



Vol. XIX No.2

Aug-Sept 2004

# WATCH OUT

Students' News Magazine, IITR

THE  
IITian



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## From the Desk of the Editor-in-Chief

Sunday evening. The end of another magical weekend at Delhi; The beginning of another long journey back to lifeless Roorkee. The world seemed bleak, the skies conspired to make everything look yellow and sick...Even the auto guy was making strange faces at me.

“Kahaan jaaoge, bhaiyya?” he asked, twisting his face into unprecedented contortions.

I put on my best scowl and hissed back, “Kashmere Gate Bus Terminus”.

The formalities over, I got down to the task at hand... sticking my head out of the window, trying to ogle at as many females as possible before I got to that black hole called Roorkee. The auto guy wasn't done yet, though.

“Kahaan ki bus le rahe ho?”

“Roorkee” I snapped, in my shut-up-or-I'll-murder-you voice.

“IIT mein padhte ho? Aap to bahut intelligent hoge”

Two things: 1. Auto guy knew the word ‘intelligent’  
2. He also knew about IIT...

I was all modest and shy, of course. We weren't really that intelligent, I explained to him. We had just cracked an exam that was considered the toughest of its kind in the world. We were just part of an institution, the entire country aspired to be in...One, whose mere name would ensure that we would never remain unemployed. No big deal, really.

Though Auto guy was suitably impressed, the whole incident set me thinking. The IIT hype had reached such stratospheric levels, that even people who had nothing to do with engineering or science or weren't even decently educated knew all about it. The Times of India was now running a story on IIT every second day. In a country where no one reads, a mediocre book with an IIT tagline had become a runaway bestseller.

Seriously now... Do we really deserve all this glory heaped on us? Are we really as different from the rest of the junta, as all the ‘TOI's and ‘Chetan Bhagat's of this world would make us believe?

Our cover story seeks to answer these questions. Uncover certain facts. Explode a few myths. Unearth the truth behind the public perception of the average IITian. And finally, figure out how exactly he/she is *different*.

That was about the cover story, but we have plenty more in this issue to keep you occupied. Browse through the pages and you will find them chockfull of brand new features, new columns, interviews...even the fonts have changed. I strongly recommend you stop reading this article right now and move on to the rest of the magazine so you can experience the change for yourself.

**Peace!**



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The way things are going, I better start calling myself, The Yellow Cow. For one, my summer was a bummer with jaundice spilling hot coals on my entire summer vacation plans. Secondly I'm so scared and

humiliated now, that I doubt I'll ever be the same guy again. Here's my tale of woe in tragic technicolour...

Welcome back ! The insti whacks me with a five-hundred buck fine for late registration. Somebody has got to pay, I told myself on the way to my first lecture. Class over, I cornered a shrumpy looking faccha and almost made him cry... the lord didn't give me enough sense to realize that by the law of averages his elder brother was part of the IIT Taekwondo team, which I didn't even know existed.

Now on the run, I figured if you're gonna die, go down with all guns blazing. The *haddoo* who was ambling down the road without a care in the world looked innocent enough. I 'entra' gated him and he let out a bloodcurdling war cry. I was still wondering what the shit was happening, when I was immediately surrounded by a Guntur Rao flash mob and threatened with dire consequences if I dared to rag one of their juniors. I figured to fight with them would be to entra into a new situation altogether and tried to walk away coolly, telling anyone who asked me what my problem was, that I was an epileptic.

"If you fail once, try and try till you succeed"

Number 3 looked like an ordinary senior fearing one, dressed in clean formals and carrying his books in a fluorescent green polythene bag.

"Intro de", I barked.

"Nahin doonga", he barked back and walked off, leaving me to contemplate which method of suicide would be the most painless.

What I desperately needed after this lion in donkey's skin episode was some self-confidence. With this in mind, I approached number 4 who was already being ragged by my friends. Just as I reached, the rest of the group vamoosed, terrified of me. Aha! I was feeling good already.

But wait, why was the faccha looking so relieved?

Tap, tap. I whirled around to see a prof eagerly awaiting my I-card with arms wide open. I spent the rest of the day walking in the middle of the road lest my library card be taken next for standing in proximity of a first yearite.

I trudged back slowly, not wanting to get run over by a standing car. Nescafe, that sounded right...the last island of sanctity in a blatant rebellion against authority.

As I sat sipping my iced tea, trying to block the bees, a large troupe of first yearites walked in. 'Oh man', I thought and got up to leave when one of them (obviously mistaking me for a freshie) shouted; "Abey dekh, saala akele kha raha hai, aur daudne ki koshish kar raha hai...bumps de do!"...and I got kicked to the moo-n.

## V E R B A T I M

With the placement season well under way, it seemed natural for us to interview the studs with the hottest jobs on campus. Here are two of them.

*Chemical topper Arun Negi speaks...*

**FEELINGS ON JOINING BRITISH GAS:** It has not yet sunk in. An internship in IOCL & now a job in British Gas, obviously I'm feeling great.

**ON BRITISH GAS:** I'll be placed off-shore in Bombay-High. We'll have to work 14 days a month offshore. Thereafter we'll be transported to the mainland with the help of helicopters. The rest of the 16 days I can avail of free air travel in any part of India (1 trip). As for the nature of work I don't know much.

**ADVICE TO JUNIORS:** You have to maintain your C.G that matters. But a decent E.C.A. record helps one present a better impression. Give your best efforts to get an internship from a good firm.

**ON ROORKEE:** I still have one complete year here and I want to enjoy it to the fullest. The past 3 years have been great fun. At present I'll be concentrating on the dept. for Cogni'05 and will try to make it a grand success.

*With a staggering CGPA of 9.77, here's Deepak Raghuvanshi (CSE)...*

**ON GETTING AN OFFER FROM TRILOGY:** I am obviously feeling great. But they had already hinted that I would be taken when I was there for the training during the summer.

**ON TRILOGY:** It is a great company. It has only two offices worldwide...one in Austin and another in Bangalore and turnover of 800 million dollars. The Indian arm was started only in 2000 and the guys working here are very young...around 25. There are no formalities. One can address even the CEO by his first name.

**TRAINING EXPERIENCE:** They call it Trilogy Junior University and each of the 50 odd internees were given a project. They used to take us out every weekend to all the happening places....waterparks, bowling, karting....The two months there was like a dream. They spent 1.5-2 lakhs on each internee during the course of two months.

**THOUGHTS ON ROORKEE:** Everyone feels that Roorkee is not up to par with other IIT's but that is not so. Only the others are proud that they are from that institute and hold their heads high. That's lacking in Roorkeeites. Even in Trilogy. What we must realize is that only a great institute can survive for 150 years or it would have fallen to pieces along the way.

