



VJTI



VJTI Nirmaan (2019)

VJTI pioneered India's engineering education and research. Started in 1887, VJTI had been instrumental in setting up IITs and RECs, and hence considered as the mother of all technical institutions in India. VJTI has a very rich heritage and experience about quality education delivery, industry experience and research; that sets it apart from other institutes in Mumbai and India.

Though we are progressively moving towards making VJTI more student friendly with better outcomes, we are struggling to maintain benchmarking position of institute amongst the tops in the country. However, we are not perturbed with this temporary slip, and I personally believe that the satisfaction level of aspiring young students of VJTI has increased substantially during the past two years. We have opened up new avenues of learning, research, entrepreneurship and international collaborations. I am highly focused on providing students - better facilities, better faculty, exposure to the state of the art technologies, bringing internationally renowned faculty and researchers on campus, frequent brainstorming with leaders to map technology to society - to infuse innovation culture on campus. I am sure that these ongoing efforts are making VJTI better and better over time.

From the Director's Desk

I strongly believe that research is instrumental and important foundation of a faculty to shape up him/her as a good educator. To consolidate my position as a teacher and to strengthen my knowledge base, I have been continuously pursuing research and earning credentials of a popular teacher, be it at REC/NIT Surat, IIT Gandhinagar, University of Denver or VJTI where I have taught. My pursuit of looking into various upcoming and disruptive technologies has led me to venture into technologies like Parallel Computing, Artificial Intelligence, Web technologies, Cloud computing, Cyber security and most recently, Blockchain. Since I have had a good journey with these niche technologies, I could map some of the pending problems' of society for solutions across them and wanted to give early exposure to students of VJTI, which is why I launched a Blockchain Research Group when I came here in June 2017.

My experience with VJTI students has been very good, and their commitment has paid fruits. Today, I am proud to say that we have a Blockchain and AI Research Group that is comparable to the world's best, be it in terms of new insights understanding nitty-gritty of domain, programming skills, or technology readiness. Recently, we concluded an International Blockchain Workshop (Blockchain for Global Good) which was attended by more than 100 participants, and a large number of VJTI students. We brought in the top professors, researchers and industry stalwarts from across the world, who showcased excellence, new insights and demonstrated technology readiness and use-cases of Blockchain. All these have immensely benefited the audience, especially the students who are eager to enter into the Blockchain arena.

For the aspiring students with the hunger for the success, I wish to reiterate that there is no shortcut for the hard work. Success would not come without tasting failure. Be it getting a job, or getting through competitive exams, there is no guarantee of getting through with flying colors in the first attempt. If you have to attempt several times - don't worry, it's the best that counts the most. Failures are a part of life and we need to accept them wholeheartedly and rise and shine from each failure. I have a very clear message for all stakeholders -- We need to raise the bar to improve VJTI branding and reputation. I personally have grown in the last two years; my few colleagues have grown - in terms of peer recognition, technology exposure, citations and publications leading to global reputation, to winning research funding. However this is not enough, we need every individual in VJTI to grow, be it a student, a teacher or a staff. When everyone grow; VJTI as a whole will automatically grow.

Best Wishes,
Dr. Dhiren R Patel



From the Dean's Desk

I have been teaching in this prestigious institute for 33 years, having started my career on the 2nd of April, 1986. Even though I completed my Bachelor's a long time ago, I believe engineering is like physics, the fundamentals never change. In the years, technology has changed, developments in the field of Information and Communication Technologies creating changes every few months. For example, I started my undergraduate doing computations for the first three years using a Slide Rule, and then switched to electronic calculator during my final year. Engineering used to be an epitome of hard work, and we used to work hard, attending college religiously from 10-5:30, and continued beyond it for lab work. Nowadays, it is sad to see that students have started relying on shortcuts, copying notes and assignments and continue doing so because they get the same CPI.

However, one thing about the students of VJTI is that they are very sharp and intelligent -- they like to have a holistic approach towards education, putting their best foot forward in both academics, co-curriculars and extra-curriculars.

As the Dean of Student Activities and Alumni, I have been entrusted with two very diverse portfolios. As the Dean of Student Activities, the Secretaries and the student volunteers and I aim to take VJTI to greater heights every year, and for that purpose we are custodians of a large budget, which belongs to each and every student of VJTI. I am very happy with all my Secretaries and the General Secretary and Internal Auditor who have worked hard to bring the best for VJTI Students, having majorly obeyed my instructions and we have brought good fiscal discipline throughout the VJTI Social Group.

Regarding my role as Dean of Alumni, I have not been able to devote much time, however, the office of VJTI Alumni Association has been constantly interacting with the alumni and creating a network of alumni who can reach out to VJTI.

I wish the students all the best for their endeavors and wish a prosperous career to the students passing out!

Dr R.D. Daruwala,
Dean Students and Alumni.



NIRMAAN '19 is to build a very powerful idea that metaphorically creates images of creation, progress, innovation and so on. In an academic set up, Nirmaan has a deeper meaning. A school is where a child is transformed into an entity useful for self and others. A school teacher can be a magnificent magician, fully participating in this transformation. Then, college builds future citizens; students learn skills and attributes, ethically and morally, necessary to earn a living of the highest standard. The role of a university teacher is that of an indefatigable sculptor, moulding and shaping the future generations for the development of our nation. They get immense satisfaction when their "finished product" goes out into the world, contributes to society and is admired by all. Our Indian education system has produced the finest human beings, those that cause transformation in the nation and in the planet. Let me narrate a story to illustrate our Excellence in Creation.

Jakanachari was a legendary sculptor credited with building many fine temples in Karnataka. Jakanachari was born in a small village called Kaidala, 9 kilometers from Tumkur, Karnataka. He left home shortly after his marriage seeking fame in his field of work. He travelled far and wide building many temples, and became so engrossed in his work that he forgot all about his wife.

Jakanachari's wife gave birth to his child, named Dankanacharya. Dankanacharya himself grew up to become a famous sculptor and set out to find his father. At Belur, he found a job as a sculptor and noticed a flaw in a figure sculpted by the great Jakanachari

himself. Dankanacharya told Jakanachari that the stone which he was carving had a toad living inside, which was considered to be a flaw. Jakanachari could not accept this audacity from a green horn sculptor and challenged to cut off his right hand if the young sculptor was correct in his assessment of the sculpture. Dankanacharya chiselled the place where the flaw was present and a toad jumped out with a little water flowing from that spot. Upon testing the figure, the flaw was indeed revealed and Jakanachari kept his promise and cut off his right hand. Eventually, the two sculptors become aware of their relationship as father and son and together sculpted many magnificent temples in Karnataka.

Let the power of Nirmaan and its messages spread far and wide.

-Usha Nair



From the Faculty-In-Charge's Desk

The spirit of college students is reflected through the college magazine and Nirmaan, as its name suggests, helps 'create' an environment of knowledge, talent and appreciation amongst the students of VJTI. Having numerous events in the college throughout the academic year, the Social Group helps in a student's all-round development and creates an environment for everyone to enjoy, learn and grow as individuals and as a team. Nirmaan gives an opportunity to the students of VJTI to showcase their literary talents in various forms and helps them recognize and develop themselves in their field of interest.

Nirmaan brings together students from all branches along with the faculty who contribute to it. It provides everyone at VJTI with a platform to put forward their views, concerns and solutions to various social, economic, political topics on personal or societal level. The magazine connects us all together, be it different fests of VJTI, the societies in and around VJTI, or the faculty and students.

Best wishes to team Nirmaan 2018-19 who has worked all year long for us to have a wonderful magazine this year. I hope this edition of Nirmaan 2018-19 brings about all aspects of our institute and showcases the literary talents of the students on an altogether different level.

This academic year has been absolutely wonderful for us all and I hope this edition helps in the 'nirmaan' of knowledge and new opportunities for everyone.

-Shivangi Tripathi
General Secretary
Social Group, VJTI Students



Message From the General Secretary

My journey at VJTI started off like most localite students, with a long commute using various public transportation services. However, I had a companion, a senior two years ahead of me who was telling me about his experience and his college life and the fun it's been. As the conversation progressed from the ever important academics to the social life and to extracurriculars, I came to know of the breadth of opportunity this prestigious institute holds, opportunities which are oblivious to everyone but the students studying here. As he guided me to the classroom where my first lecture was scheduled, he mentioned that he was leading the Literary committee in college(DLA) and to be a part of it if I was interested. Oh boy, was I interested.

Fast forward to two years later, I took the same journey, alone but with the role reversed; I was leading the very committee he had two years ago with the responsibility of having as great of an impact as I could. The responsibilities were greater than the years before, with Nirmaan entrusted under the banner of Debate and Literary Activities, VJTI, We had to ensure that it gets equal focus and gets published. I believe the result is in your hands or on your screens.

The team has worked hard in bringing the magazine to fruition, dedicating countless hours and missing precious sleep to ensure that this time it doesn't get overlooked or the work goes to waste. The editorial team has worked hard to source and edit the articles, the design team has worked hard to ensure that the magazine shines like the content it holds, the reporters have stayed back after college to ensure that no event gets overlooked to the best of their capacity and so many tiny things that have been done to ensure that it comes out as a polished gem. Nirmaan has a long history, and we intended it to be a showcase of the talent the students possess, and the activities the college holds within its ancient walls. There are articles and photographs and artwork, who knew that these students who have always drawn sharp labelled diagrams using their T-Squares could wield a brush and color a canvas? Who knew that the students who solved complex equations could write a poem just as well? The talent is hidden, it just needs a platform.

We would like to thank Director Sir and Daruwala Sir for making this magazine possible, to Usha Nair Ma'am and Varshapriya Ma'am for their guidance on every step, be it in the magazine or DLA as a whole. Also, we would like to thank the faculty advisors for each section who have worked tirelessly with us over the year to help make it the best it could be. Lastly, I would personally like to thank the entire team, the DLA-Nirmaan team, be it the TYs or the SYs or the FYs who have given their all to make it all possible - be it Nirmaan or VJMUN.

Signing off,

Sanjeet Saluja
Secretary,
DLA, VJTI



"True strength lies in the determination to empower others." In an effort to empower VJTians, we have reinvented our very own college magazine, Nirmaan. Nirmaan in its true essence means "creation" and our goal behind creating Nirmaan was to bring back our traditional college magazine to life and spread VJTI's uniqueness by empowering its youth to share their thoughts and ideas without restraint.

Seeing a diverse collection of ideas come together in the creation of Nirmaan was truly a pleasure, not only for me but also for my entire team. I am truly thankful to our brilliant writers who sent in their amazing articles and some who took out time from their busy schedules to meet our deadlines. I am also thankful to the entire Nirmaan team, for without their creative ideas and persistent editing efforts this magazine would not have been recreated. I would like to express my gratitude to Director Sir and Dean Sir and to our faculty advisors Prof. Usha Nair and Prof. Varshapriya J. N. for their constant support and encouragement. I would also like to thank all the sectional faculty advisors for their advice and insight in making this magazine reach new heights. To showcase the literary dexterity of VJTians is the highest privilege that me and my team could get!

Nirmaan is a platform for VJTians to showcase their hidden talents, literary and artistic skills, and to show that engineers can do a lot more than just engineering. In fact, Nirmaan perfectly shows how engineers are artists capable of influencing society. Almost everyone here at VJTI is bilingual, and thus we were adamant to not restrict ourselves to English articles and poems only. Every language spoken in India has a particular charisma to its understanding and interpretation. Keeping this in mind, we included Hindi and Marathi articles as well since they are languages that are prevalent among VJTians. But language is fluid, it is technical, it is music, it is unspoken, like in art. To inculcate these aspects of language and literature we have exclusively curated articles for our readers in the 'Technical', 'Travel and Lifestyle' and 'Graphics Section'. For all those who participated in the events held in VJTI and for those of you who missed it, we have the 'Event Reporting Section' for all of you to catch up on the amazing events we have had all year long. The magazine is truly eclectic and I am sure that all readers will find something worthwhile and indulging.

Lastly, to err is human. Nothing in this world is foolproof or perfect, and many a times in the past imperfections have created invaluable art. It would never be our intention to make mistakes. If by any chance our reader finds any shortcomings, misinformation or something that hurts their sentiments, it would be inadvertent to say the least. Humble apologies to all the expectant writers whose articles we could not publish due to certain unavoidable constraints. We hope you continue the good work and we look forward to receiving your articles next year too.

I sincerely hope that Nirmaan has done justice to the beautiful work of all the writers and artists. With great pleasure, the entire editorial team and Debate and Literary Activities (DLA, VJTI) present to you the re-invented version of Nirmaan. Happy reading!

-Riddhi Nisar
Chief Editor, Nirmaan.

Please note: The views and opinions expressed in the magazine are those of the bylined authors and do not represent the official position of the college or the Editorial Board.



Meet The Nirmaan'2019 Team



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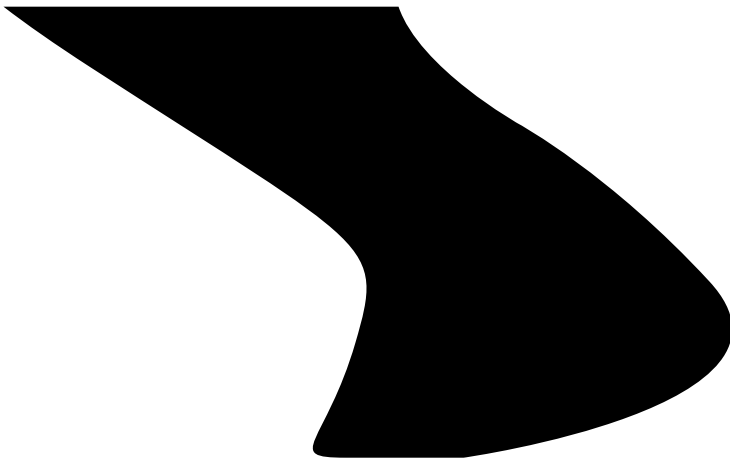
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**COFFEE
LIVES**

English

1

the team

**Karan Bundele
Debashri Kedar**

Every human life is a medley of fascinating stories, be it a vivacious anecdote or a long gloomy tale. We never limpidly narrate these episodes, but would certainly express them through a different medium of communication such as music, art, dance and so on. One of the most important tools for humans to articulate the countless thoughts suspended in their heads is through Literature. For centuries, it has helped us to translate the intangible realm of our imagination into comprehensible texts which provided a huge platform for us to share our stories.

This year at Nirmaan, we've put our diligent efforts into bringing such latent stories. The edition showcases a wide variety of vibrant prose and spectacular poetries. This section promises the readers a dynamic, fun inducing rollercoaster ride through the amazing articles penned down by our very own engineers in progress who have secretly worked their magic through words. In this issue of Nirmaan we have

endeavoured to capture all the creative excellence and exclusive imagination that every student possess. These debut young contributors have come up with fresh ideas, novice thoughts, diverse writing styles.

Let us together embark this fascinating journey indulging in our much-relished passion of reading with an enormous glass of iced tea on the side.

Engineering the English Section

Writing is an important but difficult art and the VJTI magazine, Nirmaan, the creation creates and provides an opportunity to encourage this art form. It is a platform for the students to express their views and give their outlook on the world today. Looking at the present society ... Where conflict, violence and acts of terrorism are the order of the day... the youngsters, students are considered to be the representatives of a more hopeful tomorrow. Education is not only about learning to think critically, logically and analytically but also about societal transformation. It is about building a non violent society. Especially, students of engineering are projected as emancipators of society due to their expertise in technology. They are expected to anticipate challenges and meet them head on.

In the English Section, the student- writers prove their talents in areas beyond technology... A glance through and you will witness that our engineers are not simply mechanical humanoids who find solace in the confines of machinery but have an emotional quotient of their own. The writing ranges from contemplative thoughts and artistic expressions to reflections on the state of the society that we live in. We are delighted to put before you the English Section- the result of the students labour and toil. We feel ourselves fortunate for being given the privilege of putting together the English Section. But somewhere in the delight is also a mixture of apprehension for we hope you will enjoy and appreciate our efforts. Our endeavour has been to present the varied ability of the students. We hope that reading this section will be as pleasurable an experience for you as working on it has been for us.

**-Dr. Meera Bharwani,
Department of Humanities and Management.**

DREAMWEAVER

"Failed y'day, heart becomes hollow,
Life is rough, no place for sorrow,
Basket of chances, one to be borrowed,
Get up again, there's new tomorrow.

Tries don't end, dreams don't shatter,
Feeling small? You're much greater,
Confused person, I know you better,
Realize that, I've been with you forever.

You are colourful, nobody knows,
Embrace your talents, live to grow,
Ignore the doubters, let them go,
People's love is fake, they don't show.

There ain't anyone for you, if you see,
Holding your back, there I will be,
Step by step, walk beside me,
World's confined, I'll set you free.

**-Mansi Mishra
FY IT**

THE GLORIOUS HISTORY OF VJTI

It was a very exciting day. With my breath held tight and a chill down my spine, I walked towards the admission room for formalities. "Kunjal, son, see this foundation stone! It dates to 1887!", said my mother, as she was sauntering, looking at the old building that seemed to smile, having stood erect for decades, taking pride. It did make me wonder... why not research on the history of the Institute of which we are going to be a part, very soon?

We all ought to be aware and take pride in this legacy which has played a pioneering role in fostering technical education in India. In the year 1887, when Queen Victoria completed fifty years of queenship in England, several memorials were built, and institutes were named in her honour, across the globe. The VICTORIA JUBILEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE was established and hosted in the Old Elphinstone College Building in Byculla, because the British government needed technically skilled "diploma" holders to work for the Bombay Province. Electrical and Textile were the first two departments in VJTI. In 1906, the Chemistry department was added, and in 1914, the Sanitary Department was established.

One important milestone in its history is the recognition of VJTI as "Central Technological Institute" for the Bombay province by the Governor in 1913. Please note: All this happened while our Institute was still in Byculla. Now, in 1923, since the number of students was increasing tremendously, the Governor decided to move the college to the present campus in Matunga. VJTI was still a diploma college. The Bachelor Degree courses in Textile, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering were started in 1946, 1947 and 1949 respectively. VJTI was the only engineering college under Mumbai University until the 1960s, when IIT Bombay was established.

The Computer Engineering department was actually established in 1985 with MCA as the only course. MCA, VJTI was the first computer course under the University of Mumbai. Slowly it added B.Tech and M.Tech degrees in various disciplines. The biggest turning point in VJTI's history was its renaming; in 1997. The Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute was renamed to Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute, to honour Rajmata Jijabai, the mother of Shivaji Maharaj. This was a very intelligent move by the management — preserving the VJTI brand both nationally and internationally.

VJTI is the second engineering college in Maharashtra to become autonomous in 2004, after COEP (College of Engineering Pune) which became autonomous in 2003. Since then, till date, it is achieving great heights of success and popularity with its students performing brilliantly in and outside the country. Our popular app, m-Indicator, was developed by a VJTI alumnus. Moreover, Padma Vibhushan Dr. Anil Kakodkar is also a VJTI alumnus.

Though I understand that we students dislike some issues like the infrastructure here, what I would like to convey is that every coin has two sides. Hence we should look at the brighter side of the story, like placements, friends, etc, and be proud of the 132 years of legacy of which we all are a part. Finally, with a salute to our alma mater and excitement all around, we say, "AAMCHI AAI, TUMCHI AAI, VEERMATA JIJABAI!"

-Kunjal S. Shah
SYCE

the curse

Arthur saw the children running aimlessly, laughing heartily, no worries to interrupt their jovial mood. Not even the scorching sunlight could dampen their spirits. One of them pointed at another, babbled something, and all of them fell down laughing hysterically. Clutching their stomachs, and with tears in their eyes, they finally stopped laughing and stood up on their feet again.

Arthur remembered the day when he first realized why he couldn't go out to play with his peers. He was frustrated and shrieked and cried to go outside. But he couldn't.

The kids were still in their school uniforms, Arthur mused, they had probably come to play immediately once they'd reached their home. Arthur imagined it. A kid would rush in, fling off his backpack and rush out, with his mother shouting out after him, commanding him to come back. Arthur smiled at the thought.

He had looked into his mother's gentle, troubled eyes, and had asked with a bitter, exasperated, agonizing tone, "Why me?" his mother stood silent.

"Why me?!" he had asked again, this time with more anger. Even though he was a young lad at that time, anger and frustration were no strangers to him. His mother's gentle eyes were now swelling up, and she pulled her son into a tight embrace, murmuring her apologies. But it wasn't her mistake. And Arthur knew that.

Now, the children were engaged in some type of a racing spree, and were jubilantly galloping across the field. The wind stroked their hair with the love of a mother. It pressed comfortingly on their faces. It fuelled them. But Arthur never could and never would feel that - the freedom one feels when one runs endlessly, and then tires down, and pants, and smiles. Arthur never felt that excitement, that satisfaction, that blessing of standing and running and jumping. All his life, people hadn't trusted him with being able to do many things, and perhaps they were right.

His mother had explained it to him countless times. Often, he would dream of that luxury that fate had seized from him. And then he would wake up every morning to face the harsh truth which he had struggled to accept. It brought a lump to his throat every time, **because** it had taken away most of his childhood from him, **Because** it killed him every day.

Arthur shook his head from his memory, and moved his wheelchair inside his house, with a skill that a lifetime of experience had built in him.

-Akshat Shah
FYIT

inseparable

She sat by the window, admiring the night sky with a twinkle in her eyes. I asked her if she felt at peace. She said that she did. By the moonlight, her black hair shined as she put her hand through it once in a while, to feel the night breeze.

The world flocked towards her. I envied her sometimes, for it was because of her cheerful, lively spirit, which I could not always maintain on my tired and weary face. She would always have a genuine smile on her face, and it showed in her eyes. Her optimism and carefreeness was infectious, but I often wondered how far it would be with her in this cruel world full of disappointments. I, often justifying myself in my pessimistic outlook, admired this trait in her.

Don't let her disposition mislead you. She has been broken before, brutally so. She has been broken before and joined the pieces back and filled the cracks with gold. I am in awe of her courage. Her smiles may suppress her sorrow, frustration, or even a tear at times – a task that she has mastered – and so well that even I would never know. She might be a storm inside, yet somehow she manages to quell another.

She isn't completely oblivious to the real world, though she might look like it. Despite knowing the greed, narcissism, and cunning that runs in the blood of today's fast-paced youth, she, unlike many, believes in giving. I brainstorm with her a lot on this topic. While I am not wrong in saying that people should always be treated like the way they treat others – good or bad, she believes in treating them as good as she is. She believes in rising above all thoughts, and wishing well for everyone.

Opposites attract, and that's true in my case. I don't know how we, though each of such a different philosophy, get along so well. She isn't all that perfect though. Neither am I. But each one is necessary to keep the other in check! I am for practicality, she, for idealism. There have been instances where she has no choice but to accept my reason. How can she be right all the time?

I am completely different from her, but my perspectives manifest themselves as my worry for her. Come on, she needs to learn the "ways of the world" now. Too much of goodness isn't right for anyone; she'll just end up hurting herself. She can't just forgive people, keep giving though they have nothing to give in return, and bless others with things that they do not deserve. Right? Wrong. She can, and she does. And she quotes a quote as an answer to that – 'Your character is how you treat others who can do nothing for you'.

Everybody loves her. She never forgets to make anyone's day. Putting the needs of others before her own, she wins all affection and hearts. I don't know how she does that. I don't know

why she does that. She is amazing. She is a superwoman. She has been my support in tough times, when my will to do almost anything had ceased. She showed me the brighter side of life and made me believe (at least temporarily) that there is always hope. She looks forward to a lot of things in life, and encourages me to do the same. When times hit me hard and broke my bones and pressed me to the ground, she told me that it's only so that I could get back up stronger. She offered me her shoulder till I learned to walk again, and walk better. If I have appeared and emerged undaunted and indomitable after the numerous challenges life threw at me (or still does), then it is all because of her. Nobody could help me but her.

Oh what would I have done without her! Some days I wonder, what if she leaves me? What if we are separated, by land or emotions? Oh no, she wouldn't. I know it. She wouldn't leave me like this. She will always be there. My gratitude towards her keeps on increasing.

Modest as she is, she thinks she is never enough. But I know the truth, that not everyone deserves such a gem. Maybe not even my hopeless, worn out self, who only drags her spirit down. Yet, she still remains by me. She firmly states that she isn't beautiful, but I have seen in her the inner beauty which I have seen in no other. I aspire to imbibe her strengths into myself someday. As I think of her, I smile. I smile at her, and she smiles back at me. It's my friend in the mirror – me.

**-Nidhee Kamble
SY Comps**

THAT'S THE WAY IT WORKS

No breath goes without its thought,
Cannot understand it either.
At this point,
losing hope is much easier...

But backing off will cause me to lose,
And fighting back may beget me a scar,
Or a bruise.
It is the time when I have to choose,
What needs to be kept,
And what needs to be set loose....

When your "you have no option" situation happens,
My mind proves the situation wrong,
In its own ways;

To saddle up and get back to work,
To tolerate all setbacks,
It indeed involved a lot of patience and effort!
I don't exactly know where I will go,
But there's certainly no backing off or feeling low.

Instead I will gather all the courage,
And give myself a headstart.
Because that's the way it works,
BECAUSE THAT IS THE WAY IT WORKS!

**-Dhanashree Bhandare
FY IT**

It might not be easy to conclusively define happiness, but everyone knows what it is. Actually, it is quite simple. If you've been happy, you know the meaning of happiness. But why is happiness so significant? A careful reflection will reveal that the only reason we do anything in life is to maintain or enhance our happiness levels. Everything humanity has achieved until now is the result of someone's quest for happiness. And dare I say it, even a great deal of suffering in the world was brought about because someone wanted to be happy. 'How?' you ask? Well, someone somewhere was unhappy with his scope of control, wanted to consolidate more power, and he waged wars. We all know how those turned out.

Now think about the moments of happiness you had in the last 24 hours. If you compare this to the number of such moments you had in 24 hours as a 5-year-old, you will realize that the 5-year-old you was a much happier individual. Somebody had to literally make an effort to make you unhappy. So what happened when we grew up? Sure, life has changed a lot. Yes, we still have moments of happiness. But somewhere along the way, have we lost the ability to maintain that happiness? Is that why we have so many cases of depression and anxiety today? (Fact: India is the most depressed country in the world, followed by China and the USA.) If so, is there something we can do about it?

For that, let's take a quick trip down the evolutionary lane. In 2 million years, as we descended from Homo Habilis to Homo Sapiens, the human brain grew in mass from some 300g to the 1400g of flesh everybody has between their ears. And why was nature so eager for us to have big brains? It turns out that when brains triple in size, they don't just get three times bigger. They gain new structures. And one of the main reasons that our brain got so big is because it got a new part, called the frontal lobe, particularly, a part called the pre-frontal cortex (PFC). The PFC is primarily an experience simulator

HAPPINESS

and then

SOME

which is also in charge of our emotions. More specifically, the PFC is an integral part of the pleasure-reward mechanism of the brain. What this mechanism does is whenever it senses something good, the pleasure receptors are stimulated which activates the reward center. And this reward center releases dopamine and serotonin. (For the uninitiated, these are your happiness hormones. The feeling you call happiness is what you experience when these hormones are released.)

