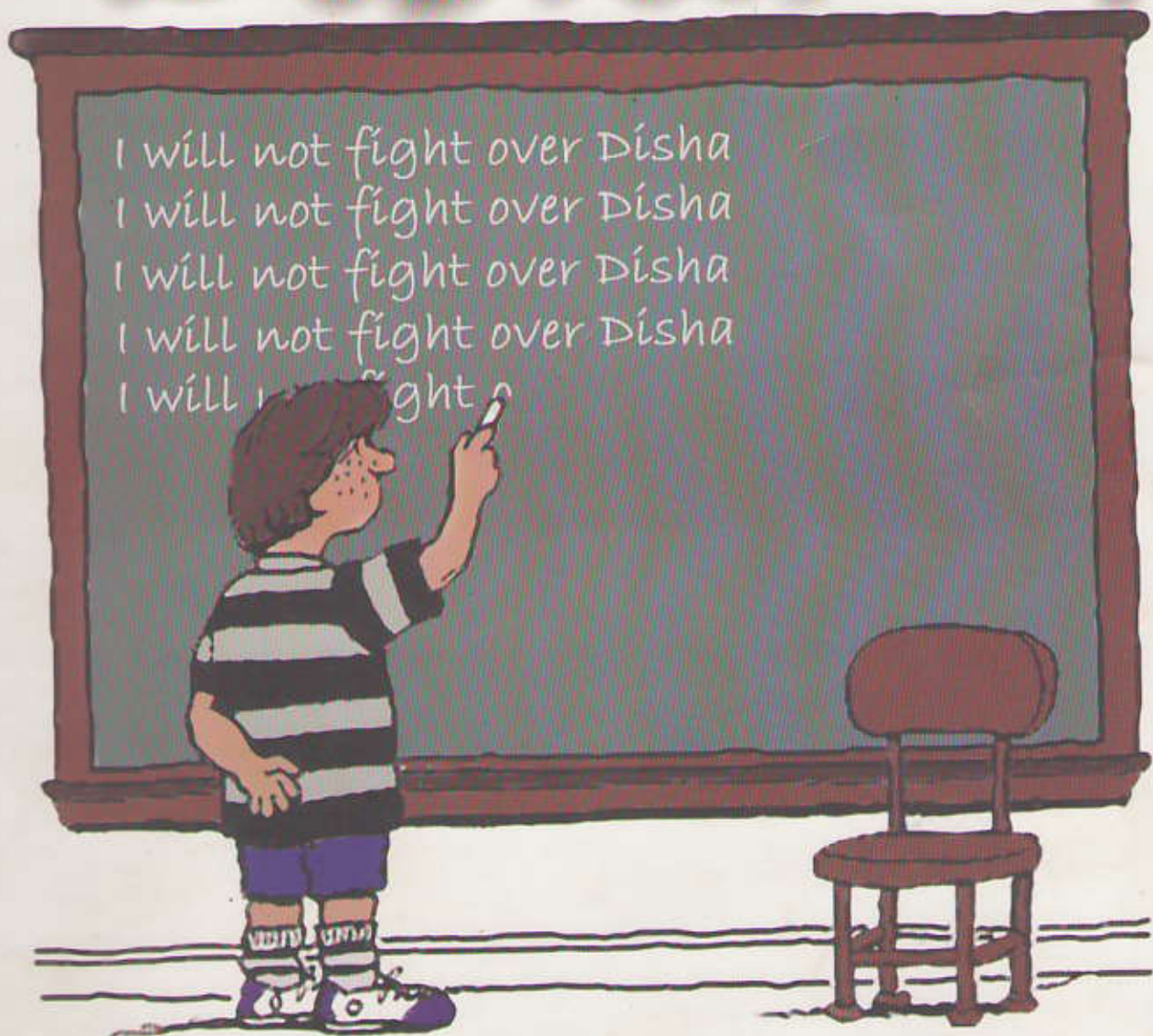


Disha '07

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...for the love of the written word.

*Sardar Patel College of Engineering &
Sardar Patel Institute of Technology*



સારદાર વલ્લભભાઈ પટેલ
૧૯૭૫ - ૧૯૫૦



Sardar Patel College of Engineering Sardar Patel Institute of Technology

DISHA 06-07
(SARJANIKA)

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Magazine Team

Magazine Ex-Officio

Prof. (Mrs.) Vidya Joshi (Electrical)

Magazine Secretaries

Pranam Shetty (B.E. Computers)
Rohit Menon (T.E. Electrical)

Design and Layout

Venkatesh Rao (S.E. Electronics)
Samer Merchant (T.E. Electrical)

English Editorial Team

Tiyasa Khanra (S.E. Electrical)
Elizabeth Alankara (S.E. Electronics)
Ashish Kher (T.E. Mechanical)
Swati Bhadada (B.E. Electronics)

Marathi Editorial Team

Hrishikesh Churi (T.E. I.T.)
Shrikant Vispute (T.E. Electrical)

Hindi Editorial Team

Surujit Medda (B.E. Electronics)
Vaibhav Soni (T.E. Mechanical)

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Special Thanks:

Pushkar Dikshit
Sachin Navalkar
Viraj Khamkar
Farha Mukri

Email us your feedback and suggestions at :
dishamag007@gmail.com

"Education would fail ignominiously in its objective, if it manufactures only a robot and called him an economic man stressing the adjective economic and forgetting the substantive man.

A university cannot afford to ignore the cultural aspects of education whatever studies it specializes in. Science is a means, not an end, whereas culture is an end in itself. Even though you may ultimately become a scientist, a doctor or an engineer, you must while in college, absorb fundamental values, which will make you a man of culture.

An engineer has not merely to build bridges; he has to be a devoted husband, a kind father, a friendly neighbour, a dutiful citizen, and a man true to himself. He will have trials and tribulations; his heart will fail him at times; he will then need the strength which true culture alone can give."

- Kulpati Dr. K. M. Munshi

VISION

To build a renowned institution which will produce skilled graduate engineers with good will for humanity

MISSION

- To impart quality education through need based curriculum in academic programmes
- To enhance career opportunities for students through industry-institute interaction and value added courses
- To promote excellence by encouraging a wide range of views, lateral thinking and a sense of discipline.
- To inculcate responsibility towards society

DISHA 2007

Disha is the annual college magazine of SPCE and SPIT (well, we do not know whether next year's Disha can claim the same, but we fervently hope so). This might have sounded like stating the obvious but we realised, during the course of our work, that many were unaware of the existence of Disha and that does not include just the students.

There has been a conscious attempt to change the face of Disha. We have done away with the unnecessary reports that are not only repetitive in content but also have been ghost-written at times. Disha has shed its plain Jane image and acquired a new sleek and attractive look thanks to the innovative layout designed by Tiyasa. It has become more interactive and informal - the cover page is a clear indicator of that. If variety is the spice of life, then Disha with its blogs, alumni articles, mock section and interviews, would be, to borrow a cliché, too hot to handle.

For those who wanted to voice their opinions, take a walk down memory lane or inspire others to fulfil their dreams, Disha has been their perfect companion. Disha 2007 is all about providing wholesome infotainment to its readers. It neither pretends to provide *Disha* nor does it preach or sermonise anyone. As a friend of ours says sometimes its better you find no direction.

In spite of all our efforts we do admit that we have not accomplished our goals- be it the revival of our newsletter SPLAT or publishing Disha in time. We also apologise in advance, if we have inadvertently omitted any event or activity of the college.

Even though Disha team is a baker's dozen, we owe our success to many. First and foremost, to all those who send in their contributions to the college magazine. We would also like to make a special mention of Prof. Gokhale and Prof. Solanki whose support and guidance ensured that we did not need to sweat it out much. Pushkar Dikshit and his friend Shailesh helped us in getting the finances. A big thanks to Prof. Joshi whose student friendly and democratic approach endured that Disha 2007 took the bold step of taking the offbeat path.

Hope Disha 2007 has taken the right step in making Disha a saleable brand, a magazine students would fight to lay their hands on!

- Magazine Secretaries

Dr. S. V. Sankar
Principal, SPCE

‘दिशा’ स्वागत सोहळ्या निमित्त

आनंदाचा क्षण आज आनंदाची वेळा
आज असे ‘दिशा’ चा स्वागत सोहळा ॥

अखंड जागरूकतेचे
सतत केल्या कष्टाचे
चीज होई आज, ‘दिशा’ येई साकारा ॥

उत्तम लेख, कवने न्यारी
साहित्याची अदाकारी
अहवाल, फोटो आणि जाहिराती जोडीला ॥

आशीर्वाद मोलाचे पाठिशी
साथ अपुल्या सदिच्छांची
उत्तम व्हावे काम हीच आस मनाला ॥

आभार सर्व वरिष्ठांचे
प्रेरणास्थान जे अमुचे
धन्यवाद मित्र हो, तुमच्या सहकार्याला ॥

प्राध्यापक विद्या जोशी
संयोजिका दिशा - २००७

SPCE ANNUAL REPORT 2005-06

From the Principal's Desk

It has been a year of hectic activity ever since I took over as the Principal of this premier engineering college, from Dr. R.S. Mate. I cannot but mention that donning the mantle of the first alumnus Principal of the college was indeed one of the highs in my small professional career. At the same time, it also gave a feeling of enormous responsibility-one of transforming the college to a world class institute, a vision instilled by the Chairman of the Governing Council, Dr. M.L. Shrikant.

Over the years the college has gained reputation in imparting quality education in conventional as well as emerging areas. This has been due to a strong faculty base, modernised laboratories, good placements, resulting in top most preference by high quality students. With the industry doing well in the previous years, placement has been very good.

To keep pace with the technology and industry needs, the college has initiated several value added programmes like CAD/CAM training and software training in several areas. In the coming years more efforts will be made in this direction. The college has very ambitious plans of modernizing laboratories to meet international standards. The college has entered into MoU's with leading industry partners and academic institutes like TCS, INFOSYS, SASMIRA, Desert Research Institute, (US) etc. This is to ensure Industry-Institute interaction is strong and vibrant and that students as well as faculty benefit from this.

Civil and Structural Departments have an extensive interaction with professional bodies and the industry. It is heartening to note that the Mechanical and Electrical departments in the last few years have also moved in this direction. The Mechanical department has initiated value added courses while the Electrical Engineering department in collaboration with Mechanical Dept. has initiated an Energy Audit Centre. This is not only likely to lead to revenue generation but also towards a huge contribution in terms of energy savings and safety.

To promote the spirit of entrepreneurship, the college has become an associate member of the National Entrepreneurship Network (NEN). An entrepreneurship cell has been established in the college. The cell in its second year has been carrying out a number of activities. The institute in its 45th year has a very strong alumni base. The alumnus is keen to ensure that the institute which has given them their status, grows to a world class institute. In line with this thinking the alumni association has taken steps in this direction by registering under the Societies Act and under 80 G of the IT act. The Alumni Association and the college are proposing to initiate a US Chapter in this year.

The college in the last decade has vigorously pursued a faculty development programme. The college is the maximum beneficiary of the QIP programme. The college will continue this policy, keeping in mind the department needs and faculty position. Along with the faculty development programme, the college also proposes to upgrade skills of supporting staff that plays a key role in the institute progress.

The college is feeling the constraints set by the university system in imparting quality education to keep in pace with the changing needs of the industry. Therefore, we are vigorously pursuing academic autonomy with the University of Mumbai and other statutory bodies like AICTE.

I have always believed that the institute is known for its faculty. I exhort the faculty and supporting staff to rise to the occasion and play their part in the development of the college. I thank the members of the Local Managing Committee and the staff and its representatives for offering valuable suggestions for the development of the college. I also thank the members of the Principal's office for their valuable contribution in the growth of the college. I am indeed indebted to the members of the Governing Council for their valuable guidance, inspiration and constant support in the development of the college.

Dr. S.Y. Mhaikar
Principal, SPCE

Summary of Results 2005-2006 %Passing / % First Class

Class	FE	SE	TE	BE
Civil	46/3	73/37	87/29	88/63
Mechanical	77/39	88/69	80/57	95/71
Electrical	77/32	87/66	78/49	95/71
Computer	81/37	82/33	94/46	100/64
Electronics	85/30	76/33	88/47	96/46
IT	70/43	73/31	96/58	99/58
EXTC	83/56	-	-	-

Summary of Placements

Class	Placement %	Range of Salary in lakhs
Civil	95	0.80 – 4.80
Mechanical	87	0.96- 4.80
Electrical	85	1.20- 2.80
Computer	92	1.80- 3.60
Electronics	84	1.20-3.00
IT	79	1.80-3.60

Civil Engineering Department

- Department has applied for an enhanced intake for Ph.D. programme with the University of Mumbai. The intake is likely to be increased from 5 to 20 shortly
- The PG programme in Construction Management was revived after a encouraging student response
- The department also initiated a PG programme in Environmental Engg.
- Prof. P.H. Sawant took over the charge of the Head of the Department after Prof. S.Y.Mhaikar took over as the Principal of the college
- Prof. M.M.Kulkarni, Dr. P. Shrivastava and Dr. R.A.Hegde have been recognized as research guides for Ph.D. programmes
- Shri. A.R.Kambekar was sponsored to pursue Ph.D. programme at IIT Bombay. He will be joining the programme in July 2007
- Ku. Reshma Raskar was sponsored for pursuing M.Tech. programme at IIT Bombay. She has joined the programme from July 2006
- Prof. M.M. Kulkarni and Dr.P. Srivasatava published papers in International journals
- Prof. M.M.Kulkarni, Dr. R.A.Hegde, Shri. A.R.Kambekar published papers at National conferences
- The department organized workshops on Blasting in collaboration with IGS Mumbai Chapter
- The department also hosted meetings of the IRC B-3 and BIS committees
- The department in collaboration with IGS Mumbai hosted an expert lecture delivered by Prof.Van Impe, past president of International Society of Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering
- The department undertook testing and consultancy works and generated revenue of Rs. 20 lakhs
 - Nirmiti an inter-collegeiate technical college festival was organized by the students in January 2006

Mechanical Engineering Department

- The Department recognized as Ph.D. centre for students registering in the University of Mumbai
- Prof. P.V. Natu and Dr. G.T. Thampi were recognized as guides by the University of Mumbai.
- Prof. A.V. Bhonsale
 - was nominated as a member of the interview panel of J.N. TATA Endowment for selecting J.N.Tata scholars for higher education
 - was nominated as certified examiner for Quality Management Assessment for Ramkrishna Bajaj National Quality Award of Indian Merchants' chamber, Mumbai
 - was deputed by Indian Merchants Chamber to assess an organization for business excellence at Jakarta, Indonesia
 - has passed the energy audit exam conducted by Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Govt. of India and qualified as Energy manager and auditor
 - Received a research grant of Rs. 35,000/- from University of Mumbai for development and Testing of Energy Efficient Water Cooler
- Shri. D.N. Jadhav was sponsored to pursue Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering at IIT Bombay
- Shri. P.K. Mulay was sponsored to pursue M.E. in Mech. Engg. at S.P.C.E.
- Following faculty members published papers at National Conferences
 1. Shri. S.B. Rane 2. Shri. R.B. Buktar
- Following faculty members published papers at International Conferences
 1. Dr. G.T. Thampi 2. Shri. S.B. Rane 3. Shri. R.B. Buktar
- Following staff members were invited for key note address
 1. Dr. G.T. Thampi 2. Shri. R.B. Buktar
- **TORQUE – 2006** was organized during 10th – 11th Feb 2006 by Mechanical Engineering Students Association

Events: Mechspeak, Speed Devils, Pool Demon, Mech Puzzle ISHRAE sponsor Project & Poster Presentation
- Vinit Dholye, Amey Karnik (B.E Mech)-
 - First runner-up at Indian Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineering National level Intercollegiate Quiz 2006
 - First Prize at Indian Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineering National level Intercollegiate Project Competition 2006
 - First runner-up at Indian Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineering National level Intercollegiate Poster Competition 2006
- **Industrial Visits:**
 - TIFR Mumbai - B.E (Mech) Students
 - BHEL, Haridwar - B.E (Mech) Students
 - Reliance Power Station, Dahanu- S.E Students
 - Central Railway Workshop, Matunga, Mumbai - S.E. Students
 - Koyana Hydro Electric Power Projects (Stage IV) - T.E. Students
 - Bhatsa Dam for for T.E. Students

Electrical Department

- Prof. Shubha Pandit has passed the energy audit exam conducted by Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Govt. of India and qualified as Energy manager and auditor
- Dr. Prachi Gharpure successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis and was awarded Ph.D. She has subsequently taken VRS and joined S.P.I.T.
- Shri. B.B. Pimple was selected for pursuing Ph.D. programme at IIT Bombay. He will be joining IIT Bombay from July 2007
- 4 new faculty members have joined the department in June 2006

- 2007
- The department has proposed Modernization of the following Laboratories
 - Electronics
 - Industrial Controller
 - Switchgear & Protection
 - Power System
 - Workshop on "Repairing of Home Appliances & Electric Wiring" was conducted for 2 days. It received a very good response from students
 - Expert lectures from eminent persons from various backgrounds were arranged
 - Following faculty members attended short term courses/training programmes
 1. Dr. Shubha Pandit
 2. Dr. Prachi Gharpure
 3. Smt. Anupa Sabnis
 4. Shri. Kunal Salunkhe
 5. Smt. Vidya Joshi
 6. Smt. Sangita Daingade
 7. Smt. Swati Lawand
 8. Ku. Ushma Lalan
 9. Shri Sanket Hatkar

- Electrical Engg Students Association (EESA) organized SPARK, an intercollegiate festival for 2 days
- Following Industrial visits were organised
 - Reliance InfoTech
 - Bhandup Complex
 - Dhahanu Generating Station
 - Aarey Substation
- Electrical Engg Students Association (EESA) organized SPARK, an intercollegiate festival for 2 days
- Following Industrial visits were organised
 - Reliance InfoTech
 - Bhandup Complex
 - Dhahanu Generating Station
 - Aarey Substation

Structural Engineering Department

- Prof. B.N. Pandya and Prof. M.M. Murudi published papers in National Journals
- Prof. B.N. Pandya also published a paper in a National Conference
- Shri.M.M. Maniyar was sponsored for PhD under QIP at G.S. Institute of Technology, Indore. He has resumed the programme from July 2007
- The department conducted two short term courses on Structural software STAAD, SAFE and ETABS
- Dr.M.M. Murudi and Shri. A.S. Bage delivered lectures in short term courses at GCOE Karad and IIT Bombay respectively
- Dr. M.M. Murudi, Shri. M.M. Maniyar and Smt. Sangeeta Gadve attended short term courses
- The department earned a revenue of Rs. 19 lakhs through testing
- The department also undertook wide ranging consultancy works worth Rs. 19 lakhs.

SPIT ANNUAL REPORT 2005-06

From the Principal's Desk

I must congratulate all you students for having chosen such an 'apt' name for the magazine i.e. "DISHA". If you know your "DISHA" for life it means that you know your goal and if you know your goal you know the way you have to go. If answers to all above would have been so straight, the world would have been a different place today.

I think myself fortunate to be amongst you, the hopes of millions of Indians for a better tomorrow. Engineers, technologists & scientists have the capacity to make this earth either a happy place or a battle field. The justification of this statement can be provided if one relates the technological development & economic progress of the nations.

The unselfish attitude of using technology for human welfare and thus serving mankind should be our motto and making all efforts to give our best at all levels should be the purpose of the services rendered.

What purpose would education serve if it results in polarization of economic powers?

I repeat, you are the hopes of millions. Take this as a challenge to improve the lives of less privileged ones and enjoy the heavenly satisfaction. **You have to work today for a better tomorrow, keeping away the mistakes of yesterday.**

With best wishes,

Dr. (Mrs.) P. P. Warnekar
Principal, S.P.I.T.

Students' achievements :-

Our third year Electronics engineering student Mr. Gopal Balasubramaniam is nominated as R10 representative for IEEE students' branch. Electronics and Mechanical Engineering students participation in Robocon 2007 at Poone

Infrastructure :-

By the end of 2007, additional 48000 Sq. Ft. area of building 'C' will be ready and that will provide 1.2 lakhs Sq. Ft. area for college, matching AICTE's norms for infrastructure. College has plans to develop additional Canteen, auditorium & indoor facilities for gymkhana over the next 2 to 3 years. Presently, we already have 9 fully developed labs for Electronics Engineering Department, 6 labs for Information Technology, 5 labs for Computer Engineering Department and 5 labs for Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering Department.

Common Computer Centre with 20 latest PIV PCS along with the support of LAN Administrator is fully functional & shortly a system analyst will be added to the team to provide support for software for office / college. We have a Central Library measuring about 5000 Sq. Ft. having 13,000 books, 22 journals- National (07), International (15) and Reference Books (2708). Also online journal access for IEEE is available. Also we have membership of INDEST which gives additional support for references to IEL, ASCE, ASME. We also have access to AICTE'S distance learning programme through EDU SAT connectivity.

Latest audio / video room facility in the library is an added attraction for all to learn through educational CDS or internet based studies or through regular news channels of cable TV.

Library also has 15 PCs for students to access the net for projects or R & D work etc. The college has 5000 Sq. Ft. area for administrative functions and we have plans to automate most of repetitive jobs or outsource the same, to save on unnecessary hassles. College has spent a large amount to build our laboratories, equipments (hardware / software) for the year 2006-07

Additional facilities created

- Boy's Common Room (602) 6th floor
- Staff Common Room (607) 6th floor
- 2 drawing halls (601, 608) 6th floor
- Students Reading Room (606) 6th floor
- 2 laboratories for Electronics & Telecommunications Lab (604, 605) 6th floor
- Educational Satellite programme, Viewing room (603) 6th floor
- Central Computing facility Ground floor
- 20 PC with internet, LAN Administrator & System analyst
- Electronics surveillance in library - and college + Audio videos room in library for CBT

Ph. D. Programmes:

- Mr. M.R. Somvanshi, Professor in I.T. Dept. selected and joined for Contract period at IIT, Roorkee for Ph.D from 2007-2010

Paper and Books Published by Faculty

- ✓ Dr. (Smt.) N.K. Jog published a book on "Electronics in Medicine and Biomedical Instrumentation", Prentice Hall of India, 2006
- Prof. K.T. published papers at National Conferences
- Prof. S.T. Gandhe published papers at National Conferences
- Prof. S.S. Rathod at various institutes and won the best paper award for his paper "Design and Simulation of Pc to SRAM interface for reconfigurable processors" at MIT, Manipal Karnataka
- Prof. U.D. Kolekar published papers at various institutes
- ✓ Prof. S.T. Gandhe, (In charge HOD, Electronics Dept), Prof Deven Shah (IT) and Prof M.M. Shah, Academic Advisor participated in paper presentation event "IEEE Indicon 2006" in Delhi from 14th to 19th September 2006

Seminars/Courses conducted in the year

- Prof. K.T. Talele conducted a seminar on "STTP and DSP" at SPCE
- Prof. (Smt.) M.U. Gokhale conducted seminars on "Presentation Skills" and "Interview Skills" at RGIT and Somaiya College of Arts, Science and Commerce
- Prof. (Smt.) M.U. Gokhale conducted seminar on "Communication Skills for Working Women" by Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce
- Prof. U.D. Kolekar conducted seminar on QoS in "802.11" at Terna Engg. College
- Conducted "ISTE-STTP Course" on Linux Enterprise Server Administration and Network Services and Security Administration
- A 2-day workshop on Java was jointly organized by Prof. K.K. Devadkar (IT), and Ms. Rupali Sawant (IT) for 37 students on 19th and 26th August.
- Prof. Deven Shah (IT) organized a six day workshop on 'Cisco Certified Networks Associates along with an expert from Trinisys.

GYMKHANA COMMITTEE REPORT

Sardar Patel College of Engineering and the subsidiary wing Sardar Patel Institute of Technology have always provided the students a platform to hone and showcase their technical, cultural and management skills. The growing number of events is testimony to the fact that students have ample opportunities for the same.

The academic year 2006-2007 has been a pot-pourri of activities. The Gymkhana Committee was formed on 25th September 2006 under the able guidance of the principals, Dr. S.Y. Mhaiskar and Dr. Mrs. P. Warnekar and the election in charges, Prof. Pimple and Prof. Ambavade. The Class Representatives cast their votes to elect the General Secretary, Cultural Secretary, Magazine Secretary, Sports Secretary and the Alumni Association Secretary.

Nirmaan 2006, a Technical festival organized by the IEEE, in association with CEA and MESA on 29th September, 1st and 2nd October 2006 was the first major event of the year. The festival saw several novel events that provided much food for thought for the participants. IEEE also organized an Industrial Visit in January wherein more than 180 students visited industries in the cities of Bangalore, Ooty and Mysore.

The first activity organised by the Gymkhana Committee was the Fresher's Welcome party. The freshers displayed their expertise in dance and drama and were acquainted with the feel of the nuisances of the college's functioning.

The Hobby Club was established by Mr. Sahastrabuddhe on the 14th of November 2006. Inspired by the idea of the incubator cell in IIT, that is a dynamic society that churns out several innovative projects, the Hobby Club aims to provide our students a platform to convert theory into practice.

The Alumni Association has actively worked to bring together all the students who consider SPCE as their Alma Mater. Four distinct committees namely the General Committee, the Event Management Committee, the Member Management Committee and the Website Management Committee have been established for the smooth functioning of work. The Annual Alumni Meet was organized on 7th January 2007 which was attended by nearly 200 of the SPCE Alumni. The 1981-82 batch of students celebrated their Silver Jubilee on the same day. Several Alumni have also been invited for seminars that have immensely benefited the students.

The even semester in January commenced with the annual Sports festival SPIRIT held between 17th January and 10th February 2007. Students avidly participated in events ranging from carom to cricket. Students from across Mumbai participated in the inter-collegiate events. For the first time in the history of SPIRIT, an exhaustive points tally was devised to evaluate the performance of the students. The SPIRIT trophy, for the branch which grossed the highest number of points, was bagged by the IT branch.

Technobreak, the annual intra-college cultural festival was celebrated on the 26th and 27th of January amidst much aplomb. The college witnessed much passion and enthusiasm from students who

relentlessly worked to showcase their otherwise dormant creative skills in dance, music, art, oratory and literary events. The Rampage night was dominated by the BE Civil- IT combination, while the BE Electrical- Computers won the Visual Impact. BE Computers emerged victorious in the race for the much-coveted Technobreak Shield.

SPACE –the annual techno-cultural Extravaganza, held on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th February 2007, celebrated its Silver Jubilee this year. The Managing Committee of SPACE faced several trials and tribulations in the days preceding the festival. However the perseverance and dedication of the committee bore fruit with participation from colleges across the city. Events like Street Play, Casino Royale, Western and Hindi Rock Band competitions provided the perfect stage for the amateurs to showcase their talents. While the mesmerizing performance of Talaash enthralled the students, the powerhouse performances of the rock bands Zohak, Zygnema, Sceptre and Vayu left the audience spellbound. The famous musical composition ' Another Brick in the Wall' by Pink Floyd, performed by Vayu, was a befitting climax to the festival.

The Marathi Vangmay Mandal which seeks its values in the Marathi culture, organized Geetspandan- a delight for the music aficionados, on 13th February. Bhavaspandan was organized on the 23rd of March. The same day was also celebrated as the Traditional Day of our college.

Several inter-departmental festivals were also held in the months of February and March. The Mechanical Engineering Students Association (MESA) organized Torque - their annual technical festival, on 9th and 10th February 2007. The major highlight of the festival was the project display that saw several ingenious project models from students across the country.

SPARK was organized by the Electrical Engineering Students Association (EESA) on the 1st and 2nd of March. Workshops were held during the two days, imparting information on the latest developments in the industry.

The annual national level technical symposium Nirmiti organized by the Civil Engineering Association (CEA) was held on 9th and 10th March. Apart from the much-awaited Technical Paper Presentations, new events like Are You an Entrepreneur? and Innovative Solutions also captivated the attention of the participants.

The Entrepreneurship Cell has had a successful year with its popularity surging amongst the students. Several students from our college were part of the International Tie Summit, a congregation of nearly 1200 entrepreneurs from across the globe, held between 17th and 19th December in 2006. The entrepreneurship week also saw workshops conducted by Prof M.S. Rao from SPJIMR and Mr. Rohit Nalvde who inspired students to work on their business propositions that were presented during Aavishkar, the Business Paper Presentation competition on the 1st March 2007.

The Annual Day was celebrated on the 2nd March 2007. The esteemed guests of the evening were and Mr. Ramesh Parikh, Chairman, Engineering and Electronics Co. Pvt. Ltd. and his wife Mrs. Bansari Parikh. The presentation of the annual reports was followed by the prize distribution ceremony that felicitated the

students for excelling in the various academic streams. This was followed by the Marathi entertainment programme of songs and a parody titled 'Shabdachchal' that held the audience in rapt attention.

The Formal Day and Rose day were held on the 5th April 2007. The atmosphere in the college was very colourful and vibrant... different from the usual monotone. The BE Farewell was also organised on the same day. A blood donation drive was conducted successfully in our college on 10th April with a healthy 346 units collected in a single day for the benefit of thalassaemia inflicted children.

On the whole it has been a very busy year for the various student organizations. Unmarred by the testing circumstances, the Gymkhana has been successful in its endeavors. Every experience has provided vital lessons to be imbibed for the better and smoother functioning of the Gymkhana. The love, support and guidance of the Teaching, Non-teaching and the House keeping staff have proved to be pivotal in the success of all the events. The Gymkhana Committee is thankful to one and all for the same.

