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# தமிழ்ப்பேராயத் தொடக்கவிழா



தமிழ்ப்பேராயத் தொடக்கவிழாவில் கலந்துகொண்ட அறிஞர் பெருமக்கள் - இடமிருந்து வலம் திரு. மு.பெ. சத்தியவேல் முருகனார், முனைவர் பீ.மு. அபிபுல்லா, முனைவர் சிறீப் பாலசுப்பிரமணியன், கவிஞர் ஈரோடு தமிழன்பன், மூதறிஞர் தமிழண்ணல், சிலம்பொலி சு. செல்வப்பன், முதன்மைக் கல்வி அதிகாரி முனைவர் மு. பொன்னவைக்கோ, வேந்தர் முனைவர் தா.இரா. பச்சமுத்து, முனைவர் இ. சுந்தரமூர்த்தி, முதுமுனைவர் இரா. இளங்குமரனார், முனைவர் கு.வெ. பாலசுப்பிரமணியன்.

நம் பல்கலைக்கழகம் கலை, அறிவியல், பொறியியல், மருத்துவம் போன்ற பல்வேறு துறைகளில் இளைவை முதற்சொண்டு ஆய்வுநிலை வரைச் சிறந்த உயர்ச்சிவியை வழங்கிவருகின்றது. இப் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் கலை அறிவியல் புலத்தில் தமிழ்மொழிக் கல்வி ஆய்வுப் படிப்பு வரை வழங்கப்பட்டு வருகின்றது. இப் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் வேந்தர், துணை வேந்தர், முதன்மைக்கல்வி அதிகாரி முன்னிட்ட பலரும் தமிழ்மொழிபால் ஆழ்ந்த பற்றுடையவர்கள். இப் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் வாயிலாகச் சிறந்த தமிழ்ப் பணியை ஆற்றுவதற்காக நம் திரு. இராமசாமி நினைவுப் (SRM) பல்கலைக்கழகத்தில் 'தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்' என்னும் அமைப்பு தொடங்கப்பட்டு அதன் தொடக்கவிழா 3.2.2011 வியாழன் அன்று நடைபெற்றது.

தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தை அறிமுகப்படுத்தி, தொடக்கவிழாவிற்கு வருகைதந்த சிறப்பு விருந்தினர்கள், பேராசிரியர் மற்றும் மாணவர்களை SRM பல்கலைக்கழக முதன்மைக் கல்வி அதிகாரி பேரா. மு. பொன்னவைக்கோ அவர்கள் வரவேற்றுப் பேசினார். அப்பொழுது உலக மொழிகளுள் சிறந்த, தமிழ்மொழிக்குத் தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் தொடங்கவேண்டும் என்பது வேந்தரின் நீண்டநாள் விருப்பம். அவ்வகையில் தமிழறிஞர்களுடன் கலந்தாய்ந்து அவர்களின் வழிகாட்டுதலுடன் இத் தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் தொடங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது என்றார்.

தமிழ்ப்பேராயத் திட்டங்களை அறிமுகப்படுத்தும் போது, பாடம் மக்களும் எளிய முறையில் புரிந்துகொள்ளும் வகையில் மழுலைக் கல்வி முதல் அனைவருக்கும் பயன்படுமாறு தொல்காப்பியத்தின் சாரத்தைப் பிழிந்து சிறுசிறு நூல்களாக வெளியிடத் தொல்காப்பியப் பள்ளியும் தமிழ் இணையதளங்களை எளிய முறையில் கையாளும் வகையில் கணினி மின் ஆலமையை வளர்த்தெடுக்கும் கணினித்தமிழ் வளர்ச்சித்துறையும் சாகித்திய அகாடமி செய்யும் பணிகளுக்கு இணையான, தமிழ்மொழிப் பணிகளைச் செய்து SRM கல்விக்கழக விருதுகளை வழங்கப் பேராய அமைப்பையும் தமிழ் முதுகலை, தமிழ் ஆய்வியல் நிறைஞர் படிப்புகளை இணையவழியாக வழங்க இணையவழிக் கல்வித்துறையும் நாம் நம் தாய்மொழித் தமிழிலேயே இறைவனை வழிபடுவதற்கு வகை செய்யும் தமிழ் அருட்சனைஞர் பட்டயப் படிப்பு வழங்கத் தமிழ் சமயக் கல்வித்துறையும் ஆகிய ஐந்து மணியான பணிகளைக் கொண்டிருக்கும் தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் என்று அறிமுகப்படுத்தினார்.

இத்தகு பேராயத்தை, கல்வித் தந்தையாக விளங்கும் பாரிவேந்தர் என்று பெருமையோடு அழைக்கப்பெறும் பல்கலைக்கழக வேந்தர் முனைவர் தா. இரா. பச்சமுத்து அவர்கள் தொடங்கிவைத்துப் பேராயாற்றும்போது

தமிழ்ப்பேராயத் தொடக்கவிழா தமிழுக்காக, தமிழ் வளர்ச்சிக்காக நடைபெறும் முதல் நிகழ்ச்சி என்பது நமக்குப் பெருமை சேர்ப்பதாக அமைகிறது என்றார். தமிழின் பெருமையை உலகுக்கு உணர்த்துவது நம் கூடமை என்ற அடிப்படையில் தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் தொடங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. சாகித்திய அகாடமிக்கு இணையான ஒன்று தமிழகத்தில் குறிப்பாக SRM -இல் இருக்கவேண்டும் என்பதற்காகவே இவ் அமைப்பு தொடக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. மாணவர்கள் தமிழைக் கற்றுச் சிறப்பிற்று மற்றவர்களுக்கு வழிசாட்டியாக இருக்கவேண்டும் என்பதற்காகவே இத் தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் தன்னுள் பல்துறைகளை அடக்கியுள்ளது என்றார். முடிவாக, சாகித்திய அகாடமி போன்று ஆண்டுதோறும் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்படும் சிறந்த படைப்புகளுக்கு SRM கல்விக்கழக விருதுகளை அறிவித்தார்.

தமிழ்ப் பல்கலைக்கழக மேனாள் துணைவேந்தர் முனைவர் இ.சுந்தரமூர்த்தி அவர்கள் தலைமைதாங்கிப் பேசும்போது, தமிழின் பழைய வேர்களைத் தேடித் தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் செயல்படுகிறது. நம் இலக்கியங்களின் பெருமையையும் அறிவுசான்ற முன்னோர்களின் பெருமையையும் இணைய தலைமுறைக்கு இப் பேராயம் எடுத்துச்செல்கிறது. பழைய பண்பாட்டையும் வரலாற்றையும் மொழிவளத்தையும் உலகுக்கு உணர்த்தும் வகையில் ஐந்து திட்டங்களைப் பெற்றுள்ளது. 1901-இல் பாண்டித்திரைத்தேவர் தோற்றுவித்த தமிழ்ச்சங்கம் வரலாற்றில் புழப்பெற்றதைப்போல இன்று தொடங்கப்பெறும் இத் தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் இன்னும் ஒரு நூற்றாண்டு சழித்து வரலாற்றில் சிறப்பாகப் பதிவுசெய்யப்பட்டிருக்கும் எனப் பாராட்டி, தலைமையுரையாற்றினார்.

தமிழ் அருட்சனைஞர் (அர்ச்சகர்) ஆவதற்குத் தேவையான பயிற்சிகளை வழங்குவதற்காக அருட்சனைஞர் பட்டயப் படிப்பு தமிழ் சமயக்கல்வித் துறையின்கீழ் அறிமுகப்படுத்தப்பட்டுள்ளது.

தமிழகச் சமய வரலாறு, தமிழ் வாழ்வியல் சடங்குகள் போன்ற பாடங்கள் இதில் கற்பிக்கப்படுகின்றன. இத் திட்டம் தொடர்பான கருத்துக்களை முதுமுனைவர் இரா. இளங்குமரனார் அவர்கள் கூறும்போது, நாம் எத்தனை மொழிகளைப் படித்தாலும் நம் தாய்மொழியையும் படிக்கவேண்டும். நம் தாய்மொழியை என்றும் இழக்கக்கூடாது. உலகம் இன்று விரிந்துள்ளது. தமிழர்கள் இல்லாத நாடே இல்லை எனலாம். அவர்கள் தமிழைக் காக்கவேண்டும் என்று துடிக்கின்றனர். அந்தத் துடிப்பு நமக்கும் வேண்டும். எந்தப் பல்கலைக்கழகமும் செய்யாத சிறப்பைத் தமிழுக்கு இப் பேராயத்தின் வாயிலாக SRM பல்கலைக்கழகம் செய்துள்ளது. நம் குடும்பச் சடங்குகளை நாமே நம் மொழியில் நடத்தும் வகையில் இவ் அருட்சனைஞர்க் கல்வி அமையும் என எடுத்துரைத்தார்.

தமிழ்மொழியின் தொன்மைக்கும் பழமைக்கும் சான்றாக விளங்குவது தொல்காப்பியம் ஆகும். தொல்காப்பியத்தை அனைத்துத் தரப்பினரும் படித்துப் பயன்பெறும் வகையில் தொல்காப்பியப் பள்ளி தொடங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. தொல்காப்பியச் சான்றிதழ் வகுப்பு, பட்டய வகுப்பு நடத்துதல், தொல்காப்பியத்தை உலகெங்கும் பரப்புவது குறித்துத் தொடர் ஆய்வுகளை நிகழ்த்துதல், அவரவர் நிலைகளுக்கு ஏற்ப கற்பித்தல், தொல்காப்பியம் தொடர்பான ஆய்வுப் பேரவைகள், கலந்துரையாடல்களை நிகழ்த்துதல், தொல்காப்பிய நூற்பொருள்களை எளிய நடையில் 10 சிறு நூல்கள் படக்காட்சிகளுடன் எழுதி வெளியிடல் போன்றவை தொல்காப்பியப் பள்ளியின் நோக்கமாகும். இத் திட்டம் குறித்து மூதறிஞர் தமிழண்ணல் அவர்கள் எடுத்துரைத்ததோடு, பொறியியல், அறிவியல், கலையியல் இவற்றோடு இன்று தமிழியலுக்காக அமைப்பு தொடங்குவது நிறைவாக உள்ளது என்று கூறினார்.

முதுகலைத் தமிழ், ஆய்வியல் நிறைஞர்

பட்டங்களை இணையவழியாக வழங்குதல், சங்க இலக்கியத் தனிநூற் பயிற்சி அளித்தல் ஆகியவை இணையவழிக் கல்வித்துறையின் நோக்கமாகும் என்று, இத்திட்டத்தின் செயல்பாடுகளை அறிமுகப்படுத்திய முனைவர் பீ.மு. அபிபுல்லா அவர்கள் உரையாற்றினார். மேலும் மாணவர்கள் சொந்த உணர்வுகளைப் படைப்புகள் வாயிலாக வெளிப்படுத்த விரும்பினால் அதற்குத் தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் உதவும். கவிஞர்கள், எழுத்தாளர்கள் இங்கு, படைப்புப் பயிற்சிக்கான பயிலரங்குகளை நடத்துவார்கள் அதன் வாயிலாகப் படைப்பு வழிகாட்டல் மாணவர்களுக்குக் கிடைக்கும் என்றார்.

