The "TCS Best Student Award 2013", goes to....

Rahul Jain
AnupSaboo

What defines a good student? Or as in this case, the "Best Student"? As aptly stated by Dr. M. Ponnavaikko, Vice-Chancellor, SRM University, a best student is one who not only performs excellently in academics, but also participates in numerous extra-curricular and co-curricular activities with full enthusiasm. Such individuals shape themselves to become good human-beings and always volunteer to work for the people. And keeping all these qualities in mind, the 'TCS Best Student Award 2013' was conferred to Mr. Akshat Agarwal, Final Year B.Tech Student from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, SRM University.

At a function held in the T.P. Ganesan Auditorium, the award was presented by Dr. K. Kesavasamy, the Head of Academic Interface Programme, Tata Consultancy Services. Dr.

Kesavasamy lauded 'the Hero of the day' and said "Akshat has an amazing resume and 30 years from now Tata's would be proud to have been a part of his resume." He further addressed the aspiring 3rd year students present and said, "You must think out of the box. Go that extra mile and do things other than your academics." Sharing his views on the path to success, Akshat said, "This journey in SRM has been a 'dream run' for me". Mr. A. K. Pattabiraman, Head Accreditation, Tata Consultancy Services highlighted the criteria for the selection of the TCS Best Student. He said that minimum weightage was given to academics and more importance was given to the type of projects undertaken by the student, papers presented and other extra and co-curricular activities. He further added that SRM University has always produced excellent achievers.

SRM University Chancellor Dr. T. R. Pachamuthu lighting the Kuthuvilaku to inaugurate International Women's Day Celebrations held at the University campus in Kattankulathur. Also seen are Vice-Chancellor Dr. M. Ponnavaikko, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Medical) Dr. P. Thangaraju, Dr. N.Sethuraman, Registrar, Dean Dr. James Pandian and Fr. John Suresh, Director, CRDS.

Dr. K.Kesavasamy presenting the Best Student Award to Akshat

A good and healthy mother can produce the best citizen - Chancellor

Spectrum Reporter

A good and healthy mother can alone produce the best citizen said SRM University Chancellor Dr. T. R. Pachamuthu in his presidential address at the International Women's Day Celebrations held at the University campus in Kattankulathur.

He said that when women can manage a house as equal to a man why not they rule the state. He also stressed the importance of women entering politics and said women's empowerment is a must.

He further said that the previous governments and the present government permitted alcohol sale saying that augments the income of the state but they have failed to recognize that they are spoiling the younger generation.

So women who have assembled here should ensure to elect a good government which would take care of the finances without alcohol sale and with the revenue generated from taxes should

be able to run the government and provide all assitance to its citizens.

The Department of Community Medicine (SRM Medical College Hospital & Research Centre), and the SRM Medical College Hospital Potheri joined hands with an NGO, CRDS, (Chenglepet Rural Development Society) to celebrate the International Women's Day Programme.

The theme for the year was

Pages Inside...

Man, Machine and Biology - ICNGB 2013

"Bioinformatics techniques and next generation sequencing are revolutionizing genomics," says Vice-Chancellor

Laasya Dhandapani
Shaswath Sekar

The International Conference on Next Generation Bioinformatics (ICNGB) was organised recently by the Department of Bioinformatics, School of Bioengineering, SRM University, Kattankulathur, in association with Ministry of Science and Technology. The conference was aimed at establishing a network among students and scientists, while providing a platform for researchers and students to share the latest developments in this field. It brought to fore, the research carried out by India and other countries, in this area, necessitated by the need to manage large amounts of biological data.

The conference was inaugurated by Dr. Madhan Mohan, Advisor, Bioinformatics, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, New Delhi in the presence

Proceeding release at ICNGB'13 Inaugural Function

of Dr. M. Ponnavaiko, Vice-Chancellor, SRM University, Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan, Director, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, SRM University, Dr. M. Vairamani, Dean, School of Bioengineering, SRM University, and Dr. Waheeta Hopper, Professor and Head, Department of Bioinformatics, SRM University.

Dr. M.Vairmani mentioned that Bioinformatics has grown to such an extent that many new online tools are created to challenge every sort of biological problem.

Eminent scientists were invited to share their research work in various fields such as Data Mining, Computer aided drug design and Pharmacogenomics to name a few. Dr. Kazuhiko Fukui, Team leader, Computational Biology Research Centre, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, Japan, discussed workflow systems that have become indispensible to treat large scale data.

Dr. Mukesh Doble, Professor and Head of Department of Biotechnology, IIT Chennai explained the Computer aided design of anti-inflammatory drugs. Dr. K. Veluraja, Professor and Head of Department of Physics, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli threw light on the database developed for structural bioinformatics of carbohydrates. Video conferences under the module 'Next generation sequencing and genome informatics' and group discussions were organised.

The conference attracted one hundred abstracts, submitted by researchers and students across India. The conference concluded with the valedictory function in which certificates and prizes were distributed by Dr. Narayana Rao, Research Director, SRM University, to winners of paper and poster presentation competitions.

Society, Scientist and Technology

Spectrum Reporter

The National conference on "Applications of AI Techniques for Hybrid Renewable Energy Systems" - ("AITHRE'13") was conducted by Department of Electrical & Electronics Engineering, SRM University on 21st and 22nd March 2013 sponsored by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

Dr.S.S.Dash, HOD was the Convener and Ms.S.Padmini, Assistant Professor, Ms.S.Usha, Assistant Professor & Mr. D Maharajan, Assistant Professor were the coordinators of the National Conference.

The main objective of this National Conference was to bring together the Researchers / Scientists / Engineers of various disciplines on a single platform to discuss and disseminate their new inventions and innovative ideas relevant to Hybrid Renewable Energy Systems. This Conference was uniquely designed to accommodate the diversified topics with a bearing on society, scientists and technologies.

The Inauguration started with

the lighting of Kuthuvilakku by the Chief Guest, Thiru. K Venugopal, Member, Tamilnadu Electricity Regulatory Commission(TERC). He gave an enlightening speech about the current renewable energy technologies that are being followed & adopted in India. He also stressed on the importance of demand side management rather than the supply side management.

Dr M Ponnavaikko, Vice Chancellor, SRM University delivered the Presidential Address.

He gave a statistical speech on the Indian Power Generation Scenario –Past and Present Trends. He also welcomed the idea of implementing the various artificial intelligence techniques in the field of Integrated / Sustainable/ Distributed/ Hybrid Energy Systems.

Dr. R Jegatheesan, Prof –EEE, SRM University delivered the Felicitation Address.

About 59 research papers from various parts of the country registered for this Conference.

Honouring the chief guest, Dr. Ravi Shankar.

Avoid three C's... Dr. Ravi Shankar

Akshun Ojha

The Department of Mathematics on behalf of Sri Ramanujan Mathematics Club of SRM University, Kattankulathur recently hosted Engineering Mathematics Festival (EMF)-2013 where students from around 20 engineering colleges in and around Chennai participated. Packed with eight nerve tickling events i.e. Dumb-C, Crossword, Quiz, Olympiad, IQ Test, NFS Maths, Puzzles and Math Talk, the intercollegiate festival was conducted for two days and received an active participation of students.

The chief guest for EMF - 2013 was Dr. Ravi Shankar, Joint Director of Collegiate Education,

Chennai region."Students must take three C's i.e. Creativity, Competition and Career and avoid three C's i.e. Cinema, Channel and Cellular in their life" said the chief guest in his speech. Around 250 students from colleges like ARM College of Engineering and Technology, Satyabhama University and Madras Christian College participated in EMF this year. In addition to these, the winners of Intra Mathematics Festival (IMF) – 2012, an intra-collegiate festival of SRM University, represented SRM in the events.

