



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 14 Number 2



The Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare,
Dr. Vijaya Baskar, lighting the lamp at the inauguration of
BONDS-Centre of Excellence at SIMS, a super speciality hospital in Chennai.
Mr. Ravi Pachamoothoo, Pro Chancellor (Administration) looks on.



SRM students, staff participate in Fit India Freedom Run

STAFF WRITER

The students and staff of SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur participated in the Government of India's Fit India Freedom Run on 29 September 2020. The event was flagged off by Vice Chancellor of SRMIST Dr. Sandeep Sancheti. This run was organized by the Department of Physical Education & Sports Science, SRMIST. Students participated in this event virtually. The five-kilometer run/ walk was held within the Kattankulathur campus with proper social distancing and COVID19 precautions in place.

Dean (College of Engineering and Technology) Prof. T. V. Gopal welcomed the gathering. Flagging off the event, Dr. Sandeep Sancheti said, "Apart from keeping fit and reducing anxiety, such events are also good avenues to make new

friends." He emphasizes that the Institute's many sports facilities are open all the time and students and staff need to make use of them to stay healthy. Also, present for the event was Pro Vice Chancellor (Engineering and Technology) Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan and Director (Sports) Dr. K. Vaithianathan.

The event was organized under the initiative taken by our Honorable Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi and is part of the Fit India Mission by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

Fit India Freedom Run is held from 15th August – 2nd October 2020 to encourage fitness and help us all to get freedom from obesity, laziness, stress, anxiety, diseases etc. This nation-wide movement encourages people to remain healthy and fit by including physical activities and sports in their daily lives.

(Engineering and Technology) Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan, Pro Vice Chancellor (Science & Humanities) Dr. R. Balasubramanian, Pro Vice Chancellor (Medical and Health Sciences) Dr. Lt Col. A. Ravikumar, Controller of Examination Dr. S. Ponnusamy, Dean (E&T) Dr. T. V. Gopal and Dean (E&T) VDP Campus.

Addressing students Pro Chancellor (Academics) Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan said, "Our aim is to make students become entrepreneurs. To facilitate this we have special labs and groups where students and faculties come together to work on ideas and fabricate it,

Teachers should be prepared to face the New Education Policy: Founder Chancellor Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar

STAFF WRITER

The Teacher's Day celebrations at SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur was held virtually. The event was presided over by Founder Chancellor of SRMIST Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar, Pro-Chancellor (Administration), Shri Ravi Pachamoothoo, Vice Chancellor Dr. Sandeep Sancheti, Registrar Dr. N. Sethuraman, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Engineering & Technology), Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan, Pro Vice Chancellor (Science & Humanities), R. Balasubramanian among others. Registrar Dr. N. Sethuraman delivered the welcome address. In his address to teachers, Founder Chancellor of SRMIST Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar said, "The importance of education is to know to all and hence teachers are given due importance. In the NEP, studying will become very flexible, and learning will get more practical. So to cope up with it, teachers need to be prepared. You should be updated in your field daily and should be ahead of students. Nowadays, students have various avenues to learn so teachers need to be prepared. So before you are a good teacher you need to be good learners." Pro-Chancellor (Administration), Shri Ravi Pachamoothoo said, "This NEP is going to be challenging. However, it is

"The importance of education is to know to all and hence teachers are given due importance. In the NEP, studying will become very flexible, and learning will get more practical.

... Chancellor



student-friendly and they can now dictate terms to professors. The old school of thought is not going to work anymore. To compete with this, universities should focus on big campuses which means bringing research inside the campus.

This is how a university can flourish. At the same time, the university and its faculties should be updated in terms of syllabus and teaching methods. This is the only way to help students get jobs during this pandemic. We need to connect with the industry and bring them to the campus to work with students." In his address, Vice Chancellor of SRMIST, Dr. Sandeep Sancheti said, "Our teachers have earned additional titles during this pandemic, they are now called lockdown mentors, facilitators and councillors. Their role has changed in the last six months due to the pandemic. Teaching is global progress and teachers

have the power to train and hold the young mind. This is also a time to thank our own teachers because they are the reason we are here today." Pro Vice-Chancellor (Engineering & Technology), Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan said, "Teachers should know the importance of participating in learning. Collaboration is a threat to students in learning. Hence there should be cooperation with one another. Teachers must have a strong emphasis and necessity towards the interest of students." Pro Vice Chancellor (Science & Humanities), Dr. Balasubramanian said, "Teachers who educate children are more honoured than parents. This is the importance of teachers in our society." Director (Research), Dr. K. Ramasamy highlighted the research activities in SRMIST. HOD of English Dept, Dr. Shanthi Chitra, gave a short presentation on the public reflection on the New Education Policy.

"SRM students should be job creators, not seekers"

STAFF WRITER

Over 5000 freshers were welcomed at the Induction Ceremony held at SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur. The event held virtually was participated by the incoming students of B.Tech, B.Arch, B.Des, M.Tech & M.Des and their parents. Present for the event were SRMIST's Pro Chancellor (Administration) Shri Ravi Pachamoothoo, Pro Chancellor (Academics) Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan, Registrar Dr. N. Sethuraman, Vice Chancellor Dr. Sandeep Sancheti, Pro Vice Chancellor

(Engineering and Technology) Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan, Pro Vice Chancellor (Science & Humanities) Dr. R. Balasubramanian, Pro Vice Chancellor (Medical and Health Sciences) Dr. Lt Col. A. Ravikumar, Controller of Examination Dr. S. Ponnusamy, Dean (E&T) Dr. T. V. Gopal and Dean (E&T) VDP Campus.

Addressing students Pro Chancellor (Academics) Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan said, "Our aim is to make students become entrepreneurs. To facilitate this we have special labs and groups where students and faculties come together to work on ideas and fabricate it,

adding SRM students should be job creators, not seekers" "Although your education is now happening beyond the classroom, you are no less an engineer," he said and assured students that they will soon start offline classes. He also urged students to keep priorities in life and focus on them. "Education comes first, then co-curricular, and finally your enjoyment."

Pro Chancellor Administration Shri Ravi Pachamoothoo said, "Your safety will be our first concern. That is the reason why we have begun classes virtually. The pandemic has affected each one of us in a different way and students should be strong enough

to face any type of challenges, situations and get accused to this culture. Our faculty members will be your core strength in SRMIST and they are here to help you battle any hardships."

Vice Chancellor Dr. Sandeep Sancheti said, "SRMIST is a new generation university that offers online and offline learning, dual degree programs, virtual labs, semester abroad programs among others." He told students to not just confine themselves to academics, but to explore other areas as well. He urged students to make full use of state-of-the-art facilities for research at SRMIST to experiment and innovate as

their ideas. Pro Vice Chancellor (Engineering and Technology) Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan said, "SRMIST will present you with a fascinating life ahead. There are lots of avenues to explore your potentials. As future engineers, you are in a position to change the world." He also assured students about their placement in jobs after they complete their courses. Registrar Dr. N. Sethuraman encouraged students to be strong and not affected by this pandemic. "Promise yourself to look at the sunny side of things and work towards success. Let obstacles be your lesson," he told them.

Dr. C Vijaya Baskar, Hon'ble Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Tamil Nadu Inaugurates 'BONDS' Centre of Excellence, a first of its kind center dedicated to Dystonia & Spasticity movement disorders at SIMS Hospital, Vadapalani

STAFF WRITER

SIMS Hospital (SRM Institutes for Medical Science) one of the leading quaternary care super specialty hospital in Chennai, announced today, the launch of BONDS, (BOTulinum ToxiN in Dystonia & Spasticity), a first of its kind centre in Chennai with focused approach to the treatment of movement disorders like Dystonia and Spasticity (also for Stroke Rehabilitation) using Botulinum Toxin injection at its Vadapalani facility in Chennai.

Inaugurated by Dr. C Vijaya Baskar– Hon. Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, in the presence of Shri. Ravi Pachamuthu – SRM Group, and other dignitaries, the Center of excellence prides of a state-of-the-art facility, complete with a vibrant and skilled team of doctors to handle neurological emergencies in addition to serving chronic patients. The Center is well equipped to offer wide spectrum of services to treat patients affected by various movement disorders including stroke, dystonia, spasticity and neuromuscular ailments.

Expressing his delight about the launch, Shri. Ravi Pachamuthu, Chairman, SRM Group, said, "SIMS has always been a proponent of evidence based clinical innovations. 'BONDS' Clinic marks yet another milestone in this journey and I congratulate Dr. Meenakshisundaram and his team for setting-up this center of excellence, which I am sure, will bring in a significant relief to the people with movement disorders".

"With such finest clinical talents and resources available in-house, who are always ready to adopt and embrace the latest and highly advanced medical practices, both, effectively and efficiently, we at SIMS will continue to deliver high rates of successful clinical treatments for our patients" he added.

An equally elated, Dr. U. Meenakshisundaram, the Director of the Neurology Department at SIMS Hospital, who is also the present Secretary of the Movement Disorders Society of India and an Executive Committee member of the Indian Academy of Neurology,



said, "Clinical research findings have revealed that over last few years the use of Botulinum toxin has shown great results in the treatment of movement disorders and when combined with a proper physiotherapy regimen, people with these conditions recover faster and return to a near-normal life much quickly. Also, administering Botulinum Toxin Injection is a skilled procedure and is done by skilled set of experienced practitioners, complete with progressive monitoring on the patient's improvement.

"The treatment is done as an outpatient procedure and spans between 3 to 6 months duration with minimal side effects caused due to the weakening of muscles, which are mostly reversible depending on the patient's medical condition and their response to the treatment", Dr. Meenakshisundaram added.

A case reference of a successful treatment:

An Indian student in his 20s developed spastic weakness in his left hand and leg due to an infarct in the brain resulting from sudden pulmonary thromboembolism during a skiing accident in South Korea. He was initially treated at a hospital in Japan; after which he was referred to SIMS Hospital for further management of his spasticity. He was evaluated

and injected with Botulinum toxin and two weeks later, he had significant relief from the spasticity, thus substantially reducing his disability.

About Botulinum:

Botulinum toxin is like the "villain who turned hero". It is produced by the bacteria Clostridium Botulinum. Ingestion of this toxin can lead to the deadly disease called botulism. It basically paralyses muscles (and some secretory activity). Science has made use of this feature and has brought in the concept of "controlled paralysis", wherein only the abnormally excessive unwanted activity is reduced while retaining and supporting meaningful muscle activity. Although there are many types of toxins produced, only types A and B are used in medical practice (In India, we have only type A available as of now). Neurons or nerve cells communicate with one other and with muscle and other organs through chemicals called neurotransmitters. Botulinum toxin primarily acts by blocking the release of the neurotransmitter acetylcholine. By this way, it helps in relieving unwanted, excessive muscle contraction. In this way, it has been applied to a wide variety of conditions including for cosmetic purposes. In neurology, it is primarily

used in dystonias and spasticity apart from conditions such as chronic migraine, hyperhidrosis (increased sweating) and sialorrhea (increased drooling of saliva).

About Dystonia:

Dystonias are a group of disorders which cause abnormal posturing or movements of a body part(s) because some muscle groups go into abnormal, asynchronous contraction. They cause significant disability and discomfort to the sufferers and are in general not very responsive to treatment with oral medications. A common type is the task-specific dystonia where it occurs only with specific tasks such as writing (writer's cramps), playing musical instruments (such as Piano, Guitar, Mridangam etc.) playing golf or billiards, or counting currency notes.

