

SAMPADA

Your window to UVCE

Edition 136



EDITORIAL

These are challenging times. Each one of us is desperately looking around for some kind of hope, someone with whom we can share our thoughts without any apprehensions. We all need to support each other, while we continue to maintain the social distancing and other guidelines for everyone's safety. We need to make sure that our family members, our loved ones, friends also understand the necessity and importance to follow the rules and also be concerned for other's safety as well. When we try to neglect the safety precautions, we are not putting ourselves in danger, but the people around us also in trouble. This has to be taught to each individual - young and old - irrespective of their position.

While, the challenges and concerns are different for everyone, we are trying to identify ways in which as an alumni community we can come together and help each other. Students, too, are going through a different kind of pressure and trauma. Not able to go to college, the uncertainty of the future, staying at home entire time, not able to meet friends face-to-face - these are very daunting things to cope up with. We heard from few students on what can be done from our end. Accordingly, we are having an online meet on every Saturday just to discuss about any and all the topics, chit-chat with any students who are interested. We are planning to include the alumni also in the meet. Meanwhile, if you have any suggestions how UVCE Graduates Association or VisionUVCE can help, please write to us and we will be more than happy to take it forward. We will need everyone's support for any such initiatives.

In view of the current situation, we did not want to disturb anyone and request them for articles or ask them to answer our interview questions. It would be very selfish of us. Also, we cannot stay without publishing Sampada. We found a middle ground - collating some articles from old editions of Sampada again - a "Walk Down The Memory Lane" along with couple of new articles and updates. Some of the content in this edition may bring back nostalgic memories of UVCE and help you in cheering up a bit. That's the main goal of Sampada. You will find the Editorial conversation highlighting the purpose and journey of Sampada during the 4th Anniversary. Now, we have completed 11 years, but each point mentioned in the conversation there holds good today. Then, we have the story of Milagro - the cultural fest of UVCE - how it all started. We have republished the article talking about the great "Prof BRN" and how the students from 60s remember him even today.

The "Bull Market 4.0" event was organized from ECell UVCE and you can know more about it in the article inside. Also, continuing the series on Prof Roddam interview, you can read the fourth part in this edition. Every information Roddam sir has shared in the interview is interesting and though provoking. We would like you to share some thoughts for the next Sampada edition which will help us make it more relevant and fresh again. Write to us - sampada@visionuvce.in and we will be glad to publish it.

- Sampada Team



Chronicle 8: German Education - In the pursuit of Mastery

Episode 8 of UVCE Chronicles is out now! Host Vakesan M from Mechanical Engineering 3rd year talks to our guest, Yogesha K Suresh from the batch of 2011 CSE, who also has a master's degree in Artificial Intelligence. Listen to find out more about the higher education in Germany: what to do, what not to, what one must keep in mind and so much more!

Listen to it on [Spotify](#) | [Anchor](#)

HAIL O UCE

Gleaming with splendour you stand' midst we comrades dear
O'erwhelmed with mirth we sing of Thee that you hear;
'Tis with love and honour that our heads we bow to Thee,
Our Lord, we're thine children - hail O, UCE

Blessed are we to be thy students, give us the knowledge,
Mighty thou are to be our Lord, grant us the courage;
For thy choicest blessings to shower on, we sing with glee,
Our Friend, echos thou shall hear of - hail O, UCE

Lead us thee Kindly light, show us the way right,
Give us that elixir of life, ' wisdom' to live with might;
Glory to our masters all here and glory to each conferee,
Ave Lord, in thy honour we say - hail O, UCE

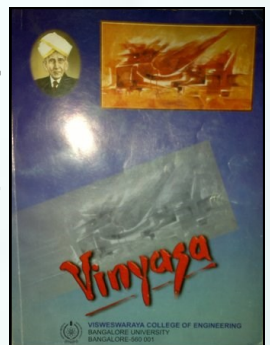
Jubilant episodes of thy victory are true and bold,
Fifty - years Youth thou are wit memories carved in gold;
With glory of Golden - Jubilee, here for centuries will thou be,
Our Alma Master, ballads of laurels we chant - hail O, UCE

M K RAJAN

M K Rajan was the Student Editor of the second magazine in the history of this college. Both as an alumni of this college and as an editor he has provided us with much inspiration. He was from the Batch of 1969, during when, he wrote this poem about our Alma Mater, which was celebrating it's Golden Jubilee Celebration. We commend his spirit as a source of encouragement for all who follow this arduous path. We would like to add that UVCE was known as UCE in the early days of its inception.

GOLDEN RULE FOR SAMPADA EDITORIAL TEAM

This conversation below is one of the motivations that has driven us, "Team SAMPADA" , this far. We treasure this conversation as one of our basic guidelines. We strictly follow it, as it is the path shown to us by our beloved seniors, who are our guides to the future. It was printed in Vinyasa—College magazine (1996) and we had republished it in Sampada-17.



This Editorial is highly revolutionary in the sense of it being a conversation between the editor and a female friend of his (also on the Editorial Board).

... "Somehow we have finished our College Magazine. How lovely and interesting it is, no?"

"Well, my dear friend" , I said, " whether the magazine is interesting or not, we cannot adjudge".

"Why not?". She asked critically with a deep look. I replied, "For the simple reason - that we are not the judges. We have to let the readers judge"...

... "I mean, likewise, no one would than you editors, for all that you have done."

"Well, we editors don't want to be thanked anyway. Crowns never wait: it's all only the crosses that await". She laughed full of sympathy. I continued, " But I am ready to crown with thanks, all who have inspired, guided and helped me,".....

SAMPADA-48 EDITORIAL

Chitra - I can't be more happy and privileged than to be part of the editorial team of Sampada and specially overjoyed by the fact that the Sampada has successfully completed 4 years and I get to be a part of it! How can we make this 48th edition of SAMPADA different?

