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# SAMPADA

*Your Window to UVCE*

Edition 98



SAMPADA TEAM: Harsha (6th Sem Mech), Chitra S Reddy, Meghashree G, Satish A G  
and SriHarsha D V (VisionUVCE Team)



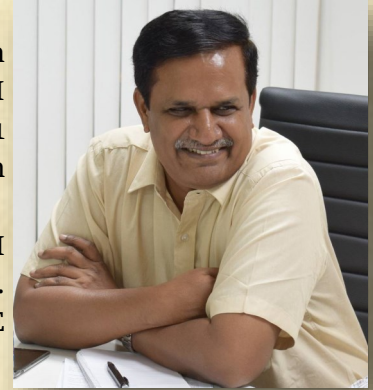
## EDITORIAL

**This time Editorial is special - since it focusses in the form of an interview but brings out the professional theme of SAMPADA and also how alumni can contribute in their own unique way. We had a discussion with Madhava from 1985 Civil batch who is working at PWD and holding multiple responsibilities. We thank him for talking to us and sharing his views.**

**When did you graduate from UVCE and why did you choose UVCE?**

I am from Beeravara, Magadi Taluk. My High School education was at Siddaganga Rural High School. After finishing my SSLC, I studied in National College, Basvanagudi. UVCE ranked as the No. 1 Engineering College then and I was very determined to join it from early on.

Infact, I had opportunities in both Medical and Veterinary, but I decided to join UVCE only, even though many advised me against it. However, my mind was made up and when I secured the seat at UVCE in the Civil branch, it was equivalent to being selected in IAS for me.



**What are some of the highlights whilst studying in college then?**

At that time, Civil Engineering at UVCE was well acclaimed and the entire faculty was respected immensely. Stalwarts like Dr Ranga, Dr BC Rajanna, Dr Jagadish inspired the complete generation and we were further motivated and encouraged to join the public service domain because of such eminent professors. Many of us were motivated to continue with our Post Graduation because of their teachings and the knowledge they imparted. I completed my PG in 86-88 in Environmental Engineering at UVCE. I later joined as a lecturer at SJCIT, Chikkaballapura & served for around 8 years. My journey & learnings at UVCE were extremely helpful during my teaching days & later in my career when I joined Public Works Department in 1996.

**Tell us about your career and other activities you are involved with. In addition, how did you get involved in alumni activities?**

As I mentioned I joined PWD in 1996 and I have been involved with various departments within PWD - Karnataka Police Housing Department and several Irrigation related Departments. Currently I am involved with ACIWRM (Advanced Centre for Integrated Water Resource Management) as Superintending Engineer and Registrar. I am also involved with the Hydrology Unit as Superintending Engineer and Project Director and WRDO (Water Resources Department) - Dam Improvement Sector as Project Director. I have visited Brazil, America, Spain, Netherlands, Switzerland and other countries on Government duty for various conferences and workshops related to both Roads and Dams.

I am founding member of Karnataka Engineers Academy (KEA) and currently am serving as a Management Committee member. KEA is an independent self-governing and non-profit organization established to serve the state in matters of engineering concern and dedicated to the Engineering fraternity. I am also part of "Samaja Samparka Vedike" and have been involved in supporting rural students with scholarships guidance etc.

I have been trying to be associated with Alumni related activities via Alumni Association and other channels with a sole purpose to "Give Back" to my alma mater. However, it was around 2010, when Mega Reunion was gaining momentum; I became part of UVCE Foundation officially as a part of the Organizing Committee and I have not looked back ever since. I am doing my little bit in various ways to help including abetting Scholarships to students. This year, thanks to our generous donors, we were able to distribute Scholarships worth 25Lakh to around 220 students.



**We have had the best news in the Centenary year – 25 crores has been approved to renovate and improve the college for the future. You, along with other alumni from PWD department have been instrumental in implementing the project. Can you share some challenges involved in this project?**

It has been long due. Being a heritage institution started by Krishnaraja Wodeyar and envisioned by BharatRatna Sir M V himself, talks about renovation started long ago although it is “Better Late than Never” as the talks have come into force. About 8 to 9 Engineers from PWD were constantly involved in this work and very persuasive in getting this sanctioned. It is headed by Dr.Jagadeesh; Mr Mruthunjaya Swamy CE; Prof Srinivasamurthy B R, Professor at IISc and Task force Chairman, Suresh GT; Prasad. R, SE; Dr.Shantharajanna, SE; Basavaraj Koti, CE; Retd Chief Architect, PWD and many Assistant Engineers from PWD.

The main highlights of the renovation plan are:

- Major Works at Mechancial block (restoration of beams and columns); Renovation of entire Mech block; Providing infrastructure to 2nd Floor is allocated around **7.9 Crores**
- Renovation of Hydraulic Lab; Renovation of Main iconic building; Improvement of Electronics Block; Restoring Physics/Chemistry block; Repair works of Lecture Complex and Library is allotted around **8.2 Crores**
- Dismantling of existing structures of Foundry, Fitting Shop, Carpentry; Construction of temporary structures for functioning of mechanical labs/workshops; Excavation for leveling and disposal of soil; Infrastructure facilities for foundry, lathe, fitting, smithy workshops is allotted **8.9 crores**
- Public Works Department to overlook the entire project and provide a project proposal. It has to follow all the necessary regulations and execute the project in a transparent manner.
- The entire project needs to be completed within 1 year. This letter is the administrative approval to utilize the funds and start the process.

Some of the major challenges are: Reallocation of Mechanical Lab equipment, machinery; Retaining the heritage structure of the main building while plastering and electrification; Construction work should progress with college work continuing normally; Location is at the heart of the city and hence all the transportation should take place during night time etc.

A Technical Monitoring Committee has been formed, which will be looking after the renovation and repair works at UVCE. The list of members is as below:

1. The Registrar, BUB	Chairman
2. Prof. R Jagdeesh, Member of Task force, GOK	Member
3. Sri. C Mruthyunjaya Swamy, Member Secretary Task Force, GOK	Member
4. Chief Enginner (C & B), GOK	Member
5. Chief Architect, GOK	Member
6. The Finance Officer, BUB	Member
7. Univeristy Engineer, BUB	Member
8. Chairman, Dept. Civil Engg, UVCE, BUB	Member
9. The Principal, UVCE	Member Secretary

Prof H N Ramesh, Dept, Civil Engineering, Chairpersons of other Departments of UVCE i.e Mechanical Engineering , Electrical Engineering , Electronics & Communications Engineering, Architecture, Computer Science & Engineering are also invited to attend the meetings.

Along with this, we have requested for an additional 10 Crores from the University for further Development activities. At this moment, we have a temporary acknowledgment for 5 crores from the University which is great gesture from their end.

PWD already has taken up such renovation works of heritage structures like High Court, Mayo Hall and we are confident of renovating it with better structure and new look within the time.

There are also further plans of constructing more buildings and developing existing ones in the total of 15 Lakh Sq.Km area. We will try our best to see what is possible.



### How do you want alumni to contribute to his project?

We need to join hands with the Govt. and University in this matter. We cannot expect everything to be done on its own. Being alumni, it is our responsibility as well to work towards making UVCE a world-class institution and receive the due credit it deserves.

We can start with the items to be identified that can be sponsored by various dignitaries, alumni of UVCE. We can have the Solar panel supply as our initial objective where the erection, commission and connectivity to the grid can be divided into two stages.

1st stage: Iconic block, Electronics and Communication block, Library hall, Physics and Chemistry block.

2nd stage: Mechanical block and Hydraulic lab, the New block, Civil Engineering block and the Architectural block.

We can start with the water treatment plant along with the doors and windows beginning with the Iconic block, Electronics and Communication block, Physics and Chemistry block, Mechanical block, Library hall and the Lecture hall. The area, rate and specifications will be as per the schedule of rates in the renovation bill. We can go on with renovating the floors with granite and wall paneling. Glazed tiles for class rooms, smart teaching aids, department wise rooms, restoration of the amphi theater in the city campus, water restoration and drainage structures, Storage structures along with landscaping and installation of lighting, fixtures, fans, A/C etc are some of the important necessities we wish to bring about in UVCE.

