocol). This enables the computers to transmit information easily i.e. it forms a link

language for exchanging data between different types of computers.

All the information on the Internet resides on the hard drives of the computers connected on the Internet. These computers which provide the information are called Servers, and are connected to the Internet through dedicated telephone lines. Each server is registered with a particular number, called its **DNS** (Domain Name Server) entry. This number translates into a website address. E.g. The DNS of our very own VSNL is 202.54. 1.30 which translates to **www.vsnl.net.in**.

At this time it is necessary to explain that nobody owns the Internet. The Internet was initially set up by the US military. However it is the people, who provide services on the Internet who are responsible for maintaining the smooth running of the Internet. Better the service, more the hunderd of people getting attracted to it. But for the record, the set of standards on the internet is set by a Californian University.

We get connected to the Internet using a special software called a WebBrowser, like Netscape, Microsoft Internet Explorer, etc. We provide the browser with the address of the Website which we wish to visit (after the browser is connected to an Internet Service Provider like VSNL. This is explained later). The browser then connects us to that website using an URL (Uniform Resource Locator) and we get to see the information available there. The website generally contains information written in HTML (Hyper Text Machine Language) which allows the text information to be seamlessly integrated with graphics and hyperlinks (links to other websites or locations). Most of the data is generally in text form (80%). But the remaining 20% in the form of graphics, sound, virtual reality, etc. really peeps up the information present on the internet and makes it interesting.



Thus we see that the Internet works thru a network of computers throughout the world, sharing the available information. The Internet is accessible to all people, but all information on the Internet isn't. Some people wish to give restricted access to their information, whether to view it, or change it. This is provided by involving a FIREWALL (a software) between the Server the connected computer. This firewall prevents any unauthorised damage to the data (called hacking).

Electronic Mail (E-Mail). What is it ??

Email is one of the most revolutionary forms of communication ever. It allows one to send graphics, text or software etc. to any person on the Internet. Moreover, each person is equally accessible anywhere in the world. This is because unlike Snail mail (ordinary mail), where the letter is physically transported from one location to the other, in email, the letter is in electronic form (bits and bytes) and is easily transported anywhere through dedicated telephone links. Thus a letter can be sent anywhere within minutes.

Working : Each person has an email address. This address provides all the information.

For e.g. My email address is aalok @ giasbma.vsnl.net.in.

I can divide my address into 3 parts: (1) Name : aalok (2) Domain name : giasbm.vsnl. net (the part after @ sign) (3) Country : in (India). This provides all the information needed for my email to reach me.

How to get on to the internet from 'amchi' Mumbai ??

After the computer is configured (in plea), the most important thing to be done is to get a account from VSNL (Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited) i.e. getting a logic name and a password. In India, VSNL holds a monopoly and is the only service provider to the internet.

VSNL provides 2 types of account Shell and TCP/IP to the general publication (non commercial).

- 1 In Shell account, only text access (without graphics) is available. It costs Rs. 5500 for 500 hours or one year, whichever is earlier. Here email is provided free.
- 1 In TCP/IP account, complete access to the internet with graphics is available. It costs Rs. 15500 for 500 hours or one year, which is earlier. Again email is provided free.
- 1 However for students, VSNL provides a third type of access called restricted Shell where Internet access is provided for Rs. 550 for 500 hours or one year, which is earlier. This is exactly similar to Shell, with the only difference that some commands are not available at the Shell prompt. Note restricted shell does not mean that access to some sites is prohibited.

What to do when on the Internet ??

Once you get your logic name and your password (keep it a secret), you use your browser which dials up VSNL's hunting number and gets connected. After you get connected, provide your password and voila, there is a whole new world to explore.

First and foremost try the Chat Zone. There are electronic channels present here whose topics are about almost anything you can dream about. Besides enabling you to meet people from different comes of the world, the Chat zone also allows you to further understand what features are available on the Internet, what sites to visit, etc. Remember to follow the code of conduct on the net called Netiquette.

To search anything on the internet, use the search engines like Yahoo !!, Altavista, Lycos, WebCrawler, Infoseek, Excite, etc. These search engines provide the sites containing the information sought based o the query given. These search engines are very useful because they can help you find the data you want from almost 3 Million Gigabytes of data (estimated to be present) on the Internet.

Of course there is nothing much better than just net surfing. Netsurfing? What's that you ask?? It simply means visiting the various sites on the



net like e.g. www. Discovery. Com, www.cnn.com.etc., sampling the amazing wealth of information. It is estimated that there are so many sites already on the net, that to visit all of them at the rate of 100 sites a day will take 70 years !!