SRM தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தில் தொடங்கவிருக்கும் சாகித்திய அகாடமியின் செயல்பாடுகள் போன்றப் பணிகளை அறிமுகப்படுத்திய பேரா. சிறீப் பாலசுப்பிரமணியன் அவர்கள் கவிதை, சிறுகதை, புதினம், ஆராய்ச்சி, நாடகம், அறிவியல், மொழியாக்கம், நுண்கலை எனப் பல்வேறு துறைகளின்வழி வெளிவரும் சிறந்த படைப்புகளைத் தேர்ந்தெடுத்து ஆண்டுதோறும் எட்டு அறிஞர்களுக்கு விருதுகளையும் மதிப்புறு தகைஞர் என்னும் தமிழறிஞர் விருதையும் தமிழ் மூதறிஞர் ஒருவருக்குப் பச்சமுத்து பைந்தமிழ் விருதையும் வழங்குவதை ஒரு நோக்கமாகக் கொண்டது SRM தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் என்று குறிப்பிட்டு உரையாற்றினார். மேலும் பல்வேறு மொழிகளில் வெளியான மிகச்சிறந்த நூல்களை மொழிபெயர்த்து வெளியிடுதல், தமிழிலேயே பல்துறை நூல்களை வெளியிடுதல், அச்சில் கிடைக்கப்பெறாத தொன்மையான தமிழ் நூல்களை மறுபதிப்பு செய்தல் முதலான பணிகள் SRM தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தின் பிற இன்றியமையாதப் பணிகள் என்றும் குறிப்பிட்டார்.

காலத்திற்கு ஏற்பத் தன்னைப் புதுப்பித்துக் கொள்வது தமிழின் தனித்தன்மையாகும். அவ்வகையில் எதிர்காலத்திற்குத் தமிழை வளர்த்தெடுத்துச்செல்லக் கணினித்தமிழ் குறித்த புதிய துறை SRM தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தில் தொடங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. தமிழ் மென்பொருளை உருவாக்கிவர்களைக் கண்டறிந்து அவர்களுக்குச் சிறப்புச் செய்தல் கணினித் தமிழ் தொடர்பான சான்றிதழ் மற்றும் பட்டய வகுப்புகளின்வழி பயிற்சிகளை வழங்குதல் போன்றவை இதன் செயல்பாடுகளாகும். இத்திட்டங்கள் குறித்துப் பேரா. ந. தெய்வசுந்தரம் அவர்கள் எடுத்துரைத்தார்கள்.

தமிழறிஞர் சிலம்பொலி சு. செல்வப்பன் அவர்கள் வாழ்த்திப் பேசும்போது, உங்கள் வேந்தரை நான் ஐம்பது ஆண்டுகளாக அறிவேன். அவர் திருச்சி ஐமால் முகமது கல்லூரியில் படித்த காலத்திலேயே மாணவர் தமிழ்மன்றம் நடத்தினார். அப்போது அம் மன்றத்தில் பேச என்னை அழைத்திருந்தார்.

## SRM தமிழ்ப்பேராய விருதுகள்

படைப்பிலக்கியம்	புதுமைப்பித்தன் விருது	ரூ. 1,50,000
கவிதை	பாரதியார் விருது	ரூ. 1,50,000
குழந்தை இலக்கியம்	அழ. வள்ளியப்பா விருது	ரூ. 1,50,000
மொழிபெயர்ப்பு	ஜி.யு. போப் விருது	ரூ. 1,50,000
அறிவியல் தமிழ்	பெ.நா. அப்புசாமி விருது	ரூ. 1,50,000
நுண்கலை	ஆனந்த குமாரசாமி விருது	ரூ. 1,50,000
தமிழிசை	முத்துத்தாண்டவர் விருது	ரூ. 1,50,000
இளம் படைப்பாளி	வளர்தமிழ் விருது	ரூ. 1,50,000
சிறந்த தமிழறிஞரான	பரிதிமாற்கலைஞர் விருது	ரூ. 2,00,000
மதிப்புறு தகைஞர்		
தமிழ்ப்பேரறிஞருக்கு		
வாழ்நாள் சாதனையாளர் பச்சமுத்து பைந்தமிழ் விருது		ரூ. 5,00,000

# Traditional media in danger of extinction?

John Sunday

The greatest threat that modern media poses to our society is when 'image' takes over reality and facts and the difference between "image" and "reality" has been blurred to such an extent the concept of reality has really been lost, says Padma Shri Dr.S.Krishnaswamy of Krishnaswamy Associates.

Delivering the Inaugural Address at the SRM University's two day international symposium on *The Changing Face of Media in the Era of Globalisation and Information Technology* Dr.Krishnaswamy spoke of the different cycles of change with respect to the media. At each step of the cycle we must stop to understand these changes and plot out what needs to be done in the future, he maintained.

"The idea of finding truth behind the facts, this is no longer how the media operates" Dr. Krishnaswamy said adding that the introduction of multimedia in 1993 brought a boom to Information Technology which enabled people to readily access news anywhere unlike before.

Organized by the Department of Journalism and Mass communication, Faculty of science and Humanities, SRM University, Kattankulathur, Chennai, the symposium was held at the T.P. Ganesan Auditorium of the University recently. The future of the traditional media, and the challenges facing them in the present era of media globalization and Information Technology was at the front burner

The speakers at the event left the minds of the students pondering as to whether the mainstream media were heading towards extinction as they highlighted the global impact of the New Media. Most of them were of the view that the entire parameters of news dissemination have changed as a result of internet and social media.

This, according to Mr. Kiruba Shankar, social media expert has brought about "customized journalism and media-on-demand content development which people can access wherever and whenever they need it".

The above media landscape, according to Dr Daya Thussu,



Dr. Ponnavaiko handing over a copy of the souvenir to Dr. Krishnaswamy as others look on.

Professor of International Communication and Co-Director of India Media Centre, University of Westminster, United Kingdom, has made the news sphere very crowded and competitive and could leave the traditional media in the lurch in years to come. This emerging trend in media globalisation might have led to Prof. Terry Clark's observation that for newspapers to remain relevant, they should write and report for the web, and then for the newspaper.

Terry Clark, Professor and Director of the Journalism Hall of Fame, University of Central Oklahoma, USA, noted that American newspapers were responding to the online media convergence by turning to the internet while televisions were phasing out.

Dr. Marsha Woodbury, of the University of Illinois, USA and currently a Fulbright-

Nehru scholar, corroborated Prof. Clark's assertion on the impact of media globalization on American print media when he said: "in America newspapers are falling, jobs in the publishing industry are diminishing, and Wall Street Journal charges money to be read online".

In his own contribution, Mr. M.R. Venkatesh, a columnist and author, said that he foresaw internet replacing television sets in future. According to him, the death knell would be sounded on television sets because whatever news or information one would wait to get from television broadcast could readily be got from the internet.

Prof. A. Jayashree attributed the bleak future facing the mainstream media to the fact that it has failed to fill the gap as a result of partisanship and sensationalism. According to

him, "recession has hit the traditional media, and 2038 has been given as the deadline for the extinction of newspapers in India, while those in America will go under earlier."

In his keynote address at the inaugural event, Mr. Navdeep Suri, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs in charge of Public Diplomacy, said that the emergence of new media in general, and social network in particular has led to fundamental restructuring of the entire media. "The new media has moved us to interactive media unlike the traditional media. While the traditional media is selective of its audience based on age, location and sometimes social status, the new media cluster people irrespective of these differences," he said.

Mr. Suri, who described himself as a recent convert to new media, stressed the

advantages of the new media in public diplomacy which included creation of a platform for the public feedback on some government policies through tweeter or face book. He also said that it is to the kudos of the new media that "mobile phones have made us citizen journalists everywhere. If we come across an accident scene, all we need is use our mobile phones and take some shots of the accident and call the police to the place".

A ray of hope was, however, given to the mainstream media by Prof. Jayashree when she noted "when television emerged, people thought it would replace newspapers, but the print media reinvented themselves, and today, televisions are rather going down". Dr Woodbury maintained "the dwindling fortunes of newspapers in America notwithstanding, journalism students in India should be optimistic because 200 million Indians read newspapers every day".

Dr.Artemis Preeshl, Dancer, theatre artist and film maker from the Loyola University, New Orleans, spoke about digital cooperation in the global age, in her presentation 'The Janice Effect'.

She compared the piracy, copyright and black market situations and policies in America and India and spoke of instances where she wondered if a DVD that she purchased was legal or not. The Copyright Act of 1957, which has been amended many times since then, does not consider reproducing or using copyrighted material or work as copyright violation if used for religious, social or educational purposes. Some people believe in restrictions in using material off the digital media, while other assume piracy over such media and this according to her introduces conflict between a forward momentum in the digital media.

Dr. R.Balasubramanian, Director, Faculty of Science and Humanities gave the welcome address and the Provost, Dr.M.Ponnavaiko delivered the Presidential address. Dr. Sridhar Krishnaswami, Head, School of Media Studies proposed a vote of thanks.



Registrar Dr. Sethuraman handing over a memento to Mr.Dan Saint Rossy as Dr. Balasubramaniam looks on.

# Agni bags Best House title, Prithvi is runners up

**Karthik Arunapuram and Priyanka Prasad**

If James Bond had a license to kill, Angels and Demons of the four houses of SRM bagged a license to steal the hearts of the audience at the inter-house competition called *Jhalak*.

With high decibel levels, vibrant faces and fancy outfits, *Jhalak* was aptly personified by the array of fun filled performances by the four houses. Ms. Malati Laxmanan, a renowned singer was invited as the chief guest for the show.

Band performances from the four houses with a wide range of music from soft chords to hard rock got the audience on their feet. After a close battle between all the bands, Agni house bagged the title of the best band.

It was followed by the Dance competition where each house came up with a very creative performance on the theme



*A student dance performance during Jhalak*

Angels and Demons. With various different plotlines and seamless transitions, the four dance teams were a big hit. Agni house again stole the best dancer's title making it two in a row. The fashion show showcased some of the hunks & beauties of our university walking down the ramp and dazzling the audience. Hitting a hatrick, Agni won the fashion show as well. The final event was the split screen where the

dancing pairs or individual dancers were judged based on their co-ordination and grace.

Breaking the much awaited anticipations of participants and audience, Mr Malti announced the results. Akash and Agni houses bagged the prize for best concept and Priyanka George of Prithvi house was given the best performer award. The coveted "Best House" title went to Agni house, with Prithvi house bagging the runners up.

# Over 600 participate in Xplociv '11

**Rahul Walia and Prerana Agarwal**

The Department of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, SRM University, recently conducted a two-day national level symposium *Xplociv '11* exceptional vigour and élan. Though conducted after a gap of seven years, it proved to be an enviable saga of fun and learning. It saw participation of over 600 students from various colleges of South India.

Dr. Nageesh. R. Iyer, Director of SERC, Chennai, inaugurated the event recently. Mr. K Praveen, Student Secretary of *Xplociv '11* and Dr. R. Annadurai, Convener and Head of the Department of Civil Engineering gave the welcome address.