Through this SAMPADA medium, I invite all the alumni to come and be part of this momentum. Since we have such huge alumni fraternity, it should be fairly easy to gather resources required. Suggestions and thoughts are welcome on how to move forward in this regard.

### *Though, it was not mentioned by him, here is a small addition from our Sampada Editorial Team research about Madhav*

Five Engineers of Water Resources Department were awarded with Sri S. G. Balekundri Award for the year 2016 for their outstanding services in a function organized in Banquet Hall, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru on 5th May, 2017 and we are glad to inform that Madhava was one among the Awardees. We congratulate him on his career achievements and hope that younger alumni and more students are inspired by such alumni.



## GUEST EDITORIAL




As we have always been requesting from long time, it would be a pleasure to have some senior alumni sharing their thoughts in Editorial of SAMPADA.

Sampada, from past 8 years, has been trying to give a complete picture about UVCE from different perspectives, we are trying to document the journey of UVCE through various experiences/memories of people. So, if interested, do write to us - [sampada@visionuvce.in](mailto:sampada@visionuvce.in)

You can also share your feedback by [clicking here](#)



# FOUNDATION STONE BY CHIEF MINISTER

  
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ

ಯೂನಿವರ್ಸಿಟಿ ವಿಶ್ವೇಶ್ವರಯ್ಯ ಕಾಲೇಜ್ ಆಫ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳ ನವೀಕರಣ  
ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಶಂಕುಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ ಸಮಾರಂಭದ ಆಹ್ವಾನಪತ್ರ

ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07.03.2018 ಸಮಯ: ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11.00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ

ಶಂಕುಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ  
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯರವರು  
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆ  
ಶ್ರೀ ಆರ್. ಲೋಕೇಶ್ ಬೇಗ್  
ಮಾನ್ಯ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಹಜ್ ಸಚಿವರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅತಿಥಿಗಳು  
ಶ್ರೀ ಬಸವರಾಜ ರಾಯರೆಡ್ಡಿ  
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಚಿವರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಶ್ರೀ ಪಿ.ಸಿ ಮೋಹನ್  
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಲೋಕಸಭಾ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಕೇಂದ್ರ

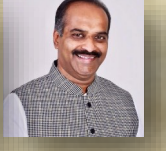
ಡಾ|| ರಾಜಕುಮಾರ್ ಖತ್ತಿ, ಫಾ.ಆರ್.ಸಿ  
ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ,

ಡಾ|| ಎ ಸುದೇಶ್  
ಕುಲಪತಿಗಳು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ

ಪ್ರೊ. ವೇಣುಗೋಪಾಲ್ ಕೆ.ಆರ್ ಕುಲಸಚಿವರು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ  
ಪ್ರಾಂಶುಪಾಲರು, ಯುಎಸಿಇ

ಡಾ|| ಎ. ಲೋಕೇಶ ಪ್ರೊ. ಸಿ ಶಿವರಾಜು  
ವಿತ್ತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಕುಲಸಚಿವರು (ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನ)

ವಿಶೇಷ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿತರು  
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಿಂಡಿಕೇಟ್ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳಾದ  
ಶ್ರೀ ಬಿ. ಶಿವಣ್ಣ, ಶ್ರೀ ವಸಂತ ಕುಮಾರ್,  
ಶ್ರೀ ಎನ್. ವಿಜಯಕುಮಾರ್ ಸಿಂಹ, ಶ್ರೀ ಜಯಣ್ಣ,  
ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ನರ್ಸಿಂಹ ಭಾತಿಮಾ, ಶ್ರೀ ಬಿ.ಬಿ. ರವಿಕುಮಾರ್, ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ.ಆರ್. ಮಂಜುನಾಥ



**March 7th, Wednesday  
11 AM**

**UVCE, K R Circle**

**We have received the official confirmation that the Chief Minister of Karnataka, Sri Siddharamiah will be visiting the college at K R Circle on 7th March for laying the foundation stone for all the renovation and restoration works happening through the 25 Crores grant by the State Government. Attached is the image of the Invitation card with all the dignitaries who will be accompanying him for this occasion.**

**We hope that this will be a mark of a new beginning in the UVCE's journey and more help will flow in from both Govt/University and as well as alumni in the coming days to make it a great institution.**



# UVCE PAYANA - 100 AND BEYOND!

Following our initial discussion with Alumni about UVCE Centenary Celebrations on Jan 27th 2018, we had a second meeting with few alumni (names). Owing to the reason that the Official Committee for Centenary Celebrations of UVCE that was formed by the Bangalore University is yet to meet and decide on plans about how to move ahead, it was unanimously concluded to organize an Mega Event from Alumni Community involving all stake holders. (This was also the same resolution passed during the first meeting)

Since the alumni's proposal of the Grand Celebrations for UVCE's Centenary Feat, we met few Senior Alumni and Well-known alumni, like Dattanna, Prakash Belawadi and many others in order to reach out to their opinions on the matter. With all the alumni pledging their support and guidance in execution of the proposed event, we have decided to speed up the process and start the journey at the earliest. Yes, the event will be called -



## **"UVCE Payana - 100 and beyond"**

With discussions between enthusiastic alumni for the organization out, here is an overview about the event's plan:

UVCE – Payana, an event that will be commemorating the Centennial Journey of UVCE whilst bringing forward the fervor and memories of the zealous UVCEians. It will be a Two-Day event where alumni from all over the world will be invited to come together to celebrate our alma-mater's historic milestone. Some of the main event agendas will be to include cultural programmes, Initiatives by Alumni to make UVCE better and many more interesting sessions, etc. Bearing majority of the factors in mind, the event is tentatively scheduled to occur during the weekend of June 3rd or 4th week. We will send out the confirmation to all the alumni at the earliest on this.

While the forefront of the Event preparation is in swing, the background works are also in flow. The pre-requisites and structural work in matters like Budgeting, various volunteering/working committee Formations, Event Planning, Venue Finalization and Finance related matters is in ongoing.

With this being the case and Alumni already on their feet excited for the event, what stroked our minds was to start having RSVP (Participation Confirmations) Option to be started. If an alumnus is zealous about participating in the event, then they can indicate their presence confirmation with help of RSVP and filling out the details now while making the financial confirmation once the activity regarding the bank related issues is completed and the functioning begins. The RSVP participants will be availed with an Early Bird discount over the Registration fees. More details on the various registration options and related queries will be shared by us shortly.

Some areas where we necessitate help from the alumni is as follows:

1. Achieving a far and wide reach out to more alumni and spread the word.
2. Pursuing sponsors for the event, since we are looking at a large scale event to be organized in a grand manner.
3. Portraying publicity of the event in the media and as well as social media for increasing awareness.

**What we require the most in this PAYANA is the helping hand of each and every alumnus of this prestigious and prodigious institution as we all hold a great extent of respect for Alma Mater in our hearts and which will be the significant aiding factor for the Centenary Celebrations of UVCE.**



## UVCE IN MEDIA

### UVCE CAN HOPE FOR A MAKEOVER NOW

The century-old University of Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE) will see a new beginning, at last. After a huge outcry by its students, alumni, historians and activists, the state higher education department has finally sanctioned Rs 25 crore centennial fund was announced by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah last year. Apart from Rs 25 crore, Bangalore University (BU) will also give Rs 5 crore towards its renovation work. The alumni of the university is also said to have started sourcing funds towards the college's refurbishing and renovation work.

BM has been covering the developments since the time when the state government formed a technical committee and set up a taskforce committee to look into the institution's condition. The taskforce gave a detailed report and said the institution had been in shackles and it needs refurbishing immediately. The Chief Architect, Govt of Karnataka, will now come up with a masterplan for the reconstruction of the mechanical building in KR circle and renovation of the existing main building.