As you surf the Internet, you will discover many myriad and unique uses which will truly amaze you. So go on surfs up!

Applications for students on the Internet

Using chat, you can find students like yourself anywhere on the Net to discuss academic doubts. Using email one can send applications to US colleges, and need not wait months for reply. If you are doing research or making a project report you can get data normally inaccessible to you,

from any college in the world and also get expert comments from the most qualified people in the field.

Using the Internet, vast databases can be searched for the most specific thing required. The Internet makes research much more easy by providing access to previous articles and research papers on any topic required.

So now what are you waiting for, get onto the Internet, be the explorers of a whole new world. To borrow a cliché : Are you upto it ??

Aalok N. Doshi S. E. Computers Email : aalok @ cyberjunkie.com

Aalok N. Doshi
(S. E. Comp.)

Winners Vs Losers

A winner always likes to try
and a loser always likes to cry
A winner doesn't always win.
But to lose, for him is not a sin.
It's just a stepping stone for a bigger win.
But for Mr. Loser its a different story,
He burns in the blaze of lost glory
He loses and he loses, always,
And the price of his self-killing attitude he pays.
Self-pity is what he seeks pleasure in
which hastens the death of his dying desire to win.
Winning or losing is but a state of mind.
To this fact, be not blind
So remember, to win or to lose,
Is for you to choose !

Vikram Sardesai
(S. E. Electrical)

SNAPSHOTS '96

—By Nikhil Jadhav.

NNNN



THE SLEEPING DUTY.

POLITICALLY 'RAO'-TED.



HURRYING TO POWER,

SIT(AND)ARAM KESRI.

'PHONE'Y MONEY.



'PATHAK'JIC CONDITION.



THE 'FODDER' OF THE NATION.

— By NAJADHAV.





'REMOTE' SURVIVAL.

ART(IFICIAL) CONTROVERSY.



—By Nikhil Jadhav.



'JAIL' LALITHA.





Civilians, So What ?

In today's age of pseudo-sophistication, how can you explain that Civil Engineering is a priority? I mean, after the Society hostess has broken a priceless China cup in her emotion and has hastily swept aside the subject.

So who is a Civil Engineer? Does he lay bricks? Does he mix cement? Or does he fix nails? He is not a common day labourer doing his stretch breaking stones. He is the mind behind the bridges, the towering skyscrapers and poles calculated against the force of winds and gales.

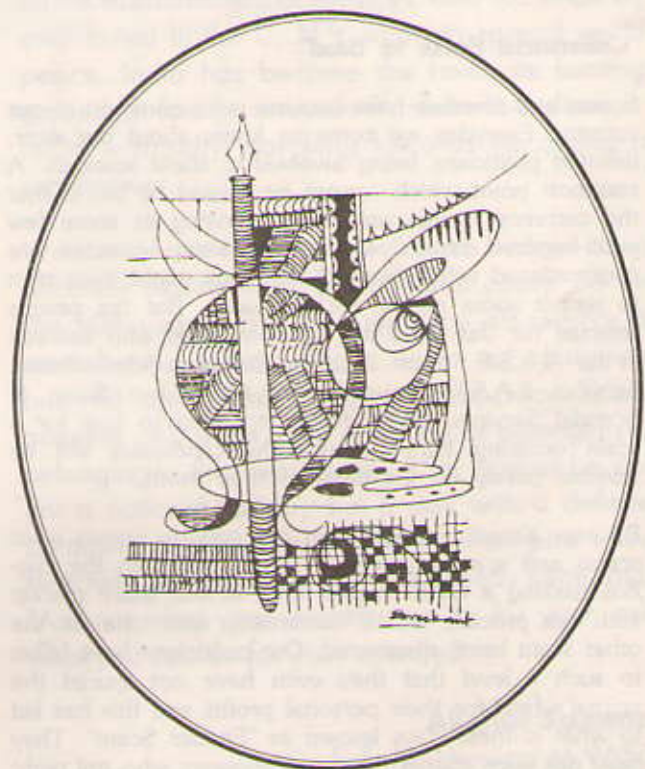
Originally engineering was divided into two major branches viz. Military and Civil which included what are now Civil, Architecture, Mechanical Engineering and Fortification. All works not distantly military (such as fortresses, war engines etc.) were comprised in the profession of Civil Engineering and it is this meaning which the term carries in the character of the Institution of Civil Engineering, where a Civil engineer is defined as one who directs the great sources of power in nature for use and convenience of man.

