



**SRM**  
INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY  
(Deemed to be University u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

# SPECTRUM

The Newspaper of SRMIST

For private circulation only

Volume 13 Number 5



The Founder Chancellor presenting a memento to chief Guest, Dr.T.S.Ravikumar



Dr.Damodar Acharya, Former Chairman AICTE, New Delhi at the Special Convocation.



# SRM varsity honours its alumni

## STAFF WRITER

SRM Institute of Science and Technology honoured 27 of its eminent, distinguished, and notable alumni at its annual Alumni Day that was held in the institute's campus in Kattankulathur. Three other graduates were presented with endowment medals instituted by the 1991 batch.

The day was filled with fun and laughter as many reminiscences and walk down memory lane. The welcome address was presented by Alumni Director, R Venkataramani. He urged old graduates to instigate awards, scholarships, and mentor jobs for deserving students. "Apart from mentoring, you should also be a guardian. You are also national and international ambassador of SRMIST and your welfare will be taken care of by management."

"This is the time to rejoice in the success of our past and to recall and reignite those memorable university days," said Vice-Chancellor of SRMIST Dr. Sandeep Sancheti. He added, "You are one of the biggest alumni groups in terms of number, diversity, sectors, activities and various other things. Many of you come from different fields, including government, private, and entrepreneurship. So we also need to learn from you and get your feedback to improve the next generation of students. Alumni are the force of any institution and we take pride in naming our achievers. We are also setting the system which will be much more transparent and helpful to others."

"There is a lifelong bond with your mother institution and you might want to come back and do several things such as academics, employing our graduates, entrepreneurship, research, or incubating your ideas here. You can also come forward to donate labs, equipment, or give lectures. On the other hand, SRMIST will support alumni in terms of fee concessions, using the institute's facilities and such things. If you want to see more changes in SRMIST, you can also bring it to our notice."

President of SRMIST, Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan said, "It is a pleasure to be with all of you on this occasion. I am sure the classrooms and places where

you hang out would bring out nostalgic memories. The campus is not just about the buildings or roads, but it is about the embodiment of all these memories and aspirations of the present students. This is one chapter in your life that cannot be forgotten. The university or institution will always have a big impact on the life of the student."

He also mentioned that at SRMIST, the management is trying to bring a balance in the quality and quantity, thereby giving importance to both. "This is a family where over one lakh members are there. Our Founder-Chancellor, Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar wants everyone to connect and reach out to each other. Any institution is known by its alumni and the legacy of the alumni aids to the college/university.

Echoing a similar message, Founder-Chancellor of SRMIST, Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar said, "This is my family meet and not merely an alumni meet. If the children grow well and enjoy several positions that is when a father will be happy. I am really proud to hear that many are doing well. As you grow, our university will also grow. More than that we are well recognized by every Indian and foreign universities both locally and globally."

Minister of Irrigation (Water Resources) for Andhra Pradesh, Dr. Poluboina Anil Kumar, who is also an Alumni of SRMIST said, "I am honoured to be here and thankful for SRMIST for calling me here. I was among the second batch of students to graduate from SRM. This institute has taught me to handle failures. Because of that when I lost my first two elections I was able to come back with a fighting spirit. Now I am the youngest minister in AP cabinet."

He added, "Many students have come out in flourishing colours. We have been blessed with good professors and lectures. The pain that we go through was essential and it has molded me to become a better person. Today I feel proud in coming back as alumni."

Present on the occasion was Pro-Vice-Chancellor of SRMIST Dr. TP Ganesan, Registrar Dr. N Sethuraman and other deans and directors. The annual report of the alumni association was



Founder-Chancellor of SRMIST Dr.T.R.Paarivendhar, President of SRMIST Dr.P.Sathyanarayanan, Vice-Chancellor of SRMIST Dr.Sandeep Sancheti, Alumni Director R.Venkataramani, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Dr.TP.Ganesan, Registrar Dr.N.Sethuraman, and other deans and directors pose with 27 eminent, distinguished, and notable alumni at Alumni Day held at SRMIST, Kattankulathur.

presented on the occasion. If you are alumni and would like to be part of the group log onto [www.srmist.edu.in](http://www.srmist.edu.in) for alumni registration and other purposes.

## AWARD WINNERS

**Distinguished category:** Mr. Baskar Babu R (1990); Vinay Singhal (2013), Parveen Singhal (2014), Shashank Vaishnav (2013), Vishwanathan Venkata Subrmanian (1996), Varun Chakravarthy (2014), Dr. Nikita Hari (2011), Deepan Chakkravarthy (2010), Raj Babu (1996).

**Notable category:** Subhash M Bhat (1995), Sauvik Das Gupta (2010), Aditya Murgai (2011), Ankit Baid (2012), Sam Anton (2007), Dr. Vikram P.S.J (2011 & 2014), Dr. Samuel Rajkumar V (1994 & 1996), Shishir Shekhar (2009), Rakesh Gupta (2010), Mohammad Younus Omid (2014), Raghavendran Ramakrishnan (2008).

**Eminent category:** Pankaj Kumar Mishra (2011), Kritik Abiram Govindan (1995), Arokia Inian (1991), Sriram Muralidharan (1994), Sharanya Ari (2011), Dr. Poluboina Anil Kumar Bds (2007), Vikraman Vasudevan (2005), Nishanth Rao (2013), K. S. Viswanathan (2015).

## ALUMNI SPEAKS

**Arokia Inian Xavier (1991 batch)** There are about two lakh students from SRMIST who are part of the alumni group. Most of our students are all well placed and we are all there to help the upcoming generation. Apart from that the students these days are a lot smarter and way too intelligent.

**R. Baskar Babu (1990 batch**

When I was a student here, SRM had only two blocks now it has grown in many folds. The institute has taught us to be sustainable and grow. Many have made a mark today and this is because of what the institution taught us. Students should create their own dream and make them real. The seeds of entrepreneurship start here. This is a way of contributing to SRMIST.

**Nishanth Rao (2013 batch)** Nothing in SRM has changed and it has been a second home to me. The institute has the best library and is a treasure house of knowledge. I have spent long hours here and this has helped me clear civil service examination. It has helped me be a step ahead of others. Therefore I urge students to read more.

**Sriram Muralidharan (1994 batch)** It has been 25 years since my last visit to SRMIST and nothing has changed except for the development of infrastructure. In a bid to give back to society we have started an orphanage where we shelter students and provide them food.

**Sam Anton (2007 batch)** SRMIST is one of the best universities in India and I am fortunate for having studied here. I was always mischievous and used to be pulled up. My parents were also called and that is when I realized that I have to do something even it does not relate to academics. This place is not just for toppers but for those who want to pursue other interests. Milan gave me everything. That is how I ended up doing four films and I owe it to the success of SRMIST and Milan.

**Sauvik Das Gupta (2010 batch)** It is a pleasure to come back and I have fond memories of my days here. SRMIST is my second home and it has given me an opportunity to do many things. It has made me technically strong, instilled leadership and management skills. It is a great platform and students should take advantage of this. It is a golden opportunity.

**Dr. Vikram PSJ (2014 batch)** SRM has provided me with excellent infrastructure and life. It has made me a confident surgeon. I urge SRM to do more medical camps.

**Vishwanathan Venkata Subrmanian (1996 batch)** It is a great privilege and honour to be here. I have been regularly coming here and I am happy to be associated with my Alma Mater. I hope many are like me and would contribute to our institution.

**Subhash M Bhat (1995 batch)** SRM has opened the world to me and was my first window to the outside world. The campus has changed drastically in the last 25 years. There is a lot of vibrancy now and it is nice to see my Alma Mater that way. If you want to achieve your goals, it is important to pursue them diligently with hard work.

**Kritik Abiram Govindan (1995 batch)** You need to be connected with your alumni and I request everyone to do so. It will help in your career growth. I was from the first batch and we had a small campus. That time it was only 1,000 students, now SRM has grown phenomenal. It is our duty to involve in our Alma Mater.



# Focus on quality medical care: AIIMS (Mangalagiri) President

STAFF WRITER

A total of 5884 students collected their medals, ranks, and degrees amid proud parents in a packed hall at the Special Convocation held at SRM Institute of Science & Technology, Kattankulathur recently.

Chief Guest of the event Dr. T. S. Ravikumar, President of AIIMS Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh congratulated students for having crossed this milestone. "As we are stepping into 2020, a year of vision, SRMIST has given you a chance to create a new vision, so seize the day and enjoy it."

Urging students to make good use of the time this Member-WHO Global Patient Safety Curriculum Committee and Founding "Chittur Viswanathan Parvathy Endowed Chair" - quality/Patient safety, SVIMS, Tirupati said you are all a privileged lot as many do not get such opportunities. Make use of the chance this institution has to offer you.

"SRMIST is one place where students can equip themselves in several disciplines under one roof. You are the future of knowledge. You can create special things if you can think in multifaceted forms. You need to have courage and design something that no one can replicate."

He gave a presentation on 'Quality & Patient Safety - The Universal Language for Universal Healthcare'

"Artificial Intelligence, machine learning, deep learning, and big data are the future. Although India is gifted with many first, we will have to adapt to the transformations in these fields. This is an opportunity for students at SRMIST to make a change in technology, health care and so on. Although we have the best doctor-patient ratio, our infant mortality and mortality rates are still high. Our health care quincunx is something that needs urgent

attention. Quality and patient safety is the universal language that is echoing attention. Many of the students should carry this torch as the absence of patient safety means the absence of preventable harm happening in health care. Our aim should be to bring down the mortality rate to an acceptable minimum. Apart from prevention, you should also learn from errors and teamwork."

