



THE FOURTH ESTATE

VOLUME I: THE BEGINNING



ISSUE II: AUGUST, 2017

© IIPE



VOLUME I: The Beginning

ISSUE II: August, 2017

BLOOD DONATION CAMP

Blood is something which is always in short, where supply never meets demand. All over the world within a blink of an eye there are several casualties where blood is a necessity—such high is its requirement. Like the old saying goes 'A stitch in time saves nine' we can provide this necessary blood by voluntary donation which can save precious lives. By voluntary donation of blood, we are reducing the ever-compounding problem of blood shortage to a great extent.

A blood camp as part of NSS was initiated by our compatriot Adhi Vishnu under the guidance of Dr. P. Bhadury at IPE and held on February 8, 2017 with the backing of The Lion's club, Visakhapatnam.

Everyone was a probationer in giving blood but the zest to donate blood was impeccably high in all of us. The purview of donating blood created by Adhi Vishnu had made a pretty nice impression on every student. The students of IPE wanted to donate the blood flowing through their veins to the ailing people instead of keeping it to themselves.

The tedious work done by us on the



previous day in installing banners, taking help from Lion's club and rearranging rooms was itself a motivation to do the needful the next morning.

Many enthusiastic students, faculty members & staff members came forward to donate blood. On seeing their friends' active participation even more people joined the party of first time blood donors. A few of those people who appeared for this camp were not allowed to donate blood for medical reasons but what must be

praised is the passion with which they came forward to make this initiative a success.

Even though the zeal to donate blood was present in all of us there was this trypanophobia (fear of needles) which was stopping some but they were willing to take that few milli seconds of pain to provide solace to the needy souls and not to mention the motivational talks by our friends to remove their fear which made the motto of the day a success.

BLOOD DONATION CAMP

The active participation of our students who patiently donated blood must be highly appreciated. They stood up for a good cause and their kind gesture to save lives resonates their beautiful inner self.

After extracting 350 mL of blood the students were provided with 200 mL of fruit juice along with some biscuits and pastries as a compensation for the extraction. What needs to be noted is that within a few hours of donation they would have regenerated the fluid lost.

Many students, faculty members & staff members were engaged in this great social activity and contributed to its success.

Sai Kalyan



VISIT TO COROMANDEL FERTILIZERS

A PLANT VISIT:

Educational institutions in India have been adopting industrial visits, plant visit as a part of course curriculum. Learning from textbooks, lectures and other study materials does not suffice for holistic learning. Practical, hands-on learning is essential for better understanding of work processes and business functions. An industrial visit helps the students in bridging the gap between them.

For students pursuing professional education, industrial visits help

them gain hands-on experience of how industry operations are executed. Industry visits provide an opportunity for interactive learning experience outside the classroom environment. With industry visits, students are better able to identify their prospective areas of work in the overall organizational functions. Students become more aware of industry practices and regulations during such visits. Also, these visits broaden the outlook of students with exposure to different workforces from different industries.

ABOUT COROMANDEL FERTILIZERS LTD, VIZAG – VISITED INDUSTRY:

Coromandel Fertilizers Ltd, Vizag is a part of Coromandel International Limited, which is India's second largest Phosphatic fertilizer player, is in the business segments of Fertilizers, Specialty Nutrients, Crop Protection and Retail. The Company manufactures a wide range of fertilizers and markets around 3.2 million tons making it a leader in its addressable markets.

Meghana Seereddi

RACIPE

The cars lay motionless on the track, they seemed to be waiting for something. The silence of the surroundings was occasionally being broken by a restless vroom vroom coming from the car engines. With the wave of the checkered flag the wait was over. Within no time the cars were scattered all over the track. The adrenaline, excitement and action were all a treat to the eye. The grandeur visuals of the trailer of RACIPE event showcased all this. The stakes were set very high with the trailer itself now it was the turn of the groups to bring out their cars and do justice to the generated buzz.

The trailer was a bit deceiving as it actually showed real cars and tar tracks but the actual fact was all of that extravaganza was to be cut short to a small scale in making a



remote-controlled car. Only the car size was to be cut short but not the adrenaline and excitement.

RACIPE was organized by the IPE technical committee at BR Ambedkar Auditorium in the AU

campus on March 27, 2017. After painstaking homework and pre-preparation work done the event took to shape.

The main theme of the event was quite simple, everyone was requested to form groups of four or five members each and they had to model a remote-controlled car with pre-determined motors which were provided to the teams. The teams then had to fix other mechanisms to get the car to work. Blueprints varied but motors were fixed.

The event started with a time trail event in which the speed of the cars was put to test. The distance was constant for every car and their time of travel was measured with three stopwatches of which the average time was noted down as the time of travel.