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# DIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS



Think you look thin or fat or short or tall in our 3-Dimension space then imagine how would you look in 4-D or 5-D or may be even 11-D space. Boomed...?

Science has debated for a long time on the possibility of space having more than 3 dimensions. But the question is, if there are so many dimensions, why don't we see it?

Imagine a completely 2-D world with 2-D people. If you place a 3-D object in such a place and ask a '2-D person' to tell you about it's height, he won't be able to. Reason, the 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension is perpendicular to his line of sight, so all he will see is it's shadow on the ground and will never see the height.

Similarly we can predict a 'hypercube', the counterpart of


a cube in 4-D space. It is bounded by eight cubes just as a cube is bounded by 6 faces. Or an 'ultracube' in 5-D, bounded by ten hypercubes. Obviously we can't visualize them since these extra dimensions are outside our sense of vision.

So why do we even talk about a multi dimensional space? It's because it helps us to answer many fundamental questions. We know that gravity follows an inverse square law. Treatment in 5D space introduces extra mathematical terms in the expression so that it gets the freedom to behave in a manner we would not expect it to do. It answers questions like 'Why is the proton 1836 times more massive than the electron'? or 'Why are neutrinos massless'?

Research at a leading university has shown that the evolution of a universe indeed started out being five- dimensional. It was discovered that while the universe eventually evolved to a state where three of the four spatial dimensions expanded to become our world, the extra fourth spatial dimension shrunk to a size of  $10^{-31}$  cm by the present time. The fifth dimension to the universe has all but vanished and is 20 powers of 10 - 100 billion billion times smaller than the size of a proton. It is not too hard to reconcile ourselves to the notion that the fifth (or sixth, or eleventh) dimension could be much smaller than an atomic nucleus.

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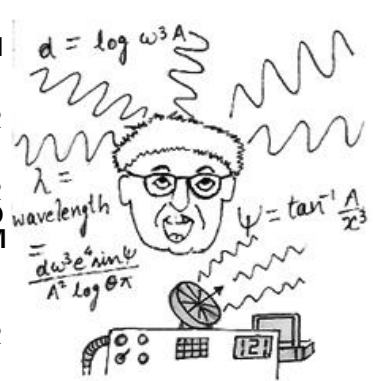


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Starting this issue, we bring to you, a brand new feature called **R.A.N.K.** Which is basically a highly unimaginative name for a column that, well...ranks things. Don't blame us, though. We just copied it straight from AXN which has a show by the same name. Strangely enough, it too, ranks things... Anyways, this time we focus on Hygiene. Presenting before you...

**THE MOST UNHYGIENIC PLACES ON CAMPUS**

**1. JAWAHAR BATHROOMS**

...because the stink, blocked drains and small sizes don't allow people to wipe themselves dry before coming.

**2. AZAD CANTEEN**

... because this place frightens you and whatever little you manage to get here, you have to share it with dogs.

**3. SWIMMING POOL**

... because you swim with newts, frogs and mosquitoes in greenish-blue water which keeps you crying for weeks.

**4. BUS-T**

... because you eat your maggi sitting on a gutter, inhaling the exhaust of the passing trucks and buses.

**5. RJB MESS KITCHEN**

... because ... huh !! do you need a reason for this. ??

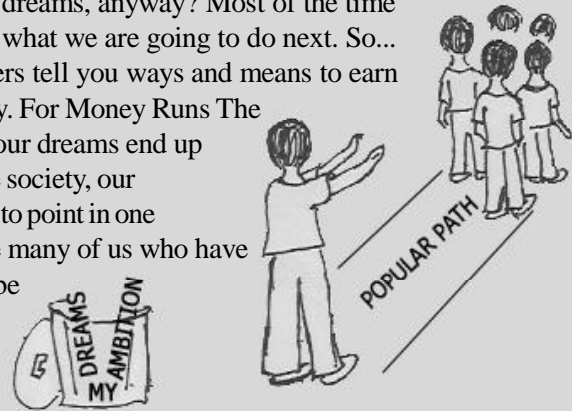
**Reality Bites**

My uncle had once asked a 5 year old me, "What do you want to become when you grow up?". "A mathematician", came the prompt reply. 15 years down the line, my secret desire has been suitably suppressed...the grand ambition of my life, twisted around to make way for the harsh practicalities of everyday existence.

Nearly all of us have come to the IITs to chase their true desire and their childhood dreams. The society sees the IIT degree as a foundation...a foundation to earn lots and lots of money. And, as has been drilled into us, Money Runs The World. But somewhere along the line we end up feeling frustrated, our eagerness to learn swallowed by a long series of exams, placements, interviews...all of which suddenly become more important than the sheer joy of learning itself. The lack of challenge, the lack of passion, the dull and dragging monotony...all in the hope of the proverbial pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. We become insipid engineers of the future, directionless, except for the mere aim of doing well for ourselves. As we grow older our innocence fades, our meaning of life changes, we convince ourselves that what we are doing is practical, is wise. We call ourselves mature.

In the mad rush for self-fulfilment, we end up sacrificing our talent...to be one of the teeming millions, eeking out a living on the ashes of our dreams.

What are these dreams, anyway? Most of the time we are clueless on what we are going to do next. So... we ask others. Others tell you ways and means to earn money, more money. For Money Runs The World... And even our dreams end up being shaped by the society, our ambitions polarized to point in one direction. There are many of us who have always wanted to be engineers, and are happy doing what they



believe is their life's calling. But even this purported heartfelt desire was actually drilled into us by our parents, parents who looked at other kids and made their kid say that they have an aim when they were young. It seems so complicated, even though life is simple.

At the end of day, all this ceases to make any sense. What ultimately matters is that we are happy and satisfied doing what we are at that point of time. That is the purpose of life, isn't it? Take the present, forget about the future and don't plan on what should have been done in the past...And if money gives you satisfaction, so be it.

Have you ever stared at the ceiling and wondered why you are standing where you are? A bunch of coincidences, a society that told you what's best for you. The same society that now classifies you as yet another IITian (read Geek). The same society that loves you and hates you for being an IITian (read he is going to make money). No one identifies you any longer for the person you are...Who cares, anyway? You should realize by now that you are an IITian and the truth can never be altered.

**cin** ▶▶▶ **cout** ◀◀◀

// **My Strength is my wife,  
My Weakness is my neighbour's wife,  
My Opportunity is when my neighbour is away,  
My Threat is when I am away...** //

*- Prof. H.Sinhval, explaining the S.W.O.T analysis to a dumbstruck audience*

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# EEK! THE GEEK!

