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SAMPADA

Your Window to UVCE



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EDITORIAL

“Change is the only constant” - whether for good or bad, we need to accept it. If it is not acceptable to you, work towards bringing the change you want. Every UVCEian has faced this fact in his/her college days and learnt it as a life lesson and would have worked accordingly. Let us consider some of the good changes currently happening at UVCE campus - revamping of the existing building, restructuring of the existing rest-rooms, replastering of the classrooms etc. These were very simple demands from past decade and finally when something is happening, there are lot of questions. We have tried to be neutral and covered both angles in this edition of Sampada - the excited students to see some changes in the infrastructure as well as some of the experts claiming the unscientific methods used for the heritage structure. We would like to ask everyone questioning the process, where was their concern 10-20 years earlier when the condition of the college building dilapidated. It is easy to ask questions, but getting things to move is difficult.

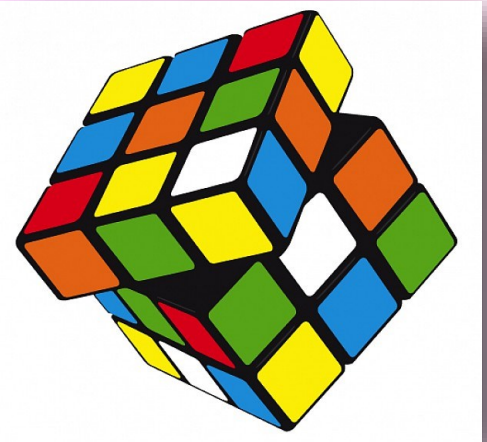
At the same time ,we are also afraid of CHANGE. Fresh batch of students are entering the college based on their CET rankings and choice. They do not have the right information available on internet. Even other wise, once they get the Admission Order, the process for admission in UVCE is so complex, extensive and intimidating, which itself can be simplified. But, “No, we do not want to change”... It is this mindset which has cost UVCE its spot among the best Engineering Colleges in Karnataka. We have to keep up with the other colleges and introduce changes which will simplify the entire process.

Let us consider the change in students attitude as well. It is very evident if we consider the attendees during UVCE Payana. The majority of the participants were from 60s and 70s batches. The 80s and 90s batches had their presence felt, but it was almost no-show from 2000 onwards. Why this change in behaviour towards their alma-mater? Some people suggested that your priorities change as you get old. Agreed.. But still, the love, affection and respect towards their alma-mater and its impact on their life is immense as per the senior alumni. But more recent batches do not completely accept this fact. They consider that it was only because of their own effort they have achieved success. Even this is true, but is it completely true?

This change of mindset - irrespective of good or bad - need to be reflected upon. The current generation of students need to understand the importance of community building which is the core essence of our culture and especially in UVCE. This is the fundamental CHANGE we want to introduce at the grass-root level and we need everyone’s support for the same.

One best example we would like to demonstrate here is about “VisionUVCE Scholarships” which has been running from past 7 years and has grown from strength to strength with lot of support from various alumni. Even this year, we have already received enquiries about how and when to contribute with few people already transferring the amount to VisionUVCE account. This is one way of thinking of “Giving Back to UVCE”. But, we were introspecting about people who have received the Scholarships in past years and how many of them have returned to help others. We have not made it compulsory to give back but every year, we have given a request letter about joining hands with us when it is possible to them. We wanted them to feel it as their duty on their own rather than enforcing it on them. Is it wrong? We do not want to judge it. But, we want to CHANGE now and make some necessary modifications to the entire process.

We, from VisionUVCE Team, have always believed that new people can bring in the new changes which can help us to move forward and keep ourselves more relevant. We also have made sure that everything we do is completely transparent (be it VU Scholarships, UVCE Payana or any other initiative) and open for suggestions/ criticisms. This is our way of keeping “CHANGE AS CONSTANT” and we request more people to join hands



- Team SAMPADA

ENGINEERED FOR SUCCESS

In the heart of Bengaluru lies a 12.5-acre campus where thousands of students, who have gone on to become eminent names, were at one point seated in the century-old college. Once known as the best engineering college, University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE) is working hard at regaining the title. In the previous budget, an amount of `25 crores was allocated to the college, which was used to give a facelift to the engineering college – the new mechanical block, iconic block and other basic amenities – the only one under Bangalore University.