A letter, dated February 14, 2018, from the higher education department says "Rs. 25 crore has been allocated for the renovation work for UVCE as sanctioned by the state government." The letter also gave the entire break-up of the construction procedure and the fund allocation. Bangalore University (BU) already declared in its syndicate that this fund will be directed to the Public Work Department (PWD).

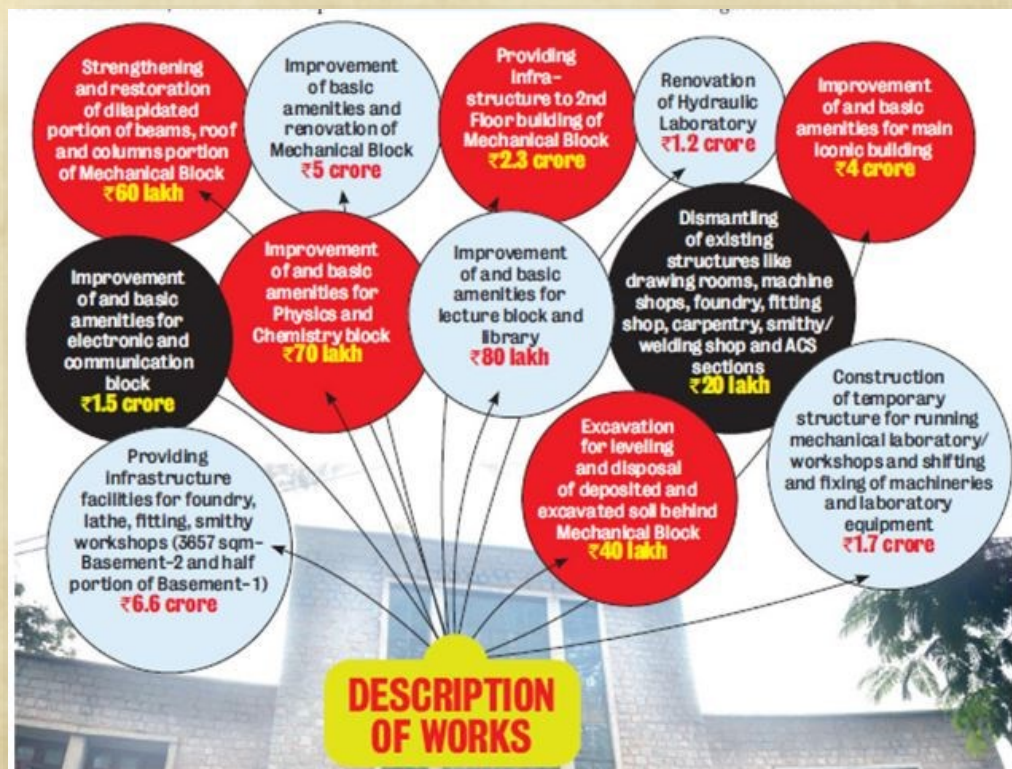
KR Venugopal, principal of UVCE, told BM, "Now, the infrastructure will be refurbished and renovated and the mechanical engineering department will have a state-of-the-art of building. The chief architect of the government will come up with a masterplan and the iconic structure will be renovated on the lines of High Court of Karnataka and Mayo Hall."

He added, "The alumni is also expected to source some more funds for this renovation work and this institution will be back to glory within a year's time. The work is expected to begin from March 15"

### CHIEF MINISTER TO LAY FOUNDATION STONE

Higher education department officials said that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will lay foundation stone for the new mechanical building block. An official said: "On March 7, the CM himself will inaugurate the work and everything will begin from there for the restoration of the institution. This will put an end to the biggest speculation: is the campus being relocated. This clears the air."

- Bangalore Mirror Report





## ENGINEER TO SCREENWRITER -THE JOURNEY (EP 2)

I then formed a theatre arts club named 'Emote' along with my classmates and juniors. However, it was also during this period that I was also one of the placement coordinators. Schedule had begun to get hectic. It became difficult for me to maintain more than many things. In the year of its inception, 'Emote' couldn't even do one play. Despite my failures, friends in college and hostel continued to nurture my confidence.

When I passed out of the college, I had my goals set. Work for 2 years. In those 2 years continue to write and then quit the job and get into the film industry. "Getting to work in a movie" was the then definition of success for me.

### ***And I stopped writing...***

After passing out of the college

- Got placed in SAP Labs in the capacity of a Software Developer. I fell in love with my job
- Continued to write stories and began to shameless share it in various FB groups and pages.
- The readers count began to soar. Even people, whom I never knew, began to read my stories. For a series titled 'Not At first Sight', Appreciations began to pour in from various corners .
- I was living in my own bubble of success and it broke after few episodes. People began to point at clichéd content and lack of depth in the story. Eventually, number of negative comments surpassed the positive ones.
- I had shared the story with few film makers whom I revered. None of them replied
- I had lost confidence and stopped writing. I was not frustrated with my life because I had mastered this art of loving what you are doing. I was in love with my job and the challenges that it offered.



My plans of quitting the job after 2 years didn't materialize. Since, I felt that I could no longer write stories; I began to start reviewing the movies. I had begun to observe intricate details, like never before.

My manager knew my interest in film making and for one of the events in the company, she asked me to do a video. Titled "The team that messed with the crow's nest", this rejuvenated my dreams of becoming a filmmaker.

After that I continued to shoot short videos and even started doing scripted wedding invites. And then, I decided to give the "writing career" a second shot. I wanted to start fresh and hence created a new blog site titled [passionophoria.com](http://passionophoria.com).

I spent next 7 months on a 10 episode web novel titled 'Dewdrops, Sunshine and a Blade of Grass'. I published it and the response was phenomenal. It was definitely not amongst the greatest piece of literature that the people had read, but they liked it.

### ***Getting my first scriptwriting assignment***

On Facebook, I messaged the link to my series to Rakshit Shetty – a new age Kannada film maker and actor, whom I had begun to idolize after watching his *Ulidavaru Kandante*. Next day his replied arrived. He had scheduled a meeting.



In the meeting, he asked me if I could work along with him on the script of his dream project titled 'Thugs of Malgudi'. I was elated beyond words.

By then, I and my colleague had already conceptualized a start-up idea and were spending our weekends and after office hours on it. Since I couldn't stop working on it, I began to spend late nights on the script of the movie.

### **Six months later...**

Rakshit told me about his plans of forming a script factory comprising of writers. He asked me if I could quit my job and join the team. I quit my job.

### **And then..**

It's been almost 2 years since I quit my job. In these 2 years, I have

- worked as one of the screen writers of 'Kirik Party'
- worked on the script of 'Roovari', a movie in which Rakshit was supposed to act, but later got shelved. (Leaving me devastated, of course)

Now, I am a fulltime employ in Rakshit Shetty owned Paramvah Studios, working in the capacity of a screen writer – Earning little less than what I used to earn being in SAP Labs. I have finished directing one of the stories for an upcoming Kannada Anthology movie titled 'Kathasangama', produced by Rishab Shetty (Director of Kirik Party) and Prakash HK(producer of the block buster Rangitaranga).

For past one year, my teammates and I (along with Rakshit Shetty), have worked continuously through day-and-night and seven-days-a-week on the script of his next movie an ambitious project titled 'Avane Srimannarayana'. The discussions, debates, dissection and dismissal of ideas are no different from Software design discussions that I had in my company.

The journey of an Engineering student to a Screenwriter and Director in Kannada Film Industry is a result of perseverance and the support of my friends and Family. Things have changed and so has the definition of success. Earlier it was getting into the industry and now it is all about making successful movies.

### **Remember....**

This write up is all about how I was about to realize my dreams. It might not be significant as compared to the success that my classmates, seniors and juniors have achieved. But at a personal level, it's of quite significance to me.

