

Right to Information Get to know about your undeniable right to truth and see RTI in action. Page 2	MI, TF and E-Summit A comparative review of the three biggest events of the year. Page 4	Electricity Wastage in Hostels A gross estimate of electricity wastage in student hostels throws up some startling figures Page 6
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If you happen to be an Institute Secretary or are otherwise managing an event's expenditures in this academic year, you would have probably been aware of the delays in the clearance of your bills. Be it AIDS, which couldn't get money approved from the Golden Jubilee Committee and had to delve into the gymkhana funds, or Kaladarshan, which saw its budget being cut from Rs. 30,000 from last year to Rs. 16,000 this year, or Robocon, whose funds came down from 11 lakhs to 8 lakhs this year, everybody is feeling the pinch. What's the reason that we are falling short?

Student Gymkhana Crisis

To begin with, a talk with Mr. Virendra Mam (Accounts Section) and Sumeet Malik (GS Sports), gave us a clear picture of the crunch on the Students' Gymkhana budget. This year, on account of Inter IIT Sports being held in IIT Bombay, a total of 50 lakhs were allocated to Gymkhana's budget, out of which 23 lakhs were for Inter IIT and 27 lakhs were for all other student activities including cultural, sports etc. However, when the SAC committee (comprising the Chairman Sports, Dean SA, all coaches and SAC in-charge) drew a budget for Inter IIT, it came to around 50 lakhs which they submitted to the Director for approval. Ideally, the Inter IIT budget above and beyond 23 lakhs should have been sanctioned from other special contingency funds, but the Director approved the budget and marked it for clearance from Gymkhana. This went unnoticed by all and hence, completely drained the Gymkhana funds leaving a huge deficit of 27 lakhs to be made up for. Prof P. Gopalan (Dean SA) points out that the appointment of a separate Head of Expenditure for Inter IIT would have eliminated such problems.

The aforementioned oversight started spawning repercussions in the form of delays in clearance of bills and large

Institute Budget Crunch

A recent TOI article mentioned a dearth of funds that is confronting the IITs and stalling the payment of electricity bills and salaries. InslghT investigates the issue...

An overview of IITB's Expenditure and Revenues (in Rs. crores)

1	Expected annual non-planned expenditure of IITB for 2007-08	127
2	Amount received from MHRD for non-planned expenditure in 2007-08	72.8
3	Amount IITB makes from fees and other inputs annually	32
4	Current deficit (1-2-3)	22.2
5	Amount IITB can withdraw from Endowment Fund	21
6	Net deficit still remaining with no known source of funds (4-5)	1.2

outstanding amounts. Gymkhana had to delve deep into its coffers to make up for the deficit, accessing sources like the overheads collected from MI and Techfest (~20% of the sponsorship money that the IBs collect), President Gymkhana Fund etc. Only recently, all outstanding bills are finally in the process of getting cleared and Mr. Mam assures us that as far as Gymkhana activities are concerned, all storms have been braved.

Overall Institute Fund Structure

When you consider the Institute as a whole with its expected annual expenditure of around 127 crores, the Gymkhana fiasco of 50 lakhs seems like peanuts. Mr. B.S. Punalkar, Deputy Registrar, Finance and Accounting, gave us a detailed description of our expenditure plans and sources. Broadly, our expenditures fall under two categories - Planned and Non-planned. Planned expenditure includes construction work and any other asset building and includes all 'one-time costs'. Non-planned expenditures include all recurring costs such as salaries, all our student activities etc. We will restrict ourselves to the latter on the basis of immediate relevance.

According to Mr. Punalkar, the minimum expected annual non-planned expenditure of IIT Bombay in 2007-08 would be around 127 crores (see table). In contrast, we receive only 72.8 crores from MHRD (Ministry of Human Resource Development) annually (fixed in 2004-05). Moreover, the money comes in periodic quanta and each quantum has to be justified under a Utilization Certificate which basically shows that the money was spent as intended.

There are two reasons why the MHRD funds are not sufficient:

- i) The amount of 72.8 crores was fixed in 2004-05 and since then has not been increased to account for inflation.
- ii) Once a building/asset is constructed by alumni funding (planned expenditure), its maintenance and repair work get added to our non-planned expenditure. The MHRD grant doesn't take this into account.

For the past three years, the MHRD grants have been falling short. However, IIT Bombay sailed peacefully because of

the money accrued from fees and other sources amounting to 32 crores annually. Even then, the deficits (MHRD grant + Income - Expenditure) for the last three years have been around 1, 6 and 13.5 crores respectively. In such cases, IITB has to delve into its Endowment Fund which is an account where IITs deposit their excess funds and then withdraw the interest earned for their use. Hence, only the interest from the Endowment Fund may be accessed. For the past three years, the interest from the Endowment Fund was sufficient to easily make up for the deficit. Unfortunately, this year our Endowment Fund contains a total of 57 crores out of which 26 crores is capital and only the remaining 21 crores is in the form of interest and hence, available for use. Simple calculations (see table) show that we are still expected to fall short by 1.2 crores with no known source of funds yet.

Mr. Punalkar would like to point out that the TOI report stating IITs do not have sufficient money to pay staff salaries, was printed out of context. At the time of the report, there was a delay in receiving the last quantum of the MHRD grant of 18 crores which naturally resulted in a delay in the payment of salaries. As soon as the grant arrived, the salaries were paid.

However, there's no denying that we are in a spot of bother and the next year, the budget crunch is expected to worsen. Mr. Punalkar says that steps like requesting the Ministry to increase our MHRD grants are being taken and might be successful. But he doesn't deny that at the current rate, the next year may see some more stringent purse tightening, at least as far as student activities are concerned.

(Vivek Upadhyay is a fourth year student of CSE Department and Karthik Shekhar is a fifth year student of the Chemical Engineering Department.)

It's election season and there's 'polt' in the air. But while prospective candidates were touching the feet of the various godfathers around campus, the news that the electorate of 500 odd students was to be reduced to a mere 300 leaked out (courtesy the Awaaz-InslghT bulletin board). While public outrage and constitutional discrepancies ensured a reversal to the old system, we thought we would take a look at the new system and what it would truly entail.

The changes proposed: There were two major changes proposed for elections in March 2008:

1. To elect two GSAs, one for PGs and one for UGs, and
2. To decide a closed electorate that would vote for institute secretaries.

Election procedure changes

With much hullabaloo over the possibility of a change in the election procedures, it is quite likely that voting in student elections next year might be restricted to a limited electorate. Asgerali and Rajlakshmi dissect the issue and analyze possibilities

The election procedure for the General Secretaries, Hostel Affairs, Cultural and Sports would remain the same.

How did they come to occur?

The SAC council which looks after the election procedures comprises 10 student representatives and is chaired by the Deputy Director with the DoSA as the meeting secretary. The move to change over from an open electorate to a closed one, was approved in last year's meeting

itself but it was decided that the system would be implemented from the next year, i.e. March 2008.

Why did these not happen?

It was pointed out when the current GSs were preparing for the new election procedure around Feb 2008 that such a major change in the election procedure would require a constitutional amendment which in turn requires the approval of a Senate committee. Not only was there insufficient

time for this procedure to happen before March, it was also felt that such a change should come into effect at least 8 months prior to the election.

Why was this change deemed necessary?

Democratic procedures have their shortcomings in an age where efficiency is in demand and incumbency is strictly despised. The extensive campaigning and politicking required to garner votes across the institution is seen as very daunting, causing more capable candidates to step down in favor of candidates with more clout. To encourage more capable people to stand up and to stop voting on the basis of community, gender and hostel, the closed electorate was proposed.

(Continued on Page 3)

The situation

The announcement of the new PT policy has left the average sophomore in deep thought. Not knowing why it has been implemented, what is in store for him has left him disillusioned and confused. Further, the popular opinion that he's losing out on a valuable experience is disconcerting.

The rationale

The Institute differentiates between research internships and Practical Trainings. The new PT policy disallows research at universities anywhere from being recognized as a valid PT. Having decided to stick to its formal definition, it now requires that the students do their PTs in companies in their core field of study for a period of 8 weeks. "PT policy is essentially a department issue" says Prof. Banerjee (Dean AIR), "This being said, departments will be given latitude in this regard."