Now, there's something you can do voluntarily, anywhere, anytime that sends a message to the brain saying, "Dude, something wonderful is happening, release the dopamine!" You can SMILE! Every time you smile your brain thinks it's time to be happy. Doesn't matter whether you're smiling because of something good that's happened, or just smiling for no reason whatsoever. So the next time you're in a boring lecture where everything is going over your head and you're wondering what on earth is wrong with you, just start smiling! And no, you don't need to grin like an idiot mid-lecture; just a small contraction of your facial muscles that mimics the muscle movement of a smile is enough for your brain to get the message.

Now when you do this, one of two things can happen. Either your mood improves and you start getting at least something of what's being taught OR you still won't understand anything but later when your friend comes up to you and starts whining about the lecture, you would still be in a happy state of mind. And that in itself is an amazing accomplishment. Because happiness is really all there is and all there ever will be; everything else is only a means to happiness.

-Hrishikesh Rajasekharan
SY EXTC

LIMITS

In the ocean dark I think I cannot swim, as
I never crossed the pool,

In the open sky I think I cannot fly, as I
never jumped off the roof.

When do's and don'ts curb your life, you
think if you even live at all?

My heart says run, but brain curbs all!

Love scares me and so does trust,

These fancies are hard to resist,

And much harder to clutch.

Those tall mountains are where my heart
wants to reside,

But the dwindling suburbs are where my
feet rest beside.

Wait is not eternal, the expectations are!

Understanding this an era seems to pass,

So I stop and I see around, if at all my
soul finds its peace about.

-Utkarsha Toradmal.
SY Comps



LESSONS LEARNT ON THE SPORTS FIELD

We all have heard the saying, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy". This is indeed true because in this age of cutthroat competition and the desire to excel only in academics, we ignore the virtues and vital lessons we can learn on the sports field. Sports and games are undoubtedly the building blocks of health and character. Their importance in the over - all and holistic development of children cannot be denied - their importance cannot and should not be ignored.

Sports, teaches us the virtue of discipline and time management. All games begin at a specified time and end at a specified time. The player has to give his best during this period. This time constraint helps us realize the importance of time and how to utilize it to the fullest.

Next, games teach us how to focus and concentrate on a given task at hand. You cannot switch off mentally or physically for even a second. Sharpening of reflexes, thinking strategically, making quick decisions are all a result of playing sports, in addition to helping people stay physically fit.

Next, it teaches us the lesson of sportsmanship. Sports teach us to be magnanimous in victory and sporting in defeat – and that the best may not always win but one must come back and do it again in spite of it all.

Sports also teaches us the qualities of teamwork, camaraderie and cooperation. Team sports especially, encourages us to play together, adapt and adjust to different circumstances and try to come out victorious. The ability to work in a team also helps in other situations like in a research project or a team project. These qualities surely give a person an upper hand in the real world.

One of the most important goals of education is the social development of a person. Not only should students have the ability to interact with others, they should feel comfortable when dealing with both individuals their age and older. Extracurricular activities certainly provide the opportunity for students to grow socially. They learn to leave behind their insecurities and express themselves fearlessly. A student's growth and maturity socially is just as crucial as any other lesson learned in school. Not just this, sports also provides excellent career opportunities for those who are extraordinarily adept in their respective game. Sporting greats like Sachin Tendulkar, Lionel Messi, and Michael Jordan all bear testament to the fact that hard work and the love for the game can take you to great heights.

Thus, I would like to conclude with what Michael Jordan has said. "Winning isn't everything, but wanting it is".

-Suvidh Shah
SYIT

THE STARK REALIZATION

In the wake of tomorrow, I have suddenly realized
It was only yesterday, that I was a child!
Small and innocent, I had no worries
I was free from all of life's miseries.
As I sit back and reflect, today I am just a year
before eighteen
And have realized, life is not the Garden of Eden I
had dreamed!
Obstacles, hurdles and draughts cover my goals,
Whenever I am in to play a major role!
Life is such an irony one wonders,
Today the living is told:
'You act like a dead man!'
And the dead is told:
'May you get a good life in heaven'
On one hand I am told "God helps in times of
trouble"
And on the other "God helps only those who help
themselves"
Now will someone help me!
It is said that whatever happens, never fear,
Be brave; think about your goals and cheer.
The light will shine and the clouds will clear.
Rain only comes where there is a lot of heat,
So as long as you are determined there is nothing
you cannot beat!

-Somya Jain
SY Tronics

CHOICE

You have a choice,
You can just leave or stay.
Let safety guide your future,
or let passion lead the way.
Risk tomorrow for a bright today,
or risk today for a better tomorrow.
Seizing the day,
chasing the day.
Let time overpower you,
or don't give time the chance to
overpower you.
A single strand of hope will motivate
you,
or a bundle of hope will render a
clueless you.
Trust the magic of new beginnings,
Or continue with your mundane
innings.
Believing that your beauty can bully
the stars,
Or be the bully of your own beauty.
Every cloud has a silver lining,
Or every rose has its thorns.

-Disha Lekurwale
FY Comps

BUTTERFLIES

Clouds passing away swiftly,
Like the desert sand.
Lying peacefully on the ground,
Seeing the world's silent stand.
Breathing faintly, with no sound,
While my life slips back into God's hand.
Counting each beat from my heart,
Leaving behind this shallow land.
Taking one last glimpse of my eye,
Something came to carry me away.
Without giving me a chance to say goodbye,
Not wanting a reason to stay,
Gliding away into the blue sky,
Fully departed from my body where I lay.
My life, in front of me revealed,
Blessing all those days I would pray.
God protecting me with his shield,
Kept his promise to take me back one day.
Now I am back to where I belong,
Past the horizon of the ocean sky,
Living among the butterflies.
Reunited with my loved ones,
Who were also carried by the butterflies.
For you I will wait beyond the Sun,
Somewhere deep into the skies.
When your life on Earth is done,
You will also be carried by the butterflies.
If, for some reason you are carried off by the bats.
It is your own fault.
You will be put in a dark cave with the rats.
All alone locked in your own vault.

-Kripa R Pathak
SY EXTC



TRADITIONAL INDIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

As a proud Indian, when it comes to the ancient Indian traditions and customs, they're like a feather in my cap. Particularly the ancient Indian Education System. In the past, Indians have followed the Gurukul system of learning. That means a pupil had to leave his family and live in an Ashram along with the Guru and his family for the purpose of attaining education. This system had certain distinct features. There would be no discrimination here, be it a king's child or a merchant's child or for that matter a poor Brahmin's child, everyone would be considered as a student and given the same treatment. Isn't that remarkable, considering that some parts of the world in this modern era still practise discrimination? In fact, the traditional Indian learning system firmly believed that 'education was for making of a man and not just for survival'. And that's what has made the traditional Indian knowledge sustainable till today-be it Yoga or Ayurveda.

The three stages of learning were-

1. **Shravana**- listening to truths from the teacher.
2. **Manana**- assimilating the lesson by the student himself.
3. **Nidhyasana**- complete comprehension of truth.

The best part about our ancient system of education was that it was a part of nature and not apart from it. The students always used to be amidst lakes and trees, birds and animals, oceans and mountains. This sense of being connected with nature not just helped them in being closer to nature, but also played a very important role in their entire course of education. If we want to understand laws of nature (the primary purpose of education), we need to be connected with it. The magnanimity of this past system of education was so tremendous that students from foreign lands used to stay in Nalanda and Takshashila to study in these ancient Indian universities. In fact, there are instances of students completing their education from these ancient Indian universities and taking back certain books to their lands for enlightening the citizens in their countries.

It is this traditional Indian system of learning that produced Aryabhatta and Bhaskaracharya and their mathematical concepts (concepts of trigonometry and zero), Sushruta and his medicinal studies (instances of surgery have been noted), Rishi Kanad and his concept of parmanu (close to the atom).

And it is this very traditional Indian education system which has left its roots to inspire modern Indian scientists, thinkers, philosophers and scholars. And this makes me really proud as an Indian....

JAI HIND!!!

I wait for a world unlike this one,
Where women are just women,
And men are men.

I wait for a world unlike this one,
Where we look up to humanity,
Not matriarchy or patriarchy.

I wait for a world unlike this one,
Where feelings are just feelings,
May they be of women or of men.

I wait for a world unlike this one,
Where the sun is the sun and the moon is the
moon,
And the night isn't all about terrors and the day
isn't all about sunshine.

I wait for a world unlike this one,
Where opinions matter,
Regardless of sex, class or colour.

I wait for a world unlike this one,
Where the open mind respects the
narrow,
And the narrow mind respects the open.

I wait for a world unlike this one,
Where there is no terror,
No fear to be ourselves and no fear to
speak our mind.

I wait for a world unlike this one,
Where a body is a body,
Not judged upon gender, not judged
upon size.

I wait for a world unlike this one,
Where all are equal,
Where there is respect and admiration,
Where humanity resides.

-Karan Bundele
TY Textile

**A
WORLD
UNLIKE
THIS
ONE.**

DESOLATION

Silence in the dark,
Clawing at the wrists,
Gnawing on the heart.
An enigma of lies,
Sitting on the throne
Yet lounging in the pews of the mind.
A frightening familiar unknown,
a returning stranger.
Do away and never return again,
A heart so fragile could never bear once more.
A hope, long lost;
Pain, devouring all will whilst willing it to grow,
Until it all pours into the abyss.
Emptying out the soul,
Draining out all colour,
Until like a dried leaf only death remains.
But seasons change,
The new warmth masks the cold,
And nature leafs out once more.
The new replaces the old,
And death is brushed aside by the novel birth.
Yet memories never fade,
A blurry past makes hope waiver,
Making the same changes a constant.
And a life of infinite possibilities
Turns into a moribund infinite loop.

-Kunjali Avsare
SY Civil

मराठी

2

the team

**Padmashree Samant
Aniruddha Shidhaye**

निर्माण २०१८ चे मराठी विभागाचे मुख्य संपादक या नात्याने प्रास्ताविक लिहिताना आम्हाला विशेष आनंद होत आहे. "माझ्या मराठाचि बोलू कौतुके । अमृतातेही पैजा जिंके ॥" ह्या संत ज्ञानेश्वरांच्या काव्यपंक्तींना तद्धत सार्थ ठरवत आपुल्या मधुर, रसाळ अशा सर्वांगसुंदर , संपन्न आणि समृद्ध मराठी भाषेचे निर्माणच्या माध्यमातून ऋण फेडण्याची संधी आम्हा दोघांना मुलांनी हि आमच्यासाठी अभिमानाची गोष्ट आहे .

व्हीजेटीआयच्या साहित्य आणि काव्य क्षेत्रातील अभिमानाचे प्रतीक म्हणजे - "निर्माण २०१८". व्हीजेटीआयच्या विद्यार्थ्यांचे कविमन , लेखनकौशल्य आणि त्यांची प्रतिभाशक्ती याला शाब्दिक रूपात चिरायू व्यासपीठ मिळावे म्हणून घाट घातला

तो या निर्माण वार्षिकचा . ह्या वार्षिकचा मुख्य मुद्दा म्हणजे व्हीजेटीआयमध्ये होणाऱ्या घडामोडींचा लेखाजोगा वाचकांसमोर मांडला जावा अवघ्या महाराष्ट्राच्या आणि व्हीजेटीआय च्या सुज्ञ मराठी वाचकांसमोर सादर अभिमानाने आम्ही घेऊन येत आहोत निर्माण २०१८ चा हा मराठी विभाग, ह्या विभागातून तुम्ही कोणताही लेख किंवा काव्य वाचा , प्रत्येक लेख तुमच्या मनाला तितकीच आल्हादकता आणि आनंद देऊन जाईल.

निर्माणची ह्या वर्षाची आवृत्ती तुमच्या सर्वांच्या पसंतीस नक्की उतरेल ह्याच आम्हाला नक्की खात्री आहे. ह्या लेखांमधून तुमच्यातील कविमन आणि प्रतिभाशक्तीचा जन्म होवो हीच सदिच्छा

सांग रे सख्या

सांग रे सख्या , काय आहे नाते आपुले
का तुजविण विचार करता, एक क्षण हि वाटे अधुरे?

का, तुजसोबत सारे जग फिरावेसे वाटे?
तुझ्याशी बोलताना वेळेचे भानच ना उरावे ?

तुझ्या त्या छोट्या विनोदी आणि रोमांचक
कथांमध्ये,

मी सुद्धा गुंतून जाते

तू उदास असता, मन अस्थिर होते
जणू कोणी मनावर खूप मोठे ओझे ठेवले....

तुजविण एक क्षणहि करमेनासे होते,
सांग रे सख्या , काय आहे नाते आपुले ?

तुझ्यासोबत व्यतीत केलेला प्रत्येक तास,

तुझ्या भेटीची मधुर आस ,

तुझ्या सर्व आठवणी

अगदी मनाला प्रसन्न करी

पण कधी कधी मनात प्रश्न उद्भवे

राहशील ना असाच नेहमी ?

कधी कधी वाटे, आपली खूप कालांतरपासूनची
ओळख

तुझ्या शब्दात जाणावे आपुलकीची अनोखी
झलक....

तू जवळ नसूनही, वाटे तितकाच जवळ ,
हे निरागस मन, उलगडे फक्त तुझ्याचसमोर

सांग ना रे सख्या काय नाते आहे आपुले?

अन का तुजविण विचार करताना , एक क्षणहि वाटे
अधुरे ???

-Dhanshree
SYIT

व्यथा एकविसाव्या शतकाची

हे भारत माते तुझा आम्हा
अभिमान आहे
मिळवून देण्या स्वातंत्र्य तुज
केले जीवाचे रान आहे

सान असो व थोर लढले
तुझ्यासाठी तिरंग्या ...
बाजी लावुन प्राणाची
हाकलवून लावण्या फिरंग्या

सर्वात मोठ्या लोकशाहीला
सारे विश्व करतय सलाम
परमाणु नवभारताचे
आधारस्तंभ प्रिय आमुचे कलाम

मोदींच्या मेक इन इंडियाने
होतोय भरभर विकास
मात्र अन्नदात्या बळीराज्याच्या
होतोय रोज उपवास

आज जम्मू काश्मीरच्या मुद्द्यावरून
दहशतवाद घडतोय ...
मातुभूमीच्या रक्षणासाठी
जवान सीमेवर लढतोय

भारतीय असल्याचा सर्वानाच
आहे मनापासून अभिमान
बलाढ्य, सुंदर, समृद्ध, स्वातंत्र्य
माझा भारत देश महान ...

-Prathmesh
TYIT

महाराष्ट्राचा आवडता 'स्टॅन्ड-अप कॉमेडियन'

विसाव्या शतकात मराठी वाङ्मयात खूप भर पडली. बरेच गंभीर लेखन या काळात झाले. पण तेव्हाच एक हलकं -फुलकं लेखन करणाऱ्या लेखकालाही प्रसिद्धी मिळाली. कारण ह्या माणसाने सांगितले की आयुष्यं फार गूढ-गंभीर वगैरे नाही, किंबहुना ते तसं जगायची आपल्याला गरज नाही. आयुष्यं हे छोट्या-छोट्या आनंदाच्या क्षणांनी बनत असते. वाईट परिस्थितीत हसता येणं ही पण एक कला आहे. आणि तशा परिस्थितीत हसवता येणे हे तर देवाचे वरदानच आहे. असे हे वरदान ज्यांना लाभले आणि ज्यांनी त्याच्या मदतीने सर्वांना हसविले ते म्हणजेच पु. ल. देशपांडे.

पु. ल. देशपांडे यांच्या लेखनातील सर्वात सुंदर पैलू म्हणजे की ते रोजच्या जीवनाबद्दल लिहायचे. त्यामुळे ते सर्वांना आपलेसे वाटू लागले. म्हणून त्यांना प्रेमाने सर्वच पु.ल. म्हणायचे. ती प्रथा अजून ही चालू आहे.

पु. ल. जगाचे व जगातील लोकांचे बारकाईने निरीक्षण करायचे व त्यांवर पुस्तके लिहायचे, जसे की 'व्यक्ति आणि वल्ली', 'बटाट्याची चाळ', 'असा मी असामी', 'अपूर्वाई', 'पूर्वरंग'. ह्यातील कित्येक व्यक्तिरेखा त्यांनी अजरामर केल्या, जसे की 'चितळे मास्तर', 'अंतू बरवा', 'हरि तात्या', इत्यादी.

आज-काल आपण बरेच 'स्टॅन्ड-अप कॉमेडियन' च्या एकांकिका बघतो व त्यांवर खूप हसतो. याचे मुख्य कारण आहे की आपण त्या लोकांच्या त्या किस्स्यांना अनुभवलेलं असतं. पु. ल. यांचे लेखन ही असेच आहे. दर लग्नात एक नारायण आणि दर वर्गात एक सखाराम गटणे असतोच. मुंबईतल्या चाळींतील जीवनशैलीचे वर्णन बटाट्याच्या चाळीत हुबेहुब केले आहे. आणि असा मी असामी मध्ये तर ते म्हणतात कि ते एका कारकुनाचे आत्मचरित्रच आहे - म्हणजेच ते एका शहरातील एका सामान्य माणसाचे आत्मचरित्र आहे. त्यामुळे अशा ह्या माणसाला महाराष्ट्राचा आवडता 'स्टॅन्ड-अप कॉमेडियन' म्हणणे काही चुकीचे ठरणार नाही .

-Mrunmayee
TYcomps



कोण हिंदू कोण मुसलमान
कोण शीख कोण इसाई
सारे आपलेच भाई
मग का बर एकमेकांच्या जीवावर उठलेत
सांग मज माझी भारतमाता आई

विसरले का ते महाराजांची शिकवण
का आठवत नाहीत संतांचे श्लोक
लक्ष्यात घ्या बांधवानो
जातीय वाद पडतोय आपल्याच संस्कृतीला भोक

इंग्रजांनी केले 'डिव्हाइड अँड रूल'
भारतमातेचे झाले तुकडे
हि केवढी मोठी भूल
सावध व्हा लवकर आता तरी
नाहीतर भारतमातेची होईल धुमसती चूल

आठवा ती पोखरणची चाचणी
अमेरिकेच्या डोलाला टाचणी
केव्हा थोर आपला आर्यभट उपग्रह
हिंसेशी कधीच नाही केला तह

रमण, खुराणा , टागोर
केवढे भले कर्तृत्व
विश्वात सिद्ध करून दाखविला, भारताचा जोर
महान असा तो हिमालय
नामतोच ना तो सूर्यापुढे

कुणाचा भगवान
कुणाचा अल्लाह
कुणाचा येशू
अहो एवढे तरी आहे का भान
त्याच्याच नावाने धरता आहेत एकमेकांची मान

लवकर जागे व्हा
मुलंच आपण सारी भारत मातेची
तिच्याच खांद्यावर खेळून
लिहू गोष्ट आपल्या प्रगतीची

-Siddhi Khandagale

मनात माझ्या

ध्वस्तप्रेम

कसे सांगू तुला कि तुझ्या सहवासात माझे सर्व दुःख विरते

तुझ्या भेटीची मी नेहमीच आतुरतेने वाट पाहते

तू दिसशील समोर कधीतरी , हीच सदैव मनी आस असते ...

तुला त्याच क्षणी सारे काही सांगावेसे वाटते ??

परंतु , तुला गमावण्याची भीती मनामध्ये घर करून बसते

ना जाणे का तू समोर असता,
मी निशब्ध होते

तुला बोलताना पाहता
माझे भान हरपते ...

अन तू न उरतो , मी न उरते, उरतो तो फक्त क्षण ,
आणि ह्याच क्षणावर सदैव रंगळते हे बावरे मन

तुजसोबत असताना घड्याळाचे काटे थांबावे,
आणिक ते क्षण मनात कायमचे साठवून ठेवावे,
ज्यांवर न वेळेचे घात होतील, न विस्मरणाचे ...

आयुष्याच्या पानावरती हे क्षण जणू सोनेरी
अक्षरांमध्ये कोरले जातील

जे न कधी फिके पडतील, न कधी विरतील,
आणिक, कितीही दूर गेलास, तरीही
आठवणी मात्र आयुष्यभर उरतील

-Dhanshree
SYIT

देवा मला

सांग ना...!!!

तुटलो आतून कितीदा तरी
कोसळलो कधीच नाही ...
लढलो वाईट काळाशी मानून
क्षण हाही निघून जाईल ...

कळलं नाही प्रेम माझं तिला
प्रयत्न मनापासून मी केले ना...
सांग देवा मला एकदा
मी प्रेम खर केलं ना ...

समोर ती नसली तरी
विसरलो कधीच नाही ...
आकर्षणाच्या दुनियेतहि मन
दुसऱ्या कोणातच रमल नाही ..
हातात तिचाच हात असावा म्हणून
आयुष्य वेड्यासारखं जगलो ना ...
सांग देवा मला एकदा
मी प्रेम खर केलं ना ...

जखमा झाल्या हृदयावर तरी
साथ अर्ध्यात सोडली नाही ..
कळेल तिलाही मन माझं
वाट बघणं सोडलं नाही ...
नाकारलं आजवर अनेकदा तरी
आदर प्रेमाचा करत राहिलो ना
सांग देवा मला एकदा
मी प्रेम खर केलं ना ...

-Prathmesh
TYIT

खरच प्रेम किती विलक्षण असत ना ...!!!
काही कळत नसत, अन
न काही वळतही असत
तरी का कुणी जाणे
उधळत, खिधळत, बोंबड्याने
तिच्या प्रत्येक शब्दाला होकार देत असत ...

जणु काही लहान मुला परी .
थोडसं कच्च असत ,
पण मनाच खुप पक्क असत..
खरच प्रेम किती विलक्षण असत ना ...!!!

कोणतीही दिशा नसते,
न कोणतीही वेशी असते ,
मनात फक्त एकच ग्रीड असते
की उंच आकाशी जाऊन फ्रीड होण्याची...

न कोणती चिंता, न कोणाची परवा ,
अन् ना कोणतीही भीती ..
जणु काही विहारांपरी.
मुक असत ,
पण मनात खुप काही खूपत असत ,
खरच प्रेम किती विलक्षण असत ना ...!!!

कधी चिटींग तर कधी डेटिंग,

प्रेमाच्या विविध रुपा

कधी रस्त्याच्या कडेची पाणीपुरी, तर कधी
डॉमीनोज मधला पीझ्झा,
कधी हासु तर कधी रडू ,
तोंडापुढे अट्हास अन्
दोघा-तिघात उपहास ,
अन् असा काही होत चाललय प्रेमाचा न्हास.
देव जाणे त्यांना काय सिद्ध करायच असत

आंधळ असत ना बिचार

त्याला काय कळत कोण त्याला स्वर्ग दाखवतय
आणि कोण नर्क,
खरच प्रेम किती विलक्षण असत ना ...!!!

मान नाही न अपमान नाही,

ना काही मिळवण्याची लालच ना काही हरवण्याची
भीती,

आता काहीतरी अशीच झालीय सगळ्यांची
सगळ्यांची नीति .
समाजातील विरोधकांचा विरोध सहन करून
एका जागी ठामपणे उभे असते ,
जणु काही शिखरापरी .

दिसायाला जरी अवाढव्य असले तरी ते वासरु
गायीचेच ना..!

किती झुंज देणार , यांचा शेवट सुखात होतो की
दुःखात देवच जाणे ..!!
खरच प्रेम किती विलक्षण असत ना ...!!!

प्रेमाचा वारसा हा काही वेगळाच असतो ,
सुखद क्षणांच ते एक ड्रीम असत ,
तर दुखद क्षणांच नाईटमेयर .
मनातील नाजूक भावनांचा तो एक आरसा असतो ,
हा वारसा भेटला तर तर जीवनाला नवी वाचा फुटते ,

अन् नाही भेटला तर आयुष्याच्या काचा व्हायला
कधी सुरुवात होते कळतच नाही ...!!
खरच प्रेम किती विलक्षण असत ना ...!!!