CHETAN DESAI

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Training and Placement Report 2006-07 (till 2nd April 2007)

Company	Campus Date	Total	Cmpn	Etrx	I.T.	Civil	Mech	Elect	Criteria	Salary (In Lakhs)
BAJAJ AUTO LTD.	16-Jun-06	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	60%	5.4
L & T	20-Jun-06	21	NA	7	NA		4	10	58%	2.8
SIEMENS	22-Jun-06	25	NA	13	NA	2	4	6	58%	2.64
TATA POWER	23-Jun-06	11	NA	1	NA	2	5	3	58%	3.17
MARICO	27-Jun-06	3	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	2	All Clear	1.75
PETROFAC	28-Jun-06	3	NA	NA	NA	2 (M.E)	1	NA	55%	2.16
ESSAR	29-Jun-06	4	NA	NA	NA	NA	3	1	58%	1.5
SHAPOORJI	30 Jun/8 Jul 06	7	NA	NA	NA	5	2	NA	55%	Stipend Rs.14,500 p.m
SCHNEIDER	01-Jul-06	1	NA	0	NA	NA	0	1	58%	2.25
M & M AUTOMOTIVE	06-Jul-06	3	NA	NA	NA	NA	3	NA	60%	3
TCS	10,12 Jul 06	129	33	26	53	1	5	7	58%	2.37
JK FILES (Raymond)	11-Jul-06	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	57%	2.85
INFOSYS	13-Jul-06	94	32	24	29	0	3	6	55%	2.64
MICROSOFT	14-Jul-06	7	4	1	2	NA	NA	NA	65%	9.2
COGNIZANT	15-Jul-06	31	7	1	13	0	5	4	55%	2.2
MINDTREE	17-Jul-06	9	3	4	2	NA	NA	NA	55%	2.7
AMDOCS	18-Jul-06	4	1	0	3	NA	NA	NA	60%	3.6
HSBC	19-Jul-06	5	2	0	3	NA	NA	NA	60%	2.65
I-FLEX	20-Jul-06	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	55%	2.2
CITIGROUP SOFTWARE	21-Jul-06	1	0	0	1	NA	NA	NA	Open	2.8
GODREJ INFOTECH	21-22 Jul-06	1	1	0	0	NA	0	0	55%	2
MASTEK	24-Jul-06	1	0	0	1	NA	NA	NA	58%	2.66
ATOS ORIGIN	25-Jul-06	7	1	1	5	NA	NA	0	58%	2.8
IBM	26-Jul-06	27	4	9	12	0	1	1	60%	2.75
L & T ECC	27-Jul-06	3	NA	0	NA	0	0	0	60%	2.49
ACCENTURE	28-Jul-06	33	13	3	16	0	1	0	55%	2.52
RELIANCE ENERGY	02-Aug-06	10	NA	NA	NA	5	3	1	60%	Stipend Rs. 20000 p.m
INTRASOFT	03-Aug-06	8	1	2	3	NA	0	2	All Clear	2
BPCL	21-Aug-06	1	NA	NA	NA	1	0	0	60%	2.5
M & M TRACTOR	24-Aug-06	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	NA	60%	Stipend Rs. 20,000 p.m

Company	Campus Date	Total	Cmpn	Etrx	I.T.	Civil	Mech	Elect	Criteria	Salary (In Lakhs)
TELCON	25-Aug-06	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	60%	4
PATNI	30-Aug-06	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58%	2.2
DIREM	31-Aug-06	3	NA	2	NA	0	0	1	All Clear	3
TCE	23-Oct-06	4	NA	NA	NA	2	2	0	55%	Stipend Rs. 16500 p.m
SATYAM	26-Sep-06	1				1				2.5
GAMMON	06-Oct-06	9				9			55%	1.8
ICB										
TECHNIMONT	13-Oct-06	1				1				1.8
BENTLEY	08-Oct-06	2				1	1	0		2
KALPATARU	10-Nov-06	2	NA	NA	NA	2	NA	NA		1.4
TERRAZZO	23-Jan-07	3	NA	NA	NA	2	0	1	All Clear	5.1
INDORAMA	28-Jan-07	1	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	NA		1.8
JMC PROJECTS	20-Jan-07	3	NA	NA	NA	3	0	NA	All Clear	1.5
PENINSULA	26-Dec-06	2	NA	NA	NA	2	NA	NA	All Clear	2.1
CLIQUE	05-Mar-07	5	NA	NA	NA	5	NA	NA	All Clear	Stipend Rs.10,500 p.m.
GHERZI EASTERN	06-Mar-07	3	NA	NA	NA	3	NA	NA	All Clear	Stipend Rs.11,500 p.m.
OBEROI	20-Feb-07	3	NA	NA	1	NA	NA	2		
NM ELECTRICAL	28-Mar-07	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2		
JOSTS	28-Mar-07	3	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	1		
DASTUR	16-Mar-07	3	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	2		
CHEMTEX	03-Feb-07	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2		
BHARAT BIJLI	16-Mar-07	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	2		
SAMEER	15-Feb-07	5	NA	3	NA	NA	1	1		
PYRAMID	17-Mar-07	4	NA	NA	NA	2	1	1		
ICICI	20-Mar-07	3	0	0	1	0	0	2		

Mr. Vijay Gandhewar
Training & Placement Officer,
S.P.C.E.

Mr. Harshad Joshi
Training & Placement Officer,
S.P.I.T.

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE TRAINING AND PLACEMENT CELL

What would be the job profile of Training and Placement Officer?

A placement officer should have good contacts with the industry. He should be thoroughly aware of the requirements of various industries, their scope and area of specialization, the offered job profiles and their recruitment procedures. A TPO has to approach these companies and convince them to conduct their recruitment drives on campus. There are various ways in which one can approach these companies, that is, through phone calls, through letters, through personal visits. He also has to constantly keep himself abreast of the scenario, mainly through co-operation from his own alumni.

What do the Training and Placement Coordinators do?

Basically the TPCs are a link between the students and the industry. They convey what the industry requires from the students and also what the students need in the industry. A TPC has to know what his class comprises of, what is its demographic nature, what are their requirements, how many wish to join core companies or software companies, how many want to go in for further education. He has to guide them on issues regarding their choices and their resume. He has to inform them about the latest developments and be an active participant in the placement office. A TPC is a communication link between the students on one hand and the TP office and the industry on the other.

What is the procedure followed by the TPO once a new placement year begins?

The procedure can be divided into 2 parts. First part is data collection. It comprises knowing the status of the students as to how many are above 60% aggregate and eligible, how many have cleared all semesters, classification of data, etc. The TPC is entrusted with this job. The second part involves the companies. We send invitation letters to companies through mail; we decide the sequence in which the companies come into our college for recruitment. Companies also approach the TPO, so it is basically a two way procedure. Looking at the trend now, we have put up all our profiles over the net.

Can you describe the way in which the sequencing of companies is done?

Actually this year, the strategy was to allow core engineering companies to recruit first because our experience tells us that even though students are interested in core engineering companies, they settle for a software job since the software companies come in first. Hardly anybody opts to wait for engineering companies, and engineering companies need talent.

What is the role of the TPO in BE Projects?

Companies like Infosys and TCS recruit a large number of students from our campus. However, they offer only a handful of projects. They need to consider other aspects like in-house employee project allotments, as well as fair distribution of projects amongst other colleges under the Mumbai University. Thus, the TPO can play a nominal role in acquiring BE projects for students. However companies do provide some in-plant training for one or two months. Besides this, they are reluctant to give projects because Mumbai University reserves only one day for BE projects which hardly suffices.

What do companies look for in an engineering graduate?

An engineer is expected to have good analytical and reasoning skills. Again the human aspect also has to be considered – as to how well you gel with the people around. At the entry level they test your fundamental knowledge. However, with the changing trends, it is not sufficient for one to be academically brilliant; he should also have other interests, talents and an adaptive nature.

What was the response of companies regarding the earlier batch of students which were recruited by them?

The previous batches have done very well and that is why our brand name exists in the Industry and that advantage gets passed on to the students who get below average academic scores.

Your take on the increasing digression from core engineering companies to software companies... Is SPCE becoming a recruiting ground for software companies?

Out of 55, only 15 companies have placed mechanical students...

But hasn't the figure only been rising?

No, in fact it has declined. Even if there are campus placements of software companies, most core students do not wish to appear for the interviews. For electrical students, the percentage of students appearing for core companies is more than 50%. Electronics students rarely get any opportunities in the core companies, although they prefer core companies. Earlier there was a trend favouring software companies. Now, things are changing. Due to competition, core companies are also paying handsome packages.

Isn't the effect of specialization in different branches dissolving somewhere? As in, are two students, one of whom has graduated as an electronics engineer and the other as a computer engineer, at par?

It does matter, a lot, depending on the technologies involved. An engineer who has been trained in C and Java can be hired for programming by software companies. In case, the requirements of the company is are, say, wireless networking experts, ETRX and EXTC engineers are more than happy to join up. Some software companies insist on hiring core engineers, as per their current requirements. Actually, for a software company, anybody with sound logical reasoning, having a background of any core engineering field can be an added plus point.

What is the role of the alumni in training and placement?

The alumni have proved helpful in more than one ways. The alumni at times offer placement opportunities in the firms. We have also organized lectures by the alumni on the current recruitment scenario in the industry. Recently the alumni have also aided some students financially. Even the institution has benefited in the form of equipment and monetary aid. But the alumni activities still have a long way to go.

BHARTIYA VIDYA BHAVAN'S
SARDAR PATEL COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

The following are the prizes awarded to the students of this college for the year 2005-06.

KULPATI'S GOLD MEDAL

Sr. No.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	SHRI KHARE YOGESH PRAKASH	For securing First Rank in First Attempt and First Class with Distinction in B.E. (CIVIL) Examination held in May 2006.
2	SHRI DHOLYE VINIT VILAS	For securing First Rank in First Attempt and First Class with Distinction in B.E. (MECHANICAL) Examination held in May 2006
3	MS. SAVALGE SHEETAL NILOBA	For securing First Rank in First Attempt and First Class with Distinction in B.E. (ELECTRICAL) Examination held in May 2006
4	SHRI DAPTARDAR MOHIT VIJAYKUMAR	For securing First Rank in First Attempt and First Class with Distinction in B.E. (ELECTRONICS) Examination held in May 2006
5	MS. GALA HETAL RATILAL	For securing First Rank in First Attempt and First Class with Distinction in B.E. (COMPUTER) Examination held in May 2006
6	SHRI GHARAT ANVAY MOHAN	For securing First Rank in First Attempt and First Class with Distinction in B.E. (I.T.) Examination held in May 2006

KULPATI'S SILVER MEDAL

Sr. No.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	SHRI. BHAGWAT MADHAV SUDHIR	For securing Second Rank in First Attempt and First Class with Distinction in B.E. (CIVIL) Examination held in May 2006.
2	SHRI. SEVAK BHAVESH JAGDISH	For securing Second Rank in First Attempt and First Class with Distinction in B.E. (MECHANICAL) Examination held in May 2006
3	SHRI. GUPTA PRAMODKUMAR AMARNATH	For securing Second Rank in First Attempt and First Class with Distinction in B.E. (ELECTRICAL) Examination held in May 2006
4	SHRI. GAONKAR ASHISH VIKAS	For securing Second Rank in First Attempt and First Class with Distinction in B.E. (ELECTRONICS) Examination held in May 2006
5	MS. BULCHANDANI ANEESHA SURESH	For securing second Rank in First Attempt and First Class with Distinction in B.E. (COMPUTER) Examination held in May 2006
6	SHRI. PANCHOLI HIMANSHU PRAVIN	For securing Second Rank in First Attempt and First Class with Distinction in B.E. (I.T.) Examination held in May 2006

SR.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	MS. KHANRA TIYASA KALYAN	For securing highest marks in first attempt at F.E. (ELECTRICAL)
2	SHRI MENON ROHIT	For securing highest marks in first attempt at S.E. (ELECTRICAL)
3	MS. AKSHATA VASANTHA MADHAVA	For securing highest marks in first attempt at T.E. (ELECTRICAL)
4	MS. SAVALGE SHEETAL NILOBA	For securing highest marks in first attempt at B.E. (ELECTRICAL)

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	SHRI BHONG KIRAN LAXMAN	For securing highest marks amongst college students in the subject of "Building Design & Drawing" in T.E. (CIVIL) Sem. V examination

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	SHRI PATIL SACHIN MARUTI	For standing first in the subject of "Design & Drawing of Concrete Structures" in B.E. (CIVIL) Sem. VIII examination

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	SHRI. KHARE YOGESH PRAKASH	Has been awarded Prof. R.N.Joshi prize for securing highest marks in Sem. VII and Sem. VIII (CIVIL) taken together

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	SHRI. BAL ADITYA SHRIRAM	Has been awarded Dr. PRANLAL PATEL prize for securing highest percentage of marks in F.E. (MECHANICAL) examination
2	SHRI. NAVALKAR SACHIN TEJWANT	Has been awarded Dr. PRANLALA PATEL prize for securing highest percentage of marks in S.E. (MECHANICAL) examination
3	SHRI. LAKHANI KOMELABBAS	Has been awarded Dr. PRANLALA PATEL prize for securing highest percentage of marks in T.E. (MECHANICAL) examination

SHRI JAYANTI SATYANARAYNA MEMORIAL PRIZE OF RS. 50/-

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	SHRI. BHONG KIRAN LAXMAN	For securing highest percentage of marks in the subject of "STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS" Sem. V at the T.E. (CIVIL) examination

SHRI MARATHE MEMORIAL PRIZE OF RS. 500/-

SR.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	SHRI. CHINTAKINDI SAIKRUPA	For securing highest percentage of marks in the subject of "STRENGTH OF MATERIALS" Sem. III at the S.E. (CIVIL) examination
2	SHRI. NAVALKAR SACHIN TEJWANT	For securing highest percentage of marks in the subject of "STRENGTH OF MATERIAL" Sem. III at the S.E. (MECHANICAL) examination

BENGAL ENGINEERING COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (BOMBAY BRANCH)
TRUST SCHOLARSHIP OF RS. 2000/- EACH.

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	MS. JAGTAP JYOTI SUBHASH	For securing highest marks in first attempt at the T.E. (CIVIL) Examination
2	SHRI. LAKHANI KOMELABBAS INAYATILAL	For securing highest marks in first attempt at the T.E. (MECHANICAL) Examination
3	MS. AKSHATA VASANTHA MADHAVA	For securing highest marks in first attempt at the T.E. (ELECTRICAL) Examination
4	SHRI SINGHVI VIKAS	For securing highest marks in first attempt at the T.E. (ELECTRONICS) Examination

INDIAN WATER WORK ASSOCIATION (BOMBAY CENTRE) CASH PRIZE OF RS.400/-

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	SHRI. KHARE YOGESH PRAKASH	For securing highest marks in SUBJECT "Environmental Engineering" B.E. (CIVIL) Sem. VII Examination

COMMUNICATION SKILL PRIZE AWARDED BY STRUCTURAL DEPARTMENT
FOR F.E. CLASS.

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	SHRI. GUJARE SANKET SUBHASH	For getting highest marks in C.S. subject

DR. G.A.MHASKAR & DR. B.M.JOSHI PRIZE OF RS. 130/-

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE CANDIDATE	PRIZE AWARDED
1	MS. SAVALGE SHEETAL NILOBA	For securing 1 st rank in B.E. (ELECTRICAL) Class.
2	SHRI DAPTARDAR MOHIT	For securing 1 st rank in B.E. (ELECTRONICS) Class.
3	MS. GALA HETAL RATILAL	For securing 1 st rank in B.E. (COMPUTER) Class.
4	SHRI GHARAT ANVAY MOHAN	For securing 1 st rank in B.E. (I.T.) Class.

MERIT PRIZE OF RS. 100/- EACH (OR BOOKS WORTH THE AMOUNT) AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING TO THE STUDENTS OBTAINING THE FIRST CLASS AND GETTING HIGHEST NUMBERS OF MARKS IN ALL STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING SUBJECTS TAKEN TOGETHER AT THE F.E. (CIVIL), S.E.(CIVIL), T.E. (CIVIL), B.E.(CIVIL) EXAMINATION HELD IN THE YEAR 2005- 06.

SR. NO.	NAME	EXAMINATION
1	MS. NADKARNI NIKHILA MUKUND	F.E. (CIVIL)
2	SHRI. ZAGADE TUSHAR PARASHURAM	S.E. (CIVIL)
3	MS. BHONG KIRAN LAXMAN	T.E. (CIVIL)
4	SHRI. KHARE YOGESH PRAKASH	B.E. (CIVIL)

**MERIT PRIZE ON THE BASIS OF MERIT IN THE PRECEDING EXAMINATION
HELD IN MAY – JUNE 2006**

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE STUDENTS	RANK
F.E. CLASS (SPCE)		
1	KHANRA TIYASA KALYAN	1
2	BAL ADITYA SHRIRAM	2
3	KADAM SUDIN RAJARAM	3
S.E. (CIVIL)		
1	SRINIDHI BALASUBRAMANIAN	1
2	PANJWANI PANKAJ DIWAN	2
3	SHAH JANVI PANKAJ	3
S.E. (MECHANICAL)		
1	NAVALKAR SACHIN TEJWANT	1
2	KANSE DEEPAK DASHRATH	2
3	JOSHI SOHAM SURESH	3

S.E. (ELECTRICAL)		
1	MENON ROHIT UMESHCHANDRAN	1
2	GOGTE OMKAR RAM	2
3	AJGAONKAR SANDEEP ARUN	3
T.E. (CIVIL)		
1	JAGTAP JYOTI SUBHASH	1
2	JAIN KUSHAL RAMESHKUMAR	2
3	BHONG KIRAN LAXMAN	3
T.E. (MECHANICAL)		
1	LAKHANI KOMELABBAS INAYATILAL	1
2	GHURYE AMEYA VASUDEO	2
3	HASE MAHESH PANDHARINATH	3
T.E. (ELECTRICAL)		
1	AKSHATA VASANTHA MADHAVA	1
2	CHAKRABORTY SANGHITA MIHIR	2
3	BANERJEE DIPANWITA PRITHWISH	3
B.E. (CIVIL)		
1	KHARE YOGESH PRAKASH	1
2	BHAGWAT MADHAV SUDHIR	2
3	RANA TEJSINGH AMARSINGH	3
B.E. (MECHANICAL)		
1	DHOLYE VINIT VILAS	1
2	SEVAK BHAVESH JAGDISH	2
3	BHAT BHALCHANDRA GANESH	3
B.E. (ELECTRICAL)		
1	SAVALGE SHEETAL NILOBA	1
2	GUPTA PRAMODKUMAR AMARNATH	2
3	DANI ANKUR SURSH	3

**MERIT PRIZE ON THE BASIS OF MERIT IN THE PRECEDING EXAMINATION
HELD IN MAY – JUNE 2006.**

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE STUDENTS	RANK
F.E. CLASS (S.P.I.T.)		
1	SAMANT MANDAR ANILKUMAR (I.T.)	1
2	SAWANT GAURAV SURESH (E & T)	2
3	RAO VENKATESH NAGARAJ (ELECTRONICS)	3
3	CHITALIA HARSHIT NARESH (E & T)	3
3	ROY AMRITA ARABINDA (COMPUTER)	3

S.E. (ELECTRONICS)		
1	MANSATA OMKAR MADHUSUDAN	1
2	IYER SRINATH GANESH	2
3	HINGARH VIRAL PRAVIN	3
S.E. (COMPUTER)		
1	HITAWALA ABBAS BURHANUDDIN	1
2	MAJUMDAR MONISHA DEB	2
3	RAO SHIVASHARANA SATISH	2
3	SHETTY NEHA KARUNA	3
S.E. (INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)		
1	SRIVASTAVA DIVYA RAKESH	1
2	IDNANI AVINASH PRAKASH	2
3	TIWARI ROHAN GIRISH	3
T.E. (ELECTRONICS)		
1	SINGHVI VIKAS LAKHPATRAJ	1
2	PATWARDHAN MUGDHA VASANT	2
3	BHATT SEHUL SUDHIRBHAI	3
T.E. (COMPUTER)		
1	HOLEY AMIT SUDHIR	1
2	B. ASHA	2
3	ANUPRIYA	3
T.E. (INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)		
1	CHAUHAN BHAVESH DILIPBHAI	1
2	BHATT MANAN DARSHAN	2
3	PARDESHI RACHNA RAJENDRA	3
B.E. (ELECTRONICS)		
1	DAPTARDAR MOHIT VIAYKUMAR	1
2	GAONKAR ASHISH VIKAS	2
3	GUPTA SAHIL ASHOK	3
B.E. (COMPUTER)		
1	GALA HETAL RATILAL	1
2	BULCHANDANI ANEESHA SURESH	2
3	SHINDE GAGAN BHASKAR	3
B.E. (INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)		
1	Gharat Anvay Mohan	1
2	PANCHOLI HIMANSHU PRAVIN	2
3	THAKKER NIMIT KARSANDAS	3



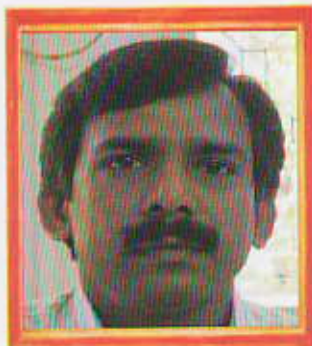
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Principal, SPIT



Dr. (Mrs.) S. M. Pandit
Vice Principal, SPCE,
HOD, Electrical



Dr. P. H. Sawant
HOD, Civil



Dr. A. V. Bhonsale
HOD, Mechanical



Dr. B. N. Pandya
Vice Principal, SPCE,
HOD, Structural



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HOD, Electronics



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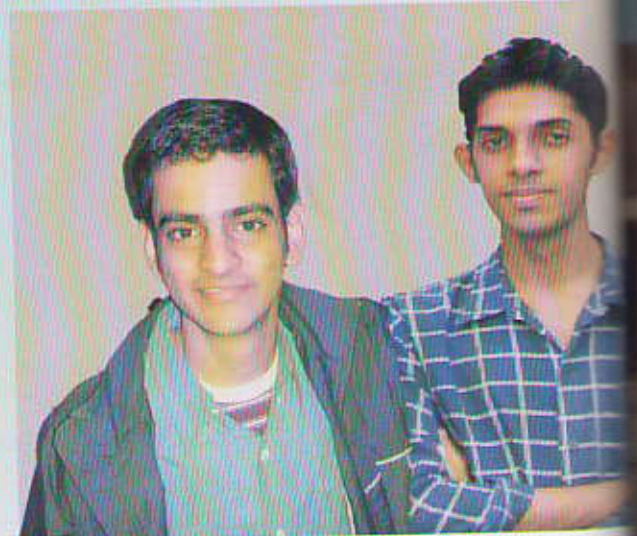
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Inauguration of Alumni Meet



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Silver Jubilee Batch of 1981



Football team



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TORQUE

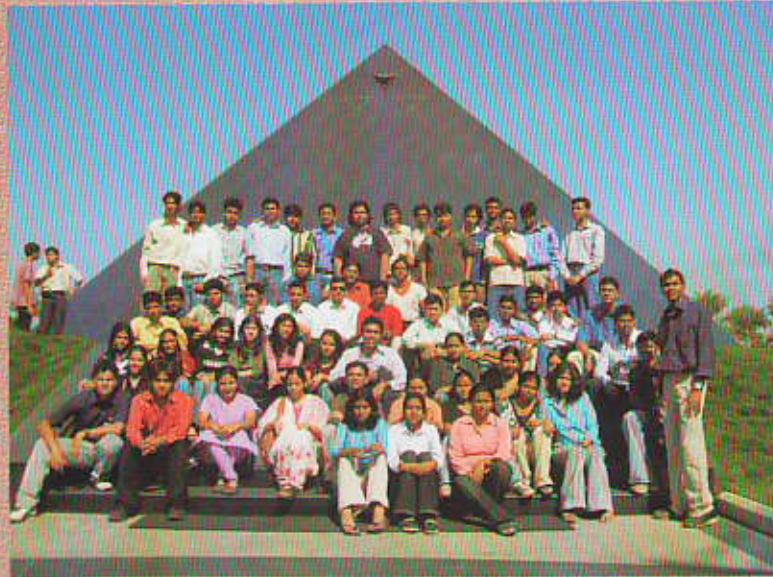


NIRMITI



ROBOCON





ITSA IV to Infosys



Blood Donation Camp



Speakers' Club



SPARK



Gopal B. - R10 representative for IEEE students' branch



Ms. Sreeja Nair representing the Bombay Section at IEEE Region 10 Student Congress



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Ecell - Activities





MARATHI
VANGMAY
MANDAL

Writing an editorial, there's only one sentiment running through your mind - There's a lot you want to say but you aren't too sure if anybody really cares.

That said, this editorial isn't exactly too 'editorial'ish, if you understand what we mean. If you don't believe this, you might want to read the previous line again.

The one underlying theme throughout this editorial is that we're trying to be truthful.

The magazine you're holding is called Disha and it's your college magazine. Traditionally, Disha tries to be everything, everything it's literal translation 'direction' could imply in student life.

But this year, we failed to do anything of that sort and aren't we glad for that! So we decided that perhaps, today, we and those around us are so obsessed with finding direction in life and giving a meaning to all we do that we'll not do just that very thing.

So, if you notice all that Disha tries to do is to entertain you!

Now, there are people we'd like to thank and then there are some we're going to thank. Mrs. Madhavi Gokhale and Lt. Mrs. Shyamlee Solanki showed us a lot of support which we probably couldn't have done without. All those who sent in contributions for the magazine (articles, poems, jokes, rip-offs notwithstanding), this magazine would've been a lot thinner without you. And a special mention for the sheer creativity and ingenuity that our students have shown.

Before you decide that this is too much for you to read all at one go we'd like to mention one thing that's been at the back of our minds for too long now. We'll say it like it is -

"Like some other things, we've now got too many magazines!"

We're not saying that Disha is the sole magazine that should continue to exist but what we're saying is that all we're doing is just dividing all we've got.

We've had a most amazing time while making Disha 'Disha'. But that's not the reason why we wanted to become editors.

For the love of the written word

- Editorial Team

On Route Bus 84

- Yash Joshi
TE Mechanical

It's a chilly night in Central Park, Manhattan, and everyone is waiting eagerly for the spectacle they are sure to see... Amidst the stunning moonlight, a hundred flares go up in sky and the sound of the ringing chords of 'In the Flesh' is only matched by the euphoria of the crowd. Yes, a Pink Floyd concert, it is! ...decent crowd, Sanjay thinks and passes a smiling glance at Nick. But just as he is about to commence the solo, something like a million clocks start chiming together... Hey Roger, wrong song! Stop! Stop!

...And Sanjay woke up. The clocks were still chiming, and he smiled as he switched off his cell phone alarm. Casually glancing at his guitar hanging from the opposite wall, he spent a moment pondering over his dream. *It was only a fantasy...* "Breakfast!" commanded a voice, which he was only too glad to obey. *Mama loves her baby...* A nonchalant glance at the morning newspaper brought back the realization that it was a weekend. Rest, at last! Sanjay sometimes wondered why the BPO (well, they were supposed to call it the Technical Resource Centre) gave them the day off; the job was pretty simple and pay was substantial. Basically, all that the 20 odd engineering graduates sitting in a crowded office in Dadar did was teach Americans to operate PCs.

The atmosphere at the breakfast table was still tense from the previous night's squabble. Rajiv had just passed his SSC Exams.

"You think that you can earn a living by making Ad films? Think not! Why can't you be more like your brother?"

"Mom! We aren't the same person, you know! And I am really interested in it!"

The older voice had won the battle, and reminded Sanjay that he was to pick up the admission form for his brother from Mithibai College that day.

It was drizzling when Sanjay stepped into the bus that morning, and was lucky enough to get a seat. Amidst the usual morning chaos, the bus started its northward journey. Casually glancing at his fellow passengers, he spotted a father-son duo sitting on the next seat. 20 years had gone by and he still felt a trace of envy whenever he saw something like this. Thank God for I-Pods, thought Sanjay, and put on the headphones. *A snapshot in the family album... Daddy*

what else did you leave behind for me?

As the bus crossed Prabhadevi, the boy, looking out of the window, asked his dad, "Why is there such a rush there?". "Well, son, that's because it's a temple". "But Dad, why do people come here and not to the temple near our house?". "It's called faith..." Sanjay grinned... *Just Another Brick in the Wall...* "What is faith, Dad?", the boy persisted. "Faith is something you believe that makes you strong and fearless. Maybe someday you'll know what I mean... but have faith in yourself, son... More than anything else..." Easy said... thought Sanjay, and the bus rolled on.

The olfactory displeasure and the conductor reminded the passengers "Mahim!" Just then someone remarked, "Wasn't this the same place where the sea water turned sweet?" "Ya... God's grace!" came the answer... *Got to keep the loonies on the path...* Herd mentality, actually... thought Sanjay.

The wind suddenly picked up pace as they crossed into the suburbs. Sanjay had a weird feeling of nostalgia as they reached Bandra. *Home... home again... I like to be here when I can...* After all, this was where he had spent 6 years of his "academic life". His junior college, engineering college, the coffee shop where he had spent half of his time, and Zenzi, the rock pub where he had spent the other half... the place where he had played his first gig! Prodigy... people had remarked. I should have taken music seriously, he thought to himself (for the millionth time, he recounted), and fiddled with the I-Pod. But one can't sustain oneself being a guitarist... its fine as a hobby... Mom is so pragmatic...

"Khar Teshan!" cried the conductor as the bus screeched to a halt. A young couple stepped into the bus. The guy led the girl to a vacant bench next to Sanjay's and chivalrously offered her the window seat. Moments later, Sanjay started hearing things like "Vulpine-Wastrel-Wheedle-Xenophobia-Zephyr" and looked over curiously at the couple. "GRE?" asked Sanjay with a knowing grin and they responded with a wry smile. ... *How I Wish ... How I Wish You Were Here...* Wherever is she now? ... Sanjay mused about his childhood sweetheart, who had chased her dreams where *the Grass was Greener...* Maybe somewhere near where his dream (literally!) had been?

The skies had opened up a bit and the sun had beautifully silver lined the grey clouds. Just then, Sanjay's cell phone buzzed... An SMS... from office... "COME IMMEDIATELY. WEEKEND LEAVE CANCELLED." Just great, he thought...

"Hey Dad, why are some newspapers brown and others white?" remarked the inquisitive child who had just spotted someone reading an Economic Times. "It's just because the white ones are normal ones and the brown ones are the finan... umm... money ones..." said Dad. "But Dad, is money that important?" "Sometimes, son..."

Money... it's a hit... Was money really that important, thought Sanjay... Frankly, that's the only factor which keeps me employed, isn't it!

Just then, an airplane flew above them... "Dad, I want to be a pilot when I grow up!" "Of course, son..." What's so great about becoming a pilot, anyway? ...thought Sanjay (who had also once dreamed of becoming one).

Or is flying simply a metaphor of all our dreams coming true? *The child is grown... the dream is gone...* But why dream, anyway? If at some point, they are going to surrender to the bitterness of reality? Realities of monthly wages and a comfort zone? *I have become comfortably numb...* Sanjay still fiddled around with the I-Pod... My I-Pod, he thought, bought with 'my' own money... I need this job... I don't even

know whether I can form a band any more... Maybe I am too old for it... Come on, have I lost all faith in myself? Well, maybe we are all lunatics after all... just that we are afraid of different things in life... Face it, I hate my job! Wouldn't I be better off making music instead!

Amidst the chaos, someone yelled "Mithibai" and Sanjay hurried to the front exit. As he approached the college, he saw three queues where forms were being distributed, one each for Arts, Science and Commerce. ...*at least I can save someone's dream* thought Sanjay and joined the smallest one.

A confounded mind stepped into the southward bound bus. Just as the conductor approached him, Sanjay's cell phone buzzed again. "Office Calling"... Sanjay smiled and pressed the red button... "Ek Bandra Linking Road"....

... *the moment had arrived... for killing the past and coming back to life!*

And the sun shone brightly in the late summer skies...

What's the world's greatest lie?

It's this: that at a certain point in our lives, we lose control of what is happening to us, and our lives become controlled by fate.

- Paulo Coelho

Life does not cease to be funny when people die any more than it ceases to be serious when people laugh - George Bernard Shaw

The Pursuit of Happiness

- Bhavna K
BE Computers

Let me share a joke with you: it's funny, yet profound in its own way....

Kabir was sitting glum, when his friend called on him and tried to alleviate Kabir's troubles by asking him what the matter was. Kabir said that his maternal uncle expired last month, leaving Kabir an estate worth a crore. At this, his friend said that for the octogenarian uncle, death was imminent. Besides Kabir has much to cheer about, considering the inheritance.