"Man-to-man, machine-to-man and machine-to-machine interfaces must work for patient safety. Unsafe care can be labeled as a disease. This is one of the top 10 causes of death. More than half of these causes are preventable. Of this, one third leads to disability and even death. Diagnostic errors also add to this. So whatever profession you are taking, your aim should be to minimize errors," said senior healthcare professional.

Echoing on the same line, Dr. Damodar Acharya, Former-Chairman, AICTE, New Delhi, and Former Director IIT Kharagpur, who was the guest of honour said, "Technology is fast changing. There is a sea of change in it every day and it is important to be able to cope up with it. Organ replacing and drug developing are some of the most growing sectors. It is important for students to grow in these areas to be competent.

"Be open to new businesses and solving problems. The need of the customers are changing and this is paving the way to new problems. We are now in an era of personalised manufacturing which is overtaking mass production. Soon the stores of today may become a thing of the past. Smart mobility, smart city, and smart health care, will soon be a reality. Physical work will reduce and this will lead to a major challenge."

He concluded by saying, "You have to do everything yourself each time you face problems. You need to be your own guiding light and most importantly, never forget your Alma mater, because it is the reason for your growth."

Vice-Chancellor of SRMIST,



Dr. T. S. Ravikumar, President of AIIMS Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh presented the medals and degree certificates to outstanding students at the Special Convocation held at SRM Institute of Science & Technology, Kattankulathur. Also seen are Dr. Damodar Acharya, Former-Chairman, AICTE, New Delhi; Founder-Chancellor of SRMIST Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar, Vice-Chancellor of SRMIST Dr. Sandeep Sancheti, President of SRMIST Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan, Vice President Dr. R Shivakumar, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Dr. TP Ganesan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Dr. R Balasubramanian and Registrar Dr. N Sethuraman.

Dr. Sandeep Sancheti presented the Annual Report. The Convocation was held in the presence of Founder-Chancellor of SRM Institute of Science & Technology and Member of

Parliament Lok Sabha, Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar, President of SRMIST Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan, Vice President Dr. R Shivakumar, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Dr. TP Ganesan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Dr. R Balasubramanian, Registrar Dr. N Sethuraman, Members of the Board of Management, Members of the Academic Council among others.



## Team SRM Green Stabilizers has won first place in Regional Convention of AICTE Chhatra Vishwakarma Award -19

### STAFF WRITER

A group of students from the Department of Civil Engineering has brought honour to SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur. The team, SRM Green Stabilizers, won the first place in Regional Convention of the third edition of AICTE Chhatra Vishwakarma Award - 2019 under the 'Land category'. The theme of the event was "How to Enhance the Income of Village".

SRMIST was among the 7,000 applications received throughout the country, out of which 105 teams were shortlisted in the subsequent selection rounds and finally entered into the Regional Convention of Southern Region. All the teams demonstrated their Prototype/Product of the solution in Regional Convention organized by the AICTE for Southern Region recently at Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science. The team from SRMIST was ranked

first in the 'Land category'. The winners were declared by M. Sundaresan, Regional Officer, SRO, AICTE along with other delegates nominated by AICTE and ISTE from industry and academics. The winners would now be heading to the next level for the National Convention of 3rd AICTE Chhatra Vishwakarma Award - 2019 that is to be held at AICTE Headquarters, New Delhi in the third week of January 2020.

Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan, Director (E&T), SRMIST, congratulated the winning team and mentor for their efforts made to bring laurels to the University. Dr. K. S. Satyanarayanan, Head of Civil Engineering Department have also complimented the winners for their achievement. The student team consists of M Aravind, Shankar Kandasamy, Dhivya S, Kavya M and Dhaejeshwar K R. They were mentored by Chezhiyan S, Assistant Professor/Civil.



Pro Vice Chancellor (External Affairs) Dr. R Balasubramanian and other dignitaries unveiled the special souvenir and CD of the conference that was organised under the aegis of School of Commerce and Economics, SRMIST.

## Students exhorted to focus on business research

### STAFF WRITER

Malaysia Multimedia University Professor Dr. Saravanan Muthaiyah inaugurated the 2-day MERX MERCIS, the 6th International Symposium on Business Research at the SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur.

Pro Vice Chancellor (External Affairs) Dr. R Balasubramanian unveiled the special souvenir and CD of the conference that was organised under the aegis of School of Commerce and Economics, SRMIST.

The conference was attended by more than thousand students, young researchers, professors, and business representatives from various institutions of higher education, business, economics, accounting, and finance.

At the conference, 216 research papers including 14 of researchers from America, Australia, England, and Indonesia were presented on the subjects of business, economics, accounting, and finance, corporate secretaryship. Out of these, 190 were accepted, and 33 research papers were approved to be published in foreign journals.

Professor Dr. Angayarkanni welcomed the attendees while Professor Dr. Chitra explained the rationale behind the conference.

Speaking after unveiling the conference souvenir, Dr. R Balasubramanian said the conference, being attended by educational institutions, professional bodies and consultants, would help create opportunities for students and avoid exploitation in business.

The Digital India campaign, initiated by the Prime Minister, is a very effective project, as all transactions are carried out digitally in developed countries, he said and also drew attention to the implementation of the Fastag system in toll booths that would help reduce traffic delays.

Stating that there was a good scope for business and commerce students, Dr. Balasubramanian exhorted the students to focus on business research. He also said the students can take advantage of the various opportunities that SRMIST offers in entrepreneurship and skills development.

Speaking at the conference, both Professor Dr. Saravanan Muthaiyah and Professor Dr. Raman Gujral, Professor and Head (Southern Region) Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, said that research study called for a lot of dedication and sincerity. They appealed to the students to take up research in areas where there

is a social need.

Entrepreneurs are not born, but are created by other entrepreneurs, and keeping this in mind the Indian Entrepreneurship Development Institute offers training certificates on Integrated Entrepreneurship to 1000 people, they said.

Speaking at the conference R. Venkatraman, General Manager of the Madras Management Association, said e-commerce is today making rapid strides which was not the case when it was introduced in 1996-97.

He said e-commerce was a world-wide phenomenon, and the success of companies like Amazon and Flipkart were mainly due to the proper research made in the related field.

Additional Director General of National Customs Academy Navneet Goel, Chennai Achi Educational and Research Foundation Dr Malathi Selvakkumar and Hrudyaa Director V Krishnamoorthy also spoke at the conference.



Winning Team SRM GREEN STABILIZERS with delegates of AICTE



Winning Team SRM GREEN STABILIZERS with delegates of AICTE



The conference was attended by more than thousand students, young researchers, professors, and business representatives from various institutions of higher education, business, economics, accounting, and finance.



# Placement looking up @ SRMIST

## STAFF WRITER

Despite all the talk about slowdown in the economy and cut down in hiring by major IT firms SRM students have received more than 7,250 offers from 200+ companies who visited our campus so far. The highest number of offers PAN India were made by TCS (1,437), followed by Infosys (1,315), Cognizant (1,175), and Wipro (822). TCS also made offers to 183 students under its 'Digital track', with a higher package of ₹7 lakh per annum. Our students have also bagged 1300+ dream offers so far.

ZF India visits SRM for the First time and makes 'Core' Offers

ZF is a global technology company that supplies systems for passenger cars, commercial vehicles and industrial technology, enabling the next generation of mobility. The company has a global workforce of 1,49,000 in 230 locations across 40 countries. ZF is one of the leading suppliers of technology solutions and services that is shaping mobility trends in India.

ZF India visited SRM on 7th November 2019 for hiring Graduate Engineer Trainees and Global Management Trainees. More than 200 students attended and 18 got placed as Graduate Engineer Trainees. The ZF



(From L to R) Mr. Vivekanandan – Placement Officer (SRMIST), Mr. Sriram S. Padmanabhan - Director – Career Centre (SRMIST); Mr. Deevakar Kuppaswamy - Manager P Division (ZF), Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan – President (SRMIST), Mr. Arunkumar Ramakrishnan - BU Leader P Division (ZF), Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan - Director - Engineering & Technology (SRMIST)



(From L to) Ms. Anjana Ashwin - Lead Recruiter(ZF), Mr. Alduri Sriram - Senior Recruiter(ZF), Dr. R. Balasubramaniam - Pro VC - External Affairs(SRMIST), Mr. Arunkumar Ramakrishnan - BU Leader P Division(ZF), Mr. Vivekanandan – Placement Officer(SRMIST)

Global Management Trainee program is now initiated in India wherein six of our students got an opportunity to make the final presentation in their Hyderabad office and one got selected for the Global Management Trainee program of ZF Germany.

### ZF Global Trainee Program

The ZF Global Management Trainee program is a very prestigious program which draws students from Germany, China, and Brazil. The program makes the new hires get acquainted with the company at various domestic and international locations, independently complete projects, and assume responsibility in teams. It enables fresh-graduates get



Team SRMIST at ZF India Technology Centre, Hyderabad

exposure in different departments, obtain cross-functional knowledge which would enable them to develop networks across the

entire ZF Group. ZF provides the new incumbents with important first-hand knowledge and skills for the 21st century through

various workshops and trainings on presentation techniques, project management and intercultural communication.

