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Students' News Magazine IIT Roorkee

Volume: XXX Issue: I

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The IITR Hospital

WE HAVE



Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious

Coffee is not my cup of tea. Well, let me rephrase that - North Indian coffee is not my cup of tea. Call me racist, but when the concentration of sugar in the coffee crosses a 1000 PPM, I believe it's time to empty the cup in the nearest gutter. Which is precisely why I refuse to drink the murky, diabetes-inducing saccharine solution they serve in the canteens by the name of coffee. So, the only thing that keeps me awake during those caffeine deprived all-nighters that I pull (strictly for non-academic purposes, I assure you) is coffee's fairer yet fouler tasting cousin, tea. What does all this nonsense have to do with this column, you ask? Well, election season just got over and I wanted to remind the bhawan secy that putting up a coffee vending machine on the sixth floor of RKB could be just that crucial in securing that very important vote for his re-election next year. Kidding, of course. The only reason I chose to mention the fact that a caffeine addict, who swore by coffee in the pre-JEE era, has now turned to the dark side, is because it is one of the many things that remind me of how much I have changed after coming to Roorkee.

And a change in my beverage preferences is just the metaphorical tip of the iceberg. Well, I guess that's what two years in Roorkee do to you. I can hardly claim to have stepped into R as a naive, wide-eyed fachcha with dreams that touched the sky. Yet, should I look back at a two year younger me, I'm sure I would hardly recognize him. A friend once told me that a sure indicator of 'growing up' was one's music playlist. My iPod playlist has more songs of Pink Floyd than Coldplay now. It's been ages since the odd Linkin Park song was deleted. The Jeffrey Archers and Dan Browns on my bookshelf have now been replaced by difficult-to-pronounce Russian and European names. As far as comparison between grades is concerned, the lesser said the better. That characteristic zest that is unique to every JEE aspirant has now been replaced by nonchalance, to the point of insouciance even. I honestly can't say if all of this constitutes 'growing up'. But change? Sure I have.

The wave of change hasn't spared the insti either. In my own time, I have seen the rise of RKB, the birth of LAN, the replacement of ABN, and of course, Thomso making the headlines. As clichéd as it may sound, change, it seems, is indeed inevitable.

Elsewhere, as the spirit of rebellion and the winds of change engulf the country, the zeitgeist of the times dictates that I add my own sagacious views to the growing medley of erudite opinions and cogent analyses that are already doing the rounds on Facebook and the blogosphere. But then, considering that the readers' patience has already been stretched thin, owing largely to the above GRE-esque verbal douchebaggery, I'd be wise to desist. Instead, in this issue, we talk about the various social initiatives that exist in R, and the student involvement in them. We also explore the working and various functions of the recently innovated and much hyped Greater Noida Extension Campus. Phew! Finally, something newsworthy, eh?

Sigh. Another midsem lurks around the corner. On the brighter side though, so does Diwali...

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Dr.S.P.Sharma

WONA gets chatty with the man who stands between drunken brawls, piles of broken window panes, loud woofer music and a calm, peaceful insti - the ADOSW (Discipline) Dr. S. P. Sharma

WONA: Do you think there has been an increase in *indiscipline* among students of the campus, recently?

ADOSW: In my opinion, there has hardly been any noticeable difference in discipline among students or in the rules. But yes, the interaction between students and their professors has definitely suffered, which used to be a lot more frank and friendlier.

Also, the Dean shouldn't be bothered for every other trivial issue, which seems to be the scenario now. For instance, there was a complaint in one of the bhawans regarding the use of woofers late at night, and I myself had to go to the concerned bhawan and get the problem fixed.

WONA: When a person is found involved in an act of indiscipline, does the institute have provisions to counsel the student or provide him with any sort of personal help?

ADOSW: After observing the nature of students here for so many years, I feel that some of them may mind my methods of counselling at times. But I want make it very clear that I don't have any harsh feelings towards any single student. I treat all the students here as my own children, and have personally always tried to provide them with any kind of special attention they need.

WONA: What sort of disciplinary actions can be taken student apart from deduction of disciplinary marks? And what precisely can be the consequences in case a student has lost too many disciplinary marks?

ADOSW: In severe cases, the concerned student can be expelled from the institute. But such decisions are taken only after rigorous investigation and sufficient considerations by the institute. We are here to shape the students' careers. If a student has lost a significantly high number of discipline marks, the institute has provisions to bar the student from receiving his/her character certificate. But in no case will the degree of that student be in danger.

WONA: How does the institute go about handling an act of indiscipline by a student, outside the campus?

ADOSW: In such cases, ideally, the institute shouldn't interfere. But as I mentioned earlier, I try to take personal care to protect my students from any danger as far as I can. Going by the rule book, the institute is entitled to act only if that student is found to have violated any rules of the institute.

WONA: It has been observed that many anti-disciplinary incidents happen in the Autumn Semester every year. Do you think it has something to do with the SAC elections?

ADOSW: I definitely believe there is some connection of such activities with the elections. And the situation is worrisome, to say the very least. We have to take prior help of the institute security guards and police in most such situations. I hope that proper and continuous actions would soon prevent all such incidents.

WONA: Considering this to be one of the best institutes of the country, do you think the students here lack a sense of responsibility that they're expected to have?

ADOSW: To a certain extent, yes. Actually, I believe the root cause is lack of interaction between students and their professors. Students should realise that discipline is important simply because we live in an organized society where, if you have not learned life's requirements at an early age, you will be taught later, not by those whose love tempers the lesson but by strangers who could not care less about the harm they do to your personality. Students shouldn't consider their professors as someone alien who doesn't care about them. Only when they interact with the professors can they take full benefit of their mentorship, and professors, on the other hand, should also appreciate healthy and frank interaction with their students.

EDC Alumni Enterprise Showcase

With every section on campus busy in enlightening the newly arrived fuchas with their awesomeness (or the lack of it), how can the hallowed EDC stay behind. With this end in mind, the entrepreneurship development cell organised a panel discussion comprising of eight nascent alumni of R land. And no, they didn't rely on the services of the ever faithful 'Singh', though, rumour has it that he was in R to remind all of his existence. For those who have an eye for detail, this event took place on the 25th of September, and witnessed a packed Senate Hall on a Sunday morning.

The speakers that graced the occasion were Mr. Ashish Sinha, Mr. Divye Tela, Mr. Ronak Singhavi, Mr. Gaurav Singh, Mr. Mayank Agarwal, Mr. Prasoon Gupta, Mr. Sumit Jain and Mr. Vaibhav Tandon. The field of expertise of the speakers ranged from technology consulting to education to as far as sports. The event kicked off with each individual speaker's address followed by an open ended discussion accompanied by a Q&A session. As the audience found it easier to relate to their alumni, or so it seems, the discussion was candid to say the least, with many a soul actually choosing to skip lunch in a farfetched hope of securing a chapo from the visiting alumni. Even though the chapo was denied, the event was a success to say the least, providing all present with an insight into the world of entrepreneurship.

The Astronomy Section The Cosmic Voyage

A two day "cosmic" voyage was organised by the Astronomy section for our star gazers on 23 September over various venues. The event promised a good time with interesting activities like constellation views, their meanings, observing various planets, journey on the beam of light and other extraterrestrial phenomena along with a workshop for handling the telescope. The event began with the usual welcome to the unusual world of 'The Universe'. As it turned out the most fun part for the students was hopping from one venue to another as the venues ranged from DOMS to the terrace of hobbies club. Observing the Jupiter wound up the first day but second day awaited students with even more gruelling exploration of the outer world with telescopes focussing on every star in the night sky. Precious few students attended the event and their enthusiasm levels somehow breached the negative number boundaries and even those were absent from the day 2 of this ethereal event.