Irrespective of the success and failure, it's not about how you start, but it's about how you end. The art of 'being Shameless', The Nature's law of 'Failure' and the trick of 'Loving what you are doing' will continue to govern my perseverance.

**-Chandrajith P B (Batch of 2011 ISE)**



## **Chandrajith Belliappa's debut in Rishab Shetty's *Katha Sangama***

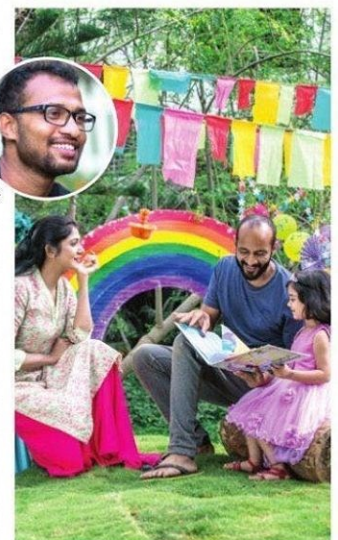
He has been selected as the director for Rishab's second film in his short stories project. Actors Kishore, Yagna Shetty and child artiste Baby Mrudunika will play the main roles.

• A Sharadhaa

Engineer turned filmmaker, Chandrajith Belliappa will be yet another director coming out of Rakshit and Rishab Shetty's camp. The first time director was associated with *Kirik Party* and will now test the waters with his Rishab Shetty's *Katha Sangama*. The film is a tribute to the legendary director Puttanna Kanagal, and is an amalgamation of seven short stories.

While the first short film was helmed by Kiranraj K, the second film is directed by Chandrajith and will bring together actors Kishore, Yagna Shetty and child actor Mrudunika. The film is a story of a husband, wife and a child and the values they hold as a family. 'A daughter always looks up to her father as a hero. But he need not be heroic to prove things to his daughter. All that a father looks forward to is to give a little happiness to his daughter. Kishore portrays this father in the film while Yagna Shetty plays the role of a protective mother.'

The film is in post production stage and has music by Gagan Baderiya. Cinematography has been helmed by Aravind Kashyap. Working under Paramvah Studios is a big responsibility according to Chandrajith. "A lot of hope has been entrusted on us. There is little fear and pressure in delivering a good product. But I also take this trust as my drive to get the best work out," says Chandrajith. He further says, "I am basically a writer, and did not intend to become a director. Probably this is an opportunity to know how well I can translate my writing on the silver screen."



Yagna Shetty, Kishore and baby Mrudunika



## REMEMBERING UVCE - EPISODE 2

One of the best scheme was taken a birth in those days was the introduction of 'Mid day Meals' in the Hydraulic Lab. Its main promotion was to help the lower middle class students coming from a long distance and also to avoid mild starvation during lunch time. This could save time and money for poor students. In the beginning, there were few takers although it was announced in the notice board. There was a time that the food comprising 'Lemon rice & Curd rice' was taken back to the hostel wherefrom it brought due to non-availability of students. One concerned person made to stand outside directing the students who passed-by, to go inside and have a food.

I was one among them utilized this system to the maximum extent as the food server serving the food more and more to available students to make the vessel empty so as to enable to carry back the vessel easily. This was continued for some days as some students enjoyed this tasty food as full meals. When it becomes popular, plenty of students started coming in and an atmosphere of disorder set in. An army of students who were in front line thrusting their plate all at once before the food server. This annoyed him. His temperament was on the boiling point and yelling at them to form a queue but no avail. Food was exhausted and few, went without food. Next day, I saw a serpentine queue for the limited quantity of food, decided then and there, when my turn comes, food will be exhausted and left the place remembering when I was studying primary school that the story of Jackal saying 'Grapes are sour'. Later on, the authorities had given identification cards for the eligible students and managed the scheme smoothly.

Even today, it is dreadful to remember the heavy syllabus of third year Integrated Course and probably containing 18 subjects including 5 practical's. Crossing third year was very tough and mind boggling. Out of mind rather confusion was the order of the day as subjects of all branches rushes through the mind like water gushes through the clogged pipe. As a result, absent mindedness played in our daily life which appears to be madness to others. Authorities have opened the eyes after sometime after realizing the student's plight of third year, had relaxed the rules to retain three subjects as ordinance.

Two of my colleague not coping with the difficulties of third year, abandoned the studies. One went to Himalaya as sanyasi and other returned to agriculture in Mandya. These two people had made a mess in their personnel life.

It is not possible to erase the old memories of events that were gone in laboratories and workshops. Often, those things were flashing back before my eyes like fleeting objects in a running train. During workshop examination, helpers were lending their hands for the students who under goes problems while making models. Sometimes, helper does the model themselves and tells to engrave the Hall ticket number. One or two girl students in neat uniform dress, staring blankly at the tools and specimen like damsel in distress as their nature does not permit to do boy's work. Some students or helpers in the vicinity come to their rescue. Soon after getting marks card, we were surprised that they got more marks than the boys. This phenomenal attitude baffles us even today. Humanity in those days were overflowing that help were coming to the needy without shouting for help.

It is obvious in electrical laboratory that most of the students obsessed with electrical properties and become very nervous. This may be due to electric shock likely to face and also if the fuse blown out, indicates failure in the examination.





Such attitude was always uppermost in their mind, when the exam was underway. We arranged a circuit as we memorized and shown to the examiner. He said the circuit was in order. When the current fed thro' the circuit, fear gripped us that fuse may blown out. But fuse was safe as we are also safe. All measurements meters are working except Ammeter. Cloud of confusion envelops us as well as the examiner. Not knowing what to do, Examiner asked us to recheck the circuit and left the scene silently. After rechecking the circuit right from the beginning thoroughly, come to conclusion that ammeter was out of order. All these formalities had taken two hours and one hour left for exam. After dilly-dallying for half an hour, Helpers told us there was no availability of extra ammeter. Later examiner told us in whispered tone to copy readings and graphs exactly as per the record books recorded while doing experiments. One of my batch mates, unable to keep quiet and able to find a solution, sought the help of Helpers and explained the situation. He slapped the ammeter suddenly. Ammeter came to life and started showing readings. Wonder struck us as if spent satellites fallen over our head. This magical correction had no logic but his logical action against the established norms brought results. This shows that practical experience which is beyond text books was a rare opportunity to witness the unbelievable perception.



A hilarious joke was doing rounds in the corridors of electrical branch. This joke how came into being, nobody knew it. But my imagination grasped the fabricated story as when the examiner asked the student as how the D C motor works. The student's mind was already so crowded with other practical subjects for ensuing examination, got confused. In this condition, instead of technical answer, he sounded phonetically like "dur...durrr....durrrrrr....." the way the D C motors starts in the beginning. This joke creates a peel of laughter when students are in electrical mood. Do not go for the source, do enjoy this peculiar joke. Whenever we see electrical motors in lab or somewhere else, this joke comes into play before our eyes. Old students remember this joke for decades after decades.

One more incidence had happened during the survey camp in Ghati Subramanya. This survey work was purely academic in nature and compulsory for the third year. All the students were housed in the choultry which had a rectangular shape and constructed with stone pillars, beams & slabs. There was an open court yard and no direct sunlight was falling on us where we put-up. There was no privacy and open to view everything what one is doing. Many pillars had served as privacy for dressing & undressing the cloths in the morning and evening. Anyway it was a new experience away from Homes & Hostels for the students.