## Millions strike for climate action worldwide: A student drive



Young minds, Brave souls, Fresh hopes! Climate activist Greta Thunberg joins Canadian protesters during the global climate strike in Montreal, on September 27.

### B.KAVYA SHRUTHI

What do 35-year-old Nathan, a lawyer from Houston and 8-year-old Salma, a student from Dhaka have in common? They're all experiencing climate change, a monster too ugly to be indiscriminate. The 20th-27th of September 2019 was acknowledged as the 'Global Climate Strike Week' which witnessed a massive protest led by high-school and middle-school students across the globe. Millions from over 185 countries took to the streets to draw the attention of world leaders towards their climate inaction to keep global temperatures below 1.5 degrees of warming.

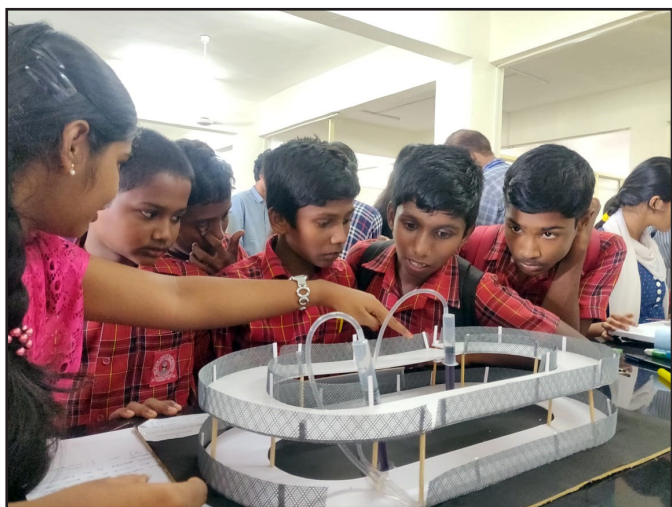
Inspired by the young Swedish climate activist, the strike saw students around the world organizing over 6000 events, skipping school to protest over the adults' helplessness in battling climate change. They were also joined by prolific climate activists, scientists, indigenous tribes, techies from global corporations,

and just about anyone who believed in making a difference. Participants marched on the streets holding signs with hard-hitting sayings and shouting slogans. "What do we want? - Climate action; When do we want it? - Now", was the unifying voice that groups from diverse lands echoed.

The strike was driven by the youths' search for a meaningful life, who were ready to sacrifice formal education to stand for a more pressing concern like climate change. Greta Thunberg herself took part in the strikes at New York City, traveling on a solar-powered zero-emissions sailboat. In India, strikes were organized in 13 cities, including Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Kochi, Allahabad, and Kozhikode, which brought more than 10,000 protesters together.

The climate strikes were successful in demonstrating the power of unity amongst humankind, and in proving our youth's dynamism.





# Women Empowerment and challenges of 21st century

## STAFF WRITER

We the women of the present generation have witnessed the changes in the society especially those relating to the cause of women during the last couple of years. It is a fact that during this period, the position of women in India has changed in various aspects. The constitution of India has provided equal rights and equal opportunities for its citizens including women. However, gender discrimination against girls and women, high infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rates and cross violence of women, adolescence and child's rights continue to be the challenges of the 21st century. Legally, women are recognized as equal to men, but the condition of women is still in the clutches of traditional roles assigned to them, since most of these women are illiterate. When India became independent, various laws were enacted to provide equal rights and opportunities for women. With this in view, women came out and took leadership in the field of education, health, social work, politics, administration and so on.

Mrs. Indira Gandhi rose to a stature of highest honour when appointed as Prime Minister of India. Vijay Lakshmi Pandit, Sarojni Naidu, Padmaja Naidu, Sucheta Kripalani and Bonnily Khongmen are the names of few Indian ladies who have joined higher political post and served the country very efficiently. Now a days we have Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, who is the speaker of the Lok Sabha, Brinda Karat, Sheila Dixit, Nirmala Seetharaman and Mrs. Sonia Gandhi who are few women who have made the position and place in politics because of their confidence, education and have shown the path to upcoming women leaders. Women are essential and integral part of the development process including planning, decision making and implementation.

Motivating young women to become a torch bearer is essential for society now and then, a "Workshop on Women Empowerment" was organized by SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Ramapuram in association with Indian Science

Congress Association - Chennai Chapter, recently at Dental Auditorium, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Ramapuram Campus.

Dr.B. Suhasini, Chief Radiologist, Omandurar Govt Hospital, Chennai was the Chief Guest and Mrs.Varalakshmi, Director, MITI Electronics Pvt Ltd, Chennai was the Guest of Honor for the workshop.

The motivational talk on "Women as Entrepreneur" was delivered by the Guest of Honour Mrs. P. Varalakshmi Director, MITI Electronics Pvt Ltd, Chennai. She gave an enlightening talk on how to become an entrepreneur in our life by having self control in our life. Dr. B. Suhasini, Chief Radiologist, Omandurar, Govt Hospital, Chennai gave an awareness talk on breast cancer. She also shared how to do self examination to check for cancer. She enlightened girl students and staffs about the precautionary measurements to be taken for their health. The competitions such as Pot Decoration, Jewellery making, Face painting, paper

crafting Poetry and Poster presentation were conducted for the girls. About 200 students actively participated in the events. The presentations of young women participants were carefully scrutinized and the best presentations/models were consolidated by a peer review team. At the closure of the post-morning session, the students who got first, second and third prize for the English poetry competition were asked to read their poetry in the valedictory function. Dr Helen P Kavitha, HoD/Chemistry gave the vote of thanks. In her extended vote of thanks, she appreciated ISCA – Chennai Chapter for the timely financial support, expressed gratitude to the events' organizer, ambient audience who have volunteered in all spheres towards the success of the program.

In the valedictory function, Dr.L.Sudha, HoD/Physics and the convener of the workshop, and Dr.Helen P Kavitha, HoD/ Chemistry congratulated the winners of competitions and awarded trophies and distributed certificates for the participants.

## Building Engineers and Innovative ideas

### STAFF WRITER

B.Tech students of SRM IST, Ramapuram Campus created Innovative Ideas of different working models based on the concepts of Science, Engineering & Technology. This Competition was organized by the Forum of Sciences (The Science Association) of Department of Physics. The forum welcomed projects from multidisciplinary teams (that is, students from one branch can join with other branch students).

Dr.Somashekhar S Hiremath, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras and Dr. Prahallad Padhan, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai, were invited as judges for giving the students encouragement for their hard work and dedication. Dr.L.Sudha, Professor and

Head, Department of Physics, welcomed the judges and students. Coordinator of the projects contest Dr.M.Saravanan, Assistant Professor (SL.G), Department of Physics introduced the judges.

342 budding engineers and their 112 innovative ideas (working models) were displayed in the mini projects contest. These new, original and innovative ideas were analyzed and well appreciated by the judges.

About 300 Students from nearby schools visited our campus to see the mini projects and they were highly motivated in Science, Engineering & Technology on seeing the projects.

Dean (E&T) and Vice Principal (Academic), SRM IST, Ramapuram Campus felicitated the event. Prizes and Certificates were distributed in the Valedictory Function. The function came to a close with the National Anthem.



Prof. Dr. L. Sudha, Convener of the Workshop and Head of the Department of Physics, Ramapuram Campus gave the Welcome address and briefed about the workshop followed by lighting of Kuthuvilaku by the dignitaries.



A few portraits of the glimpses of the workshop are shown below:



# Opportunities aplenty in space research: ISRO scientist

STAFF WRITER

Dr. V. Ramamoorthy, retired scientist from ISRO, explained to students the opportunities available at ISRO and other allied organisations for engineers, science and diploma students at a seminar held at SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur.

The seminar was organised by Puthiya Thalaimurai Foundation, Viluthukal Amaippu and its general secretary Venkatagiri welcomed the gathering.

Speaking at the seminar Ramamoorthy said technological development is happening at a rapid pace, and students should understand the opportunities available in various fields. But job opportunities are not available for all, and hence those who graduate should become entrepreneurs. And that too, big entrepreneurs.

Before getting into any business, one should understand it in depth and take the plunge with utmost confidence, he said.

Talking about aerospace, Ramamoorthy said opportunities are aplenty. And a lot of work is happening in the fields of satellite technology, communication,

meteorological research, and remote medical treatment. He pointed out that remote medical treatment is available in 180 hospitals across the country. A total of 146 village hospitals have been linked to 34 multi-specialty hospitals. Also, thanks to satellite technology, education in villages has got a major fillip. In 20 years' time, space technology will surpass information technology. "Hence students should focus a lot on this field that offers plenty of opportunities," he said.

The event also saw the participation of Director – Corporate Relations SRMIST Dr. S Ganapathy, Professor Mechanical Department A Rajasekar and Physical Education and Sports Advisor Nandagopal.

## ABOUT SRM

SRM Institute of Science and Technology is accredited with the highest grade of A++ by NAAC and graded as Category I university with 12 B status. All Engineering, Pharmacy, Architecture, and MBA programs are approved by AICTE. SRMIST has secured the third rank in the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA). SRMIST is ranked globally by QS and rated by QS with '4 Star' globally and awarded India centric QS IGAUGE Diamond rating.

SRMIST carries out cutting edge research in frontier areas with more than 224 government-funded research projects at an outlay of Rs. 115 Crores since 2007. It has 11 international patents also. The institute recently opened Sir C V Raman Research Park at an estimate of Rs 120 crores with state-of-the-art equipment. The facility was opened by Hon'ble Minister of HRD, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'.