RACIPE



The main event was a very interesting affair as the track was like a steeplechase event filled with many obstacles. The car with the best of engineering could only complete the complicated track. Only a handful of cars were able to

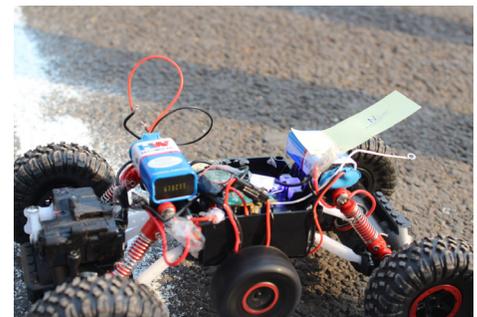
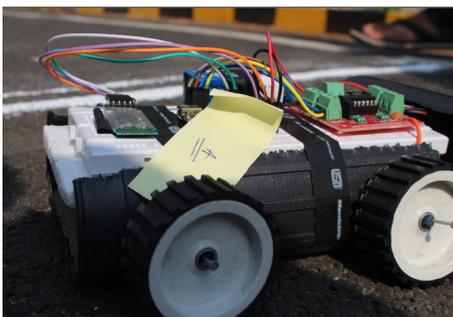
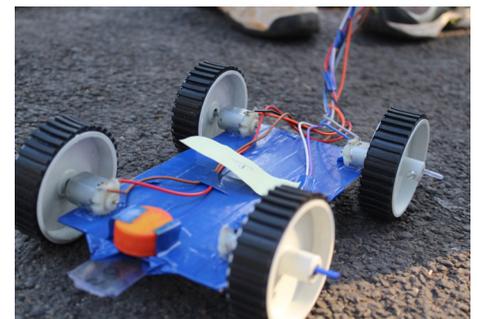
do so. The event was of a knockout nature with the best car grabbing the honors and advancing to the succeeding rounds.

Keeping the results aside, it was a very fun filled affair. The students

fished the whole city in their quest to find the right parts for their cars. They came out in flying colors with their models some were direct remote controlled while some used wires for the same.

Full credit must be given to the technical committee headed by Dr. Debarshi Sinha as the event Coordinator for their collective effort not to forget the effort put in by our beloved professors. The event was held under their watchful eyes and guidance. The event was inspected by our respected Advisor Dr. V. S. R. K. Prasad along with the VC of Andhra University. 100% participation was the biggest plus point of the event which made it a grand success.

Lohit Yadav



REPUBLIC DAY

Republic day is celebrated to commemorate the formation of the great "CONSTITUTION OF INDIA" which came to force on 26th Jan 1950, created by a group of socially responsible people headed by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar who was the chairman of the drafting committee responsible for the formation of the Constitution. On this day all over INDIA the sense of patriotism flows through every heart and there are tricolored flags up until the horizon flying high right from sunrise.

FIRST REPUBLIC DAY OF IPE

It was the first time Republic day was being celebrated at IPE. This event was coordinated by Dr. Girish Rajan. The nostalgic feeling was phenomenal.

VENUE OF THE EVENT

Our beloved Advisor Academics along with our dear faculty members left no stone unturned to make this event a memorable one. With all permissions we circled out the basketball court of AU as the place for flag hoisting.

START OF THE PROCEEDINGS

The proceedings of the day started in great old fashion with the National Anthem. The students of IPE saluted the National Flag which was the simplest of tribute that one could pay to all the freedom fighters, military soldiers and the people who sacrificed their lives and endured innumerable pain for making India independent.



SPEECHES BY DIGNITARIES

The Prof. P. S. AVADHANI the Andhra University Principal was our Chief Guest for this occasion. He delivered a splendid speech about the importance of knowledge and also the difference between knowledge and wisdom for creating a more educative environment in our newly formed Institute.

Following his speech, it was our Advisor Academics Dr. V. S. R. K. Prasad who shared his words of wisdom, he stressed upon the point Unity in Diversity. His intention was to remove regionalism among students and get them to strive towards building a better India. He later spoke about how education can be used as a tool to change the society.

The faculty members Dr. P. Bhadury, Dr. Debarshi Sinha and

Dr. Girish Rajan addressed the students about the importance of Republic day.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The first batch of IPE loaded their hearts with the patriotic feeling and everyone expressed their respect towards the country in their own way while some students gave speeches, some did human pyramid formation, some presented their views on unity and its greatness, and some showcased a short film about eve teasing. The pyramid formations were done with accurate precision which showed how much time and hardwork was invested for perfecting the same. After the pyramid function, the students reassembled in our auditorium, where a short film was showed. The short film stressed on the social evil namely eve teasing prevalent in India in its own way. It was wrapped

REPUBLIC DAY

up in a very short span making it even more special. Full credit must be given to the cast and crew for their wonderful effort, the day ended with distribution of sweets in our college premises.