**Geek** : noun (slang, especially American English) a person who thinks differently, who wears clothes that are not fashionable, etc.

To the person on the street, the name 'IIT' signifies a wild bunch of unkempt, dirty teenagers, neck deep in chemical reactions and computer jargon...or in other words, Geeks!! Take our test to find out whether you fit the mould.

## 0. Where would you be found on any given Saturday night?

- a. Hostel room, studying      b. Jewels/Divine etc  
c. on top of the E&C Tower      d. attending the Natl. Conference on Hydrology

## 1. According to you the greatest threat to our way of life is:

- a. nuclear weapons.      b. terrorists  
c. footballs.      d. 8-bit graphics

## 2. In your old embarrassing school photographs, you are always the one :

- a. having oily hair.      b. grinning widely.  
c. standing backwards      d. With just ONE floppy disk in your hand

## 3. The highlight of your career was:

- a. clearing jee.  
b. getting a CG above 9.5  
c. visiting the barber shop.  
d. solving your tutorials by using a speech to text software on your cellphone.

## 4. You've been hit by a car and your life flashes before your eyes. The thing you remember most vividly is:

- a. your Mother's voice.  
b. your first Love.  
c. the tire pressure was maybe a little too high.  
d. the ASCII table.

## 5. It's the night before the sems and you don't have a clue about the course content. What do you do.?

- a. Hah!...that's just impossible.  
b. take a night out and prepare yourself.  
c. watch FRIENDS on the comp. There's nothing much to do anyway.  
d. hack the government's website and spread rumours about Osama hiding in the campus.

## 6. How do you get up for morning classes?

- a. use an alarm clock.  
b. ask a friend to wake you up.  
c. wake up before the alarm and switch it off as soon as it starts ringing.  
d. ask your neighbour to ping your server at 192.234.420.3 ninety nine times.

## 7. Your greatest disappointment in life :

- a..you failed to score high marks in your exams.  
b. you got a low paying job.  
c. you still don't know how to handle a yo-yo.  
d. you failed to develop wireless LAN in your hostel.



**MOSTLY A's:** You are really nowhere near to being a geek; but we still hate you. You are amongst the ones who make life difficult for all of us here; slogging endlessly, living a no-risk life. You are as boring as a dead log. You might make it big in future, but for the time being, better get used to the look of contempt you get from others. Go now, and solve your tutes.

**MOSTLY B's :** You are a normal, ordinary human being, and hence Boring, Boring, Boring. You're the sort of person who will meander their way through life being just one in the sea of thousands around. Shame on you!!

**MOSTLY C's:** Well, don't know whether you can exist. But if you do, you truly are unique and interesting. You might appear a psychopath to others, but dude, you are truly different. Cheers! Don't worry. Just eat lithium and keep on!

**MOSTLY D's:** Geek Alert! Bang on the nail. There you are. The world's all yours to be conquered and mastered over. You truly represent a picture of an ideal IITian. Keep up the good work. Get ready for Revenge#72.1 on the above three classes of people around you...



/// I congratulate Watch Out on entering their 11th year on campus. Watch Out has been doing a very good job, showing an honest and realistic picture of things. With the constitution of Board of Students' Publication in near future, I am sure WONA will be consolidated all the more. I wish you all the very best for achieving many such land marks in future. ///

- Prof. Ranvir Singh, Dean of Students' Welfare



Just walk into any coaching institute, mushrooming everywhere these days, and mention that you hail from an IIT. Chances are, people will flock around you, as bees around honey. With reams and reams of literature being written about how IITians are, and how to get into these premier institutes, it is practically impossible for one not to form a general perception about us. Buzzing technocrats, computer whizkids, innovators second only to God himself... somewhat similar to the geeky looking Dexter. The truth, sadly, is far from this...

# The IITian



A cover story about IITians? Who better to ask than the IITians themselves? We conducted an Opinion Poll and came up with some interesting responses...

“Of course we’re different dude!” says **Dr. Jackal** (That’s what he called himself), “Where else would you find a bunch of guys who have given their heart, soul, and much more for more than two years to land up in a place like this?” In this issue we bring to you the voice of the junta on whether IITians are part of the pack or, whether they’re a pack apart.

‘IITian’...the word itself commands respect and at some point or the other in our lives, all of us must have gotten some sort of partiality endowed upon us for this sole reason. “The best part about being an IITian is that my mom lets me take girls out whenever I want,” says the jackal again. According to some, the IIT tag made them a role model for others. “People gather around me and ask my advice on preparation for JEE and how IITs are like...makes you feel like a celebrity,” blurts **Suraj Prakash**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Elect. **Dhiraj** from the first year recounts with sorrow, (contd...)

**LEVEL 4: The Elite**  
 <-Towards->  
 Dreams

**LEVEL 3: The Fewer Few**  
 <-Towards->  
 JEE MAINS

**LEVEL 2: The Few**  
 <-Towards->  
 JEE Screening

**LEVEL 1: The Herd**  
 <-Towards->  
 Coaching Centres

**THE JEE PYRAMID**

## The JEE effect

Probably the single biggest distinction between normal folk and us, is the JEE. People may crib about the fairness of the exam, its ability to accurately sift the wheat from the chaff...yet the fact remains - *We got through, You didn't.*

But can we, in all honesty, claim to be better simply because we happened to solve one more question in one exam on a sunny morning, sometime in May?

It doesn't make logical sense. Lakhs and lakhs of people study for the exam but only a very small percentage actually get the chance to be a part of an IIT campus. It is foolish to presume that one exam can draw a demarcating line between the have's and the have-not's...between a select few who are chosen to be IITians, and the teeming multitudes who have to settle for lesser pickings.

What is different about us, is probably not the JEE. Rather, it is the unique ethos of an IIT campus that makes us what we are.

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(...contd.) "I was ragged in CL when I said I was an IITian". While the general school swims downstream, a few fish have their own words, "Crap, man! The only reason we look brainy is that we're malnourished from the food

they give us in the mess and consequently our heads look larger...Special treatment? I once had a seat offered on a train but I guess it was more due to my starved look rather than my being an IITian." says XYZ, 4<sup>th</sup> E&C . All in all, different or not, we all get to have a lotta fun ah... "10 % off at Jewels, woohoo!", exclaims Gaurav, 3<sup>rd</sup> Elect. Guess that solves the mess problem, doesn't it?