A total of 17 events were conducted in association with Indian Concrete Institute (ICI), Consolidated Consortium Limited (CCCL), Chennai, Krishna Constructions, Indian Water Works Association (IWWA), RCX Infra and Reliance with over 6 lakhs as prize money.

The events were judged by experts and professionals from the industry and institutions like IIT-Madras and Anna University. Competitions like "Stand with Richter", "PH Hygiene", "Guess 3D", "Bridge-a-Kriti" and "Innovation in Renovation" brought out a sizeable crowd.

Following the event, a guest lecture was delivered by Mr. Kingsly, Joint General Manager, CCCL, Chennai.

Dr. C Muthamizhchelvan, Director of Engineering & Technology, SRM University, presided over the valediction.

# *Spectrum*: Turning dreams into a reality

**Team Spectrum**

Three years ago, a group of engineering students came together to pamper their inherent, and shared, passion for writing. Interestingly, the Faculty of the then School of Journalism and Mass Communication had no doubts about their potential. They trained them rigorously for three months - headers and captions, colons and semicolons, editing and proofreading - nothing was left untouched.

For all their hardwork, the team was asked to name the much awaited University newspaper. It took half a dozen meetings to find the perfect name that reflected the essence of the newspaper. Finally, the first issue of *SpectRuM* was published in December, 2007, with a circulation of 10,000 copies. Three years on, with the present readership of approximately 90,000, *Spectrum* has definitely come a long way.

*Spectrum* has the most diverse team working for it. The core engineering team is guided by the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication. Students

of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication are regular reporters too. The group functions like any organisation, striving to do well and to meet deadlines every month, a fresh bout of enthusiasm for every release.

Copies of *Spectrum*, now the pulse of SRM, reach out to the staff and students in five campuses, viz. Kattankulathur, Ramapuram, Vadapalani, Trichy and Modinagar. Articles and reports in *Spectrum* cover a wide range of topics including success stories of staff and students, academic developments, infrastructure development, entertainment, conferences,

workshops, awards, events, interviews, sports and research.

Team *Spectrum* meets every week to indulge in brainstorming sessions and to identify what's new in this vibrant campus of ours. We discuss and allocate work, deadlines are set, and work begins. This is a broad overview of how we work, accompanied by a lot of fun. This is consistent organisational working at its best.

*Spectrum* has been the best thing to happen in college, and goes on to define college life for all of us, the team members of Team *Spectrum*. Dedicatedly working for something and seeing

the results being acknowledged and admired by a University has its own incomparable charm, but two things that drive us more than anything else are our passion to write, and the pleasure of working with one another.

Working with a diverse set of people has broadened our purview, which otherwise, would have been limited. We, as Team *Spectrum*, have become the fountainhead of energy and passion for ourselves. The invaluable insights Team *Spectrum* has provided, in terms of both, value and skill, will remain etched forever in our hearts and minds. The daunting

task of becoming the voice of the campus, accomplished by *SpectRuM*, suffuses humility and pride, alike, in us.

Three years of constant learning and growth have given us much more than what we had imagined, and now comes the time when we ready ourselves for a brutally competitive world out there. The thought of leaving *Spectrum* and one another in another three months fills us with deep sorrow of the inevitable, but endless exuberance of leaving a legacy that will continue to be nurtured and grown.

The core engineering group (Team *Spectrum*) comprises the following Final year students: Abhishek Panikar, Aparna Nair, Deepak Pinninty, Menorca Chaturvedi, Moen Sen, Nivedita, Ritika Agarwal, Sharoni Mitra, Shiv Nadar, Shreya Chandrasekhar, Siddharth Panicker, Tirthankar Jana, Varun Krishnan.

They were joined by eight third year students over a year ago and have recently been joined by a group of second year students.



**Shreya Chandrasekhar and Siddharth Panicker**

The Centre for Environmental Nuclear Research (CENR), formerly known as the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research, radiates an undying pursuit for knowledge in the form of research.

Comprising a plethora of laboratories, the CENR, located on the fourth floor of the University Building, is a host to path-breaking research in many areas. Independently funded by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) and the Atomic Energy Regulated Board (AERB), and supported by the Directorate of Research, SRM University, it has many reasons to be proud of.

“The equipment and technology used here is top notch and highly modern,” said Dr. Kantha D. Arunachalam, Ph.D., M.A. Sc., (Canada), who heads the centre. “Radiation Safety Laboratory, Nutrition analysis Laboratory, Plant Tissue Engineering Lab, Instrumentation Laboratory, Toxicology Laboratory, Taxonomy and Zoology Laboratory, and the Genomics and Proteomics Laboratory are just few of the many laboratories that form the CENR,” she explained.

The projects being undertaken here are of high importance, and are equally fascinating. The research and developmental activities are focused on Environmental Biotechnology, Clinical Research and Nanotechnology, in collaboration with the School of Civil Engineering and the Centre for Excellence in Nanotechnology.

They are also assisted by other institutes and R & D centres like Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) at Kalpakkam, King Institute at Guindy and industries like Hatsun Agro Products Ltd., Medox Biotech Private Ltd, and Chennai.

An ongoing project in the field of Radiation Protection pertains to the environmental impact of radionuclide present in Uranium mining sites around Nagarjuna Sagar Dam. The water samples are collected from different places around the Nagarjuna Sagar and the presence of radio nuclides and their effects are being studied. This project is headed by Dr. Arunachalam and BARC, Mumbai has issued a grant of Rs. 50,42,000 for the same.

Another interesting project

# Vetiver could immobilise radiation effects of Uranium, feels Dr Kantha



Dr. Kantha with her team.

lead by Dr. Arunachalam and Ms. Pandima Devi is the “Evaluation of *Vetiver* for uptake and immobilization of Uranium and residual radionuclide in mill tailings soil and post-treated effluents.” The *Vetiver* (*Khus*) grass is known to absorb several metals like arsenic, cadmium, copper, chromium, lead, zinc, aluminium, manganese and mercury from the mill tailing soil. This grass is, therefore, being analysed for its ability to take up uranium and residual radionuclide in the soil, thus preventing any radio hazards. BARC, Mumbai extended its support by providing a fund of Rs. 35, 75,650.

Since natural background radiation is a major source of human exposure to radiation, “the dietary intakes of naturally occurring actinides and rare earths in high radiation background area of Manavalakurichi in Tamil Nadu” is an important study. BARC, Mumbai is supporting this project with a grant of Rs. 27, 80,400 which, again, is headed by Dr. Arunachalam and Ms. Subhashini.

“Development of radio protectants as a supplement for radiation workers exposed to low doses of ionising radiation”, a project lead by Dr. Arunachalam, is under negotiations with IGCAR.

“Production and characterisation of Bio caulk (Bio

cement) by urease producing microorganisms and its remediation properties of concrete fractures and fissures in combination with Nanocarbon” and “Fabrication of Nanoparticles impregnated antimicrobial latex products” also lead by Dr. Arunachalam, are in talks with BARC. The costliest project of all being “The Probiotic effect on human health”, which aims at developing a dietary supplement that could act as immune enhancers for general public including special cases like patients of various diseases, radiation workers and HIV AIDs patients. The Rs. 6 crore worth project is being negotiated with the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

The centre for Environmental Nuclear Research has filed a

patent for “a novel production method of Casein Phospho Peptides (CPP)” which has a unique property of providing protection against radiation. “This protein is further being used in the development of supplement for humans and for animals,” says Dr. Arunachalam. “The research so far has shown promising results.” As things stand, the CENR might acquire three more patents for “Biocaulk production process”, “Designing of Bio column for Biocaulk Production” and “Production of Saponin-Extract from Memecylon Edule Callus”. These patents are being processed, the last two being the works of Ph. D. scholars Mr. Sathesh Kumar A and Ms Tamizhamudu Ezhavalagan working under Dr. Arunachalam.

One of the projects funded by SRM University

is the “Investigation of the properties of Bioconcrete”, its principal investigator being Dr. Arunachalam. It is being co-investigated by Dr. M. Lakshmipathy and Dr. K. S. Satyanarayanan of the school of Civil Engineering, SRM University. Bio concrete is a new generation of concrete in which selective cementation of porous media has been introduced for the remediation of damaged structural formation or micro- cracks. This project involved six M. Tech (3 in Biotechnology Engineering and 3 in Civil engineering) and six B. Tech students in Biotechnology Engineering.

Dr. Arunachalam heads a group of Four Junior Research Fellowship students, five Technical Assistants from BARC and eight Ph. D. scholars (2 part-time and 6 full-time). Two Ph.D students have submitted the thesis and waiting for their Public Viva, also two more students have submitted their Synopsis. They believe in attaining new heights in research and understanding life processes, to utilize them for the advantage of humanity.

Dr. Arunachalam has been awarded the Women Bioscientist Award by the Society of Applied Biotechnologists.

Mr. Sathesh Kumar has been awarded the Young Investigator Award by the Society of Applied Biotechnologists.

Mr. Sathesh Kumar and Dr. Arunachalam also won the KAPL Award for Best Paper on Industrial Biotechnology by Society of Biotechnologist (INDIA).

The department also won the Best Poster award from the International Conference on Radiation Biologist (ICRB) by the Indian Society of Radiation Biology.



Staff and Research Scholars conducting lab tests.

## தமிழ்ப்பேராயம்...

↪ ப.2

அப்பொழுதே நான் அவரின் தமிழ்ப்பற்றை நன்கு அறிவேன். தமிழ் வளர்ச்சிக்கு அன்று தொண்டாற்றிய பாபரிக்குத் துணையாகக் கபிலர் இருந்தார். அதுபோல இன்று தமிழ் வளர்ச்சிக்குத் தொண்டாற்றத் துடிக்கும் பாபரிவேந்தருக்குத் துணையாகப் பொன்னவைக்கோ என்ற கபிலர் கிடைத்துள்ளார். பாபரிவேந்தரும் கபிலரும் சேர்ந்திருப்பதால் வெற்றி என்றும் உறுதி என வாழ்த்திப் பேசினார்.

கவிஞர் ஈரோடு தமிழன்பன் அவர்கள் வாழ்த்திப் பேசும்போது தமிழர்கள் வன்பொருள் கற்றாலும் மென்பொருள் கற்றாலும் மனிதனுக்கு நன்பொருளாக இருக்கக்கூடிய தமிழைக் கற்கவேண்டும் எனக் கூறினார். தமிழுக்காகப் பத்து விருதுகளை வழங்கித் தமிழுக்கு உயரிய பரிமாணத்தைக் கொடுக்கவல்ல தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் வெற்றிபெற வாழ்த்துகிறேன் என்று கூறி வாழ்த்தினார்.

பேரா. கு.வெ. பாலசுப்பிரமணியன் அவர்கள் வாழ்த்திப் பேசும்போது, தமிழை வளர்ப்பதற்காகத் தொடங்கப்பட்டிருள்ள தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தின் தேவையை உணர்த்தி, வாழ்க்கையில் பொழுதுபோக்கு இருக்கலாம் ஆனால் வாழ்க்கையே பொழுதுபோக்காக இருக்கக் கூடாது, அவ்வாறு வாழ்க்கையே பொழுதுபோக்காக நினைத்து நாம் தமிழை மறந்தோம். இந் நிலை மாற இப் பேராயம் வழிவகை செய்யும் என வாழ்த்தினார்.