About Spasticity:

Spasticity is abnormal stiffness that happens in diseases of the brain and/or spinal cord. The stiffness can be pronounced and can cause considerable difficulty in activities of daily living. It can happen in children due to cerebral palsy and other disorders. A common setting is post-stroke spasticity wherein the paralysed limb(s) become stiff over time and cause impediments to further recovery.



About SIMS Hospital:

SIMS Hospital (SRM Institutes for Medical Science) is one of the leading quaternary care super specialty hospital in Chennai. This 345-bed hospital offers comprehensive healthcare experience across a wide range of specialties, including multi-organ transplant services. The hospital houses 15 modular OTs, 3 state-of-the-art Cath labs (including 1 Bi-plane Cath lab), advanced ICUs with Hepa filters and innovative medical technologies, all under one roof. With the finest combination of experience, expertise, cutting-edge technology and well-coordinated multi-speciality Quaternary care facilities and patient-centric team-work, SIMS Hospital Chennai is committed to deliver services of international standards. SIMS Hospital offers holistic health care that includes prevention, prophylactic treatment and care, rehabilitation and lifestyle health education and guidance to patients, their families and clients. At SIMS, every step is aimed at ensuring excellence in patient care.

SRM offers free education to 300 students from Perambalur

STAFF WRITER

SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur is offering free education to 300 students from Perambalur parliamentary constituency. This was announced by SRMIST's Founder Chancellor and Perambalur MP, Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar last year and is being followed this year too. This is part of Dr. Paarivendhar's core promises in his election manifesto. Students from the Perambalur Lok Sabha segment, who wish to pursue Engineering, Arts and Science, Horticulture, Management, Health Sciences etc. can apply for the same.

Dr. Paarivendhar said that the SRM group would strive to make education at private universities beneficial to those from the economically weaker sections

Applicants from economically weaker sections will be selected based on their performance in their respective board examinations.

These 300 students would be given free education at his SRM Institute of Science and Technology. This scheme will only cover full tuition fees and be renewed on the basis of academic performance. In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, hostel facilities will not be provided this time.

Dr. Paarivendhar said that the SRM group would strive to make education at private universities beneficial to those from the economically weaker section. He said, "Students should utilize this opportunity to pursue higher studies." He assured that deserving students would get suitable placements.

Those eligible in his constituency need to submit the applications through online on or before 10th September 2020. For further enquiries applicants can contact the office of Director (Admissions), SRM Nagar, Potheri, Chengalpet District - 603203. Applications can be filled free from www.ijkparty.org / www.srmist.edu.in. Helpline: 044 - 27455510/47437500.



SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, NIS to collaborate for academic, research purposes

STAFF WRITER

SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre (SRM MCHRC), Kattankulathur and National Institute of Siddha (NIS), Tambaram have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) by which the two will now be able to achieve excellence in patient care, research and medical education.

Present for the MoU signing were SRM MCHRC's Pro Vice Chancellor (Medical and Health Sciences) Dr. Lt Col. A. Ravikumar, Dean (Medical) Dr. A. Sundaram,

Medical Superintendent Dr. K. Thangaraj, Associate Dean (Research) Medical and Health Sciences Dr. M. Balasubramanyam, Director of National Institute of Siddha- Tambaram Dr. R. Meenakumari, Professor and Hospital Superintendent at NIS, Dr. Christian.

SRM MCHRC and NIS will henceforth jointly offer certified short and long term courses, conduct jointly sponsored research, academic and clinical activities, publish books and journals, develop reference

materials, training methods and services, offer advisory/ consultancy services.

It may be recalled that SRM MCHRC and NIS had joined together to battle COVID19 through Allopathy and Siddha. Speaking at the MoU signing, Dean of SRM MCHRC Dr. A. Sundaram said, "SRM MCHRC and NIS jointly worked in curing coronavirus among patients using Siddha and Allopathy. The results were much faster than the regular treatment. This treatment procedure was approved and allowed by the government."

SRM hosts live virtual cultural fest in association with SPICMACAY

STAFF WRITER

SRM Centre for Performing and Fine Arts (SRM CPFA) and Directorate of Student Affairs in SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur will be hosting 'VIRASAT', a beautiful culmination of the musical, mystical and classics to remind each of us of our heritage and culture.

This virtual cultural fest was hosted in association with Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth (SPICMACAY). The event was held from 11 to 13 September 2020 and had prominent gurus performing breathtaking numbers.

On 11 September, Kathak dancer V. Shovana Narayan will enthralled the audience with her performance. On 12 September, Pt. Vishwamohan

Bhatt rendered a Mohan Veena recital. Pt. Rajan and Sajan Mishra gave a Hindustani vocal concert on 13 September.

This event comes at a time when the entire world is reeling under the effect of COVID 19, which has left all confined to our houses. SRM CPFA (Centre for Performing and Fine Arts), headed by Dr. Shobana Vignesh, has an energetic community of artists and scholars who balance a commitment to tradition with a willingness to cross artistic boundaries. The Centre boasts of a nationally recognized faculty and offers state-of-the-art facilities for students. The Centre provides several recital and concert venues for students, faculty, and visiting artists.

SPICMACAY is a non-political, nationwide, voluntary movement that creates awareness about different aspects of Indian heritage

The aim of Virasat is to promote better quality of life and overall well-being of one's self, to ground one during the daily hustle and bustle.

and inspires the young mind to imbibe the values embedded in it. The aim of Virasat is to promote better quality of life and overall well-being of one's self, to ground one during the daily hustle and bustle.





SRM Hospital gets a new ambulance to its fleet

STAFF WRITER

SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre (SRM MCHRC), Kattankulathur today got a new ambulance to its fleet. The ambulance was donated by Amphenol Omniconnect Private Limited, Maraimalai Nagar in association with Puthiya Thalaimurai Foundation. The ambulance was flagged off by Ms. K. Kavitha, Senior Manager- HR from Amphenol Omniconnect Private Limited and her team along with SRM MCHRC's Pro Vice Chancellor (Medical and Health Sciences) Dr. Lt Col. A. Ravikumar, Dean (Medical) Dr. A. Sundaram and Medical Superintendent Dr. K. Thangaraj. Regional Director of American Chamber of Commerce, Chennai Mr. Aubrey Daniels was the

special guest to this event. Speaking at the formal meet held before the flag off, Senior Manager- HR from Amphenol Omniconnect Private Limited, K. Kavitha said, "This is part of our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). SRM MCHRC was most obliging when we approached them with our request. We are happy that this project has been materialised and comes at a time when the need is more."

Pro VC Dr. Lt Col. A. Ravikumar said, "Amphenol has done a great favour to us. We had limited resources with ambulance and adding another to our fleet is going to help people in a long run." Also present for the event was Secretary of Puthiya Thalaimurai Foundation, Mr. D. V. Venkatagiri.



SRM AP's liaison with Northeastern University to encourage impactful education and research

STAFF WRITER

SRM University-AP now has formed a liaison with Northeastern University, Boston, USA, with a vision of mutual endeavours towards the advancement of education and research. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed recently in this regard between the two universities. This is a significant venture to collaborate with top universities such as Northeastern University, which will lead the university to the path of advanced research and educational programmes.

The MoU committee of the SRMAP is working aggressively to bring top universities across the globe for the students to get the benefit and enhance their career. Northeastern University is part of the world's top 5% of universities, and this collaboration will provide a possibility for our students to visit, learn,

and explore from a top reputed university of the USA.

Our students are the primary beneficiaries of this MOU as it provides a platform for them to explore a study abroad programme there, including getting a UG degree from a top-ranked US university. Other beneficiaries include faculty members and scholars, for whom joint research programs could be enabled in the future.

The first MoU that has been signed is a generic MoU that helps SRM University-AP to talk with Northeastern University on the possibilities of collaboration. The following activities are possible with the current MoU that has been signed-

- Mobility of faculty, scholars and students between Institutions
- Joint teaching, research, or cultural activity
- Student services and support

- Professional development programmes for faculty and staff.
- Program based partnerships
- Joint development of ongoing and new curricula and academic projects
- Collaboration in academic publications and other materials of mutual interest

The MoU Committee of the University will further enhance the collaboration with specific departments. The university is already in the process of extending the collaboration to the department level, including Computer Science and Engineering and Mechanical Engineering, to start with. Later, other engineering, science and management streams will be included in the alliance. SRMAP is also exploring opportunities on internships, semester abroad programs and other educational and research activities that will greatly benefit our students.

Webinars in Association with IBM

STAFF WRITER

Department of Computer Science Engineering hosted a 9-series webinar in association with IBM under the banner "IBM SPOC for IBM Specialization" held at recently. IBM Career Education organized this series of technical webinars for the benefit of students. The first Webinar session in this 9-series session was on "Data Science Concepts". Mamatha Venkatesh who is an AI Architect for Supply Chain solutions working with

IBM Insights and Intelligence Expert Labs (with over 18+ years of experience in IT Industry) talked about the significance of AI and introduced certain terms and concepts like AI, Data Science/ Machine Learning, Deep learning, and their differences. The Second Webinar Session was on "Deep Dive on Data Science Phases". It was the 2nd session of the 9 series session on Data Science. The Agenda of the webinar was Introduction to CRISP DM, graced by the eminent speaker,

M J Prarthana. The third webinar session was on "Introduction to Supervised vs unsupervised vs Semi-Supervised learning" conducted. The session's agenda was to introduce sample problems in each area (Fraud Detection, Text Classification, Customer Clustering), Linear models.

The fourth and the last Webinar session was on "Non-Linear Problems - Data Science - Session 4" conducted. The Speaker for the event was Naveen K Yadav who is an AI Consultant for Supply Chain.

SRM adopts eight villages under MHRD's Unnat Bharat Abhiyan program

STAFF WRITER

Under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), the flagship program of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur has adopted eight villages.

The aim of this program is to transform rural India. Based on the guidelines layout by MHRD, SRMIST has adopted the villages of Anjur, Pattaravakkam, Thenmelpakkam, Orathur, Nattarasampattu, Chettipunniyam, Kalivandapattu, and Kolathur.

Out of 59 project proposals submitted by SRMIST for the upliftment of rural people in these adopted villages, three projects were funded by UBA during the academic year 2018-19. They are - End-To-End Integrated Rationing System for Distribution of Provisions have been completed at Anjur village, Reverse osmosis plant, and RO water plant installed at Government School of Orathur village and Versatile Anaerobic reactor for Households to Yield Biogas by Utilizing waste (KISAN VAHYU) at Orathur village.

Apart from these, various development projects such as Swachh Bharat Summer Internship, Student Solar

Ambassador Initiative, Ban on Single-use Plastic Awareness Programs, RO Water Plant Project, School Improvement by providing furniture and electrical appliances, Smart Classroom, Medical Camp and Distribution of Educational Learning Kits for Science Lab and Swachhata Hi Seva Campaign. Apart from this SRMIST has also donated furniture worth Rs.2 lakhs to a Govt. Middle School, Thenmelpakkam village, Kattankulathur Panchayat union.

For all these commendable efforts, SRMIST was awarded Rank 1 for Swachh Campus Ranking 2019 by MHRD, Rank 1 for "One Student One Tree" project and Rank 3 for "Clean and Smart Campus" by AICTE.