A wise man once said -An IIT is like a barber shop, you come out an entirely different person. The campus, our home for four years here, generally morphs all of us in its own subtle ways. "After four years here, you tend to drool whenever you see a girl outside," says Anonymous. Gaurav, 1st Yr. laments, "I used to bathe once every three days but now the frequency has gone down to once a week."...Blame it on the ultra-hygienic sylvan surroundings we live in . "I used to be teased a lot because I was ugly looking but once I got in, I gelled in very well. In fact some guys asked me how I maintain my complexion," - Ramkumar 3<sup>rd</sup>, Pulp & Paper. "I learnt not to trust people after getting here," says Bhumika, 3<sup>rd</sup> Indus. suspiciously. Snip, snap! Some say they're going bald, some say they're going to grow it long, each head has a different story. "When your college makes a much larger difference to your life...more than the difference YOU make to the college, you're an IITian," shares Deepak, 4<sup>th</sup> CSE(contd...)



The most talked about Indian book of the year also happens to be about a bunch of three 5 pointers, stumbling their way through the hallowed corridors of IIT Delhi. The book plays a major role in breaking a few stereotypes that have continued for ages... Not all Profs at IIT are that brilliant. Out-of-the-box thinking is hardly acknowledged, let alone encouraged.

IITians are normal people too, who go through the same teenage angst which affect an entire generation (they booze, they fag...)and it is not that different a college as it is made out to be. Yet, the uniqueness,too, is sharply highlighted. The characters talk about studying 4 hours a day with nonchalant ease... Profs are portrayed as Gods who cannot be trifled with. Even a lowly 5 pointer bags a decent job at the end of his 4 years.

At 95 bucks, the book is a must on every IITians bookshelf. The author, Chetan Bhagat, has already sold the film rights and the production company is currently looking for permission from one of the IITs to shoot the film.

1. **The Look:** Reincarnation of Ramanujan. Out of fashion shirt with soda bottle specs.Mind constantly occupied with "hi funda" stuff.
2. **The Life:** Social Misfit. Not bothered about fun stuff. No time for the fairer sex.
3. **The Future:** Destined to be the star. A US Visa in hand even before he gets his degree. Future CEO of Fortune 500 MNC.

### Two Sides of a Coin



1. People desperately trying to look different. Blonde hair/Long Hair/ No Hair..you find them all in an IIT campus. Guitar slung around shoulder is the latest fashion statement.
2. One word. Despo. And though we may not talk too much to the fairer sex, we spend entire nights on arbit chat rooms and useless bakar.
3. Well! This may be true but again, we have our share of 4 pointers too. Jobs aren't that easy either..ask Civil!



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(...contd.) Every tale has a beginning. Is it a stroke of fate that all of us are studying together in this institute? How and why did each one of us do what we did? “Girls in medical in my school weren’t good, commerce wasn’t good either, so I opted for IIT,” Rohit, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Jayaprakash, 2<sup>nd</sup> Civil, still looking for a way out says, “My parents forced me to write JEE.” Some came with genuine purposes, like Anjani Kumar, “I was interested in research so I decided to go for IIT.” Others stuck to the road welltrodden and came up with “Everybody was doing it, I thought- Why not go with the stream and follow the numbers.”- Vishal, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Concluding views on motives; A second yearite claimed, “A girl named Pooja Sharma motivated me.”

Three cheers for IIT- hype, hype, hooray. Many feel that we’re made out to be more than we actually are. Questions were asked and the responses spake thus, “Kuch to baat hogi, Bharat mein keval saat hi hain,” echoes Akhilesh, 2<sup>nd</sup> E&C, saying the hype itself is hyped by the general population. Opposing this is the counterview, “ We are a cut above the rest, we



constitute the cream, hence the hype is justified, the feeling of not able to do the things has vanished,” say Kapil, Ashish, & Om, 4<sup>th</sup> E&C. Moving back to the view, Mukund, 1<sup>st</sup> yr., voices, “ There’s no technology in Indian Institute of Technology, the hoopla is not justified.” The sucker punch on the entire hype issue is given

by Himanshu of 2<sup>nd</sup> Meta, “ The difference between IIT and others is the same as a T-shirt having the Nike logo as opposed to Chandulal and sons.”

I, Robot seems to sum up perceptions of IITians in general. Giving an insight into why public ideas cannot be changed Rohit Moghe tells us, “The public generally associates any intelligent person with padhakoos, spectacled people.” IITians are considered to be gods. Many here, decided to give the IIT only after seeing the faces of toppers in the newspaper.

As the opinion poll showed, even we aren’t quite sure of what we really are...But doesn’t that make us just like everyone else?

## THE TIMES OF INDIA

25 Jan 2020

### IIT coaching for new borns

FIITJEE MATERNITY HOME



## The R factor

Perhaps the perfect case study to investigate the IIT effect is our very own college. Just how much of a difference a name can make is evident when we throw a cursory glance around campus. Apart from the institutional changes the attitudes, lingo; the culture of this place has undergone a sea change.

In the old days before IITization, strikes called by the Student’s body were a relatively common occurrence. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> yearites will still remember the decrepit old Satkar canteen that used to stand where Nescafe is today. A radical increase in the number of people writing the GRE and CAT just goes to show the amount of self-confidence an IIT brand name can bring.

Ragging is now benign at best. The days of unclothed marches along the Ganga Canal have been consigned to the history books.

Nowadays, we flinch whenever anyone calls IITR as UoR...Now, if that isn’t an attitude change, what is?



