

On 19th January, in a meeting called to discuss matters relating to network usage, the following decisions were made:

- 1) Video streaming was disallowed.
- 2) A download limit of 3 GB per month was imposed.
- 3) A time-based ban (11 PM to 12:30 PM) on LAN access in hostels was imposed.
- 4) Distribution of illegal content on IITB network would be cracked down upon.

### Excerpts from an Interview with Prof. G. Sivakumar, Head CSE and ex-Head CC regarding this:

#### What are the main reasons for such an extreme decision?

At the outset, I would like to make it clear that this is definitely not a mathematical problem with "exact" formulation and "optimal" solutions. I do not claim that the recommendations of the committee are "perfect", will solve all problems and have no bad side-effects. It is, however, a genuine attempt to address some issues/problems that we all first need to accept exist and are worsening. Now, there are two broad reasons for our decisions:

- 1) Over the last 3 years, a significant number of students have become addicted to games and movies and this is adversely affecting the academic performance of the overall institute. It has also led to unacceptable lifestyles with ensuing isolation, depression etc. This is where IIT is playing the role of a parent in implementing measures they see fit.
- 2) There is an increasing proliferation and dissemination of illegal content via the IIT network. LAN restriction is not the only

## WHO MOVED MY LAN?

Last week, the institute passed a few major decisions to monitor network usage in hostels. **InsIghT** presents a report.

way of cracking down on pirated material, but it is important nonetheless.

One must realise that computer usage per se is still guaranteed 24 hours a day. The measures that have been taken up are only in the hope that students will use their time more productively.

#### What about those students who will suffer as a result of the time-based restriction even though their intentions for using LAN are good, and legal?

Monitoring the activities of every student and banning selected computers is not feasible. We needed a solution which applies to all in general. Though the lifestyle of a section of students will change in a negative way, we need to go by the principle of the greatest good of the greatest numbers. For those whom this restriction is being implemented (LAN gamers, for eg.), it will drastically alter their daily schedule and help them recover back to a normal lifestyle. This measure is well worth trying out and it will be reviewed in 2 months. If there is a better technical solution, then we will implement that. I appeal to those who will genuinely be affected to work around it and optimise your net usage; then it will not hamper your academics and career.

#### At present, IIT doesn't have the requisite infrastructure to support students who have genuine academic commitments. The internal transport system

has been in a pathetic state for years now. Most department computer rooms are basic and minimal in their facilities. The institute Computer Centre has only around 25 (for all purposes, non-functional) computers. Shouldn't all these have been upgraded first, before considering a restriction of more than 12 hours?!

I concede that the transport system in IIT is not up to the mark. However, just because IIT has failed to arrange for the appropriate and timely implementation of one policy, it cannot be used to target other potentially beneficial policies. One suggestion is that students could organise a pool of cycles, or every hostel could buy some cycles. In addition, many professors and I believe that every student should have access to his department computers from the 2nd year. Until now, the need was not seen. Many labs have 5% occupancy, and a lot of power is wasted. However, if the occupancy of labs increases, an upgradation in the CC and department computer rooms will be of a high priority.

#### Do you think the pace of development

#### What next?

From events in the last few days, it is clear that the authorities believe strongly that some concrete steps need to be taken right away. The student representatives are in agreement with Items 1, 2 and 4. Since Item 3 is largely the bone of contention, the next logical thing to do would be for the authorities to call another meeting, discuss the necessity for it and if deemed required, review the pros and cons of various time slots. The time slot that has been currently enforced is completely unreasonable.

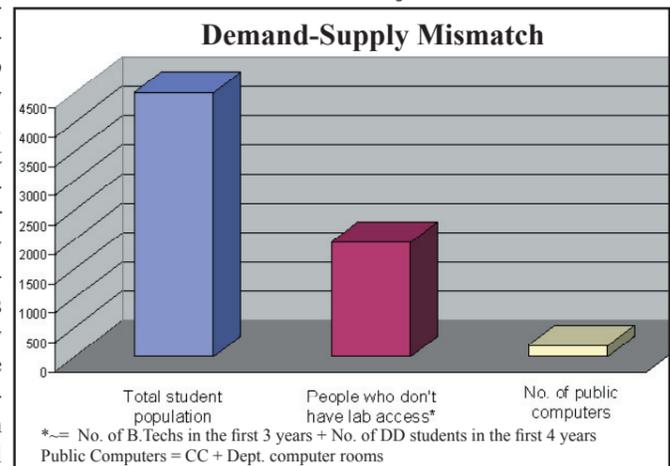
Consider the average undergrad. He has lectures till 12:30 PM, and on certain days, has lab till 5 PM. Assume that he plays a sport or works for at least one of the institute's independent bodies (or is that unacceptable too now?). He gets back to his hostel at 9 PM and has a quick dinner. Time's running out. So he rushes back to his room and either abandons any work (academic or not) he has in despair or just does a rush-job of it. And this is just an example of a basic productive (debatable, but reasonable) schedule. Forget about going out for dinner or catching a movie – normal demands from a college student.

Now consider a normal day of a downloader/gamer/addicted-to-LAN-er that the new policy is targeting. One wonders what impact it would have on their lives in any case, especially considering the fact that

of the CC is adequate, considering the number of students already in the institute as well as the future increase in this number?

A new building will soon be built in place of the original CC building, wherein CC will get 2 floors and CSE dept will get 3. To achieve this, the existing building has to be demolished, for which we have to move the facilities somewhere else. I request students to keep raising this issue and it will be done in due course.

A 13.5 hour time ban is so unreasonable that a large number of students will resort to using personal wireless routers. This will in any case defeat the 'so-called' stated objectives.



It is almost impossible for more than 4-5 students to share a common router without the knowledge of those around them. The hostel councils will be strictly instructed to report such events to the wardens, and an appropriate punishment (such as a stiff monetary fine) could be meted out.

LAN would be available in its full glory in the evening. And this is not to suggest that LAN be blocked even in the evenings (in case one gets the wrong picture).

The fact of the matter is that choosing a time slot is a tricky matter and one which requires serious consideration. The committee has suggested that all the decisions will be reviewed in 2 months. But 2 months is a long, long time in IIT. It would make much more sense to start with a much smaller time slot (IIT-M for eg. has a ban from 1-5 AM) and then review that.

#### The issue at large

The new LAN policy has received brickbats from most quarters and plaudits from a few (mainly faculty). Though the various concerns of both the students and faculty are important, it is critical that one does not get caught up in the "Us vs Them" debate. So what else can we all strive to do to bridge the gap between the aspirations and expectations of the students and the professors? Bring more flexibility into the academic curriculum? Involve students more in courses? Provide periodic counselling to academically weak students? Only time will tell. For now, at least the dialogue has begun.

(Interview by Krishna Ramkumar and Nishant Patni. Inputs by Gautam Salhotra and Arunabh Sinha.)

### Haste makes waste?

The time-based ban on internet access (no LAN between 11 PM and 12:30 PM in hostels) that was passed by the committee has received stiff opposition from an overwhelming majority of the student community. The decision will have several immediate consequences. Many students need to use facilities like e-mail at night. This is especially important when it comes to placements, as students are often mailed late at night about an interview the following day. Assignments will have to be completed in super-quick time. There are also certain kinds of academic software that a student cannot download onto his computer but accesses straight from the department. Restricting net access for such a long period could prove to be a major hurdle for students with such requirements.

It is however crucial for the students to recognise and understand the concerns of the faculty regarding the declining academic interest and performance. It is also a reasonable contention that restrictions of some kind need to be put on the network usage to improve the situation. However, what is also clear is that the authorities have acted in haste and imposed the ban prematurely. Even if a time-based ban was absolutely essential, a more reasonable slot should have been decided upon (such as the proposed 2-6 AM slot, which would have been much more acceptable – we are talking in relative terms here - to the student community). In addition to this, a few major overhauls in the institute's infrastructure are absolutely imperative before one can think of implementing a time-based ban, to ensure that those students with genuine academic commitments are not negatively affected.

