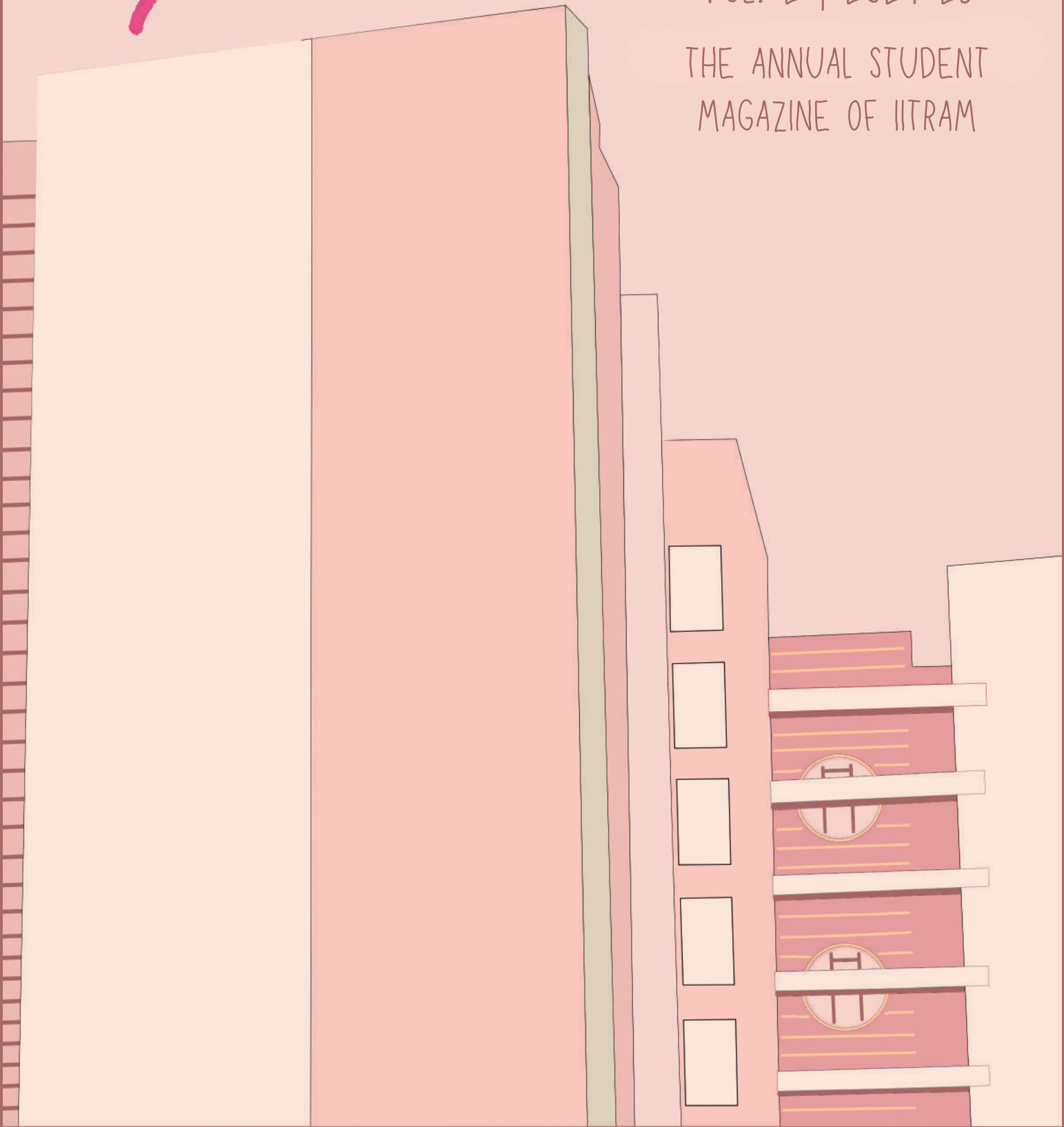


# Adhuni



VOL. 2 | 2024-25

THE ANNUAL STUDENT  
MAGAZINE OF IITRAM



# प्रतिdhwani


Vol. 2


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# FOREWORD

Dear Readers,

Welcome to Volume 2 of Pratidhwani! If you're holding this magazine, congratulations—you're about to delve deeper into our campus, our ideas, and our shared journey. As Robin Williams beautifully said in Dead Poets Society, "No matter what anybody tells you, words and ideas can change the world", we believe this with all our heart. The contents of this magazine are the product of late-night meetings, many distinctive debates, and dreams that spark our creativity. These ideas are our attempt to leave a mark, however small, on the world around us.

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt thanks to Dr. J. Jaidevi, Associate Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering. Her everlasting support, especially when we faced our deadline challenges, has been a lifeline. Without her patience and belief in us, this magazine wouldn't have come into existence.

The journey of this magazine is no small matter. We could say our editors have become Google Meet's best friends. We've poured our hearts into it over vacations, countless Google Meet calls, never-ending proofreading and more. Every section here reflects our collective effort to bring something unique and engaging to you, the readers.

Looking forward to Volume 3, we are eager to make it even better. But we need you! This magazine is yours as much as it is ours. So, bring on your ideas, stories, poems, articles, or some random thoughts—we want it all.

And before we go, I'll leave you with a quote from The Shawshank Redemption: "Hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things, and no good thing ever dies." This is how we carry that hope forward, with each page, each issue, and each new idea.

With gratitude and excitement for what's ahead,

Ajaat Kaushikeya

Editor

Pratidhwani

# DIRECTOR GENERAL'S NOTE

Greetings IITRAM,

I am pleased to present Volume 2 of Pratidhwani - the annual student magazine of IITRAM. I wholeheartedly thank all the readers for picking up this magazine, reading it, and appreciating the hard work and creativity of the team.

IITRAM has set new milestones and reached greater heights this year, and this magazine is no different. This volume of Pratidhwani tries to encapsulate this amazing year, and encourages the voice of the students and their talents.

I am endlessly delighted to see the enthusiasm of the students, who are committed to contributing tirelessly to the magazine. So are the faculty members. I thank them too for their unending support towards the student team.

I am particularly proud to showcase contributions from our talented writers, designers, and artists who have made this volume come to life, including exciting new sections such as maps, crosswords, and creative articles. These really make this edition of Pratidhwani particularly special.

I urge you to explore this edition with an open mind and get involved with it. Share your thoughts, criticisms, appreciations, start a discussion. Keep Pratidhwani alive!

Thank you for your support. I hope you enjoy reading this edition as much as I did.

With warm regards,

Prof. P.K Jain

Director General, IITRAM



# EDITOR IN CHIEF'S NOTE

The much-anticipated student magazine of IITRAM is back after continuous efforts from its team. Volume 2 of Pratidhwani not only represents those efforts but also the creativity of the students and the voice of the student body. This magazine is both a finished product and a living entity—complete in print yet constantly evolving with every interpretation you bring to it.

As Editor-in-Chief, I have had the unique pleasure of witnessing ideas transform into stories, sketches, designs, and reflections that fill these pages. This edition is a kaleidoscope of perspectives, from thoughtful essays to artistic expressions, all bound together by a shared sense of curiosity and creative freedom.

Visually, this year's edition is hard to miss. With its bold, pop-inspired design, it's as if the magazine itself is jumping off the page to grab your attention. We wanted it to be more than just a publication—we wanted it to be an experience. Whether you're flipping through its pages between classes or pretending to read it during a boring lecture, we hope it keeps you entertained.

Of course, none of this would've been possible without the incredible team behind it. Our writers, designers, and editors have poured their hearts (and sacrificed their sleep schedules) into this, and I cannot thank them enough.

As you turn these pages, I hope you find something that makes you think, laugh, or maybe even question the meaning of life (or at least the meaning of deadlines; we learned it the hard way). And if you feel inspired to contribute next time, please do. After all, Pratidhwani exists so that your creativity is seen and heard.

In the words of Arthur Miller, a good newspaper is a nation talking to itself. We want Pratidhwani to achieve just that and be an echo of the voice of the students of IITRAM.

Happy reading!