“We have been working on getting it an autonomous status,” says KR Venugopal, vice-chancellor of Bangalore University, former principal and an alumnus of the batch. Located in one straight line – Mayo Hall, High Court and UVCE – the three stalwart institutions will also bear resemblance to one another in colour with the facelift.

BACK IN TIME

To give relief to the public affected by the great famine of 1882, rural irrigation and other projects including the laying of railway line between Bengaluru and Mysuru were undertaken. Mysore state was well-known for irrigation works. In the early days, Public Works Department was manned by importing some engineers from outside the state. The posts of Chief Engineer and Deputy Chief Engineer were held by European officers, some of whom were from the Corps of Royal Engineers of the British Army.



When Sir M Visvesvaraya took over as Chief Engineer, he submitted proposals for the rapid development of irrigation, power resources and to start industries. All these activities gave rise to a great demand for skilled workers and supervisors. To meet this demand, the government in 1913 started the Mechanical Engineering School in Bengaluru with late SV Shetty, as its superintendent.

It came into existence because the Engineering College in Madras (now Chennai) and Poona (now Pune) were not able to provide seats for the number of students for whom Mysuru wanted provision for. In a speech by Sir MV in 1955, he mentioned that they wanted “admission for ten students annually but the authorities in Chennai and Pune could provide only for two or three. Thereupon, it was decided to start a college of engineering in Bengaluru.”

According to a government order, the college was only a temporary measure to offer tuition and training only in two branches of engineering – civil and mechanical. But only few had expected that such far reaching proposals as to establishing a university and an engineering college would run a smooth course. The required buildings were put up between Cenotaph Road and the Post office Road. This was the beginning of the present main building of the college which faces KR Circle. Only a frontage and a short length of the wings on either side were constructed. The central portion which now houses the library was constructed at the same time.

KR Sheshachar, an illustrious alumni of Madras University was appointed as the first principal. He modelled the courses on the Madras pattern with some modifications. It was the fifth engineering college to be established in the country. After the formation of Bangalore University in 1964, UVCE became one of the Constituent colleges of Bangalore University.

FUTURE TENSE

Today, the centenary institution led by Dr HN Ramesh as principal, has a strength of around 4,700 UG, PG, Ph.D students pursuing their degrees at UVCE. “We are requesting for another `100 crores to uplift the college. We’re also working on making it an autonomous and deemed university,” Venugopal says, adding, “If alumni, philanthropists and industrialists donate large sums, we can make the place even better.”

- The New Indian Express (19th July)

MEET & GREET THE ALUMNI

We had multiple interactions with Venkatesh G from 1971 batch, who is the Founder-CEO of Globetek during UVCE Payana. We are thankful to him for being the Gold Sponsors during the event. We had requested him for an interview and we are glad that he accepted it. Here is a shorter version of our interview with Venkatesh

Team Sampada: Sir, we request you to introduce yourself to our readers

Venkatesh : I belong to 1971 Electrical engineering batch. And during 1977-78 I obtained PG. Diploma in Electronics Design Technology from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

From 1971 to 1976 I held assignments as Design, Development and Applications engineer for a private company and later worked on many import substitution projects for Public sectors, Railways, Merchant Navy and Defence establishments.

In 1976, I started own manufacturing unit to Design, Assembly and Supply of custom designed Industrial electronics instruments and systems. From 1980 to 1992, took additional assignments as Expert applications consultant for companies handling Hi-tech imported electronics and Opto-electronics products.

In 1992 established Globetek to consolidate my expertise under one roof to manufacture and supply state-of-the-art electronics systems along with the imported items from USA, Europe and Japan. Globetek has completed Silver jubilee year in 2017 and look forward to the Golden jubilee year in the years ahead.

As per our ambition and duty to “give it back to the society”, we at Globetek join hands with many authentic social organizations and selected NGO’s to support the needs of the poor and the deserving candidates to empower them to come up in life and lead and earn a decent living status.

Notable institutions and NGO’s we work with them are Akshaya Patra Foundation, Rotary Foundation, UVCE Foundation for Scholarships, Shivanand Mutt- Rikhia and Rishikesh for their Rural Empowerment projects, Junglescapes- for the tribal self-employment projects in Bandipur forests., Gnanavi Rural Development Trust- for rural children education etc. Besides these, many institutions, individuals also receive timely assistance to pursue their social work and educational needs.

TS: Share some of the best memories from your college days

GV: First and foremost, I am proud to be an alumnus of UVCE.