The institution has undertaken umpteen projects in the form of its Corporate Social responsibility schemes, Swachh Bharat Summer Internship, awareness campaigns to make the villages ODF, and to ban single-use plastics and tree plantation.

SRMIST has completed many community development activities such as PRAKRIT - SRMIST, and ENACTUS Implemented a community development project under UBA in Anjur village. This project helps and trains women of Anjur village in "Paper bags making" in order to improve their livelihood through an entrepreneurial approach. Recently UBA funds for Technology Intervention through COVID-19 sub-category SEG have been released to SRMIST on 3 July 2020. The project is a Gesture-based automatic water tap controller in the RO Plant system: A Step towards COVID free community.

Due to Pandemic situation SRM Group of Institutions, under the patronage of its Founder Chancellor and Perambalur MP Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar distributed 1000 packets of relief materials containing rice, wheat, dhal and other groceries worth Rs.5 lakhs to the needy people of its 8 UBA adopted villages through the Chengalpattu district administration. The event was attended by Pro Vice Chancellor Engineering and Technology, Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan, Deputy Registrar of SRM Dr. Antony Ashok Kumar and SRMIST's Associate Director & UBA nodal officer Dr. V. Thirumurugan. A few bags were distributed to villagers by SRMIST's Vice Chancellor Dr. Sandeep Sancheti.



The institution has undertaken umpteen projects in the form of its Corporate Social responsibility schemes, Swachh Bharat Summer Internship, awareness campaigns to make the villages ODF, and to ban single-use plastics and tree plantation.



Prof A K Sood on "Doing Science Without Borders": Collaboration and curiosity among researchers will lead to impactful multidisciplinary solutions of the 21st century

SRM University - AP : Prof Ajay K Sood, FRS delivers the University's First Distinguished Lecture Series

STAFF WRITER

The first University Distinguished Lecture Series on "Doing Science Without Borders" commenced with an inaugural welcome speech by Prof V S Rao, Vice-Chancellor, and Prof D Narayana Rao, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, SRM University-AP, Andhra Pradesh. Prof V S Rao expressed their gratitude to Prof Ajay K Sood for his gracious presence. In addition, Prof Narayana Rao emphasized that under the University Distinguished Lecture series the talks will be delivered by eminent scientists from India and abroad that would be of immense benefit for students and the faculty and researchers. He further mentioned, "Doctors, researchers, engineers and scientists from several fields of knowledge around the world worked together to confront corona outbreak with an unprecedented spirit of collaboration. Also, NEP advocates and emphasizes that the societal need of the 21st century require broad-based multidisciplinary research and education".

Prof Ajay K Sood, Fellow of the Royal Society, FRS and Honorary Professor, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, narrated three stories of his recent experiments and advanced research work, namely "Emergent flocking behaviour seen in nature: Laboratory experiments", "Crystallization of Glass: Machine Learning in condensed matter Physics", and "Bacterial Nano Heat Engine: Getting bacteria to work". He begins by stating that back in

1944, a profound physicist Schrodinger introduced the concept of "aperiodic crystal" which led to the understanding of genetic molecules, enunciating the importance of inter-disciplinary applications of scientific works. In his first narrative, he speaks of the flocking movement among birds, bacteria, locusts, and human beings as well. He brought the same experiment in his laboratory where he used 2 particles, energized them, and identified their flocking pattern. He observed that the velocity of movement between the two particles differ, which can be applied to particle sorting. This experiment has applications in biology, where bacteria and/or cells can be sorted and separated and also in autonomous cars.

While explaining his second experiment, Prof A K Sood mentioned that he studied the devitrification or the tendency of glass particles to crystallize over time to reach a state of stability from its metastable state. He used supervised Machine Learning to predict where crystallization will occur in glass. His team trained the system to identify the hard and soft particles of the glass. His experiments concluded that Machine Learning (ML) helps in identifying the soft particles, which possess the tendency to move and crystallize over a long period of time. Further, Prof A K Sood and his team of

collaborators developed bacterial nano heat engines by mimicking the biological motors in our body which produces energy for living beings to function. Using bacterial activity, they made heat engines and are advancing their research work to recognize the practical applications of the nano heat engines in cars, batteries. The bacteria heat engines is a highly promising technology of the future. Prof A K Sood narrated his laboratory stories to explicate the splendor of multidisciplinary research which can be used to solve basic problems. He said, "The key to successful scientific research is to collaborate with experts beyond their own domain. Communication and appreciation of views of an open mind enable the scientists to understand the various phenomena. Students and researchers should be curious which will lead to research having various interdisciplinary applications that will make an impact across various domains."

About thousand participants from IISc, IITs, NITs, IIITs, IISERs, several Indian Universities including University of Hyderabad, Delhi University, NEHU, Pondicherry University, Punjab University; a few foreign Universities including KAUST, Saudi Arabia, Nagoya University, Japan, Zhejiang Ocean University, China, Teesside University, UK, several Engineering Colleges; National Laboratories of DST, DBT, CSIR, ISRO, DRDO, ICMR, BARC, JNCASR, ARIES, ARCI; industries including ARBL, Tata Steel have attended the distinguished lecture given by Prof Ajay Sood.

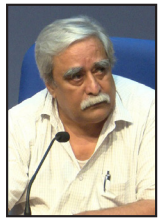
The key to successful scientific research is to collaborate with experts beyond their own domain.

SRM's techno-management fest Aaruush kickstarts

STAFF WRITER

Aaruush, the National Level Techno-Management Fest of SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur began today on a festive note. The 14th edition of this fest will be held online from 8 October to 12 October 2020. The inaugural was presided over by Chief Guest Dr. V.K. Aatre, the Former Director-General of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) along with the Guest of Honour Dr. Raman Gangakhedkar, the Former Head Scientist of Epidemiology and Communicable Diseases at the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). SRMIST recently won a Guinness World Record for holding the largest software lesson consists of 900 people and was achieved at an event organised by Aaruush at the Institute on 7 September 2019. The certificate for the same was released at this event. Speaking at the inauguration, Dr. VK Aatre said, "Science and Technology drive our surroundings, it helps us understand the rhythms of nature. Science leads to more science, more science leads to more technology. We are now in a phase where we are teaching machines to be intelligent."

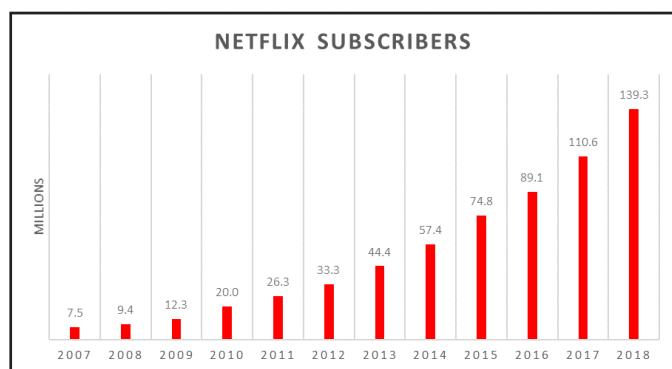
He added, "IoT is going to completely change our way of life in the coming days. We should look beyond problems and reacher on finding solutions through science and technology." He emphasized that there is no end to inventions and science. This leads to more and more opportunities and India has a huge amount of talents. Therefore India should now start producing outstanding academic institutions to cope up with the growing trends and challenges. Guest of Honour, Dr. Raman Gangakhedkar



said, "This COVID has taught us that we should have stronger public health sectors. If we want success we should implement strategy with the community."

He explained how each person's contribution to science will extend to the community. "No matter what happens, one must always strive to work hard to help the community at large." He encouraged students to think about how they will change and make our nation great. Vice Chancellor of SRMIST, Dr. Sandeep Sancheti delivered the presidential address. "The power of students is huge. Today learning is not purely academic or listening in class, but learning has taken a new stand. Events like Aaruush is a new way to learn and succeed." This technological extravaganza will have a host of workshops, flagship events and Luminary addresses. It has also been given patronage by renowned organizations, such as ACM, YouthUp, CEE, SAYEN and NSIC alongside with whom, it is accredited by esteemed organizations such as IEEE, IET, OSA, ASME, IETE and ISHRAE, to name a few. Also present were Pro Vice Chancellor (Engineering and Technology) Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan, Dean (College of Engineering and Technology) Prof. T. V. Gopal, Dean (Sciences) Dr. John Thiruvadigal, Dean (School of Management) Prof. V.M. Ponniah, Associate Director (Campus Life) Dr. V. Thirumurugan and Aaruush Convenor Dr. A. Rathinam.





Netflix subscribers over the years

A Fight to the Top: Rise of OTT Platforms

DRUTHI JITHENDRA

The recent boom in the usage of OTTs or 'Over the Top' network services can be gaudily compared to the way the last slice of pizza is eaten when in a group- fast and unexpected. The rise of these OTTs is the result of the growth of one of the most if not the most popular OTT 'Netflix'. With internet services now globally available, OTTs have received an additional boost in users that were not available before, with the pandemic helping its cause.

Having set the success of Netflix as the benchmark, several multinational corporations such as Amazon and Disney followed suit, building their own OTT platforms such as Amazon Prime and Disney+. In India, several indigenous popular broadcasting companies developed their platforms with networks like zee5 and Hotstar leading the markets.

With each channel comprising

its own exclusive content and attractive subscription prices, it is easy to see an elevation in popularity. However, despite the myriad of available features, one could ponder over the million-dollar question- is this a wise economic decision to make?

With each platform boasting of its exclusive shows, a viewer invariably subscribes to different OTTs to satiate their desires. This alone cranks up the monthly expenses by about INR 1000 a month. Even the most basic plans available are significantly expensive when compared to cable TV with costs in the range of INR 700 - 1000 rupees a month, depending upon the broadcasting service. Although there is a variation in price, the current trends show that OTTs will occupy at least 10% of global viewership in the years to come. Indeed, as times change and evolve, we are moving towards an era where one day OTT platforms may become a daily commodity in our lives.



The Vice Chancellor of SRMIST at the event

International Chefs Day with a focus on rural development

STAFF WRITER

"Food is the essence of healthy living", said Dr. Chef Damodharan, President of SICA, celebrity and Guinness World Record holder at the International Chefs day 2020 celebration organised by SRM Institute of Hotel Management (SRM IHM), Kattankulathur. The theme for this year's event is 'Healthy food for the future' with a special focus on Rural Empowerment for Women.

The event was held at State Institute of Rural Development Tamil Nadu - Maraimalai Nagar and had Damodharan preside over as Chief Guest, Dr. T. Anuradha MBBS, District Designated Officer Food Safety Department Kanchipuram & Chengalpattu District and Chef Shri Bala, Consultant Chef Food Historian, Tamil Nadu & Kerala Brand Ambassador of EatwithIndia were the Guests of Honour.

The event was held with all the safety protocols in place. Director of SRM IHM Dr. Antony Ashok Kumar welcomed the gathering. Apart from International Chefs Day, SRM IHM also celebrated World Food Day 2020 and World Tourism Day 2020 on the occasion.

The event was held as a training, demonstration and a speech on heritage and food adulteration for the empowerment of self-help group and Rotary Inner Wheel ladies.

Speaking to the audience Chef Damodharan stressed on

the importance of chefs being health themselves in the first place. "There is nothing like eating mother's cooking because it is tradition and medicine to health. There are several ingredients that we use in our kitchen that helps us improve our health and well-being," he said. He also demonstrated how to cook a healthy meal in the comfort of our homes. "Eat well, exercise properly and enjoy life," he added.