SRMIST has over 50,000 students and nearly 3,200 faculty across all the campuses offering a wide range of undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs in Engineering, Management, Medicine and Health Sciences, Hotel Management, Science and Humanities, Agricultural Sciences and a School of Law.



## Essay, oratorical contest on Swachhata HI Seva at SRM

STAFF WRITER

Students of SRM College of Nursing SRMIST participated in an essay and oratorical competition on UBA-Swachhata HI Seva 2019 (Ban of single use plastic). The winners were awarded at a ceremony held at the institute's premises.

The welcome address was given by Dean SRM College of Nursing, Dr C Kanniammal. The presidential address and the prizes were distributed by Registrar Dr N Sethuraman. Felicitation

was by Dr V Thirumurugan, Associate Director (CL) and nodal officer –UBA.

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is a flagship programme of MHRD, Government of India. SRMIST has been enrolled in UBA 2.0 as participating institute and it was approved in January 2018. The institute has adopted five villages and has implemented government schemes through technology development and customization. A group of our faculties and students visited the villages, identified problems

and submitted 59 projects to UBA 2.0. Among 59 projects, 7 projects were approved and funds were sanctioned for three projects. One project, supply of RO water to school students was completed and students were benefited.

As per MHRD instruction, SRMIST did a campaign for the ban of single use of plastic in villages and inside the campus under Swachhata Hi Seva 2019. Students and faculties also did Shramdaan and took pledge on plastic free India.

## A Sporty Affair

VAISHNAVI PRAKHAR

ACE'19 was a sports tournament organized by the Directorate of Student Affairs for the first year students at SRM Institute of Science and Technology. With their very first breaths of college life, these students were given the opportunity to shape their wings and fly higher by honing their skills. It consisted of seven sporting events: chess, cricket, soccer, basketball, badminton, and table tennis. These events tested the participants on various facets like decision making, teamwork, accuracy, reflexes, and fitness.

The glamorous tournament was held recently at various venues across the campus. These



Students in a basketball match at ACE'19

included the basketball court, soccer ground, badminton court etc. Basketball was conducted in two sets of five minutes each. Only three players were allowed to play in the court from each team. Knockout rounds were conducted among the eight participant teams. On the other hand, mini cricket was organized on an eighteen yards pitch with teams of seven competing against each other. 14 teams competed in soccer;

these included both boys' and girls' teams. 34 participants competed in badminton for the title of the champion of ACE'19. Also, the game of wit was fought by more than 90 chess enthusiasts. The tournament had two categories consisting of first year students from the Agriculture department and otherwise. The whole tournament was organized with the aim to provide a platform to the freshmen to exhibit their talents.

...opportunities are aplenty. And a lot of work is happening in the fields of satellite technology, communication, meteorological research, and remote medical treatment said Ramamoorthy



# No country has developed without the participation of women: FICCI official

## STAFF WRITER

“The future of jobs is the biggest challenge we are facing. To overcome it, student-centric learning should be adopted, which includes teaching entrepreneurship. Lectures/professors should be mentors and they should also keep learning,” said Shobha Mishra Ghosh, Assistant Secretary General, FICCI, New Delhi.

She spoke to students of MBA, BBA, BCA, Science & Humanities, and Science & Technology at the fourth edition of Dr. Paarivendhar Lecture Series held at SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur. She addressed students on the topic, ‘Future Jobs in India and the Role of Universities’.

Welcoming the gathering Dean, School of Management, Dr. V. Ponniah said, “In future it will be difficult to judge jobs and hence this lecture will throw light on what to expect and how to cope up with the change. Supply and demand are affected by various factors. So it is the knowledge and expertise of the student that needs to be changed and updated.”

In his presidential address, Founder-Chancellor of SRMIST, Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar said, “The scope for the job in the future is going to change. Such lectures are useful than classroom teaching. To improve your knowledge it is important to listen to such talks. Students should show more interest as it gives ideas and exposure about yourself, how to speak with people and know what is happening around you. It could also help in your



Founder-Chancellor of SRMIST, Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar, honoured Assistant Secretary General, FICCI, New Delhi, Shobha Mishra Ghosh, at the fourth edition of Dr. Paarivendhar Lecture Series held at SRMIST, Kattankulathur

campus interview.” “We are trying to develop and nurture you with lots of information so that you can face this world in several methods and ways. To do this, the response of students is also important. Students can



Ms. Shobha Mishra Ghosh delivering her lecture at the fourth edition of Dr. Paarivendhar Lecture Series held at SRMIST, Kattankulathur.

form clubs and associations to attend such lectures. This is equal to reading several books. If you stop learning, you stop living.” Focusing on the purpose of education, Shobha Mishra Ghosh said, “Apart from knowledge, employable skills, research, and innovation, it is important to evolve, be an aware and empathetic human being.” She added that our education system should contribute towards making students a good human being. This implies to thinkers & philosophers, entrepreneurs & professionals, scientists & researches. Everyone is talking about innovation. We should also see if this innovation is solving issues and problems that we are facing. If we think students are going to be passive learner, then how can we think about collaboration? She questioned.

Talking about key global changes in the present scenario, she highlighted the impact of

climate change, exponential technologies, growing protectionism, urbanization, demographic on the future jobs in India. We are now in the fourth industrial revolution and the change from the third to the fourth took place in a very short time. The transition to the fifth stage will be in less than three years she emphasized.

“The effective working age of the population is reducing. The use of robots and cobots is gaining more popularity thereby replacing people. Now in developed countries, people will spend more time on leisure activity. This is something that we need to pay attention to as a developing country. Soon customers are going to play a vital role in the manufacturing sector. Hence having a set of skills and upskilling is the need of the hour.” Speaking on how we are still lagging behind in our education system, this FICCI official said, “Our education still remains in the second revolution stage. Only a handful of counties have moved on to cater to the needs of the present time. Although India has advanced well in terms of rapid urbanisation, technology adaptation, we still need to harness our rural economy which contributes to 16% of our GDP.

Highlighting the workforce matrix 2022, she elaborated the 9% would be deployed in new jobs that do not exist today, 37% would be in jobs that have radically changed skill set and 54% will fall under the unchanged job category. These changes will primarily be in IT/BPO, automobile, banking and

insurance, textile and apparel, retail. Most jobs will die away and give way to 55 unique jobs roled across eight technologies such as VR, IoT, Big Data Analytics, AI, Robotic Process Automation, 3D Printing, cloud computing, social & mobile.

Speaking on the new age pedagogy, this FICCI officer said, “The changing paradigm in our education has led to new age pedagogy. This leads to global classrooms, experiential learning, and addressing diverse learners. Universities should teach students to think and be aware of what is happening around them. The learning in this 21st century is different and the faculty and management should also adopt themselves. Mentors should also take up different calibers of teaching. Many institutions are not adopting the latest technologies. Faculty also should not shy from learning from students. Our system only looks at the learning ability. There are nine types of intelligence and we should see that and harness it accordingly. The creative economy has transcended into several sectors including IT, therefore our universities should also focus on liberal education.” “Women’s participation should increase. No country in this world has developed without the participation of women in the workforce,” She concluded. Also present on the occasion were Vice Chancellor of SRMIST Dr. Sandeep Sancheti, Pro VC (EA) of SRMIST Dr. R. Balasubramanian, Member of the Board Prof. B. Raghavan, Director Corporate Relations S. Ganapathy, Faculty of SOM Bhaskar, faculties, and students.

**“The effective working age of the population is reducing. The use of robots and cobots is gaining more popularity thereby replacing people. Now in developed countries, people will spend more time on leisure activity. This is something that we need to pay attention to as a developing country. Soon customers are going to play a vital role in the manufacturing sector. Hence having a set of skills and upskilling is the need of the hour.”**



# AARUUSH 2K19

PRIYANK KAPOOR

ARPITA RAVI

ANANYA EDUPUGANTI

PRINCE SAMUEL S

A good beginning makes a good ending. With this belief in mind, Aaruush, the national-level Techno-Management fest kick-started its journey in its quest to bequeath SRMites with the memory of a lifetime. The fest, which encompassed four days, was completely student-funded and was hyped for months at end keeping each and every member of the SRM family hooked on with roadshows and pre-fest events.

As part of the run-up to the fest, the Organising Committees of Aaruush dabbled in several events to nurture the fervour which had gripped the campus. One of the flagship pre-fest events was the Carnival. It transpired in the Tech Park Lane wherein the organizing committees of all the domains of Aaruush set up their counters throughout the area. A crowd of beaming young faces amidst the hustle-bustle made it an event worth attending. Among the pre-fest events, the Tech Fair saw all the domains of Aaruush coming together and showcasing their skillsets to the audience. This event provided massive technical exposure to the first years as they gained knowledge, had fun and experienced some exceptional works by all the domains. One of the biggest pre-fest events was the Guinness World Record event, wherein Team Aaruush attempted to break the world record for the largest Software Application session. This session of Adobe Lightroom saw 900+ participants, which helped the team easily break the existing record.

The first day of the much-awaited Aaruush saw World Cup winner Suresh Raina charming the audience as he addressed the students with his motivational words. The auditorium was resonating with screams from the audience as the crowd soaked in the charisma of the Chief Guest. The first day was interspersed with technical workshops. The whole campus was heavily lit and students were pumped with exuberance. They assiduously participated in workshops, games, and mini-events. The first day concluded

with a musical performance of a band from Chennai.

