ABHISHAR

VOLUME 4.0

"Friends Fun & Dreams"

TEAM PATRON

From the Editor's desk...

Comes again the time when our team has a present for all of you; a bunch of tales, some lessons for life and an emotional trail to all the memories. It's been an exciting journey to reach Abhishar 4.0; ideas, suggestions, changes, editing but finally.... an art conceived from joint efforts of all us IIITians.

Abhishar is an initiative to keep alive amongst us our friends Late Tushar Sharma and Abhinav Saxena; personalities of great technical intellect and modesty. With their dream of being a medium to always help others grow; something that could really justify their memories with a blend of their qualities and dreams was 'ABHISHAR'.

Abhishar 4.0 is ready to take you again on a quality drive from the 'Geeky' stuff to the 'Career' advices, the alumni stories to the charismatic write-ups. To even interest you further we present exclusive interviews with the HRs of the institute's two top recruiting companies 'Direct-i' and 'Amazon', to help you with the 'Placement warm-up '.

Abhishar is not only a magazine for our institute, it's a very emotional bond for all of us and our alumni and we really hope the support and extravagant cooperation that you all have given us this time, continues for every year to come and help our love and efforts to bear the fruits in remembrance of these two souls. Hope Abhishar 4.0 has in store, something for each of you.

Riya Naval

Director's Note

Greetings and felicitations on the occasion of the Fourth edition of Abhishar. This is a commendable endeavor to pay tribute to everlasting memory of our dear students, Abhinav Saxena and Tushar Sharma, who were active members of AASF. I compliment Team AASF for this stupendous effort.

AASF has been instrumental in making peer-to-peer learning possible, enjoyable, and fruitful through a series of events round the year. This has facilitated skill enhancement and has also exposed our students to gain a variety of soft skills such as team work. I appreciate the efforts of "Abhishar" team and Team AASF and place on record their valuable contributions in nurturing the spirit of out-of-the-classroom engagement possible.

Prof. S.G.Deshmukh
Director, ABV-IIITM

Registrar's Note

'Abhishar' is a concerted effort from the ABV IIITM Student community to offer help, assistance, guidance and peer to peer learning opportunities to the fellow students.

It is a medium to create building blocks, develop comprehensive understanding of the academic curriculum, hone professional skills and augment expertise in an ongoing manner.

This 'Help Self and Someone' initiative is a commendable effort by the ABV IIITM student community dedicated to the memory of Late Mr Abhinav and Late Mr Tushar. I wish the student community progressive success in this arena.

Mr., Sanjay Bhatnagar
Registrar, ABV-IIITM

FACULTY'S SPEAK

I extend all my warm wishes for the success of the students' magazine. It will provide a peep into the thoughts, and minds of the students. It is a platform for knowledge sharing and information about the past, present and future activities in our institute campus. Getting to know the new additions in Abhishar like career mantra and the idea of reviews and feedback from students is an innovative and interactive approach.

I wish all the success to 'Abhishar'.

Dr. Joydip Dhar
Associate Professor, ABV IIITM
(Faculty Editor In Chief)

I would like to congratulate Team AASF for putting in efforts to bring together the fourth volume of Abhishar. This year's theme "Environment and Technology" is well suited for our institute as ours is a premier institute in the field of technology with an environment friendly campus. Here, we strive to promote environment with technology and our aim should be that all technological advancements that we make (be it building robots or humanoids) should be in sync with the environmental needs.

I appreciate the work done in Abhishar for the same. I extend my best wishes for the new members of AASF.

God bless you all.

Dr. Ritu Tiwari
Associate Professor, ABV IIITM

First of all, I would like to congratulate team AASF for this brand new edition of Abhishar. With this unique platform, ABV-IIITM students' community reflects their other side of creativity. I strongly believe that after overwhelming success of last three editions, version 4.0 is going to exhibit fresh ideas from day to day life experience of our campus. With new creative ideas, the vibes of Abhishar has already been reached to other educational campuses and encouraged them to explore their creative self. I wish team AASF for the grand success of this new edition and looking forward to read exciting write ups.

Dr. Pradip Swarnakar
Associate Professor, ABV IIITM

I am happy that, "Abhishar", the biblio-podium is in its fourth episode providing another opportunity to articulate the young minds' perception and experiences. I wish the entire editorial team and the contributors to keep marching towards the endless journey of Abhishar.

Dr. K K Pattanaik
Assistant Professor, ABV IIITM

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ABOUT AASF and EVENTS

AASF aims to inculcate in the students the spirit of excellence in every field. Innovation of ideas is an integral part of the forum. With peer to peer learning methodology, the forum has been laboriously engaged in organizing activities like hIQs as they act as a catalyst to evolve and nurture knowledge and know how. Forum activities and events can be divided in mainly three sections i.e. technical, managerial and literary sections. AASF also helps one find his interest field and master the trade.

Technical section :

- **Windows basics**, **Linux**- Operating system fundamentals and hardware information.
- **MS Office**- Working knowledge of all MS Office modules i.e. MS Word, MS PowerPoint, MS Excel, MS Access.
- **Photoshop** - Basics about all creative tools and working environment.
- hIQs on programming basics - C, C++ week, java week , python, .NET week, Robotics basic.
- **Networking** – Information about networking modes and importance.
- **Web Designing Week** - All fundamentals and advanced knowledge about website building and about all building parts i.e. html, php, sql, JavaScript, css.
- **Ethical Hacking** – Basic ideas to be in safe computer system environment.
- **Contests** -Programming contests
  - Webkriti (website designing contest) - Debugging Contest
  - Akriti(Photoshop contest) - Overnight Software Contest
- **Quizzes** - Sports Quiz
  - Bitz Quiz

AASF-ICPC- AASF Conducts programing contests in ACM-ICPC style every year. AASF-ICPC 2014 saw fervent response.

Managerial section:

- **Case study hIQ** - Managerial concepts to handle stories which present realistic, complex, and Contextually rich situations that often involve a dilemma, conflict.
- **Case study contest**- To improve the ability to explore the real problems and innovate skills to solve them.
- **Brand aid contest**- Advertisement making contest that shows the creativity and intelligence . New events incorporated underAASF from the session 2014-15 are like Role Play contest, Summit and how to build your CV profile, to enhance the mana--gerial skills of the students alongside the technical aspects..

Literary section:

- **Jam(Jest a Minute)** – The most amusing and buzz event. It is conducted in Hindi as well as Eng--lish.
- **Debate**- Develops knowledge, opinions and makes one think of all aspects of a matter.
- **Extempore** - On spot speech preparation relevant to the topic , memorization and speaking.
- **Group Discussion**-The forum organises preodic GD's to groom one's personality and literal charm.

AASF ushered **Picture Composition** in the current session of 2014-15. The event saw enormus participation and audience.

EVENTS
AND
hIQs

The Shocking Shellshock
Windows Users, You're OK. It's just the Unix
Sachin Acharya

Recently, the Internet was flooded by the word "Shellshock". Shellshock is a recently discovered bug in Bash Shell, the Unix Shell and it may be considered much greater than the Heartbleed – a bug in a widely used open-source encryption library that was found earlier this year. The fact that Shellshock is even more dangerous is because almost all the servers are running on Linux and all it requires for a freak is a Monitor and a Keyboard with Internet connection. To explain the entire Shellshock bug, let's first discuss the basics of Unix Shell. In the Unix Shell, there are variables that are termed Environment Variables that are hold key values that can be accessed at anytime by the Shell executing commands. The users do not usually get to access this list and edit or add new ones (except when you edit .bashrc file). But the bash shell allows users to create certain environment variables that are local to that shell and cannot be used in another shell. This basically means, in simple terms, that the environment variable declared can be used in that window/tab only and not in a new window/tab.

First consider this example:

Sachins-Macbook-Pro:~ acharya$ env COLORS='red' bash-c 'echo i love $COLORS I love red

Here it can be seen that a variable COLORS was created in one shell, and the command that followed was to execute it in another shell, and it executed it in another shell, but used the $COLORS variable from the previous shell

Sachins-Macbook-Pro:~ acharya$ env x='( ) {:;}; echo vlunerable' bash-c" echo t his is a test"
vlunerable
this is a test

Similarly the above example shows how the Shellshock works. If the Bash shell was working correctly, the echo vulnerable should not have been executed at all and should have been ignored. Hence the malicious string '() { :;}; echo vulnerable' takes advantage of the bug and tricks the shell into treating the string echo vulnerable as a command. The shocking part is that it does it automatically, even if the variable was not called.
Well of course, the "bad guys" would use this bug not to print "vulnerable", but send files to remote servers, send out spams

and access private files.
The reason this is considered very serious is because of the extent to which Bash is widely distributed. It is the Unix default command shell of Mac OS X, Unix and other operating systems. Even worse in terms of controlling this bug, Bash is widely used on the Internet by software that automatically interacts with other programs in certain prescribed situations. For example, there is no human involved when a website queries a server for updated content. Also, another reason why this is such a daunting problem is that much of the vulnerable software lives out of public sight, but indirectly affects them.

For now, Apple is coming out with a fix in an update, so is the Linux community through patches. Until then, we can just hope that the Administrators are careful enough and monitor the activities carefully, since all these are easily logged in the log files. ◆

GEEKS CORNER

Code CIS moves Japanese markets
Nanda Ambati

Started in his shanty bed-room a may be decade ago that too more or less from scratch, CIS has amassed a fortune that he himself keeps above the 16 bn Yen. I repeat 16 billion Yen! Whoa!!! In this process he is idolized among Japanese Day Traders, self-taught professionals in their own circumference who take the pride of working in one of the world's toughest markets. He's a matter of speculation than being the topic on the coffee-table of traders. Known only to a few of his peers by his actual name & not known even to them is the way he works. He hasn't offered the complete accounting of his investing returns to any of the story-breakers or makers. Thus, putting many of his claims under the heading; 'to be verified'.

On the other hand, he had publicized multiple 2014 statements related to his brokerage account. This is in fact termed as tear drop. In addition to this, he has even produced his 2013 tax return filings. His tax-returns make a mention for 1.7 trillion Yen.

As mentioned by himself, on a busiest day taken he has bought & sold 70 Bn Yen worth of stocks. CIS, pronounced as 'sis', which means death in classical Japanese. CIS makes a point that's worth mentioning & i.e., "it's the games which had taught him to think fast while staying calm." He wants people to know his success stories but neither his name nor who he is. Even after some great success interviews his identity has been undercover. Thanks to the media.

With the energy pumped into day traders because of CIS, the number of shares traded by individual investors has more than doubled according to Tokyo Stock Exchange (TIS).

J-Com Shock:
CIS biggest score happened in 2005-end when someone at Mizuho Securities made a typing error by throwing 6,10,000 shares worth of 1 Yen each instead of 1 share worth of 6,10,000 Yen. CIS took the chance of buying a lion's share from the same at the limit-low price.

Takashi Kotegawa aka BNF is another day trader who pounced over and made 2 billion Yen according to Bloomberg News. While our star made 600 million Yen.

If this has happened to anyone of us, what could be the next lap in which we will be? The answer might be enjoy! But CIS hadn't even paused reason being that, whatever had happened shall definitely attract lawsuits & he doesn't want to lose a penny. Thus he shifted his earnings into Nintendo Co. the only information even the biggest to knowledge sharing platform, Wikipedia could give is just a page related to the charts purporting to show how his fortune snowballed & nothing else.

One Rule:
There's one basic principle, he says—repeatedly and slowly, as if instructing a child—i.e.: "Buy stocks that are being bought, and sell stocks that are being sold." ◆

India's Mars Orbiter Mission

The Mangalyaan is India's first interplanetary mission to the planet Mars. India becomes the first country to insert a spacecraft into the Martian orbit in its very first attempt.

MOM is the cheapest and lowest-cost inter-planetary mission ever to be undertaken in the world. It cost us all a mere Rs 4 per person. The Hollywood movie Gravity costs more than our space mission.

CAREER MANTRA

Oops!!!!!! I Know Photoshop

Monika Mahor

I remember my first hIQ on Photoshop, My first attempt at Photoshop was kind of going nowhere, the tools had confused me at first because I didn't know what to use for what I was trying to do. The layers were confusing me and the transformation tool was appearing as if it's transforming my mind because until you don't finalize the transformation it doesn't do anything. And that "fish in the eye was really pissing me off, I was totally confused, but I just wanted to learn Photoshop as it was interesting and above all it was fun moulding the pictures according to you, as I learned more about the tools and layers in Photoshop I slowly got the hang of it and even got inspired to do more. But there's this thing, Pretty much everyone agrees, that it's a curse if you know photoshop here ;) When any fest approaches , Everyone heads to you like "maine suna hai tumhe photoshop aati hai ?" and start loading you with multiple designing tasks .Then comes the peak time when everyone gets frustrated because you need to design at least 3 posters in a day that too in hassle.At the time of INFOTSAV'13 the designing team was composed in which we were all working under one senior.Every time we finish one poster, we felt so

relaxed that at last it's over but then either we were rewarded with some new poster to be designed or to redesign the following poster. I remember one statement of my senior saying "aao beta dekhen kitni creativity hai tumme" it was funny and challenging at the same time. But at the end of the day there exists a satisfaction of doing what you really enjoy doing and also a sense of positivity that at least you know something that many others around you don't. That feeling that you get when you see your creation hanging on the walls for everyone to see and people don't believe that they are actually made by a student is just out of this world. And the best part is that you don't have to do anything when the fest is going on because designing part is done before. There exists many myths like designing is female centric field, Creativity is a waste of time etc. and also you will get many snide comments by others which will distract you like I remember one incident, when I came back from the holidays in my first year, two people talking "usne kya teer maar lia, photoshop seekhi hai usne bas holidays me" and I felt so demoralised and I thought, Is designing really good for nothing? I could have learnt something else,

but then one day I just casually without any interest applied for an internship on twenty19 as graphic designer and to my shock I got selected and got to learn many things in my first year only and after that I did two more internships. I agree that designing is not as important as coding, web designing and likewise but If you are really determined then there exists many opportunities in this field as well. Every day I come across much attractive internships, job offerings providing a very attractive amount and opportunities to the graphic designers all you need to gear up with the knowledge, creativity and very importantly the original ideas and the capability to see the objects from a different point of view. A little bit knowledge of other graphic design software's like Adobe ILLUSTRATOR, CorelDraw etc could also be helpful to shine amongst the crowd otherwise there are very few things that you can't do in Photoshop all you need to do is think! But at the end of the day it's always good to learn new things. ◆

Are you an Atheist?

Rahul Raman

Have you ever asked yourself this question, "Why do I believe in God"? If you have to think hard to answer it then you, sir, are good at pretending. Wait! Let's guess. If one of your wishes come true after you asked for it in one of your greedy prayer sessions, you exclaim 'God tussi great ho' else you lose faith in the almighty. That's more like faking than believing. At least, atheists don't do that.

Atheism, in general, is the belief that there are no godly beings watching over us. It is said that the relation between God and man is old enough to be lost in time. Some bow down to that maleficent idol and pray for well-being while others follow the mantra of "God helps those who help themselves" and believe that everything is going to be alright if we just keep doing our karma. At moments like these an atheist asks, if I am helping myself why I should give that "help credits" to God. These are some cases just to show what might be the point of view of an atheist.

A vast majority of scholars have been arguing over the opposite belief, i.e., non-existence of God since the term psychology became a subject. This has created a division between believers and non-believers and some of those who argue have a good taste of their own medicine from time to time. The thing to keep in mind here is we all are free to accept the idea of existence of God or reject it completely rather than having serious difficulties in believing. That puts an individual in a confused state, creating a war inside the conscious mind.

The intellectual community says that the belief of God is based on personal needs and wishes while atheism is the no-nonsense and more rational logic of the way things really are. So are you an atheist because of:

Embarrassment

You have been a theist your entire life until you move to a new place. In a short duration you become part of a 'cool' friend circle. On one of the occasions, your friend finds out that you are a believer and humiliates you in front of everyone. BAM! Nobody sees you praying again. After a while, you stop believing altogether.

Inconvenience

This applies for every super lazy or busy person out there. Who wants to go to Hanuman Mandir when you can sleep already? Or why would someone expend so much money on flowers when they don't even like the way they smell? Why waste oil for all those Diya and Batis when its price is already on a hike? There are several other reasons for inconvenience. Why bother praying at all! Life goes on without it. A theist may counter these remarks with statements like "No, I don't pray to show my devotion. It's something I feel inside, breathing down my neck". Seriously? How do they even come up with such statements?

Division and religion

This is more reasonable. There are over 700 religions in the world, further divided into different castes. Now, why would someone prefer one religion over the other? The most apt reason for this is people follow the religion they are born in. They don't go for reasons. They develop a certain amount of liking to the fairy tales they have been spoon-fed since they were young and generation by generation this scheme of epic story telling goes on. It rarely happens that an individual changes the religion without a motive or simply because she wanted to.

Education

No kidding! Research (google search) shows that a major population of atheist group is of the age group 18-40. This is also the age group when people bother finding reasons behind everything. Humans have walked this land for more than a millennium. But most of the cultural references or rise of the religion is only old as 5,000 years. Didn't God exist before that? Again, atheists think they are educated enough to not go for the 'stories' when there is no legitimate reason.

Culture

With growth in people watching some sensible movies, movie culture has changed considerably. The aftereffect? Every 1 out of 10 person says that he is an atheist. These people are generally the victims of highly influential movies or other such references which put there think engine into activation and they switch their side. Sometimes they stop being a believer just because their favorite movie character is an atheist. Many of us take inspiration from stories and movies but some people take it to the next level and start acting exactly as that cool character who influenced them. . So let me ask you again. Are you an Atheist? ◆

LIFESTYLE

Alice and Type

Divyanshu Ranjan

Once again Alice fell through long and dark well. This time other end of well was not pathway to ordinary wonderland but wonderland of computing machines. As Alice strolled through various parsers, lexer, abstract syntax tree generator, she observed strange creature lurking around values. At last she confronted it.

Alice: Who are you? I didn't recognize you.

Type: Oh! Did you? I am type. I guard values, maintain social structure for values.

Alice: Aha! You are type. I remember you from my basic computing class where they teach us about strange language c to talk to computer as if talking to human is not enough. You are the one who is common nomenclature for ints, booleans, string and what not.

Type: Glad you remembered. But let me remind you that you have met weaker form of me. I am strong much strong. In my strongest form, I can make program write by itself. Assist computer in doing mathematical proofs. I am getting ahead of myself. Tell me dear Alice, what more do you know about me?

