Research is a very important area of higher education-Chancellor

SRM willing to waive 50 per cent of fees for any good research work

Ms. Rukhia Tabassum being awarded a silver medal by the Chancellor for her paper presentation. Also seen in the picture (from Left) are Dr. D.Narayana Rao, Dr.Krishnan Lal and Dr. B.R.Rao.

Staff Writer

Maintaining that when a student leaves University or college he or she should have left behind some research work, the Founder Chancellor of SRM University and SRM Group of Institutions, Dr. T.R. Pachamuthu said that it is quite unfortunate that the Government is not showing interest in funding research. "The number of students showing interest and doing research should be increased", the Chancellor remarked.

"The Management of SRM Group will be willing to waive fifty per cent of fees for any good research work done by its students", the Chancellor committed himself at the Research Day celebration, the second of its kind in as many years at the Kattankulathur Campus on March 1, 2013. "There is a lot of scope for research in Engineering and Technology, Science and Humanities and Medicine. This is a very, very important area and SRM University can be an example to the state and to the country", the Chancellor added. He encouraged faculty members to get involved in research, present papers at national and international conferences/ seminars and to actively guide students in the same direction.

"Unfortunately very few are showing interest in research. They think it is some kind of a punishment", the Chancellor observed making the point that aside from what can be done at private institutions the Government should show more responsibility to research by ensuring that there are adequate facilities including laboratories, equipment and funding.

The Research Day programme saw the participation of Dr.

Krishnan Lal, President of the Indian National Science Aacdemy as the Chief Guest and Dr. S.R. Rao, Advisor, Dept. of Bio Technology of the Government of India delivering the Special Address.

"The future belongs to young researchers", said Dr. Lal going on to pay a handsome compliment to SRM University. "You are doing very well, not only in teaching but also in research", the top scientist maintained.

Dr. Lal enlightened both the faculty and students assembled at the Dr. T.P. Ganesan Auditorium on what it is that India has contributed through Diamonds for science through the study of the structure of crystals. "I really don't know how many of you are aware that Diamonds are India's contribution to the world", he said.

"Future Science is moving very fast", said Dr. S.R. Rao. "Research is no longer simple. It goes beyond time, investment and funding. You need passion. It is a very passionate endeavour", he said stressing the need of the participation of both the public and the private sectors in research.

"By 2025 we need at least 15 lakh scientists", Dr. Rao said going on to mention that SRM University's most important

contribution has been in the building of the nano-satellite by its students.

Welcoming the gathering the Director of Engineering and Technology, Dr. C. Muthamizhselvan pointed out that there have been several milestones in the last two years.

Ministry for Human Resources Development (MHRD) placing the University in Category A; and the NAAC after the last review in October 2012 placing the University in its top grade."We need to sustain first and then move forward", he remarked.

Talking about research activities, the Director of Research, Dr.D. Narayana Rao, pointed out that Indian companies spend a lot of money on advertising and marketing but little on Research and Development. "For India to solve its problems, it needs to advance in science and technology", he said.

Dr. Rao also had a word of advice to the student community. "Students who do not get strong in research and development will be left behind".

> There is a lot of scope for research in Engineering and Technology, Science and Humanities and Medicine. This is a very, very important area and SRM University can be an example to the state and to the country — Chancellor

Inside...

SRM's BTech student cracks CAT 2012 with 99.93 percentile

Nandita Adityan
Anup Saboo

Soumadeep Guha, a final year BTech student from the Software Department of SRM University cracked the Common Aptitude Test 2012 with a score of 99.93 percentile. The Common Aptitude Test or CAT, a nation-wide examination for admissions into the country's top business schools announced its results recently. Soumadeep has been called for Group Discussion and interview round from many of the IIMs namely A,C,L, Shillong and Kozhikode.

Speaking to **Spectrum** about his achievement Soumadeep said, "Disciplined work and realisation of strengths are very important for one to succeed. I worked for four hours a day and started from scratch. I solved basic questions and built up my confidence steadily. I never judged any question before solving it and took up each and every question seriously." He also believes that his persistence to excel and the mock tests conducted by the on campus branch of 'Career Launcher' helped him analyse his weaknesses and gave him a clear picture of the loop holes in his preparations. Though he expected a good score, such a high score was a big surprise to him, he says. Soumadeep is now currently gearing up to clear the personal interviews.

Talking about his success mantra he says, "I analysed myself first and then my subjects. One need not study all day to crack the CAT. Setting up a routine and sticking to it is important. I used some of the good books in the market and built up my confidence steadily."

14 and pursuing B.Tech!

Tryphena Sharon Augustine
Akshun Ojha

Avinash R., a first year student of Information Technology Engineering, B.Tech(IT), of SRM University, Kattankulathur has already a stack of feathers stuck up in his cap. Starting at the age of 12, he has cleared many certified networking courses in CISCO and Microsoft. Also, early, in his 8th grade he conducted online training on CISCO, Microsoft, Juniper, Apple and Redhat courses. One can attend his paid courses at his website, www.avitechnohome. com. At 14, chancing upon the fact that one can join college then, he prepared the syllabi for 10, 11 and 12 standards and appeared for SRMEEE.

When asked how he felt if and when people called him a nerd, he answers nonchalantly that he isn't one.

"He doesn't learn his subjects, rather learning is akin to playing" says his friend Joshua, also from B.Tech, IT. He also asserts that Avinash isn't seen about with a book as is the notion in general.

The wonder boy, Avinash R

Cricket is his favourite sport and he loves playing the same. Fittingly, he uses a bicycle to move about in campus. When questioned on how it all started, he says it all just happened in the course of time. Nothing, he says, was thought afore. He acknowledges his parents for their support and encouragement. As for his future plans, not having given much thought, he considers becoming a scientist for India. Here's singular talent.

Opportunity to capture the imagination of 500 million Indian users by 2016: Dr.Govind

Sanju Varughese Mathew

Having indexed approximately 2 million webpages in a matter of months, the Brainse Team hosted a presentation on the search engine that is currently under development. The primary aim of the project is to optimize the 'Sparrowing' algorithm on which the search engine works in order to cater to a diversified range of user queries. Unlike existing search engines, the Brainse algorithm seeks to index pages without a bias based on popularity.

Dr. Govind, Senior Director of Information and Technology, Govt. of India was the Chief Guest for the program. Along with the Director of Research, various Heads of Departments and faculty, he showd a live demonstration of the functioning of the search engine. The road blocks facing the project were also touched upon.

The presentation showcased the use of clustered searching which helps to cater a diverse selection of results to the user. Simply put, Brainse provides a menu, empowering the user to search according to his/her needs. The Grammatical Lexical Analyzer (GLA) used is an innovation that is constantly being improved in order to break the divide between man and machine.

Brainse is also working on eventually providing an Indian search engine consisting solely of Indian language webpages. "If we develop a webpage for Haldiram, we can be sure that Bikaner will soon follow suit. It is a chicken and egg problem", stated Director of Research, Prof. Narayana Rao on a possible solution to the lack of existing Indian language webpages.

Currently, approximately 75% of the internet community prefers Google over any other search engine. But as Dr. Govind aptly put it, "Google is not the end of the internet. There is a huge opportunity to capture the imagination of 500 million Indians users by 2016."

*Dignitaries, faculty and team members
present during the Brainse conference.*

A paradigm shift from chemical to bio-process

Laasya Dhandapani

The National Conference on Frontiers in Biotechnology (NCFB 2013) was conducted by the Department of Biotechnology, SRM University recently. The two day national conference was inaugurated by the Chief guest Dr. P. Gunasekaran, Director, King Institute of Preventive Medicine and Research, along with Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan, Director, Engineering and Technology, SRM University, Dr. M. Vairamani, Dean, School of Bioengineering,SRM University, Dr. S. Meignanalakshmi, Convener, NCFB 2013 and Dr. S. Nageswaran, Co-Convener, NCFB-13.

In his inaugural address, Dr.Gunasekaran reiterated the urgent need to develop accurate technology for diagnosis, to provide safe and effective medicines to all. He mentioned the paradigm shift from chemical to bioprocess is leading to sustainable, cheap and pure products. The Director of E&T spoke of India as a potential biotechnology hub and threw light on the opportunities offered in fields of energy, food and health that can improve our lifestyle.

Eminent Indian scientists including Dr. K. G. Tirumurugaan, Assistant Professor, Department of Animal Biotechnology, Madras Veterinary College, Dr. G. Sekaran, Chief scientist and Head, CSIR-CLRI- Environment Technology Alternative Option, Dr. R. Puvanakrishnan, Emeritus professor, CLRI, spoke of the modules of Medical biotechnology, Environmental engineering, Plant biotechnology, Animal biotechnology and Fermentation biotechnology. Posters and papers were presented by the students.

The conference concluded with the valedictory function. The Dean, School of Bioengineering distributed certificates. The vote of thanks was presented by Dr. E. Berla Thangam, Professor, Department of Biotechnology.