On the more practical side of it, it is one branch that can never be saturated precisely due to the fact that it is not necessarily job-oriented. Self employment is the advantage it boasts of, in sharp contradiction to the more specialised branches of engineering. Then there is the monetary aspect of the matter and I do not mean diversification to software. Those who opt for a Masters degree with some specialisation are easily grabbed in a world clamouring for more. A project like a super-highway and you are on your way.

It is novel to have people wanting to reach the bare skeleton. To engineer, to create is to rely on your own, clear perception of the limitless possibilities of Nature. To stand in the pure

certainty of running a transcontinental rail, or creating super highways or skyscrapers, dams or bridges. The anticipation of malleable metal and rock in your hands is the romance of it. This is where you get a sense of fulfillment, in that you are required to culminate your original thoughts into tangible efficacy. It is this heady feeling about the virgin metal taking shape in your hands. It is a field of expanding horizons, an ongoing search for a lighter, more economical alloy with a strength balanced only by the powers of intellect. God, must have been a Civil Engineer to design this Earth and endow her with beauty which is to be exploited and replenished.

Ms. Manasee Paranjape
F. E. (Civil)





Scandal Mania

The Philips Top-10 brought to you by Philips"

Dear friends, don't confuse this Philips top-10 with what you presently see on Zee Tv these days. But this is the show which will be soon on your T.V. Screens showing you the top ten scams and scandals of India every week. This is the only program which has been left out by our T. V. Channels. But there is nothing to worry about it, with the rate of increasing scandals being discovered by our investigation departments, we will soon see with this countdown too. These countdowns will be seen every week giving you the latest information about the scams and scandals. They will provide you with all the information as to which scam has hit the highest amount in the week. It will also tell you about "the politician of the week" who has topped the ranking, but for this you will have to wait a bit because that you will be able to see.

"Commercial Break ke Baad"

Scams and scandals have become quite common in our country. Everyday we come to know about our dear, devoted politicians being involved in these scandals. A common point which cannot be denied by us, is that the currency figures are always ranging in some few multi-hundred crores. Our investigating agencies are overburdened with this work and they might even plan to recruit some people for the same. But the people selected for this work will be only those who succeed in the "I.S.S.S." exam. Just like our Indian Administrative Services (I.A.S.), these will be the Indian Scam & Scandal Services. But there is no need to fear for a scam occurring here because the candidates will be selected purely on the basis of their merit.

By now almost every soul in our country knows what scams and scandals mean. It all started with the Big-Bull making a 6500 crores scam in our share market and this process is still continuing with one or the other scam being discovered. Our politicians have fallen to such a level that they even have not spared the animal's feed for their personal profits and this has led to what is these days known as "Fodder Scam". They have not even spared the poor labourers who toil night

and day to earn themselves two square meals. They are paid an amount which is lesser than what they are made to sign for. This scam is proudly declared as "The Muster-Roll Scam" by our media. All these happenings are having a bad effect on our country's economy and its image all over the world. India is ranked among the top 5 corrupt countries of the world.

These days scams are splashed all over newspapers. This extent of this occurrence is so high that I feel as if I am having 'scams on toast' for breakfast rather than butter.

Sachin Mahajan
S. E. (Electrical)





50 years of Ups and Downs

This year we celebrate 50 years of India's independence. 50 years ago on the 15th day of August, 1947 India became an independent nation. It was the dawn of a new era for this nation of 30 crores when the Indian tricolour was unfurled by India's late Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru on the Red Fort. The country awoke from a deep slumber. Everyone pledged to work for his country and to restore it to its past glory.

50 years later, today, what do we have to show that we have indeed fulfilled this pledge? A corrupt moral and political system, a country without a soul, a country where hundreds of scams surface everyday, a country shrouded in poverty, a country in which lakhs of people are still illiterate a country with no basic infrastructure except in a few big cities, a country where hundreds die of diseases like malaria without receiving even the basic treatment, a country in which promises are made (by the politicians) to be unkept, a country where corruption is rampant,.....

This is certainly not the country of my or your dreams. What do we have to show to the world on our 50th year of independence? - our former Prime Minister getting charge sheeted on charges of corruption, a cabinet minister stacking crores of rupees in his home when millions of our countrymen do not even enjoy the basic rights of food, clothing & shelter, a former Chief Minister ending up in jail for allegedly owning property, worth more than 50 crores while drawing a monthly salary of just Re 1 for 5 years, a chain of scams - the hawala scam, the fodder scam, the cobbler scam the animal husbandry scam and so on. Where do we stop? Is this a country of thieves?