- 1) The institute CC needs a major revamp, and should be accessible throughout the night. All departments must also upgrade their computer facilities and have 24-hour computer rooms. This should be done keeping in mind the increased number of students in the institute the next year.
- 2) The institute's internal transport system must be drastically improved (mind you, we've all been saying this for over 3 years now).

Big names. Bigger offers. The world on a platter, spiced up with 7-digit packages. Though this is just one of the facets of the overall placements at IIT Bombay this year, it has set the tone for the entire season. It is difficult to grasp the intensity, without, quite rightly, the numbers. 1130 students on roll for placements, 684 placed already.

IIT Bombay began its placements process on the 1st of December. Till date (Jan 15, 2007), 684 students have been made job offers by 113 companies. Of these, 300 are A1 jobs and 215 A2. The number of foreign offers has increased from 24 last year to 44 this year. Overall, a total of more than 225 companies are set to recruit from IIT B this year.

### First Phase: Increasing Global Recognition

This year, the placements process is happening in two phases, with a two-week gap for the Inter-IIT Sports Meet. The first phase (December 1st-9th) created much ado, with major companies from a broad spectrum of profiles such as consulting, technical, finance and oil visiting the campus. Companies making a bee-line for

## There's place for everybody

Vikranth Audi, Sriram Emani, Sarmistha Pal and Rajlakshmi give a round-up of the placements season thus far.

**Slot-wise Classification of companies:** Industry-wise slots were introduced this year. For example, there were slots for consulting, I-banking, FMCG, etc. In a particular slot, companies belonging to that industry were invited. The slot structure was an attempt to take in student opinion and smoothen out the process. This ensured that students could choose a particular company among all offers in a slot. But this led to a compromise on the kinds of jobs students got – someone interested in an FMCG job couldn't afford to risk not sitting for earlier jobs.

### Second Phase

The second phase of placements, started on 24th December and was sluggish to begin with, given it was the holiday season. The number of companies visiting the campus was much lesser than in the first phase. However, the pace has slowly picked up and 411 students have now been placed in the second phase. The placement team is confident that all registered students will have a job by early February.

### The Downside

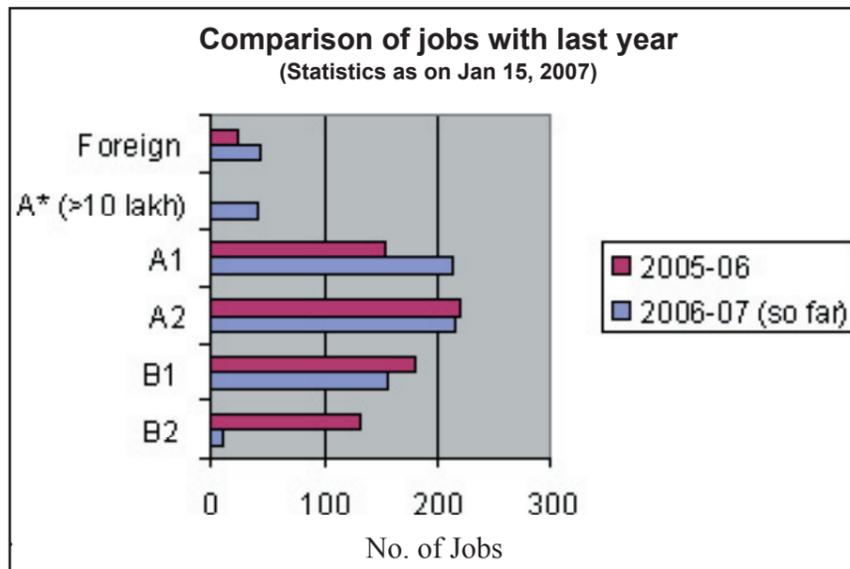
**Transocean:** Transocean extended 'final offers' to 4 students and invited them to their head office for an 'informal' session the next day. Once there, the students, to their surprise, had to undergo a technical interview, the result of which was the basis for rescinding their job offers. The students lost out on what was considered as a breach of placement procedures, and hence this issue will likely be taken up at the highest level. Appropriate action, to the extent of blacklisting, might be taken against the company.

**Malpractices in Aptitude Tests:** Cheating and other malpractices have gone largely unchecked, during the aptitude tests conducted by various companies. While companies like Inductis and Deutsche Bank stringently supervised their tests, many others treated it trivially. The availability of large-sized venues (to seat students) was certainly another problem. In one amusing instance, case studies given to one student

quickly got circulated among the rest of the interviewees, despite requests by the company not to do so. Maybe the company was doing an honesty check!?

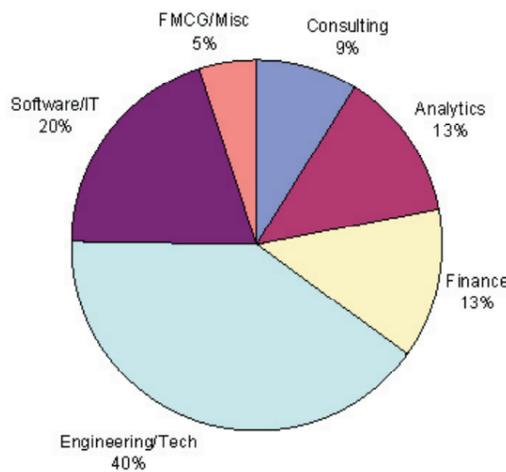
**Student Quality:** While some companies

companies did not visit the campus in the first week of December. Once all (a sizable number of) students are placed, a second round of placements might be on the cards, in which the recruiting companies will be open to everyone (irrespective of A1/A2/B1/B2 job). This idea is still in the nascent stages. Everything depends on how soon the students with no jobs get placed.



2

### Sectorwise classification of all jobs (Statistics as on Jan 15, 2007)



IITB students were global consulting majors like McKinsey (2 offers) and BCG (5); top Fortune 500 companies including investment banks of the stature of UBS (3), Deutsche Bank (22), Merrill Lynch (6), Lehman Brothers (18) and Goldman Sachs (2); gargantuan oil firms like Shell (16), Halliburton (4) and Schlumberger (8); IT companies like Google (4), Yahoo and Lime Group (4); and FMCG companies like ITC (5) and Proctor & Gamble (9).

In keeping with the varied student interests and the plethora of company profiles, the scheduling of placements during this phase was largely based on an opinion poll conducted online by the placements team. On an average, 5-6 companies visited the campus every day. With most students vying for the 'top' companies, many companies were forced to up the stakes to attract the best students. At the end of the day, it was a competition for who gained the most. Monetarily, the recruits did. The oversized compensation packages have pleasantly shocked most students. The maximum overseas salary was 90,000 \$ (Lime Group) while the highest domestic salary offered was Rs.24 lakh (Schlumberger). Finally, students can look forward to bidding adieu to bankruptcy!

were floored by the quality and knowledge of the students, others were not so impressed. Under-preparation for case studies and interviews, an unsatisfactory grasp of basic technical knowledge, ineffectual communication skills, etc. have been cited by companies as some of the reasons for taking fewer students than they had in mind. In this aspect, IIT Delhi seems to have outscored us. Their students are much better prepared (especially for I-banks) and the result is clear for everyone to see: IIT B's B.Tech placements pale in comparison with IIT D's.