Securing seat at UVCE was in itself a matter of great prestige during those times. UVCE was much sought after engineering institution for the merit students. As such, we could walk with our chin up as students of UVCE.

During our college years from 1966 to 1971, some of my classmates and I used to peddle all the way from Sheshadri Puram to the college. During the fall and spring seasons, the road stretch between the Ananda Rao Circle and K.R. Circle was a delight to the eyes especially in the mornings. The road would be covered with thick layer of yellow and red flowers from the trees on the side, the Fresh, crisp and pure air used to make our ride a great pleasure as well as refreshing. We will never forget those beautiful mornings.

With ours being the integrated scheme, we were to study subjects from all the three branches such as Civil, Mechanical and Electrical engineering besides Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics. Studying those subjects were never a burden, rather they enhanced our knowledge horizon so much that we were very confident to handle any problems at ease during our professional carrier.



Compulsory NCC during 1st and 2nd year course was a great help in gaining knowledge on many practical matters besides acquiring disciplined outlook in our lives. Survey practical classes and camps enriched our knowledge on how to do land measurements, contours and how bridges and roads are planned and designed and the art of reading maps.

Educational and project tours were both educative and entertaining. This experience came very handy when I had to tour solo later during my professional life. I remember with respect all those lecturers and professors who inspired us.

TS: Can you please tell us what are the most valuable lessons that you learnt at UVCE

GV: It is difficult to say which is most valued and which is not. Everything was as important as the other in those formative years. However, I have to mention one incident that happened during my 2nd Year engineering which triggered the entrepreneur in me and shaped my Destiny.

Late 60s was a difficult time for the Indian industry. Recession and unemployment among engineering graduates was high. There was a palpable gloom among the old and new graduates coming out of the colleges as the employment opportunities were bleak. To make matters worse, the Government had permitted more and more engineering colleges to be started by the private sector resulting in supply exceeding the demand.

Student leaders across the state resorted to strike demanding the Government to stop the establishment of new engineering colleges till the economic situation improved in the country and all the existing unemployed graduates got employed.

On one such day, some of the student leaders from our college and neighbouring colleges were making heated speeches one after the other in our college corridor, in front of the library building. As the classes were on hold, most of us stood watching the agitated speeches by the leaders of the strike.

Our Professor. B.K.Ramaiah who was also watching the gathering, came on the stage at the end and uttered the following exact words, which I still remember very well. I quote, "IT IS SHAME THAT YOU ENGINEERS DEMAND JOBS. AS ENGINEERS YOU SHOULD CREATE JOBS, NOT TO DEMAND JOBS FROM THE GOVERNMENT". These magic words left every one dumbfound.

I just don't know what effect it had on others that day, but it had a profound impact on me. Then and there, I made up my mind at that very moment what my Destiny was going to be as an engineer. I was just thrilled by the very idea. Yes, it is the engineers who create jobs for both technical and non- technical, skilled and unskilled personnel either directly or indirectly.

This idea lingered on my mind and grew stronger and stronger as the days passed. From that day onwards, all my efforts were to gather more and more information on self-employment in addition to the class room subjects.

I consider that this was the most valued lesson I learnt at UVCE. Today, I look back with pride and happiness that my decision from on that day to be self-employed and create jobs for others and not look for employment was a great success indeed.

TS: Your advice to the younger generation and current students

GV: Follow these time tested golden rules.

- Recognise your true strengths and nurture them and work on it.
- Be realistic with respect to space and time in taking important decisions.
- Implement always Quality in thinking and deeds.
- There are no shortcuts, gambling and speculations, in achieving your set goals
- Have maximum clarity on what you are working on.
- Hardships on the way are just like passing clouds, let it not dishearten you.
- You yourselves should never be an issue while solving external issues.
- Always work within the frame work of business Ethics.
- Take very good care of Nature and environment, it will take care of you.
- Last but not the least, pay attention to your health. Regularly workout to maintain your physical and mental fitness in topmost condition.

AT HOME WITH HERITAGE

THE PRESERVATION OF THE 558 HERITAGE SITES IN THE CITY IS ON THE AGENDA OF THE BDA TOWN PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Ancient buildings add precious heritage value to a city they are housed in. With the passage of time, it is only these architectural marvels that stand tall as silent spectators of a transforming cityscape.

As Prof Edward Hollis, architect and writer, says, "Buildings usually live longer than people. After 50 years in the life of the building, the original makers, the architects and residents are usually gone. At that point, the building begins to take a life of its own."