The fest ended with the distribution of prizes to the winners of the events by the Head of Department (HOD), Dept. of Mathematics, Dr.K.Ganesan.

The Chief Guest with the Vice - Chancellor

Inaugural function of NCMTA 2013

Update knowledge on recent developments in science and technlology ... Dr. C.Muthamizhselvan

Spectrum Reporter

The Fifth National Conference on Mathematical Techniques and its Applications (NCMTA 2013) was held during 1-2 March 2013 organized by the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, SRM University, Kattankulathur. The conference was inaugurated by the chief guest of the function Dr. Purnima Sharma, Managing Director, Biotech Consortium India Ltd., Ministry of Science and Technology, New Delhi. In her inaugural address, Dr. Purnima Sharma shared her experiences of applying Mathematics in BioTechnology, BioMedical Engineering, Genetic Engineering and other Bio Engineering Sciences. She explained some of her Biotech projects emphasizing the importance of Mathematical models and statistical analysis in handling huge data.

In his presidential address, Dr C. Muthamizhselvan, Director (E&T) emphasized ten points about Mathematics learning and requested the Mathematics teachers to update their knowledge on recent developments in science and technology. Further, he appealed to the Mathematics faculty to do collaborative research with other Engineering disciplines.

Dr. K. Ganesan, Head of the Department welcomed the gathering, Dr.Sundarammal Kesavan introduced the chief guest and Prof.K.S.Ganapathy Subramanian presented the vote of thanks.

The two day conference witnessed a galaxy of mathe-maticians and scientists from various institutions and research centers such as Dr. D. Datta, BARC, Mumbai; Dr. C.A. Murthy, ISI, Kolkatta; Dr.V.Thangaraj, RIASM, Chennai; Dr. P. Veeramani, IIT, Chennai; Dr. R. Sahadevan, RIASM, Chennai; Dr. K.M. Tamizhmani, Pondicherry University; Dr.L. Rajendran, Madura College, Madurai and Dr. G. Nanjundan, Bangalore University. The invited talks were very inspiring and captivated the audience.

There were about 40 paper presentations on different areas of research in Mathematics by research scholars, lecturers and professors from various colleges and universities from different parts of our country. The whole programme was marked by a lot of deliberations and interactions, which was found to be very helpful to those who are guiding and also who are being guided.

Winners of the competition - Amith Kumar and team

Mathematics Crosses Boundaries of Science

Mathematics is the technical language of Science. It is critical that Engineering Students should learn to visualize the abstract concepts of Mathematics.

To understand the applications of Mathematics in Engineering; Department of Mathematics organised "An interdisciplinary Mathematical Modelling Competition based on Engineering Applications". 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 and said that it is very important for the students to understand the importance of Mathematics in Engineering.

Amith Kumar and Team of Civil Department won the 1st Prize. Kripa Shankar and the Team of Mechanical Department won the 2nd prize. Vrinda Katyar and the 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.

Math Fest - Altitudez '13

Staff Writer

Nathional level Math fest Altitudez '13 was recently conducted by the Department of Mathematics, SRM (FSH).

The Inaugural frnction was started with the prayer song followed by lighting the 'Kuthuvilakku' by the Chief Guest Prof. Mr. P. Siva Rama Krishna Das, Director Dr. R. Balasubramanian, Associate Dean, Dr. J. Jothi Kumar and HOD Mrs. M. Shanmuga Sundari. The Chief Guest was introduced by the Director and the function was decorated by the motivational speech of Prof. Mr. P. Siva Rama Krishna Das. After his speech 71 centum holders in University Examination (Math) was awarded gifts. Events like Paper presentation, Modelling, Poster presentation and Dumb Charades saw the participation of more than 40 Colleges across Tamil Nadu. Paper Presentation was judged by Dr. N. Parvathi, Poster presentation by Dr. Ezhumalai and Modelling by Mr. Lalith.

Director Dr. R.Balasubramanian with Chief Guest Prof. Siva Rama Krishna Das

Gears, Bots, Rods and A Lot More – SAE WEEK

Rahul Jain
AdityaDabral

SRM SAE Collegiate Club recently organized the 3rd edition of the annual intra-college event, 'SAE Week'. It was a 5-day long event comprising five events; which included ground events, namely, Robo Soccer and Hitman and 3 on-spot events being Connecting Rods, Auto-Freak and Enjoyneer.

Connecting Rods, a quiz event based upon the hit TV-series 'The Weakest Link' saw Gautham K. Ram (Automobile, 2nd Year) secure the 1st position. Abrar Bin Ayub (Automobile, First Year) and Vignesh (Automobile, First Year) secured the 1st place in Autofreak. It was basically a 3-phase event comprising of quiz, marketing, vehicle building and obstacle run. The Team of Sai Krishna, Anirudh and Bhargavaall belonging to Automobile, Second Year were the winners of the event Enjoyneer.

In the two ground events, team of Neha Shivhare (IT 1st year), Saurabh Zunke (ECE 1st year), CV Srinivasan (ECE 1st year) was the winner of Hitman, a catapult building event and team of Karthik (1st year Mechanical), RonakSanigra (1st year mechanical), S.Sumanth (1st year ECE) won the event Robo-Soccer, an event which saw over 20 teams participating.

"The main purpose was to promote the SAE Collegiate Club among new students and introduce them to the basic automotive science. The event mainly focused on simple design competitions, said Shailee Upadhyay, Event Organiser.

Platform for young IT aspirants

Staff Writer

The MCA Department of SRM UNIVERSITY, Ramapuram, conducted the 2nd National level Symposium "TECBLAZE'13", recently. The inaugural function was followed by welcome address and an overview of the symposium presented by HOD of MCA, Mr.J.Dhillipan.

The Chief Guest Mr.N.Shiva Kumar, Technical Lead, HCL Technologies, Chennai released the proceedings of the Symposium.

In the Special address, the Campus Director, Dr.Narayana swamy spoke of the importance of students' participation in the symposium. This was followed by the Felicitation Address by the Dean of SRM University, Ramapuram and he stated that

The Dignitaries on the dais release the proceedings of the Symposium

this is a platform for the young IT aspirants to showcase their talents in different fields of technology. The Vice Principal also gave a felicitation address and stated that the TecBlaze 2013 is an opportunity for many students to work as a team and is a good exposure to the participants. In the Inaugural Address, the Chief Guest, Mr.N.Shivakumar, Technical Lead, HCL Techno logies, Chennai, spoke of student's leadership, attitude and self confidence. TecBlaze'13 had entries of around 200 students from 40 different colleges for various events.

மாணவர் தமிழ் மன்றம் தொடக்கவிழா

திரு.இராமசாமி நினைவுப் பல்கலைக்கழக மேலாண்மைத்துறை சார்பில் மாணவர் தமிழ் மன்றத்தின் தொடக்கவிழா சமீபத்தில் நடைபெற்றது. இம்மன்றத்தின் தலைவர் க.ஜெகந்த் வரவேற்புரை வழங்க, பேராசிரியப் பொறுப்பாளர்களான பேரா.ச.தனலெட்சுமி மன்றத்தின் நோக்கங்களையும் பேரா.ஜெ.தினேஷ் மன்றத்தின் செயல்திட்டங்களையும் அறிமுகப்படுத்தினார். இம் மன்றத்தின் ஆலோசகர் பேரா.இல.சுந்தரம் பொறியியல், மருத்துவம் போன்ற மற்ற புலங்களிலும் தனித்தனி மாணவர் தமிழ் மன்றங்கள் தொடங்கி ஆண்டுதோறும் அவரவர் துறைசார்ந்த விழாக்களை நடத்தவேண்டும். மாணவர் தமிழ் மன்றங்களின் உறுப்பினர்கள் தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தோடு இணைந்து எல்லா நிகழ்வுகளிலும் பங்கெடுக்க வேண்டும், இதற்காகத் தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தில் மாணவர் கூட்டமைப்பாக உருவாகி செயல்படவேண்டும் என்று பரிந்துரைத்தார்.