नाही होणे राजा असा

नाही होणे राजा असा, जसा शिवबा माझा।
स्वराज्यासाठी लढला तो, नाही कशाची केली पर्वा
रयतेसाठी स्वीकारला त्याने सुखाचा दुरावा,
नाही होणे राजा असा, जसा शिवबा माझा।

अरे देवाला धरतीवर यायचे होते, म्हणूनी सोळाव्या शतकात,
जिजामातेच्या उदरी जन्म घेतला त्याने, नाव ठेविले शिवाजी त्याचे,
अरे शत्रुसुद्धा गातो गुणगान ज्याचे,
नाही होणे राजा असा, जसा शिवबा माझा।

नाही केला कधीच भेदभाव त्याने,
सर्वधर्म समभावाने जिंकली सान्यांची मने,
नाही होणे राजा असा, जसा शिवबा माझा।

नाही कधीच शमली तलवार त्याची,
कारण ओढ होती फक्त स्वराज्याची,
नाही होणे राजा असा जसा शिवबा माझा।

मूठभर मावळे घेऊन त्यांनी बलाढ्य शत्रूला धूळ चारली,
कारण आयुष्यात त्याने कधी हिम्मत नाही हरली,
नाही होणे राजा असा जसा शिवबा माझा।

न्हवती कशाचीही भिती त्याला फक्त मावळ्यांच्या जीवाची,
पण मावळ्यांना काळजी होती ती फक्त शिवाजीची,
नाही होणे राजा असा जसा शिवबा माझा।

प्रत्येक स्त्रीला दिला जिजामातेचा दर्जा,
नाही कोणाची हिम्मत झाली वरती करण्या नजरा,
नाही होणे राजा असा जसा शिवबा माझा।

होता जरी छोटा मनाने खूप मोठा,
स्वराज्यस्थापनेत होता त्याचा सिंहाचा वाटा,
नाही होणे राजा असा, जसा शिवबा माझा।

हिंदी

33

the team

मयूरगौरी सांगले
धर्मिन शाह

निर्माण २०१९ के हिंदी विभाग के मुख्य संपादक के नाते से यह अग्रलेख लिखते हुए हमें बेहद आनंद प्राप्त हो रहा है। मधुर, संपन्न और मन मोह लेने वाली हमारी राष्ट्र भाषा हिंदी इसकी किसी भी छोटे या बड़े माध्यम में सेवा करने का अवसर प्राप्त होना यह बड़े सौभाग्य की बात है।

व्ही. जे.टी.आय. जैसे प्रतिष्ठित महाविद्यालय के साहित्य जगत का महत्वपूर्ण भाग है निर्माण। यह ऐसा मंच है जहाँ अपनी बुद्धिमत्ता के लिये प्रसिद्ध विद्यार्थी अपनी कलम से अपने अंदर के कलाकार को जगाकर, अपने हुनर और अंतरआत्मा की आवाज़ को अपने लेख, चित्र, कविता इत्यादि के मार्ग से दुनिया के सामने पेश करते हैं।

विद्यार्थियों के लेखन, काव्य, कला, साहित्य इन गुणों को प्रोत्साहन देने का एक ज़रिया है निर्माण। आज निर्माण व्ही.जे.टी.आय. के लेखक, कवि और चित्रकार को दुनिया तक अपनी बात पहुंचाने का, उनका अपना मंच बन चुका है।

हिंदी विभाग आपके समक्ष इस वर्ष एक से बढ़कर एक लेख प्रस्तुत करने जा रहा है। तो कृपया अपने कुर्सी की पेटी बांधले और यह हसीन सफर का दिल खोलकर आनंद लें। यह आपको हसाएंगे, रुलाएंगे और आपको कुछ ही पल में अपना बना लेंगे। ऐसा अद्भुत साहित्य संग्रह कहीं और मिलना मुश्किल है। इसे हम सभी विद्यार्थियों ने बड़े प्यार से सींचा है और हमारे शिक्षकों ने इस सफर में हमारा मनोबल बनाये रखा है।

उम्मीद है आपको हमारा यह प्यार भरा निर्माण २०१९ पसंद आए और आपके मन को हमारे लेखकों के मन की आवाज़ का स्पर्श हो जाए। और हमारा निर्माण इसी तरह विद्यार्थियों के अंदर के साहित्यकार को जगाए और यह परंपरा इसी तरह आगे बढ़ती चली जाए।

हिंदी और हम

हिंदी हमारी राष्ट्र भाषा है। लेकिन हमेशा ही इसको नज़रअंदाज़ किया गया है। इसका सबसे बड़ा कारण हमारी गुलामी रही है। अगर किसी देश को गुलाम बनाना है तो उसकी सभ्यता, संस्कृति और भाषा को खतम कर दो, धीरे धीरे वो राष्ट्र अपना अस्तित्व ही खो देगा। वही अंग्रेजों ने किया, हमारे पाठ्यक्रम को इस तरह बनाया की हम अपनी ही पहचान खो बैठें।

विश्व में हिंदी बोलने वालों की संख्या ५५ करोड़ है और जानने वालों की १ अरब, १० करोड़ और ३० लाख है। दुनिया के ९३ देशों में हिंदी सिखाई जाती है। हिंदी विश्व में बोले जाने वाली भाषाओं में दूसरे या तीसरे नंबर पर आती है। भारत की जनसंख्या और अनिवासी भारतीयों की संख्या के लिहाज़ से विश्व की सबसे अधिक बोली और समझने वाली भाषा है।

नॉर्वे और चीन में हिंदी की स्थिति दिन प्रतिदिन सुदृढ़ हो रही है। फरवरी २०१९ को आबूधाबी ने हिंदी को तीसरी भाषा का दर्जा दिया। विदेश में संस्कृत और हिंदी सीखने वालों की संख्या बहुत है। वे लोग जब हमारे देश में आते हैं तो हमारी तरह रहने की कोशिश करते हैं, हमारी भाषा बोलते हैं। फिर ऐसा क्या है कि हम कहीं भी अपनी भाषा का प्रयोग करने से कतराते हैं। जापान, चीन और भी ऐसे कितने ही देश हैं जो न तो अपनी भाषा और न ही पहनावे को दूसरों के लिये बदलते हैं। उन्हें अपने राष्ट्र पर गर्व है।

हमारे पाठ्यक्रम में आठवीं या दसवी तक हिंदी होती है, इसलिए तभी तक बच्चे लिखते हैं। और अब बोलने की बात करें तो इसके दो पहलू हैं - एक, अंग्रेजी बोलना समाज में "STATUS SYMBOL" है। अंग्रेजी में बात करना गर्व की बात है और हिंदी में बोलने वालों को हीनदृष्टी से देखा जाता है। आज कल के माता पिता अपने बच्चों को अंग्रेजी में बोलते देख प्रफुल्लित होते हैं।

दूसरे - शहरों के अधिकांश युवा अपने आप को आधुनिक दिखाने के लिए अंग्रेजी बोलते हैं। किसी इंटरव्यू में फरार्टेदार अंग्रेजी में जवाब दिया तो आपका चुनाव होने की गारंटी है। तकनीकी शिक्षा पढ़ने के लिये पुस्तकों कि कमी ये भी एक कारण है हिंदी की दुर्दशा का।

कुछ लोगों का कहना है कि तकनीकी शिक्षा पढ़ने वालों को हिंदी की क्या ज़रूरत है? किन्तु जो ज्ञान हम अपनी मातृभाषा में लेते हैं वो आसानी से समझ आता है। जरूरी तो नहीं है कि सबकुछ हिंदी में हो। वैसे भी हिंदी बहुत सरल भाषा है। उसमें उर्दू, फ़ारसी, संस्कृत और अंग्रेजी भाषा के अनगिनत शब्द घुलमिल गए हैं। हिंदी भाषित क्षेत्रों में अनौपचारिक वार्तालाप अधिकतर इंग्लिश मिश्रित हिंदी में होता है। हम

हिंदी में सोचते हैं और मस्तिष्क में स्वतः उसका अनुवाद होता है। सोचने की भाषा में बोलने और समझने में सहजता रहती है। माँ बच्चे से कहती है बेटा चलो hand washing कर लो। देखो वो क्या है डॉगी। ये तुम्हारी नोज़ी। बच्चा वही बोलना सीखता है। अस्पताल में डॉक्टर नर्स से कहते हैं "बैड नंबर ४ का पैशेंट का बीपी स्टेबल हुआ या नहीं या आप ठीक हैं कल डिस्चार्ज कर देंगे।" या - "तू कल क्यों नहीं आया?"। मुझे फीवर था, आज वीकनेस लग रही है मम्मी तो allow ही नहीं कर रही थी। कल आ जाइयो।" इस अंत के वार्तालाप में fever, weakness और allow इंग्लिश के शब्द हैं। फिर भी ये हिंदी है। आ जाइयो वाक्यांश दिल्ली क्षेत्र की विशेषता हैं।

विदेशी भाषाओं को सीखने, समझने और व्यवहार में लाने में कोई समस्या नहीं है परंतु इन्हें अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं की तुलना में बढ़ावा देना अत्यंत घातक और चिंताजनक है। विदेशी भाषाओं का अध्ययन करना अच्छा है परंतु अपनी भाषा की आलोचना करना दुःखद है। बहुत से बच्चों को कहते सुना है "मुझे हिंदी नहीं आती है, मराठी नहीं आती परंतु अंग्रेजी आती है, कितनी आसान है!"

उसमें कुछ गलती हमारे व्याकरण और भाषा के मुश्किल शब्दों की है। भाषा वही होनी चाहिए जो हम रोज़मर्रा में बोलते हैं, न कि 'लोहपथगामिनी' जैसे शब्द।

हमारी नागरी लिपि दुनिया की सबसे वैज्ञानिक लिपि है। टेलीविज़न, चित्रपट, संगीत तथा धारावाहिकों ने हिंदी को देश के कोने कोने में पहुँचा दिया है।

मुंशी प्रेमचंद का कथन हमारे लिये चिंतन का विषय है कि, "भाषा ही वह बंधन है जो चिरकाल तक राष्ट्र को सूत्र में बाँधे रखती है और इसे विभाजित होने से रोकती है।"

राष्ट्रभाषा की रक्षा में ही राष्ट्र, जाति एवं संस्कृति का भविष्य निहित है।

कुछ पंक्तियाँ मेरे दिल से -

हिन्दी मेरी भाषा है,
हिन्दी मेरी आशा है,
हिन्दी का उत्थान करना,
यही मेरी अभिलाषा है।

- आशा शर्मा

भारत के वीर

निडर होगी छाया आनेवाले संतानों की,
हमारे जवानों ने आतंक को इस प्रकार जो खदेड़ा है। |
खुद मौत का दामन अपनाकर, ज़िन्दगी का अदृश्य जोगा इन नन्ही जानों को पहनाया है।।
रक्तप्रेरित से रक्तरहित भारत का सपना इन्होंने ही साकार किया है | |

आज मैं किसी भी ज़िंदा दिल से नाता जोड़ सकता हूँ,
किसी के वर्ण, जात से मुझे क्या?
भेद करना हमारे गणतंत्र की शिक्षा नहीं, इसने तो सभी को भाईचारा ही सिखाया है।।
धरती माँ की कोख कभी सूनी नहीं होती, यह एहसास हमारे किसान भाईयों ने अपनी लगन और कड़ी मेहनत से हमें
दिलाया है।
उनके कष्ट से सींची हुई धरती पर
अपने अरमानों का महल खड़ा करें , इतने खुदगर्ज भला हम क्यों बने?

ज़िन्दगी में अगर कभी भी निराश हो जाऊं , एक बात तो हमेशा याद रखूँगा,
जिस धरती पर मेरे पहले पैरों के पदचिन्ह पड़े, जिसकी नीव में मेरे बचपन के दिन गुज़रे, जिसकी धरोहर ने मुझे अपने
पैरो पे खड़े होने के काबिल बनाया,
अगर उसका कर्ज़ चुकाना है, तो ज़िन्दगी की कीमत अपने देश के प्रती ईमानदारी और मेहनत से इतनी बढ़ा दो कि
मौत भी अगर किसी मोड़ पर तुम्हारी ज़िन्दगी का सौदा करने आए तो उसका दामन हमेशा खाली पाए ।।

गणतंत्र का मूल जुड़ा हुआ है सब देश-वासियों से।
अपने हक से ज्यादा अपने कर्तव्य के लिए लड़ेंगे तो कलाम जी का सोचा हुआ भारत अपने आप साकार होता
देखेंगे।।

- निखिल वसईकर
TY IT

जो “काफ़िर” कह गए कुछ लोगों
को
ईबादत के पैमाने पर,
वही खुदा का नाम लेकर
सलीके से जुर्म करते रहे।

निधी कांबले

सारे लेखक-लेखिकाओं को समर्पित -

इस क़लम के ज़रिये ज़ख़्मों को ज़बान दी
कैद ज़ज़्बातों को अपने आज़ाद कर गए
कहीं सिसकते थे जो रात की तन्हाई में कभी,
आज कागज़ की पनाह में स्याही-आसूँ बहा
गए।

निधी कांबले

कुछ इस कदर जिंदगी का हाल है ।

पाने के लिए कुछ नहीं था जब, डरता था गालियों की आवाज़ से ।
भटकता था दरबदर , महफ़िल और ऊँची ऊँची मुकामों की तलाश में ॥

कुछ था नहीं पास में , कोई हाथ नहीं थे हाथ में ।
मुस्कुराकर देख रहा था ज़िन्दगी को ,
चंद ख्वाब ही तों थे मेरे साथ में ॥

बेटा , है तू हीरा , है तू चाँद का टुकड़ा
कुछ अलग बात है तेरी , कहता है तेरा नूरानी मुखड़ा ।
क्यों थकती नहीं तू ?? क्यों मैं तेरा लाडला ?
क्या है मुझमें ऐसा ? क्यों हूँ मैं तेरा दुलारा ?
बेटा , सुंदरता का प्रतीक है तिल,
और जीवन का है हृदय ।
तू तो है मेरे दिल का तिल, तुझसे नहीं तो किससे प्यार करूँ ?
यह कहकर माँ समझाती थी खूब मुझे ।
खूब सताया उन बाँहों को , अब वे दामन खुशियों से भरना था मुझे ॥

नहीं थी ख्वाहिशें मेरे वालिद की ,
कि जाने उसका बेटा क्या करेगा ? क्या बनेगा ?
थूँकेगी दुनिया अगर कुछ ढंग का नहीं करेगा ।
फक्र है उस शख्सियत पर आज भी मुझे ,
कहा था जिसने , “निराश न हो बेटा , जो कुछ नहीं करते ना , वह कमाल
करतें हैं “ ॥

कुछ साल गुज़रे , रोशनी और चकाचौंध में,
भूल गया था वह सपना , जो देखा करता था दिन - रात में ।
पता था अँधेरा घना है उस पथरीली राह पे ,
पर क्या करूँ , अब ठान तो लिया है , चलते है लेकर दीया हाथ में ॥

दिन, महीनें, सालो को युगों में बदलते देखा

कुछ इस कदर जिंदगी का हाल है ।

कुछ दामन छूँटे , कुछ लोगो का साथ जुड़ते देखा
।

जान गया था यह खेल ज़िन्दगी का ,
इसीलिए, इस बार वापस मुड़के न देखा ॥

आज कुछ हाल ऐसा है जनाब ,
ख्वाब तो मुकम्मल हो गए है , लेकिन डर अभी भी
है
उन गालियों की आवाज़ से ।
न जाने क्यों यह लगता है , गुमराह कर दिया
है उन गलिओं को, आपकी तालियों की आवाज़
ने॥

- निखिल वसईकर
TY II



मानव, एक अनोखी

मानवता की अगण्य खोजों और अविष्कारों में से किसी एक को सर्वश्रेष्ठ का पद प्रदान करना आवश्यक ही नहीं पर एक कठिन कार्य है। परन्तु एक खोज है जिसने बाकी सारी खोजों के साबित होने का एक मौका दिया है और वह खोज भाषा की है।

भाषा - एक ऐसा गुरु है जिसने हमें शब्दों के एक ऐसी दुनिया से अवगत करवाया जहाँ केवल मनुष्य ही नहीं, उनकी आत्मा भी बात कर सकती थी। एक ऐसा संसार जहाँ रूह को असीम शांति का आभास होता है, जहाँ एक जीव को अपार प्रेम प्राप्त हो सकता है। शब्दों के मल्लाहों का सही तरीके से उपयोग किया जाए तो जीवन की नौका प्रेम और खुशहाली के साहिल पर आवश्यक पहुँच जाती है परन्तु यदि उनका उपयोग दूसरों को दुःख और कष्ट पहुंचाने के लिए किया जाए, तो कर्म का सागर कुछ ऐसे दुःख का तूफान बन जाता है जिससे वह नौका बच नहीं सकती। परन्तु क्या ऐसे अमूल्य खोज पर बंधन लगाना एक समझदारी की चीज़ है ?

इस प्रगति के दौर में दुनिया के कई देशों में बोलने की स्वतंत्रता पर रोक लगाई गई है। भारत में भी एक ऐसा समय आ गया है जहाँ बोलने की स्वतंत्रता का सम्मान संविधान में ही होता है। हमारे देश में कुछ ऐसी घटनाएँ घटी हैं जिससे आम जनता में अपनी वाणी को ऊँचा करने में दर और असुरक्षित होने का भाव बस गया है। आज के भारत में युवा अपने शब्दों को वाणी देने से हिचकिचाता है।

परन्तु यह भी सत्य है कि बोलने की स्वतंत्रता एक ऐसा अस्त्र है जो सभी के हाथों में शोभा नहीं देता। कुछ लोग बोलने की स्वतंत्रता के खेत को प्रेम और शांति से सींचने के सिवाए उसे बैर और गुस्से से नष्ट कर देते हैं। ऐसे लोग मनुष्य को मनुष्य के खिलाफ, जाती को जाती के खिलाफ, धर्म को धर्म के खिलाफ और वतन को वतन के खिलाफ करने के लिए बोलने की स्वतंत्रता का गलत उपयोग करते हैं। संगणक के कई हिस्सों का उपयोग कर वे दुनिया में बैर, गुस्सा और शक के भाव को पालने और बढ़ने का मौका देते हैं।

बोलने की स्वतंत्रता एक ऐसा औज़ार है जिससे सांस्कृति की प्रगति भी की जा सकती है और एक ऐसा हथियार भी जिससे मानव जाती का सर्वनाश भी मुमकिन है। इस कारणवश प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को इसका उपयोग केवल अपने लिए ही नहीं, परंतु संपूर्ण मानव जाती को ख्याल में रख के करना चाहिए। कभी कभी कुछ शब्द इतनी गहरी पीड़ा पहुँचते हैं कि वे किसी इंसान के जीवन का मार्ग बदलने की क्षमता रखते हैं। एक मानसिक रूप से कमज़ोर व्यक्ति बदले की भावना से आगे बढ़ता है परंतु एक सशक्त व्यक्ति अपने आप को बदलने की चेष्टा करता है।

इस दौर में जहाँ हम छात्र दुनिया के आने वाले कल को निर्धारित करेंगे; हमें बोलने की स्वतंत्रता का सही उपयोग करना चाहिए । प्रत्येक व्यक्ति से संवाद करते समय हमें स्थिति , इंसान और हमारे उसके साथ नाते को मन में रखकर आगे बढ़ना चाहिए । किसी विषय पर अपनी राय को पेश करना एक कला है, जिसे हमें सीखना होगा । प्रत्येक इंसान के भाव और प्रत्येक जाती और धर्म को ध्यान में रखकर हमें अपने शब्दों को चुनना चाहिए ।

परंतु इसका मतलब यह नहीं कि हमें चुप बैठे रहना चाहिए । किसी विषय पर यदि हमारा बोलना उचित रहे और यदि स्थिति का उद्धार हो सके तो हमारा बोलना सही है । तो आज फिर हम एक अच्छे कल के लिए आगे बढ़ेंगे , बोलने की स्वतंत्रता को ठीक से इस्तेमाल करेंगे, बैर नहीं प्रेम फैलाएँगे, तीखी जुबान नहीं, पर एक कोमल बाण चलाएँगे ।

-राहुल

काँफ़ी with एवरेस्ट

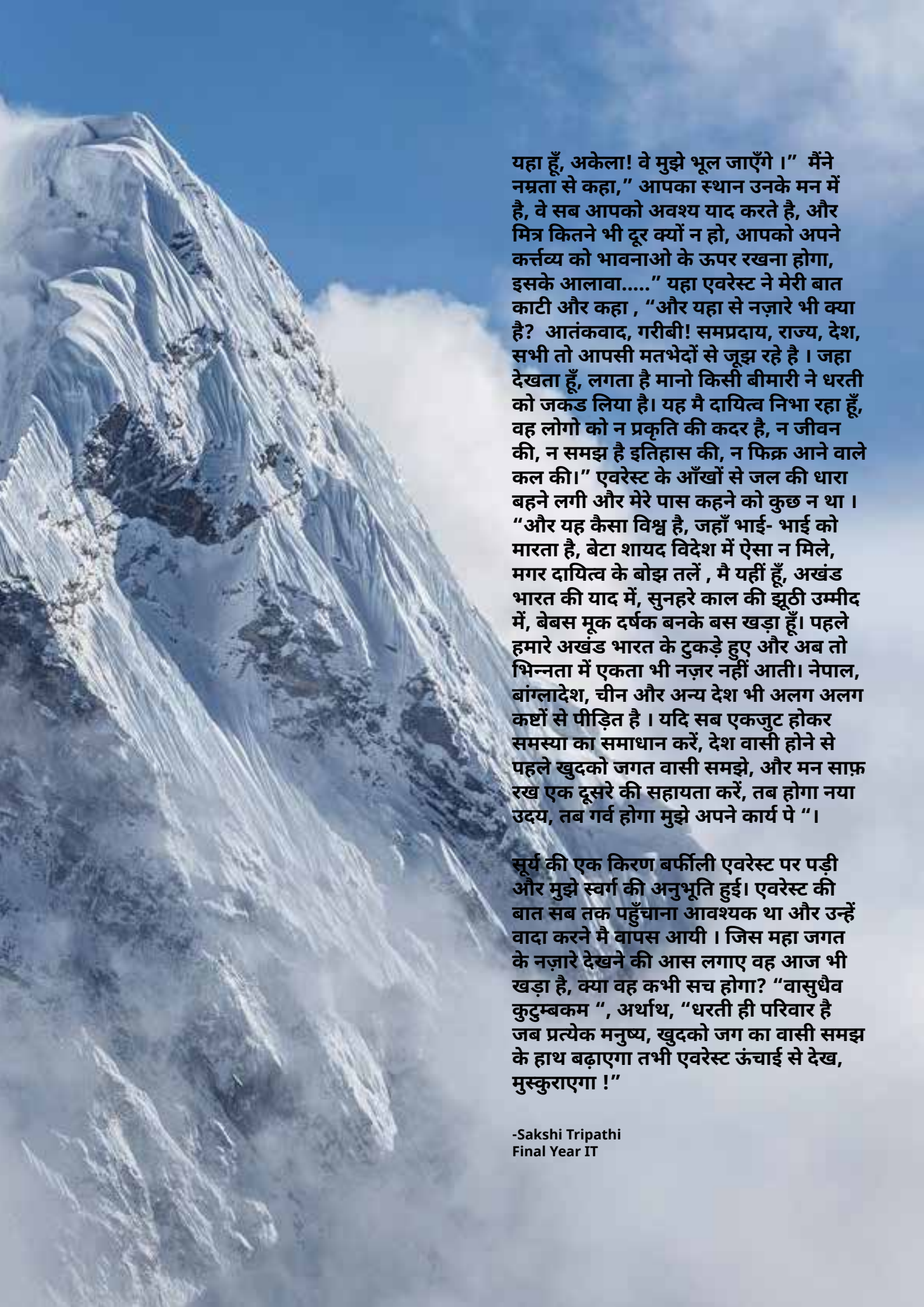
रात के ३.३० बजे, अचानक कैंप के बहार एक हुंकार ने मुझे नींद से उठा दिया। अँधेरा और ठंड इतनी, कि बाहर जाने में जी कंपकंपा उठा परन्तु अंदर रहने में भी मुझे चैन न था। आवश्यक है कि कोई भयानक जानवर दहाड़ रहा हो। मैं खुद को छुपाने का प्रयत्न करती या मदद की गुहार लगाती, इससे पहले मेरा शामियाना हिलने लगा। यह प्रकोप असाधारण भी था और शायद जानलेवा भी। बैग में सामान भरकर झटपट जैसे ही निकली, मेरा शामियाना धु धु कर जलने लगा। आग का प्रचंड रूप देख कर मेरा दिल दहल गया और तभी मुझे एक विशाल चाय की होने का एहसास हुआ। मुड़कर देखा, तो मेरे सामने थी ८.८५० मीटर ऊँची, हिमालय की चोटी “एवरेस्ट”।।

पूरी घटना ने हास्यात्मक रूप तब लिया जब मैंने कापते हुए उससे यह बोला, “क्या आप नाराज़ हो?” इस बात में एक क्षण मुझे स्वयं को मुखर्ष बोलने की इच्छा तो हुई, पर एवरेस्ट जोर से हास पड़ा। “रात की ३.३० बजे, गीत तो नहीं गाऊंगा”। उस वक्त जिज्ञासा शब्दों से फूट उठी, “किन्तु आप पीड़ा में क्यों है?” आप तो सर्वश्रेष्ठ है। सारा जगत आपके समक्ष नतमस्तक है। आप करोड़ों का सपना है, रक्षक है, और इस ऊंचाई से तो आपको चाँद भी नज़दीक लगता होगा! फिर इतना क्रोध क्यों?

एवरेस्ट ने अपने लंबे से हाँथों में मुझे उठा लिया और बड़ा मायूस चेहरा बनाके बोले, “मुझसे नज़ारा देखने

की लाखों ख्वाइश करते हैं, मगर मैं एक जगह खड़ा खड़ा तंग आ गया हूँ। सुना है दुनिया में सात अजूबे हैं, चाइना की दीवार, भारत का ताज, गिज़ा की पिरामिड इत्यादि। मैं यह खड़े रहने का पेशा छोड़कर दुनिया देखना चाहता हूँ।” तब मुझे स्मरण हुआ ग़ालिब की पंक्तियों का, “अजीब तमाशा है साहब, ज़िन्दगी की इस दुनिया में ज़िंदा लोग मौत मांगते हैं और मरने वाले ज़िन्दगी”। अजीब दुविधा थी कि जगत की सबसे ऊँची

चोटी भी नौकरी से दुखी है। मन ही मन मुझे बड़ी हँसी आयी, पर एवरेस्ट की पीड़ा देख के दुःख भी हुआ। कड़ाके की ठंड में बनायी हमने काँफ़ी क्योंकि केवल चर्चा से ही समाधान निकल सकता था। मेरा डर अभी थोड़ा कम था, तो मैंने समझते हुए कहा “आपकी दुविधा समझ सकता हूँ, पर आप पर्वत राजा हिमालय की रानी है, एवं आपके मित्र भी तो एक ही जगह खड़े रहते हैं?” एवरेस्ट की आँखें नम होगयी, “मेरे मित्र तो विश्व भर में हैं, जापान की जुंको तबी, नेपाल के रोरपा, इटली के रेन्होल्ड मेसनर अदि सभी मुझसे भेट कर जग भर में प्रख्यात हुए, मगर अब मैं उनसे कैसे मिलूँ? मुझे उनसे मिलकर उनकी भाषाएँ सीख, गीत गाने हैं और मैं तो



यहाँ हूँ, अकेला! वे मुझे भूल जाएँगे।" मैंने नम्रता से कहा, "आपका स्थान उनके मन में है, वे सब आपको अवश्य याद करते हैं, और मित्र कितने भी दूर क्यों न हों, आपको अपने कर्त्तव्य को भावनाओं के ऊपर रखना होगा, इसके आलावा....." यहाँ एवरेस्ट ने मेरी बात काटी और कहा, "और यहाँ से नज़ारे भी क्या हैं? आतंकवाद, गरीबी! समप्रदाय, राज्य, देश, सभी तो आपसी मतभेदों से जूझ रहे हैं। जहाँ देखता हूँ, लगता है मानो किसी बीमारी ने धरती को जकड़ लिया है। यह मैं दायित्व निभा रहा हूँ, वह लोगों को न प्रकृति की कदर है, न जीवन की, न समझ है इतिहास की, न फिक्र आने वाले कल की।" एवरेस्ट के आँखों से जल की धारा बहने लगी और मेरे पास कहने को कुछ न था। "और यह कैसा विश्व है, जहाँ भाई- भाई को मारता है, बेटा शायद विदेश में ऐसा न मिले, मगर दायित्व के बोझ तलें, मैं यहीं हूँ, अखंड भारत की याद में, सुनहरे काल की झूठी उम्मीद में, बेबस मूक दर्पक बनके बस खड़ा हूँ। पहले हमारे अखंड भारत के टुकड़े हुए और अब तो भिन्नता में एकता भी नज़र नहीं आती। नेपाल, बांग्लादेश, चीन और अन्य देश भी अलग अलग कष्टों से पीड़ित हैं। यदि सब एकजुट होकर समस्या का समाधान करें, देश वासी होने से पहले खुदको जगत वासी समझे, और मन साफ़ रख एक दूसरे की सहायता करें, तब होगा नया उदय, तब गर्व होगा मुझे अपने कार्य पे।"

सूर्य की एक किरण बर्फीली एवरेस्ट पर पड़ी और मुझे स्वर्ग की अनुभूति हुई। एवरेस्ट की बात सब तक पहुँचाना आवश्यक था और उन्हें वादा करने मैं वापस आयी। जिस महा जगत के नज़ारे देखने की आस लगाए वह आज भी खड़ा है, क्या वह कभी सच होगा? "वासुधैव कुटुम्बकम्", अर्थात्, "धरती ही परिवार है जब प्रत्येक मनुष्य, खुदको जग का वासी समझ के हाथ बढ़ाएगा तभी एवरेस्ट ऊँचाई से देख, मुस्कुराएगा!"