Satish - Lets have our conversation as Editorial and talk about SAMPADA's journey so far and have a retrospection about it. Let the articles in this edition also be depicting the same. What say?

Harsha - First of all, I'd like to congratulate every reader of Sampada and our team for never missing an edition in the last 4 years. When we started off, we were skeptical about monthly editions and had even thought of making it a quarterly magazine. But the past & present of UVCE has been so lively, so filled with memories, nostalgia and stories that, it has fuelled Sampada all the way till now and we are sure it will for the many editions to come.

Yes the idea about an editorial coming from a conversation of three people involved with Sampada, sounds good to me. Lets take it ahead and we could also talk about the future of Sampada and how different we rewrite the fate of this tiny window to UVCE.

Chitra - That's a wonderful way to compile everything special about Sampada for it's Edition 48! Then let the history begin from the top! Everything surely has a history or a reason with which it begins! Ever since I got acquainted with Sampada, it has always made me wonder about how Sampada actually started! How did this whole thing start??

Satish - We always felt that though we had accomplished fests, events & other stuff during our college days, College magazine was missing from our portfolio. So, once we had our VU website up in August, we brainstormed to have a e-magazine sent to all registered VU members monthly. This decision was made during December 2009 end and the first edition came out on January 2010. Its better to hear from Harsha on this...

Harsha - The first edition was a special one for us. If we look back, all the good things that have happened, have been because of those impulsive, well-meant decisions. One such thing was Sampada. We decided we will have a magazine about UVCE, we didn't have a concrete plan of a magazine either. If you look at the cover page, it looks as if somebody hand-painted it. But we scurried over to get the first edition out with contents about happenings within UVCE, some poetry by students, activities etc. The best part about starting Sampada was to reconnect the old UVCE with the current UVCE. We got hold of so many articles and pictures, we even shared an article about the 1920s in the first edition. Those are invaluable articles and it always feels happier to know the engineer's life almost 9 decades ago. When the first edition was received well, we were really happy and it re-assured us that UVCEians would want to know more about UVCE and here we are today

Chitra - It's great to know this incredible fact! Well Sampada successfully started off, but to complete four years? It's not an easy journey! How did your journey with Sampada continue after the first edition? And also what were the odds you had to overcome to bring it this stage where today, Sampada has captured such a remarkable recognition from the students and the Alumni!

Harsha - The sustenance of a magazine is always at the mercy of the readers. Our readers (UVCEians) have been super-generous with their feedback every now and then and that it almost alone has driven the magazine this long. There were moments when we never received any comments or feedback and we would ponder if readers do read Sampada, the next edition we would get positive comments praising our work. We owe it all to the UVCEians, for they who have nurtured it this long. We have received so many articles, pictures, moments from the readers and along with the bustling campus of UVCE have been like a renewable source of energy, with a endless list of activities within the campus, have been our sources. Another source was the old magazines. So many interesting stories, changing time-lines, ebullience and achievements. All these were factors that drove Sampada till today.

Satish - Chitra, you have been associated with team from past 5-6 editions. You have not only written articles but also interacted with students and edited articles from their end. You will be aware of the heartbeat in the campus more than us. So, tell us what you think about SAMPADA?

Chitra- When I joined UVCE I had completely no clue of Sampada's existence. I always thought that in engineering there was no room for writing or anything. Then one day, one of my senior asked me if I was interested in submitting articles for college's monthly magazine. I jumped at the offer and gave in my article! That was when I came to know that in UVCE, Sampada gave us a platform where we could pursue our passion for writing inspite of engineering and remain connected with everything happening on the campus! Ever since then I closely followed Sampada! With every edition it brought out the flavor of UVCE in a different way, keeping us updated about everything that happened in UVCE in detail, be it the fests, placements, events or many other things we many have not been aware of! Ever since my association with Sampada, I must say it's been a wonderful addition to my life. Cause being part of the team makes me learn so much, coming up with ideas for every edition, collaborating with the team! Amidst this, fun has its way too!

Harsha - According to me the journey so far has been very satisfying, loaded with gratefulness and mainly has been about confidence. To let know every UVCEian across the world about what is happening in the 15 acres of awesomeness in the heart of the city, responding to the needs and aspirations of the students, setting up interaction of students with alumni are the highs of working on Sampada. I still do read out some of the articles in previous editions again and again just so it makes us relive the best days of our lives.

Satish - I agree with Harsha. I regularly browse through older editions of SAMPADA. I do it during designing new editions to make sure nothing is being repeated. For SAMPADA to sustain for a long run, we will need more hands joining in... They will need to carry the beacon ahead. Not only the current students, but also alumni will need to hop in to keep SAMPADA going. Team VisionUVCE will be there to support and plan, but SAMPADA should become everyone's asset. Chitra, your thoughts about how to go forward for the upcoming editions of SAMPADA?

Chitra- I think Sampada should be made more user focused and reach students at a closer level! We could probably add few more ideas to make Sampada even better and more interesting! Say, a column probably called "The Career Talk" can be started where every month, students can be given an insight about the various professions they can get into with their degree like the army, civil services and so on. Or clearing the dilemma about students aiming to pursue post graduate studies in India or abroad! When we join UVCE, we are mesmerized by it's enormous and rich history! Not a decade or two, nearly 100 years of history, 100 batches, millions of students have passed out, a million stories connected to UVCE and the classrooms! Nothing more would interest the readers than reading a column with the never heard stories of UVCE which maybe funny, guiding, filled with zeal, interesting!