Adityarajsinh Jadeja  
Editor-in-Chief  
Pratidhwani

# MEET **Team Pra**

## **Designers**



**Udaykumar Dhokia**

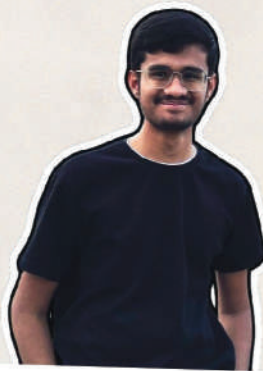
**EDITOR**



**Adityar**



**Mayank Gujar**



**Hasan Vohra**



**Harsh Vara**

## **Mentor**



**Adarsh Gupta**

Editor-in-Chief Pratidhwani 2023



# atidhwani

IN CHIEF



Aajsinh Jadeja

## Editors



Divya Pandor



Aastha Motwani



Ved Kolte



Dhritiman Ghosh



Priyanshu Sahu



Ajaat Kaushikaya

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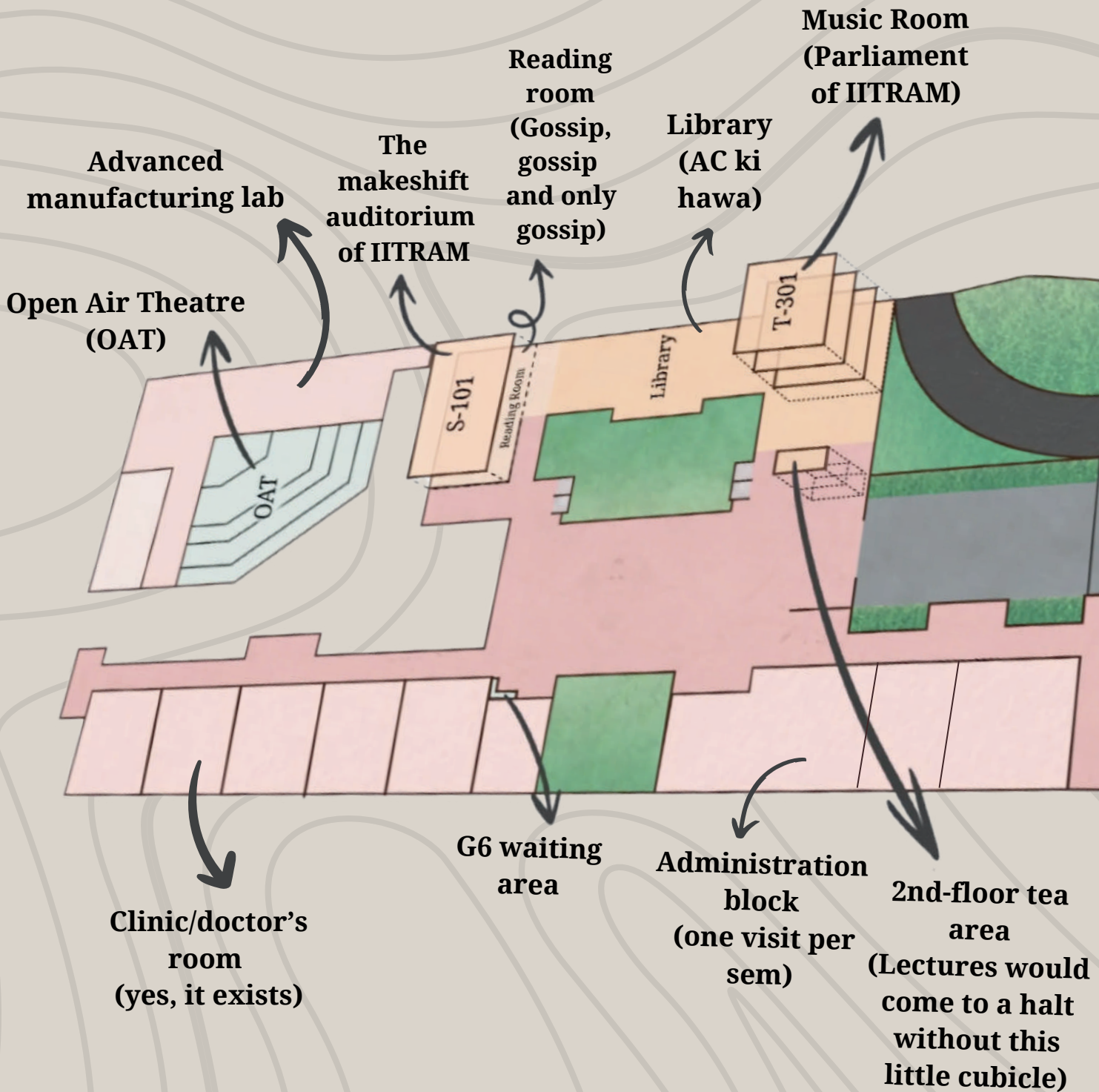


# FIRST YEAR

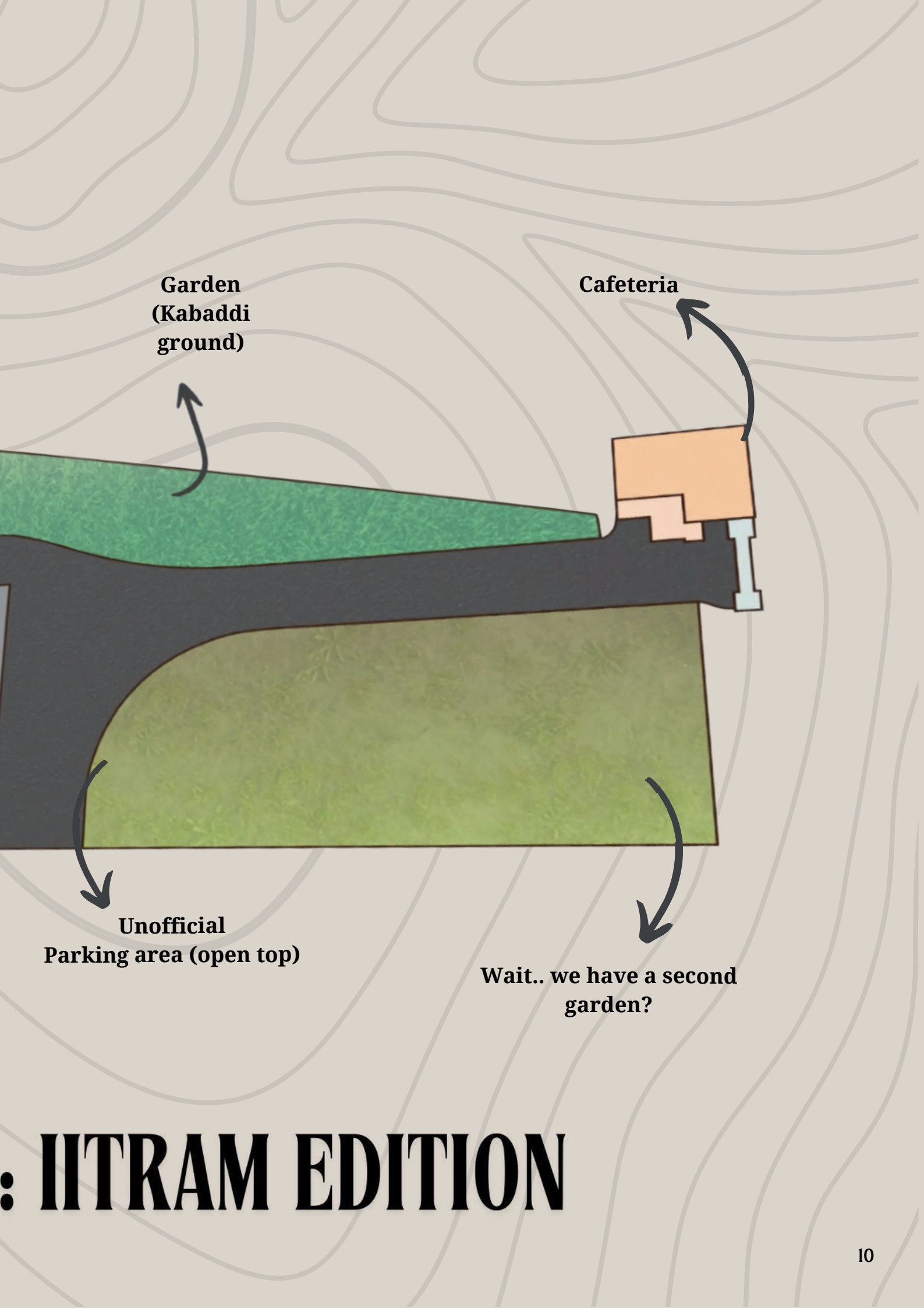
## BUCKET LIST

- ☐ Completed an assignment at the last minute and still aced it
- ☐ Visited Kankaria
- ☐ Scored full marks in a surprise test (miracles do exist!)
- ☐ Skipped breakfast (for the nth time)
- ☐ Played Table tennis in Hostel at 2 a.m.
- ☐ Wished for an assignment extension and actually got it
- ☐ Slept in classes
- ☐ Asked out your crush
- ☐ Poha at Hatkeshwar circle, 5AM
- ☐ Watched a YouTube tutorial 5 minutes before an exam
- ☐ Had a deep 2 AM conversation about life with a hostel mate
- ☐ Got a treat from a senior (at IITRAM, a senior always pays! Those are the rules)
- ☐ Slept on hostel terrace
- ☐ Walked into the wrong classroom and pretended it was on purpose
- ☐ Ate Dosa at G.C
- ☐ Hosted a late night ghost story session in Hostel