For Something different

The Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Cell of IITR conducted an "Awareness programme on support for innovative lab model/ Prototype Development" on 24th September, 2011 in the IPR cell. The programme was an initiative to spread awareness among the students regarding the importance of innovative thinking and the opportunities that they have. The guest speakers for the event Dr. Babitha Sinha (Asst. Professor HS dept IITR) and Dr. P.K Ghosh (Head of Metallurgical Dept. IITR) introduced the students to a plethora of avenues to showcase their ideas and to turn their dreams into reality. The response was good as many keen students attended the event while some of them even came forward and discussed their ideas and views. IPR urged the students to think and share their ideas as brilliant ideas would be showcased at the national level and would be tested for their feasibility. This event provided a fine boost for the budding tinkerers of Roorkee.

Guest Lecture :: R.Chidambaram



As part of the Institute lecture series a lecture was delivered by the principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, Dr. R. Chidambaram. The lecture focused on the importance of sustainable development and innovation powered research. The lecture was presided over by Prof. A.K Jain and Prof. J.D Sharma. The

lecture began with a cumbersome bouquet presentation which was then followed by the brilliant lecture. Dr. R. Chidambaram, true to his qualification, had managed to capture the attention of the audience for the entire session, a rare quality seen amongst the usual guest lectures. He briefly yet elegantly explained ways to achieve sustainable development and laid special emphasis on use of a closed nuclear fuel cycle as a future power source. He repeatedly emphasized the need for re-innovation (a term coined by him) in engineering based research and explained the basic steps to boost countries research capabilities, i.e. Introduction-absorption-digestion-(re)innovation. It was rounded up by a query session where individual questions were entertained.

SAROD Concert

Below: Sarod maestro Partho Sarothy



11th September, 2011: The SPIC-MACAY chapter of IIT-Roorkee brought to R-Land a rare musical delight in the form of *soirée-musicale* by sarod maestro, Partho Sarothy and noted tabla player, Ashis Paul. Under the guidance of the legendary sitarist and Bharat Ratna recipient, Pandit Ravi Shankar, Partho Sarothy has enthralled audiences across the world for the past forty years with his mellifluous music. The concert was set in motion with the traditional lighting of the *deepshikha* by Prof. Vinay Pant of the electrical dept. and a brief talk by Shri Partho Sarothy on *Bharatiya Sangeet*. With that, the man in green kurta and white dhoti went ahead to enrapture the audience, with *raag madhubanti*, a melodic note with a rhythmic cycle of 10 beats. This was followed by few other ragas, each with a peaceful start, gradually gaining momentum and ending on a thrilling note. Some of the most remarkable performances of the evening were the *jugalbandi* on the sarod and tabla and the concluding *raga kafi* which left the audience mesmerized. The show was wrapped up with a question and answer session by Partho Sarothy and handing over the gift of gratitude to the performers. The audience turnout was decent with about 100 people mostly constituting of students and professors. The concert was a well appreciated effort to bring a glimpse of Indian Classical music to IIT-R and a greater spectatorship can be expected if SPIC-MACAY would spread the word better and on a larger scale for future shows.

SPICMACAY shakes a leg - GOTIPUA

The prime objective of SPICMACAY is to showcase the diverse Indian culture that we all are so proud of. And they managed to do just that on the evening of 22nd August, 2011, on the eve of 'Janmashtami'. The performers for the evening were the 'Gotipua' dancers from 'Nakshyatra Gurukul', a nascent organisation comprising of young and effervescent dancers who enthralled the audience with their brisk dance moves. For the record, 'Gotipua' is a classical dance form which originated in the state of Orissa. Gotipua is Oriya for 'Single Boy' and as a part of this dance form, boys from the age of 6 to 15 are dressed as girls and they perform on songs in Oriya and Sanskrit. As these dances involve rigorous physical routines called *Bandha*, the performers undergo rigorous physical training and exercises to keep them fit and supple. Nakshyatra Gurukul was founded in 2001 by Guru Bijay Kumar Sahoo and currently has 40 dancers under its roll call. These dancers are from underprivileged families and are provided educational training too.

The evening comprised of various dance routines and then a question-answer session with Guru Bijay Sahoo. The dance routines were very intense and acrobatic. The evening began with the routine 'Abhinya', which involved expressing feelings through dance. Later, the routines were very acrobatic and involved human pyramids which were a result of excellent choreography, strength and flexibility. All we can say is that the audience at the O. P. Jain auditorium certainly had an unforgettable evening, or at least one which they would remember till the end of the semester.

Guest Lecture :: H.C.VERMA



On Sept. 24th, the Indian Physics Association had invited the acclaimed physics professor Dr. H.C Verma, the HOD Physics Department at IIT Kanpur and also the author of the very famous two volumes, *Concept of Physics*. He delivered a lecture on "Vision India" which laid emphasis on the achievements of India in the past decade and the challenges it would face in the next. The aim of the presentation was to make the audience ask themselves "What is there in India in 2011 to be proud of?". His main focus lied on the three fields that, in his opinion, are very critical for the country's development viz-a-viz Space research, Nuclear Science and Food production. He concluded by narrowing down the problem, to India having a lack of goal and an even more genuine lack of belongingness. The lecture was attended by many excited freshers who were eager to get a glimpse of the man who helped them all get here. Unlike the other lectures organised by the Physics Department, H.C Verma forced the audience to introspect and think for the better good, rather than them dozing off halfway through.

Opening & Closing Ranks - JEE'11

Programme	GE	OBC	SC	ST	PD
BIOTECHNOLOGY (B.Tech. 4 Yr)	3016-3684	1144-1427	652-945	-	-
CHEMICAL ENGG (B.Tech. 4 Yr)	1875-2292	719-754	422-575	-	-
CIVIL ENGG (B.Tech. 4 Yr)	1688-2504	359-829	419-503	130-189	-
CSE (B.Tech. 4 Yr)	471-984	123-276	107-72	46-46	-
ELECTRICAL ENGG (B.Tech. 4 Yr)	848-1821	280-453	89-308	74-110	115-115
E&C ENGG (B.Tech. 4 Yr)	682-1354	202-343	98-208	123-137	21-21
META & MATERIALS (B.Tech. 4 Yr)	2898-3382	1121-1346	583-960	-	-
MECHANICAL ENGG (B.Tech. 4 Yr)	927-1909	358-526	215-365	119-173	54-54
P&I (B.Tech. 4 Yr)	2150-2815	685-968	558-693	-	-
PULP & PAPER ENGG (B.Tech. 4 Yr)	3470-5344	1490-1732	-	-	-
ARCHITECTURE	4588-7152	1799-1850	-	149-149	-
APP.MATHEMATICS (M.Sc Intgd 5 Yr)	3754-4995	1731-1922	-	-	-
CHEMISTRY (M.Sc Intgd 5 Yr)	5044-5467	1823-1823	-	-	-
PHYSICS (M.Sc Intgd 5 Yr)	3346-4937	1820-1930	-	-	-
GEOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGY	3448-4523	1603-1723	967-967	-	-
GEOPHYSICAL TECHNOLOGY	3048-4354	1656-1754	-	-	-
POLYMER SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	3708-4782	1626-1794	867-867	-	-
CHEM. ENG/HYDROCARBON ENGG.	2314-2637	815-887	600-645	-	-
COMP. SC. & ENGG. with M.Tech in IT	973-1377	285-302	236-302	172-180	-
ELEC ENGG. with Power Electronics	1637-1915	406-519	317-341	208-208	-
ELECT & COMM ENG/WIRELESS COMM	1271-1567	440-532	276-282	188-188	-
PROCESS ENG with MBA	2852-4237	1105-1650	-	-	-