Harsha - Yes.! More interaction with our readers, more people following Sampada are some things that need to happen for Sampada to grow and sustain. The magazine would be very lively with articles being contributed in the current phase by our readers and inspire others to do the same. Let us sit back, discuss and finalize on some of the ideas where we could make Sampada, a more interactive, more user-derived content magazine and more colourful. Again, lets thank all our readers and wish them HAPPY and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

This specific Editorial is even today the whole crux of Sampada and hence we wanted to publish it again. The complete story behind starting Sampada, how was it taken forward was discussed in detail so that the readers are aware of it. The goals and the future plans of Sampada - everything discussed during the completion of 4th year holds good even today. Some of the themes covered in Sampada have been appreciated and well-received. We have heard from some of the senior alumni how they enjoy reading Sampada. During every review, we consider the feedback received from people around the globe from various batches and continuously work on improving Sampada further. Write to us - sampada@visionuvce.in

STORY OF MILAGRO

I would like to clarify that MILAGRO actually started in 1994.

Praveen Moorthy (who is copied on this email) and myself along with a few others used to attend inter collegiate fests in early 1994 and wanted UVCE to have a festival of its own. The thought was daunting as we were still in the 4th semester and were not sure if UVCE could attract the crowd as seen in other colleges. I have to say it surely was an arduous process trying to get sponsors.

The idea started taking shape and Shashank Hedge who was the President in 1994 got involved as well. He was instrumental as well in making the first Milagro happen.

So here are a few interesting snippets from the first Milagro in 1994. It was a 2 day festival.

(i) We were desperate for any kind of sponsorship. I remember roaming around the industrial belt of Peenya asking establishments which were basically nothing but 4 walls with a tin roof for sponsorship.

(ii) We intended to have a tech fair on the first day (Rs.5000 per stall) and approached many companies, but none were interested. Praveen and myself were given an earful from a Cranes Software guy for not being really clear about the focus of the tech fair. In the end though, they did take a stall and sadly enough, they were the only ones.

(ii) Pepsi agreed to sponsor the rock show on the 2nd day of the festival, but backed away at the last minute. Praveen and myself camped out at the Pepsi office for a few hours until we got a cheque for Rs.50,000. I still remember riding through the rain with Pepsi banners wrapped all around us.

(iii) The rock show on the 2nd day was by a trash metal group called 'Warden'. Some of Warden's members went on to form 'Millenium'. The rock show was a huge success and laid the initial foundation of Milagro I suppose.

The second Milagro in 1995 was relatively easy and was a 3 day festival.

The third Milagro in 1996 was the year we were passing out. Praveen Moorthy became the President and did a fantastic job of seeing the festival through. Hero Honda was the main sponsor, but they also backed out towards the end. The group of about 20-30 students went to the Hero Honda office on M.G.Road and staged a protest. Finally they relented and provided sponsorship. Millenium was the main attraction for the rock show on the 3rd and final day.

There were a lot of folks involved right from the beginning, without their contributions, Milagro would not exist. If I start naming them, I fear that I would leave someone out.

Nonetheless, Milagro was one of life's lessons that I carry with me till this day, that nothing is impossible. We were able to start something that has grown so monumental and left an indelible mark in UVCE's history.

Praveen has maintained all the memorabilia from the very first Milagro and am sure would be happy to share them, to include in any future newsletters. I thought that this piece of history needed to be presented accurately for present and future UVCEians going forwards.

Vijay Subramaniam

1996 EEE

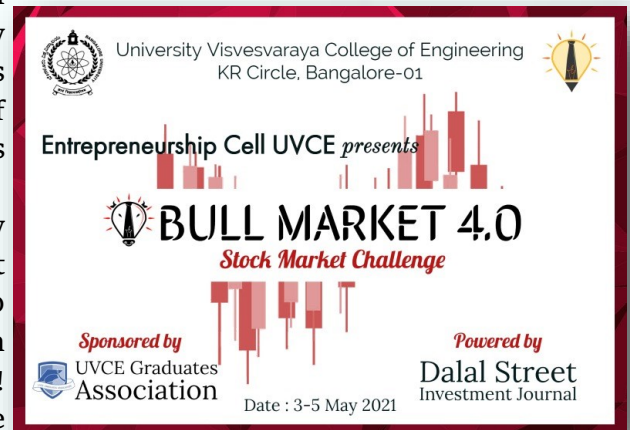


BULL MARKET

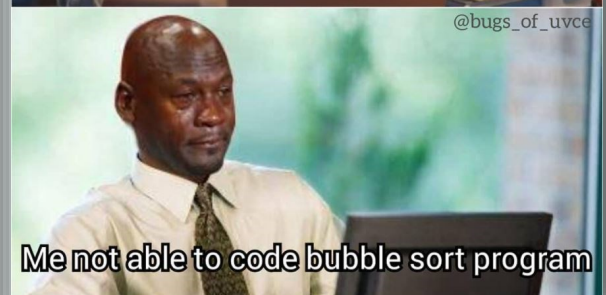
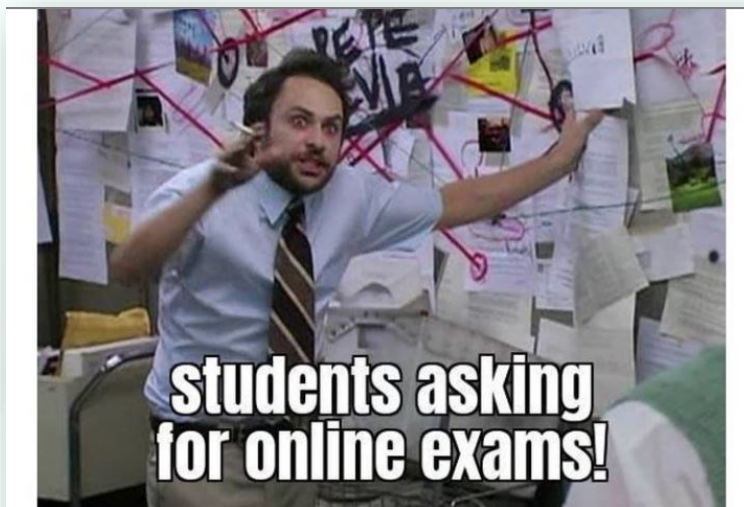
Bull market 4.0, an online virtual simulation of the stock exchange challenge took place for 3 days. It was organized by Entrepreneurship Cell UVCE powered by Dalal Street and sponsored by UVCE Graduates Association. It began with students gaining a basic understanding about the functions of the stock market analysing stocks which was imparted by Jagdish Srinivas.