# MARAUDER'S MAP



**Garden  
(Kabaddi  
ground)**

**Cafeteria**

**Unofficial  
Parking area (open top)**

**Wait.. we have a second  
garden?**

**: IITRAM EDITION**



# INDULGING THE BODY WITH THE SPIRIT

OUR BODIES ARE A TRUE REFLECTION OF THE ENERGY AND SPIRIT WITHIN US. IT SHOWS HOW CONNECTED OUR PHYSICAL HEALTH IS TO OUR MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING. WHEN WE TAKE CARE OF OUR BODY, WE UNLOCK ITS FULL POTENTIAL, AND THIS ALLOWS US TO PERFORM AT OUR BEST. FITNESS IS THE KEY TO ACHIEVING THIS BALANCE BETWEEN THE MIND AND BODY.

FOR STUDENTS, STAYING HEALTHY CAN BE CHALLENGING. IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT LOOKING FIT; IT'S ALSO ABOUT INTERNAL WELL-BEING. ACADEMIC STRESS, POOR EATING HABITS, IRREGULAR SCHEDULES, AND LACK OF SLEEP OFTEN TAKE A TOLL ON HEALTH. OVER TIME, THESE PROBLEMS CAN LEAD TO BIGGER ISSUES LIKE ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION, ESPECIALLY FOR STUDENT WITH HEAVY WORKLOADS.

BUT THERE IS A SIMPLE WAY TO TACKLE THESE PROBLEMS—EXERCISE. EXERCISE CAN HAVE MANY FORMS, SUCH AS PLAYING A SPORT, PRACTICING YOGA, GOING TO THE GYM, OR EVEN DOING SOMETHING YOU ENJOY THAT GETS YOU MOVING. THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO STAY CONSISTENT AND COMMITTED. REGULAR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY NOT ONLY MAKES YOUR BODY STRONGER BUT ALSO HELPS CLEAR YOUR MIND AND IMPROVE YOUR MOOD. IT INCREASES FOCUS AND REMINDS YOU TO PRIORITIZE YOUR HEALTH.





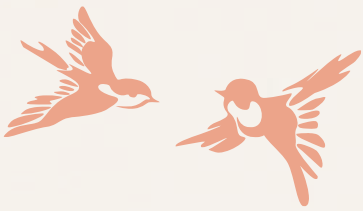
# OF FITNESS

A stylized illustration on the left side of the page. It features a person in an orange silhouette performing a yoga pose, with a flame-like shape on their back. Green leaves and stems are layered over the figure. The background has light green watercolor-style washes.

IF YOU'RE FEELING LAZY OR STRESSED, THE BEST WAY TO OVERCOME IT IS BY STAYING ACTIVE. WHEN YOU MOVE YOUR BODY, IT WAKES UP YOUR MIND AND HELPS YOU FEEL MORE IN CONTROL. AFTER A LONG DAY, EVEN A SMALL WORKOUT CAN HELP YOUR MUSCLES STRETCH AND YOUR MIND RELAX. GIVING YOUR BODY TIME TO RECOVER AND HEAL IS JUST AS IMPORTANT, AS IT PREPARES YOU TO TAKE ON NEW CHALLENGES.

FITNESS ISN'T JUST ABOUT WORKING OUT; IT'S ABOUT CREATING A HEALTHY ROUTINE THAT WORKS FOR YOU. BY DEDICATING TIME TO YOUR HEALTH, YOU'RE NOT JUST IMPROVING YOUR BODY—YOU'RE TAKING CARE OF YOUR MIND AND SOUL TOO. LET'S MAKE AN EFFORT TO FOCUS ON OUR WELL-BEING AND FIND THE BALANCE BETWEEN MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT. WITH CONSISTENT EFFORT, WE CAN LIVE HEALTHIER AND MORE FULFILLING LIVES.

- PRIYANSHU SAHU



# STEPPING INTO 20'S

"I fear," Raushan murmured as he woke up. At nineteen, with his twentieth birthday just a month away, he had eagerly anticipated stepping into his post-teenage life. Yet, beneath the excitement laid a layer of anxiety that had kept him restless for many nights over the past week. Raushan was uncertain about the twists his life might take and whether he could meet his parents' expectations. He was worried whether he would be able to love the same way his partner does! He was confused whether his feelings mean love or just a spell of attraction.

Many of us harbor a Raushan, questioning our matured selves within ourselves, though often these doubts remain buried deep within. The twenties mark the first steps of a long journey beyond adolescence.

## True love – The magical word?

True love is one of the most spoken-about terms, often discussed without needing to proclaim its existence. If there is love, it is ought to be true. There are no formulas or tests to determine if someone has fallen in love; the one who falls knows it the best. In love, you are no longer just yourself; you become part of a 'we'. It denies any age eligibility—some find it at 20, while others may discover it at 40. Despite the age difference, the experience of being in love feels similar.

American Nuts, her favorite ice-cream flavor, tasted different after she mentioned it was her favorite—it's just love. It's not just a feeling, but a journey- an evolving bond that deepens with time and shared experiences. It's about finding someone who sees you for who you are, accepts you without reservation, and walks with you through life's ups and downs. I agree, it's never easy to find someone who syncs with you the perfectly. But there is always someone for everyone and the day you find them, treasure them. Love them to the point of invention!



In your 20s, it often feels like love and personal dreams are in a gentle tug-of-war. You've met someone who makes your heart race, but she is just so focused on her dreams—traveling the world, living up every adventure. She's been upfront about wanting to hold off on a relationship for a few years, leaving you in a bit of a pickle; should you pursue your feelings or respect her aspirations? What if you could do both? You could be her biggest supporter, cheering her on as she chases her dreams. Imagine her sharing stories about sunsets in Bali or delicious street food in Korea. Instead of feeling left behind, you could be right there with her—listening, laughing, and maybe even planning to join her on her next adventure to watch the auroras together or to walk with her through vineyards of Europe.

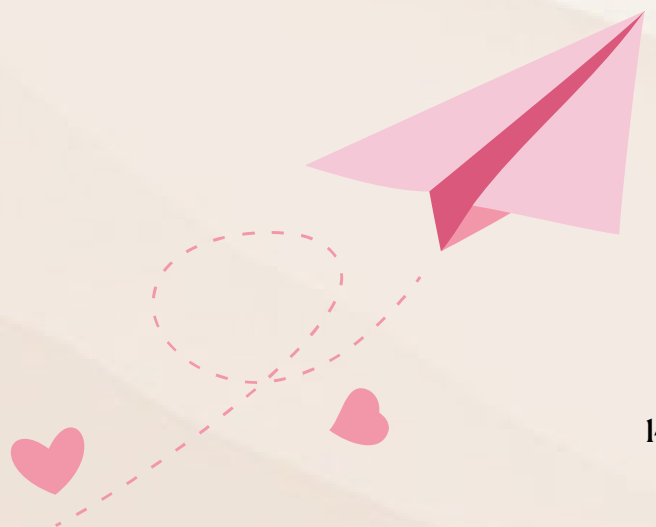
While she is off living her best life, you can also focus on your own growth. This is a great time to dive into your passions and work on becoming the person you want to be—not just for yourself, but for her, too. When she's ready to settle down, she might just realize that you're the perfect partner to share in all those adventures she's dreamed about!