Apart from faculty mailboxes being flooded with applications for internships, the Institute has received complaints about the quality of work of our students at some universities abroad. "Many students consider sponsored summer internships as

Practical Practical Training

With a new PT policy coming into place, two sophomores, Aishwarya and Sudarshan clear the air and provide some perspective on what is in store for their batch

"Above all, this system has to be implemented well and all students have to be placed for it to be considered a success"

- Prof. Banerjee (Dean AIR)

a paid vacation" says Prof. Biswas (Dean AP). With the Indian engineering industry pressurizing the authorities for manpower, the Institute feels that working in a company would give students exposure to make an informed decision about their future. "While experiences with core engineering companies during the last 10 years have not been good, the industry has evolved for the better and we should be open to change" says Prof. Banerjee, who sees this as a way to bridge the gap between the students and the industry.

Opinions

With the Biswas Committee's proposals

being implemented for the 2007 batch, the need to have PTs will be left to the discretion of every department. Although the new PT policy seems progressive, there are issues faced by the student body. While the Institute feels that loss of a recommendation from a university will not be of much consequence, those of us (students) planning to pursue research disagree. The loss of a recommendation is a loss of the perspective of a person who is part of a different system; hence adding dimension to the perception of an aspiring student in the eyes of a university. Further, given that few of us get such opportunities at the end of the sophomore year, many lose the exposure to a different kind of research environment that will give us a greater insight into our areas of interest as well as the general research scenario abroad. This might also tip the scales for those of us who are enthusiastic about research but haven't yet received the desired exposure.

Implementation

"Above all, this system has to be implemented well and all students have to be placed for it to be considered a success" says Prof. Banerjee who believes that both the departments and the student should contribute to setting up the system. To set the ball rolling, the Institute has initiated talks with companies with regard to the work and incentives that will be given to students.

While the Institute is confident that the system will be in place by December 2008, a number of questions regarding the kind of work in store for students - especially those of the Physics and Chemistry departments - and the exact working and accountability of the system are left unanswered. In the meanwhile, the average sophomore will have to live in uncertainty hoping things work out for the best, while still wondering if this is in fact the best policy. Only time will tell.

(Sudarshan Bhatija and Aishwarya Sharma are sophomore students of the Departments of Physics and Mechanical Engineering respectively. They can be contacted at sudarshanb@iitb.ac.in and bonny.sharma@iitb.ac.in)

Have you ever cribbed about anything in the world and blamed it on the 'authorities' for not carrying out their responsibility or being corrupt? If yes, have you tried to pursue the issue further and verified whether your assumption was correct or was it just an inconsequential bakwaas for venting your own anger?

The Authority

Why do we have this notion of 'them' being a powerful and all knowing body which has the power to determine, adjudicate, control and command? Aren't they, the 'Government Servants' for the people, of the people and by the people? Now if they are present to serve us, we have a right to find out what decisions they are taking for us, on our behalf.

I am the Power

Even the beggars on the street pay a sales tax to the government on the goods they purchase. Even they have the right to know what happens of their money. This is the power that democracy grants to its citizens.

Ignorance is bliss, and the cliché of 'changing the world' is not what we are suggesting. We are asking you to be aware of how things are changing already. People are filing RTIs all over; newspapers are using it as a tool to popularize issues of public interest to provide for justice. It is not the moral responsibility of the HSS department or InsIghT to ensure accountability and transparency of the establishment over issues of common interest. It's a collective responsibility. The notion that 'we ought to be concerned with what is happening' needs to be promoted.

There are numerous occasions during IITB life when we discuss and deliberate the doings of an entity referred to as 'the authority'. How can we know what decisions are being made which are going to affect us and the environment around us? How can we keep a vigil on whether things are going on well or not? That's where RTI starts making a lot of sense as a starting point.

Right to Information

Priyadarshan Sahasrabuddhe shares his experience of filing an RTI to learn more about the recent felling of trees in the campus and argues how the Act can be employed as a means to raise social consciousness.

For Instance

1: Last November, a Pune-based teacher, Anagha Bagul, had sought information under the RTI Act about the governor's travels. It was revealed that S. M. Krishna had spent Rs. 35 lakhs on his trips to Karnataka in the last two years. The visits included those undertaken for weddings, funerals, dance performances, a tennis association meeting and a volleyball championship. Krishna was shown to have been out of Maharashtra for more than 200 days during this period. He was accompanied by wife Prema 26 times and most of the visits were to Bangalore and southern cities.

2: We were concerned about the felling of trees on campus and in order to know the reasons behind these, we decided to file for information. Contrary to our expectation, the process was rather simple. We had to draft a simple letter addressed to the 'Public Information Officer' (PIO). There was no need to know who the officer was. We wrote down the questions that we wanted answers for and submitted it in the administrative section. On paying a fee of Rs. 10, we got a receipt and kept a copy of the application, duly signed by the officer who received the application.

For instance, we had asked how many trees had been cut and how many were going to be cut. The summary of the reply was: *Trees already cut: 245; Trees transplanted: 136; Trees to be cut in the next one year: 109.* We were concerned about the new structures that were going to be built. We wanted to know what steps were being taken to make these new structures energy efficient. In the reply we have been given the contacts of the architects.



Correct, Official, Reproducible Information

Why approach the PIO? Why not ask our hostel General Secretary, if he does not know then the Hall Manager and the warden and so on?

What we feel is that all these people may have the information but it could be in a diluted form and inaccurate. Also, none of these downstream people are responsible for the activities and will not be able to provide official documents for the same.

If you believe something is wrong somewhere, or think there is a lack of transparency in the records or reports of a particular public matter, or if you want to follow up with something and lack sufficient

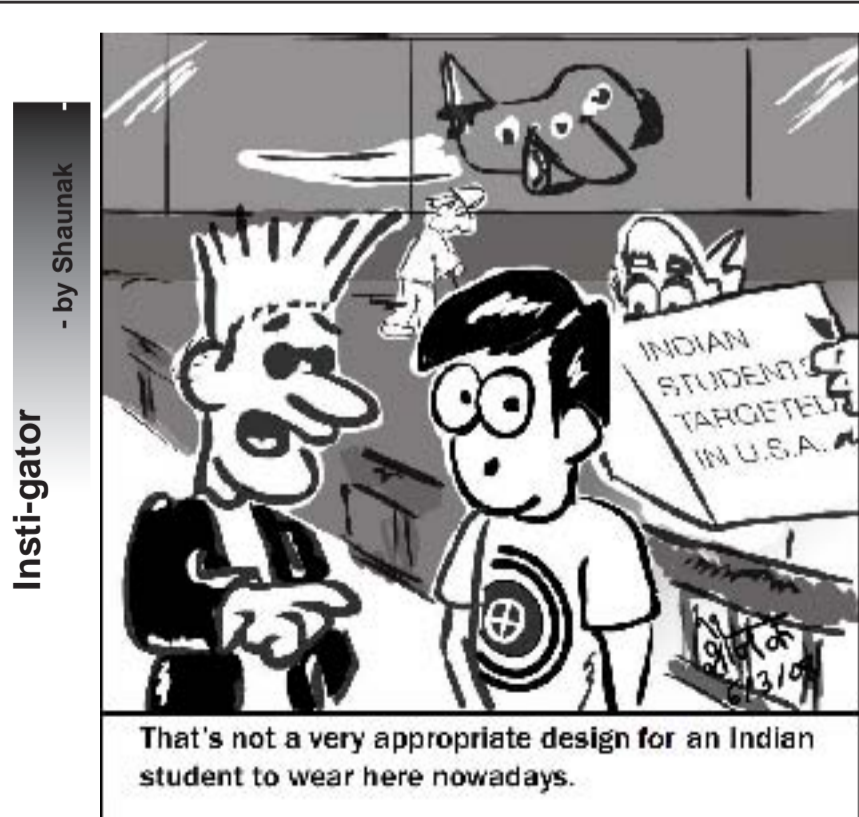
data to base your ideas on, RTI is the way to go! It is our path to correct, reproducible, official information. For example, the numbers quoted above are official, hence unquestionable and credible.