-Sakshi Tripathi
Final Year IT

नारी कल, आज और कल

नारी,
हर काल में रचनाकारों के प्रिय विषय रही है,
उस पर लिखना हमेशा से अच्छा लगा ।

प्रसिद्ध साहित्यकार 'जयशंकर प्रसाद ' ने उसे विषय बनाकर लिखा --
"नारी तुम केवल श्रद्धा हो,
विश्वस नाग पगतल में ,
पियूश स्रोत सी बहा करो
जीवन के सुन्दर समतल में ।"

मगर नारी को ये मंजूर नहीं था ,
वो केवल देवी, श्रद्धा या सीता बनकर नहीं रह सकी।
तब "सुमित्रानंदन पंथ" ने लिखा,
"नारी जीवन है तुम्हारी यह कहानी,
आँचल में है दूध और आँखों में पानी " ।

वो तिलमिला उठी, माँ इनकी कमज़ोर तो कभी नहीं थी । तुम्हे केवल सीता का ही रूप
क्यों दिखाई पड़ा , उसपर हज़ारों पन्ने काले करते रहे और वाह वाही बटोरते रहे ।
सुमित्रा का दर्द तुम्हें कुछ नहीं दिखाई पड़ा, उसके चौदह सालों तक इंतज़ार करने वाली
आँखों की पीड़ा कैसे नहीं दिखी । तब "रामधारी सिंह दिनकर " ने उसे विषय बनाकर
लिखा ।

औरत को यह भी मंजूर नहीं था । क्योंकि उसकी खूबसूरती मजदूरी करती हुई औरत
में भी है और खेतों की मुंडेरों पर अपने बच्चे को लिटाकर धान कटती हुई माँ में भी है ।
तब 'निराला' के कलम से ये बात निकली -

"वो तोड़ती पत्थर, देखा मैंने उसे इलाहाबाद के पथ पर " ।

और प्रेमचंद ने खूबसूरती खेत की मुंडेसो पर भी ढूँढ निकाली । मगर हर बार मर्द हज़ारात
ही क्यों ? वो उसका दर्द क्या सचमुच पूरी ईमानदारी से जान पायेगा ? तब "असमत
चुगताई " जैसी जानदार दबंग रचनाकार सामने आयी और उन्होंने समाज का असली
रूप दिखा दिया । औरत कल भी लुटाती थी, आज भी लुटाती है । फर्क सिर्फ इतना है
की कल वो खेतों , खलियानो और आयाशों के दरबार में लुटाती थी और आज सफ़ेद
पेशों के दफ़्तरों में । उसने अपने आप को काबिल बनाया, मजबूत बनाया और 'परवीन

शाकिर ' की कलम से निकला -

“तेरे माथे पे ये बिंदी बहुत खूब है लेकिन,
तू इस बिंदी की एक परचम बना लेती तो अच्छा था,
असर बाकी नहीं मफ़लूज पैरों की दुआओं में,
जवानोने बलाकशकी दुआ लेती तो अच्छा था ।”

उसने मर्दों की इस दुनिया में अपना हक़ माँगा । उसकी ताकत, मजबूती और समझदारी के आगे समाज को झुकना पड़ा, और उसने हर जगह अपनी पहचान बनाई। दफ़्तर, कॉलेज, बाज़ार, सियासत हर जगह अपनी छाप छोड़ी । मगर फिर क्या हुआ घर टूटने लगे, बच्चे बर्बाद होने लगे, एक बार फिर वो कराह कर रह गई । मगर हार मानना तो जैसे उसने सीखा ही नहीं था। उसने कमर कस ली, दफ़्तर और घर दोनों की ही ज़िम्मेदारी उठा ली। सब पूरा कर लिया, बखूबी सारी ज़िम्मेदारियाँ निभाई, बस अपने आपके लिए वक्त नहीं बचा। वो फिर तिलमिला कर रह गई ।

“मेरी ज़िन्दगी भी मेरी नहीं
ये हज़ार खानों में बंट गई
मुझे एक मुठ्ठी ज़मीन दे,
ये ज़मीन कितनी सिमट गई ” ।

तेरी याद आये तो चुप रहूँ
जो मैं चुप रहूँ, तो ग़ज़ल कहूँ
वो अजीब आग की बेला थी,
मेरे तन बदन से लिपट गई ।

फिर एक बार मर्द का शैतानी दिमाग ठहाके लगा कर हंस पड़ा । औरत ने घर के सारी ज़िम्मेदारी उठा ली, दफ़्तर पूरी खूबी से चला लिया, सात समंदर पार का सफर पल में तय कर आई, मंचों पर बड़े - बड़े भाषण दे डाले । मगर कहीं न कहीं बिखरती रही । टूटती रही, खोकली होती रही और वो किनारे खड़ा होकर मंद मंद मुस्कुराता रहा । हज़ार कोशिशें कर लो तुम मेरे साथ नहीं चल सकती । तुम मेरे पीछे रहो यही तुम्हारी नियति है, थोड़ी देर के लिए आगे कर सकता हूँ मगर बराबर समक्ष कदापि नहीं । वो हमें आज भी अंगूठा दिख रही है ।

औरत चुप नम आँखों से सोच रही है “दर्द अपना लिख न पाय, उंगलियां जलाते रहें ” ।

ऐ नारी मगर एक बार सोचना ज़रूर, मैं भी सोच रही हूँ, क्या सचमुच हम अधूरे रहेंगे ? हम आपने आप को पूरा नहीं कर सकते ? मुझे तो उस दिन का इंतज़ार रहेगा जिस दिन हम आपने आप को पूरा करेंगे , क्या तुम्हें भी है ?

सपनों की दुनिया

सपने देखना मनुष्यों में बहुत ही साधारण घटना है । अनुसंधान बताते हैं कि साधारण मनुष्य अपने जीवन-काल में आए हुए सपनों का ९०% भाग जागने के बाद भूल जाते हैं । वैज्ञानिक दृष्टिकोण एवं अनुसंधान व्यक्ति के सपनों के आकड़े बता सकते हैं परन्तु क्या ये आकड़े उन अनगिनत सपनों का उल्लेख करते हैं जो व्यक्ति अपनी ज़िन्दगी व्यतीत करने के लिए स्वयं बुनता है ? अपने सपनों को साकार करने के लिए परिश्रम करता है , उसे चरिथर्ता करता है? सपनों के सन्दर्भ में एक छोटी सी कहानी प्रस्तुत करती हूँ ।

“कुछ समय पहले की बात है, प्रीति अपनी छोटी सी दुनिया में पढाई में अक्वल थी, जो मिला उसमें खुश हो जाती थी । ऐसे ही समय व्यतीत हुआ एवं प्रीति ने कॉलेज में दाखिला ले लिया । हँसते खेलते थोड़े ही अभ्यास के बाद कॉलेज की पढाई समाप्त हो गई | ततपश्चात उसे एक नौकरी भी प्राप्त हो गई । उसी दौरान उसकी भेंट वैशाली से हुई जो सोच एवं समझ में बहुत ही अलग थी । वैशाली के दिन का प्रारम्भ अपने बुने हुए सपनों को पूरा करने के लिए एक कदम आगे बढ़ने का होता था जो कि उसकी दिनचर्या में स्वतः झलकता था । धीरे - धीरे वैशाली की दिनचर्या प्रीति के लिए प्रेरणा स्रोत बनती गई । प्रीति को यह अहसास हुआ कि उसने कभी अपने लिए सपने देखे ही नहीं । उसकी दिनचर्या में अपने सपनों को सफल करने का प्रयास था ही नहीं । वैशाली से प्रेरणा लेकर प्रीति ने कुछ सपने बुने, अपने सपनों को साकार करने का सपना देखा, अथक परिश्रम किया । अब प्रीति की दिनचर्या में भी उसके सपनों के लिए प्रयास झलकने लगा ।”

हमने विद्यार्थी बनकर कॉलेज में दाखिला तो ले लिया है, परन्तु क्या हम सबने भी कोई सपने बुने हैं ? यदि नहीं तो हमें भी वैशाली जैसे ही किसी प्रेरणा स्रोत की आवश्यकता है । प्रीति जैसे बनकर हम सब भी अपने सपनों की दुनिया बना सकते हैं । जिससे हम भी दूसरों के प्रेरणा स्रोत बने और सपनों की दुनिया इसी तरह फलती-फूलती रहे ।

-भाग्यश्री उमाठे
M-TECH(Power System)

स्मार्टफोन और मनुष्य

आज की दुनिया में स्मार्टफोन का उपयोग सभी लोग करते हैं। स्मार्टफोन्स हमारे जीवन का एक अविभाज्य घटक बन चुके हैं। इस युग का आरंभ हुआ १९९४ में, जब IBM ने दुनिया का पहला स्मार्टफोन ईजाद किया। लेकिन लोगो ने स्मार्टफोन को वास्तव में एक दशक बाद स्वीकार किया जब ब्लैकबेरी (BlackBerry) ने क्वर्टी कीपैड स्मार्टफोन को बाजार में लाया। यह स्मार्टफोन लोगो के बीच बहुत प्रसिद्ध हुआ क्योंकि इसका उपयोग कर लोग एक दूसरे को तुरंत संदेश भेज सकते थे। वह अपने आप में ही एक अद्भुत चीज़ थी। क्वर्टी कीपैड स्मार्टफोन्स प्रसिद्ध हुए ही थे कि २००७ में एप्पल (Apple) ने उनके पहले स्मार्टफोन - (iPhone) को बाजार में उतारा। iPhone अपने पहले आए स्मार्टफोन से बिलकुल अलग था, क्वर्टी कीपैड की जगह ले ली टच स्क्रीन ने और लोगो ने पहली बार कुछ ऐसा देखा कि वे आश्चर्यचकित हो गये। iPhone ने स्मार्टफोन की परिभाषा ही बदल दी और लोगो को ज्ञात हुआ कि वे उसका उपयोग सिर्फ़ अपनों से बात करने के लिए ही नहीं बल्कि इन्टरनेट से जुड़ने के लिए भी कर सकते हैं। उसके बाद तो मानो स्मार्टफोन लोगो के लिए फैशन सा हो गया और आज हम सब स्मार्टफोन्स को न जाने कितने प्रकार से उपयोग में ला रहे हैं। अपनों से जुड़ने के लिए, सोशल मीडिया जैसे फेसबुक, इंस्टाग्राम, व्हाट्सएप्प का प्रयोग, कुछ खरीदना हो तो अमेज़ॉन, फ्लिपकार्ट जैसे ऑनलाइन शॉपिंग एप्स का प्रयोग, भूक लग जाये तो किसी एप्प से खाना, ट्रेन की टिकट निकालने के लिए एप्प का प्रयोग आज हम सब कर रहे हैं। स्मार्टफोन्स के जितने फायदे हैं उतने ही नुकसान भी हैं। सर्वेक्षण से पता चला है कि एक स्मार्टफोन उपभोक्ता दिन में ४७ बार अपना स्मार्टफोन देखता है। डॉक्टरों द्वारा स्मार्टफोन की लत को नोमोफोबिया का नाम दिया गया है। नोमोफोबिया स्मार्टफोन अपने पास न होने के डर को कहा जाता है। मनुष्य स्मार्टफोन का इतना आदि हो गया है कि सोने से पहले और सुबह उठने के बाद भी वह सबसे पहले अपने स्मार्टफोन को देखता है। स्मार्टफोन का अति प्रयोग कर आज इंसान चिंता, तनाव, अहंकार और डिप्रेशन का शिकार हो चूका है। इस कारण लोगो के जीवन में झगडे, तलाक और रिश्तों में दूरी बढ़ती जा रही है। इन बातों को समझ कर हमें स्मार्टफोन का उपयोग कम करना चाहिए और जीवन को अच्छे से जीना चाहिए।

- अमोल कोकणे
TY Textile

Travel and Lifestyle

4

the team

**Nikhil Kapoor
Shravani Sawant**

A warm welcome! Let us hope our snug little Travel & Lifestyle section envelopes you with comforting stories, unfastens the reins to your imagination, enriches you with thought-provoking pieces and makes you believe in life just a little more.

WHY TRAVEL, YOU ASK? It may be something as simple as knowing a few more places in your city, or learning humility from gigantic mountains or vast, serene beaches, travelling with friends and family takes us away from our mundane routines, allows us to know our companions a bit better, and to rejuvenate and create a more meaningful existence.

Over the years, we have become increasingly ignorant of our connection with nature, and take her gifts for granted. Our bodies are not designed for living in the congested and polluted environs of a city. Travelling to natural areas is the best way to create environmentally conscious individuals and help us see the bigger picture. **SO WHY IS IT JUXTAPOSED WITH LIFESTYLE?** It is all about experiences—the good, the bad, and everything in between. The journeys—physical or emotional, ephemeral or lifelong. And, of course, life itself—the yin, the yang, and lessons that boomerang! As long as we are here, and as long as we are part of this living, breathing, vivacious planet, there will always be verses to be written. You could be a character in someone else's story or a hero in your own! But

these stories are alive! Stories involving you, maybe as a main character, or simply as a passerby, are etched within the crevices of people's beings, and vice versa. They scare you, challenge you, threaten to burst from within you, and make you who you are.

We hope you enjoy what we have put together from the kaleidoscopic experiences of our friends and colleagues. It has been an honour indeed to be co-editors to the very first edition of 'Travel & Lifestyle', hosted by Nirmaan, VJTI, and our experience has been pleasurable especially with the very enthusiastic team that we work with.

A special mention to our faculty in-charge, Mrs. Neha Mehra, for helping us through the way, providing valuable feedback and sharing her insights whenever we wanted guidance. Thank you, ma'am!

We hope we have done justice to all our budding writers here at VJTI and that their works evoke the same floodgate of emotions for you as they did for us. Flipping through this magazine is another travel, and living through their words is another lifestyle.

"That you are here—that life exists,
and identity;
That the powerful play goes on,
and you will contribute a verse."

-Walt Whitman, Leaves of Grass

Bon voyage and happy reading, folks!

WONDERLUST DESTINATION SINGAPORE MALAYSIA TRIP

This travel monologue is about my summer vacation to Singapore and Malaysia with my family. It had been my childhood dream to visit these places.

Singapore is an island city-nation having a tropical climate and a multicultural population. It is a very small city with a length of 50 km from East to West and 27 km from North to South, which I thought to myself, is even smaller than my home city of Nagpur!

Our first journey was The Night Safari. The Night Safari is the world's first nocturnal zoo which was established in the 1980s. It is famous for its tram ride, where you get to see about 2500 different species in their natural habitat. It truly feels like heaven. An audio playing in the background educated us about the species that came our way. We were informed about the many crepuscular and nocturnal animals we encountered. I loved the way they maintained the entire place and provided natural habitats for so many species.

Next day, we set out for a panoramic city tour of Singapore. Gardens by the Bay is one of the top 10 award winning gardens of the

world. It is a dome-shaped, beautiful flower garden which has a variety of colourful flowering plants and a beautiful architecture made using them. The flowers are changed seasonally, presenting beautiful themes at different times of the year. Marina Bay is the most iconic hotel of Singapore and it has the world's largest rooftop infinity pool. Then we headed for Merlion Park. It is a major Singapore landmark located near the Central Business District. It is called Merlion because of the (half mermaid + half lion) statue which resides at its waterfront.

We then proceeded for my dream destination, for which I was desperately waiting - The Luxurious Genting Dream Cruise. It is a 16 deck cruise ship consisting of a large number of restaurants, casinos, specially designed cabins and many more fun-filled activities. The cabins were so beautifully designed that they made it impossible for me to believe that they were part of a huge ship. Excited and all decked up, we went for the cruise party which was at night at the top floor where we experienced the first sail of the cruise. It was my favourite memory on the cruise. Then we proceeded for dinner, which had a myriad of cuisines like Indian, Italian, Chinese and Continental, followed by amazing desserts and juices which filled our stomachs to satisfaction. Later we went for bowling followed by a DJ night at the Blue Lagoon Club. At midnight we saw a famous fiction show at the theatre. We then roamed the whole cruise exploring every deck and enjoying the night life.

The next day, we went on to enjoy the waterpark located at the top deck just beneath the sun, surrounded by various adventure slides, jacuzzis and sports arenas. Swimming was followed by matches of volleyball and basketball. We then explored the different shopping attractions, made friends with a lot of people on the cruise, and got to experience many different cultures. It felt like the entire world was set

up in this small cruise. I never wanted this cruise trip to end, but we had to leave for the remaining trip.

Next, we visited Madame Tussauds Wax Museum in Sentosa, captivated by the presence of wax statues of world-famous people. Then we visited the Sea Aquarium for viewing various species of marine life from different oceans and seas of the world. Our day ended with watching the Wings of Time, which was a spectacular multi-sensory light and water show with amazing 3D effects that narrated a story on endless friendship.

The next day was entirely reserved for Universal Studios. It features 28 rides, shows and attractions in seven different themed



zones. We started by watching the amazing light shows at Sci-Fi City (one of the zones) and moved towards various adventurous rides including exhilarating roller coasters like Accelerator, Transformer, Egyptian Mummy Ride and so on. The food at Hollywood zone was delicious.

Bidding goodbye to this incredible and diverse land, we set out for Kuala Lumpur by road. We visited Putrajaya - the federal administrative centre of Malaysia including the Putra Mosque and the Prime Minister's Office, went for the panoramic city tour of Kuala Lumpur, passing by the King's Palace, National Mosque and Merdeka Square. Then we went to the KL Observation Deck

which gives a bird eye's view of the city from its top floor. It was very peaceful. Our day ended with going to Beryl's Chocolate kingdom, tasting different chocolate samples and getting to know the chocolate-making process. We got packets of Tiramisu and Milk Chocolates for friends and family. This entire day had been filled with exhausting events but it was truly alluring to witness the places indigenous to Malaysia.

On the last day, we went to the famous Genting Highlands in a one-way cable car. It is also called as Malaysia's Las Vegas as it is located on a mountain top, consisting of various entertainment facets like large casinos, family restaurants, indoor theme parks and colourful shopping complexes. We explored the Sky Avenue, Ripley's Believe it or not auditorium and the First World Plaza. Then we went on to explore Batu Caves, a series of sacred Caverns for Hindus of Malaysia.



It was a temple consisting of a huge statue of Lord Murugan and we had to climb 272 steps, starting from the foot of the statue to the top, yet another thrilling experience. We spent quality time at night by singing songs, dancing and reminiscing the beautiful moments of the trip.

We finally boarded our flight to come back to our motherland. I hope that you all rejoiced and experienced the wonders of Singapore and Malaysia with me. I will always be grateful to my Uncle and Aunt for fulfilling my childhood dream.

**-Sakshi Taori
TY EXTC**

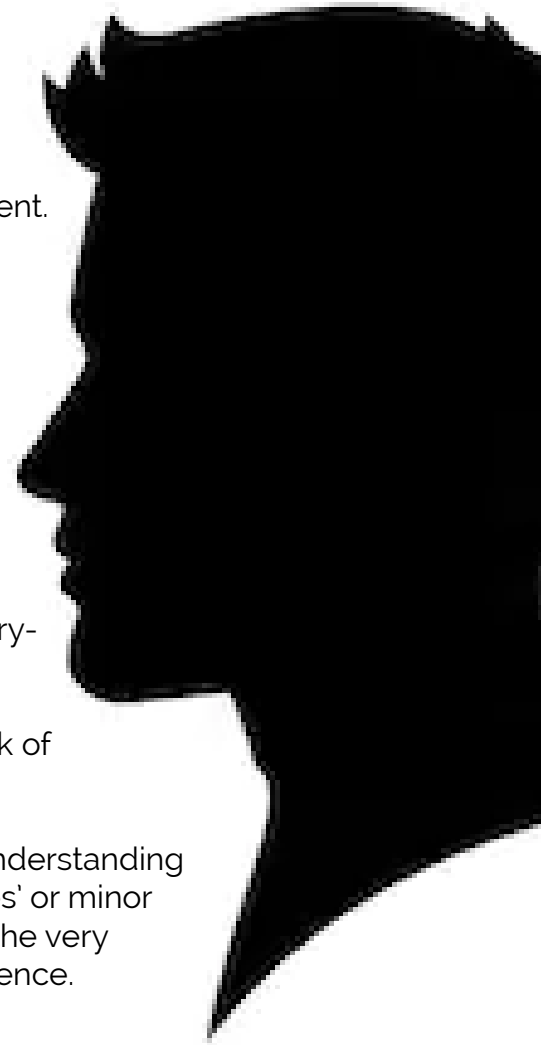
The recent explosion of #MeToo and #TimesUp in India bares the pervasive nature of sexual harassment. This is only the beginning. It is fast building up to a tsunami. The world has not seen such assertion of anger by women, the connective power of social media, the democratic force of the internet, or the potential of a single five-character hashtag ever. As the movement gains momentum, there will be conversations that the traditional discourse on gender rights in India is yet to keep pace with. Affirmative consent, casual sexism and most importantly the need to believe the survivor irrespective of the route she chooses to tell her story—all need to be addressed. The #TimesUp spectrum also includes endemic workplace issues, such as the culture of toxic masculinity, boys' clubs and lack of gender parity.


To dismiss the stories that do not conform to our understanding of what constitutes sexual harassment as 'bad dates' or minor workplace misdemeanours is to lend credence to the very patriarchal structures that have allowed sexual violence. Patriarchy works in both blatant and insidious ways.

As a woman it distresses me when I see how women are treated as inconsequential. I get angry when women are 'slut-shamed' or mockingly dismissed when they raise their voices to proclaim their discomfort at unprofessional behavior, or to out a sexual predator. The sense of male entitlement is such that it overrides female consent with "She really means yes even though she is saying no. She just needs to be persuaded. And I know I can." O big, proud, mighty man!, To put it straight, I'm a liberal who believes in an egalitarian society that looks upon and treats everyone as equals. Women are often berated for their way of clothing and styling themselves. This makes it obvious that they think that the type of clothes she wears is a major reason for her landing into a gruesome situation such as rape.

There was a time when women kept quiet about sexual harassment in the workplace because they were made to believe that they have to deal with it and that it is 'not as serious a concern as rape.' But in fact, if a woman feels that she has been violated in any way, it is because, she has been. In recent months, we have seen many positive blows being struck for gender equality. From multiple Supreme Court verdicts striking down triple talaq, upholding the marriage of Hindu women by consent, their right to inherit property, to the right of women of all ages to enter the Sabarimala shrine. As more women enter into the workforce and break glass ceilings in various professions, it should bring about a change that will reduce sexual harassment at the workplace.

This has been a landmark year for women breaking into traditional male bastions. But there is one barrier that still keeps women out – religion. The doors of a





large number of shrines are still closed to women. This bastion too is now being challenged. I am an atheist, but I believe in equality. These entry barriers are really a metaphor for what is essentially a settled patriarchal and male-dominated religious order, which has continued unchallenged for centuries. Patriarchy, or the power of men over women, continues into the religious spaces when it denies agency or autonomy to women.

The Supreme Court in its landmark judgement paved the way for women of all ages to enter the Ayyappa temple in Sabarimala, Kerala. One of the judges on the bench claimed that issues of deep religious sentiments should not ordinarily be interfered with by the court, because Supreme Court's decisions are based on rationality, which has no place in matters of faith.

Agreed. Someone had to do something about this long ago, but having said that, the timing couldn't have been better. Restrictions on women amount to a violation of their human dignity. Such discriminatory practices deny women of it and treat them as children of a lesser god. The common thread through these restrictions is patriarchy, which is premised upon the notion of women's impurity. This then becomes a justification for their subordination.

Let's look into history, Sabarimala has to do with a religious practice associated with a god who is considered to be significant from the point of view of the celibacy principle and this was historically the reason worshippers were expected to be asexual over a period of time before they came to the temple. They had to take on a series of vows and so on, and it is in this context that they barred entry to women. If this is the case, then pragmatically even men shouldn't be allowed entry except for the legitimate celibates. In the Sabarimala context the celibacy dimension of the taboo is clouded by the fact that women are also deemed unclean. In our society we have always worshipped women, but what is the relationship between that and the way in which women are actually treated?

A college proposed a course to educate 'Sanskari bahu'. What does this mean? A women's curriculum which is not going to challenge patriarchy but create sanskari bahu? Another incident is one in which an actor had visited a temple as a 28 year old, in response to which a purification ceremony was performed at the temple. Once, a Parsi girl married to a Hindu, was ostracized from her own mother's final rites. She was made to sit a kilometer away at a special place assigned for Hindus. And then there are my own personal experiences of receiving lewd comments from boys and men on my social networking handles, facing harassment from anonymous accounts on social media from people whom I've known in reality, inappropriate touches by random men in public places. And yes, the list of such stories is endless, possibly for all women. Women's emancipation and gender equality has been a movement for over a century and still continues. Women form almost half our population, and in today's age, cannot be denied their fundamental freedoms.

-Isha Salwankar
S.Y.Civil

A SRILANKAN FORAY

In December of 2016, we decided to take a trip to Sri Lanka, the 'Pearl of the Indian Ocean', also known as the Land of Ravana. From an Indian point of view, it may not be a major tourist destination, but the scenic and natural beauty are what make it so different from all the other parts of the world.

We reached Colombo airport in the morning after a night flight from Mumbai. Our guide picked us up from the airport and escorted us to our hotel in Kandy, where we freshened up and got ready for the City Tour. We visited the Temple of The Sacred Tooth. At first, I was very amused by the name of the temple because this was unheard of, at least in India. The tooth in question belonged to Lord Buddha. The temple bore resemblance to a Buddhist monastery with the structure as ancient as the Ajanta-Ellora caves in Aurangabad. The rest of the day was spent roaming around in the local markets. Since Sri Lankan seafood is quite famous, our dinner included dishes of tuna and cuttlefish. On the next day, our guide took us to the Royal Botanical Garden. The garden was simply incredible. The greens were so vast that you could spend hours there without realising it. There were beautiful walkways and special exhibit houses for orchids, cactus and bamboo gardens. The Orchid House was personally my favourite. Our next stop was the Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage. It is an elephant reserve maintained by the local government. Around 40-60 healthy elephants are taken care of over there. The sight of them parading down to the river for a bath is mesmerising. With that, our stay in Kandy was over. The same afternoon, we left for the coastal town of Bentota. The highway connecting both the places is said to be parallel to sweeping tea gardens.