Kabir then said that in the week gone by, his neighbour expired, leaving Kabir as his sole inheritor, and saying this, Kabir started sobbing. His friend, bewildered, wondered out aloud what the problem was, as the neighbour was fighting a long drawn battle against a fatal disease; moreover Kabir again had something to be thankful for. At this, Kabir let open the floodgates and wept (Don't worry guys, this is not a PJ!), saying that his centurion great grandfather expired the day before yesterday, leaving behind the family jewellery for Kabir. This angered his friend (and by now you readers too) who yelled saying that there was nothing to be really upset about a hundred plus aged, unhealthy senior citizen departing for the heavens, and leaving Kabir richer by another couple of grands!

Kabir then said, between sobs, that he wasn't upset that any of these people had expired, but that now he didn't have any more rich relatives alive who could leave something behind for him...

There really is no end to our wants and desires, is there? After all, greed is one of those Seven Deadly Sins you are warned about! It begins as soon as we come into being (chocolates and status symbols) and continues till the twilight of our lives, when we even strike deals with God (I do this pilgrimage/charity and you give me that place in Heaven)!

Our guiding principle is—"When I get **that** I will be happy". Like, some of us want a visa for the States and until we get that, we aren't really happy. Attaching some importance to some unforeseen event in the future, we plod on...Satisfaction (not to be confused with being laid back) with life remains elusive for most of us.

For those of us with jobs, we just dream of the day we get a green card. That realized, it dawns on us that India is where all the development is happening, and truly we miss mom's tlc. and sister's bickering. We then want to return...to be, or not to be? Ah, the dilemma of those Non-Returning Indians!

And some of us believe, "Whoever said that happiness can't be bought, looked in the wrong shops!" Flitting from one gadget/apparel/vehicle... (you get the idea), we sway, hoping to get that thing which gives us the ultimate high, or what we perceive to be, happiness.

What then, is happiness?

I read somewhere that according to the Bible, 'The Kingdom of Heaven is within us'... It isn't really easy for us to realize this truth though. Some of us crave recognition and plaudits from our seniors/ lovers/ peers, so much so that we start doing all you can to please them and when we achieve these, we are on cloud nine. But one reprimand from them and we're down in the dumps. This is what happens when we start depending on others for our happiness.

There was this drunkard lying intoxicated in the middle of the road, when his friend came by, and to get the drunk home (and also to have some fun), joked that the drunk's wife had become a widow and that the drunk should go home and console her. The drunk panicked and started lamenting over how his wife could think of becoming a widow when he was very much alive! (The joke is sort of subtle here, my friend...don't worry, the tube light will glow, ultimately!)

Half our sorrows, like the drunkard's are baseless and simply a magnification of trivial issues by our hyperactive imagination. The key to the lock of our happiness lies with us and us alone.

NOTE to reader:

For those of my reader friends who found the title misleading and felt that this should have been the movie review of 'The Pursuit of Happy(!)ness', take light (meaning chill), guys.....who in their right minds would review a Will Smith starrer—it's guaranteed to rock! (save for 'Wild Wild West', though...)

When you're happy and you know it and you really want to show it; clap your hands
—Anonymous

The Life of an FE

- Ashwin Thombre
FE Mechanical

Phew! The CET is finally over. Months of 'hardship' and 'struggle' have finally come to an end. Most of us have got into the college of our choice, some, the stream of our choice and some both. Our parents are only too proud of the fact that their 'beta' or 'beti' is becoming an engineer. Of course, in their minds they've already given us the B.E degree and imagined us getting into a plane and zooming off to do an MS. Oh...and they're also done imagining the dollars that we are going to earn after doing our post graduate course. And the only way I'm going to be able to finish this article is if I stop talking about our illustrious parents. So I'm going to do just that.

Coming back to FE, where life is far too complex (I'm only hoping that my good readers comprehend the sarcasm) in comparison to those B.E's who we are apparently supposed to look up to. The first day of Engineering College is always very exciting and something worth looking forward to. It's an entirely new atmosphere. You enter the college and you see these certain groups of people who only talk technical mumbo jumbo (at first you are completely fascinated and inspired by their devotion to engineering...later you realise they're just talking CRAP!). You enter the new classroom, the FE classroom, and see new faces around you, faces you're probably going to look at for the next four years of your life. Every class is divided into two main sections. The first and the most easily noticeable is the '70 plus section'. These are the academic achievers. They are the best of the best of the best. The other section is the local hep group. Now this is a very interesting theory I formulated after entering college. The hep group acts much like a local variable to a function in C++. In the same way that a local variable is valid only within its parent function, our hep group is a 'hep' group only within the boundaries of the class. It's very difficult to describe the functionalities of a hep group. You have to see it for yourself to believe it.

Then come the seniors! Now, the seniors are a very interesting breed of potential engineers. No, they don't rag us. They tell us stories of glory and adventure of the time when they were in FE, the time when they took part and volunteered for all those upcoming festivals and still managed to get a brilliant first class. One thing's for sure-The seniors just love themselves.

But you know what...they love us FE's too! That's because we are the only ones patient enough to listen to all that they have to say, because we

think we are making good senior contacts by doing what we can to please them. Also, we experience our first ever Engineering tech fest-Nirmaan. Some of us volunteer for it in the hope of having a really fancy car at the end of 4 years.

The truth is, we FE's just keep thinking about the future but only until the semester I exam dates blow in our faces like an egg splattering on a frying pan. This is the time when we start running around, first for the portfolio and then for the text books. We take down the numbers of all those pre-decided toppers of the class/the people we copy assignments from. We see people sitting on the first bench...ok I'll stop now. I open the text books and the enormity of the portfolio sinks in. You can only guess what we do next. We decide what we are *not* going to do and leave all that out. The 'symphony of destruction' begins to play on our heads (no not that Megadeth song) every time the words Mechanics, BEE or KT are mentioned, and well it's scary. In all this, the seniors smirk away with immense satisfaction (something they are very good at) and submissions begin. Life couldn't get any better could it?

The bottom-line is that Engineering suddenly starts to seem like one Herculean task, but the seniors are not. It's one hell of an experience. I'm in the 2nd semester and I already have some crazy stories to tell about semester I. The point is, we average potential engineers know for a fact that last minute study is something we should be following as a mantra, just for the sake of clearing every semester. But it's like a built function, or so it seems to be at least in FE, and just ends up happening towards the end. I'm not trying to make this into one big morality tale, I'm just stating some facts that I've come to terms with during FE.

The 1st year will soon be done with, and a new one will begin. We'll be among the all too familiar faces entering the classroom and the MAD (referring to Mutually Assured Destruction) circle of fests, assignments, submissions and exam dates will begin once again.

Mamma always said life was like a box of chocolates ... you never know what you're gonna get - Forrest Gump

The TEN Commandments

- Anirban D Das
BE Computers

...have six locks on my door all in a row. When I go out, I lock every other one. I figure no matter how long somebody stands there picking the locks, they are always locking three.

- Elayne Boosler

So simple yet so brilliant isn't it? That essentially pictures what I have learnt in four years of engineering. Confused? You thought you were here to learn about microprocessors, IC engines and transistors???? Think again buddy, our syllabus, our course structure, the entire system doesn't teach anything of that sort!

So you're thinking what the hell you're doing here now! Believe me you can learn things here in four years that you won't learn all your life. Let me take you on a journey and tell you just how you can maximize your college education!

I will remember the day I came here. Having spent a month in Father Ignel, I realized the true worth of being in a place like SPCE.

First day in college I learnt **Lesson no. 1:-** Always be dressed as per the occasion. Trust me, you will get ragged if you wear sleeveless t-shirts or shorts to college! Just like in life, dressing plays an important role in college. Conservative clothes during vivas and submissions do help increasing marks by 13.7%. Although there was an exception when I got placed with Microsoft wearing a party shirt.

Five days into college life I learnt **Lesson no 2:-** There actually exists a place where two fully grown men with huge appetites can eat till they can't walk. That too for 50 bucks. For those who have been on Mars since they joined college, this place is called Shetty's Corner.

My second semester I learnt another lesson which is probably the truth of life **Lesson no 3:-** No matter how much you do, it's never enough. This lesson I learnt the hard way through my drawing submissions. I think 17 corrections and 9 hours it took for the Prof. to give me the lowest grade possible. I decided then and there that since it's never gonna be enough anyways, lets

stick to doing the bare minimum.

In my fourth semester I was introduced to the interesting concept of vivas. While they are supposed to assess a student's understanding of concepts, I feel it's just a sick way for teachers of obsolete colleges to derive sadistic pleasure by making students feel dumb. Although I did learn that tackling vivas is just like tackling all other problems of life.

Lesson no 4:- It's not about how much you know it's about how much you can convince someone you know.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



Now another interesting concept unique to engineering is the PL or preparatory leave where 700 page books are studied in 7 hours and sleep is a luxury at best. But I believe this period of 10-12 days teaches us the most important lesson of life **Lesson no 5:-** Prioritize!

You can't do everything neither in life and definitely not for semester exams so just prepare for what happened in the past (University papers). After all, history always repeats itself.

Another thing unique to our glorious college is SPACE and indeed the elections that precede it. It is exactly like the ones which happen on the national stage. Backstabbing, alliances, BEs threatening FEs, rule changes at the last minute, it's got everything!

Lesson no 6:- People desperate to get positions of power seldom do anything notable once they have it. I think what I've said is pretty self explanatory

But I must admit SPACE and indeed the effort that goes into it is something everyone must experience. Unpredictable to say the least! Sponsors who promise 2.5 lakh have been known to pull out, the working crew has been known to go on strike days before the event, rich people have been known to ask for measly amounts as commission for getting sponsors and yes, people have lost

their own money!

That brings us to **Lesson no 7:-** Never lend money unless you are guaranteed to get it back.

Everyone who reads this article must, absolutely must keep lesson no. 7 in mind especially when working for the numerous fests we have.

That is what has happened actually. For some reason we have way too many festivals happening in college - some good, some bad and some just give free prize money to anyone who is interested enough to bunk an odd lecture to participate

Lesson no 8:- Too many cooks spoil the broth.

Please take note Comps, Tronix, IT and Extc do not start new departmental fests!!!!!!!

After the jingbang of college festivals, comes placement/GRE/CAT season when people actually get serious for a change. Now something peculiar to placements at SP is that no matter what you do, Infosys or TCS or in most cases both will recruit you! So juniors worried about getting a job, take it easy and just keep up that 60 aggregate. GRE taught me that you cannot study everything the way you study for semester exams! Tried mugging up words but that just doesn't work! Luckily discovered this great book called Norman Lewis which actually breaks up words into roots and Voila! I cruised to a 1550 in the GRE.

Now CAT is a different ball game altogether, you can study all the books you want, take all the mock tests you want and join as many classes as you want but the CAT shall always throw up a surprise as I discovered to my horror and all of it hinges on what you do in those 2 and a half hours. You must be wondering where lesson no 9 is and its something lots of people have asked me "Should I do CAT or GRE?" "Should I take a job or study further?"

Lesson no 9:- When you have options and have to make a choice, choose 'all of the above'!

We study in one of the best institutions in the country and we have a luxury of almost 100% placements so you can't decide just take both the CAT/GRE and other exams as well and decide when it's absolutely sure it's the right decision.

Finally let's look at something which we have to face every semester and everyday of our engineering life. Work is the most politically correct word I can use to describe assignments, attendance, lectures, practicals, tests, vivas and exams. How do you take all of this?

Lesson no 10:- Chill till there is just enough time to get things done and slog like a dog when the heat is on. Now I sense raised eyebrows as people read this but my logic is simple, when we work without pressure our efficiency is less but when you risk flunking a test believe me you will perform miracles you never thought possible!

So there you have it, ten commandments which you can use throughout your life and they're all taught in the very system which we abuse day after day. You might be able to learn C programming in 2 days at Stanford or management techniques at Harvard but none of these schools will teach you how to outsmart robbers by locking alternate locks! That's why I say "When it comes to learning how to live life there's no place to learn like SPCE!"

Phantom faces at the window
Phantom shadows on the floor
Empty chairs at empty tables
Where my friends will meet no more

- Les Misérables

And now Harry, let us step into the night and pursue that flighty temptress, and
- Albus Dumbledore

Right to Stand Alone

-Sneha Hegde
SE Electronics

To everyone's relief, the bell rang. The two hour long paper got over. Everyone was happy. The bell signalled the end of the drudgery of writing the history paper as also the end of the final semester exams. People around me were busy making plans.....to go out and ENJOYYYY!!!! And standing in one corner of the room was me, still brooding over the paper....checking whether any word, any line had gone wrong. Whether the freedom fighter was born or he had gone on that date, whether my SHORT NOTES were too short whether I had answered the ANSWER IN BRIEF too briefly and blah blah blah...Once I was satisfied with the way I had written the paper, I packed my stuff and started walking out of the class. Unlike others, I had no plans whatsoever. I just wanted to go back home, put away my bag, tell my mother how my paper was, and share that slab of chocolate that I would buy on my way back home with my two younger sisters and then finally go back to the small room of mine where lay all my books my pens and pencils, my papers, the empty teacups and the crumpled biscuit and chocolate wrappers and the small bed of mine with those soft toys and my small little cupboard with that mirror. That was my world, that is and that will continue to be my BIG small world.

As an unobtrusive student from the very beginning, I was a quiet, nerdy girl who was least bothered about anything going on around her. Most people often tended to ignore this harmless creature who was hardly worth a second glance. There were others who termed me as a bumpkin who could do nothing but study. Even today I'm perceived as a snob who has no courteous words to mouth. But is it so necessary to talk, to smile, to hang around? Is it so important to be among large groups of people and say things that please everyone around so that they don't term you as a COLD PERSON?

YES. I am an introvert. I cannot strike a chord with everyone I meet nor can I go on jabbering with people I hardly know. But why can't I be that way???

The trait of Extraversion-Introversion is a central dimension of human personality. Extraverts (sometimes called "extroverts") are gregarious, assertive, and generally seek out excitement. Introverts, in contrast, are more reserved, less outgoing, and less sociable. They are not necessarily antisocial, but they tend to have smaller circles of friends,

and are less likely to thrive on making new social contacts. Introversion is when the direction of psychic energy flow is inwards, towards internal experiences such as thinking, remembering and imagining. This leads to quiet, low-key, deliberate behaviour and the introvert tends to be relatively non-engaged in social situations. They take pleasure in solitary activities such as reading, writing, watching movies, inventing, and designing. An introverted person is likely to enjoy time spent alone and find less reward in time spent with large groups of people, although they frequently enjoy one-to-one or one-to-few interactions with close friends.

Carl Jung, the originator of 'psychological typology' noted that different psychological types perceive the world and make decisions in different ways. "Extroverts dominate public life". Jonathan Rauch wrote in a 2003 Atlantic Monthly article "Look at Bill Clinton, he seems to come fully alive with people around". The introvert's motto is - "I am okay, you're okay - in small doses". His personal recharging formula, Rauch wrote, is "roughly two hours alone for every hour of socializing". However, some books like Malcolm Godwin's "Who are you? 101 ways of seeing yourself" paints introverts as "overcritical", "pessimistic", and "anxious" and describes them as feeling "unaccepted", "unacceptable" or "simply inferior". Jung cautioned that people tend to value their own psychological type the most. Extroverts in particular have trouble acknowledging the opposite tendencies- "You can't be an introvert. You have lots of friends". That's what many extroverts are quoted saying.

It is a universally acknowledged truth(?) that extroverts and success mostly go together. So the pressure to "go out and meet people"- for the children, being dragged from one special class to other - is rife. But the bottom line remains, that for millions of introverts, time spent to recharge is essential for mental well-being and it must be insisted upon. If people have got a right to speak, right to express don't you think they have a RIGHT TO STAND ALONE too?

The End of the World

- Varun Vora
BE Electronics

The sound of water dripping from the roof awakens me. I check my silicoglass watch. It clearly shows 3:45 A.M. The watches now-a-days are made from silicoglass. That's a special type of glass designed to sustain the very high temperatures, an effect of global warming. Sweat pours down my face. The heat resistant cooling suit I'm wearing seems to be malfunctioning a bit. You must be wondering - silicoglass watches, heat resistant suits - what's going on? It's the year 5080 A.D. and the temperatures here are as high as 80 degree Celsius. As if that's not enough already, rainfalls, hailstorms occur with irregular frequency and with such a force, that they can demolish an entire concrete slab.

Unable to sleep, I throw my metal clad, velvet blankets away. As I step into the living room, the lights turn on automatically, as sensed by an infrared sensor. I search for my mobile T.V. and find it in the pocket of my jeans. I scan for the news channel and am dismayed to find that the situation in North Carolina is degrading all the more rapidly. Already, Greenland, Siberia, and half of Europe along with many small countries were submerged. The greenhouse effect seemed to work at an alarming rate. The polar ice that had started melting some 40 odd years ago seem to engulf entire Europe and half of America. Currently, rescue operations were being carried on in North Carolina, where the Atlantic ocean was rapidly invading the terrestrial empire of human beings.

I decide to get back to work. As most of the other scientists, I was also forced to do research on saving Mother Earth from the clutches of nature. An insurmountable task yet it had to be performed....our lives were at stake. As I turn on my laptop, I find 488 hours remaining. Yes...488 hours!!!! that's all we had. The laptop- a super computer working at 10^{17} GHz was specially designed to predict the time required for the water bodies to inundate the lands completely. The continuous inflow of the water melted by polar ice coupled with the torrential never ending rainfall clearly demonstrated that the situation was very grim.

North Carolina had to be rescued within four

hours. Then the water will invade New York, where I am currently residing. Hell, I myself have very little time. I turn my attention to the T.V. The Madagascar volcano in Africa had finally exploded. The satellite views of the bleak situation over South Africa were being shown. Luckily....scientists from IIT, India, had predicted that the volcano would soon explode and most of Africa was already rehabilitated. The volcano was predicted to explode with such a force, that entire Africa had to be evacuated. This was one ordinary day of the year 5080.

Few days later....finally the D-day arrives. I take a glance at the blood red sun through the five layers of silicoglass windows.

Soon it's all going to be over....I tell myself. I pack my suitcases, step on in special heat resistant shoes and my usual weather protecting suit. The spacecraft was scheduled to leave at 7.30 A.M.....150 minutes before the world would explode.

I reach the New York Space Area....I find hundreds of people waiting nervously to board the last available space craft. An escort takes me inside the space craft and requests me to fasten my seat belt. Soon I am zooming over troposphere at 18,000 km/h. The T.V. attached in the space craft shows images of the world being destroyed. The last of human inhabitants in the world, in New York are seen to be rapidly fading away. Alas, the world has ended!!! But there was something to cheer about...this was only my second trip to moon....where human inhabitation had prospered beautifully since last 50 years!!!

Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It is already tomorrow in Australia - Charles M. Schulz

Maryaada Purushottams?

- Rohit Menon
TE Electrical

Maryaada Purushottam- the Ideal Man. Well, isn't that THE adjective used for the 7th incarnation of Lord Vishnu- Sri Ramachandra? Then why the plural? If Rama was the ideal man of Treta Yuga, then Yudhishtira was the epitome of Dharma in the Dwapara Yuga. But, do they deserve to be placed on such a high pedestal? Were they really infallible?

Let us start with Rama's Vanavas. When Surpanakha tried to court Rama and Lakshmana, instead of treating her with the respect she deserved, they humiliated her. And then as punishment for attacking Sita, Lakshmana cut off her breasts, nose and ears and Rama chose to look the other way. Had Lakshmana (with the implicit approval of Rama) been not so cruel towards her, Ravana would not have captured Sita.

In order to get the support of Sugriva, the 'brave' Rama killed Vali through deceit- hiding behind the five toes of Panchavati. It is a well known fact that Rama and Lakshmana had to undergo several hardships to defeat Ravana and rescue Sita. But when Sita excitedly approaches Rama to be united with him, he tells her, in front of the Rakshasas, Vanaras and others, that he fought the war only to avenge the dishonour inflicted on him and she was free to go wherever she pleased. The Agnipareeksha, which Sita then had to undergo to prove her purity and innocence, was one of the worst ordeals a woman ever had to subject herself to. Rama's acceptance of Sita after the Agnipareeksha shows that he needed proof to trust his wife. Doesn't that remind you of the average male protagonist in the countless Saas-Bahu soaps? Didn't Ravana treat Sita with more respect?

Even after the Agnipareeksha in which Sita emerged as a wife conforming to the stringent quality checks imposed by our grand Hindu culture, Rama banishes a pregnant Sita to the forest when he comes to know that some of his subjects still doubt her

chastity. Was that an act of a king fulfilling his duty or that of a king who was so weak that he failed to instill the necessary trust amongst his subjects? Isn't it ironical that the same Rama had a statue of Sita to represent the Queen during the Ashwamedha ceremony?

Was Rama the embodiment of truth, of morality, the ideal son, the ideal husband, and above all, the ideal king as suggested by Swami Vivekananda? Or was he to quote Mallika Sarabhai's Sita "the delicate prince who needed my support in coping with life in the forest; the weak man who had to gather an army to fight his battles; a chauvinist who needed proof of his wife's virtue; a king who failed in his duty as a husband..."



A Y u g a passed by and it was time for the longest drama ever - the epic of Mahabharata to be played out. And in the Dwapara Yuga when Dharma walks on a single leg, was born the 'most righteous' king to walk the earth-Yudhishtira, the eldest of the Pandavas, the only Pandava to gain entry to the heavens in his earthly form (Wasn't that a case of blatant favouritism by his dad Yamadharma?). But his actions prove otherwise- he comes across as the most spineless and foolish king ever.

The benevolent Yudhishtira chose to keep mum when his brother Arjuna humiliated Karna by calling him a Sutaputra. Maybe being noble means encouraging casteism. Yudhishtira is always portrayed as a king devoid of lust, greed and other worldly desires. But he had no qualms about sharing Draupadi whose hand was won by Arjuna alone.

When Yudhishtira received the invitation for the game of dice, the Pandavas were leading a prosperous life after the Rajasuyam of Yudhishtira. As a righteous person, maybe it was his duty to accept the invitation of his elders but he did not have to do a

Marnie McFly* and accept the evil Shakuni as his opponent. If Yudhishtira was a 'Sthitaprajnya', then why did he succumb to the temptation of continuing the game of dice even though he was on a losing streak? If he had the mindset of a Yogi, why was he so desperate to win back his kingdom and riches that he went on to wager himself, his brothers and eventually his wife in the game of dice? Once Yudhishtira became a slave of the Kauravas he had lost all right to put at stake, the lives of his brothers and of Draupadi. How could Yudhishtira unilaterally wager Panchali - the 'last remaining jewel' of the Pandavas, without consulting Panchali herself and her other four husbands?

When Draupadi was humiliated by Duhshasana in the royal court of Hastinapura (Draupadivasthaharan), what was Yudhishtira's justification for not fulfilling his Dharma as a husband? The Pandavas like a bunch of cowards did not raise a finger when the entire drama was being played out. Again during their thirteenth year of exile which was spent under disguise in the court of King Virata, Yudhishtira kept mum when Draupadi warned him of Kichaka's intentions to molest him (It was Bhima who killed Kichaka when he came to know about it.).

Yudhishtira always used to justify his cowardly actions by talking about Dharma and moral conduct. But during the great Kurukshetra war, he turned a blind eye when the Pandavas, at the behest of Lord Krishna, used unfair means to defeat many warriors of the Kauravas. The most notable of them was when Yudhishtira, second only to Raja Harishchandra in following the path of truth, uttered the lie that Ashwatthama had died to Dronacharya so

* Marnie McFly is a character in the 'Back to the Future' movie series who takes up the stupidest of challenges to prove that he isn't 'chicken'.

that Dhristadyumna could kill the Guru when he was meditating **unarmed**. Didn't Yudhishtira's conscience prick him when Karna, Duryodhana, Bhishma and Jayadratha were killed through deceit?

Yudhishtira was a double-faced hypocrite who sought refuge in the lofty ideals of Dharma and moral conduct to justify his irrational and cowardly behaviour, a king who oscillated between being a Kshatriya and a Sage, an individual whose words spoke louder than action... Amba was a Shikhandi at birth in her reincarnation, but Yudhishtira was a Shikhandi by action.

It is an individual's choice as to whether he or she should worship a particular God or any other mythical figure. But once we start portraying them as the ideal human being for the masses to emulate, it is the imperative that we objectively analyze their actions without any positive bias towards their so-called divinity. Only then can we say that our myths and legends are a rich source of morals and values which would come handy in our lives. Otherwise they would end up being just religious texts - instruments of manipulation in the hands of the fanatical fundamentalists whose dearest we would never forgive thanks to the various communal forces at work.

Answers to the Crossword

1. Cater
4. Armrest
7. Arc
8. Realm
9. Farce
11. Aim
13. Avalanche
14. eXist

15. squiB
17. Aftermath
19. Eve
20. annoy
21. Melee
23. ere
24. haggles
25. reply

1. caRNage
2. Tea
3. Rampant
4. Acquaintances
5. mafia
6. theme
10. reluse

12. moisture
15. schem
16. Brew
17. aBAS
18. royal
22. lap

The Forgettable Cricket Match

- Bharat Ram
SE Mechanical

You know, sometimes, you watch these really tight cricket matches on television, the ones that go down to the last ball, the ones that have you biting your nails and glued to your seat, and the ones that won't even let you go take a leak between overs for fear of missing a ball? Well, though they're a feast for the couch potatoes, I bet all those with at least some degree of rationale must have thanked their lucky stars that they're not actually sweating it out on the cricket field, and are watching it from the safety and anonymity of their homes. Every action out there on the pitch is burdened with the weight of a billion expectations, and every decision is taken under maddening pressure and with so much acuity that it's impossible to visualize ourselves in that position...like I've already mentioned, the couch is the safest place, even for the most vociferous critic.

I have been one such cricket fanatic all my life, voicing harsh opinions even on the finest men to ever don the country's blues, and so maybe there was poetic justice in the fact that I found myself in the middle of the cricket ground, and at the crux of a tight game, much like the ones I have seen on television. It was probably the most important game in the brief annals of my college's cricketing history, and it was the final of the SPCE Super League, against HR College, who came with a well established reputation of crushing engineering college teams without so much as giving them a chance to fight.

There had been a tremendous uproar in college when the news spread that the home team had reached the finals, and a good turnout was visible even before the match began. Injuries and GRE preparations of some key players led to my being in the final eleven, and there were butterflies in my stomach when my name was announced by the captain, a BE toughie, whose watchful gaze and unshakeable disposition must have weathered many a crisis for the team. We batted first, and I spent the morning watching the action, in silent awe of the HR players.

Post lunch, their chase began. Though I was a passive member of the team, being a novice (and that too an IPE) and all, I never thought I'd have a major role to play. Sure enough, I bowled in the beginning, and didn't get too much of a wallop, which I thought was a minor achievement for myself. But as the game progressed, their run rate dropped too, and sure enough, there was a real fight on the cards. Oddly

enough, while fielding, I found myself praying that the ball doesn't come to me...all that was fine, until the last over. Surprise, surprise! I was asked to bowl. That was something which I had never expected, let alone awaited. So the scene was - 9 more runs to get, and my six balls to get it from. I found myself uncontrollably nervous and so I tried the deep breathing thing. And I ran in...

Five balls and seven runs later, there were two runs to get from one ball, and there was a victory being smelled there in the stands, and there was certain nervousness and a hint of fear in those two HR guys batting, as they huddled together to speak about...who cares what they spoke about, because I found myself sweating. The captain rushed over, and muttered some unintelligible words of wisdom, and I did not have the patience to hear him over again, and so I just closed my eyes for a second, and thudded in.

Thirteen months later, they still ask me what went wrong. I have no answer to that, because I had bowled a wide. Not only 'a wide', but a wide so wide it actually went for four. I was in utter disbelief as my eyes followed the ball to the fence. The two HR guys, whose faces had been images of nerve wracking tension just five seconds ago, pranced away to their changing area, in pure relief. I saw my captain take off his cap, his hair heavy with sweat glistening in the late afternoon sun. He looked at me helplessly, and I went down on my haunches, clutching my face in my hands, even as a few sympathetic team mates arrived to pat me on the back, lift me up, the works.

Sometimes you wonder why they call it sport, when in reality it's just a microcosm of everything real about life...victory, defeat, joy, anguish and desperation. Well, I changed a bit after that day, and my observation of cricket matches became a lot less vocal from then on. I guess I'd learnt my lesson...

Dream Another Day

- Pranam Shetty
BE Computers

ARTICLES

Opulent mansions... zzz... exotic beauties... zzz... flashy cars... zzz... SLAP!!

Bholu's hand involuntarily moved to swat the winged intruder. How dare this arthropod disturb his quotidian fantasy? After all, Bholu needed his beauty sleep... as do all those who aspire to make it big in Jollywood... so what if it is bang in the middle of his work-hours!

Unlike many before him, Bholu hadn't given up on his dream... not just yet. Big C was still his deity and homage was paid by reverently re-watching Choday whenever and wherever possible (at last count the antediluvian videotape had made its 1934223rd appearance in the VHS!).

Short, portly, lazy and amiable - Bholu was nonetheless one-third a typical romantic hero. Born to a poor family in a nondescript hamlet in Central India, he grabbed the first opportunity to move a step closer to realizing his dream. Although the job of a salesman at his Uncle's sweetmeat shop (at a thriving market in the big city) didn't exactly excite his senses... it still afforded him the luxury of being close to his second love - Rasgullas! His mother had bid him a very wet farewell - with a tin full of homemade rasgullas and some (loaned) cash stashed away in a purse, which he hid under his untidy shirt.

Once in the city, he left no stone unturned... every evening he made his solemn journey to his Mecca - the Jollywood film industry. He gave auditions, he pleaded with those who mattered, even did menial jobs to appease them. He would do anything... ANYTHING... to get himself that one break!

And so it happened... it was only yesterday, during one of those sessions of kowtowing in front of an acknowledged pezzonovante that he got noticed.

"Psst... Hey, you! Yeah I'm talking to you... come here!" Bholu noticed an impressive heavysset, square-jawed, gaudily-dressed, cigar-puffing man with a booming voice and mesmerizing round eyes, beckoning him into the shadows of a dark alley.

"Looks like you're doing pretty well huh... must be doing a whole lot of good to your ego to beg in front of those pompous fools..." He puckered his brow into a frown and dropped his voice to a whisper, "They'd only give a damn if you were a beautiful girl... but me... yes sir you're standing in front of the right person".

Words tumbled from his mouth like coins dropping from a torn sack.

"So kid, you've heard of Rukrukh Khan?" Bholu's eyes widened... of course he'd heard of the megastar... girls drooled over him, men were envious of his magnetic persona and the rest were enthralled by his acting prowess.

"Did you know that at 18 he was a bankrupt, filthy-mouthed ruffian working in a local garage?" Bholu stared dumbly. "But his stars have changed... oh boy they have... and who do you think was responsible for noticing this prodigious talent?" Bholu offered to open his mouth... "Umm..."

"I can sense the same aura around you... you've got the right kind of attitude to climb right to the top!" Bholu felt a little light... it was as if his body was levitated a few feet into the air by those words!

"I'll make you an offer you can't refuse... I have a new project in my mind... you'll be perfect as the hero's sidekick. You just need to be yourself... and in a few months you'll be all over the media. We begin tomorrow... You can start by paying me five grand." Bholu's jaw dropped. This guy meant business!

"Stop looking at me like that... I don't have all day... you can't give me the money right now... go find yourself another pompous goof to lick!"

Bholu reached out to his pouch and emptied its contents... but before he could begin counting the money, it was snatched from his possession...