CX3100

# UGS COMPUTERS

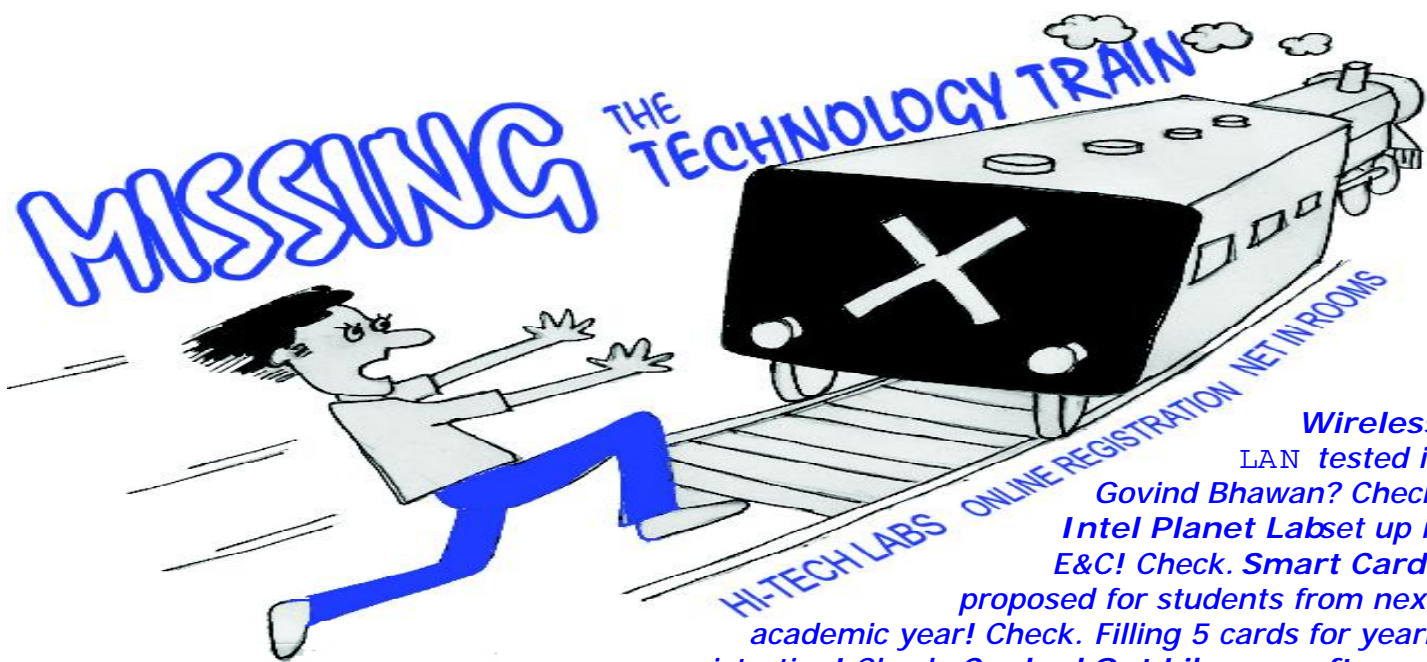
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*Wireless LAN tested in Govind Bhawan? Check. Intel Planet Lab set up in E&C! Check. Smart Cards proposed for students from next academic year! Check. Filling 5 cards for yearly registration! Check. Conked Out Library software! Check ... Check. Check?*

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2004 it had been three years since University of Roorkee was converted into IIT Roorkee. Three years, and students still fill those 'pink' and 'yellow' registration forms in pentaplicate, for annual registration. Talks about some MNC opening a R&D centre keep doing rounds. We have Intel labs as an example. Great! But, still students have to wait for a couple of months to know their grades at the end of the semester, for the grades are not available online. Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee- "Technology" is our middle name. But do we do enough justice to this distinction we enjoy, by overlooking the growing need for implementation of technology in our daily chores. Where are we heading? Aren't we missing these basic facilities that will make life a million times easier for students and professors and for every one else on the campus? **WONA** racks its brain and here is what we get:

### NET IN ROOMS

**Net in rooms** (a crib which begins in the first year and dies over the years, not because of its fulfillment, rather, because of the realization of the fact that there are lot many other things to crib about.) Net in the rooms is the need of the hour. There is absolutely no reason why can't we have it.

**Solution:** Wireless LAN, extending the bhawan's CC connection in the rooms.

### LIBRARY

**The Library**- the Library Software is conked out. The software is obsolete, the status of books is often wrong. For the Library card renewal, we still slumber as age old system of queuing up with a few green cardboard pieces in our hands . A new link for registration on the library webpage can help people register sitting anywhere in campus.

**Solution:** Smart Cards for students, better Library software.

### LABS

**Labs** - age old instruments are the main concern. UGPC lab in E&C are surely not the kinds of Labs which one expects in an IIT. Welding Lab in Mech just serves as museum as machines are never used and nobody knows how to operate them. Oh! did we mention the Chem labs without the water connection.

**Solution:** Discard the old instruments. Allot more funds.

### INSTITUTE WEBSITE

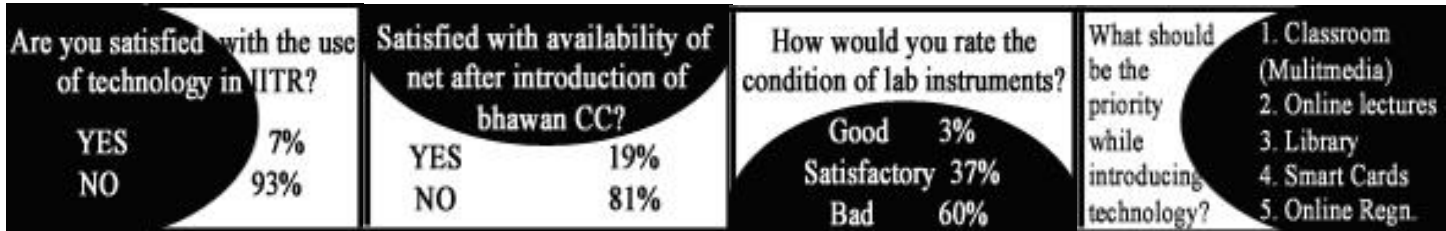
**The Institute website** – wasn't updated at all throughout the summer break. The student search does not work. The news is rarely updated. For every trifle task one depends on the notices on Bhawan Notice Boards or has to rush to the respective Departments.

**Solution:** New Website developed by IMG is the solution. Though it will require frequent updation.

# WORC Watch Out Redressal Cell

## "TECHNOLOGY" ...Lets Worc

In the feature – The Big Story, we have talked about the conspicuous absence of technology in crucial areas. Prominent ones amongst these have been given a special mention and plausible solutions suggested. Given the pertinence of the issue, we found it worthwhile to capture the popular opinion of the *junta* on this issue. So we reached the messes with our WORC (formerly WOMB) survey charts. Your word:



Armed with the results we met **Dean, Undergraduate Studies, Prof S.C Jain**. His word:

“I completely agree with what you have to say. I am myself in favor of students getting the best of technology for their daily use. As regarding the use of multimedia systems in classrooms, I have put forward a proposal to introduce a computer-based exercise related to each topic that is taught in class. We have provided each department with two LCD projectors to promote this method of teaching. Students should make the best use of them and use them responsibly.

Online lectures about the latest in various fields can also be made available. In fact I would like to invite the students also to suggest topics, new technologies they think should be taught online. We have also set up a new Education Technology Cell under Dr. Pradeep Kumar to review all courses. Students can put forward their suggestions regarding this too.

About smart cards, we were actually planning to provide them this year itself to the new batch during their registration but unfortunately it couldn't be done. You can definitely expect them by July next year. Some lab instruments are definitely obsolete and are being replaced but it is a procedure that will take time, it can't be done overnight.