He goes on to add that buildings never ever do what they were initially designed to do and people always do strange things with them.

"The world is filled with buildings that no longer perform their original functions. Former industrial cities in the UK are filled with buildings that were meant to be warehouses and factories, but are now people's homes. The biggest art museum in the UK - the Tate Modern - was built to be a power station," he explains.

The blueprint:

Adding credence to Prof Hollis' viewpoint about heritage buildings taking on a distinct personality, the BDA has identified 558 heritage sites in the city, which are now being preserved by the civic authority under the Revised Master Plan 2031 (RMP 2031). These 558 sites have been classified under separate categories according to their heritage status. These include 533 under built heritage value, 16 having natural heritage value, and nine having cultural heritage value. The Plan has identified and demarcated 12 heritage zones covering a group of heritage buildings and heritage precincts in the Planning District Maps within the provisions of Section 2 Sub Section (Iea) and (Ieb) of the KTCP Act, 1961 within the Bangalore Metropolitan Area. A specially constituted committee of experts under the Chairman of the BMRDA shall be responsible for advising the BDA/BBMP with regard to the development permissions and the conditions to be imposed on the developments in these precincts/ zones and the heritage buildings under these regulations.

The elite list:

Besides the Raj Bhavan, Vidhana Soudha and the Archaeological Museum, other imposing heritage structures that make the list include the Bangalore Power and Light office, Hudson Memorial Church, St Martha's Hospital, Jamia Masjid, Bull Temple, Balabrooie House, Manikyavelu Mansion housing the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), and others.

- Times of India, July 20th

This list includes University Visvesaraya College of Engineering as well



MY UCE– MY BANGALORE

My association with Bangalore started in 1959 as a student of the well-known University College of Engineering (U C E) at K R Circle. There were only two engineering colleges in Bangalore then as compared to over 50 now.

I came to Bangalore from Mysore. The city did not look too much different from Mysore. It was easy for me to be a part of Bangalore. I stayed at UCE hostel located close to the College. It was a quiet and lovely place. The Hostel life was highly enjoyable. The same hostel has now become a pathetic place to live. Very often we, the host élites, moved around in the city. The two gardens Lalbagh, Cubbon Park were great attractions. The latter being nearby it was frequented by us. It was a lovely place, there used to be Sunday orchestra in Band stand. Now also the park is beautiful, but has lost its divinity. Lalbagh still retains the old charm, even though it gets crowded now. There are many smaller parks now which are a plus point to the city.

We were regular visitors to some of the popular eateries of the time like Vidyarthi Bhavan in Gandhi Bazaar, MTR near Lalbagh, Krishna Bhavan at Balepet, etc. All these exist even now but have lost their past glory. One of the popular places for UCE students was Indian coffee House at Avenue Road near Mysore Bank circle. I still remember the taste of Coffee, Sandwich and Plain dose served by neat white dress turban bearers which I enjoyed there regularly. Indian Coffee House is no more there.



There was not a single girl student in the entire Engineering College. What a pity! Whenever the boys wanted to see some pretty faces they had to go around the nearby Maharani's college. This is a big contrast to what we see today –there are many girl students in the college itself. Lots of boys and girls move around together freely.

In the whole college there were only 2-3 motor bikes. Students used to come on bicycles. The City was bicycle friendly. Many used to travel by bus. The fare was in paisa. From K R Circle to Vishveswarapuram circle it was 11 paisa.

In those years the best of students from all over Karnataka came to Bangalore to join UCE. I understand that the situation has changed now. The private engineering colleges in Bangalore are giving tough competition to UCE (the college has been renamed as University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering – it is UVCE now). Many good students are getting attracted by the private colleges. It appears that UVCE requires a facelift in terms of infrastructure and maintenance. It is felt that the college has the best of academic staff and an excellent library.



There were only 3 branches then– Mechanical, Civil and Electrical. Today there seems to be 7 branches with in the same infrastructure. Perhaps this is one of the reasons for the feeling of inadequacy. In terms of maintenance and upkeep of the building, laboratories etc a lot need to be done. Let us all hope the concerned authorities will pay attention to the needs of this great institution and bring it back to its past glory. The college will be completing 100 years by 2017. We could hope that in the next 4 years it will become the best engineering college in Bangalore. There is also the talk of converting it as an Autonomous Institute. If that also materializes by 2017, it will be a great turn around. We could all once again look at this great institution with pride. Let us all pray GOD for the good of our almatmater.