Alice: People in school never gave enough attention to you. You are introduced in passing when syntax of language was introduced. Little mention here and there. I do know that I should not mix string with integers, integers with floating point numbers for that matter. And you suppose to help me. If I type something like `float p = "hello"`. You will cry your heart out complaining compiler that I am stupid. But you don't complain when I type things like `int a = "hello"` though it does appear nonsensical. Am I allowed to count in strings?

Type: As I mentioned earlier, creator of C never trusted me and gave me such a diminished form. I am allowed to cry when you punch me hard but not when you punch yourself. They trusted humans for all judgments & corrections. Look what they created. A jumbled mess.

Alice: As I remember now, I read somewhere you are also not first class just like functions`. What this sentence mean if it means anything. What is first class? Do we have second class also? I bet it will not be as glamorous as first class. First class is first by virtue of its name.

Type: It's not true entirely. First class status means things can be passed as arguments to functions and can be returned from functions among numerous other things. I am not first class citizen in C, but I do enjoy first class status in other languages like Coq where functions also have first class status in Haskell and ML languages where I don't.

Alice: Can you also help computer write proofs. I thought writing proofs are work of mathematicians. How can computers write proofs? Writing proofs are always figuring out new techniques and ingenious methods. I don't think computer can think, let alone they can write proofs. You are surely telling lies.

Type: Let me ask you a question first. As I lurk around values, what lurk around mathematical propositions?

Alice: Proofs. Aha! I see what you are trying to tell. If I would have fallen into wonderland of mathematics, I would have seen proofs around proposition as I see you lurk around values.

Type: Yes. Computer scientists and mathematicians long figured out this morphism between me and propositions and values and proofs. So finding proof is like finding a value of type. And I help computer assist you to write long and tedious proofs.

Alice: I am kind of getting the feeling of what you trying to tell; but still I don't have the full grasp on it.

Type: No problem, you will understand in due time if you keep exploring. ◆

Divyanshu Ranjan(2007IPG) is working in HelpShift ,a startup.He is an amazing programmer and was popular with name Quadra .

Summer Sweat!! My First Internship

Irita Mishra

A disclaimer for all intent readers who look forward to reading this~ This work of art has been penned down by the craziest person alive (who takes pride in this fact) and that she has tried to lower her levels of freakiness to decency for the same. So here I start: Many people think that they are under qualified to work on a professional project and cannot do internships while they are ripe first year students because they "just do not know much". I believed the same until... Well, let me narrate my story. I was ready to ditch all forms of mental and physical labor for a 3 month long vacation to be spent with chips, laptop and smartphone in a cozy cocoon of blankets. But then my friend Mizan started as an intern in Android development at a relative's company. He just had to observe the debugging, code generation and app development, and imbibe it into his system (here, I mean his brain & not his PC). What I mean to summarize is that you needn't be an expert coder or master-mind at any language or system because vacations like these never happen and with each year at college, the load to prove yourself in this field increases drastically, leaving you less time to develop the basic skills. So like I was saying, Mizan's

sudden accomplishment had an overwhelming effect. Not on me (as I had my plans chalked out) but on my mother who wanted her little baby to spurt wings and get out of her shell to do something productive. She made me browse through some indigenous firms where I could do an internship. Fortunately, I got a place in my city's leading software company where I had applied for the post of web designer for their ongoing project despite my CV consisting of basic skills in HTML, CSS and Photoshop only. My boss helped me by making his team of trainers available at certain hours so that I could catch up on all that I did not know like jQuery, Ajax, JavaScript, Joomla etc. And so began my journey as an intern after my first year. I had the most awesome people around me to help: a cool boss, understanding trainers and my fabulous mother who supported me through thick and thin. Let me add that I am essentially lazy but for the 5 hours I worked every day, I beat my sleep away (frankly speaking), the result being that I was paid at the end of my term. A paid internship is generally unheard of until the third year or so but here I am! I have successfully built their website and am handling their social networks and SEO.

And let me tell you, I started from scratch and Google was my savior (Google's smarter and more resourceful than any known ancient wisecrack). The two months that I worked as a summer intern, solely responsible for this project, were the two most enlightening months of my life. I learnt the workings of the corporate sector. I also realized my true potential which was masked behind thick layers of laziness and inactivity.

Finally I'd like to give a final word of advice to all the budding engineers out there so that I can drop this serious façade- **Never give up on your potential. Start small but start nevertheless. A little hardwork always pays.** Stay happy, stay awesome! (Those interested in knowing what I did can visit www.vedidigi.com, my baby and my first creation!)

CAREER MANTRA
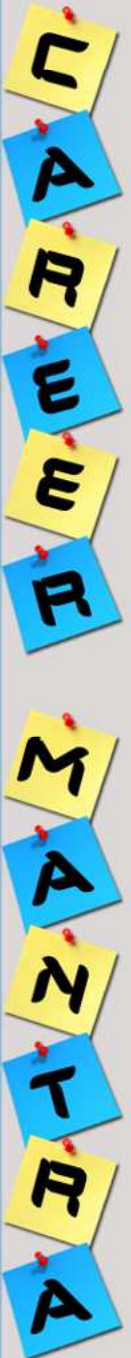
Pranav Mistry : Innovator who INSPIRES

Jayant Mundhra

When someone is about to begin their college life, everyone has big bright dreams to achieve but if the college name doesn't belong to the ivy-league then the "hopes to be the person who leads the world", begin to fade and the bright dreams begin to get dimmer.

But, there is this saying, "When tough starts coming, the tough gets going". Only the willful few who still dare to dream big make it through all odds and touch the golden heights that the ordinary lot can only wish to. A thorough dedication, will, sacrifice, hard work and many more such qualities make them what they are and turn them into global tycoons whose voices are actually heard.

One such person is PRANAV MISTRY. He began his college at NIRMA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, AHMEDABAD in CSE department. Later he joined IIT-BOMBAY and got a degree in M.Des. . But, this was not the end for him as his journey had just begun. He joined the greatest TECH school in the world, "MIT MEDIA LABS, FLUID INTERACTIONS DEPARTMENT", as a Ph.D. scholar. His pilot project at MIT, "THE SIXTH SENSE", created a hue like never before. It got everyone from the tech world talking. This project completely showed that interface between the humans and the internet and information has just been taking baby steps till then and lot more was about to come. "Sixth Sense" is a wearable gestural interface that augments the physical world around us with information and lets us use natural hand gestures to interact with that information.

His next project, the invisible mouse a.k.a. "MOUSE LESS" also created a huge buzz. The 'Mouse less' invention removes the requirement of having a physical mouse altogether but still provides the intuitive interaction of a physical mouse that we are familiar with. ' Mouse less' consists of an Infrared (IR) laser beam (with line cap) and an Infrared camera. Both IR laser and IR camera are embedded in the computer. The laser beam module is modified with a line cap and placed such that it creates a plane of IR laser just above the surface the computer sits on. The user cups their hand, as if a physical mouse was present underneath, and the laser beam lights up the hand which is in contact with the surface. The IR camera detects those bright IR blobs using computer vision. The change in the position and arrangements of these blobs are interpreted as mouse cursor movement and mouse clicks. As the user moves their hand the cursor on screen moves accordingly. When the user taps their index finger, the size of the blob changes and the camera recognizes the intended mouse click.

Yet there was no stopping for him. He moved onto taking Cloud Computing to the next level by his innovation "SPARSH", which simplifies data sharing between any two digital devices and makes it much easier and much faster than ever before. Now all one has to do is to touch the data (any picture, video or any other form of data), and a cloud is created (theoretically, user is the cloud)and data is now present in the cloud. As soon as you touch any other device, the data flows to the other device, simplifying the data sharing process like never before. The feats that he achieved at MEDIA LABS have been highly acclaimed worldwide, getting him honors like "INNOVATOR OF THE DECADE". His work on the projects "THE SIXTH SENSE", "SPARSH" and, "INVISIBLE MOUSE" caught the eyes of biggies at SAMSUNG, leading to him being hired by the SAMSUNG THINK TANK TEAM as the vice president of the team. Moreover in a period of just one year he attained the

throne of the THINK TANK TEAM, becoming its president. He is currently the highest paid technocrat in any private Tech. company. He is still innovating and working on several novice ideas.

He has clearly shown that, "if a person has the will to do something great and new, then no odds can stop him/her ." Moreover we are the students of ABV-IIITM, Gwalior, which is a great college with an amazing and highly supportive faculty body and facilities, so imagine what we could attain!

Just imagination…just believe…just innovation…just inspiration… ◆

APP ATTACK!

Six innovative apps for iOS, Andoid and WindowsPhone that you probably haven't heard of.

(iOS)

Demonstrate

Demonstrate gives you a simple way to build a mock-up of an app and share it among your friends. It is particularly suited for those of you who have an app idea planned out and know what it should look like and what it should do.

Remote Mouse

Too lazy to get up from bed or sofa when watching a movie on your desktop ? Don't own a wireless mouse or a Windows Media Center remote? The Remote Mouse app gives you full control over your PC's mouse, including the left and right buttons and full trackpad emulation.

(Android)

Aviate Launcher

Aviate has innovative time and location based features. The launcher basically checks the time of day and your location and changes your home screen accordingly. It comes with different profiles. So suppose you get up in the morning, It will show your alarms, the weather and appointments. When you are at work, you can get your news feed, emails and other apps required for work.

iCouch App

The iCouch app brings the "social" experience to the simple activity of watching TV! Log in to the app, an you will get a series of shows on the home screen. Tap on your favourite show, and you can follow what is essentially a community- videos, gallery, gossip and updates regarding the show as well as the ability to chat with fellow users who are watching the same show.

(Windows Phone)

6Tag

6Tag allows users to shoot high resolution images for posting onto Instagram network. Along with offering all the standard Instagram filters, there are a few extra ones. The blur Filter has the option of applying circular and cylindrical blur effects and the app take it up a notch by letting you "paint in" the blur.

Tetris Blitz

An absolute classic, EA brings the classic 90's game to the Windows Phone Platform. The game doesn't follow the classic model though, where the Tetriminos fall and the game goes on until you're unable to clear any more lines. In this version of Tetris, everything remains the same, but EA spices it up with a few of its own twists. Everything is on a two minute timer. There are Tetriminos with special powers that help you achieve better multiplier scores.

LIFESTYLE

AASF HIGHLIGHTS

2003
Inauguration of IETE Students' Forum on 9th September, 2003

2004
Paper presentation contest Abhigyanam renamed to Abhigyan

2005
Hardware workshop conducted and saw unexpected response

2006
IETE tag removed. Now known as IIITM Students' Forum

2007
AASF conceptualized, "coalescence of knowledge and skills" was adopted

2008
Logo of AASF designed & First Overnight Software contest held

2009
Pragyanki- the magazine of AASF & Launch of our website

2010
Sessions on German language, Android, Flash, JAM

2011
Event Googly organised, First Sports Quiz organised, Aakriti –the poster making

2012
First volume of Abhishar launched; Online Programming Contest for the first year

2013
AASF-ICPC was organised for the first time ever

PUZZLE ZONE

1 In a Circular Clock hanged an a wall, with a minute, hour, second hand. Can you find what would be the angle between the minute hand and hour hand at 2050 hours?

2 We have a 100 m ribbon.
If it takes one second to cut a one meter strip , how long would it take to cut entire ribbon into meter strips?

3 When deepak was 6 years old he hammered a nail into a tree to mark his height.Five years later at age eleven, deepak returned to see how much higher the nail was.If the tree grew by ten inches each year, how much higher would the nail be?

4 There is a number which is greater than the aggregate of its third, tenth and twelfth parts by 58.
Can you find the number?

5 What is the largest number that can be formed with four 1's?

6 A standard sized cigarette can be rolled out of 6 standard sized cigarette butts. How many cigarettes can be made and smoked from 36 butts?

7 One day I found a strange thing happend to my watch-the minute hand and the hour hand were comming together every sixty five minutes. I decided to get it checked. Was my watch gaining or losing time , and how much per hour?

8 This is an ancient problem dating back to about 310 A.D. Demochares had lived one-fourth of his life as boy, one-tenth as youth, one -third as man, and has spent thirteen years in his dotage.

9 Can you exchange 1 rupee for exactly 50 coins? No 2 paise coins allowed.

10 Next 2 terms in series 1,1,5,17,61,217,___,___

1. 35 (approx.)   2. 99   3. 0   4. 120   5. 11,11   6. 7
7. 60/148 min/hr   8. 60   9. 45(1p)+1(25p)+2(25p)+2(10p)   10. 773,2753

OAS; le voyage

Heshav Laad

Back from home after the summer break, the usually chaotic lobby of ours had something strangely good; a guitar tune from our amateur friend Shubham Taliwal, the new hero of our lobby had tuned the strings of our heart as well. So started our musical journey; something which we really didn't expect but truly loved. During this musical influence that infected all the other lobby mates, I and Arpit (our lyricist) decided that we must do something original and what could be better than a time when we have our own guitarist. So we end up in my room suddenly more serious towards music. The thought of making original music was all over us.

Amidst a repetition of four different chords after like 10 mins EUREKA! I uttered two words 'Dil Mera' in this particular tone on the correct chord and BINGO. Smiles on all three faces. Half an hour from then, and we were roaring in the lobby. We had just finished an original track. Now at Taliwal's room, with everyone: Prateek, Ashwarya, Rahul, Subhash, Jaswant, Dharmveer, Sandesh and Rishabh and with all the best possible phones taking video from varied angles, we recorded this composition. The name OAS, was chosen. If that was what was required for making music, by God's grace we were blessed.

Time passed by and overwhelmed with our "One-day efforts", we waited for our opportunity to perform. The wait went far beyond, I guess, and issues like studies and other regular things took over. A friend of mine, Chetna, usually kept asking me ever since I boasted about our OC, when were we planning to perform. I used to roll over the question making some or the other excuse each time, but it did hit me every time.

A sem passed and nothing was done, when we met our new (and definitely more motivated) guitarist Harsh and the true journey began. We would casually jam once in a while observe Rehman Saab's music and play one or two bollywood songs. In this regular form of 'Riyaz', we improved. Harsh and I used to do individual portions and then synchronize it while our jamming.

With our access to the music room, we also found a drummer, Himanshu Aka Meena. All three of us had never learnt music; no classes attended, but because we shared a common vision of 'Making Music'; learning from youtube was never painful.

Next year, we were joined by Ashish- our keyboardist. But our story remained same, even he hadn't taken any lessons but by now, no one even cared. Finally, Ashish and Meena escalated the performing ability. With two new tunes in two consecutive weeks, we were on the verge of completing some more OC's. And then came the thought of " Corna"-The rock band competition.

With whatever resources we had, we made up our mind to at least participate. With less than a month left for practice we were eventually joined by Ankit as our second guitarist and backup vocalist and we were on a roll. Jamming in the music room every day for hours and correcting each other, perfecting portions bit by bit.

Corna performance was okayish but we observed other bands performance and understood our shortcomings and soon after the competition ended we pulled ourselves to the next level. Now we knew what it felt being on the stage and how a band must look like. Recently joined by Mukesh, our base guitarist and a very experienced performer who has exceptional skills in almost all musical instruments;

"One good thing about music, when it hits you, you feel no pain." — Bob Marley ◆

IIITM STREETS

Abhishar and Me

Seriously, whenever you guys say 'Abhishar', all I remember is those days in the first year when Abhinav used to visit Vishwas to learn playing his guitar. Abhinav was so keen and eager to learn that it took him less than a week to understand the tunes/strings (whatever they're called). I still remember that because seeing him learn had a profound effect on me and I can't ever forget it. Abhinav's act of trying to learn playing represented the fact that a man can learn anything if he is keen, eager and hard-working.I wasn't very close to him but I miss him because he hardly spoke to me but he taught me that I can be anything if I want to.

-Gaurav Ojha

Abhishar means a lot to me. It gives me a nice opportunity to associate with a large reader base. Especially, now as an alumni, it bestows upon me greater accountability to share all the experiences with my juniors so that they become better than what I was when I was in college. Secondly, I am so glad that year after year the Abhishar is becoming stronger. I feel connected to this magazine, because AASF is one of the best examples of team work,dedication,will,commitment and integrity. And I totally respect the efforts of the team right from the first year to the fifth year. You people are doing a great job. Keep it up.

-Yesoda Bhargava

Abhinav and Tushar sir will always be missed. They were true gems of AASF. Hardworking and Geniuses at mind. I have lots of memories with them that I'll always cherish.

-Rajesh Kumar

In an era where people tend to memorize the concepts written in technical books and forget the warmth of friendship during college life, Abhishar serves as a perfect platform to bring in some practical implications in trending technology and revive the feeling of fun and frolic on experiences in college life. Whenever I read the magazine, I relive moments that Abhinav and I spent together and I am able to recollect the way he cherished and propagated technology through the AASF community.

-Kuldeep Jaiswal

Abhishar makes me remember all those sweet memories which we four representatives of AASF IPG-2010 batch had spent together.Without Abhinav, we as a team is incomplete but however we manage to carry forward our work and keep him alive with us through this great magazine. He was so pure by heart and a true friend. We miss you Abhianv. You will be remembered by us, no matter wherever we would be.

-Swati Sinha

Abhishar has beautiful memories and emotions attached that connects us with it forever.Wish this magazine continues to be a source of inspiration for the years to come.

-Surbhi Arora

Abhishar for me is living with Abhinav. Abhishar truly depicts the real Abhinav who was actually a geek with a style. He was a perfectionist with stupendous energy.Funny, helpful and lively are what describes him the best. He was a crazy friend and the star of our batch. Its a great way of keeping him alive in the streets of IIITM.

-Mohini Gupta

Data Science – Working with Big Data

Rajesh Kumar

Data Science is becoming a necessity for all the organizations in the IT industry. Data Science deals with extraction of Knowledge from data and hence it has become synonymous with Big Data. Data Science deals with the storing and analysis of Big Data that an organization deals with. An organization generates bulk of transaction data, accounts data, product usage data on a daily basis. It's the job of the Data Science team to utilize this information for the benefit of the organization and the customers. Machine Learning tools like Mahout, RHadoop, NLP (Natural Language Processing) toolkits and Big Data Platform all are the technologies that a Data Scientist works upon. Interesting problems of a Data Science Team include – 1.Recommendation Systems - Ecommerce sites like Amazon, Flipkart recommends a user item of his/her interest. Even Sites like Netflix use a recommendation system for recommending movies.

2. Friends Suggestions– Sites like Facebook, Quora, LinkedIn do not suggest friends randomly. They follow data mining algorithms to do that.

3. Page Ranking System - Have you ever thought how Google Search works? Page Ranking is not an easy task as there is an enormous amount of content on Web. So it is again a challenging task for the Data Scientists.