Individuals were allowed to participate only in one portfolio of any contest. And every contest was given a starting portfolio of about 10,00,000 INR. Day trading and short selling were permitted in all contests with unlimited trades per account ! Shorting and buy-sell both kind of trading were allowed .

The virtual market opened exactly at 9:15am and closed at 3:30pm. A Real-time dashboard to check the rankings of the participants to mark the progress of the event was present. It was a great experience for everyone, learning and actively participating which made the Bull Market 4.0 a huge success.

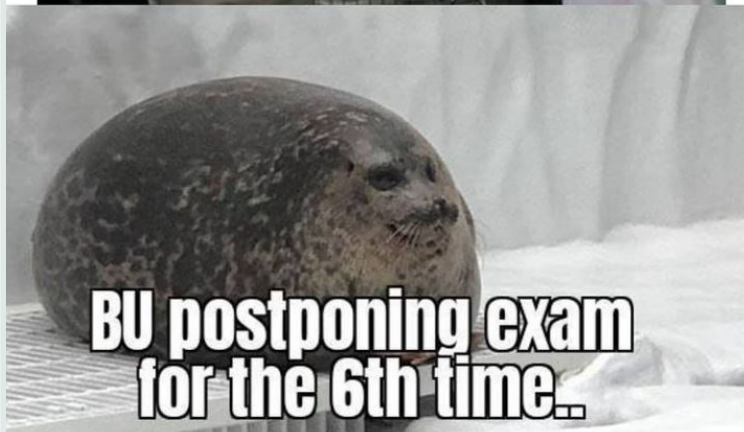


BUGS OF UVCE



College : Exams have been cancelled,
but you have to pay exam fees

Me :



BRN - A LEGEND

At the very outset, I must compliment members of Vision UVCE, UVCE Foundation and Alumni groups for their extraordinary efforts and the time being invested to mark the festivities in connection with Centenary Celebrations as an outstanding success. The time is appropriate to recognize various individuals whose unmitigated services have made UVCE an outstanding educational institute it is today.

While various luminaries in diverse fields such as industry, business, education, technology, nuclear energy, humanities, etc have immensely contributed to ensure that the college emanates not only knowledge in technical field but also builds citizens worthy of being emulated. I have chosen the occasion to articulate my views on one such personality who was our Principal during the period that I was a student of the college viz. 1959-1965. I must confess with due apologies to all those other individuals concerned who will have contributed significantly for what the institution is today, that I am neither competent nor have the intentions to belittle their inputs.

I admit that I am bankrupt on unmitigated services that would have been rendered by multiple outstanding individuals either prior or post my college years at UVCE as a student. My views are restricted to one individual person who I have felt worthy of being emulated and adored.

B R Narayan Iyengar – Gentleman, extraordinaire, humility personified, generous to the core to all!

My first exposure to BRN was when I appeared for my admission interview into UCE. BRN along with Prof. D B Narasimhiah (Civil Engg) and Prof Venkatachala Iyengar (Mathematics) constituted the interviewing panel. While Prof. Venkatachala Iyengar was testing my academic accomplishments, BRN was looking into testimonials relating to sports and involvement into other extra-curricular activities. In the midst of the interview being conducted by Prof Venkatachala Iyengar, BRN remarked “Oh, he is a very good table tennis player!”. This remark gave me my first insight into the person BRN was. He was looking into achievements of his students, something more than mere excellence in academics.

I was not fortunate in any further personal exposure to BRN during college days as he did not handle any of our classes. Interactions were restricted to occasional split second encounters in college corridors or college sports news. A later meeting revealed the enormity of the gentleman he was.

Circa – 1967/68; Post my graduation in Mechanical Engineering, I had joined an Indo-Swedish company called Vulcan Laval, with manufacturing operations located in Pune. It was the Indian arm of the world wide well known as Afra Laval from Sweden who were into supplying and executing turnkey projects in the field of food engineering such as Dairy Plants, Breweries, Refrigeration Plants, Fruits Processing, Cold Stores etc. As a Project Engineer of M/s Vulcan Laval, I was executing a dairy project for Karnataka State Dairy Development Department at Hubli in 1967/68. The project involved usage of boilers and since boilers are high pressure vessels, they had to be inspected and certified by Inspectorate of Boilers, Karnataka State Government.



During one of my visits to the project sites, Mr Balakrishna, the Chief Inspector of Boilers, Karnataka State, visited us for inspection. During the course of the conversation, having realized I was an ex-student of University College of Engineering (UCE), he informed me that a team has come down from Bangalore to exam/select candidates for boiler operations in “A” Class Category. BRN had graciously accepted to help them and that he had accompanied the team. Balakrishna was generous enough to invite me to meet them in the evening as they were staying at the Railway Guest House. It was sheer delight meeting BRN.