Not the last option

RTI is *not* the last option. It is not something we resort to if all other options fail. It is the first and the easiest option to get information. We feel this paradigm shift is essential so that we will rid ourselves from the fear of filing an RTI.

Finally information is our *right*. RTI has empowered us immensely. However, it should be clear that it is a tool albeit a powerful one. It is a means to achieve a goal - in our instance, an environmentally friendly and sustainable campus. The journey has just begun towards that goal. If all of us exercised this right, we feel many things around us will start changing for the better.

(Priyadarshan Sahasrabuddhe is a 5th year student of the Mechanical Engineering Department)



Insti-gator - by Shaunak

That's not a very appropriate design for an Indian student to wear here nowadays.

(Continued from Page 1)

While the debate over what such a system would imply is yet to follow, one first question is the entire manner in which this procedure was carried out. While the SAC committee is empowered to make changes, it is remarkable to note that no-one deemed it necessary to inform the student body of this impending decision, even though the idea seems to have been agreed upon more than a year ago.

Says Sai Krishna Thota, ex-GS Cult, "Having hostel councils' vote defines an electoral college which is formed of all democratically elected representatives anyway... close ties in votes can be resolved by interviewing in the presence of a panel led by the Cultural/Sports Chairman".

Criticisms against the proposed system: The main problem however seems to be with the definition of the closed electorate. The main constituents of this electorate would be 'the elected representatives of the students.' This means hostel councils and department

representatives would be its main constituents. However since the strength of this body is too small, its extension was suggested and this was responsible for much of the debate on newsgroups.

It was suggested that the sports electorate could include inter-IIT players, as they would be closely acquainted with the sports scenario at IIT Bombay, and would be able to hopefully make a more informed decision. The same however does not hold true for cultural activities. With a myriad of clubs having a largely floating population there is no way to identify people who know the 'cult scene' objectively. The problem with a club-based selection system is that membership of clubs is not properly defined. One suggestion made was for the hostel councils to identify 10 people from the hostel who would form a 150 strong electorate of 'informed' voters. A hostel based system, however, faces the problem of horse trading taking place and this would make it easier for entire councils and their lackeys to trade votes.

Election Procedure changes

Restructuring the clubs: Perhaps this is a time when reform of the club structure could be revamped and formalized. An old proposition to only elect third year students as conveners is gaining more ground. This would put them on par with the secretary as well, and let them concentrate on club activities solely (most conveners are usually involved in MI and Techfest). Also, the convener would then have to define a criterion of membership; be it attending meetings, organizing events or just taking part. Each club could then add to the strength of the electorate. Another suggestion to add to the strength of the electorate was to include the members of the IBs: MI, Techfest and Ecell, as it was assumed that these managers, while working with sophomores, would know better than most about candidates. However this proposition was met with outright opposition on public forums on the grounds that none of these people are elected by students nor do they truly contribute to the daily activities on campus. Shriharsh Tendulkar commented,

"I refuse to trust my hostel council to vote. And I definitely do not trust MI and Techfest teams to vote for me. I have no say in their selection and they do not represent me".

So is a shift to the closed electorate happening? In all likelihood, yes. The ills of the current system are too widespread to be ignored, and the thinking is that if the system is tried for at least a year and if there is a mitigation of 'polt', then the system will be continued. The basic question arises: In a democratic system, doesn't a closed electorate imply some sort of elitism? Perhaps it does, but if we go by the mandate of 'informed voting' then it automatically will be. Let us admit it, as students a large majority of us do not really bother to find out the nitty-gritty of each candidate. Most times it is not even possible; there are 20 odd posts up for grabs.

(Rajlakshmi Purkayastha is a fourth year student of the MEMS Department and Asgerali Masalawala is a second year student of the Aerospace Department)

One thing true for almost all hostelites is the perpetual lack of money and hence the subsequent need for making money. Of late, referral businesses, most notably Ebiz, have started to be seen as one's shortcut to fast cash. So what exactly is Ebiz?

The Façade

The organisation was supposedly founded by an IITD alumnus with the stated aim of spreading computer literacy amongst the masses of this country besides presenting one with an opportunity to earn and achieve financial freedom. There are about twenty courses available for a cost of around seven thousand rupees, which, according to the promoters, would cost you about fifty thousand if completed from anywhere else. Besides that, one earns a commission based on the number of people who join the organisation due to one's efforts, which includes the independent efforts as well as the leveraged efforts of his/her downline. To ensure that the aim pertaining to education is fulfilled, every student is required to pass

Money for Nothing

Rylan and Mohit investigate the pros and cons of the latest money making craze doing the rounds - the Multilevel Marketing phenomenon called EBiz.

three courses every year.

The true picture

The system and its intent are, however, anything but as simple. One look at the courses offered and the course content provided convinces you of the same. For instance, MS Office ordinarily includes Word, Powerpoint, Excel, Access, Publisher and so on. So while anywhere else, MS Office would be offered as a single course, it has been split into five different courses here. That apart, the certifying exam for any of these, say MS Word, can be attempted on one's own home computer, with MS Word open, for all that anyone might care about. One look at the course contents of C++ reveals the usage of complex-sounding concepts but hollow explanations which seem to have been lifted word-for-word from standard textbooks. That accounts for the state of the educational part of it.

Reasons for joining

The real reason why many people end up joining Ebiz is for the monetary returns it offers. The students, who are already members of this organisation, are referred to as "business associates" and are provided with pseud looking visiting cards and all. It is these people who take the organisation

forward by inducting more and more members into the organisation. A chance meeting with any one of them starts off with the usual encomiums heaped on the founding members and their "noble" vision, and before you know, the money involved is being talked about. Having convinced you with right sounding assertions, the unchanging pattern of arguments moves on to, "So how many members do you think you can convince to join us? At least two every month?" A crude calculation later you nod. "So two members every month, and assuming two members are inducted by each of them and so on, you stand to make... hold your breath... about Rs. 9,00,000 in a year!" If that sends your mind into a tizzy of figures, then the more sentimental arguments of how you'd be able to support your family, yourself, and wouldn't even have to sit for placements clinches it.

Another reason why students get attracted to such an organisation could be the need to be a part of a "family", to have a sense of belongingness. Indeed, many Multilevel Marketing (MLM) organisations around the world have been, at some time or the other, been criticised for being cult-like in nature, replete with motivational programs et al.

In many circles, this style of functioning has been compared to multi-level marketing. Here however, it seems that the "investors" get their returns out of the money paid in by subsequent investors, rather than from net revenues generated by any real business.

An operation of this kind, also called the Ponzi scheme, is actually illegal in many countries as it is bound to collapse mainly because of its own weight, as investment slows and the promoters start having problems paying out the promised returns. And when the word spreads, more people start asking for their money and so on.

Effects

The effects Ebiz is having on the students as it is are not very pleasant. The sophomores who have joined Ebiz are apparently never free on weekends. Even incentives like wing treats do not lure them to stay behind in their rooms. Early in the morning, dressed in formals, these "business associates" leave for far off places like Dadar and Kandivli and don't return until late evening. Interaction with others, participation in outdoor activities or extra-curricular ones are nil. What's worse is that they have been coercing the freshies who worked under them during Techfest, MI, Ecell etc. to join Ebiz. And the freshies, taking a senior's advice to be the word of God, get sucked into the system and end up losing out on quality college life.

It is not that part time jobs are taboo. There are students who have joined Webaroo, PACE, some who freelance for an organisation called Campus18 and so on. But referral businesses, wherein you can be held responsible for what you promise and what you deliver, apart from the fact that there are questions about the legality of the same, is something more serious.

(Rylan Henriques is a fourth year student of the Physics Department and Mohit Sharma is a second year student of the Civil Engineering Department.)



Anupam Ghosh, Institute Ph.D Placement Nominee, helps us chronicle some facts and figures about the PhD placements.