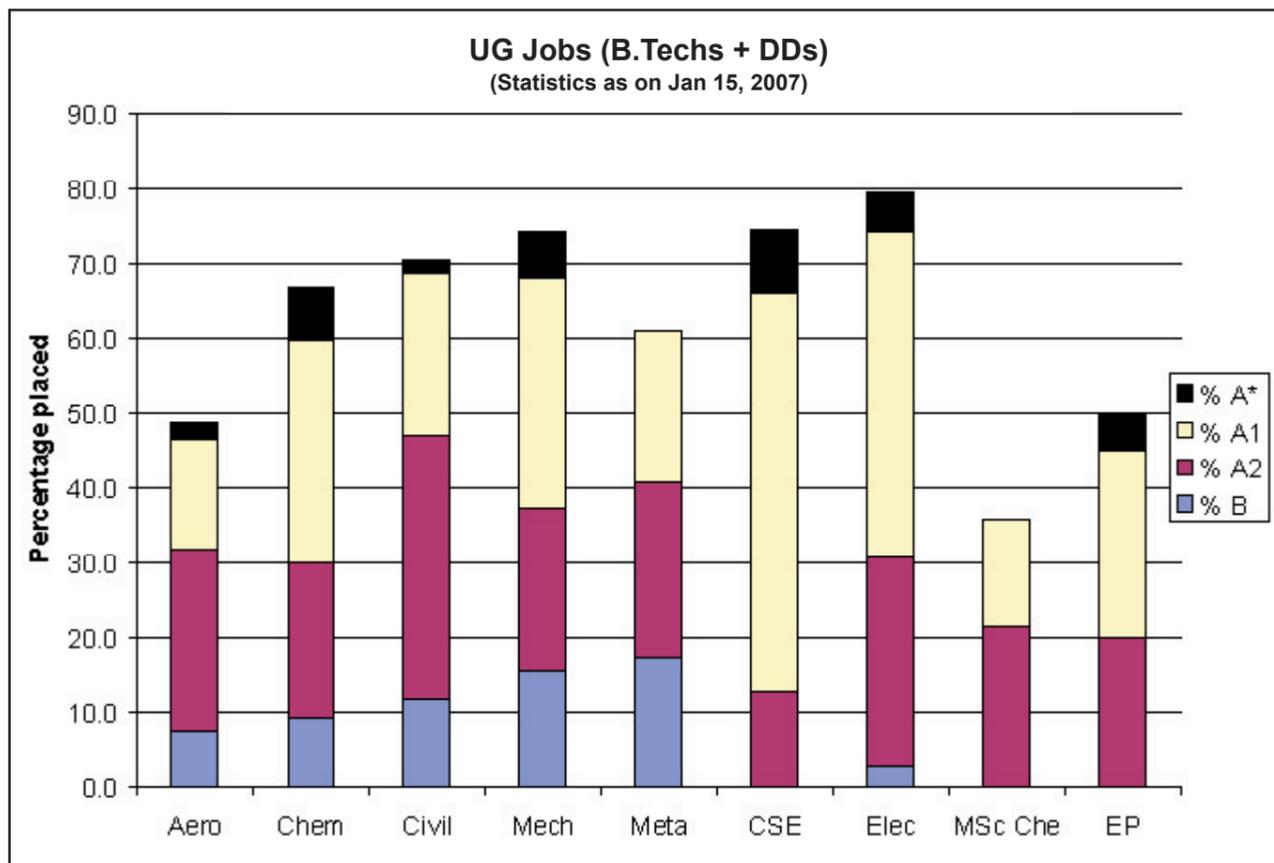
**Core companies:** It's the same story all over again! CS and Elec core companies flooded the campus. However, the situation in Civil Engg and Metallurgical Engg is much worse. Core engineering companies in these disciplines offer pay packets of ~ 3 lakh; this makes them unattractive to students.

### Placements: A second coming?

There is good news for all those who want to 'upgrade' their jobs. Plenty of major

### And finally...

Imagine being forced to take up a software job. Imagine 2-3 lakhs. Imagine off-campus. For most people, this was the story of placements some time in the not too distant past. For now though, these issues can be safely relegated to imagination alone. With so many changes, the student attitude has changed drastically. A few years back, getting a job was like Columbus discovering "America", and evoking thanks to heaven. While in some ways it's more or less the same even now, the emotions have diminished. The preparations which used to be restricted to a few sessions before D-Day in hostel wings, and case studies which were found on company websites, have now taken on global proportions. Resumes shoot out months in advance for appraisal, study materials are pinched from voluminous e-books from Ivy League business schools, and students burn the proverbial midnight oil discussing interview questions. Whether this will lead to the *Kotaisation* of placements, only time will tell.



IIT-Bombay has made it a habit of finishing first runners-up at Inter-IIT, coming 2nd in each of the last 4 meets (and losing by a mere 2 points the last 2 years). This year, we also managed to come 2nd in as many as 4 events. Here's a look back at the 41st Inter-IIT Sports Meet, held in IIT-Guwahati from Dec 12th to 20th.

#### The journey

A long time ago, in a galaxy far far away (even further than Star Wars can take you), was built a city called Guwahati. Comparable to D-Day and '24', the train journey was probably the longest trip of our lives. Though generally uneventful, a large number of unwelcome not-so-straight visitors invaded our compartments to bully us for our change and disrupt our card games - the sight of a scared team-mate (yes, there's one in every team) readily lending out money to shoo them away was quite entertaining though!

#### The Opening Ceremony

Probably a first in the North-East in the recent history of mankind - their cultural

# The Road to IITG

The Inter-IIT Sports Meet took place in IIT-Guwahati for the first time this year. Adidas and Rohit take you along the bumpy ride.

seven sisters have ever produced. This was preceded by a long list of boring speeches and a scintillating display of fire-art and fireworks.

#### We're on a holi-holiday!

The cool weather accompanied by dense early morning fog and cosy blankets made us feel like we were more on a holiday than at a sports meet. Hot horlicks, Assamese tea and long-haired-members of the other contingents were our only incentives to get out of bed. Quiet, romantic walks along the various lakesides at night were the cherries on our Christmas cakes!

#### IIT-G where G is for Gult-land! (in the right spirit please:))

You find our loving Andhra friends even where you least expect to find them - in the far-flung, war-torn, fear-filled North-Eastern city of Guwahati, with bombs exploding now and then, lack of sambar and pickle and a negligible presence of Telugu film stars. This was one of the biggest surprises awaiting us in IIT-G! Only in IIT-M have we seen more.

#### The paramilitary forces

Every one of those 2 lakh JEE candidates that has not made it over the years, joined BSF in their disappointment, and finally achieved their childhood dream of being in IIT. The institute was swarming

with bored military personnel, supposedly protecting the cream of the nation from suspicious foul-smelling creatures dressed like petrol pump attendants (duh...that's us) prowling the campus for 2 weeks.

#### The food

As Gandhiji once said, "There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread." He was probably referring to a gang of dedicated sportsmen and women from IIT-B being rewarded for their hard work and forced hunger strikes in their institute. The food served to us was nothing short of great! From non-veg food to sweet dishes, every single day was a culinary delight to the malnourished. Not to mention Gulmohar's wonderful counterpart in IIT-G, a much talked-about multicuisine restaurant having a total number of cuisines equalling a mind-boggling two (it is still multi-cuisine isn't it?).

#### Sightseeing

The mighty Brahmaputra is a stone's throw from the IIT-G campus, and depressed souls found enough solace lazing on the beautiful rocks near it. If that didn't suffice, a trip to the institute's hilltop and 'tanki-top' was enough to overwhelm even the magnitude of sorrow caused by a last-ball loss to IIT-M. While almost everyone had a good

time roaming around in the 6-hour stop at Kolkata, only a few not-so-fortunate teams could make a day-trip to Shillong.