புலத் தலைவர் முனைவர் ஜெயஸ்ரீ சுரேஷ் இவ்விழாவிற்குத் தலைமைதாங்கினார். SRM பல்கலைக்கழகத் துணைவேந்தரும் தமிழ்ப்பேராயத்தின் தலைவருமான முனைவர் மு.பொன்னவைக்கோ அவர்கள் மாணவர் தமிழ் மன்றத்தைத் தொடங்கிவைத்துத் தொடக்கவரையாற்றினார். இந்த மன்றத்தைத் தொடங்கிவைப்பதில் பெருமிதம் கொள்வதாகவும் வேந்தர் அவர்களின் ஆசை இன்று நிறைவேறியுள்ளதாகவும் இதுபோன்று மற்ற புலங்களிலும் தொடங்கி செயல்படவேண்டும் என்றார். உலகின் முதல் இனம், முதல் மொழி, தோன்றிய இடம் போன்ற பழம்பெருமைகள் கொண்ட நாம் பிறமொழியின்மீது அதிக நாட்டம் கொண்டு செயல்படுகிறோம் என்றும் இந்த மாணவ சமுதாயம் நம் மொழியை, பண்பாட்டை, நாகரிகத்தைக் காக்கவேண்டும் என்றும் கூறினார்.

மன்றத்தின் விதிமுறைகளைப் பொருளாளர் ம.அருண்குமார் கூறினார். பதவியேற்கும் மன்றப் பொறுப்பாளர்களின் பெயர்களை ஒருங்கிணைப்பாளர் அ.அருண்பிரகாஷ் அறிவிக்க, துணைவேந்தர் மாணவப் பதிப்பு பொறுப்புகளை வழங்கிச் சிறப்புசெய்தார். மாணவர் வழிகாட்டகத்தின் இயக்குநர் முனைவர் அனுராதா பராக்த் அவர்கள் தாய்மொழிக் கல்வியின் முக்கியத்துவத்தைக் கூறி முன்னிலையுரை வழங்கினார். பேரா.முனைவர் வ.மீ. பொன்னையா எங்கள் துறையின்வழி மேலாண்மைத் தமிழ் வளரப் பல்வேறு நிலைகளில் எம் மாணவர்கள் செயல்படுவார்கள் என்று வாழ்த்தினார். செயலர் த.சூர்யா நன்றியுரை கூற, ச.கவின் குமார், பா.மதுமதி ஆகியோர் நிகழ்ச்சியைத் தொகுத்து வழங்க, விழா இனிதே நிறைவுற்றது.

Learning From Fukushima

Vaishnavi Prahlad

The Kizuna project is a programme run by the Japanese government in which a few students travel to Japan and learn about the disaster which took place in Japan on 11 March 2011, the Great East Japan earthquake. We also get to learn and see the massive reconstruction efforts currently under way after the disaster.

After spending a day in Tokyo, we travelled to Fukushima Prefecture. We stayed at a magnificent town called Minami Aizu. Snow, snow everywhere! The mountains were filled with snow filled trees, seemed to be like a winter wonderland! It made me think how lucky I was to be in such a beautiful place. We were welcomed by a gentleman from Minami Aizu Tourism Company. It was extremely cold for some of us but at the same time, we enjoyed it.

All over the world, rumors have been spread about Japan being unsafe. After the earthquake, there have been many misconceptions that the radiation had spread to the whole of Japan and that Japan was unsafe and a place not to be visited. After interacting with victims and hearing their stories, I came to see how much damage had been created not just by the disaster but also by the harmful rumors!

We heard stories from victims of Tomioka town. The tsunami which took place in this town was about 25metres high. Minami Aizu did not face a lot of damage but the agriculture and tourism took a fall. Tomatoes and rice are famous, but production went down. Minami Aizu took in about 5,500 disaster victims. Hotels accommodated the evacuees and they were given accomodation as much as possible. Temporary houses have been built for many of the victims who are also provided with some money to help with their monthly expenses.

One of the most memorable ones from the trip, we were taken to an elementary school (I went to INA elementary school) where we got to interact with students, some of whom were also victims of the disaster. I hadn't seen that much happiness and excitement in a while.

At Minami Aizu, we met so many interesting individuals and learnt so many things. We got to listen to stories from local residents and after a session of learning to make wooden handicrafts, we walked around in the snow using traditional snow shoes. The same evening, we moved to the homes and met the families we were going to be with for the night. Another memory from the trip which I will forever cherish and keep thinking back to would be the home stay. Four other girls and I stayed with the Hoshi family. They literally treated us like their own children. I hadn't experienced that much kindness and respect ever before in my life. We got to know about the family and stayed up until late exchanging stories and telling them about India and the different cultures.

We spent about 7 days in Minami Aizu and travelled back to Tokyo in a shinkansen (a bullet train which travels almost at the speed of sound). Our last two nights in Tokyo were quite emotional as we all had become very close to each other and our guides.

In Japan, there is a little doll called "okiagarikoboshi". This doll, no matter how many times you push it springs right back up. This little doll has a big message and in so many ways represents Japanese people and their strong hearts. It doesn't matter if things go wrong and the world pushes you down, there is always a way to overcome it and get back up.

Fast and the furious @ SRM

Gaurav Sarma

Sarath Uday, a final year automobile engineering student of SRM University, Kattankulathur has been on a rollercoaster ride, winning successive Remote Controlled car racing events held in prestigious institutions like IIT Bombay, IIT Kharagpur, NIT Warangal. His performance with the self-assembled high-tech remote controlled car has managed to put him ahead of competitors by a huge margin. Fuelled by VYRON (25% Nitro methane), his tiny (40cm x 30cm) but powerful car Hongnor X1, comprising a 3.5cc engine and 3bhp has the capability of scaling at a speed of 100km/hr in less than 6 seconds. The car is controlled by a high sensor M12 remote and is estimated to cost a whopping 1.5 lakh rupees. "I started in the second semester after sitting through a seminar on IC engines and have not looked back since", Sarath said in a recent interview. His achievements include winning Nitro RC (Remote Controlled) car racing events in IIT Kharagpur, IIT Bombay, NIT Warangal and many more. He participated in the Tech Fest organized by IIT Bombay recently and came out on top. He won the regional and national level RC car competition organized by Red Bull in 2011 and was invited to Brazil. He was also the runner-up at a competition held in Thailand and has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades.

"My learning curve has peaked since I started. In the beginning, I burnt down two engines and my car didn't even start in the first three competitions I participated in. In the past one year, I won most of the events I participated in. I am the technical head of my team and have a sponsor. Now I know what path I am on and what I want to do". He hopes to keep doing well as he prepares to tour China in the upcoming year.

Gaming is a Lifestyle!

Gaurav Sarma
Priyankadevi M

The SRM Gaming Club organized an inter-university gaming tournament, Romp-O-Geek, which included popular games like Counter Strike, FIFA, DotA and Call of Duty. With so many gaming enthusiasts in the campus, the two days of gaming event was bound to be a success. The event witnessed participants from Satyabhama University, VIT Chennai, Crescent College of Engineering, etc.

The head of Computer Science Association organised event. A total of 200 participants competed against each other for prizes and trophies worth `20,000. SuyashSrivastava of first year Information Technology bagged the first prize worth ` 2,000 in FIFA. DotA was romped by Akshay Ajith Nair and his four other friends of second year Computer Science Engineering. Rajiv Punmiya Vinod and his teammates of second year Computer Science Engineering came out on top in the Counter Strike event. Call of Duty was won by a team from VIT Chennai.