திரு. மு.பெ. சத்தியவேல் முருகனார் அவர்கள் வாழ்த்திப் பேசும்போது, முல்லைக்குத் தேர் கொடுத்தார் சங்ககாலப் பாபரி முத்தமிழுக்குத் தேர் கொடுத்தார் இன்றைய பாபரிவேந்தர் என்று கூறித் தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் தொடர்ந்து பல்வேறு ஆக்கப் பணிகளைச் செய்யும் என வாழ்த்தினார்.

நிறைவாக SRM அறிவியல் மற்றும் கலையியல் மொழிப்புலத் தலைவர் முனைவர் கோ. பாக்கியவதி ரவி அவர்கள் நன்றியுரை நிகழ்த்தினார். தமிழ்த்துறை விரிவுரையாளர் இல. சுந்தரம் அவர்கள் நிகழ்ச்சிகளைத் தொகுத்து வழங்க, தமிழ்ப்பேராயத் தொடக்கவிழா இனிதே நிறைவுற்றது.

## Dr Ilango promoted

Dr. K. Ilango, Vice Principal SRM College of Pharmacy, has been promoted and posted as Dean of the Interdisciplinary School of Indian System of Medicine, SRM University.



Dr. Ilango

## Dept. of English organises Eurhythm '11

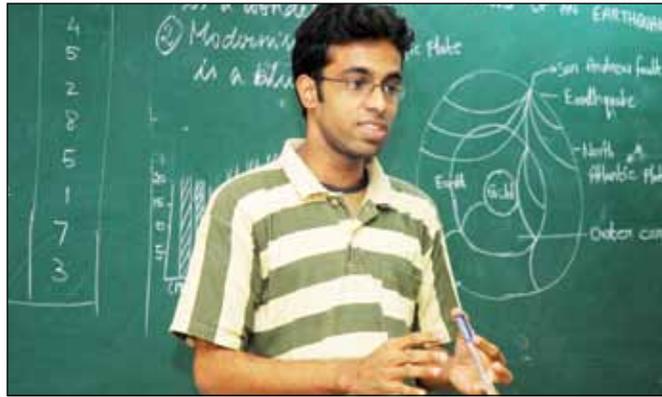
Vidyavathi Prasant

The students of the Faculty of Science and Humanities (FSH) competed in various events during Eurhythm '11.

The Literary Club of the Department of English, FSH, organised the fest recently. The competitions included events like

elocution, debate, extempore, essay writing and poetry writing testing the participants' creative skills. Also, artistic skills were showcased in competitions such as collage, calligraphy, face painting, nail painting and mehendi designing.

The prize winners will be awarded certificates in March this year.



(Above &amp; Below) Participants showcase their skills during Eurhythm

## Electrical safety issues explained

A Spectrum Reporter

The Department of Electrical & Electronics Engineering (EEE), SRM University, had recently organised a two-day training programme on *Electrical Wiring & Safety Measures* to serve the local people in and around SRM University.

Ms. J. Divya Navamani and Ms. A. Lavanya coordinated the programme. Mr. K. Vijaykumar, Assistant Professor, Department of EEE, inaugurated the programme. Forty students participated and topics like 'Electrical Safety Measures', 'Electrical Wiring' and 'Protection of Electrical Circuits' were covered. The participants were given hands on training about the fluorescent tube wiring, staircase wiring and domestic wiring.

## Over 700 attend Pathfinder 2011

Dr. D. Prabu

Over 700 delegates participated in a state-level conference titled *Pathfinder 2011*, a Continuing Dental Education (CDE) programme conducted for the Compulsory Rotatory Residential Internship (CRR) members at the SRM Dental College auditorium in Ramapuram



Chief Guest Dr. Babu with participants of Pathfinder



Dr. Vasanthakumar releasing booklet

## Ill-effects of oral cancer on youth discussed

A Spectrum Reporter

Ill-effects of chewable tobacco on misguided youth and the need to spread the knowledge of cancer and its diagnosis were the issues discussed during the day-long Workshop on Oral Cancer held recently.

The Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology of the SRM Dental College conducted the workshop as a part of the pre-conference programme of the 27th ISDR conference. At least 145 students from various colleges attended the workshop.

Those who attended and spoke during the event included Dr. K. Rajkumar, the organising chairman of the workshop, Dr. M. Vasanthakumar, Principal of S.R.M Dental College, Dr. V. Ranjarajan, the Secretary,

IDA Chennai branch and Vice-Principal of Sri Venkateshwara Dental College, and the Principal of Chettinad Dental College Dr. P. Rajesh.

Dr. Vasanthakumar released a booklet on oral cancer compiled by Dr. Rameshkumar, Department of Oral Pathology.

Video demonstrations on the basic tools in early detection of cancer were screened. Dr. Ragavendhar Karthik, Reader covered exfoliative cytology techniques and its applications. Dr. Preeti, a senior lecturer, demonstrated Toluidine blue application with the help of a video recording done on a patient. Dr. Magesh, Professor of Department of Oral Pathology presented a video demonstration on Punch biopsy technique.

campus recently.

Dr. Santosha Babu, IAS and the Managing Director of Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency, was the Chief Guest for the occasion. The Guest of Honor was Dr R.K. Bali, the President of Indian Association of Public Health Dentistry. He was the former president of the Dental

Council of India.

Others who attended the conference included the Registrar of SRM University, Dr. Sethuraman, the Principal of SRM Dental College, Dr. M. Vasantha Kumar, and the Vice- President of SRM Dental College, Dr. Ravi. K, who presided over the event.

# Varsity plans to set up a space lab called SRMSAT BUS

As SRM University gears up for the launch of SRMSAT, Navneet Iyengar of *Spectrum* caught up with **Mr. M. Loganathan**, Project Architect, Space Systems. Excerpts from the interview:

**Question: What are the characteristic features of a nano-satellite system?**

**Ans:** A nano-satellite basically weighs 10 kilograms or less. With a maximum lifetime of 18 months, it provides a platform to test a system device or a component. For example, if solar systems need to be tested for compatibility, they can be tested in a lesser period of time through nano-satellites. The greatest advantage though, is that it can be constructed easily by commercial components available in the local industries. This coupled with faster fabrication helps in cost-cutting to a large extent.

**Q: What are the technologies used in nano-satellites?**

**Ans:** Some of the technological components that are used include pressurised gas thrusters, miniature wheels, miniature GPS systems and magneto torques. MEMS-based components like sensors and other actuators are helpful in maintaining the required accuracy. Smart structures, gyros and propulsion systems are some of the other technologies used in a nano-satellite.

**Q: What are the major differences between nano-satellites and the larger conventional satellites?**

**Ans:** Well, to start with, the larger satellites have a lifetime of around six years in space. Apart from that, they are radiation hardened and follow strict military specifications. Engineering and proto models are rigorously tested before launch. Success is of vital importance due to a high budget and its applications are spread over different domains such as communications, remote sensing weather forecasting and so on, whereas nano-satellites are constructed for a specific use and are used as experimental projects that eventually help in attaining proposals for larger satellites.

**Q: Do you see a gradual shift from larger satellites to the nano-**



Dr. Loganathan

**satellites in near future?**

**Ans:** Not really, big satellites cannot be taken out of picture as they are capable of providing continuous data over a longer period of time. The main aim of a nano satellite is that after testing the technology employed in them can be imported into the larger satellites. But with the advent of formation flying, small satellites are being deployed in the place of larger ones. For example, with the same technique smaller satellites can provide intensive coverage of an area in case of fire or flood within a period of six hours whereas a big satellite would take five days.

**Q: How do you see the satellite technology improving in the next few years?**

**Ans:** Advances made in the quality of commercial components will greatly influence development of nano-satellites in the next few years. For example, equipments such as Atmel processors, cameras and GPS systems are directly used on a nano-satellite, so an improvement in their quality would directly impact the performance of the satellite. Magnetometers can be used more efficiently with better algorithms

and GPS systems can be used in place of altitude sensors for altitude detection in future.

**Q: How does a project such as SRMSAT benefit the student community?**

**Ans:** Projects such as SRMSAT greatly help in improving the knowledge levels of the students involved in it. As it is a multi-engineering project students from



A nano satellite of NASA

Projects such as SRMSAT greatly help in improving the knowledge levels of the students involved in it

different departments such as CSE, ECE, Mechanical, ITE, and Mechatronics have been working on it together. This inter-dependence helps the students to get total system knowledge. They get an opportunity to use different simulation tools, test devices and get a lot of industry exposure. It leads to overall development of a student and aids in their placement in top notch companies.

**Q: Having already overseen eight successful launches how much of an involvement is required from your side with the students?**

**Ans:** Well, students carry out the major work on the systems, we basically act as facilitators. We help them understand space based designs and tell them about parameters that have to be achieved in a design.

**Q: A word on the SRMSAT.**

**Ans:** SRMSAT is under the stage of development and will be ready in a short period of time. It may be launched along with ISRO's Megatrophiques as a piggyback. We are doing everything possible to ensure that there are no delays from our side and the launch will totally depend on the one proposed by ISRO.

**Q: Are there any new projects or proposals in the pipeline in collaboration with SRM University?**

**Ans:** It has been proposed to have a Space Lab on the lines of Goddard Space Centre, tentatively titled SRMSAT BUS, where multiple satellites will be stored. It would provide a platform for students of not only SRM, but other universities also, to learn a lot about space and take up related courses.

**Q: A message for the students.**

**Ans:** Students should come out with proposals for inter-planetary and Earth monitoring systems. They should grab opportunities such as SRMSAT with both hands as it provides exposure to a lot of different engineering disciplines. This will help them gain hands-on experience and lead to their overall development. Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman, Vice Chancellor and Director (Research) of SRM University for giving me this challenging opportunity to work with young brains and motivate them.

# Focus on research and sensitising young minds at Science Congress

**Prashanti Ganesh,  
Anuj Srivas and  
Chinmayee Mishra**

Kindling scientific temper among students and promoting the need for scientific research, the 98th Indian Science Congress provided a platform for the participants to interact with various Nobel Laureates, scientists and academicians. SRM University hosted the Congress recently.

The Congress saw participation from more than 10,400 delegates across India and abroad, including the six Nobel Laureates - Venkataraman Ramakrishnan, Thomas A. Steitz and Ada E. Yonath, who received the 2009 Nobel Prize for Chemistry, Martin Chalfie, who won the 2008 Nobel Prize for chemistry, Timothy Hunt, the recipient of the Nobel Prize in physiology of medicine in 2001 and Amartya Sen, who was awarded the 1998 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences.

Prime Minister Dr Manmohan

Singh, who inaugurated the Congress, stressed the need for better higher education and importance of government's role in working towards this cause. He advised the students to "think different and out of the box."

Revolving around the theme of Quality Education and Excellence in Scientific Research in Indian Universities, participants attended 16 plenary sessions and 14 sectional sessions, apart from the six Nobel lectures during the Congress. Some of the topics discussed at the plenary sessions were space, science policies, engineering science, energy security, climate change, biodiversity and agricultural issues.