Pehla Nasha

On 26th September '11, the Convocation Hall of R-Land witnessed the first musical event of the year, *Pehla Nasha*, by the music section. The show took off with the traditional lighting of the lamp by the chief guest, Dr. P. Banerjee, Director, IIT-R which was followed by a splendid performance of the popular number 'Pehla Nasha' giving the show a perfect beginning. What followed was a string of performances of all-time-hit songs like 'Badan pe sitare' by Siddhartha Kejriwal, 'kya hua tera vaada', 'ya-ali' by Mayukh Mathur and 'Abhi kuch dino se' by Gurleen Singh to name a few. The freshers, who were performing for the first time, lived up to the hype and performed incredibly. Other notable performances included 'It's the time to disco', by Sebanti Chattopadhyay and Ankit Agarwal, 'Mahiya' by Preetika Srivastava, 'Bheegi Si Hawa' by Apoorva Arora and Akash Neil Dutta, 'I feel good', by Apoorva Mudgal and Shravan Tikku. The instrumentalists accompanying the vocalists matched just as well with the singers and added to the beauty of their performances. It concluded with an incredible performance of the timeless number 'Ek Haseena Thi' by Kshitij Jain which brought the entire crowd to life. Not only had the music section given their best to the show but so had the audio and lights section with their well managed sound and lighting effects. Even though the show did not quite match up to the standards of the ones held in the previous years, the audience turnout was decent. Pehla Nasha lived up to its billing as could be seen from the excellent response from the crowd. However a much greater success can be ensured with a more careful choice of songs to highlight the potentials of these budding musicians.

IIT KANPUR Sports Fest Udghosh

As another edition of Udghosh, IIT Kanpur's sports festival, comes to an end, the IITR contingent returned with some silverware and a few broken bones. The athletes from Roorkee managed to capture the attention of the Kanpur junta with some eye catching performances. Shashank Khatri and Karan Vashisht, deserve special mention, as they did not lose a single game let alone a match, demolishing one team after another to return with the gold medal in squash. The Volleyball team also put up an exceptional performance securing yet another gold for IITR.

The Football, Tennis and Badminton teams returned with silver medals and a long list of injured players. The Football team in particular, bore the brunt of some overly aggressive play, leaving their inter IIT hopes on a wing and a

Sport	Final Position
Squash	Gold
Volleyball	Gold
Football	Silver
Badminton	
Boys	Silver
Girls	Silver
Tennis	Silver
Hockey	Semi-finals
Basketball	
Boys	2 nd Round
Girls	1 st Round

prayer.

Thanks to this tournament, our athletes have gained match practice and tournament experience before the ultimate showdown to be held in IIT Kharagpur this year.

Obituary- Saleem Farooqi

As the world mourns the loss of a man who did his bit to make things easier for us, closer home at IITR, we take this moment to remember a man who did the same for us – Mr. Saleem Farooqi, who passed away on the 25th of September. Having served as PA under twenty three deans over a period of forty years, he made those trips to the senate just that little bit less cumbersome. Whether it was a branch change form you were looking for, or a scholarship you were trying for, this was the man who cut right through all the red tape and made sure that your application reached the right place at the right time. Known for his sense of humour and amicable spirit, he is still remembered by many a pass out who has ever had the fortune of meeting this Good Samaritan.

Deans may come and deans may go, but this man will go on forever, albeit in our hearts. Salaam, Mr.Farooqi.

3D Printing shows the promise to be the mythical fire brought down by *Prometheus from Mt. Olympus*, revolutionizing the world as we know it, affecting far ranging fields like jewelry, footwear, industrial design, aerospace, medical industries, and even war. The creators of this technology will be afflicting themselves with false modesty if they say anything less about *3D printing* than they already have. Though still in its infancy (developed barely 7 years ago), personal 3D printing technology already shows the same disruptive potential as the original printing press which democratized knowledge across the world; the propagation of *3D printers* eventually promises to democratize creation itself.

3D printing involves the creation of a virtually designed object from a highly detailed computer model. It involves creating the object one 2D layer at a time and binding it to the existing layer. This method is the most popular and is called inkjet printing. Other methods involve use of resins, polymers, and even lasers! The process may be used for creating individual parts or complicated assemblies consisting of various materials in a single run, allowing product developers to easily and quickly build prototypes for testing purposes. The *University of Southampton* is using this technology to test different designs of *Unmanned Aerial Vehicles*.

The possibilities of producing paraphernalia are boundless as any object can be easily broken down to

2D layers. This technology is currently being studied by biotechnology firms and academia for possible use in tissue engineering applications where organs and body parts are built using inkjet techniques, known as organ printing. *Amit Zoran* of *MIT Media Lab* has successfully built a euphonious flute by the means of 3D technology. Forensic teams are also putting this modern day technology to use in crime scene reconstruction. This technology has been pioneering advances in the military field too, including manufacturing diabolic weapons at the click of a button on the war site. It will not be long before we can say for certain that the side less familiar with this technology might have already opted for oblivion.

Touted to be the next *Napster*, 3D printing is especially intriguing from a legal perspective because, like the printing press did half a millennium ago, it has broad implications for the existing legal regime. Be it a broken doorknob or a collar bone, anyone can just download the relevant CAD file and print it out using an appropriate cartridge. With a full blown 3D printer costing around €10,000, this technology can hardly be called commercial as of now but printers costing around €400-€1500 are currently being developed by various companies such as *Rep Rap* and *Marker Bot*. Cornell University has even developed a printer which can print food! Piracy has never been easier.

Editorial:: Criticism & Sadism

Man prides himself on being the pinnacle of intellectual evolution on *planet Earth*, at least. This advancement in intellect has helped us understand that nature always tries to even things out. Ergo, there's good and evil, creator and destructor, *Rajnikant* and *Justin Bieber* always present to make us realise that the world can't always be awesome.

And then there are critics, sceptics and sadists. Open criticism is the world's second most satisfying guilty pleasure, the first one, of course, being the central theme of many magazines. Not this one though. Much as we deny it, we all love being critics, and for some of us this is the main source of entertainment. In fact, many modern businesses thrive on it. If it weren't for critics, *Rebecca Black* would have remained a name lost in obscurity. And *Rakhi ka Swayamwar* would never have seen the light of day.

Most of us experience an ephemeral feeling of joy when we condemn some entity which means us no harm, or is not even remotely related to us. Amongst all of man's idiosyncrasies, this is probably the queerest. More so, because man derives immense

pleasure from it. That being said, criticism is probably the most genuine of all human reactions. Praise may be dishonest, unworthy or unnecessary, criticism doesn't have any such ulterior motives.