"Gaming is a lifestyle. We don't just play it, we develop it as well", said Priyaranjan Dwivedi, Avinash Jha and Pushpendra Rajput, organizers of Romp-O-Geek, all 3rd year CSE students.

Chief guest along with the Directors and co-ordinators

Radical changes in the area of communication focus of Teletech '13

Spectrum Reporter

"Recent Advancements in Telecommunication Technologies"-TELETECH'13 was organized by the Department of Telecommunication Engineering (TCE) in association with IEEE Comsoc Student Branch at SRM, and the Telecommunication Engineers Association (TEA) with sponsorship from DRDO, Govt. of India.

The two-day technical extravaganza consisted of numerous events such as invited talks, guest lectures, paper presentations, technical and non-technical events.

The inauguration of the event saw many distinguished personalities. Mr. C. Anguraaj, Secretary, TEA of final Year, gave the welcome address. Dr. C. Muthamizhchelvan, Director of E&T, SRM University, spoke on the past, present and future of the telecommunication sector. He provided many instances about how the industry played a key role in developing the social and economic level for progress of the country the world.

Prof. D. Narayana Rao, the Director of Research, SRM University, emphasized the digital aspect of today's technology in his Special Address. Dr.T.Rama Rao, HOD (TCE) & Convener, TeleTech'13 introduced the Chief-guest, Dr. Surendra Pal, President, IETE to the gathering.

Dr. Surendra Pal, FIEEE & FIETE, presented the inaugural address on "Perspective in communication –Indian Space Paradigm". He said that a radical change has taken place in the communication arena of India and the world. His presentation was quite fact–oriented and involved a high degree of research. Mrs. M.Susila, Coordinator, TeleTech'13 proposed the vote of thanks to the dignitaries and others.

The afternoon session started off with an invited talk by Mr. SobhanBabu, VP, Tata Communications who spoke on "Managing Telecom Networks". This was followed by a guest lecture by Mr. Swapnil Kulkarni on 3D EM software 'FEKO'. His work dealt with the real world E-M problems on field electromagnetic computation. Dr. S.S. Karthikeyan, IIIT D&M, Kancheepuram presented a guest lecture on "Product Design for EMC Compliance". He specified on the advantages of EMC design.

The 2nd day of the event also witnessed invited talk by Mr. P.Kishore, SC 'D', ISRO, Bangalore who presented a talk on "Challenge for system design in Q/V band" where he spoke about the application in the Q band, inter-satellite communication and mobile satellite communication. It was followed by another invited talk on "Telecommunication Technologies" by Mr. M. Ravindra Kumar, Scientist, DLRL, Hyderabad.

The two-day fest also played a host to many technical and non-technical events namely Technoquest, Telepathy, Technolodean, Technoasis and Cross-O-Hola.

Skills in a globally collaborative world

Priyankadevi Mohankumar
Tryphena Sharon Augustine

"... These are the skills that the future generation needs to understand and learn in a globally collaborative world", says Dr. S. S. Mantha, Chairman of All India Council for Technical Education.

The Microsoft Student AppFest in SRM, called for the idea of making a 'Dream App'. Held in 54 key hubs across the nation, the App Fest also conducted a workshop on building, designing and testing Apps for Windows 8 and Windows phone platforms.

The Microsoft mentors, trainers and the Student Partners guided the participants with the app making. Of the various apps created, English-Tamil translator, SAT Exam (College admission tests in the United States) preparation, GPA calculator and RSS reader app were the highlights. All the participants were given certificates from Microsoft.

Microsoft student partners, Rishabh Gupta and Vishnu Kiran, from B.Tech CSE organised the fest in the university, where 270 participants from Chennai, including 100 from SRM took part.

The fest commenced with the live streaming of the inauguration at Mumbai by Jean-Philippe Courtois, President, Microsoft International. Following which, it was presided by Microsoft Proctor Sanjeev Gopinath, here in SRM.

Women's bill soon...

Spectrum Reporter

"We will leave no stone unturned to ensure that the Women's Reservation Bill is passed in the Lok Sabha'', Union Environment and Forests Minister Ms Jayanthi Natarajan said. Addressing the International Women's Day celebrations at the SRM University at its campus in suburban Kattankulathur. She said the government is committed to the passage of the Women's Bill, providing for 33 per cent reservation in Parliament and State Legislatures.

"The Bill was passed in Rajya Sabha. We will leave no stone unturned to ensure that the Bill is passed in Lok Sabha", she said. Observing that 90 per cent of the seats in Parliament were dominated by men, Ms Jayanthi Natarajan said ''what we are asking is not 33 per cent reservation. We are seeking de-reservation of 90 per cent of seats (occupied by men).

Stating that 10 million women have been doing exceptional work in Panchayats, she said "women know how to govern the country. De-reservation of 90 per cent of seats will provide an opportunity for young college girls to enter Parliament that will make India totally democratic with women as equal partners", she added.

Recalling the ghastly incident of the gang rape and the death of a paramedic in a moving bus in New Delhi that has shocked the entire nation, Ms Jayanthi

Natarajan said "the Centre has suggested setting up of a common and dedicated women helpline 181 across the country to lodge complaints on woman harassments".

Exuding confidence that this would soon become a reality, the Union Minister exhorted the young college girls to volunteer themselves to operate these helplines in police stations to register the complaints and guide them.

In a bid to reduce crimes against women, she also suggested an exclusive bus for women, especially during nights, with adequate interior lighting to help women move around safely.

The special women buses could be operated between 1900 hrs to 0700 hrs with women behind the wheels, she said, and appealed to the Universities like SRM to to train women as part of its outreach programme to operate the special buses.

A good and healthy ....

'Promise is a time for action to end violence against women'. This collaborative function was organized to develop linkages with Women's Self Help Groups to empower women by improving their awareness in health.

There was an exhibition by the SRM medical college various departments of including the super specialty departments of SRM MCH & RC. Nearly 1,500 women SHG leaders attended these activities. They were also given medical checkup.

The health exhibition has helped the people to become aware of the facilities available in SRM Multi Specialty Hospital. Care for Below Poverty Line (BPL) people and nearly 1,500 subsidized outpatient services cards were distributed.

It was pointed out that SHG leaders will help in early referral of cases and dissemination of information in the community. Through this process there will be overall improvement of the health awareness among women.

SRM plans to collaborate with other like minded NGOs to develop more community participation which is necessary for the health schemes to reach the population. There was also a cultural program by the SHG groups to make the health messages simpler to understand by the common people

SRM University Vice-Chancellor Dr. M. Ponnavaikko and Dean, SRM Medical College Hospital, Dr. James Pandian, offered felicitations. Fr. John Suresh, Director, CRDS spoke of the need to further strengthen linkages between the two organizations. Dr. C.K Gariyali former Principal Secretary to the Governor of Tamil Nadu spoke about the development of the SHG movement in Tamilnadu.

The Pro-Vice Chancellor (Medical), SRM Medical College Hospital, Dr. P. Thangaraju, welcomed the gathering, Dr K.R. John, Head, Community Medicine Department SRM Medical College Hospital proposed the vote of thanks.

Women's Day

R.Aishwarya

"Women have become an endangered species, because of which we celebrate only one day a year for them. I never usually accept invitations for women's day, but I came all the way from Delhi because of the tremendous reputation that SRM holds and I believe that we can take the nation to greater heights with the knowledge it provides us with!", said Mrs. Jayanthi Natarajan at SRM University.