4. Sentiment/Intent Analysis – Deciding a user's like/dislike based on his reviews. Finding out the intent of the reviews helps an organization in better customer satisfaction and retention.

So now let's dive into the field of data science with some simple projects. I will keep this simple and still try to include enough details to provide an overall idea. Implementing these projects will help you in better understanding of the Data Science and its tools and technologies.
First thing that is required to work on a Data Science Project is a Data Source. We will be extracting data from twitter for our projects.
Data Extraction – Collect Tweets from twitter using any of the existing APIs like Tweepy (https://github.com/tweepy/tweepy), Python Twitter (https://code.google.com/p/python-twitter/). Collect around 1

GB of tweets for better results. You can collect status updates of keywords using these APIs. Lets talk about the analysis that we can carry out on the data and its applications –

1. Extract tweets that have #apple tag in them and identify if the tweet speaks about the brand Apple or the fruit apple.

Approach - It's a problem that can be solved by both NLP and Machine Learning.

a) Machine Learning - Collect two datasets, one containing sentences related to Apple(brand) and the other containing those related to Apple(Fruit). Generate a Learning Model Classifier based on this Labeled data. Then you can use any form of Classifier like Naïve Bayes/SVM to identify the class of the test data.

b) NLP – In the tweets you can do the Part of Speech Tagging (POS-Tagging) and then find out the pattern of Tags for Apple when it is used as a Brand or as a Fruit.

Application – This will help in identifying the relevant data for an organization.

2. Find out the frequency of tweets related with any CLT20 Game with respect to time and find out the most critical moments of the game.

Approach – Pick a slot of 8 hours that includes the game and 2 hours before and after it. Extract all the tweets in that duration with hashtag #CLT20. Now you have to apply real time analytics and check the effect of every crucial moment on the tweets graph. Suppose a player hits a 4 or 6 or he gets out the frequency will increase. So that's the time when you have to apply classifiers and NLP to find out whether the tweet is talking about a wicket, a 4 or 6 etc. Try implementing this and generate some visual analytics.

Application – You can easily find the Twitter Hotspots during IPL or other Sports Event. Visual analytics adds hits to an organization.

3. Spell Corrector for Twitter – At twitter people can be emotional, creepy!! Find out the Number of different ways in which "Amazing" is written on twitter for some tweets.

Approach – If a user is really excited he can use whole 140 words of his tweet for saying Amazing. In other case due to limitation of 140 words a user can write amazing in 5 letters as "amzng". So identifying what is the exact word and meaning of the morphed word is tough. Use some observations like a) If a letter appears more than twice in a word truncate that letter.

b) Use N-Gram language Models for Spell Checkers. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S p e l l _ c h e c k e r) Try to implement this. The more you read the more you will learn.

Application – Most of the Social Networking Websites contains unstructured data and processing of unstructured data is not very easy. So it is important to find out the correct spelling and grammar of a sentence.

4. Trending Topics on Twitter. Collect Tweets of a day and find out the trending topic of the day.

Approach – Twitter displays the trending topics on the dashboard. It displays the trending topics with filters like country, city etc. You can start with a basic word frequency

algorithm. You can predict that the most frequent word is the most trending topic. But it is a very naïve approach. So Instead of using word frequency you can cluster all the tweets on the basis of metrics like type of words and similar users. Similar users are the users that tweets something similar to a current tweet or the current user. To find that out you can use the K-NN algorithm. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K nearest_neighbors_algorithm). Now the cluster with most size will give the category of the trending topic. There are various methods and optimizations for this. So think and try yourself.

Application – Most of the organizations customize their products based on What's Trending. It is very important for an organization to keep trackof the current trend for their operations.

So Data Science is a very challenging field where lots of research is going on and a lot of scope is there for learning and creating. ◆

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GEEKS CORNER

Engineers Ka- Frustation

Udit Kunawat

An "engineer" friend of mine once correctly said that if in case some engineer ended up being the Aamir Khan of Ghajini, then instead of "girlfriend was killed", he would have "some engineer was killed" written on his body, instead of planning a vengeance on Ghajini, there would have been "Kill Lectures" all over his body and finally in place of all those numbers, addresses, dates etc, he would have the list of assignments to be submitted, the list of projects to be completed and the most importantly "go…get yourself some sleep" engraved on his body. One simple straightforward reason that I could find for such thoughts was frustration. Frustration in itself appears something which everyone have in their life, let it be engineers or non engineers, let be the students or the teachers, let it be parents, children or in general anybody. But frustration from the perspective of an engineer is something different. I have learnt about this only after I started my journey to become one of those lakhs of engineers our country produces every year.

There are so many causes of worry for an engineer…….the list is simply endless. Frustration could be due to: "Absence of girlfriend" in life (a prime reason for most of my friends).Lack of taste and even quality in the mess food.Slow surfing and downloading speeds.The canteen getting closed early. Inexplicable course load.classes, assignments, labs etc.Screwing up the minors or the majors. Absence of sufficient holidays or professor taking a lecture on a holiday. Not getting a chance to go home during the semester. No good movies to watch. The xerox facility or some necessity going out of order. "No placement or a less pay package"

From serious real life troubles to simple silly futile things, every now and then, every single moment, every small damn thing ends up as a cause of worry for an engineer. Any small aberration from the routine appears as something monstrous and troublesome for an engineer..and the real big question is how does he get out of this frustration, how does he deal with it, what can be the solution to his problems, what could give him some peace of mind.

By pointing out the above reasons, I am not saying that frustration is something a fellow who is weak in his academics or sports, is facing. Each and every engineer has frustration. Apparently there is no such engineer here, who seems to be happy with how the things are going, how the life is moving and how the semesters are passing by.

Frustration is a clear reflection of various hardships or the mental tensions an engineer is subjected to. There is no one who is like completely happy and untroubled. In fact I would say, he who had never got frustrated during his graduation period, hasn't really experienced the true engineer life. So what could be the possible solution to such small but still serious problem…..???

A change in the way you look at things….A change in the way you accept things…..is very much necessary. If you are being subjected to some unnecessary tensions or pressures, try to face and fight it….never let it overpower. Unable to bear the loads….maintain some regularity, consistency and discipline in the study and preparation matters….automatically you will feel the difference. The moment you become a pessimist, then frustration follows and further defeat continues. Try to look into the good in whatever you do or whatever is being done to/with you. Take life positively…..it will immediately remove frustration from your dictionary. Be the change that you wish to see….ending your troubles by mending your ways. ◆

A Works Apps Interview

Amit Samdarshi

As far as recruitment is concerned, Works Applications Co. Japan is one of the most unconventional companies I have ever seen. How often do you see a Japanese company conducting an organized recruitment drive in more than 30 institutes of India, how often do you see a company offering flight fare to reach off-campus interview location and how often you find a company that gives you 6 days to solve a coding question? Works Apps does it all!

Works Applications is an ERP based company, to be precise a group of companies. They develop various ERP products - Accounting, HR, Enterprise Commerce and etc. Some products are desktop based and others are web applications. Majority of the applications use J2EE and JavaScript, although some legacy applications use COBOL (yes really!). Their flagship product is COMPANY that is an Integrated HR Suites or ERP in simple words. Works Applications visits each institute they are interested to recruit from. Traversing their list of institutes they visited ours on 21st August, 2014. This was a formal visit where two Japanese guys came to distribute programming challenge that was anyways mailed to all the registered students. They also collected some redundant

also collected some redundant information from us that we had already submitted while registering online. All these things were done just to keep us engaged during the Pre-placement Presentation. Almost nothing was path-breaking about the presentation except the salary compensation (obviously!).

The coding challenge comprised of two problems where we were required to solve any one, solving both the problems was also an option but didn't have any extra advantage. The first one was a Dynamic Programming problem on graphs. We could do this in Java as well as in C++. Second one was specifically a Java problem of coding an immutable queue. Java was not our cup of tea hence we tried first problem but despite the collaborated effort it took 4 days to code it. At this point you should note that Works Apps is essentially a Java-oriented company and this is the first year that they gave C++ as another option.

Total 12 students were selected from IIITM and were called to Delhi for live coding and technical interview. Works Apps covers all expenses and also offers return flight fare (O Yeah!). We had our interview on 15th of September in The Grand, New Delhi. My interview was scheduled at

1:30 PM but I had to wait till 4:30 PM to get myself inside the interview room. I used all the waiting time to interact with the guys who were done with their interview. I was the last soldier from the IIITM troop to get into the battlefield. It was the live coding round; the interviewer was a middle aged Japanese guy (I'll refer to him as JP). When I entered the room another live coding round was going on; meanwhile JP asked me to sit. The arrangement was such that there were 4 screens kept on a table, 2 faced the interviewees and rest two faced JP. I was sitting in front of the screen that was not busy. Live coding was a 45 minute coding round where we had to solve 3 questions as fast as we can. The catch of a live coding round is that the interviewer will enjoy the live telecast of each and every key-tap of yours. The complete set-up made it a round of excessive mental pressure. Questions were arranged in the order of increasing difficulty level and we could not advance to the next level until we were done with the current question.

JP asked to choose between Java and C++. I chose C++ (obviously!). He served me the first question while the other guy was still on with his live coding round. It was a question on Longest Common

CAREER MANTRA

Substring. I was clueless, didn't know the solution, could have tried some brute forces logics but then I was concerned with complexity, but I was still trying to give the best solution I could think in given time constraints. Suddenly, JP starts talking to the other guy who was trying to debug his code. He was asking HR questions to the guy which had words like 'Japan', 'Singapore', 'New York', 'Culture', 'Salary', etc. The whole thing was so disturbing to me that I had to finally interrupt-

Me- Sir, I am not able to concentrate.

JP- You need that much concentration?

Me- Yes sir I do. I need silence to code.

JP- Okay you can go OUT!

Me- (Frightened) No sir, I try to manage.

JP- (Not amused) we have to interview many students in few hours, but as you can't concentrate, please go out.

Me- (Still concerned) Sir, but my interview is still on.

JP- Yes, It is.

After I left the room I was called back again after 5 minutes, I utilized those 5 minutes pondering over the solution. JP was still not amused. I coded this in next 5 minutes. Next he asked me to code LCS with empty strings. I did this in next few minutes. So, within 15 minutes I was done with two questions and had 30 minutes for the third question. Third question was Longest Common Subsequence which is a famous DP problem but as I had always escaped from DP problems I had never encountered this one. My cluelessness was at its peak. I spent 5 minutes just looking at the problem statement. JP was playing Amitabh Bachchan of KBC and reminding me that I can leave the round at any point. By the grace of God a recursive approach struck my mind but it was a $O(2^n)$ solution i.e. it had exponential time complexity. Finally, I could Improvise it to $O(n^2)$ solution by use of recursion with pruning. My 25 minutes were over by now and still I wasn't sure that my solution will work. I coded it in next 5 minutes and it worked!!

Immediately JP started my technical interview. He asked me about my field of interest. Saw my projects and certifications. As Works Apps is an ERP company and I had 7 month experience of EduOS ERP, he was impressed. Then he saw my DB2 certification after which my whole interview was Databased! He asked me to write 6-7 queries one after another. Some were simple and some were nested. Without any break my HR round started and I was being asked about the cultural differences between India and Japan , how I'd carry myself and adjust in such condition. In reply I gave him reference of my past experiences of Navodaya Vidyalaya where people ceased to agree that I'll be able to adjust, but I did. He seemed to be impressed. He said that in Japan the food is not favorable from Indian perspective, especially for vegetarians. I was thinking in my mind, "what if he asks about my food choice. Should I be open about my vegetarianism or lie to increase my chance?". Luckily JP didn't ask this question. Then he told me about their expectations and asked me about mine. They also asked me about the roadmap of growth in the organization, to which my answers were not so impressive. Finally JP shook hands with me and asked me to leave. Within 5 minutes a Japanese guy came and told me about the internship. His had very poor English due to which I could sort out that my internship is actually confirmed. Then he asked me to appear for a formal aptitude test where I had to solve 30 questions in 60 minutes. This round was really a formality, the questions were so easy that I could mark all 30 with confidence and in time.

Next day, I got a vocal confirmation of a 4-weeks internship in one of their office in the month of December. Wish me luck to convert this internship into Job offer. ◆

Harsh Reality of IT Project Life Cycle

Phase 1: Uncritical acceptance.
Phase 2: Wild enthusiasm.
Phase 3: Dejected disillusionment.
Phase 4: Total confusion.
Phase 5: Search for the guilty.
Phase 6: Punishment of the innocent.
Phase 7: Promotion of nonparticipants.

Mike Horn: The adventure Legend

Sandesh Maddila

Mike Horn, the South Africa born explorer and motivational speaker, added another feather to his cap with Germany winning the FIFA World Cup . Horn, a Laureus sports award winner, has a remarkable history of motivating various sports teams to glory.

A friend of former India coach, Gary Kirsten, Horn was first invited to talk to the Indian cricket team in 2010. India was in the midst of a two-test series against South Africa at that time. They had lost the first match at Nagpur in just 4 days and were completely down on morale. Horn had just a two-hour session with the team before the next Test at Kolkata. India went on to clinch a thrilling victory and thereby retained their No. 1 spot in the ICC Test rankings.

A year later Horn was back again in India ahead of the World Cup. India, playing at home, was under unprecedented pressure thanks to the expectations of millions of fans. Horn played a vital role as India emerged champions again after a gap of 28 years. "I would like to thank the support staff especially Mike Horn who joined us at the start of the tournament and was there for our last couple of games. He worked on the mental side and has helped us deal with the expectations and pressure," said Sachin Tendulkar after the historic win.

Horn who considers Sachin to be "the most amazing sportsperson" he has met elaborated that he had helped the Indians put aside their ego and enjoy each other's successes more.

Later when Gary Kirsten took over as the coach of South Africa, Horn was called upon to motivate the team ahead of an important tour of England. Horn put the South African team through an exhausting grind in the Swiss Alps. A few weeks later, South Africa beat the top-ranked England team in their own backyard to be crowned as the No. 1 Test side. Horn, who has circled the equator without any motorized transport, went on to inspire the South African team a lot more with his amazing stories and earned high praise from the players.

Mike Horn inspired KKR to their 2nd IPL win in 3 years. With praises flowing from all quarters, it was the turn of Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) to experience Horn's magic in 2014 Horn was with the team for four days before the start of the season. KKR, who had lost 10 out of 16 games in the previous season, turned their fortunes around spectacularly and were crowned champions under the leadership of Gautam Gambhir.

The latest in line to benefit from Horn's expertise was the German football team. The entire squad went on a sailing trip with Horn in June during their preparations for the World Cup and came out a rejuvenated side.

Germany captain Philipp Lahm was impressed, saying it was "incredible what the human body can achieve. "We must be well prepared, and have to respect the opponent," said Lahm when asked what they had learned after Horn's presentation.

The impossible exists only until we find a way to make it possible. ◆

Reach Through Your Screen:

Ever wanted to reach through your computer screen to slap an annoying TV character or Internet commenter? That future may be nigh: MIT researchers have created a way for you to reach out and touch things from a distance. The inFORM computer system combines a Microsoft Kinect that tracks your hand movements, which are translated into physical movements within a stack of actuators and pins.

How to kill time in overly long boring classes

Rahul Kala

Lost would be an understatement to describe the 'average' boy sitting inside an early morning classroom which he barely managed to attend a couple of minutes after somehow waking up. Eyes are heavy, brain is absent, body feels physically weak and mind is under extreme pain and torture. Freedom of speech, free will and human rights are the traits that every educated person understands, strongly supports and exercises even in minute cases. However classrooms are an exception where none of these exists, and the teacher has the license to barbarically prosecute the subject. It is here that you realize that overly long mental pain is no better than the highest degree physical torture. There can be no worse hell than this, where you are woken up early morning to be tortured and prosecuted. Delight is actually attending the first class of a teacher whose stories you'd been listening for weeks and whose classes you'd been attending only on the attendance sheet so far. Pain is to realize that the film was scarier than the trailer, the stories were amusing to hear but painful to experience, and that the language of instruction being English was actually a myth. The first few challenges are (normally) easy – finding out what time the torture officially ends, what time it can be forcefully made to end, what is the subject whose class you're attending, and whether you are in the correct classroom. But what is going on? You're clueless. OK maybe your wisdom allows you to guess the domain by the common sense name of the course, but who would tell you which chapter and its English translation? It was better in schools where reading line-by-line at least indicated the chapter and section name, here you're not even sure which book does this stuff belong to. The heart says sleep baby, you need it; the mind says wake up, the teacher is looking. The heard says 'all is well', the mind says 'Oh God this will also come in the examination'. Oh somebody stop the teacher, (s)he's gone insane. Call the doctors, the police, somebody take me out of here. But wait, the teacher is a PhD, which is a degree for insane people to move around freely in public. Which normal person does a PhD? So no chance of rescue. Gone is the myth that classrooms are temple of learnings. Or you could say they are literally temples, where hymns go on in some language/form which you do not fully understand, imparting meaning which you do not completely perceive, but (subjected to some obvious attributes) by attending these salvation is mostly ascertained. In institutions where social security is guaranteed by the most mysterious peer learning framework, meaning that last night a friend will explain you everything and give you a crash course enough to pass the subject, there is little incentive for continuous learning provided one is not greedy for GPAs. It is only important to note that someone is taking notes so that you do not learn anything extra and waste your time ahead of the examinations, while you're obviously confident of your capabilities to study everything overnight having cleared a national level entrance examination easily. Or maybe you could be too confident of being significantly better than some of your peers, who are also not studying, and are an assurance of your clearing the course – it's a relative marking. Considering sleeping not as an option and managing to wake up as one of the challenges, there are many things you could do to kill the class time. Let's start with the current system and what people normally do. The view from the other side is crystal clear, thanks to the architects for designing such classrooms. The first class of people are who

copy and take notes. They come in three variety, those who write whatever is written on the white board, those who write whatever the teacher says, and hybrids of both. The hybrids are rare entities and doing this is an art. The brain, hand, eyes and ears cannot work at the same time. The second class are the ones who engage in activities like staring at the watch, tube lights, other students, counting benches, and even the most common things in the classroom; these are the best people to realize how long every minute and second is. The third class of people cycle through sleeping and waking up: every waking up moment with a realization that they've slept only a minute and a larger task lies ahead. The fourth class, the daring ones, are busy with their mobiles and normally appear to be the studies ones from the other side, with the exception that no looking or writing is visible. The fifth class comprises of the actors who keep nodding their heads and acting as if they have full idea of what is going on. Place them in a class on Mandarin, they'd have the same level of comfort. And lastly there are couples exchanging endless stories; these people can exchange a lifetime of conversation within the class, without necessarily looking at each other's faces — a perfect blind date. The above methods are either painful or risky and hence do not make good alternatives, unless you are a note taker.