PhD Placements '07-'08

5) The number of companies coming for PhD recruitment:
06-07 - 50 (exclusively for PhDs - 4)
07-08 - 70 (exclusively for PhDs - 26)

1) Total job offers for PhDs through placement procedure:
06-07 - 16 out of 74 (21%), 07-08 - 14 out of 91 (15%)

2) The average pay package of a PhD student has been:
06-07 - 6.5 lpa, 07-08 - 7.5 lpa

3) Companies coming (or scheduled to come in March and April) exclusively for PhD placements:
Siemens, L&T, 3M, Emerson Networks, Reliance Oil and Gas, Oracle Retail, Cadbury, Nicholas Piramal, Forbes Marshall, HPCL, Tata Teleservices, Bosch, Intel, etc.

4) Lowest pay package for PhD job - 5.2 lpa (L&T)
Highest pay package for PhD job - 13.63 lpa (Shell)

6) PhD recruitment brochure is in the process of being printed. Placement cell and IIT Bombay are funding to get the brochure printed along the same lines as IITB Placement brochure. It will contain all the information about the PhD programme with all the registered PhD students' details (name/thesis/guide's name/keywords and abstract)

7) Placement Cell and Chairman, Confederation of Indian Industries (CII, Western Region), Dr. Naushad Forbes, have collaborated to help get PhD students placed in different organisation. CII is directly contacting all the companies and emphasizing upon them the need to recruit people with technical depth to supplement their R&D teams.

Mostly, PhD students get off campus jobs with the help of their guides' contact as well as post doctoral fellowship. The campus placement scenario is still in its nascent stage and needs to be improved. The figures of this year are really promising and hopefully they will improve significantly in the next placement season.

MI, Techfest and Ecell - A comparative review

The past year has seen three huge fests happen on the IIT campus, each organized by our students and each quite unique. MI, Techfest and E-Summit target almost mutually independent audiences. MI resembles a four day long carnival with some of the most intensely creative people in the country being given a platform. Techfest showcases all aspects of modern science and technology and connects us with innovations happening in the world in a very real way. E-Summit provides challenges and fosters entrepreneurs, giving them opportunities to unleash brilliant ideas upon a waiting world. All three fests have grown tremendously and are now way beyond simply IITB's fests for IITB students. Here, Neha, Aishwarya, Nithya and Arunabh examine the past year's fests together, highlighting their differences and their inescapable similarities.

IBS' Review

4

MOOD INDIGO

With sponsorship of over a crore of Rupees, MI '07 saw the campus transform into a hub of vigour, enthusiasm and sheer fun. This year, the innovative competitions in every genre saw not just an unexpected number of participants but much higher quality too.

What's new: The Solo Impromptu Dance Competition held at Jai Hind College on the 16th of December was the first brick in the wall of Mood Indigo '07. Grind, the Poolside Party, saw a huge audience grooving to the beats of DJ Akbar Sami and the like.

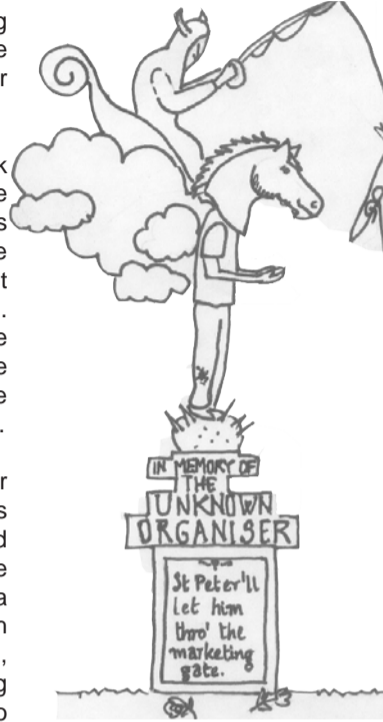
Publicity/Media: MI this year made news in the entire country with immense media coverage in leading newspapers and magazines as well as advertisements in PVR cinema halls. An effort of the team to show music in daily life through the mascots Rocky and Jazz, was however, not all that well received. The website also faced a lot of flak as it did not bring out the grandeur of MI.

Awesome Things at MI '07:

- Clearly the highlight of the 4 day festivity was dancing to the surreal music of Shankar, Ehsaan and Loy at the OAT.
- Showcasing a Hip-Hop extravaganza was the popular dance troupe B-Boyz, all the way from Korea with their larger than life props.
- Grind, the poolside party, saw enthusiastic

youngsters dancing into the dusk to the music of DJ Akbar Sami and others.

- As the clock struck twelve, the Convocation Hall was jam packed with people watching the UV light Dance Competition. Amazingly creative performances like the Mario dance made the staying up worthwhile.
- Informals this year surpassed all previous records, with crowd pullers like Escape from Alcatraz, a multistage event which involved running, crawling and rolling through obstacles to race to the finish. The Maze, another first at MI saw people entering a life size maze with obstacles for enthusiasts to get lost in. Ka Ching, the Casino caught the interest of many.
- Prizes: Apart from prizes in cash and kind, the winners could also take away mentorship under eminent artists and a chance to cut an album with Universal.
- Hot Air Ballooning and Adventure Games like Rappelling, Zorbing etc. were an added attraction.



TECHFEST

Techfest '08, with a budget of over a crore, promised a challenging set of competitions, an impressive line-up of speakers and entertaining Technoholix nights. Although the Technoholix was a bit of a dampener and a couple of video conferences did not happen due to unavoidable technical glitches; on the whole Techfest '08 was a perfect blend of technology and excitement.

What's New: Techfest 2008 tried something new in the Lecture Series this time, by conducting Interactive Lectures. These were targeted at a niche audience, and offered the audience much more accessibility to the speaker. Afternights, like the SciTech finals and a stargazing session, proved very popular.

Publicity, Website, Media: Pre-Publicity was toned down but this began to change in the final week before the festival, and some really innovative handmade publicity was put up at the Shack. The creative mascot and novel packaging put Techfest in a class of its own. The website deserves a special mention. It was both appealing

and user friendly.

Awesome Things at Techfest '08:

- As always, Micromouse was a much sought after event for audience as well as participants. A team from IITB broke all previous records and finished in 12 seconds! The UK Micromouse Champions, Derek Hall and Jim Chidley showcased their mice and conducted a workshop which was well appreciated.
- The popular lecture by Jimmy Wales, founder of Wikipedia drew large crowds and the video conference with Padma Bhushan R.K. Pachauri was a huge success.
- The Royal Society Exhibition with topics ranging from medical sciences to aerospace to structural and energy resources engineering, was awe-inspiring. The Indian exhibits alongside also clamoured for more than equal attention.
- For the large floating crowd that showed up, Ozone was the place to be, with Junkyard Wars and Jack of all Trades proving huge hits.
- Full Throttle Grand Prix saw participants make the ultimate Formula 1 car and set the race tracks scorching while spectators enjoyed the thrill.
- What sets Techfest apart is its outreach to various Asian Countries, with enthusiasts coming down from Sri Lanka, Iran as well as some other SAARC Countries.



E-CELL

With a manifold increase in budget, E-Summit was larger than ever before. A budget of INR 55 lakh ensured huge prizes and a drastic scale up in the level of E-Summit. With the biggest names of the corporate world visiting as lecturers to guide, mentor and inspire participants, E-Summit was a huge success.

What's new: The Winners of Eureka! India's biggest Business plan competition organized by E-Cell not only received INR 14 lakhs worth of prize money but also received an on the spot initial investment worth INR 50 lakhs from Mr Vishal Gondal, Founder, Indiagames even before the results were announced, for their sheer creativity and innovation. The wall at SAC, which is usually monopolized by Techfest for most of the year and MI in December, has been painted for E-Cell this year.

Publicity and media: While advertisements appeared in leading magazines like Outlook, publicity in the institute was toned down. Media coverage after the event was extensive with both newspapers and news channels featuring items on E-Summit. The website too was quite professional

and user friendly.