Skepticism on the other hand, may stem from a genuine doubt over the point in consideration. More often than not however, it a result of complete joblessness and the desire to be in the limelight. Blatant scepticism cannot be argued against and is oft used as a weapon for verbal assault. Hence, when most of us are cornered psychologically, we turn to it as our last resort. One may argue that it is unethical to derive joy in someone else's grief, to usurp undeserved power to use it as a refuge, to kick a man when he's down or to simply take cheap shots at an unrelated fellow being. We would probably stand to benefit should we concentrate more on our pursuit of happiness rather than the misery of others.

But then, almost all the pleasurable things in the world are banned, expensive or not available in *Roorkee*, which pretty much leaves criticism and sadism as the last resort for most of us.



The Social Network

In the long list of flattering and sometimes unflattering stereotypes that are usually associated with an IITian, the words '*socially conscious*' or anything remotely close are conspicuous by their absence. And why not? With companies recruiting students on the basis of their *CGPAs*, an academic internship or a summer research project looks more appealing on your *CV* than does work done for a social cause. It stands to reason then, that we have never quite been *Rockefellers* by way of reaching up to the peoples' expectations in serving the society.

However, according to the *IIT Alumni Impact* study conducted by *PAN-IIT in 2006*, about 10% of *IIT alumni* are currently working in *NGOs* for the social transformation of India. Even by normal standards, this is a staggeringly high percentage, one to be proud of, even. Among the rest, some of those who do not actively involve themselves in the minutiae of the art of societal upliftment, have been known to respond to the social call with surprising alacrity.

Then, does our alleged social indifference stem from a marked lack of effort on our part to give back to the society or is it just another of the many baseless stereotypes?

WONA looks at the different social initiatives on campus, and attempts to find out.

Avanti Fellows

SIIRD

Roorkee School for the Deaf

NSS



Students busy with Selection Test in Roorkee

It is very probable that on one of the quintessential trips to a water cooler, the usual glance at those notices and posters sundry, made you learn of the presence of a unique social initiative that's won many accolades at the international level. And surprisingly, this has nothing to do with our modern messiah or his infinite piggy-back riders. We are talking about Avanti Fellows (ring any bells?), a PAN-IIT social Initiative that won the Stanford BASES Social E-Challenge Award in July 2010. For the record, Avanti is a Non-Profit Organisation, which was Initiated in IITB, and is currently operational in five IITs. Under this initiative, bright children from underprivileged families are provided free professional training for entrance examination for technical institutes in India.

Each centre or Chapter of Avanti has a tie up with a reputed local coaching class and they have a quota of seats reserved for the students at Avanti. The coaching classes then conduct talent search examinations for the purpose of selection. After verifying the credibility of the candidate, the selected student is made a fellow, entitled to an allotted mentor, a student of the concerned IIT who provides personal assistance.

The good folks over at the Roorkee Chapter of Avanti tell us that, as of now, they have 10 fellows at Roorkee and 15 more at Dehradun. They function in collaboration with Conceptum Education and with GRS classes, in DehraDun. Akashdeep Rohila, a 4th yr. Chemical Engg. Student and the chief of operations of the Roorkee Chapter says,

“Avanti is neither associated with any faculty nor is recognized by the administration so it is very difficult to garner decent participation for probable growth in the near future”

Still evidently at a stage of infancy, Avanti Fellows, nevertheless, has a great potential to grow. For all we know, the prodigies of Avanti fellows may be making waves in the coaching classes circuit.

SIIRD

SIIRD or the *Students Initiative for Integrated Rural Development* came to life in January 2006 when a group of IITR students approached Prof. V. K. Nangia, HoD, DoMS-IITR with the objective of adopting a nearby village and working for its development. 2000 man hours later, the adopted village of 'Charba' metamorphosed into a moderately developed neighbourhood, all thanks to the contribution of nearly 120 IITians who have involved themselves with this initiative so far.

As a part of its modus operandi, SIIRD singles out 'Champions' or dedicated villagers proficient enough to mentor their fellow villagers and perform other functions of SIIRD.

SIIRD has involved itself in ameliorating every facet of the villagers' lives. As part of their *Information and Communication Awareness (ICT)* project, the villagers were imparted training in a plethora of basic computer softwares like Tally. It has also joined forces with *Sarvya Siksha Abhiyan* to provide primary education. Their other plans include introducing technology to improve agricultural produce, and conducting health camps round the year. SIIRD has enjoyed its fair share of fame with Gurdeep Singh and Gaurav Nemade representing it in the "Rural transformation track" at PanIIT conference 2008 at IITM. It is also associated with *United Nations Development Project* for e-governance of Charba. 'Charba' may not be a celebrated triumph like 'Ralegaon Siddhi', but SIIRD has certainly ensured that it assists in the development of this village through earnest efforts and also motivates the villagers to work for their own progress sans SIIRD.



Team SIIRD mentoring children at Charba



1. Roorkee School for the Deaf campus
2. Students taking cooking classes
3. Students trying their creative skills at art & craft

Although the student population might find the possibility of a benevolent *IIT-R administration* implausible, it is true, that 22 years ago, the yesteryear management did, in a landmark move, begin a school for the deaf children.

The *Roorkee School for the Deaf* stands as an exemplar of the noble philosophy of serving disabled children. The school currently educates more than a hundred students, from pre-school to class 12, who hail from *Roorkee*, and the surrounding areas, including some far-off places like *Hrishikesh*, *Deoband* and even *Muzzafarnagar*. Managed by the IIT-R faculty, but almost completely funded by well-wishers, the school can be credited with making a difference to the lives of many households and rendering hope to children with permanent hearing impairments.

It is affiliated to the *National Institute of Open Schooling* and is known for its need based curricula and vocational training. Committed to the cause of making the students independent, the school uses interactive teaching methods supplemented by software and educational videos. Besides education, the school provides counselling services pertaining to academics, higher education, vocational training and career opportunities in general. As *NIOS* has a very flexible curriculum, the school ensures that the students choose subjects within their intellectual capabilities for their board examinations.

The best part is that the school ensures that the students who pass out are well-placed. Seven figure

salary chasers like us may not be able to appreciate this, but this is a significant step in trying to bring these children on an even keel with respect to the rest of the society around them. The school boasts of getting its students placed in factories, banks and post offices through its placement programme and has also helped in finding suitable brides or bridegrooms for the students, as the case may be.

One must understand that any form of social acceptance, through marriage or employment, is a substantial triumph for these alienated souls who live a cocooned life. Financial independence, which the school aims at, is the key to living normally. As for those who think beyond placements (a rare breed even among *IITians*), the school provides them with valuable advice and expertise in the field of their interest by setting up small businesses for them. Besides these, the school also involves itself in awareness programmes in and around R for all kinds of disabilities and their treatment.

IITR also has a fair share in the functioning and subsequent success of the school. For starters, 22 years back, *UOR* provided the school with a campus of its own. Besides terra firma, *IITR* administration also provides the school with funds when the wishes of well-wishers are not enough. As *Mrs. Parvati Pandey*, the principal of the school, tells us,

“Students and faculty from *IIT* contribute to the school by providing them with softwares for interactive learning and some self made electronic equipment for audiometry and speech therapy. We would surely love to see more enthusiastic participation from the *IIT students* as we would love some additional encouragement and moral support.”

So for those who didn't know about this initiative on your next trip to *Polaris* or *Bus-T*, look for a sign labelled 'Roorkee School for the Deaf' opposite to the church. And for those who knew about this, maybe you can repaint the sign for the others to see it clearly after their 'high-spirited' visit from *Pole*. Either way, visit the school just for seeing the gift of love being shared with those less fortunate, and help them in their uphill battle for gaining social acceptance and equality.