As a part of the celebrations of international women's day, the Women's Grievance Retrieval Committee hosted a program that saw the participation of eminent women personalities like Mrs. Natarajan, Environment and forest minister and Mrs.Latika Saran, IPS (Rtd. DGP,TN).

Talking about the current grievance of violence against women, Mrs Natarajan said, "We should take the

issue seriously and fight against it, for women are not the weaker sex. Women should be a part of the decision making process in the government, so that policies supporting women will come into effect. There are steps being taken for better

– Jayanthi Natarajan

Former Director General of Police, Government of Tamil Nadu, Ms. Letika Saran giving away awards to women who were achievers at the International Women's Day celebrations organized by the Woman's Grievances Retrieval Committee at the SRM University, Kattankulathur. SRM University Vice-Chancellor Dr. M. Ponnavaikko, Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr. P. Thangaraju (Medical) (partially seen) are in the picture.

Union Environment and Forests Minister Ms Jayanthi Natarajan lighting the Kuthuvillaku while inaugurating the International Women's Day celebrations organized by the Woman's Grievances Retrieval Committee at the SRM University, Kattankulathur. Also seen are former Director General of Police, Government of Tamil Nadu Ms. Letika Saran, SRM University Vice-Chancellor Dr. M. Ponnavaikko, Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr. P. Thangaraju (Medical) and Director (Health Sciences) Dr. N. Chandraparabha.

Global Conference on Women Leadership held

Spectrum Reporter

SRM University Chancellor Dr T. R. Pachamuthu said that a woman should be independent and should fight for her rights.

Speaking at the felicitation ceremony during the two day 'Global Conference on Women Leadership' organized by School of Management, SRM University, he said that women were outshinning men in all fields of life.

Speaking on woman's status in the society, the Chancellor said that gender discrimination should be avoided by all means and women should get reservations in employment sectors.

The Chancellor awarded Kathei Walkling for taking her woman empowerment project to Auroville in 1997 with her organisation called Eco Femme. Speaking after receiving the award Kathei said that she was overwhelmed for the honour and her endeavour was to make woman feel dignified and encourage them to achieve greater heights.

The Chancellor of SRM University also awarded pilot Captain Bavicca Bharathi for becoming the youngest commercial pilot license holder registering her name in the book of records 2012. Sharing her life experience as a pilot, Bavicca went down memory lane and said that her mother was her inspiration who encouraged her to become what she was amidst all hardships in life since her childhood days in Kanyakumari.

The Chancellor also conferred award on Kausalya who is working for positive women's network since 1998. Kausalya herself being a HIV positive worked for those affected with the same malady and received Asian of the year award by Reader's Digest in 2010. She also took her social message abroad and met the former secretary general of UN, Kofi Annan. Kausalya was also conferred with lifetime achievement award by TNSACS in 2006 and further awarded with woman activist award by Standard Chartered Bank in 2006.

The Chancellor finally conferred the Florence Nightingale award on a nurse of SRM General Hospital, Prema for her selfless service to about 23,000 hospital patients. She became a trainer in retinal transplant unit in 2007. SRM University Pro-Vice Chancellor (Planning and Development) Dr.T. P. Ganesan was also present at the felicitation ceremony.

Celebration : 2013

security which will come into effect soon; helpline for women (181) all over the country; women special buses fully lit, operating through public places from 7 pm to 7 am and introduction of women drivers." Instilling a sense of confidence and self-assurance in the minds of the women present as also asking women to stand up and fight for one's safety came by way of an inspiring speech by the IPS officer, Mrs Saran. "Women are living with the fear of sexual violence these days. Laws have become strong, punishments enhanced and investigations begun immediately and so there need not be any worry. Actions are being taken and patrolling is intensified. So, I request all of you to first report any mishap soon, instead of worrying about what others would say about you. Gender sensitisation should be taught at the KG level for betterment. Be proud women!", she remarked. Mrs.Saran also gave away Women of excellence awards to three women; Mrs. Meena Anbu, Mrs. Thatchayani and Mrs.Durga Ravi, the unsung heroines, who made their mark in societal development. She also distributed mobility equipments to three children. The programme then became more enthusiastic with the 'pattimandram' where participants voiced their views on the topic.

As part of the cultural celebrations, the Faculty of Sciences and Humanities played host to events like mehandi, rangoli, nail art, hair dressing, salad making, music and dance that brought together both student and faculty participants on the same platform. The chief guest, Ms. Reshma Ghatala, a successful women entrepreneur who made her mark in the film industry through production, presided over the event and gave away prizes to the winners..

Pradeesh Raj

SRM's very own RJ!

Tryphena Sharon AmruthaMurali

Pradeesh Raj, a final year student of Aerospace Engineering of SRM University bagged the first place in this year's Nokia India Fest'13, in the Radio Jockey category. Pradeesh has won several awards and accolades for his talent in various speaking competitions in many programs. He has been the recipient of various awards such as the Chavalier Shivaji Ganesan award for cultural excellence which he consequently won for two years in a row. He has also been featured in Channel V's cover story, Talent down South.

Pradeesh started nurturing his talking talent from his school days. "In the beginning I used to mimic a lot of famous personalities and that's how I kept the audience engaged, but only later did I develop my own style and now I have carved my original stage presence while performing" says an excited Pradeesh.

In this year's Nokia India fest'13, Pradeesh competed with over 15 talented speakers from the Southern zone and was finally chosen to represent Chennai. In the finals he was judged the best speaker among 35 others in the RJ category and subsequently also won the second place in VJ Hunt and JAM. "It's a mike that brings up a performer from street light to spot light, so when given a chance hold on to the mike and make your life brighter" says Pradeesh, as a message to all the budding VJ's and RJ's of SRM.

For the attention of Faculty and Researchers

A Debaters' Haven

Sanju Varughese Mathew
Pallavi Gupta
Anirudh Mani

"You will debate, but will you listen?" quippd the Director of Student Affairs, Anuradha Parakkat's at the start of SRM MUN '13

Model United Nations (MUN) is a simulation of the United Nations in which participants represent delegates of different nations and debate on issues of international relations, diplomacy and other current events. It is a platform which aims to nurture the leaders of tomorrow. SRM MUN, one of India's biggest MUN conferences, was in its 3rd edition this year. Around 350 students participated this year as a part of the Executive Boards, as delegates or Press reporters.

SRM MUN'2013, sponsored by prominent brands like J.K Tyres and Indian Oil, comprised seven councils and the International Press. Some of them like Human Rights Council and General Assembly-DISEC tackled important agendas like Freedom of Expression- Right to peaceful protest and Weaponisation of Space respectively. Controversial issues such as the Delhi rape case were amongst the most debated topics. Two new councils, exclusive to SRM MUN'13 were featured this year - the GA-ESS (General Assembly – Emergency Special Session) which simulated the 'political environment about the violence practiced by troops on the citizens of Panama', and the 1540 Committee which involved fictitious events leading upto emergency situations requiring immediate response. The International Press included reporters covering every council and publishing highlights in the form of a daily newsletter and an archive of opinion based articles.

A highlight of this year's MUN was the diversity in participation of students in reference to age groups. College students, graduates and school children were all active participants in the three day event. Two tenth standard students even claimed the 'High Commendation' award for the 1540 committee and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"What we lay emphasis on and offer our prospective delegates is a good level of debate, great councils and an exemplary executive board" says Zahaan Khan, Chair of the GA-DISEC, highlighting SRM's growing reputation in the MUN circuit.

VIT University, Vellore was declared the overall winner of SRM MUN'13.

Another special feature of SRM MUN'13 was the participation by a surprisingly large number of first time MUNers. "We (Executive Board) always urge the first time MUNers to participate again in the future and therefore we try to answer any queries they may have." says Nischal Dua, the chair of Historic General Assembly.