Awesome Things at E-Summit '08

- S. Ramadorai, CEO and Managing Director of Tata Consultancy Services gave the Keynote Address at E-Summit '08 and a talk on emerging Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in India.
- R.K.Mishra was declared the winner of Lead India (Times of India) the night before E-Summit and was here the very next morning to give his talk.
- 11 out of the 40 showcased companies during VC Pitch got investments worth around INR 50 million from various Venture Capitalists.
- Heads of the Entrepreneurship Cells of NUS, Stanford, ISB and other IITs and IIMs met and discussed a lot of relevant issues.
- The Networking Lunch at SAC gave all the Corporates as well as the aspiring Entrepreneurs an opportunity to interact.
- The Products of IITB startups were showcased during E-Summit.

The DoSA's Comments

We approached Prof. P. Gopalan (the DoSA) for his opinion on the exponential growth in the scale of IIT fests and the way they are being executed. Prof. Gopalan believes that crowd control got out of hand. He said that the basic problem in the management of various fests is the sudden increase in the number of people attending them. This further leads to an increase in sponsorship making the fests more and more commercial each year. He also maintains that Techfest is fast catching up with Mood I in terms of budget as well as crowds.

In response to the complaints by students about the mismanagement of crowds, Prof. Gopalan said that the IIT crowds were to be blamed to a great extent for misbehaviour and that this led to the drastic measures and the chaos that has been talked about. When you are conducting such a large fest, even the slightest misbehaviour from the outside crowds cannot be tolerated. For instance, the Symbiosis contingent was booted out of the campus with immediate effect once they were found guilty of ill demeanour. According to him, Mood I '06 and Techfest '07 were picture perfect in terms of planned execution.

When asked about the change of venue of the E-Summit from a five star hotel to the IIT campus, he explained that it should not be the aim of the Independent Bodies on campus to inculcate the five star culture in students. He questioned whether the student body or the Institute would be responsible for anything going wrong at a venue outside the campus and said this was one of the main reasons that permission was not granted. Quoting Prof. Amarnath, he said the days of certi-culture are well and truly here. Certainly, a majority of students have become resume driven in taking up posts.

Around a year ago, the first article about hostel football leagues was printed in **Insight** and the writer joked that one might even see an institute wide league; this prediction has come true in less than a year. The IFL (or Institute Football League), has been formed and in its very first year, it has drawn in more than 250 students.

Initiative

After the recent whitewash of Inter – IIT 2007 by IIT Bombay, the institute is seeing a major resurgence in sporting activity. This new found enthusiasm for sports is being channeled by the newly conceived Institute Football League (IFL). The IFL is the brainchild of Renil Gogri, Siddharth Ghosh, Sumeet Malik and Neeraj Inani and is being executed by several members of the football team (with a little help from several other enthusiastic people). With an approval from the DOSA, the League is based on a format similar to the English Premier League. This is the first time that a non inter-hostel football tournament is being held.

The basic aim according to the organizers, is to have maximum student participation and to achieve this, non-playing junta are being given the opportunity to take part in the role of share-owners and club presidents. The organizers believe that

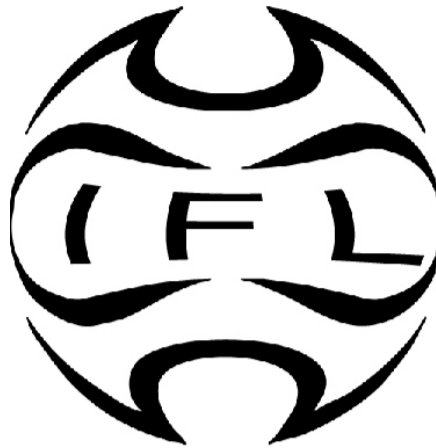
A League of our Own

It's finally a reality - an Institute wide football league aimed at raising our collective sporting blood. Siddhartha Das chronicles...

the IFL will go a long way in pulling people out from in front of their computer screens to the sports field. The players list has a total of 207 names with several of them being PG students.

Execution

The League has been planned as a round robin competition with each of the 8 teams (named after European clubs) playing each other once. Students were first allowed to buy shares and form the clubs. After the clubs were formed, a rather exciting bidding session took place for the players. The bidding session saw club Presidents raising each other's bids to exorbitant amounts, with teams spending up to 300 of their 1000 available points on Inter-IIT players. Most of the matches have been scheduled under lights and the organizers have promised referees from



outside (which is different from the norm in Inter-Hostel matches where senior Inter-IIT players do the refereeing). Every player has also been provided with a jersey of his respective team.

Finances

The IFL has a registration fee of Rs. 200 for players. The organizers justify this by saying that jerseys have been provided to all players (whose price is in fact, around Rs. 200 each). This fee also acts as deterrent to students who would otherwise just give their names for fun and not follow it up. As the IFL does not receive any funds from the institute and does not have any sponsors, the organizers say that this is the only way to provide good quality jerseys.

Future prospects

The organizers would ideally like to have sponsors to reduce the registration fees and provide better jerseys, equipment and prizes. Seeing the overwhelming response received so far, they believe they can even increase the number of teams next year so as to have even more student participation.

The League is based on a format similar to the English Premier League and is the first time a non inter-hostel football tournament is being held.

All in all, the IFL is a student initiative which has the potential to go a long way. Very rarely does one see sports events taking place at such a large scale. So come witness the several matches of the IFL and see Manchester United slug it out with AC Milan on the football field nearest to you.

(Siddhartha Das is a second year Dual Degree student of the Department of Civil Engineering. He can be contacted at das.siddhartha@iitb.ac.in)

If you thought you knew everything there was to know about IIT, think again. Here is a collection of weird, interesting, lesser known and completely random facts about the institute we live in.

1. A landmark that hardly anyone ever notices, there is an *Ashoka* tree on the way from Coffee Shack to LT which was planted as a mark of IITB's foundation by the President of Soviet Union, Lionel Brezhnev in the year 1961.
2. 30 years ago, the only computer on the campus was a computing machine EC1030 in the basement of Maths department. Programs had to be manually punched on a card and the output could only be seen the following day!
3. The lakeside road between guest house and H8 was once used for the filming of

Little known facts about IITB

Gauri, Aditi and Karthik present some lesser known facts about the institute that we all are a part of.

4. "Dayaa be, the food is too bad. I can't eat it." - and so go another 200 grams of food into the waste. It is heartening to know that H12/13 mess has a great system of keeping a check on the amount of food wasted everyday. They put up the weight of food wasted after every meal on their notice board. They are actually planning to set up a biogas plant for their mess.
5. H3, which was awarded the best mess prize last semester, wastes about 10kg of

food per day, that is to say, food for about 20 people, significantly less than the other hostels. Here is a rough estimate of the food wastage in various other hostels per day. H9 – 40kg, H10 – 50kg, H6 – 40kg and H12/13- 120kg.

6. For those eager to know about what goes on at Hostel Ten, here is an interesting tidbit. There is an annual inter-wing fashion competition at H10 where the hostelites are supposed to walk the ramp, showcasing their own creatively designed costumes. They even give titles to participants similar to those awarded in beauty pageants. These titles are then proudly displayed on the wing noticeboards.

7. Any questions about the existence of a math club would in all likelihood draw blank stares. Well, there is a math club in the institute and it's not a very small one though it is informal. It has around 15-20 "die-hard" members who in the mystery of mathematics and computer science. The meetings are held in GG with talks given by the budding mathematicians of the institute. The last two topics to have undergone serious scrutiny were generating functions and combinatorics. If interested, you can contact Sangram Raje, the "informal" convener of the club.

(Gauri Joshi is a 3rd year Dual Degree student of the EE Department, Aditi Goyal is a 3rd year B. Tech student of the EE department and R. Karthik is a 2nd year student of the MEMS department.)

For those of us who have been fortunate enough to have interacted with him, the sight of our beloved Rajappan Sir, with his *dhola* slung around his shoulder and his smiling demeanour, will forever remain etched in our memories. With his retirement last month, a huge hole has been created in the gymkhana. In this article, we pay our tributes.