Synonymous with the phrase 'social initiative' to the naive, the NSS mobilizes the biggest fraction of the junta. With due credits to compulsory attendance and the facchas' concern for their grades, the NSS- IIT Roorkee has carved a niche for itself in serving the areas in and around the campus.



An NSS cloth distribution drive underway

Most of the junta knows enough to provide a general overview of the NSS's activities, but for those who might be completely in the dark - Some of its year-round activities include Blood Donation Camps, Clothes collection drives, prerna , RT-Edu , Eduslum and other teaching operations, implementing self-employment schemes for the poor, staging plays to raise social awareness in the nearby villages, selling the villagers essential green technology like lamps etc at a subsidized price and a horde of other developmental ones. The NSS structure , as most students feel, is rooted in providing holistic societal development. The different cells, and the work assigned to them, cover almost all aspects of social welfare, from health to education and awareness. That the ethical correctness of making NSS a mandatory first-year proficiency is in question, is reconciled by the difference that the organization makes to the surrounding areas, with its work every year. Whatever the motives, an overwhelming response to the social call is always heart-warming. One may go so far as to say, that a little time spent teaching a kid from Majra or collecting clothes for the poor, may be one case in point, to consider one's life purged, albeit scarcely, of the guilt of self-centred living.

As proof of the fact that NSS overshadows all other social initiatives on campus, or simply is the largest one, a majority of students hadn't heard of other such initiatives. *"We , at Bharat Vandan, have been teaching students, outside IIT-R, from less fortunate backgrounds"*, says Gunjan Seth, second year, Electrical , a participant in one such lesser-known initiatives.

There seem to be many such small organizations with intersecting fields of service. Says Sakshi Kapoor, second year, Meta, *"FUEL (NGO) with the motto "lets graduate", concentrates on the +2 education of the underprivileged children and also collects funds from the alumni of the institute, for the same"*.

It may be hard to believe that on weekends, when the rest of the insti is busy defusing bombs, razing down civilizations, or catching up on the latest movie, there are indeed some who take greater pleasure in bringing a smile to others. There are students who involve themselves in social service outside the campus too. Varun Rao, P&I , third year, helps his grandmother run an orphanage in his home town. For those who actually care, social work is not something that can be quantified in terms of attendance.

As for the rest, participating in an emotionally charged discussion at Alpahaar over samosa and chai, liking a few facebook pages and putting up a few status updates supporting a cause from time to time forms the extent of their social concern. Given that all of us second the perennial idea of giving back more to the society, we can choose to lend a hand to these initiatives, after all. Well, at least wish them the very best.





Purnima Gupta in the courtyard of Arch. Dept.

Purnima Gupta, the Founder Secretary and several times President of National Chapter of *Roorkee University Alumni Association*, is a graduate of *B. Arch. Roorkee 1968*. While at Roorkee, she was Best Athlete, Best Swimmer, Best Badminton player (had an occasion to play in nationals against 2nd seeded player of India), Best Tennis Player (3 times in a row) and Best All Rounder in *Department of Architecture*. She is still active in various *PanIIT* events and currently serves as President, *IIT Roorkee Alumni Association of North America*.

Dearest Students,

Roorkee was my home for the first 21 years of my life. I graduated from *Univ. of Roorkee in 1968 from the Dept. of Architecture*. The *USA* has been my home since 1969. My ties with *Roorkee* have only grown sweeter in all these years. I can laugh at the incidents which made me feel like strangling a few Professors at the time.

I was in third year. I had recently won the *NASA design competition*. I was in good spirits. I did my first design project rather well to every detail, working on it day and night. I took some help from a draftsman to make a model. I drew all the lines on a cardboard and asked him to cut it on the lines. God knows what he told the concerned Prof, but I was given 8% marks. I was furious. The only answer I got was that a girl could not do better than any other boy in the class. I mentioned this to the *HOD*, who told me to let go of the incident for now, and that he would take him to task should he fail me in the subject. From that day onwards I put all my time into sports and games. I would study on the eve of the exam, and manage to pass.

When I came to the *University of Illinois*, I was working on fast track to finish my *Master's degree* as soon as I could. My professor noticed that cutting the cardboard was hurting my fingers, so he asked me to get help from my classmates or my husband. I asked him if it would be ethical on my part. His answer was that he would be grading me on my conceptual proficiency and not on how much cardboard I could cut in a day.

This contrast between India and the US remains in my mind till today. America does not produce hard working Professionals to do repetitive tasks. They train in concepts, leadership, independence and quality control. *Roorkee* will always be closest to my heart, but I will always respect Urbana-Champaign for giving me the confidence to make it in this competitive world. Thanks to the *UoR Archi Dept.*, I lost interest in studies and spent my time in learning sports and games. At *Roorkee* the Director keeps himself aloof from the activities of the students. Why? In other countries, Chancellors and Nobel Prize winners are easily approachable to students on campuses. I enjoy my retired life better because *Roorkee* gave me that option. *Roorkee* is the only IIT which gives you the option of all-round development, while the other IITs teach only Engineering (That used to be the case back then atleast).

Roorkee culture can be smothering at times, if you are a faculty daughter, and especially if your father is the *Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee*. My father could protect his daughter from 2,000 students, but 2,000 students could not protect one girl from her father.

Remember:

R for Rolex among watches.

R for Rolls-Royce among cars.

R for Roorkee among IITs.

With good wishes toward a successful career,

Purnima Gupta, B.Arch. 1968

This time around, WONA pits Abhishek Pandey, Meta III year, against the Dean of Academics, Dr. Ashwani Kumar as they talk about the new backlog clearance rule that has been implemented this semester.

VIEW

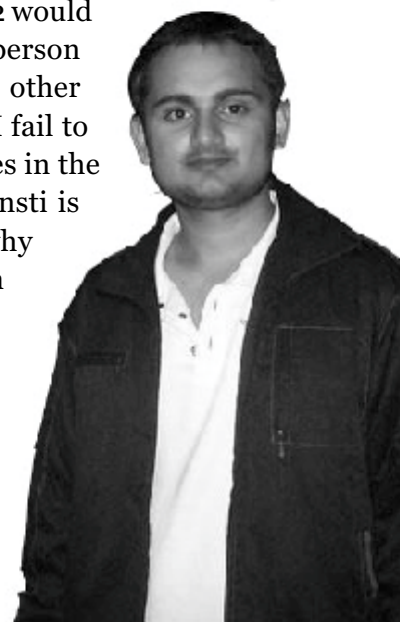


The implementation of the new rule regarding handling of first year backs has indeed caused a stir but one must realize that the administration is completely justified in doing so, ethically and legally. The issue is well vindicated by ample points. For starters, the rule has always been in action and well adhered by the students of other institutes of similar merit as ours. Secondly, and more importantly, a student who feels victimized must realize that he or she had been given a number of chances to make good of him and only failing to do so has resulted in, what appears to him, a dire consequence. Another indispensable fact is that it helps relieving stress in the fourth year by not letting first year backs of rather banal subjects cause a hindrance. So, it makes sense that one clears his backlog by taking some time off before going to the fourth year. It also serves as a deterrent for future students who try to take academics for granted. They should realize that they have gained admission into one of the finest colleges in the country, and that academics should be given top priority.