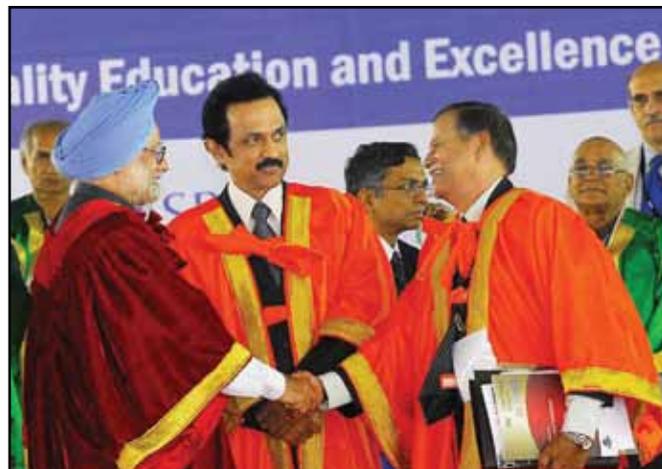
A Children's Science Congress, aimed at sensitising young minds on education and careers in science, was also held during the Congress. As a part of this event, an exhibition to showcase various school projects was organised where 14 young

awardees were provided with a cash prize and certificate of merit for their outstanding work in the field of science.

Prof. P Sathyanarayanan, Vice Chancellor, SRM University, who believes that research and teaching are intertwined, said, "Our efforts towards the Science Congress will supplement the efforts of the government in attracting the younger generation to Science and Technology, which is the need of the hour."

Dr Pachamuthu, Chancellor, SRM University, spoke of the involvement of the private sector in the educational system during the valedictory function of the Congress.

The Science Congress addressed several focal areas to make India knowledge empowered, hunger-free, healthy and developed country. It also threw light on the potential of private universities and the effective role they can play in nation building.



*The outgoing chief of ISC Association Dr. Pandey welcoming Dr. Manmohan Singh and Mr. Stalin*



*Delegates visiting the satellite stall at the science expo.*

## Round up...

### Conference on chemometrics

**A Spectrum Reporter**

SRM College of Pharmacy is inviting papers from research scholars for presentation during its two-day international conference on Perspectives in chemometrics at the Kattakulathur campus. The conference is to be held from April 9th to 11th this year, in association with Bristol University, UK and CEERI, Chennai. Further details on the conference can be had from <http://icopic2011.com/abstracts.html>.

### Swayam expo held

**A Spectrum Reporter**

Swayam, a two-day exhibition by Self Help Groups (SHGs), was

organized by SRM B-School at Vadapalani recently. Ms. Girija Raghavan, Editor and Publisher of Ladies Special, inaugurated the exhibition and advised the younger generations to learn from the SHGs. Various SHGs exhibited and sold their products like terracotta items, wax dolls, plastic crafts, artificial jewellery, palm leaf products, handicrafts, home-made snacks, decorative products and a lot more. Second year MBA student Ambrose Jaysingh was instrumental in bringing the SHGs to the campus.

### Mathematics gets a share of limelight

**Amrutha Murali**

Mathematics is an integral part of education and it got its own share of limelight at a recent two-day national level conference on Recent Developments in Mathematics and its Applications. The conference

was organised by the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, SRM University, for the third time on the Kattankulathur campus. Prof R Sridharan, President of Indian Mathematical Society and Honourary Scientist of Indian National Science Academy, was the chief guest for the inaugural function.

### Conference on bio-signals and digitisation held

**A Spectrum Reporter**

The Department of Physiology, Chennai Medical College Hospital and Research Center (SRM Group) organised a two-day programme on Bio signals; Digitization: Why and How? with a CME and a hands-on-workshop recently. The programme was supported by SRM University and the Medical Council of India and approved for CME accreditation by the Tamil Nadu

Dr.MGR Medical University under the aegis of Association of Physiologists of Tamil Nadu. The inaugural function was held in the Eswari Engineering College auditorium, Ramapuram campus. Dr. C. Ramachandran, Head of Physiology at SRM Medical College was the Chief Guest.

### IWWA 43rd annual convention

**Trisha Anand**

In today's scenario where every drop of water is an elixir of life, it has become really necessary to understand its importance. In an appreciable attempt for the same, the Indian counterpart of American Water Works Association, the Indian Water Works Association [IWWA] recently held its 43rd annual convention here at SRM University. SRM University was a co-organizer for the convention. It's an association established

in 1971 by engineers who work for conserving water. Mr. Ramaraju, a member says, "It's high time we take conservation of water seriously. The participation of youth shows their concern for the noble cause."

### SRMite selected to represent India in hockey

**A Spectrum Reporter**



P. Naveen Kumar, a first year BCA student of the Faculty of Science and Humanities, has earned the honour of being selected to attend the Senior Men Hockey Coaching Camp to be held at MDC, National Stadium, Delhi from 10 March to 9 April. He is one of two players selected from the Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu to take part in the camp, which is being held in preparation for the 20th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup to take place at Ipoh, Malaysia from 5 - 15 May 2011.

# Team Conrods wins Go Green Technology Award at SAE Baja 2011

**R.Krishnan**

'Dirt Reaper'- the latest vehicle from Team Conrods, the SAE Baja team of SRM University, won the Go Green Technology Award at the recently concluded SAE Baja 2011 event held at Pithampore, Indore. The event was spread over three days.

The first day was the inaugural function and the chief guest was none other than Formula 1 racer and teenage heartthrob Karun Chandok. This was followed by a technical inspection of the vehicle by the top brains of the automotive industry. The vehicle was then declared "Tested OK" by Mr. Behram Dhabhar, General Manager, R & D, Mahindra & Mahindra.

The second day saw a series of tests for brake, acceleration, maneuverability and hill climb for which points were awarded. "Our vehicle was one amongst the 17 which managed to climb uphill successfully," said R.V.Subramanyam, the team captain.

The third day was the day of the endurance race where all the Baja buggies had to prove their mettle in the unforgiving terrain. The teams lined up at the starting grid according to the results of the acceleration test. The Dirt Reaper made a good start but had to unfortunately make a prolonged pit stop to weld back a rear support member, which had come off due to being repeatedly hit at.

Nevertheless, the team managed to finish at a respectable 14 out of the 79 vehicles.

The prize distribution ceremony saw many of the top honchos in the automotive sector and the chief guests were GP2 racer Armaan Ebrahim and Ambuj Sharma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries, Govt. of India. Then came the moment of truth when the winners in various categories were announced and SRM University was declared the winner of the Go Green Technology Award with prize money of Rs. 2 lakh sponsored by ETAS.

"This is a great honour since the theme of SAE Baja 2011 was Go Green," said Kishanlal, Vice captain, Team Conrods.



*Dr. Leenus Martin with members of the Baja team*

The award was for building the vehicle with the least carbon footprint and the use of light weight material. The car was one of the lightest in the competition, weighing just over 285 kilos. The Conrods are sponsored by Indian Oil, Indore division,

apart from Banzara restaurants and YO bikes.

The experience of designing every component of a car, like chassis, steering, suspension and brakes from scratch is hard to come by even in industries.

# Akshay Garg: A budding scientist

**Trisha Anand**

The reason why Akshay Garg hits the tune is not just the huge achievements he has but also the 'never say die' attitude he walks around with. He is a 4th year student from Aerospace Engineering and has added feathers to the university's hat in ways more than one.



*Akshay Garg*

His recent achievements include selection for a workshop at the Physics Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad when he proposed a research paper. He was invited to attend a workshop in January '11 on 'Exploration of Mars and moon' at PRL. He was also given a project to work on 'Experiments by Mars rover' under Mr. T.P. Das, a scientist at Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre in a team of five. An interview conducted after the workshop fetched him 'Junior Research fellowship' as a project engineer in Physics Research laboratory, Ahmadabad. He has been shortlisted to be examined for the next level of tests going on to select scientists who will work upon the Mars rover project. India and Russia in

collaboration are planning to launch this rover around 2015. Akshay has worked upon the 'Anti stealth technology' that makes it possible for a radar to 'see' aircrafts that prevent themselves from being seen through stealth technology. He won the title of 'Best innovation paper' in a national conference at Bharat University for presenting a paper on 'Production of electricity by rotor using gravity'. His team won the 'Best centre of gravity' title for designing a remote controlled aircraft at Madras Institute of Technology. Akshay is currently working on his final year project on 'Visualization of supersonic shock angles in subsonic water tunnels' along with a NASA competition on designing a passenger aircraft with some juniors. He is also developing the rotor prototype that uses gravity to produce electricity.

Akshay has availed the performance based scholarship twice for his academic excellence. He has also been a NCC cadet and holds a 'C' certificate in it. He has been working with the SRM nano sat project for two years now. He has been placed in TCS and Mahindra Research development wing recently. The techie can be contacted on 09566196390 or akiseye@srmsat.in.



*Members of the SRM student start up.*

# SRM student start up among Top 30

**S. Siddharth**

VILIKH Technologies Pvt. Ltd., a student start-up from SRM University, was recently declared as one of the Top 30 student start-ups of India. The company was acknowledged by the National Entrepreneurship Network (NEN) for its achievements. It was co-founded by current 3rd year students Harsh Mani Tripathi (EEE), Bahul Arora (CSE) and Himanshu Chaturvedi (EEE) in their 2nd year of engineering. They were later joined by Nitin Agarwal (CSE) and Amanpreet Singh (EEE), and together worked on Embedded Systems and Robotics.

VILIKH Technologies started out as a college group with an inclination towards robotics. It now promotes open source hardware technology, and has trained more than 300 students. It has also offered free internship to 15 students. Some of the student projects include controlling robots using Wi-Fi and Bluetooth, gesture control using flex technology and GPS tracking of a robotic system. The VILIKH initiated Cat Systems empowers innovators and researchers with the latest development tools and cutting edge technologies. The Cat Systems techshop has a wide range of products which are technically advanced

and encourage the budding innovator's thought process. VILIKH in association with Sparkfun Electronics (USA) sells about 1000 products. VILIKH is also in collaboration with Arduino (Italy), Wiznet (Korea) XIMATEK Inc. (USA) and MYROBOT (USA).

The company foresees robots assisting humans in daily tasks ranging from household chores to industrial processes and is thus aiming at core product development in the area of robotics. For more information on their products and other related articles, visit [www.catsystems.in](http://www.catsystems.in).

**Ashish George**

Team DRDO representing SRM University bagged the Best Innovation Award at the National Level DRDO Student Innovation Project held recently.

Thirteen teams from engineering colleges across the country showcased their robotic skills by building autonomous off-road unmanned ground vehicles, navigating through rough terrain avoiding natural and man-made obstacles in the shortest time.

Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) organised the competition at the Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE), Avadi.

Top engineering colleges like IIT Kharagpur and NIST-Jaipur, BITS-Pilani, IIT Bombay, MIT-Madras, IIT Chennai and ISM Dhanbad participated in the event.