"Two grand and three hundred... It's short of the signing amount but it's enough to keep me happy now... come back tomorrow with the rest of the money... run along now... find yourself some nice clothes... don't want your photographs in the magazines with those clothes on!"

And before Bholu could even open his mouth in protest, the faint silhouette had disappeared into the darkness.

A loud and rather extended shriek pierced the air, jerking Bholu out of his reverie. The yell heralded the arrival of his Uncle at the shop. Dark, ugly and with a pot belly that would put even a hippopotamus to shame, Uncle Gajodhar was frothing at the mouth. The look on his face vividly brought back to memory the expression of a Mandrill, from whom one has just snatched away a banana!

It's the possibility of having dreams come true that makes life interesting - Paulo Coelho

thief had been discovered... Uncle Gajodhar had been fretting over waning sales ever since morning and the mysterious disappearance of thousand rupees from the cash register did not exactly brighten his day.

"Since when have you been asleep, you little pig, you descendant of Kumbhkarna? I'm sure even if the thief had got an orchestra along with him, you would not have noticed!"

Uncle Gajodhar puffed his chest... and then heaved a sigh... as if trying to control himself... Bholu knew this was an ominous sign!

"Ever since you've begun to help me, God hasn't been helping me. Take this 500 rupees note... Go find a new job and relieve me from the burden of carrying your dead weight, you sloth!" The finality with which those words were delivered could only be matched by a judge administering a death sentence to a villain!

But Bholu did not feel a thing... He walked into the fading twilight. The dazzling light along the crowded thoroughfares of humanity deterred him in the least as he dawdled to a silent park outside Jollywood and threw himself onto a bench.

There on the bench as he lay sprawled, opening a container full of rasgullas (he'd sneaked it from his uncle's shop), Bholu laughed at his uncle's naiveté. Gajodhar would soon have a very famous nephew, he thought. He opened his purse to reveal the wad of notes (exactly thousand rupees) that would set him on his road to glory!

Unknown to him however, his shady would-be saviour was on his way back, to his own hometown, far away from this phony world... and all courtesy the benevolence of our cuddly hero!

As Bholu lay beneath the starry skies, sleep took over him and he visited the same fabricated wonderland...

Opulent mansions... zzz... exotic beauties... zzz... flashy cars... zzz...

Dreams never die... they just fade away...

Fortune, fame

Mirror vain

Gone insane...

Fortune, fame

Mirror vain

Gone insane...

But the memory remains

Heavy rings hold cigarettes

Up to lips that time forgets

While the Hollywood sun sets behind your back

And can't the band play on?

Just listen, they play my song

Ash to ash

Dust to dust

Fade to black

- Metallica

Assassination of a Man? Or his Ideology?

ARTICLES

I look out of the glass window of the roadside café. Replete with all the hustle bustle of yet another busy weekday and the blaring horns of the cars and scooters smoking past, I gaze around aimlessly until I spot him. Strange I have been to this café a number of times before but had never seen him until today. Even more strange nobody else seems to notice him either. An old bespectacled man crouching over a stick, wearing what has been described by Jeffery Archer as the 'dish cloth'. He appears to have been standing there for a long time. I don't know why he hasn't crossed the street to the other side yet. Perhaps he doesn't want to. Perhaps he can't. A clear bright day, the sun shines down with vengeance on his bald pate. Not the best possible protection from the sun's most evident lack of mercy. Birds, of all kinds that can possibly be found in an urban area, hover around him. Not that he seems to care and interestingly enough neither do they. But at least some beings know about his presence, if not humans. This strange view attracts a little girl's attention, though I am not very sure whether she is curious about the birds or him. But all that she gets in return is a sharp reminder from her mother to continue walking silently. So once again, it's back to the birds.

It is an hour past and he still stands there, steady and firm on his granite pedestal. I notice a man walking slowly. He stops right next to him. Ah, at last someone. He looks like one of those moderately well to do businessmen. He is talking on his cell phone with a mouth full of 'paan'. Just then he sneaks a look around and spits. Right on target, leaving dark red abstract



- Tiya Khanra
SE Electrical

stains on his 'dish cloth'. I look up at the man expecting a guilt-ridden face. No I am wrong. He walks as calmly. Then I look up at him expecting some expression of disappointment, if not anger. So wrong again. Not a glare, not even a wince. His face is stoic though I would have preferred it to be stoic. I realize now. Probably he is one of those pacifists who like to bear every oppression, for 'retaliation' as a concept is non-existent for them. I also know that if he had the strength he would clean the stain, smile at the

culprit and say 'thank you'.
GANDHIGIRI - they call it.
Complete philosophy is
nonsense if you ask me. I mean
who would suffer all the wrong
being done to them without
muttering even a single word
in protest. I wouldn't.

I decide it's time for me to leave.
As I walk past him, I give him
a final glance and notice a
plaque that reads - MOHANDAS
KARAMCHAND GANDHI

OUR MAHATMA, THE FATHER OF OUR NATION
smile at him. Wonder if this was the nation he dreamed
struggled for and ultimately gave up his life for.
decades of worship and admiration, hundreds of
biographies, several streets being named after him,
history text books extolling the immortality of his
values and virtues- they never let him die, they never
will but the hypocrisy of his immortality would have
compelled him to prefer an anonymous death.
the only flower that would fall on his grave would be
flower forsaken by a tree on a cold autumn night.

"Truth and ahimsa, by which I swear and which have to my knowledge sustained me for sixty years seem to fail. My own doctrine was failing. I don't want to be a failure but a successful man. But it may be I may die a failure."

- Gandhi in Kolkata 1947

Demystifying Inflation

- Vinayak Hebbagil
BE Computers

A brand new, self confident, resurgent nation, embracing its role as an emerging superpower - possibly the best description of India in the current scenario. Everyday the newspaper is filled with articles emphasizing its rapidly growing economy. Add to this the booming sensex and we have a picture perfect nation. However this perfection has been marred by inflation rising beyond the comfort zone. The recent reports from Reserve Bank of India pegged the inflation at 6.12% and it is expected to soar up to 6.5% in the coming weeks.

One wonders what exactly inflation is and how it prevents rupee from stretching to further India's progress. Inflation, in layman's terms, refers to an increase in prices. Sometimes a continuous and unabated rise in prices leads to panic in the economic circles which can, in turn, cause a crisis. Inflation is measured by constructing a price index as it is necessary to arrive at a single figure when prices of different commodities are changing at a different rate. The index basically gives an overall rate of price increase by assigning different weights to different items. As different groups of people are affected by price variations very differently, there are five different types of indices. The most commonly used of these indices to cite the inflation rate is the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), which measures changes in wholesale prices.

Inflation is caused due to various reasons. More than a century after economist Alfred Marshall outlined the law of supply and demand, it still holds good to the extent that it dictates the prices in an economy. A price rise may occur if supply proves to be inadequate due to several reasons, which may include unavoidable natural calamities like droughts, floods etc. Sometimes insufficient production capital or large debts can also lead to curtailment of supply. Take the case of sugar, for about two years a ban on sugar exports had led to a decline in the production. So when demand grew, the prices escalated. It was only after the relaxation of the export ban that the prices stabilized. Demand mechanisms have an equal impact on inflation. A sharp wage increase in some segments, high credit growth and inflated asset prices led up to an upward pressure on prices from the demand side. A pertinent case in this matter is the

astronomical price that real estate in Mumbai demands. Large scale migration from the rural to the urban areas has pushed up the demand for residential areas. And the land scarcity along with strict rent control and tenant protection laws in India has worsened the problem. However the splurge in inflation is due to the overheating of the economy. With the current GDP growth at 9%, India's dream economic run continues to be fuelled by consumption. So a large amount of money is chasing the same amount of goods. A price rise under such circumstances is inevitable.



Is inflation indeed harmful to an economy? One can say that while it is certainly a cause of concern, it should not be a reason to panic. It is not uncommon to find high inflation in a growing economy. Actually some amount of inflation is a sign of a healthy economy. Countries like Japan and Germany witnessed periods of high inflation when their growth rate was around 5-6%. However what is a cause of concern is its rapid increase and the accompanying socio economic repercussions. A price rise in essential commodities hits the general population the most as it means a compromise on the purchase of other products. Also people tend to save more, reducing the amount of money being invested in market and thus decreasing liquidity in the process.

So what can be done to check the rate of inflation? Strict fiscal measures need to be employed. Banning the export of essential items like wheat, pulses, milk powder etc while increasing the import of the same items to augment the domestic supplies is another solution. Hiking the interest and repo rate as well as increasing the cash reserve ratio are the recent steps taken by RBI to rein in inflation. The rationale behind these measures is to reduce the billions of rupees that is being released into the domestic economy even at the risk of dampening the economic growth. What also needs to be done by the government is to allay the fears among the market players as when an inflation rate of 6.12% was reported, the sensex immediately caught cold and lost some ground causing the investors to lose money. Thus both short term and long term policy decisions are the need of the hour.

Powered by the current high

confidence level of India Inc that is reflected in their aggressive offshore acquisitions, the pace of the Indian market appears to be much faster than the economy's capacity to deliver. At the juncture of a

golden period the last thing that India needs is inflation undoing all the good. India is definitely a history in the making but at what price?

Law of inflation : Whatever goes up will go up some more.
- Anonymous

Back to School

- Parasuram B
TE Electrical

After tucking in an off white shirt into my navy blue shorts, I slipped into a pair of gumboots. I was all set for my first day at school. Holding my father's hand I was led into a colourful classroom and was then left to be on my own. Little did I know that I would be spending twelve memorable years at the same place, better known as Don Bosco High School.

Primary school was when we were introduced to the formal usage of the English language, numbers, the computer (MS DOS anyone?), science, geography and of course the British and Shivaji. On the eve of the first day of 3rd grade, I had cried for almost two hours. For the first time I did not want to go to school, since Marathi was to be taught and there was no escaping it. Today I'm kind of happy that I can understand the language well and can communicate with a certain level of fluency. We all know how important the language is, don't we? (Read: SPCE).

On the last day of 4th grade during the parent teachers meet, my class teacher had remarked, "Your son is one of the most well behaved students in my class. He sets an example for the others to follow." In the years to come, things changed. I learnt the meaning of 'an outstanding student' pretty soon (pun intended).

I played cricket and was admitted into the sports division (a concept started by my school) for a greater part of my schooling. It's those chilly

mornings in winter that I miss the most. This was during our cricket practice when the grass was still wet with overnight dew. Summer vacations also included a month long sports camp, where students could hone their skills at basketball, football, hockey etc. Though our team achieved a decent level of success at the inter-school level, my stint with cricket is a different story altogether.

It is often said, innocence in a kid ends with primary schooling and this perfectly describes the scenario in an all boys' school. Early teens would be labelled by elders as the age of adolescence. In other words, the beginning of puberty saw my last three years at school, a time for change in hormonal behaviour. In an all boys' school, it holds true for many students that their first infatuation (or even a crush) was always one of their teachers. Sex education called 'Education to Love', (debated in the State) introduced in the 9th grade was a treat for most of us. Some of the students had genuine doubts to clear, while some posed questions for the sake of it (with the I-know-it-all attitude). Then there were some others who just sat there giggling and laughing, and went with flow of the seminar as if everything was new. I was among the 'others'.

Looking back there are loads of memories that I simply cannot forget. The morning prayers, the national anthem followed by the pledge (does anyone even remember beyond the first two lines i.e. after 'sisters').

inflation
y in the

Christmas Panorama, a two day event similar to Technobreak was the time for competitions to bring home the prize of 'Best Class'. At the same time, it was an opportunity to help society. For instance, when Orissa was devastated with cyclones and floods, we managed to raise a sum close to 8 lakh. Annual Day celebrations conducted on a larger scale had musicals like Oliver, Fiddler on the Roof with huge budgets to boast of.

I firmly believe school is where the foundation for life is laid. It gives shape to one's character and etiquette. Life after school has taken us places and there are mountains to climb. But I would love to spend some time again in the plains where we can once again be carefree as we were. As I conclude, there's this one question, which I've pondered a lot over and which I've been asked many a time- "If your school was co-ed, how much more or less dynamic would it be?" Guess the answer lies in a time machine.

Competition or Cooperation or Co-optition

- Amit Holey
BE Computers

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In Game Theory, the oft quoted example is of The Prisoners' Dilemma. Two burglars-Al and Bob are caught and interrogated separately by the police. They are told the conditions of their punishment. They have to choose whether to confess or not confess. The conditions are as follows (number indicate the years of imprisonment)

Al reasons as follows: "Two things can happen: Bob can confess or Bob can keep quiet. Suppose Bob confesses. Then I get 20 years if I don't confess, 10 years if I do, so in that case it's best to confess. On the other hand, if Bob doesn't confess, and I don't either, I get a year; but in that case, if I confess I can go free. Either way, it's best if I confess. Therefore, I'll confess." Bob will reason in the same way so they both confess and go to prison for 10 years each.

states, 'survival of the fittest' governs every activity of nature. So, right from the earliest days of human evolution, we have been in a perpetual race for food, clothing, shelter and then for land, wealth, knowledge, fame and now even for the flight away from earth. Competition pits people against each other, wastes resources and often disillusion leaders. It tends to create ego battles and disharmony. People may turn to unethical means to beat the competition. World Wars, Stock Exchange scams, Corporation frauds are

		AL	
		Confess	Not Confess
BOB	Confess	10,10	0,20
	Not Confess	20,0	1,1

Yet, if they had acted "irrationally," and kept quiet, they each could have gotten off with one year each. Game Theory seems to suggest that rational outcomes (in this case trying to compete) are worse than irrational outcomes (in this case collaboration).

Historically, there has been a bias towards competition. As the Darwinian theory of evolution

standing examples of the devilish effects of heady competition.

Cooperation orients the entire range of resources towards common goal. All the efforts are focused on the ultimate target. Consider the following examples. The United Nations was founded

with the sole purpose of uniting the nations to fight

common causes that plague the world. So far it has been fairly successful. The global tirade against piracy has brought together the fiercest competitors in the fields of music, films, software and books. NASSCOM offers a platform where Indian IT companies discuss issues that affect them and come up with solutions irrespective of the cut throat race for profits. People have realized that cooperation brings in the synergy that can solve problems which cannot be tackled single handedly.

Still, competition is vital for our growth and progress. Competition generates desire, envy and spurs individuals to higher levels of performance. It is in some ways the seed of innovation. The competing schools of thought are essential for politics to maintain the track of social welfare, for businesses to constantly reinvent themselves and for science to advance further. Competition thus, is the necessary evil we have to contend with.

Out of this need for competition and desire for cooperation has emerged the new concept of 'co-

option'. Outsourcing, perhaps, is the vanguard of the phenomenon. It provides symbiotic relationships between the two organizations involved in the contract. Both the organizations collaborate to compete effectively. Mergers and Acquisitions are also the competition measures being adopted by firms across the world to survive and expand. With a new composition of resources, expertise and reach, firms believe they can strengthen their positions in global markets. Even nations are liberalizing their economies to foster competition in local markets. Joint programmes between local and foreign universities are being offered to impart high class education to local students. Blogs, wikis and podcasts are used to spread and share realtime information across continents.

We, as individuals, need to realize the importance of both competition and cooperation. We must identify situations and use these concepts to attain the goal efficiently. In an increasingly flatter world, both competition and cooperation shall be the determinants of success at all levels.

Foot Fetish of a Freakin' Mouse

- Heston D'souza
SE Electrical

Fetish (n): Anything to which foolishly excessive attention is given.

'Now in what context does this combine with a mouse; worse, who cares about his sexual preferences?', you may think. Pervert, not everything that is used in connection to sexuality started out that way. Coming back to the topic, there was this stupid rodent running around our apartment and our neighbour's about three weeks back. It's fine if food was on his mind, we'd allow him to visit once or twice provided he'd never come back. But his weird tendencies made us take drastic steps towards eradicating him from the face of the earth.

It would be better if you have a little background information on this issue. You see, mice/rats and my family don't have the most amicable of relationships. We kill them, they hate us [till they die, that is]. Dad and Mom have been brought up in settings that train you to hit the mouse on the head in a reaction time of point seven three of a second. It's tough not to hate such a caring and hospitable family. After the first nocturnal visit itself, the mouse finds a

delicious piece of Mortein Rat Kill at every window. I told it contains ground cereal, some healthy stuff and the not-so-good-for-health rat poison. At least we became more compassionate of late. A couple of years saw the mouse trap being used for any and every occasion. Well, that's a separate story by itself.

The Rat Trap Hall of Fame includes personalities that are inducted if they can avoid personal injury [and, of course, death] but still get away with the booty. The list is pretty short - about three names. The all-time great was a big problem. Let's call him Melchior (I just like the name; not getting out personal frustration on any of my friends). It was the summer of '99 and our building was being painted on the outside. The bamboo scaffolding provided the rats with an excellent venue for their Extreme Sports Olympics. Melchior by far seemed the bravest, strongest but also the smartest, unlike Moose from Archies comics. On his first visit, he came into the kitchen and gnawed at every damn thing that was solid and edible. The trap was set up the following night with a tempting piece of chicken etc. The old man of the house has a habit of making sure it's the last and best meal of the rat. This Melchior

There's a crack in everything. That's how the light gets in - Unknown

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ellow comes along, pushes the trap till it goes off, eats the chicken and leaves after gnawing at a few more things. Giving him the benefit of the doubt, the trap is set again; this time with a piece of fried fish topped with ghee. Same rat, same trick. This got more irritating than frustrating.

Innovative solutions come forth when confronted with innovative problems, I guess. Dad does a little analysis, scratches the head [you'll be surprised, it helps] and comes up with a winner. He sets the trap on the grills, next to the flower pots. That forces Melchyboy to sit on a support [trap] and resignaw the bait. It works. Apparently, Melchior's family members are stupid; we get rid of half of their Olympics' squad - eight rats in nine days.

Now the new guy [Let's call this dude Xerxes (pronounced Zerkis)...awesome name] walks into our house in blissful ignorance of its past history. He announces his arrival by nibbling at my Mom's finger at the unearthly hour of four in the morning. Mother dear gets up thinking it's a bad dream and so drops off to sleep again. That same morning I get up to a crazy barking session organised by the colony dogs - and a tickly sensation near my right toe. I move the bedsheet about, to make sure it wasn't a piece of fabric; but its shadow surprisingly moves in the opposite direction. And then I, through the cobwebs of sleep, realise it's Xerxes.

Sitting cutely next to my foot, Xerxes flashes me a smile and dashes for the window. I emit two sharp yelps, jump on the sofa and ensure safety. [Hey that takes courage too.] Dad, who was sleeping beside me, puts the light on and sweeps the room with a swift eye. All he gets to see is the tip of Xerxes' tail. Consider this: One - there's a rat in your house. Two - he has the audacity to nibble at your toes. Three - food doesn't seem to interest him [except bananas, I'll explain that later]. With all due respect to coincidence, the case is dismissed and Mortein Rat Kill is out at once. It is then we realise Xerxes has also taken off

some skin from my sister's toes. Now that, the thick skin one finds on the toes, is what he seems to be after. Frivolous foot fetish.

So we all cover our bodies from head to toe as a preventive measure and sleep as if we were enacting a morgue scene from a popular horror show. Halfway through the night, I begin to cook inside. Caring two hoots about a mad rat on the loose, I cleverly spread a bedsheet on the sofa and go to sleep. They say 'Once bitten twice shy' but oh the feeling of direct fan breeze! Just two hours of fitful sleep is all I get before I feel a familiar scratch on

the toe. Light from the tubelight reveals it's good ol' Xerxes perched on one cushion, waiting for me to return [with my irresistible toes]. Is he retarded, is he possessed? But like that matters when your sleep pattern is spoilt by night activity [try not to think out of context!!]. And then my toe begins to burn.

Close inspection reveals about one square centimetre of precious thick skin is missing.

Next day is a more serious Take Two of morgue scene and a new pack of Mortein Rat Kill. It's scary when a rat goes for your toes but not the food. That reminds me; he always had a little fresh skin and then returned for fresh bananas - the only other thing he touched in our house. Maybe he was a health-conscious guy. The third night, he infiltrates 'fortress bedroom' again but Mom is fortunately a light sleeper and chases him out. That's the last we saw of him, reason being all the rat poison went missing that night. Out of curiosity, I check the back of the first rat poison pack and solve the mystery in two seconds - it said 'manufactured and packed in Ulhasnagar'. Man, that place doesn't spare anything.

Since then, everything's back to normal, the skin on our toes has grown back. Rats have ceased to worry us. And the dogs of our colony lived happily ever after.



Robocon - An Experience and a Half

- Sachin Navalkar
TE Mechanical

!A cubicle of six feet by six feet doubling up as living space.

Sharing it with twenty other guys.

Eating, drinking, bathing are luxuries, not part of the daily routine.

Temperatures varying from maddeningly sweaty to downright shivery.

Sleeping turn by turn for about two hours each night on the hard ground.

Travelling by tempo. (Note to tempo manufacturer: your suspensions are bad. Really bad).

Sounds grim? Hey, this was just a slice of the not-so-glamorous side of Robocon-07.

Robocon. If you haven't heard of it, you are either not interested in robotics, or you're a manic-depressive recluse (but I repeat myself). Robocon is THE ultimate destination for young robot-makers, a place where the robotics élite from 25 colleges of India congregate and battle it out for the chance to represent India in Robocon International.

To describe the entire task for which we had to make a robot would be fantastically stupid (and we don't want you falling asleep over Disha). Suffice it to say that we had to make upto four bots (1 manual and 3 autonomous), capable of picking up doughnut shaped cylinders and placing them on wooden poles.

Too simple? Try this: two teams, each vying for more poles. 20 poles, 10 of them accessible to the manual, the others restricted to the autonomous which could be guided by a whiteline grid. Or in other words, a 3-D robotic game of chess, with an infinite strategems at our disposal.

Our bots had the basic level I steering, pulley system for up-down, and pivot-mounted motors for clamping the doughnuts. Relays were used for motor driver circuits, with 8051 series micro controller control, and whiteline/proximity sensor feedback. The point where we did deviate from the ordinary was in the mechanism by which the manual bot cleared the wall that separated it from the pole. The flower wheel, as the robotic community now knows it, is a six-spoked wheel without rim and it can roll over the wall as if it does not exist in the first place.

Our negative strategy bot deserves special mention because the minute we

unveiled it, our competitors came up with their own versions (guess imitation is the best form of flattery after all). The blockbot is a simple shaft-encoder corrected bot which blocked the central pole and denied an outright victory to the opposing team.

So what happened in the competition? We failed to qualify after the league matches. (And climatic isn't it?). No matter how we sugar-coat it "We finished ninth" "We defeated the champions in one round", at the end of the day, we did not get the cash home, and, unlike some teams, we take full responsibility for our less-than-perfect performance.

But there's one thing we did bring home: Experience.

Experience, somebody said, is a really hard teacher. We give the test first and get the lesson later. And what a lesson! Personally, I learnt a lot more in the last three months than in the last three years of 'engineering'. The difference was that we didn't learn in the nice sequential Techmax manner that we have so long been used to. We had to make a lot of initial assumptions, eventually find them to be ridiculous (primarily because of our relative newbiness) and go back and rework the whole thing.

We took a huge step forward from last year. Our bots were truly comparable with those of most of the semi-finalists, technologically and operationally. SP, in no uncertain terms, has definitely arrived. But there's no point in harping on the positives.

In hindsight, the structural part was unnecessarily delayed. The base of our bots was overdesigned, it was made of Mild Steel, and, trust me, would not have failed under tensile/ compressive bending / torsional/ elephant loading. The clamps were underdesigned, wobbled too much and could carry very few cylinders. Our up-down mechanism was too heavy, rough and depended on angle of inclination. We could have used telescopic draw channels to much greater effect. We were way past the weight limit. We burnt our fingers badly (literally) with the motor driving H-bridge circuits as the power transistors couldn't handle the switching rate. Our bots weren't getting connected to the computer, so we ended up using microcontrollers like a bunch of US drives. Our sensors were hyper-sensitive, they detected every colour/intensity discrepancy, so the

Flying is the art of learning how to throw yourself at the ground and miss
- Douglas Adams

some of us have spent half our natural lives calibrating and recalibrating those dagnab things. Our programs could have been more decentralised/modularised. And unless you see your wood screw fail in shear and have your controller reset itself a million times because you haven't shunted your motor with a capacitor, you don't truly appreciate the (mind-numbingly frustrating) difference between theory and practice.

Correcting these flaws would have got us in the semi-finals without doubt. But what makes a winner?

We learnt a lot from the successes/failures of our competitors as well. Nirma Institute, Ahmedabad, had a fantastic negative strategy bot. The "Nirma ka kutta" was a cycle-chain driven automatic that jumped into the manual zone (somewhat like our manual) and completely cut off access to the cylinder stack. Had it been somewhat more stable, that machine would have incapacitated every opponent and given Nirma ipso facto victories. Their power window motors made for very smooth and powerful up-down mechanisms. Their solderer was beyond brilliant, he could give PCB manufacturers a run for their money.

IIT Delhi had a bunch of imaginative bots, a vertical-conveyor overhead cylinder placer bot, an bicycle like negative strategy bot which extended itself, a fast-but-inaccurate four-bar double clamping manual and a very basic autonomous that worked on primitive diode transmitter-receivers. These guys also need a special mention for their resilience. After a crushing first-round defeat against us - none of their bots worked - these guys bounced back and went on to win the tournament. They were naïve, amateurish and amazingly tenacious. Do we proud at the internationals, guys.

Electronically, IIT B had absolutely no rivals. With Pulse Width Modulation, their bots had the smoothest jerk-free ride and PID control made for pinpoint position control. Their bots ignored white lines entirely, rather, their entire policy was based on distance sensors (5 m range), digital gyroscopes for angular velocity feedback and RGB sensors. Of course, the ARM processor that they had used made their bots four times faster than ours. The nonconformist electronic control coupled with the most watertight algorithms ensured that this tea wiped the floor with all the teams that dared play against them. What was even more important was their

mindset. IIT B wasn't competing against the other teams, their fight involved transcending perfection. The thing that made these teams different from other teams was difference. (No, I am not drunk/high on dope, but thank you for asking). These chaps were not afraid to be 'different'. They knew that their bots could fall apart, that they could make total fools of themselves by walking the path less trodden. A true Robocon champion requires this chutzpah to come up with totally capricious ideas, the obstinacy to stick to them irrespective of opposition and the dedication and perseverance to convert 'wishful' to 'feasible'. What say, team, let's make a harmonic drive carbon-fibre infinite-degree electro pneumatic aerial biped with tandem IP and ultrasonics fuelled AI! *ducks as team throws rotten tomatoes at me* (ouch! ok which wise guy threw Greyhound at me?)



kiloMurt us). TE Tronix: Haren, Harsh, Manthan 'Driver', Shilpa Tambe, Prateek, Viral, Suchit, Harish 'H-Bridge', Chinmay. Also, the I-get-it girl who was always there for us. Mechanical - Erle, Pradyumna (blocker boys), Abhishek, Advait. SPIT - Darshan, Prateek "Yashoda Maiyya", Prashant, Amit. Thanks a lot, Fahad, for teaching us the meaning of the word 'innovation', and to you, Prashant, for redefining 'hands-on'.

In closing, what would you say was my favourite experience in the past three months?

Was it

- Trouncing Bhopal and Jaipur and nearly giving IIT-D a major heart attack when we played against them?
- Hearing the incredibly satisfying way in which the audience gasped when our flower wheels first showed what they're capable of? (Manthan, you were a brilliant driver.)
- Listening to the melodious Holi-themed remixes of popular songs at three o'clock in

...with a robot would get elected president. That way, when he came to town, we could all take a shot at him and not feel too bad - Jack Handy

the freezing night at the octroi naka?!!"

No. It was, funnily enough, the day our first automatic (which since became the back-up bot) actually took its first few steps. Let's see if I can describe my feelings by cut-copy-pasting those of real writers:

Longfellow

*She starts, she moves, she seems to feel
The thrill of life along her keel...*

and in close juxtaposition, Ruskin Bond (The Cherry Tree):

....is this what it feels like to be God?

MAN V/S MACHINE

If you think that man will someday *in the future* be under the dominion of machines, you might want to read this.



The Zeroth Law of Robotics - A robot may not injure humanity, or, through inaction, allow humanity to come to harm.

Mself, Madhavi Gokhale

- Mrs. Madhavi Gokhale

Hello. Myself, Madhavi Gokhale. I teaching Communication Skills to first and third year students. Don't shock at my English. Beginning, beginning, my English is fairly good. Because of literature background, no, that's why. But years of years of CS paper correction damage my language. I forget write words, write grammar, write spelling. Even my writing get spoilt. Then one day, I am waiting near lift to come. I read notice for Disha, our college magazine. I fill very sad. My influence, no, that's why all this things happen. Even my students not writing properly. So I think hardy. I am reach last and final decision. I take a brake, all at home and learn English properly. I write the letter in the given below way:

Subject: Regarding brake

Dear Madam:

I, the undersigned, has teached Communication Skills in your collage for past so many years. I am greatful to you for giving me job-but now I take brake for personal reasons. I will pleased to allow you to leave me as soon as possible.

Yours respectively
Madhavi Gokhale

AFTER THE BREAK (2017)

The little break that I intended to take extended to a decade. The management was kind enough to take me back as a lecturer again. But how things have changed! Our institute has become a sterling example of how technology can be used to enhance teaching-learning methodology and efficiency. The old electronic fingerprinting has been replaced by a smart screen that has a little aperture. You peer into it and it recognizes your iris. (If you have conjunctivitis, you can use glares and peer into it, all the same.) There is a wondrous addition to this device- only those lecturers who are wearing their electronic identification tag round their necks are rewarded with an electronically recorded voice that says, "Good!" And woe betide those who are not. The gadget immediately sets up a wall that resembles the heartrending cries of a bereaved woman.

The lift is a revelation of sorts, too. It is equipped with an eye that watches you as you travel in it. If an errant

hand moves to the Non-stop button, there is a mechanical arm that suddenly emerges from the control panel and gives it a smart rap on the knuckles.

Students carry identification rings round their fingers. These comprise a sensitive tracking device that enables me to know where the student is within a range of half a kminside the building. These are all connected through wi-fi to a huge sheet made of light sensitive polymer that has little optical cables embedded in it. There is a separate sheet for every class. If a student is sitting in the canteen instead of attending a lecture, the little light with the student's number glows red and the word 'canteen' shows itself up below the light. The office bearers of the Students' council have special identification tags that are bigger and brighter than the rest. Harry Potter's mischief map is now delightful reality.

As the university has now signed a memorandum of understanding with foreign universities, my colleagues are required to conduct seminars abroad. But with the rapid development in holographic transmission in the last three years, they merely transmit their virtual images to foreign lands and take lectures! They can also create 3-D images inside the classroom to explain models. I can transmit my image anywhere within the perimeter of this building by using my Teletransmitter.

The humble chalk and duster have given way to electronic silicon writing rods that store what the lecturer writes on the board. Back in his/her cabin, my colleague can review what he reproduced on the board by simply inserting the silicon rod in a replay device. The duster serves as a receptacle of images and diagrams. The lecturers of engineering drawing are thrilled at the way in which they can reproduce complex isometric views by *simply rubbing the board in the reverse order*.