There are better things you could do. The easiest is to try noting a keyword, either from the presentation or from what the teacher is saying. Words have mysterious and hidden meanings if you're eagle eyed to sight the correct one and creative minded to dissect and rhyme one. A word, when thought over creatively, can keep you busy in thoughts for long, really long, giving mysterious pleasures both in-class and outside-class. Or you could do the same with the figures. Some of them are really gorgeous, provided a little mistake is made while drawing them. Alternatively, try asking a question. Questions in class are effective ways of reducing the syllabus in exams. Keep the teacher distracted and try pulling him/her in different directions. (S)He'll take time to come back and you never know, time may be up till then. It's a win all situation. You could also try personal questions either before class or in breaks to shake the very foundations, in which case your domain of asking question is virtually anything in the world. You need not be attentive to ask questions. You could search any keyword to be taught a day in advance before the class and ask irrespective of whether that is actually taught or not, hear and ask about any keyword spoken or seen, or if nothing just say that the last point was unclear even if you have no idea whether there really was a last point or the teacher was just joking.

Or you could try counting some metrics and hence do some scorekeeping – headings per hour, sub-headings per hour, slides per hour, keywords per hour, figures per hour etc. This will give you some good numbers to stop the teacher from speeding up your syllabus, which is a common trick whose results are not observable until the exams. Moreover you could time to time compare your score with your partner and have good excuses to escape if caught talking; even better, try penning down your emotions. From the other side it will look as if you are taking notes and very attentive, and you could publish your emotions in the next issue of Abhishar or may be have a dedicated magazine all for yourself. The purpose of this article is not only to innovate new methods, but only to initiate some thinking so that together we may innovate new methods for the future generations and help them fight the curse. But did I ask you all to think. I may have forgotten, we people never do that unless there are exams. Thinking is insane. How could I write this article with such a false premise? OK I'm a PhD, I do senseless stuff◆

Mr. Rahul Kala (2005IPG) was one of the active members of AASF and founder of SF-FOSS.He has over 50 publications to his name and still counting.

GEEKS CORNER

IT insight- Market Challenges and Infosys

Deepak Raj

What are the recent challenges in the IT services sector? What is their impact on Infosys? How is Infosys trying to overcome these challenges?

The IT service sector has seen a change in the past six years. The growth in the market seems to be under pressure as the demand from the countries of US and Europe, one of the major consumers of IT services, have slowed down due to weak economic conditions.

Another problem identified is most of the Indian companies providing the traditional outsourcing model which generates major share of revenues by providing solutions and services from low cost offshore centres. They are facing challenges with the change in the VISA rules and regulations by both US and Europe.

The market of IT services is also changing in a fundamental way. The users of the traditional services are shifting toward new technologies of Social Media, Mobility and Cloud computing provide at low cost utility which are integrated with other platforms of social media and mobility. The major challenge here is to build the infrastructure as fast as possible to gather more customers and generate profits by providing the same customer services at competitive costs.

Around 85% of the revenues of Infosys are coming from US and European countries. The slowdown in these countries adversely impacts the sales as well as profits of Infosys. The onsite/offshore model which these Indian IT companies rely upon is under stress as it depends upon the ratio of employees based "onsite" to those based "offshore". The stricter VISA rules will affect the number of people working onsite and hence it will cut into the expected revenues of Infosys.

Infosys like other Indian IT companies rely heavily on revenue from software development or maintenance projects. The new features of cloud computing and social networking are becoming alternates to many of the software solutions that are provided by Infosys to the clients. As the infrastructure and other developments of the cloud based software is generally maintained by the company who creates it, this will affect the transition of those customers to solutions provided by Infosys.

To resolve some of these geographical dependencies, Infosys has started tapping into the other emerging markets of the world. It has recently expanded its footprint in Latin America. Infosys, like other India-based IT services companies, has also launched a program aimed at developing and marketing products and platforms. But persisting with its traditional "low-budget marketing" to create the awareness, reach, recall and customer engagement, it will become difficult to capture customers at fast pace which is needed for success in the current environment.

To capture the market of social networking and cloud computing. Infosys came into the partnership with UBM TechWeb and unveils Cloud Ecosystem, a global community to ease enterprise cloud adoption. This technology is appreciated by many companies and has recently been awarded "Golden Peacock Innovative Product/ Service Award" for 2012.

Infosys has also joined Open Data Centre Alliance as Contributing Member recently which will allow Infosys to connect with industry leaders in the areas of cloud and big data while contributing to standards that will accelerate cloud adoption. ◆

Deepak Raj(IPG2005) is currently studying in IIM-A. He has served as System Engineer at TCS.

TEAM AASF

Friends Fun & Dreams

Abhishar is a good friend of students. He listens to their thoughts and experiences. Abhishar tries to chalk out easy solutions for students' problems. They feel motivated on talking to him to showcase their hidden talents. Personally, I feel he carries with him a very positive air and is capable of spreading happiness around. And I'll try and make all possible efforts to help him with this splendid companionship with you.
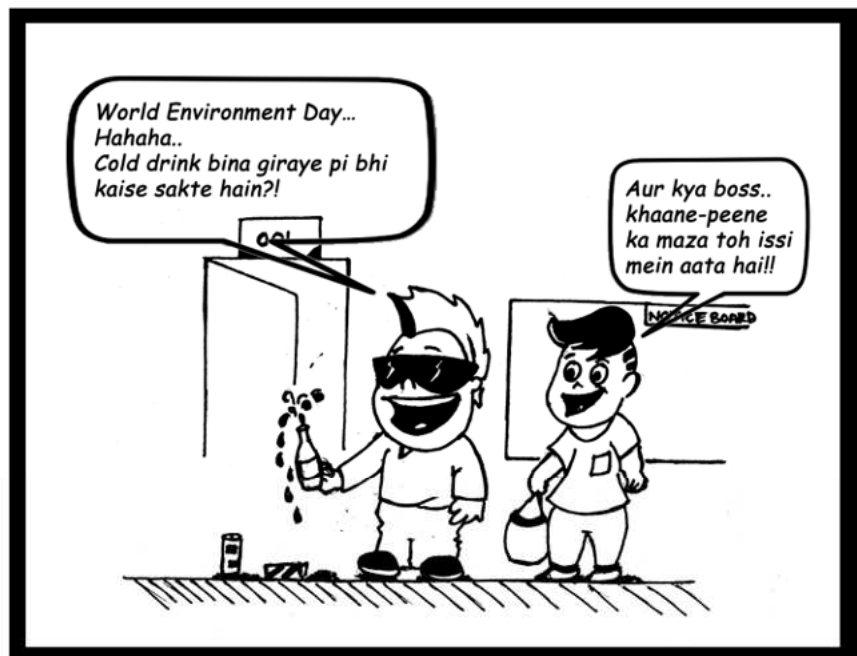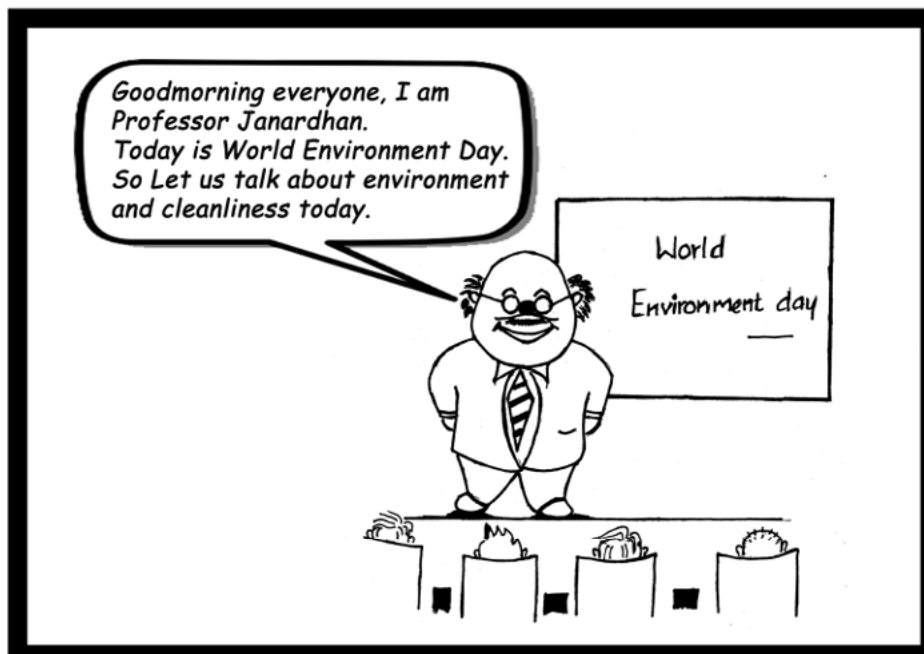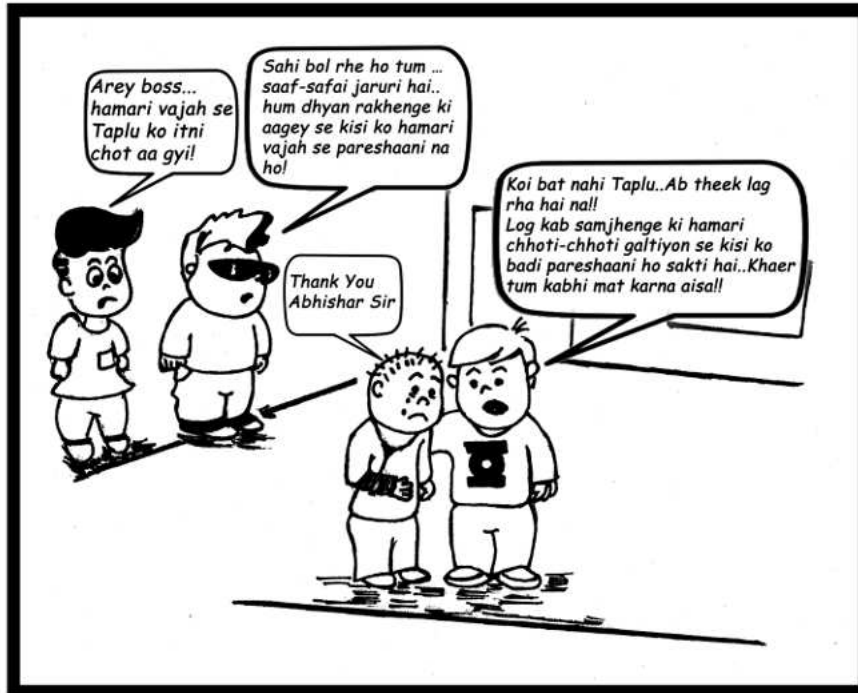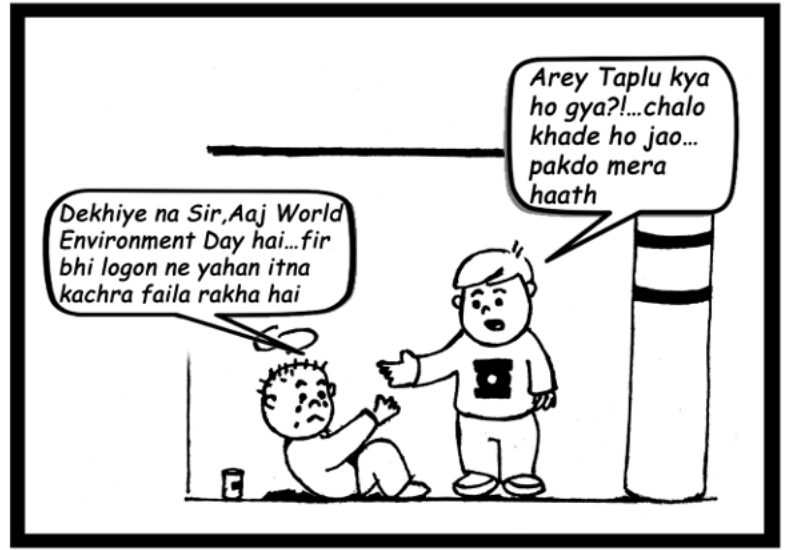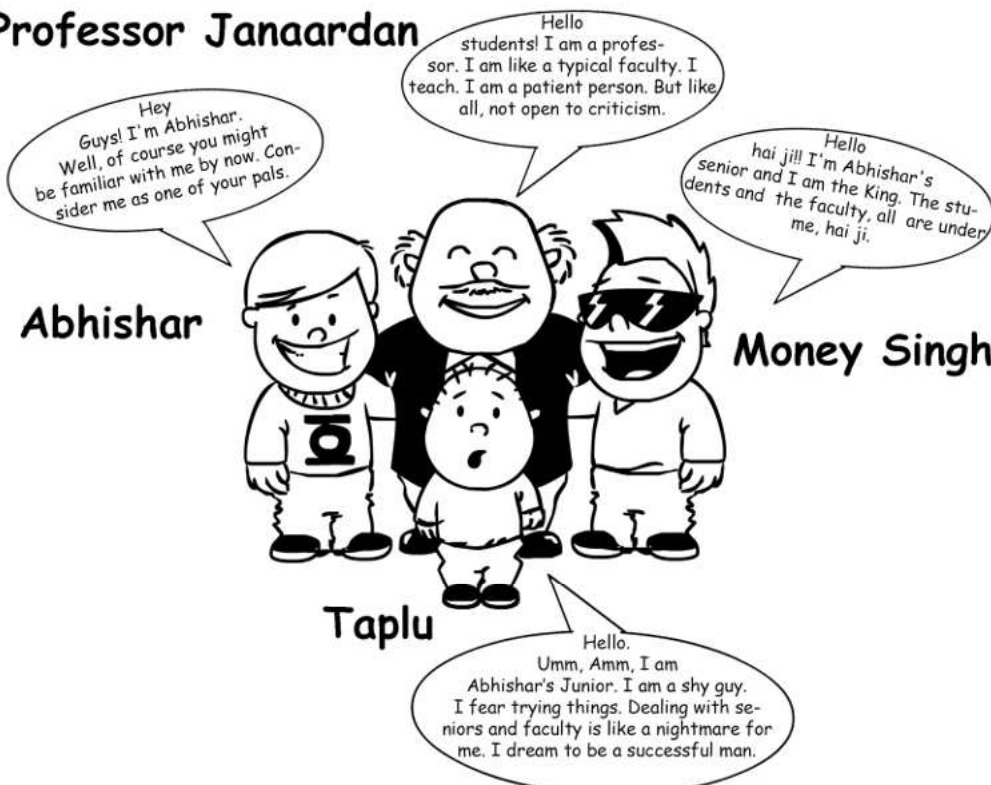
MISSION: CLEAN INDIA
BUT, WHY DO I BECOME A PART??

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the ambitious **'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan'**. The mission seeks participation of all citizens in order to fulfil Mahatma Gandhi's vision of 'clean India'. The concept of Swachh Bharat is to pave access for every person to sanitation facilities, waste disposal systems, village cleanliness and safe drinking water supply.

For any mission to flourish there should be motivation among the members. A lot of people might be thinking *"Why should I care about the cleanliness of the environment?"*. So, here we cite certain simple **reasons as to why EVERYONE should care about cleanliness**, no matter who you are (and the list is not exhaustive):

1. Show the world your good side
It's our responsibility to care for our planet and ensure our future well-being. Your attitude towards the environment says something about your personality to other people.

2. Landfills are disgusting
Have you ever smelled the odour of a landfill on a highway? I don't know about you, but I would do a lot to avoid ever having to experience that again.

3. Think of the beautiful beaches
Trash is infiltrating even the most remote corners of the country, and if we don't stop it many of our current beautiful vacation getaways will disappear.

4. I don't want to go extinct
If we continue using our resources at the same pace we're going at now we'll eventually run out of them. We're all going to have to start caring more about the environment.

5. More space will be available
Since people throw waste over a particular place, that place remains idle and thus becomes home of all the flies, mosquitoes and various others insects which only bring diseases with them.

6. More employment opportunities
Keeping our city clean will attract more MNC's, so there will be all the more employment opportunities. If more people are employed it will lead to the growth of the city both economically and socially.
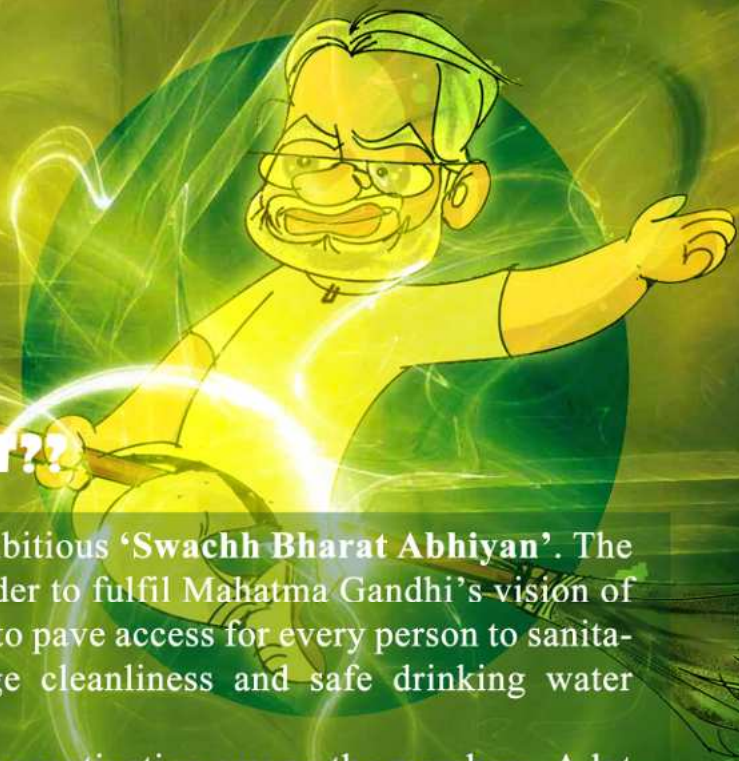
Web Casting: A whole new experience

Gaurav Ojha

I don't particularly remember the date but I was quite excited when I was approached by Dr. Pradip Swarnakar for broadcasting an international conference, which he was to organize, live on YouTube. I had some experience already because of my YouTube channel which was kind of popular in the campus. So this was the whole concept –

- Four sessions on each of the three days, each session would last 6-8 hours in 2-3 sets. So each set would be about two and a half hours and there would be about 10 sessions.

- Each session has to be shown on YouTube as well as on a screen outside the same hall

On the face of it, the problem looked simple. But from the backend it was not. Why? Because –

- We didn't have cameras which would send live streams through USB or FireWire (those are quite expensive)

- The institute's internet connection is routed through a proxy server, and for streaming we needed a clearly direct internet connection.