The second day dawned with a plethora of workshops and luminary addresses by brilliant speakers such as Major Deepak Rao, Bikash Sinha, Sweta Ratnapura, and Anand Arni, who talked about their respective journeys while also sharing their knowledge on modern intelligence and espionage, patriotism, valor, and cosmology. A free workshop on the low-code development platform Apex was conducted by Oracle, where they also engaged participants with information on SQL, team development and other topics. The flagship event for the day was the Unconference wherein 5 panelists from various fields of life shared their experiences. They included Mr. Viraj Ghelani, famous YouTuber and content writer for channels like FilterCopy, Gobble, etc, Ms. Zoe Siddharth, a singer, social media influencer and a finalist on third season of "The Stage", Mrs. Deepshikha Anand, founder and CEO of SpeakIn and author of the bestselling book "101 Lessons to be a Damn Good Speaker!", Mr. Mukund Padmanabhan, former editor of 'The Hindu' and Mrs. Nirali Bhatia, a Cyber-Psychologist and co-founder of Cyber B.A.A.P (Cyber Bullying Awareness, Action and Prevention).

As part of the dossier of on-the-spot events at this edition of Aaruush, activities such as paintball and the mechanical bull were held. However, the highlight event of the day was Eric Heimdall's astounding performance on his laser harp, a treat for both the eyes and ears. His performance was followed by a melodious, soulful rendition of songs by the famous percussive-fingerstyle artist Samar Mehdi, which left the audience enthralled.

Day 3 of Aaruush witnessed much excitement, with flagship events such as Turbo Drift, QuadCopter and the Autonomous Robot Challenge. Turbo Drift was perfect for racing car enthusiasts, with the participants battling it out on the field to be crowned "The Drift King". Taking inspiration from the Marvel Universe, our very own Aaruush Industry conducted a drone championship, with many drones soaring high up in the air, tearing through the shining midday

sun. This day also included many enlightening Luminary Addresses. The crowd of budding engineers was encouraged by the words of Dr. Archana Sharma, a renowned Senior Scientist at CERN Laboratory in Geneva, Switzerland, who played a crucial role in the discovery of the Higgs Boson. One of India's leading authors, bloggers and motivational speakers, Ms. Anamika Mishra, was also present. India's youngest woman pilot at the age of 16, Ms Ayesha Aziz, addressed the crowd too. An E-Summit was held for aspiring entrepreneurs to talk about their journey, and the Industrial Conclave had a riveting set of panelists - Dr Jayakumar Venkatesan, Dr. Apurva Jakhadi, Dr. Satyanarayanan R. Chakravarthy, Sandhya Ramesh, Mr Vishal Latha Balakumar - who discussed and debated on the topic 'Interstellar Voyage'.

As Day 3 progressed, the atmosphere slowly filled with more enthusiasm as it was time for the much-anticipated Arjun Kanungo concert, sponsored by Coke Studio. Students grooved along to the beautiful renditions of Fursat, Bekhayali and feet tapping beats such as Gallan Tipsyan and Hamma Hamma. The auditorium reverberated with the sound of cheering students even after the end of the concert; such was the impact



Events Galore: Snapshots of On-the-spot events from Aaruush 2019

A crowd of beaming young faces amidst the hustle-bustle made it an event worth attending. Among the pre-fest events, the Tech Fair saw all the domains of Aaruush coming together and showcasing their skillsets to the audience

of his performance. Being true to its motto of "Assimilating Aspirations and Instilling Innovation", the EXPO series at Aaruush was conducted on all the 4 days of the fest. From India's first mixed reality headset to India's first premier Hyperloop projects, the EXPO series was a tremendous success. The last day saw the luminary addresses of Kargil War Veteran Sanjay Malik and Former Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice, Mr. P.K. Malhotra. The workshops had their last few sessions and the events concluded with their last rounds. The setting of the sun on 29th September marked the beginning of the end; yet the night was buzzing with energy in anticipation of a high

intensity, stomach-aching comedy night by Abhishek Upmanyu. Aaruush' 19 came to a befitting end with a glorious valedictory ceremony that hosted Shri. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', the Union Cabinet Minister of Human Resource Development, and The Founder Chancellor of SRM IST, and honorable Member of Parliament Shri. Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar. The organizers, the committee heads and all the student volunteers gathered together for one last time to reminisce their countless memories and sleepless hard work which they had put into making Aaruush'19 the best of all its forerunners, setting the benchmark higher for years to come.





Binghamton delegates at SRM Campus

## A New Collaboration – Binghamton University

JELSIA ALEX

SRM Institute of Science and Technology is renowned for its collaborations with plenty of prestigious foreign universities and institutions across the world. Our institution has been signing MoUs with institutions both in India as well as abroad in order to ensure that students from our institute with passion and a panache for their subjects get the appropriate amount of exposure to nurture their skillset. Students are provided with the option of applying for Foreign Exchange Programs [FEPs], Semester Abroad Programs [SAPs] and internships in collaboration with these institutes. Likewise, students from several foreign colleges and universities visit our campus to experience the Indian work culture. It increases the variety, helps in assimilating and gives a lot of exposure to students. Looking forward to one such successful collaboration, two delegates – Prof. Hari Shrihari, Director Watson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and Ms.

**Binghamton University is very focused on developing a strategic approach to engagement with SRM, which is slated to be one of the 6 universities that they will engage with in India in the future**

Elizabeth Kradjian, Assistant Dean of Strategy and External Affairs, both from Binghamton University, USA visited SRM IST campus recently. This was Prof. Hari's second visit to the campus. The meeting was scheduled was coordinated by Ms. Preeth, SAP counselor.

Binghamton University is very focused on developing a strategic approach to engagement with SRM, which is slated to be one of the 6 universities that they will engage with in India in the future. One of the areas

that they wish to engage is in the digital technology- one of the key strengths of Binghamton University. The delegates met Mr. Kartar Singh – Director IR, Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan – Director E & T and Dr. Sandeep Sancheti – Vice Chancellor. This was followed by a meeting with the HoDs of CSE, ECE, SWE, IT and EEE departments, in order to make the collaboration more fruitful. SRM would look forward to many such collaborations with various foreign universities in the upcoming years.



The launching of Chandrayaan 2 at Satish Dhawan Space Centre

## Chandrayaan 2: What It Means for India's Future Space Endeavours

SHIVANI ARAVINDHAN

As the scientists at Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) held their breaths when they lost contact with the Vikram Lander of Chandrayaan 2, the silence back at the Bengaluru Command Centre was as deafening as that of Space. The lander which was rightfully named after the 'Father of India's Space Programme' Vikram Sarabhai, was the first ever attempt by any space agency to make a landing on the South Pole of the lunar surface. When the ISRO officially confirmed their worst fear that communication with the lander was lost, it resulted in an overwhelming show of support pouring in from all corners of the nation.

Chandrayaan-2 is still considered to be a successful space initiative. Nevertheless, the unforeseen glitch which occurred in the final crucial minutes of the moon landing does significantly impact the future space missions which are to be carried out by ISRO. The space agency which inarguably has a

stellar record, will play host to a series of ambitious planned missions, such as Gaganyaan- the first manned space mission which will be carried out by the agency, Shukryaan 1 to Venus, a solar mission Aditya L-1, launched to study the outer layer of the Sun as well as Chandrayaan-3. The failure of the Vikram Lander can be a critical commentary on the technical capacity to carry out the Gaganyaan mission which cannot afford even the slightest of errors where three fighter pilots will be eventually chosen to go into space by the year 2021. The agency will also oversee the launch of Mangalyaan 2 which will be launched into the orbit of Mars. The seven years that the Chandrayaan 2 orbiter is set to spend in space will provide ISRO with the essential data necessary to successfully carry out these projects. Needless to say, it has also made quite a positive impact upon the nation, making the adage "Failure is the stepping stone to success" resonate deeply within the youth of the nation.

## Books in The Digital Era

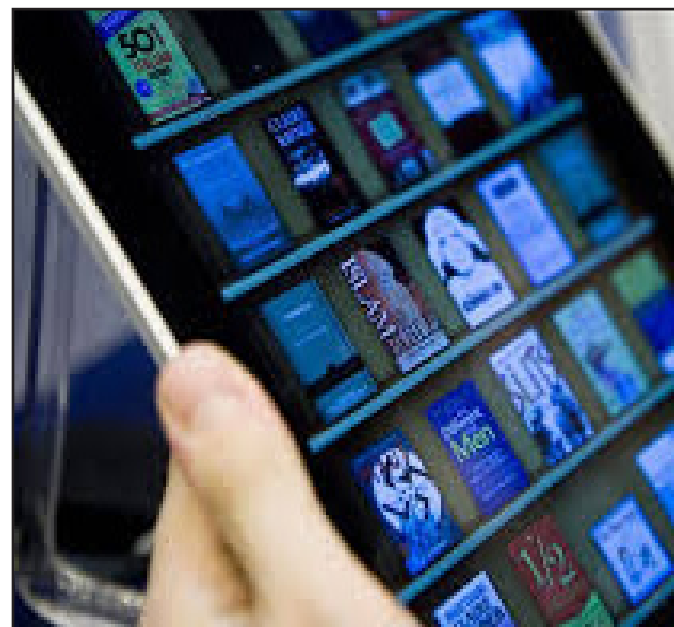
SRISHTI CHAKRABORTY

The internet defines digital learning as any type of learning that is accompanied by technology or by means that make effective use of technology. Thus, e-books and by extension the mobile applications that allow users to read books for free, online as well as offline, fall under this category.