Students who were still at the amateur phase of conducting events did their best to make the event a good and memorable one. There was some unknown WIFI to which everyone was connected that day. Yes, patriotism it was and it was there to stay.

Tirumal Sai



THE FIRST GOLD MEDAL OF IPE

It was a proud moment for the IPE fraternity as Rohit Kumar added the first feather to IPE'S cap with his gold medal in the recently held Federation Cup-2017 of the second All India Inter-college Chess Boxing Championship in 75-kg category organised by the Chess Boxing Organisation of Maharashtra and Sports Authority of India. He opened the account for sports achievements of IPE with a knockout punch defying all odds.

Chess boxing tests both the physical strength and mental endurance of an individual as it contains alternate rounds of chess and boxing (fusion of both disciplines). To balance both these aspects and achieve the target is something amazing given the nature of the sport and the nationwide competition prevalent.

His achievement lay testimony to the kind of work ethics he had developed to compete with the best and come atop all of them. His calm demeanour even while getting the gold shows he is aiming for something bigger than this, all of us

at IPE hope this is the beginning of an amazing journey for one of the most promising prospects of IPE who would bring more glory to his college as well as the country.

Lohit Yadav



LOK SABHA APPROVAL FOR IPE BILL

The Indian Institute of Petroleum and Energy might have started its academic program from the year 2016 but still many legalities and formalities were to be completed to give the institute the priced tag of a national institute which would get it into the same league of IITs and IIMs.

The wait came to a premature halt when "The Indian Institute of Petroleum and Energy Bill 2017" was introduced on July 18, 2017 by the Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan in Lok Sabha. The bill gives the institute the tag of an institute of national importance on par with IITs. The institute's prime focus lays on providing high

quality education and research regarding areas pertaining to petroleum, hydrocarbons and energy. The bill also decided the hierarchy of authority that governs the institute, about other financial and legal matters.

The bill got its nod from Lok Sabha and was passed in the succeeding month of its introduction in the house. The exact day being August 4, 2017. With passage of the bill a festive like environment was created amongst the students and Professors who were curiously waiting for these turn of events which would grant the college its rightly deserved reputation. Still there was not exactly light at the end of the tunnel as the bill has to go



The Indian Institute of Petroleum and Energy Bill, 2017

Salient Features

- IPE to be established as an "Institute of National Importance".
- IPE to have same governance structure legal mandate to grant degrees as IIT's.
- ₹ 655.46 Crore approved as Capital Expenditure & ₹ 200 Crore as Endowment Fund
- Oil PSU's also to contribute ₹ 200 Crore towards the Endowment Fund.

through the Rajya Sabha followed by the assent from President of India before it becomes an act but we are hopeful of getting it completed within a couple of months without hindrance.

Nithya Sri



PETROBAAZAR WORKSHOP

A workshop on "Upstream and Downstream of Oil Industry-environmental Concerns" was organised at IPE college premises by the technical committee in collaboration with petrobaazar.com on the 10th of February, 2017.

The room "Urja" played centre stage to the proceedings. It was neatly decorated and groomed like an about to be wed bride the preceding days for the event. Fast forward to the day of the event everyone was issued a separate identity card along with a file which showed the resume of the people who were going to add their inputs regarding the topic.

The objective of the workshop was to create awareness among students regarding the "matured and semi-matured fields apart from the development of hydrocarbons, plastic roads, solid fuels and the scope of its application in Indian industry. The objective of the day was rightfully met by the eminent speakers Mr. Sivasankar Jyosula, Mr. B. N. V. Parthasarathi and Mr. Lakshman Suri who did the needful by shedding light on the objective and held the students attention who were all ears to their lectures and a few were actually taking notes such was the mood of the day.

The day came to an end with our Advisor-Academics, Dr V. S. R. K Prasad felicitating the gentlemen who provided a lot of wisdom



with their wonderful lectures. Full credit must be given to the technical committee along with the professors who worked day in and day out for the past few days to get things going in the rightful way. Hundred percent

attendance from students was reflective of their interest for the workshop which became a runaway success.

Rohan Anand

CONTRAPTION

Contraction is a chain of several steps of energy conversion, in which one step triggers the next, eventually leading to the completion of a task. For example to light a bulb we would require to switch on the plug but here in this case many energy conversions and equipment to do the same are brought in the mix to get the job done in a naturally twisted way.

The idea of contraction was put forth by Dr. Girish Kumar Rajan and there were two teams of six members each of which came forward to fulfil this idea and give it a material shape. Team A constituted of Dhanraj, Pavan, Nitin, Sampath, Yasaswy and Revanth with the Team B contributors being Nithya, Debabrat, Anusha, Amit and Aakash

The models were showcased on 14th February 2017 at the IPE college premises. The event took place under the watchful guidance of our professors with Visakhapatnam MP Dr. Haribabu attending the event as the chief guest along with our Advisor-Academics Dr. V. S. R. K Prasad.