- Four systems for streaming and four for the LCDs outside meant a total of 8 systems. As students, we were also supposed to use our own systems. The first problem could be solved by renting the cameras, but we first needed to test if they'd really work with Wirecast on our systems.

The Cameras we used were Sony HXR-1000/1500 which we rented. Cameras would send AV output over to 15 meter long cables to our control room from where streaming would be done.

The second problem was a major one. To get proxy free internet, we had two options –

1. Get separate cables from the server room all the way to the place where the conference was going on. (Nearly 200 meters, but dedicated 8MBPS bandwidth)

2. Manage the server firewall somehow in order to allow 4-5 computers through without authentication or proxy (1GBPS bandwidth divided among nearly 1000 users within the institute)

We wanted to send four streams of 720p each so we needed minimum 1.5 x 4 = 6 MBPS bandwidth. To get sustained bandwidth we took the second option. Bandwidths of subnets going to the hostels were limited in order to allow high throughput on the subnet which our streaming systems were located in. The third problem was solved somehow by requesting students to co-operate. We got four nice computers issued from the institute lab for streaming. Their configuration was – Dell Optiplex 780, Core i3, 2GB RAM.

I was already experienced with creating and running YouTube live events but this was a major implementation. The live streams were being watched by a lot of people from UK and France. I got a great platform to learn about Wirecast and its features. There was quite a lot of Photoshop worked involved too. The best part is I was the major contributor to this whole setup with some assistance from various people. I felt really satisfied doing it, and the work was highly appreciated.

CREDITS:

ME: www.gauravojha.com

Infrastructural Assistance: Bhanu Pratap Chauhan (Photographer) helped me setting up camera, Ashok (Electrician) helped me with LCDs and their electrical connections.

Software Setup: Shrikant Jituri and Sachin Acharya (classmates) helped configuring Wirecast at times when I was unavailable.

Miscellaneous: A lot more people were involved in supporting the whole live broadcasting thing and I would like to thank all of them! ◆

IIITM STREETS

Life and Lifestyle

Vaibhav Sharma

Hello my dear friends,

A very warm greetings to all of you. It's being more than 2 years, I am physically away from my alma mater but I always feel gratitude and connected through various means. Thanks to champions like you who make IT as flexible as a rope. But be assure, everything has a tensile strength when it comes to flexibility. So is the case with IT too.

We believe, what is visible to us and thus we adopt it sometimes. Same is the case with Lifestyle. Trust, my friends there is much beyond what we see as lifestyles. Over the period of years, we have been changing in terms our habits, cultures and what else. We actually become human from apes. But there is a lot to go to become a human being.

I am pretty much sure professors like Dr. Pradip Swarnkar, Dr. Manoj Patwardhan and Dr. S. G. Deshmukh can enlighten you with their wisdom besides their researches and experiences.

Theories of Thorstein Veblen, George Simmel and Max Weber argue that the semantics of class has given a rising importance of dimensions such as gender, nationality, race, political attitudes and the multitude of choices in organizing one's life has rendered the debate about the concept of class obsolete. However, some argue that semantics of class is no longer appropriate for analyzing and interpreting society. This perception draws a close line to the emergence of new areas of individualization and plurality of lifestyles.

I believe lifestyle may not be a substitute but it is an important supplement to the tradition of social stratification. Let us take a deep dive into it. We belong to a nation having different diversities, cultures, ethnicities, languages and what not. But we differ in our lifestyles. South Indians would like Dosa while North Indians would prefer Chola Bhatura. Not only this, we keep on migrating from one place to another which alters our living style with demographics and social anatomy. And this is a continuous process. Sociology is one of the major factor in defining lifestyles. "While you live in Rome, live like Romans."

In September 2014, I was on a business trip to Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for 10 days. Kingdom is a 360 degree round as compared to Americans or any other country. Its policies, regulations and laws has made a significant change in lifestyles. Eating habits are different. People speak different languages in a different tone. People perseverance and acceptance level is different from other countries. And this is not only the case with Kingdom, it is with every country.

Slowly and gradually we keep on adopting as we see. Have you ever wondered of a newly born child having a lifestyle? The first meal he/she is going to take is mother's milk. And the rule applies for every newly born child. None of them would run to have Mc Veggie with extra cheese. As the child grows, he realizes the taste buds and starts liking and disliking things. He actually observes his surroundings and starts adopting different styles of dressing, eating, talking and others.

There are other factors like prosperity and economic growth which also draws attention to social stratification and in turn lifestyle but I would restrict myself to go in to it. We now talk about production and consumptions. People who produce and those who transport and trade, administer and organize has changed. We talk about entertainment and tourist industry. This gives the rise of disposable income used in our leisure activities bringing a change in our social structure.

Lifestyle is a relatively stable pattern of organizing everyday life within the framework of given life-situation, taking account of available resources. How time is used, and even

plans for the future with their specific planning contents and planning horizons are, on an empirical level among the most important elements in constructing a lifestyle chart. I hope my thoughts in my letter have given you interesting facts to deliberate upon in your own lifestyles.

I still say, "Keep it simple, we are vicious."

Connect to you soon. ◆

Vaibhav Sharma (2007IPG) is working for Wipro,Gurgaon. He was popular with the name Jovi among his friends. He was pretty proffesional with his work. He was the founder member of E-Cell.

Cool features in Google Maps that you may not know about

1. Lane Guide
It offers guidance on which lane to move to, so you won't be dangerously flying across four lanes of traffic when you realize that fork in the highway came up way sooner than you were expecting. Those really specific voice commands are a lifesaver.

2. Route and Destination Sharing
It's incredibly simple to share your info and send to family or friends–or you can just copy the URL easily to the clipboard and text it, should that be easier

3. More Route Choices
When you first chart out a course, Google Maps automatically shows you the fastest route-although it may not be the most scenic, or the one with the most rest stops.

4. Automatic Route Changes
One of the thing I like about my GPS is that little voice that says "recalculating" when, mid-route, it senses some traffic snarls ahead that can be avoided. The Google Maps app has just launched a feature to do the very same thing.

5. Offline Map Use
Google Maps lets you just swipe up from the name of the destination at bottom (or the "place info sheet") when you're online, then click "save map to use offline." You can even still zoom in and out and pan around, which is terrific for something like a hotel or point of interest in another city.

6. Public Transportation Routes
Google maps now lets you navigate routes via busses, trains and subways. In fact, Google Maps seems to be trying to take the place of HopStop with actual departure times and dates you can select to get schedules.

7. Extra Help for Bikers
If you're routing a bike path, Maps has just added not only biking info, but incline info. How great is that? Because as any casual biker knows, two miles to the beach is not nearly the same as two miles straight uphill. The feature is still in beta and I'm not seeing it in the iOS version at all just yet, but hopefully Android users can give it a go. The demo I saw looked pretty cool.

Safe travels!

GEEHSS CORNER

With ordinary talent and extraordinary perseverance, all things are attainable
Mudit Jaju

As a kid, I always had this urge to do unique things, stuff which people around can't even imagine doing and then I found "Games". From driving the fastest car in the world, to diffusing a bomb in the nick of time to well; merging two circular dots and converting them into one, I can do it all ;)

But why settle for other's imaginations? Why can't I go a step forward and create my own world with my own rules for people to explore and enjoy?

Those questions combined with a lot of hard work and never ending support from friends and family finally helped me achieve my dream. Creating a game which is being enjoyed the world over, has got almost over 10,000 downloads (still counting) and feedback from people I have never met, in languages even Google can't translate correctly.

I met a lot of people lately unsure of what they want to do, should they pursue their interests or prepare for a job or how it's like to be an entrepreneur. Through this article I would like to share my feelings on the same.

Being an entrepreneur is like being a Duck. It Paddles like hell to keep swimming over the waters but is calm and smooth for the rest of us to see above. You lose your sleep, your normal day to day life. But then that's the point, have a larger than life experience; 'A challenge at every step where the returns are always exponential both in failure and in success.'

A life of content is lost forever, everything you do and every place you visit, the first question your mind subconsciously asks you is - "Are there any opportunities here for me to explore ?", "Can I take advantage of flaws in this process and convert it into a business ?"

Your life is on steroids, every decision is yet another case of survival, but it's a feeling which no one around can imagine. The challenges and work start to seduce you and pretty soon the realization is clear - that money was never your goal, it was always about Freedom, Autonomy, Fame and Responsibility. Living your life on your own terms, doing what you want and when you want, making decisions which actually impact your life and then have that feeling of satisfaction because whatever is the end result was because of the decisions you made for yourself and no one else.

There are still some specific questions people have and might be true for a lot of you as well. A few of those questions and my opinions on them are:

Q: I want to pursue my dreams but not sure if I will be financially successful or pull it off?

Opinion: Being an entrepreneur is not for the faint hearted. If you are worried about the end results from the start, this is not the field for you, because when you start off very soon you will realize that the end results do not matter. It is the work that matters. At every step you want to perfect what you started and that is the only goal. The output does not matter to you. Success will not be measured in terms of money earned or profit made. It will only be measured in terms of how well you performed the task at hand.

Q: I am not sure if my parents would agree to my decisions. They want a secure job for me.

Opinion: Your parents are right, in a way. After all who would not want that their child's future is secure. But then again, your parents can always be reasoned with, unless there is some financial or emotional stress already in the family. Your parents would agree to whatever you want to do if you can convince them that this is what you want and this is what would make you happy. (Statutory warning: By family, I mean only your mom, dad and siblings. Relatives do not come in this category, specially the aunts jinka beta USA mein MBA padh raha hai :P)
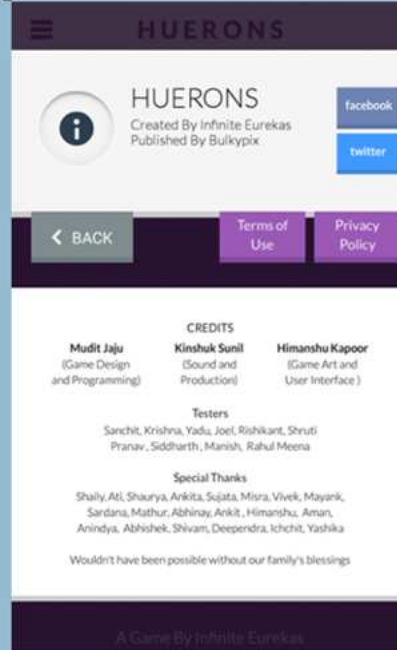
Q: Since I won't have money. How will I go out for movies or outings? Will my friends not start to push me out of the group?

Opinion: First, if you have friends and I mean actually true friends, this question will never be a problem. I have been there and I know, I have some of the most awesome friends who have always been there to support me unconditionally. It does not matter to them if I still haven't given a placement party or if I don't share equally in the costs incurred when we go out together. They know and they understand and they do that silently without ever letting me know.

Second, this "Have no money" issue, soon becomes a challenge and you start finding interesting ways to solve the problem. Freelancing work, doing some quick projects to get a few bucks, doing a mini-project etc. all these things help you get the money for your bare minimum day to day needs.

Q: I need to do the programming, marketing, community management, funds management, expenses handling … How will I find time to play so many roles of being an entrepreneur?

HUERONS

HUERONS
Created By Infinite Eurekas
Published By Bulkypix

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Anindya, Abhishek, Shivam, Deependra, Ichchit, Yashika

Wouldn't have been possible without our family's blessings

A Game By Infinite Eurekas

Opinion: Well that's easy; I'll give you a break down. 1/3rd of the time I am programming, 1/3rd of the time I am marketing, 1/3rd of the time I am making plans and exploring new opportunities, 1/3rd of the time I am managing my funds and assets, 1/3rd of the time I am handling the paperwork and doing business relations and the remaining time I am spending with my family and friends. And no the math is not wrong, this is actually the truth, because you are always multi-tasking and parallel handling a lot of work. You don't look at a day as being 24 hours you look at it as a to-do list which has to be completely ticked off by the end of the day.

So my final words - Being an entrepreneur is easy if you don't want a peaceful life with financial and emotional security. But it's a roller coaster ride only few have the strength to enjoy.

A special thanks to all my friends for supporting me always! ◆

Mudit Jaju(IPG2009) is a Game Programmer and Entrepreneur at Infinite Eurekas New Delhi Area, India. He is a great programmer and a great personality.

PARAGON OF PERFECTION

Sneha Susarla

Hold my hand and guide me through
this world of darkness where nothing holds true…
where sin is cheap and life is cheaper,
where nights are dark the days even darker.
where friends are foes their laughter a shadow,
astonishing, in peril, how easy they let go..
hold my hand and hold it true and the same for you, I would do
laugh with me and I'll laugh with you
I trust you and you alone
feel you're someone I forever own.
I know you will never leave me, I know you will never judge me
You are everything, the paragon of perfection
Yet you are nothing but my own reflection…

GEEKS CORNER

I I I T M STREETS

My Experiences with IIITM "Social Media"
Holla Raja Shekhar

I saw many students who had good ranks in AIEEE, but due to lack of information about the national institutions, they settled down at some local engineering colleges. Just like you, I helped a few students who were undergoing the counseling phase for admission into graduate studies after their 12th class. I thought of sharing the information in social media so as to reach a great number of such students.

"You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you."

Admissions in IIITM, before 2007 were made through Joint Entrance Examination (JEE), then the admissions were shifted to the Central Counseling board (CCB) and the entrance examination for admissions was made AIEEE (now JEE mains). The cutoffs for admissions into IIITM declined thereafter. It made me think that proper social media pages for the institute can help aspiring students in entering such prestigious institutions. This led to the start of Times'.

Foundation of "I I I T M Gwalior Times" (http://www.facebook.com/iiitmg) dates back to Odd Semester of the year 2011. Times' (I refer "I I I T M Gwalior Times" as Times' hereafter) was founded

ion a principle to share nformation regarding the institute and create a platform for helping students who want to get into IIITM.

Times' was actually started as a forum type thing to help students with AIEEE admissions. Times' now has 1500+ supporters, 600+ alumni who can guide the students who want to take admission into IIITM.

Times' later turned into an unofficial campus media channel for sharing information regarding the events in the institute, rules, caution messages, schedules, examination and semester registration alerts etc. It bought the institute Alumni together. A strong alumni show case to the aspiring students brings in a lot of confidence in them.

We have a student webmail service active on https://14.139.240.245/squirrel mail/src/login.php for sharing information with students. Many of us do not use it. Some of us don't even know that such a thing exists. Initially, I used to share the mails which I get in Webmail to Times'. But then, it achieves a less reach and the information which should sometimes stay internal to the institute may become public. This urged me to think of an alternative.I needed a tool on social media through which I can actually knock your

timeline. A Closed Facebook group is what with the name "ABV-IIITM Gwalior" is to be made. But there already existed a group with the same name. It was started by my friend, Pankaj Chaudhary (IPG 2011). I explained him my idea. He made me the admin. I added all my friends and seniors to it. Soon it transformed into a bigger group.

And then, the actual thing started. People used to spam the group wall with posts like "Please like my facebook page", "Like this picture, I am in a contest to win an exciting prize", "Get free recharge by sharing this post on 10 facebook groups" etc. I was in my first year then. I couldn't just simply delete such posts which were from my seniors. But then, the sole principle and aim of the group were being drained. I changed the group settings after discussion with the co-admin. Anyone can post to the group, but an approval from the admin is necessary. Even then, people used to post promotional content, spam messages/posts and then message me in facebook to approve the post. This led to the new (current) group settings.Only the admins can post to the group. And if there is something which is worth sharing, you are always welcome to

message the information/ files etc. to the admins.

Initially I even used to get calls demanding me to withdraw some post or add some promotional content. I used to ignore them. Few seniors used to ask me how the information can be thought of as reliable. I told them that there is a thing called student web mail, and I just share the information which I get from there. A few used to scold me for sharing academic related posts. They said that it disturbed their daily life routine. I don't know how.Those were some sections of students who had negative impressions of the group. I ignored them. I used to advise such people to use the "leave the group" option. Slowly, the group started getting positive response. I get suggestions from seniors as to how to maintain the group, which kinds of posts are useful to the students etc. They were instrumental.

The group now has 1000+ students. It is a quick way to share information. Initially I just used to share the mails which we get on IIITM mail. But then, faculty & many students shared useful information, links etc which I post onto the group.

Thanks for the support, my seniors gave me when few discouraged me, scolded me for maintaining such group. You would be surprised to know that I was even thrashed a few times for this thing. This may look ridiculous but it did happen. My friends supported me. I am always thankful to them. Now that I am in my Fourth year of study here at IIITM, I want somebody or a small team of students to take the responsibility of continuing the social media legacy of the institute, help students in IIITM by sharing information, help aspiring students to enter IIITM, showcase IIITM to the nation as an active entity. The team requires those with some decent communication skills and responsibility towards the institute. I am in a search for such students. You'll soon have a new admin who'll knock your timeline sharing some useful information. I would request each one of you to support him if possible.

"No one has ever become poor by giving."◆

FACT MANIA

- Now users won't be forced anymore to create Google Plus accounts while signing up for Gmail.
- UC Berkley and Stanford researchers have developed an ant-sized radio onto a silicon chip which charges itself.
- 2TB for your phone->With WD My Passport Wireless you can connect upto eight devices, to store and access data wirelessly.
- WD's HGST announced the world first 10TB HDD.
- Harley-Davidson launches three new bikes (including the hand-crafted CVO Limited, priced at Rs 49.23 lakh).
- Motorola now officially a Lenovo company but the brand will remain as a subsidiary of Lenovo.
- Xiaomi is now world's third biggest smartphone maker, Samsung remains at the lead followed by Apple:IDC .
- New USB Type-C standard reversible connectors would be able to carry audio and video both with resolutions of 4K and above with the Type-C tech.
- ComSonics is developing a radar gun that will detect drivers who are texting and driving! The technology is sophisticated enough to differentiate the frequency transmissions that separate phone calls and texts.
- A group of hackers have hacked Gmail and other Android apps with a success rate of 92% and will be releasing their findings at a cybersecurity conference in San Diego soon.

GEEKS CORNER

Technology and Myths

Annu Sachan

With technology becoming an integral part of our daily lives the myths about it are gaining ears in the market. For an industry that's based on math, science and engineering, technology sure spawns a surprising amount of myths. Technology and myths go hand in hand with the technical advancements. Some of these myths are amusing or only mildly annoying. A relative might send you a chain email claiming that Microsoft will pay you cash to forward it on. Another rumour surfaces occasionally that Facebook is going to start charging users a subscription fee.