#### Starting from scratch

Most of the IIT-G campus has been reclaimed from lakes; there are still numerous small lakes adorning the campus. From the departmental buildings to the hostel rooms, every bit of their modern-looking campus is delightful. Most facilities are right up there with the standards that one would expect from an IIT. As far as preparation for the meet was concerned, their sports facilities were non-existent around the same time last year, with students practising on the roads and hostel grounds! Except for a disastrous cricket ground, the numerous brand new courts, spanking sports hall and fantastic lighting facilities (the sun sets at 4:30 PM!) deserve a special mention, especially when every bit of it is on reclaimed land! All grounds were ready only 2 weeks before the meet, and the floodlights were only turned on on Day 1. The humongous effort from the IIT-G students that went into the organisation

Sport	Medal	Points
Athletics	Gold	20
Badminton	Gold	10
Swimming	Gold	10
Basketball	Silver	6
Lawn Tennis	Silver	6
Water Polo	Silver	6
Weightlifting	Silver	6
Volleyball	Bronze	2
Total	=	66

### The age-old tracksuit fiasco

The recursive tragedy of our terrible tracksuits hit our contingent again this year. The blame for this lies squarely on the Institute Sports body. Their inability to get it right, year after year, has led to a resigned attitude among us. During the march-past, we looked more like petrol pump attendants or salesmen for 'Tide' (the detergent, in case you were wondering) than a contingent of sportsmen. God alone would have been able to save the designer had he been there during the mutiny on the night of their distribution (and this actually did happen). At least next year, when we play host, we hope that our track suits won't look like they've been sponsored by Club HP - Achcha NAHIN lagta hai!

performance, though professional and entertaining, encompassed all possible tribal dances, martial arts and music that the

Day 1 at IIT. Freshers' orientation. The SMO makes a speech about the merits of medical care that exists on campus. Later that day at the mess table, seniors warn students to visit a doc at IIT Hospital at their own peril! Who is to be believed? Do we really have an adequate healthcare system in place and so is the SMO justified in boasting about the same? Or is there a grain of truth in seniors' words - that the quality of medical care is much below expectations?

In order to find out the truth, and to get the pulse of students, a survey was carried out amongst M.Tech/ Ph.D. Nominees, who form a part of DPGC of their respective departments and first year M.Tech class reps. 18 students out of 30 replied to the survey.

11 out of 18 respondents expressed ignorance that the hospital maintains a website, <http://www.iitb.ac.in/hospital/> which is updated at somewhat irregular intervals. Only 3 students had referred to the website to check for OPD timings and doctors available. Interestingly, 14 students expressed their ignorance about the fact that the hospital administration puts down daily and monthly OPD schedules on the website. While such proactiveness on the part of the hospital administration is appreciable, it's important that proper information dissemination about various facilities like pathological labs, ECG facilities, rules and regulations about reimbursement, vaccines available, and affiliated hospitals be

## Healthcare in IIT Bombay

### - A Review of Problems and their Solutions

made to students by making them aware of the existence of the hospital website.

Only 4 students were aware that a post of hospital nominee exists in each hostel council, and hardly 5 students knew about the Institute Hospital Secretary who is entrusted with the job of looking into issues pertaining to medical care. This points to a serious lack of information dissemination amongst the students, and also brings to light the inefficiency of the hospital nominees and the GSHA to whom the Institute Hospital Secretary is answerable.

With regards to existing facilities, 10 students were not satisfied and when asked which specific aspects they thought needed improvement, 10 students felt that medical treatment given by physicians needs to be improved, 5 students wanted an improvement in orthopaedic department, 6 students thought that psychiatric services must be enhanced, and 5 students were in favour of improving X-Ray facilities. It is noteworthy that many students had responded in favour of reforming the process of medical care imparted by both physicians and orthopaedics, or that given by both physicians and psychiatrists. Students find the long queues and unpunctuality of certain physicians to be a sheer waste of time.

Further, 15 students were unaware that the cost of medicines purchased from the market as well as pathological/ radiological charges incurred in recognised hospitals is reimbursable. This means that UG/ PG orientations may be made more effective as even final year students had been unaware of important points like provision of reimbursement of medicines and cost of treatment in specified hospitals.

12 students were satisfied with the qualifications of doctors, so the major problem concerns the process of delivery of healthcare. It is a matter of grave concern that given the high level of qualification of most doctors, would it be possible to evolve mechanisms so that overdose or wrong medication may not be prescribed to students/ faculty leading to unnecessary/ avoidable complications? Take the recent unfortunate case of negligence concerning a professor who was prescribed wrong medication in August 2006 and who has been in coma ever since. Given the fact that the hospital prescribes standard outdated medicines, one wonders if the hospital is plagued by a financial crunch as a result of which it can ill afford efficient systems and good quality medicines.

16 students did not know that the Director has constituted a Hospital and Health

Advisory Committee with Chairman and members nominated by him from hospital, various departments, student community and NASA. In absence of adequate information, we also wonder if this committee takes effective action by seeking student and faculty feedback, and ensuring that the quality of healthcare provided is satisfactory.

17 students wanted that hospital staff and facilities must be constantly monitored by an institute functionary or committee comprising faculty and students to ensure provision of quality healthcare. Also, an online evaluation of full-time and visiting doctors must be conducted per semester to make them more accountable. Such a system may make the provision of giving anonymous feedback to negligent doctors. 16 students wished that psychiatric services be enhanced for the general well being of students undergoing mild/ severe stress.

The importance of human capital for the efficient functioning and productivity of an institution of excellence can hardly be understated. And healthcare being an important component in ensuring a good quality of life for people, we hope that the institute would make constant efforts to improve the healthcare system.

(Smita Gupta is a Doctoral Student in the Department of HSS. She is also the PG Nominee for Academic Affairs.)

MI' 06 - Indian Raga  
Indian Tadka - Kya aapka dil dhadka?

Competitions

Rapchik: Most events had more participation than expected and all events had substantial audience.

Excellent scheduling made sure events of the same genre hardly clashed and one's winnings- certificates & prizes were made available at a very rapid pace, a whole room was devoted to the same. All in all, very participant friendly. A few of the interesting newly introduced events were - Audio Visual, Situational Acting at night, Model United Nations, Scandals and Gossips quiz, Parody Song Writing- all of which were received with huge response. Audio Visual events like Spoof Music Video and Painting with Light saw IDCian participation in large numbers. Solo Impromptu aimed for higher, faster, spellbinding rounds such as 'silhouette' and 'Face Off', IT didn't have place for mosquitoes even. It was equally full for couple dance. And not to be left behind, classical dance saw a record number of participants.

Make a Band and Mantra were huge, and saw quality bands. Mantra's prize money was increased by a lakh. One act play had Anupam Kher as a judge.

Phatela:

Judging was a problem, with judges backing out of some events and even the quality of judging and planning of rounds in some events was not up to the mark.

There were technical problems in some of the dance and music events, which affected the performance of some teams.

K- 4.5/5 I-4/5 D-4.5/5

It's always been big, and mostly always bigger than the year before, but it was huge this time - in terms of money, celebrity quotient, prizes, variety of events, exhibitions and shows. And also in terms of space and time - there were many new venues, such as clay courts, SAC parking lot and the night was full of activity - after nights and night mela.

As usual we attempt to provide you greater insight. Faced with the great Indian Raga rating challenge, we applied the K-I-D control.

"Kitne aadmi the": Audience and Participation.  
"Is event mein jaan hain": Quality of judging/ participants/ event.  
"Dimag ki batti": Novelty.

We put together the choicest tidbits and bring to you our attempt at critical appreciation.

Horizons

Rapchik:

Horizons truly expanded and did so with panache. The after-night shows were lovely. The night with shadow-play and Brian Silas was mesmerizing. The laughter night was such a hit that the convo was half full 1-1/2 hours in advance.