But some things are still the same. There is load-shedding today. The lift is stuck somewhere. As I walk up the stairs, I catch sight of something pasted on the wall. It is a notice inviting articles inviting articles for Disha. And this time fortunately the English is excellent.

Showing on my fine command of the English language, I said nothing
Robert Benchley

Roobaroo With Reality

- Viraj Khamkar
TE Electrical

One of the things about the Hindi film industry that amazes me is the sheer number of films it churns out regularly. At the end of the year, you invariably find a familiar movie among the nominees at one of the award functions, & often think, 'Wasn't that film released last year? Why is it nominated this year?' Movies are easily forgotten simply because there so many of them (No, I don't want to comment on the quality factor). However, *Rang De Basanti* (RDB) is a movie that has been in the limelight for a long time. Sent as India's entry for the Oscars in 2006, it is the same movie that gave the country a new method of protesting: candlelight processions. Now, it has been more than a year since its release, yet it continues to find its way into the print & electronic media. Needless to say, it has been one of the most talked about films in recent times.

So what is it about this film that people still like to talk about it? Different people may have liked different aspects of the film: music, cast, storyline & so on. Personally, I liked the fact that it was not just another Hindi film—hardly any over-dramatisation (barring a few scenes), no unnecessary *rona-dhona* (No offence meant, Mr. Karan Johar) & no desperate attempts to keep the hero alive at the end. It attempts to reflect youth culture in urban India, & I'd daresay it succeeds to quite an extent.

It beautifully depicts so many traits normally seen in the behaviour of a bunch of youngsters: all those pranks, the leg-pulling, the liberal use of slang, the distinctive tone & way of speaking with each other are just too familiar to go unnoticed. Even when the boys adopt extreme measures such as murder towards the end of the film, it fits in so easily with the usual traits of impulsive thinking & lack of conventional maturity which are usually attributed to youngsters. All in all, the film has a very realistic feel to it, which is a welcome change from the usual stuff Bollywood has on offer.

But RDB has also drawn a lot of criticism, most notably the accusation that it 'advocates violence'. Yes, some scenes in the movie do show the use of physical force, & the ones which instantly come to mind are those depicting the murders (OK, 'assassinations', if you like) of the minister & the industrialist. Even so, it is initially surprising to hear that the movie 'advocates violence'. At no point throughout the film does any character (let alone any of the protagonists) try to justify the murders. In fact, one of the

murderers goes on live radio saying 'they're sorry' for the act. It is actually laughable that this movie is said to 'advocate violence'. No one objects the killing & bloodshed shown in films based upon riots, partition or the life-stories of gangsters. After all, they're 'stories that need to be told'. In fact, all this criticism actually exhibits the double standards we apply subconsciously. In the same film, the same murderers in question are also portrayed as famous Indian revolutionaries who killed a British police officer. Has anyone ever questioned the justifiability of that murder? Wasn't the officer just doing his duty for his country for which he was murdered (whether he was morally correct or not is another matter)? Or are we being racist here?

I am not trying to justify murder, nor am I trying to question the integrity of the revolutionaries concerned. It is just that I find it hard to understand why violence in this particular film draws so much criticism when all of us know that there are lots of movies out there which show (& advocate) much more use of physical force. The only explanation I can think of is that the movie is too realistic for its own good. The characters have such a boy-next-door feel about them that it is horrible to accept that they could go out & shoot a minister as easily as if they were having a stroll in the park. I would like to add, however, that I am not trying to say that the film doesn't have any flaws. A number of minor errors could be pointed out. We could even do without excessive dramatization, especially in the parts where the youngsters are compared to the freedom fighters. But then again, if there is no over-dramatisation, how would it look like a commercial Bollywood film?

To me, RDB is a film of the times. This may sound clichéd, but the film just reflects how we are today; how thinking about the country isn't practical anymore. I do not think RDB was aimed at inspiring people, bringing about a revolution or actually 'awakening a generation'. It would be childish to think that a mere film could do that, especially in a country like India, where half of the villages don't know what the cities are doing. The aim of the film was to provide a reflection of today's urban youth (and, obviously, to make money). If the response of the people & the media was anything to go by, I'd say it has succeeded on both counts.

Lose Control ?!

- Elizabeth Alankara
SE Electronics

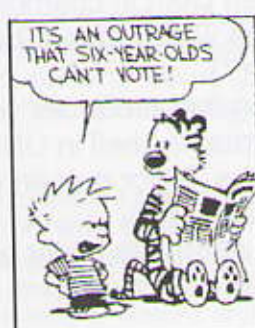
'RANG DE BASANTI'-The much hyped (read: over-hyped), the much debated movie of the year has definitely left its indelible mark on masses aplenty. But this fundoo film (that's how most of my friends still prefer to describe the movie) somehow remained disengaging at a personal and emotional level to me and probably a lot more like-minded people.

The story of a bunch of young happy-go-lucky fun lovers finding a cause worth fighting for definitely calls for meaty entertainment....no doubt!!! But the violence that they resort to (to the extent of killing a minister and an industrialist) in order to teach the authorities concerned a lesson was extremely disturbing and depressing. The death of a dear friend-a pilot with the Indian Air Force, did imbibe a sense of

that they had pursued.

The parallels drawn in the movie between the freedom fight and the current days' fight were also disturbing (though very well filmed). Today's youth definitely need to draw inspiration from the spirit portrayed by Bhagat Singh and his peers but definitely not their deeds. The actions that were celebrated almost a century ago, would be terribly out of context today. The bottomline is that- The fight against CORRUPTION, CANNOT be fought on the same lines as the fight against IMPERIALISM'. This fight calls for different tactics, a different approach, a different frame of mind.

Taking a courageous political stand and



patriotism in this bunch of friends. But the plan of action that they adopt to demonstrate this patriotism seemed rather irrational and irresponsible. The retaliation that they sought was a bloody one.

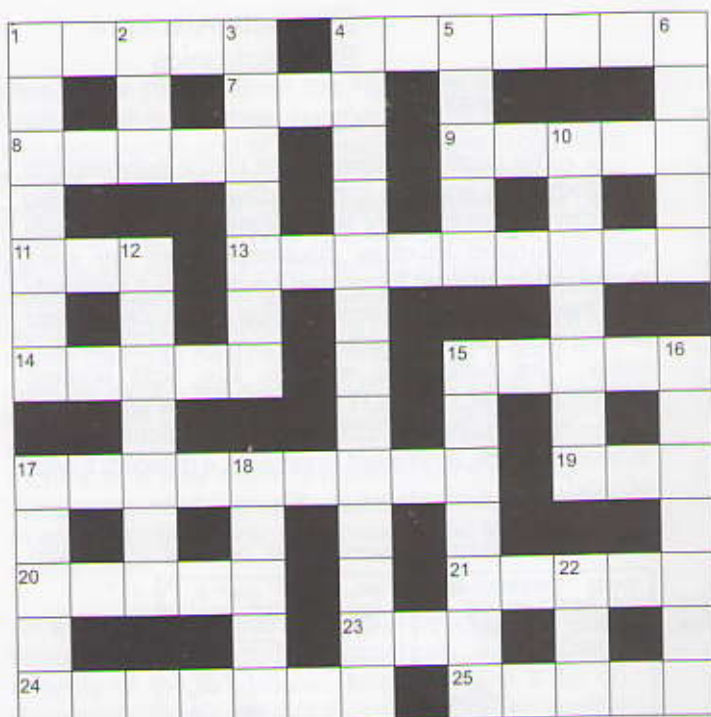
It is said that movies now-a-days reflect the way India thinks or rather, the way the film makers would like to see India think. And if the trend is anything to go by, then RDB was no exception to this rule. The danger is that the viewers' must not embrace the movies shortcomings in the name of righteousness. 'Demonizing' the system and developing an attitude of vengeance which strips us of our rational power are not the ways that the country's future must resort to, in order to resolve conflicts with the system.

In this context, the AIIMS episode (against the reservation system) needs a special mention. It was heart warming to see some of the brightest minds of our country, inspired by the RDB spirit to fight for their cause unitedly. But at the same time it was heart breaking to see the loss of lives of innocent patients unable to receive immediate medical attention and also those of a student or two due to the hunger strike

demonstrating the will and inclination to make difficult choices seems to be a more logical and rational approach in the fight against corruption. We will definitely be commended for it. But RDB needs to be applauded for the fact that it is a celebration of the spirit and the strength of the young generation-the shining stars of the future. The only issue is that this strength and spirit needs to be guided along the right direction. I would finally like to conclude this debate, with a line by DJ (Aamir Khan) from the same movie:

"There are only two ways to lead your life- one, let things happen in their own way and tolerate it and second, take responsibility to change it".

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

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D**Across**

- 1 What a toppled crate will furnish... (5)
 4 Mrs. Tear needs a limb support in cars (3, 4)
 7 Initially all roads curve... (3)
 8 In his kingdom you lose nothing from morale (5)
 9 What seems like turbulent sea fare is indeed a travesty! (5)
 11 Direct a desire? (3)
 13 Can Al have a reprieve from his icy misfortune? (9)
 14 Eleven Romans in a confused set of people who endure (5)
 15 A tailless squid takes in a bee on being unable to perform magic in Harry's world (5)
 17 The consequence you face post algebra lessons?? (9)
 19 Adam's partner in the evening? (3)
 20 Any small number can irritate! (5)
 21 The Spanish in the midst of a thousand at ease in a skirmish (5)
 23 Before it used to sound like air (3)
 24 Bargains in spite of a leg gash (7)
 25 Would you believe, Ripley loses one during an answer? (5)

Down

- 1 Protein building molecule trapped in cage causes annihilation (7)
 2 Sounds like a single lettered beverage (3)
 3 An insect goes behind an incline without restraint (7)
 4 Contacts with only those having an Aquinas accent? (13)
 5 Underworld in cinema fiasco! (5)
 6 A helmet loses what is left, giving us a dominant idea (5)
 10 About convoluted clues that make one a hermit (7)
 12 Dampen cloth in chamois tent! (7)
 15 Rhymes with dreamer but not with contriver! (7)
 16 Building that produces wry beer (7)
 17 Embarrass a shell in UNIX! (5)
 18 Headless Taylor met an end befitting a king (5)
 22 Friend returns to cover a circuit once (3)

For answers, refer to page 12

Source: This crossword was created by Pranam Shetty

My Experiences Away From Home

- Keya Pandia
Stanford University

It was barely two years ago that I was running frantically all over the SPCE campus getting journals corrected and assignments turned in for submission a few days before prep-leave and then I would start looking around for the right books and notes to study for the exams hardly a couple of weeks away! I would have frittered away the whole semester, and this last burst would seem like too much of a burden - I have so wanted to quit Engineering during those stressful phases.

And here I am today - daily submissions, regular lab work, coming home late in the night, cooking, doing my own vessels and laundry, planning my grocery shopping and participating in a whole bunch of extra-curricular campus and off-campus activities, planning birthday surprises for friends, potluck dinners, social gatherings and totally enjoying hostel and social life. Why does it all suddenly seem so simple? More importantly, why don't I feel the fatigue and strain any longer?

When I do stop to think, I realize that a lot of things have changed from what they used to be at home in Mumbai. My support system has changed, my priorities have changed; I find myself a lot more responsible, self-reliant, mature and stable and my time-management skills have improved several fold!

So then what is primarily the difference between living at home and coming miles away from home to study? I identified some of these external factors that could possibly have catalyzed this change.

1. The Culture and Society:

While the "western" liberal culture has its negatives (which I am not addressing here because a lot has already been said and written about them!), there are also some positive facets that one cannot and should not ignore. The first one being that there is this all-pervasive don't care attitude that is prevalent all over the place. People mind their own business and don't stop to evaluate you or don't care about what others might think of them. There is, as a result, a lot more freedom in terms of having the license to go slightly wrong and not having to worry about the consequences. Oh wait - by going slightly wrong I certainly don't mean committing legal violations! That is something so strikingly different (in a bad way) from what it used to be in India. You absolutely cannot expect to break the law and bribe the cop and get away

with it - that, unfortunately, simply doesn't work!

The other nice thing here is that the campus is safe! You can walk home alone at 3 AM from your lab (provided you live on campus - which I do) and not worry about anything going wrong! Imagine a girl doing that on the streets of Bombay (my curfew hours used to start at 10 PM at home! :-)

2. The Educational system:

No class ranks!! Wow! That was what made me the happiest! I was already quite tired of having to live up to my own expectations and those of everyone around - this came like such a pleasant change! You get letter grades here and then they are mapped back into a GPA (Grade Point Average) and as long as you are from a school and department of reasonable repute, no one will really ask you why you got a few points higher/lower than a certain other someone! BLISS!! :-)

The other nice thing is there's tons of very very interesting research that goes on at good schools. You are always welcome to take up research projects to learn/experiment and gain very very pertinent and useful skills out of them.

Also, there isn't a rigid course structure - at least for the most part! I took some English Literature Reading Courses where I studied a few Shakespeare plays and then an Accounting course which will also count towards my Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering! That's how flexible the system is and this is how much breadth is respected here.

3. Campus Life:

This is the best part of living away from home. You build a whole new circle of friends who become family to you when your parents and siblings aren't around and when you need a support system. I am thoroughly enjoying my social life here - movies, parties, road-trips, sight-seeing, dinners, group study sessions, impromptu I-am-getting-tired-of-studying-let's-walk-to-a-coffee-place sessions! It's a totally different and enjoyable kind of life!

That said, I really miss my family! But then I have learnt to appreciate my close family members for their place in my life so much more after I have had to live without them here. I now know that food doesn't get cooked magically, dishes don't wash themselves, all those wonderfully and immaculately cleaned and ironed clothes don't appear out of nowhere. There is someone who has to put in hours of tedious, dull work to get house-hold chores accomplished! I really appreciate now what my parents have

It was barely two years ago that I was running frantically all over the SPCE campus getting journals corrected and assignments turned in for submission a few days before prep-leave and then I would start looking around for the right books and notes to study from for the exams hardly a couple of weeks away! I would have frittered away the whole semester, and this last burst would seem like too much of a burden - I have so wanted to quit Engineering during those stressful phases.

And here I am today - daily submissions, regular lab work, coming home late in the night, cooking, doing my own vessels and laundry, planning my grocery shopping and participating in a whole bunch of extra-curricular campus and off-campus activities, planning birthday surprises for friends, potluck dinners, social gatherings and totally enjoying hostel and social life. Why does it all suddenly seem so simple? More importantly, why don't I feel the fatigue and strain any

longer?

When I do stop to think, I realize that a lot of things have changed from what they used to be at home in Mumbai. My support system has changed, my priorities have changed; I find myself a lot more responsible, self-reliant, mature and stable and my time-management skills have improved several fold!

So then what is primarily the difference between living at home and coming miles away from home to study? I identified some of these external factors that could possibly have catalyzed this change.

1. The Culture and Society:

While the "western" liberal culture has its negatives (which I am not addressing here because a lot has already been said and written about them!), there are also some positive facets that one cannot and should

Keya Pandia is an SPCE alumnus. She was the Mumbai University topper and is currently completing her postgraduate degree in electrical engineering at Stanford University.

The Bird and the Beasts

- Aditya Mandrekar

So I was sitting in the food court waiting for my lunch to arrive. Or to be precise, waiting for my food to be placed on a counter three hundred miles from the only seat that I could get, which means that I have to hurdle over other diners to get it. But I digress. And I like it.

So I'm sitting there and doing just what every single, young male who is sitting alone in a food court surrounded by at least fifty young, smartly dressed women (there might have been men too, but I wasn't noticing them till they stepped on my foot) would do. I was playing Snake on my phone.

Of course not, you twit.

So I'm.... uh... looking around, and I decide to conduct a swift, completely scientific survey.

I decided to see how many women had ring around *that* finger.

And now, I'm depressed.

Just where the hell have all the single women of the world gone? I mean there seemed to be quite a few of these when I was in college. Sure, I was in an engineering college, but with a 30% reservation for girls in engineering, the scene was getting to be a much better with every new batch!

Now suddenly, when one has started work life everyone around you is 'engaged' or 'committed' (horrors of horrors) has already decided a wedding date. It is like on their farewell day in college garlands start forming around the finger, and by the time the first month of work-life is over, these marks have grown into a gold ring studded with diamonds in their

And then you weep into your paneer kulcha (come with salad, raita and chhole) because you missed the bus somewhere down the line. You spent more time trying to get an edukayshun than trying to pataao the cute girl who always smiled at you from a distance. You didn't even know her name till you worked up the

Once upon a time, people were loved and things were used but today things are loved and people are used - Anonymous

courage to ask some guy who travels in the same local with you once in a while who *that* was - pointing a finger in her general direction.

"Who? Her? She's Jane" (name obviously changed to pretend that this incident happened. maybe it did. I'm not telling) and you quickly stammer: "No, not her, that guy next to her. I think he was in my school."

And you find that useless fellow's name too, which you conveniently forget so that you don't have to call him John in this blog post. And you consider yourself smart because you tricked some unknown nobody into telling you her name.

Loser.

And now, you're munching through your (soggy) kulchas trying to figure out where you went wrong.

It is the fear that now grips you into contemplative lunch meals, let me tell you. Because you have only so few years of freedom left before your parents (well, not mine, bless 'em) start needling you about 'settling down'. And you're tempted to come up with a song like Karmacy (Blood Brothers) to tell them that you aren't really keen on making a bio-data. Minus the 'gujju' rap lyrics.

Till then, you're stuck in no-man's land. I wish that pun was intended, but it wasn't. It should be called land-where-no-man-wants-to-be. Its nice to be single and be able to ogle from the Globus corner on a Sunday morning (after the mass at St. Stephen's is over) and not feel the least guilty about it (cue hue-and-cry from the feminist brigade on objectification of women). But it

doesn't do much for the self esteem that most of these specimens are clinging so tightly off the arm of a well-muscled dude er.. dude, that you would have to peel them off with a blowtorch.

Kulcha is over. The plate is empty. You could philosophize about an analogy between the plate and your life but instead you are busy holding back a burp that would like to acquaint itself with the ears of those sitting around the table. You look around and see a couple of girls sitting alone and wistfully imagine yourself having the guts to sit across them and introduce yourself. Of course you won't.

But what to do, what to....

.....hey, that girl there smiled at me! Hmmm, now only if I could see her hands...

Aditya Mandrekar is an SPCE alumnus. He passed out in 2004 and is currently working as a Research Assistant in the Aerospace Department at IIT Bombay.

Did You Know?

'Disha' was initially not called 'Disha'. At the time of it's inception our college magazine was named 'Sukarma'. No one is quite sure when or why the name was changed from 'Sukarma' to 'Disha'.

Now you know.

Life is like a hot bath. It feels good while you're in it but the longer you stay the more wrinkled you get - Anonymous

An Interview With Dr. Prachi Gharpure

INTERVIEW

Dr. Prachi Gharpure is currently the **Head of Computers Department** in Sardar Patel Institute of Technology. Until recently she was part of the Electrical engineering Department and she is also the **IEEE Branch Counselor**.

Excerpts from the interview

- Q. How has the transition been from the Electrical to Computer department?
- A. There are some minor cultural differences in the working environment even though we are next door. I have had to adjust, but I suppose I am managing (smiles).
- Q. Would you mention some fond memories from your IEEE experience?
- A. Oh yes, lots of them. Till last year, the Nirmaan core committee and all those working actively for the event were virtually living in the IC lab. That was a nice environment for me to interact with them because at that time I did not interact with them as a professor. I was just a branch counselor and they were ready to shoot all the requirements at me, expecting them to be fulfilled immediately. That's an interesting aspect of students which I don't get to see in the class. Also, the trips were very good. We have had three trips so far and the number of students has been increasing exponentially. I must say that I never felt that it is risky to trust students for these kinds of excursions.
- Q. Generally the approach of the professors is quite conventional as far as students are concerned, but you are more liberal in giving responsibility to students.
- A. Yes, I do believe in giving responsibility to students, but I do know that what generally goes haywire in student activities is the planning. Students waste away 90% of their time, and then they realize that there is too much work left. At such times, I feel that I need to be slightly more assertive. By and large, though, I don't think I'll ever want to change my way of working. Freedom needs to be given to students; only then will they be at their creative best.
- Q. B. E. projects are an important part of the curriculum. What do you think is the current attitude of students and how you think it needs to change?
- A. The B.E. project should be looked upon as an activity which the students perform almost entirely by themselves. Here, I won't blame the students to a large extent for their current attitude since they all have jobs and all they want to do is get a first class and pass out. They are actually going wrong in their belief that there is nothing left for them to learn. However seemingly trivial a project you take up, there is always scope for learning. My experience is that, when students go to companies for their projects, neither do they get enough time nor do they have people to guide them. They also don't have enough freedom for any kind of research or too many books at their disposal. What the students can do is get a live problem from the industry and then work on it in the institution.
- Q. What were your college days like?
- A. Ours was the first batch of the college wherein we were 14 girls. So, being from the first batch, we were treated like special students and we enjoyed that. As far as interaction is concerned, we had much more interaction with other students as well as with teachers. Maybe that's the feature of Mumbai that we stay so far from each other. We used to stay in college till very late and the situation was such that we had to be driven out (laughs). I had added advantage that I was in the Electronics branch and strength of that class was only 22. So, every teacher knew the entire batch of a particular branch by their first names. That was slightly scary, because we could not bunk classes as we were easily spotted. But, it was fun.
- Q. If not teaching, which profession would you have chosen?
- A. Surely marketing. The reason why I did not appear for campus interviews is that I got married in my final year. My husband was abroad so it was decided that I would be joining him as soon as I finished and was a free person. However, I think I had an aptitude for marketing.
- Q. How much is the 'Industry' part important in an "Industrial visit" (IV)?
- A. Hardly 10 %, but even then this 10% is extremely valuable. The interaction with your peer group is a fun part. You are awake the entire night in the train, or singing in the bus or just playing cards. These are the moments that you are going to remember after you pass out from college.

There are three things to remember when teaching: know your stuff; know your students; and then stuff them elegantly – Lola May

Favourites:

- Books: Mrityunjay
- Films: Sholay
- Tele-serial: Baa, Bahoo aur Baby
- Gadgets and gizmos: None. (On probing further) If I were to name one indispensable gadget then it would be the mixer.
- Music: The peppy music of R.D. Burman and Madan Mohan's deep music.
- Holiday destination: In India, its Ganpatipule.



Q. What are your views about the various student organizations we have? Also, what do you feel about the different departmental festivals in our college?

A. I suppose student bodies are needed, but every student body must concentrate on activities related to its own branch. For other activities, you have events like SPACE & Technobreak. To tell you the truth, I don't like departmental fests. I do feel that branch wise individual activities are necessary, but they should not take place in the present separated manner that we have. It should not be the case that a particular branch has its own activities, so the classes for that branch get suspended for the day, the activity takes place and is attended by the students of that branch while all other students are busy attending lectures. So, I insist that such activities should take place in a planned manner, according to a timetable. Maybe we can have a system wherein all the departmental fests are done one after the other in the space of a week and thus, all the tech fests of that particular year are done with.

Q. What do you think are the demands and expectations that the corporate world places on the students as on today? How do you think students should cope with them?

A. This question can be answered in two parts. As for the IT companies, they themselves do not know what kind of projects they will be handling a year hence. What they want is someone who has good comprehension skills and sound fundamentals, so he/she can understand any problem and write the code required in the technology that they tell him/her to write it in. Also, since the Indian IT industry is mostly into service, they harp on good communication skills, so that the employee is able to communicate effectively with any client, Indian or Non-Indian, irrespective of the cultural, linguistic and other differences. But if you want to join a core IT company and do developmental work, you must get your core subjects in order. But if you are going to work in a financial IT firm where your peers are likely to be people with B.Com./B.Sc., you can afford to concentrate on your communication skills. As far as the non-IT industry is concerned, their demands are different. A few years ago, Siemens gave us a feedback saying that they wanted students who had their basic concepts clear. They actually wanted someone having a good knowledge of his first and second year subjects; who could draw the equivalent circuit for any device shown. They did not lay any special emphasis on Software or Communication skills. But times have changed, and if some student thinks that he should concentrate only on whatever he is going to do later in life, that student cannot be held at fault.

Freudian Snip

- Life : Contented
- Passion : Making people happy
- Technology : Need
- Singing : Hobby
- IV : Fun
- Term Work : Strictly Necessary
- Electrical vs. Computers : Both
- SPACE or Nirmaan : Nirmaan

Principles that you always follow...

I'll list two:

1. If I've accepted to do a particular thing, I must give my 100% to it.
2. I dislike it if anyone around me is not comfortable with me. So, my first attempt is always to make people around myself comfortable with me.

Rain

- Divyanshu Bhadoria
SE Electrical

Rain,
fell on the face of a boy,
Brought along a smile, an unknown joy.

Mother says,
"Wait, stop, you will fall ill!"
Strong in her words, weak in her will.

She thinks,
So long as its mild, and he is in my sight,
My child is so happy, I know he will be all right.

Friends,
Fill up the puddle, with white paper boats,
Some big, some small, some sink, some float.

Home,
He walks back drenched, the smile has now faded,
His hands tremble slight, (she snaps) if only he had waited.

A drop,
Runs down his face, not one of the rain,
She takes him in her arms, it eases out the pain.

And as the child sleeps,
She thinks,
My child don't you cry,
My child don't you think,
In my arms you'll find hope,
Everytime the boats sink.

But,
Someday you'll be big,
Someday you'll be gone,
To wipe off the tear,
could mother live so long.

The drizzle, the shower,
Then thunder, then storm.

Raindrops,
Small, quick, many and fast,
Together wrought havoc, though not long did one last,
They clattered the windows and splattered the pots,
Just like the mother, was stormed by her thoughts.

The joys of parents are secret, and so are their griefs and fears; they cannot
one and they won't utter the other - Francis Bacon

Division Bell

- Ashish Kher
TE Mechanical

*I was sitting on the fifth bench of the second row and one of my friends was seated two places away from me.
Halfway through the lecture, I received a message from my friend saying that he was feeling bored.*

And that got me thinking.

We're bored.

But there are others listening with rapt attention
Waiting to bury their heads in the ground
Maybe they're the ones who'll eventually come around
And the musings of a bored mind will be all that's left behind

But that ain't no reason to submit your mind
To the mediocrity that makes them blind
For now and perhaps a lot more time
I'll go on with this disturbingly absurd and time consuming rhyme

We don't like, we dislike and yet we're here
Wouldn't you call it an unflattering commentary on the way we are?
Perhaps when we're all dead we'll decide not to turn up
Perhaps by then, they'll have every human no different from a subservient pup

And if you think today was just unnecessary excess put across as wisdom sublime
Accompanied by the incoherent rambling of an unfocussed mind
Wait till tomorrow, when the most evident lack of sunshine
Won't let you comprehend the culmination of this perhaps despairing rhyme

Seems like we've got to decide

Whether we wish to take refuge in our self subterfuge
Whether we wish to first complain and then deride
And speak ill of those who don't know any better
Than being taken for the ride

OR

We won't mind being perceived as strange
Because we're looking for change
And then we must pass without comment
When looked upon with xenophobic disgust

But do you realize it won't be easy navigating across this unmarked divide
And did you ever stop to think there might be no one over on the other side?

Just about then, to signal the end of the session, the (division) bell rang.

Mélange

- Anisha Bhatia
BE IT

A stirring at the bottom, pretend I, its passion;
I hear my feathers ruffle, hairs stand on end;
Then penne, I do,
My feelings few,
No rule did I ever bend;

I deny myself my tears and fears,
It's a privilege I refuse to afford;
The pallor of strength,
Though the devil tempts,
Is salvation, the true cure;

Its mundane they say, just jump the fray;
I stage the fight, I see no plight;
An epic saga, a tale to tell;
There's pain, there's clear refrain, I know;
For toil, I will, till the end of hell;
No matter, the sweat, or the blood of my brow;

Running amok, wreaking havoc,
Insurgent they are,
Guerillas in par,
Helter skelter, I scurry for shelter;
There's always a flurry, lest I falter;
But once I stand tall, I'll claim there won't be a fall;
Then cower they must, and end their brawl;

Now this prose is not sucrose, as it may seem;
A mélange of thoughts, overflowing the brim,
It is a beam balance, for it teeters without a stop,
A crass cacophony, a mere prop;
You maraud for the meaning, it's out there somewhere;
It might strike you like lightning, so kindly beware;

Sometimes I think, I have a labyrinth for a brain with twists and turns galore,
Some other times, it's just a straight plain road, for there's not even a tree to explore;
So I'll let prudence prevail, like the world regales;
For if I sputter, you might spew;
And here I'll end my dreary train, for the sake of me as well as my crew !!!!

How beautiful it is to do nothing, and then rest afterwar - Spanish Proverb

My First Goal

- Rohit Ajitkumar
SE Electrical

I was young,
And I was eight.
Never to score a goal,
Would seem to be my fate.

In the starting eleven,
Defence was my game.
Opponents surging forward,
I had learned to tame.

The finals of the tourney,
Nerves were getting frayed.
'Twas the toughest game,
We had ever played.

The score was nil-nil,
The game was such a bore.
The last one-minute,
I could take it no more.

I ran to the midfield,
And snatched away the ball.
Dribbling past a player,
I ignored my forwards' call.

Twist, skip and turn,
I was in dribbling heaven.
A casual dodge was all it took,
To weave past the defender seven.

No player could touch me,
I was going to end this story.
One on one with the keeper,
And I took a shot at glory.

Half the people in the stands,
Hated me it would seem.
Cause the very first goal I scored,
I scored against my own team!!!

Life?

- Swati Bhadada
BE Electronics

Drowned in a sea of questions perennially
answers to which we never have,
Where are we heading,
Do we need to take a pause
And look back!

A hundred jobs at hand
A thousand aspirations of the mind
A million expectations to live up to
Are we ready to bear the grind?

To showcase excellence at a wide spectrum
Is the order of the day
We need to conquer the entire array!
But in the end,
How much can a single soul withstand?

Is it necessary to live life to a template,
To achieve this all?
Or can we be anomalous,
To the way things ought to be
And not make a thud with every footfall!

We witness a sweet demise,
Of even momentary bliss
In the race
To reach the chequered flag
And not go amiss!

In the process, have we bid adieu to 'life'
No, I'd say!
Survival par excellence is the reason to be.
Vision, Labour and Optimism
Is all that you need
To sow a bright seed!

India's cup of woe?

After years and years of mediocrity we still had the audacity to believe that we could bring the cup home and that this time was going to be our time. Just about then the world cup started and the rest followed.....

What changes would you like to see being made so as to help turn things around???

Retain Rahul Dravid as captain for a year....nurture Yuvraj Singh in the mean time for that role, continue with Greg Chappel for another year, phase out the seniors(read Tendulkar, Ganguly, Sehwag, Dravid) not as a knee jerk reaction but according to a well planned timeline so that it doesn't hurt the team further. Prepare them mentally for the changes. Performance based pay, compulsory county cricket for all national squad players, and faster synthetic pitches. A foreign bowling coach and fielding coach on the permanent roll of the bcci, separate admin and selection/game part of the BCCI. Use scientific methods, study other teams and players to know where to bowl to them and how to face them, prepare team and player profiles. And lastly, build a strong bench strength, so that quick and equally good replacements are available, this will also help sustain the competition.... so now that i'm done revamping Indian cricket, let's hear what u guys have to say.....