At a personal level though, I do realize the harsh nature of the rule but a single's person opinion means nothing in the institute. A number of affected students had pleaded with me and I had suggested a few relaxations but the decision of the ECS was final and the rule was given a green flag. A valid argument on behalf of the ECS would be that the current third year students were informed about the rule in their rules and regulation booklets published in 2008-09 and as mentioned implemented in 2010-11. Hence, the question of it being a bolt from the blue is completely pointless. I therefore stand in favor of the decision made by the senate and I'm sure that the students will understand the inanity of arguing against it, in due time.

COUNTER VIEW

The IITR administration has always been regarded by the student community as a harsh and inflexible lot and they seem to have lived up to this tag by this recent rule regarding repetition of courses. As I understand, under this rule, if a student fails a course, he has to clear it within a span of two years (2 semesters and 2 summers). This may seem enough but I believe the rule fails from a humanitarian point of view. First of all, I do not agree that this rule should be applicable for those facing attendance backs. Secondly, many courses cannot be cleared during the holidays as there are no classes held for these courses. The insti should atleast make sure that such courses are offered in the summers. As far as the new rule is concerned, it is highly unfair to the current lot of defaulters in third year. There is no known precedent for this rule, and its sudden implementation has been a bolt from the blue for those affected. Say that a student fails in a course that is totally unrelated to his branch like most of the courses in 1st year, then it would be very unfair to make him drop a semester. As far as such courses are concerned, if a student repeatedly fails in clearing those, maybe it would be fair that he doesn't get the credits allotted to those courses and that's pretty much it. Another shortcoming in this rule is its lack of uniformity. According to this rule, even fourth year students should be getting a semester back, but apparently they are not. A person with a single first year back pending gets the same punishment as one with several subjects. Also, a student with a back pending in MA-102 would get a year back as opposed to a person with a back pending in any other subject who gets a sem back. I fail to understand these discrepancies in the rule. I'm not saying that the insti is totally in the wrong, but why should we suffer a fate which our seniors didn't have to. Maybe, this rule would make more sense if it is limited only to core-courses and everyone is fully aware of it in the first place.



Come placement season, the insti is abuzz with companies doing the rounds. The *headshots* and *ambushes* are temporarily put in abeyance, and every fourth yearite is thinking of new ways to spice up his resume. The *third yearites*, for their part, are apping away to glory for that internship in the *suburbs of Siberia*. After the top jobs are taken by the so called '*ghissus*', those who find themselves on the wrong side of the great divide are left looking at that tempting *Macrosoft* job prospect in *Jhumri Tilaiya*.

WONA tries to find out more about the *Noida* placement centre which is seemingly the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel for many such students, and what change R-zens expect the *Noida* campus to bring to their institute.

Will it do wonders to the pitiable placement scenario, and be the change that defines *IIT-R* in the coming years? Or will it turn out to be yet another old wine in a new bottle and a fancier rack? WONA tries to find out...



Greater Noida Extension Campus MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING?

Inaugurated on April 3rd 2011 after a gestation period of 4 years, Greater Noida Extension Centre is the third addition to IIT Roorkee campus. To be executed in two parts, the first phase of the campus which boasts of a seven floor field hostel with well-built spacious double rooms and a lecture hall complex has been completed. An auditorium and a convention centre are to be built in the next phase. The campus, managed by the Dean of Alumni Affairs, Prof. S.P. Gupta, and an eight member team, has hosted four workshops by the various departments of IIT-R so far. With the current built up area occupying just one fourth of the total area of 10 acres, this plot of IIT-R land in the heart of the tech-town is surely an asset holding unparalleled potential. Deemed to be a centre for extended research and development, and to operate as a placement hub to allure the elite and multinational companies of every field, this project has seeded the hopes for a better return from the institution, at least in the form of worthier placements.

The plain reason for getting into an *IIT* for the vast majority - placements, seems to be in jeopardy for the starry eyed junta of *IITR*. Every year students check the notice boards with hopeful eyes, only to see such strict eligibility criteria that, doing that MBA from *IIPM* doesn't seem such a bad idea after all. As the great management guru says "Dare to think beyond placements."

The placement scenario on the campus at present is increasingly becoming a cause of sleepless nights for students. Various reasons are being cited for the abysmal placement scenario, chief among them being the location. *IITR* enjoys the unique position of being as far away from the civilization as geographically possible making sure that the students get the perfectly isolated environment to nurture their talents. Being in such an aesthetic place somehow fails to impress the eminent firms

As aptly put by Zubair Muhammad Meta III year, "Placement suffers due to communication gap and persistent location problem".

and only few dare to venture this land of myths and legends. The solution to this problem seemed to come to us in the shape of *GNEC*, which has kept students on tenterhooks hoping that it would be the knight in the shining armour for the dames of *IITR* but alas even that ray of light seems to have deserted us.

The fact that our alumni base is small and relatively inactive as compared to other *IITs* is the nail in the coffin. Becoming an *IIT* in 2001 has also reduced our alumni base and their contacts though helpful, are scarce. As opposed to other *IITs*, students here lose out on lucrative job offers due to lack of contacts. Pooling in our contact resources can prove to be a real asset for the placement process. Lack of communication between the students and administration only aggravates the situation. As suggested by a *CSE* 4 year student, the SAC should step in and try resolve this gap. Though the students are crying foul, their own track records don't exactly send up homing beacons for the companies. Deutsche Bank was pretty dissatisfied with the students' performance last year. Though CS has a gala time during the placements, other branches struggle even to get a chance to apply. Placement scenario has improved but only marginally as compared to other *IITs*.

Although the campus holds great potential in terms of a placement centre, the authorities are not

very keen on shifting the whole process of campus placement to *Noida* altogether.

According to Dr .P.K.Jain, Head of Placement Cell *IIT Roorkee*,

“Only under extreme circumstances and special requests, placements shall be held in the *Noida* campus, for a handful of people. It is not functioning as a Placement Centre currently, but an extension centre which is going to be utilised for completely different purposes. Due to transportation hassles and other security reasons, the entire placement process can't be relocated to *Noida*. Also, we believe that once the placement process starts in an expedient place like *Noida*, no company would actually like to visit *Roorkee* for campus recruitments, resulting in dwindling exposure of the students to the corporate world”

The *Roorkee* junta, largely being starved of eminent placements compared to other *IITs*, begs to differ on the subject of utilisation of an extension centre in such a strategic location. They are of a single palpable view that such a campus should be primarily utilised for an advantageous purpose like placement.

Location being the only factor in hindering the placement of students in *IITR*, the possibility of not using the *Noida* campus for placement will undoubtedly exasperate the student crowd here, who have been made to believe for the past four years that there will be an exponential surge in recruitments once the extended campus is inaugurated.

Murthy of Electrical *IDD* 5th year had the following to say when asked about the potential of an extended campus in *Noida* "It's been four years since *Noida* placement campus was planned and we still don't know whether it's functioning or not. Not many people are pinning their hopes on *Noida* Campus. It's not a magical solution".

Apart from the placement point of view, students also seem to have exaggerated expectations regarding the new campus. Even though the functions of The Greater *Noida* extension centre are yet to be established, it is currently being used for purely academic purposes. Short term courses for students have been conducted in the sixteen appropriately equipped lecture halls that have been constructed as a part of the main academic block.