However, clinging to certain myths can cost you time and money. Let's take a closer look at these serial offenders.

1. Wearable devices are just another form factor for smartphones.

The wearable device market encompasses much more than smartphones and smartwatches. The market ranges from clothing to glasses to sports/activity trackers to 3D-motion trackers to wearable cameras.

Combinations of these products are already being brought to market, such as a health tracker embedded in a runner's shoe, and glasses that can record and upload videos as well as do Internet searches.

Another potential application is a wearable device embedded in a person's teeth that can monitor what food is consumed and the number of bites taken. Indeed, this market spans multiple industries, applications, and devices.

2.Macs never get viruses

Last year's outbreak of the malicious Trojan called Flashback infected more than 600,000 Macs. The year before that, the fake anti-virus rogueware known as MacDefender also caused chaos for Mac users.

These high-profile security breaches were a wake-up call for Mac users who believed that Apple computers were immune to the viruses that plague PC users.

Apple once boasted in its ads that Mac users could relax and let the built-in defenses of OS X do all the heavy lifting to safeguard their data. The tech giant has since toned down that message.

Don't let your purchase of a Mac lull you into a false sense of security. Like PC users, Mac users should make safe browsing and vigilant virus monitoring a top priority.

3. The more megapixels, the better the camera

Many consumers focus too much on megapixel count when buying cameras. A 16MP camera has to be better than a 12MP camera, right?

Not necessarily. Camera sensor quality is as much about physical sensor size as pixel amount. A large 12MP sensor in a DSLR will produce better photos than a tiny 16MP sensor in a point-and-shoot.

To cram that many pixels onto a small sensor, manufacturers shrink the size of the pixels. Smaller, crowded pixels don't capture light as well as bigger pixels spread across a large sensor. The small sensor struggles to capture the tonal range of bright scenes and generates unwanted noise when used in low light.

Don't get me wrong; megapixels are important. Generally, having more megapixels leads to greater detail in images and allows you to make larger prints.

But the quality of the camera's lens and its on-board image processor is also very important.

The trick to buying a camera is finding one that fits your shooting needs without overspending on technology that you may not need.

4.Fully Draining the Battery on Your Smartphone or Laptop Helps Condition It

Rechargeable batteries have "memories" — they only recharge up to the level of a previous state. If recharged before fully discharged, they won't recharge to 100 percent. Over

time, a rechargeable battery will lose potency if not "conditioned" — totally discharged then totally recharged. All of this used to be true for older nickel- cadmium and nickel-metal hydride rechargeable cells. However, this is not true for lithium-ion or lithium-ion polymer cells. Apple notes that "you can recharge a lithium-ion polymer battery whenever convenient, without requiring a full charge or discharge cycle." Walker Ford, senior electrical engineer for Goal Zero, which makes solar power gear, says "the best thing you can do for the batteries in your laptop or smartphone is to use them for their purpose, powering via battery, rather than AC." Ford notes that constant "deep cycles" — a complete drain of your battery — "is rough on any battery and can decrease performance over time. Using the battery is the best thing for it." Regardless of how you use it, your laptop or smartphone battery should retain near full potency for around 2 to 3 years.

5.Posting a Disclaimer on Facebook Protects Your Copyright

It is a belief that if you post a claim ownership of material you post on Facebook, you maintain exclusive rights to that material. The issue arose when a revolt erupted over Facebook-owned Instagram's terms of service, which ostensibly allows the company to sell posted photos to advertisers.Rather the fact is to use Facebook, you had to agree to its Terms of Service, which states that "you own all of the content and information you post on Facebook, and you can control how it is shared." But this grant is followed by Facebook's retention of "a non-exclusive, transferable, sub-licensable, royalty-free, worldwide license to use any IP content that you post." Jeff Travis, an intellectual property lawyer and partner at the

Bakersfield, Calif., firm Borton Petrini, summarizes your Facebook rights as "you own it, they have a license to use it." Travis notes that a contract you've essentially signed can't be abrogated just by posting a counterclaim. Gabriel Ulloa, interactive media coordinator and social media expert at managed service provider Chartec, notes, "As long as your profile is public, anyone and everyone has the right to use whatever they want."

6.Cellphones Cause Cancer

It is said that Cellphones emit radio frequency energy; how much is indicated by the specific absorption rate (SAR) listed in a phone's specs. Over an extended period of time and prolonged exposure this energy, or radiation, can cause certain types of cancer.

the fact is while many scientific papers have intimated a scary link between cellphone radiation and cancer, not a single one has proved any actual cause-and-effect correlation. But where there's smoke, there's fire, right? Actually, there's not even smoke. According to the 2008-2009 Annual Report of the President's Cancer Panel, "Reducing Environmental Cancer Risk," "at this time, there is no evidence to support a link between cell phone use and cancer." More comforting is this unassailable statistical analysis: Since 1991, the number of minutes spent talking on a cell phone has risen six fold, but the number of brain cancer cases has dropped by nearly half. In fact, the most recent report from the National Cancer Institute at the National Institutes of Health, which admittedly covers only 1975 to 2007 — before the current smartphone revolution — reports "incidence rates have declined for cancers of the lung, colon and rectum, oral cavity and pharynx, stomach and brain" by

approximately 1 percent per year. Science and statistics simply do not back up the cell cancer scare, or our next related myth.

7.The Government Can Track Your Cellphone Even When It's Off

The Belief: A cellphone or smartphone continues to transmit or receive GPS signals that can be tracked by the government even when powered down. In its "Defend Yourself Against Cellphone Tracking" advice, the Electronic Freedom Foundation stated "the government can even track some cellphones when they are powered down."

The Facts: Unfortunately, none of the websites repeating this paranoid belief cite a single concrete, documented case of phone-off tracking for one good reason: It's impossible. "Any signal requires power to transmit," said Jeffrey Jurist, president of Spy Associates, which makes and sells GPS tracking and other spy gadgets. "There is a product to track phones … BUT [this is] only possible if [the] phone is powered." The one exception is if you've unintentionally installed a piece of malware — a Trojan horse used to control and/or monitor the device — that Vitaly Kamluk, chief malware expert at Kaspersky Labs, said "makes the user think the phone is 'off' but it's not really turned off." A temporary solution is to remove the battery; a more permanent solution is installing an anti-virus app on your phone. But the bottom line, said Jurist, is "no power equals no electronics can work." ◆

"technology changes, humans don't."

Ways to Build your Career!

Hanika Singhal

After passing +2, a very basic question arises in the mind of every student "What to become - A DOCTOR or an ENGINEER or A FASHION DESIGNER or C.A?

So here are some points you just need to take care to make a right decision at right time

• **Firstly, knowing what you're good at**

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What you're passionate about. Don't confuse this with a bigger, vaguer dream. Instead, do an inventory of pursuits both big and small that get you all fired up and have you losing track of time. Rather than, "becoming a rock star," look for specific skills like, "learning new instruments," "writing songs," "talking about art" and, "interacting with a crowd." This will help you not only pursue your bigger dreams, but also identify traits that can apply to jobs that are less of a reach.

• **Treat your career like a grand experiment**

People who are successful in finding — and maintaining — meaningful work approach their careers like a grand experiment. All of the things you think you know about what you want to be doing, what you're good at, what people want to hire you to do ,how different organizations operate, etc. are hypotheses that can be validated or invalidated with evidence — either from the first-hand experience of trying something (including bite-sized projects), or second-hand from asking the right questions of the right people. .

I use the word "grand" to describe this experiment because the reality is that your career is not just a way to earn a living. It's your chance to discover what you're here for and what you love.

• *Find a Mentor*

Mentors are essential in developing your career. We all think we can do it on our own, but that's just youthful bravado talking. Find someone you respect and trust that has experience and try to learn as much as you can from them.

• **Time Management**

Regardless of what email program you use, this advice holds. Turn off the notifications that beep or pop up every time an email comes in; these distractions are productivity killers. Also, use your calendar wisely — schedule your day in advance by blocking off time so, a) no one bothers you, and b) you have clear direction on what you're doing throughout the day. Add a couple of blocks throughout the day for checking email.

• **Learn How to Interview**

Interviewing is an art form, and you have to know how to drive the conversation and tell your story. Although having a good academics; background the attributes of interview which includes good communication skills and appropriate body gesture are needed to grab a job.

• **Last but not the least, Smart Work**

Before you try to find another job, make sure you're killing it at your current job. Make life easier for yourself and for others by finding efficiencies, working smarter, and getting things done. Easier said than done, I know, but when you're out there interviewing, you want to have concrete examples of how you created value in the past.

I hope, these some value points will surely help you.

Good luck! Choose The right thing at right moment! ◆

The Dark Knight of Web Programming: Javascript

Chaitanya Gupta

Consider an ace shooter, who can hit still targets flawlessly, completely out of the blue is put into a war-zone. He could consistently blow away targets with his great focus and concentration when the targets were still but now the scenario has evolved. The scenario is complex. The targets are moving. The targets even fire back. If that shooter stops evolving his skills, probably he will end up in a graveyard soon. But if that shooter learns to tackle and fights back like a jackass, things will definitely lead to a better result.

It's almost the same thing with technology. Technology trends move way fast and the means to achieve them also constantly evolve. Since 90s, when dot com burst transformed the whole IT scenario all over the world, Javascript has become a popular web development language. Javascript was initially developed as a client side, browser-agnostic scripting language. And in recent years, it has been able to make its mark on areas like mobility and server-side applications. Over the coming years, it's going to be a threat to other highly pervasive C, C++ languages. And there are many reasons that favor Javascript as a soon-to-be mainstream language. It is inevitable on browsers, which keeps a hold of eveything a client does. Browser based OS are making regular operating systems obsolete. With the inception of Node.js, even server-side applications comprehend Javascript. Once standards were defined concrete and not much choice was left with developers which included strict usage of objective C for iphone, Java for android and C# for Microsoft. But because of Javascript's ability to deliver rich and dynamic web content, mobile developers can get relatively same out of HTML5 applications with browser-like views. Because of these technologies, the mobile frameworks like Phonegap have grown mature and robust. There is no denying that Javascript has certainly carved out a strong position for itself. The most commonly used repository platform for open source code and organizations, Github has seen major contributions in javascript for past few years.

Client side development

The recent innovations in design, marketing and accessibility of a brand/service to customer have led to unavoidable transformations in mobile computing and development. Even the rate at which users switch to new apps and devices on their smartphone demands more frequent release cycles from app publishers, measured in days or weeks than months. Even the user experience of an app is critical in its success, especially when Apple has raised the bar of user experience. Also the app rating sites play a key role in deciding the acceptance of app by people.

Seeing javascript's flexibility and rich user experience, it can be considered to be a natural fit for mobile development meeting the demands of rapid development as well.

Server side development

Although javascript has no history to relate with server side, but in last 4 years it has significantly contributed to back end technology via Node.js. Node.js is a perfect choice for making scalable network applications. It is based on Google's V8 engine. Recently, it has been adopted by a lot of IT enterprises of which some big names include GM, Yahoo, Dell, Linkedin, Walmart etc. As per the latest updates, the download figure for Node.js per day is 35000. It's also supported by 5 out of 6 major platform-as-a-service providers including Amazon, Google and Microsoft.

THE ULTIMATE WINNER

The odds are in favor of Javascript to become a dominant enterprise language. It's not that javascript is perfect and free of issues, but a language which is flexible, easy to learn and already in wide adoption awards
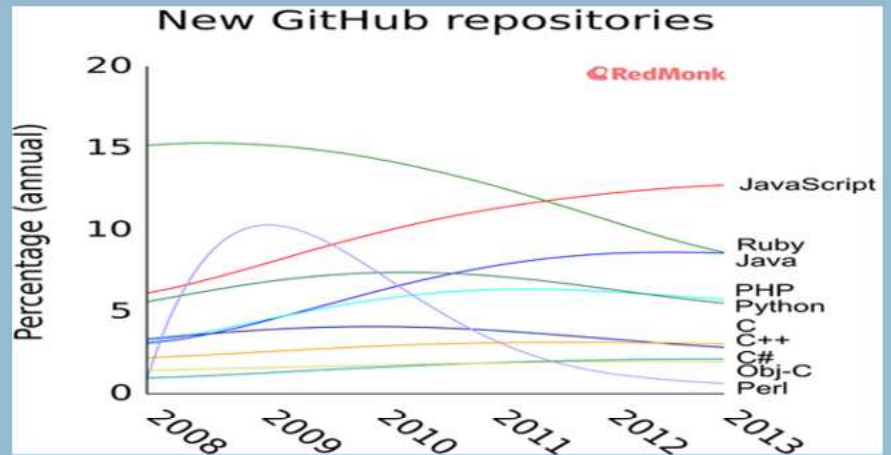
GEEKS CORNER

it a competitive edge over others. Nothing like technology utopia exists, but Javascript definitely looks like the next big thing.

The mainframe continues to have Cobol and Linux still written in C. But everything else is fair as JavaScript gobbles the world.

I think what was said for Batman is apt for Javascript in today's IT scenario.

"He's the hero IT deserves, but not the one it needs right now. So we'll hunt him. because he can take it. Because he's not our hero. He's a silent guardian, a watchful protector. A dark knight." ◆

New GitHub repositories
RedMonk
JavaScript
Ruby
Java
PHP
Python
C
C++
C#
Obj-C
Perl

Chaitanya Gupta (2008IPG) is working at Samsung, Delhi. He was a superb entertainer. Infotsav Co-Ordinator 2011

G E E H S
C O R N E R

Exams
Amar Prakash

Crisp, new sheets rustle as they are turned
Anxiously remembering all you have learned
Nervous cough and ten tops clicking
Constant, the clock rhythmic ticking.

Everyone else seems to know what to write
And you have no idea what is right
You watch the person sitting next to you
Wondering if you have got the same tert too.

He seems to be writing pages and pages
Just reading the question has taken ages
Now 10 minutes have already passes
And you haven't even done first task.

You take a deep breath and start scribbling Away
But now you've run out of things to say
The boy on your left is still writing and it's Neat
Now he's asking to have an extra sheet.

You look at the clock, only half an hour to
You just start writing all that you know
Just make sure that you are not even done
You finish your sentence and suppose it'll do

Checking for errors as you read it through.
Now it's finally over, you can breathe easy Again
That is until you see one of your friends
And they insist on asking, "How did it go?"
You simple say, "How am I supposed to Know?"

Why when you have been through that or
Do people ask about how you feel?
It's simple it's over, I've done my best
Now what's on tomorrow's test?

You ought to know....

Yeshoda Bhargava

This article is an address to the brilliant first year students, especially the girls who would have settled by now in the green and vibrant campus of ABVIIITM. I do not think and cannot think of any other opportune time to tell this to them, to convey to them what I feel they should know right at the first rung of their ladder of success. Yeah, I know I am not a Kiran Majumdar Shaw or a Sheryl Sandberg or a Malala Yousufzai (but we still are someone in making, isn't it?), but who ever said that only position could sanction you to give little piece of wisdom. As an alumni (this word makes me feel slightly old) of the institute you are in and as someone who has a strong and unbreakable bond with the alma-mater, I consider it my responsibility to give to you a better ground to groom yourself right from the prime time of your beautiful years which has already begun. Know that as educated young girls, you have a responsibility and that is that you are the promise of a more equal world. Every woman is looking up at you in hope. And also know that you have to work harder, even harder than you did for writing you're JEE. College is about academics, and academics is not isolated from learning. Allow yourself to look at life as closely as possible because after these five years you will get a little time to introspect and indulge into an unfathomable abyss inside everyone of you. Allow yourself to interact with your seniors in the hostel and in college premises, they have an astronomical amount of knowledge to give to you and to share with you. May be you feel scared right now, but they are the most generous people I have ever met and you will ever meet. They are more than dying to share everything they know with you, this I can assure you of. You have to learn from the experience your seniors already have had, not interacting will be great loss. Go ahead, exploit their erudition. Know that college is not the same as school, it will push you beyond your comfort zone, you will be battling not only grades, but also higher truths of life and find yourself in the quest towards finding answers to questions considered as abstruse and esoteric. You will have to learn what loneliness is, because this will the most important lesson of life you will ever learn and it will change your entire perception about solitude and you'll understand the might it carries with itself. You will have to learn what perfidy is, because then you will be able to become smarter at gleaning the right kind of people. You will have to learn what loss is because then you will be able to strike out a balance between your priorities. Know that AASF is the best functional organization in the college and you must be grateful for everyone who takes pain to organise sessions for your benefit and sound grooming.

Know that you are very fortunate to have a fabulous Sports complex (it became fully functional when we came in our third year) and you got to play there regularly. You have to go one day, experience the bliss it is to be there, even if for half an hour. As I said, school prepared you for college, let your college prepare you all for life. I attend a variety of seminars here in Bangalore, and they are mostly delivered by foreign speakers. You want to know, what the upshot of the majority of discourses i? It is soft skills! Five years is a long time, friends. Ensure that when you come out of college after 5 years, holding the degrees and formidable placements, you have an added treasure: a superb and impeccable way of communication, a finesse beyond any measure. We do not have any option as far as the soft skills are concerned; you have to master it, at every cost. So, you must be thinking, how? The answer is participating.

Participate, as much as you can, be it an extempore, be it a JAM, be it a debate, English or Hindi, participate, prepare. Period. Just don't let these precious five years go without overhauling yourself. When I look back I have a lot of regrets, and it's in human nature to have regrets, I want you all to have comparatively lesser regrets. This is why, I am redacting this article for you today, because you know, we are connected in larger scheme of things.

Connect with the faculty, do not hesitate: remember this, "Do not hesitate regarding anything". Take up projects, code; I am sure AASF has impressive plans for your learning. Make sure you live every single day of your college life, it's a treasure truly. Allow it to transform the way you think, the way you perceive things, allow it to make you stronger and stable. These are the golden as well as foundational years of your life, and to add on a stricter note: litmus test of your character. And I can assure you that if you wake up and go for a morning walk daily, your life will change. We are in a marathon friends, you have started just now and I am still running, and when you pass out you will be running and I still will be on my track, because career ain't a sprint, it's a MARATHON. Welcome on board to the IIITM family.◆

Yeshoda Bhargava(2009IPG) is a Senior Software Engineer at Samsung Research Institute *Bangalore.*

Badlaav ka darr...!!
Abhishek Tomar

Junoon hai kuch kar guzarne ka,
Zindagi ki daud mein bhot aagey badhne ka...
Mushkilon ko asaani se paar karne ka,
Aur zindagi ko khushi k tohfon se bharne ka....