Mumbai meri jaan had a star studded panel and the interactive session with Gregory Roberts (of Shantaram fame) also overflowed with people. Many interesting and different exhibitions were held notable being capoeira, poi and kalaripayattu. The handwriting workshop was much loved and talked about by all.

Phatela:

Scheduling and planning left a lot to be asked for; believe it or not, no one knew where the unbelievable people of Shabaash India! were. The dance workshops were not well planned. Seemed like only the big events got all the attention. Major attractions like Gregory Roberts and Jan Akkerman were sidelined to small venues like IRCC and Swimming Pool Parking lot, only ending up disappointing the awesome response.

K-4.5/5 I-3.5/5 D-4.5/5

Pronites

Rapchik:

Sitar funk, Kailasa and KK had the crowd in raptures. The carnatic music was a good introduction. The interlude videos including the winning entry from Spoof Music Video Makig screened were really fun and interesting.

Phatela:

Parikrama hardly got anytime to perform. Also, it was more or less a standard 'pronite'. The huge excess in budget did not reflect in the artistes called to perform.

K-5.1/5 I-3/5 D-2/5

Informals

Rapchik:

Lounge: Bean bags! Foosball, karaoke, plasma screens were strokes of brilliance. It was the fullest part of insti at any given point of time, the 'chill' factor struck a chord with one and all. As did the 'X' factor, adventure zone was an adrenalin rush. Aquagames made a return... with a splash!

Reality show helped take MI even to the grassroots, literally; hitherto unexpected nooks and crannies of the institute. Judges were impressed by the quality of participation and creativity.

Phatela:

MIMW, one fest, one winner, idea good. However the glittery galaxy of seven stars, Tulip Joshi, Grasmir Mr India, Viraf Patel and others, the judging panel for MIMW was the only consolation in what was otherwise a very mediocre MIMW finals in terms of wit of participants. People had issues with the judging in the earlier rounds also.

The move to take hysteria finals to a disc, much before MI, served very little purpose. Publicity for the event was bad. The DJs failed to excite the crowd, which was thin and bored. The internationally acclaimed judges were again the only highlights.

K-5/5 I-3/5 D- 4.5/5

Publicity

Rapchik:

The lighted matkas everywhere, kites, lanterns, a common template for all MI banners, everything (except maybe the flood of pink courtesy Hutch) made the ambience great. The theme was well incorporated into the ambience overall.

Never mind the cheesy line ('Only time you get to see an IITian's wild side' Pray tell me when are people here ever civilized?), the billboards all over Mumbai took the fest a notch further.

Phatela:

Mr. More ko gussa kyun aata hain? Why shouldn't Mr. More be angry, it was arguably the best looking mascot till date, yet went nameless, mentionless, in a restrictive 2 D world. The agony of anonymity, the ignominy of it all.

There weren't enough MI t-shirts. Why is a 75 lakh fest being such a cheapstake?

Overall- 4/5

Miscellaneous

Marketing

Rapchik: 75 lakh rupees - as unprecedented as unbelievable, the amount set all kinds of records.

Phatela: 100 I-Pods were promised in some flyers, only 20 I-Pods were given.

Services

Rapchik: Got the clay court as a venue as well as managed all the extra service requirements such as bonsai and stalls in clay court, meeting the technical requirements of new events.

Assistance

Rapchik: The bag containing toiletries and mosquito coils was greatly appreciated.

Phatela: People had to wait too long to get a room in long queues.

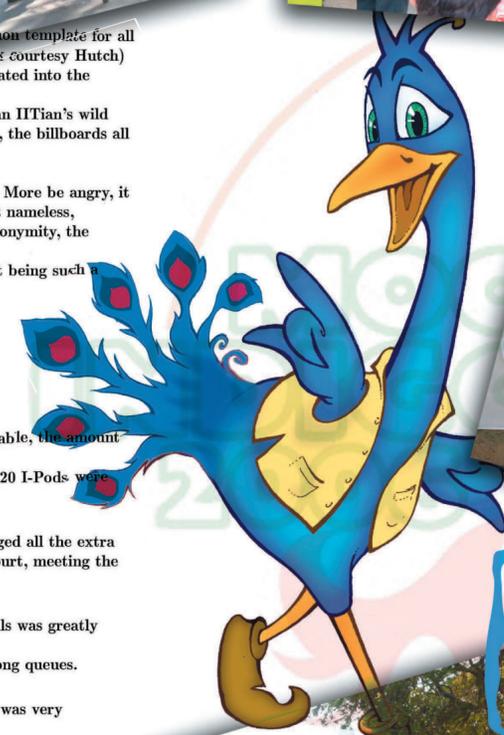
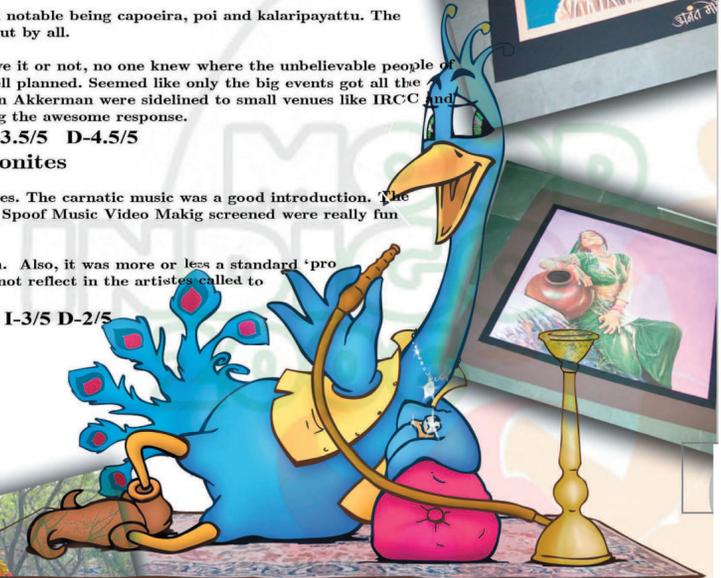
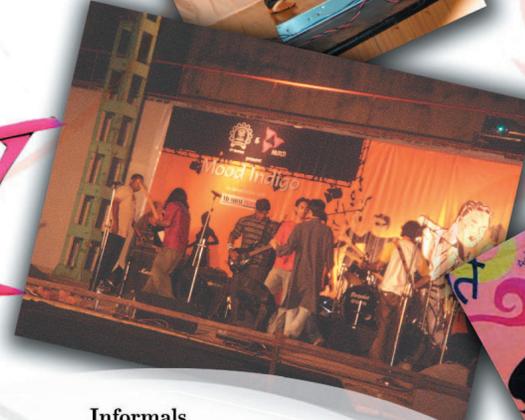
Food & Beverages

Rapchik: Foodstalls were brought to lounge also, which was very convenient.

Phatela: One was forced to hang out only with Appy Fizz, no other 'cool' drinks were allowed to be sold on campus.

Overall 3/5

Leaving you with some food for thought... Has Mood Indigo become more of a corporate organization than a student festival?



TANNISHYA SANPAL  
VIVEK UPADHYAY

## THE TREAT-TAKERS GUIDE TO THE FOOD GALAXY

With the insti well into its placements season, it's time for you to get those long overdue job treats! Bearing in mind the priorities of your everyday IITian, Rylan and Saurabh take you on an epicurean tour of our fair city.

Esoterica

### Mama Mia

The poor man's treat place. It has the dirtiest walls ever and yet has by far the most orgasmic pizzas! Pizzas are their focus and they excel here, with the beef steak pizza and the prawn pizza being personally recommended.

Their pizza menu is complemented with a selection of bakes, pastas, and a whole bunch of other goodies. Another recommendation is their baked potato, which comes dripping with cheese!

**Fight to get there:** Not to be tried by first timers. They have a number of well hidden outlets (Opera House, Regal, Bandra etc.) which are excessively easy to miss.