FUROR-The Undying Tech Fever

Gaurav Sarma
N Ramya

Packed with events like Placement Buzz, Paper Presentation, Tech-A-Thon, Gaming and Treasure Hunt, FUROR, the IT Department techfest went on for two days where students from different spectrums chipped in and bagged prize money. "Skill isn't merely in organizing but in the ability to accomplish with rationed resources" said Mrs.Nirmala, President of the IT Association and an assistant Professor in the department." "Regardless of being a fresher or a senior, all the students have put in their share of efforts to make this event a big one." Mr.Venkatesh, a staff from IT further added. The spotlight of the fest was Placement Buzz, this prototype of the authentic placement process was aimed at familiarizing the participants to live through their placements. Jatin Khanna emerged as the winner. Counter Strike gaming saw dynamic participation from students of not only Under Graduate students from IT, CSE, Software, ECE, Mechanical, Aerospace and Bio-Tech and Post Graduates from MCA and M.Tech made it to the

battle field. TREASURE HUNT was an attempt to "technologize" the popular game by breaking it down into levels of pure coding, where the clue to progress to the next stage had to be decoded. Ujjal Kumar and V.Thejas made it to the end and surfaced as the winners. The much awaited Paper Presentation (IEEE format) was held on the second day and the teams flaunted their thorough research on their respective topics as the judges tested their knowledge. The topics for the paper presentation were Cyber Crime and Forensics, Green Computing, 4G Technology, Sixth Sense Technology, Digital Jewellery and Body Networks Sensors. The teams spoke at length about the upcoming technologies like Electronic Nose and Color Coding Sensors. Rajni Priya, a second year student from the IT department emerged as the winner. The department praised the untiring efforts of Vineet Sharma, the Convenor along with Bansari Shah, 3rd year students from IT. With a massive total of 142 registrations in two days, the co-ordinators had their hands full in conducting the events in a smooth manner.

The Chancellor with the 'Pacesetters'

Global conference on women leadership

Anisha Paniker
Shayani Mukherjee

As part of the two-day Global Conference on Women Leadership: Redefining Boundaries and Infinite Opportunities, SRM School of Management honoured women "pacesetters" who have redefined the importance of women in our society: Ms. Kathy Walkings (EcoFemme), Capt. Bavicca Bharathi (Pilot), Ms. Koushalya (Positive Women Network), and Ms. Prema K. (Nurse, SRM Hospital) were felicitated by Dr. T.R. Pachamuthu, Chancellor, SRM University and Dr. P. Thangaraj, Pro Vice

Chancellor, SRM University. The Chancellor addressed the gathering with a strong message for women. "Firstly, the woman should respect herself and her gender", he said, "don't expect and don't depend on other." He brought to light how women are outshining in numerous fields and proving their worth. The Chancellor encouraged women to create their own opportunities and stand on their own feet. "Don't hesitate to fight for your own rights", he added.

The women achievers spoke to the audience about their journey to success. Ms. Kathy

Walkings expressed that women empowerment was the need of our time. Positive Women Activist Award Winner(Readers' Digest 2004) Ms. Koushalya asked students to join her efforts in supporting HIV infected women and children. The Florence Nightingale of SRM Hospital, Ms. Prema credited her success to the great institution. "Achievement is not the goal of life, if we do what we want to do with all our heart and soul, achievements will follow", said the youngest commercial pilot record holder (Limca Book of Records, 2012) Capt. Bavicca Bharathi.

SRM celebrates birthday of Bhutanese King

Bhutanese students celebrate HM's 33rd birthday…

Alvin Thomas

Bhutanese students of SRM University, Kattankulathur, celebrated the 33rd birthday of their King recently.

The event witnessed several students perform a variety of events like singing and dancing to their local tunes. Specially recogonised was the 'Tibetan Song' sung by Dorji Norbu and his cover of the song 'I am sailing' to show his love for the country. It was also a remarkable moment to witness Dechen Wangdi sing Tamil song 'Girlfriend'.

Later on, the program shifted towards screening the coronation of the King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck. "He talks to all the citizens, and is known as 'The People's King'. "We all love him, and that's why we are commemorating his birthday," said Phuntsho Rabten, a student from Civil Engineering Department. "In Bhutan we have three day holidays and we are trying to replicate the festive mood here," he added.

Fostering Entrepreneurship

"Get on the entrepreneurial roller coaster and don't stop."

Shashwath Sekar
Sitashree Sen

Management Block, buzz of activity, students in suits, budding entrepreneurs… This was the scene on the day of – E-Week'13 an event organized by the SRM School of management in association with NEN (National Entrepreneurship Network) and under the aegis of the Budding Entrepreneurs Club (BEC) managed by the Students of SRM School of Management. It was an intra-department challenge within a college, with participation from the various Departments of the

SRM University. The E-week is organized country-wide within the campus premises in different colleges by the NEN and comprises of various events.

The purpose of the event was to nurture and promote the spirit of entrepreneurship, and motivate more people to become employers rather than employees. The 5-day event consisted of Business Plan competition, Paper Presentation; Best from the Waste; Dare 2 sell and Fifty to Fortune all of which challenged the capabilities of the students. Further, students were able to log on to the

E-week website to share their experiences and connect with a larger audience. The winners of each competition walked away with a prize money. The Chief Guest Mr.Vignesh Ravichandran, Proprietor SRS Industries and MOLES had many a story to share with the gathering. He concluded the valedictory function saying "Get on the entrepreneurship roller-coaster, Go on and don't stop!" The event was a reflection of Student Convener Praveen Raj's team effort, under the guidance of Mrs.Raji Mani, Professor, School of Management.

Mr.Vignesh Ravichandran, Chief Guest along with the BEC team

Students presenting their model at the Biofest

BIO FEST '13

Spectrum Reporter

Biofest '13 an Intra-departmental competition was conducted by Department of Biotechnology, FSH on 15 Feb 2013 where students of the department presented posters and models of various advancements in the field.

The competition was judged by Dr.Jesu Arockiaraj and Dr.Chandrasekar Gahan eminent Scientists of SRM University, who found the students very innovative and creative.Participants exhibited their ideas in a way that even a common person could understand. Some of the topics presented for models and posters were Phytoremediation, Central dogma, Drugs for tuberculosis,

Antibacterial activity of saliva ,Transgenic plants, to mention a few.

The Director of the Faculty of Sciences and Humanities, Dr.R.Balasubramanium observed the various presentations and was impressed by the talents of the participants. He encouraged them to be a part of many such competions in future.

The students found this program a platform to showcase their keen interest and ability in the field of Biotechnolgy and science as a whole.

The fest has introduced a new outlook for many and was a start to other such events. It is not only a Bio-Fest, since it imparted knowledge to the masses and classes but can be rightly called a Bio-Feast !

Android - applications and development

Spectrum Reporter

The Department of CSE of Vadapalani campus organized Two days workshop on ANDROID Applications Development in Association with M/s Griffin Education Pvt. Ltd, Chennai, recently. Around 65 students from both CSE and ECE departments attended the workshop.

The workshop was inaugurated with the E-lighting of the Kuthuvilakku by Dean (E&T) Dr. N. Vasudevan, Mr. Vinod, Vice President of Griffin Group and Ms.B.Padhmavathi, HOD of CSE department. The dignitaries inspired the participants by their motivational and informative address.

The CSE department is conducting Android Lab as a part of Computer Skills Lab course for their II year students. The more talented group of students from II, III years were allowed to participate in the Workshop. The workshop focused on important aspects of Android applications development right from installation of the Android

Students and staff alike benefitting from the 2 day workshop

Environment to the process of deploying the application on a handheld device. It was a complete hands-on experience in the Android environment for the students and they were highly benefited by the workshop. At the end of the workshop, few teams were able to develop and deploy their own applications. The workshop concluded with a Quiz competition and Application

presentation.

Mr. Lakshmi Narayanan, HOD of Mechanical Engineering presented the prizes for the winners and distributed the certificates to the participants in the Valedictory function. He addressed the students and apprised them of various Inter disciplinary projects that could be taken as their final year projects in android environment.

Hierarchy in Mankind and Materials! - Dr.Shaikh

Staff Writer

A National Conference on Hierarchically Structured Materials (NCHSM 2013) was organised by the Department of Physics, SRM University, Ramapuram, recently. The conference was sponsored by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO), New Delhi.

Dr.C.Muthamizhchelvan, Director (Engineering & Technology), SRM University enumerated the advances of futuristic materials and released the conference proceedings.

Inaugurating the Conference Dr. A.M.Shaikh, Dr. Raja

Ramanna Fellow and Professor Physics, Homi Bhabha National Institute, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai said that as in human beings family hierarchy is also seen in materials. He stressed on the applications of Hierarchically Structured Materials.

Dr.L.Sudha, Professor & Head, Department of Physics was the Convener of the conference and welcomed the august gathering. Dr. K. Abdul Ghani, Dean and Dr. L. Antony Michael Raj, Vice Principal, SRM University felicitated the organising committee

Eminent Scientists from prestigious institutions presented talks on a range of topics. Dr. K.B.R. Varma, Professor & Chairman, Materials Research

Centre, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, Dr. J. Jayapandian, The Head, Electronics & Instrumentation Section, Surface & Nano Science Division, Materials Science Group, Dr. Saroja Saibaba , Head, Microscopy and Thermo-Physical Property Division, Metallurgy & Materials Group, Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), Kalpakkam, Dr. N.Vijayan, Scientist, Crystal Growth and Crystallography Section, National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi and Dr.V.Subramanian, Professor of Physics, IIT Madras, Chennai delivered their lectures and motivated the budding research aspirants.