Apps like these allow people to carry large number of books on their devices without consuming any space at all unless they

are stored offline. They make a wide variety of books from various genres instantaneously available given one has a sound internet connection. Readers have the luxury of always having a multitude of books available at the touch of their fingertips. Further, these apps allow people to read in dimly lit places, and sometimes even provide an option to adjust the brightness. Most importantly, they reduce the need for paper, as books no longer have to be printed on paper that is obtained by felling trees. There are cons

as well: health issues that affect our eyes, soaring prices and the absence of the thrill and joy of actually turning pages to reach the conclusion of a story. However, the positives outweigh the negatives by a gargantuan margin. In this era of digitisation, e-books and these associated apps have unquestionably changed the way people perceive books. They have provided an unconventional and effective way to gain knowledge, a method so out of the box that people would not even have fathomed it until a few years ago.



A common source of e-books





The dignitaries at the inauguration of the SRM Oral Cancer Surgical Centre

## A Book in Braille: Battling Oral Cancer

PRIYANK KAPOOR

Awareness about life threatening diseases is the first step forward in battling them and emerging victorious. Keeping this in mind, SRM Kattankulathur Dental College (SRMKDC) recently inaugurated the SRM Oral Cancer Surgical Centre. At the auspicious opening, a book focusing on oral cancer was also released in Braille for the visually challenged. Besides, CDs on oral cancer awareness were also distributed among the audience.

The event had Thiru P. Ponniah, Collector and District Magistrate,

as its chief guest. Dr. Sambandam, an oncologist from the United States of America, and Ms. Deepa Bhatia, the CEO of National Association for the Blind, also graced the occasion. Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar, MP and Founder Chancellor of SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan, President, SRMIST, Dr N. Sethuraman, Registrar, SRMIST, Dr. N. Vivek, Dean, SRMKDC and Dr. K. T. Magesh, VP, SRMKDC, were among the other dignitaries present. Headmistresses and headmasters from several government schools also

witnessed the event. The highlight of the event was the release of the book in Braille that aims to spread awareness about oral cancer among the blind. The impetus behind this was to reach out to those whose visual impairment had prevented them from learning about the causes and preventive measures of oral cancer.

According to reports, 70% of the male population in India is addicted to tobacco, the major cause of oral cancer. This event was an attempt to combat this deadly statistics by enlightening people on ways to fight this addiction.

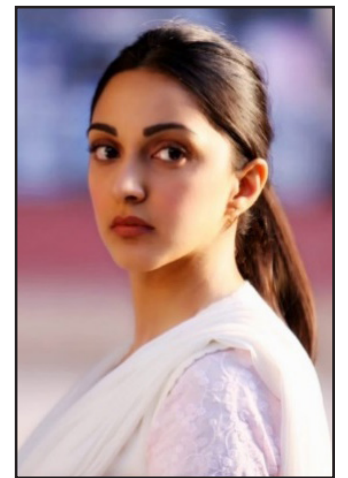
## Portrayal of Women in Indian Cinema

EASHA NAIR

For centuries, women have been suppressed and ostracised. The role of a woman has been considered merely as that of a homemaker for many a century. However, come the dawn of the twenty-first century, women's stand in society has changed drastically. Even so, the image that Indian cinema portrays of women is far from what one envisions when they think of well-educated girls of the modern era.

that is collectively wrong with Indian cinema. The female leads in a movie are constantly put on display as mere show pieces while the entire narrative revolves around the male character. It makes one question the very foundation of such films, and wonder if the underlying issue extends to more than just the big screen and whether the blatant degradation of women in cinema is indicative of the fact that they are still struggling to find respect in the society.

The leading lady of the movie "Kabir Singh", Preeti is shown to be meek and submissive. She is wholly dependent on Kabir to look after her and is a classic damsel in distress. Despite being described as a 'rank holder' in the film, she hardly has anything to her credit. She does not possess a voice to fight back when atrocities are inflicted upon her and throughout the film, she is shown to be a puppet to the protagonist's will.



This is not an issue with just a single movie, but something

Kiara Advani as Preeti in the movie 'Kabir Singh'

## Take 2: Of Wordsmiths and Songbirds

SHRAVYA SHARAN

SRM Institute of Science and Technology is a multifaceted institution that caters to the varying fields of interest of its student body by conducting a plethora of events that not only provides the students with a platform to display their talents but also gives them a reprieve from academics. Giving stage to the creatively inclined, the Jhalak Open Mic 2.0 was conducted on recently in front of Tech Park by the Literary and Music Club. This event was open to all students of SRMIST and provided them with an outlet to share their works of creativity with others. Students swarmed in numbers to get a chance to showcase their literary and musical talents. Their creativity and skills were warmly received by an equally enthusiastic



Not just the mic but jaws dropped as well at the Jhalak Open Mic

crowd. The audience was treated with the melodious voices of amazing singers and thought-provoking words of resident poets. Hidden talents were uncovered as words and emotions flowed free through the mic and resonated with the audience leaving a lasting impression on them. The second edition of the Open Mic witnessed a bigger turnout than its previous edition

and successfully incorporated and highlighted the creativity possessed by the students while simultaneously creating a buzz amidst the crowd for Jhalak.

Not only were the participants appreciated for their talents but even the audience was given an entertaining evening, one that made their day more fun and heightened their anticipation for the events to come.

## IMF'19: A Fest for the Queen of all Sciences

NISHANT SAGAR

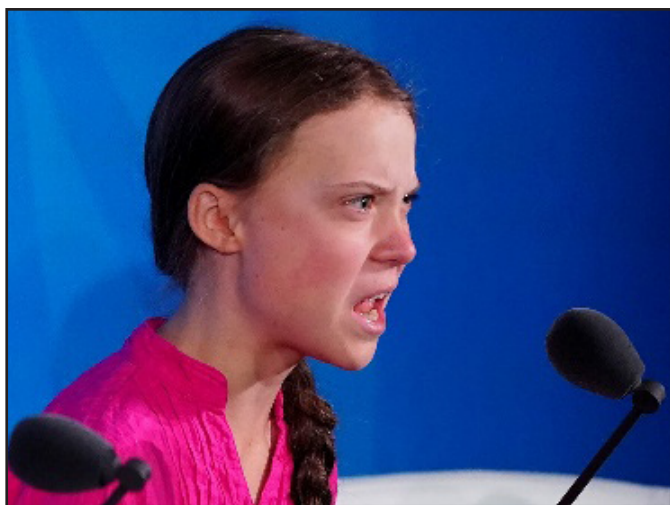
The twenty-ninth Intercollegiate Mathematics Festival (IMF 2019) was organised by the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, in the SRM Medical College Auditorium recently.

Mr. R. Venkataramani, Director, Alumni Affairs, SRMIST, inaugurated the event and set it into motion. The Chief Guest of IMF'19 was Mr. V. Maheshwaran, Senior Director, Cognizant Technology Solutions, Chennai. In his address, he highlighted the importance of mathematics in industries. He also emphasized upon the significance of mathematics during the manufacture of various products. Further, he requested the mathematics professors to explain the real-world applications of mathematical concepts to the

students during their class lectures in order to motivate them to pursue the subject in the future. IMF'19 witnessed a galaxy of young budding mathematicians participating in its events. The morning after the inauguration saw the preliminary stages of Dumb-C and Quiz taking place simultaneously. Crossword, Puzzle, IQ and the final stages of Dumb-C and Quiz were all hosted in the afternoon. Dumb-C was arguably the most popular event as 25 teams competed against each other with great passion and intent. IMF'19 witnessed an overall turnout of more than 150 students.

The mathematics extravaganza drew to a close with a prize distribution ceremony. Three prizes were awarded for every event and students took home exciting cash prizes. IMF promises to return next year with fresh mathematical challenges and even greater energy and enthusiasm.





*A Small Girl with A Big Voice: Greta Thunberg Delivering her speech at the United Nations Climate Action Summit*

## “How Dare You”: Why the world needs more people like Greta Thunberg

SHRUTI

Climate change is real, and Greta Thunberg is here to fight against it. The 16-year-old Swedish climate activist recently delivered a rather powerful speech at the United Nations Climate Action Summit recently, calling out world leaders and the previous generation for their lethargy against issues such as global warming. In her speech, Thunberg stressed facts concerning factors such as rising CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and how these diminish the chances of survival of future generations.

The young activist exclaimed, “This is all wrong. I shouldn’t be up here. I should be back in school on the other side of the ocean, yet you all come to us young people for hope. How dare you?”

And her question is reasonable. Why must a 16-year-old have to make her way from Sweden

to America on a boat to prove a point? We live in a world where a little teenager is doing more to raise awareness about climate change than most world leaders. As a result, today’s youth is facing the consequences of mistakes made by previous generations, many decades ago.

Given current conditions, changes, like planting more trees in a little garden or using public transport two days a week, are infinitesimal compared to the problem at hand. For future generations to thrive, the world needs to see major reforms.

Thankfully, more activists are coming through, and a few world leaders are trying to take steps to save the Earth. Of course, there is a fair share of climate change deniers, but if there’s one thing nobody can refute, it is that Thunberg’s speech will go down in history as a powerful, hard-hitting, impactful disquisition.