Dr. T. Anuradha MBBS, said that we get all sorts of products in the market. "We should know the difference between pure and adulterated food. However, many are moving towards unhealthy food which leads to an unhealthy lifestyle. Eating proper food in the right quantity is essential for a good and healthy life. Our health is in our hands." She did a demonstration on how to find adulteration in the product/groceries that we buy.

Shri Bala stressed on the importance of using food as medicine. A firm believer of this and has been following it herself. She explained how parents can provide tasty food for children at home without adding artificial colour or flavouring agent.

"Change has to begin at home and we can provide a balanced, tasty and healthy diet without using any artificial colouring or flavour agents." Shri Bala also demonstrated making a nutritious and balanced meal using our own pluses.

SRM Institute of Science and

Technology, Vice Chancellor Dr. Sandeep Sancheti in his addressing focused on the importance of eating healthy food and how it has come into practice in the last six months. "The COVID has given us an opportunity to go back to our traditional food. Food and hotel management can never be done online. Our aim must be to remove malnutrition with sustainable food," he said.

The event was held with all the safety protocols in place. Director of SRM IHM Dr. Antony Ashok Kumar welcomed the gathering. Apart from International Chefs Day, SRM IHM also celebrated World Food Day 2020 and World Tourism Day 2020 on the occasion.

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

AARUUSH 2020

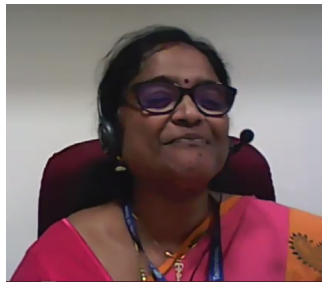
SRISHTI C
SHREYA KEWALRAMANI
PRIYANK KAPOOR
PRINCE
ARPITA RAVI

Despite these uncertain times which demand curtailed communication, technology has undoubtedly helped skip multiple barriers. Aaruush is the annual national-level techno-management fest of SRM IST that has been recurrently brought joy and knowledge to the students and staff alike for over a decade. It was the perfect way to celebrate the boon of technology. Even though this year has halted many events, Aaruush exceeded all expectations and stayed true to its meaning, giving rise to some glorious days.

Even under challenging circumstances, Aaruush still managed to successfully hold pre-events which covered technical, artistic, and management domains. This year was the first time since its inception wherein Aaruush held most of its ceremonies and events online, either over Zoom or Google meet.

The fest marked its commencement for this year's instalment with the inaugural ceremony at 3 PM, on 8th October 2020, thus initiating the zeroth day of the much-awaited thrill. The inaugural ceremony was hyped by hundreds to witness the venerable presence of the former Director-General of Defence Research and Development Organisation, Dr. V. K. Aatre, as the Chief Guest, and Dr. Raman Gangakhedkar, the former Head Scientist of Epidemiology and Communicable Diseases at the Indian Council of Medical Research, as the Guest of Honor. The day also witnessed a Luminary Address at 6 PM by Mr. Shams Aalam, a legendary Indian Para Swimmer, who illuminated the spectators with the topic of 'Diving into Success: Deriving Vigour from Sports'. Moreover, domain events like a workshop on Modernized Automotive Dynamics by BMW also took place, to keep the zeal of Aaruush up and popping!

A 40 hour long open-to-all Machine Learning challenge was scheduled on the first and second day of the fest. It tested the participants' technical skills and problem-solving abilities in

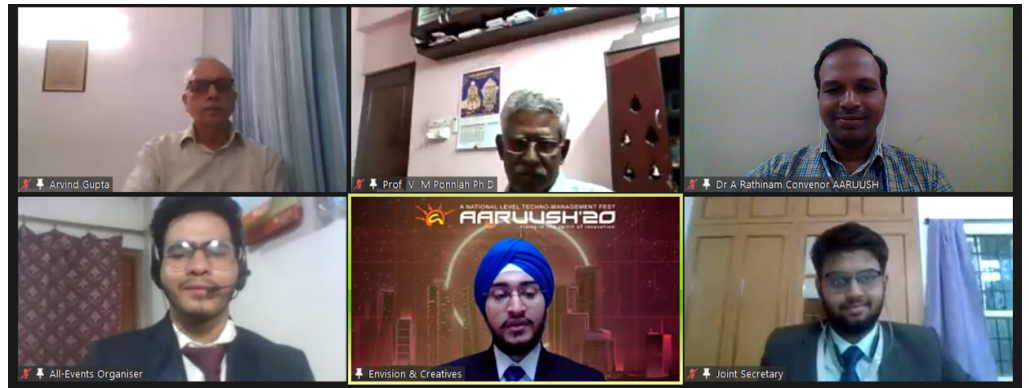


Dr. E. Poovammal saying a few words to the audience before beginning the Luminary Address

the field of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning. The contestants experimented with different techniques and competed against each other to produce the best models on the given problem statements and datasets. The winners of the competition were promised free online courses, internship opportunities and prize money upto INR 15,000.

Aaruush hosted Dr. Deepali Pant Joshi, Former Executive Director at the Reserve Bank of India, an author and a development economist, on the 9th of October. She discussed the various aspects of financial literacy among Indian students and expressed the significance of being independent while making financial decisions. Towards the end of the session, she encouraged a handful of students to exchange their financial goals for the next five years. The second day of the fest ended with a highly interactive open mic event, Centre Stage, which provided a platform for the students to shed their fears and entertain the high-spirited audience with their talent, be it singing, beat-boxing or stand-up comedy. The feet-tapping session went live on YouTube as well.

On the third day, the line-up of events included an exclusive workshop on Cognitive Computing using Watson Studio & Auto AI, and an intriguing conversation exploring computer vision & image recognition using IBM Visual Recognition Services with Guest Speaker Ms. Pradeepthi Duggaraju, Senior AI Developer at The SmartBridge. The thought-provoking online workshop was followed by the fest's second luminary address centred on the topic 'Evolution of women leaders', featuring Ms. Bhargavi Sunkara, Head of Asset Servicing Technology, BNY Mellon, India. The session



Mr. Nishant Suri leaving the audience in stitches during his show



began with a short address by Dr. E. Poovammal from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at SRM, followed by Ms. Sunkara helping the spectators comprehend the journey of various women leaders as well as hers. An interactive Instagram live session was held with Ms. Harshita Shekhar Gaur, which reached more than 800 viewers, concluding Day 3 of Aaruush. The latter is a well-known actress highly praised for her performance as Dimpy in the famous crime thriller Mirzapur. After 3 successful days of Aaruush, the fourth day of the fest saw a rise in the number of events conducted per day with a whopping 6 events. The day kicked off with a Capture the Flag challenge which tested the cyber security skills of the contestants. It was one of a kind event which witnessed participants from all over India. It was also the first day for the Digital Marketing Workshop featuring Mr. Mohit Rath, who made the even quite interactive and informative. It also had the highest turnover of candidates in any workshop, with a total of 606 participants, including 28 international participants. The Cognitive Computing workshop saw its closure on this day. On day 3, an Unconference which had a panel of experts from the industry also took

place; they answered students' questions on the topic, 'Career Satisfaction vs Sustainable Career'. The session was quite synergetic with students actively interacting with the panel. The day concluded with an informal talk show, with Mr. Shivankit and Mr. Nadri Chavan gracing the night. Rounds of Rapid Fire and Never Have I Ever were played with the candidates. It was a fun opportunity to release the pent-up stress from the daily routine of life. The finale of this grand fest saw the last day of many events, such as the Domain Events and the Digital Marketing Workshop. It was also the day for the shortlisting of teams of Hybrid Hack, where teams presented their ideas for

efficient Hybrid Systems using renewable sources of energy for energy production. The fest had its conclusion in the form of a Valedictory Ceremony by Dr. Arvind Gupta who presented an expert view on 'National Security: How safe is our country today'. Prestigious officials including the likes of Dr. V.M. Ponniah Sir – Dean School of Management, attended this session. The night of the fest was also lit up by the winner of Amazon's reality show ComiStaana - Mr. Nishant Suri, the guy who redefined 'desi swag'. The feel of the fest was boosted with his witty quotes and humorous one-liners. The event was attended by a large number of people who were left craving for it to never end.

Even under challenging circumstances, Aaruush still managed to successfully hold pre-events which covered technical, artistic, and management domains. This year was the first time since its inception wherein Aaruush held most of its ceremonies and events online, either over Zoom or Google meet.

Architecture through a pandemic

ABINAYA RAVICHANDRAN

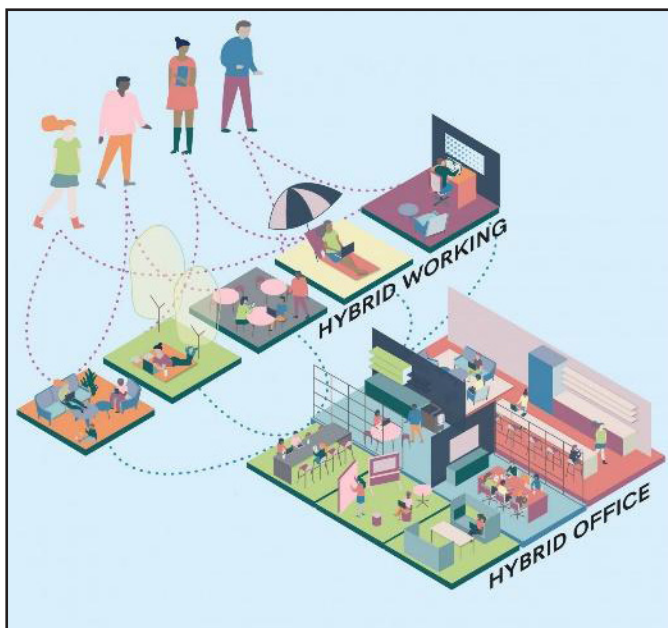
The role of the built environment in human lives has always been to offer shelter from the outside world. Through globalisation, architecture began to rapidly evolve with newer, better materials. The built environment transformed from mere shelters to aesthetically appealing spaces. Buildings were designed to tackle the increasing demand for shelter in a rapidly urbanizing world, where the objective was to maximize the efficiency of land usage and increase the population density.

This momentum came to a halt as the COVID 19 pandemic unravelled, where everyone was forced to be shut in to protect themselves from the virus. Homes that were designed for the 14-hour purpose of cooking and relaxation, now had to satisfy the needs of 24 hours. The ambitious demand of houses to function as a school, office and home all in one became a dire necessity. The walls close

in, putting the mental health of the residents at stake from being confined for months. On the other hand, public spaces could not function anymore as it is virtually impossible to discipline crowds in spaces that were not designed to be controlled. The infrastructure that was once supposed to shelter, now threatened lives. But this could be the opportunity to revolutionize and come up with flexible spaces that can adapt with the ever changing paradigm of the world with innovations like antimicrobial paints, breathing walls, doors without handles, green pockets, etc.

The pandemic has taught us that the world could still continue to function through digital means. People needn't stay in close proximity to their workspaces, and cities could now unclutter, offering us the opportunity to design spaces freely with human centricity in mind.

Architecture in the post pandemic world should strive to shape better, healthier lifestyles.