Research Scholars and Scientists from leading

Delegates and staff at the NCHSM'13

Universities, Colleges and R&D laboratories participated and presented their research findings on topics such as Nano Materials, Crystal Growth and Characterisation, Magnetic and Semiconducting Materials, Material Characterisations, Electronic Structure of Materials, Thin films etc.

Dr. Vijayamohanan K Pillai, Director, CSIR – Centre for

Electro Chemical Research Institute (CECRI), Karaikudi presented a scintillating talk about Hierarchically Structured Materials and its technological importance and gave the valedictory address. Dr.S.Ponnusamy, Controller of Examinations, SRM University said that the conference would immensely help the academic community.

MILAN'13 – A Celebration of Diversity and New Talent

"Amidst a life of fun and frolic, exists a sense of responsibility and control."

N Ramya
Sitashree Sen
Aditya Dabral
Joel Vasanth

"It has been a great day for me amongst you all. I can't help but notice the keen enthusiasm and participation at this fest. If there was something I had learnt today, it would be to give prominence to every field of interest and talent, however big or small it may be.", said cricketer Robin Singh, attending the University Cricket Challenge held in accordance with SRM's national level cultural fest, Milan. From those few sentences, we can extrude the significance of the fest, which lies in the variety of events spread over eight domains namely Music, Dance, Literati, Fashion, Creativity and Fine Arts, Dramatics, Fun Zone, Online and special events.

The fest was inaugurated by the chief guest, Dr. Tamizhachi Thangapandian, a Ph.D. holder in English Literature, an academician and reknowned orator. In her address, she spoke about optimism and positive outlooks that one must have towards one's life. Dr. M. Ponnavaikko, Vice

Clockwise from top left: The Chief Guest lighting the inaugural lamp; an African folk dance performance; pro show with Haricharan and Priya Hemesh; Judges at the Choreonite

Chancellor, Dr. T.P. Ganesan, Pro Vice Chancellor, Dr. P. K. A. Muneeswaran, Director OFD, Dr. Muthamizhchelvan, Director, Engineering and Technology and Ms. Anuradha Parakatt, Director, Student Affairs also graced the inaugural ceremony.

'Battle of the Bands' under the Music domain witnessed the participation of 8 teams. The winners were 'Distortion'

from Chennai and the runners up were 'House of Penelope' from Bangalore. This domain unearthed new talent with individuals playing percussion guitars and going acapella.

Milan's awaited Pro-Show night saw students grooving to songs performed by renowned vocalists Haricharan and Priya Hemesh – their songs including an own rendition of Gangnam

Style kept the crowd alive.

Stalls and practice tents were set up under the 'University Cricket Challenge', an NDTV initiative sponsored by Toyota, to garner interest of aspiring cricketers to form teams that would compete at national level.

Under the Dance domain, Choreonite witnessed participation of teams from various colleges. It consisted of two categories- the themed and non-themed. The prize for the themed event was bagged by the participants from Stella Maris College. The non themed event, which witnessed the participation of 17 teams was judged by Mr. Mahesh Sarathi, team leader of '5th Element Dance Crew', Chennai and by Mr. Karthik, winner of a dance competition on Vijay TV. The winners were the team from NIT Trichy . Another display of grace was the folk dance event that showcased a range of styles from Thapang to Bihu including a special African folk dance performance.

'Masquerade and Play With Colors' was the theme to which nine teams aired their fashion statements at the Fashion Show. Another interesting special event was 'Milan Jodi' which witnessed participation of over 30 teams. 'Fun Zone' contained

events like 'Fear Factor', 'Footy Freak, 'Adzap' and 'Treasure Hunt'. 'Minute to Win It' and 'Jackpot 786' were other events that drew large crowds. 'Dream Theatre', 'Scene Sitara" and 'LOL', under the Dramatics domain were popular events. Artists amalgamated for the Fine Arts domain, which consisted of events including Wall painting and collage making, among others. The 'Literati' domain comprised events like 'Word-a-Ganza', 'The Moisai' and 'The Devil's Advocate', testing oratorial and vocabulary skills of participants.

At the valedictory function, eminent guests like Radio Mirchi RJ Shiva and Shravanti Sainath of 'Life of Pi' fame shared their thoughts about culture and entertainment with reference to what the fest had to offer.

The fest ended with words of moral significance shared by Niranjan Bharathi, grandson of freedom fighter, Bharathiyar. As he addressed the crowd, he said "Amidst a life of fun and frolic, exists a sense of responsibility and control." With these clear sighted words, the curtains drew for the 4 day event, leaving students in wait for the next edition.

"Butterflies should be a role model for other colleges." says Delhi Ganesan

Arjun B Narayanan
Soaham Datta

The sixth edition of Butterflies, the pre-Milan initiative which aims at inspiring a change in the lives of underprivileged government school children in and around Kancheepuram district, witnessed participation of nearly 750 students from 19 local government schools.

"There were 12 competitions broadly categorized into sports, literary and cultural events in which, students of

VII to IX grade took part." said K. Kiruthiga, Convener, Butterflies '13, from Architectural Engineering, Year IV. Francis Raja, a regional debater and actor Delhi Ganesan judged the literary and cultural events. The variety show featured some stellar performances from the students. One student recited 100 verses of the Thirukurral in 2 minutes, while yet another did multiple somersaults on stage. A variety of mimicry and stand up comedy acts, followed by dance performances rounded off an entertaining cultural show.

The winners were felicitated at the valedictory attended by Dr. P. Thangaraj, Pro Vice-

Chancellor, Medical, Mrs. Anuradha Parakkat, Director, Campus Affairs and Student Mentoring and Dr. Shanti Pappu, Director, Sharma Centre for Heritage Education.

The chief guest of the day, actor, Delhi Ganesan appreciating the event and said, "This initiative should be a role model for other colleges."

As part of the initiative the students were provided with Health Ambassador Cards which entitled their families to receive free medical consultations at SRM Hospital.

THE ONLY SUCCESSFUL STUDENT DESIGNED NANO-SATELLITE THAT CONQUERS INDIAN SPACE

SRMSAT'S journey to space unravelled

Prerana Agarwal
Vishwanath S

The Spark

It all started with the vision of launching a student satellite announced in a seminar by Mr. D.V.A. Raghava Murthy, Director, Small System Satellites at ISRO in late 2008. In support of this, our Chancellor, Dr. T. R.Pachamuthu declared, "SRMUniversity will launch a student designed Nano-satellite." This thought percolated deep into the minds of the students and ignited a spark; which ultimately manifested into SRMSAT.

Students came up with ideas and presentations for the objectives of the satellite. Based on the feasibility and utility, the objective of measuring the concentration of greenhouse gases in the tropical atmosphere globally, gained the consensus of the faculty, Directorate of Research and Dr. G Madhavan Nair, then Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). "Initially ISRO was not convinced that B.Tech students with only 4 years at their disposal, could realise a project of this magnitude. But we thought that the dynamic characteristic of the university will actually work in favour of the project." Said Dr. D. Narayana Rao, Director, Research, SRM University.

With the objective set, students then tried to comprehend the tasks required. Every department sent a list of students out of which a team of over 50 members was formed. But with difficulties and uncertainty at many points, few members gradually drifted away. Finally only 12 students - Ashok V, Himanshu Shekhar, Aishwarya and Anandi Sarkar from Instrumentation and Control Engineering (ICE), Batch of 2010, Rohit Pattnaik, Guruditya Sinha, Shravan S

from Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE) and Apoorv Agarwal, Sarwesh Narayan Parbat, Abhishek Anand, Raghuram Srinivasan from Mechanical Engineering of 2011 Batch, clung on to this dream project and worked. "We knew that this was our only chance; and we could not afford to miss it!" said Visesh Kumar Burnwal, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Batch of 2010.

The first feat- MoU with ISRO signed on 29th September 2009

The team was fumbling with the study of space systems with not much progress for a few months. So, towards the mid of 2009 they approached Dr. Narayana Rao with the final status of the team and asked for a lab to work in. ISRO had agreed that they would launch the satellite only if the students would come up with a satisfactory Preliminary Design Report (PDR). With several national premier institutions vying for a MoU for many years; the team knew that it was time to multiply their efforts to develop the PDR in the few months time that they had.

Using a sample PDR provided to them, the team started working on their design. "Since we knew nothing about satellites, we tried to learn through books, journals, internet and every scrap of information we could get. Our lives started revolving only around a single focus point and life began only at 4p.m, after college when we met and discussed about the technical aspects of the satellite."said Visesh.

According to the MoU, the SRMSAT had to be delivered within two years and had to set up its own ground station to monitor the satellite. ISRO agreed to provide technical support and thus the constraints for completion of the project were set.

Working towards creating history…

SRM University appointed Mr. Loganathan M as the Project Architect, SRMSAT, to guide the team. He always said, "You can design a satellite even if you are thorough only with the laws of Newton and Kepler." The team divided themselves into 8 sub-systems, viz. Payload, Power Systems, Structure, Thermal, On-Board Computer (OBC), Attitude Determination and Control System (ADCS), Telemetry and Telecommand (TTC) and Ground Station (GS) along with few students as System Engineers who integrated all these sub-systems.