The next morning, our first halt was at the Sea Turtle Conservation Center in Bentota, where all the rare species of turtles found in Sri Lanka are preserved. The turtles are protected there and once they are fit enough, they are sent back into the sea. The employees worked very hard to nurture the turtles. After that, we had one of the most amazing experiences in 'The Shore Excursion', which is a cruise through the mangrove wetlands of Madu Ganga river. The boat took us to a fish culture for a pedicure, after which we sailed through the silent mangrove alcoves and intricate wetlands. This was followed by a visit to an aisle filled with cinnamon



trees, and finally, we ended the tour with a visit to a ship museum.

The next morning, we left Bentota and reached Colombo. It is the largest city in Sri Lanka and was made the Capital by the Dutch East India Company, and has been the capital since. We first paid a visit to the Independence Memorial Hall. The story of the Ceylon Independence is beautifully presented there. Another landmark is the Central Bank Currency museum which has all the historical Ceylon coins and the monetary contribution of India has been depicted incredibly. Later, we had Ceylon tea at a local outlet and then witnessed the dyeing of clothes and embroidery stitching in a cottage industry workshop. The rest of the afternoon was spent shopping at the local mall, 'House Of Fashion'. Thereafter, we left for the airport, bidding goodbye to our guide and proceeding to take-off back to India.



-Mithil Joshi
FY Electronics

A VOYAGE FROM THE WHITE TO THE BLACK

My rendezvous with Karate began in the year 2007. What started off as a mere push from eager parents became an inseparable part of my life soon. One particular incident influenced the way I look at martial arts. A minor accident at a young age made me realise the need to develop and incorporate physical strength into my life.

Interestingly, Karate traces its origins to India. Karate was conceptualised from Kung Fu, which in turn was propagated by an Indian monk who was a Kalaripayattu master. So Kalaripayattu - an ancient Indian martial art form from Kerala, is the mother of the modern day 'Karate'. The qualifications in Karate are characterised by the concepts of belts. A beginner starts with the white belt followed by successive levels distinguished by the yellow, orange, green, purple, blue, brown and black belts. The last level-the black belt, also contains another 10 sub-levels. Not many people know that there exists another level too; the red belt-it is the last sublevel of the black belt. My expertise lies in the Goju-Ryu style of Karate which means, 'the hard and soft style'.

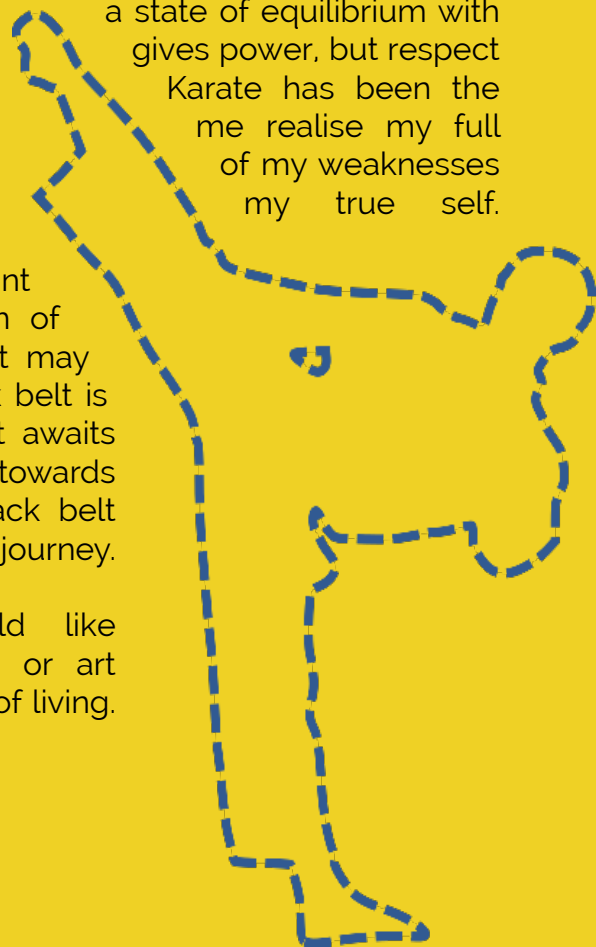
Karate is a multi-disciplinary practice, in the sense that it enriches one in a lot of aspects other than just developing physical strength. It cultivates courage and develops mental health through its diligent practice. A Karate session always starts with the salutation 'Shomen ni rei'. It is followed by the opponents bowing to each other and acknowledging each other's strength and greatness of skill. This imbibes in the fighters a sense of humility and teaches them to respect their adversary. One of the most important tenets of learning Karate is the use of discretion. True courage doesn't lie in using one's physical strength, it lies in knowing when to use it. Karatekas are trained to know, and more importantly, control their prowess.

Karatekas would agree with the fact that Karate isn't just an art form, it is a way of life. For me, Karate has been a great influence and has changed my perception towards life in general. It has helped me achieve a state of equilibrium with my inner self. It is often said that knowledge gives power, but respect is earned through the greatness of character. Karate has been the catalyst in developing my character. It has made me realise my full potential and has given me a sense of awareness of my weaknesses and limitations. It has been a medium to express my true self.

It is always said that the journey is more important than the destination. My journey in the realm of Karate has been really enlightening. Though it may seem like I have reached my destination, Black belt is just another milestone in the real journey that awaits before me; the journey towards serving my best towards society as a responsible citizen. In a way, black belt is a beginning and not the end of the Karate journey.

For all the readers out there, I would like to emphasise on taking up any form of sport or art inculcates discipline and enhances your quality of living.

-Kushal.P.J.Gala
TY Prod



SCINTILLATING SCANDINAVIA

After our End Semester Examination was over, I was exhausted, but I was extremely excited too, as we had a holiday booked to the Scandinavian lands, that is, Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Norway.

Our first stop was Copenhagen, one of those cities that feels almost town-like in appearance but has the buzz and vibrance of any major city in Europe. Noteworthy attractions included the Luna parks, its famous waterways, delicious street food, and the iconic statue of the 'Little Mermaid'. The 'Tivoli garden', one of the oldest amusement parks in the world having extremely thrilling rides, was quite a sight to behold as it lit up with wonderful decorative lights at night. The next day, we took the city tour of Copenhagen in the traditional hop-on and hop-off buses meant especially for the tourists. After strolling through the streets of Copenhagen and admiring the historical elegance of the city, we climbed 800 steps to reach St. Peter's church, the tallest structure in Copenhagen. Watching the breathtaking beauty of the city from up above, we realised that every step was worth the aching legs. We could see the entire city of Copenhagen in a single frame. Apart from the historical beauty, the nightlife in Copenhagen is also worth exploring. We visited the Carlsberg factory in Copenhagen where they showed us the various stages involved in making beer, right from the collection of ingredients till the packaging and transportation. They also gave us a complimentary glass of beer.

Our next stop was Norway, known for its scenic landscapes and the northern lights or "Aurora Borealis". We went there by road and the journey was physically tiring, but not mentally, courtesy of some good company. We did not have much time in Bergen as we had to leave for Oslo, the capital of Norway. The Opera House and the winter Olympic stadium were the main highlights of the Oslo city tour. These two giant and differently designed structures spoke volumes about the scope of architecture in Oslo, which is a mixture of modern as well historical works. Unfortunately, we visited Oslo in summer, so we could not enjoy the legendary Northern Lights as this natural phenomenon generally occurs in winter when the temperature falls down to

-5 to -20 degrees celsius. Norway is also full of Teslas and other fancy cars which enhance the modern beauty of this country. The standard of living is pretty high in Norway, which makes it one of the most expensive countries to live in.

After a two-night stay in Oslo, our next stop was Helsinki, the capital of Finland. Instead of travelling by road, we boarded a cruise known as 'The Baltic Princess', with 7 lower decks and one upper deck, 1500 cabins, 50 restaurants, 2 big casinos, 1 supermarket, and 6500 plus people on board. In a nutshell, it was humongous! You need at least 3 days to explore the entire cruise. The sunsets from the upper deck of the cruise were a treat to watch and the breeze there gave us chills. There were many music and dance shows at night which displayed the European culture quite creatively. We arrived at Helsinki early the next morning. After getting ready for the day, we left our hotel for the city tour. Helsinki is as beautiful as Copenhagen and Oslo. The Helsinki cathedral is one of the major tourist attractions. Around the cathedral, there was a square where an exhibition of various weapons, guns and fighting tanks was held by the Finnish army for the common people. We were fortunate enough to witness this exhibition. According to our guide, the exhibition is held only once in six months. The Temppeliaukio Church is the quietest place in Finland and the architecture of the church was incredible. Then, we headed towards the Sibelius monument which was built in honour of Jean Sibelius, a Finnish composer and violinist. The monument had many hollow pipes made of steel, welded together and suspended freely on big pipes which served as a good selfie point for tourists. The place also had a statue of the famous musician. Then came the most beautiful place in Helsinki - the Suomenlinna island which is an island near Helsinki. It takes about half an hour to reach there by public ferry. The island had everything one could ask for: big castles, green pastoral gardens, boulders, and beaches, to name a few. You might feel like you have travelled back in time to the 19th century; such was the beauty of the island. Furthermore, some scenes of the famous television series 'Game of Thrones' were shot there.

After witnessing the interesting city of Helsinki, we were back on another cruise. The name of this cruise was 'DFDS' and was very similar to the 'Baltic Princess'. The cruise was going to drop us at Stockholm, Sweden, the city I was most excited to visit. It is a city with a canal passing through it, and with the best public transport in the entire region of Scandinavia. It is a city with countless narrow



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streets and is full of lively people. The 'Gamla stan' is a place in Stockholm which resembles a middle aged French colony with many narrow streets within. The nightlife at Gamla stan is very admirable and quite unmatched with its many pubs and clubs, but at the same time it is harmful to the pocket of the common man as everything there is terribly expensive. Next, the Royal Palace of Sweden was colossal. Spread across 250 acres, its historical integrity is maintained by the Swedish government year after year. We also visited the 'Vasa Museum' which is a very famous tourist spot. It has a really big ship inside, making you wonder how they got it in, in the first place. Also, there were many small boats and their spare parts in the museum. A documentary of ship building was shown to every tourist who visited the museum. This ship museum is considered as one of the best



ship museums in the world, and I couldn't agree more. The parks in Stockholm are also unique and perhaps the best maintained, all over Scandinavia. We enjoyed a 2-hour cycling city tour of Sweden. As a matter of fact, the Swedish government encourages its citizens to travel by cycles and hence contribute to the protection of the environment. Special cycling tracks are made on either sides of the roads for this purpose.

Finally, we went back to Copenhagen for our return flight to India. We spent the day shopping in Copenhagen, considered to be the cheapest shopping hub in all of Scandinavia, bringing home mementos of this magnificent trip with us.

I believe Scandinavia needs to be explored more and I urge each one of you to visit it at least once in your lifetime, as it is truly worth it.

**-Utsav Doshi,
TYBTECH CIVIL**

D.r Prashant Bhave is a dynamic professional and an excellent teacher who has donned many hats. He works in the field of Environmental Engineering and is an Associate Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering at VJTI. He was a member of the XXII Indian Antarctic Expedition and shares his experiences with us here:

Why did you go to Antarctica? From where did it all start?

Our government encourages scientists to take up projects on the Antarctic land, which is open only for scientific purposes for now. I had also applied. My proposal titled 'Mercury determination on Antarctic land' was inspired by my recent accomplishment, a doctorate on the subject in a European institute through sponsorship by the Ministry of Human Resource and Development. I had completed my doctorate within a short period of 2 years 2 months and 16 days which in itself was quite an achievement. Mercury pollution was fresh on my mind

because of my recent research, but here in India we were far away from concerns about such highly specific chemical pollution! Not that we did not have pollution here, but the focus was not as strong since we were (and sadly still are) struggling with our basic pollution and sanitation issues.

AN ANTARCTIC SOJOURN

told me that we did not have any environmental monitoring of our Indian station. They asked if I could run that program. I thought to myself, why not, we are doing it in our laboratory almost every day, it is a routine task for me! So I said yes! At that time, the head of my department was Megha Dixit. We both got a go-ahead from the government and I was appointed the principal coordinator. There were other people selected from all over India; we both felt privileged representing VJTI. The government was spending close to INR 47 lacs on each one of us, which made it nearly half a crore per candidate. I was given the scientific task of 'Environmental monitoring of the Indian Antarctic station'.

How did you travel from here?

Actually, my application was a little delayed by the time it was sent. When my proposal reached the Secretary, he communicated to the national institute to consider my proposal and call it for a presentation. I was lucky enough to receive a message from the top secretary of the ministry, even though my application exceeded the last date. It was quite an honour! I had to visit Delhi. They



Our Antarctic research center is present in Goa. Our team assembled at Goa, then traveled from Goa to Mumbai to Johannesburg in South Africa, and from there to Cape Town.

Antarctica is accessible from many sides, why did you go from Cape Town?

It is comfortable to go from South Africa because we have a treaty with them. A special vessel known as an 'Ice Breaker' was used to travel to the Antarctic. These 'Ice Breakers' are huge ships. Ours was 25m in width and 100m in length and had great food and the best of facilities. people from the military were present on this vessel too

Was it an Indian ship?

No. These ships are made by the Norwegians who specialize in making them. The 'Ice Breakers' are capable of breaking any iceberg in their way. A captain called the Ice Captain, comes into action after the icebergs are spotted. We sailed from Cape Town and it took around 20 days for us to reach our destination as we were constantly dragged back due to the heavy winds. The ship would sail ahead a few nautical miles and then be pushed back to the same position after some hours. Approximately 3500 nautical miles beyond Cape town, there is nothing and the seas are supposed to be the worst there, with wind speeds touching 115 KMPH; these are called the blizzards. We had privileged access to all parts of the ship as we were scientists. We learnt of the special jargons used to communicate messages about our location. For example, when you cross the 50 degree latitude, they would announce 'roaring 50' and so on. We had two helicopters along and with their help one could fly and go to the station once the ship was anchored. The station was about 30 to 40 nautical miles inside the land mass. The first station was called Dakshin Gangotri. This was the second one and was called Maitri. With the help of helicopters, we went to Maitri. I stayed on the shelf station for 33 days.

Was the station far from the sea?

Yes, it was! Interestingly, Antarctica is an island that swells in the winter by 10% to 20%; our station was already in too deep, and would get about 60-70 nautical miles further inside. It would take about 30 to 35 minutes to reach our station. Around 25 people go there during winter and 25 during summer. Normally, scientists go there during summers as summer is a short period of 3 months. Wintering in Antarctica is an activity, so you have to be there for a year. Majority of the scientists were from the military, 2 or 3 from the meteorological department, 2 doctors and 7 to 8 scientists had long



term objectives, one of them being the leader of the station. For these people, there were rooms made within the station with all the facilities and the rooms had a permanent kind of arrangement where they were conditioned to be at normal room temperature. We were there

for the summer only, and so we were given wooden "summer huts" outside. The huts were named after various Indian scientists and the name of our hut was Aryabhata. Each hut was like a small house, although not as well conditioned as a permanent station.

What was the hut made of?

It was a wooden structure with some steel for strength and durability. It was a small room, properly tied and anchored. We had a temporary helipad there. Incidentally, my hut was close to the helipad and away from the main station. It used to be a horrible



walk from there to the station but I had to endure it because the food was inside the permanent station, though our laboratory was set up was outside. My hut was an independent one and quite comfortable with a heater inside. I had a laptop to work on. We had access to a satellite phone. In Antarctica, there is only one colour, the colour white! Sometimes the sky gives you a blue colour otherwise the colours which you are wearing are the only other colours. You had to wear polar dresses at all times. We had to wear UV protected spectacles to prevent the scorching sunlight full of ultraviolet rays from harming the eyes.

Was it only snow or was any soil visible too?

No! Only ice is seen everywhere. It is called 'Blue ice', as it is not snow. The top of the mountain which is not buried in the ice is where you can see the soil. Also, there was a lake that we could see. In the winter, the lake is all frozen. You could probably run a vehicle on it. I wanted to take a small boat on it for collecting samples of water, but it was not allowed because the water was used for drinking purposes only.

How did you get power supply over there?

Via a generator.

What facilities did they have at the station?

Every kind of facility possibly required for a comfortable stay was there; a gym, a table tennis facility, a library, a large number of movies, and what not! The government spends a lot to make things comfortable for the scientists that go there.

Coming back to the discussion on the wastewater project, dilution factor would be large there? Was there even a need to treat the water?

Only about 25 people were present on the station. So, there was very little waste water being generated by bathing, washing, cleaning, and so on. The waste water was drained into lake Priyadarshini. The waste would go there after treatment. With a large amount of oxygen entering the water, natural aeration was abundant and so the waste matter got oxidised and was rendered innocuous. The temperature on land would be sub zero mostly. I was a summer team member, and our team encountered temperatures of -15 to -20 degree celsius.

What were your conclusions about your research, working on the waste water?

The wastewater treatment plant was not working efficiently. It was because the conditions were such that the sub zero temperatures were not conducive for biological life to survive. While it was reported by some scientists that there are some organisms in the lake, but we tested and found nothing.

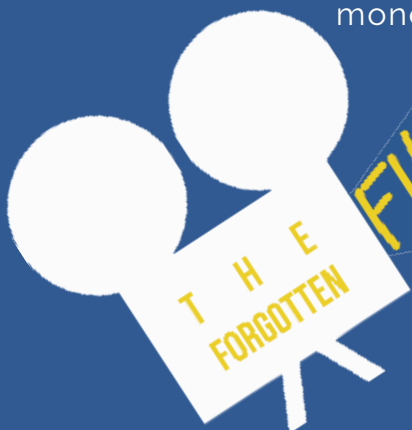
Sir, do share some anecdotes of your journey!

The best of the food was loaded from South Africa, and people used to eat a lot. People used to eat loads of butter. I will tell you the funniest side of it; the thickness of the butter used to be double the thickness of the slices of bread. There was this strange case of one scientist, who came to the station, weighing probably 80 kgs and when he was leaving he weighed 130 kgs and left with no clothes that would fit him. So the first thing people did after reaching Cape Town was that they went shopping for clothes for him. Having heard this story and with my wife being a medical doctor, I was always careful about my diet. Interestingly, there was a ban on liquor, save for festivals and occasions. The best occasion for celebration during our stay was the Cricket World Cup that happened in South Africa. We had a great time indeed.

Bollywood, the nation's heart- the most influential form of art that exists in this country. Bollywood has shaped and given birth to several ideas and prospects in India. It is Bollywood that keeps Indians interested and on the edge of their seats all year round.

Bollywood films give rise to new ideas, new socio-economic issues, new political leaders and most importantly, new artists. It is responsible for maintaining the mood of the nation and transmitting it to the rest of the world. Bollywood has been contributing much to Indian progress, but it has not even reached the level created by its counterpart-Hollywood. There are several factors associated with this. We know that Hollywood loves to explore what its audience likes to watch. Hollywood directors and storytellers work day and night to present projects to the audience that will have unique storylines. Frankly, the Indian audience is obsessed with certain genres of films. Indian directors and producers are driven by the fear that their project might not be successful at the box office. Indian filmmakers are only concerned about recovering their money and not about quality content. Movies like "Interstellar", "The Dark Knight", "The Godfather" and "The Shawshank Redemption" are great examples of how a masterpiece is created. We have to accept the fact that we do not have the will to experiment, resources and production to pull off such projects. The art of filmmaking in India is now a forgotten skill. Institutes like FTII and CBFC are tainted with controversy, and aspirants do not consider applying to such courses. Another solution is exploring the Indian culture and diversity, and showing content that Indians relate to. Indian mythology has been an ever-expanding maze of art and literature. So, will making films on Indian culture save Bollywood? Sadly, it will not. The flak that the recent film "Padmaavat" received is proof of that. The lesson that we take from this recently concluded saga is that such topics are sensitive and can easily hurt the sentiments of certain groups of people. Hence, Indian producers are bound from all sides. The formula to every 100-crore film is now pretty straightforward-a social media challenge to instil curiosity, a catchy song with lyrics by a rapper, an item song that will create interest, a romantic number voiced by a prominent singer. And the story? No one cares about that! These factors bury the fact that almost every Bollywood film lacks proper scriptwriting and fails to convey the actual message to the audience. Perhaps, this is not Bollywood's fault. I think we, the viewers, are to be blamed. Despite knowing all this, we still pay for and watch these movies. Multiple festivals mean multiple reasons for people to go to the theatre. The superstar culture created and gaining blind followers. However, movies, like "Barfi", "3 Idiots", "Gangs E-Azam", "Newton" and "PK", recognition they deserve. This audience, and also because Eid, Holi, etc.) for their big release off-season and fail losing its charm. We need money

by Bollywood is attracting a lot of viewership. Bollywood still has had its share of noteworthy of Wasseypur", "Raman Raaghav", "Mughal- which are intriguing but fail to achieve the is because of the lack of a sophisticated producers reserve special dates (Diwali, budget films. So low-budgeted films to attract the audience. Bollywood is to decide wisely, and spend our judiciously. We need to judge the performances rationally and not give credit to one person alone. Make Bollywood Great Again!



FILMSTHAN

-Vaibhav Davanger
SYBtech Production Dept.



Ever since I was a child, I had heard people say that they want to travel the world, but live in Bombay. "Bombay has a soul that no other place does."

I have nowhere to be, so I wander, mindlessly. I stop at a tapri for a cutting chai & realize my stomach is rumbling. I walk to Prithvi. As usual, the place is brimming with fresh faces hoping to be discovered. "Fools!", I scoff, they come chasing stars to a place where you can barely see them.

As I head out, a family of five whirrs by on a scooter. I roll my eyes.

I go to the beach afterwards, hoping the breeze helps clear my head.

The winds play with my hair & the waves kiss the hem of my jeans. I kick off my shoes and let my toes get sandy.

In the distance, children gobble down plates of chaat & mothers don't protest. Young lovers stroll hand in hand, eyes shining with the promises of forever. Friends sneakily sip a beer, celebrating a promotion or getting past a breakup, maybe.

The family on the scooter is here too. Right next to me, the kids build sand castles and the husband tells an overjoyed wife how they're finally ready to get a car on EMI.

The sky is clear now. The waves, soothing. I smile.

I sit there for a long time, contemplating the sights, sounds, and smells. The stars may let us down, but the sea? The sea understands.

I discovered stories about you, which I never knew. You crush thousands of dreams every day, but allow twice as many to be born. For every raging terrorist, hundreds of soulful humans open doors to absolute strangers. For every corrupt officer, there is someone distributing tea and biscuits in the rain. I know why I never recognized your true spirit, I was looking for it on a TV screen. If only I had opened a window.

Love,
A Mumbaikar.

-Nikhil Lashkar
SY Computers.

Counselling Over Coffee



Binaifer Sahukar, our in-house college counselor, has post graduate degrees in psychology and social work. She presently consults at various institutions & companies. She also does training programs, writes about psychology and addresses the mental health fora. We had previously heard her speak to our newly inducted first years at their orientation, so we were aware of her way with words. Meeting her personally was a blessing in disguise - we had a chance to live through her experiences, share our own, and receive lessons and bits of advice about everything!

How did you come to choose counseling as a career?

I have always wanted to be a teacher. I would admire my teachers, and would sit with all my dolls lined up, talk to myself and play teacher when I was small. I studied at TISS (Tata Institute of Social Sciences), a deemed university with a challenging course. That led me to social work. When I started fieldwork, I felt my interests leaning towards counseling and since then I have never looked back.

What, according to you, is your main role as a college counsellor?

Most of my cases here are related to relationships, academics, self-confidence, adjustment issues (mostly hostelites), apprehension about the future, placement anxiety and the like. How it works is this: they say something (about their problems), and then I ask some questions. Finally, they make an association. So they find answers for their own problems themselves. It is always the students who have to find answers, but what I can do is help them get a new perspective to look at the problem. I basically help people figure out their own path, but the time taken for this depends from person-to-person.

Do you think mental health is still a taboo?

I work for two colleges, two schools and a media company. I still remember my first day working in HR (Human Resources). There was a girl who said that I should probably grab a newspaper or novel to read because there might not be enough people who come to me. Well, from first day I had people coming to me, even here in college, so many that I have to defer people to the next week. I actually have to carry a coffee thermos and barely get time to have my food, so I usually just grab a quick sandwich. There is so much demand, especially during exam time, there is a constant flow of people streaming in. So I don't think it is a taboo anymore.

How important is it to discuss mental health?

People, from their feedback, say that they actually feel better, lighter in their hearts and

stronger in their minds after talking. The problem is all locked up in your head. It clears out unnecessary and negative clutter and you get a better clarity to your problems. Also, you get a different perspective to look at your problem which you have not considered yet. You tend to join the dots together and in the end, it does not feel like a problem anymore. It is always said that talking heals and it does.

What advice would you give students who are not happy with their stream?

It feels like getting a degree has become a stepping stone to MBA or UPSC. I think it is very sad because your entire degree is wasted. It is just that, we sometimes go with the flow without recognizing what it is all about. For them I would suggest for vocational guidance.

What do you think are your strengths and weaknesses as a counselor, and how do you overcome the latter?

I think my strength as a counselor is asking the right questions. The questions that create associations right away - they are very well crafted. So asking the right questions can generate the right insight. I think my strengths are asking the right questions, being a good listener, and not judging. And weaknesses?

I think I should draw more boundaries. I allow people to cut into my private time. I think that is not good from a self-care point of view, because there's a possibility of being overwhelmed. I've been in this field for 26 years and I'm supposed to switch off and leave all problems behind when I lock this door. But some problems can be pretty haunting. So I would like to learn detachment.

Have you ever taken help from a counselor?

Yes! We have a group of us professionals - when we're really upset or have a difficult case, we WhatsApp each other, we talk to each other. Whenever we're stuck about a case, or feel frustration, just talking about it

feels good. We're also humans. So we try to talk about it and learn from any mistakes we might have made with a client. But of course, without divulging details! We don't compromise on confidentiality. So I would use phrases like 'a person said this' or 'a client did that' and ask for advice.

So how do you deal with a situation where your emotional strength is tested?

That is a hard question! That especially happens in family therapy, where there are parents and children shouting and there is gung-ho going on. It is difficult, because in our counselling college we are being taught methods and techniques and diagnosis. But nobody teaches you how to sit in this tension. In spite of thick walls, my receptionist calls me to calm them down as everyone in the building can hear them shouting! It is very difficult not to get sucked into taking sides or into the high pitched emotions! There is anger, there are tears.

How do you take control of that?

By focusing. So my task is to ignore all that drama (which is very difficult) as white noise and focus on asking the next question. The next question which is going to bring them back to what we are talking about. That is the toughest part, to bring back everyone to the same agenda.