Both the teams employed various complicated steps which were beyond the common mans thinking in shaping their contraction model. The final task was to unveil a slab with the letters I, I, P, E in a unique way that strikes everyones imagination. The complications in their contraction was reflective



of the amount of dedication and hard work they had invested on their creation and the knowledge the students possessed. The people witnessing this spectacle were awestruck for a few seconds. Reportedly they had spent countless hours in making a blueprint and

testing their ideas which was one heck of a task but all that didn't go unnoticed as finally they were the centre of all admiration and appraise which they rightfully deserved.

Vysakh Nikhil

BEACH CLEAN UP

Visakhapatnam has a beautiful coastline studded with amazing beaches which makes it a truly wonderful place. Maybe it is the law of nature that something which is beautiful tends to get dirty quiet often. So a clean up is frequently to restore the serenity of the place.

As the first set of sunrays touch the beach it is a phenomenal sight in the sky but not the same is the case a few notches below on the ground, ironically you see a lot of litter which disturbs the natural sunrise beauty. It is a man made evil which is engulfing the sunrise as well as the beach walking experience.

A beach clean up drive was launched by our NSS head Dr. Prakash Bahadhury to inculcate the value of "SWACH BHARAT" among the students and in the process getting a portion of the beach cleaned.

Armed with a pair of polythene



gloves and a face mask the students, faculty members & staff of IPE started to clean the beach without wasting much time as soon as the bus got them to the cleaning spot. The people were divided into groups and each group was assigned a place to clean.

Everyone carried their assigned

job meticulously with utmost enthusiasm, the job being to clean the beach to the best of the way possible. The waves were bringing in cool breeze to make the people perform their work with much ease. With such a friendly soothing environment two hours had gone by in no time and not a piece of paper was found in the vicinity of the place that was cleaned by the students.

After the clean up drive was finished people quietly dropped their polythene gloves and mask in the dustbins and ate the snacks provided by the college. It was not signing off time yet as a few students entertained their peers with their singing and dancing after the snack break. After this light hearted stuff the IPE fraternity called it a day and students were safely back to the hostel having an awesome day to look back on.

Sai Harsha



LECTURE BY TATA PRAKASAM



IPE was indeed blessed to have someone of such high stature and experience namely Dr Tata Prakasam to express his views and thoughts with the IPE fraternity.

Blessed was IPE because, Dr. Tata Prakasam is currently serving

as Distinguished Professor of Environmental Sciences and Health in the Department of Community Medicine at the Maharajah Institute of Medical Sciences, Nellimarla, Vizianagaram District, Andhra Pradesh, India. Currently he is also serving as the Executive Director of the Center for Waste Transformation Technology, Wheaton, IL, which is a nonprofit organization. Dr. Tata Prakasam is currently serving as the President, Bharathi Theertha, Naperville, IL USA and Vice President, Bharathi Theertha, Vizianagaram, A.P.

With much more achievements to his name capped by his wonderful ability to hold students' attention while conveying his thoughts was unbelievable. The speech he delivered with utmost finesse and

elan was reflective of his glorious stature and dignity. He was a live wire with his speech radiating energy to the students who couldn't bat an eyelid during his presentation. At eighty, while his contemporaries would struggle to walk but he was here presenting an amazing talk. The talk covered various topics ranging from environment to waste transformation technology, also he spoke about social service and volunteerism.

The wonderful day ended with our Advisor-Academics Dr. V. S. R. K Prasad felicitating the gentleman. We must be highly thankful to Dr. Prakasam Tata who was here to deliver such an influential speech which is sometimes talked about till date.

Lohit Yadav

A VISIT BY UNDERGRADUATE CHEMICAL ENGINEERING STUDENTS

Chemical Engineering students have visited the mentioned industry as a part of Introduction to Chemical engineering course curriculum, guided by Prof. B.K. Dutta. The main objective of the plant visit was to familiarize students with the work process done in industries and how is it consistent with theory taught in class. Though some of things were already taught by the professor in class, we gained more knowledge by the practical interaction with the on-site engineers. In addition of learning unit, sub-unit operations

involved in the manufacture of phosphoric acid, students also learnt how the product (phosphoric acid), by-products are processed by the other part of the plant to produce other things like fertilizers, micro-nutrients.

Eventually the four hour plant visit helped students understand certain concepts more clearly. In specific, the plant visit helped the students understand and realize the common industrial practices for the manufacture of phosphoric

acid, other chemicals involved in the manufacture. The process units – Boiler, Pump, Condenser, Steam turbine, Generator, Electrostatic Precipitator, etc. & generate the process flow diagram. The importance of working safely. The concept of thermal energy conversion & estimation of the overall efficiency of power plant. How the product of the plant (phosphoric acid, other by-products in its manufacture) gets interfaced to the world.