The major challenge is to integrate the sub-systems into one working satellite. Any sub-system modification affected the other seven, thereby causing great tension within the team."We used to have huge arguments in our weekly reviews

regarding the smallest of the technical details. But, after the review, we all came out as one team," quoted Vishal L.B, Mechanical engineering, 2012 batch,from Thermal subsystem.

In November, 2010, Dr.K.Radhakrishnan, Chairman ISRO after a review of the SRMSAT team said " For the last two and half hours, I felt like I was sitting in ISRO and reviewing an ISRO project". He was astonished to find that it were undergraduate students and not post graduates who had dealt with the intricacies of the project in such depth.

After a year of preparation, SRMSAT which was expected to be launched in a 91.8^0 inclination Polar sun synchronous orbit was then being launched at a low inclination of 20^0. "The entire structure of the satellite had to be redesigned. With only few months to the original launch date, we started working during nights to get the

satellite ready on time." recalled Anushree Mahapatra of Electronics and Instrumentation engineering (E&I), from ADCS. The SRMSAT was to be launched with the Indo-French satellite – Megha-Tropiques. Hence the greatest constraint was that of completing the Satellite within the launch date of this PSLV. Such was the pressure that had the SRMSAT not been ready; the PSLV would have left with a dummy mass in its place.

The team also innovated a lot in terms of design and fabrication. The TTC subsystem proposed an antenna of 275mm length which ISRO initially was sceptical because of its unconventional length. The structure subsystem had to learn the highly complex NX-NASTRAN software. "We familiarised ourselves with the software in 3 months. However, ample mistakes followed. Heeding the advice of ISRO experts we had to then re-learn the software. We felt that the 3 months, we spent researching about the software was indeed the time we learnt the most," recalled Aditya Varma, Final year, Mechanical engineering, from Structure.

The countdown begins 3…2…1…Ignition…Lift off!

The PSLV was set to leave on 12th October, 2011. The satellite had to pass a series of tests to be deemed 'fit to be launched'. Even an iota of inaccuracy could have been fatal not only to SRMSAT but also to the main satellite- Megha-Tropiques. PSLV's cent percent successful launch record was at stake. The testing division had a warning-'We will make every nut and bolt of your satellite cry, before it's finally approved'. It was only after passing the rigorous Vibration, Thermal tests and surviving hours of ADCS and TTC simulations, results were positive and the team was given a green signal.

In the last 5 days of their deadline, the entire team did not rest until their satellite was handed over to ISRO."We had just one room for 14 guys and we used to sleep in shifts," recalled Pranav Sharma, final year, EIE. On the night before, during last minute checks, one of the wires was found to be left open, which drained the battery of the satellite. "The satellite was to be transported to Sriharikota at 5.00 am that morning. We thought we would not be able to fly and all our efforts would go in vain. But we were able to resolve the problem with support from ISRO engineers who were summoned at 2.00am in the morning." Said Vinayak Nayyar, final year, E&I. There were many such

moments, when realising the satellite seemed next to impossible, but the team never gave up.

SRMSAT was handed over on 29th September, 2011 exactly 2 years after the MoU, which was a record breaking time for fabricating a Nano Sat in India.

As the SRMSAT grazed across the October Sky…

'Finally, this is our October sky!' with more than 6800 orbits, 500 days and still functioning beyond its expected life, SRMSAT is India's only successful student designed Nano-Satellite.

This is the result of the undying spirit and determination of the team to see their satellite up in space. During this journey the team had to sacrifice much more than vacations, academics but also face scepticism from their peers. The only thing that kept them going was their love for satellite itself.

Breaking all the apprehensions and stigmas, students of SRM University, were the first in the nation to realise this project with success. The aim of launching student-made satellites is to help students catch a glimpse of space science. "We are now engaged in decoding the data received from the satellite" says Akshat Agarwal, final year, Mechanical. The innovations brought about by the SRMSAT, including the efficient power system, non-conventional antenna and the novel structural design, were highly appreciated by the ISRO experts.

Following SRMSAT, the University is gearing up for another Nano-satellite for which preparations are in full swing. For all those space-enthusiasts, the ground station at the terrace of the University building is open to all and can provide an insight into our very own SRMSAT.

A pioneer in voice and voice therapy Dr.Jennifer Oates

Staff Writer

A guest lecture was delivered by Dr.Jennifer Oates of La Trobe University, Australia recently at SRM Medical Hospital Seminar Hall. D.Balakrishnan, Dean of Medical Research welcomed the gathering and Dr Chandraprabha, Director of Health Sciences introduced the guest speaker as the Chief of Communication Science in La Trobe University and a pioneer in the field of Voice and Voice therapy.

First, Dr.Oates gave a description of the La Trobe University and about the Communication Science Division of that University. Later she addressed the gathering on the topic 'Medically unexplained chronic cough and paradoxical vocal fold movements'. A total of 132 participants were present as this topic had a medical relevance. The audience were from general medicine, paediatrics, ENT and several other specialties.

Dr.Oates explained that cough is a protective reflex. When the clinician rules out the common causes of cough like infection, there are a number of other plausible causes such as vocal cord paralysis, plica ventricularis and the most common cause being hyper-responsiveness due to sensory neuropathy arising from previous URTIs, chemical exposure, allergy, LPR, PND, whooping cough/ bronchitis/ tracheitis/ laryngitis, etc. She explained that in intervention we may focus on psychological intervention. She explained the rationale of functional exercise regimen that she had pioneered. Overall the lecture was very informative .

Helping the differently abled

Staff Writer

The faculties of Audiology & Speech Pathology of SRM Medical College Hospital are experts in the field of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC). Every student graduating from this department gains from this expertise. On 31 January 2013, on the specific request of the National Executive of the Indian Speech & Hearing Association (ISHA), the experts from the department conducted a Continuing Education Programme Hands on workshop, during the Annual National ISHA conference. The team was led by Mrs. Usha Dalvi, Associate Professor. This particular CEP was supported by the management of SRM University.

Certain children do not develop speech at all e.g. children with autism, cerebral palsy, the deaf the blind. Certain other individuals lose their speech, due to stroke, chronic neuro degenerative diseases, other illnesses, tumours, accident, etc. When persons lose speech, they also lose their ability to communicate. The whole world is shut to them. Some persevering persons can overcome and continue to excel with the use of dedicated AAC systems. Stephen Hawking is a notable example.

To help the individuals like Stephen Hawking and others, the AAC system is a boon. With the technological advancement more and more digitally based system are used . It is user friendly and can be adapted to suit the children and the adults alike. Mrs. Usha Dalvi is one of the pioneers in this field. She got her initial training in the renowned Bridge School of San Francisco, USA. On her return, she had adapted and perfected the original algorithm to our environs. This strategy is now used in a wide range of disorders in our medical college.

Forty two practicing speech therapists from various places in India gained 'hands on training' during the workshop. On their return, they will be employing this technique in their own cities and start helping people to communicate reasonably well. The workshop generated a lot of interaction and discussion from budding and practicing audiologists and speech language pathologists. After the workshop, several senior delegates requested our faculty to replicate this workshop in their own colleges and centres. This is a reliable indicator of its relevance and also, underscores the excellent manner in which it was conducted. We have assured them, that SRM University will be privileged to comply with such requests.

Best Paper title for SRM

Students make the University proud at ISC

Kumar Dattani

Earlier this year SRM students, Mihir Shah (3rd Year, Mechatronics), Triyambak Tripathi (3rd Year, Aerospace), Cheerudeep Chintha (3rd Year, ECE) and Dinesh Sutar (3rd Year, Mechanical) won the Best Paper Title in the Engineering Sciences Section at the 100th Indian Science Congress (ISC) held at Kolkata. The paper was based on control of MultiRole UAV. The project is on an UAV capable of cruising as well as hovering over every possible atmosphere in and around Earth or any planet. The integration of Artificial Intelligence to these Systems will reduce the dependency of the human brain to decide every step of operation. Various Algorithms were coded down to optimize the intelligence of the UAV. Maximum utilization was done of every sensor so as to

Winners of the 'Best Paper title' at ISC

optimize the task performance and maneuverability. "With the high end processors and solid state technology we will be able to perform the above operations quite smoothly and efficiently. The task is made simpler and efficient by implementation of various filters for the core sensors, Artificial Neural Networks, Image Processing and PID control." says Mihir Shah. It's the first multi-rotor at SRM capable of cruising at velocities of more than 30 m/s laterally and 25m/s for vertical takeoff. Adding to this it is energy efficient and has an endurance of 35 minutes of flight time for one complete charge cycle of the battery.The team is now working on indoor autonomous navigation which has even payload capabilities for various organizations like BARC (Bhabha Atomic Research Center, Mumbai). The goal is also to reduce the size and the number of rotors to make it more green and economical.

Opportunities Galore....