My first stint at Bangalore was up to 1965. Later on I stayed in Mumbai and Pune. While I was there I always missed my Bangalore. There was a yearning to be back in Bangalore and settle down here. I came back in 1974 as an employee of MICO the then highly renowned company of Bangalore. The city was changing but it was not drastic. The real change started in mid 90's. There was a rapid growth in IT and other service Industries.

CAMPUS SAYS

The renovation work truly is a breath of fresh air to UVCE students who have been conditioned to think that new and improved facilities will continue to evade them. It feels really nice to come back after our semester break to refurbished classrooms which previously had no fans, loose and old electrical fittings and a hanging blackboard.

At first the timing of the renovation felt impeccable as we weren't going to be inconvenienced by the ongoing work (unlike the mechanical students who had to run helter-skelter), but now my opinion is changing as some heritage experts argue that usage of cement instead of the original lime-mortar is going to do more harm than good in the long run.



- Sunkeerth, 3rd sem ECE



The renovation work is going on well.

Students should take the initiative to clean their classrooms at least once a month.

After the renovation has been done, the initiative of cleaning the classrooms will help maintaining the new state.

- Shivani, 3rd Sem, ISE

I'm so glad to see the college being renovated after its 100th year celebrations. It makes me so happy to see the pace at which it is being renovated. It is so good to see that the historic building with thousands of old memories hidden in it is not being affected but instead is being restored with its beauty as such.

It is our responsibility as students to maintain this heritage. We have to make sure that our college is well maintained. It is we as students who are going to take benefit of the facilities provided and it is our duty to keep the college clean. In order to achieve this, we must work together and make sure that the infrastructure is well maintained, another major contribution we can do is to volunteer to check out the progress of renovation at our respective classes because it's our own class and at the end of the day we get to enjoy the fruits of it.

- Sneha N, 3rd Sem, ECE



It's great that the college is being renovated while keeping every bit of it the same, as it was built! Once the facelift is over, it's our responsibility to keep the campus clean and green.

And the prospect of getting new lab equipment's excites me. Also, I can't wait to see the building red again.

- Venkatesh Prasad, 3rd Sem, ECE

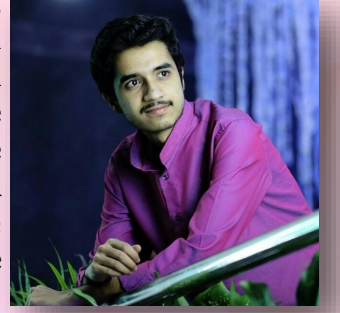
The renovation work is going on really well. A must needed change in the college infrastructure. It is important to maintain the cleanliness of these renovated area by the students for long lasting results and pass it on to the coming batches as it is the fund provided by the government is being used to its optimal potential.

- Mahima P, 3rd Sem, ECE



UVCE is one of the oldest colleges of our nation and over its momentous journey it has successfully produced many prominent engineers to the world. At present, being superior in its placements and having the hallmark of Sir M Visvesvaraya's establishment, this government run institution has a lot of pride/heritage in it, but the only thing bothering UVCE like a dark spot is its infrastructure. This problem is now on the verge of its end point thanks to the funding received from the Govt for the renovation & development of this iconic campus.

The architecture of UVCE is excellent, with solid rock pillars, spacious classrooms, laboratories and the design of the campus is in such a way that none of the external noise reach the inside of the building even though there is lot of honking and traffic just adjacent to the college. The college staff over the past years was trying its level best to maintain the integrity of this institution but still the appearance of this 100-year-old building did not appear appealing to other people and hence the condescending reviews about the infrastructure of the college overshadows the other positive responses.



The jinx of bad infrastructure is going to end soon. Classrooms are being redone, new rock slabs are being placed in the garden area and the fading outer building walls are being plastered and the bright red paint is waiting to be rolled on the walls. The washrooms are done and it looks fantastic. Still a lot of work is going on with civil engineers walking here and there checking the whole process and one thing's for sure the campus will look stunning once renovation gets over. The only thing UVCE was lacking will soon be updated and it is the responsibility of each and every student to take care and maintain cleanliness in the campus premises.