Ayush Ahuja
BE Computers

I've begun to do background research to understand how on earth did we win the Cup in 1983!! Brilliant playing, of course, at just the right time. My solution to the current situation - take all the money, pump it into hockey, chess, badminton, swimming and so on; throw out aristocrats and bring forth a new generation of athletes. Obviously, the solution has nothing to do with cricket. What were you expecting?

Heston D'souza
SE Electrical

I feel that players must be in the team, not on the basis of their status or what they've done in the past, but on current form. Also, when the team performs badly, the coach or captain alone are not responsible for it, so no point in just sacking them alone. Players should be paid, according to their performances, not seniority. Finally, the administration should itself be given to former players or contracted managers, who know well about the game and its development, instead of politicians.

Rahul Kulkarni
SE Electrical

Stopping the cricketers from doing ads or appointing a foreign coach is going to do no good to the team...Our cricketers have been doing ads since long but now I guess they are doing only ads and nothing else. On a serious note unless and until the players are not focused nothing can happen. When a country chooses eleven players out of a populace of billions, the eleven players selected should show some kind of responsibility, they need to care for people's expectations...blaming the coach or any one particular team member would not help in any way because cricket is a team game so it would be better if every player understands his responsibility, stands up to the situation and delivers!!! We, sitting in front of our PCs can go on giving advice to people out there. But playing there in the middle, with thousands of people around you, some booing and the others screaming, is a different ball game all together!!! So lets give our heroes another chance to come up...which is what they need the most today!!!

Sneha Hegde
SE Electronics

Do we need so many 24 hr. news channels???

The less said the better about the content that is being shown on the so called enlightening news channels today. If we reason out, what is the actual root of such a thing happening- the sheer number of news channels that exist that each craves to show something different, something more sensational than the other or the fact that they have to keep rolling different news for the entire 24 hours of the day that they run short of quality news or the trend that has picked up of making news rather than news making??

All the news - national, international and everything in between - can be easily fitted into a one hour programme or 30 pages of a newspaper. Provided they leave out useless news like celebrities' dogs killing stray cats. About the number of channels, it's just an advertiser's world. Whoever gets the news first takes the prize. We certainly don't need so many channels, least of all, news channels showing the same thing over and over again. 24 hour channels do make sense actually [notice the sarcasm please]. If they are occupying a particular bandwidth, why not use it at all times? After all, advertisements will always follow; and so will the revenue. Nobody is saving money if they are reduced to eighteen hours a day. Finally, sensationalism, exaggeration and melodrama are in our blood. Why not express it in news form too?

Heston D'souza
SE Electrical

News channels are necessary (if you are calling it a news channel, that means its 24 hrs...it's your choice whether you want to watch it or not). The number of news channels we have today is because every news channel has its own news (some are more interested on the glamour side, while the others stick to the same old routine thefts and murders or maybe something else)... Considering the fact that ,today, its not easy to define "news"..(I mean...what's news for me might not be news for you!!) these channels are justified...It might just give you new levels of optimism, when you switch on to another news channel, that you may not end up seeing someone pointing out the reasons why India lost the world cup or someone covering the marriage in the tinsel town ,worse, speculating on it...but something more worthwhile!!

Siddhartha Chandra
TE IT

It's a consumer's world today. Why should the news world be isolated in this regard! I would really appreciate the variety that channels like CNN-IBN, CNBC-TV 18, NDTV Profit and NDTV 24/7 offer. Other than daily news these channels do telecast offbeat shows like -The Car and Bike Show, Gadget Guru, Just Books etc. etc. What we should be opposed to is the tabloid journalism that comes as an add-on! So, 24 hr. news channels, appreciated; so many channels, competition only improves things for a consumer; what needs to be monitored is the content that is aired!

Swati Bhadada
BE Electronics

ARE YOU A TRUE ENGINEER?

- 1] The professor gives you an assignment which is to be submitted one month later. You-
 - a. Rush to the library, sit in your regular chair and don't stop writing until you are done, even ignoring the fact that the lights have been switched off and you are the only one in college
 - b. Wait until someone else does the assignment, take his or her copy get a Xerox done, and then wait until the night before to actually write the assignment.
 - c. Realize (1 month – 1 second) later that an assignment needs to be submitted, so you give the Prof the most preposterous excuse ever accompanied by a most uninterested expression.
- 2] After half a day of mentally draining lectures, you learn that lectures for the remaining day have been cancelled-
 - a. You pack your bags and head home....Come on....term tests are in a weeks time!!!!
 - b. You head to the canteen, your 2nd home with your gang and end up hanging out there for the remaining day.
 - c. Your friend informs you and then you choose to come to college
- 3] I took admission in engineering because-
 - a. I wanted to contribute to the process of our nation building and make this world a better place to live in and by the way, my mumma also said so
 - b. To keep my options open
 - c. All my friends were doing the same thing
- 4] For your inter collegiate festival-
 - a. You start collecting all the reference books, write-ups and assignments you can find. After all you only have a three day break ahead.
 - b. You have been so busy your parents have hardly seen you for weeks.
 - c. You're in and out before you can say 'festival'. And anyway, you've got other plans with friends.

5] There is a seminar to be held on embedded systems-

- a. I have attended this seminar twice already!!! Anyway a good revision again.
- b. Hey.....phir se attendance milega kya?!!
- c. We've got a seminar hall? Ok, woh AC wala room?

6] You know that the results have been displayed-

- a. You note down yours as well your nearest rival's marks and note the increasing gap with satisfaction.
- b. You make sure that the 4 letter dreaded word beginning with 'F' is not there.
- c. What's the big deal!!!!

7] On your last day in SPCE you feel-

- a. Sad ...
- b. Sad ...
- c. Sad ...

Time to evaluate yourself:

Mostly A's:

Perhaps in contemporary terms, this isn't the most polite thing to say but then again, we could come up with no word better than geek to say well, geek. What we're basically trying to say in somewhat subtle terms is that you're a geek. By the way, put away that book you're holding in your 'non-Disha' hand.

You need to put some l-i-f-e in your life. Maybe you've got to stop calling authors of reference books your friends. Find some mostly B's or mostly C's fellows to befriend you and within a month you'll see the difference though we admit, the librarian might feel a wee bit lonelier.

Mostly B's:

Years and years of efforts by your engineering predecessors have led to the evolution of the engineer over the course of time and it has finally evolved into you – the TRUE engineer. It sure isn't easy being you but you've struck the perfect balance between all the assignments, journals, fests, getting screwed and all the other timepass you might indulge in and which we might be too lazy to mention. And if you're feeling all good about yourself after reading what we've said about you, you're just getting TRUER all the time.

Mostly C's:

We're kind of undecided about what to tell you about you which isn't very different from what you would be if you were asked to say something about yourself
Perhaps it might help if you knew where you were going.

SOURCE: This questionnaire was created by the editors and their whims and fancies

STARRY TALES

A quirky look at what the stars foretell and the future holds for you:

ARIES (March 21 - April 19):

Your cousin's maid's second sister's dog will bite you provided you kick it really hard twice before finally lying down right next to it. Actually, we predict just about any dog you can find will do the same.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):

It's going to be an eventful week to say the least. The thing you've been dreading will happen and is going to happen and soon. So we suggest you start dreading something very nice.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21):

Don't trust anybody today. Stay at home. Don't speak with your mother. Don't speak with your father. Don't speak with absolutely nobody around you for a day. We predict your mom and dad will be happier and the world will be a better place for at least a day.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22):

This week seems like a perfect week to disregard advice about your well being. We say if you get a strong urge to behave like a lion tailed macaque, go ahead, for the world is full of people like you.

LEO (July 23 - August 22):

Look at the sky. Now raise the little finger of your right hand until you're holding it well above your head. Now do the same with your left hand. After that, squiggle your little fingers together while bringing your hands closer to your head. Repeat this entire procedure over and over again until we ask you to stop. Stop. Are you still looking at the sky? No? Then repeat the entire thing again. If your answer is 'yes' then we predict that you'll have a pain in your neck (no kidding intended!)

VIRGO (August 23 - September 22):

Lets take a look at your immediate future. You'll be reading Disha, the amazing collection magazine and breathing at the same time. You'll still be reading Disha, the amazing collection magazine and breathing at the same time. You'll still be reading Disha, the amazing collection magazine and breathing at the same time. See, we're good at predicting stuff!

LIBRA(September 23 - October 22):

Money matters will take centrestage this week. Personal finances are what you need to be focusing on. We predict you'll probably make a lot of dough but a pity most of it'll be of the type you use in a bakery.

SCORPIO(October 23 - November 21):

Ever since your ruling planet Pluto stopped being called a planet you've been without a ruling planet! So we're just going to ignore you! Loser!

SAGGITARIUS(November 22 - December 21):

This week Mars is sure to have a negative influence on your life. But the fact that you can't understand a word of what's said in class has nothing to do with Mars, it's just you.

CAPRICORN(December 22 - January 19):

This week some stuff will sort of happen. Once you wake up in the morning you'll be forced to open your mouth provided you wish to brush your teeth. Later in the day, you'll (hold your breath) get a call from someone who knows your phone number.

AQUARIUS(January 20 - February 18):

Your social life is going to be very exciting this week. We predict you'll meet exactly 13.5 members of another sex. That can be $[13(1)+1(0.5)]$ or even $[27(0.5)]$ depending on the positions of the obliquity of the ecliptic. By the way, your lucky numbers are 27 and 0.5

PISCES(February 19 - March 20):

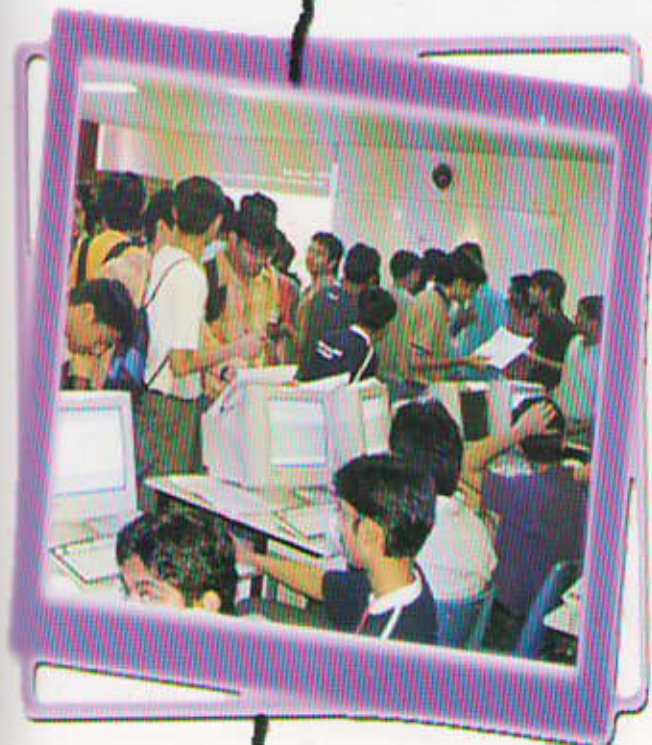
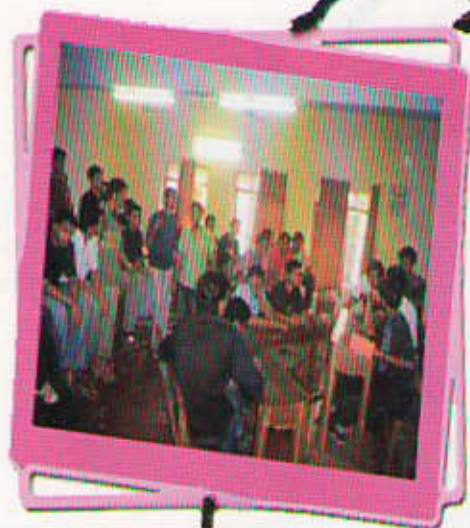
The peculiar alignment of the cadent houses and your ruling planet and the impending possibility of a quincunx or a quintile implies only one thing. That we're looking at a flawed, over simplified 2-Dimensional model of the solar system and it's time to get a new one.

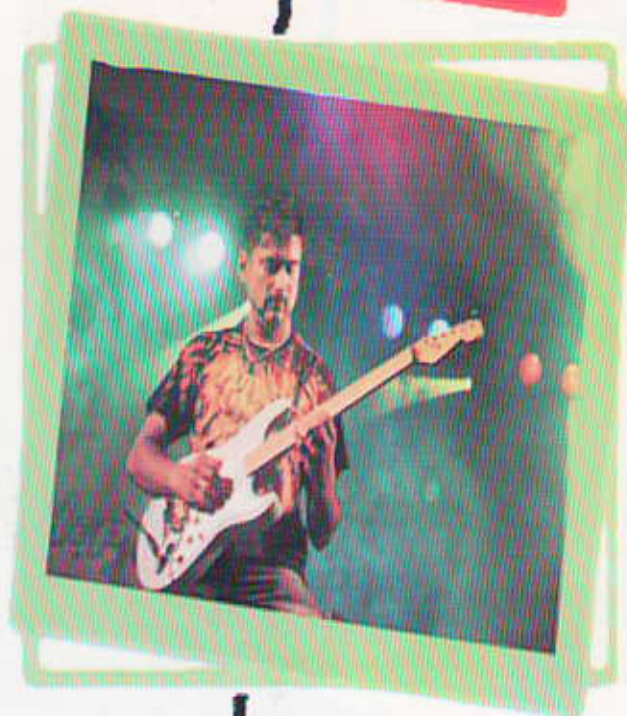
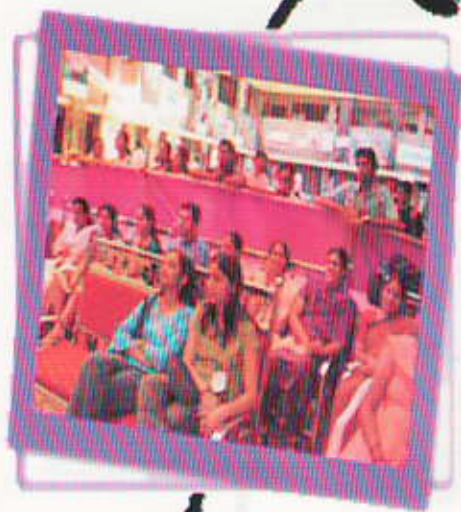
SOURCE: This horoscope was created by the editors and their whims and fancies.

The time is gone, the song is over,
Thought I'd something more to say

- Pink Floyd

SPACE & TECHNO





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SPACE
Core Committee



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B.E. Civil



B.E. IT



B.E. Mechanical



B.E. Computers -Technobreak '07 winners



B.E. Electrical



B.E. Electronics

कुछ करने की आकाँक्षा है,
कुछ पाने की अभिलाषा है ।
सारे स्वप्न सत्य होते हैं,
जीवन की यह परिभाषा है ।
मेरी आशा अगर कभी विश्वास हुई तो
हिमगिरी की पाषाणी छाती
से गंगा बनकर निकलेगी ।
मेरी कविता अगर कभी साकार हुई तो.....।

—कवी श्री विनोद तिवारी

हिंदी विभाग

संपादकीय

जीवन की पृष्ठभूमी पर कई रंग अपनी छटा बिखेरते हैं। कुछ रंग सदा के लिए रह जाते हैं और कुछ क्षणभर में ढल जाते हैं। परंतु अगर कुछ ऐसा है जो निःसंदेह हमारे जीवन पर सदा सदा के लिए अपनी छाप छोड़ जाता है तो वो है सराहना के दो शब्द। शब्दों की कोई सीमा नहीं होती ना ही भाषा को बांधा जा सकता है। और यही गुण शब्दों को, भावनाओं एवं विचारों की सर्वोत्तम अभिव्यक्ति बनाती है।

शब्द चिरायु होते हैं और वाणी अल्पायु वाणी स्मरणशक्ती के अधीन होती है। परंतु शब्दों की गूंज निरंतर प्रवाहित रहती है। शब्दों का तानाबाना बुनकर ही ज्ञान बनता है, और शब्दों से ही मूर्ख-ज्ञानी। ईश्वर की भक्ती में भी शब्द होते हैं, गुरु के गुरुत्व में भी। यहाँ तक कि निःशब्दता में भी ॐ शब्द का स्वर घुला होता है। यही बातें भाषा को उसका परिचय प्रदान करती हैं। भाषा से जीवन को वाणी मिलती है और जीवन से भाषा को उसका विस्तार।

इन्हीं मूल्यों को यथार्थ सिद्ध करने हेतु हिंदी भाषा के कुछ रोचक एवं अनुपम कृतियाँ आपके समक्ष इस पत्रिका के माध्यम से हम प्रस्तुत करते हैं। आशा करते हैं कि सराहना के दो शब्द आपसे हमें प्राप्त होंगे।

वैभव सोनी
संपादक

सुरूजित मेहता
संपादक

आराम करो

कवी श्री. गोपालप्रसाद व्यास

हिं
दी

एक मित्र मिले, बोले, लाला, तुम किस चक्की का खाते हो ?
इस डेढ़ छँटाक के राशन में भी तौंद बढ़ाए जाते हो ।
क्या रक्खा है माँस बढ़ाने में, मनहूस, अक्ल से काम करो ।
संक्रान्ति-काल की बेला है, मर मिटो, जगत में नाम करो ।
हम बोले, रहने दो लेक्चर, पुरूषों को मत बदनाम करो ।
इस दौड़-धूप में क्या रक्खा, आराम करो, आराम करो ।

आराम जिन्दगी की कुंजी, इससे न तपेदिक होती है ।
आराम सुधा की एक बूंद, तन का दुबलापन खोती है ।
आराम शब्द में राम छिपा जो भव-बंधन को खोता है ।
आराम शब्द का ज्ञाता तो विरला ही योगी होता है ।
इसलिए तुम्हें समझाता हूँ, मेरे अनुभव से काम करो ।
ये जीवन, यौवन क्षणभंगुर, आराम करो, आराम करो ।

यदि करना ही कुछ पड़ जाए तो अधिक न तुम उत्पात करो ।
अपने घर में बैठे-बैठे बस लंबी-लंबी बात करो ।
करने-धरने में क्या रक्खा जो रक्खा बात बनाने में ।
जो ओठ हिलाने में रस है, वह कभी न हाथ हिलाने में ।
तुम मुझसे पूछो बतलाऊँ.. है मजा मूर्ख कहलाने में ।
जीवन - जागृति में क्या रक्खा जो रक्खा है सो जाने में ।

मैं यही सोचकर पास अक्ल के, काम ही जाया करता हूँ ।
जो बुद्धिमान जन होते हैं, उनसे कतराया करता हूँ ।
दीए जलने के पहले ही घर में आ जाया करता हूँ ।
जो मिलता है, खा लेता हूँ, चुपके सो जाया करता हूँ ।
मेरी गीता में लिखा हुआ -- सच्चे योगी जो होते हैं,
वे कम-से-कम बारह घंटे तो बेफिक्री से सोते हैं ।

अदवायन रिवची खाट में जो पडते ही आनंद आता है ।
 वह सात स्वर्ग, अपवर्ग, मोक्ष से भी ऊँचा उठ जाता है ।
 जब सुख की नींद कड़ा तकिया, इस सर के नीचे आता है,
 तो सच कहता हूँ इस सर में, इंजन जैसा लग जाता है ।
 मैं मेल ट्रेन हो जाता हूँ, बुद्धि भी फक-फक करती है ।
 भावों का रश हो जाता है, कविता सब उमड़ी पडती है ।

मैं औरों की तो नहीं, बात पहले अपनी ही लेता हूँ ।
 मैं पड़ा खाट पर बूटों को ऊँटों की उपमा देता हूँ ।
 मैं खटरागी हूँ मुझको तो खटिया में गीत फूटते हैं ।
 छत की कडियाँ गिनते-गिनते छंदों के बंध टूटते हैं ।
 मैं इसीलिए तो कहता हूँ मेरे अनुभव से काम करो ।
 यह खाट बिछा लो आँगन में, लेटो, बैठो, आराम करो ।



आस्था की यात्रा

सुहजित मेहता
चतुर्थ वर्ष - विद्युत कण

हिं
दी

आर्यवर्त की इस पुण्यभूमी पर जन्म लेना ही मानो एक सौभाग्य है। जन्म के साथ ही एक ऐसी धरोहर को सौंप दी जाती है, जिसका निष्ठा से निर्वाह करने में हम आनंद एवं गर्व की अनुभूति करते हैं। वह निधी, धरोहर, है श्रद्धा, भक्ती और आस्था उस सर्व शक्तिमान के लिए, अपने आराध्य, अपने इष्ट के लिए।

भारत ही एक मात्र ऐसा देश है जहाँ ईश्वर की भक्ती को मानव का प्रथम धर्म माना गया है। इसीलिए यह अचरज की बात नहीं कि जहाँ ३३,००,००,००० हिंदु देवी देवताओं को श्रद्धा से पूजा जाता है, वही पाँचों के नमाज भी पूरे पाक ईमान से पढ़े जाते हैं। भारत की इस पुण्यभूमी को प्रणाम।

ईश्वर ने एक ही धर्म बनाया प्रेम का, भक्ती का, जिन्होंने इस धर्म का पालन किया, वे साधू-संत कहलाए। ईश्वर को प्राप्त करना, उनमें विलीन हो जाना, यही उनका एक मात्र ध्येय था। ईश्वर की कृपा पाना, उनके आगत बन जाना जब जीवन का एक मात्र उद्देश्य बन जाता है, तो सहज ही मोक्ष प्राप्ति के द्वार खुल जाते हैं। ईश्वर से निकटता का आभास केवल एक क्षणभर का नहीं, बल्कि जीवन-आयु की परिसीमा के परे जानेवाली वो चेतना है जिसका पान केवल भक्ती के रसिक ही कर पाते हैं।

और इस रसपान का आनंद ही अनूठा है अद्वितीय है। ईश्वर का स्मरण करते ही हृदय एवं मन के परवरेरू पड़ते हैं एक अद्भुत यात्रा पर; चढ़ने लगते हैं उन देवालयों की सीढ़ियों जो एक पत्थर की मूरत मात्र में हमें हमारे परमेश्वर के दर्शन कराती हैं। चाहे वह समुद्रतट पर स्थित रामेश्वरम हो, या भूगर्भ में बसी माता वैष्णो देवी का धाम / चाहे वो श्रवणबेलगोला में बसे भगवान बुद्ध की महिमा हो या अष्टविनायक महागणपति के देवस्थान। मन को, चित्त को मंगलमय बनाने के लिए इनका विचार मात्र ही पर्याप्त है।

द्वारका धाम की सीढ़ियों चढ़ते समय ऐसा अनुभव होता है कि मानो साक्षात् श्री कृष्ण हमारी अंगुलीयों थामे हमें अपनी ओर खींच रहे हो। उनके दर्शन प्राप्त करते ही, मानो जीवन की अन्य कोई इच्छा, अन्य कोई लालसा शेष बचती ही नहीं। मन करता है उनके श्याम वर्ण स्वरूप को हृदय से लगाकर उनके चरणों में सदा सदा रहने की स्वीकृति प्राप्त कर लें।

बद्रीनाथ यात्रा का अनुभव मन को चिर-शांति का आभास कराता है। मृत्यु भी तब तनिक भयभीत नहीं करती। मंदिर परिसर उस लीलाधर वासुदेव के नाम से यूँ गूँज पड़ता है, जैसे स्वयं मुनिवर नारद निरंतर नारायण नारायण का जाप कर रहे हों।

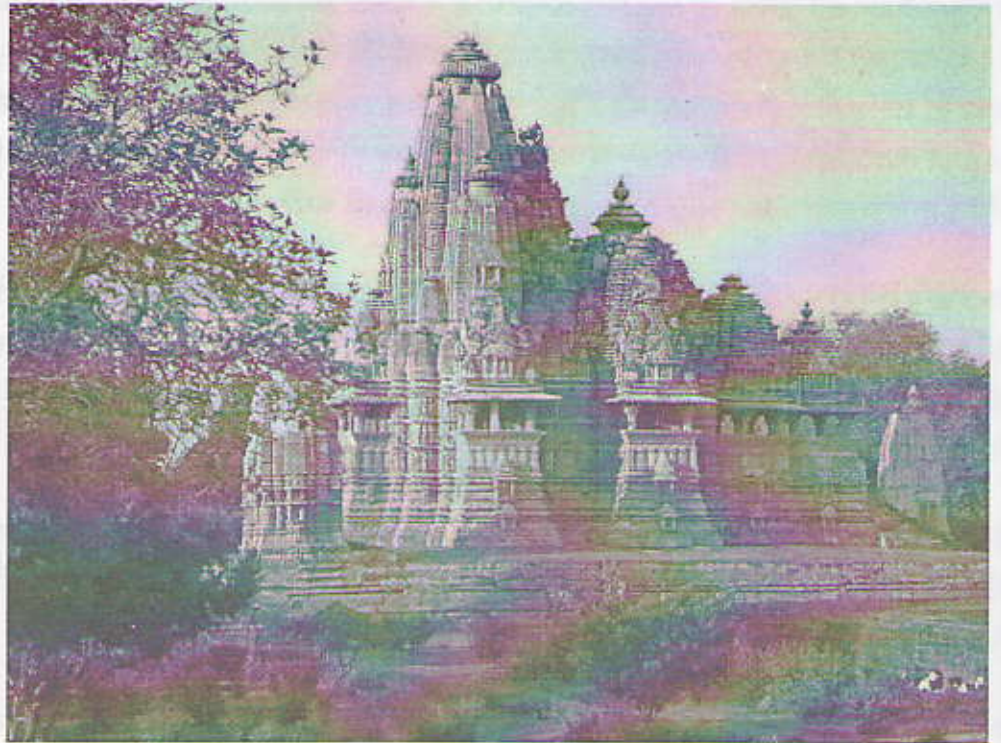
शबरीमला के पर्वत श्रृंखलाओं के बीच भगवान सुब्रमण्यम की असीम कृपा पा लेते ही घर लौटने का दिल ही नहीं करता। मन, अतः करण गद्गद हो उठते हैं। जीवन हर्षमय हो उठता है।

परमात्मा पर दृढ़ विश्वास निर्भयता को जन्म देती है

एक बात निश्चित है, ईश्वर चाहे जिस रूप में, जहाँ भी रहे, हाथ स्वयं ही नमन में जुड़ जाते हैं, स्वयं ही आदर से झुक जाता है। जो नास्तिक है, संभवतः उन्होंने कभी ईश्वर की कृपा का मजा चखा ही नहीं। कभी भगवान के प्रेम के वशीभूत हुए ही नहीं। और कुछ भक्त प्रेम में पड़ते ही क्या, डूब जाते हैं।

भारत में तीर्थों की कोई कमी नहीं, ना कमी है श्रद्धालुओं की। और ना कमी है ईश्वर में आस्था विश्वास की। जीवन के अगणित क्षणों में से कुछ पल उस नीली छत्रीवाले को समर्पित करें। भवती रस का जल लें। अपने विश्वास को कभी डगमगाने ना दें और भरोसा रखे, के ईश्वर के घर कभी अंधेर नहीं होता। देखे कि आपका जीवन किस तरह सरल तथा कष्टरहित हो जाता है। उठाएँ अपनी भवती की पोटी निकल पड़े एक ऐसी आस्था की यात्रा पर जो आपके जीवन को सार्थक बनाए सिद्ध बनाए

॥ सीतापते रामा, राधापते कृष्ण
श्री रूकमिणी, सत्यभामा पते
वाणीपते ब्रम्ह, गौरी पते शंभु
लक्ष्मीपते श्री मन नारायणा ॥



हू हा इंडीया, आया इंडीया !

रोहन रांभीया

तृतीय वर्ष - सूचना तंत्र

हिं
दी

विश्व कप 09 में जाने से पूर्व, यही शब्द ये हमारे शेरों की चेतावनी विश्व के अन्य क्रिकेट दलों के लिए
में विश्वास लेकर पूर्ण भारत वर्ष की उम्मीदें बढ़ाकर चली थी टीम इंडीया वेस्ट इंडीज के लिए ।

पहले दो अभ्यास खेलों में नौसीखिया हॉलैंड और घरेलू टीम वेस्ट इंडीज को पराजित करके, भारत ने कप
अपनी दावेदारी की घोषणा कर दी । शुरूवात एकदम सही लग रही थी । संपूर्ण भारत को विश्वास था कि
यह दल अपनी कामयाबी का परचम लहराएगा ।

फिर शुरू हुआ विश्व कप-चार वर्षों बाद आया क्रिकेट का महा-संग्राम अपने नौवें वर्ष में । जोश से भरी
इंडीया और सब भारतवासी सोच रहे थे कि सेमी-फाइनल में मुकाबला किससे होगा ? फाइनल में पहुँचेगी या
- और अगर पहुँचेगी तो विश्व विजयी ऑस्ट्रेलिया को धूल चटा पाएगी कि नहीं ?