He was pleased that his student was involved in projects that served the social responsibility of the government. Making available quality milk at affordable prices was the responsibility of the State Govt, providing funds for dairy development in the State budget. This was much before Operation Flood/White Revolution Projects swept the country under the able guidance of Dr. V Kurien. I was further reminded of BRN’s gracious gestures when he invited me to join them for dinner. My respect for BRN increased many folds when he invited me to join him the next day to be part of his team. This gesture called for an extraordinary open mind & egalitarian outlook. After all I was a very junior professional then & he was a colossus. I joined him the next morning as part of the team for interviews conducted at Karnataka Textile Mills where I spent 3-4 hrs quality time. I was amazed at the pains he took up to put the candidates at ease. He would ask questions in English. If it appeared that the candidate was uncomfortable, he would ask in Kannada. If the candidate was still clueless, he would ask in broken Hindi to put the candidate at ease.

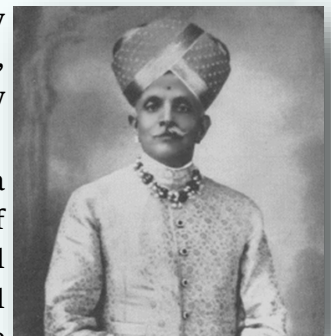
My perception of the person he was grew tremendously. In my scholastic career, I have high respect for several of my teachers at school level as they shaped my personality. At college, while I respected many, BRN was the gentleman I revere most for being the outstanding person he was.

-B V Venkatadri, Batch of 1965 Mechanical

FROM THE HISTORY PAGES

Mysore University, founded in 2016, celebrated its 100th anniversary this year. Sri Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar, Maharaja of the Mysore state, was the first Chancellor of the University. His reign from 1894- 1940 saw various social and educational transformations in the Mysore state.

Educational Institutions started during Sri Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar’s reign include the Indian Institute of Science (1909), University of Agricultural Sciences (30 acres of land were given to set up an agricultural research station in 1899 in Hebbal which later became the Agricultural University), Maharani’s Science College for Women (1917), Yuvaraja College (1916), Mysore Medical College(1924).



He was also the founding Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University which was started in 1916 and during the convocation speech for the first batch of graduates in 1919 said of the University: “The institution should be Indian first and Hindu afterwards.”

The College of Engineering started in 1917 during the reign of one of the greatest educational and social reformers of British India, Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar will be celebrating its 100th anniversary next year in 2017. This is our college which came under Bangalore University in 1964 and was renamed as University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering.

By coming together to celebrate the Mega Reunion in 2010 we managed to make some difference to the students including delivering hundreds of scholarships. Let us come together again to celebrate the 100th Anniversary with an aim to achieve better and bigger to bring back the glory of the historic college and continue the social and educational reformation of Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar.

- Sridhar Gowda, 1987 Mechanical

ಯು.ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಇ - ಹತ್ತು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಮೆಲುಕು

ಯು.ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಇ - ನಮ್ಮ ನಾಡಿನ ಪ್ರಥಮ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಅಂತಲೋ, ಪರಿವಾರದ ಕೆಲವರು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಕ್ಕೋ, ಕಡಿಮೆ ಫೀಸು ಇದ್ದದ್ದಕ್ಕೋ, ಹೇಗೋ ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇರಿಕೊಂಡೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಯು.ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಇ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ಅನ್ನೋದು ಎಂದಿಗೂ ಹೆಮ್ಮೆಯ ವಿಷಯ.

ನಾನು ಕಾಲೇಜು ಸೇರಿದಾಗ (೨೦೦೫), ಆಗಷ್ಟೇ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಗಣಕತಂತ್ರ ವಿಭಾಗ ಬೇರೆಯಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಹಲವಾರು ಆಡಳಿತ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳಿಂದ, ತರಗತಿಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಾಗೆ ಖಾಲಿ ಇದ್ದು ಕಾಲೇಜು ಸುತ್ತುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾಗ, ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣದ ಬಳಿ ಇತರ (ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ CS / IS) ವಿಭಾಗಗಳ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ/ಸೀನಿಯರ್ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಪರಿಚಯವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಗೆಳೆಯರ ಬಳಗ ಬೆಳೆದದ್ದು - ಒಂದಕ್ಕೊಂದು ಹೊವುಗಳು ಪೋಟೆಸಿ ಹಾರ ಮಾಡುವ ಹಾಗೆ.

ನಮ್ಮ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಯಾವಾಗಲೂ "happening" ಅಂತಾರಲ್ಲ ಹಾಗೆ. ಇಂಟರ್ನೆಟ್ ನ ತುಡಿತಗಳು, ಫಿಯೆಸ್ಟಾ/ಮಿಲಾಗ್ರೋ ತಯಾರಿಯ ಸಂಭ್ರಮಗಳು, IEEE ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳು, ಅಂತಿಮ ವರ್ಷದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಪ್ಲೇಸ್ಮೆಂಟ್ ಸಡಗರ, ಅಬ್ಬಬ್ಬಾ...! ಮೊದಲಿಗೆ ಇವೆಲ್ಲಾ ನೋಡಿದಾಗ ಇಂಥಾ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾತ್ಮಕ ಪ್ರಪಂಚದಲ್ಲಿ ನಾನೆಲ್ಲಿ ಮರೆಮಾಚಿ ಹೋಗಿಬಿಡುತ್ತೀನೋ ಎಂಬ ಭೀತಿ ಇತ್ತು! ಹಾಗೂ ಹೀಗೂ ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ಮುಗಿಸಿ ನಾನೂ ಒಬ್ಬ ಪದವೀಧರನಾದೆ