UNESCO Chair on Bioethics established at SRM University

Spectrum Reporter

An UNESCO Chair in Bio Ethics was established at the SRM University. The Chair was established by 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. 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 the Management was happy to appoint Dr D'Souza as the Honorary Professor of Eminence Bio-Ethics of SRM University.

Pro-Vice Chancellor (Medical), SRM University, Dr. P. Thangaraju said that the chair of bioethics will be established in the university to provide a vital link between cultural, scientific, educational and medical advancement.

SRM University Dr. M. Ponnavaikko said the objective of the chair was also to develop inclusive medical curriculum with a pragmatic focus on Bioethics.

During the guest lecture on 'Globalization and Societies in Transition – the bioethical issues, challenges and Asia Pacific Bio ethics of UNESCO chair', Dr. Russell D Souza spoke about how the UNESCO bioethical chairs can educate people and professionals and equip them with the necessary skills to tackle the ethical issues in biology and in research.

SRM University Dean, Medical Research, Dr D. Balakrishnan, Dean Medical, Dr. James Pandian, Director of Medical and Health sciences, and Dr. Chandraprabha also participated.

Prof Dr. Russel F. D'Souza, interacting with students of the SRM Medical College.

A Neurosurgeon's nightmare

Spectrum Reporter

As a part of Road Safety awareness - Be Careful Prevention Programme was organized by the Medical Education Department, SRM Medical College Hospital & Research Centre, in coordination with faculty of Engineering and Technology for the students of SRM Medical college.

According to Dr. K. Gireesh, Deputy Dean and Vice Principal of SRM Medical College, Traumatic Brain and Spine injuries are a major public health problem imposing a greater burden on modern society than other diseases that are most preventable of the major public health problems. No society can afford the loss of young life as well as the high cost of medical treatment of head and spinal cord injuries and cost of supporting those permanently disabled by these injuries. As a Neurosurgeon treating the individual one becomes frustrated, depressed at how little one can do to improve the neurological deficit especially following severe head injury. With the most aggressive therapy for severe head injuries if a person escapes the clutches of death then he is left with a permanent neurological deficit or he will be in a vegetative state unfit to mingle in the society and a burden to the family. Therefore it is logical that the Neurosurgeons should take active role to prevent these injuries. And also Dr.K.Gireesh explained that awareness of importance of wearing helmet for two wheeler riders should be

Participants of the Road Safety Programme

created among public. Following a Road Accident if the person wears the helmet then the helmet absorbs the maximum impact and thereby skull bone and brain beneath will not be hurt. It is the neurosurgeons who quite often face persons who suffer from disastrous consequences following head and spinal cord injuries. Therefore it is of utmost importance that the Neurosurgeon should take a lead in imparting the preventive programs concerning Brain and Spine injuries.

Accorindg to Dr.Giresh there are five components in the Be Careful Prevention Programme.

PHASE1 : It includes presentation of definition and epidemiology of Brain and Spinal injury by health professionals preferably by Neurosurgeon. Types and causes of injuries are discussed including those involving motor vehicles, drinking, driving all terrain vehicles, action sports and violent crimes.

PHASE II: Two or three young individuals who have sustained a Brain and Spinal cord injury discusses his or her injury its causes and its physical, emotional

and social consequences and answers questions from the student audience.

PHASE III: A short video film depicting the youthful risk taking behaviour that leads to injuries and the consequences of the injuries to with special emphasis on hazards of drunken driving.

PHASE IV: Crutches and wheel chairs are kept and students are made to experience them so that they will know how a life will be after a major brain and spine injury.

PHASE V: The pledge to be taken by the students for observing discipline on the Road.

"I do accept that the life of every human being is precious and I owe it a great duty not to injure or shorten the life of any individual by my careless use of the road in any manner, I hereby solemnly pledge that I will firmly abide by the rules of the road whether I walk or ride a vehicle." about 3000 students of engineering and Institute of management benefitted from the above program.

And The Award Goes to...

**Sitashree Sen
Arjun.B.Narayanan**

Guess who's back with a bang? It's the 'Golden Man' !The most awaited event of the year, the 85thAnnual Academy awards took place recently at Santa Monica Beach, California. The award ceremony was hosted by Seth MacFarlane who put up a bold and satiric performance all throughout the event. Charlize Theron, Channing Tatum, Daniel Radcliffe and Joseph Gordon-Levitt put on their dancing shoes and started off the show in style.

Life of Pi walked away with most of the awards, Ang Lee winning the Best Director award in the process, it was a foregone conclusion anyway because Pi and his Tiger did win the hearts of millions across the globe. The much hyped Lincoln managed to win only two awards out of the 12 nominations it received but as every cloud has a silver lining, Daniel Day Lewis, won his 3rd academy award for his portrayal of the US president, entering the Oscar history books in the process. Talking about Silver linings, the rom-com Silver linings playbook won Jennifer Lawrence the award for Best Actress. Seems like Anne Hathaway's rendering played a big part in enabling the music of Les Miserables enter the souls of the judges,

as she walked away with the Best Supporting Actress award. Quentin Tarantino has made it a habit of wriggling his way into the Oscar nominations with his action packed movies and this year was no different with Django Unchained and apparently even his actors have made it a habit to take the golden man home with them, this time being Christoph Waltz, winning it for Best Supporting Actor.

As part of James Bond's 50th birthday Dame Shirley Bassey paid her tribute to dashing spy with her rendering of the 'Goldfinger' while Adele gave her gift to 007 by giving a live performance of 'Skyfall'. As if all this wasn't enough, US First Lady, Michelle Obama left the audience in awe as she appeared live from the white house to award Argo, the Best Picture of the night.

The Oscar day turned into Oscar night for the students of SRM as everyone was busy glued to their laptops watching the online playback of the Oscars after college hours. Most students were of the opinion that this was by far one of the best Oscars and everyone liked the way Seth MacFarlane carried the show about. Silver Linings Playbook and Zero Dark Thirty have become two of the most popular movies students are running off to see. The Oscars '13 was truly one among the top. Hats off to the organizers!!

SRM and WITT conduct chocolate demonstration and plating techniques

Spectrum Reporter

The department of Hotel Management, SRM University had a demonstration on chocolate making and plating techniques on its premises at Kattankulathur. Chef Joachim Vijayan Odgen from Western Institute of Technology, Taranaki, (WITT), New Zealand along with his marketing manager, Carol Joy Allen gave some useful sermons to the students on chocolates

and plating techniques with garnishing using food colours and innovative designs.

Speaking on the occasion, Director of Hotel Management, SRM University, D Anthony Ashok Kumar said that the demonstration was to encourage students on the new techniques and design in confectionary. Speaking on the technique, he said that the skill involves designing and garnishing using

food colours which is heated with sugar solution to obtain the gel used for garnishing desserts. He also said that WITT varsity will be on the campus for two days to teach more about the culinary art to the students.

He further said that the food and hospitality industry was constantly changing and the demonstration was to encourage students to understand and cope with global trends.

MoU with ALMA School for Italian Cuisine

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between SRM Institute of Hotel Management with ALMA school of Italian Cuisine in the presence of Dr. N. Sethuraman, Registrar, SRM University, Dr. T.V. Gopal, Dean-International Relations and Dr. D. Antony Ashok Kumar, Director, SRM Institute of Hotel Management. Mr. Ricardo Carelli, Managing Director along with Chef Brunnei

Sunny trend- Allergic coloured pants

**Priyankadevi Mohankumar
Shruthi Vatsyayani**

The bright summer has sparked off an equally sunny trend for men and women - colourful pants. The ever popular 90's coloured skinny jeans are ubiquitous now in our university too. Coloured jeans have made an awesome comeback and its influence is unimaginable.