क्यों नहीं ? विश्व कप तो हमारा ही है । वाह री भारत की जनता । जब कोई चीज दीवानगी बन जाती
तो अकसर ही विश्वास अंधविश्वास में परिवर्तित हो जाता है । नतीजा ? पहलेही चरण में दौड़ से बाहर हो गई
इंडीय टीम ।

भारतीय टीम हारी - लाखों का सपना टूटा, सैकड़ों का दिल । करोड़ों की उम्मीदों पर पानी फिर गया ।
फिर दौर आया अनोखी आलोचना का, निंदा का, दोषारोपण का । हर किसीने एक दूसरेपर उँगली उठाई,
जिम्मेदारी से पल्ला झाड़ा । हर पूर्व क्रिकेटर की अपनी नई पैरवी - और कुछ अनमोल राय । कुछ ने इस
को शर्मनाक बताया, कुछ ने कहा टीम प्रशिक्षक बदला जाए और कुछ ने तो पूरी टीम को बदलने की बात
झाड़ी ।

आम जनता का प्रेम अचानक क्रोध, रोष बन गया । उन्होंने अपना गुस्सा कुछ अलग तरह से व्यक्त
किया । पुतले जलाए पथराव किया, खिलाड़ियों का मूँह काला किया । शायद भारतीय खिलाड़ियों को हतिक
उन के साथ विश्व कप का फाइनल उनके अपने होम थिएटर में देखने का अवसर मिला होगा । खिलाड़ियों के
बाजे उनके जीते-जी निकाले गए । शर्मनाक, लज्जनीय ।

परंतु विचार करें । क्या यह जायज है न्यायसंगत है ? लोगों में क्रोध होना - समझ आता है, परंतु व्यक्त
करने का तरीका - एकदम गलत । दुःख हमें भी हुआ है - खिलाड़ियों को भी । उम्मीद हमारी पस्त हुई है ।
की भी । हमारा भरोसा टूटा - उनका आत्मविश्वास ।

इस हार को स्वीकार करना आवश्यक है । मुश्किल है - पर जरूरी । क्रिकेट एक खेल है और खेल
खेदना को हमें जीवित रखना चाहिए । हमें फिर दोहराना चाहिए

हू हा इंडीया, आया इंडीया ।

तनहाई का संगीत

सिद्धार्थ च

तृतीय वर्ष - सूचना

संगीत में तनहाई होती होगी, पर हर किसी की तनहाई में एक संगीत जरूर होता है।

अगली कुछ पंक्तियों में ना तो मैं आपको संगीत के विषय में खास ज्ञान बॉटने वाला हूँ और ना ही आप तनहाई पर रची हुई किसी कविता की समालोचना करूंगा बल्कि आपको मैं परिचित कराऊँगा एक ऐसे नि से जो शायद ही कभी टूटेगा।

संगीत और तनहाई के बीच एक अत्यंत गहरा रिश्ता है। हमेशा अकेलेपन में, बिन पूछे साथ देने आता है संगीत। कुछ सुरों का स्वरूप लेकर प्रकट होता है, और जिनका गला साथ नहीं वॉकमेन, डिस्कमैन जैसी तकनीकी यंत्रों के पर इसका मतलब यह संगीत तनहाईकी। कई बार भरी यकायक कुछ लोग सबसे अनभिज्ञ होकर थाम लेते हैं। बड़ा ही



लोगों के लिए गले के माध्यम कुछ के देता यह रेडि अथवा आई जरिये उभरत नही कि खोज में फिल महफिल संगीत के प्रम तनहाई का अद्भुत साध

इनका। जो लोग गाने सुनने में ज्यादा रूची नहीं रखते हैं वो मुझे गलत ना समझे। हर व्यक्ति के लिये संगीत की परिभाषा अलग होती है। किसी शायर के लिए शायरी लेखक के लिए लेख और कवि के लिए कविताओं महत्व संगीत रूपी होता है। हर किसान के लिए बरिश की पहली बूँद का गिरना, किसी प्रेमी के लिए प्रेमिका द्वारा कहे गये वो मीठे बोल संगीत रूपी होता है। यहाँ तक की आज कल रॉक कल्चर में हैड बैंड (सर पटकना) से भी संगीत का आभास होता है। संगीत का महत्व जानना हो तो पुछिये उस मुसाफिर से जो कदम पर एक नया गीत जुबान पर लिये अकेला गुनगुनाता चला जाता है। संगीत का मूल्य आंका नहीं सकता है शायद संगीत ही वो धर्म है जिसकी कोई भाषा नहीं, जिसके बिना हर इंसान का अस्तित्व पूरा नहीं

तनहाई के आलम के विषय में सिर्फ इतना ही कह सकता हूँ कि हर कोई अपनी जिंदगी में, हर इसको जीता है। लोग अनजान हैं सही, पर इसी तनहाई में पूरा होने का अहसास पाते हैं। देन इतनी समानता है शायद इसी कारण एक दूसरे के प्रति खिंचे चले आते हैं।

मनोविकारों पर विजय प्राप्त करना ही आत्मा की सच्ची स्वतंत्रता है।

जैसा संग वैसा रंग

श्रीमती प्रतिभा कनोजिया
ग्रंथालय प्रबंधिका

हिं
दी

सत्संग के गुणों को दर्शाती हुई कई लोक कहानीयाँ हमारे देश में प्रचलित हैं। उन्हीं में से एक कथा के रूप में अपना संदेश सभी पाठकों तक पहुँचाने का मन रखती हूँ।

एक बाजार में एक तोता बेचनेवाला आया। उसके पास केवल दो ही परिंदे थे जो दो पिजडों में बंद थे। राज की बात यह थी कि एक का मूल्य था पाँच सौ रूपए और दूसरे का केवल पाँच आने। ऐसे अजीब की चर्चा वहाँ के राजा तक पहुँची। वे स्वयं बाजार आए और तोते वाले की पुकार सुनकर राजा ने उस से पूछा

इन दोनों मुल्यों में इतना अंतर क्यों है ?

परंतु तोते वाले ने कारण ना बताकर कहा कि इसका कारण तोते खरीदकर कोई अपने आप ही समझ लेगा।

राजा ने कौतुहल वश दोनों तोते खरीद लिए। पहली रात जैसे ही वे सोने लगे तो उन्होंने महंगे तोते का अपने सिरहाने रखवा दिया। पश्चात वे सो गए।

प्रातः चार बजते ही, तोते ने अपनी सुवाणी से सुंदर भजन गाना प्रारंभ किया - राम राम सीता राम। सुंदर श्लोक पढ़े और दोहो का पाठ किया। मानो कई ग्रंथ - उपनिषद इस पक्षी को कंठस्थ थे। राजा हैरत में हुआ।

दूसरे दिन सोने से पहले राजा ने पाँच आने का तोता सिरहाने रखवाया। जैसे ही भोर के अंकुर फूटे, इस ने गंदी गालियाँ बकनी आरंभ की। राजा को इस बात से अत्यंत ही क्रोध आया। उन्होंने तुरंत ही इस तोते को लुटुदंड देने का आदेश दिया।

पहला तोता पास ही था। उसने राजा से नम्रता से प्रार्थना की - राजन, इसे मत मारिए। यह मेरा भाई है। मैं पकड़े जाने के बाद मुझे एक संतमहापुरुष ने रख लिया जब कि यह मेरा भाई एक ग्लेच्छ के हाथ पड़ा। मेरे मालिक ने सुंदर भजन, श्लोक एवं दोहे सिखाए और इसने गाली सीख ली। दोष इसका नहीं है, यह मेरे संग का असर है। राजा ने बात समझी और दोनों तोतो को स्वच्छंदता प्रदान की।

यह एक कहानी हमारे जीवन में भी महत्व रखती है। बाल्यकाल एक ऐसा समय है जब हमारे बच्चों पर माता पिता तथा कुसंग का सबसे अधिक प्रभाव पड़ता है। कौन कैसा साथ रखता है, यह उसके भविष्य का मार्ग तय करता है। उन्नती एवं अवनती, सत्संग तथा कुसंग के सारथी होते हैं। चुनाव हर किसी का अपना होता है और इसमें अभिभावकों की जिम्मेदारी और बढ़ जाती है।

मनुष्य अगर बुराई और अच्छाई में फर्क करना सीख जाए तो ही वो सिद्धार्थ से बुद्ध बन सकता है, तभी वह ज्ञानी बन सकता है। जीवन का एक मात्र सत्य यही है कि सत्य की हमेशा विजय होती है। सत्संग रखे, ज्ञान का मार्ग चुने।

शब्दों से सिर्फ हड्डियाँ टूटती हैं। परंतु शब्दों से प्रायः संबंध टूट जाते हैं।

जान पहचान ?

वैभव सोनी

तृतीय वर्ष - यांत्रिकी

कई बार होता है कि हम किसी व्यक्ति को अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं। पर ज्यों ज्यों समय आगे बढ़ता है हमें अन्य लोगों के साथ रहने पर पता चलता है कि जैसे अभी तक हम कुछ भी जान नहीं पाए थे। जो जाना था वह तो कुछ भी नहीं था।

एक दूसरे को जानने की इच्छा क्यों होती है? इसका कोई जवाब नहीं। कहते हैं बस मन है। परंतु इतना तो है मनुष्य स्वयं अपने आप को ज्यादा महत्व न देकर आसपास व विरुद्ध व्यक्ति को जानकारी का विषय बनाता है। किसी भी मनुष्य की जानकारी को आवश्यकता अनुसार ही जानो तथा उसके साथ अनुभव ज्यादा करो। कम ज्यादा जानकारी से जीवन अगर मस्त चल पड़ा है तो क्या फर्क पड़ने वाला है? दूसरा व्यक्ति गहराई से जानने का नहीं, अनुभव का विषय है। अगर स्त्री-पुरुष का सामाजिक-व्यापारिक कार्य संतुलित है, जीवन हर पल आनंदमय बीत रहा हो, तो फिर इसमें ज्यादा जानकारी की कहाँ आवश्यकता है। परंतु जिस प्रकार सुखी मनुष्य के लिए वस्तु संग्रह करना बुरी आदत है उस प्रकार एक सफल-सुखी परिवार-समाज के लिए भी व्यक्ति विशेष की सम्पूर्ण जानकारी का संग्रह, मूर्खता ही है।

चिंतक कहते हैं, मनुष्य को ज्यादा प्रश्न सूझते हैं, और वही जवाब सही न मिलने पर मतभेद का कारण बन जाते हैं। दूसरा मनुष्य जानकारी में उम्मीद से कम उतरने पर दुःख का अनायास ही उदय हो जाता है।

तीसरा, मानव को जानना अच्छी बात है पर अनुभव करना ज्यादा अच्छी बात है। मनुष्य का मनुष्य में तल्लीन हो जाने के लिए उसके बारे में कोई जानकारी की कहाँ कोई आवश्यकता रह जाती है।

प्रकृतिगत हर एक मनुष्य में अंतर होना स्वाभाविक है। अगर तुम अपना मेनु लेकर अगले की अच्छाइयों और बुराईयों को ठीक करने लगो तो दुःख ही हाथ लगना है जब हाथ से बनाए दो लड्डू व रोटी एक जैसी नहीं बन सकती तो कुदरत के इस उत्तम जीव मनुष्य में खोद-खोद कर जानकारी प्राप्त करना कहाँ की बुद्धिमानता कहा जा सकता है।

दुःख सुख हमारे हाथ में है, मतलब रेखाओं में नहीं, पर विचार, निर्णय, श्रद्धा व विश्वास से है। जब समस्या हल होने जैसी है तो फिर चिंता क्यों? और जब समस्या हल होने जैसी ही नहीं है तो फिर चिंता करने का क्या लाभ।

हम सब जगत को अपनी इच्छाओं व दिमाग में तैयार कल्पनाओं से ही देखते हैं और भ्रम में ही जीते रहते हैं। जिंदगी एक खेल के समान है जहाँ हार-जीत का समान महत्व है। पेड़ पर अगर फल मीठे व पके हैं तो मुष्यता तो यही कहती है कि खाने से मतलब रखो। पेड़ या शाखाएँ गिनने से नहीं।

किसीका इंतजार करना कठिन होता है। और किसीको भुला पाना और भी कठिन होता है। परंतु तब उत्पन्न होती है जब हमें ज्ञान ही नहीं होता कि इंतजार किया जाए या भुला दिया जाए।

जिंदगी ये किस मोड पे आई है ।

प्रणव महनकर
द्वितीय वर्ष - सूचना तंत्र

हिं
दी

जिंदगी ये किस मोड पे आई है
ना बाप, ना बहन, ना कोई भाई है
हर लड़की का है 'Boy Friend' हर लड़के ने 'Girl Friend' पटाई है
चंद दिनों के है रिश्ते, फिर नई रूसवाई है ।

घर जाना 'Home Sickness' कहलाता है
पर 'Girl Friend' से मिलने को 'Time' कैसे मिल जाता है
दो दिनों से नहीं पूछा माँ की तबीयत का हाल
'Girl Friend' से पल पल की खबर पाई है
जिंदगी ये किस मोड पे ओई है

कभी खुली हवा में घूमते थे
अब 'A. C.' की आदत लगाई है
धूप हमसे सहन नहीं होती
हर कोई देता यही दुहाई है
जिंदगी ये किस मोड पे आई है ।

मेहनत, काम हम करते नहीं
इसीलिए 'Gym' जाने की नौबत आई है,
'Mc Donald, Pizza Hut' जाने लगे
दाल रोटी तो मुश्किल से खाई है,
जिंदगी ये किस मोड पे आई है ।

'Work Relation' हमने बढ़ायें
पर दोस्तों की संख्या घटाई है,
'Professional' ने की है तरक्की,
'Social' ने मूँह की खाई है,
जिंदगी ये किस मोड पे आई है ।

अब बरदाश्त नहीं होता.....

जयेश आनंद फडते
तृतीय वर्ष - यांत्रिकी

ये भीड़ ये गंदगी और शोर जो कभी खत्म नहीं होता
बस कर ऐ इंसान, अब बरदाश्त नहीं होता ।

एक वक्त था जब यहाँ की नदीयों में पानी बहता था
समुंदरको किनारे भी होते थे
अब तो यहाँ बहारोंका समा भी नहीं होता ।

और कितनी ठूसोगे आवाम मुझमे ?
और कितनी बनाओगे मिनारें ?
जहाँ रहने को जगह न हो, वह गोदाम होता है, घर नहीं होता ।

हादसा-ए-वारदात तो हर रोज है यहाँ,
हररोज है निकलते जनाजे,
फिर भी किसीको मौत का डर नहीं होता ।

खून के कतरो का कोई मजहब कहाँ ?
मंदिरो - मस्जिदों की लड़ाई में फिर भी है बहते
अरे हैवान सोच में होता है, खून में नहीं होता ।

उम्मीद लगाए बैठा हूँ कबसे
के फिरसे लौटेगी हवामें खुशहाली
फिरसे चलेंगे अमन के कारवाँ
पर ये इन्तेजार है कि खत्म नहीं होता ।

रामचंद्र कह गए सीया से, ऐसा कलयुग आएगा - हंस
चुकेगा दाना और कौआ मोती खाएगा ।

चुनाव शुरू हो गया

प्रसाद राजू
द्वितीय वर्ष - यांत्रिकीय

हिं
दी

युद्ध बंद हो गया, चुनाव शुरू हो गया ।
देखो उम्मीदवारों का जमाव शुरू हो गया ।
देखो तादाद बढ़ गई है और लोग बिलबिला रहे ।
कोई दम दिखा रहे, और कोई दुम हिला रहे ।
इधर से उधर हो रहे, जुगनु सा झिलमिला रहे ।
कल के विरोधियों से आज, दिल से दिल मिला रहे ।
टिकट के भिखमँगों का,
जमाव शुरू हो गया ।

दल बदलू दल बदल कर, जो भी दल में जायेंगे ।
इनकी भलाई, उनकी बुराई खूब गायेंगे ।
भाषण की कला कौशल से जनता को रिझाएंगे ।
कुर्सी परस्त राष्ट्रवादी, खुद को ही बताएंगे ।
खुदगर्ज चुनावी भक्तों का,
जमाव शुरू हो गया ।

कोई कारगिल, को मुद्दा बना रहे, बनाएंगे ।
शहिदों की चिता में, कोई रोटीया पकाएंगे ।
सियासती बिसात पर प्यादों को भिड़ाएंगे ।
प्यार से, दुलार से, अधिकार से पटायेंगे ।
प्रचंड कर्मकांड का,
दिखावा शुरू हो गया ।

साम, दाम, दंड, भेद नीती और अनीतियाँ ।
घर घर अलख जगाकर बढ़ायेंगे ये प्रीतियाँ ।
वोट के भिखारी, पूजेंगे सभी मुर्तिया ।
चुनकर आने तक, तो दिखाएंगे बड़ी फुर्तिया ।
देखो लोगो चुनाव का तो,
छलाव शुरू हो गया ।

सफलता का मूलमंत्र

अमोल सुर्यान

तृतीय वर्ष - यांत्रिकीय

अकर्मण्यता दरिद्रता की सहेली है । अतः परिश्रम का संबल लेकर उससे बचना ही उचित है । यदि परिश्रम विवेक और व्यवस्था सहित उचित दिशा में संलग्नता के साथ कार्य किया जाए तो उसका परिणाम आश्चर्यजनक होता है । शरीरिक व मानसिक दोनों ही परिश्रम अपनी अपनी जगह महत्वपूर्ण हैं । दोनों के सहयोग एवं समन्वय से ही जीवन सुखमय एवं पूर्ण हो सकता है । परिश्रम की सफलता के साथ साथ आनंद की भी प्राप्ति होती है । जब कोई कार्य परिश्रम के पश्चात सफल होता है, तो हृदय उल्हास से पूर्ण हो जाता है । असफल होने पर भी साहस टूटता नहीं, क्योंकि इस बात का संतोष रहता है कि हमने अपना कर्तव्य निभा दिया । मानसिक शांति मिलने के साथ पुनः प्रयत्न करने की प्रेरणा प्राप्त होती है ।

श्रद्धा और प्रेम

अमोल

तृतीय वर्ष - यांत्रिकीय

प्रेम और श्रद्धा में अंतर है । प्रेम प्रिय के स्वाधीनता पे उतना निर्भर नहीं है । कभी कभी किसीका मात्र. जिसमे उसका भी हाथ नहीं. उसके प्रति उत्पन्न होने का कारण होता है । पर श्रद्धा ऐसी है । किसी की सुंदर आँख या नाक देखकर उत्पन्न श्रद्धा नहीं होगी, प्रीति उत्पन्न हो सकती है । के लिए आवश्यक है कि कोई मनुष्य किसी बात बड़ा होने के कारण हमारे सम्मान का प्रात्र हो ! श्रद्धा का व्यापार स्थल विस्तृत है और प्रेम का एकांत ! प्रेम में घनत्व अधिक है और श्रद्धा में विस्तार ! किसी मनुष्य से प्रेम रखनेवाले दो या तीन ही मिलेंगे पर श्रद्धा रखनेवाले सैंकड़ों, हजारों करोड़ों मिल सकते हैं ।

जानता नहीं हूँ

सिद्धार्थ चन्द्र
तृतीय वर्ष - सूचना तंत्र

हिं
दी

मैं जानता नहीं हूँ
अहसास की नब्ज पहचानता नहीं हूँ
तेरी हँसी में दर्द
तेरी खुशी में मर्म पाता हूँ मैं
क्यों पाता हूँ ?
जानता नहीं हूँ
शायद अपने ही भाव पहचानता नहीं हूँ ।

जिस रस्ते तेरे साथ चला
उस पथ से पग को मोड़ चला हूँ ।
क्षणभर तेरी खामोशी में
बरसों की पीड़ा खोल चुका हूँ
क्यों बोल उठ हूँ ?
जानता नहीं हूँ
शायद तेरी खासियत पहचानता नहीं हूँ ।

तनहाई की उंगली थाम उठा मैं
जीने के कष्ट को जान गया हूँ
इस धूप में आज झुलस रहा
परछाई से तेरी भाग रहा हूँ
क्यों भाग रहा हूँ ?
जानता नहीं हूँ
शायद रिश्तों के साये पहचानता नहीं हूँ ।

अपनी किस्मत पर हँसता हूँ
जो मुझपर ताना कसती है
आज सिंहासन पर बैठा हूँ पर
भीख को तेरी तरस रहा हूँ
क्यों तरस रहा हूँ ?
जानता नहीं हूँ
शायद अपनी ही दरिद्रता पहचानता नहीं हूँ ।

सब भूल चुका, जो बीत गया
हर राह अलग, हर गीत नया
तेरी संगत में अनपढ़ था जो
तेरे जाते सब सीख गया
पर आज भी दिल जब रोता है
इसी ज्ञान से चुप हो जाता है
बरसों पहले जो सिखा गई
वो बात फिर दोहराता है
कि प्यार कि धुन जो गाता है
बेमौत मारा जाता है ।
आखिर क्यों मारा जाता है ?
सिर्फ जानता यही हूँ
शायद नश्वरता के सौंदर्य को पहचानता सही हूँ ।



हुंगून मराठी मातीला

वारा पवित्र होतो ।

त्यागून स्वर्ग देव

इथला फकीर होतो ॥

मराठी विभाग

संपादकीय

“माझा मराठीचा बोल वाजे काळजात खोल

ओवीमधून पाझरे निळया अमृताची ओल ”

दूर राहूनही आईला विसरता येत नाही. आपल्या मातृभाषेचंही असंच आहे. अभियांत्रिकीचं शिक्षण घेताना तसा मराठीशी प्रत्यक्ष संबंध येत नाही. परंतु वर्षातून निदान एकदातरी मराठी माऊलीचा सहवास घडावा यासाठी ‘दिशा’तील मराठी विभाग कार्यरत आहे. यावेळेसही मराठी माऊलीच्या लेकरांकडून विविध विषयांवर लेख आणि कविता मागाविल्या गेल्या आणि त्यास अपेक्षेप्रमाणे चांगला प्रतिसादही मिळाला. त्यातीलच काही उत्कृष्ट आणि महाविद्यालयीन विद्यार्थ्यांना रूचतील अशा लेखांना आणि कवितांना येथे प्रसिद्ध करीत आहोत.

सदर विभाग साधारणतः विविध विषयांना स्पर्श करीत परीपूर्ण करायचा प्रयत्न केला आहे. त्यामुळे वाचकांना वाचतांना तोचतोचपणा जाणवणार नाही अशी आशा आहे.

या विभागातील स्पुटलेखन आपणास हसवेल तसेच ‘माणूसकी’, ‘या जन्मावर....’, ‘संचित’ सारखे लेख विचार करावयास भाग पाडतील. याचबरोबर विविध विषयांवरील कविता आणि ‘चतुर बिरबल’, ‘गोष्ट’ सारख्या कथा मनोरंजन करतील.

या विभागास परिपूर्ण करण्यास आपणा सर्वांचे जे सहकार्य लाभले, त्याबद्दल आपले आभार मानून ‘दिशा’तील मराठी विभाग आपणापुढे सादर करीत आहोत....

- श्रीकांत विसपुते (तृतीय विद्युत)
हृषिकेश चुरी (तृतीय माहिती तंत्रज्ञान)

My बोली मराठी

मराठी वाङ्.मय मंडळ आयोजित 'निबंध स्पर्धा' प्रथम पारितोषिक

प्राजक्ता स. बराडे

तृतीय वर्ष माहिती तंत्रज्ञान

म
रा
ठी

बापट यांनी आपल्या कवितांमधून नवीन विचारांची चालना दिली तर गडकरी, अत्र्यांच्या नाटकांनी विनोदाचा नजराणा दिला.

आज या वैभवशाली मराठीची काय अवस्था आहेत ? सध्याची पिढी स्वार्थीपणाने इंग्रजी माध्यमाचीच कुबडी वापरीत आहेत. अशाने पुढल्या पिढ्या आपणास या गुलामगिरीमुळे दोष देतील. अजूनही शिक्षणक्रम ठरविणारे लोक सर्व समाजाचा विचार करीत नाहीत. जगातील विज्ञानाशी स्पर्धा करण्याच्या नादात अशा अभ्यासक्रमांच्या शिड्या तयार केल्या आहेत की त्यात मनाला उभारी येण्याऐजी नैराश्य पदरी यावे आणि इंग्रजी माध्यमातून ते ज्ञान लिहून विद्यार्थ्यांना पार आंधळे करून ठेवले आहे.

आजच्या विद्यार्थ्यांना शेकसपिअरची नाटकं धडाधडा पाठ आहेत. पण गडकऱ्यांच्या एकाही नाटकाचं नाव माहीत नाही हे आपलं दुर्दैव ! मराठीतून शिक्षण घेणं म्हणजे आज मागासलेपणा, समजला जातो. जरी जगातील ज्ञानाचा खजिना इंग्रजी भाषेत आहे तरीसुद्धा स्वभाषेतील कर्तृत्वाने आपण काही मोठेपण मिळवू शकतो हे रशिया, जपान ह्या राष्ट्रांनी आज सिद्ध केलंय. आज पाश्चिमात्य व पौरात्य संस्कृती यांचा समन्वय जर साधायचा असेल तर आपली संस्कृती आपण जपली पाहिजे, आपण आपली भाषा जपली पाहिजे, कारण 'भाषेची अभिवृद्धता हा देशाचा उत्कर्ष'. थोर नेते चर्चिल म्हणायचे, मी एकाच गुन्ह्याबद्दल मुलाला शिक्षा करेन, तो म्हणजे त्याला आपली मातृभाषा न येणे. देशाचा उत्कर्ष साधायचा असेल तर मराठी भाषेतल्या ग्रंथांचा हा मौलिक ठेवा जपणे व तो वृद्धिंगत करणे हे आपले पवित्र व पहिले कर्तव्य आहे. तरच 'हिचे पुत्र आम्ही, पांग फेडू' या ओळी सार्थ ठरतील.

मराठी असे आमुची मायबोली,
जरी भिन्नधर्मानुयायी ।
असू हिचे पुत्र आम्ही पांग फेडू,
वसे आमुच्या मात्र हन्मंदिरी ॥

लहान मूल जेव्हा जन्माला येतं, तेव्हा ते ही भाषा शिकलेलं नसतं, पण पहिल्यांदा गुजगोष्टी चालतात त्या त्याच्या आईबरोबर! त्याच्या मातेची भाषा तीच त्याची मातृभाषा! आपल्या जन्मापासूनची मैत्रीण आहे ही मराठी! मातृभाषा !

प्रत्येकाचं जीवन हे माती, मायभूमी व भाषा या तीन बिंदूनी बनलेला एक त्रिकोणच ! त्याला जन्म देते, अन्न देते. मायभूमी त्याला देते आणि मातृभाषा तर जन्मापासून त्याला वरांचे बाळकडू पाजत असते. अनुभवाचे बोल शिकवते. तीच त्याने अंगिकारली नाही तर कितीही भाषा तो बोलला तरी त्याचं आयुष्य खोईल का ?

मराठी ही उष्णकटिबंधातील अत्यंत स्पष्ट मराठी भाषा आहे. आपल्याला लाभलेली ही शाली मराठी भाषा किती प्राचीन आहे ! मराठीची प्राकृताच्या पर्वतातून निघाली, पण तिला याचे स्वरूप ज्ञानेश्वरांनी आणले. त्यांनी 'मातातेही पैजा जिंके' अशा मधुर भाषेत 'जानेश्वरी' हा रसाळ ग्रंथ लिहून मराठीच्या मयाच्या समृद्धीचे पहिले दालन उघडले आणि तर या दालनात क्रमाक्रमाने भरच पडत गेली. दासांचे मनाचे श्लोक आणि दासबोध या ग्रंथांनी क्रमागंबरोबरच संसाराची शिकवण दिली. असे प्राचीन संत वाङ्.मय आपल्या मराठी भाषेचं मोल लेणं आहे. बालकवी बा. भ. बोरकर कवींनी 'सर्गसौंदर्याचं आकंठ पान मराठी रसिकांना दिलं. कुसुमाग्रज, मंगेश पाडगावकर, वसंत

एकांत

माधवी वि. वैद्य
अंतिम वर्ष - माहिती तंत्रज्ञान

चौकट

मयुरी भामरे
प्रथम वर्ष - विद्युत

कधी कधी मला एकटे असावेसे वाटते
आजूबाजूला माझ्या कोणी नसावेसे वाटते

ओळखीचे चेहरेही मग अनोळखी वाटू लागतात
मनात मात्र अगणित प्रश्न दाटू लागतात

मग नेहमी खूप काही सांगणारे तटस्थ होते आकाशही
आणि वाऱ्याचा स्पर्शही खुणावत नाही काही

वाटते जावे खूप दूर, कोणीच नसेल जेथे
'मी' आणि फक्त 'माझे विचार' राहू तेथे

बधिर शरीर, बधिर मन कोणीच बोलत नाही
करू तरी काय ? मला तेही कळत नाही

स्वरंच मला माझ्यासाठी हवा आहे एकांत
गप्प बसूनही जो माझे मन करले शांत

पण एकांताची या मला सवय मात्र नाही
माणसाळलेले मन शेवटी माणसांतच जाई

प्रथा आमच्या वाट्याला
कड्या ही आमच्याच पावलांना
हात बांधतो आम्ही आमचेच
स्वतःचे भाग्यही आमच्याच हाताला
आकाशाची ओढही आम्हाला
जमिनीची नासोडही आम्हालाच
पंखांची आशाही आम्हाला
पारधजाळही बनतं आमच्याचसाठी
तरीही आम्ही बघतो त्या चंद्राला
तरीही आम्ही डोकावतो स्वप्नांना
तरीही आशा जगण्याची आम्हाला
तरीही जीवन आम्ही जगतो
कारण

आमच्या सीमा आम्हीच आखतो
आमच्या चौकटी आम्हीच बांधतो

माणूसकी

संदीप दादासाहेब शिंगाडे
अंतिम वर्ष - विद्युत

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मी एकदा बसमधून जात होतो. एक माणूस घाईघाईने बसमध्ये चढला. बसमध्ये त्यादिवशी जरा जास्तच होती. पुढे-पुढे सरकत असतांना त्याचा धक्का एका माणसाला लागला. आणि झालं ! त्या माणसाने मारलेल्या माणसावर शिव्यांचा वर्षाव करण्यास सुरूवात केली. धक्का मारणाऱ्या माणसाने बचावाप्रित्यर्थ 'माणूसकी' नावाची काही गोष्ट असते की नाही! थोड्या वेळाने दोघांचे थांबे (स्टॉप) आले आणि दोघेही उतरले. पण माणूसकी हा जो शब्द त्याने वापरला तो मात्र माझ्या मनात घर करून राहिला.

स्वरचं माणूसकी म्हणजे नक्की काय? जवळपास सर्वांनीच, अगदी तुम्हीसुद्धा हा शब्द वारंवार वापरला आहे! पण स्वरा अर्थ किती जणांना माहित आहे. 'माणूसकी' या एका शब्दातच खूप काही लपलेलं आहे. लेखक आणि विचारवंत यांच्या मते माणूसकी हा धर्म आहे. शाब्दिक दृष्ट्या पहायला गेलं तर, माणसाने आपली माणसासारखे केलेले वर्तन म्हणजे माणूसकी होय. पण माणसासारखं म्हणजे नक्की कसं वागयचं?

आपण लहानपणी इतिहासामध्ये वाचलं होतं की माणूस हा समाजशील प्राणी आहे. म्हणजेच माणूस हा समाजशील प्राणी आहे. पण त्याला देवाने बुद्धीचं अनमोल असं वरदान दिलं आहे, जे इतर प्राण्यांना दिलं नाही. समाजशील म्हणजे समाजाची आवड असणारा. स्वरं तर समाज हा माणसाच्या आवडीपेक्षा त्याची गरजच जास्त असते. समाजात राहायचे तर इतर व्यक्तींबरोबर संबंध ठेवणं आलेच आणि म्हणूनच माणसाने नेहमी दुसऱ्यासोबत वागण्याला ते आपल्या व समोरच्याच्या बुद्धीला पटेल असंच वागवं. दुसऱ्याला मदत करतांना अगदी स्वतःचं वाईट होऊन दुसऱ्याचं वाईट तरी करू नये, दुसऱ्याचं नुकसान होईल असं वागू नये, एखादा चुकला तर त्याला माफ करा अशा काही माफकच अपेक्षा असतात समाजाच्या. या सर्व अपेक्षांना एकत्रितपणे माणूसकी असे संबोधले जाते. या अपेक्षा पूर्ण करणे, आपणही समाजाच एक घटक आहोत म्हणून जेव्हा दुसऱ्याकडून माणूसकीची अपेक्षा ठेवतो तेव्हा आपणसुद्धा तसेच वागायला नको का ?

आपण कोणाला विचारले की तुला माणूसकी म्हणजे काय ते माहित आहे का ? त्याच उत्तर होयचं. पण तरी मग ही भांडणां, दंगली का होतात ? आजकाल जातिभेद (पूर्वी इतके नाही), धर्मभेद, भाषाभेद, लिंगभेद यासर्वांनी आपल्या समाजाला घासले आहे. यासर्वांमध्ये माणूसकी मात्र हरवली आहे. ती आपल्या सर्वांना मिळून शोधायची आहे आणि त्यासाठी सर्वांनी मदत करायला हवी.

तर काय मग, करणार ना मदत ?