Mr. V.P. Rajappan's career as a staff member at IIT began in 1974. 8 years and several departments later, he joined the Students' Gymkhana in 1982. Over the last 3 decades, he has touched many lives, with his *bindaas* attitude and a rare genuineness of character. His relationship with students was one of great mutual love and respect. During the innumerable Inter IITs that he attended, he always passed off a fancy Guest House room to stay with his students in the hostel saying, "Use *mein mazaa hain*". Almost every sportsman to have represented IIT has a story to tell about him. One particularly cold Inter IIT at Kanpur, Rajappan Sir offered a student his blanket and fought the biting cold all night, with only his tracksuit on. He wanted to ensure that the boy was in top condition for his match the following day.

Rajappan Sir - A tribute

This year the IITB Student's Gymkhana saw the retirement of Rajappan Sir whose tenure in the staff will forever remain in our memories. Krishna and Vaibhav pay a tribute to his indispensable contribution to IIT.

To find out what someone is really like, you talk to the people who spend the most time with them. That's exactly what we did when we spoke to the SAC staff about Rajappan Sir. And the enthusiasm of their response surprised us. They've all worked with him for well over ten years, and they say that they've never seen him without a smile on his face and a joke on his lips. He constantly strove to take care of those around him. He used to encourage the Inter IIT staff to use

For this article, one of the interviews we did was with a staff member at 12 midnight; he usually goes home then. That day, he was so enthusiastic to talk about Rajappan Sir that he stayed for another half hour essentially talking only about his cheerfulness. Nothing on earth ever induces him to stay a minute past his time, and he stayed that day.

their travel allowance to buy gifts for their families on the return journeys and pay for their travel expenses from his own pocket. He is famously unflappable under pressure as well. In other staff members' eyes, he is an indispensable part of IIT. This is reflected in the nickname that they've given him - they call him the 'Minister'. They feel that his encyclopedic knowledge of everything that happens in the SAC and his cordial relationship with students, professors and staff qualify him for no less a sobriquet.

Besides the students and staff, Rajappan Sir is also held dearly by the coaches. We asked the hockey coach, Dr. Appaji for his thoughts and he told us, "Besides having a wonderful attitude towards life, Rajappan was a pillar of SAC. We could always count on him for everything - medicines, food, settling accounts. He was also always pro-students and used to go out of his way to help them. On many an occasion, he fought

vigorously with the Accounts section to clear bills, with that mischievous tone in his voice - *IIT mein student ka main kaam hain padhai. Yeh bill-vill ke chakkar mein unko idhar-udhar bhagaana galat hain!*" Adding to this, our basketball coach Dr. Edwin says, "Without him, the SAC office already feels like it has lost its soul."

Cultural chairmen have come and gone but over the years, Rajappan Sir has been a constant in the SAC. When we asked him for a few memories, he said he's been around for so long now that there are too many to tell. When he started off, the institute used to give MI a seed amount of Rs. 10,000 to begin with. Now, the institute takes 30% of the total money raised! Soon however, Rajappan Sir will be off to his home town in Kerala. A serene life after retirement awaits him amidst the trees and backwaters. Enjoy yourself Sir, and thanks for everything. We will miss you and your laughter.

(Vaibhav Devanathan is a 3rd year undergraduate student of the Physics department and Krishna Ramkumar is a final year undergraduate student of the Chemistry department.)

NOTICE

As required by M/S TATA Power/MSEDCL, power will be shut down in the following areas to change over the line:

Area	Date	Time
Entire Campus	23.03.07	7.00am-8.15am

Inconvenience caused is regretted.
Executive Engineer (Elect)

Our goal

With power cuts becoming a regular and systematic feature on campus and with the growing concern on energy wastage, we felt it would be worthwhile to do a pilot study of electricity consumption on campus. A detailed quantification of the same requires an analysis across different levels and sectors of electricity consumption. In interest of a minimalist approach, we decided to focus on student consumption of electricity in hostels through a small sample set of students (male) of one particular hostel. We partitioned 'consumption' into 'usage' and 'wastage' and obtained estimates for these in our sample through a random check and some back of the envelope calculations. Our working hypotheses shall be stated in the following paragraph but we would like to state two salient features of our model. The first is that we have liberally extrapolated the results obtained from a study in one hostel to raise a conjecture about electricity wastage across all students. While this may seem unreasonable to some (although there is no reason to believe that members of one hostel are particularly more wasteful than others) the second feature of our model compensates for this possible shortcoming. In our study,

Electricity Wastage in Hostels

In an institute of technology, the students' consciousness seems to lack the resolve to conserve power. Archana and Manas report...

we have judiciously taken lower estimates of wastage based on our checks and it is surprising to notice that even this leads to startling conclusions that seek attention. All said and done, if someone were to disprove our findings through a much more detailed study across the institute, none would be happier than we.

What the consumption should be

Consider an average male IITian during an exam-free time of the semester. He prefers to attend 80% of his lectures and compulsorily attends his labs totaling about 25 hours a week, meaning no light or fans should run in his room during these hours. He sleeps for 6 hours and his daily chores take around 2-3 hours. 10 hours of desktop computer usage (including running a movie while sleeping, or downloading things while going for lunch) is a staple ingredient in his daily routine. We assumed that the percentage of students who stay out of their hostel in their free time is not high enough to significantly affect the electricity consumption. Hostel 2 was our sample space and we assumed only half the students had desktop computers; and spread the burden of power consumption across all the hostel members. We also calculated usage per person for powering the mess, corridors, lounge, washrooms and washing rooms. The final number turned out to be 500 units of electricity per person per month.

An inconvenient truth

With an estimate of usage which may be called the warranted consumption, we attempt to estimate the actual consumption which takes into account the wastage. We did a rough survey during the morning lecture slots and counted the number of lights and fans running in unoccupied rooms. The dining area lights of the mess were also put on for a certain period of time, competing rather unsuccessfully with the bright sunshine streaming in. But these wastages are pale in comparison to the real biggie - sleeping desktops. Most people put the computer on a low power mode when not using it, instead of shutting it down completely. Most departmental laboratories and computer rooms have machines running 24x7. Even if one assumes that half the students possessing desktops in a hostel shut down their machines completely, the remaining perpetually-on computers contribute to an enormous chunk of the total waste accruing to around 5 units of wastage per person in Hostel 2 per month. In order to check the veracity of our estimates, we compared them with the actual consumption in hostel 2 through the electricity bills and observed that they were within 10 % agreement.

This guesstimate helps us realize the scale of the problem of electricity wastage. Whether the situation would be the same if each one had to pay for one's personal

consumption is another story altogether. If we start calculating the wastages in departments and so forth, the figure will most certainly multiply. Going a step further, it is fair to suppose that most hostel students are not particularly different from H2 students in their usage of electricity. Extrapolating thus, one finds that the bare minimum that the 5000 strong student community of IITB is wasting is 25 mega watt hours of electricity per month! If the fact that this is the amount of energy needed to run many villages of our nation for a few months doesn't touch you, probably the fate of future IITians, in a world where things are not so much in plenty, might:

NOTICE

As required, power will be shut down in the following areas throughout this semester to ensure that we do not break the government's power rationing rules.

Area	Time
Entire Campus	5.00 am - 9.15 am 5:15 pm - 7:00 pm

IIT Bombay electricity supply is designed to cater to your ACADEMIC needs. If the timings are hampering your academic work, please register your complaint. After ascertaining the genuineness of such requests, corrections will be made as soon as possible.
Executive Engineer (Electricity Rationing Board)

(Manas Rachh is a 2nd year student of Aerospace Engineering Department and Archana Raja is a 2nd year student of the 5yr Integrated M.Sc. Chemistry Programme.)

6

The M.Phil 2007 batch was sent out this year on a field trip to evaluate the developmental projects that have taken place in the Jawahar Taluka of Thane district. All we were told was that we are headed for a tribal village. I really didn't know what to expect. Would they be people living in jungles and using leaves for clothes? Would we be intruding upon their world like the colonizers of yore? All the pre-conceived ideas I had in my head regarding tribals and their culture did not prepare me for what met my eyes over there.

It was a landscape untouched by human intervention. It did not crave for recognition like most of us do. Its existence was not dependent on another's approval. It somehow claimed the right to be left alone, resplendent in its own beauty and wilderness.