What advice would you like to give us students?

So I would say do things that make you happy. Have fun with your job, because it is something you do from your early twenties till you retire in your sixties or if your energy levels are high, until you kick the bucket! Find your happiness. If you cannot find your happiness in your job, then find it outside your job. You engineers are creative, you are not just right brained, you are left brained as well. Some of you, who are saturated with studies, find their joy in music, writing gigs, stand-up comedy, poetry, book circles, and sports. So just find your joy and you are sorted!

FOOD FOR EVERY MOOD: MUMBAI

Be it late nights or early mornings, hunger has a tendency to strike at odd hours. Here is a list of some of the best places to satisfy your food cravings in the city that never sleeps (but always eats :D).

-Drishti Gehi
SY EXTC



Kyani and Co

If you want to experience the essence of vintage Bombay, you have to visit Kyani & Co. Located near Metro Cinema, this café serves one of the best Irani chai, and is almost always crowded. Their mava cakes and raspberry soda are major crowd pullers. The rustic old ambience with ceiling fans, walls, and tables all add up to the feel of a quintessential Irani café. The food is tasty and reasonably priced.

AN IRANI CAFE



CAFE CALLING

Café Ista

It has chic interiors and pocket friendly rates & is quite popular among students. The food here is lip-smacking. Serves vegetarian dishes only.

Trofima, Shivaji park

Slightly on the expensive side, it serves both vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes made to perfection.



THALI TIME

Rajdhani

Unlimited vegetarian thalis are served here. They change their menu often, and bring in tantalizing delicacies from all over the country. Food is always served piping hot and is worth every penny you pay.



Caravan Sarai, Bandra

Their lunch buffet is simply marvelous. The variety is endless for both vegetarians and non-vegetarians. The ambience is lovely and the staff, courteous.

BEST BUFFETS



Aaswad

In the midst of the hustle-bustle of Dadar lies this incredible place. It serves authentic vegetarian Maharashtrian food. Service is prompt and the food is finger-licking good. Ambience is quirky and colourful.

Gomantak

Located opposite to Star mall in Dadar, it is the go-to place when one is craving machchi kadi rice. Traditional tantalizing malvani dishes are served here.

MAHARASHTRIAN MAZZA

PIZZA PLACES

Joey's Pizza

This place is heaven for pizza lovers. They serve delicious 'Indianized' pizzas, and have an option of 'Half n half' pizzas, where you can have a different topping on each half of your pizza!



SINFUL SWEETS

Badshah

An iconic food joint located in south Mumbai. Known for indulgent kulfis and the mouthwatering Royal Falooda (in pic). They've successfully upheld their quality over the years.

Theobroma

Delectable brownies (in pic), crunchy cookies, crafty croissants, cute cupcakes, and bucolic interiors.

Overall, a lovely place.

TIB (The Ice cream Bakery)

Newly opened ice-cream parlour serving the freshest and creamiest ice creams in town.

a day in the life of an ENGINEERING STUDENT

I woke up with a start. My alarm was ringing violently, getting angrier by the minute. Exasperated, I fumbled around till my hand landed on my phone and I turned it off. I had missed four alarms, again. Why did I have four alarms? Then reality hit me and the initial annoyance was replaced with horror. My exams were hardly a week away and I was supposed to start studying for it last night. Unfortunately, my harmless ten minute "power nap" turned into an eight hour guilt sleep. And now, I had to run to college, or else I would be late for my lab! I got up in a frenzy and went about my morning rituals.

I am a student studying in an esteemed engineering college which is respected by people who did not get in and by those who have passed out, but detested by those who attend it. Don't get me wrong. If you do not belong to my college, I will exalt my college, but if you do.. I don't need to elaborate. Why do I detest it? Who likes the place that is the secret behind their puffy eyes and ever-increasing tension lines?

Like any morning, today's agenda also included vital battles. First, a battle to enter the train. Then a battle to secure a not-so-comfortable standing position. The last battle is to get off the train after almost an hour of getting pushed around. In the train, there was no choice but to "go with the crowd".

I barely made it in time for the lab. I entered the lab to see people frantically writing an assignment sheets. Was there an assignment to be submitted today? My friend replied with an affirmative. But that is not what everyone was writing. Everyone was writing the lab-work. "What about the assignment?", I asked. That will be arranged for from our "topper friend". Amazing. After begging around, someone forwarded the images of the lab-work to my phone and I joined the group of extremely studious kids, diligently creating handwritten photocopies. After the submission, I couldn't help thinking if they would even read what we had written or just grade us based on presentation. Well, that is their hassle.

Then I made my way to the lecture and my phone beeped. A pdf of the assignment had arrived on my phone

accompanied by a disclaimer, 'Sir has warned us against copying assignments and strict action will be taken against those with similar assignments. Please do not copy word for word.'

Great, now I have to be wary of changing the tenses and including some strategically placed cancellations. I fought for the last bench and convinced the "great" people of our class who had already completed their assignment to sit ahead of me and cover me while I wrote mine. Thankfully, I wasn't the only one who wasn't done with the assignment. The iconoclast of the class was, shamelessly, sitting on the second bench and completing his assignment. I doubt the professor was oblivious to our mission, but either way, he chose to ignore us. After all, his job was only to teach. To understand was our job. But the professor engaging the next lecture wasn't so liberal. He kept a hawk's eye on everyone. So I had to plan our task. I had to complete the assignment only under the pretense of copying from the board or when he had his back to us. Somehow, I managed to complete the assignment and submit it by five. Hush!

After the tedious day, one has to enjoy a little to "maintain the balance". With purely this intention, along with my friends, I headed to the canteen. We decided to leave in thirty minutes. Thirty minutes won't harm anyone, would they? By the time we were done with dawdling, gossiping, criticizing the system and complaining about our academic performances, it was a good hour past our original plan. Exams were in a week. We dispersed, promising to study hard.

The ride back home was a battle all over again. By the time I was home, I was exhausted. Yet, I decided- no, I have to study. After dinner, I sat down with my books. I lost a little hope with each page. Finally, I picked up the calculator and performed arithmetic operations on the various combinations of grades to estimate my SPI (Semester Performance Index). I pondered on the worst case, the best case and the various arbitrary scenarios in between those. Dejected, I decided to take a ten minute nap. Maybe, after I get up I will be more fresh and motivated to study. In my dreamland, I did not hear my alarm go off after ten minutes..

-Prutha Dhisle
Final year (Mechanical)

Event Reporting

CS

the team

**Darshi Shah
Devangi Bhuva**

As truly said by Mr. Arnold Glasgow,

'Success isn't the result of spontaneous combustion, you must first set yourself on fire!'

It is indeed very honouring and overwhelming to be editors for Event Reporting Section of our college's very own official newsletter - Nirmaan, let alone writing an Editorial! Talks about Nirmaan making a comeback after entire three years were on and we knew we simply had to contribute. The team was created at the start of this academic year and, never having been an editor before, we were a bit anxious as to its responsibilities and anticipations. Surely much, after December 2018, we knew it was not going to be an easy ride. From the constant attempts to keep up with everything happening around in our college to sitting down to write this editorial, it's been one hell of a ride.

We all students of VJTI have been blessed enough to witness such a myriad of events from all aspects, be it technical, cultural, social, academic, et cetera, going on all round the year,

for which we applaud the zeal and enthusiasm of all the student body committees with pride. In this cut-throat, ambitious age, healthy competition is a must. But, we would also like to remind our fellow mates that our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the actual beauty and test of our edification. We cannot be separated in interest or divided in purpose. We all committees should urge to stand together until the very end.

We are very thankful to all our junior editors and report writers, without whom, this wouldn't have been a success. We wish you all the best of luck to take Nirmaan to even greater heights. We are also grateful to the faculty and secretaries who gave us this opportunity and a platform to voice our opinion. This is Darshi and Devangi, signing off.

TECHNOVANZA

a technical extravaganza

A plethora of events marked the beginning of Technovanza '18 this year from December 28, 2018, to December 30, 2018. Indeed, it lived up to its theme "Beginning of Beyond". The three-day festival witnessed a footfall of over 30 thousand, from school children showcasing their projects and models in the exhibition to all the ones pouring in for one of the main attractions - the ISRO Exhibition. Other fun events like quizzes and spell bee too were conducted for the school children. The main events were "VJTI Robotics Challenge - VRC" and "Robowars", followed by Robo Soccer, Fast 'n' Furious, Smart City, Robomaze, Strike, Monster Arena, Aqua Battle, VJTI Mumbai Cube Open (VMCO) and a lot more. Robo Sumo was added to this list during this edition of Technovanza. The eye-catching event "Night Drone Racing" happened for the first time and drew a lot of attention especially during evenings, when the track was lit by multicoloured lights.

Another important part of Technovanza is the Guest Lecture Series or GLS, that has evolved in the realm of technical extravaganza and through which Technovanza aims to flare up a radical burst of insights in the hungry minds of today's generation so that they can ignite the fiery revolution of a promising tomorrow. The GLS was inaugurated by Former Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Hon. Shri. Prithviraj Chavan Sir on December 27, 2018, and this was followed by guest lectures by Dr. A.S. Kiran Kumar, Admiral Arun Prakash, Dr. Rajendra Singh, Diwakar Vaish, Mahesh Guru, Ashwin Sanghi, The Prodigy Talk by Tilak Mehta, Haaziq Kazi and many more. But, this is not all!

The ISRO Exhibition was a display of inundating creativity put up during the festival and witnessed people of all age groups from various cities. Scientists from ISRO attended to all the visitors during the exhibition and detailed discussions on the working of satellites and satellite missions took place inside the exhibition tent. People were thrilled to see the ISRO exhibition despite standing in long queues right from morning till sunset. Arrangements were made to show the documentary about Mars Orbital Mission or MOM throughout the day.

This marked the closure of the three-day long festival which has always been an integral part of the lives of the students of VJTI. Apart from the three days, this Independence Day was a day of pride for the team as well as the entire college as the Mantralaya invited our VMCO (VJTI Mumbai Cube Open) team to make a 'Cube Art' of Mahatma Gandhi. Ten students were sent to the Mantralaya to make the said cube art comprising of 1300 cubes. The team also made its way into the Limca Book of World Records by making a cube art 70ft. by 11ft. comprising of 24000 cubes, by 30 people in under just 18 hours.

Technovanza indeed lived up to the theme of this year by defining new horizons of beyond.

-Mrinal Gupta
TY IT



PRATIBIMB

A MIRROR OF EMOTIONS

Incorporating a benefaction of over 31 years in a row now, Pratibimb has manifested itself unconditionally in transpiring as an annual 'National Level Socio-Cultural Festival' taking place in a technically oriented institute.

Encompassing a wide range of events spread over a span of four days, it never fails to amaze its enormous footfall which reached a count of twenty thousand this year. The Performing Arts sector organizes inter-college events attracting a crowd from diverse streams of various colleges throughout the nation. Engaging all the 11 departments by keeping them on their toes right from the beginning, Team Impact maintains the flow of this festival throughout the semester by organizing occasional tasks and intra-college events. To form a base for all the activities involved each year, a particular theme is decided upon by the committee members which acts as a fuel to power this extravaganza. This year's theme was "Desi Reloaded" which aimed at reviving the lost culture of our country.

It has been a roller coaster ride for Pratibimb this year: kickstarting the semester with a mesmerizing trek to the Duke's Nose to roping in some of the major storytellers and poets of this generation such as 'Yahya Bootwala'.

We witnessed a spectrum of applause and appreciation. Our very own first years or 'freshers' experienced the best night of their life during 'Aarambh 2K18', exclusively conducted for them. Sparing some time apart from entertainment, Pratibimb takes up Social Activities contributing to society and the environment as a whole. Drives like the 'Beach Clean Up' and 'Wall Painting' at Vadala Road station help us interact with the masses and spread the very zest of the fest.

In accordance with the theme of this year, Pratibimb witnessed Garba night in VJTI for the very first time in many years. The Garba night was the culmination of the Prati week which consisted of workshops like Fine Arts workshop, Salsa workshop, and so on along with an interactive session on our very own epic 'Mahabharata'.

The main events of Pratibimb occurred during the month of December. This year, the dates of Pratibimb were December 23 to December 26. These four days were full of extravaganza in the form of 9 sub-events of the performing arts (PA) section. The adrenaline rush to hold Impact's trophy was immense and captivated all the 11 departments. Impact's Solo Singing competition saw the presence of Bollywood playback singer 'Asees Kaur', while 'Apoorva Arora' judged PA's Monoacting Event. 'Nautankizaade', an all-new event under the banner of Pratibimb's PA sector witnessed 'Mahesh Thakur' as its celebrity judge. The musical concert consisted of Bollywood singer and composer 'Mr. Ankit Tiwari' gracing the stage with his melodious voice. The most awaited EDM night with 'Sunburn' in the VJTI campus set the stage on fire with DJ Nina Suerte's presence. Pratibimb's Synergy got a head start by the presence of Bollywood actor and celebrity 'Govind Namdev'. The whole college was decorated in accordance with the theme of this year by the fine arts team of VJTI along with art installations in the study space.

-Atharva Shinde
TY Electrical



VJTI Alumni Association, founded in 1944, formerly known as The Old Boy's Association, is a dynamic group of members striving to take VJTI to greater heights. VJTI Alumni Association bridges the gap between the students and the Alumni, thus creating a cohesive environment enriched with experience, skill, and talent.

Following the initiative of 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan', the students of VJTI took it upon them to clean-up the beach by hosting a cleanliness drive called 'GET SET CLEAN' at Dadar Chowpatty on 2nd October. Alumni Association also took the opportunity to felicitate the volunteers as a token of appreciation for their commendable contribution towards the cause. Alumni Association also collaborated with the cultural group and took the initiative of beautifying the Wadala road station by painting one of its walls.

This year kick-started for the students with the competition of 'Technical Tacklers', where industrial problem statements specific to their branch were given, for which they had to come up with a sustainable and applicable solution. This helped the students connect better with our Alumni and learn about actual industrial problems faced every day.

The student committee of Alumni Association also organized a guest lecture by our very own Alumni Mr. Raj Devdhar, who bagged a whopping 99.94 percentile in CAT and was amongst the City Toppers for 2017, also getting featured in the Times Of India.

Just like every year, in order to reminisce the good old days, the Alumni Reunion meet was scheduled on January 6, 2019. Alumni Association also organized a guest lecture by our distinguished Alumni Dr. Anil Kakodkar in association with E-Cell under SNC on 24th January 2019 where he enkindled the engineer within all the students.

Alumni Association also took an active part in the annual "Startup Networking Conference" or SNC as we call it, on February 2, 2019, and February 3, 2019. The student committee of Alumni Association looks forward to more engaging events through which it will accomplish its mission of getting the students and the Alumni together and bridging the gap between them.

-Manpreet Kaur
TY Textile

REPUBLIC DAY

The Republic Day was celebrated on January 26, 2019, at Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute with great zeal and patriotism. The festivities commenced with the spectacular NCC Drill which reverberated in everyone, a feeling of patriotism. The synchronized movements of the students in the drill presentation intensified the grandeur and solemnity of the occasion. The ceremony began with the hoisting of the tricolour, the pride of our nation, by our respected Director, Dr. Dhiren Patel. It was followed by inspiring speeches by The Director and Professor Dr. V. B. Varekar, who taught us the importance of maintaining the dignity of being a citizen of a republic. Later, there was a felicitation ceremony for the security officers and guards for keeping us safe in all situations. Director Sir then inspected the NCC cadets and appreciated them for their dexterity and discipline, which was followed by Visarjan by the NCC cadets.

In the Auditorium, there was a soulful presentation of songs and dances and thought-provoking speeches on the significance of this momentous day by students. Everyone took a pledge to uphold the honour, integrity, dignity and uniqueness of our nation. In the end, a vote of thanks was given by the Dean of Academic Programmes, Dr. K. K. Sangle. But the extravaganza did not stop here. Students moved to the Quadrangle to witness furious Bennett-fighting by NCC individuals and then for the first time in the history of VJTI, the live demonstration of a section attack left all the students and the faculty members speechless. Students moved to the canteen to start a stress – free day, savouring the sweets distributed on this auspicious occasion.

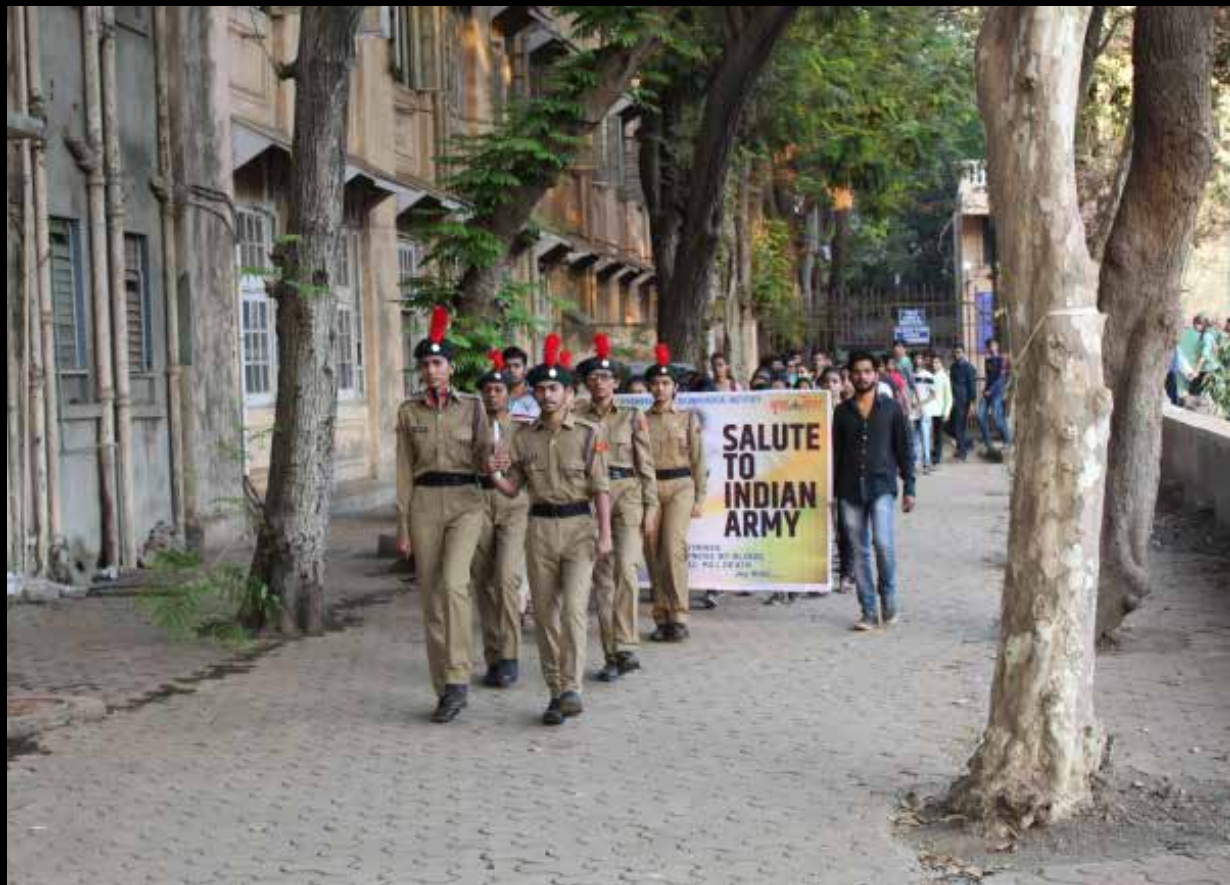
**-Apurva Mahajan
SY IT**

BLOOD DONATION



VJTI, in association with the HDFC Bank and K.E.M Hospital, organized a blood donation camp in the campus on January 17, 2019. The drive saw students and the teaching staff come together to donate blood for a cause. The idea behind donating blood was to give something back to society and spread awareness on the importance of donating blood. It brought in students a sense of goodwill and made them proud blood donors.

CANDLE MARCH



As a salute to our brave CRPF Jawans who lost their lives in the Pulwama terrorist attack, a silent Candle March took place on February 20, 2019. It started at Hostel Gate and proceeded towards the Quadrangle. It was supported by the NCC Parade and hosted by Yuvasena, VJTI.

DEBATE AND LITERARY ACTIVITIES (DLA), VJTI

As future engineers and leaders of this great nation, it is important for us, not only to be proficient at our studies but also to be well prepared for the pseudo-corporate world we live in. Thus, skills such as public speaking, debating, technical writing, and so on come to mind as some basic, yet necessary skills and DLA has been providing the platform for students to develop not only such skills but also showcase their flair for non-technical talents.

With the motive of increasing the students' interest in fields of history, geography, science, sports, and so on, and to encourage general curiosity among them, the FY Quiz was conducted exclusively for the First Year students and with over 80 applicants, it was a huge success.

DLA has also been organizing the Book Club since the past 2 years which provides a medium for like-minded bibliophiles to meet and discuss various books and topics related to them. This enables the attendees to better understand the book and broaden their perspectives by listening to various viewpoints of different people.

The VJMUN Workshop is designed to help first-timers get a handle on the complex workings of a Mock UN Committee, understand the minutes of lobbying and diplomacy, and at the same time aspire to get the youth more involved in country policies and politics. The VJMUN Workshop conducted in 2018 saw over 100 participants and some scintillating debates on the Iran Nuclear Deal issue.

Pumped from their experience at the Workshop, over 100 delegates, both from VJTI and from other colleges across India, attended the two-day VJMUN held during the first weekend of January 2019. VJMUN, whose 14th edition was held this year, is the oldest MUN in Mumbai and one of the most prestigious MUN in our country. This year's VJMUN also saw, for the first time, the introduction of a third committee, the Lok Sabha, in addition to the Historic Security Council and the United Nations Security Council. The stellar debates, ranging from topics such as the 'Goa Liberation Crisis' to 'Reforms in the UN', left the participants buzzing with energy and increased confidence in their abilities of public speaking, effective communication, debating, lobbying, and multilateral diplomacy.

English is one subject that engineers usually find difficult compared to Maths, Logic, and Aptitude in exams such as GMAT, GRE, Placement Aptitudes and so on. In an effort to improve the vocabulary of the students, DLA started a series known as "Wordly Wednesday", where every Wednesday a new word is released with its meaning and a related poster, for engineers to remember the word easily. This initiative has helped a lot of students score better and has

received a very positive response from the students. DLA also provided a platform for budding singers, poets, writers, musicians and stand-up comedians to showcase their talent on the platform of "VJTI Open Mic", held in the month of February 2019. The event saw a huge crowd and was lauded for the talent of the participants.

Nirmaan, our annual college magazine is another platform that DLA provides to the students of VJTI to express their inner writer and artist, and showcasing to the world, that engineers can do anything and everything; they can spin a beautiful web of words to create a captivating story, paint their imaginations out, capture a beautiful moment in a picture, hone their technical skills, and what not! Another important part of DLA is VJNEWS, our college's newsletter, which publishes all important updates of the college and keeps the students informed.

The various events organized by the DLA over the course of the year have helped the students improve their skill set, especially in the fields of communication, writing, expressing, negotiation, civics, public speaking and active listening to name a few. We encourage all the students of VJTI to come join us here in DLA and participate in the diverse events we organize for the enjoyment as well as the benefit of VJTians.

-Harshal Bhatia
SY EXTC



ENTREPRENEURSHIP CELL, VJTI

It started 12 years ago. With a dream. With a purpose. Purpose of making one realize the entrepreneurial talent that already exists within. And 12 years later, E-Cell VJTI has not only done justice to its purpose but also created an identity.

It sounds simple when summed up in a sentence but for an Entrepreneurship Cell to stand strong in a Technological Institution is no joke. The 12 years of our journey have not only been about achieving but also about a lot of struggle, hard work and consistency.



"Its a great challenge for E-Cell to keep the entrepreneurial spirit of VJTI alive. Ideas moreover fire up the process of work and encourage us to keep striving, till our goal is reached and to 'Make things happen'. I am glad that I got a chance to lead this journey to establish a startup culture at our institute," says Lalit Jadhav (Secretary 2018 - 19)

The StartUp NetCon i.e The StartUp Networking Conference is the entrepreneurial fest of ECell VJTI. SNC is a huge platform for the budding Entrepreneurs, Start-ups and creative students of the country to network. It also attempts to connect with a number of eminent personalities from the field of Entrepreneurship and Investment, and tries to create a network so as to develop an overall environment conducive to entrepreneurship!

"Managing a full-fledged two-day fest was a great responsibility. For the last couple of months, Startup NetCon had become a priority for the entire team. Of course, we had our share of ups and downs, but all of those came along with tons of lessons and great memories that we would cherish for life. It is not every day that you get to interact with national and international level investors, venture capitalists, futuristic businessmen and visionaries. To sum it up, the entire experience was exhilarating," says Palak Agrawal (Secretary 2018 -19)

This year's SNC was the fourth edition of itself and it has made remarkable progress all along the way from the very first edition. We have not only set a new benchmark in terms of our football but also in terms of our guest's lectures and keynote speakers who are well known in their respective fields. This year we had speakers like Mr Mahesh Murthy (Founder: Pinstorm, Exceed space), Mr Aniruddha Malpani (Founder and Director: Malpani Ventures), Padmavibhushan Dr Anil Kakodkar (Former Chairman: Atomic Energy Commission) and many more.

This year has been a great year for all the members of the E-Cell Family and we unitedly hope that we take the entrepreneurship spirit in our college to ever increasing heights through our activities and events as a committee. Go ECell !

- Gunai Tarde
SY Prod

ENTHUSIA

"Start unknown, finish unforgettable", the quote that truly defines the spirit of beginners. The newly arrived first years of VJTI were no less in displaying their enthusiasm. To gear them up for the sports festival of VJTI, Enthusia, a sports weekend was contrived in August 2018. This left a little to their imagination of what they were going to witness during the 12 days of Enthusia!

This year marked the beginning of another sports extravaganza in VJTI, the EnBA- Enthusia Basketball Association. Spread over the month of October, it witnessed ten boy's teams and four girl's teams fight their way to up to glory. Then we launched 'STFU - Seek The Fitter You' 2.0 by conducting the much awaited 'Zumba Workshop' in the month of October. The entire quadrangle was seen bouncing with energy and every face was beaming despite all the sweat when the global Zumba trainer, Arunima Dey, made the attendees groove along to her moves. The second event of STFU 2.0 was the self-defence workshop which helped promote awareness among the students.

Then arrived the main twelve days of Enthusia, awaited by everybody since the beginning of the semester. The Enthusia Cyclothon was held on 9th December 2018 and the streets of Mumbai witnessed more than 200 cycling enthusiasts ready to 'Pedal it Out' on a chilly winter morning. The Opening ceremony of ENTHUSIA 2K18 was held on December 10, 2018 and those 3 hours exhilarated the audience and left them wanting to see what was more in store for them! Enthusia was honoured to have Mr. Chetan Korada - Professional Racing Driver, Mr. Sambhaji Kadam - Indian Basketball Coach and former captain, and Mr. Devinder Walmiki - National Hockey Player as the chief guests for the opening ceremony. The mind-boggling performances lining from the BMX performance by the 'D17' team, jumping ropes by 'Jumping Hawks', to the dance by the 'Silver Steppers', left the audience awestruck.