**Chick Quotient:** 3/10. You get good cheap food here. How much do you want?!

**Service:** Nothing exceptional. You tell them what you want. They get it for you. Decently fast.

**Wallet Deflation:** You will pinch yourself. Surprisingly affordable. A person can be sated for no more than Rs. 150.

### Bachelor's

This place suffers from rather severe insomnia, what with it coming to life only post 11 PM. It's supposedly a 'Juice centre' and while you do in fact get juice there; the real reason to visit are the mindnumbingly awesome shakes and icecreams! With a spectrum designed to awe even the most jaded dessert lover they simply take the cake with innovative, crazy and sometimes just plain queer desserts, exemplary of which is their Green Chilly Ice Cream (only for the brave). All you bovine lovers can rejoice! They use only fresh cream made from cow's milk! No buffalo milk! Can you believe it?!

**Fight to get there:** Easy enough. Bang on Marine Drive. Opposite Chowpatty. One train, one taxi.

**Chick Quotient:** 6/10. Very variable.

**Service:** The good men waiting on you take your order from your car, and serve you there itself. The crowd at this place gets huge enough to justify them carrying around walkie-talkies to communicate orders to the 'base of operations'.

**Wallet Deflation:** Around Rs. 100 per head for dessert.

### Sardar Pav

One of the city's best kept open secrets, Sardar Pav is one of those places every true Mumbaikar has to go to. Armed with some of the best pav bhaji ever to touch the surface of this planet, it soars on the fact that it's open till all odd hours of the night, making it the perfect place for a midnight-early morning pit stop, to refill those pav bhaji deprived veins of yours. Paint the town red with the amazing paan-waalah just outside!

**Fight to get there:** Haji Ali. Pretty easy to find. Landmarks scattered all about it. Difficult to cross the road though. Better hope a boy-scout finds you.

**Chick Quotient:** 6.33/16.74. Once again, luck dependent. Even women get hungry at night.

**Service:** Basic. Very basic. You might have to fight a bit for your food. Carry weapons.

**Wallet Deflation:** Around Rs. 100 should do the trick.

### Ling's Pavilion

This is where the Chinese person goes to for Chinese food. The food is simply fabulous with a uniquely subtle play with tastes (Note: Beware the mustard; it reaches up through your skull and raps your brain from the inside, making you want to rip your head out!). Be prepared to spend some time if you venture here. With a menu that rivals a Ph.D. thesis, and at least two whole pages devoted to each meat, and an entire section on breads and a complementary one on noodles, you will be one confused person by the time you place the order.

**Fight to get there:** Situated in a very popular place, between Bade Miyas, Café Mondegar and Poly Esthers, it's hard to find someone who doesn't know the place.

**Chick Quotient:** 4/10. In general, an older crowd is observed here. Some cute Chinese waitresses, but they aren't that cute either.

**Service:** Pretty good really. Use their help when placing your order. Rather inefficient when it comes to refilling water though. (This might seem insignificant; I refer you to the aside on the mustard.)

**Wallet Deflation:** The teetotaler will spend around Rs. 400 here.

### Out of the Blue

One of those nice li'l places in Bandra which totally take you by surprise. A very art deco feel to the entire place, and they usually have something or the other going on like pottery making and baking, art exhibitions, sketching, etc. The fondue is its raison d'être. An entire fondue menu to tempt your every sense. The cheese fondue is unlike anything you've ever tasted with thick, gooey, melted cheese that positively stretches out for miles and miles! A personal favourite is the desi fondue, a concept that's totally out of the blue!

**Fight to get there:** Pali Hill, Bandra. Adjacent to Olive. One train, one rickshaw.

**Chick Quotient:** 7/10. A very decent Bandra crowd frequents it.

**Service:** Really very good. The staff is very accommodating and go out of their way to help out.

**Wallet Deflation:** A full meal can be had for ~ Rs. 350

### Theobroma

Quiche breakers beware! Don't lean in too close to the bread, lest a kindly waiter whispers into your ear that you're expected to pay for the bread you broke (no pun intended). Run by three queer Parsi women, they have exotic flavours of iced tea (grape, orange, strawberry, etc.) and items named after ex-boyfriends on the menu. And they have chocolate. Oh, the chocolate. Heaven. Sigh.

**Fight to get there:** Colaba Causeway. Findable.

**Chick Quotient:** 8.5/10. Really good. Very good.

**Service:** Self service. An aged man runs cash register.

**Wallet Deflation:** Very reasonable for desserts. Rs. 100 can satisfy nearly all your chocolate cravings.

### Oh! Calcutta

You know a place is worthy of respect when its alcohol and liqueur menu is over 5 times the size of its food menu. A lovely quaint little place for some great Bengali food. One of the few places where you can nibble on potato liberally sprinkled with opium, while reading a book from the cute Bengali library and sipping on Kaal Baisakhi (green mango with vodka). Packed with oddness.

**Fight to get there:** Lokhandwala. Enough said.

**Chick Quotient:** 4.5/10. Unless stately Bengali aunties is your flavour for the evening.

**Service:** The waiters speak in Bengali. Whether that's a good thing or a bad thing...

**Wallet Deflation:** You will pay around Rs. 600 per very tipsy head.

### Not Just Jazz By The Bay

The quintessential hang out for the literati and the glitterati of Mumbai. The ambience at Jazz is by far one of the best around. Daily live bands and karaoke add to the charm. A delightful continental menu to tickle the palate, Pizzeria right next door and a brilliant bar make this an excellent one-stop shop for a treat. And did we mention the ocean just outside on the footpath? Or the Baskin Robbins across?

**Fight to get there:** Easy enough. Bang on Marine Drive. Opposite Chowpatty. One train, one taxi.

**Chick Quotient:** 7.5/10. A very decent crowd, depending on what night you visit. You will find a more elegant variety of woman here, one who prides herself on being a part of the intelligentsia. Looks are of course, a given. Frequented by numerous celebs, it's a good place to catch a glimpse of Page 3 people.

**Service:** The service isn't particularly friendly unless you're a) a regular from the pre-independence era, b) a personal friend of the management or c) a celebrity currently in immense public demand.

**Wallet Deflation:** This will pinch you. Around Rs. 500 for drinks, and around Rs. 300 for a minimeal. For one person. \*hint hint: Pizzeria is bang next door!\*

### Goa Portuguesa

Balmy breezes blowing through your hair. Idyllic days spent idling by the lazy wayside. And food. That's Goa, and that's what Goa Portuguesa has tried (and pretty successfully managed) to recreate. Plus, there's an affable guy with a guitar thrown in, who insists on coming and serenading you every now and then. The owner is very friendly and interacts with all patrons. However, he's had enough facelifts to put a mask to shame. The food is to die for, with absolutely authentic Goan cuisine, be it the fish curries, prawn, crab, lobster, or the feni.

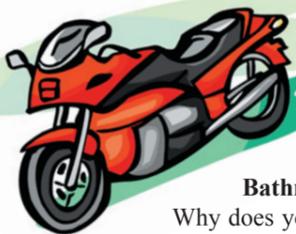
**Fight to get there:** Mahim. Train while going. Cab coming back; you really can't manage a train after eating so much.

**Chick Quotient:** 5/10. Too busy eating to notice.

**Service:** Really good. Very friendly.

**Wallet Deflation:** Could set you back Rs. 800 per head. \*don't faint on us now!\*

Bored of mathematical puzzles? Here's something different from the normal. Some everyday facts you have never pondered about. Think and get puzzled by the puzzling daily routine!



#### Biker's dilemma

Will larger diameters really make your bike go faster? Assume same constant power of the engine.

#### Bathroom singers

Why does your singing sound so much richer and fuller in the shower?