ಬರಿ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ಬಿಟ್ಟು ನನ್ನನ್ನು ಹೊರಗಿನ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಜಗತ್ತಿಗೆ ಪರಿಚಯ ಮಾಡಿದವರು ನಮ್ಮ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್ ನರೇಂದ್ರ ಕುಮಾರ್ ಜಿ ಹಾಗೂ IEEE ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ವಿಭಾಗ. ಬಾವಿ ಕಪ್ಪೆಯಾಗದೆ, ಪಠ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಿಂದಾಚೆಗೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಗಳ ಒಂದು ಪರಿಚಯ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿತು. ಯು.ವಿ. ಸಿ.ಇ. ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಬರಿ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಕಳಿಸೋದಿಲ್ಲ ; ಒಂದು ಜೀವನದ ಹಾದಿ ಸೃಷ್ಟಿ ಮಾಡಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಮಹಾನ್ ವಿದ್ಯಾಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ತನಗೆ ತಾನೇ ಒಂದು ಹೆಮ್ಮರವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಇದನ್ನು ಅಕ್ಷರ ಸಂಗ್ರಹ ರೂಪಕ್ಕೆ ಇಳಿಸಲು ಕಷ್ಟಕರ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ನೆರಳು ಪಡೆದವರೆಲ್ಲಾ ಒಂದಾನೊಂದು ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೃತಜ್ಞರಾಗಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ ನಾನೂ ಒಬ್ಬ ಅನ್ನೋದಂತೂ ಸತ್ಯ!

ಹಾಗೆ ನೋಡನೋಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದಂತೆಯೇ ಸಂಪದದ ೧೦ನೆ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕೋತ್ಸವ! ಮೊನ್ನೆ ಅಷ್ಟೇ ಸಸಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಈಗ ಗಟ್ಟಿಯಾಗಿ ಬೇರೂರಿ ಬೆಳೆದು ನಿಂತಿದೆ. ಹತ್ತು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಪಯಣ ಒಂದು ಕಡಿಮೆ ಸಾಧನೆ ಅಲ್ಲ. ನಾಲ್ಕಾರು ಮಂದಿಯ ಹರಟೆಗಳ ಮಧ್ಯೆ ಶುರುವಾಗಿ, ನಂತರ ಒಂದು ಕನಸಾಗಿ ಬೆಳೆದು, ಇಂದು ಒಂದು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಾಗಿ ಬೆಳೆದಿದೆ ಅಂದರೆ, ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಆಕಾಶವೇ ಮಿತಿ. ವಿಷನ್ ಯು.ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಇ ತಂಡಕ್ಕೆ ನನ್ನ ಹೃತ್ಪೂರ್ವಕ ಅಭಿನಂದನೆಗಳು. ಯು.ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಇ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಯ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಹೊತ್ತು ಕೈಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಂಜು ಹಿಡಿದು ಮುನ್ನುಗ್ಗುವ ಶಕ್ತಿ ಇರಲಿ ಎಂಬ ಆಶಯ.

- ಸುಪ್ರೀತ್ ಜೆ., ೨೦೦೯ ಇಸಿಇ.

ಹದಿನಾಲ್ಕು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದಿನ ನೆನಪು... ಮನೆಯ ಬಳಿಯಿದ್ದ ಸೈಬರ್ ಕಛೇಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಳಿತಿದ್ದೆ. ಮರುದಿನ ಸಿ.ಈ.ಟಿ ಕೌನ್ಸಿಲಿಂಗ್ ಇದ್ದ ಕಾರಣ ನನಗೆ ಸಿಗಬಹುದಾದ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳ ಹಾಗೂ ಕೋರ್ಸುಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿ ತಯಾರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡೆ. ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಕಲಿಯುವ ಮಹಾತ್ಮಾಕಾಂಕ್ಷೆಯೇನೂ ಇಲ್ಲದ್ದರಿಂದಲೋ ಏನೋ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆಯೂ ಪೂರ್ಣ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಯು.ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಇ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ೬ ಸೀಟುಗಳಿವೆಯೆಂದು ಗುರುತು ಹಾಕಿಕೊಂಡು ಮನೆ ಸೇರಿದೆ. ಯು.ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಇಯೇನೂ ಪರಿಚಿತವಾದ ಕಾಲೇಜಾಗಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಒಂದು ವಾರದ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಮೆಜಸ್ಟಿಕ್ ಗೆ ಬಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಹೋಗುವಾಗ ಗಮನಿಸಿದ್ದೆ ಅಷ್ಟೇ. ಮನೆಗೆ ಬಂದವನೇ ನನ್ನ ಚಿಕ್ಕಮ್ಮ ಶುಭಾಳಿಗೆ ಕರೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳ ವಿವರ ನೀಡಿ ಸಲಹೆ ಕೇಳಿದೆ. "ಯು.ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಇ ಸಿಗುತ್ತೇನೋ? ಅಲ್ಲೇ ಕಣೋ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳೂ ಬರೊದು, ಮೊದ್ಲು ಸೇಕೋ" ಎಂದಳು. ಮರುದಿನ ಕೌನ್ಸಿಲಿಂಗ್ ಮುಗಿಸಿ ತಂದೆಯ ಜೊತೆ ಕಾಫೀ ಕುಡಿಯುತ್ತಾ, ಯು.ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಇ ಅವರ ೨೫ ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದಿನ ಕನಸೆಂದು ತಿಳಿದೆ. ರೋಮಾಂಚನವಾಯಿತು. ಮನಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನನಗೇ ತಿಳಿಯದ ಹೆಮ್ಮೆಯ ಭಾವನೆ.