The inter-department sports saga began from December 10, 2018 which went on till December 17, 2018. All the departments, including the Diploma and Masters engaged in an intense battle for the 'Department Shield'. A variety of sports like Basketball, Football, Cricket, Badminton, Volleyball, and so on were played on the VJTI grounds. The Civil Department successfully bagged 'The Department Shield' with Mechanical Department standing second. Since the first-year students were busy with their exams, an exclusive 'Batch Wars' was organised for them from December 15 to December 17. Boys played basketball, cricket and football, and girls played dodgeball, box-cricket and throwball.

The Enthusia Marathon was held on December 16, 2018, which witnessed a record-breaking footfall of 1200 people for 5km and 10km runs. Professionals, amateurs, children, old folks, all equally energetic, came together on a lazy Sunday morning standing true to our motto 'Your only limit is you'.

Adding to the glory of the festival were the inter-college events, which were held from December 18 to December 22, hosting colleges from all over the country. Consisting of 14 exhila-

rating sports ranging from aquatics to table-tennis, the events saw some really spectacular matches, where the players put in all they had to defend their college's title. All good things come to an end and so did Enthusia with its grand closing ceremony on December 27, 2018, felicitating all the accomplished winners. These 14 days were full of zest, zeal and enthusiasm, which left us all with memories that would last a lifetime; truly, a remarkable journey!

Enthusia has been and will always be about 'Fun, Food and Family'!

-Sai Pawar
TY EXTC



FY ORIENTATION

Over the years, VJTI has established itself as a premier technical institute and to introduce the culture and environment of the college to new batches of all branches, a two-day orientation programme was held on the college campus on August 3, 2018, and August 4, 2018. The orientation started with an encouraging speech by our respected Director Dr. Dhiren Patel introducing 130 years of legacy of VJTI to the students with few words of his wisdom: "VJTI is not a training institute, rather it provides an environment to explore yourself". Director Sir talked about real life technologies, the way we are connected to them and how 'Human + Technology' should be adapted, and ended by expressing the Institute's motto "Technology to Society". Then, our respected Academics Dean Dr. K.K Sangle introduced the history of VJTI's classroom study pattern and informed the students about 9 undergraduate courses, 7 Ph.D. courses and Post Graduate courses in VJTI. He informed the first years about their courses, exam patterns, grade system, and the re-examination procedure.

After a formal introduction to college, the first years were introduced to all the amazing fests and events conducted by various committees of the VJTI Social Group and the committee's respective secretaries too. These committees were introduced to the students by using glimpses and after-movies of the events and presentations by the respective committees. The introduction started with Technovanza, followed by Enthusia, cultural fests Pratibimb and Rangawardhan, E-Cell, DLA, Alumni Association, and technical clubs such as SRA, CoC, AERO VJTI and VJTI Racing. Students were given a glimpse of all the activities of our college so that they can participate in their own field of interest and explore themselves. After break time, the first years were taken on the tour of college by third-year students introducing them to all departments, laboratories, playgrounds, study space, I-Lab, Library, TPO Department and Quadrangle. A programme was arranged by the Social Group at the end of the first day in the Auditorium which included dance performances, a skit, and in the end, a concert by the VJTI band.

The second day of orientation started with "Creative Writing" workshop conducted by the DLA committee. Prof. Usha Nair and other teachers were actively involved in this workshop and helped the students improve their writing skills. Following that, our college counselor Dr. Binafer Shaikh addressed the importance of social networking in college. Discussions were held on anger management, feelings, psychological issues, inspiration, anxiety, and optimism. Throughout the session, student interaction was constantly maintained and they were allowed to speak up their minds. The orientation ended with an inspirational guest lecture by "Dr. Sanjay Shah" on quitting addiction of drugs and smoking, which is prevalent in some youngster groups. He addressed the issue of how addiction to drugs is leading to deterioration of health and ended with a motivational talk to create a healthy lifestyle and find passion towards a bright future.

-Devangi Bhuva
TY Comps

INDEPENDENCE DAY

On August 15, 2018, students at Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI) celebrated our 72nd Independence Day with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervour. On the morning of 15th August, our Director Sir Dr. Dhiren Patel hoisted India's tricolour flag with the guard of honour given by the NCC cadet corps. The National Anthem was sung at the time of flag hoisting. After that, Director Sir addressed the students of the VJTI, talking about the challenges that we are currently facing in India and what, as a youth asset, we can contribute to our nation to add to the glory of our country.

Later, the cultural programs commenced with everyone singing 'Vande Mataram'. The spirit of freedom and nationalism was well exhibited by each and

every student of

V J T I

who

participated in

the event. The event

witnessed motivational

speeches in English, Hindi and Marathi, a duet dance

on patriotic songs and a mouth organ performance. VJTI's drama

team performed a patriotic drama

on "Kya hum sachme azaad huye?"

on "Kya hum sachme azaad huye?"

This Independence Day was a day of pride for our college as the Mantralaya invited our college's VMCO (VJTI Mumbai Cube Open) team to make a Cube Art of Mahatma Gandhi. Ten students were sent to the Mantralaya to make the said cube art comprising of 1300 cubes.

The cultural program was concluded by thanksgiving and dis-



tribution of snacks and sweets to the students of VJTI to celebrate our freedom and victory.

**-Padmashree Samant
TY Copms**

RANGWARDHAN MARATHI RANG JAGACHA

Rangwardhan has completed its 17 years and successfully brought in the glorious 18th this year too, from December 23 to December 26, 2018, with the theme "Marathi - Rang Jagacha" which was announced on September 6, 2018, during its theme launch. The occasion was graced by the great Marathi cine-actor "Mr. Shreerang Deshmukh". "Marathi, Rang jagacha" means the Marathi culture has now reached beyond the country and emerged as a very glorious one, too.

Rangwardhan 2018 was a platform for the arts and colourful sparks of Marathi culture to shine and the festival went on to be truly splendid.

Various shades of talent from all over Mumbai were present in the inaugural ceremony: talk shows, a dance competition, mono-act competitions, street plays, a singing competition, live concert, a drama competition and so much more, throughout the three days of Rangwardhan 2018.

Our inaugural ceremony witnessed the presence of the great Marathi cine-maker, producer, director, actor and the revolutionary filmmaker "Mr. Mahesh Kothare". Ranga '18 was glad to get best wishes from Mahesh sir. This was followed by the amazing performances of true soldiers of Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaja and Mumbai's pride "Yoddha Dhol Tasha Pathak" and "Mardani Khel". This occasion was also graced by VJTI's Dean Dr. K. K. Sangle, Deshmukh Sir, Amruta Ma'am, Varekar Sir and many more faculty from VJTI. The last event of the day

was the dance competition where eleven great dance performances from the most prominent colleges in Mumbai, Thane and Palghar District were presented.

This year's Rangawardhan was more gripping than the former as it marked the debut of the mono-acting competition. Most of the acts highlighted social problems and made the audience more aware of the problems of society and the way to tackle them. The mono-acting competition was judged by the founder of Rangawardhan, "Mr. Jagtap" and renowned vocalist, " Mr. Khare". The afternoon was blessed with the talk of the famous Marathi drama artist, "Mr. Vjiay Kadam". His wise and witty words really helped us understand the true meaning of life. The center of attraction of all the events unfolded in the evening when the campus of VJTI heard the truly melodious and blissful voice of the very famous Marathi singer, " Mr. Swapnil Bandodkar". His famous song "Radha Hi Bawari" was the show-stopper.



December 25, 2018, was indeed a day of pride as we were honoured to have a renowned IAS Officer and writer of the Indian Literature "Pani-patkar", "Mr. Vishwas Patil". His immense knowledge and versatile experience of life left us mesmerized and in awe. The day also witnessed singing and street play competitions. The Boys Gang bagged the first prize for their extraordinary street play titled "Aman".

On December 26, 2018, the State Level Drama Competition "Kavadasa" took place and "The Paithanis" emerged as winners. The day also witnessed "Kavyamrut", which means self-written poetry along with vocal skills to narrate it.



"Aamcha tan, man, dhan Fakt Rangwardhan!"

**-Padmashree Samant
TY Comps**

SWACHH VJTI

Considering the importance of cleanliness in the everyday life of a student and its collective effect on our nation, our honourable Director Dr. Dhiren Patel initiated Swachh VJTI. Swachh (cleanliness) is a broader term which defines our character, our resolve and our commitment towards our nation. The main mission is to cultivate a set of practices among us which will help to keep our college 'clean and green' and also to conduct various social and environmental awareness drives in our college and surrounding areas.

We all know the level of mass destruction that occurred in Kerala this year. Extending a helping hand, Swachh VJTI had organised a help desk and the response from VJTians was overwhelming. A total of 148 kgs of food grains were collected and sent from VJTI.

Our Honourable Prime Minister launched Swachh Pakhwada, a significant initiative under Swachh Bharat. So from September 1, 2018 to September 15, 2018, various cleanliness drives were conducted covering the entire campus. This year also marked the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. So to commemorate this occasion, Swachh VJTI had organized a beach cleaning drive in association with Pratibimb and Alumni Association. The college faculties and Director Sir also participated in a cleanliness rally carried out after the drive.

As of now, Swachh VJTI has covered all the social aspects and aims at collaborating with different college committees to bring about change in VJTI. The main motive is developing sustainable and green solutions towards the technical problems we face. To ensure that the college is clean throughout the day and for the whole academic year, a new system called VJTI Cleaning And Monitoring System will be introduced by team Swachh.

-Dhananjay Gajanan Kadam
TY Textile

VASTRA

Vastra, which was started out by the students of Textile Manufacturers department in the year 2003, proudly stands today as the focal point of Textile and Fashion summits In Mumbai. The theme for Vastra '19 was Swadesh.

Vastra, the two day departmental festival, held on 15th and 16th February 2019, had a number of interesting events lined up:

Paper presentation, poster presentation, products marketing, technical quiz, garment display, spontaneous sketching and highly anticipated fashion show.

A multidisciplinary event X-expression was also added to the above events to cover participants from different branches of all colleges.

On 15th Feb, 2019, VJTI witnessed the grandest and most awaited event of Vastra 2019, The Fashion Show, being the centre of attention. Students from First-year to Final year, from Degree to Diploma, all moved to witness this spectacle. The Fashion Show hosted by Rutvik Kamble, Samiksha Shastri and Karan Bundele had total of 10 participating teams from different corners of India. The audience cheered the teams on stage with great enthusiasm. The winning team Sparsh, had the theme Neon and with their performance they had everyone amazed and wowed by their beautiful props and costumes. VJTI's very own fashion show team also made its mark and had some of the amazing students with immense style quotient.

The day 2 of vastra saw many more events and inspiring guest lecture series.

The evening started with singer Mismi Bose's enthralling performance. The evening was culminated by Textile Alumni meet. The meet was aimed at felicitating the silver and golden jubilarians and along with them the final year degree and diploma students

The 2 days of Vastra are more than a festival, it is a phenomenon beyond words. From stunning Fashion show to frolicsome Technical as well as interdisciplinary events, from overwhelmed freshers to every Seniors of VJTI, from battling it out in competitive events to losing oneself in the action packed Adrenaline Zone, Vastra has it all!

While the crowd throngs the Spotlight Guest lectures or simply marvels at the spectacular action on the ramp, excitement knows no bounds as one indulges in the plethora of fun that is Vastra!

The festival that has reached a milestone in celebrating talent and catering to a wide variety of interests, is synonymous with everything that falls under the vast hood of Textile technology.

Vastra strives every year to create unique and unforgettable experiences for everyone. We seek to change perceptions, expand possibilities and serve as a reminder that things are not always as they seem.

-Karan Bundele
TY Textile

Technical

6

the team

Simran Bhatia

"And as always, there is the magic of learning things". This pretty much sums up the entire experience of being a part of Nirmaan. From the days when the magazine was just an idea as solid as the clouds, when all of us were unaware of the obstacles that lied ahead, to facing all the ups and downs together and the stress of meeting deadlines, to finally seeing all our hard work pay off and holding the magazine in our hands, if there has been one thing that was constant, it was the learning; from teachers, seniors, fellow students and even from the dictionary, the learning curve has been ever-increasing and for this I express my gratitude to everyone who worked toward making the magazine a reality and to all our readers, I hope your reading experience is as magical.

Nirmaan has emerged as a platform for the students to express their hidden skills and talent in the form of technical papers, articles, reviews and so on. The technical section showcases VJTIian's ability to be leaders who help society grow and lead through their innovations in technical fields. In the following section, we provide to you an insight into field of technical innovations and recent technological advancements.

We present to you a small peek into the vast variety of activities carried out in the different technical clubs of the college, throughout the year, along with their achievements and past projects.

In today's era, technology is everchanging and ever-evolving. Everyday newer innovations and theories are proven by the brilliant minds of scientists and researchers, whether theoretical or practical. But every such research is based on the fundamental rules that govern our universe, solid facts that are built on them. We strive to present to you these fundamental principles, keeping them short and precise without wavering from the central idea.

Editing the Technical Section was an amazing experience. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the entire editorial team and a considerable appreciation to all the authors of the articles in the magazine. It is their timely contribution and effort that has made this magazine possible. As it is said, "To err is human": as you go through the following articles, we request you to give us your precious feedback and with it, the opportunity to make improvements and serve you better the next time.

The official aeromodelling society of our college AeroVJTI, is a student run club wherein students apply classroom knowledge to test and design RC-modelled aircrafts based on various constraints. We encourage the learning of aero-science and design engineering, with a vision of generating students' interest in this field as a career option for the development of these industries in India. Since its inception in 2008, the club has come a long way and the club continues to grow in areas of aircraft design, analysis and manufacturing techniques. We believe in constantly exploring new avenues of aero-model development, as this increases one's skillset and knowledge. Every year, a large baton of intellect is always passed onto the next generation of AeroVJTI.

The students at AeroVJTI participate in national and international competitions including SAE Aerodesign (USA), Future Flight Design (Turkey), and the most prestigious of them all, AIAA Design Build Fly (USA) and have bagged top ranks in all of them. Our achievements include standing 1st in Design Report and 7th overall in 2017 AIAA Design/Build/Fly amongst 100

shortlisted universities around the world. In their first and second years, students are mentored by seniors and once they enter third year, they participate in these competitions. Students work on various short-term and long-term projects which help them develop the necessary skills to face the challenges of these competitions.

We begin the year with workshops that AeroVJTI organizes for first years. The first workshop conducted for all first years is the AQUILA workshop, held in the month of September, where students learn the basics of aerodynamics, designing and manufacturing by building their own RC-planes from scratch.

The next workshop, which is essential to join the club and the official team, is the aircraft design workshop where students are taught the complete design procedure, analysis, and manufacturing techniques of building a simple RC-aircraft. This is their first individual project in the club. The students can then work on tougher designs and stringent constraints. The second year students also participate in national competitions to test their design skills and the flight capabilities of the aircraft

AERO VJTI

AIAA DBF

Design a multi-purpose aircraft to support carrier operations, and capable of completing 3 flight missions of reconnaissance and attack mission, delivery, and a ground mission.

12 TH IN DESIGN REPORT
AND 5 TH OVERALL

AIAA DBF

Tube-Launched UAV: Required the aircraft to be designed such that all its features may be moved or rotated using mechanisms to be stowed inside a cylindrical tube.

1ST IN DESIGN REPORT AND 7TH OVERALL

AIAA DBF

Design and build two aircrafts such that one occupies other completely.

2ND IN DESIGN REPORT AND 39TH OVERALL

FFD

Designed an unmanned mother ship aircraft deploying a swarm of micro air vehicles (MAV) over the target area.

3RD OVERALL

2019

2017

2016

2015

break previous records of the senior teams.

Our senior, Kalpesh Jaykar shares his experience, "The sight of my plane soaring through the sky in my first workshop is what got me hooked. What me and my team constructed over a weekend had the ability of flight, and this made me realise that we as engineers are capable of so much more. In my second year, I spent more time down in the Aero lab than in my class rooms. After designing the aircraft, in my second year we participated in the Boeing-IITB National Competition and then went on to work on the 'Albatross' model. This helped us standardize the design procedure and get ready for the AIAA D/B/F '17. We were a team of seven members. That year



will always be engraved in our mind. It is quite an experience; you face indecision, uncertainty, loss and frustration, but you also see achievement, friendship, teamwork, dedication and happiness. In the end, it is not about winning it all, it is about giving your all. I can go on about our design and what the year has taught me but I would rather leave it up to you to experience and realize."

The current third year team, VAYUPUTRAS, consisting of twelve members, are working on an aircraft that supports carrier operations to participate in AIAA D/B/F held in USA. The design will include an aircraft having a minimum wingspan of 4 feet with folding surfaces such that it can roll through a constrained space in stowed conditions. The aircraft must transition from the stowed (folded) configuration to the flight configuration remotely (by command from the transmitter) and lock mechanically without any assistance. The team is through with the first virtual round of the competition and stand amongst the top universities around the world.

To conclude, working on such design challenges develops our prowess and pushes our creative thinking. In designing optimum aircrafts, we turn mundane notebook knowledge into perfectly engineered solutions. The club has been successful in its mission of spreading knowledge as well as in earning a name on the international scale amongst top universities and shall continue to do so in the future.

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“Big
dreams
take flight
on a small
set of
steps”

On January 27, 2018, the day of the competition of BAJA, chilly winds of Indore were breezing our spine. A driver sat in the cockpit, cranked the engine, and the automobile soared to life. This was the endurance race of BAJA, the day all of our hard work was going to be tested strenuously. It was time to prove whether our calculations were right or wrong. Time to show how we tune, how we drive. We were 40 students, represented by a single entity: 'Team Motor-Breath'.

Our preparation started the day we created the team. We had arranged many workshops and activities for juniors which increased their interest & we received a great response from them all, which led to new additions to our team as well. We started by launching our club, and then we organized a lecture series covering various sectors like power-training, vehicle dynamics, chassis, brakes and so on. These lectures were so planned that students were able to get theoretical knowledge along with some practical experience as well. After every lecture we took the students to our workstation, the 'Automobile Lab', giving them exposure to all the interesting things we work on in the racing lab. We teach them about how to design a vehicle in CADD and how to analyze, optimize and simulate our design in real life. We arrange workshops every term on softwares like Solidworks, Matlab, Hyperworks, and Ansys, making them learn the basic tools for designing any vehicle and its parts. But designing is not all that it takes. To build a vehicle in real life, one must know manufacturing. Here at VJTI-Racing, we give extensive knowledge to the students on manufacturing, beginning from how to cut a metal using a hand grinder to how to weld T-joints. We always keep safety and time as our priority and work hard to complete our tasks.

**VJTI
RACING**

We have made more than 10 different kinds of vehicles till date, each better than their predecessors which includes off-roading (BAJA), formula styled vehicle (SUPRA 2014), electric Go-kart(ECOKART) and a solar vehicle (ESVC). Since the inception of our club in 2008, we have participated in the competition BAJA in 2010(INDIA), 2012(INDIA), 2014(INDIA), 2015(SOUTH AFRICA), 2016(INDIA) & 2017(INDIA). Every year we have to go through a virtual screening round to prove that our design is better than preceding one. Once we get respectable rank in this round, we are allowed to create our vehicle. It does not end just with the manufacturing, the next phase is testing, in which the car's design and manufacturing process is validated. After successful testing, the car is ready to rumble in the main event. At the main event, the car goes through the 3 stages – Static Events, Dynamic Events & Endurance Race. Every event earns us points. The

participation history along with the undaunted dedication of the club members has resulted in the positive improvement of Team Motor-breath over the years. Talking about our past achievements, our team achieved worldwide glory at BAJA South-Africa 2015 representing India at the BAJA Event and getting the first rank. In 2014, our formula styled vehicle won many awards, including the 1st rank in Mumbai and 8th overall in the



competition. Our solar powered vehicle ranked 1st in the Acceleration Event. Our latest vehicle is a 164kg single seater, all-terrain vehicle designed to travel over rough terrains and adverse road conditions with utmost priority given to driver ergonomics. The chassis design, material selection, 5 point harness, fireproof driver suit and top quality helmet ensured that no harm came upon the driver even in case of rollovers, topples and collisions. The vehicle is powered by a single cylinder 10 HP engine which helps the car attain 0-50 kmph in less than 5 seconds. The automatic CVT transmission system and imported suspension system ensures a comfortable and thrilling off-road driving experience. The car is equipped with an electronic dashboard and LCD screen which provides live vehicle data to the driver. We were ranked 3rd in Virtual Screening Round and won #1 Rank in sales presentation in the main event.

A humble victory cannot be achieved without the efforts of each and everyone involved

A HOME FOR AUTOMOTIVE ENTHUSIASTS

in the process. We are in debt to the entire Mechanical Department for their support in terms of knowledge and machinery. We are grateful to Dr. M.V. Tendolkar, faculty advisor of VJTI Racing, for his advice and help in times of failure and trouble. We are also

thankful to the VJTI Racing Alumni for passing on their knowledge throughout this whole phase. We are thankful to the workshop personnel of Mechanical Department who helped us during the manufacturing phase of the car.

Looking back at our glorious past, our hopes have increased for a brighter future. VJTI Racing gave us a platform to get involved in the active process of designing, optimizing and manufacturing a racing car. This project has brought us closer to the engineering industry and helped us to apply our knowledge practically. All these efforts pay off when we achieve something bigger and better every time. Building the best vehicle is not a test of our knowledge, it is the test of 'us', our 'patience', our 'dedication' and this dedication comes from passion.

“Passion to see our well-built vehicle crossing 60 kmph mark, passion to hear the engine roar for the first time, passion to watch our vehicle under breakdown but not giving up and repairing it again, passion to hold our tricolour in hand representing India abroad. All these things for one word VJTI RACING”



What are Gravitational Waves?

Consider a stretched fabric, when we put some weight on that fabric, ripples get created around the weight. A similar thing happens with the fabric of space and time. Massive objects like stars, planets, black holes and so on create ripples around themselves on the fabric of space and time. When these massive objects move through space and time, the ripples travel with them.

Thus, gravitational waves are produced when two super massive objects such as stars or black holes revolve around the same center in the same orbit with very high speeds, nearly equal to the speed of light. The ripples get created due to this type of revolution. These ripples propagate through space and time and create a disturbance. These disturbances or ripples travelling through space and time are called Gravitational Waves.

The gravitational waves detected by LIGO on

September 14, 2017 are due to the collision of two massive black holes. Gravitational waves travel with the speed of light.

Gravitational waves were first proposed by Henri Poincare in 1905 and again by Albert Einstein in 1916 on the basis of the general theory of relativity.

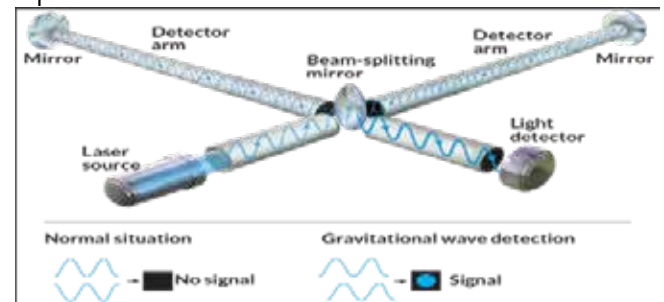
In 2017, the Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded to Rainer Weiss, Barry C. Barish, and Kip S. Thorne for the discovery of gravitational waves.

Detection of Gravitational Waves :

The detection of gravitational waves is based on the principal that, when waves move through space and time, they contract the space in one direction and stretch it in another. Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory or LIGO is designed on this principle. LIGO consists of two beam lines (4 kilometers in length) which form a power-recycled interferometer with Gires–Tournois etalon arms. A pre-stabilized laser emits a beam with a power of 20 Watts that passes through a power recycling mirror. The mirror fully transmits light incident from the laser and reflects light from the other side, thus increasing the power of the light field between the mirror and the subsequent beam splitter to 700 Watts. From the beam splitter the light travels along two orthogonal arms. By the use of partially reflecting mirrors, Fabry–Pérot cavities are created in both arms that increase the effective path length of laser light in the arm. The power of the light field in the cavity is 100 kW.

The laser beams in each arm of the observatory interfere with each other such that they create perfectly destructive interference. The light coming from the interferometer is detected by a detector. When wave pass through the observatory, the space-time in the cavity gets altered, that is space in one cavity contracts and space in other expands, which sets up a phase difference between the two laser beams. This breaks the destructive interference and the interferometer emits the light which is detected by a detector. In this manner gravitational waves are detected.

THE MYSTERIOUS GRAVITATIONAL WAVES



-Hrushikesh Salunke
SYIT

IEEE VJTI is the newest technical society of our college. It was reinstated in 2017-18 and the incumbent office-bearers form the second Executive Committee of IEEE VJTI.

Some of our objectives include:

1. Enhancing awareness about IEEE amongst the students of VJTI
2. To create a larger IEEE member base in our college
3. To deliver a superior membership experience to our student members.

We have conducted workshops for students, such as IoT101 in association with SpaceUp Tech to acquaint students with the basics of Internet of Things. We have also conducted a guest lecture on the topic 'Sensor Networks and Security'.

IEEE VJTI



We have hosted two national level competitions – 'Makers Square Project Exhibition' and 'Technical Paper Presentation Competition' in collaboration with Technovanza. Makers Square was a neck-to-neck competition where eight best and most innovative projects were exhibited. These projects, made by college students and professionals, were judged on both their ingenuity and the presentation skills. The winning team of Makers Square was – 'Nanotechnology Safety Bangle', a project with the central idea of women's safety. The first runner-up was 'Ninubot', a robot possessing dexterity in cleaning homes and small spaces. Next, the Technical Paper Presentation Competition was attended by 22 groups presenting their research on a plethora of topics. These groups presented their research and were meticulously judged on both their ideas as well as presentation skills. The winning paper was about 'Surfacetouch' which showed how any surface can be converted to a touchscreen. The runner up was a paper about a '9GHz continuous wave frequency generating crystal'.

“All of you can join us to explore new and unique career opportunities through research and development, seminars, workshops and networking events.”

We also had the pleasure of hosting Dr. Darin Acosta from the University of Florida, USA. He conducted a lecture on the topic 'Embedding Artificial Intelligence into Electronics'. This event was well attended by students from VJTI as well as other colleges and everyone got to learn a lot from the event.

Our student members have been doing various projects under the R&D wing. Some of these include an Army HGC bot, a Robotic Arm, an Automatic door locking system, Arduino based smoke and temperature detecting system and so on.