Meghana Seerreddi

SPORTS DAY

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy". To give a refreshing reboot to daily educational overload a Sports Day was deemed necessary, accordingly a sports day was held on the 4th, 5th and 6th of April 2017.

Students had to select three sports to participate in from among the six sports available namely Cricket, Volleyball, Basketball, Kho-Kho, Football and Badminton. The response was awesome as all of the students were participating in some or the other sport.

The first day was completely given to outdoor games like football and cricket. It was an action packed day with teams from Petroleum and Chemical fighting it out for glory to lay their hands over the coveted prize. The spirit of the game was rightfully upheld and the main motto was to get a day off from studies and showcase the sporting side of the students. Refreshments were served in between and lunch was provided in the hostel mess for the students.

The second day was reserved for Kho-Kho, Volleyball and Basketball. The events were held in a peaceful way and the referees had no trouble in declaring the best performing team as the winning one. Sports were increasing unity among students and it actually served as a means to strengthen the bond of friendship.

The third day was held back for Badminton. Due to court constraints badminton was conducted solely



as a doubles event with freedom of choosing a teammate to play with completely up to the players. Closely fought matches gave an adrenalin rush and was a delight to watch.

The Sports day was the outcome of painstaking pre-planning by

the Sports Committee along with our dear Professors and they were a hundred percent successful in executing the same. The manner in which they pulled off the event so neatly must be highly appreciated.

Pushendra Singh P

APPOINTMENT OF IPE'S FOUNDER DIRECTOR

One of the most elegant and dignified professors our very own Advisor-Academics Dr V. S. R. K Prasad who carefully carried and nurtured the budding sapling called IPE in his able hands for an year now was appointed the founder Director of the Indian Institute of Petroleum and Energy, Visakhapatnam on the very eventful day of May 2, 2017.

The whole of IPE fraternity must be truly blessed to be governed by the likes of Dr. V. S. R. K Prasad sir who has moulded and shaped thousands of students in his career spanning over four decades.

Dr. Prasad was a former professor of Andhra University in the Department of Chemical Engineering for thirty years and subsequently took VRS and joined as principal of the ANITS Engineering College which he could bring to the forefront in entire AP during his stewardship. Dr. Prasad is also the chairman

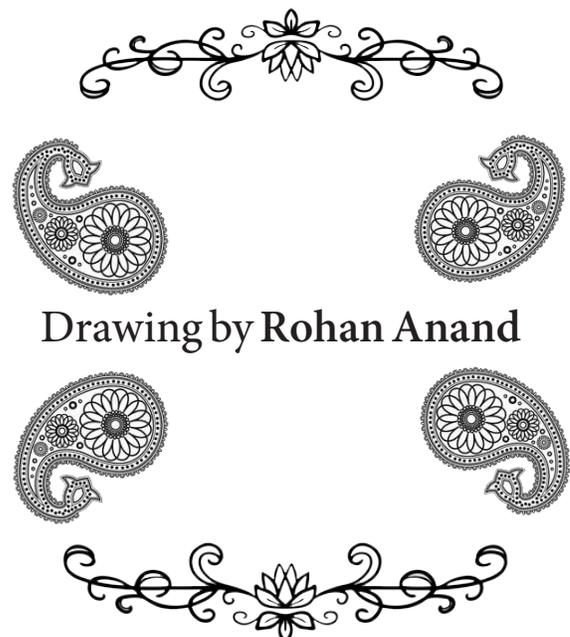


of the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC), appointed by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India. The ocean of experience that he carries is irreplaceable and this is the need of the hour for the newly-established IPE in order to ensure smooth functioning.

As it is known the foundation of

a building determines its longevity and strength, in similar fashion it is a boon to have Dr. Prasad sir as the founding director who would rightfully lay the perfect path to glory which would help the institute to scale new and greater heights and set a true benchmark for other institutes.

Lohit Yadav



Drawing by Rohan Anand

ARTICLE 1: THE GATES OF HELL

The "Darvaza gas crater" popularly referred to as "The Gates of Hell" is an abandoned gas field which has been burning continuously for nearly five decades now. Small errors can have dire lasting results is something which has been proved correct in this scenario.

The crater which is spread over a radius of 35 m and a depth of 30 m was identified by the Soviet Union as a potential oil field site in the year 1971 and very soon in the same year a preliminary survey was done to find out that there was a large gas pocket underlain the place.

Tragedy struck almost immediately after the survey was done as the drilling rig and camp collapsed into the site where the ground caved in into a crater and the whole paraphernalia was buried underneath in no time. As a precautionary measure to prevent the spread of poisonous gas to the nearby human settlements the engineers thought it would be wise to burn of the gas instead of creating another disaster. All was going good as per their plan after they lit up the crater but the time estimate to burn of the gas proved to go the other way round as the field is still burning till date outlasting the premeditated time frame of a few weeks.