- R Vishwas, 3rd Sem ISE

ವಿಶ್ವೇಶ್ವರಯ್ಯನವರು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಿದ ಈ ಮಹಾನ್ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಓದುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ನನ್ನ ಸೌಭಾಗ್ಯ. ಅನೇಕ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಉತ್ತಮ ಭವಿಷ್ಯವನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಬುನಾದಿ ಈ ನಮ್ಮ ಜ್ಞಾನದೇಗುಲ. ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಗಿಡ ಮರಗಳು ಕಾಲೇಜಿಗೆ ಮೆರಗನ್ನು ನೀಡಿದೆ. ಸಾಂಸ್ಕೃತಿಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಹಬ್ಬಗಳು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಮನೋವಿಕಾಸಕ್ಕೆ ಪೂರಕವಾಗಿವೆ. ಶತಮಾನದ ಸಂಭ್ರಮಾಚರಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ನಮ್ಮ ಕಾಲೇಜಿಗೆ ಕಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಯೇ ಮೂಲಭೂತ ಸೌಕರ್ಯಗಳು. ಆದರೆ ಕಾಲೇಜನ್ನು ನೂತನ ರೂಪಕ್ಕೆ ನವೀಕರಣಗೊಳಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ನಮಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಸಂತಸ ತಂದಿದೆ. ಕಟ್ಟಡ ನವೀಕರಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ೨೫ ಕೋಟಿ ಮಂಜೂರು ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ನಾವೆಲ್ಲರೂ ಕೃತಜ್ಞರಾಗಿದ್ದೇವೆ.

ನಮ್ಮ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಓದಿದ ಯಾರೇ ಹಳೆಯ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಬಂದರೂ ಹೇಳುವುದೊಂದೇ ಮಾತು "ಏನೂ ಬದಲಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ನಾವು ಓದುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾಗ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಹೇಗಿತ್ತೋ, ಥೇಟ್ ಈಗಲೂ ಅದೇ ತರಹ ಇದೆ". ಕಾಲೇಜಿಗೆ ಭಾವನಾತ್ಮಕವಾಗಿ ಅವರಷ್ಟು ಹೊಂದಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದರು ಎಂಬುದಷ್ಟೇ ಅಲ್ಲದೆ "ಅದೇ ಹಳೆಯ ಬಿಲ್ಡಿಂಗ್, ಸೋರುವ ಕೊಠಡಿಗಳು, ಮುರಿದ ಕಿಟಕಿಗಳು, ಕೆಲಸಕ್ಕೆ ಬಾರದ ಫ್ಯಾನ್ಗಳು, ಆಗಲೋ, ಈಗಲೋ ತಲೆ ಮೇಲೆ ಬೀಳುವಂತೆ ಕಾಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಟ್ಯಾಬ್ಲೆಟ್ಗಳು, ಶೌಚಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನೀರಿನ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ" ಇಂತಹ ಹಲವಾರು ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳೂ ಹಾಗೇ ಇವೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸಬೇಕು. ಆದರೆ ಈಗ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಮುಕ್ತಾಯ ಹಾಡುವ ಸಂದರ್ಭ. ಅಂದರೆ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯ ಸಮಯ. ಹೌದು, ಹೊಚ್ಚ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ, ಅತ್ಯಾಕರ್ಷಕವಾಗಿ, ಹೊಸ ಕೆಂಪು ಬಣ್ಣದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಬಿಲ್ಡಿಂಗ್ ಕಂಗೊಳಿಸಲು ಸಜ್ಜಾಗಿದೆ. ನೂರು ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಕಾಪಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಬಂದಿರುವ ತನ್ನ ಪರಂಪರೆಗೆ ಕೊಂಚಿತ್ತೂ ಧಕ್ಕೆಯಾಗದೆ, ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳು ಇನ್ನಷ್ಟು ಬಲಿಷ್ಠಗೊಂಡು ಹೊಸ ಹುರುಪಿನೊಂದಿಗೆ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ದಾರಿ ದೀಪವಾಗಲಿ ಎಂಬುದೇ ನಮ್ಮೆಲ್ಲರ ಆಶಯ. ಉತ್ತಮ ಸೌಕರ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡ ಕೊಠಡಿಗಳನ್ನು ನೂತನ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿನ್ಯಾಸಗೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿರುವ ಕಾಲೇಜನ್ನು ಕಾಣಲು ಕಾತುರದಿಂದ ಕಾಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇವೆ.

ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ ಆವರಣವನ್ನು ಶುಭ್ರವಾಗಿರುವುದಲ್ಲಿ ನಮ್ಮ ಪಾತ್ರ ಬಹಳ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾದದ್ದು. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಾದ ನಾವು ಕಾಲೇಜನ್ನು ಸ್ವಚ್ಛವಾಗಿರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಕಾಪಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾಗಿರುವುದು ನಮ್ಮ ಕೈಯಲ್ಲಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಅರಿತು ತಮ್ಮ ಪಾತ್ರವನ್ನು ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿದರೆ ನಮ್ಮ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ ಕೀರ್ತಿ ಪತಾಕೆಯನ್ನು ಇನ್ನಷ್ಟು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸಬಹುದು.

- ರಂಜಿತ ಆರ್.ಬಿ, 3ನೇ ವರ್ಷ ಸಿಎಸ್‌ಇ

To be honest, I'm happy that they drew their attention towards renovation of washrooms firstly. And, it will be more pleasure if they completely renovate lecture complex. I think, being students, we can help to grow a new, greener rock garden and maintain cleanliness.

- Shanthala, 3rd Sem, ISE



UVCE'S FACELIFT DRAWS FLAK

The manner in which restoration is being carried out by the Public Works Department has invited the wrath of conservation architects and heritage experts

In its 101st year, the University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE) at K.R. Circle in central Bengaluru is all set to get a facelift. But the manner in which the restoration is being carried out by the Public Works Department (PWD) has invited the wrath of conservation architects and heritage experts.

Conservation architect Pankaj Modi said that the department is using cement, which is incompatible with and detrimental to the lime-mortar building. "They carry out repairs in the name of renovation, but use material that is not compatible with



the structure. Research shows that this is inappropriate and could create more problems for the building. Several years ago, parts of the building were plastered in cement, which should have ideally been removed now and redone with lime plaster as per the original construction," he said.

This only showed the 'insensitivity' of the department over how old buildings should be repaired, he said. "The PWD needs to train engineers and contractors in handling heritage buildings," added Mr. Modi.

'Availability of lime mortar an issue'

R. Jagadish, a retired civil engineering professor and an alumnus of the college, who is overseeing the renovation, said although the heritage building was a lime mortar structure, getting such a huge quantity of lime mortar is not possible.

"This is why we have done surface treatment and modern cement plastering to the lime mortar building," he said.

He also said that using lime mortar for renovation would be difficult as the work would take years together. "It is a running college and we have a deadline to meet. So, using cement is ideal" he said.

'Delayed inevitable'

PWD officials added that the renovation work, which was scheduled for completion in December, could be delayed as it is a heritage structure. "We have got workers from Tamil Nadu, who are helping us maintain the originality of the old structures," an official said.

Officials also claimed that they were doing everything possible to retain the heritage value of the building. "We have video-graphed and photographed the buildings, and will make sure the elevations, carvings and wooden structures are retained."

They also pointed out that the building is poorly maintained. The roof of the machine shop in the mechanical department had fallen down last year.

They said 18 rooms will be ready in the first week of August when classes are scheduled to commence. Vice Chancellor of Bangalore University K.R. Venugopal defended the decision of the PWD to use cement, saying the department had assured that using cement would make the building stronger.

Museum on the campus

While students of UVCE will get new equipment for hands-on experience, the campus will get a museum where the old machines would be displayed. A Public Works Department official said several machines are over a 100 years old. They would be displayed in the museum that would come up in the mechanical block.

UVCE to be a green building

Public Work Department officials are planning to ensure that the revamped UVCE campus is a green building. Officials said that they plan to install energy efficient lights and solar panels so that the entire building is self-sufficient in energy generation.

"We have also sent a proposal for a waste water treatment plant on the campus," a PWD official, who is overseeing the renovation, said.

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment had carried out an audit to ensure that the entire college is disabled-friendly, he added.

Plagued by staff shortage

The iconic UVCE, which once boasted of some of the best faculty, is now plagued with a shortage of staff. A second-year student said that lack of permanent faculty is a matter of concern; they have to manage with guest faculty. "Most of them are not regular, as a result of which the syllabus is not completed on time," the student said.

Bangalore University authorities said that UVCE has 200 sanctioned posts. Of these, only 96 teaching posts are filled. The college, which has a student strength of over 4,500, depends largely on 70 guest faculty members to conduct classes.