At the end of the day, relationships in your 20s are all about learning, growing, and sometimes waiting. It's totally okay to have feelings and to express them, but respecting her journey is equally important. Who knows? When the time is right, you might find yourselves embarking on this incredible journey together, blending love with adventure in a way that feels just right.

Loving a person too much is never a mistake. But, being attached too much so that you don't even think of what works good or bad for you, is a mistake. So, one must prioritize mutual respect before everything. Understanding when to be rational rather than purely passionate provides clarity and perspective. Sometimes, loving someone can be challenging, but it is said that "Those who are hardest to love need it the most." In Stoicism, love is embraced as a natural and enriching part of life, yet it is approached with rationality and self-control.

The stoics advocate for balanced affection and growth. One should love deeply yet freely appreciating the present while being prepared for life's inevitable changes.

In the end, in everyone's life, there exists a person for whom the existing laws, the social beliefs are all just seeming to be invalid. Love means waiting and if you find such a person, he/she will be worth the wait even if it costs your life... every single second of it would be worth waiting!





## Life: The art of living

Post-teenage life is the time when we will realize that many of our earlier beliefs were wrong. We suddenly realize money is much more valuable and harder to earn than we thought it was! We will not just wish to grow and achieve something but will actually start working towards it. We will learn to take responsibilities. In *Avengers: Infinity War*, Thanos once said, “The hardest choices require the strongest wills.” Most of us will be making the hardest choices. But at the same time, most of us will make a mistake. We let the child inside us die just for the sake of growing up. Suddenly, we mature, we grow up and are no longer what we were.

What someone achieved at 20, you might achieve at 30... why worry for that! Someone might achieve the same at 40. You're neither late, you're nor early, you are exactly where you are supposed to be! Learn to accept things, learn to enjoy things, learn to be happy! Accept your failures in life. Just don't get attached to the failures, let them go and try better than the last one! If you don't cry wholeheartedly, then how will you laugh wholeheartedly! The goal of one's life should be just trying to be happy. Being a doctor, an engineer, an industrialist etc. are just checkpoints. You will get yourself new checkpoints as soon as you complete the previous ones.

As we dive into our 20s, there's a lot of chatter about taking responsibility. It's often treated like some sort of rite of passage, but what does being “responsible” really mean? Is it all about wearing a serious face, slipping into a business suit, and saying goodbye to late-night adventures for early morning meetings? Spoiler alert: it's way more complicated than that.

Responsibility is more than just ticking off boxes or following a strict set of rules. It's about making choices that reflect your values, managing your time and resources wisely, and owning up to your actions—whether they're wins or losses. It's about finding that sweet spot between spontaneity and mindfulness, especially as you navigate the exciting (and sometimes bumpy) road of love and life. Sometimes life chases you and sometimes it's just opposite, you chase life... However, In this chase, we forget why are we chasing or being chased... At the end of this chase, we all would want just to be happy, but how many of us will really be? Its good to be conscious about future, but who cares kal Kya hoga as long as hum aaj khush hai and if someone cares, let them. We just don't need to be alive, we need to truly live too.

Let's get real: just because someone isn't always wearing a serious expression doesn't mean they're irresponsible. Life isn't just one big boardroom meeting; it's filled with laughter, joy, and those spontaneous moments that make it all worthwhile. In fact, some of the most responsible people are those who know how to let their hair down and have fun while still being accountable for their choices.

Sometimes, take a moment to reflect on the boy or girl you were just a few years back. Ask yourself, are you truly happy now? In a sarcastic manner, it is said that. "An adult is the outdated version of a child." This sounds funny and serious at the same time! Have friends like you had when you were a kid. Just touch the tree leaves after rain and feel the drops on your palms, imagine the clouds as objects. It's okay to be a 'Nadaan Parinda' sometimes. Instead of passing life, live it. You might be called lunatic for experiencing these rare moments. However, trust me, this lunatic young man is far better than a morose prodigy.



Be a traveller, a wanderer, not a tourist. We never know how long we are going to live for! So, live your life to the fullest because once a very wise man said, "suno, jiyo, muskurao, khush raho, kya pata kal ho naa ho!"

-Ajaat Kaushikeya



## Beyond Labels: Embracing Your Authentic Self

Introvert, extrovert—these labels are often thrown around to define our social preferences, but do they truly capture the essence of who we are? Often, social awkwardness is mistakenly equated with introversion, leading to misconceptions about ourselves and how we navigate the world.

The truth is, these labels are mere starting points, not rigid definitions. Your personality is a rich tapestry woven from experiences, inclinations, and a fluidity that transcends any single term. Restricting yourself based on a self-assigned social identity can hinder your growth and connections. How you perceive yourself, especially in your early twenties, will influence how others perceive you. But that perception is just a reflection, not your core being.

In contrast, social anxiety can coexist with introversion, but they are not synonymous. Embrace this complexity. You can be an introvert with excellent communication skills, or an extrovert who thrives on moments of solitude.

There's beauty in embracing this fluidity. Your twenties are a time for exploration and self-discovery. Don't shy away from uncertainty; use it as an opportunity to learn and grow. Let your multifaceted personality shine through. There's strength in authenticity, not in trying to fit a mold.





However, embracing your natural tendencies doesn't mean ignoring boundaries. There's a crucial distinction between authenticity and self-harm. While expressing your true self is vital, it shouldn't come at the expense of your well-being or the well-being of others. So, who are you when social expectations are stripped away?

An individual free to define oneself beyond external labels and pressures. Someone who embraces the complexity and dynamism of one's personality, respects natural tendencies, and seeks authenticity in all aspects of life.

Isn't that great?

Unmask yourself from the pursuit of external validation and the obsession with fitting in. Embrace your authentic self, the one who thrives without pretense. This journey of self-discovery may be unconventional, but it's the path to a fulfilling and genuine life.

Many of us spend our lives denying our natural inclinations because societal norms often portray certain personality types as superior. This pressure to conform leads to inauthenticity and a sense of inadequacy.

Remember, there's no one-size-fits-all approach to human behavior. People from similar backgrounds can have vastly different personalities. There are no default settings.

-Aastha Motwani



# BALANCING STUDIES AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Maintaining a high CPI while being active in sports and cultural events can be challenging, but it is definitely achievable. The first step towards balancing your commitments is creating a daily and weekly schedule. Include time for studies, sports, and other activities in your daily timetable and stick to it as much as possible. Setting small, achievable goals for each week will help you stay on track and monitor your progress.