संचित

पल्लवी मुकुंद फडणीस
अंतिम वर्ष - संगणक

जीवनाच्या वाटेवर अनेक वेळा अनपेक्षित प्रसंगांना सामोरं जावं लागतं-कधी सुखद, कधी दुःखद, कधी प्रेरणादायक तर कधी निराशाजनक. पण या सान्या अनुभवातून मात्र बरंच काही शिकायला मिळतं आणि आपल्या नकळत आपले विचार घडत जातात. आपल्या व्यक्तिमत्वामधला हा बदल फक्त आपणच व्यवस्थित जाणून असतो. अशाच काही प्रसंगांनंतर किंवा अनुभवांनंतर मनात रूजलेले माझे विचार मी या लेखात व्यक्त करत आहे. माझ्यासारखीच मानसिकता असणाऱ्या व्यक्तींना ते कदाचित जवळचे वाटतील.

कधीकधी यशानंतरच्या जल्लोषापेक्षा अपयशानंतरची मनस्थितीच अधिक प्रेरणादायी ठरते. कारण अपयशानंतर जाणीव होते आपण कुठे आहोत आणि काय केले पाहिजे याची. मग त्या दिशेने प्रयत्न करण्याची उमेदही आपोआपच येते. पण यशात मशगुल होऊन जबाबदारी विसरली गेली तर.... ससा कासवाच्या शर्यतीतही नाही का शेवटी कासवचं जिंकतं ।

आयुष्यात प्रत्येक माणूस स्वतःला जे काही हवयं ते मिळवण्यासाठी खूप धडपडत असतो. प्रत्येकाच्या इच्छा वेगवेगळ्या असतील, पण सर्वांचीच एक मुख्य गरज असते-ती म्हणजे प्रेम आणि नाती. काही नाती आपल्यासाठी इतकी प्रिय आणि जवळची बनतात की ती जीवपलीकडे जपण्याच्या प्रयत्नात आपण काही नाती सोयीस्करपणे गृहीत धरतो किंवा विसरतो. पण या नाती जोडण्याच्या आणि टिकवण्याच्या सोप्या वाटणाऱ्या पण कठीण असलेल्या खेळात कितीही अडकलो, तरी प्रत्येक माणूस शेवटी एकटाच असतो. काही गोष्टींमध्ये स्वतःच स्वतःची सोबत होऊन पुढे जाण्याशिवाय पर्याय नसतो म्हणून स्वतःला व्यवस्थित ओळखणं आणि स्वतःवरचा विश्वास ढळू न देणं खूप महत्त्वाचं ठरतं.

मर्यादिला जीवनात खूप महत्त्व आहे. कुठल्याही बाबतीत मर्यादा जरा ओलांडली गेली तर मोठा अनर्थ घडू शकतो. समतोल म्हणजे आनंद. माणसाचं मन पाखरासारखे चंचल आहे. पिंजऱ्यात अटकवून ठेवण्याचं जितका प्रयत्न करू, तितकीच आकाशात झेपावण्याची आकांक्षा अधिक प्रबळ होत जाते. महत्त्वाकांक्षे असणं चुकीचं नाहीचं. खरंतर त्यामुळेच स्फूर्ती मिळते स्वप्नं खरी करून दाखवण्याची. पण कितीही उच्चांक गाठला, तरी मर्यादा ओळखून वागता येणं हीच माणसाची खरी परीक्षा आहे.

जगात दोन प्रकारची व्यक्तिमत्त्व असतात. काही प्रचंड आशावादी, कायम उत्साही-भय, तणाव ज्यांना जण माहितीच नाही तर काही कायम मागे राहाणारी, निराशावादी, स्वतःला कमी समजणारी आणि त्यामुळे कमकुवत बनलेली. माझ्याविषयी जेव्हा मी विचार करते, वाटतं, मला या दोन प्रकारच्या व्यक्तिमत्त्वामधला एक दुवा बनायचं आहे. आशावादी व्यक्तिकडून आशा आणि उत्साह घेऊन तो दुर्बल व्यक्तीपर्यंत पोहोचवायचं आहे आशा करते की मला या प्रयत्नात यश मिळेल.

आत्मविश्वास, स्वाभिमान आणि अहंकार यांच्यामध्ये एक छोटीशी रेषा आहे. आत्मविश्वास व स्वाभिमान तर प्रत्येकात असायलाच हवा पण त्यांचे रूपांतर कुठेही अहंकारात होणार नाही याची मात्र काळजी घेतली पाहिजे. विनम्रता व्यक्तिमत्त्वाचं सौंदर्य अधिक वाढवते. विनम्रता तर हवीच पण विनम्रता अंगी बाणणं आणि स्वतःला कमी समजणं यात मोठा फरक आहे हे मात्र लक्षात ठेवलं पाहिजे.

पुस्तकी किडा

सहदेव ए. राऊत
तृतीय वर्ष - विद्युत

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सदर लघुलेख हा आपल्या महाविद्यालयातील काही महाविद्वान पात्रांवर आधारित आहे.

सदान्कदा पुस्तकात रमणाऱ्या व्यक्तींशी आपण परिचित आहोतच. परंतू आपल्या महाविद्यालयातील हाभागांना 'पुस्तकी किडा' तसेच 'पुस्तकवेडा' अशा समर्पक विशेषणांनी ओळखले जाते. या बाबदल जितके लिहिले जाईल तितके कमी आहे. हे किडे प्रामुख्याने रिडिंग रूम, लायब्ररी किंवा गलयात कोठेही, कोणत्याही कोपऱ्यात जिथे भीषण शांतता आणि इतर कोणत्याही मनुष्याचा वावर येथे निरंतर वावरतांना दिसतात. यांची संख्या एस. पी. सी. ई/आय. टी मध्ये तब्बल २० टक्के इतकी आहे.

एखादा साधारण विद्यार्थी जर या पुस्तकी किड्यांच्या संपर्कात आला तर तोही पुस्तकवेडा बनण्याची चालू होते. थोडक्यात सांगायचे झाले तर ही क्रिया नसून प्रक्रिया आहे. या महाभागांना कधीही कोणत्याही शी मैत्री करू देऊ नये, अन्यथा हे खेळाडू त्यांच्या प्रभावाखाली येतात आणि आपले कौशल्य गमावून घेतात. आता मात्र तुम्हाला प्रश्न पडला असेल की या महाभागांना ओळखावे तरी कसे ?

आपण या किड्यांमध्ये खालील गुणावगुण आढळतात.

जे डोळे सदासर्वदा लाल किंवा पिवळे असतात. आणि चुकून व्यवस्थित असले तरी त्याभोवती काळी वर्तुळे असतात.

खचंद्रावर सदान्कदा अमावस्या असते.

मान्यज्ञानाच्या बाबतीत काहीसे दुबळे असतात.

हेरच्या जगाशी, माणसांशी यांचे काही देणे घेणे नसते.

न, वारा, पाऊस या गोष्टींचा यांच्यावर काहीही परिणाम होत नाही.

जे पहिले आणि शेवटचे प्रेम फक्त परिक्षा हेच.

याप्रमाणे चुंबकाच्या दोन विजातीय ध्रुवांमध्ये परस्पराकर्षण असते अगदी त्याचप्रमाणे यांचा स्तकांशी संबंध असतो.

क किडा दुसऱ्या किड्याला पाहताच आनंदातिरेक करतो.

९. चष्मा आणि पुस्तके या दोन गोष्टींवरून हे किडे सर्वसामान्यांत ओळखून येतात.

परंतू, याचबरोबर आपण एका महत्त्वाच्या गोष्टीकडे दुर्लक्ष करीत आहोत. ते कसेही असले, भले तुम्हाला असाइनमेंट, जर्नल्स देत नसले तरीही हे पुस्तकी किडेही बरेच लाभदायक ठरू शकतात आता विचारा कसे ? असे हो ! सांगतो.

महाविद्यालयांचे तसेच विद्यापीठांचे जूने रेकॉर्ड तोडण्यास सतत नेहमी नवीन-नवीन रेकॉर्ड बनविण्यास हे मदत करतात तसेच महाविद्यालयातील उत्तीर्णांची टक्केवारीसही हेच कारणीभूत असतात. हेच किडे पुढे जाऊन शास्त्रज्ञ, वैज्ञानिक वैगरे वैगरे होतात पण त्याचे विशेष नाही. या किड्यांच्याबाबतीत अजून खोल संशोधन करावयाचे असल्यास ह्यांना एखाद्या मस्तीखोर गटात सहभागी करावे म्हणजे यांचे आणखी काही बारकावे आपणांस पहावयास मिळतील. पण एका गोष्टीचे विशेषभान राहू द्या की ह्यांची चुकून कळ काढल्यास किंवा यांना सतावल्यास मात्र हे एखादया हिमवर्षावाप्रमाणे तुटून पडतात.

कंप्युटर कंप्युटर

मिलींद देवरुख
अंतिम वर्ष - संगणक

कंप्युटरनं आपलं, माणसांचं आयुष्यच व्यापलेलं नाही
त्याच्या तडारव्यातून प्राणीजगतही सुटलेलं नाही

कालच एका फिशपॉँडमधले मासे एकमेकांशी बोलतांना ऐकलं. एक दुसऱ्याला सांगत होत, अरे, काय हे ! इतके अन्न नाही, प्रेम नाही, जन्म नाही, मरण नाही मला तर हल्ली शंका येते की आपण फिशपॉँडमध्ये आहोत का ? एखादया कंप्युटरच्या स्क्रीन सेव्हर मध्ये ? !!

हल्ली मुलांना साध्यासुध्या गोष्टीही पटतील अशा पध्दतीनं सांगायला लागतात. एक आजी परवा आपल्या नातवाला गोष्ट सांगत होती, रोमिओ-जुलिएटची ... त्याला कळावी म्हणून जरा आधुनिक टच देऊन त्या सांगत होत्या. बाळा, रोमिओ आणि जुलिएट एकमेकांना चॅटरूममध्ये भेटले... दोघांच प्रेम ई-मेलच्या माध्यमातून फुलले. पण अखेरीस ट्रॅजिडीच झाली. 'काय झालं आजी ?', नातवानं उत्कटेनं विचारलं. 'अरे होणार काय ? जुलिएटची हार्ड डिस्क क्रॅश झाली आणि तिला प्रेमातून लॉगआउट व्हायला लागलं !!!'

मुलींना मुळी अवकलच नसते

आशिष पालकर
अंतिम वर्ष - यांत्रिकी

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र करूनि या प्रश्नाचा
रांची माझ्या थकली चाके
फक्त वापरत नाहीत
मुळात त्यांना नसतेच डोके

हसतील कधी नि रडतील कधी
कठिण आहे फार, बांधणे अंदाज
पाहून यांचा बदलता मूड
सरइयालाही वाटेल लाज.

वाटीभर चोपडती त्या क्रीम
मग त्यावर फासती पावडर
काजळांचे भरती डोळ्यांत बकाणे
लिपस्टिकचा देती ओठांवर थर

बकाबका खातील नि शॉपिंग करतील
बिल मात्र भरायचे आपण
हक्कांच्या वेळी मात्र होते
स्त्री-पुरुष समानतेची आठवण

हातांत दोनशे ब्रेसलेटस्
वर नेलपॉलिशचे फवारे
हिल्सच्या चपला आणि
काही हजार नखरे

नेमके तिनेच मानावे भाऊ
स्वप्ने सुंदर जिची रंगवावी
अन् जिचा सोडावयाचाय पिच्छा
तिच सारखी पाठी यावी

जीन्स सरकते खाली खाली
टी-शर्ट जाई वर वर वरती
नको तिकडे लावती बकले
नको तिथले टाके उसवती

काहीच कळत नाही यांचे अन्
नाद यांचा म्हणजे आयुष्यभर धोका
दोघेही शहाणे असू नयेत म्हणून
असेल कदाचित, रिकामा यांचा अकलेचा खोका.

झाले तासन्तास की म्हणती
वर्ल्ड सुद्धा पडेल फीकी
त्यांना मीच एक सुंदर
या म्हशी सगळ्या बाकी.

वाया न जावी मेहनत त्यांची
म्हणून आपण बघावे जरा
तर आम्हीच ठरतो लांडगे
अन् वाईट होतात आमच्या नजरा

या जगण्यावर

मराठी वाङ्.मय मंडळ आयोजित 'निबंध स्पर्धा' द्वितीय पारितोषिक

धवल मा. कुंटे

प्रथम वर्ष - विद्युतकण

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माणूस जन्माला आला, म्हणजे तो प्रेम करणारच । असं ठामपणे प्रतिपादित करणाऱ्या, जगण्याविषयी सकारात्मक दृष्टी प्राप्त करून देणाऱ्या श्रेष्ठ कवी मंगेश पाडगांवकर यांच्या या वरील काव्यपंक्ती आहेत. खरंच प्रेम ही जगण्याची स्वाभाविक अनुभूती आहे, संकट काळात उमेदीचे ते एक भक्कम कारण आहे, म्हणून या भावनेशी प्रत्येक माणसाचं आयुष्यभराचं नातं हे असतंच.

पण जगणं म्हणजे तरी नेमकं काय ? सर्व प्राण्यांत उत्क्रांत मेंदू मिळालेल्या या मानवाने इतर जीवसृष्टीचा प्रांजळपणे आस्वाद घेणं, प्राप्त जीवनकाल अधिकाधिक यशस्वी, सुखकर होण्यासाठी प्रयत्न करणं आणि लाभलेल्या प्रत्येक गोष्टीत आनंद शोधून ह्या जीवनास सोन्याची चकाकी देणं. पण हे सारं मात्र प्रेमाशिवाय, जगण्यावरील जिव्हाळ्याशिवाय केवळ अशक्यच ! चंद्रशेखर गोखले यांच्या मते

आपल्याला काही हवं असणं
म्हणजेच आपल जगणं आहे
येणाऱ्या प्रत्येक क्षणाकडे,
आपलं काही मागणं आहे

खरंच, हे जगणं अधिकाधिक श्रेयस्कर होण्याकडे आपला कल असला तरी अल्पसंतुष्टता उपयोगी नाही. सतत सृजनशीलतेच्या शोधात राहून, भरपूर यश चांगल्या तऱ्हेने मिळविण्यातच जीवनातली खरी मजा आहे.

हे मानवी आयुष्य बेभान प्रेम करण्याइतकं सौंदर्यपूर्ण आहे. त्यातील मौज जर तुम्ही हुडकायला निघालात, तर तुमची स्थिती अलिबाबाच्या गुहेत शिरल्यासारखी होईल. कशात मजा, सौंदर्य नाही म्हणून सांगू ? लहानपणी या हातांवरून त्या हातांवर निवांत झुलण्यात मजा आहे. शाळेत चांगल्या कामगिरीप्रीत्यर्थ मिळणाऱ्या पाठीवरील शाबासकीत मजा आहे, घरी बहिणीशी भांडण्यात, गणेशोत्सवात सगळ्या नातेवाईकांनी एकत्र जमून मोदक खाण्यात, पाऊस पडत असतांना त्यात बेसुमार भिजण्यात किंवा तोच पाऊस खिडकीतून पाहत कॉफीचे उबदार घुटके घेण्यात, तिचा हात हातात घेऊन तासन्तास समुद्रकिनार्यावर भटकण्यात किंवा काहीही काम नसतांना उगाच बसण्यातही मजा आहे. यातली प्रत्येक कृती आनंदसमावेशक आहे. मात्र तो आनंद मिळविण्यासाठी सभोवतालचे कृत्रिम पाश तोडून, येणाऱ्या प्रत्येक क्षणाकडे डोळसपणे पाहणे मात्र गरजेचं आहे.

जीवनरूपी नाण्याची एक बाजू सुखी असली तरी दुःखे, संकटं मात्र आयुष्यभर पाठ सोडत नाहीत. तेव्हा आयुष्याच्या अशा सहप्रवासिवरही जिवापाड प्रेम करण्यातच आणि त्यातून शिकण्यात जीवनाचं खरं मर्म दडलेलं आहे.

पण स्वार्था पलीकडे जाऊन आपल्या विशाल हिंदू संस्कृतीप्रमाणे स्वतःसाठी जगण्यापेक्षा इतरांकरिता जगलं पाहिजे, कारण स्वतःच्या जगण्यापेक्षा इतरांसाठी जगणारे या जगात विरळेच. तेव्हा साता जन्मात एकदा मिळणाऱ्या मानवी जन्माचा पुरेपूर उपभोग घेण्यासाठी या जगतातील प्रत्येक कृतीवर, क्षणाक्षणावर प्रेम करावं, शतदा प्रेम करावं !

चतुर बिरबल

ओमकार लोंढे
तृतीय वर्ष - यांत्रिकी

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शिक्षण हा जरा जिव्हाळ्याचा विषय न्यामुळे एकदा अकबर बादशहाने राज्यातील पाण्याची परिस्थितीची पहाणी करायचे ठरवले. मग पालटून तो अभियांत्रिकीसाठी ख्याती असलेल्या श्रीच्या एका कॉलेजात शिरला. आपल्या क्षणाद्वारे त्याने खालील नोंदी घेतल्या.

वर्ग चालू असताना मागच्या बाकावरील विद्यार्थी जर्नल्स मधील डायग्रॅम पूर्ण करीत आहेत. तर काहींनी आपले सुधीक डोके 'सुडोकू' सोडवण्यात गुंतवले आहे.

'अटेंडन्स शीट' साईन करताच लेक्चरला बसल्याचे सार्थक झाले असे भाव घेहऱ्यावरून लपत नव्हते.

विद्यार्थ्यांना ते उरलेला वेळ कुठे घालवता असे विचारले असला, 'वाचनालय' या अपेक्षित उत्तराऐवजी कॅटीन असा उत्स्फूर्त प्रतिसाद आला.

तुमचे आवडते शिक्षक, विषय कोणते ? या प्रश्नाला, एखाद्या आजारी प्राण्याकडे आपण ज्या करूनतेने बघतो तसा लूक मिळाला.

जवळ जवळ सर्वच विद्यार्थी कोणत्याही पुस्तकाचा वापर करीत नव्हते.

ही परिस्थिती पाहून बादशहा विचारात पडला. शिक्षणाविषयी विद्यार्थ्यांच्यात एवढा तिरस्कार का ? असे त्याने मंत्रिमंडळास विचारले. मग मंत्रिमंडळाने एक अहवाल सादर केला.

थोडक्यात,
आजची पिढी वाया गेलेली आहे.

२. त्यांना सुधारण्यासाठी कडक नियमांची गरज आहे उदा. ९५% अटेंडन्स बंधनकारक करणे.

पण बिरबल या उपाययोजनांशी अजिबात सहमत नव्हता. तो याच कॉलेजचा माजी विद्यार्थी असल्याने त्याला या शिक्षणाविषयीच्या अनास्थेचे कारण माहीत होते. नव्या पिढीचा दोष नव्हता तो. मुळात शिक्षणपद्धतीच काळाप्रमाणे सुधारण्याची गरज होती.

पण बादशहा म्हणाला, बिरबल तू जे म्हणतोस की मुळापासून बदल करायला हवेत. ते नीट सिद्ध कर. दुसऱ्या दिवशी बागेत फेरफटका मारताना, एक माळी सुकलेल्या फुलांवर पाणी शिंपडतांना दिसला बादशहाने विचारले, "कायरे, काय करतोयस हे ?"

माळी : खाविंद, या सुकलेल्या फुलास्नी तजेला आनतोय.

बादशाहा (रागाने) : अरे मूर्खा, तुला एवढंही समजत नाही की फुल तजेलादार व्हायला हवीत तर मुळाला पाणी घालायला हवे.

माळी (घाबरून) : खाविंद, मला ते म्हाईत हाये वो पन, त्ये बिरबलाने पढवून मला हिकडं धाडलं.

आता बादशहाच्या डोक्यात लख्ख प्रकाश पडला. मुळाला पाणी घालायची गरज होती तर त्याने लगेच पूर्वीच्या उपाययोजना रद्द करून, शिक्षण इंटरेस्टिंग करण्यासाठी एक समिती नेमली.

दुसऱ्या दिवशी दरबारात बिरबल बादशहाकडे पाहून मिश्कीलीने हसला.

आम्हीच.....

कु. रवि कोंडीराम शिनगारे
अंतिम वर्ष - विद्युत

कशी असते शाळा ?

जयेश आनंद फडतरे
तृतीय वर्ष - यांत्रिकी

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आम्हीच मरतो नेहमी
बॉम्बस्कोटांच्या हल्ल्यात
आम्हीच झेलतो दुःख
नेहमी मनाच्या कपारीत,
आमचेच डोळे रडतात
नेहमीच आतल्याआत
आमचाच बांध फुटतो
नेहमी अश्रूंच्या थेंबात
आम्हीच जपतो आमची माणुसकी
देऊन नेहमी मदतीचा हात,
आम्हीच खांदे होतो.
नेहमी घेऊन जाताना स्मशानात
आम्हीच राखतो संयम
नेहमी दंगलीच्या राजकारणात,
आम्हीच विच्छिन्न होतो
नेहमी बंदुकीच्या वर्षावात,
आम्हीच पुढे करतो सौहार्दपणे
नेहमी मैत्रीचा हात
मग, आम्हीच बघत बसतो
नेहमी त्यांचा दहशतवादी जिहाद,
आता, आम्हीच घेतो शपथ
नेहमी ठेचण्या शंडांचा दहशतवाद,
आता आम्हीच होतो आमचे सैनिक
भारतमातेच्या संरक्षणात
जय हिंद भारत माता की जय !

माझ्या या प्रश्नाचे दादा उत्तर देशील का रे ?
कशी असते शाळा मला सांगशील का रे ?
असतात का तिथे खडूस मास्तर ?
नि मोठ्या वजनाचे मोठे दप्तर ?
तरी तिच्या ओढीने सारी मुले पळतात का रे ?

लाल रिबीन, बूट-मोजे गणवेश मुलीच्या अंगावर,
कधी गाणी, कधी कविता, कधी गोष्टी तोंडावर,
माझ्यासारखे त्यांना घरी काम नसते का रे ?

रेघांच्या त्या छोट्या वहीत तू रोज काय लिहितोस ?
मोठ्यां पानाच्या कोन्या वहीत नि किती छान चित्र काढतोस !
रंगेबरंगी पुस्तकात दादा गंमत असते का रे ?

आईला सांगेन मी, 'मला शाळेत जायचे !'
बाबांना सांगेन मी, 'मला शाळेत जायचे !'
रोज रोज घरच्या कामांनी माझे हात दुखतात ना रे !

तू आणि तुझी आठवण

रजनीकांत ठाकूर
अंतीम वर्ष - यांत्रिकी

तू जवळ असतांना
नाही केलं प्रेम व्यक्त
आता तू नाही जवळ
तुझ्या आठवणी आहेत फक्त

तू जवळ नसतांना
तुझ्या आठवणींचा हात
तुझ्या आठवणींना असते
माझ्या अश्रुंची साथ

हृदयात आहे माझ्या
आजही तुझाच प्रतिबिंब
आठवण येताच तुझी
डोळे होतात ओलेचिंब

तू जवळ असतांना
नाही झाला विचारायचा धीर
आता कळून चुकलं
झालाय फार उशीर

कळेल तुला प्रेम माझं
तेव्हा वेळ निघून गेलेली असेल
आठवणी माझ्या असतील
पण मी मात्र नसेल.

प्रवास जीवनाचा....

विजय चं. कोकाटे
तृतीय वर्ष - विद्युत

जीवनाच्या प्रवासात सगळेच अनोळखी असतात
म्हणून का प्रवास टाळायचा असतो ?

कारण कुठेतरी वळणावर एखादा प्रवासी
आपल्यासाठी थांबलेला असतो

जीवनात सगळंच हवं ते मिळत नसतं

म्हणून प्रयत्न करणं सोडायचं नसतं

माणसे भेटतात, अर्ध्यावरती वाट सोडून जातात

म्हणून अडखळून वाट चुकायची नसते

एखाद्याची साथ मिळाली नाही म्हणून

खंत करत बसायचे नसते.....

कारण जीवन संपल्यावर आपण सगळ्यांच्या
सहवासालाही मुक्तो.

हे कधी विसरायचे नसते म्हणून

अखंड प्रवासात, भटकलेल्यांना आधार द्यायचा असतो

त्यांच्या आनंदात समाधान शोधायचं असतं

जगण्याचे संदर्भ असे क्षणोक्षणी बदलत असतात

म्हणून माणसं ओळखून जीवन जगायचं असतं

जीवनाचा प्रवास अखंड करायचा असतो

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॥ जीवनाचे खरे गणित ॥

अमोल सुर्यान
तृतीय वर्ष - यांत्रिकी

भाव आणि शील यांची बेरीज करा
मैत्रीतून कपट आणि मत्सर उणे करा

स्वभावाला प्रेमाने गुणा

देहकष्टाला मनोरंजनाने भागा

परनिदेचा लघुत्तम काढा.

सद्गुणांचा वर्ग करा

हेच जीवनाचे खरे गणित.

प्रयत्नांचा आनंद

सुरेखा अर्जापुरे-ढो

सहाय्यक प्राध्यापक - संगणक विभाग

प्रयत्न करणं आणि परिणाम भोगणं या प्रक्रियेने माझं जगणं भरून आहे. त्याचबरोबर माझं जगणं सुख-दुःखानंही भरलं आहे. आता हे सुख आणि दुःख यांचा प्रयत्न आणि परिणामांशी काही संबंध आहे का ? तर आहे. अमुकचं व्हावं या हेतूने मी प्रयत्न करणे स्वाभाविक आहे, पण तसं नाही झालं तर मी निराश होऊन दुःख भोगणं गैर आहे. प्रत्यक्षात मी तसचं करतो. माझं सुख-दुःख प्रयत्नांवर नव्हे तर त्याच्या परिणामांवर माझ्या मनात ज्या प्रतिक्रिया उमटतात, त्यावर अवलंबून असतं. मग जर परिणाम काहीही होऊ देत, मला जे योग्य वाटतात ते प्रयत्न मी करणारच, असं आपल्याला साधलं तर ? मग प्रयत्नांचा आनंद कदाचित आपल्याला भोगता येईल. तसं कुणाला साधलं आहे ? अन् तसं साधलं असेल तरी त्याचा काही उपयोग आहे का ? असा प्रश्न स्वाभाविकपणे मनात येईल. त्याचं उत्तर आपल्याला उत्तुंग व्यक्तिमत्त्वांच्या जीवनचरित्रात तसेच इतिहासात जागोजागी आढळेल. स्वातंत्र्याच्या बाबतीत हिंसेच्या मार्गाने लढणारे क्रांतिकारक काय, अन् अहिंसेच्या मार्गाने लढणारे गांधीवादी काय, आपापल्या मार्गांनी सारेच प्रयत्न करीत होते. तरी परिस्थिती मात्र अतिशय प्रतिकूल होती समाजाचा पाठिंबा नाही, साधने नाहीत, घरादाराची राखरांगोळी व्हायचीच शक्यता व ज्यासाठी हा आटापिटा करायचा ते स्वातंत्र्य लगेच मिळेल यांची हमी नाही. तरीही विचलित न होता त्यांनी प्रयत्न सुरूच ठेवले. त्या प्रयत्नांनी काय साधतयं किंवा काय साधेल याची तमा बाळगली नाही. प्रयत्नांचा स्वरा आनंद त्यांना लाभला. आता ध्येये आपल्यापुरती-आपल्या उन्नीती पुरतीच आहेत. मीपणा म्हणजेच देहबुद्धी जोपासण्यापुरती आहेत. पण त्यात जरा संकटं आली तरी आपण किती हवालदील होतो, किती निराश होतो. मग प्रयत्नही आपण पूर्णतेने करीत नाही. त्या प्रयत्नांतही भीती, चिंता, अनिश्चितता. काळजी यांचं मिश्रण घालतो त्यामुळे ना धड आपल्याला प्रयत्नांचा आनंद लाभतो ना धड परिणामांचा आनंद लाभतो.

प्रेमभंग

पवन ढवळे

तृतीय वर्ष - स्थापत्य

(MECHANICAL ENGINEER)

च होणार नव्हतीस

Ignition Key फिरवलीस कशाला ?

Stroke इंजिनसारखे अर्धवट जाळून टाकायचे होते

मला Fuel बनवलेच कशाला ?

वेडा Four Stroke सोडून, लागलो Two Stroke च्या

(CIVIL ENGINEER)

Surveying करून सापडली होतीस तू मला

पेक्षा Love Mechanics शी जवळीक करून दिलीस

ड, गोटे, विटा, मातीच्या खेळातून तुझ्या

हे नादान प्रिये ! Out of Range जायचे होते

माझ्या Theodolite समोर आलीच कशाला ?

(ELECTRICAL ENGINEER)

Shedding च्या नावाखाली मध्येच Supply तोडून

S. E. B. सारखा खेळखंडोबा प्रेमाचा झाला

न, समजत होतो मी तुला प्रेमाचा Generator.

तू तर अगदीच निघालीस प्रेमाचा Distributor.

गजरा

जयेश आनंद फडतरे

तृतीय वर्ष - यांत्रिकी

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कळ्या त्या सुकल्या, रंग सरून गेला
तो नाजूकसा गजरा मनी सुगंध ठेवून गेला.

सौख्यात रूळेन आशा त्याला
तो बेहोष मैफिली फुलवून गेला.

गोजिरे रूप, कोवळे मन त्याचे
तो उन्मत्त नजरांनी जळून गेला.

जी आली वेळ मनगटी सजण्याची
तो नदीचे निर्माल्य बनून गेला.

जरी मुखाने म्हटले मुजरे,
तो रामास सीता शिकवून गेला.



नितेश राजपूज

तृतीय यांत्रिकी

मोत्यांनी तिला रंग दिला
फुलांनी तिला गंध दिला
पुष्पकळ्यांनी तिला नाजूकता दिली
प्रेमिकांनी तिच्यावर प्रेम केले
कवींनी तिला काव्यात गुंफले
चित्रकारांनी तिला चित्रात साकारले
तिने मात्र आपले खरे रूप
कुणालाच नाही कळू दिले

गोष्ट

समीर स्वामी
तृतीय वर्ष - यांत्रिकी.

दहा वाजताच्या सुमाराची वेळ.... रस्त्यावरील वाहनांची वर्दळ कमी झालेली..... फुटपाथवरील झोपडीत तीन काटकुळी शरीरं पोटात आग घेऊन बसलेली..... ८-१० वर्षाची दोन लेकर आणि त्यांची आई..... वाट पाहत बसलेले..... त्यांच्या बापाची..... खाण्यासाठी काहीतरी आणेल या आशेन....

बाप येताना दिसला.... पण हात रिकामे..... मान खाली घातलेला.... फक्त एवढंच म्हणाला, “आज काहीच नाही”..... लगेच आईने पोरांना घोट-घोट पाणी पाजले.... अंथरूणावर आडवे करून चादर घातली... अन् जोराजोरात थोपटू लागली....

उपाशीपोटी मोठा मुलगा झोपला... पण थोड्या वेळानं लहान पोरगी म्हणाली,... “आये, उपाशी पोटी झोप येईना गं”... तशी आई म्हणाली, एखादी गोष्ट तरी सांग. आईनं गोष्ट सुरू केली... आटपाट नगर होतं. तिथला राजा खूप श्रीमंत होता... त्यांची राजकन्या खूप खूप सुंदर होती... पोरीनं मध्येच आईला थांबवलं... म्हणाली... “आये, राजाची नको, भाकरीची गोष्ट सांग ना...”

अन् तिच्या आईचा एवढा वेळ अडवून ठेवलेला अश्रूंचा बांध फुटला...



Shri. Kulapati Dr. K.M.Munshi