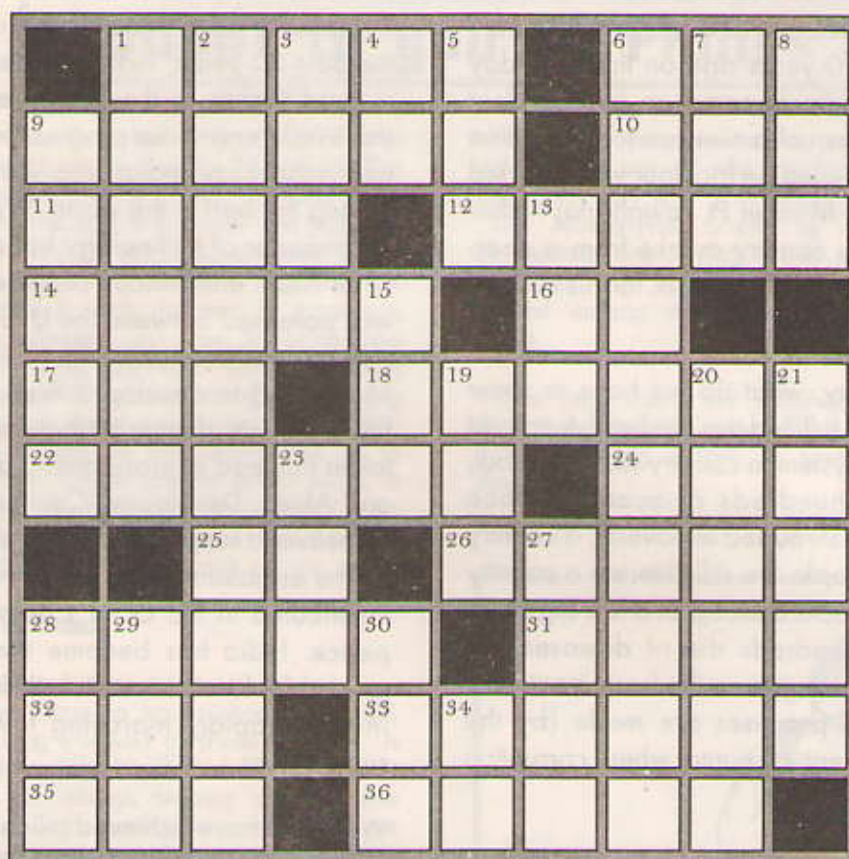
This doesn't mean that we have achieved nothing in the past 50 years. India has become self sufficient in food thanks to the green revolution, we have achieved tremendous progress in the field of science and technology. Indian engineers and scientists are among the best in the world. We are no longer just the importer of technology but also the exporter to other Asian and African countries. When the world was polarised between the U. S., and Russia, India took the lead to establish the N. A. M. (Non /aligned Movement) to develop a third force. Today India has a definite identity on the world scene. India has taken the lead in propagating peace in South Asia and Africa. Developing Countries look upon India for help and support. India was one of the signatories on the establishment of the U. N. and has sincerely contributed in the U. N.'s effort to spread world peace. India has become the favourite hunting ground for foreign investors thanks to liberalisation. India is rapidly marching towards becoming a superpower.

We could have achieved much more had we been sincerely dedicated to our national cause. So on this 50th year of our independence lets resolve to work for our country. Let us weed out corruption and red tapism and strengthen democracy. This is possible only if we have a feeling of belonging-of belonging-to this country. Let 15th August be not just a national holiday but a day with a definite purpose. Let us seek inspiration from our past while sketching our future. As John F. Kennedy once said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

Akshat Saxena
F. E. Mechanical M 9655



Kris - Kros



Across: (1) Fell endlessly on and found a criminal;
(6) Note down just one thing for future reference;
(9) Confused foreigners taste sea water (10) rear of
ringed heavenly body looks like a pot; (11) Toss a case
to get top cards; (12) A donkey standing in front of an
alien is something valuable; (14) Secret of Alladin's
success (pl); (16) Neither you nor me, neither he nor
she, just an inanimate thing; (17) Whose help would
you take to refresh yourself on a hot summer day; (18)
Protection for vehicles; (22) Refusing to be nailed and
shaken up; (24) Famous cricket ground drops its tail
and we get eggs; (25) Former CEC without a meeting
to attend; (26) Cool gas-but not so cool for the
environment; (28) Sleeping at a funeral? No way!;

(31) Is left without feet, surrounded by water; (32)
Scare away the extremities to get your vehicle; (33)
Give: Popular friendly gesture; (35) You'll achieve
success if you do this again and again; (36) What
remains after the smelting of sulphide ores.