Designing homes for multipurpose usage

Legal profession in the era of COVID - Webinar

STAFF WRITER

Faculty of Law, SRM University Delhi-NCR conducted a webinar where the speaker, Mr. Manoj Kumar, Director, Labour and Employee Relations, Concentrix Daksh Services, Gurgaon, Haryana delivered a talk on the nature of the legal profession in the era of COVID.



Mr. Manoj Kumar, Director Labour and Employee Relations

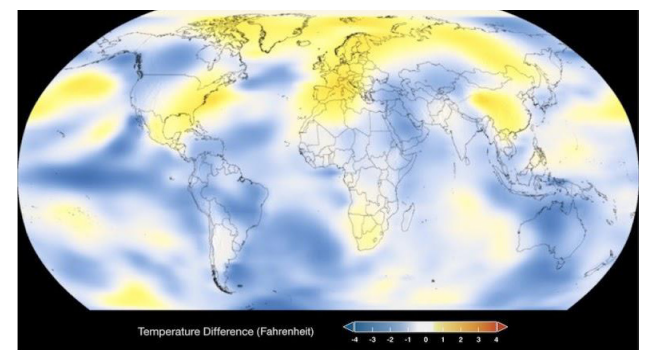
Carbon Pricing: The Future

SHREYA AMIT
KEWALRAMANI

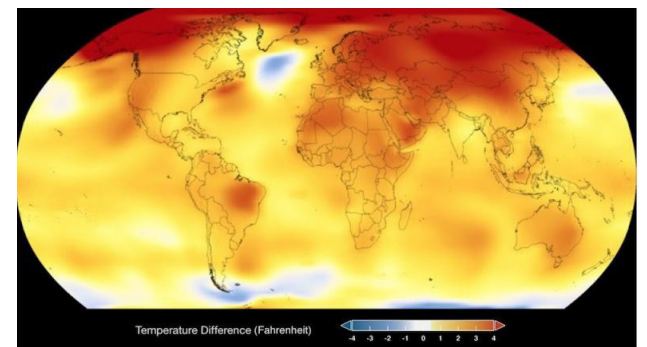
There's no silver bullet for addressing global warming. However, there are initiatives that can be taken to curtail the growth of carbon dioxide emissions as expeditiously as possible. One such initiative is carbon pricing, which is also an effective method to facilitate the economy's growth. One might question, how so?

Firstly, it's simple. There are two options when it comes to carbon pricing: a carbon tax wherein everyone pays tax on the carbon content in the fossil fuels they use, and alternatively a cap and trade system where the central authority gives permits that only allow a limited emission cap.

Secondly, it's been implemented in the past on a global scale across 46 nations, 30 cities and states. It's backed by comprehensive business fundamentals and over 150 companies like Microsoft and Google are reaping the benefits of carbon pricing. Investing in low-carbon functioning provide gravid returns and protect the investor against future regulations. The global average of internal rate of return on investments in low-carbon technology has increased from 11% to 27% amongst some of the leading companies.



1900



2017

Finally, it's good for the economy. It provides employment, innovation and investment opportunities and the revenue generated from carbon pricing can be recycled to support low-carbon growth. It is also cheaper considering the future costs and the cost of adapting to climate changes in developing countries as reported by UNEP. Putting a price on carbon now will certainly limit pollution

and reduce environmental expenditure in the future.

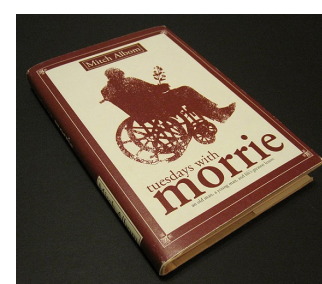
We have been apathetic to the environmental crisis and change is long overdue. It is time we warrant action and collectively advocate for our planet, and in the words of Dr. Hansen, "It's time to stop waffling so much. It's time to say the earth is getting warmer." A comparative study of global temperature in 1900 and 2017

Food for the Soul

AISHIKI HALDER

This year has been a sinking ship of bad experiences for everyone, and these hard and unprecedented times have brought on the need to find positivity and optimism in all the little things of life. Here are a few books to do just that:

1. Here, There and Everywhere (Sudha Murthy) – This 2018 book is a collection of some of the best-loved stories from the author. Sudha Murthy is a living beacon of hope, and she talks about how no one ever has to fit themselves into a single box, and how kindness knows no bounds. The twenty-two stories in this collection never fail to remind the reader of the true meaning of life.

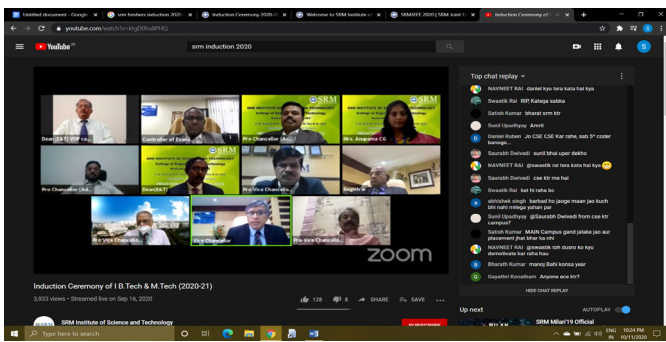


Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom

2. Tuesdays with Morrie (Mitch Albom) – A real life story, 'Tuesdays with Morrie', recounts the author's journey with his college professor Morrie Schwartz. Almost at the end of his life, the professor decides to impart some of the greatest lessons on "how to live" to his former student. This is one of

those stories that stays with the reader for a long time, and is bound to get them teary eyed. Nonetheless this is one class that is definitely worth attending.

3. Rich Dad Poor Dad (Robert Kiyosaki and Sharon Lechter) – While at first glance, this book may seem like an odd choice for a feel-good experience, it is actually a secret gem in that aspect. It teaches valuable lessons about how one's illiteracy regarding the basics of money and its flow can often lead to unwanted and unaccounted loss of it. But on deeper introspection, this book has a greater message about how one doesn't have to be a victim in any situation, and how smart and calculated thinking can make the tables turn around.



Zoom became the new T. P. Ganesan Auditorium for the freshers

New Beginnings

SHRAVYA SHARAN

The transition from school to college is an exciting and daunting period in any student's life as they step closer towards fulfilling their dream. Despite the challenges presented this year, students across the country gave their best in the pursuit of their goals. To celebrate their success and formally introduce them to SRM Institute of Science and Technology, an induction ceremony was hosted from 16th to 17th September, 2020.

This year's induction ceremony was the first of its kind. Adapting to the present circumstances, the university hosted the ceremony on a virtual platform. The School of Science and Humanities began their ceremony with scintillating

videos that encapsulated the true essence of the college campus and expanded on the opportunities that SRMIST has to offer. Dignitaries present in the ceremony lit the ceremonial lamp virtually and imparted their words of wisdom. The induction ceremony for freshers pursuing bachelors and masters in technology began with an address from the Pro Vice-Chancellor followed by the Vice-Chancellor. Esteemed dignitaries graced this event with their presence and enforced on the idea of complete development of a student that went beyond academics and implored them to avail the benefits offered.

The School of Architecture and Interior Design began their induction ceremony with a detailed presentation which shed light on their accomplishments and introduced the faculty to the freshers. The dignitaries present shared glorious achievements of their students and encouraged students to embrace their talents.

Albeit virtual, the ceremonies mirrored the same enthusiasm and ideals as that of previous years and heralded a new and exciting journey for the new batch of students.

The School of Architecture and Interior Design began its induction ceremony with a detailed presentation which shed light on accomplishments and introduced the faculty to freshers.

Fit India Freedom Run

DIKSHA AVIRAL

On the morning of 29th September 2020, the students and staff of SRM Institute of Science and Technology took part in the Fit India Freedom Run. The Fit India Freedom run was conducted from 15th August to 2nd October 2020 as an initiative by the Government of India to encourage fitness and help citizens to get freedom from our inactive lifestyles. The five kilometre run was organized keeping in mind proper social distancing norms and precautionary measures against Covid-19.

Despite an enthusiastic and motivating participation from the staff and students alike, one would expect participants to be present at the venue for a fitness event. However, in a rather unconventional turn of events, students virtually participated in this event, performing the run from their homes.

The run was organized with great vigour by the Department of Physical Education & Sports Science.

The participants were given a warm welcome by Dean (College of Engineering and Technology) Prof. T. V. Gopal.

The Vice-Chancellor of SRMIST, Dr. Sandeep Sancheti, commenced the event with his words of wisdom and encouragement about how an active lifestyle and physical activity can keep one healthy, help reduce one's anxiety and make friends of a lifetime along the rewarding journey of physical fitness.



A considerable number of staff and students participated in the Fit India Freedom Run with great gusto and enthusiasm



The Five Kilometer run/walk was a part of the Fit India Mission by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

The Fit India Freedom run was conducted by the Government of India to encourage fitness and help citizens to get freedom from our inactive lifestyles

Homo sapiens: A part of wild or apart from the wild?

B.KAVYA SHRUTHI

Man's long-inured aversion to the wild taught him to either tame or game wildlife. This impulsive action of man has incited instability of life on earth.

Humans have quelled nature's effort to breed harmony. According to the Great Elephant Census, the African savanna elephant populations in 18 countries have declined by 30% in 2007-2014. An Indian Environment Ministry's Elephant Census states that the elephant populations across 23 Indian states have decreased by 10% in 2012-2017. Two peculiar stories of elephant deaths call

attention to the role of man behind these startling statistics. In May-June 2020, over 330 elephants died by ingesting toxin-producing cyanobacteria at waterholes in Botswana's Okavango Delta. Scientists attribute the toxic bloom to climate change, which is the consequence of human greed. In May 2020, a pregnant elephant in Kerala had suffered a miserable death due to an explosion upon consuming a pineapple stuffed with firecrackers. Besides being a tragic result of human intolerance, it disguises a man's desperation to save his fields and his family from wild attacks.

In the debate of survival of man versus

wild, the key to a cordial relationship between them lies right in the middle - a higher standard of living built by sustainable practices. The first step is



(Left) Majestic body of an elephant decaying in Okavango Delta, Botswana | Reuters (Right) Elephant marooned to death while standing in the Velliya river, Kerala | Mohan Krishnan.

to accept that we are a part of them. If it has been a long journey to civilize, it's going to be another long one to rewind. Let us rewind together, one step at a time.





Covid19 Awareness through info-graphic mediums



Mental health can be compromised in a lot of ways. Please get help from a professional if you need.

Mental Health: Another Prey for the Pandemic

SRISHTI CHAKRABORTY

Our society isn't the most accepting of what cannot be gauged or quantified, which is where the stigma towards mental health arises. With more than 150 million Indians affected by some or the other mental disorder, the unending pandemic doesn't seem to help the ones suffering silently. Pandemics aren't the most ideal, bringing the fear of losing your loved ones, your job, and an overall bleak future. During dilemmas that affect the entirety of humanity, feeling isolated and scared is commonplace, and disparages the scope to visit a therapist.

We observe an astonishing hike in the number of suicides, addiction abusers, and domestic violence cases. And these numbers only reflect the sexual and physical ones; the emotional and mental acts of violence are not even included, which increases the data exponentially.