These workshops and seminars are conducted for students by specialist faculty that are hired on an ad-hoc basis. The extension center also provides an incubation center for research related work. These programs are well backed by technological aids such as video conferencing, Wi-Fi internet connectivity etc. Although a lot of these courses have been completed, a genuine lack of

As Ali Yawar of Mech. 2nd year perceives it, "Quality research facilities need to be introduced in the Noida campus as transportation will not be a problem, unlike the situation in Roorkee."

permanent faculty restricts the evolution of the extension center as a center of academic excellence.

The inadequate response from the authorities to the question of GNEC's functionalities and the slow progress is a colossal disappointment. The promised big bang of academic activities is yet to happen.

One often wonders why so many students from our institute pursue offbeat careers. Much as we'd like to deny it, the answer stares right in the face. The Greater Noida Placement Center might still take sometime to get functional, but on the brighter side, we have hope.

Almost Famous :: Revealing more than your FB timeline ever did

Cogni, Shell PPO, first female SAC-P, editor of Y4UTH, Bhavjot Kaur(BK) has been a big figure (*pun intended!*) in the insti. WONA gets to chat with the iron lady of Roorkee politics.

WONA: We really don't know how else to start this. Who was your first crush on campus?

B.K: **laughs. hesitates.** Udit Singh, who is now a very good friend. There was also a senior from my Dept., whose name I would not like to mention as he might mind (After all, being a girl's crush is every guy's nightmare)

WONA: What about your experience in SAC? And did being a girl help?

B.K: When my tenure began, nobody was interested in the proceedings of the SAC, or in knowing how it functions (*it functions?!),* and the authority had lost faith in the SAC. The first thing that we did was to get people (*including the SAC members?!*) to know where the SAC office was at least. Sure, being a girl helped a lot! **quickly adds** there is no 'discrimination' between a female and a male in IITR though! (did you mean 'difference'?)

WONA: What were the blunders you committed?

B.K: *Thomso* may be considered as one, though it wasn't a blunder from our side. So there were problems but no "Blunders" as such.

WONA: What is your opinion on the new SAC president? And do you have any advice for him?

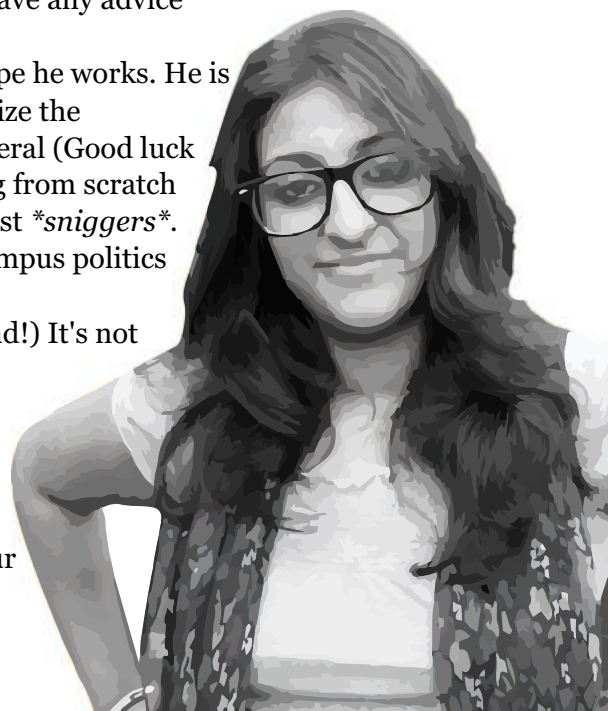
B.K: **laughs, and miserably fails in trying to avoid the question** I hope he works. He is new and having never been a part of *Thomso* or *Cogni*, he doesn't realize the responsibilities. He should try to make the academic scenario more liberal (Good luck with that!). The SAC was quite disorganized; we had to start everything from scratch which should not be the case with the new president. I wish him the best **sniggers**.

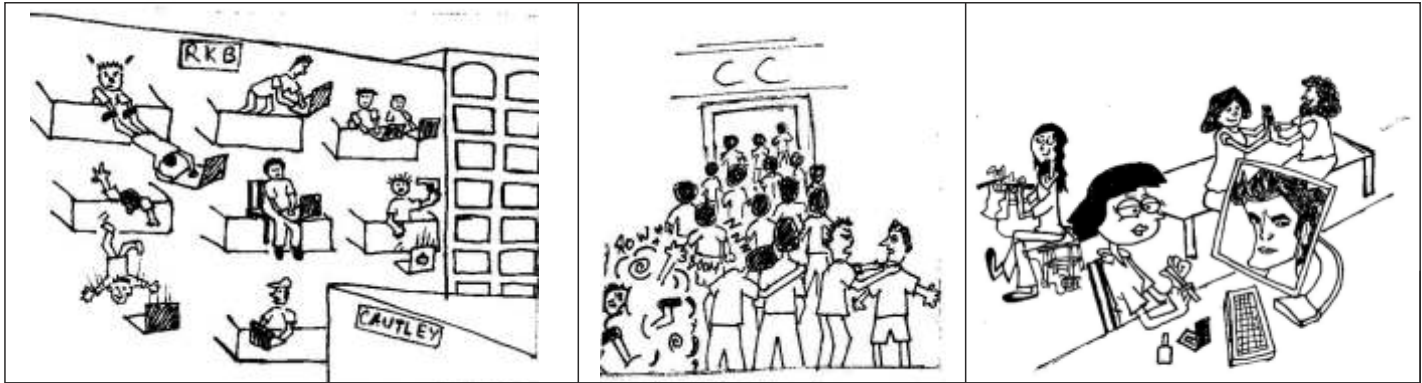
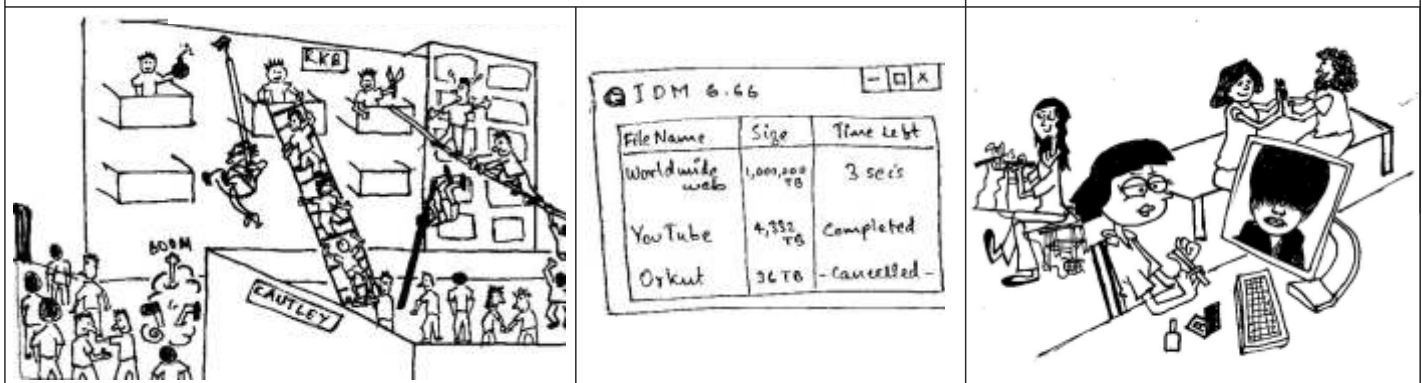
WONA: People often complain of treachery in politics. Do you think campus politics is treacherous or is there such a thing as "clean politics"?