#### Snow time!

Sometimes snow crackles when you walk on it, but only when the temperature is far below the freezing point. Why does this happen and why is this tempera-

## Questech

ture dependent?

#### Ocean lovers

What causes the ocean roar that you hear in a seashell?

#### The sun, some rain and the beautiful rainbow

Is the rainbow polarized? If yes, explain the polarization.

#### Picking the banjo and fingering the harp

Why does a banjo produce a twangy sound and the harp a soft mellow sound? One difference between

the two instruments is that a banjo is plucked with a pick and a harp with fingers.

#### Cocktail party!

How can you distinguish the words of one person at a cocktail party with lots of noise in the background?

If you try to tape what your friend is saying to you in a loud party, it is almost impossible to understand what he is saying. Why the difference?



(In the last issue, the winner was Abhishek Nanda. Please mail your suggestions, queries and solutions to shweta@iitb.ac.in and/or onkardalal@iitb.ac.in)

"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

- Edmund Burke

Most post-graduate students on campus are under the TA or RA category, and are expected to perform predefined duties in lieu of stipends paid to them on a monthly basis. These students depend on this scholarship for supporting their studies and often for personal and family commitments. The date for crediting stipends in the bank accounts (surprisingly!) varies from 14<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> of the following month. This irregularity causes various financial problems to the students.

This dismal situation motivated the PG nominees, both at the institute and department levels, to take some concrete action. An initial study carried out by them revealed a serious lack of coordination between the Academic and Accounts Sections. The usual procedure followed is that, after the students' attendance is sent from the respective departments to the Academic Section, it releases a clearance certificate to the Accounts Section.

## Whose job is it anyway?

Amit S. Jariwala takes a look at a sincere attempt to improve the system for solving the chronic stipend problem of PG Students and...the resulting anticlimax.

The respective departments and the Academic Section require about 2-4 days for the entire process. However, the Accounts Section undertakes a stupendous task (and time) to meticulously shortlist students eligible to receive their scholarship.

To find the root cause of the problem, the Right to Information Act (2005) was invoked, seeking information on the set procedure for stipend payment. It was found that there existed **no clearly defined time frame** by which the concerned authorities were bound to credit stipends into the eligible students' accounts. The Dean (AP) was informed and responded very proactively. Considering this problem to be of grave concern for PG students, the Deputy Registrar (Academic) issued a circular, dated 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2006 detailing the new

schedule to be followed for the payment of stipends. The circular also mentioned that the new schedule was approved by the Director and was to be strictly complied with from the Spring Semester 2006-07. It highlighted that students should receive their scholarships latest by the 7<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> of the following month.

The new schedule was enforced and complied with by almost all departments and the Academic Section. However, the weakest link in the chain, the Accounts Section, being stuck in bureaucracy and lethargy, has dampened the initial hopes of the students. It has decided to accept the circular only if the system is automated, in contrast to the fact that the Academic Section, doing almost the same quantum of work, has complied with the orders without any such

pre-conditions. The Accounts Section has decided that in the absence of the requisite software, it would credit the stipends as per the old provision. Students cannot help but wonder if this vital department seems to have been empowered to even refute the schedule which was approved by the Director. It is a cruel irony that employees may refuse to discharge their duties in a technological institute because of the absence of a certain technology. But has technology become an excuse for human inefficiency, and should organisations now be judged for their productivity and responsiveness to human concerns only on the basis of the level of automation they have achieved through software and machines?

The use of RTI, a promising new legislation, brought hope to overcome a systemic loophole, but it seems that systems are complex entities. The fight for an ideal system continues.

(Amit is a second year M.Tech student and the PG Nominee of the Mechanical Dept.)

Freelance

**Disclaimer:** Hardly a work of fiction, this is an excerpt of our conversation with the guppy fish and the tiger prawn. We request you not to kill us, or people around you or yourself after reading this.

stuck to is strictly hypothetical.

3. Resolutions that do not follow rule 1 and 2 are not worthy of the noble and the virtuous.

Well chuck the rest and let's just get to it.

**GF:** The small one with glasses piped in with an "I shall behave more humanly by not playing god in AOE or an assassin in CS" which he followed up by a more deeply thought out "I shall find out

## To resolve is human. to forget divine

Violence is never the answer.

New Year resolutions made by an individual bear a close relationship with his fidelity quotient. Most resolutions end up being one night stands, others go on to become easily forgettable week or two-old relations and a few lucky ones go on to live happily ever after!

A freshman in search of Tantric bliss rightly resolves to do less laundry and use more deodorant, and departs on his sacred evolution to become a true IITian, praying to his favourite god to guide him lest irrational hygiene leads him off-track. All other sincere pledges end up as valiant attempts against the unflappable forces of nature. Thus, if you are still wondering why your resolution of not gawping at girls could not help flinching at that New Year's Eve party, then renounce such trivialities, because you have more important matters to worry about. Of utmost importance being the one that governs your alcohol intake in stag carousels, to avoid crossing the line of sanity!

Our guppy fish and tiger prawn went party hopping this New Year's Eve and here's an account of a party on the rooftops of one of those hallowed hostels, the sanctuary of the quintessential stags of the campus, as they engage in simultaneous retrospection and rumination of life and everything else.

For the un-initiated, here are a few guidelines to know when you have made a resolution:

1. A resolution is something that is more of a guideline, not a rule for thy habit in the coming year.
2. A resolution which can be strictly

What follows is a documented account of a few of us deeply engaged in plotting our life-plans on New Year's Eve that caught the attention of our omniscient duo:

**Tiger Prawn (TP):**

"Remember, Remember the 31<sup>st</sup> December The new-year season and what-not. I know of many reasons, For resolutions this season, For ever more to be forgot."

**Guppy Fish (GF):** Ahh...humans and their resolutions! But those of these few people of this certain ghetto are more intriguing than any other. They call it ..err.. what ..yeah IIT!

**TP:** That conglomeration of brains, that same veritable ocean of wisdom confused mostly to be housing geeks by certain dailies. Weird people and their weirder resolutions! Tougher to decipher than most common ones but to comment on their longevity be very easy!

**GF:** I recall a certain bespectacled man there who announced: "I shall restrict myself to only 15 chais a day so as to ensure that my blood type does not change to T+ve."

**TP:** Well, news has it that his tea addiction eventually grew so bad that he now works as a tea leaf picker in Darjeeling.

**GF:** And the ambitious one at his side, don't forget him "I shall smoke more cigarettes only to learn the art of Red Indian smoke signaling."

**TP:** Also, the tall one with the uni-brow who kept falling asleep suddenly yelled in between "I shall devise a way to be in two places within 250 km proximity at the same time and do so without tearing my trousers in the process."

why I have so many email accounts."

**TP:** Another hitherto silent observer boldly announced: "I shall spend not more than 4 hours in the library in a day. Thus I resolve to play good spouse to those few books left neglected back in my room."

**GF:** But I still don't understand why he was asked to keep both his hands raised for such a long time by those other fellas. I heard words like "For all your sins...this shall undo all the torture you have put us through...all those freaking questions!"

**TP:** Dontcha worry mate, for dark are the ways of men. We may never figure them out but at least we can laugh at their preposterously stupid habits.

**GF:** On habits I must say, a certain sleepy lazy bum decided to entertain the rest with some absurd dance which he later resolved never to do again.

**TP:** Humans and their unfulfilled resolutions...

**GF:** Let's just leave them to it. Those ridiculous weirdos don't deserve any attention.

**TP:** There were also the usual ones like "I shall refrain from asking too many questions when more than 80% are attending the class."

**GF:** But let those find their way to the records, and we be off.

May your troubles last as long as your resolutions! Ta!