Our batch was conducting survey work for the irrigational channel in the Hot Sun and eagerly waiting for lunch time to leave the field as our batch mates starving for food. When the wrist watch showed 1.30 p m and started packing-up the survey instruments. Suddenly, we saw three lecturers coming towards us to check the day's work. They took hold of our field book and examined the recorded readings while we stared at them like a silent soldiers. After examining the records, they handed over the field book and resumed the walk with us towards the choultry. At the entrance, one of my lecturers who had some doubt called back the record book and gone through it with prying eyes. He directed us to go through the day's work once again thoroughly and report back at 8.00 p m sharp.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



## TEAM EMPOWER UVCE - GKDC JOURNEY

The Go Kart Design Challenge (GKDC) is a contest formulated to enhance the approach of students practicing Engineering and Diploma courses. This event is fundamentally all about designing and fabricating a Go Kart at very low expenditure yielding optimum performance. The teams participating in this contest must go through two rounds, Pre-Final Round (PFR) and Final Round (FR) and are required to manufacture their Go Karts without any direct/indirect involvement of any kind of professional help. Every year a team from UVCE Team participates in this competition. Here is the jist of our team's journey this year:

The Pre Final round was held at Noida on the 13th of August 2017. In order to get through the PFR we had to show a presentation which explained all the research and development work carried out by the teams in designing the vehicle and present a PPT through which we explained all the work that goes into the designing process, a presentation on the innovations we planned on including and the improvements done to the kart's design and aesthetic compared to the previous years were presented in front of the judges who decided the team's continuance in the contest. We 'Team eMpowering-UVCE' qualified for the Final round with flying colours.

The final round took place at Kari Motor Speedway in Coimbatore from 12th -16th Feb 2018. All the qualified teams from the PFR were eligible to take part in the FR. All the participating teams were required to manufacture their Go Karts in their respective college campuses. The members of the team reported at the location with their karts. The vehicles manufactured by the teams went through several knock-out tests. We completed the tests successfully and moved on to the final testing phase.

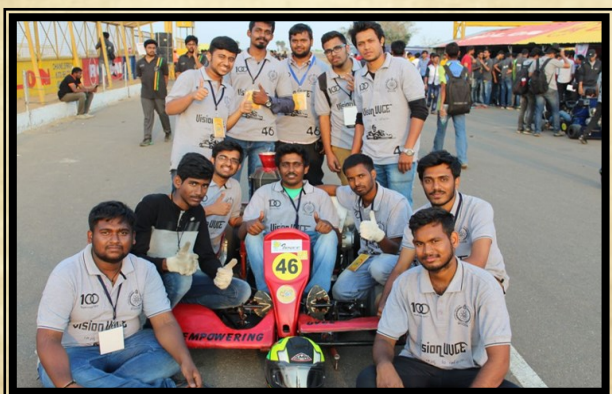
Although the team passed all the events flying colours scoring excellent points; the team faced many challenges before clearing all the rounds. To name a few-the team didn't have any tools of their own due to the cost of the different tool kits, fuel was stolen once in the allotted garage once (no authorities took the matter seriously), no proper facility in college for manufacturing (so workshops have to be rented externally which becomes heavy on the pocket once again) etc. Besides all this the whole team worked really hard to make best use of the available facilities to compete in the final endurance competition.

This year was a bounce back from last season. Being a continuous participant in GKDC from the inaugural season, the team has some good reputation due to its consistent performance and providing good results. But the team is still on the hunt for its first title in the competition. Based on the points achieved by each team in these tests, the winner was selected. A year of hard work and dedication finally paid off.

Out of the registered 200 teams from all over India Team eMpowering UVCE secured the following result : **1st place in Karnataka , 15th place in India, 9th place in endurance**

GKDC was a fun and challenging experience and we are grateful to have a dedicated team. We are thankful to UVCE Centenary Foundation, VisionUVCE and all the alumni for their support and encouragement, we further hope to achieve greater heights and success in our further endeavours.

**-Team eMpower UVCE**





## OUR TRYST WITH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**Cumulations** is a technology driven company with the team consisting mainly of developers and designers. The company was founded in 2012. The Founders—Madhu, Pradeep and Praveena are all from same batch - 2009 CSE, UVCE. We thank them for sharing their startup experiences with us and hope it will motivate more students

### **Team Sampada: How would you describe your journey as an Entrepreneur so far**

One of the best things about UVCE is its People. Friends you make here constitute a big part of your life. We friends always fancied the idea of joining the same company and working together as colleagues. Unfortunately, things didn't happen that way as we got placed into different companies. We could only think of entrepreneurship, as an alternate solution to have college buddies working under the same roof.

We had to go through a year or two in our corporate jobs to realize that we should take the idea of entrepreneurship seriously. Again it was UVCE seniors and batchmates like Rajesh & Rohit (who had their stint in entrepreneurship started already) gave us the much-needed confidence to take the plunge.

Being developers at heart, we started coding a product by combining Location features to offer Social Networking solution to people. We made this an opportunity to work on technologies that we secretly loved, but were not able to exercise in our offices. Having entered into 'Startup zone', we also got selected to the incubator of IIM Ahmedabad. In the incubator, we got lots of opportunities to ponder over the business viability of our solution. We also pivoted our solution to cater exclusively to Shopping complexes and Malls.

However, our products did not succeed in procuring satisfying revenue streams and soon we saw an opportunity with another set of customers. We realized that we can add lots of value to customers who already have a business use case but need technical services to support & enhance their offerings. Thus we entered into Services domain.

In Services, we were inclined towards IoT domain as it provided us an interesting perspective to see hardware and software solution stacks working in tandem. We were quick to adopt IoT as our main service expertise and delivered projects on BLE, WiFi stacks. It opened us opportunities to associate with Wearable devices and App controlled Smart home appliances.

Today we are working with the good number of clients spread across North America and Europe. Our clientele also includes some of the big brands from India. We are a self-sustained team with about 25 people team now. We are keenly associating with developments in Artificial Intelligence and looking forward to providing more solutions in this domain for coming years.

### **Please tell us about a memorable incident you remember from your time at UVCE**

Since the second year of engineering, our classes were held at Lecture complex. Next, to Lecture complex, we had a solo tree where we used to hangout in free time. I cherish all the fun conversations we had there. I also remember VKR sir's classes on Monday mornings which were always interesting as he used to share anecdotes from Ramayana, Mahabharata. It was always amazing to see him craftly connecting these anecdotal incidents to the subject at hand.

### **What else impressed you about UVCE?**

I think the kind of people we come across in UVCE is what gives its uniqueness. You have a Principal contributing all the money from his new book to the statue of Visvesvaraya, You have friends some of whom are learning German from a nearby community, who have patents already, Who are working on some big projects externally etc. I am sure one will find inspiring individuals all around and that to me was very helpful.





## A TALE OF THE JOYS AND PAINS OF A FILM

While some "affluent" Kannada associations in the United States are engaged in generating controversies for the cause of Kannada with no concrete contribution, a Kannadiga, settled in the U. S., is all set to release two thought provoking books here in the last week of June.

The person is 59-year-old P.N.Srinivas, a former space scientist associated with the launch of ISRO's Aryabhata in 1975 and popular as "Spandana" Srinivas in the Kannada film industry.

Born and brought up in Bangalore, Mr. Srinivas, a postgraduate in science and engineering and with no experience in film-making, ventured to direct Spandana, in the early 1980s.

A voracious reader, Mr. Srinivas poured through books on film-making and made Abhimana, and Yene barali preeti irali, besides Spandana, which won him awards. He bid goodbye to film-making in 1986. Mr. Srinivas is now the vice-president of a computer company in Maryland, U.S.

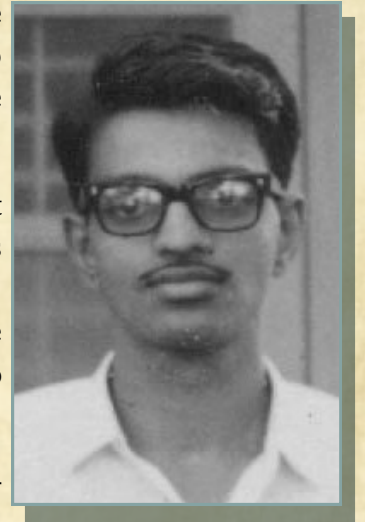
He published his first book, "Matugalu", a dialogue on Kannada literature in 1999. He has now authored two books, "Chalanachitra Nirdeshaka" and "Nade" which have been brought out by the Purogami Sahitya Sangha, Bangalore.