Arjun B Narayanan
Harish Kumar

SRM University has been offering its students the unique opportunity of spending a semester at foreign universities. There are two main programs and one special program namely, Semester Abroad Program (SAP) and Student Exchange Program (SEP), which have been initiated since 2004 and a Special Exchange Program which has been going on since 2010.

With SAP and SEP, the students are given an opportunity to spend their 5th, 6th or 7th semester in a foreign university of their choice. The eligibility criteria is a CGPA of 8 or above with no standing arrears. The applicants will be selected on the basis of an interview consisting of a panel of members from SRM Institutions. The applications of the selected students will be sent to the universities they have applied for, for further approval. SRM University has signed MOUs with fifty international universities under SAP and with eight for SEP. As per current statistics 352 students have gone abroad under SAP. Under SAP scholarships are offered to

Students opting for the SAP and SEP

students by a few universities based on academic background. SAP students will be refunded with 50% of their tuition fee, paid at SRM University. All the universities under SEP offer a waiver in tuition fee while other fees are excluded or applicable depending on the University chosen.

Unlike our Indian Semester System, foreign universities have a Fall Term (Aug-Jan) and Spring Term (Jan-June). Interested applicants must send their applications on or before the 1st of March for the Fall term and 1st of August for the Spring term.

The most recent initiative taken up by SRM University is the Special Exchange Program. Under this, students can apply to universities which offer a program for a period ranging from a semester to a year.

Students are selected based on their academic performance, by the University chosen by the student. Currently the Government of Korea has offered a scholarship for Indian Students applying to Hannam University and Dongukk University. Under this program, the students are given full waiver on tuition, living and other miscellaneous expenses. Seven students have been selected this year.

Information regarding these programs can be obtained from the office of International Affairs in the second floor of the library building from Mr.R.Srikanth, Coordinator, International Relations.

UAV for DRDO

Anirudh Mani
Priyankadevi Mohan

Two 3rd year students from the SRM University, Kattankulathur campus recently completed a project given to them by the Vehicle Research & Development Establishment (VRDE), a laboratory of the Defense Research & Development Organization (DRDO). Karan Vaish and Rakesh Vasireddy, from the Department Of Mechanical Engineering and the Department Of Electronics and Instrumentation respectively, built a prototype of an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle as a proof of concept which could navigate between user defined wave points autonomously, and be used for surveillance and other tasks by paramilitary forces.

In the project which lasted six months, the team of two used a Styrofoam structure, with an integrated auto pilot system, specially built by them for a small scale flying unit. The prototype is capable of autonomously flying between user defined wave points with telemetry, sending back real time flight statistical data to the Ground Control Unit. The prototype also consists of a fail-Safe mechanism that would bring the plane back in case of loss of communication between itself and the ground unit. "One, of the major aims was to make this unit economically viable and easily operable, both of which we have successfully achieved." said Rakesh.

Karan and Rakesh faced several challenges in order to work better as a team and come up with a machine which was nearly perfect. In the end, the prototype successfully completed the tests over a period of eight days in Pune.

"Now that the concept has been proven to be a practical one, more advanced unmanned aerial vehicles with auto pilots can be built with this prototype as the basis", says Mr. V.P.Sulakhe, the DRDO scientist in charge of the Project. "We would not have been able to complete this project on time without the help of the Director (E&T), Director (Research), and our Faculty Guide, Mr. Joselin Ratna Kumar", says Karan, "Their support and guidance has been of utmost help to us". he added.

The success of the initial phases of the project has brought DRDO officials to collaborate with the University.

Mathematics Crosses the Boundaries Of Science

Staff Writer

Mathematics is the technical language of Science. Mathematics is more than a tool for solving problems. It is critical that engineering students should learn to visualize the abstract concepts of Mathematics and learn to apply them in their respective domains.

To understand the applications of Mathematics in Engineering; Department of Mathematics organised "An interdisciplinary Mathematical Modelling Competition based on Engineering Applications" recently. More than 90 teams participated with many innovative ideas. Dr. P. Veeramani, Department of Mathematics , IIT Chennai and Dr. V. Manivannan, Department of Mechanical Engineering, IIT Chennai were the judges. Dr. K. Abdul Ghani, Dean and Dr. L. Antony Michael Raj, Vice Principal congratulated the Department of Mathematics for initiating the research interest in students. Amith Kumar and Team of Civil Department won the 1st Prize. Kripa Shankar and Team of Mechanical Department won the 2nd prize. Vrinda Katyar and team of Mechanical Department won 3rd prize. Dr. C. Dharuman, Prof. of Mathematics welcomed the gathering and Mrs. Shakeela Sathish, HOD/Mathematics proposed the vote of thanks.

"Actively participate in the future of India…"-Vice Chancellor

Satyaki Ganguly

For India to move out the political rut the youth of the country will have to get more actively involved in politics and by ensuring that the days of the corrupt politicians are put to an end. "The future of India is in the present generation", the Vice Chancellor, Dr. M. Ponnavaiko said.

In his Republic Day address the Vice Chancellor maintained that the economic growth of India as is whole is indeed impressive, putting India in the 11th place in the world in terms of GDP and 4th in the world in terms of Purchase Power Parity (PPP), but in terms of per-capita GDP India trails down to the 145th place and to 129th place in terms

Flag hoisting on Republic Day by the NCC cadets of SRM University

of per-capita PPP. Corruption was not only denting growth but also striking at the very foundations of a democracy, he said.

The Vice Chancellor argued that the nation is in real need of leaders who can lead the country and look for the well being of the country rather than fending for themselves and their immediate families. That being the case there is the urgent need for young professionals to chalk out the progress of the nation.

Upon arrival at the parade ground, the Vice Chancellor inspected a guard of honor by the NCC cadets of SRM University. Later he unfurled the national tricolor and took the salute at an impressive march past.

UNESCO Chair on Bio-ethics at SRM

Staff Writer

A Chair in Bio Ethics has been established at the SRM University by the UNESCO Asia Pacific Bio Ethics Network for Education, Science and Technology.

The Chair at the SRM University would be the Lead Chair of India and it would also act as the Secretariat of the Asia Pacific Bio Ethnics Network. "It will also act as the India Lead Office of the Asia Pacific Bioethics Network", SRM University Vice-Chancellor Dr. M. Ponnavaikko said.

To mark the establishment of the Chair, a special Guest lecture on 'Globalisation and Societies in Transition—the bioethical issues, challenges' was organised. Prof Dr. Russel F.D.Souza, Director of Clinical Trials and Bipolar Programme, Northern Psychiatric Research, Melbourne, Australia delivered the Guest lecture.

Speaking on the occasion, SRM University Registrar N. Sethuraman announced that Dr D.Souza has been appointed as the Honorary Professor of Eminence Bio-Ethics of SRM University.

In recognition of his rich experience in the field of research and bioethics, the SRM University Management is happy to announce that it is our

Delegates with the SRM students

Privilege to appoint Dr D.Souza as the Honorary Professor of Eminence Bioethics, he added.

He said Dr D.Souza would assist the students and faculty of SRM University in taking up various research activities. The main reason for establishing the Chair was to develop a course in bioethics in medical research, using multi model routes like online and contact classes.

Pro-Vice Chancellor (Medical), SRM University, Dr. P. Thangaraju said that the chair of bioethics provides a vital link between cultural, scientific, educational and medical advancement. SRM will be the nodal and lead centre being the secretariat for Asia- pacific network of UNESCO units in medical universities.The centre will develop the curriculum on bioethics for medical and health care professionals, teaching and

training and implementation of program for students of the University, he added.

SRM University, V.C. Dr. M. Ponnavaikko said the objective of the chair was also to develop inclusive medical curriculum with a pragmatic focus on Bioethics. In recent decades, medical education curricula have undergone many modifications. In spite of these changes, ethical education has not received adequate attention in medical schools throughout the world", he said. During the guest lecture on 'Globalization and Societies in Transition – the bio ethical issues, challenges' Asia Pacific Bio ethics UNESCO chair, Dr. Russell D.Souza spoke about how the UNESCO bio ethical chairs can educate people and professionals and equip them with the necessary skills to tackle the ethical issues in biology and in research.

நூல் வெளியீட்டு விழா

திரு இராமசாமி நினைவுப் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தின் சார்பில் நூல் வெளியீட்டு விழா 24.01.2013 அன்று முனைவர் தி.பொ.கணேசன் சிற்றரங்கில் நடைபெற்றது. முனைவர் ச.ச. இராமர் இளங்கோ அனைவரையும் வரவேற்றுப் பேசினார்.

தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தின் தலைவரும் துணைவேந்தருமான முனைவர் மு. பொன்னவைக்கோ அவர்கள் தம் தலைமையுரையில், தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் தோற்றம் பெற்ற வரலாற்றையும் இணையவழித் தமிழ் கல்வி, தமிழ் வழிபாடு தழைக்க அருட்களைஞர், ஓதுவார் பட்டயக் கல்வி, கணினித் தமிழ் வளர்ச்சி, தமிழ் மென்பொருள் உருவாக்கம், தமிழ்ப் படைப்பாளிகளுக்குச் சாகித்திய அகாதெமியை விட அதிகமாகப் பரிசும் விருதும் வழங்குதல், தமிழ்ச் சொற்பொழிவுகள், தமிழ் வளத்தை உலகுக்கு உணர்த்த நூற்பதிப்பு என்று தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் வழி ஆற்றிவரும் சிறப்பான பணிகளை விளக்கியுரைத்தார்.