Employed individuals, whose

This new lifestyle can not only demotivate people, it can also generate a sense of guilt, which gnaws at one's mental health. In such a scenario, social media plays the devil's advocate – masking unattainable perfectionism as productivity, and convincing everyone that improvisation is the only scope for growth...

numbers have dropped drastically since the pandemic, are under pressure to perform at work. Albeit work from home seems effective in the current scenario, it erases the division between work and home-life. As Satya Nadella pointed out, "It feels like sleeping at work." This new lifestyle can not only demotivate people, it can also generate a sense of guilt, which gnaws at one's mental health. In such a scenario, social media plays

the devil's advocate – masking unattainable perfectionism as productivity, and convincing everyone that improvisation is the only scope for growth. Sure, we've got a month dedicated to mental health, but trending it and capitalising on it diminishes the seriousness of the dilemma. We need to help people by referring them to a therapist, not by being one. Therapy can be scary, and staying by their side is essential to making them feel accepted!

Lockdown through ages

NISHANT SAGAR

Ventures, dreams and all our expectations from the future came to a halt with the unexpected outbreak of the novel coronavirus. Dr. Abdul Kalam, in his book India-2020, had estimated that India would be at the zenith of its economic growth by the end of this decade. However, all our presuppositions and visions of life were shattered with the subsequent events that unfolded.

The lockdown witnessed a situation well exemplified by the poem "Keeping Quiet" written by Pablo Neruda.

"It would be an exotic moment without rush, without engines, we would all be together, in a sudden strangeness." (An excerpt from the poem)

This is definitely not the first pandemic in human history. Be it the Spanish flu or cholera, the world has encountered these grave situations from time to time. This pandemic, in particular, has been a learning curve for all of us. Stories and experiences of surviving this pandemic stand unique to each individual. On one hand, people have lost their loved ones, grieved, suffered in pain while on the other hand, people have been pushing their limits to utilize the time and minimal resources to achieve phenomenal things. The disease might still have a hold on our livelihoods but either way, we, as a human race, continue to prove our mettle and our greatest instincts to not only survive but thrive despite all odds.

SRM SAID International Talk Series 2020

ABINAYA
RAVICHANDRAN

The International Talk Series 2020 was an online event hosted by the School of Architecture and Interior Design, SRM Institute of Science and Technology. The five-day event featured several eminent personalities from architecture and related fields. The event began with a welcome speech by Dr. P Sathesh Kumar, Dean, SAID, SRMIST, followed by an inaugural speech

by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sandeep Sancheti. The first speaker was Ar. Deepa Vedavyas, a sustainability manager in the Mayor's office of sustainability from Cleveland, USA, who spoke about Cleveland's journey towards becoming a sustainable city. The second day was inaugurated by Dr. C Muthamizhchelvan, Director, Faculty of E&T, SRMIST, following which Mr. Christopher Kost from Stanford gave an insightful lecture about achieving sustainability in cities



Snippets from the International Talk Series

The highly-informative event was attended by numerous participants from all over India and abroad, and was successfully concluded by a valedictory speech by Dr.N.Sethuraman, Registrar, SRMIST.

through transport. Mr. Kartar Singh, Director, International Relations, SRMIST, addressed the third day of the event where Ar. Victor Sardenberg from Leibniz Universität Hannover shared his take on ground conditions in Capitalocene. The guest of honour for the next day, Dr. Latha Pillal, Director (QAR),

SRMIST welcomed Mr. John Meyer who leads the healthcare design and behavioural science practice at Fractal Analytics. He put forward the five tenets of design thinking to the audience.

The final day of this highly informative talk series was about Smart Cities by Mr. Danny Tandela from Taiwan, with an

address by Guest of honour Prof. TV Gopal, Director, Alumni Affairs, SRMIST.

The highly-informative event was attended by numerous participants from all over India and abroad, and was successfully concluded by a valedictory speech by Dr. N. Sethuraman, Registrar, SRMIST.



A different language is a different vision of life.

Learning a Foreign Language

PRAKHAR ALOK CHAUDHARY

The list of prerequisites of 21st century workforce includes communicative competence as an essential skill.

Studies have demonstrated the cognitive benefits of learning another language irrespective of age. Bilinguals tend to have sharper memories, natural creativity, efficient problem-solving skills, etc. These advantages make learning new things much easier. The competence to quickly switch between tasks is especially important in today's world.

Bilinguals can multitask much faster than their monolingual counterparts considering how, time and again, their brain has switched from one language to another seamlessly.

Learning a foreign language can improve the employment prospects for an individual. More companies are liable for business in dozens of countries around the world. They necessitate employees who have command over at least one foreign language. With globalization in full swing, the value of learning multiple languages presents oneself with a countless realm of opportunities.

However, every language

is vast. For someone who is not a native speaker, learning a language is a daunting task. Every language comes with a set of rules, and a bigger set of exceptions to learn and assimilate. However, for basic communication in any social sphere, there is a multitude of easily accessible online resources that provide guidance to learn the commonly used phrases of a particular language. Some instances of these are Duolingo, Coursera, etc. Considering the cost-effective process and the time provided to us in lockdown, the pros of learning any foreign language far outweigh the cons.

Life after COVID-19

PRIYANK KAPOOR

COVID has turned the world upside-down. Grippled by an omnipresent threat we have had a great deal of time for introspection and retrospection. For the first time, in a long time-humanity has huddled together, appreciating the warmth of hope.

While the world struggles to stay at home, the planet has begun to heal. The surreal sightings of the Himalayas from north Punjab and the Venice canals clearing up were welcome by all. The biggest fear would be a second wave of the pandemic. If we are not able to come up with a vaccine, everyone's future would be jeopardized. Social distancing has greatly affected our way of greeting each other. We won't be leaving

behind masks or sanitizers any time soon. Despite the economy being heavily affected, It remains to be seen whether social media platforms would be able to retain the pandemic credited high user surge. It is predictable that Google Meet and Zoom will lose market shares after the lockdown, but it will be interesting to witness how these platforms evolve with user necessity. But what's more important is that when we go out, we will know the worst is behind us, and we would have something to look forward to-fresh air to breathe and a much cleaner atmosphere to live in.

Until then, we should do our best to stay happy, spread positivity, and be grateful to everyone working on the front lines for the greater good.



A flock of pink flamingoes spotted near a beach in Mumbai

Online classes for MBBS students valid: National Medical Commission

STAFF WRITER

The online theory classes for MBBS students will continue as per National Medical Commission's circular. This was clarified by the National Medical Commission stating that in view of COVID-19 pandemic, online classes are valid and are approved for teaching during the current pandemic situation. A release from National Medical Commission to Dean/Principal of All Medical Colleges/Institutions stated: "Attention of National Medical Commission has been drawn to some media reports that online classes for teaching of MBBS curriculum were not approved by erstwhile MCI. In this regard, it is clarified that in view of Pandemic COVID-19 the Medical Colleges/Institutions

in India are conducting online theory classes for MBBS students. Online classes are valid and were approved for teaching during the current Pandemic COVID-19 only. Such online theory classes are required to be supplemented by practical and clinical training as per the current curriculum in all MBBS subjects in the Colleges/Institutions and affiliated hospitals as and when colleges reopen." The release also stated that "It is further clarified that the media reports appeared to have relied upon the reply given on 13 08 2020 by erstwhile MCI in response to an RTI query which was in reference to the conduct of MBBS teaching curriculum by the foreign medical university through online medium only."

An Ancient Approach for a New Virus

PRIYANKA SRINIVAS

As soon as the spread of coronavirus started, SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST) made preliminary arrangements to ensure basic care in and around campus. The university arranged pamphlets to spread awareness, employed its medical staff for 24x7 support in SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Center, and arranged a separate fever screening unit for patients to get specifically tested for novel coronavirus. In addition to that, SRMIST is now hosting a treatment facility along with National Institute of Siddha (NIS). SRMIST and NIS, along with Chengalpattu District Administration, started a Siddha treatment facility on Kattankulathur campus. SRM COVID Care Center (CCC), was inaugurated on 20th August 2020, by Dr. R. Meenakumari,

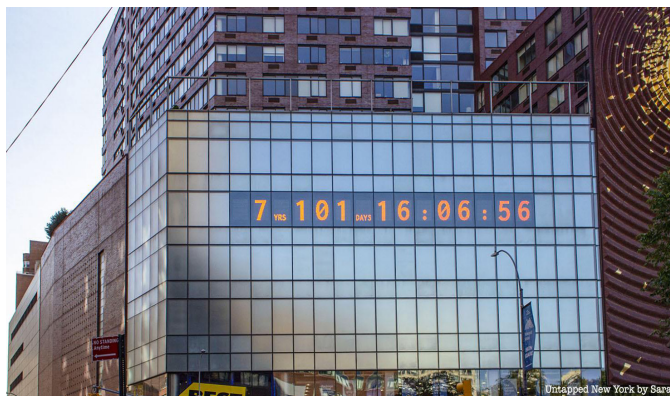
Director of NIS and Mr. John Louis, District Collector of Chengalpattu. This prime purpose of this facility is to create special ward to admit patients infected by the virus who want to be treated using Siddha medicine.

Siddha is a traditional Tamil system of medicine prevalent since 10,000 BC. Operating from CCC, NIS plans to use research-certified natural ingredients such as 'Kabasura kudineer',

and 'Nellikai leggiyam' along with practices such as steam therapy to help provide COVID care. This care center will be coordinated by Dr. M. Meenakshi Sundaram, Head of Department of Kuzhandhai Maruthuvam (child medicine), Dr. S. Sivakumar, Associate professor at Department of Gunapadam (treatment and cure) and Dr. S. Murugesan, Lecturer at Department of Nanju Maruthuvam (lung medicine).



Opening address by Mr. John Louis, District Collector of Chengalpattu



The climate clock during climate week, showing the deadline and the lifeline we have been given.

The Ticking Clock

ARPITA RAVI

The year 2020 has been stressful for every human on earth, but amidst all this, our callous and detrimental attitude has hurled Mother Earth towards a scary future. Humanity has been extremely careless in their worldly pursuits and the consequences are, inevitably, ugly. We can see it in the rising sea levels, alarmingly intense hurricanes, increasing number of wildfires across the world; and this is just the beginning.

The Climate Clock, installed for climate week (21st to 27th September 2020) in New York's Union Square displayed some daunting numbers in concert with some positive statistics as well. In glaring red, it showed the time left before the earth grows 1.5°C hotter than it currently is, caused due to greenhouse gas emissions. In green, it signalled hope by showing the growing percentage of the world's energy

currently supplied from renewable sources. It boils down to good triumphing over evil; we must aim to bring the green number to 100 before the red becomes 0.

We need action now more than ever before, as the war against climate change looms over the battlefield, and only we can change the outcome. Just last year, Greta Thunberg emanated a ripple action worldwide by calling out leaders who had promised to take measures to prevent climate change, but did not deliver. The Paris Agreement signed in 2016 is a prime example of taking responsibility and acting to prevent a major threat to the earth, and hopefully there will be more such implementations rather than discussions. The time for deliberation has long gone; it is time to step into the fight. As Greta astutely put it, "We can't just continue living as if there was no tomorrow, because there is a tomorrow."

The Productivity Pandemic

PRIYANKA SRINIVAS

Coronavirus is the only biological pandemic we are dealing with, currently. However, building up to shape an entire generation's work ethic, success quotient and socio-economic stability, there has been a subtle but dangerous rise in 'productivity'. By definition, productivity is simple and somewhat necessary to get by. However, due to several factors, productivity has lost meaning. There is a newer connotation that stems from a set of highly successful economic anomalies: the millionaires and billionaires.