Har kadam pe yun to rukavatein milti hain,
Mujhe jo todne ki koshishein karti hain...
Aisi aafaton ko main has k gale lagata hun,
Aur apni raah mein magan bas aagey badhta jata hun....

Haara bhi mai kai baar hun,
Toota bhi kai baar in kathinaiyon se....
Apne apno ka bhi mai isliye shukraguzaar hun,
Unhone mujhe sahara diya, nikalne mein aisi pareshaniyon se...

Badlaav k dar se kabhi dara karta tha mai,
Apni hi ek duniya mein guzar basar karta tha mai...
Maloom nahi tha k aakhir duniya kitni badi hai,
Aur har haar k baad judi jeet ki ek kadi hai...

Gham k baad khushiyaan hi hai duniya ka dastoor,
Samajhne mein jise thoda waqt laga zarur...
Par aaj khud ko bhot khush aur azaad pata hun,
Apni pichli galtiyon se sabak leta hun aur fir bas unhe yaad karke muskurata hun...!!!

Abhishek Tomar (2009IPG) is an Assistant System Engineere -Trainee at Tata Consultancy Services.

LIFESTYLE

Stress: Your New BFF or the Old Dreadful Enemy

Kushagra Varshney

Stress, One of our biggest enemy. Which not only affects our mental health but affects us physically too. Stress affects our cardiovascular profile, it even increases the risk of heart attack. Now looking at the above assertion I would believe stress to be my enemy and most of you reading this will too have same thought. BUT as you will reach EOF, you will surely have some dilated liberal view towards stress.

Let me start by citing a study, the study was carried out at University of Wisconsia, and it took researchers nearly 8 years and thirty thousand subjects. People involved were asked a simple question, "How much stress they felt last year?" People who faced a lot of stress had nearly 43% more chances of dying but this was only true for the people who viewed stress as harmful. People who faced a lot of stress but viewed stress as innocuous were not prone to death instead they had the lowest rate of, risk of dying of anybody included in the study, even lesser than the people who faced relatively low stress.

Our body reacts to stress by secreting adrenaline and cortisol, they prepare our body for immediate response. Heart pounds faster, muscles tighten, breath quickens and senses become sharper. These changes increase our strength, stamina, speed, reaction time and enhances our focus. In turn they prepare us to fight danger or the situation at hand but the most important physical attribute related with stress is dilation of blood vessels. Now this is something to be tensed off as this is a very unhealthy heart profile. But again a study in favour of stress, this was carried out at Harvard University and it summarized that if stress was perceived harmless and friendly than blood vessels remain relaxed. This is a much healthier cardiovascular profile almost same as that in joy and courage. So what matters is how we think about stress, not stress at all. Next time you are stressed just think that your body is preparing to rise to this challenge.

One of the best things that I like about stress is that it makes you social. Now I am not being hazy or vague here. Almost all of us have heard about oxytocin as hug hormone or it has been related to lactation but that's not all. It is a hormone responsible for our social instincts. It impels us to do things that improves our relationship and social networks. It enhances our empathy, increases one's willingness to help and support people you care about. If you find yourself less compassionate and caring start snoring oxytocin. The most amazing thing is, oxytocin is a stress hormone, id est it is secreted when we are in stress. It is no less important than adrenaline when it comes to stress. When oxytocin is released as a stress response, it encourages us to seek support. When you are stressed it urges you to be around people who cherish you. Oxytocin also works as inflammatory to stress induced damages. Heart has receptors for oxytocin, the hormone helps heart cells regenerate. This helps heart to heal from any stress instigated damage. Researchers of University at Buffalo showed that people who spent time caring for others had no stress related threat and showed no increase in chances of stress related dying.

Stress is not momentous but it's how you think and react to stress. If you view stress as constructive your adrenaline will vouchsafe you power and courage, oxytocin will yield you love, empathy and will enhance your social connection. It's imperative that we share our problems, find at least one sane soul to share your deals with and let oxytocin do the rest. It's not that one should ask for more stress. But if you are, then just believe in yourself. Your body, your loved ones, positive outlook to stress,

would forge stress as your BFF rather than enemy.

Next time if a choice is to be made between two odd jobs don't keep stress as a parameter, just find meaning of life and pursue the job which contains it no matter how stressful it may be, because adrenaline, oxytocin and your friends back home are always there for help. I hope I have conveyed some positive attributes of stress and by now you must be having some liberal view towards stress if not radical. ◆

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT STRESS

• Three-fourths of the human population undergo stress in varying levels in a 2-week period. The working population is particularly subject to emotional, physical, and mental stress.

• Stress is one of the main factors causing insomnia and other sleep disorders. When stressors are present, the body naturally heightens its response system, thus, leading to wakefulness.

• Laugher is usually the best natural medicine. It lowers levels of cortisol, adrenaline, and epinephrine, which are stress-aggravating hormones; and it releases feel-good hormones, such as, dopamine.

• Chewing gum eases, not only the jaw, but stress as well. Ancient Mayans and Greeks chomped on resin gum; stress sure had been around a long time.

• In the 1930s, Hans Selye, an endocrinologist, first used the term stress in an organic framework. He used the term in his study with animals which, he concluded, had similar responses to stress as humans, e.g., hypertension, lingering back pain, and chronic abdominal problems.

• Stress triggers blood vessels to close, thereby reducing profuse bleeding from a flesh wound. The term stress means to draw tight, which originated from the Latin word stringere.

• A stressor, the stimulus that causes stress which can be real or imagined, can affect a person in a short term (acute) or over long periods (chronic).

Stress makes us physiologically ready for an emergency

Reduce your stress by some easy ways

• **The power of green nail polish.**
(One unique way to reduce stress is to place a dot of nail polish on your cell phone, reminding you to slow down and relax before answering your phone.)

• **Wear a rubber band around your wrist.**
(. Every time you are feeling stressed, lightly snap the rubber band around your arm)

• **Orange you glad you're not stressed anymore?**
(food and drink high in Vitamin C, such as orange juice, physiologically reduces stress by lowering levels of stress hormones, including cortisol.)

• **Chewing gum**
(Not only does it freshen breath and reduce snacking, but chewing gum can also reduce anxiety and depression.)

• **Inflate a balloon**
(Not only will this probably make you smile a bit, which is also known to reduce stress, but inflating a balloon forces you to deep-breathe.)

LIFESTYLE

Modern Indian Mythology: The IT Superpower Nation

Sidharth Singh

Dedicated to the friendship with the "real" geek of IPG-08 batch, Tushar Sharma

When we see crowds throng the streets of major metros, making a swiveling or crawling pattern of stripes with their faces all showing the western inhibits in an Indian form factor, it is the face of India's Information Technology industry, so called a superpower in "IT". Bangalore, Hyderabad and NCR are some heavily ITrialized regions where this sight is omnipresent and tends to highlight it's supremacy over other domains. But is this the true beauty or just an L'Oreal makeover? Interestingly the majority is the latter, and India is just the tip of the iceberg of IT revolution. We don't make anything of our own, we just utilize and deliver and that is where India stands, a major IT service provider (ITeS) not an IT superpower. Our bursting population provides for the cheapest skilled labor just like China has in its electronics industry and hence the industry is never short of labor. Added to it is the camouflage of so called "westernization" without any "modernization" that casts a fake image and portrays as if we are the same as our western counterparts. As per the 2011 Business Software Alliance Report on IT Industry competitiveness, we, The IT Superpower, ranked 34 out of 66 nations, just midway!!! Indian IT companies have been able to get a few patents primarily for applications (computer technology) and IT methods. In 2013 the sum total of patents granted to Indian companies in all was not even a major fraction of IBM's 6803 patents alone and none of the Indian companies stood in top 20 even being amongst the largest companies in terms of market cap worldwide. In the name R&D goes only development; research is like a cherry on the cake. Even the Indian offices of western IT giants are involved in secondary activities involving small applications, testing, maintenance, sales and customer service operations. Though IT services sector makes up a good portion of our GDP, around 7.5% in 2012 and a major portion of service sector, still the major IT potential is either BPO or Data Center services owing to cheap establishments. Our Intellectual capital hasn't yielded any substantial/proprietary OS, Office tools, web scripting technology, microprocessor architectures etc., except for tweaked versions of Open Source software and those that never come to commercialization stage. We feel proud on an Android app for which likes might exist in plenty or styling an already existing source code under our name or making use of ignorance and popularizing trash!!! This is where "Intelle-ctual Property" appears as a weapon of authenticity, true supremacy and control subject to judicious usage.

It is time that ITeS firms reinvent themselves to include self-sufficiency and diminish dependency. The iron is hot and Indian ITeS firms must strike on Intellectual Property led businesses. For instance IBM has been licensing and selling over 2650 patents of its IP potential to Google Inc., Facebook Inc. and Twitter Inc. A study reported on Livemint.com quotes the views of Jennifer Hamel, a Technology Business Research Inc. (TBR) analyst, "IBM integrates consulting with IP-based analytics solutions to maximize profits and stave-off competition in the digital transformation space. Accenture and fast-following India-centric players such as TCS and Cognizant will challenge IBM for digital transformation engagements in 2014. IBM differentiates itself from competitors by providing both advanced, proprietary analytics capabilities and practical, outcome-focused road maps for transforming clients' business processes". Indian IT firms need to enhance their IP assets, develop their own proprietary technologies and deploy them to deliver services and products that make us a real superpower, a really real

one!!! One of my own quotes (not IPR protected, so can be copied) that fits the gist of this article:

"CREATION NOT REACTION IS THE KEY TO SUPREMACY" ◆

Sidharth Singh (2008IPG) is presently working as Lecturer, Department of Management at Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies.

Sniglets - Words that should be in the dictionary (but aren't)

alpha geek - the most knowledgeable, technically proficient person in an office or work group.

AlzIMers - forgetting who you're talking to and typing in the wrong IM window.

backronym - an IT term whose letters once had no meaning, but have since come to stand for something-or-other.

beer Googles - searches on the Internet made while intoxicated, sometimes resulting in information looking more attractive or credible than it would otherwise.

Bluetooth fairy - someone who walks around with a blinking Bluetooth headset permanently affixed to his ear. (Remember the kid's song "Little rabbit foo-foo?")

cinderellaware - software (demo or shareware) which becomes useless after a trial period unless the user pays for and registers it.

cylences - long gaps in a phone conversation that occur because one person is also reading e-mail, IMing or cybershopping.

dopeler effect - the tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.

egosurf - to search for yourself on Google or another search engine

e-mnesia -- the condition of having sent or received an e-mail and having no recollection of it whatsoever.

faxcination - staring intently at the fax machine because you're waiting for a fax to come through

fonesia - the affliction that strikes when you dial a phone number and forget whom you were calling just as they answer.

gleemail - inspirational emails forwarded by a friend or coworker that may or may not bring joy to your inbox.

ohnosecond - that very short moment in time during which you realize that you have pressed the wrong key and deleted hours, days, or weeks of work.

oxoxomoron - a person who includes symbolic "hugs and kisses" at the end of their e-mail.

GEEKS CORNER

Indian girls: Independent...yet bounded in chains!!

Anjali Nayak

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high....Into that heaven of freedom my father let my country awake. "

These words written by Rabindranath Tagore exuberantly signify the mystic aura of India and the enigma that she has captured in the beautiful imaginations and patriotic fancies of great Indian minds. Today it has been 67 years of Indian independence comprising the works and achievements of more than two generations. And we should not forget that India of today and tomorrow will be the creation of today's youth. But honestly speaking the truth, things are turning out to be worst for women and girls in this male dominated patriarch society! We feel embarrassed to frame it in words but the reality is "nowadays the news of gang rape cases followed by murders with no limit on the age of victim from 3 onwards are becoming as common as road or car accidents". What do these culprits who starve to fulfill their dirty hunger actually want?—extinction of girls from the planet earth...which is hell not possible dude! Who is responsible for the spoiled dark ended future of a six year old innocent girl who was raped in her school or for the two teenage cousins who were found hanging from a mango tree after they were gang-raped in their village in Uttar Pradesh? We are all living in the 21st century where everybody has an equal right to freedom and equality. But then too even when a girl is only ten her parents ask her so many questions like "where are you off to" etc. etc., so is it not the moral duty of the parents to ask their son to where he is off to, to check whether he is on the right path? But no! The trend in the current society says because he is a boy and you are a girl, you ought to follow all the rules no matter what...and then too if you become a victim it is your mistake because you did not carry yourself properly in public and you invited the rogues. Alas!! It is difficult to say how insane can the human mentality be.The six year old girl who was in her school like any other kid around was raped.Now the point, who would you blame again? The small little girl who did not even know what was happening to her except for the pain she felt.

No doubt sexual violence against women and children has ignited national outrage and debate and the voice is going to grow stronger in the coming times. The need of the hour says that Indian society needs to change its mentality where every blame belongs to the girls or women for every mistake the men commit. The clothes don't make any difference to a sick mentality but crucial check on the dirty mind's activities when awarded with lifelong jails and the punishment of hung till death would definitely create a sensation of fear in the minds of animals with the human masks. Girls today are though working in metro cities and are ahead of men in many league yet the boundaries come into play when the time crosses 7 in the evening. It is nobody else but the youth who has to come forward...especially the true Indian men who must be knowing the honor of having a mother and sister back at their home would make an effort to protest against this serious crime whenever and wherever possible. Freedom comes along with duties and duties include feeling responsible towards a furious helpless girl surrounded by men in public. Because India's freedom won't only be determined by that of men alone but that of the rich and the poor, black and the white, boy and the girl both.And for that what needs to be done is- "Eradicate rape" at its first place!! ◆

LIFESTYLE

INTERVIEW WITH JOSHUA HENRY

Joshua Henry is currently working as University Relations Officer at Directi.He had also worked as HR Executive at AGS Transact Technologies Ltd for nearly one and a half year.He was also assigned a position of HR Coordinator at Seclore for recruitment and other HR Operations.

Q)All of us are aware of mushrooming of engineering colleges all over, then what are the ideal set of skills that you look for in this crowd?
A.)Special skills that help distinguishing students to a company like Direct-i are competitive coding, real world problem solving, algorithms and computer science fundamentals such as OS and DBMS and real time project experiences help in getting the extra edge.

Q) Ours is a techno managerial institute. How do you think this integration helps in this field today?
A) Frankly speaking, dual degree is a hassle free endeavour. It provides you with an option after your three years of graduation, to decide the path of the rest of your life. You have an idea of your interests and can then easily chose between tech and management.

Q) Does the market perspective of companies change for dual degree holders?
A) Specifically Directi-i does not differentiate between a B.tech holder and a dual degree holder as far as the selection criterion is considered. But some companies do differentiate which is subjective to change timely.

Q) How have been your post placement experiences at ABV-IIITM?
A) Actually expectations were a lot more. The cultures expected by the corporate sector should be created by the students and students must not be wholly dependent on the management. Infrastructure and logistic wise it is good and I am leaving with higher expectations.

Q) What according to you is the success mantra for any person pursuing his/her dreams?
A)Persistence, hard work and smart planning.

Q)Being a part of such a reputed organization how would you describe the present company culture and its demands from the students?
A)The culture precisely is chilled out without any pressure, practices 100% transparency, and flat hierarchy and demands the entrants to take new initiatives in the company

Q) What were the positive and negative attributes in general of all the aspirants from the institute?
A) Students came up with a good confidence level in the interview which was impressive. While some had good coding skills, a majority needs an improvement in algorithmic and coding knowledge. Doing Company specific preparations can help a lot more.

Q) Direct-i is not only a dream company to work for but is also alluring interns. Being an HR how do you feel internships helps in moulding one's own personality to face the corporate world?
A) Internships helps to become aware of the corporate world. They are a better way to get lucrative jobs as it gives enough time to prove yourself. Moreover the company gets to know the interests and capabilities of the candidates during the internship period.

Q) Life is not a cakewalk, what do you feel were the turning points in your career to reach such a hard earned position?
A) Taking initiatives at my earlier stages of growth. I feel so because I reached a level where I am today despite the fact that I don't own a MBA degree (otherwise thought to be mandatory for an HR) and belong to a computer science background. So in short pursuing the dreams with focus can prove to be a turning point for anyone and everyone.

INTERVIEW WITH ANGAD SINGH

He is currently working as HR at Amazon,Hyderabad.He had previously worked at Deloitte, Cognizant Technology Solutions, and Mahindra Satyam.He had persued his management education at Badruka Institute of Management.

Q) Seeing the crowd in IT industry do you think there are too many people trying to get into this field?
A) Yes, everyone wants to get into IT and corporate world. Even the other stream engineers are trying to get job into IT field. It is undermining other streams. People go after money and IT sector provides a large sum of amounts to its engineers as compared to other branches.

Q)Expectations from new entrants into Amazon?
A) They should not settle thinking that now everything is set. They should work twice as hard as they have been doing. They should be open towards learning new things. They should be creative, they should not limit their thoughts. You should not fear to learn new things because if you do mistake at this part of life its fine but at later stage if you do the same mistake you may have to pay the price.

Q) As an HR can you describe a typical work day and the company culture of Amazon?
A) I am most of the time occupied with campus visits. I have to maintain good relations with Institutes and keep myself informed about what is happening in any Institute, their strengths, capabilities. My job is to find out your campus strength and put it in Amazon.
Amazon's Company culture is driven by work, we love good work quality work which pleases not only the company but customers too. So it's a very good company and it's cool to be a part of it.

Q)What do you think about saturation in Indian e-commerce industry?
A) I would say that E-commerce industry is not at all saturated in India even fifty percent of this industry is untapped.

Q) On a scale of 10 how would you rate Indian Entrepreneurs when compared globally?
A) I will rate them 11/10 because we are much more hard working and that's the reason that global market is now running behind us.

Q)What do you feel is the most enjoyable task in this field which is seldom considered boring and stagnant?
A) One word only it's Coding.

Q)Ours is a Techno-Managerial institute how do you think this integration is effective in this field?
A) To run a business you need both technical as well as managerial skills. So you guys are on the right path continue this trend work hard bring quality output because at the end of the day it's the thing that matters.

Q) What are the set of skills you look in an individual while hiring for any post?
A) It's a very big question. Because every job requires a different skill set. So there is no perfect answer to this question which I can give but because I have to give a complete answer, I'm looking for a perfect candidate.

Q) How has your experiences been in IIITM so far?
A)It has been a very good experience except for the train journey part everything has been good. Mr Mudit is very nice students are cooperating. Student coordinators did well.

Q) Whom do you consider as your role model or someone whom you can look up to?
A) Nobody I'm self-obsessed.

10 Miles into the Warzone

Rahul Meena

C A R E E R   M A N T R A

Have you read today's newspaper?
If you did, what for?