### Reporting for Spectrum

- Contributing reports should be confined to a maximum of 250 words and must be written by students only.
- Accompanying pictures must have captions. Pictures without caption will not be published
- Request for coverage in Spectrum by its editorial team must be made well in advance with an accompanying note and the invitation to sridhark@srmist.edu.in
- Coverage of a certain event or receipt of an article does not guarantee publication. –Editor

## An Amalgamation of Cultures

PRIYANKA SRINIVAS

After weeks of anticipation, the annual inter-house cultural competition of SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST) unfolded on a bright Saturday morning. Eight houses participated in the cultural competition, Trishul, Brahmos, Aakash, Naag, Agni, Prithvi, Astra and Shaurya. Numerous events took place from nine in the morning till the sunset hour. The competition was split into various cultural domains: dance, music, drama, literary and fashion. Each house had to present a solo artist and a group to compete in the respective areas.

The events had eminent guests presiding over and judging the participants. The judge for the music competition was Josh Vivian, a singer, composer and songwriter with his band, ‘Namma Ooru Boy Band’ which translates to ‘Our City



Boy Band’. The music session was filled with the melodious bursts of all the houses in band and duet formats. Dance was presided over by Velu Kumar, one of the nation’s leading hip-hop artistes. The crowd witnessed a bonus performance by the judge himself, which lulled everyone to amazement. Drama was judged by Anbu Thassan and Aadhira Pandilakshmi, two popular theatre artistes. Anbu Thassan spoke to the gathering and gave them insights about his journey with dramatics and theatrics. Lastly, the judge for fashion was an alumnus of SRMIST, Sherlin Seth, with

a degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering. She addressed the crowd at length and reminisced about her experiences at SRM.

After the magnificent cultural display, prizes were distributed to the winning houses. A winner and a runner-up were awarded in each category. The overall championship was bagged by Brahmos. The competition witnessed a perfect end, with everyone laughing their woes away with Kenny Sebastian, who stole the show with his comedic presence and musical talent.



*Honorable chief guest Mr. Nakul Mehrotra with new recruits and previous office bearers*

## EEEEA Inauguration and Felicitation

MANOJ VAMSEE

An incredible evening was hosted and organised by the Electrical and Electronics Engineering Association of SRM Institute of Science and Technology recently. The event comprised of the inauguration of the EEE Association along with the felicitation of its new office bearers. Mr Nakul Mehrotra, the coordinator of SRM Alumni Affairs, was the honorable chief guest for the occasion.

The event started with the national anthem followed by a welcome address given by the

president of the EEE Association, Mr K. Vijayakumar. The lamp was lit by the respected chief guest and senior faculty members. The Vice president of the EEE Association, Ms Anshu, gave a brief introduction about the association and introduced the chief guest. Moreover, a new official website of the EEEA was launched. The new heads and office bearers were felicitated as they received their new identity cards.

The previous office bearers were also awarded. The chief guest gave a motivational speech to all the future engineers who

attended the event. He was quoted saying, “Engineers are the building blocks of the society and our country; they should constantly work towards the betterment of nation”. Mr K Vijayakumar presented the chief guest with a memento as a token of respect and gratitude. The new recruits Secretary, Mr Anurag Sharma, and Joint Secretary, Mr Abdul Nihal, concluded the ceremony with a vote of thanks.

The ceremony was a warm welcome to all the new recruits as all the future engineers basked in bounteous motivation.



# # End The Stigma

DIKSHA AVIRAL

Sometimes the monsters aren't beneath your bed, but in your mind. Sometimes your own thoughts can hurt you more than any blade ever could. Sometimes the realms in your mind and beyond your skin know no distinction. Sometimes, they say, the worst place to be is in your own head.

Studies show that roughly 25% of people, that is around 450 million people worldwide suffer from mental health problems. And under that very same sky, 57% of people refuse to accept mental health problems as a "real" illness. The above statistics beg the question: What constitutes an illness? Does the pain a person feels need to be tangible, physical, "normal" to qualify as a medical condition? A disease does not conform itself to human perception and social norms. Its high time we removed the stigma surrounding mental health and start seeing mental illness for what it really is, an illness.

Mental illness isn't a personal failure or something you can just "get over". Mental illnesses are actual anatomical or psychological disorders that require serious medical attention just like a liver or a kidney malfunction.



*"Whether an illness affects your heart, your leg or your brain, it's still an illness, and there should be no distinction." - Michelle Obama*



*Don't tell someone to get over it; help them to get through it.*

A person cannot get over depression, anxiety or ADHD any more than he or she can get over the flu or food poisoning. Mental illness is not a choice. Mental illness is not a state of mind. And mental illness is not something to be ashamed of. Why is it that we live in a world where we ostracize people who most require our support

and understanding? And to all those who are struggling out there, it's okay. It's okay not to be okay sometimes. It's okay to feel unstable. It's okay to disassociate. It's okay to hide from the world. It's okay to need help. And it's okay to ask for help. Your feelings, thoughts and fears are valid. You are not alone.

## A service for all

DEV DARSH V PANTH

The National Service Scheme (NSS) is an Indian government-sponsored public service program conducted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of the Government of India. It has played a huge role in the lives of young people in Colleges and Universities. Like many institutions, SRM Institute of Science and Technology has its own NSS club composed of students and professors from various departments. Some projects that have been undertaken by the NSS in the year 2019-2020 are digging, seed plantation, classroom cleaning, and lake cleaning. These activities aim to improve teamwork, hard-work and instill leadership qualities.

The NSS club in SRM is led by Mr. James Rosario, Dr.

Bapuji Pullepu, and Mr. Selvam. The seed plantation and lake cleaning activities were held in the village of Wallajabad. Students diligently completed the activities with zeal and enthusiasm in a span of a few hours. Food and refreshments were provided to the students later. A Board cleaning activity was also conducted by NSS wherein students went to various classrooms in the University block to clean the chalkboards; they also left a message encouraging

all the students to thoroughly clean the chalkboard at least once a week. It was a team effort that ensured that the boards were cleaned within an hour.

Recently, the NSS day was celebrated on the 24th of September where all the NSS volunteers took an oath to save water, maintain cleanliness, conserve electricity, and be supportive in the ventures to help India become a cleaner, healthier, and aware nation.



Students gathered to celebrate NSS day

## Melam 2019: A Celebration of Onam for the books

SHRUTI

SRM Institute of Science and Technology recently celebrated the joyous festival of Onam with Melam 2k19 recently at its very own TP Ganesan Auditorium. Malayalee students from all departments of SRMIST joined this grand celebration, clad in the quintessential shirt and mundu or saree. The appealing aesthetic of the festival was the icing on the cake.

Onam is incomplete without Pookalam, the traditional arrangement of flowers similar to that of a rangoli. The students of SRMIST ensured that they had not one, but four different pookalams at different locations across the campus. The customary Chenda Melam began at 4 P.M. at the Bio-Technology Block wherein boys and girls alike marched, danced and sang till the beats of the chenda carried them to the Auditorium.

Following the inauguration

by the DSA student coordinator, senior students Cedric Matthew and Mohammed Ali lit the lamp, marking the official beginning of Melam 2019. The welcome dance was presented by a group of girls from the first year, followed by the Thiruvathira (a traditional dance performed in Kerala), and lots more dancing and singing. Students from all years performed various traditional Malayalam songs and dances. Performance after performance only fuelled the audience's energy. Furthermore, paalpayasam was provided in generous amounts to keep up with the Onam spirit. In spite of the event ending with a vote of thanks delivered by Cedric, students were reeling with the festive spirit and thus ensured that Melam 2019 would be one to remember. The appealing aesthetic of the event was one to carry forth as the tired yet exuberant faces of the students trudged back to their hostels and their homes.



The celebration of Onam was indeed a thing of beauty- a joy forever

## Ganpati Bappa's Stay at SRM

EASHA NAIR

Ganesh Chaturthi is a festival that celebrates the birth of Lord Ganesha, the son of Shiva and Parvati. Large pandals are erected and the idol of the Elephant God is placed within them, being worshipped for several days. SRM Institute of Science and Technology celebrated this year's Ganesh Chaturthi in a similarly fervent manner. The idol was brought to the Ganpati Temple next to the University Building. It was worshipped every evening for the eleven days.

The Festival Club of the Directorate of Student Affairs organized the Ganesh Visarjan.

The celebration was pompous as a huge crowd showed up at the temple at five o'clock for the event. Loud cheers of "Ganpati Bappa Morya, Pudhchya Varshi Lavkar ya" and "Ganpati Bappa Morya, Mangalmurti Morya" resounded throughout the campus. Various prayers were chanted as the attendees prepared themselves to bid the Lord adieu for another year. Copious amounts of zeal and excitement was exhibited by the attendees. The idol was transported out of the campus in a van, with enthusiastic students dancing and celebrating throughout. The whole affair was extremely grandiloquent and enjoyed by everyone who was present to witness it.



# SRM inks MoU with Kansas State University

## STAFF WRITER

SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Kansas State University (KSU), USA. Professors Dr. Ramasamy Perumal and Dr. Krishna Jagadish from KSU visited SRMIST for the purpose. Both the faculties are also adjunct professors in SRMIST. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Ramasamy Perumal said that the process of the MoU is lengthy, he is happy to have this association with SRMIST. "It is important to give students a lift and push them towards a higher calling. This MoU will be a team effort and it is important not to underestimate one's self and aim at a better output. With the facilities that SRMIST offers, we are also contemplating bringing our own Ph.D. students here for

research." Prof. Krishna Jagadish said, "I was completely new to SRMIST and after I got to know about the infrastructure and the well-equipped faculty, I am pretty much happy to have signed this MoU with this Institution. I hope this agreement turns out to be meaningful and productive." Vice-Chancellor of SRMIST, Dr. Sandeep Sancheti, said, "The message for the youngsters is to dream big and follow leaders to gain and improve their knowledge. This is a good partnership that we have earned. This will not just benefit the Genetics department but also the clusters around it like agriculture, biotechnology and so on. This association will be special as KSU's doors are not open to everyone. We will do our best to fulfill the terms of the agreement and move forward." He also invited KSU's leadership to visit SRMIST in future.