மேலும் அவர், 'உலகில் தோன்றிய முதல்மொழி தமிழே; முதல் மாந்தன் தமிழனே; அவன் வாழ்ந்த பகுதி இலெமுரியாக் கண்டம்; தமிழ் பரவிய; தமிழுள் சொற்கள் உருவாகிய வகை; பல்வேறு காலகட்டங்களில் தமிழன் உலகெங்கும் பரவியநிலை; பரவிய இடங்களில் தனக்கெனத் தனி மொழிகளை உருவாக்கிக் கொண்டது; கிரேக்கம், இலத்தீனம், அரேபியம், எபிரேயம் முதலிய மொழிகளிலெல்லாம் தமிழ்மொழியின் வேர் பரவியிருப்பு' முதலிய வரலாற்றுச் செய்திகளை விரித்துரைத்தார். எடுத்துக்காட்டாக 'Education', 'And' என்கிற இரண்டு ஆங்கிலச் சொற்களின் தமிழ் ஆதாரமாக விளக்கினார். மேலும், தமிழ்மொழி, இலக்கியம், பண்பாடு முதலியவற்றின் பெருமைகளை உணர்த்தும் தமிழ்நூல்களையும் மாந்தநேயம்

விழாவில் வேந்தர், துணைவேந்தர், இணைத் துணைவேந்தர்கள், நீதியரசர் மற்றும் நூலாசிரியர்கள்

பண்டை மலர்ந்த தமிழ் இலக்கியங்களைப் பிறமொழிகளில் பெயர்த்தும் தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் சார்பில் வெளியிட்டு வருவதை எடுத்துரைத்தார்.

தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தின் புரவலரும் பல்கலைக்கழக வேந்தருமான முனைவர் தா.இரா. பச்சமுத்து அவர்கள், இரா. இளங்குமரனார் அவர்களின் 'தொல்காப்பியர் காட்டும் குடும்பம்', தமிழண்ணல் அவர்களின் 'தொல்காப்பியர் விளக்கும் திருமணப் பொருத்தம்', கு.வெ. பாலசுப்பிரமணியன் அவர்களின் 'தொல்காப்பியத்தில் வீரநிலைக்கால எச்சங்கள்', தனிநாயக அடிகளாரின் 'ஒன்றே உலகம்' ஆகிய தமிழ் நூல்களை வெளியிட, பல்கலைக்கழக இணைத் துணைவேந்தர் முனைவர் தி.பொ. கணேசன் அவர்கள் பெற்றுக்கொண்டார்.

நூல் வெளியீட்டுரையில், மாண்பமை வேந்தர் அவர்கள், "தமிழ்ப்பேராயம் ஏற்பட்டவகையே செயல்பட்ட தமிழ்ச்சங்களின் தொடர்ச்சியாக, ஐந்தாம் தமிழ்ச்சங்கமாக மக்களுக்குச் சென்று சேரும் வகையில் வலிமையுடன் செயல்பட வேண்டும்; கிடைக்காத அரிய நூல்கள் தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தில் கிடைக்கும் என்கிற நிலை ஏற்படவேண்டும். மாணவர்கள் தங்களுக்குத் தமிழ் பேராயத்துடன் தொடர்புள்ளதைப் பெருமையுடன் சொல்லிக்கொளும் வகையில் அனைத்துப் பள்ளி, கல்லூரி மாணவர்களிடையே கவிதை, கட்டுரைப் போட்டிகளை நடத்த வேண்டும்" என்றும் தமிழ்மாணவர்களைத் தட்டி எழுப்ப, தமிழ் இதழ் ஒன்று தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தின் சார்பாக வெளியிடப்படும் என்றும் தம் விழைவை வெளிப்படுத்தினார்.

மேலும், "தமிழை வளர்ப்பதில் அரசைவிட, அரசுக் கல்வி நிறுவனங்களைவிடத் தனியார் பள்ளிகளும் கல்லூரிகளும் முனைந்தால் நாம் விரும்பும் விளைவை ஏற்படுத்த முடியும்; ஐந்தாம் தமிழ்ச்சங்கத்தைச் சிறப்பாக நடத்த, துணிவு, தன்னம்பிக்கை, நிதி, தமிழன் என்ற முறையில் உரிமை நம்மிடம் உள்ளன" என்றுரைத்தார். சாகித்திய அகாதெமி விருதைவிடத் தமிழ்ப்பேராய விருது பெறுவது பெருமை என்றெண்ணுகிற நிலை ஏற்படவேண்டும் என்றும் கருத்துரைத்தார்.

நீதியரசர் பு.இரா. கோகுலகிருட்டிணன்

அவர்கள் முனைவர் சோ.ந. கந்தசாமி அவர்களின் 'Studies in Classical Tamil Literature' மற்றும் 'Ainkurunuru Vol. - I' மற்றும் முனைவர் அ. தட்சிணாமூர்த்தி அவர்களின் 'Pathuppaattu in English' ஆகிய நூல்களை வெளியிட, பல்கலைக்கழக இணைத் துணைவேந்தர் மருத்துவர் பி. தங்கராசு அவர்கள் பெற்றுக்கொண்டார்.

நீதியரசர் தம் பாராட்டுரையில் தாம் வெளியிட்ட ஆங்கில நூற்களில் வெளிப்படும் தமிழிலக்கிய சிறப்புகளை எடுத்துரைத்தார். தமிழ் வளர்ச்சியில் வேந்தர் அவர்களும் துணைவேந்தர் அவர்களும் காட்டும் அக்கறையை வெகுவாகப் பாராட்டினார். தமிழிலக்கியங்களிலிருந்து செழுமையான கருத்துகளை எடுத்துரைத்த அவர், "தமிழைப் படியுங்கள்; அதில் அருமையான செய்திகள் உள்ளன" என்று தம் உரையை முடித்தார். பல்கலைக்கழகப் பதிவாளர் முனைவர் நா. சேதுராமன் அவர்கள் வாழ்த்துரை வழங்கினார்.

இந்நிகழ்ச்சியில் சாகித்திய அகாதெமி விருது பெற்ற 'தோல்' புதின எழுத்தாளர் திரு. தா. செல்வராசு அவர்களை மாண்பமை வேந்தர் அவர்கள் சிறப்புச் செய்தார். முனைவர் பீ.மு. அபிபுல்லா அவர்கள் அறிமுகவுரை நிகழ்த்தினார். இவ்விழாவில் 150 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன் தமிழ்நாட்டிலிருந்து தென்னாப்பிரிக்காச் சென்ற குடும்பத்திலிருந்து தம் வேர்களைத் தேடித் தமிழகம் வந்திருந்த திரு. முத்துக்கிருட்டிணன் அவர்களுக்கும் அவரது துணைவியாருக்கும் மாண்பமை வேந்தர் அவர்கள் சிறப்புச் செய்தார்.

அருட்சுனைஞர் பட்டயக் கல்வி முடித்த மாணவ, மாணவியரைப் பல்கலைக்கழக வேந்தர் அவர்கள் பட்டயச் சான்றிதழ்கள் வழங்கினார். முனைவர் ஜோபாக்கியவதிரவி நன்றி நவின்றார். நிகழ்ச்சியை திரு.கி.குணத்தொகையன் தொகுத்து வழங்கினார்.

"கணினியியல் தொழில்நுட்பங்களும் சங்க இலக்கிய ஆய்வுகளும்" தேசியக் கருத்தரங்கம்

மீ.வா. ஸ்ரீ ஸ்ருதி

சங்க இலக்கியத்தைப் பன்முக நோக்கிலும், மரபு அடிப்படையிலும் மற்றும் தற்காலக் கருத்தாக்கங்கள் அடிப்படையிலும் கணினியியல் தொழில்நுட்பம் கொண்டும் திறம்பட ஆய்வு மேற்கொள்வதற்கு உதவும் வகையில் "கணினியியல் தொழில்நுட்பங்களும் சங்க இலக்கிய ஆய்வுகளும்" என்ற தேசியக் கருத்தரங்கம் செம்மொழித் தமிழாய்வு மத்திய நிறுவனத்தின் நிதி நல்கையுடன் அறிவியல் மற்றும் கலையியல் புலத்தின் தமிழ்த்துறைச் சார்பாக 6,7,8 பிப்ரவரி–2013 ஆகிய தேதிகளில் நடைபெற்றது.