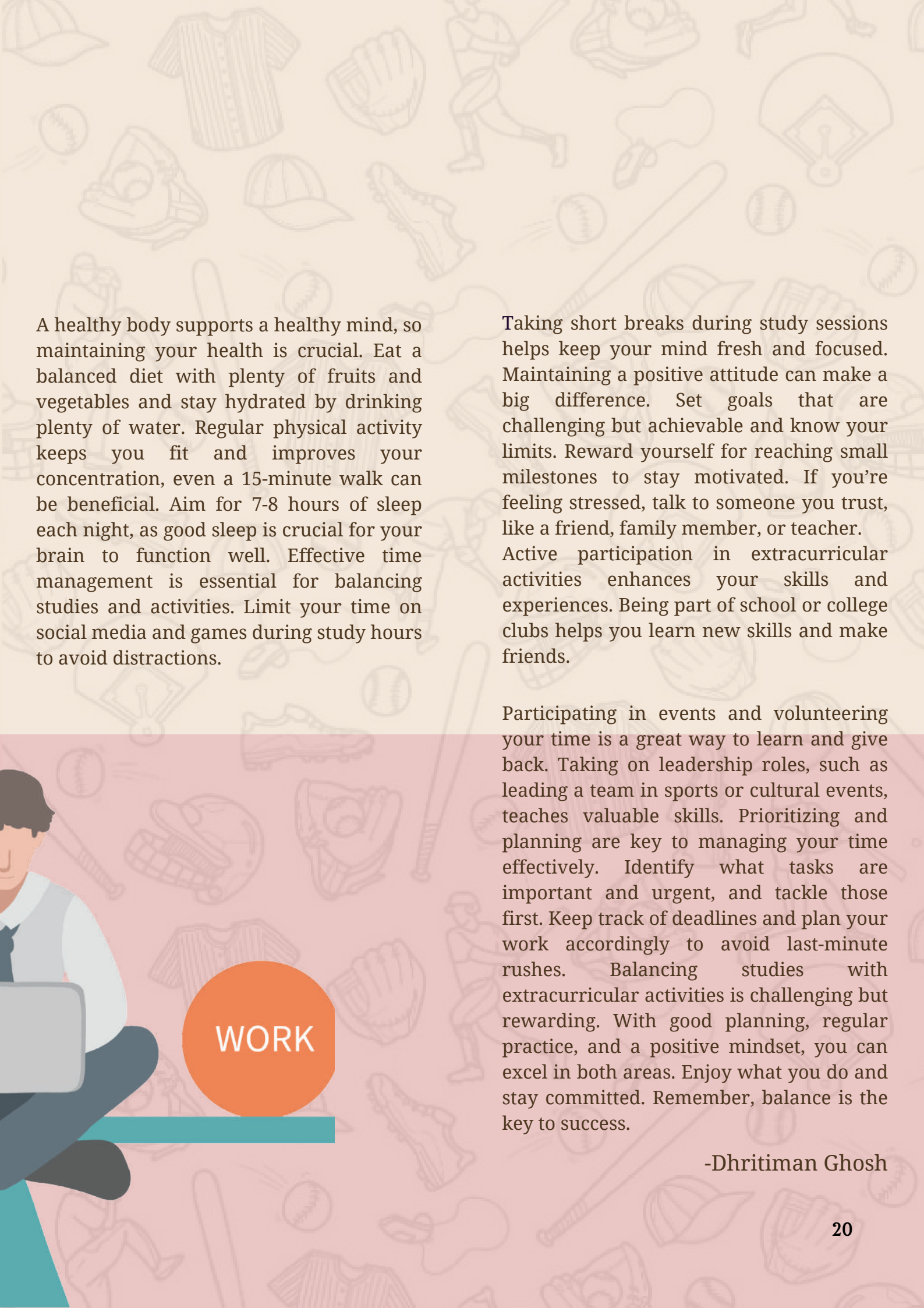
Extracurricular activities are equally important for your overall development. Pick activities that you enjoy and are passionate about, as it's easier to manage your time when you like what you're doing. Schedule specific times for practice and stick to them, ensuring these do not clash with your study time. Regular participation and commitment to your activities are key to excelling in them.

Your studies are important, so make sure you prioritize them. Go to all your classes and pay attention, as this makes understanding the material easier. Finish your homework and assignments on time and avoid procrastination. Study a little bit every day instead of cramming before exams, as this helps with long-term retention. If you're struggling with a subject, don't hesitate to ask your teachers or friends for help. As exams approach, ensure you start studying properly and with focus at least two weeks before the exams. Being in an engineering college, you already know how to handle pressure, and starting early can alleviate a lot of last-minute stress.



LIFE





A healthy body supports a healthy mind, so maintaining your health is crucial. Eat a balanced diet with plenty of fruits and vegetables and stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water. Regular physical activity keeps you fit and improves your concentration, even a 15-minute walk can be beneficial. Aim for 7-8 hours of sleep each night, as good sleep is crucial for your brain to function well. Effective time management is essential for balancing studies and activities. Limit your time on social media and games during study hours to avoid distractions.

Taking short breaks during study sessions helps keep your mind fresh and focused. Maintaining a positive attitude can make a big difference. Set goals that are challenging but achievable and know your limits. Reward yourself for reaching small milestones to stay motivated. If you're feeling stressed, talk to someone you trust, like a friend, family member, or teacher. Active participation in extracurricular activities enhances your skills and experiences. Being part of school or college clubs helps you learn new skills and make friends.

Participating in events and volunteering your time is a great way to learn and give back. Taking on leadership roles, such as leading a team in sports or cultural events, teaches valuable skills. Prioritizing and planning are key to managing your time effectively. Identify what tasks are important and urgent, and tackle those first. Keep track of deadlines and plan your work accordingly to avoid last-minute rushes. Balancing studies with extracurricular activities is challenging but rewarding. With good planning, regular practice, and a positive mindset, you can excel in both areas. Enjoy what you do and stay committed. Remember, balance is the key to success.

-Dhritiman Ghosh



WORK






# Shaping your experiences into suitcase of memories

Remember the times of studying hard for our JEE entrance exams, those crazy times of hard work and dreaming about the life we would get to live in college? As a fresher becomes a senior at IITRAM, they come to understand certain things. IITRAM is a growing institute that is more inclined towards research-oriented programs and has a broad spectrum of development, focusing not only on education but also on sports and culture. This spectrum helps students evolve and develop in their respective career fields. And in the midst of this growing process, students find ways of shaping their college experience into unforgettable memories for the rest of their lives.


At IITRAM, cultural, sports, and academic-based events play a crucial role. For a freshie, it may not seem very important, but from a senior's perspective, these events hold great significance. Such events provide a platform for students to showcase their talent and potential. As one showcases their potential, they step into the spotlight, leaving behind the obscurity of being just an audience member. Exposure in a young person's life is important because it can create opportunities to explore and shine.







Within this process, one learns while working with others. Teamwork in younger days of our life seems easy but as we proceed in our complex lives, it becomes a difficult task and for many it becomes a skill. At times, a team may have conflicts of ideas, different sets of priorities regarding work, and yes, some colleagues may drop out. But when a team overcomes such barriers, they emerge as better people. What better place and time to master this skill? It is none other than these events. As one acquires this skill of teamwork, they become leaders. The world out there needs leaders, and even if you are not one, you can always be a good teammate. In the end, when a team wins it is because of both leader and teammates.



Coming out, grouping ideas, teaming up with others, taking the lead, and engaging in healthy interaction not only help you become a better version of yourself for your life and career ahead but also fill your empty suitcase of memories that you once brought on your first day of college. As time passes, it becomes heavier, and on the last day, it will be the heaviest. But the weight of it will be worth it in every sense when you look back on your college days.

-Divya Pandor



# PURPOSE OF LIFE AND OTHER STUFF

"Ramesh is an undergrad. He toiled his way through JEE he toiled his way through boards. One might think he really wants to be an engineer. Whenever a friend or an elder asked him, "Beta bade hokar kya banoge?"(what will you do when you grow up?) He answered engineering just for the sake of answering. But he actually has no idea. He does not know what he wants, he has no idea what his 'true calling' is.

Schopenhauer said that a man can do what he wills but he cannot will what he wills. And Ramesh was scared. He thought "What if instead of a tree with roots I am a mere tumbleweed floating towards nowhere. What if I never know what my purpose is."

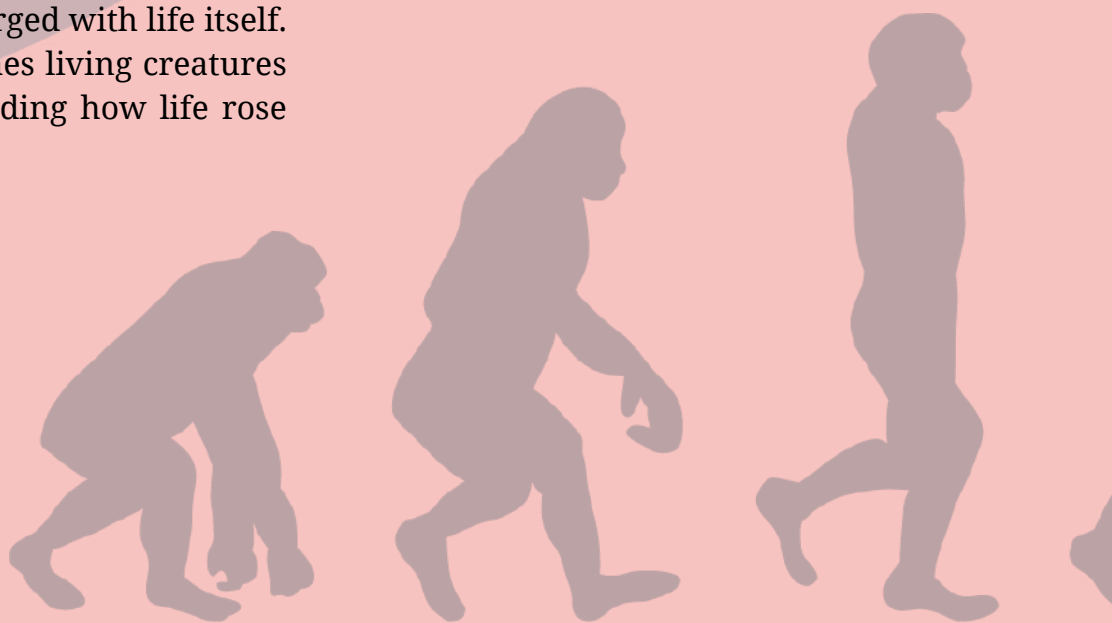
Ramesh might be right. He just might tumble around everywhere, with a sense of purposelessness in him that haunts him indefinitely. But is it the end of the world as we deem it to be? Is it so inherently bad to not have a purpose that conforms to societal norms?