Just look at your Facebook newsfeeds, isn't it full of factual news? Or twitter perhaps? What drives you to believe in something? What drove you to believe in God? Are you an atheist perhaps? Do you believe you are better than the guy in the next room, what makes you think he doesn't think the same? Do you support Mr Narendra Modi or Mr Arvind Kejriwal perhaps? Do you have a rational explanation for your support or do you just base your suppor on emotions and ego? The whole point of these questions is to question everything. While its easier said than done, one needs to question even facts because these days 'facts' come from facebook feeds and Quora, which seems to have become the new Wikipedia. Warmed up? So let's get into some serious stuff now, this article is for first and second year students who I believe have yet to figure out what to do during the precious college years.The answer to that depends on what you want to accomplish in your life. If you want nothing, you can simply booze and party all the time (Seriously how pathetic is a party where some

sad souls who need to forget reality... waste time and money) and don't try to justify by giving examples of those few people who did achieve something even after partying all the time because you know what? You don't know their other side. In India one becomes an engineer first and then chooses their career path. So guys you have tons and tons of options and everyone of you is capable of getting a good job and/or make a good living. And I don't believe you need good grades to do something awesome in life unless you want to pursue further studies because getting good grades is not adding to your skills, it's adding to your knowledge. I think adding to knowledge is more important than adding to skills, but unfortunately that's not practical if you want a job immediately after getting out of college. Anyways good grades never harm, while it might harm if you don't have good grades. So its always a good idea to drop whatever else you want to do a week before any exams. Though don't worry if you don't have a very good CG as of now, you still have tons and tons of opportunities. I say that because I myself am a 6 pointer and yet I have a work that I really love and am being paid pretty handsomely. I

never answered a single data structure question properly in any interview, all I talk about is the stuff I have done during college. The interviewers specially love when I talk about my experience as a film maker. Yes, am very proud of my work during college and I love boasting about it during interviews. So again the question, what do you do during college? Do what you love doing but try and do a variety of different things, which will help you explore what you're good at and what your shortcomings are. Increase your skillset because that's what really matters the most. Don't stick to one technology stack, experiment with multiple things. And do me a favour and never create your resume on the basis of someone else's when the time comes. In my current company, the development head was literally laughing at the pile of resumes he received from IIIT Allahabad. All of them were replicas of each other with a variation here and there. Like two people can never be the same, no two resumes should bear similarities. You must do things that make you stand out. Period. I regret not having completed my series, "Yes! we are Engineers."
I don't want you guys to
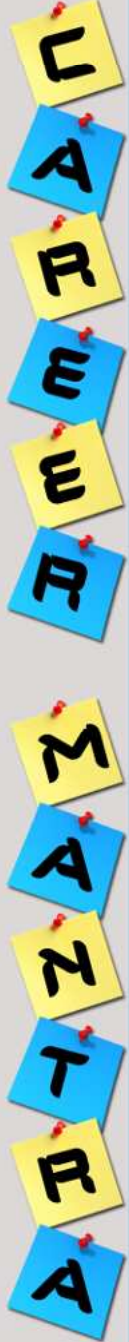
miss out on things you can and should do during college life. See what your potential is. Push your limits. You have a great deal of resources available to you. Use it. And as for what are my thoughts about coding? Frankly it is not as big a deal as people make it out to be. Very few people care if you won the 'Best from first year' title in the college coding competition. (Yeah am referring to my team in first year) really believe you should build something you can be proud of because out thereyou will be working on production code, so learning how to apply that least time space algorithm when you are creating something would be much more enchanting, I know many would contradict me on this topic but in the end it is up to you to believe. Finally if I haven't already said that, don't forget to make the best out of your college life. So that when you look back at your college years, you can really be proud of the stuff you did. And please don't do things everyone else does. Pretend as if you were 10 miles into the Warzone, high on adrenalin, every moment can be the last moment. Love and live your work. May the force...ah you know how it ends don't you. ◆

Rahul Meena(2009iPG) is curently working as an iOS Developer at StudyPad,Gurgaon.He was a very enthusiastic person of our institute.

IT Career Mantra: Advice for IT Professionals

Q)What's a career in IT like?

Ans) IT jobs are demanding, fast-paced and stressful. They require long hours (50 to 60 hour work weeks are not uncommon for professionals at all levels of the IT career ladder, including the CIO) and entail lots of responsibility, yet they offer little recognition in return.

So why do IT professionals remain in their careers? Often it's because they love working with technology and because the field tends to be a good match for their logical, analytical minds and their keen problem-solving skills.

Q)What kinds of IT jobs might I pursue, and how are IT roles changing?

Ans)There are a range of functional IT jobs you can pursue:
• Hardware Engineer
• Business Analyst
• IT Security Manager
• Business Continuity Manager
• Vendor Manager
• Vendor Relationship Managers
• IT Procurement Managers
• Project Manager
• Program Manager

Q)What skills are needed to be successful in an IT career?

Ans)IT skills are constantly falling in and out of fashion, but the technical skills that are in greatest demand today.Talk with IT leaders and you'll also hear that cloud computing skills are increasingly in demand.

IT managers need a mix of soft skills and technical skills to be successful. They need to be able to communicate effectively, build relationships with employees in other business functions, and lead and manage teams.

For CIOs, technical expertise now matters less while business savvy and leadership skills are requirements. CIOs require a deep understanding of their company's business, how it makes or loses money, its market, competition and customers.

CAREER MANTRA
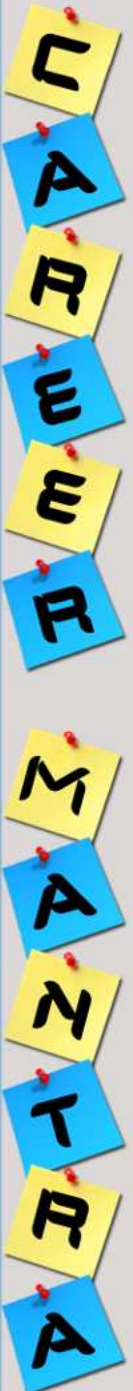
Huge investments: Both sides of a coin

Akashdeep Saluja

Every single time we see any news about investments in a sector by some big shot businessman we get excited, why shouldn't we? After all we will get to see growth, new products, job creations and many more benefits. We, the customers will get good products at relatively cheap prices, good service and a better overall experience. We have all seen the growth of retail markets to E-commerce industry in front of our eyes and almost all of us are happy with this. Who doesn't like to buy at a click or to recharge the cell phone in midnight? In short the advancements that have taken place due to huge investments have made our lives easier.

But what we usually fail to see is the backside of it. Most of these businesses grow upon the businesses of many small retailers around the country. How often we go to a shop to recharge our phone or how many of us have recently bought phone from a traditional retailer. Our behavior is natural, online is easy and cheap. But what about the retailers, most of them will have to leave market soon and all left will be BIG players. I would like to throw some light on how they are not able to sell cheap, it's not because they want to earn high profits or simply they are not willing to earn. It's because they don't get it cheap, the cost of the products to small vendors is most of the times more than the selling price at e-commerce. Now one simple question would be why they get products costly from the same company which give products to other retailers at a cheaper price. The reason is simple. You buy 100 products at $50, buy 1000 they'll give you at $40. The difference of $10 may seem little to you but for a general smartphone of $10k it might get to $2000. Here comes the role of big investments, the more you invest, the cheap you'll get and then simply the more you'll sell. And it's a cycle of big investments. This cycle is helping millions of customers and a handful of investors. The whole cycle leaves out the traditional small retailers which are left out amid this. And believe me many of them still don't have an idea what is going to happen in just a couple of years. To clarify who these small retailers are, these range from the shop in small streets to retail market giants such as "Big Bazaar" whose founder Kishore Biyani just day after the flipkart's big billion day expressed his concerns about the same.

But at the same time these advancements are inevitable and seems to have no solution. It has affected other developed countries in past and now our country. Recently government agreed to see into this matter but chances are very little that there would be a solution. If government tries to curb big investments in any way or simply force them to not sell cheap, it won't be good for the country and its growth as it is a turn off for big investors. At the same time it will not be good for masses who are taking benefit out of this. On the other hand it looks like the matter is getting worse for small retailers. I don't think there can be a permanent solution but certainly it's a matter of research which should've started years earlier. One solution could be educating small retailers about the situation and help them improve or just fight, the other might be something like "minimum selling price". But both the solutions have loopholes and may not prove beneficial to the end customer. The situation is complex and hard for someone like me to analyze. But unfortunately needs to be addressed immediately. All we can do is just wait and watch. ◆

RETIREMENT PLANNING SERVICES

GLASBERGEN

"You told me to look for sound investments, so I bought an expensive stereo."

The Foremost

Thomas Mammen

College life is a period of effervescence. There is so much we want to do and time feels so short. Every idea seems powerful and potent. We feel amazed by the possibilities presented by life. Books, websites and conversations present us with a plethora of ways that people choose to shape up their lives. With an average of 5-6 subjects per semester, totalling to about 50-60 courses, one cannot, but feel confused at the bewildering diversity suddenly opened before him/her. Given the fact that even a 'minor', when screwed-up can have a devastating impact upon the SG, none can be taken lightly. To complicate things further, the courses need not be in order, taking basic programming in first semester, databases in fourth and algorithms in the seventh. This begets the question, what does this phase ask from a humble, befuddled student?

Speakers, teachers, mentors and seniors all give us their own perspectives of what really counts. Some say, concentrate on programming, some say there is future in UML/Web Designing, some others champion networking/security, yet others cast their rings on emerging technologies like Cloud Computing; entrepreneurship is also a popular fad. Students as we are, everything appears equally promising. And many of us do pursue a little of everything. The primary advice we receive from all is to choose one discipline and keep growing in it, precisely the most difficult thing to do. Be a risk taker, comes another advice. But how does one choose a discipline without knowing its thousand intricacies? Perhaps this is why the International Labour Organization states in its report that on average a person changes 3-4 'careers' in life.

The multitude of opinions in this phase helps some rise phenomenally, many others marginally leaving some others disinterested and sulky. ('Rising' need not be purely correlated with grades. It is rather, a situation where we find ourselves doing well in something.) The difference between the three groups is however not a lack of talent; for we have all crossed the same bars to reach here. Some say the difference is in attitudes, yet others lay it on IQ levels or comprehensive cognitive skills. Irrespective of the real reason, choices become more refined and effective when we tend to know ourselves better. When we know our own strengths and weaknesses confidence follows and soon we find ourselves shifting from a passive to a commanding position.

Knowing oneself is the most difficult exercise ever. Our own ancient monks and seers stand testimony to this. It is a topic that we laugh away as morality/spirituality at best or as a senseless construct made to 'contain'/dampen us at worst. But yet we remain the only variables in a program filled with CONSTANTs. The most frequently heard word in college, passion, is 'neither a choice nor an accident'. But then, what is the distinction between 'passion' and 'attraction'? The Yogic school of thought says, passion is the concurrence of both the mind and the Soul, while attraction is an acceptance by the mind, but not by the Soul. Passion is thus developed through reasoned subjective debates and negotiations with our own selves. Incidentally, we find that success itself is not a universal constant. As elegantly quoted by Theodore Roosevelt, success is 'doing what we can, with what we have, where we are', a purely personal and subjective matter.

Even simple acts of self-assessment, a diary-entry or a small notebook entry, however infrequent, have an admirable quality of bringing our feet back on the ground; analogous to the carriage return of a type-writer. In a fast-paced world,

CAREER MANTRA
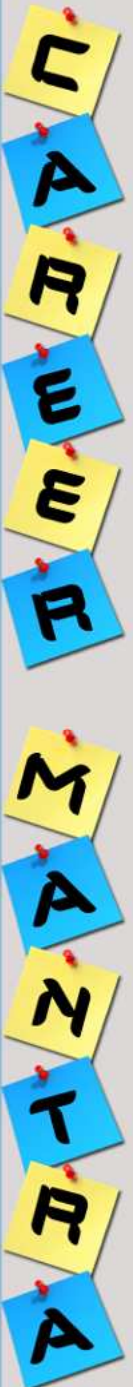
brimming over with innovations, Vineet Nayar, the former CEO of HCL Technologies says, consistency trumps innovation. The spark of Innovation transforms into a fire only in the hands of the consistent. To be consistent, one needs to know both the situation and oneself. And to know oneself, one needs to spend some time with oneself.

Swami Vivekananda mentions in his works that everyone is born a savage. And what creates men and women out of these bipedal beasts is the process of education. The veracity of this proposition is evident when we look at ourselves. The entire gamut of psychological states that; what we characterize as 'emotions' are potential animal instincts, hidden in us. Situations are ample when we find them superimposing upon our reasoning, sometimes leaving us in occasional bundles of remorse. Perhaps the greatest role of our college is to take us closer to our own selves, understanding our own selves. As our monks and seers say, there is no fixed destination in Life, for every route takes you to some destination. The only determinant is which is the route most adapted to your mind and Soul. Let us always remember the words of Goethe, "None is more hopelessly enslaved than he who falsely believes that he is free"

Wishing you all the very best. ◆

Thomas Mammen (2007IPG) is working as Sr Executive at HCL Technologies. He was a very diligent student.

Virus Alert!!!

Here's a list of some computer viruses that might seem interesting enough:

OPRAH WINFREY VIRUS: Your 200MB hard drive suddenly shrinks to 80MB, and then slowly expands back to 200MB.

AT&T VIRUS: Every three minutes it tells you what great service you are getting.

PAUL TSONGAS VIRUS: Pops up on December 25 and says, "I'm not Santa Claus."

WARREN COMMISSION VIRUS: Won't allow you to open your files for 75 years.

RIGHT TO LIFE VIRUS: Won't allow you to delete a file, regardless of how old it is. If you attempt to erase a file, it requires you to first see a counselor about possible alternatives.

RONALD REAGAN VIRUS: Saves your data, but forgets where it is stored.

UK PARLIAMENT VIRUS: Splits the screen into two with a message in each half blaming other side for the state of the system.

TEXAS VIRUS: Makes sure that it's bigger than any other file.

ADAM AND EVE VIRUS: Takes a couple of bytes out of your Apple.

PAT BUCHANAN VIRUS: Shifts all your output to the extreme right of your screen.

STAR TREK VIRUS: Invades your system in places where no virus has gone before.

BILL CLINTON VIRUS: This virus mutates from region to region and we're not exactly sure what it does.

Revolution Virtual Money: The Bitcoin

Ankur Singhal

"Bitcoin is a technological tour de force."
Bill Gates (Microsoft Co-founder)

When we hear the word virtual with money, many questions arises in our mind. Can money be virtual??? If it is so then how & where can we use it??? And more questions….

Yes, this is true and it is "BITCOIN".

This is a new currency that was created in 2009 by an unknown person using the alias Satoshi Nakamoto. Transactions are made with no middle men – meaning, no banks! There are no transaction fees and no need to give your real name. More merchants are beginning to accept them. We can buy web-hosting services, pizza or even manicures.

How Bitcoins are created?

People compete to "mine" Bitcoins using computers to solve complex math puzzles. Currently, a winner is rewarded with 25 Bitcoins roughly every 10 minutes.

Why Bitcoins?

Bitcoins can be used to buy merchandise anonymously. In addition, international payments are easy and cheap because Bitcoins are not tied to any country or subject to regulation. Small businesses may like them because there are no credit card fees. Some people just buy Bitcoins as an investment, hoping that they'll go up in value.

How do we buy Bitcoins?

We can purchase Bitcoins in a variety of ways! Some of them are given. One of the platforms is ANX which is committed to providing a safe, globally-compliant and reputable medium for us to securely buy and sell Bitcoins. They are an operator with strong compliance policies ensuring they are the most trustworthy Bitcoin exchange platform. The other platform of this type is Expresscoin which is the fastest, easiest, and simplest way to buy Bitcoin and other altcoins. Expresscoin users can bring any wallet to the site, an advantage that enables consumers to use their preferred wallet. One more platform for this is Safello which is the safe and simple way to buy and sell Bitcoins in Europe with direct payment support for 87 banks in 11 countries through Sofort, iDeal and Handelsbanken Direct (instant delivery) and SEPA and international wire transfers (1-3 bank days).

How do we use Bitcoin?

Bitcoins are stored in a digital wallet, which exists either in the cloud or on a user's computer. The wallet is a kind of virtual bank account that allows users to send or receive Bitcoins, pay for goods or save their money. Unlike bank accounts, bitcoin wallets are not insured by the FDIC.

Blockchain is the world's largest Bitcoin wallet provider, offering free and secure web-based wallets that can be easily setup. People can send Bitcoins to each other using mobile apps or their computers. It's similar to sending cash digitally.

Where can we spend Bitcoins?

Over 100,000 merchants accept Bitcoins. Here are some of the community favorites!

Gyft is a mobile gift card app that allows customers to buy, store, send and redeem gift cards conveniently from their mobile device.

TigerDirect is a direct online and catalog retailer of computers and consumer electronics. It sells personal computers, computer supplies, consumer electronics and industrial products through multiple e-Commerce web sites and retail stores.

Overstock is an online closeout retailer offering discount brand name merchandise, including bed-and-bath goods, home decor, kitchenware, watches, jewelry, electronics and computers, sporting goods, apparel and designer accessories.

How do we accept Bitcoins?

Blockchain Merchant makes it easy to accept Bitcoin payments at any retail location. It's the ideal point-of-sale (POS) solution for restaurants, bars, cafés, and all retail merchants

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accepting Bitcoin. Just set up the Blockchain Merchant app with your Bitcoin wallet address and your business can start receiving Bitcoin payments via the Blockchain API. Using BitPay enables merchants to easily accept Bitcoins for payment just like with Visa, MasterCard, PayPal or cash. Merchants can choose what percentage of revenues are kept in Bitcoins or converted to a fiat currency and directly deposited daily into their bank account.

GoCoin is the first checkout solution designed to accommodate bitcoin and other popular altcoins like litecoin and dogecoin. GoCoin assumes any risk, eliminates costly fraud associated with credit card theft and best of all, makes chargebacks a thing of the past.

Where can we find more news related to this?

These sites are dedicated to staying up to date with prices, new developments, and regulatory updates.

Blockchain.info is Bitcoin's most popular block explorer. A block explorer is a visualization of every Bitcoin transaction that has ever occurred on the Bitcoin network.

ZeroBlock gives us the most relevant information on the bitcoin market in a beautiful, easy-to-use interface. ZeroBlock provides real time bitcoin values and market data along with a news feed aggregator on iOS, Android, and web.

Future???

No one knows what will become of bitcoin. It is mostly unregulated, but that could change. Governments are concerned about taxation and their lack of control over the currency. ◆

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