கருத்தரங்கில் மொழி தொழில்நுட்ப அறிவு சார்ந்த ஆய்வு வல்லுநர்கள் பலர் தம் கட்டுரையை வழங்கினர். தேசியப் பல்கலைக்கழகங்கள் பலவற்றிலிருந்து முனைவர்பட்ட ஆய்வு மாணவர்கள் 85 பேர் வருகைபுரிந்திருந்தனர். புதிய சிந்தனைக் களத்தை வழங்கியுள்ள கருத்தரங்கின் தொடக்க விழாவில் வரவேற்புரை நிகழ்த்தியவர், தமிழ்த்துறைத் தலைவர் முனைவர் வ.தனவட்சுமி. எஸ்.ஆர்.எம் பல்கலைக்கழக அறிவியல் மற்றும் கலையியல் புலத்தின் இயக்குநர் முனைவர் அர்.பாலசுப்பிரமணியன் கருத்தரங்கின் கருத்துரையை வழங்கினார். இவ்விழாவிற்குத் தலைமை ஏற்று தலைமையுரையாற்றினார் எஸ்.ஆர்.எம் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் துணைவேந்தர் முனைவர் மு.பொன்னவைக்கோ

கருத்தரங்கம் தொடக்கவிழா

அவர்கள். மைசூர் -இந்திய மொழிகள் நடுவண் நிறுவனத்தின் கீழ் இயங்கும் மொழித் தரவகத்தொகுப்புத் திட்டத் தலைவர் முனைவர் லி. இராமமூர்த்தி சிறப்புரையாற்றினார். தமிழ்ப் பல்கலைக்கழக மேனாள் மொழியியல்துறைத் தலைவர் முனைவர் ச. இராசேந்திரன் வாழ்த்துரை வழங்கினார். வருகைபுரிந்த அனைவருக்கும் தமிழ்த்துறைச் சார்பாக தமிழ்த்துறை துணைப்பேராசிரியர் திருமதி இரா. ஜானகி நன்றியுரை கூறினார்.

மேல நாடுகளில் மொழி தொழில்நுட்பத்தைப் பயன்படுத்தி மொழி பயன்பாட்டுக் கருவிகள் பலவற்றை உருவாக்கியுள்ளனர். அத்தகைய ஆக்கப்பூர்வமான தமிழ் மொழிக்கும் செம்மொழியான தமிழ் மொழிக்கு உருவாக்க வேண்டும் என்ற கொள்கையுடன் இக்கருத்தரங்கை நிறைவுற்றது. நிறைவுவிழாவில் வரவேற்புரை நிகழ்த்தியவர், தமிழ்த்துறை துணைப்பேராசிரியர் முனைவர்

தா.இரா.ஹெப்சிபா பியூலா சுகந்தி. எஸ்.ஆர்எம் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் பதிவாளர் முனைவர் நா.சேதுராமன் அவர்கள் தலைமையுரையாற்றினார். நிறைவுவிழாவில் சிறப்புரையாற்றினார் செம்மொழி தமிழாய்வு மத்திய நிறுவனத்தின் பதிவாளர் முனைவர் முழுமுத்தேலு அவர்கள். விழா நிறைவுரை நிகழ்த்தியவர் தமிழ் பல்கலைக்கழக மேனாள் பதிவாளர் முனைவர் மு.லெ. பாலசுப்பிரமணியம். எஸ்.ஆர்.எம் பல்கலைக்கழக அறிவியல் மற்றும் கலையியல் புலத்தின் இணைத்தலைவர் முனைவர் ஜெ.ஜோதிகுமார் வாழ்த்துரை வழங்கினார். வருகைபுரிந்த அனைவருக்கும் தமிழ்த்துறைச் சார்பாக தமிழ்த்துறைத் தலைவர் முனைவர் வதனவட்சுமி நன்றியுரை கூறினார். "சங்கத்தமிழை கணினித் தமிழாக்குவோம்" என்ற கருத்தினை அனைவரின் மனதிலும் நிலைப்பெறச் செய்வதாக இக்கருத்தரங்கம் இனிதே நிறைவுற்றது.

चिंता ! हिंदी की

गोस्वामी ओमकार भारती

दुःख तो इस बात की है कि दुनिया में दूसरी सबसे अधिक बोली जाने वाली हिंदी भाषा को वह सम्मान नहीं मिल रहा, जिसकी वह हक्कदार है। जिस भाषा को देश के लगभग 80 करोड़ लोग बोलते व समझते हों, उसे अपने देश में अपनी पहचान बनाने के लिए संघर्ष करना पड़े तो इससे शर्मनाक पहलु दूसरा कोई हो नहीं सकता। यदि हिंदी दिवस पर या सरकारी समारोहों में इस भाषा के उत्थान पर चर्चा कर लेने से हिंदी को सम्मान मिलता तो यह कब की दुनिया की सबसे समृद्ध भाषा हो चुकी होती, लेकिन हकीकत यही है कि हिंदी को सम्मान दिलाने की बात करने वाले हमारे नेता - अधिकारी ही शायद नहीं चाहते कि यह भाषा अपनी पैरों पे खड़ी हो सके। यह तब तक संभव नहीं है जब तक की हमारे अपने देश में हिंदी को हिन् दृष्टि से देखना बंद न किया जाये। चाहे न्यायालय हो या सरकारी कार्यालय, अनेक फाइलें या सरकारी आदेश अंग्रेजी में ही निकल रहे है। निजी क्षेत्र में अधिकांश कामकाज को भी हिंदी के मुकाबले अंग्रेजी में प्राथमिकता

दी जाती है, तो इसका कल्याण कैसे हो?

सवाल अंग्रेजी को तवज्जो दिए जाने का नहीं, सवाल हिंदी को दूसरे दर्जे की भाषा समझने का है. यहाँ अपने देश में कुछ जगहों पर अंग्रेजी के मुकाबले हिंदी बोलने - समझने वाले को हीन भावना से देखा जाता है। वे माँ - बाप अपने बच्चों को अंग्रेजी स्कूलों में पढ़ाने को लालायित रहते है जो स्वयं इस भाषा की, ए, बी, सी, डी ... नहीं जानते। लेकिन इतना जानते है कि बच्चा अंग्रेजी बोलने लग गया, तो कहीं - न - कहीं अच्छी नौकरी जरुर मिल जाएगी। हिंदी बोलने - समझने वालों की मानसिकता अगर ऐसी होती जा रही है तो यह बड़ी चिंता का प्रश्न है। इसका उत्तर न सिर्फ सरकार में बैठे मंत्री - अधिकारी को तलाशना होगा, बल्कि हम आम बच्चे, नवयुवक, बूढ़े हिन्दुस्तानयिों को तलाशना होगा, जो चाहते है कि हिंदी को वह सम्मान मिले, जो उसे मिलना चाहिए।

हमें ऐसे निदान खोजने होंगे, ताकि हिंदी केवल हिंदी क्षेत्र में ही नहीं बल्कि पुरे देश में सामान्य रूप से बोली जाने लगे।

SRM University: A Shining Star In Sports

Spectrum Reporter

2013 started off as a good year for SRM University in the sports field. Here are few of our achievements. Ms. V.Sangeetha, I Year, MBA and Ms.U.Rahila Begum, I Year, M.Tech (VLSI) were selected to represent the state of Tamilnadu in women's basketball team. They played in the senior national championship held at Ludhiana in December 2012 and the team secured second place (Behind Railways team) and a cash award of Rs.1,00,000. They represented the state in the Federation Cup held in Bangalore from 27th January to 3rd February 2013. The volleyball team has won the prestigious 'Tamilnadu State Volleyball Championship', organized by the John Memorial Sports Foundation from 24-27, January 2013 in Chennai. Mr.R.Vignesh, I Year, BBA and Mr.Prabhakar, I Year, BBA were adjudged as best attacker and best libero respectively and were presented with bicycles. In cricket, SRM again bagged the winning title. Our team from the Faculty of Engineering and Technology has won the 'Sairam Trophy' in the state level inter-collegiate cricket tournament, organized by Sairam Engineering College in the last week of January 2013. Mr.Aashish Kumar, IV Year, B.Tech,CSE was declared the man of the match in the finals. Our other cricket team narrowly lost in the finals to emerge as runner up in the CPL T20 international college premier league held from 16-20 January 2013 at Jain University, Bangalore.

NERD PRIDE...

The Ghost Code: From Science Fiction To Reality

Ankur Bhuyan

Artificial intelligence (AI) is considered to be a fresh and upcoming field of research and comes from a collaboration between robotics and computer science. Recently new advances in the research of artificial intelligence have sent the whole world into frenzy as the revelations are aberrant in nature. If robotics is responsible for making the machine a humanoid it is the programming codes involved which makes the machine think independently.

The three laws given by Isaac Asimov may be science fiction but it might be a template or model for the future advancements in the field of AI. The three laws state that a robot may never injure a human, it has to follow all commands given to it by a human and it has to safeguard its own existence till its actions do not conflict with the above two laws, the three laws are beautiful in nature and are non-conflicting with each other and make a lot of sense when it comes to governance of AI. What if we model a humanoid or any robotic system on the above three laws how would it react in practical life?

Straying away from the science fiction involved it is already established that in a coding sequence random codes are capable of recombining and form a totally new protocol which might not be in control of the existing codes. These are termed as ghosts in machines and like in the supernatural they are capable of determining the actions and reactions of a machine to external stimuli, will this be favourable to us?To ascertain this fact we can refer to a hypothetical situation suppose A and B are in an arena separated by a set of gates which is controlled by an AI component following the Asimov laws, the gate is in place to avoid any conflict between A and B, suppose the arena is about to collapse and the escape passage is only through the gates, in this situation the AI component will be paralyzed while making a decision since it cannot jeopardize the safety of A and B at any point of time, will it open the gates or keep them shut?