The step our species took even before evolving into sentient conscious beings was to evolve into being driven by purpose. This drive emerged with life itself. It is a part of what defines living creatures and is key to understanding how life rose in the first place.

All living beings have an aim that they strive towards; primarily surviving and propagating their species, while dead things have no such drives.

## Withstanding Entropy

If we could see how exactly purpose and complex order emerged from a random universe entirely spontaneously it would be the biggest thing to have happened in the history of objective science since its inception. Things in the universe tend towards the state of disorder because of entropy. One of the earliest purposes living beings had (which they pulled off, evidently, quite excellently) was to temporarily resist this natural entropy. Although in today's modern world of comfort and convenience, simply surviving is not the end goal. Humans now try to find meaning and purpose in their jobs, in their family structures, in religion, god, and afterlife, and in their contribution to society.



## The Fulfillment Dilemma

Achieving one's purpose can be exhilarating but it then creates a paradoxical problem. When a long sought goal is achieved, many people experience a profound emptiness and the feeling of not knowing what to do. This is famously exemplified by Post-Olympic Depression, where athletes face a void after their peak has been achieved. A similar experience is felt by JEE aspirants after they join their college. They find out that they don't feel truly passionate about what they are doing which makes them question the reason of it all.

## Purposelessness – A Bliss?

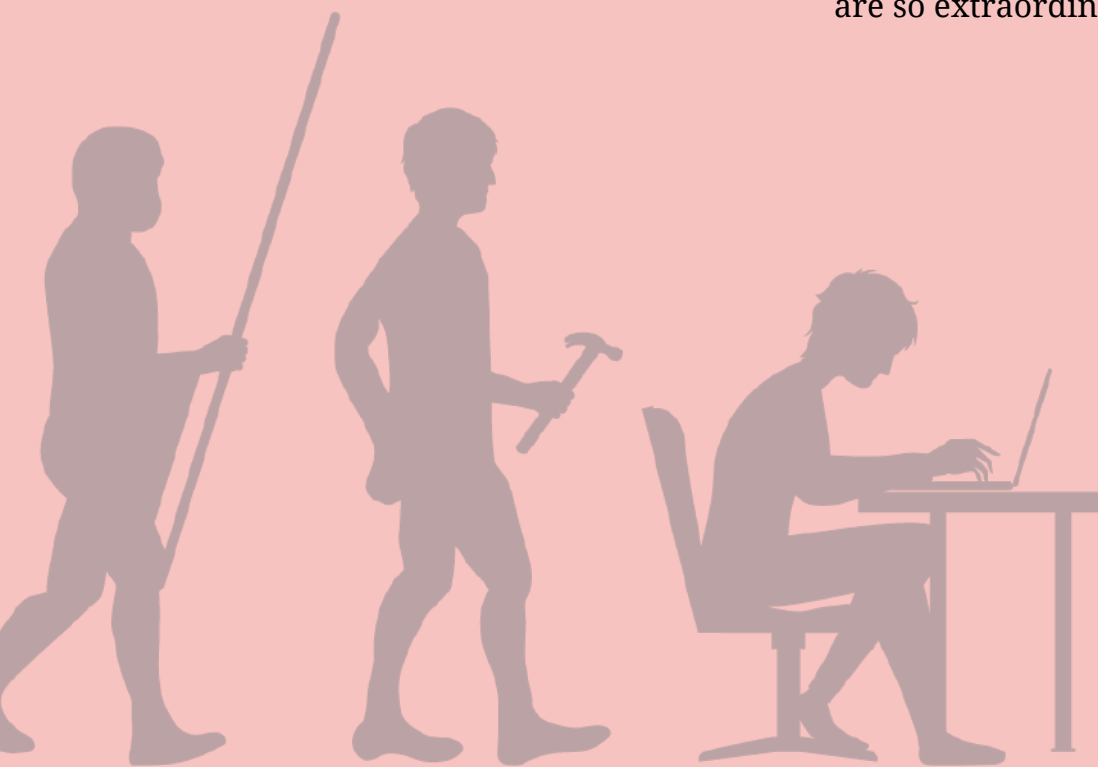
Contrary to popular belief, not having a rigid goal can offer unique advantages. It allows for an open engagement with life, one can explore diverse opportunities and paths leading to rich experiences. People often think they need to have a goal always, but sometimes (most of the time) it's just better to live a little.

## Alternative Perspectives on Purpose

Existentialists like Jean-Paul Sartre suggest that life inherently lacks meaning, and each individual is responsible for creating their own meaning. Theist approaches like eastern Taoism also have emphasized the idea of spontaneity and naturalness by living in harmony with Tao, the fundamental nature of the universe. This may lead to a sense of contentment, free from constant striving.

So the purpose of life is to wander around, not trying to find meaning? No. But it is okay to unwind, it is okay to not have an ultimate goal that you always strive towards. One should realise that in life, there are things that that won't serve you any purpose, yet they are worth your time. Explore those hills that you wanted to see since you were ten, go learn that musical instrument that you could not learn back in school, watch birds flying, rain falling, take a ride 50 kilometers away just to have that specific tea, do stuff. Because the chances for you to exist and to be able experience these things in the first place are so extraordinarily slim, it's ridiculous.

-Adityarajsinh Jadeja







# અમદાવાદ

## A Weekend Guide

Moving into college is a big leap in life. Calling the process bittersweet would be an understatement. The newly gained freedom is strapped with a lot of responsibilities. For the majority of us, this comes with stepping into a new city. This entire experience is very disparate for each one of us to just describe in words. There are no words for the range and depth of emotions one goes through. It is emotionally poignant to move away from friends and family and starting a new life at 18. However, this can be an opportunity for us to be a better version of ourselves and start all over again by learning from the past experiences. Along with the everyday curriculum of lectures and assignments,

exploring the city can be a very good way to let off some steam. So many unfamiliar streets and uncharted locations, waiting to be discovered. The bustling of fresh stimulus from all corners is always enlivening. It is like reliving the moments when we feel and enjoy things for the very first time. Luckily for us IITRAM students, the institute sits in a location with connectivity to most of Ahmedabad's public transport. And unluckily so, it is situated in a part of the city where nothing much happens. Although the vast network of rapid bus transit system (BRTS), metro and the Municipal Corporation bus service (AMTS) can be utilized to move through the city, and towards west on weekends.



In 2017, The historic walled city of Ahmedabad is listed as India's first UNESCO World Heritage city. The best way to feel and experience the historical richness of any place is by walking through its heritage. For this, the heritage walk designed by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation is the best pick. Another place to indulge in heritage is Manek Chowk. A bustling and rustic old marketplace that is a vegetable and spice market in morning, a bullion market in evenings and becomes a street food fest after midnight. Surrounded by many historical structures, this place gives you the flavour of Ahmedabad, quite literally so. The Hutheesing Jain Temple, Sidi Saiyyed Mosque and Bhadra Fort are further add-ons to experience the cultural diversity of Ahmedabad.

The Adalaj step well locally called as Adalaj ni vav was built by Queen Rudadevi in the 15th century. It was built to hold rain water and provide it during shortage. Built in sandstone, the well is five storeys deep and built on large number of pillars that are carved intricately. Each storey is spacious enough for people to congregate. This beautiful piece of historic architecture is connected to city by its own BRTS route.