IEEE VJTI is a very different committee as it caters to professional development of recent graduates and early career professionals. We aim to provide a superior IEEE membership experience by creating a holistic learning environment, promote research and development and encourage students to publish papers. We also aim to foster relationships among students, alumni, the industry and society for mutual benefits.

IEEE VJTI is not just restricted to the Electrical Department. Our committee comprises of students from various branches of VJTI.

NLP : UNDERSTANDING HUMANS THROUGH THE MIND OF A COMPUTER

Computers are great at working with structured data like spreadsheets and database tables. But we humans usually communicate in words, not in tables and that is unfortunate for computers. A lot of information in the world is unstructured—raw text in English or any other human language. How can we get a computer to understand unstructured text and extract information from it?

The answer lies in natural-language processing (NLP), an area of computer science and artificial intelligence concerned with the interactions between computers and human (natural) languages, and in particular, how to program computers to process and analyze large amounts of natural language data.

In simple terms, natural language processing (NLP) is the ability of computers to understand human speech as it is spoken. NLP helps to analyze, understand, and derive meaning from human language in a smart and useful way. NLP algorithms are based on machine learning algorithms. It learns by analyzing a set of examples and making a statistical inference, instead of coding large sets of rules.

Let's dive deeper to understand how it works. The idea is to take the raw text and turn it into something which can be utilized by an ML algorithm to carry out prediction. It basically converts every word into a token and removes words like a, an, the, be, etc. (they are called Stop Words) as they don't add any extra information. Stemming and Lemmatization is used to strip words having same meaning to their core. e.g. copy, copied, copying. Dependency parsing figures out the relation between all the words. Named Entity Recognition, or NER, is used to detect and label nouns with the real-world concepts that they represent. A good NER



Bass: fish



???



Bass: instrument

system can tell the difference between "Brooklyn Decker" the person and the place "Brooklyn" using context clues. Co-reference resolution figures out all the words that are referring to the same entity. With all these techniques we would be able to extract a lot of information to carry out further prediction.

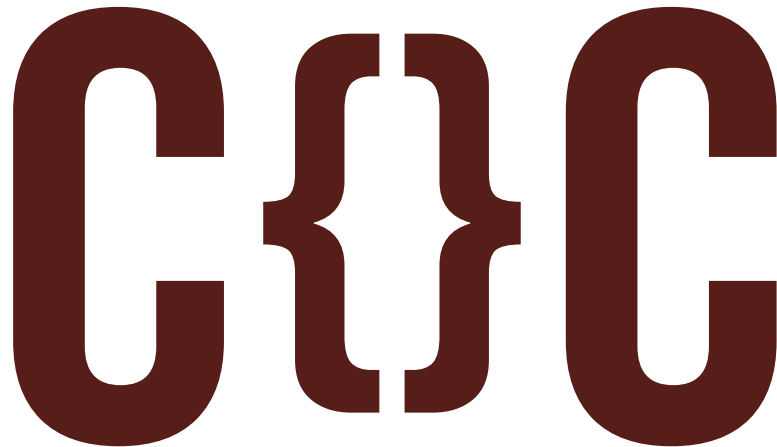
Unfortunately there are some challenges like understanding what meaning a word refers to in a sentence given a context, figuring out the antecedent, and also the subject of a verb. Word sense disambiguation extracts the meaning of the word by looking at the nearby words because they have related meanings.

Now that we know how NLP can be implemented, let us look at some of the really amazing applications of NLP. One of them is Text Summarization. It provides the CliffsNotes version for any large document. How many times throughout the Harry Potter series does Hermione bug Harry and Ron to read the enormous tome *Hogwarts, A History*? How many nights do the three of them spend in the library, reading through every book they can find to figure out who Nicolas Flamel is, or how to survive underwater? The mistake they are all making is to try to read everything themselves. Alas, there was no spell to do "text summarization" in their times! But, computers sure can!

As speech-understanding technology and voice-input applications improve, the need for NLP will only increase. Question-Answering (QA) is becoming more and more popular, thanks to applications such as Siri, OK Google, and chat boxes. Companies use natural language processing applications, such as sentiment analysis, to identify opinions online to help them understand what customers think about their products and services (i.e., "I love the new iPhone" and, a few lines later "But sometimes it doesn't work well" where the person is still talking about the iPhone) and overall indicators of their reputation. Besides these examples, an E-mail spam filter is another form of NLP to determine which emails are good and which are spam. These spam filters scan the text and attempt to understand the meaning of that text.

To conclude, natural language processing for creating a seamless and interactive interface between humans and machines will continue to be a top priority for today's and tomorrow's increasingly cognitive applications.





CoC is the Community of Coders at VJTI, a technical club that aims to increase students' knowledge about coding, emerging technologies and any computer science related subjects by conducting creative workshops, events, treasure hunts and so on. Within such a community, we intend to develop teams that can put their skills to test by participating in inter college as well as international level competitions.

Workshops:

The most preferred way to step into programming is the C programming language, thus our first event which aims at introducing the freshers to computer programming and getting hands on experience with it, is The C Workshop. The next event is the "Code Hunt" which is usually conducted in the month of October. It is a fun coding-based treasure hunt in which the first years participate in pairs and use their coding and logical abilities to solve puzzles. Usually after this, a workshop is conducted in February which covers a different skill every year, including Python, game and web development workshops and so on.

One of the great advantages that students at VJTI have is a long summer vacation, which is also accompanied by the question of how this time period can be used productively. So we conduct a mentorship program, specially curated for the first year students, which allows them to work on a project of their choice in a team during the entire summer vacation. The FY teams working on the projects are allotted mentors to guide them throughout their project duration. Successful teams present their projects at the end of the vacations. It is a great team building exercise and an opportunity to learn newer technologies in a comparatively lesser time, owing to the mentorship provided.

We as a community encourage learning with mutual help as it accelerates the process and makes it effective and more fun. Thus various workshops on technologies, that the members are interested in learning are conducted by experienced members of the community. Up until now, CoC has conducted workshops on Machine Learning, Data Structures and Web Development.

Goals and Achievements:

Our goal has always been to create a community where everyone can "learn, share, discuss and build" by the exchange of information and ideas. We intend to create an environment for all those who are passionate towards computers, so that they can find better collaborators

and unlock the resources that they were unaware of. We promote research in the fields of emerging technologies in computer science, within the community.

From inter college events to international level events, our members have been a part of all and have won many laurels. We had recently qualified for ACM-ICPC regionals and have participated in and won various hackathons such as the Mumbai Hackathon, KJ Hackathon, Global Blockchain Hackathon, Code-decode and so on.

Members of COC also assist in various technical aspects of other festivals by putting their knowledge to use. Being a relatively new community, CoC is now attempting to delve into all technical matters related to our college and seeking some projects alongside the CE-IT department as well.

Senior experience:

It was a pleasure attending and participating in the various competitions and events held by the Community of Coders. Participating in the workshops as a student really helped us improve our programming skills. We also got a chance to indulge in various discussions with our helpful seniors. The competitions, apart from being interesting and exciting, helped us get a feel of the real world and its different challenges. Being a volunteer/teacher in the workshop further helped us improve our skills and pass on our knowledge to our enthusiastic juniors. It also helped us revise our own concepts and improve our existing skills. Being a volunteer also gave us a wonderful opportunity to interact with our enthusiastic juniors. Also, CoC has always pushed us to participate in various difficult competitions such as hackathons, coding challenges and so on, thus improving our skillset. This really helped us get an experience of how professional programming is done and also how to write better code. Participating in competitions is an amazing experience, which cannot be described using words.

-Aliabbas Merchant, SY IT

How is CoC different and why you should join CoC:

COC is the only club dedicated towards coding and computer sciences in the college. Our motto is "Imagine, Believe, Achieve" and that is what we focus on doing, by guiding those who are interested to **"Imagine the impossible" by looking at things and challenges from different perspectives that you might not have explored before, "Believe in yourself" by helping you improve your skills and demystifying the complex world of programming that people are afraid to try, "Achieve your goals" by bringing together people who can compliment each other towards a formidable goal.** We are a small community that believes in "growing by sharing", and that is what we intend to do in the future too.

Last but not the least, we would like to invite everyone who is interested in learning anything about coding to come find us in AL004 near the study space between 5.15 and 8 PM. If you have any problems, doubts, or questions associated with the above, we are more than happy to assist you and point you in the right direction.

SRA

WORKSHOPS

Our workshops serve multiple purposes and they are an effort to strike a note in the minds of the First Years while maintaining a fervent approach towards technology. It is multi-fold in that it imparts not just technical knowledge but teaches the teachers the intricacies that go into keeping a crowd engrossed for a long duration.

Self Balancing and Line Following (Wall-E)

The 2018 Wall-E 2.1 is an extension of last year's Wall-E 2.0 "Self-balancing and Line following robot" workshop. It entails complex concepts such as PID Control (Proportional Integral Derivative) and Serial Communication among others, many of which are involved in Final year projects or even in industry-inspired robots. This year we shifted to a completely new microcontroller, the ESP32, its best feature being in-built WIFI support. This allows support for IoT (Internet of Things) development, a feature which its predecessor, Atmega did not possess.

Robot Operating System on a 3 DOF manipulator (ROS)

This workshop involves designing and implementation of Robot Operating System on a 3 Degree of Freedom manipulator. It involved the learning of Forward and Inverse Kinematics and implemented the same on a manipulator designed by the first year students.

Internet of Things (IOT - IP)

This workshop involves Basics of Web Development, Introduction to Cloud Computing using ESP8266. The application involved Data Monitoring and Data Logging using ESP8266 and Social Site interaction. The robot was controlled by gesture recognition using

PROJECTS

Eklavya

Eklavya is the annual mentorship program arranged by the students of Second Year for the students in first year, to invest their summer vacation time i.e. a span of around 2 months into doing a project of their own. The students are encouraged to work on an idea of their own while they are being mentored by their seniors. This program happens to inculcate team building in the students and give them an exposure to working on their own.

Research and Development

It may happen that a promising Eklavya project is not fully completed due to factors like time constraints or team-size. Rnd projects stem from such previous projects and take it a step further, with an end result of implementing the endeavour in a competition or even a start-up.

Avitra - Reconnaissance Robot Description:

It is designed to mitigate and work in disaster situations like nuclear and chemical leakages, hostage situations and other emergency situations where sending human is not possible. It uses AI and Deep Learning tools for simultaneous localization and mapping. It possesses a humanoid upper body controlled by imitation-based technique that provides it with unique dexterity and versatility. It also provides a video and audio live streaming to a remotely located operator.

MESSAGE FROM SENIOR

It's not about the place, it's about the people" Honestly, this sums up my 4 years of experience in this society. Right from seniors who are ready to help you 24x7, to juniors whose growth you are responsible for, this society has all the elements to transform individuals into a brotherhood of geeky, curious and 'jugaadu' minds. From burger parties after senior-junior "meetings" to 'Parle-G paani' parties after successful demo of a mechanism, this society has all the elements to transform a mundane engineering life into a city full of memory lanes. In short, this society, these people remain a constant source of inspiration for me and I hope that someday, SRA, with support from the faculty and its strong alumni network, becomes the main driver of Robotics research in India!

In SRA, you learn to apply things practically i.e. you build projects yourselves, thus enhancing the depth of knowledge that you have and getting a hands on experience on new concepts and technologies. Any subject or new technology is best learnt not by just reading about it but by actually trying things in the particular field. Practical training will always give you the required skills for an all-round development in the field of engineering.

MESSAGE FOR STUDENTS

We have been consistently performing well every year and bagged prizes every year. Some of our notable achievements are

ERNST YOUNG BLOCKCHAIN HACKATHON

Theme: This was a 36hr hackathon for Blockchain based solutions conducted by EY in association with IBM and Microsoft at Zone Startups, Mumbai.

Project: Peer to Peer renewable energy trading solution using blockchain.

Description: A live demonstration was presented for P2P energy trading in Microgrids using the Ethereum Blockchain Client along with a hardware implementation using PV emulators and smart meters.

Finishing position: Winners!!

GLOBAL CYBER CHALLENGE - PEACE-A-THON

Theme: Global Cyber Challenge was an important part of Global Conference on Cyber Space (GCCS), 2017, inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. Peace-a-thon is to build ideas and technological solutions based on identified themes and is based on different problem statements to which participants will render an effective solution in the form of a Proof-of-Concept/App.

Project: Mitigating Public Sector Cyber Cascades.

Finishing position: Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi felicitated our team that won the challenge.

NVIDIA JETSON DEVELOPER CHALLENGE

Theme: Today's AI is empowering the world's brightest minds to create amazing breakthroughs. If this sounds like you, we've got the perfect challenge. Show us how you can transform robotics, industrial IoT, healthcare, security, or any other challenging application with a powerful AI solution built on NVIDIA® Jetson™.

Project 1:

Avitra - Reconnaissance Robot Description: It is designed to mitigate and work in disaster situations like nuclear and chemical leakages, hostage situations and other emergency situations where sending human is not possible.

Finishing position: AVITRA, Human-in-Loop AI Robot of VJTI won People Choice Award of NVIDIA Jetson Developer Challenge 2018. The team was awarded with 1000\$ cash prize, NVIDIA Jetson TX2 GPU, NVIDIA Titan XP and Deep Learning Institute

Training.

Project 2:

Smarter Office Automation system Description: People say "AI is the new Electricity", we wholeheartedly believe in this Quote. The commercial office sectors are said to consume about 30% of world's total electricity but seeing around in offices we can clearly predict that there is lot of power being wasted .

Finishing position: Smarter Office Automation system of VJTI was second People Choice Award of NVIDIA Jetson Developer Challenge 2018.

L_HACK

Theme: This was a 48-hour hackathon with a variety of problem statements split into software and hardware tracks. It was held at E-Summit 2018 at IIT-B, organised in association with Texas Instruments and Pepipost.

Finishing position: Winners!

ABU ROBOCON, 2018

Achievements:

- Finished 4th Overall in National Robocon
- Third fastest task completion in 1:06 minutes
- Won the best Manual Robot Operator Award

AICTE-SMART INDIA HACKATHON, 2018

Theme: It is a non-stop 36-hours digital product development competition, where problems are posed to technology students for innovative solutions. **Project:** Telecom Connectivity Analysis and Predicting the health of the Optical Fiber based on past history.

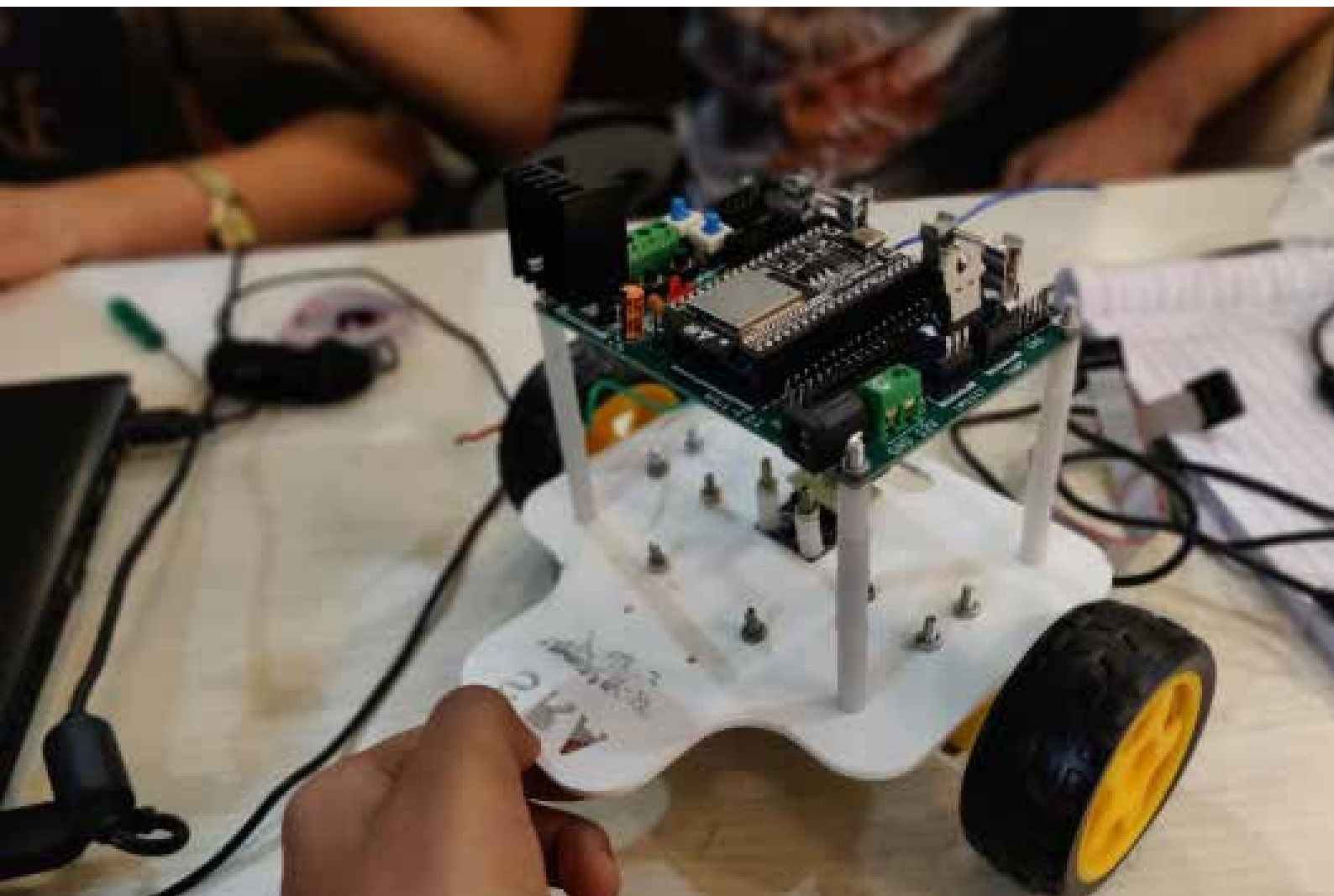
Finishing Position: The team stood 3rd in the India under the Ministry of Railways. The team was awarded with 50K cheque and a trophy from Ministry of Railways.

TIIDC 2017, TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

Theme: The teams are expected to design a product from the viewpoint of a startup.

Project 1: Device failure prediction using time series modelling.

Final Position: Reached the quarter-finals of the competition.



We have at our disposal a fleet of high-performance automotive beasts that burn the asphalt they drive on. These machines are no less than art and technology combined to give the feel of ultimate joy. Let's gear towards a niche level of these cars the Lamborghini one-offs. The rarest of the rare and the most badass cars ever to be built. Lamborghinis reign started with the most iconic Miura back in 1966. Since then it has produced flamboyant machines of speed like no other.

The most extreme of the Lamborghinis are the Sesto Elemento, Veneno and the Centenario. These cars have pushed the limits of automotive designing to its edge. They all adorn the signature sharp looks of the Lamborghini DNA but elevate it to look like spaceships from the future. Lamborghini is



known for its extreme designs originating from the Centro Stile, the Headquarters of Design in Sant'Agata Bolognese in Italy. Catching a glimpse of any of these icons is no less than a privilege owing to the numbers in which these cars were produced.

The Sesto Elemento is a super light weight car redefining the future of super sport cars. It is the representation of what can be achieved by the use of carbon fiber. The entire chassis and parts are made out of carbon fiber composite which makes it very light at 999 kg. The color given to the car highlights also doesn't use paint to save weight but in fact the material itself incorporates red flakes to impart the bright color of the trims. Owing to this it has a blinding acceleration of 0-100kmph in just 2.5 sec with the help of the 5.2 L V10 engine. That is mind-boggling. It takes design cues from the Lamborghini Gallardo and ups the level 10 notches to produce this menacing looking vehicle.

The Lamborghini Veneno is another example of how Lamborghini pushes the limits in all aspects. The Aventador based Hypercar made its debut in 2013 defying all notions of sanity out the window. It has extreme levels of aerodynamic details all over its body which help in handling and cornering. Its naturally aspirated 6.5 L V12 produces an ear-splitting melodious harmony. With a top speed of 335kmph its an arrow shaped design with sleek surfaces and state-of-the-art technology. Only 3 coupés and 9 roadsters were built making it the rarest Lamborghini. Each can cost upwards of \$5 million, probably not something you can buy at your local dealer. This car helped the company make a bold statement and wowed us once more.

The latest in the line up of these extraordinary vehicles is the Centenario, made to mark the 100th birth anniversary of Ferruccio Lamborghini. This car is an homage to the creator of the brand and how he made it what it is today There are no words to explain the sheer brilliance of the extreme design angles. The humongous rear diffuser, front splitter and the active rear wing give it a wide and sporty look. The limited production of 40 cars also boasts of a few that have exposed carbon fiber bodies that can cost up to \$500k extra but is worth the look. There are 20 coupés and 20 roadsters each costing about \$3 million base price. Its daring design and

THE



ONE UFFS

“Nerves tingling.
Adrenaline coursing
through your body. The
raw power of a monstrous
engine pushing you back
into your seat, peeling your
face off. That is pure bliss.



Graphics

7

the team

Astha Wadhvani

In our extremely busy lives where we are somehow trying to manage our tutorials, submissions, fests and exams, we forget that our minds do need some creativity to relieve ourselves of the stress.

All of us have a creative side to ourselves, be it writing, painting, photography, sketching or even cooking. We just have to tap our potential in it and explore it well.

Designing this magazine, which has made a comeback after three years, was an altogether different experience for me. I took up this as a challenge because I hadn't explored this aspect of designing yet. While working on the graphics section of Nirmaan, I realized that each one of us has that creative spark in us and I'm glad Nirmaan gives all of us a platform to showcase our talent.

I simply loved going through all the beautiful, scenic photographs, paintings and sketches that all the contributors have sent.

I thank all the contributors of the Graphics section for sending in their creative works to Nirmaan, without which, this magazine would certainly have lost its charm!

I am also very grateful to the faculties and secretaries for giving me this wonderful opportunity.

Clicked by: Prathamesh Rajesh Ekar
First Year MCA.



Clicked by: Jainil Parekh
First Year MCA



Clicked by: Pinakin Kataria



Clicked by: Chetan Hemchandra Bendale
Ty Civil





Clicked by: Aakash Mishra
FY Production



Clicked by: Ashwini Khandave



Clicked by: Sharvari Apte

House Sparrow
Clicked by: Nikhil Kapoor



Plain Prinia
Clicked by: Nikhil Kapoor



Juvenile Grey Bushchat
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Clicked by: Darshi Shah

Clicked by: Shruti Shinde



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FY Production



Clicked by: Vrushabh Donge
M.Tech Control System Engineering (Electrical)



Shot on OnePlus
Bhushabh1

Made by: Darshi Shah
TY Comps



Made by: Kamakshi Tatkare
TY Electrical



Made by: Nikita Masand
TY Electrical



Made by: Kamakshi Tatkare
TY Electrical



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TY Comps



Clicked by: Akhil Umare
SY Production

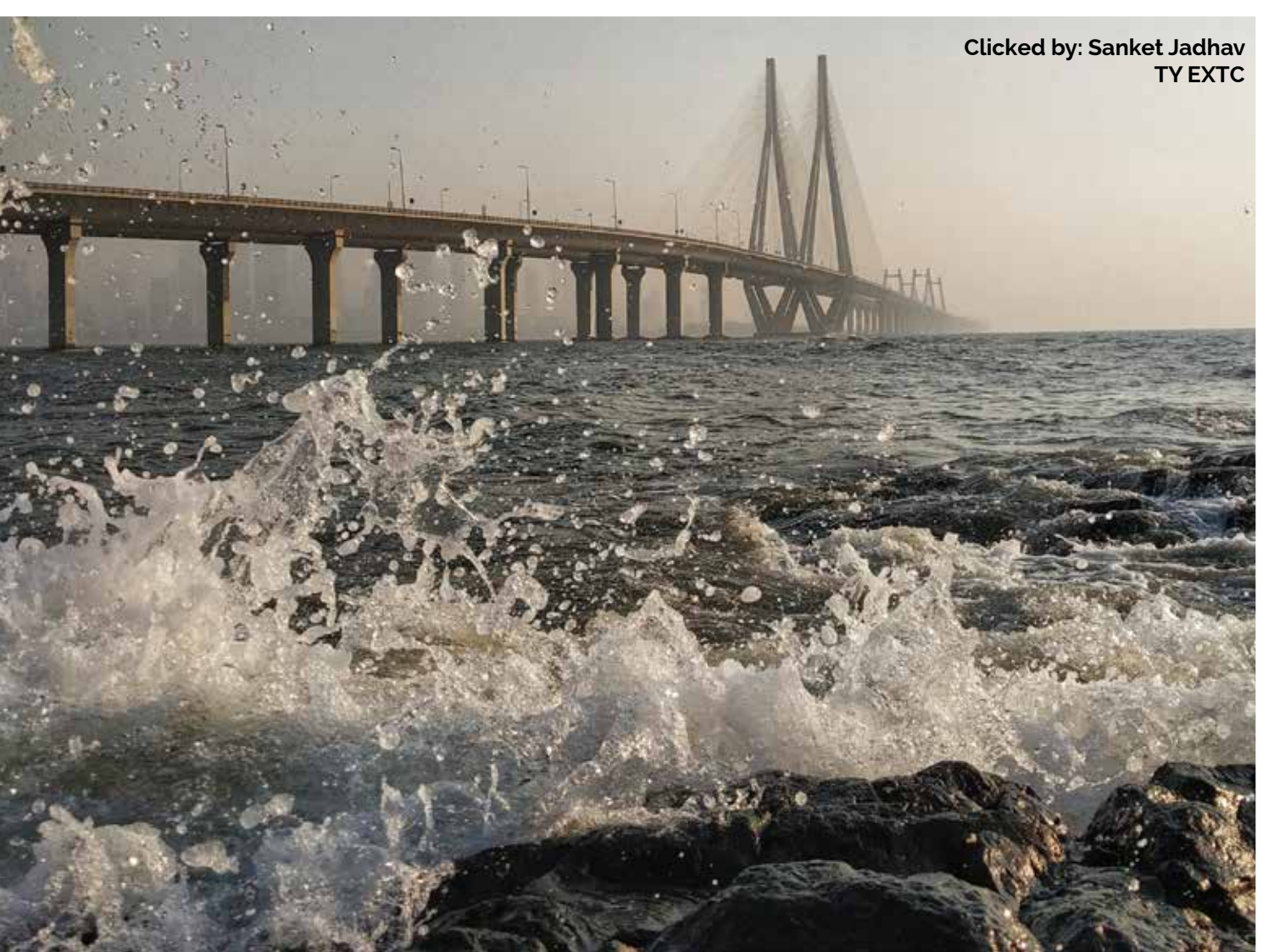


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Darshi



Glimpses



















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Please note: The views and opinions expressed in the magazine are those of the bylined authors and do not represent the official position of the college or the Editorial Board.