- by Ghoda, Tanny, Palak and Deepti (with inputs from Guppy Fish and Tiger Prawn)

11:00 PM

11:00 PM. \*Yawn\*. You wake up and an eerie feeling grips you as you realise that there's no Internet anymore! What an abomination! What do you do? Who do you turn to in this dark, Jurassic era?

But fear not, there's a whole world out there which abounds with plentiful game! Rylan and Saurabh examine just some of the oh-so-exciting new extracurricular activities that are bound to reach new heights of popularity as we all discover strange, unused muscles (legs, hands, etc.) thanks to the utter lack of anything (read "surf the net") to do.

20. Baths. We foresee an almost-holy cleansing of IIT-B students! We also foresee queues in front of showers.

19. Stargazing/search for extraterrestrial life.

18. Cog assignments from others (Wikipedia's down, remember?).

17. Learn the ancient Ninja art form of Night Camouflage.

16. Buy a sniper rifle and pick off random passers-by (GTA style).

15. Steal the left shoes of everyone in the wing.

14. Explore latent werewolf personalities (works once a fortnight only).

13. Visit all those fancy restaurants that we reviewed :).

12. Explore BDSM.

11. Go swimming at midnight (Damn! They closed that too!).

10. Join a radical terrorist cell. Infiltrate H11.

9. Spy on the deans. Get compromising pictures and a DAC.

8. Organise hostel fests.

7. Go on romantic midnight tum-tum rides.

6. Baby-sit the recharging of mobile phones.

5. Go about in red jumpsuits delivering presents (seasonal).

4. Scare little children?

3. Pain profs to shift all classes to the night.

2. Write Insight articles on time and not do last minute rush-jobs like this.

1. Make more lists like this!

Leisure

# The Fourth Dimension

Pop Sci

Have you ever wondered why we live in a 'three' dimensional world? What is so special about this number 3, that it should dictate all our laws and perceptions? The answer to this perhaps lies in the word 'perception'. The human eye, though curved, is essentially a two dimensional surface. The cells of our retina are confined to this two dimensional surface and hence, we can at most perceive a three dimensional object, based on the different distances from which points on it reflect light.

This brings us to the important concept of 'dimension', which is nothing but 'a degree of freedom'. A fly confined to a point in a small box has zero degrees of freedom and lives its (depressing) life in a 0-D world. If you place this fly in a tube where it can only move back and forth, it would then be living in a one dimensional world. And if you were to pull off its wings and let it crawl around on a plane, it would have two degrees of freedom.

Time is one example of a fourth dimension, but there are others and what we are interested in, is a fourth spatial dimension, one that exists in a direction different from up and down, back and front, left and right, a fourth direction perpendicular to all the other three. We denote motions in this fourth dimension by the terms 'upsilon' and 'delta'.

What would the four dimensional objects be like? Just as the cross sections of three dimensional objects are circles and squares, the cross sections of four dimensional ob-

jects would be spheres, cubes and ellipsoids. We, being three dimensional creatures, have the ability to remove any object placed inside a circle drawn on a page, without cutting the circle, by simply lifting the object into the third dimension. To a two dimensional being confined to the piece of paper, this action of the object disappearing in front of his eyes would appear miraculous. In a similar way a hyperbeing (often referred to as an omegamorph) living in a four dimensional space will be able to, if necessary, remove anything from our three dimensional world, by simply lifting it into the fourth dimension. In this regard, one can very well relate to the fascinating concept of wormholes, that can take us from one point in space to another and even from one point in time to another. If we can't travel faster than light, we can always take a short cut. Physicists have suggested that the empty space in this universe may be filled with tiny wormholes, connecting different parts of space via higher dimensions.

An omegamorph can remove a tumour from your brain, without ever cutting through your skin. He can transform a pair of gloves into two right or two left gloves. With omegamorphs performing such acts of levitation, bloodless surgery, walking through walls etc., one invariably zeros in on the concept of 'God'. In the eyes of a two dimensional creature, you would be a 'God' and surely if such a hyperbeing had been observed in biblical times, it would have been considered a God with all the characteristics of omniscience, omnipresence and omnipotence. Just like a two dimensional plane divides a three dimensional space into two halves, our 3-D world cuts the four dimensional world into two pieces and perhaps the notion of heaven and hell can be associated with these halves, Satan being a hyperbeing living in hell and God being a hyperbeing in heaven.

But how would we ever come to know if there were a four dimensional hyperbeing pervading our humble universe? Imagine yourself plunging into a two dimensional world. The creatures there would see a circle or an ellipse changing its size, its shape and then disappearing all of a sudden. Similarly, the hand of an omegamorph might appear as five fleshy balls that would shrink to a point and eventually disappear from our world.

So, how do we hide from such omnipresent hyperbeings who can apparently see anything and everything in our world? What we can do, is make use of objects from higher dimensions to hide from the higher dimensional beings. For instance, a two dimensional being could hide from us by staying in the two dimensional cross section of a table tennis ball. Similarly, the locations where 4-D visitations have never taken place would be ideal spots for us.

Another point of interest and a matter of challenge, especially for mathematicians, is the geometry of hyperspheres and tesseracts (a tesseract is the four dimensional equivalent of a cube). When we analyse the idiosyncrasies of these objects by generalising the well-known theorems, we end up with some really strange and fascinating results. For instance, one can fit a rod of length one million metres into a hypercube with each of its edges being just one metre long! But can we trap a four dimensional being into our world, say by piercing a knife through him? What

would it feel like, being lifted into the fourth dimension and gazing at our own world? These are questions one can always ponder over.

Modern Physics has been successful in evolving to its current status only by dealing with spaces with as many as 26 dimensions. In fact the ideas in Physics have evolved to such an extent that the Mathematics available is not adequate enough to deal with them. For example, the string theory describes elementary particles as vibrational modes of infinitesimal strings that exist in ten dimensions. It is hence a matter of great importance for us to start analysing the implications of higher dimensional worlds in this vast universe with infinite possibilities and when we delve into the mysteries of higher dimensions, we actually end up realising our own prejudices, preconceived notions and the various assumptions that dominate our approach while dealing with any situation.

- Ashish Goel and Vaibhav Devanathan

The above article inexplicably omits to mention a certain hyperbeing called Captain Vijaykanth - who, in every film, showcases a wide array of skills that would make God himself head back to school to polish up on his skills. In a recent 'very masala super hit', Vijaykanth shows just how impotent mere three dimensional beings are against the awesome power of omegamorph-powered technology.

The aforementioned three dimensional beings are a group of robbers fleeing in a car with (obviously) heavily tinted windows. Vijaykanth, in his role as omnipresent tough cop, runs beside the car for what seems like an eternity (maybe he discovered a wormhole to boost his speed?). He finally tires of the chase and takes a photo of the car windows.

'Pointless', you feel? No! The tinted windows are, after all, only in the third dimension. After a few distractions (dancing with a 250-pound heroine, drinking a cask or two of toddy and beating up a few unoffensive citizens) the Captain enters a grimy, dingy room; obviously the police forensic cell. He shoves a CD at the computer operator peremptorily. As the tinted window swims into view on the monitor, Vijaykanth seems to be momentarily nonplussed. He does order the expert to 'zoom' the picture, but nothing results.

The phenomenon then proceeds to show us why lakhs of delirious fans believe that he is God. Sitting on the chair (which creaks alarmingly under his weight) he opens the picture using MS Paint - the tool of choice for the upper class crime-catcher. However, this is no ordinary application - it has been augmented by hyper-dimensional technology.

Vijaykanth selects the 'Eraser' option and carefully erases the window. The face of a criminal appears behind the window after it is erased.

**Moral:**

1. You cannot hide from higher dimensional beings. Any claims to the contrary in the main article are false.
2. Adobe Photoshop is overrated.

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## Baloney

- by Srivathsan