Another student pointed out that apart from this, the laboratories — particularly the electrical and electronic labs — are in poor condition. Students complain that they sometimes find the laboratories cramped. "The machines are old. We don't get the expected output in spite of carrying out experiments correctly, as a result of which we end up losing marks," a student said. Students pointed out that many books in the library are not maintained properly. "Important pages from books are torn. Besides, books are not arranged in the proper rack," a student said.

- THE HINDU (6th August)

ಇದೇ ಮಾದರಿಯ ಒಂದು ವರದಿ ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲೂ ಪ್ರಕಟವಾಗಿತ್ತು - ಅದರ [ಇ-ಕೊಂಡಿ](#)

MY UCE- MY BANGALORE

(Continued from page 7)....

There was a large Influx of people from other cities. This stimulated the unplanned growth of city. The soft and humane culture of Bangalore changed drastically and made way for the inhuman commercial culture. With the growth of city all the associated problems also started -like traffic jams, air pollution, water scarcity, noise pollution, garbage, crime rate etc. These are now well known and discussed in different forums. There are surely certain positive aspects, such as few world class companies moved into Bangalore, Some best R & D centers of multinational companies also got established here. But these are not of any comfort to an ordinary citizen of Bangalore.

Finally I look at Bangalore like this, I know two elderly ladies for over four decades. There is significant difference between the two. One of them is still slim, active, stylish, charming, graceful and presentable. Another one ignored her physical fitness. She has grown fat, health is poor, has many problems like diabetes, Arthritis, BP, High cholesterol etc. I compare present Bangalore to the latter lady. Some of the world class cities have grown gracefully like the former lady. Still I like my grand old fat lady friend .In spite of all her physical ailments, she is positive, friendly, cultured, hospitable and helpful. In the same way I like my Bangalore in spite of all its short comings. It is a good place to live. My fat lady friend needs expert medical care. My Bangalore city also needs expert guidance to solve its many problems. I wish speedy recovery to both.



- By Dr. K.S. Anandaram, Mechanical – 1964 (From 64 Batch Golden Jubilee Souvenir)

VOICES OF FRESH BATCH OF ALUMNI

UVCE!! Before joining my college, I was not aware of this prestigious institution, but I did not know that one day I will also be a student of UVCE and complete my engineering successfully! People coming to UVCE are not only from different places, but also with versatility in culture, different level of understanding and most importantly different level of economic status. But for all of them the only goal is to get education and build their personality as their life may be street lights for so many other lives. We can see so many obstacles stopping students to reach their goal but because of UVCE's welcoming nature, lecturers, alumni support for students in various ways helps them fulfil their dream. After completion of engineering now I am imagining myself how I was what I have become now. It is all because of UVCE. Once my senior told me "Now you will not realize what UVCE is but when you go out you will notice the difference in your personality". Now I am experiencing that and that pulls me to write this. That's why I always remember this Education is the Manifestation of the Perfection Already in Man – Swami Vivekananda. What we are now is not because of luck or god's grace but because of fruitful education we got in our life. So, I always love this quote. And I thank my college UVCE.



- Suresh M, Batch of 2018

I believe that UVCE is a college which makes a student all set to step into the corporate world. UVCE is a college where students don't get spoon fed but are encouraged to learn and discover things on their own which in turn mould them into being independent and confident people. Having studied in this prestigious institution for four years has helped me imbibe values and qualities which are much needed in the corporate world. Being a part of IEEE UVCE for three years and having held leadership roles has taught me lessons of responsibility and teamwork, given me opportunities to network and collaborate with different people, improved my public speaking skills, increased my confidence level and has given me wide exposure too. Being a part of Sampada when in my second year together with bettering my writing skills, has helped me approach people and communicate as well. Being in a class of diverse people coming from different cultural backgrounds has instilled in me values of simplicity and humility. Altogether I can say that UVCE has just not made me ready for the corporate world but also has made me capable enough to survive the different challenges of the world.

- Shaina, Batch of 2018



AVALOKANA-2 INPROGRESS

After initial success of Avalokana, many seniors demanded for the second volume with more details and information of UVCE. After UVCE Payana, we are working on it and would like to know if you can contribute towards it in some way by sharing:

- Rare photographs of UVCE (your college days)
- Write-up about your college days and memories
- Information about alumni in various fields (esp. people behind starting other institutions)

Write to us at - sampada@visionuvce.in with any of your thoughts and suggestions