Off lately "The Gates of Hell" have turned out to be a tourist attraction



attracting as many 50000 tourists who have visited the place since the year 2009. Even though it has been abandoned as a gas field it still has a

lot of tourists who come to visit the debacle induced spectacle.

Sai Kalyan

ARTICLE 2: THE ASTEGAH OF BAKU

The Atesgah of Baku was a temple known for its eternal flame which was believed to have been present since centuries. Fire rituals at the peninsula's numerous natural gas vents date back to at least the 10th century, although the current temple structure was built during the 17th and 18th centuries. With many legends and myths taking shape it was inevitable to convert it into a temple shrine. The flame which had a brilliant yellow colour became the deity of worship.

With due respect to religion, science had brought a new theory to the fore that explained the whole picture of the flame in a rather convincing way. The theory being natural gas leaks from underneath the ground. It has been the standard reason for natural flames all over the world with the inclusion of Astegah as well.

The altar which is situated right beneath a natural gas vent, igniting a large flame in the middle and four smaller flames on the rooftop corners of the pavilion. Surrounding the temple altar are a number of small cells which held the ascetic worshippers and pilgrims.

As per www.booksfact.com, the fire was once fed by a vent from a subterranean natural gas field located directly beneath the complex, but heavy exploitation of the natural gas reserves in the area



during Soviet rule resulted in the flame going out in 1969. Today, the museum's fire is fed by mains gas piped in from Baku. In 1975, the complex was turned into a museum,

and in 1998, it was nominated as an UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Pragya Choudhary

ARTICLE 3: ENNORE OIL SPILL

Ennore is the neighborhood of Chennai, India. It is situated on a peninsula and is bounded by the Kosaṣṭhalaiyar river, Ennore creek and Bay of Bengal. Ennore is a hub of range of industrial projects mainly several power plants and fertilizer factories, industrial parts and coal yard. 2017 Ennore oil spill occurred outside the Kamarajar port in Erna wool Tamil Nadu on the 28th of January the spill along the coast left a thick layer of slick and has polluted several beaches in the vicinity.



The reason behind the spill was because of collision between the outbound empty tanker BW Maple and the inbound loaded oil tanker Dawn Kanchipuram at 4:00 local time. In the morning the port authorities reported that there is no damage to the environment or that there is no causality or injury to any person. But by afternoon the oil spill was visible dead turtles along the shore and the residents were complaining about a strong odour of oil. This news was confirmed by the Indian coast guard, which assessed that the situation and reported that the spill occurred in the past 24 hours.

In the upcoming day, the Kamarajar Port released another report claiming that the oil booms were deployed as a precaution measure around the vessel precaution to contain the seepage if any. The

fishing community claimed that thousands of fishes had died and they were facing threats for their livelihood because of the spillage.

On the 31st of January the efforts to clean up the oil spill began with the Tamil Nadu pollution control and fisheries department being deployed to look into the situation. Three heavy suction vacuum helicopters to monitor the spill area and assist in its recovery, the efforts to manage the oil spill yielded approximately 160 metric tons of oil removed by over 5700 people.

The massive ecological damage awakened on the coast will reveal itself gradually in the coming months though it may be impossible to predict the precise impacts, there is no denying that the ocean will be polluted by this incident when the

deposits reach the seabed slowly, the bottom feeding organisms will be affected.

From fishermen to environmentalists everyone believes that the lack of responsibility has resulted in such disaster. Despite possessing the technical knowledge and necessary infrastructure, the agencies have been found seriously lacking preparedness, coordination and execution, unless this critical lacuna is fixed the chances of preventable incident escalating into disastrous tragedy cannot be ruled out in future.

Nithya Sri



UBUNTU AND THE FLEM THEORY

UBUNTU - If you stopped by expecting this article to be on the popular operating system, then this is probably not for you. If you're someone who cares for others, then go ahead and read this article. In African tribal culture, there is this thing called UBUNTU - which means to care for others, to be humane, and to do things that make others happy. It is about sharing what you have with others and upholding the spirit of oneness and being together to help each other during times of need. A popular tale in Africa goes thus - a philosopher visited a tribe in Africa, to study the life of people in that tribe, their habits and customs. On one occasion, having had a chance to interact with the kids in the tribe, he came up with an idea to study them. He gathered all the kids and told them that he wanted to play a game with them. Responding in the affirmative, the kids got excited and asked him what the game was all about. The philosopher put in front of them a basket full of goodies, and told them to stand a few meters apart, behind a line he drew on the ground. The kids formed a row, standing next to each other behind the line. The philosopher continued, and explained that he would blow a whistle, after which, the kids could cross the line, and head towards the basket. The kid who reaches the basket first can pick up as many goodies as he/she wants. The rest of the goodies not picked up by the first kid would belong to the second kid who reaches the basket, and this trend would continue till all the goodies are picked up. This way, the philosopher attempted to spot the kids who would be fast enough to pick up the goodies. Thinking thus, the philosopher blew the whistle,



expecting the kids to start running for the basket. He was pleasantly surprised when he saw all the kids join their hands and walk together towards the basket. After reaching the basket, they shared whatever was in the basket, and returned with satisfaction. This explains the concept of UBUNTU - it is sharing what you have with others, however little it may be, to bring a smile in their faces. It is asking oneself how he/she can be happy when people around him/her are sad.