SRM University, participating in the event for the first time, was a tough

# SRM bags Best Innovation Award at DRDO competition



Dr. Muthamizhchelvan, Director (E & T) with Team DRDO.

contender for the award.

“Unmanned vehicles is an exciting field for innovation and research as it involves kinematics, precision engineering, embedded systems and sensors needed for intelligence systems,” said S. Sundaresh, Chief Controller, R&D, DRDO.

“The objective is to attract

a large pool of young minds to the DRDO and tap ideas for the Indian Armed forces,” he added.

SRM team leader Sidhant Dhall took the initiative and formed a team of seven. In Phase I, their paper was selected along with 12 others out of the 240 from across the nation and was given Rs.1 lakh for implementing

their project.

D. Jayaprasanth, Asst. Professor, Instrumentation and Control Engineering, guided the team and the vehicle was built in three months. “We learnt many new things like: testing of individual mechanical parts, interfacing of sensors which were new to us, algorithm for data fusion and path planning,”

said Satyabrata Sathapathy.

Presenting their project before multiple panels of judges proved to be a difficult task, but the immense hard work put in made the team come out with flying colours.

“The rain resulted in a site change and we had to change lot of codes and mechanical design for completing the tasks. This was the toughest task we came across,” said Vivekanand Singh.

“The entire experience motivated us to go forward in life. I would like to thank everyone involved in this venture,” said Bhabani Prasad Nayak.

“We are grateful to the college and specially Dr. C. Muthamuzhichelvan, Director, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, who extended his support and help for the team,” he added.

“Students get a lot of exposure when they are into such competitions and bring laurels to the college making SRM join the league of IIT’s,” exclaimed Vivek Ranjan.

## SRM signs JV to improve waste management at Kattankulathur

**T K Pandian**

SRM University has recently tied up a joint venture with a Swedish agency promoting environment protection called Hand in Hand to improve the Solid Waste Management system on the Kattankulathur campus.

The objective of this venture is to segregate the biodegradable waste from the non-biodegradable one and come up with a clean

campus free from in-house dumping yards.

The project aims at converting biodegradable waste into organic manure at the compost pit developed behind SRM campus and thereby reducing the everyday wastage of food.

Till date the project has taken up steps like inspecting the current state of solid waste disposal in undesignated campus

spots, preliminary site visits by estate officer and Total Quality Management, and monitoring progress at SRM’s proposed Compost Yard to improvise the current waste management system.

The senior executives of SRM and the house keeping staffs were also educated through presentations and in-house training by Hand in Hand group for a better understanding of the work process.

The project also aims to attain the ISO 14000 once it succeeds in all its tasks. To fall in line with the ISO Standards of Waste Segregation, the team has also planned to replace the colour-coded dustbins for segregating plastics, metals, paper and food waste with conventional dustbins all around the campus.

With a proper waste management system the daily solid waste of around four tonnes could be reduced drastically to bring in a healthy environment in and around the campus.



## SRM radio invites student volunteers

**Munirathnam Divyasri**

SRM University’s community radio station named Muthucharam CR is inviting students volunteer to broadcast help social welfare initiatives and share their views on various social concerns with communities around Kattankulathur.

The station, whose frequency is 90.4 MHz, reaches out to villagers living within 20 km radius from 9 am to 12 noon

and again from 4 to 5pm.

Run by the School of Media Studies, Faculty of Science and Humanities, the objective of Muthucharam CR is to reach the unreached and to fill the gap of communication with the community on social issues like environmental, health, agriculture, and education.

Interested may tinkle the Station Manager at 9790946086.



A dump yard

## Nivas is SRM University's Taekwondo champ

**A Spectrum Reporter**

A.K. Nivas, a second year MCA student, has won the gold medal in Taekwondo (heavy weight category) at the South Zone Nationals as well as the bronze medal at state level.

His previous achievements

include: Tamil Nadu – Bronze Medal (2009), Inter College (Bharathidhasan University) – Silver Medal (2009), Inter College (Bharathidhasan University) – Silver Medal (2008), TPR Senior Championship – Silver Medal (2009), and Trichy Divisional – Silver Medal (2006).

## SRM takes top basketball honours

**A Spectrum Reporter**

SRM University proved to unbeatable at the All India Inter Collegiate Basketball Tournament organised by the Pondicherry Engineering College, winning both the men's and women's team titles. In the men's event, SRM came up on top against Madras Christian College (MCC) and SSN College, prevailing with figures of 74-72 and 68-60 respectively. They then proceeded to win the semi finals against Loyola College by a margin of three points and went up against MCC again in

the finals, winning by a narrow two point margin (84-82) to win the title.

The women's team went against Ethiraj College and Sethu Engineering College in the league phase, winning comfortably against the team from Ethiraj College (52-38). The semi finals saw them face off against MOP Vaishnav College, with the SRM team winning 62-40. The final proved anticlimatic as the SRM girls were hardly made to break a sweat against St. Josephs Engineering College, winning comfortably with a score of 42-16.

## SRM emerge winners at Ball Badminton

**A Spectrum Reporter**

SRM University beat the host college to emerge champions at the Centenary State Level Ball Badminton Tournament organised by St. Joseph's College, Trichy from 4-6 January 2011. They won with a score of 29-6, 29-11 against Karunya University,

Coimbatore and were victors again in the semi finals against St. Joseph's College of Engineering, Chennai (29-6, 29-13).

The final match up was between the hosts St. Joseph's College Trichy and SRM which the latter won with a score of 29-22, 29-3 to attain the title.

## SRM ball badminton Men team bag title

**A Spectrum Reporter**

SRM University's Ball Badminton team bagged another title at the Silver Jubilee State Level Ball Badminton Tournament conducted by BSA Crescent University College, Chennai recently. The team overcame Rassi Engineering

College, Chennai with a score of 29-5, 29-3 and then Asan Memorial Engineering College (29-17, 29-15) in the league stage. They then went on to trump the hosts BSA Crescent University in a close match up with scores of 29-24, 29-26 to win the tournament.

## SRM'S maiden triumph

**A Spectrum Reporter**

The chess team of SRM University won this edition of All India Inter University Chess Championship held at the historic Magadh University, Bodh Gaya from December 5 – 9, 2010. SRM, which started this tournament as the favorites, won the championship quite comfortably with a score of 17.5 out of 20, with four wins and one draw. A total of six teams participated in this was a round robin event – the top four teams from North East and top two from South West.

SRM, coming as the triple defending champions of South West Inter Universities, had a smooth sailing this year in the All India Championship. The team led by IM elect Arunkarthik, comprised of IM Vishnu Prasanna, IM Shyam Sundar,



Pro-Chancellor P Ravi with SRM chess team

Premnath, Shanmuganathan and Aravind Subramanian. Except Shyam Sundar all the other players got board prizes for their outstanding performances on their respective boards. The team conceded only one draw against University of Delhi, which eventually finished runner-up. SRM crushed all the other teams quite convincingly

- Osmania University, Bihar University Muzaffarpur and Magadh University 4-0 and GNDU Amritsar 3.5 – 0.5.

**Final Standings:**

Winners – SRM University 17.5/20, Runners – University of Delhi 14/20, 2nd Runners – Magadh University 10/20

## SRM beats 40 teams to become Sky Knockers

**Archit Kacker and Nikita Mahto**

Nandini Chandran and Balakrishnan, first year students from Aerospace Engineering, SRM University, had every reason to smile after beating 40 participants in 'Sky Knockers', an event organised by Aerospace Engineer's Association recently.

Various competitions like 'water rocketry', which was

about designing and fabricating rockets using an empty plastic bottle and the concept of pressure, were held.

In 'paper flight', students were required to create an aeroplane using the given template. First year students Richie Garg of Aerospace and Vrushti Modi of ECE emerged as winners from among more than 25 participants. The judging criteria of both events were to attain

maximum distance in the given range. Mr. Kasiraman, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, who was the Chief Guest for the event, gave away the prizes.

"I am very happy with this initiative taken by Aerospace students. It is for the first time that students from all departments have participated and this showed their devotion. "It is great to see so many people here at 5 o'clock on a Saturday!" he exclaimed.

## Sports and Annual Day at Vadapalani

**A Spectrum Reporter**

The Second College Day and Sports Day celebrations of SRM University, Vadapalani was held recently at the Vadapalani campus. Pro - Chancellor Mr P. Ravi was the chief guest.

Prof. Nagesh gave the welcome address and Dr. K. Duraivelu, Dean (E&T), SRM University, Vadapalani read out the Annual Report.

Prof. C. Muthamizchelvan, Director (E&T), SRM University, appreciated the Dean's efforts in initiating several industry-academia interaction forums at the campus and said that such activities will bring the two closer and facilitate mutual knowledge and skill sharing.

Others present during the



Pro-Chancellor P Ravi with the winners

function include the Registrar of SRM University, Dr. N. Sethuraman, and Prof. M. Subramaniam, Director, SRM Vadapalani.

Trophies and cash awards were awarded under several categories in academic proficiency to sports. The staff was also commended for their performance in sports.

## SRM Volleyball team wins inter-varsity tourney



Pro-Chancellor P. Ravi with the Volleyball team

**A Spectrum Reporter** won the South Zone Inter University Volleyball Men's Tournament organized by Kuvempu University, Kamataka

The men's volleyball team of SRM University

from 22 – 26 January, 2011. They came up tops against Mangalore University and Sathyabama University in the league phase.

Following their entry into the quarter finals, the team went on to beat Vels University with a score of 25/7, 25/16, 25/14. The final saw the SRM team facing off against M.G. University, Kottayam, which SRM won 25/19, 25/21, 25/22. A.

Thangalugu was adjudged the best setter of the tournament while the honour of best libero went to T. Sakhthikumar.



Dr. Kalaiselvi handing over the trophy to Mr. Venkatesan

## Non-teaching team wins IJK cricket tourney

**A Spectrum Reporter**

The non teaching team of Chennai Medical College, Trichy, beat the first year students to clinch the IJK cricket tournament organised by the Forensic Department and held at the CMC campus. Batting first, the non-teaching team scored 72 in their allotted 10 overs, with a top score of 22 runs by Bonifas. In

response, the first year students fell short of their target by 12 runs despite having 6 wickets remaining. The non-teaching team, captained by Chief Administrative Officer R. Venkatesan had earlier prevailed over the teaching staff team as well. The prizes were distributed by Dr. K. Kalaiselvi, Dean of Chennai Medical College. The cup was received by Mr. R. Venkatesan, captain of the winning team.

## SRM men win Inter-Varsity Badminton Tourney

**Shiv Nadar and Anjana Nair**

SRM University recently organised the All India Inter-University Ball Badminton (Men and Women) Tournament at its Kattankulathur campus. Over 50 teams from universities across the country had participated.

The University Chancellor, Dr T R Pachamuthu, inaugurated the tournament.

“I am confident that the tournament will help promote the game and foster goodwill amongst participants,” said Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan, the Director, Faculty of Engineering and Technology.

SRM University stood first in the men's category and stood fourth in women's category.

The Pro-Chancellor, Mr P Ravi, presented the Rolling Trophy to the winners and the runners-up, who were also presented cash prizes of Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 5,000 respectively.