With Regol fully functional I don't expect the students to face any problem during registration now. I don't want anyone to stand in queues for that matter. The cards will be phased out slowly. The pace is reduced due to the less knowledge of the staff posted here. Your mess gatekeeper will need the cards to keep them in his record But we are working out solutions for this. But I am disappointed by the general attitude towards Regol. Students don't get themselves registered before the last date and then request us to register them later on. This hampers the efficient working of things like this. So you need to be more disciplined towards the facilities being provided to you.



Dear Watch Out,

This is regarding the issue of internet connections in the rooms brought up by your magazine many times in the past. Connections will be tentatively provided to the research scholars in the married wings of few hostels. The process has already been initiated by the authorities which include floating tenders and inviting quotations.

The technology to be used, we are not sure whether it will be Wi-Fi or LAN though cable. However the initial tests showed that using wireless internet did not provide satisfactory result in terms of bandwidth requirements. Based on the feedback of the research scholars, on factors like bandwidth available etc., the institute will decide on the issue. The insitute would not like to go on the lines of the other IITs where there is net connection in the rooms, but the speed performance is not satisfactory.



I must again insist, there is no final word from the authorities over this issue, so it must not be assumed that there will be internet connections in our rooms, in the very near future. The process shall take time, but to be optimistic, the

process has already begun.

Regards

Vivek Sharma (On behalf of : Professor Vinod Kumar, Coordinator, ISC)

Answer to the brain  
teaser  
Lockers with numbers  
that are perfect squares  
will be open.

# ALMOST FAMOUS



...well almost

Easing himself into a chair, dressed in white shorts and chappals, we caught hold of Cogni'05 convenor, **Saurabh Kumar** ('SK') at Nescafe in one of his lighter moods. Our mission was to unravel the dark facts and general gossip, which hang around the man. Here's a glimpse of the bakar that followed...

**WONA:** Lets get straight to the point. Who was your first crush at IITR?

**SK:** "In Roorkee...hmmm...(chuckles) OK! Guess..."

Aha! We rattled off the names of all the girls we knew SK knew...and finally hit the right name. \*\*

**W:** Any 1<sup>st</sup> date memories ?

**S:** "I don't seem to remember but I guess I double dated. Not for me, of course...I was just helping out a friend."

**W:** What are the things that make you happy?

**S:** "I crave for emotional security. I'm not the let-me-love-you type. Feelings need reciprocation."

Oooh! Senti... We hurriedly switched back to the 'girlfriend' motif.

**W:** So you have a girlfriend, right?

**S:** "Yes! It's obvious that I do."

**W:** On campus?

**S:** (putting on all kinds of enigmatic expressions) "No, she's not here."

**W:** Tell us...Tell us na...

**S:** "I can't tell you...She won't like it. Wait! Lemme call her up."

And so our man whips out his cellphone and proceeds to call her right in the middle of the interview.

**S:** (after some lovey dovey chit chat) "She didn't agree. I can tell you that the name starts with an L."

Blaaah! Who cares, anyway? ...We proceed to the next question.

**W:** So exactly how much money do you expect to make out of Cogni 05?

**S:** "Actually my bank balance went down last year during Cogni. And I don't think I would want to ruin my image just for some money."

'Image'?

**W:** Ok! Which cartoon character does you associate yourself with?

**S:** "Calvin and Hobbes."

**W:** (puzzled) Calvin or Hobbes?

**S:** "Calvin is the guy, right?"

We assure him of this point.

**W:** What's your favourite expression?

**S:** "An expression I use the most... I love you."

By this time, we were feeling a bit pained with this whole interview business and decided to close it with a final question.

**W:** So what do you feel about this interview ?

**S:** "You people tried to extract lots of details but with my experience, I knew how to handle it. Even I wanted to be in Watch Out but I missed the interview. Though I think WONA is full of self magnified a\*\*-h\*\*\*\*."

Hey! Thanks a lot, SK! We love you too.

\*\* NOTE: In a late development, SK phoned us up and requested that we keep the name confidential. However, by this time, some issues had already been printed...and as you might have figured out by now, this issue is not one of them. The 20 odd copies with the name have been stored at a safe place and will be used for future blackmail

## The Road Ahead

Next to everyone is placed and the junta is now after a new dream. **CAT**. With IIMs and other B-schools attracting a staggering number of people every year, we give you the straight dope on the situation. Right from the horse's mouth. **Rejoy Kurup**, of IIM-A, 99.9 percentile fame, speaks on CAT and its preparation.

- Ø Practice, practice and more practice
- Ø Solve more papers. All the questions in exam carry equal weightage.
- Ø Go in for easy questions first. If you get stuck do not stop there.
- Ø At least take look at each question.
- Ø Try to stay away from blind shots."
- Ø English section makes all the difference.



Rejoy also gave a few tips on how exactly go about preparing for the exam...

- Ø May-Aug: Solve questions section wise without bothering for the time
- Ø Sept-Nov: Solve as many timed papers as possible.
- Ø Use test series to get more practice.
- Ø Books are useful but to a lesser extent.
- Ø Do read news paper article, magazines and editorials for the GD and PI (Personal Interview).

And to wrap it all up he added "In short, **CAT** is nothing but Choice, Accuracy and Timing. Be master in these and **CAT** is all yours."

Well, that was Rejoy. As he said, books aren't that useful but test series are. Here's a list of some useful websites to help you along the way...

<http://www.coolavenues.com/mbasp/index.php3>

<http://www.careerlauncher.com>

<http://www.pagalguy.com/cat/>

## WHERE IS WI-FI ?

Speculations about Wireless Net reaching our hostel rooms have been mounting after the recent tests at Govind Bhawan .While lots of rumours are doing the rounds of the campus, WONA approached **Dr. Vinod Kumar, Co-ordinator, ISC** to know the latest and get the exact state of the affairs. Here is what he said:

### On The Testing...

“The demonstration was carried out by a reputed multinational firm and the results have been quite positive. About 60-70 rooms will be able to connect simulataneously. An official application has been sent to CISCO and we are waiting for their response.Our director had talks with the officials at CISCO- US on his recent visit to the States.”

### What we can expect...

“The students must understand that this is a time consuming process and we want no hiccups after we give the green flag. A lot of aspects and issues have to be considered, even small ones like the thick walls we have in most of the places.The process will be a multistage one wherein we will go about in steps.

### The time frame...

“It is difficult to mention the exact time for net to reach the hostels; it all depends on the awaited reponse. It might even happen as soon as the next semester itself, if the demonstration meets our expectations.”

## UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE-04

In the Inter college quiz competition, University Challenge, telecast on BBC World, the team from IIT Roorkee won the first round comfortably against NIT Surat. The team comprising **Keerthi, Vinu, Arijit** and **Ankit** are now into the quarterfinals of the All India Quiz.