ಒಂದು ತಿಂಗಳ ನಂತರ ಕಾಲೇಜಿಗೆ ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಪಡೆದೆ. ಮತ್ತೊಂದು ವಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ತರಗತಿಗಳೂ ಶುರುವಾದವು. ಮೊದಲ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇತರ ಮಿರ ಮಿರ ಮಿನುಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ಖಾಸಗೀ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೋಲಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು, ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯವೂ ಇಲ್ಲದ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಸೇರಿದನೇನೋ ಎನ್ನಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದು ನಿಜವಷ್ಟೇ. ಆದರೆ ಆಶ್ಚರ್ಯ ಹುಟ್ಟಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ಸಂಗತಿಯೆಂದರೆ ವಾರಕ್ಕೆರಡು ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳು ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನರಸುತ್ತಾ ನಮ್ಮ ಕಾಲೇಜಿಗೆ ಬರುತ್ತಿದ್ದುದು. ಒಂದು ದಿನ ತರಗತಿಗಳಿಲ್ಲದ ಕಾರಣ ಸ್ನೇಹಿತರೊಡನೆ ಹರಟುತ್ತಿರುವಾಗ ಸ್ನೇಹಿತನೊಬ್ಬ, "ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಕ್ಲಾಸೇ ನಡೆಯಲ್ಲ. ಅದೇನು ನೋಡಿ ಈ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳು ಬರ್ತಾವೋ ಏನೋ" ಎಂದ. ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ನಾನು, "ಪಾಠಾನೇ ನಡೀದಿದ್ದು ಓದಿ ಪಾಸಾಯ್ತವೆ ಅಂತಾ ಇರಬೇಕು" ಎಂದು ಲಘುವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಯಿಸಿದ್ದೆ.

ನಾಲ್ಕು ವರ್ಷಗಳು ಪೂರೈಸುವ ಹೊತ್ತಿಗೆ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ ಜೊತೆಗೊಂದು ಬಾಂಧವ್ಯ ಬೆಳೆದಿತ್ತು. ಹಿಂದೆ ನಾ ಕೇಳಿದ್ದ ಸುಮಾರು ಸಂಗತಿಗಳು ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ ಬಗೆಗೆ ಹೆಮ್ಮೆ ಮೂಡಿಸುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೂ ಯು.ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಇ ಎಂದರೆ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವ ಒಂದು ಬ್ರಾಂಡಾಗಿಯೇ ಕಾಣುತ್ತಿದ್ದೆವು. ಕೆಲವೊಮ್ಮೆ ಪ್ರಸಿದ್ಧ ಸಿನಿಮಾ ನಟರು, ಸಂಗೀತ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕ್ರೀಡಾಪಟುಗಳು, ರಾಜಕಾರಣಿಗಳು ನಮ್ಮ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳೆಂದು ತಿಳಿದಾಗ ಸಂತೋಷವಾದರೂ, ಮನಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲೇ 'ಇವರೆಲ್ಲ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಓದಿದ್ದಾದರೂ ಏಕೆ? ಏನು ಪ್ರಯೋಜನ?' ಎನ್ನುವ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳೇಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದೆವು. ಆದರೆ ಇಂದು ಯು.ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಇ ಏನೆಂದು ಅರ್ಥವಾಗಿದೆ.

೨೦೦೯ರಲ್ಲಿ ಇನ್ಫಾರ್ಮೇಶನ್ ಸೈನ್ಸ್ ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಪದವಿ ಪಡೆದು, ಕಾಲೇಜಿನಲ್ಲೇ ದೊರೆತ ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾವಕಾಶದ ಲಾಭ ಪಡೆದೆ. ಇಂದು ಹಿಂತಿರುಗಿ ನೋಡಿದರೆ ನಾ ವ್ಯಾಸಂಗ ಮುಗಿಸಿ ೧೦ ವರ್ಷಗಳೇ ಕಳೆದಿವೆ. ನಾ ಸೇರಿದ ಮೊದಲ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಾ ಕಳೆದದ್ದು ೩.೫ ವರ್ಷಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ. ನಂತರ ಜೀವನದಲ್ಲಿ ನಾನಾ ತಿರುವುಗಳೊಡನೆ ಸ್ನಾತಕೋತ್ತರ ಪದವಿ ಮುಗಿಸಿ, ಕಳೆದ ೩ ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಪಿ.ಎಚ್.ಡಿ ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಯಾಗಿ ವ್ಯಾಸಂಗ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇನೆ. ಇಂದಿಗೂ ಯು.ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಇ ಎಂದರೆ ಅಭಿಮಾನ. ಕಾರಣ, ಅದು ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವ ಒಂದು ಬ್ರಾಂಡಾಗಿಯಷ್ಟೇ ಕಾಣುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಅದಕ್ಕೂ ಮಿಗಿಲಾಗಿ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆತ್ಮವಿಶ್ವಾಸ, ನಾಯಕತ್ವ, ಇಚ್ಛಾಶಕ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ತುಂಬುವ ಪ್ರೌಢ ವಿದ್ಯಾಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ನಾಡಿನ ಹೆಮ್ಮೆಯೆನಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.

- ವಿನಯ್ ಕುಮಾರ್, ೨೦೦೯ ಐ.ಎಸ್.ಇ

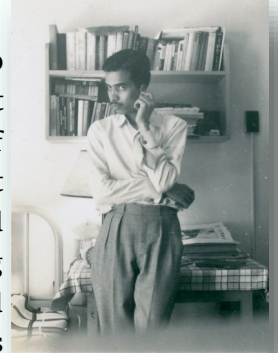
AAKAASHA RAYA (CONT..)



During our research about Prof Roddam Narasimha Sir, we found a lot of inspirational content. One of the interesting articles we found, was an interview of Dr. Roddam Narasimha named -'Aakaasha Raya' done in January 2017 by editors at **Bhāvanā**. We are publishing the excerpt of this interview as a series and this is the fourth part in continuation. The link to the complete interview: [PART 1](#) ; [PART 2](#)

You earlier described Göttingen as a vibrant research ecosystem with a good university. But you chose Caltech over Göttingen.