B.K: Politics is Politics, it's not dirty, it's "politics". (whoa! very profound!) It's not as dirty as in other colleges but still.... **gives a sheepish smile**

WONA: Your views on WONA?

B.K: You people did a good job with the SAC newsletter (*nice try, but we're still publishing the name of your first crush*). Just try to get in touch with the students more, nowadays it is all an online affair (*wona.co.in; Do you live under a rock?*). I like the articles. The humour is good, but the articles tend to humiliate a lot (*oops!*).



The pre-lan era*The post-lan era*

where truth doesn't hide

PHEKING NEWS

where truth doesn't hurt

Metallica offers to open for the IITR Music Section

In a move that has created shockwaves across the entire music industry, pioneering American thrash metal band Metallica has offered to open for the IITR Music Section at next year's *Pehla Nasha*. The news comes as a shocker because the IITR Music Section, which is a punk pop rock classical electronica emo psychotic death-metal group from Roorkee, has performed only in Roorkee till now (Except for their world famous tour of Papua New Guinea in 2009).

Metallica's lead vocalist James Hetfield made this startling revelation in a hurriedly organized press conference. He said "We had gone to India to perform at the Greater Noida Tricycle Deathrace, and on our tour there, we obviously went to Roorkee, which as everyone knows, is the most happening place in India." He became misty eyed as he continued "It was there that I saw them perform, and I must admit, their performance brought tears to my eyes. I was like 'Whoa! Man! Whoa!!'", and finally broke down as the rest of the band tried to console him.

Music aficionados worldwide think that James Hetfield could turn out to be the next Syd Barrett, even as Metallica's manager was engaged in talks with Music Section to seal a multi-billion dollar deal. Should that happen, it will serve as a boost to the Music Section's popularity as attendance at *Pehla Nasha* is usually enforced by force, and in some cases by issuing death threats.

Music section members however, do not seem enthused by the prospect. Our journalists chanced to hear from one member, who has recently started taking classical music lessons, who had the following to say "Man, not those guys again. They have no taste for good music", before his cell phone rang, and Rebecca Black's 'Friday' interrupted the interview.

Audio section members say they saw it coming. One member, who wished to remain anonymous but specially requested that we mention his six pack in our article, said "It was inevitable that Metallica be impressed by the show. We had used quasi-quantum electrodynamically enhanced speakers. Wait till they hear us at *DJ Springeez* this year"

In unrelated news, www.iitr.ac.in has now become the most visited website closely followed by google.com. Also, IITR has now displaced IIPM as the most sought after college in the world. MIT comes a distant 32.

IITR Hospital: Interview with Institute Medical Officer Dr. Vandana Khobragade
Ever been diagnosed with a flu that wasn't exactly a flu? Ever had to settle for a aspirin because your headache didn't comply with the hospital timings? You are probably not alone. WONA tries to find out the various issues and maladies plaguing the insti's hospital

WONA: How many doctors and specialists are there in the *IITR Hospital*?

Dr.VK: I am the only regular physician appointed here. There are two other doctors on a full time contract. Apart from this, there are some doctors who work part time. As for the specialists, we have an *ENT* specialist, a chest physician and a dentist. It's disappointing that there are no orthopedics, pediatricians, or opticians.

WONA: What do you think is the reason for the lack of doctors?

Dr.VK: The main reason for the dearth of doctors is the minimal job satisfaction. The fact that we are able to do our bit for the nation by fulfilling our *Hippocratic oaths* is rewarding but the low pay-scale and nominal perks (*Roorkee* being a very small place) leave us disheartened. Almost everyone expects a high paying job along with benefits after working hard for their degrees as doctors, and prefer to work in bigger cities and better conditions.

WONA: Would do you think the institute can do to improve the condition?

Dr.VK: We have approached the *Hospital Advisory Committee* countless times with the agenda of improving the pay-scale and recruiting more doctors but the tedious amount of paperwork required along with permission from *Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD)* deems the task to be near impossible. I hope a message through *WONA* might help bring the issue in light.

WONA: Does the hospital refer patients outside in case of lack of facilities? If yes, where?

Dr.VK: Yes, we always make it our priority to examine the students first and provide them with the necessary aid. But if the need arises, and the matter is serious, then patients are generally referred to *Jolly Grant Hospital, Dehradun* or to *Delhi* or *Meerut*.

WONA: Can you elaborate on other facilities provided by the hospital to the students?






Dr.VK: Yes, doctors are available for students from 8am to 12 noon and then 4to 6 pm in the evenings. Regarding the wards, they have recently been renovated and are spacious and clean with around 40 beds. Apart from that we have 2 ambulances (one small and one big) which are available 24x7 on campus. As for our pharmacy store, we probably have the best medicines available in and around *Roorkee* in terms of both *quality and quantity*.

WONA: What would you like to say about the constant complaints of students owing to wrong diagnosis and a demand for regular health check-up?

Dr.VK: I agree that there have been a few cases where the students have suffered due to wrong diagnosis but it's not always the case. One needs to understand that errors might creep in despite our best efforts. Regular health check-ups are not possible right now because of the scarcity of doctors available. I'd say that if we are able to recruit more specialized doctors then there will be a definite improvement in the diagnosis and it would also make health camps feasible.

WONA: Your word to the students:

“My advice for the students would be that they should have faith in the doctors and should be patient. They generally come in a big group and create a lot of chaos which makes matters worse. Also, I'm glad that *WONA* is making a sincere effort and trying to take the matter forward for the benefit of both the students and the *IITR Hospital*.”

				
Yes: 58% No: 42%	Yes: 21% No: 79%	Yes: 17% No: 83%	Yes: 92% No: 8%	Yes: 89% No: 11%
1. In time of need would you like to use IIT-R hospital's services?	2. Do you think that the diagnosis/ treatment provided at the hospital is effective?	3. Is the hospital facility enough to cater the entire student population of IIT-R?	4. Do you think the ambulance facility is satisfactory in terms of speed and quality?	5. Should the hospital organise regular health checkups?

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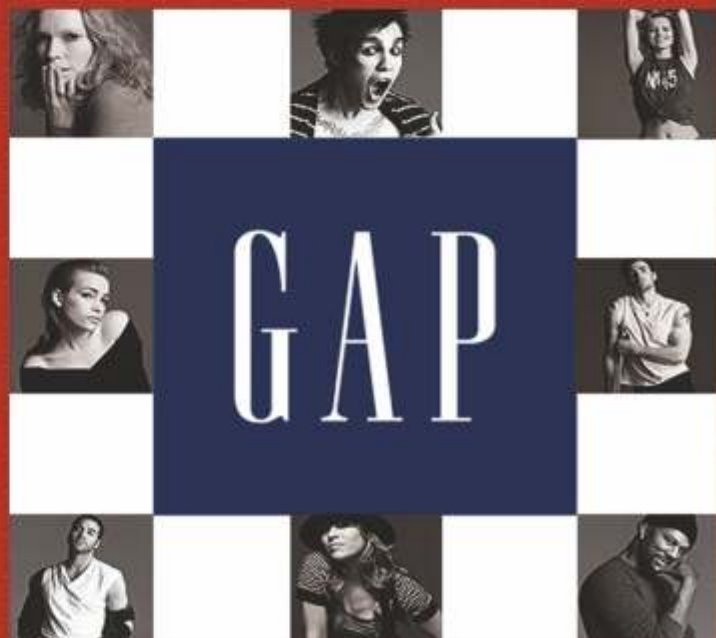
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