## PLANET-L

The E&C Department of IITR now stands alongside names like MIT, Stanford, and UC Berkeley to have the **INTEL PLANET LAB**. As quoted by Mr. **Ketan Sampat**, president **Intel India**, at the inaugural function, IITR is the second institute in India to acquire this kind of a lab, the first being IIIT Bangalore. Planet Lab creates a unique environment to conduct experiments at the Internet Scale.The lab contains three systems in all - two IBM servers and one P4 processor. Planet Lab is an overlay test bed designed to allow researchers to experiment with network applications and services that benefit from distribution across a wide geographic area. Intel adds that all uses of the lab should be consistent with this high-level goal.

## ICON-HERP

In honour of **Prof. K.G.Ranga Raju**, who retired recently, the Civil Engineering department is organizing the International Conference on Hydraulic Engineering: Research and Practice (**ICON-HERP-2004**). Eminent experts from fields, teaching and research organizations from India and abroad are going to make technical presentations on the various themes identified for the Conference. The Conference will be held from October 26 to 28 during which eminent professors from IITR, IISc Bangalore and universities in US and Switzerland will be delivering key note lectures in their chosen areas of activities. Apart from this a cultural programme and banquet will also be organized .

## PLACEMENT UPDATE

DEPT.	TOTAL PLACED	MAX PAY BY	MAX PICKED BY
Architecture	13	Induslogic ( 3 lacs )	Infosys,TCS ( 4 )
Chemical	28	Schlumberger ( 9 lacs)	Wipro (5)
Civil	42	Schlumberger ( 9 lacs)	TCS ( 15 )
CSE	36	Schlumberger ( 9 lacs)	CSC ( 10 )
E&C	34	Texas Instruments (4.83 lacs)	CSC ( 5 )
Electrical	46	Schlumberger ( 9 lacs)	Induslogic ( 5 )
Mechanical	27	Schlumberger ( 9 lacs)	BPCL, Maruti Udyog ( 4 )
Metallurgy	29	Tata Motors ( 4.36 lacs)	TCS ( 10 )
P&I	11	Trident ( 6 lacs)	Infosys,TCS ( 3 )
Pulp & Paper	8	Trident ( 6 lacs)	Infosys ( 4 )

Total No. of offers: 274

Highest package :Schlumberger ( 9 lacs)

Highest recruiter : TCS ( 44 )



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## Lock kiya jaaye?

A school has 1000 numbered lockers, with each student given a locker same as his roll no. (1-1000). The first student (roll:1) opens all the lockers. The second chap does an opposite operation on every alternate locker starting from his own locker (i.e. he will close the locker no. 2,4,6...). Then the 3rd one does the opp. operation on every third locker starting from his (no. 3) locker (i.e he closes locker no. 3, opens no.6 & so on..), the 4th one on every 4th beginning with his own and so on till the last student has done his thing.



**Q. Figure out the open lockers?**  
(The answer is on one of the pages)

## The IgNobel Prize

A software to protect your system from filthy rodents, raising an alarm every time a rat walks across your keyboard? Weird.. But it is precisely this type of extreme science for which the **Ig Nobel Prizes** are awarded. As the citation says ‘This is an award for achievements which cannot and should not be reproduced.’ The prizes are recognition for having the courage to make a fool of oneself in public in the pretext of increasing public understanding of science. The Igs don’t concern themselves with what is good or bad, commendable or crap, but they do recognize the sheer craziness associated with the invention. A few of the scientific works which have won the Ig Nobel are: “Do Black holes fulfill the technical requirements to be the location of hell?”, “A complete mechanical study on why toast always falls on the buttered side?”, “An accurate method to determine the exact surface area of the Indian elephant”. Some others are still crazier. “The memory and retentive power of water molecules”, “Training pigeons to discriminate between the paintings of Picasso and Monet” have been worthy enough to win the IgNobel.

Every year, the Igs are awarded in various disciplines at a gala ceremony at Harvard University. The prizes are given away by genuine Nobel laureates and most of the awardees come from long distances to collect the trophy. This year’s lifetime achievement IgNobel went to Murphy of Murphy’s Law fame... Many believe he should have won it years ago.

**TUFFY!**

(Totally Useless Facts For You!)

## माँ तुझे सलाम ...

हवा में स्वतंत्रता दिवस की ताज़गी। कानों में देश भक्ति गीतों की गूंज। पर हम खुश नहीं थे। टहलते हुए NEH की तरफ जाना और ऊपर से सावन के महीने की बरसात। पर हम खुश नहीं थे। अरे खुश हों भी तो कैसे? राष्ट्रीय छुट्टी के नाम पर जब सारा राष्ट्र आजादी मना रहा हो, तब हम गुलामी कर रहे थे। पसीने के साथ जब लाल पानी सर से बहने लगा तो एक बार लगा कि सर ही फट गया है, पर यह देखकर चैन आया कि छब की टोपी के लाल मोर पंखी का रंग उतरा है।

बरसाती रंग से सजधज के NEH से निकली बारात Main building के सामने जाकर रुकी। वहां ढोल-बाजे वाले पहले ही पहुंच गये थे। हमें ले जाकर ठीक सामने आखिरी क्षण की तैयारी देखने के लिए खड़ा कर दिया। तभी धना-धन सीटियाँ बजने लगी कुछ भगदड़ सी मच गई। बड़े साहब आने वाले थे। एक लाल बत्ती वाली गाड़ी रुकी। बड़े साहब के उतरते ही श्वेत वस्त्रधारी एक समूह ने अचानक कुल गीत गाना शुरू कर दिया।


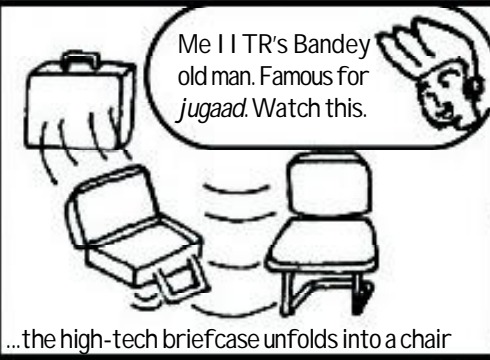
राष्ट्रगान के बाद बड़े साहब ने दो पसली के जवानों से बनी नकली सेना की टुकड़ी का निरीक्षण शुरू किया। कुछ दूर ही चले थे कि 5 फुट 11 इंच व 40 किलो के हमारे बाबू लाल यह उत्पीड़न और न झेल सके और WTC के समान ढेर हो गए। हमारी पीड़ा का अंदाज़ा लगाकर ही शायद बड़े साहब के कदम तीव्रता से बढ़ने लगे। तब तक दो पसली वाले जवान बिना कारतूस वाली नकली बंदूकों को ही पटक-2 कर उन्हें चपत लगाते रहे। अंततः Salute पूरा हुआ।