Also, present on the occasion were Director (International Relations) Kartar Singh, IQSC Director Dr. Latha Pillai, HoD of Genetic Engineering Dr. M Parani among others.

What the MoU offers?

This MoU will facilitate the exchange of students and scientists to conduct research of mutual interest, exchange of professors for lectures and short term visits, invitations to scholars for participation in conferences, symposia and instruction, exchange of information, academic materials and publications in fields of mutual interest, facilitating the mobility of students, through exchange and visits, between two universities. This agreement will also host one student every year with a stipend for a one-year duration. This can be at undergraduate / masters / Ph.D.

## SRM Professors co-author research paper in Nature

### STAFF WRITER

SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur enters the elite group of Institutions with a publication in Nature, world's leading multidisciplinary science journal. Bringing this honor to the institution is Dr. Parani Madasamy, Professor and Head and Dr. Purushothaman Natarajan, Assistant Professor from Department of Genetic Engineering, SRMIST. These professors are coauthors of the research paper titled "The GenomeAsia 100K Project enables genetic discoveries across Asia" that was published in Nature on 5th December this year. SRMIST was part of a multi-national GenomeAsia100K Consortium, which was set up for sequencing the genomes of 1.0 Lakh people from Asia. First report of this work was published and featured in the cover page of Nature. The professors were part of the group that undertook the study and reported on the GenomeAsia 100K consortium that analyzed the genomes of 1,739 people, which represents the widest coverage of genetic diversity in Asia to date.

The pilot study included 598 genomes from India, 156 from Malaysia, 152 from South Korea, 113 from Pakistan, 100 from Mongolia, 70 from China, 70 from Papua New Guinea, 68 from Indonesia, 52 from the Philippines, 35 from Japan, and 32 from Russia. The professors were part of the Indian contingent that undertook the research. Speaking about his experience Dr. Parani Madasamy said, "In the pilot phase of the GenomeAsia project, the sample set that we analyzed allowed us to address a wide range of questions regarding the history of specific Asian population groups and to map out strategies for additional sequencing efforts."

What is the paper about?

The purpose of this study was to understand the genetic basis of human diseases that will benefit from an increase in the number and scale of diseases-association studies that are carried out in Asian populations.

Under representation of non-European individuals in human genetic studies so far has limited



the diversity of individual in genomic datasets and led to reduced medical relevance for a large proportion of the world's population. Population-specific reference genome datasets as well as genome-wide association studies in diverse populations are needed to address this issues. In this paper, they have described the pilot phase of the GenomeAsia 100K project. This includes whole-genome sequencing of a reference dataset from 1,739 individuals from 219 population. They have also explored the use of this dataset in imputation, to facilitate genetic studies in populations across Asia and worldwide.

Who did this study?

This study was conducted by the GenomeAsia 100K, which is a non-profit consortium with Nanyang Technological University, Singapore and MedGenome from India/US as founding partners and several institutes in Asia and other countries as members.

SRMIST's role in this study?

The pilot study included 598 genomes from India and SRMIST was part of the Indian contingent. SRMIST collected samples, sequenced, and analyzed the whole genome data from a the individuals of the Irula tribe and the people affected with retinitis pigmentosa, a group of rare genetic disorders that involve a breakdown and loss of cells in the retina leading to difficulty in seeing at night and a loss of peripheral vision.



Professors Dr. Ramasamy Perumal and Dr. Krishna Jagadish from Kansas State University (KSU), USA pose with the signed MoU with Vice Chancellor of SRMIST, Dr. Sandeep Sancheti, and HoD of Genetic Engineering Dr. M Parani.



# SRM College of Physiotherapy honours its alumni

## STAFF WRITER

It was a day of togetherness and recollecting old memories as the Silver Jubilee alumni celebration of SRM College of Physiotherapy was held in association with Alumni Association of SRM College of Physiotherapy (AASRMPT). ACCORD 2020, was held over a period of two days. The first day was filled with lectures and presentations, while, the second day was a more informal gathering of fun and games. The reunion was not just for the alumni but for their families also. Many had brought in their children to be part of the get-together.

Welcoming the gathering Dean of SRM College of Physiotherapy, SRMIST, and Professor D. Malarvizhi said, "We are happy to welcome each and every one of you back home. This is a day to celebrate the spirit of graduation."

President of SRMIST, Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan said, "It is a great pleasure to see so many participate in this reunion."

Recalling the words of Founder-Chancellor of SRMIST, Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar, Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan said, "This is not just a get-together but a family reunion."

He added, "There are about 1400 alumni members in physiotherapy and I think almost everyone has turned up amidst their busy schedule. This goes to show that you are renewing your friendship and feeling nostalgic about your Alma Mater. The friendship that you get here is of the purest form and this relationship will continue forever. You will never get an opportunity to get such relationships. It is important for you to connect with each other and interact in the days to come. You should also think about what you can offer to your Alma Mater in terms of introducing workshops, placement opportunities for those looking for career change within the same domain and so on. You are our visiting cards and ambassadors."

SRMIST President also launched the Souvenir and Android Mobile Application on the occasion. Vice-Chancellor of SRMIST Dr. Sandeep Sancheti said, "It is so nice to see different generations of people coming

together with a resolution to take things forward. SRMIST is a force to reckon with as it enjoys high rankings at the national and international levels. With over 55,000 students we are one of the largest Universities in terms of numbers and diversity. SRMIST also has several schemes for alumni and I think you all should make use of it. You should also give back to the institution and this relationship should continue. Alumni is the biggest strength of the college. This base will keep growing and we can do wonders together. Take advantage of what we have to offer for the alumni and we will also be happy to help you."

The Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Dr. VPR Sivakumar, who was the former dean of SRM College of Physiotherapy. He is now the Registrar of Gandhigram Rural University, Dindigul. He received a standing ovation from all his students.

On receiving his award, Dr. Sivakumar said, "I am happy to see students from the first batch to the current batch participate in this reunion. This is a proud moment for me and SRMIST management. For the last 10 years, the outgoing batch has silently been donating equipment to the college. This is a way of students showing their support to their Alma Mater. Likewise, the management has also extended its support in the development of the department. Registrar of SRMIST Dr. N. Sethuraman, Director of Alumni Prof. R. Venkataramani and Dean Medical Dr. A. Sundaram also spoke on the occasion. Vice-Principal of SRM College of Physiotherapy SRMIST, T.N. Suresh proposed the vote of thanks.

## AWARDS

Excellency in Academics : T. S. Veeragowthaman (2001), Dr. Sethilnathan (1996), Dr. Subramani (2002), Dr. Balachandar (2002), Dr. Saravanan (2000), Dr. C. V. John Franklin (1999), Dr. Tushar Palikar (2002), Dr. Vijay Selvan (1994), Dr. G. Gajalakshmi (2003).

Excellency in Research: Asir John Samuel (2004), Mariyam Farzana (2003).

Excellency in Clinical Practice: K V Dheeraj, Ruchika Bansal (1994), Aslam (2003), Anand



SRMIST President, Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan launching the Souvenir and Android Mobile Application at the Silver Jubilee alumni get-together of SRM College of Physiotherapy, SRMIST, Kattankulathur.



Winners of the Excellency in Academics, Research, Clinical Practice, Community Service, Community Rehabilitation, Sports & Fitness and Health & Fitness pose with their awards along with President of SRMIST Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan, Vice-Chancellor Dr. Sandeep Sancheti, Registrar Dr. N. Sethuraman, Director of Alumni Prof. R. Venkataramani, Dean Medical Dr. A. Sundaram, Dean of SRM College of Physiotherapy D. Malarvizhi and other faculty members.

Raj (2001), B Bharath Shankar (1994), Dr. T. Arumugam (1993).

Excellency in Community Service: Prakash Raman.

Excellency in Community Rehabilitation: N. R. Raja (2002), P. Kamalanathan (1999), D. Vincent Jeyaraj (2005) (2011), K. Vadivelan (1997).

Excellence in Sports and Fitness: P. Satheesh Kumar, Kamlesh Jain (2003), Lavanya Dhanasekaran Lalitha (2002) (2011), S. Vairava Sudharsan, S. Babu (2008), Vijay Senthil (1994), S. Manikandan (2001).

Excellency in Health and Fitness: Devashish Singh (2002), Prabhakaran (2004).

## ALUMNI SPEAK

AA Baskaran

This is like a celebration. From the time I entered college till I graduated, I enjoyed every moment I spend on the campus. Now it is all coming back and I am able to relate to it. This institution has been a big platform for many. I urge the present-day students to make use of the facilities here.

Ruchika

It has been 25 years since I entered this institution as a student. I was also the first student from North India to study here and I had a huge barrier with language. However, my classmates helped me. SRM has made my foundation very strong and I am lucky to have studied here.

Dheeran

I thank this institution for helping me make my career. My batchmates are now my friends for life.