The Sabarmati riverfront is one the most iconic places to visit in Ahmedabad. It is the go to place for youngsters due to its proximity, the river of course and the well developed gardens and walkways. It is sprawling with various activities like jogging and cycle tracks, biodiversity parks, sports facilities or just spending a leisure time in freshness. The best way to reach it is by boarding BRTS and taking a ticket to Ellis bridge stop from where the riverfront is just a small walk.

The Law Garden is a lush green garden in the heart of Ahmedabad. It is one of the most go to place for a relaxing evening in lap of nature. It also caters a unique shopping experience as the items sold in the street market here are handcrafted by local artisans. During the festival of Navratri, people dance through the night performing Garba, dressed in traditional Gujarati attire. It is one of the best places to shop Gujarati attire, with so many options, varieties and bargaining to do, it is a whole new experience. The street market also has a wide variety of food options which makes this an ideal place for a day off. Law Garden also has its own stop in BRTS route.





The Science city complex is a science city museum in Ahmedabad covering an area of 107 hectare. It has various sections like amphitheatre, hall of science, planet earth pavilion energy park, electrodome, robotics section and aquarium. It is not any other boring science museum with informative placards but rather has lots of interactive activities. It also houses the only IMAX theatre of Gujarat. Reaching here is very easy as BRTS provides a direct route to science city.

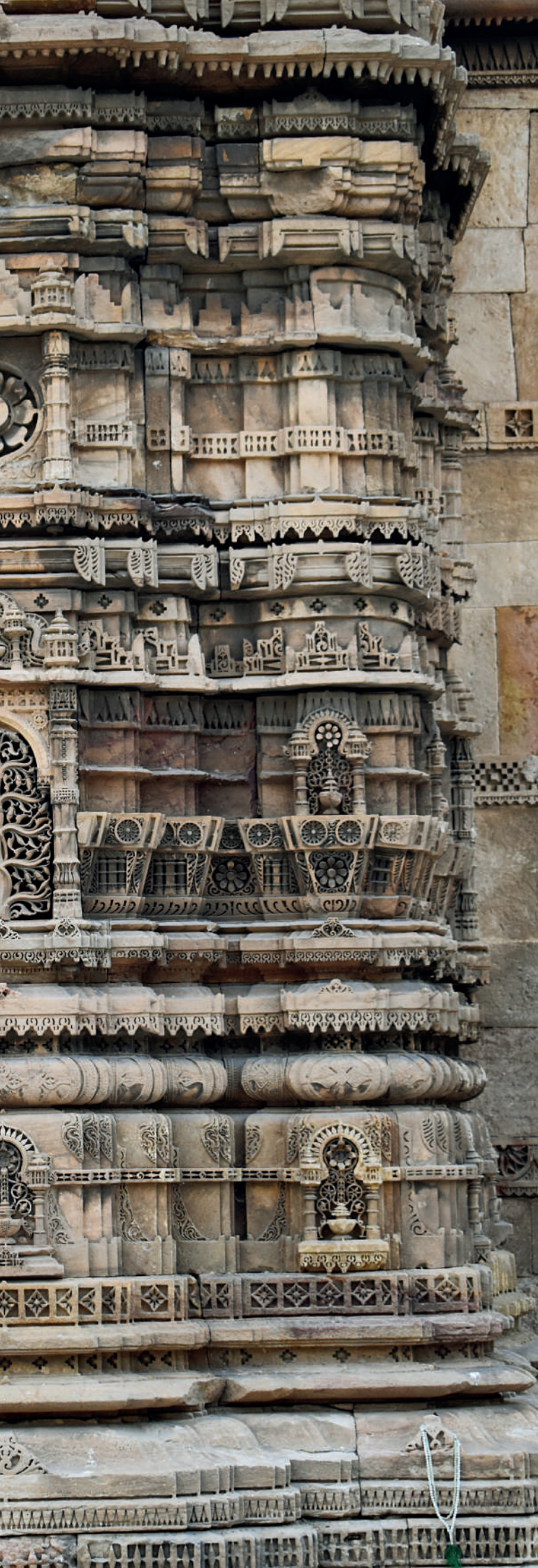
The SBR (Sindhu Bhawan road) and SG-highway (Thaltej to Iskon junction) are some places which host the night life of Ahmedabad. These are the most sought-after places when it comes to dining out. There are a variety of cafes, restaurants, shopping complexes, game zones, multiplex and many other activities to keep the evening engaging. Activities like gokarting, pickle ball, box cricket are also available on per hour basis. With all the fancy activities to do, this area is the entertainment centre of Ahmedabad. Metro has a direct route to Thaltej and BRTS has a direct route to Iskon junction thus connecting it to entire Ahmedabad.

Ahmedabad has a lot more to offer and experience than mentioned. The historical significance, cultural richness and culinary varieties all make Ahmedabad a unique amalgam like none other. From the intricate carvings of step walls to the bustling markets, every place resembles a story of Ahmedabad's illustrious past and dynamic present. The city's blend of tradition and modernity promises an unforgettable experience that one may cherish for lifetime.

-Ved Kolte







*Echoes of Expression:*

WRITTEN BY YOU



## WHEN THE REFLECTIONS SPEAK



### Canvas

I had a canvas.  
A blank one.  
But imagination  
Filled with crazy ones,  
I painted the night-sky  
With dazzling frames.  
As my mind was on  
It's highs of it,  
My hands poured  
My heart out on it  
As it was set to  
A blaze with those  
flames.

Fears creeping out  
from the sockets of  
My eyes  
I painted the flowers  
To bloom in the  
cold blazing night.

A chill went down  
My spine  
My body now  
shakes and aches  
As I shiver  
Looking at the painting  
I had painted.

I wrap around a shawl  
To succumb from  
The fear,  
As this rib cage  
Is protecting  
my Empty heart.

~Nivedita

Stop. Wait. Look in the mirror. What's that? Bags under the red eyes, appear swollen and bloodshot, the distant gaze, lost in thought, as if searching for answers or seeking clarity amidst the pain, skin that has lost the shine which was once very radiant. The lips tightly pressed together, as if trying to contain the overflow of emotions that continue to linger. The jawline intense tense, indicating the internal battle between wanting to move forward and feeling trapped in the complexities of the dilemma. If somebody who knew you through looked at you in this state, they'd see further beyond your sunken eyes and frowning face, searching for the innocent felicity that you always had, the liveliness. Where did that all go?

While I bring you to your conscious state, you are sprung back to old self where a happy jovial person would have stared back from the reflection. And you have lost track of time, once again you relive all those moments that shaped you into being what you have become today. The pixels of the memories swirl around you in an overwhelming whirlpool while you feel the urge to pull up the happy you back to where you are now and let thing stay that way: Everything is fine. A picture draws in your mind. You have those moments back, you have your comfort person back, you seem to be dancing to your favourite tunes. But the picture doesn't really win from the reality and fades away. That's the thing about human mind, it can take you to places that don't even seem to be existing anymore. You miss the bonds. You miss the sense of security, the yellow warmth of light you felt. These whirlpools come and go, making the eye bags even bigger while the lips curl further downwards.

But this time around, while you retrospect through the mirror, you realise that the person was not special, the place was not, the time was not. It was you. Surprises you a bit but it's all too evident for you to not realise it now. It was you. It had always been you. You were special. You made the person special; you made the place special, and the time couldn't have been more grateful to your speciality for having made that special too.

Even though those bonds, forged through countless moments of love and support, have shaped your understanding of connection and taught you the value of genuine relationships, but that shouldn't mean that you can put the person most important at stake, yourself. Some things are more important than the other things and you are the most important one and can't let these things wreck you from within, for its you who has been all along with the whole journey. And this time around you don't lose yourself to other things. The yellow light that always had been within starts radiating once again and for another great time, your mouth, marked by a downturned expression, now blossoms into a wide, genuine smile. The lips are curved upwards, radiating warmth and positivity. The smile reaches your eyes, illuminating



your entire face with happiness that captivates those around you. The jawline is relaxed, no longer tense from the battles of the past.