"Chalanachitra Nirdeshaka", for which the veteran film-maker, M.V. Krishna Swamy, has written the foreword, is a critique. The first chapter threatens to negate the purpose of the narrative but gains reason in the subsequent ones. Mr. Srinivas sets an ambience of "sounding cataracts" which can be justifiably associated with his penchant for Kannada poetry and his maiden film Spandana. In the film, Gerusoppa (Jog Falls) suggests a double-edged moral dilemma of individuals and middle-class society.

In "Chalanachitra Nirdeshaka", Mr. Srinivas adopts a clever narrative mode, generally familiar to readers of European literature in English translation. The narrative attempts to gain a strong hold on the readers' emotions and challenges their intellect. The scene is set in America. The narrator, an Indian, accompanied by his wife and two children, is on a visit to Niagara Falls to capture the scenic beauty on his camera. His mind is simultaneously engaged in giving poetic expression to the imposing landscape of Niagara in juxtaposition with Gerusoppa, observing ridiculous dimensions of American commercialism, the irrational and indifferent silence of the fellow citizens, and composing shots for capturing the scenic beauty in the desired way.

At this juncture, a character by name Mr. K approaches the narrator in a case of mistaken identity. Later Mr. K., a criminal lawyer from Mysore settled in the U.S., bails out the narrator in an accident case and makes money for himself due to the "idiocy" of the narrator. Later, the narrator has a chance of videotaping the birthday of Mr. K's son. The plot thickens, and the narrator, who looks like a double of one Bhavusar, a mercenary known to Mr. K., discovers the dangerous situation in which he has been caught from the point of view of U.S. law.

Later, the narrator learns that Mr. K's young son is suffering from cancer and his days are numbered. When the narrator meets the boy, the latter asks questions on the origin and development of cinema, the relationship between words and visuals, and the role of director in the making of a film.





In the subsequent chapters, Mr. Srinivas intervenes to clarify that the narrative hitherto touched only a fictional element he employed as a preamble to suit the purpose of his book.

While tracing the history of world cinema in general and Kannada cinema in particular, Mr. Srinivas makes effort to juxtapose social, political, and technical events of the two sides with only partial success. In the process, he also explains the pains, pleasures, and challenges he underwent in the making his successful film Spandana. He talks of the problems involved in making better Kannada cinema.

The book explains why several great literary works such as Charles Dickens' A Tale of Two Cities, Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby, Henry James' The Turn of the Screw, and Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness failed to give the desired results when they were made into films. It is in the context of challenges and intellectual honesty involved in translating words into visuals that his fiction, "Nade," becomes a sequel to "Chalanachitra Niradeshaka".

- K.N.Venkatasubba Rao

(Article on P N Srinivasan of 1965 (Mech.) batch - SOURCE: The Hindu)

## PREAPRATION OF PROFESSIONALISM

### Inadequacy of preparation in Professional Courses to meet Industry needs!

We, the professionally qualified persons tend to believe that we are a notch above the others. Equipped with a certificate about our academic qualifications, we believe that we are ready to conquer the world. The gap between our educational system and the industry needs is very high. Many layers of elimination generate a breed of students with high intelligence level. But do they generate result yielding class?

Our preparation methods are archaic and inadequate; the views expresses by an outgoing Electrical Engineering student in 1965 are valid even after 52 years. I have tried to recollect the observations made in 1965.

#### Circa 1965:

The academic year was almost coming to an end. A get together had been organized to bid farewell to the outgoing Final Year students in the open-air auditorium in front of the library building.

The atmosphere was very cordial. Some felt exhilarated that their academic pursuit would be coming to an end. They would shortly be entering the world full of opportunities to become Entrepreneurs Academicians, Role models, industry Captains and into various other occupations. In short, they were looking forward to become successful in life. Some also felt pangs of melancholy, as they would miss the togetherness of many of their close friends, as they may not see them again at all. They would also miss their canteen gossip sessions. In short, they were not very cheerful.







The get together had also provided an opportunity to many to voice their experiences, trails, tribulations and various aspects of their college stay. Utilizing the occasion, an enlightened student with excellent skills of captivating the audience attention narrated his sense of inadequacy at the methods of preparation in meeting the needs of success that are worth recollecting.

### **Narrative:**

A close group of outgoing Final Year students had decided to enjoy a night out. The ambience was very invigorating. A full moon had illuminated the sky, very tantalizingly. Moderate intensity wind caused swaying of the branches. The goddess of rivers, Ganges was majestically flowing in front. The running waters beckoned longingly an enjoyable boat ride in this inviting scenario. The boys could not refuse the pleasant boat ride and therefore with a drink to enhance their spirits and boisterous songs on their lips, they started rowing their boat. The excellent ambience and the gaiety of the occasion permitted them to row the boat through the night.

Many hours later, the first signs of dawn emanated. The sun in his inimitable style started rising on the Eastern horizon and in no time, it became a bright morning. The group of students who had rowed through the night found that, to their amazement, they were exactly at the same spot from where they had departed the previous night, in all their wisdom they had forgotten to remove the knot that tied the boat to the tether. The narration explains the status of students at entry and exit levels of college and this observation made by a student 52 years ago is still valid.

Mr. N R Narayana Murthy, the founder of Infosys and Ms. Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, pioneer in bio chemical industry opine only 10-15% of the candidates coming out of Engineering Colleges are employable. The rest, lack skills required by industry. Realizing this need, the Vice Chancellor of the Bangalore University has invited them to reword the system to imbibe the desired traits.

To be successful, therefore mere acquisition of Technical Degree is not enough. Success depends on many factors such as interpersonal skills, leadership qualities, commitment, adaptability, integrity, perseverance and the elusive entity called luck.

It is not for nothing that supremely competent statesmen cum engineer Sir. M Visvesvaraya in his infinite wisdom said 'Success is 99% perspiration and 1% inspiration.'

I am aware that the august Alumni contains many who were outstanding students. Many are Technocrats, many are Industry Captains, and many are pioneers in their respective field and in short successful in life. To all of them my appeal is not to view this article as gospel of wisdom imposed on them but as a recollection of views expressed on the inadequacy of training over 52 years back and its relevance even currently.





## ರಕ್ಷಣಾ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿ ಅತ್ರ ಮನದ ಮಾತು

ನನ್ನೂರು ವೈಟ್‌ಫೀಲ್ಡ್‌ನಿಂದ 15 ಕಿ.ಮೀ ದೂರದ ಕಲ್ಕುಂಟೆ ಅಗ್ರಹಾರ. ಹುಟ್ಟಿದ್ದು 1939ರ ಆಗಸ್ಟ್ 28ರಂದು. ನನ್ನ ತಂದೆ ಕೆ.ಎನ್.ರಂಗಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಿಸಿಟಿ ಡಿಪಾರ್ಟ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ, ಮೈಸೂರು, ಹಾಸನ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಜೋಗ ಹೀಗೆ ತಂದೆಗೆ ವರ್ಗವಾದಂತೆ ನನ್ನ ಶಾಲೆಗಳೂ ಬದಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದವು. 1955ರಲ್ಲಿ ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರ ಹೈಸ್ಕೂಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಹತ್ತನೇ ತರಗತಿ ಓದಿದೆ. ಅನಂದ ರಾವ್ ವೃತ್ತದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ರೇಣುಕಾಚಾರ್ಯ ಹೈಸ್ಕೂಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂಟರ್ ಮೀಡಿಯೇಟ್ ಮುಗಿಸಿ 1961ರಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಶ್ವೇಶ್ವರಯ್ಯ ಎಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಇಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಿಕಲ್ ಎಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಮುಗಿಸಿದೆ.

ತಮಾಷೆ ಎಂದರೆ, ನಾನ್ಯಾಕೆ ಎಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಓದಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಇವತ್ತಿಗೂ ನನಗೆ ಗೊತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ವಿಜ್ಞಾನದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಎಳ್ಳಷ್ಟೂ ಆಸಕ್ತಿ ಇರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ ಎಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಮುಗಿದ ನಂತರ, ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಏನೋ ಇದೆ ಎಂದು ಅನಿಸತೊಡಗಿತು. ಯಾರೋ ನೀಡಿದ ಸಲಹೆಯಂತೆ ಇಂಡಿಯನ್ ಇನ್‌ಸ್ಟಿಟ್ಯೂಟ್ ಆಫ್ ಸೈನ್ಸ್‌ಗೆ ಇಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಿಕಲ್ ಸೈನ್ಸ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ನಾತಕೋತ್ತರ ಪದವಿಗಾಗಿ ಸೇರಿಕೊಂಡೆ. 1961ರಿಂದ 1963ರ ಆ ಎರಡು ವರ್ಷ ನನಗೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಪರಿಚಯವಾಯಿತು. ನಾನು ಓದಿದ್ದು ಏನೇನೂ ಅಲ್ಲ, ಇನ್ನಷ್ಟು ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಆಸೆಯೂ ಬಲವಾಯಿತು. ನನ್ನ ಜೀವನದ ಬಹಳ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾದ ಅವಧಿಯಿದು. ಆದರೆ ಆಗ ಐಐಟಿ ಖರಗ್‌ಪುರ ಮತ್ತು ಐಐಎಸ್‌ಸಿ ಬಿಟ್ಟರೆ ದೊಡ್ಡ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳೇ ಇರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಯಾವ ಐಐಟಿಗಳೂ ಶುರುವಾಗಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ ವಿದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಬೇಕಿತ್ತು.



ಕೆನಡಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಶುರುವಾಗಲಿದ್ದ ಯುನಿವರ್ಸಿಟಿ ಆಫ್ ವಾಟರ್‌ಲೂನಲ್ಲಿ ಓದು ಎಂಬ ಸಲಹೆ ಬಂತು. ಅಮೆರಿಕಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಲು ಬೇಕಾದಷ್ಟು ದುಡ್ಡು ನಮ್ಮಲ್ಲಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಅಲ್ಲಿನ ಮೂರ್ನಾಲ್ಕು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ವೇತನಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದೆ. ಎರಡು ವಿವಿಗಳಿಂದ 1964ರಲ್ಲಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ವೇತನ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿತು. ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷವನ್ನು ವೃಥಾ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಬೇಡವೆಂದು ಆಗ ತಾನೇ ಪೀಣ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಶುರುವಾಗಿದ್ದ ಶರಾವತಿ ಸರ್ವಿಸ್ ಸ್ಟೇಷನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿಕೊಂಡೆ. ನಮ್ಮ ಮನೆ ಆಗ ಕುಮಾರಪಾರ್ಕ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿತ್ತು. ಅಲ್ಲಿಂದ ಪೀಣ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ ಒಂದು ಬಸ್ ಮಾತ್ರ ಓಡುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಸಂಜೆ ನಡೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಬರಬೇಕಿತ್ತು. ಆರು ತಿಂಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿದೆ.

1964ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಿ.ಎಚ್‌ಡಿ ಮಾಡಲು ಕೆನಡಾಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋದೆ. ಪಿ.ಎಚ್‌ಡಿ ಮುಗಿದ ಬಳಿಕ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷ ಅಲ್ಲೇ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿಯಾಗಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿದೆ. 1968ರಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾರತಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಾಗ ನನ್ನ ತಾಯಿ ಮದುವೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡೇ ಹೋಗುವಂತೆ ಒತ್ತಾಯಿಸಿದ್ದರಿಂದ ಅದೇ ವರ್ಷ ಆಗಸ್ಟ್ 28ರಂದು ಕಾಂತಿ ಅವರೊಂದಿಗೆ ನನ್ನ ಮದುವೆಯಾಯಿತು. ಹೆಲಿಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ 12 ವರ್ಷ ಅಸಿಸ್ಟೆಂಟ್ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್ ಆಗಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿದೆ. ವಿಜ್ಞಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಮೆರಿಕ ಎಷ್ಟು ಮುಂದೆ ಹೋಗಿದೆ, ಭಾರತವನ್ನು ಈ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಲು ಏನು ಮಾಡಬಹುದು ಎಂದು ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಂತಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದೆ.

ಇದು 1976-77ರ ಕತೆ. ಒಮ್ಮೆ ನನ್ನ ಬಾಲ್ಯಸ್ನೇಹಿತ ರಾಮಕೃಷ್ಣ ನಾವಿದ್ದ ಹೆಲಿಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್‌ಗೆ ವಿಸಿಟಿಂಗ್ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್ ಆಗಿ ಬಂದಿದ್ದವನು, 'ನೀನು ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕಾದರೂ ಐಐಎಸ್‌ಸಿಗೆ ವಿಸಿಟಿಂಗ್ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್ ಆಗಿ ಬರಬೇಕು' ಎಂದ. ನಾನು ಬಂದವನೇ ಡಿಜಿಟಲ್ ಸಿಗ್ನಲ್ ಪ್ರೊಸೆಸಿಂಗ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪಾಠ ಮಾಡಿದೆ. ಇದು ನನ್ನ ಸೈಕಾಲಿಟಿ ಕೂಡಾ. ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷವಾಗುತ್ತಲೇ ಕೆನಡಾಗೆ ವಾಸಪ್ ಹೋದರೂ ರಾಮಕೃಷ್ಣ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರ ಹಿರಿಯ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್‌ಗಳು ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಬರುವಂತೆ ಒತ್ತಡ ಹಾಕುತ್ತಲೇ ಇದ್ದರು. 1980ರ ಜನವರಿ ಒಂದರಂದು ಕೆನಡಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಸ ವರ್ಷದ ಪಾರ್ಟಿ ಮುಗಿಸಿ ಮನೆಗೆ ವಾಪಸಾಗಿದ್ದೆ. ರಾಮಕೃಷ್ಣ ಫೋನ್ ಮಾಡಿ ಡಾ.ರಾಜಾರಾಮಣ್ಣ ಫೋನ್ ಮಾಡ್ತಾರೆ ಅಂತಂದ. ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಹೊತ್ತಿನಲ್ಲೇ ಅವರು ಫೋನ್ ಮಾಡಿ 'ಭಾರತಕ್ಕೆ ಬಾ' ಎಂದರು. ಅಂತಹ ನಮ್ಮ ಮಹಾವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿ ಅವರು! ಇಲ್ಲ ಎನ್ನಲಾಗದೆ ಒಪ್ಪಿದೆ. ಹಾಗೆ 1980ರ ಜೂನ್ 24ರಂದು ಭಾರತಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದೆ. ಕೊಚ್ಚಿನ್‌ನ ನೌಕಾ ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಪ್ರಯೋಗಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ನನಗಾಗಿ ಹುದ್ದೆಯೊಂದನ್ನು ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಸಿದ್ದರು.

ಜುಲೈ ಏಳಕ್ಕೆ ಅಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಹೋದೆ. ಧಾರಾಕಾರ ಮಳೆ. ಕರೆಂಟ್ ಇಲ್ಲ, ಸೀಮೆಎಣ್ಣೆ ಸ್ಕೌ... ದೊಡ್ಡ ಮಗಳು ರಜನಿಗೆ ಎಂಟೋ ಒಂಬತ್ತೋ ವರ್ಷ. ಶಾಲೆ ಬಿಡಿಸಿ ಕರಕೊಂಡು ಬಂದಿದ್ದೆ; ಕೊಚ್ಚಿನ್‌ನ ಶಾಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಡ್ಮಿಶನ್‌ಗೂ, ಸೀಮೆಎಣ್ಣೆಗೂ ರೇಷನ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಕೇಳಿದರು. ನಾನು ರಾಜಾರಾಮಣ್ಣ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ವಿವರಿಸಿದೆ. ಅವರು 24 ಗಂಟೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಗ್ಯಾಸ್ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ನೇವಲ್ ಸ್ಕೂಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಕೊಡಿಸಿದರು. ಕೊಚ್ಚಿನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿದ್ದಷ್ಟು ದಿನ ರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಇಲಾಖೆಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ಅವಕಾಶಗಳು ಸಿಕ್ಕಿದವು.