## Table tennis team bag 3rd and 4th positions

**A Spectrum Reporter**

The SRM University table tennis team secured the third and fourth positions at the South Zone and All India Inter University tournament respectively. The tournaments were recently held in Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belgaum, Karnataka. Totally 71 universities participated in the tournaments, SRM was the only University from South India.

### South Zone Results

1. SRM University beat University of Calicut - 3-0
2. SRM University beat Mangalore University - 3-0
3. SRM University beat VIT University - 3-0
4. SRM University beat JNTU,Hyd. - 3-0

### Quarter Finals

5. SRM University beat Bangalore University - 3-0

### Semi Finals

6. SRM University lost Madras

University -2-3

### Looser Semi Finals

7. SRM University beat Bharathiyar University - 3-0
- SRM University Won Third Place

### All India Inter University Results

#### League Matches

1. SRM University beat University of Burdwan - 3-0
2. SRM University beat Bhavnagar University - 3-0
3. SRM University beat Punjabi University, Patiala - 3-0

#### Quarter Finals

4. SRM University beat University of Pune - 3-0

#### Semi Finals

5. SRM University lost University of Calcutta - 2-3

#### Looser Semi Finals

6. SRM University lost University of Mumbai- 0-3
- SRM University Won Fourth Place



Pro Chancellor P Ravi, Registrar Dr. Sethuraman, Director (Sports) Dr. Balasubramanian with SRM Ball Badminton team

# Remembering R D Burman

**Chinmayee Mishra**

Bringing back fond memories of Pancham Da, the Music Club of SRM University recently organised a musical evening dedicated to R D Burman's musical hits.

The MBA Seminar Hall was echoing with the best of R D Barman's songs, sung by SRM's talented singers. Hosting the show, Mandakini Ayapilla, IIIrd year JMC, gave a brief background of RD Burman and his great contributions to Indian cinema.

Starting off with the Ganesh Vandana, by Rohit and Aishwarya, the show brought in some unforgettable melodies of Pancham Da. The mood setter for evening was an R D Burman favourite, *Chala Jaata Hoon*, sung by Ravi and later followed by romantic hits of 1942 Love Story, *Kuch na Kaho* by Siddharth and *Pyaar hua chupke se* by Soumi. Amitabh Bachan starrer Dilbar Mere by Apurv from the movie Satte Pe Satta(1982) and Rajesh Khanna hit Yeh jo mohabbat hai in the voice of Sambit created sensation among the audience.

The duet performance by Sambit and Rachna singing to the tunes of *Gum hai* and *Keh du tumhe* by Debleena and Faraj made the audience flow in with the rhythm of the song. Coming up with another duet were Debleena and Abhaya singing the super hit song from Yaadon ki barat, *Lekar Hum Deewana Dil* and Aishwarya and Mercy hummed to the tunes of *Aja Aja*. Navdeep and Sambit performed their solos of musical hits *Tujhse Naraaz nahi zindagi* and *Yeh jo Mohabbat hai* respectively.

Abhaya brought in a classical hit song *Rhimjhim Gire Sawaan* accompanied by the musical band. Audience danced to the tunes of *Piya tu* by Sristi and *Dum Maro Dum* by Sayanti. Sristhi and Apurv performed the most famous and popular song *Jai Jai Shiv Shankar* which made the audience jump to their feet.

Ms Kala, Head of Student Activity Centre hummed to the tunes of *Chura Liya Hai* surprising the audience and bringing a great round of applause. After some more hit renditions of R D Burman the show ended with the famous *Jugalbandi* of Pancham Da's *Chatur Naar* by Aishwarya and a group performance by Music Club team singing the famous friendship song *Ye Dosti*. Later the floor was opened for the audience to sing their favourite songs and entertain others.



## TRENDZ...

# The One-Touch Effect!

**Sharoni Mitra**

Touch screen phones are the latest rage in the country and SRMites have jumped into the bandwagon to keep up with this current trend. Through a student or staff, touch phones are slowly flashing their way across the campus, replacing the old 'number n keypad' phones.

These phones are particularly fun and useful while flipping through photographs or music. No longer does one have to punch each key thrice in order to get one letter for a text message. Touch phones have made the entire process of mobile usage more instinctive and less cumbersome.

To add to the appeal, each phone sports its own unique look. Also, screen size and display resolution are considerably high in these phones. While features like battery life, expandable memory, camera and multimedia options vary with each model, most phones carry all the essential features. 4th year student Pooja Sharma says, "Such phones look

very smart though they can burn a hole in your pocket at times. But since we are stepping into the outside world soon, why not own one just to give you that extra edge."

While buying one such phone a user is spoilt for choice as all the mobile giants have come out with at least 2/3 touch phones. Samsung, Nokia, Apple, HTC, LG, Sony Ericsson... you name it and they have it! Priced within the range of about Rs. 8000 to Rs. 40,000 and above, there is a phone available to suit the cravings of every pocket. SRM's favorite by far is the 'Samsung Corby' series and the 'Apple I-phone' for those who can afford it.

However, this technology can be a little daunting to a user who is accustomed to using physical buttons, keypads and D-pads. At least a weeklong practice is needed for one to become adept at maneuvering through the information on their cell phone with just a touch. The only other disadvantage these phones have is the amount of extra care one has to put in, given their profile. Screen guards or laminations and proper covers are a must for such phones to keep surface from being scratched.

As 2nd year student Aishwary Srivastava says, "It's stylish, smart, sleek and easy to use. Once mastered it caters to every demand of today's college student." Hence, for those of you who are yet to experience the world at a touch, go on, grab a touch phone today!!



**Vishwanath and Nikita**

After the grand success of Jhalak, SRM University, Kattankulathur recently hosted Tarana, the inter-SRM cultural festival. The event saw eight different faculties of SRM University locking horns for the Tarana Cup battling it out in five different events, namely - Band performance, Ramp walk, Variety show, Dance and the newly introduced Split Screen.

The lighting of the Kuttuvilaku was followed by the band performance where the crowd was treated to various genres of music in different languages.

The event, judged by Mr Nivas Prasanna and Ms. Mansesa T. Pillai, was won by SRM Faculty of Science and Humanities, who bagged a cash prize of Rs.2000. SRM School of Architecture and SRM Ramapuram campus stood 2nd and 3rd respectively.

In the skit section, SRM Easwari College of Engineering showcased a socially relevant theme of family planning and AIDS for which they were adjudged winners. They were closely followed by SRM FSH with a similar theme.

The post-lunch session was

## E&T Kattankulathur students lift **Tarana Cup**



The winning E & T students

marked by the arrival of the day's chief guest, Mr Suchit Sudersan, famous playback singer and Ms Vesta Chen, celebrated beautician and Ms Nisha Nathan, trained dancer, judges for the rest of the day's events.

The dance domain found the students of SRM Engineering and Technology enthralled the crowd with their dazzling performance based on the Jhalak theme of Angels and Demons. They were declared as the winners followed by SRM

Vadapalani and SRM FSH.

In the Fashion show, the "Angels and Demons" of SRM E&T Kattankulathur set the ramp on fire which won them the competition with a cash prize of Rs. 2000. The innovative theme of 'Vintage Funk' gave SRM

Ramapuram their 2nd position while SRM Easwari College of Engineering stood third.

In the newly introduced Split Screen, a screen was placed on the stage, and participants were judged on the basis of the coordination of their dance. SRM E&T Kattankulathur stood first followed by SRM Easwari.

Special performances by Children of Ansh, the student run organisation for the underprivileged, dance by Nishan and Siddharth and a musical duet by

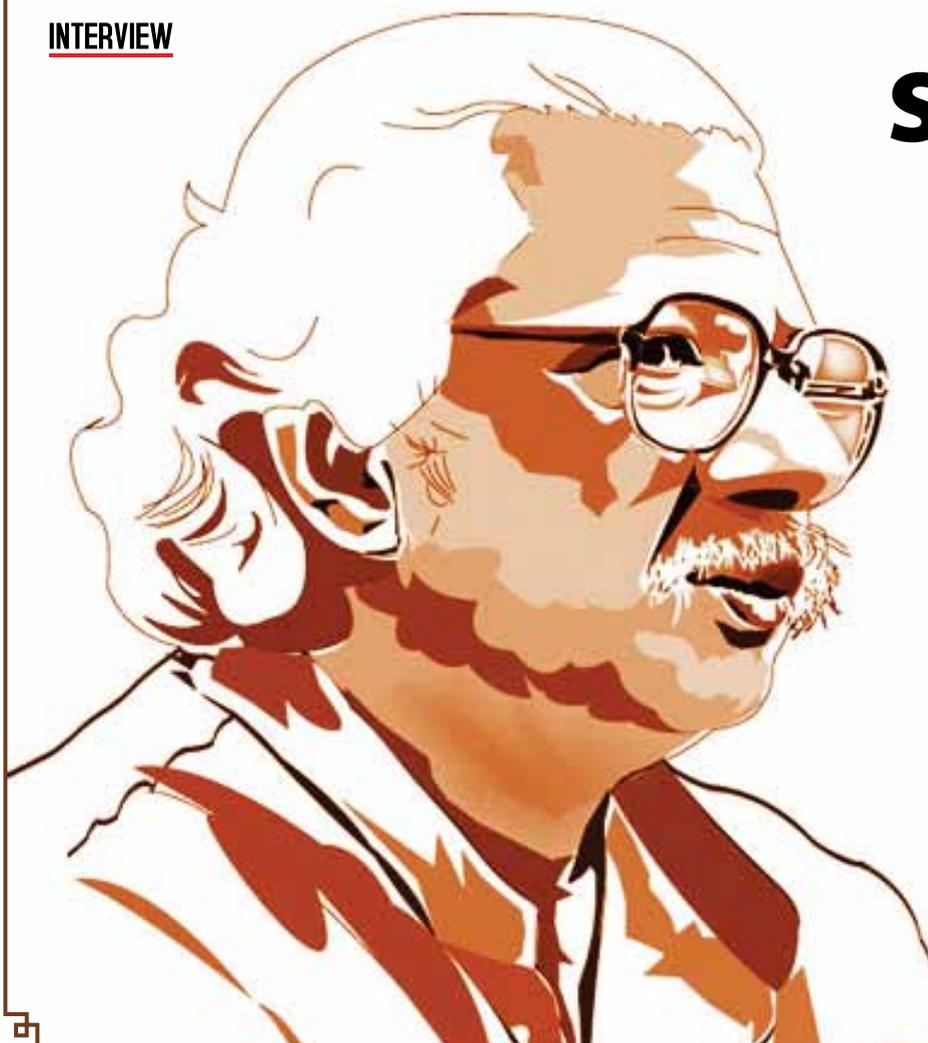
Rachna and Sambhit kept everyone entertained for the whole evening.

Mr Nivas Prasanna also gave an astounding performance on his keyboard dishing out popular numbers while Mr Suchit Sudersan ruled the crowd with a stunning karaoke performance.

In the end, SRM E&T Kattankulathur were quite deservedly declared as the overall winners of the Tarana Cup followed by SRM Easwari and SRM FSH.