"The new trend of coloured pants not only defines the clothing but it also encapsulates the entire appearance right from head to toe. Coloured pants may seem terrifying and hair-raising to try at first, but can be quite flattering if styled well. The new fashion has got a wide range of colours like pink, green, red, yellow, turquoise, electric blue, brown and purple from the '90s throwback. This makes everyone look magnetic and captivating in different colours."- are the views of

protagonists of coloured pants

There, remain plenty of denim followers who consider the new onset of the "colourful pants" quite waggish a style. Loyalists of the always in trend faded jeans; consider coloured pants as an unprofessional and extremely bright outfit. "Even though the violet and blues look passable, the mustards, reds and hot pinks are definite prize winners under the category of gaudy clothing styles. The style being picked up straight from the 90's seems like a boring re run with nothing noteworthy about it," are one among the many views of the agonist students who seem to have disliked this new surprising hit.

Though people have different views, this new trend for men and women is expected to blow off the fashion era with the exquisite new colours and the styles that make us look all the more impressive and stylish.

Participants of the Blood Donation Camp

Save a Life...

With the mission to motivate young students and instill in their mind "Blessed are the young who can give back life with their blood — Donate Blood, save a life", a Mega Blood donation Camp was organized by National Service Scheme (Unit V) and Red Ribbon Club of Faculty of Science and Humanities. There were doctors and staff from SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre blood bank under the headship of Dr. Lalitha K Pillai who conducted the camp and advised the donors. 92 Units of blood were collected. The donors were given refreshments and a certificate of appreciation. The camp was concluded with vote of thanks proposed by the N.S.S Programme officer Mr.S.Albert Antony Raj.

Innovative solutions for potential global problems

Staff Writer

A two day international conference BIZAD 2K13 was organized by the Department of BBA recently aimed at carving unique thoughts in solving potential challenges on various issues globally. The conference was organized in association with The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI-Southern India Regional Council). It was inaugurated by Dr.R.Balasubraminian, Director, FS&H. The inaugural address was delivered by Mr.Sanjay Kumar, General Manager for Sales, Preethi Kitchen Appliances Ltd., and Keynote address by Dr. S.Sarangapani, Sr Faculty, Department of Business Studies, IBRA College

The panel of speakers and Director, FSH during BIZAD'13

of Technology, Sultanate of Oman. The Valedictory address was delivered by Dr. Sam Paul, Chairman, Sam Paul Educational Trust. Special Address was given by Mr.Prem Sagar Madurai, CEO, Asian Insurance RE, Bahrain. The conference has brought 250 papers from State, National and International Community. The Judges for the four sessions (HR, Marketing,

Finance, Corporate Management) recorded their appreciation and valuable suggestions. The 4 best papers were selected from each session for the Cash prize. It is high time to appreciate the efforts of conference organizers who converted conferences as mere meetings of containers of commoditised information to conferences as conduits of hearing.

Daily life is governed by Chemistry

Spectrum Reporter

The Department of Chemistry, SRM University organized a National Conference on Chemistry Solutions, NCCS – 2013 in association with Indian Council of Chemists at SRM University, Kattankulathur campus. This conference was sponsored by SERB, DST, Govt. of India.

The aim of the National Conference on Chemistry Solutions was to bring together eminent researchers from both academia and industry to discuss and to share the latest developments in thrust areas of chemistry. The NCCS 2013 provided a forum for an intensive discussion and exchange of ideas for all those interested in

basic aspects and applications of chemistry in the fields of Nanomaterials, Biomaterials, Polymers, Nanocomposites, Bio-nanocomposites, Sensing materials, Smart materials, Magnetic materials, Electrochemistry, Organic synthesis, Theoretical chemistry, Environmental science and other new developments related to the field

Dr. G. James Pitchai, Vice Chancellor, Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore inaugurated the conference and released the souvenir of the conference. In his inaugural speech, He said that the life of homosapiens begins from birth and continues till death. The very breath, the food we eat, every action in our daily life

is governed by chemistry. The universe is made up of matter, energy and the various reactions that take place. Understanding these reactions is the key solution for productive research & innovation and truly chemistry is the solution for futuristic progress.

Dr. Dr. R.Balasubramanian, Director (Science & Humanities), SRM University presided over the conference.

Dr. M. Arthanareeswari, Co-ordinator, NCCS – 2013 welcomed the delegates, Dr. P. Kamaraj, convener, NCCS – 2013 introduced the chief guest and Mrs. R. Arulmozhi Co- ordinator, NCCS – 2013 delivered the vote of thanks

Eminent Scientists addressed the delegates on different topics. Dr. K. Anbalagan, Professor and Head, Department of Chemistry Pondicherry University delivered a talk on Photo catalysis, Dr. N. Rajendran, Associate Professor, Anna University delivered a talk on Surface modification of biomaterials: A cost effective approach,

K. Pandian, Associate Professor, Department of Inorganic Chemistry University of Madras spoke on Recent developments in nanotechnology Over 100 participants took part in the conference.

From Left to right: Dr. P. Kamaraj (Convenor), Dr. G. James Pitchai (Vice Chancellor, Bharathiar University), Dr. R. Balasubramanian, (Director (F S&H), Dr. M. Arthanareeswari, Coordinator and Mrs. R. Arul Mozhi Coordinator. (NCCS – 2013)

SRM Shines in All India Inter University Volleyball tournament

The C.M. JJ Trophy, All India Inter University Volleyball men and women Tournament was held at Thiruvanamalai from 14th-17th Mach, 2013. In the league, SRM beat Mysore University (25/16, 25/14, 25/14), Bangalore University (25/14, 25/16, 23/25, 25/18) and Vel's University (21/25, 27/25, 25/19, 25/16). Our varsity came out on top at the semi-finals beating Sathyabama University (25/14, 20/25, 25/20, 25/18). Finally, we bagged the champion's title by defeating Calicut University in the finals (25/18, 25/19, 25/21).

SRM's winning team in CMJJ Trophy

Selection trials for Admission Under Sports Quota in SRM University

Spectrum Reporter

SRM University, Kattankulathur campus will be conducting trials for selecting students under sports quota for the year 2013-14 from 16th-17th April, 2013. The trials will be held for the following games- Cricket, Football, Hockey (men), Basketball, Badminton, Ball Badminton, Chess, Table Tennis, Tennis and Volleyball. All sportspersons with a proven record of achievement in any level and seeking admissions to degree programmes in the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Science and Humanities and Management may report for the trials with their certificates and testimonials.

SRM's winning Ball Badminton women's team

SRM university bags 'Defending Champions' title yet again

BSA Crescent University organized a state level Ball Badminton women's tournament to celebrate their Silver Jubilee year in which SRM University beat the home team (29/15, 29/4). We also defeated PSNA Engineering College, Dindugal (29/15, 29/8). SRM bagged the title of 'Defending Champions' by beating St. Joseph's College of Engineering (29/20, 29/22). The best player title went to a student of SRM University – Ms. Sugunya.

SRM University shines in IIT Sanmar Cricket Tournament.

Spectrum Reporter

The IIT Sanmar Cricket Tournament, 2013 was held by IIT Madras from 13th-21st March, 2013. In the quarter finals, SRM University (171 for 2) defeated SSN College of Engineering (170 for 4) in 30 overs moving on to the semifinals. Here, SRM beat Vivekananda College (223 for 4 and 171 for 7 respectively). Finally, our varsity bagged the 1st place by defeating Hindustan University (233 all out in 48 overs) in the finals.

Winning team at IIT Sanmar Cricket Tournament

The best bowler of the match was R. Aushik Srinivas, the best batsman – K.Bharath Shankar and the best all rounder –M. Lakshminarayanan, all from SRM University.