When we visited the tribal hamlets, we were intruding in their private space like I had anticipated. We wanted to know about their livelihood, their annual income and several things that constituted our research problem. But what could we tell them when we finished our work and left?

Tribal visit

Ajanta narrates her experience during an M.Phil field trip to a tribal village in Maharashtra

What purpose was this exercise serving? How much of a difference would it make to their lives? All this research project was doing was adding to our CPI, while the tribals continued with their poverty-ridden lives. Some of us were cautiously reminding the rest, "We have not come here to change anything". Giving the tribals any kind of hope was not a good idea when we couldn't eventually live up to it. It was better that we left them to themselves, very much like the barren landscape had been left untouched by civilization.

The entire population in these hamlets is below the poverty line. The landscape is so rocky that all they can grow are cashewnuts and mangoes. During the rest of the year they make their ends meet by working



as wage labourers for a measly twenty rupees per day. That is supposed to suffice for an entire family. They cannot save even one rupee a day. Thanks to Dr. Muhammad Yunus of Bangladesh (2006 Nobel Peace Prize) and his concept of microfinance, these days they have womens' self-help groups where they invest and also take loans to build houses and buy cattle.

Though the tribals asserted that they did not discriminate between the girl and the boy child, the all-too-familiar picture emerged soon enough as we saw little girls carrying two or three matkas full of water on their tiny heads, while the boys played cricket in the field quite oblivious of their share of household responsibility. It was somehow

beyond the ability of us city-dwellers to grasp how malnourished children could carry wood and walk for miles barefoot without a word of complaint.

As night fell, we used to come back from the field haggard and tired after a day's work. The land would be pitch-dark all around. I had never sensed darkness so profound, when you turn around and see nothing and look up to find a million stars shining down on you. It is quite difficult for a Bombayite used to looking up in vain at the smoggy sky for a glimpse of the stars, to imagine what it is like to reside in complete darkness. Seven days of stay were like a scrapbook full of memories for the rest of my life. For a week, I had lived close to the earth and its people. They made me realize that we can live with very little. Their struggle continues on an everyday basis, yet they never give up hope. I will never tire of narrating this story to all who believe that our country's populace will soon be all city dwellers.

(Ajanta Akhuly is a 1st year M.Phil student of the HSS Department.)

Satellite Campus

Rohit Vadera reports on the newly commissioned satellite campus of IIT Bombay in Gujarat.

hand provide higher education to the graduates passing out of local colleges. The purpose is to make them fit for the industry of their choice and also give them a competent training in the manufacturing and engineering sector. Through this program, students and professionals can avail themselves of the PG Diploma of IIT Bombay.

This initiative is a part of the Continuing

Education Programme (CEP) of IIT Bombay. Video recordings of the lectures of faculty from IIT Bombay are telecast by CDEEP (An article in the previous issue by Mohit Sharma may be referred to for details on CDEEP). Also, faculty will visit the campus in between semesters and deliver lectures. A number of short term vocational courses are being run which aim to help the pupils gain a modern technological outlook in view of the rising industrial demand. Some

of these include Hi-tech automation, piping technology, IT management, waste water management, road construction principles, nanotechnology, bioinformatics etc.

This initiative of IIT Bombay is highly commendable keeping in view its goal to spread technology and help the country generate much needed skilled labor for fulfilling our dream of becoming a global manufacturing hub. Let's hope that this maiden milestone will be highly successful and help IIT Bombay grow further.

(Rohit Vadera is a 3rd year B.Tech student of the Mechanical Engineering Department.)

Tum chaaron ore se ghir gaye ho.
Apne cellphone phak do, aur apne aap ko
election officer ke hawale kar do

Vote for Britney
as Seazy
Governor

उमि तो ठरे
युकेसी आउ
आ निभाको ?



VOTE FOR
in site
as insti tabloid

VOTE FOR HAATHI
AS INSTI SQUASH SECY
CREDENTIALS

- CAN SQUASH A
WHOLE GLASS OF
JUICE FROM 1
LEMON.
- CAN SQUASH A
6 FOOT TALL GUY
TO REQUIRED SHORTER HEIGHT (±2%)
- CAN SQUASH !!

Bhagwaan, maine
tumse aaj tak kuchh
nahin manga. Aaj
main tumse vote
mangne aaya hoon



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PAF

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

PAF may also stand for *Probably A Freshie*, *Phool Aur Fatte*, *Please Attack Fubu*, *Protest Against FRs*

This Article does not make any sense.
Please stop reading it **right now**, and save some time

The Performing Arts Festival is the most highly competitive cultural showdown in the Universe. This, and a few occasional goof-ups can sometimes lead to it being confused with the Pakistan Air Force.

Every year, the PAF sees numerous students sacrificing their sleep, lectures, sweat, blood, sex (yes, a lot of guys often have to dress-up as girls, due to a shortage of girls' hostels on the IIT Bombay Campus. If you thought of a different connotation, see *Pervet*). Key aspects of a winning PAF include:-

- An OC who can single-handedly smoke away one third of the sutta budget
- An OC who can convince the GSec to then increase the sutta budget by one-third or better still, an OC who IS the GSec.
- Twenty dedicated freshies who 'willingly' slog day and night convinced that this is the only path to enlightenment
- An HR manager who can convince twenty such freshies that this is indeed the only path to enlightenment
- One person who can act, and twenty people who think they can act
- One person who can speak, and twenty people who think they can speak
- One person who can think, and twenty people who - um - never mind.

Often, PAFs try to include at least one of these aspects. Sometimes, they succeed.

External Links
[Excerpts From a PAF Freshie Diary - On Bulletin Board](#)

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Gmail
by Google BETA SWEATER PEHENO

Compose Mail

Inbox (6)

Starred

Chats

Sent Mail

Chat

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- Schwarzenegger I'll Be Back
- Muggu Please do not disturb
- Haggu Please clean my room
- Dave Mustaine Gone to India
- Chatter-jee In Lecture. WiFi Rox!
- Benazir Bhutto Gone to the next level
- **** Alice

Big Breakthrough in Research: Andrew Symonds not a monkey. Mother still being investigated

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<input type="checkbox"/> Your Prof	I have made the decision not to award you your degree. Best of luck for your future. LOL
<input type="checkbox"/> Random Freshie	Sir, please forgive me for taking 5 minutes extra to clean your room this morning. I did not mean it.
<input type="checkbox"/> Daddy Dearest	I am delighted to hear that you have got a DD in all your courses. This is the highest you could ever
<input type="checkbox"/> Morpheus	Congratulations! You are the One! Please deposit \$984,653 in the Bank of Nigeria
<input type="checkbox"/> Steven Spielberg	I was very impressed by your audition tapes. You have been selected for the role of a bamboo tree
<input type="checkbox"/> Academic Office	You have been reported to have divided by zero in your MA exam. Please pay a fine of Rs. 5.25/0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Orkut	Osama bin Laden has Sent you a friend request
<input type="checkbox"/> Attendance Incharge	Academic Section - Kitne Aadmi the? Aadmi do, aur signature paanch!
<input type="checkbox"/> Mood Indigo OC	You have been selected as MI CG. Please deposit Rs. 1,00,000 in MI Treat Account
<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Stress	In Distress - Mein tumhare bachche ki maa ban-ne waali hoon...
<input type="checkbox"/> God	Praying Fine Details for 05D00666: The following prayers have not yet been offered.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Mosquito	The blood content in your alcohol stream has dropped below acceptable limits
<input type="checkbox"/> GPO	*****SPAM*****
<input type="checkbox"/> Joey	How you doin'?
<input type="checkbox"/> Pervez Mu\$harr@f	Out of job. Will work for food
<input type="checkbox"/> Dracula	I am organising a massive blood donation camp. Please turn up in large numbers to
<input type="checkbox"/> Isaac Newton	I accept your application for a summer internship on recent advances in gravitation
<input type="checkbox"/> Quick Gun Muruga	Don't miss mv new blockbuster coming this April: http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1176911



Mere paas
credentials hain

Mere paas
contacts hain

Mere paas
manifesto hai

Arrey, toh maa
kiske paas hai?

Will you vote for
me, darling?