Down : (1) A front which may be put on to conceal
the truth; (2) This is really simple; (3) A speech
deficiency caused by shaking lips!; (4) Don't be put
off; (5) A bit of tea would make it tidy; (6) Follows the
Nike principle; (7) Chop off the head of a bore to get
useful raw material; (8) You can see explosive movies
here; (9) Young boy follows the first note for health
food; (13) A bottomless sink is an evil doing;



(15) Organisation that runs soccer in Glasgow (abbr);
 (19) Apparently a dwarf, but in fact a lubrication giant;
 (23) Though dark, this (fluid) has enlightened the world;
 (20) Stop beginning to turn and you will develop;
 (21) Indian queen (variant); (27) Resolve mixed up glass pieces and you'll cause a split;
 (28) What the puzzled cat was trying to do on stage;
 (29) Trying to alter an immature thing may cause a big fight;
 (30) 13th letter; (34) Chop the dees off the dead to get running water

- Sachin Desai & Hardeep Singh
 (S. E. Comp.)

Across : (1) Felon; (6) Jot; (9) Saline; (10) Urn;
 (11) Aces; (12) Assets; (14) Lamps; (16) IT; (17) Ade;
 (18) Fender; (22) Denial; (24) Ova; (25) Th; (26) Freon;
 (28) Awake; (31) Isle; (32) Car; (33) Me Five; (36) Try;
 (36) Matte.
 Down : (1) Facade; (2) Elementary; (3) Lisp; (4) On;
 (5) Nea; (6) Just Does it; (7) Ore; (8) TNT; (9) Salad;
 (13) Sin; (15) SFA; (19) Elf; (20) Evolve; (21) Range;
 (23) Ink; (27) Rift; (28) Act; (29) War; (30) Emm;
 (34) Ea.

Answers :

PAIN

Pain is like a raging fire ,
 pain is like steaming coal ,
 the burning edifice that is my body ,
 the embers of a pyre that is my soul .

Pain is like a stroke of wind ,
 pain is like a gust of rain ,
 the storm that resides in my mind ,
 a tempest that is driving me insane .

Pain is like the hard soil ;
 the barren consequence of misery .
 My feet are corroded with the blisters ,
 my soul has now become journey-weary .

Pain is like a sublime poetry ,
 a serenade life sings in its every vein ;
 So profound has been its effect on me
 that I now find pleasure in this pain .

Parth Y. Pandya
 S.E.(CMPN)



A New Beginning

There were tears in Pooja's eyes. It was no ordinary day for her. It was this day, exactly two years ago that had changed her entire life. It was on this day that she got the terrible news that her only daughter, her mere nine year old girl, her Ayusha was HIV positive. It had been no less than a trauma for her, a pain that she still felt in her heart. She had been unable to accept the fact. "How is it possible?", The doctors had felt that it had been due to blood transfusion "But, Why? Why had it to be her daughter?"

Finally, She had pulled herself together and had decided that the last days of Ayusha's life would be her best. No matter what, she had decided that Ayusha would not die in the dull, gloomy room of the hospital. Each day of Ayusha's life would be full of laughter and happiness.

It had been a heart-breaking task for Pooja to make a person fighting with death, laugh. Aids is a disease that destroys the defence, system of the body, exposing the body to all kinds of diseases. Within a few days, Ayusha a healthy, chubby girl had turned into a thin pale girl. It had made Pooja wonder if every passing day of happiness was pushing Ayusha closer to death.

Adding to her troubles, was the attitude of people. Ayusha's friends had stopped playing with her. Pooja's house which had been full of relatives had been going for check-ups were evasive. Everyone looked at Ayusha as if she was someone to be dreaded someone whom they all pitied but preferred to keep a distance from. Sometimes, Pooja had felt like screaming at their behaviour, telling them that it was not Ayusha's fault that she had got that dreaded disease, that Ayusha was also a human being and deserved love and attention at least in her last days. Pooja had fought a lonely battle, a battle to save her daughter from the jaws of death. But she had been defeated. Ayusha died seven months after that horrible discovery.