# Cinema is a hard process, says **Adoor**

**INTERVIEW**



*Adoor Gopalakrishnan is a film maker who has greatly influenced the film scene in India. He is one of the pioneers when it comes to making serious documentaries. He recently visited SRM University's Kattankulathur campus for awarding best science films and found some time to share his views in an interview with **Bragadish** of Spectrum. Excerpts:*

**Q: What is the impact of science films on society and especially on children?**

**Adoor:** Cinema is a great medium. You can use it for various purposes and is an effective medium for taking an idea to a child. Whatever verbal explanation you give can never match the visual sense because it is closer to a child's reality.

**Q: What is your advice for aspiring film makers?**

**Adoor:** Cinema is a hard process, not an easy road. Only those who are prepared to face those hardships will be able to survive.

**Q: Many of your films are period movies and mainly set in the pre independence era, so what does a**

**modern audience see in it?**

**Adoor:** Modern audiences need not know only the things around them. They need to know what was there before and what is to come afterwards, only then will they understand the present better. Basically it gives a proper perspective about things. In story telling there is nothing that is out of reach. More than the background or the period it is what the storyteller is trying to say is important. It can be bad or good but that depends on how people see it.

R.Krishnan

**HOT WHEELS**

“In zeal to make my Yezdi Classic 250 snazzier and faster I came up with the new café racer Yezdi”, says Akshay Ramachandran a 4th year student of Automobile Engineering of SRM University who recently gave a complete makeover to his bike.

The new café racer is modified for better speed and handling with an elongated fuel tank and a small rear mounted humped seat. Another signature trait is a low, slender clip-on (adjustable handlebar) that allows the rider to "tuck in" and thereby prevent aerodynamic drag and get more speed.

His Yezdi has a new ignition coil for better power whereas the suspension and the brakes are overhauled for optimum performance. The self fabricated clip-on provides the much desired “café racer” look. The old Yezdi

# Yezdi's New Avatar

“ The new café racer is modified for better speed and handling with an elongated fuel tank and a small rear mounted humped seat ”

gave a mileage of 110 km/hr whereas the new café racer has paced up to 125 km/hr in spite of the modifications. This was done by compensating the modifications done on the engine with overall weight reductions. He plans to make many more modifications like putting up new tires and attaining a lighter frame with longer fuel tank.

Being a roadie, a good ergonomic posture is a

prerequisite for Akshay and he has therefore made the seats to fit him perfectly. The old Yezdi Classic cost him around Rs.8000 and his modifications around Rs.2000. “The modifications made are ones of lesser money and greater labour” he said.

Akshay has already been on a trip to Vellore on his Yezdi and plans to make many more road trips with his racer in future.



Shyama Nandkumar

**HOTSPOT**

This issue’s hotspot is, literally, a very HOT spot. Concentric arcs, a reddish, rustic hue exuded by clay tiles, topped off with slabs of black granite and of course, an amazing view!! The latest spot favored by the throng at SRM is the garden facing the Tech Park; and, incidentally, it does not have an official name yet!

Students who witnessed the burgeoning of the former barren ground into what is now, The Garden, have a single word for it, Impressive! Not surprisingly

the garden has become an ‘in’ and ‘happening’ spot for numerous types of gatherings: student clubs, auditions for house competitions, practice sessions for cultural events, unofficial student clubs, and birthday parties.

The reason?

It’s convenient position, being

neither too far from the bustle and buzz of the food courts and canteens such as the SRM university canteen, nor too close to the commotion and mess that accompanies food vending outlets.

Talk about a perfect natural hangout spot!

The garden, being open on all

sides, has a sense of vastness attached to it, accentuated by the greenery of the surroundings, it gives a sense of unadorned grandeur, especially in the nights when it is lit up, Indeed , an awe inspiring sight!

Walking in the garden, with the breeze flowing through your hair allows you to experience serenity unmatched by any

other place in our university. The garden, as students have come to call it, is yet another example of how simplicity trumps all, and how nature gets the better of us. So, the next time you want to have a quiet chat with a friend, go to the garden, sit on the grass or in the gallery, stretch your legs, and enjoy the view!

# A Garden of Gatherings





# Build your career on world class education with SRM University

Outstanding performances by SRM Semester Abroad Students at MIT, USA as Mehel Oswal tops with CGPA score 5 out of 5 and Pranav Sood wins the Robotic Contest.

## ADMISSIONS 2011

### PROGRAMS OFFERED

#### ENGINEERING

SRM Engineering Entrance Examination (SRMEEE) | M.B.A | M.C.A

**B. Tech:** Aerospace Engineering | Architectural Engineering | Automobile Engineering | Bioinformatics | Biomedical Engineering | Biotechnology | Chemical Engineering | Civil Engineering | Computer Science & Engineering | Electrical & Electronics Engineering | Electronics & Communication Engineering | Electronics & Instrumentation Engineering | Food & Process Engineering | Genetic Engineering | Information & Telecommunication Engineering | Information Technology | Instrumentation & Control Engineering | Mechanical Engineering | Mechatronics | Nanotechnology | Nuclear Engineering | Software Engineering

**B. Arch (Bachelor of Architecture)**

**B. Des (Interior Design)**

**M. Tech:** Bioinformatics | Biomedical Engineering | Biotechnology | Chemical Engineering | Communication Systems | Computer Aided Design | Computer Integrated Manufacturing | Computer Science & Engineering | Construction Engineering & Management | Database Systems | Electronics & Control Engineering | Embedded System Technology | Environmental Engineering | Food and Nutritional Biotechnology | Geo Technical Engineering | Genetic Engineering | Information Technology | Information Security & Computer Forensics | Knowledge Engineering | Multimedia Technology | Power Electronics & Drives | Power Systems | Remote Sensing & GIS | Robotics | Software Engineering | Solar Energy | Structural Engineering | Telecommunication Networks | VLSI Design | Water Resources & Management

**M. Arch (Architectural Design)**

**M.S:** TQM | Nanoscience and Nanotechnology

**M.B.A | PGPM | PGPRM | M.C.A | Ph. D in all disciplines**

#### SCIENCE & HUMANITIES

B.A | B.B.A | B.C.A | B. Com | B. Ed | B. Sc | Diploma | M.A | M.C.A | M. Ed | M. Sc | PGDiploma

#### MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES

B.D.S | B. Pharm | B. Sc | B.A.S.L.P | B.M.R.S | B.O.T | B.P.T | Diploma | M.B.A Pharma | M.B.B.S | M. Pharm | M. Phil | M. Sc | M.B.A - M.PH | M.O.T | M.P.T | Pharm. D Post Baccalaureate | R.B.B.Sc | M.PH

Visit [www.srmuniv.ac.in](http://www.srmuniv.ac.in) for courses offered in different campuses  
**Chennai:** Kattankulathur | Ramapuram | Vadapalani | **Delhi:** Modi Nagar

**RANKING:** SRM is ranked India's No.1 Multiple Streams University (Engineering and Medicine) by The Times of India (The Education Times), GfK Mode Survey in 2009, joining the league of IITs, NITs and AIMS.

**ACCREDITATION:** The University is accredited by NAAC and other competent authorities. The Electronics and Communication Engineering B.Tech program of SRM University is the first in India to get accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, USA, joining the league of world's best Universities.

**PLACEMENT:** It is a celebration of success at SRM on placing 2,023 students on campus just in 7 days with TCS 1091, Wipro 406, HCL 235 and others. It is also their highest ever recruitment in any single institution as of that date. It is indeed an honour for SRM to become the most preferred destination for top recruiters. Students are also placed in companies abroad directly at International salary levels.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** (1) The students with above 95% in CBSE and State Board examinations are eligible to apply for 50% fee waiver (2) Top rankers of State Board, CBSE, SRMEEE, JEE and AIEEE, National Level Sports Achievers, Economically Weaker Section, Minority Community and the Differently-Abled are eligible for Founder's Scholarship. Founder's Scholarship provides full waiver on tuition, books, hostels and mess, plus stipend ₹ 1,000 per month. A scholarship amount of about ₹ 12 crore was offered in the year 2010, benefiting 800 students.

**ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT:** Sprawling 550 acres, hi-tech facilities, eminent faculty, flexible and dynamic curriculum and exciting research.

**DIVERSITY OF STUDENTS:** 80% of students are from outside Tamil Nadu including students from Europe, China and other countries.

**SEMESTER ABROAD PROGRAM:** Over 250 students sponsored to 35 foreign Universities like MIT, Carnegie, UC Davis, Warwick and Western Australia.

**INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD:** 50 members from International Universities like MIT, UC Berkeley, Cambridge and NUS help set Global Standards.

**LOANS:** On-the-spot sanction of bank educational loans during counseling.

#### HOW TO APPLY

**FOR ENGINEERING | M.B.A | M.C.A:** Four ways (1) Buy an application for ₹ 750 by cash from sales outlets, fill and send to Director (Admissions) (2) Download an application from [www.srmuniv.ac.in](http://www.srmuniv.ac.in), fill and send to Director (Admissions) with DD of ₹ 750 favouring SRMIST, payable at Chennai (3) Apply online (4) Write to Director (Admissions) with DD of ₹ 750 favouring SRMIST, payable at Chennai to get an application form, fill and send to Director (Admissions).

**APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE:** At Lead Branches of Axis Bank, City Union Bank, Indian Bank, Karur Vysya Bank, State Bank of India and Post Offices. Also from Kattankulathur, Ramapuram, Vadapalani and Delhi NCR campuses.

**TEST CENTERS:** 120 centers across all states in India.

**ELIGIBILITY: B. Tech:** A pass in 10+2 or its equivalent and (a) For all programs: Minimum of 50% individually in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry and 60% aggregate in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry (b) For Bioinformatics, Biomedical Engineering, Bioprocess Engineering, Food & Process Engineering, Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering: Minimum of 50% individually in Mathematics or Biology, Physics and Chemistry and 60% aggregate in Mathematics or Biology, Physics and Chemistry.

**B. Arch:** A pass in 10+2 or its equivalent having a minimum total aggregate of 60% with English and Mathematics as subjects of study and a minimum score of 40% in National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA).

**PG programs:** A pass with minimum aggregate of 60% in the qualifying examination.

#### IMPORTANT DATES FOR ENGG. | M.B.A | M.C.A:

Issue of Applications: 5<sup>th</sup> December 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011

Last date for Receipt of Applications: 5<sup>th</sup> April 2011

Entrance Examination Preponed to: 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2011 (10.00 am to 12.30 pm)

**To apply for Medical & Health Sciences and Science & Humanities Programs:**

You can apply online or download application by visiting [www.srmuniv.ac.in](http://www.srmuniv.ac.in)

**International / NRI students:**

To apply online or download application form, visit: [www.srmuniv.ac.in](http://www.srmuniv.ac.in)



**Contact:** The Director (Admissions), SRM University, SRM Nagar, Kattankulathur - 603 203, Kancheepuram Dist., Tamil Nadu, India. Ph: +91-44-2745 2270 / 2745 5715/ 2745 3433 Fax: +91-44-2745 3622 Email: [dir.admissions@srmuniv.ac.in](mailto:dir.admissions@srmuniv.ac.in)

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