RN: I chose Caltech over Göttingen because, well, first of all there was no language problem. And, you see, although Göttingen was still vibrant, it was not the old Göttingen. When the Allies defeated the Germans, it all became part of the Allied territory. And the first thing they did was to say that the aircraft industry in Germany should close down. One of the clauses of the treaty signed when Germany accepted defeat was that Germany would not continue building aircraft. So all of a sudden, in 1945, the aeronautical industry was not required there. In fact, one of the reasons Tietjens came to Bangalore was that there was not much to do in Germany.



Actually, he first went to the US, and then he came to Bangalore when this professorship was vacant at the Institute.

So because of this situation in Germany, you felt Caltech may be better?

RN: Well, by the time I came to IISc, the first chairman of the aeronautics department had gone back to HAL [Hindustan Aeronautics Limited]. He was not only the first chair of the department, he was also the first chief designer at HAL.

You mention that fluid mechanics was a very popular topic of research in the 1920s or so. Was there a dip in interest in fluid mechanics after that?

RN: I think there was a dip in the interest of physicists in fluid mechanics. I think it had to do with the advent of relativity theory and quantum mechanics. These became very exciting. Amazing new, revolutionary ideas were changing physics in a fundamental way. Well, Heisenberg was a typical example. When he first decided what he wanted to do, fluid mechanics seemed like the most interesting thing to do. He wrote his thesis on flow instability, and Arnold Sommerfeld was his advisor. But by the time he got his Ph.D. degree, there was, first of all, relativity theory, which had just begun to be accepted. This was the early 1920s, so quantum mechanics was not quite there but questions were being posed. I think after his thesis he decided that he would switch to the new physics.

So you were basically looking at data, taking past observations, and either trying to study the relations between these observations, or predict future observations. Just out of curiosity, was this the time that you were studying Nilakantha and the Kerala school of astronomy?

RN: That was always going on, on the side. Absolutely. Around the time.

Were you influenced by that school of thinking?

RN: Yes, in a certain way. I thought there seemed to be only one way of doing science. And that was the way science had grown in the last few centuries.

This was the Western way?

RN: The Western way. Back then I would have said that's the only way. But when I started reading these Indians in the original, my mind began to change slowly, for two or three reasons.

The first thing was that it was clear that those guys were smart. Not only because of the actual results they got, but the attitude they had and the confidence with which they said these things. And then they were rational. There is the mistaken view in India that all of that is, you know, hocus pocus, that ancient Indians believed that the eclipses occur because of Rahu, Ketu and so on. Then I found out that there were Indian astronomers who made fun of those stories—they said it's not Rahu and Ketu, it's shadows. Aryabhata, for example, says—in 499 CE—that the solar eclipse was due to shadows. And he was taken to task for saying it's shadows [this was later by Brahmagupta].

He said that if you measure the height of the shadow made by a stick and observe how it changes with time, you get an idea of the Sun's orbit. And you can see that the Earth is round because as the shadow develops, you can see it's circular. So he said that the Earth is round, and he also guessed that the Earth is rotating around its axis. Maybe day and night are due to its rotation around the axis. You could not say all this was irrational, but it was clearly not the Western method of doing it. You can take Aryabhata and Ptolemy and see the difference. The difference is huge and can't be ignored. I actually went back and read Ptolemy after I read Aryabhata. I said "Okay, what were the Greeks doing?" You know, the first book, or first chapter, of Ptolemy is all about the assumptions he makes. He makes lots of assumptions, most of which are actually false. However, he would get results which were pretty good. So I began to see it's murkier than what I had been led to believe.

After that, I read quite a few other people. Now, Brahmagupta was a contrast to Aryabhata. Brahmagupta—though I don't know what he actually believed—took Aryabhata to task for rejecting the Rahu-Ketu theory and talking about shadows. But Brahmagupta did not reject the shadow idea. Either he made a compromise with the Pauraniks, and let those Purāṇic stories remain. Or he actually thought that that was the way it was. My personal belief is that it was the former, because he was very smart, and undoubtedly a very good mathematician. It's very unlikely that he would have said it has to be Rahu and Ketu. It's possible he felt that if he rejects the Rahu-Ketu business, he might have been accused of disrespect towards traditional knowledge.

If you read Aryabhata's works, where is God mentioned in it? I asked myself this. Aryabhata's was the first great Sanskrit text in astronomy. He hardly ever mentions God.

Were you reading these things about Aryabhata during the 1970s and 80s when you were active in turbulence research and began getting interested in meteorology?

RN: The 70s and 80s yes, but it was very slow. I didn't spend a lot of time because there were other things I had to do. I was always doing on the side something or the other in the history of Indian science. After a while it became a recreation for me. I enjoyed doing it. Earlier when I was younger, I used to get that by reading novels. But when my interest in history began, I lost my interest in novels almost completely.

Who would you read? Robert Ludlum, Alistair MacLean...

RN: I used to read quite a few people of an older generation and, yes, Alistair MacLean. He also wrote books that were kind of history, experiences in the Middle East and so on. I used to read detective stories too, including those by Erle Stanley Gardner. I remember how one year, while doing my engineering degree, I first came across Arthur Conan Doyle's complete books, Sherlock Holmes. One of my classmates gave that to me said, "Do you like Sherlock Holmes stories?"; I said I love them. "Okay, I have one thick volume here," he said, "but you'd have to give it back to me in two days." Well, I almost read day and night, and I couldn't complete the volume, but I read a lot and gave it back. But that slowly faded out because I found that the history of Indian science is actually more interesting—it was about things that really happened and there were these differences between what we were given to believe and what I actually found from my reading.

(to be continued...)