This hypothesis puts a question mark on the quest to produce alternate intelligence and gifting machines with the power of thinking and taking decisions, who knows if the creation might surpass the creator, and start making decisions for it without much consideration, this may signal the dawn of an era where machines might start to express free will based on its own obscured interpretation of the governing laws. All this might be a figment of our imagination but the question remains, will the modern world witness "the rise of the machines"?

Mr.M.Lakshumi Narayanan, I Year, M.Sc (Viscom.) was adjudged as the man of the series and Mr.M.Panchapakesan, II Year, MBA was declared the best bowler of the tournament.

Cricket Team with Chief Guest Ms. Rasanara Prabin, International Cricketer (T20) and Mr.Hota, organiser

SRM lifts SOA premier league CUP

Spectrum Reporter

The SOA Premier League, 2013 was organized by Sikshya 'O' Anusandhan University, Bhubaneswar from 13th February to 19th February, 2013. In the first match, SRM University beat the University of Calcutta (117 all out in 18.4 Overs). In the second match our varsity again beat Biju Patnaiak University of Technology (43 all out in 16 Overs) moving on to the semi finals where once more we won defeating Utkal University (58 All Out in 17.4 Overs). In the finals, SRM came out winners beating Lovely Professional University, Chandigarh (147 for 7 in 20 overs). As expected, the Man of the Match for the Finals was from our university itself (Lakshmi Narayanan, I, M.Sc(Viscom)) . He was also awarded the title of Man of The Series. With this, SRM University was declared the Champion of SOA Premier League 2013.

SRM bags Jain Trophy

Tabel Tennis Team With Jain Trophy

SRM Clicks Kolt Trophy

Spectrum Reporter

A state level Volleyball men's tournament (KOLT Trophy) was organized by TVBC, Chennai, recently. The league results are as follows – SRM University lost to Customs (20/25, 22/25, 26/24,17/25). After this, we competed against ICF beating them (23/25, 25/17, 25/23,25/23) followed by a match with Indian Bank who also we beat by a good margin (25/20, 25/20, 25/20). This led to a tie between SRM University and Customs but we bagged the overall title on a set

average. Vignesh, Ragul and Dinakar were the star players from the SRM team worth mentioning.

Volleyball team with Kolt Trophy

All India Inter collegiate Tournament 2013, Organized by Jain University, Bangalore

Table tennis (Men)

League Result

SRM University Beat SSNCE, Chennai, Score: 3- 1
SRM University Beat BNMIT, Bangalore, Score: 3- 1

Finals

SRM University Beat Jain University, Bangalore, Score: 3- 0

Volleyball (Men)

League Result

SRM University Beat Al – Amen College, Bangalore, Score: 25/20, 25/15

League Result

SRM University Beat Surna College, Bangalore Score: 25/14, 25/15, 25/17, SRM University Beat Hindustan University, Chennai, Score: 25/12, 25/16, 25/12

Finals

SRM University Beat Sathyabama University, Chennai, Score: 25/18, 25/18, 25/12, Best Player: R.Vignesh, SRM University
Continuously six years Volleyball men have won Jain Trophy. Tennis – women and men – Runner's up. Best Player: Prithiv, SRM University.

It's examination, definitely not the right time for celebration !!!

Aditya Dabral

Now has come the time to cram,
All my mind says is oh god damn !
I must not close my books with a
            slam or a wham,
But good grades is something
awaited even by ma'am,
Believe it or not guys, its EXAM!

Well if you can understand anything from the above lines, then whatever you have understood is not what I actually meant to say. If by any chance you are a faculty member reading this then a disclaimer " All the descriptions in this article are purely fictitious and bear no resemblance to any person dead or living." However, if you are a student living in hostel; then you will surely be able to connect with my words, as it is just an honest attempt to describe the scene in our hostels during exams.

Like everywhere else we also have cases here, so let's take the three most commonly found types - Keedu, Lukkhu and Bheedu. First, are the ones who

Cartoon courtesy Lavanya Durai Nayakar

have been regularly studying. Second are the ones who open their books for the first time, in an over ambitious attempt to finish the syllabus overnight and third, are those who let's not say don't study at all but are 'lethal procrastinators'.

Keedu makes notes, does assignments on time, studies regularly but during the exam does things that he usually doesn't. He is the one who finishes revising early and then drops by to visit his friends in their rooms while they prepare.

Lukkhu is a typical second category student. He opens his

books one day before the exam, submits assignments after the deadline and enjoys life to the fullest otherwise.

He is the kind who hypes things like how difficult his branch is or how much he has to study and keeps cribbing about how worse his life getting.

Bhidu is the third category, loves to enjoy life especially during the exam time. He suddenly craves to do things which he never wanted to do and blames the exams for coming on his way. Things such as release of new PC game like FIFA or DOTA, a new Hollywood or a desi flick are some things that strike him only during exams.

One day before the D-day : keedu and lukkhu come back to their rooms to study and bhidu as usual is found missing. While keedu and lukku start studying, lukkhu suddenly decides to take a power nap, thinking he would start studying only after dinner and this sleep will give him much needed energy to overcome the astronomical syllabus!

After dinner around 9 PM, keedu just needs a couple of hours to finish his syllabus whereas lukkhu has just started studying seriously .

Around 11 PM , keedu finishes his studies and rejoices and it is at that moment, lukkhu, who is opening his books for the first time, is baffled and perplexed. Seeing keedu rejoice, his frustration rises all the more. Bhidu knows that he has all night to study goes off with his other friends for a game of Counter Strike.

Around 12 , keedu who had been roaming around, texting and chatting, is going to sleep. Seeing which lukkhu reaches his zenith of frustrations and gives in to the temptations of his lappy games, texting and it is this time that he goes around complaining how monstrous his syllabus is.

So this is the time in the hostel where most of them have either slept or given up on the hopes of passing or are in a virtual world where defeating the terrorists seems to give them some sense of victory and satisfaction.

Ironically if one observes carefully , the examination scene finally leads on to an ordinary everyday scene that occurs even when the exams are not round the corner. Hence I just wish to ask EXAMINATION, a time for celebration ???

Size Matters!

Pallavi Gupta

Long gone are the days when compact and sleek cell phones that could fit in the palm of your hand, were way cooler than the monstrosities we see these days. Growing screen sizes has been a trend for a few years now, essentially driven by the popularity of large-screen Android powered devices such as phones from Samsung, HTC and Motorola.

The latest editions to the melee of smartphones in the market are the new Samsung Galaxy Note 2, HTC Butterfly and LG

Optimus Vu. On paper, these devices have top-of-the-line features. With 1.6 GHz quad-core processors, minimum internal storage of 64GB, the latest Android OS (Jelly Bean) and an 8 megapixels or better camera, they are unarguably the best technological feat available in the phone market today.

But see it in the flesh and you will notice one thing above all else, its positively gigantic display. The screen size is comically huge. Closer to a tablet than a phone, they are now being termed as a phablet. Hold it up against your ears to make a call and just the weirdness of it throws everyone around you into a hysterical attack. That just makes me wonder why someone who is ready to spend an inordinately steep price for these gadgets can't seem to be able to invest in a Bluetooth headset. Attend a call on

a hot day, and your priceless big screen sweats along with you.

These brands of phones in the market are just too big. The sheer size of it makes it difficult to carry around in your pocket comfortably, in turn affecting the fit of your denim. The large screen also makes a chore out of using the on-screen keyboard. It's just too wide to type or scroll comfortably with one hand. The point of a handset is to put it bluntly, fit in your hand.

Well, my experience of coming very close to dropping my phone on the harsh city sidewalks multiple times, when gripping it single handedly is sure to make me stay away from the seductive gargantuan beauties on my next trip to the electronics store. What about you?

With many people questioning the practicality of these uber-cool, but massive displays, the demand for smaller screens might increase in the future. But for now, size matters.

Where sharing yields solution...

Harish Kumar
Sneha Sankar

College life is a transition period and all of us have choices to make. Some may turn out to be good and some may lead to an undesirable path which ultimately paves way for problems, be it academic or personal. Not many are aware of Mr. D.I. Ravindran and Mrs. Vinodhini Iyer, the Student Counsellors at SRM University, who might be the best sources of solutions to such problems related to life in the campus.

Mr. Ravindran states that their job as counsellors is not to advise but just to provide a solution. More importantly, secrecy shall be maintained.

Mrs. Vinodhini hopes to help students in any way that she can and in turn learn from the students in the process. "Self-respect is of utmost importance in one's life", she says, "and the lack of self-respect is often the root cause for many problems."

As a note to the freshers, Mr. Ravindran encourages them

to explore the opportunities offered by our university - club activities, sports, etc. "A student must never allow himself/herself to be the victim of neither peer nor parental pressures", says Mrs. Vinodhini.

As a lady counsellor, Mrs. Vinodhini hopes that her presence and availability encourages the female students to address the various issues faced by them. "If not for anything else, use me as a sounding board. Sometimes, people just need someone who will listen to them without judging them."

Mr. D.I. Ravindran and Mrs. Vinodhini Iyer are available between 10AM and 5PM during weekdays at the University Building, 4th floor.