हमने आज तक जितने भी नेताओं को सुना, सब अपने “दो शब्द” आधे-आधे घण्टे में सुनाते थे। इन्द्र देवता की मेहरबानी से पहली बार ऐसा लगा कि “दो शब्द” दो मिनट में भी निपटाये जा सकते हैं। तभी लाल बत्ती वाली गाड़ी आई, बड़े साहब को ले जाने का काम इतनी फुर्ती से किया कि हमें एक बार तो लगा जैसे उनका अपहरण किया जा रहा हो। जाते-जाते देखा कि 30-35 नागरिकगण जो Campus के हजारों छात्रों व सैकड़ों Teachers का प्रतिनिधित्व कर रहे थे, जिस तरह छाते में छुप कर आये थे, उसी तरह वापस जाने लगे।

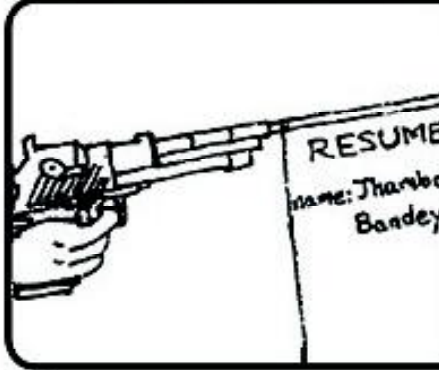
तभी चलते-2 हमें प्रतीत हुआ जैसे स्वयं सरस्वती हमारे मस्तिष्क में प्रवेश कर गई हो। हमें कुछ राष्ट्रवादी विचार आने लगे। हमारी आत्मा हमें धिक्कार रही थी जो सिर्फ दो Attendance और एक Grade के लिए हम यहाँ आये थे। हम सोचने लगे कि हमारी तरह सभी आज इस बात पर तनिक सोचे और दिन के 12 बजे तक बिस्तर तोड़ने, Remix Video देखने की बजाय अपना कुछ समय राष्ट्र को समर्पित करें तो निश्चय ही Main building के सामने का Ground 15 अगस्त के दिन छोटे पड़ेगा।



The **Pay** is not **Enough**  
 \*ing James Bandey

...the high-tech briefcase unfolds into a chair



Tell us something about yourself

The name's Bandey. James Bandey. Interests- SUVs, SB & sprite shikanji-shaken but not stirred.

At the hangar, collecting my B.Tech degree and ready to return to MI 6.

Where do see yourself 5 years from now?

What is your CGPA?

Being in Mech lets talk about your favourite SUV. Which is it?

What do you think of this company?

Then why have you applied for this job?

**007<sup>ET</sup>**

Atlas Goldline Super. Meri shaan ki sawari.

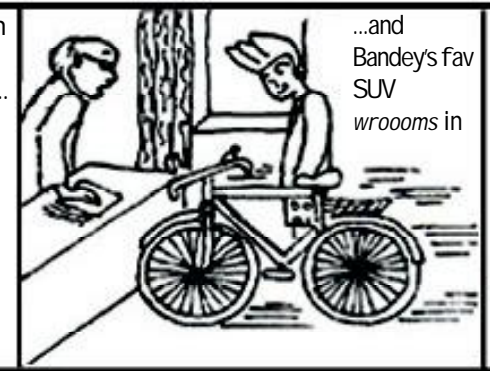
It is just ok. The Pay is not Enough

Coz the CG is not Enough either.

If we're not good. Then find the best and go with it.

Yeah right. Let it be "Bandey with the Best" then.

A button is pressed...



[bandeume@iitr.ernet.in](mailto:bandeume@iitr.ernet.in). In case u change ur mind.

Bandey's wardrobe: Reid n Taylor

**HARVARD DREAMS**

IIM-A, has strengthened its international presence by linking up with the Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations (HPAIR). HPAIR is Harvard University's student outpost in Asia, an internationally visible forum in which students discuss the most pressing issues facing the Asia-Pacific region. "Spreading the HPAIR network to prominent Indian university campuses, starting with the premier institutes like IIMs and Indian Institutes of Technology, is at the core of the mission of this organisation," remarks Hemant Bakhru, one of the two co-founders of the body. HPAIR has network clubs in the London School of Economics, University of Toronto, National University of Singapore, Fudan University in Shanghai, Nagoya University in Japan and EM Lyon in France.

**periscope****IIT OUTSOURCED?**

The idea of an IIT in Sri-Lanka might appear like a paradox, but the Mecca for all prospective engineers, IIT, is all set to make a mark the world over. The government is considering letting the institute set up its first international campus in Colombo. This may soon be followed by campuses in other countries including Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Mauritius. The target destinations for IITs in the near future are those countries where Indian technical education is in demand; Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Mauritius to name a few strong candidates. The Council of IITs will monitor the syllabus, admission procedure and academic schedules of IITs, proposed to be set up abroad. Roorkee's younger brother might just be a foreigner!!

**POWER PALAK!**

For the first time, MIT researchers have incorporated a plant's ability to convert sunlight to energy into a solid-state electronic "spinach sandwich" device that may one day power laptops and cell phones. At the heart of the device is a protein complex dubbed Photosystem I (PSI). Around 100,000 of them would fit on the head of a pin. Billed as the "smallest electronic circuits" it is the first time that a biological protein has been successfully integrated with a solid state electronic device. The researchers hope to achieve a power conversion efficiency of 20 percent or more (which would provide an extremely efficient power source) by creating multiple layers of PSI or assembling them on rough surfaces or 3-D surfaces, like skyscrapers that concentrate a huge amount of surface area within a relatively small space.

**MESSAGES TERE NAAM SE**

To the civilian kings (pigs)

Never fight with a pig  
both of you get dirty  
And the pig likes it

-The Mechie Knights

To Miss Tata Motors

Hot 365 days a year  
-Mr. Tata Motors

To Chakand (Chairman Secret Society)

Actually...  
Can we join your secret society  
Please?

-Chemical II

To Techno

Fighting is actually  
good for health!

-The Weirdo

To the Magnificent Seven

Here we are now,  
Entertain us...

- Kurt Cobain

To Ashutosh Agarwal (IV Meta)

Give me my money back.

-Vivek Pradeep (IV E&C)

To Bhalu

Dharti dole. Ambar hile. Jab tu  
jhoome.

Luv...Ur Sis

To busy\_foki\_kewl\_dude

Just\_wanted\_2\_say\_hi

Luv\_friends

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