In the rat race we are in today, it is hard to see such behavior from people. Often, people forget that a major duty of theirs is to keep their friends and family happy. People are meant to be treasured and things are meant to be used - not the other way around! The FLEM theory revolves around four basic things without which we cannot live - FOOD, LOVE, EXPERIENCE, and MEMORIES. In my opinion, these are the things necessary for life to exist. Not technology and fancy stuff. But how often do we understand that? In today's world, we hardly ever see a person who

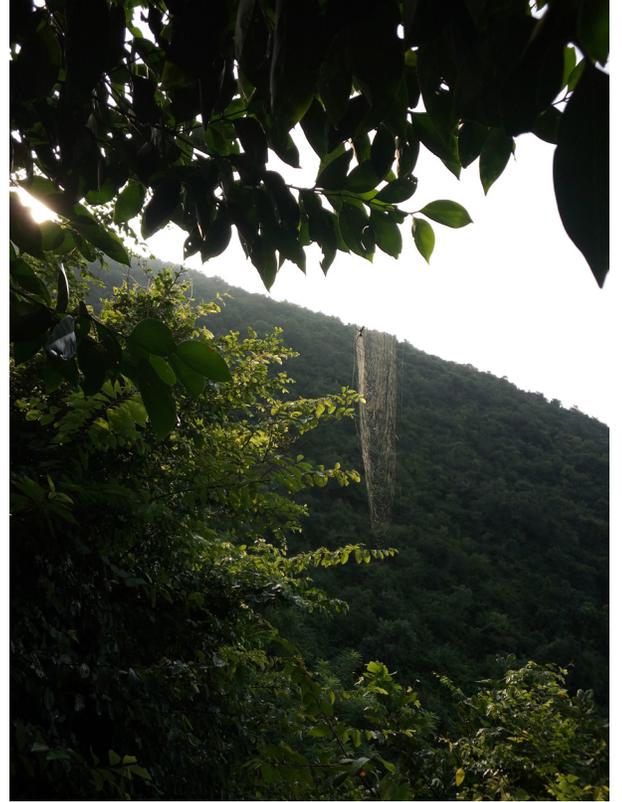
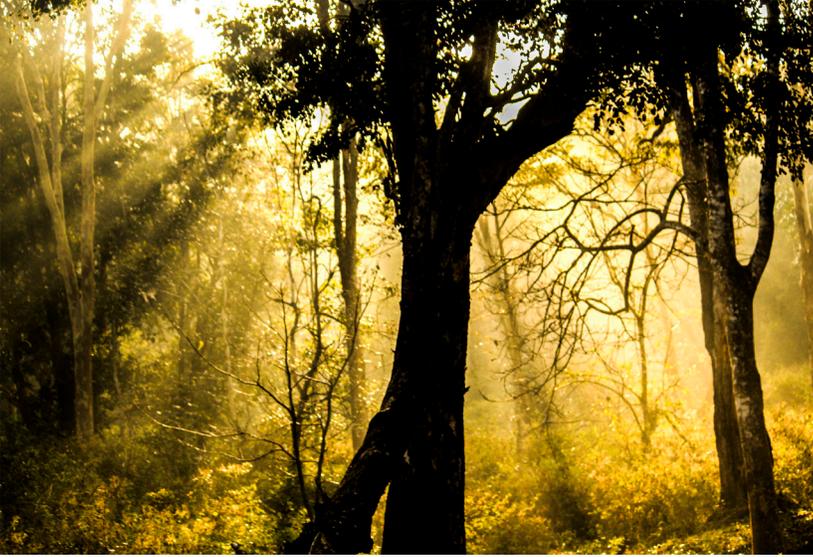
doesn't use technology - say for example a smart phone! True that smart phones help us in many ways, but they have also succeeded in separating people. It is impossible to imagine life without food. It is the basic thing that energizes us. A human without love is inanimate - so love is also inevitable. A person matures in life with experience. It is what makes us strong and keeps us going. Memories are the gifts that we should treasure and cherish. Therefore, the FLEM theory stresses the need to identify the basic elements that sustain life. In order to lead a happy life, let's embrace and the FLEM theory and keep others around us happy using the concept of UBUNTU!

If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together - An African Proverb.