Pooja wiped her tears as she came back to the present. From the office window, we saw a woman with her pale daughter, coming towards the office. After her daughter's death, Pooja had opened a home which was a hospital-cum-house for the Aids victims. She had called it 'Home'. Yes, it was a home for the Aids victims, where they would not be looked upon with pity-would not be feared. It was a place where they would be treated as human beings except that they wouldn't have a single day without laughter. It was a new beginning for the Aids victims. A new dawn



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BHAGAVAD GITA - KING OF KNOWLEDGE

The Vedic literatures contain the 4 Vedas, Upanishads, Puranas, Mahabharata, Ramayana etc. Amongst all the Vedic literatures, Bhagavad Gita is a transcendental literature which is considered the summum-bonum of all vedic literature and can free one from all miseries of life, if and only if one follows the instructions as they are.

It is said that

Sarvopanisado gavo dogdha Gopala-nandanah partho vatsah sudhir bhokta dugdham gitamrtam mahat.

Translation:

This Gitopanishad Bhagavad Gita the essence of all the Upanishads is just like a cow and lord Krishna who is famous as a cowherd boy is milking this cow. Arjuna is just like a calf and learned scholars and pure devotees are to drink the nectarean milk of Bhagavad Gita

Ref : (Gita Mahatmya 6)

This age is called Kali-Yuga-The age of quarrel and hypocrisy. In this age people are short lived. It is almost possible for anyone to gain understanding of entire Vedic literature.

But Bhagavad Gita which extracts the essence of all vedic literatures can give guidance to the modern man about the way of perfecting his life.

In general people think that Bhagavad Gita is just theoretical but not practical. But it is not so. In fact Bhagavad Gita was spoken by lord Sri Krsna to his friend and devotee Arjuna, on the battlefield. Now the battlefield is a place where the 2 parties do not meet to have a friendly chat and discuss something. It is a place where the 2 parties are going to be ready to kill each other.

In fact Lord Krishna spoke the Bhagavad Gita to Arjuna in a most crucial moment. How can it not be practical ?

How to understand Bhagavad Gita:

Bhagavad Gita should be understood as it is. There are innumerable editions of Bhagavad Gita in our country which give Motivated Interpretations. Such editions do not accept Krishna's statements as they are. They speculate and add their own theory and say things like 'perhaps Krishna intended to say that'.

We should not read "Bhagavad Gita as I want it to be" or "Bhagavad Gita As it should be"

but it should be Bhagavad Gita AS IT IS which gives the direct meaning of the Gita without any adulteration.

From whom to accept this knowledge of Bhagavad Gita ?



The scriptures (Sastras) say that

"tad vipranartham sa gurum erabhigachet samit panih srotriyam brahma-nistham"

Translation:

In order to learn the transcendental science one must submissively approach a bonafide spiritual master who is coming in disciplic succession (guru paramparea) and is fixed in the absolute truth".

Sometimes people think 'Why must I need a Guru?'

I can rely on my own power of analysis rather than accept somebody else's opinion as Gospel truth. Why should truth be the monopoly of some particular authority?

Also people have this tendency to accept what we think is right/good and reject the rest.

If you approach a group of common people call one of them and ask him, Sir, can you tell me something of medulla oblongata? He will say, "sorry, that is not my subject" you call another and ask, Sir, can you tell how to solve this problem of diagonal matrix by finite element analysis? He will say "Sorry, my background is not that" but if you ask a question "can any one of you talk about God? Every fool will cloak like a frog. This is the real problem. An intelligent person will ask where is the Authority?"

Actually we have no choice but to believe authorities in order to get knowledge given in schools and colleges we accept the books whose authors we have not seen or even heard but since the university gives the name in the syllabus we accept it

Practically in every field we accept authority so why not in this? Even when the lord Sri Krishna descended to this world he set an example by accepting as his guru Even Lord Ramachandra accepted Vasistha Muni as his guru to set an example So even the supreme Sandipani Muni Personality of Godhead who is the source of all wisdom accepts a guru to emphasize the need.

We find that we are subjected to 4 basic defects they are-

1. **To be illusioned:** Eg. A mirage in the desert
2. **Imperfect Senses:** Our senses are imperfect for eg. if we switch off the light in the night we cannot even see our own hand so how can we see God with our eyes?
3. **To commit mistakes :** Because of the above 2 defects we commit mistakes
4. **Cheating propensity:** Because we commit mistakes we try to cheat others.

Spiritual science is beyond our mind and senses and cannot be learnt on our own.

So we should learn this science of gita from the perfect authority

So Bhagavad Gita is not an outdated, mythological story but it is a science which is valid at all times, places and circumstances.

Thank you,

Ramachandran Anantham
(T. E. Electrical)