Instead of being the effectiveness of work done, productivity is now an unhealthy cult tied with a flawed perception of success which is strictly wealth-related. Any free time people obtain, they want to 'invest' into different projects to increase monetary profit. This helps to normalize the sacrifice healthy practices such as sleep, good eating habits and stable relationships for 'optimal success.' Since this idea capitalizes on every minute of free time, lockdown has been the perfect time to promote this garbled sense of productivity. Many platforms that promote this message have a large student user base. Hence, toxic productivity has seeped into student habits. In lockdown, especially, everyone has a need to do several online courses related or unrelated to their field of education to have



The guilt of having too much free time

To protect our headspace, however, it is important to let go of these toxic practices and realize the benefits of a hedonistic approach. After all, free time like this comes rarely. We should cherish it.

'an edge' over other college students. In addition, students are encouraged to balance an unholy amount of activities to become 'financially independent'.

With many people adapting this toxic lifestyle in lockdown, productivity has earned its

status as an infectious pandemic with negative effects on mental and physical health. To protect our headspace, however, it is important to let go of these toxic practices and realize the benefits of a hedonistic approach. After all, free time like this comes rarely. We should cherish it.

Shedding Light on the Unsung COVID-Heroes of 2020

SHRUTI RAMESH

The emergence of the novel coronavirus took the world by storm in late 2019. What started out as a simple viral outbreak quickly turned into a catastrophic global pandemic that has been holding the entire world at a standstill. Frontline workers stepped into action at once, and have worked tirelessly to aid victims and prevent the proliferation of COVID-19. While they've rightfully been deemed "COVID-Heroes", one mustn't let the efforts of ordinary citizens go unnoticed.

Between March and August 2020, cyclist Philem Rohan Singh had spent over Rs. 3

Lakh feeding the homeless in his home state of Manipur. His team of over 20 volunteers has been working hard to raise funds to continue to feed the needy for free since the lockdown began. Shubham Dharmasktu has been no less than a messiah to foreign travelers stranded in India in the wake of the lockdown. Shubham had started by securing accommodation for some of these tourists in Delhi in March 2020 and has since received hundreds of phone calls from other such tourists, and has taken part in evacuating them safely to their respective destinations. In Mysuru, a group of citizens - Dr. Javeed Nayeem, Dr. Shabeena Jabeen, Prof Noor Ahmed Khan,

Mohd Anees Khan Ghor, Syed Siddiq Ahmed, Gulnar Parveen, Ahmed Nadeem, Mohd Rafeeq Khan Ghor, Mohd Shameer, and Mohd Ameer, have been distributing oxygen cylinders for free to those who require medical oxygen but cannot afford it. They have also helped over forty students pay their fees and have provided medicines and ration for over a hundred needy families.

The names listed above are just a handful from a myriad of real-life COVID-Heroes. These heroes, who have stepped up and led the fight against the novel coronavirus, have set the bar for humanity extremely high with their exemplary actions!



Philem Rohan Singh has been providing at least one meal a day for the homeless and needy since March 2020



SRM becomes a Recognised Social Entrepreneurship, Swachhta & Rural Engagement Cell Institution

STAFF WRITER

It is a proud moment as SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur has been certified as a 'Recognised Social Entrepreneurship, Swachhta & Rural Engagement Cell (SES REC) Institution' by the Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, GoI. The certificate for the same was issued on 10 October 2020.

This is an added golden feather to SRM's crown. This honour was conferred by the Ministry of Education, Government of India recognizing the noteworthy contributions in the areas of sanitation and hygiene, waste management, water management,

energy conservation, and greenery in the Campus and Community/Adopted Villages.

This certification has been awarded to SRMIST after successfully framing the SES REC Action Plan and constituted 10 working groups for improving facilities in the campus and the community/adopted villages in the areas of Sanitation & Hygiene, Waste Management, Water Management, Energy Conservation and Greenery post-CODIC-19. Apart from this, SRMIST has observed three environment, entrepreneurship, and community engagement-related days to inculcate in faculty, students, and community, the practices of Mentoring, Social Responsibility, Swachhta, and Care for Environment and Resources.

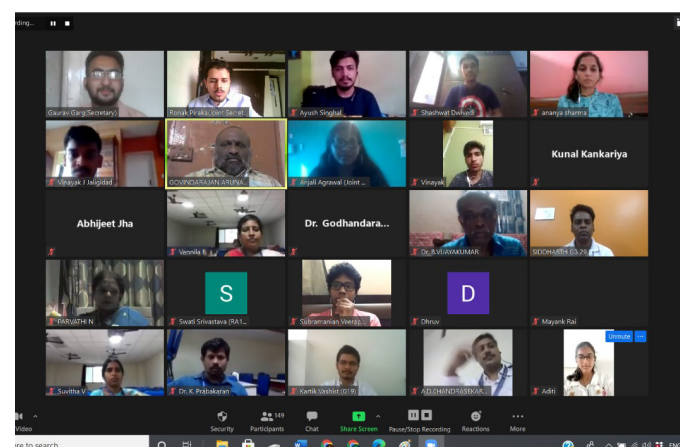
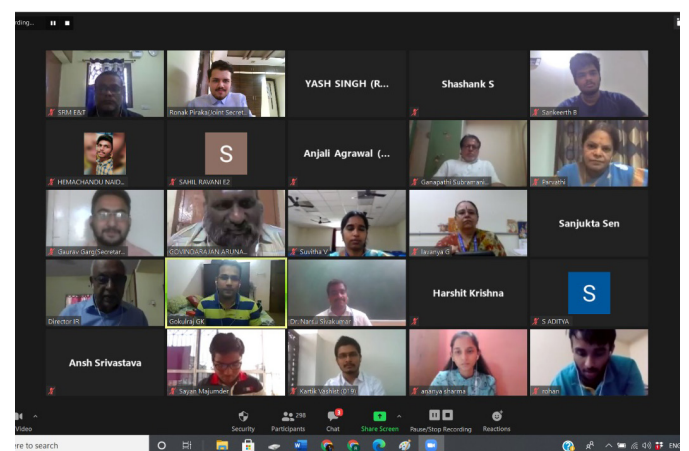
Intracollegiate Mathematics Festival-2020 (Online-IMF- 2020)

STAFF WRITER

A one-day Intra Mathematics Festival (e-IMF 2020) the first of its kind since its inception in 1991 by Professor V. Sundaresan was organized in the online mode under the aegis of Sri Ramanujan Mathematics Club in the Department of Mathematics, SRM Institute of Science and Technology. The gathering was welcomed by the President of the club Dr. A. Govindarajan Professor and Head of the Department of Mathematics who briefed the functioning of the Sri Ramanujan Mathematics club. He appreciated the interest that the students have shown as the number of participants had touched 300. He was happy to inform that the Department of Mathematics is going to launch a five year integrated Post graduate programme on Mathematics combined with data science in collaboration with IIT Madras. In his welcome address he thanked the chief sponsor Viswa & Devji for their continuous support even during this pandemic situation. The Vice-President of the club Dr. N. Parvathi introduced the Chief Guest of the function Mr. G. K. Gokulraj, CEO-Managing Director, My Copie, Chennai. The Chief Guest spoke on the hurdles and pitfalls faced by him to reach the current position. The storm in 2015 and 2016 blew his business to zero and how he resurrected himself was explained vividly. He spoke of how he shifted from merchandise selling to organizing workshops. He was very happy to share his first experience of organizing a fine arts workshop in 2018 at IIT Madras which had an unexpected turnout of 60 participants. By 2019 he had grown to the extent of organizing 12 to 14 workshops per week across the country. The pandemic situation again rocked his life. But, as before he now rose to the situation by organizing online workshops and has done about 800 workshops on fine arts till now making a monetary benefit of 25 lakhs per month. He advised the students to take up financial education courses and basic mathematics

courses to enable them to shine as good entrepreneurs. The student anchor Sanjukta Sen requested Mr. Kartar Singh, Director, Office of International Relations to declare the meet open and share a few words with the gathering. Mr. Kartar Singh congratulated the IMF team and the department staff and in particular the Head of the Department for organizing the event. He spoke about Srinivasan Ramanujan's note books which are even now a mount of treasure still unrevealed completely. He was delighted to know about the ventures of the chief guest Mr. G. K. Gokulraj and welcomed him to visit the Centre for Fine Arts that functions in SRMIST, Kattankulathur. He added that SRMIST would feel proud to connect with him and develop internship programs for the students. The way Mr. G.K. Gokulraj prospered through art forms inspired all the students to focus on opportunities than to pursue only on passion. The Director, Kartar Singh then declared the meet open. The inaugural function was moved on with a smooth discussion and sharing of thoughts rather

than a formal function. The three events scheduled for the day began at 11 am. Math quiz was the first event followed by Search cross and Treasure hunt. All the three events enthralled the students and witnessed active participation. The e-IMF brought together over 2511 student participation (Maths Quiz -888, Search Cross-740, Treasure Hunt-883). This was followed by the valedictory function. The gathering was welcomed by the Vice President of the club Dr. N. Parvathi, Professor, Department of Mathematics. Mr Madhan Shanmugasundaram, Director, Infosys Technologies, Chennai was the chief guest of the day. Dr. B. Vennila, Associate professor, Department of Mathematics introduced the chief guest to the audience. The Chief Guest spoke on the applications of Mathematics in Artificial Intelligence, Machine learning and Internet Of Things etc., Mr Madhan Shanmugasundaram announced the prize winners. It was followed by vote of thanks by Gaurav Garg, the Secretary of the Sri Ramanujan Mathematics club and National Anthem.



Glimpses of online-IMF-2020

Activities at SRM University Delhi - NCR, SONEPAT

Power Talk by TEDx Speaker

Power Talk was delivered by Mr. Shankar Goenka, TEDx Speaker and also e-AAGAAZ-2K20 Finale Award Ceremony was conducted and the winners of various events were awarded.

A Lecture on Stock Exchanges and their working in India

Department of Commerce organized a lecture on "Stock Exchanges and their working in India" Dr. Rajroop Chahal, (Associate Professor, CRA College, Sonipat) was invited as key note speaker. He acquainted the students with the knowledge of working of stock exchanges in India, price determination of stocks and trading of securities.

Career Counseling Session by NIRC(CMA), India

A Career Counseling session was organized by Department. CMA Amit Singhal was invited to provide awareness and knowledge regarding career opportunities after becoming Cost and Management Accountant and how students can pursue this degree and become successful in life.

Workshop on Continental Cuisine

A Workshop on Continental Cuisine was held in the Department of Hotel Management. The aim of this workshop (conducted by Mr. Amit Kumar, Assistant Professor of Food Production) was to demonstrate the art of cooking with exotic Continental cuisine. Mr. Amit Kumar demonstrated to the students of Hotel Management how to cook continental dishes like Pasta in different sauces. All the students enjoyed the session and learned a lot from this workshop.

Workshop on Mocktails

The Department of Hotel

management organized a one-day workshop on Mocktails. The workshop was conducted by Mr. Prakash Chandra Pandey (Assistant Professor-Hotel Management). It started with a session on history and style of preparing a mocktail followed by a practical session. The following mocktails were prepared by him: Mojito, Blue Lagoon, and Sunrise. The workshop was conducted in a smooth manner.