To a world full of humaneness and happiness -

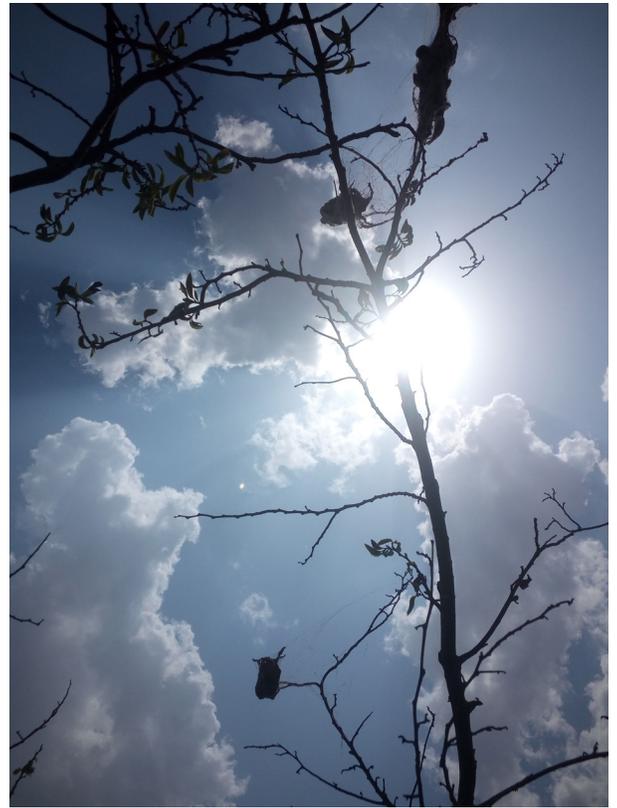
Dhanraj

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Photographs Taken by **A. K. Akhil** and **Dhanraj**

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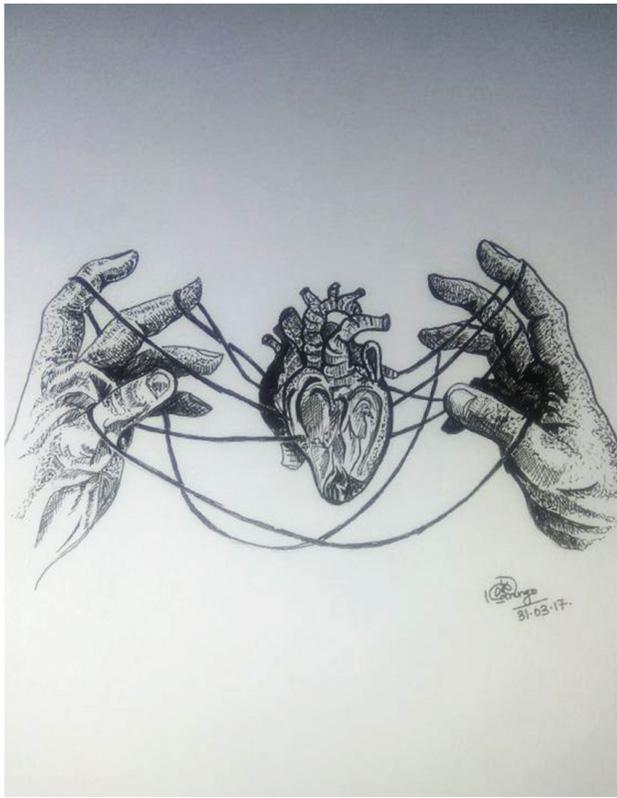
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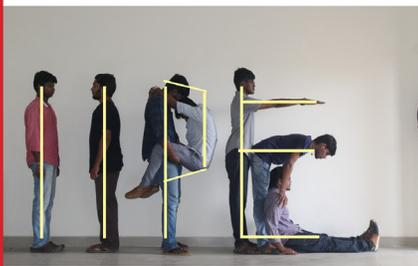
Drawings by Nithya Sri

ARTIST'S CORNER



Drawings by **Debabrat Kanungo** and **Anusha Srivastava**

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NEWSLETTER TEAM

Director: Dr. V S R K Prasad

Professor in charge and: Dr. Girish Rajan,
Convener Assistant Professor of Mechanical
Engineering

Coordination & Editing: Dr. M. Manasa, Counsellor
Assistance

Editing: Lohit Yadav

Layout and Design: Rohan Anand

Student Members: Lohit Yadav, Rohan Anand, Sai
Kalyan, Meghana Seereddi, Nithya
Sri, Tirumal Sai, Vysakh Nikhil,
Sai Harsha, Pushpendra Singh,
Pragya Choudhary

Artists: Nithya Sri, Debabrat Kanungo,
Anusha Srivastava and
Rohan Anand

Photographers: A. K. Akhil and Dhanraj

General Assistance: Rohan Anand and Lohit Yadav