ಮರೆಯಲಾಗದ ಅಪೂರ್ವ ಕ್ಷಣಗಳು...

1991ರಲ್ಲಿ ನಾನು 'ಡಿಆರ್‌ಡಿಬಿ'ದ ಸಂಶೋಧನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಚೀಫ್ ಕಂಟ್ರೋಲರ್ ಆದಾಗ ಮತ್ತೆ ಅವ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ ಶುರು ಮಾಡುವಂತೆ ಜಾರ್ಜ್ ಫರ್ನಾಂಡಿಸ್ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಇದರ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಲಘು ಯುದ್ಧ ವಿಮಾನಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸುವ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ನನಗೆ ವಹಿಸಿದರು. ಭಾರತೀಯ ವಾಯುಪಡೆಗಾಗಿ ರೂಪಿಸಿದ ಮಹತ್ವದ ಯೋಜನೆ ಅವ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ (ಎರ್‌ಬೋರ್ನ್ ವಾರ್ನಿಂಗ್ ಅಂಡ್ ಕಂಟ್ರೋಲ್ ಸಿಸ್ಟಮ್).



1999ರಲ್ಲಿ ನನಗೆ 60 ವರ್ಷ. ನಿವೃತ್ತನಾಗಬೇಕಿತ್ತು. ಕಲಾಂ ಬಂದು, ರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಸಚಿವ ಜಾರ್ಜ್ ಫರ್ನಾಂಡಿಸ್ ಕಠಿಣತೆ ಅಂದು. ಜಾರ್ಜ್ ನನ್ನನ್ನು ತಮ್ಮ ವೈಜ್ಞಾನಿಕ ಸಲಹೆಗಾರನಾಗಿ ನೇಮಿಸಿಕೊಂಡರು. ಎರಡು ತಿಂಗಳು ಕಳೆದಿತ್ತು. ಚಳಿಗಾಲದ ಒಂದು ದಿನ. ಇಂಡಿಯಾ ಗೇಟ್ ಕಡೆ ವಾಕಿಂಗ್ ಹೋಗಿ ವಾಪಸ್ ಬರುವಾಗ ಪ್ರಧಾನಿ ವಾಜಪೇಯಿ ಅವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಕರೆ ಬಂದಿತ್ತು. ಐದು ವರ್ಷ ಅವರಿಗೆ ವೈಜ್ಞಾನಿಕ ಸಲಹೆಗಾರನಾಗಿ ನೇಮಕ ಮಾಡಿರುವುದಾಗಿ ಹೇಳಿದರು. ಅದೇ ವರ್ಷ ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಿದೆ.

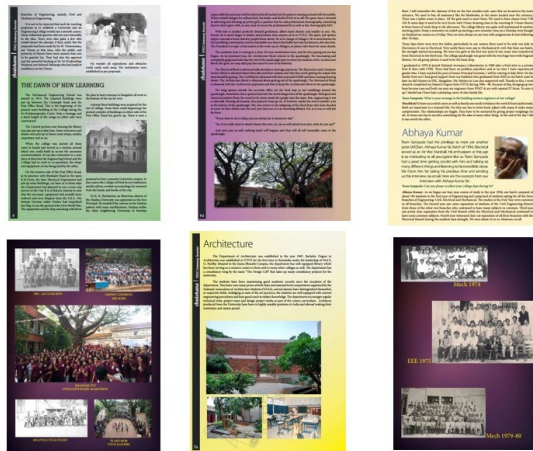
ಅಷ್ಟು ಹೊತ್ತಿಗೆ ಅರುಣಾಚಲಂ ಲಘು ಯುದ್ಧ ವಿಮಾನ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಯೋಜನೆ ಕೈಗೆತ್ತಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದರು. 2001 ಜನವರಿ 4ರಂದು ಭಾರತದ ಮೊದಲ ಲಘು ಯುದ್ಧ ವಿಮಾನ ಮೊದಲ ಯಶಸ್ವಿ ಹಾರಾಟ ನಡೆಯಿತು. ಅದೇ ವರ್ಷ ಫೆಬ್ರವರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂತರರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ವೈಮಾನಿಕ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನದಲ್ಲಿ ಅದರ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಹಾರಾಟ ಏರ್ಪಡಿಸಿದವು. ಆದರೆ ಅದುವರೆಗೂ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಸರಿಟ್ಟಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ನಾನು ಸೂಚಿಸಿದ್ದ 'ಸಾರಂಗ' ಮತ್ತು 'ತೇಜಸ್' ಎಂಬ ಹೆಸರುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 'ತೇಜಸ್'ನ್ನು ಆಯ್ದುಕೊಂಡರು. ಒಂದು ಮಾತು ಹೇಳಿ- ವಾಜಪೇಯಿ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬರಿಗೂ ಮಾತನಾಡಲು ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ಕೊಡೋರು. ಫರ್ನಾಂಡಿಸ್, ಪ್ರತಿದಿನ ತಮ್ಮ ಬಟ್ಟೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಾವೇ ಒಗೆದು ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿ ಕೊಡವಿ ಒಣಗಿಸಿ ತಲೆದಿಂಬಿನದಿ ಇಟ್ಟುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಅದೇ ಇಸ್ಟಿ! ಈ ಇಬ್ಬರ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿತ್ವ ನನಗೆ ಬಹಳ ಇಷ್ಟ.

ನಮ್ಮ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 700 ಕಿ.ಮೀ ದೂರ ಕ್ರಮಿಸಬಲ್ಲ 'ಅಗ್ನಿ1' ಕ್ಷಿಪಣಿ ಮತ್ತು 1700 ಕಿ.ಮೀ. ದೂರ ಕ್ರಮಿಸಬಲ್ಲ 'ಅಗ್ನಿ2' ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿದವು. 2004ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಣವ್ ಮುಖರ್ಜಿ ರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಸಚಿವರಾದರು. ವಾರಕ್ಕೊಮ್ಮೆ ಭೇಟಿಯಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದೆ. ಅಷ್ಟು ಹೊತ್ತಿಗೆ ನನಗೆ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದ ಐದು ವರ್ಷದ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಟೆನ್ಷನ್ ಮುಗಿದಿತ್ತು. ಆಗಸ್ಟ್ 28, ನನ್ನ ಹುಟ್ಟುಹಬ್ಬದ ದಿನ ನಿವೃತ್ತಿಯಾಗುವುದು ನನ್ನ ಉದ್ದೇಶವಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಮುಖರ್ಜಿಯವರು ಬಿಡಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಪ್ರಧಾನಿ ಮನಮೋಹನ್ ಸಿಂಗ್ ಅವರ ಬಳಿ ಕರೆದೊಯ್ದು, 'ಅಗ್ನಿ'ಯ ಹೊಸ ಕ್ಷಿಪಣಿ ಉಡಾವಣೆ ಮಾಡಿ ನಿವೃತ್ತನಾಗುವಂತೆ ಸೂಚಿಸಿ ಎರಡು ದಿನಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿಸ್ತರಣೆ ಕೊಟ್ಟು. ಅಂತೆಯೇ ಆಗಸ್ಟ್ 30ರಂದು 'ಅಗ್ನಿ' ಉಡಾವಣೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಟ್ಟು ನಿವೃತ್ತನಾದೆ.

- ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ವಾರ್ತೆ



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