THE EXCRUCIATING PANEL

Ghaza, Vaibhav, Eeshan,
Rylan, Neha, Archana,
Aishwarya, Ghoda, Tanny

http://placements.iitb.ac.in/

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Placements IIT Bombay

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- Why Recruit @ IITB
- We and The World
- Academics
- Student Profiles
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Academic Achievements

- Have frequently been known to pass exams in school
- Am proficient at solving linear equations and have a working knowledge of quadratic equations
- Computer skill: Typing. (Can also type in CAPITAL LETTERS). This skill helps me in yahoo messenger competitions
- Computers kill: People (in AoE, CS)
- Research interests: I enjoy seeing the earth going around the sun. I have done it 24 times so far. Am very close to publishing a paper on this surprisingly recurring phenomenon

Extra Curricular Achievements

- Hold the Under - 4 meet record in Lemon-and-Spoon race
- Took initiative and personally watched more than one cricket match in a stadium and was instrumental in India's victory
- Won the first runner up position in fancy dress competition the Navjivan Housing Society when I was 10 years old

General Achievements

- Have interest in savings bank accounts
- Have donated \$984,653 to the Bank of Nigeria and, hence, am the one
- Have received numerous colours during my stay at IITB, among them red, white, black and blue
- Have achieved the NCFM Certification in Derivatives

Positions of responsibility

- Have been promised THE position of responsibility in hostel 14
- Have been the umpire for all CS department cricket matches
- Second runner-up Institute Dance Secy 2007
- Writes leisure pages for institute newsletters

Other Interests

- Washing clothes with strong detergent in lukewarm water at 10:00 PM on the third Wednesday of each month with no 'r' in it
- Expert in cutting fingernails, cutting wood and cutting chai

Summer internship: May-June 2007

- Interned under Bill Clinton: project details are TOP SECRET



Why is sleep required?

Apart from the body requiring rest, sleep also enables the brain to analyze and learn from the data that it has collected throughout the day. Without question, analytical skills diminish when the body is sleep deprived.

A certain amount of sleep is essential to keep the body and brain in shape, but as all of us in IIT know, there are times when night-outs are necessary to keep the grade-sheet in shape. This article attempts to help you manage your night-outs better by looking at the science behind sleep.

Can you cheat sleep?

You can, but only to a certain extent (One Vietnamese, sixty-four-year-old Thai Ngoc claims to have never slept since a bout of fever in 1973). It is a common experience to feel extremely sleepy on the day following a sleepless night. This is because you have accumulated something known as 'sleep debt'. Anything less than average human sleep (about eight hours) adds to your sleep debt. Among the common consequences of a large sleep debt are attention lapses, reduced short-term memory and impaired judgment.

Techniques to reduce sleep time

Most of us are 'monophasic sleepers', sleeping in one long stretch at night. Biologically, however, we are 'biphasic species'. EEGs reveal how the brain enters into a lengthy sleep mode at night and then has a midday dip in alertness (No wonder the 11.30 lecture is the most excruciating).

However, intentional 'polyphasic sleep' (multiple sleep periods during the day) is not only possible, but also a good way to cut down on sleep time. Leonardo Da Vinci claimed that he used to sleep for periods of fifteen minutes every two hours. These add up to a measly three hours of sleep a day, but Da Vinci claimed that he was able to function as

Anatomy of a Night-Out

Unfortunately for many of us, evolution has made us into species that work during the day and sleep during the night. Eeshan and Vaibhav furnish a prescription that will (hopefully) assist you in combating the nocturnal forces...

well as anyone with an uninterrupted sleep period of eight hours at night. Modern researchers say that polyphasic sleep patterns are difficult to get used to for the first fifteen days, but once one adjusts to a radically different sleep schedule, maintaining the routine is not difficult at all.

Consequences of polyphasic sleep

Okay, polyphasic sleep gives you five extra hours every day, but you better have something planned to do in those extra hours. Most experimenters return to normal sleep after six months or so, largely out of boredom, albeit believing they've accomplished a mission. So much for euphoria! Researchers of this phenomenon do not recommend polyphasic sleep as a way of life, but have not been able to find any associated medical side effects.

Chronology of a Night-out

What follows is an hour-by-hour break-up of how to successfully achieve a night-out. May the force be with you!

8.00 pm - Do not have dinner, at least not a very heavy one. At all costs, avoid high fat and high protein items. (Go for the roti rather than the rice).

8.30 pm – go buy a dozen apples, bananas. Have them every half an hour.

9.00 pm – stock some water by your side and start

studying. Preferably sit at a desk. Sitting/lying in bed may seem like a comfortable option, but must be avoided at all costs. Keep drinking water at regular intervals.

11.00 pm – resist the urge to go to the canteen with your friends. In case you think you must, restrict yourself to tea/coffee. If you feel hungry, remember, you still have that stock of fruits.

1.00 am – Take a short break (1min < short <15 mins). Do not laze around during this time. Walk around and talk to people.

2.30 am – Have a light snack (Avoid rice dishes. Try Maggi and a glass of juice at H13. Some more Tea/Coffee will also do you good). If you feel like stocking up on food, go for biscuits rather than chips.

3.00 am – There comes a time every night when you feel the sleepest. Brave this one hour and thou shalt definitely succeed! Keep doing the water and fruit thingies, but also insure yourself against accidentally falling asleep – Put multiple irritating alarms for 03.30.

6.00 am – Take a break. Walk to main gate, and have a cup of tea. If you go to Maddu Mess, do NOT treat yourself to the dosas, however tantalizing they may seem. However, a couple of idlis and a cup of coffee are OK.

Hot Tip: Keep a huge stash of peanuts (the type which have two nuts inside a hard covering). Start peeling and eating them whenever you feel drowsy. The work involved in peeling and eating the nuts will ensure that you don't drop off.

(Vaibhav Devanathan (No sleep record: 48 hours) is a third year student of the Physics Department and Eeshan Malhotra (No sleep record: 52 hours) is a second year student of the Civil Engineering Department.)

Pop Sci

8

Logo Design Contest

We have received some amazing entries from Ankit Kothari (first year student, MEMS Department) and Shantanu Jog (second year student, Visual Communication Department, IDC). Here are some of them. We will very shortly work out the finer details and select the winning entry that is to be our future logo.



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If you would like to join the InsighT team and/or give feedback, feel free to mail us at insight@iitb.ac.in or visit our website <http://gymkhana.iitb.ac.in/~insight>.

Questech

You're a gon-er.

Chip and Dale alternately draw diagonals of a regular 2008-gon. They may connect two vertices if the diagonal does not intersect an earlier one. The loser is the one who cannot draw any. Who has a winning strategy if any?

Does it suite you?

I ask Chip to pick any 5 cards out of a deck with no Jokers. He picks out any 5 cards and then hands them to me (Dale can't see any of this). I look at the cards and I pick 1 card out and give it back to Chip. I then arrange the other four cards in a special way, and give those 4 cards all face down, and in a neat pile, to Dale.

Dale looks at the 4 cards I gave him, and says out loud which card Chip is holding (suit and number). How? The solution uses pure logic, not sleight of hand. All Dale needs to know is the order of the cards and what is on their face, nothing more.

(Mail the answers to onkardalal@iitb.ac.in or dale86@gmail.com with "Questech" as the subject. The early bird gets its worms at coffee shack.)

Announcements

Election videos

Please watch out for the election videos of GSAA and GS Cult candidates on our website where you can see them explaining the nuances of their manifestos and take on each other in a face-off.

Your opinion about InsighT's future

With the aim of assisting Students' Gymkhana in controlling expenditure, we are considering various means of cutting down on our costs. Some of the possible ideas are:

- 1) Transferring our printing process to Institute Printing Press and shifting to booklet/magazine form along the lines of Campus Diary.
- 2) Opting for sponsorship and accepting advertisements for our print version and website.
- 3) Reducing number of pages from 8 to 6 (or 4) for every edition.
- 4) Reducing number of editions from 3 to 2 every semester.

Please drop us a one-line mail at insight@iitb.ac.in with your opinion and suggestions to help us decide.