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. It has been made popular in mainstream media by films like "I Robot" and "Terminator" series. But 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"?

… 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 …

The SRM Joyride!

Nandita Adityan

A school is more than an institution in one's life! It plays a major role in shaping up the personality and the thinking of an individual. A college too contributes immensely but, mainly in undoing the entire shaping up process and redoing it its own way! That is when transition knocks in and one begins to notice the differences of a kick-started college life.

As the new semester blooms, the excitement and anxiety in a person usurps the comforts of being home. Being a boarder I have experienced all the hustle and bustle, the enthusiasm, the newly befriended hostel mates exploding on the first day of college. People rise with the sun in the morning to claim the bathrooms first. Dressed to the occasion, students are on time to have breakfast with the red SRM ID-card tags shining brighter than the excited faces. Orientation days are the golden period of a student's life. The students are thrown into the new routine with a tinge of their comfort zones intact. They generally last for ten days after which the actual routine settles in. Slowly yet surely early morning baths and organisation take over. New subjects and teachers fill one with a will power to achieve more and more.

It takes almost a week for academics to completely take over. The perks of being in a college seem more attractive than anything else during this time. Once the classes get over, students fly out like caged birds and are all set to conquer their new found freedom. Java canteen, IT Park, Main Campus canteen, Back Gate, and the University Cafeteria are flooded with students. The security seems to have a tough time sending the girls in by 6 pm. The day sobers down by 9 pm where everyone is done with dinner and the routine phone call to family is made. Net surfing, some studying and a movie maybe is what the student generally ends the day with. By 12 am everyone is sound asleep putting an end to another working day!

EA, Ampa Skywalk or the beaches are always the first weekend outings of a student in SRM. The train route from Potheri to Egmore or Nungambakkam stations are the first travel routes for most of the SRM students. Getting into first class without knowledge, trying to memorise every station's name and time them, catching the Tambaram train instead of the Chengelpettu train while returning, getting into a fast train on your return and helplessly seeing SRM pass by you are some of the first time experiences of every SRMite. One's first Aaruush, first Milan, the first exam will always hold a special place in every SRMiite's heart. These experiences teach you a lot and contribute immensely to your transition.

Passing seasons and more than a semester's time in SRM one tends to be on the brink of completing the transition. The daily routine makes a complete U-turn quite soon. Students usually become oblivious to sunrises and the bathing time shifts to the afternoon or night. Late mornings result in skipping of morning showers and no attendance in the first class. Lift queues no longer matter and students genuinely begin to consider climbing 15 floors as an option!! Lunch in the mess is a rare sight. After college, students grab a quick bite in the canteen and rush to the hostel for a good sleep. Dinner time is when the day begins for the student which goes on till 2 or 3 in the morning. Meals become irregular and the hostel room looks no better than a junk yard. Mahindra City, Mahabalipuram, Vandalur zoo, and Pondicherry are the new weekend getaways and by this time the student realises that buses are easier than trains. One tends to learn the basic words to communicate, mostly for bargaining, in the local language. These minor changes usually go unnoticed but are very common in the students of SRM. Transition creeps in without our knowledge and we gradually adapt ourselves to create new comfort zones. These situations are a consequence of our surroundings and are usually common for people with similar circumstances. It is this inevitable transition that at some point turns into a cherished memory and by then one would have already crossed a lot more of those.

Need For Speed!

Shruthi Vatsyayini

As soon as the 12:15 bell chimes, a throng of students demonstrate their celerity skills coupled with the art of catching seats at our ever populated canteens. With new shops like the "Soda Hub" coming up, it does little to lessen the proliferating crowd. A typical lunch hour for our protagonist Mr "A" would begin with the grumbling stomach and a meek sense of irritability with the lectures extending past the bell. In order to save time our protagonist pre-decides his order. No sooner does the bell ring he sprints to the canteen, making his way with Aryan warrior like grace amongst the multitude of students at the tiny shop windows. With this, the battle being half won, the Herculean task of finding chairs encompasses the next half. Thus the otherwise lethargic person exhibits extreme alacrity in skimming his way between tables, glaring at the table occupants (a commonly employed trick just to make them feel awkward and clear the place soon) he finally manages to grab a seat.

The everyday race against time concludes with him bolting down his food to just about manage to reach class in the nick of time. Thus the lunch hour war proves itself a fruitful exercise of strategy and speed building.

Where "myth" meets "logic"
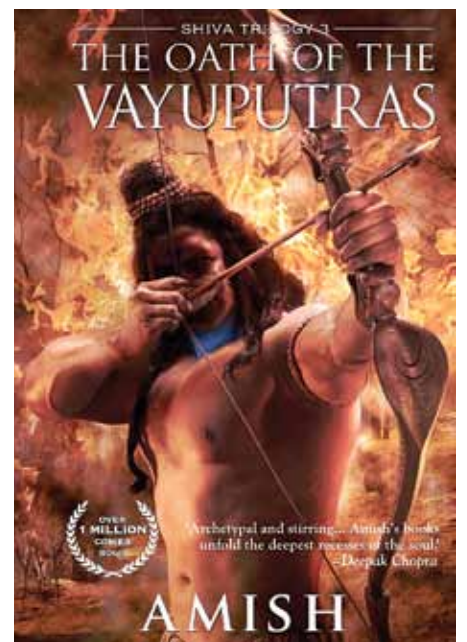
Laasya Dhandapani, Satyaki Ganguly

Indian mythology has enthralled the world for centuries. Therefore, the recent craze among the readers for mythology based novels authored by Indians is a welcome trend that depicts the interest of the common man in the rich culture and ethos of the glorious subcontinent.

Fictions based on Indian mythology are filling up bookshelves in stores and online shops and are being purchased no sooner than they are being stacked. For instance, The Oath of the Vayuputras, the final book of the Shiva trilogy by Amish Tripathi, was one of the most anticipated book releases this year. So, what makes these books sell like hot cakes?

India has a rich culture and heritage. Indian authors have exploited this feature to write some very interesting novels based on the Indian mythology. In many a case, the protagonists, mostly Indian gods and rulers are given a fresh look. Consider the Shiva trilogy by Amish Tripathi. Shiva is presented as a human being, a barbarian, a tribal leader from the Tibetan hills who through his deeds comes to be worshipped as god and the destroyer of evil.

The fresh outlooks provided in the books are also a reason for their success. For example, Jaya- one of Devdutt Patnaik's finest works, transcends the battle between the Pandavas and Kauravas in the epic, Mahabharata and, takes us to its very origin. In this book, the boundaries between good and evil are blurred and the transient nature of humans is depicted. Written in a cogent manner, lucid yet intriguing, this book gives a new viewpoint to the illustrious epic.

The out of the box modes of storytelling is apparent in Palace of Illusions by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, in which the tale is narrated by Panchaali alias Draupadi. This provides a breath of fresh air to the regular readers who readily take up the new perspectives.

The Oath of The Vayuputras: The lastest addition to the mythology based fiction novels.

Stories written unconvention-ally with mystery and politics amalgamated into the lives of the historical characters is inherent in Ashwin Sanghi's Chanakya's Chant. The eloquent nature book keeps readers engrossed to the very end. Rozabal Line, also by the same author, tracing Jesus' life and his Indian connection, does portray a similar uncanny but all the same gripping style of delivery.

The articulate and succinct conveyance of these short novels is what keeps readers asking for more, thereby encouraging authors to venture into the particular genre more than ever before paving the path for new authors with fresh stance.

These books probably depict the coming of age of fiction based on Indian mythology and we can expect a plethora of books flooding the market because of the variety and vastness of the Indian mythology which is indeed second to none