Lecture on Front Office Operations in Five Star hotel

A session on front office operations in five star hotel was conducted by Ms. Sanskriti Singh, Assistant Professor (Hotel Management). It was an informative and enriching session providing a deep knowledge to the students about the working of front office department in the hotel industry.

Workshop on Towel art

One-day workshop on 'Towel Fold Techniques' was organized. The Accommodations Operations Faculty- Mr. Rohit Kumar demonstrated various towel fold techniques to the students such as: Elephant, Book fold, Peacock, etc. This activity is basically designed for students to enhance their creativity level and give a special touch to their rooms.

Let's Cook Together Event

An amazing event titled "Let's Cook Together" was organized by the Department of Hotel management under the guidance of Mr. Sunil Panwar that gave the chance to the students to cook together with our chef and develop their skills. This was an unique idea to create something out of the box. The students from different colleges participated in the event.

Lecture on New Normal in Industry

With universities shut in the wake of Covid-19, webinars have a great impact on the minds

of students. This lockdown has changed the meaning of education. For this reason, the Faculty of Hotel management also moved a step forward in organizing a lecture talk in the wake of this Covid-19. The Guest speaker for the day was Ms Rajneet Kohli (Principal, IHM Bathinda).

Lecture on Future Scopes & Opportunities in Industry

The Department of Hotel management organized an interactive session on Future scopes & Opportunities in Industry on presented by the Expert: Mr. Manu Narang (Principal-Jaypee Hotels Training Centre Agra). Mr. Narang discussed about the Future Prospects & Opportunities for New Aspirants post Covid-19. The students felt very motivated as this will not only help them sustain their positive attitude but also enhance their confidence and knowledge during and after the Covid-19 pandemic.

Lecture on Career Development & Growth in the industry

An Interactive session on "Career Development and Growth in the Industry" was organized an initiative by the Department of Hotel Management, the expert invited for the lecture was Mr. Rajeev Ranjan (Lecturer, ICI, and India). He delivered a special lecture for the First Year students of Hotel Management wherein he discussed about the career opportunities and growth for the students in the hospitality industry.

Bakery Workshop

The Department of Hotel Management took a next step ahead on baking journey by organizing a Bakery workshop. The session was conducted by Mr. Amit Kumar (Assistant Professor-Hotel Management). During the session, the chef demonstrated three recipes at the workshop - Fruit cake, Banana bread & Tea Cake.



Entrepreneurship and Social Enterprises: Start Up Canvas: Online Talk

STAFF WRITER

Mr. Pechimuthu Udayakumar, Director (Planning & Marketing), National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC), delivered a talk on "Entrepreneurship and Social Enterprises: Start Up Canvas". He motivated students to come up with entrepreneurial ideas and also assigned students to frame up a business plan after briefing up about the essentials required to frame a business plan.

Webinars in Association with IBM

STAFF WRITER

Department of Computer Science Engineering hosted a 9-series webinar in association with IBM under the banner "IBM SPOC for IBM Specialization" IBM Career Education organized this series of technical webinars for the benefit of students. The first Webinar session in this 9-series session was on "Data Science Concepts" where the speaker, Mamatha Venkatesh who is an AI Architect for Supply Chain solutions working with IBM Insights and Intelligence Expert Labs (with over 18+ years of experience in IT Industry) talked about the significance of AI and introduced certain terms and concepts like AI, Data Science/ Machine Learning, Deep learning, and their differences. The Second Webinar Session was on "Deep Dive on Data Science Phases". It was the 2nd session of the 9 series session on Data Science. The Agenda of the webinar was Introduction to CRISP DM graced by the eminent speaker, M J Prarthana. The third webinar session was on "Introduction to Supervised vs unsupervised vs Semi-Supervised learning" conducted. The session's agenda was to introduce sample problems in each area (Fraud Detection, Text Classification, Customer Clustering), Linear models. The fourth and the last Webinar session was on "Non-Linear Problems - Data Science - Session 4" conducted. The Speaker for the event was Naveen K Yadav who is an AI Consultant for Supply Chain.

Biotech Ignition Grant - Webinar

The Department of Biomedical Engineering, Biotechnology, & Microbiology organized an awareness session webinar through a strategic program IDEA on 17th BIG (Biotech Ignition Grant). The Guest Speakers of the session were Mr. Sudhanshu Shekhar and Ms. Suman from the BSC BioNEST Bio-Incubator at Regional Centre for Biotechnology, (Department of Biotechnology, Government of India). This

lecture aims to help startups, nurture their innovative ideas and develop globally competitive products or technologies, with the objective of fostering Indian biomedical/Biotech innovation and entrepreneurship. They talked about BIG is one of the most sought-after funding schemes for all Bio-entrepreneurs. BIG is a flagship scheme of BIRAC, which provides support to young startups and entrepreneurial individuals.

Launch of Siemens “Centre of Excellence” at SRM University Delhi-NCR

STAFF WRITER

SRM University Delhi-NCR signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Siemens Industry Software (India) Private Limited to establish the “Siemens Centre of Excellence (COE)” in the university campus. In the first phase of the establishment of Siemens COE, the following labs will be available for teachers, students and researchers of the university:

- Product Digitalization – Design Lab
- Process Digitalization – Production Planning Lab
- Bio Tech Specialized Lab
- Simulation and Analysis Lab
- CNC Controller Lab

The Siemens Centre of Excellence (COE) was officially launched through an online meet on 23rd September, 2020 (in accordance with the recent Covid-19 social distance norms). During this official launch of Siemens COE, the Hon’ble Chancellor, Shri Ravi Pachamoothoo, officiating Vice Chancellor, Prof. Manish Bhalla, Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. V. Samuel Raj, Director Administration and International Relations, Mr. Manoj Madhavan Kutty and Prof. R.A. Yadav, Advisor to Hon’ble Chancellor from SRM University Delhi-NCR, and Mr. Akhilesh Sahi, Director (Sales) - Academic: Siemens Industrial Software Pvt. Ltd and Mr. Ajay Deshkar, CEO of 3D Engineering Automation were present amongst the prominent dignitaries.

“Future of Legal Profession in COVID Times: Key emphasis to ensure consistency with Emotional and Mental Health” - Webinar

STAFF WRITER

Faculty of Law, SRM University organised a webinar on the topic “Future of Legal Profession in COVID Times: Key emphasis to ensure consistency with Emotional and Mental Health” on 21st September, 2020. The speaker, Ms. Achint Kaur, Advocate, Principal Associate, Khaitan & Co, Expert emphasised on the emotional strength that is central to the legal profession in the period of the pandemic. One of the interesting features of this webinar was the manner in which she articulated the aspect of mental health and



culture of neoliberal phase of the legal profession in the age of capitalistic, corporate era. The speaker pointed out the various challenges that may come before the legal professionals. Ms. Kaur provided various modes through which aspirants of legal profession can tackle the complex, professional scenario in an era of the global pandemic.

Webinar on Biomedical Engineering

The Department of Biomedical Engineering organized an exclusive webinar on the Introduction to Biomedical Engineering during e-AAGAAZ 2K20. The Guest Speaker of the session was Dr. Marshal, Associate Professor School of Biomedical Engineering, IIT(BHU), Varanasi. He delivered his talk on current research works going in his lab and more

specifically, the mask developed by Dr. Marshal and his team to arrest the spread of Covid-19.



“Legal Profession: A Dynamic and Vectorial Profession” – Webinar

Faculty of Law, SRM University Delhi-NCR organised a webinar. The speaker, Mr. Nitesh Rana, Advocate, Counsel and Public Prosecutor for Enforcement Directorate, Ministry of Finance spoke on the changing nature of the legal profession in the context of political and social equations. In addition to the transforming character of the profession, speaker emphasized on the skills that are essential for the aspirants in order to enter into the highly competitive, legal professional scenario.

“Freedom of Occupation, Trade and Business vis-à- vis Lockdown in the country” – Debate Competition

Faculty of Law, SRM University conducted a Debate Competition for the students on 29th September 2020. The topic given to student was “Freedom of Occupation, Trade and Business vis-à-vis Lockdown in the country”. Students who participated in the competition shared their unique arguments and perspectives related to the theme.

“Grooming the Talent: From Campus to Corporate” – Online Talk

The Faculty of Management Studies, conducted a talk on “Grooming the talent: From Campus to Corporate”. The chief speaker for the occasion was Mr. Vishwanadh Raju, Global Head of Talent Acquisition, AXISCADES. He rightly explained the relevance of grooming personality for each student so that they can adhere to industry standards in terms of personality and presentation. He ensured that students understood the various essentials required to secure a placement opportunity.

Guest Lecture on “Advance Technologies in Housing & Road Sector”

The Department of Civil Engineering conducted a guest lecture on “Advance Technologies in Housing & Road Sector” via zoom. The speaker for the occasion was Er. G. Srinivasa, All India Head of White Topping & RMD Technology. Er. K. S. Chauhan, Head (N & E Zone) Business for White Topping & RMD Technology, UltraTech Cement was the panelist of the event.



Virtual Moot Court

Faculty of Law, SRM University Delhi-NCR organized a Virtual Moot Court. Students of various courses such as B.A., LL.B. and B.B.A., LL.B. attended the virtual moot court competition. Faculty members of the department of law monitored the various phases of the moot court competition. Students took this event as an opportunity to revamp their understanding on the legal debates.

Workshop on Italian Cuisine

An interesting online workshop under the guidance of Mr. Sunil Panwar, a workshop on Italian cuisine was conducted. The guest speaker was Ms Radhika Arora (Famous Entrepreneur in Delhi) Owner SH who demonstrated how to prepare Dip, Salad, and Bruschetta to the students.

Webinar on Biotechnology, Microbiology and Biomedical Engineering

The Department of Biomedical Engineering, Biotechnology, & Microbiology organized a webinar on Career counselling on September 18, 2020 during e-AAGAAZ 2K20. The Guest Speaker of the session was

Mr. Lalit Kumar Pankaj from Canada. He talked about deep understanding of career plans for the students, interests, aptitudes, personalities and explained career confusions related to jobs and further higher studies.

“Grooming the Talent: From Campus to Corporate” – Online Talk

The Faculty of Management Studies, conducted a talk on “Grooming the talent: From Campus to Corporate”. The chief speaker for the occasion was Mr. Vishwanadh Raju, Global Head of Talent Acquisition, AXISCADES. He rightly explained the relevance of grooming personality for each student so that they can adhere to industry standards in terms of personality and presentation. He ensured that students understood the various essentials required to secure a placement opportunity.

“Economic Environment and Policy in Digital Era: Managing and leading in VUCA World” – Online Talk

Dr. Sushma Sharma, Faculty of Management Studies, SRM University Delhi-NCR delivered an online talk on “Economic Environment and Policy in Digital Era: Managing and leading in VUCA World”.

Leadership Post- Covid-19: Challenges and Opportunities – Online Talk by Prof. V. Samuel Raj

On 11th September, 2020, Prof. V. Samuel Raj, Dean Academic Affairs, SRM University Delhi-NCR, interacted with the students of Semester I on the topic, “Leadership Post Covid-19: Challenges and Opportunities”. He discussed various aspects which can affect the leadership style prevalent in the Industry and also, motivated students to follow a disciplined approach to become a successful leader in their lives.