In this state of being, your old self beams with energy. You emanate an aura of joy and playfulness, drawing others towards you like moths to a flame. As you embrace your old self, you radiate gratitude and appreciation for the journey you've travelled. The lessons learned from past experiences have shaped you into the resilient individual you are today. With each step forward, you carry the wisdom gained from your previous dilemmas, using them as steppingstones towards a brighter and more fulfilling future. Even in the face of adversity, there is always a glimmer of light waiting to be rediscovered. By embracing your true self, you become a beacon of hope and inspiration, spreading positivity and warmth to everyone you encounter.

As you move forward with a heart full of joy, remember the strength and resilience that reside within you. Cherish the timeless treasures of memories of your old self, for they hold the key to unlocking a future filled with endless possibilities and happiness. Step forward with a renewed sense of reason, and let your vibrant spirit illuminate the world.

~ Pihu Saharan

I am a sailor  
Zooming through the stars  
My starship is my saviour  
The chassis bears many scars

Destination non-existent  
My ship grazing a star's fire  
My legacy is a remnant  
of a great ancient empire

I thought, "What am I doing here?  
Floating aimlessly amidst the  
stars?"

"In this great milky river,  
My existence resembles a pebble  
from afar."

I am a sailor  
Exploring the abyss  
My starship is my saviour  
Purposelessness a bliss.

~Adityarajsinh Jadeja

## Drown in Dark

I will be your light when you will drench in dark  
When nothing will shine, I will be your spark.  
With the thirst for your love, I have come so far.  
All I need is your love, come and save this falling star!  
When I think of departing from you, my heart screams and aches in pain  
Take all my screams and all my pain, now  
kiss me in the heavy rain.  
With the thread of love, now tie me to yourself -  
Tangle me with innocence and with purity drown me like kelp.  
I don't want to find my comfort in you, I want to find my escape  
Such an escape which will let me breathe and find your soul's nape!  
Listen closely now, you will find my breath written in your name -  
Such a love letter in human form you are which makes me forget about all  
greed and fame.  
Those eyes drawn with poetry and soul with innocence -  
Give me a touch of hope and I promise to  
give all the essence.  
The universe is waiting now, mix your soul with mine  
Hence-I say, when you will drown in dark, I will help you shine.

~ Dhritiman Ghosh



# Are We Happier Than Our Ancestors?

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**“We live longer than our forefathers, but we suffer from a thousand artificial anxieties and cares. They fatigued only the muscles; we exhaust the finer strength of the nerves.” ~E.A.J. George**

Are we happier than our ancestors? Before entering into this heated discussion, we need to correct our definition of happiness. We need to understand that “happiness” and “pleasure” should not be confused; they are dissimilar terms that are often used interchangeably, which is not correct. Let us go through the longest study on happiness conducted by Harvard. In that study, when the young adults were asked what they wanted to become and what would make them happy and content, nearly 80% of them reported that they wanted to get rich; on the other hand nearly 50% reported that being famous would make them happy. These studies report that in many Western countries like the US, a continuous decrease is observed in happiness levels, with the countries becoming wealthier over time. The same young adults when examined at their elderly ages, the study reveals that neither being rich nor being famous made them happy or satisfied. \$75000 is the average yearly household income where the happiness levels according to the reports were at the peak - when all the basic needs of life could be met. Above that income level, there was no significant change in happiness levels. The happiness level of a person with \$75000 and another with an income of \$75 Million were nearly the same.

Today's world is filled with baits and all these short-term pleasures will never give us true mental satisfaction. Today's Era is filled with egocentrism, anxiety, worry, fear, insecurity, war and all the rest of it. Our ancestors, though they lead a simple life, but a happier one than ours. Statistics from various reports such as the World Happiness Report 2018 have shown a steep rise in the rates of mental illnesses such as depression, anxiety, and stress-related disorders. Moreover, this unhealthy attitude towards mental health has directly resulted in even worse physical health statistics. It has become crystal clear that as the cog of time moves forward, we aren't becoming any happier or more satisfied with our lives.

The feeling of mutual love, understanding and bonding with one another, helping each other out, and being useful is what makes a human happy. One realises this as one matures. As we mature, being rich or famous doesn't make us happy or content. What matters to one at that age is- “Was there any use of my birth in this World ? Did I make someone else's life brighter?”

Now, I will leave it to you... I have done my part, what do You Think? Are we happier than our Ancestors? Let me tell you, nobody is wrong on this, so you should feel free to tell your opinions. It all depends on what according to you, makes a human happy, and that varies from person to person, as people have different perspectives.

~M. Adhitya





## A piece of paper

People say that a single sheet of paper cannot decide their future. But is it true for all? I disagree. Ask the value of that sheet of paper to that student who had a backlog in just one semester and he is straight away discarded from the job process or is not able to apply without even being evaluated for his talent. Ask the value of grades to that person, who has just scored less than required and he is not able to enter the process, in spite of being extremely talented. Ask the value of one examination to that person, who is academically sound and for some reason he could not clear that entrance examination, which diminished all his chances for even applying to reputed colleges or organisations. In fact, most of the candidates aspiring for jobs are decided by a single sheet of paper, a résumé, regardless of the candidate's technical prowess or talent in their domain. Is it not possible that someone who appears highly competent on paper may not be as capable in real life, while someone with lower academic marks might be innovative and talented in other areas?

~Manan Shah

(PhD Scholar - Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, IITRAM)  
(JRF - Centre of Advanced Defence Technology- IITRAM)

## FORMULA 1

Formula 1, or F1 for short, might seem like just fast cars zooming around a track, but there's a lot more going on behind the scenes. Since it kicked off in 1950, this sport has taught us plenty—yes, even you, the one who thinks “speed” means grabbing a snack between classes.

### Racing Around the World

F1 isn't just about the cars; it's like an international road trip, but with fewer bathroom breaks, a slightly higher speed and way more excitement. Each race, called a Grand Prix, takes place in different countries. Think of it like the time you traveled for a college event—only instead of presentations, there are engines roaring and crowds cheering.

### Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

You might think driving is a solo sport, but in F1, it's all about the team. Every driver has a crew of mechanics, strategists, and engineers working hard behind the scenes. It's like your study group: if one person doesn't do their part, the whole thing can fall apart. So, the next time you're frustrated with your group project, just remember: if F1 teams can make it work at 200 mph, you can survive your next assignment!

### Strategy Under Pressure

In F1, strategy is key. Should a driver pit now or wait a few laps? Should they switch tires? These decisions can change the outcome of a race in a heartbeat. It's a lot like deciding whether to pull an all-nighter before a big exam. So, when you're faced with a tough choice, channel your inner race strategist. Just maybe don't take the same risks when it comes to your grades!

### Safety First

F1 has made huge strides in safety, thanks to people like Sir Jackie Stewart, who pushed for better measures. The cars have advanced so much that drivers are now protected better than ever. It's a good reminder that safety is important, whether you're on the track or just trying to navigate campus life. Remember to look out for yourself and your friends!

### Conclusion: Life in the Fast Lane

In the end, Formula 1 is more than just a sport; it's a lesson in teamwork, strategy, and innovation. So, next time you watch a race, think about what it teaches us about working together and making smart choices. Life can be a bit of a race sometimes, and we all have our own laps to complete. Buckle up; it's going to be an exciting year ahead!





# Romanticising Ahmedabad: The Heritage City

Ahmedabad, the largest city in Gujarat, lies in the eastern part of the state and has been flourishing since 1411 on the banks of the Sabarmati River. This mesmerizing city is like that energetic friend who can't stop chatting—always bustling with life and stories! Its dynastic history makes it a meeting place of Hindu, Muslim, and Jain architectural traditions. With its thriving cotton textile industries, the city earned the nickname 'Manchester of the West'—but don't worry, we still have more spice in our lives!

Ahmedabad became India's first UNESCO World Heritage City, boasting 28 monuments listed by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and 2,696 important buildings protected by the Heritage Department at the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC). That's a lot of heritage to soak in, folks!

You'll be introduced to a wonderfully diverse culture here. The pols of Ahmedabad are like alive museums, giving you a taste of the city's 600-year-old history and traditions still practiced today. Strolling through these narrow lanes feels like stepping back in time, with a homely vibe that's hard to resist.

Don't miss the Nagardevi Bhadrakali Mata Temple, a serene religious landmark nestled within Bhadra Fort. It's a peaceful escape from the city's hustle and bustle, where you can catch your breath and recharge. The Adalaj ni Vav and Hutheesingh Temple are also historical highlights that showcase Ahmedabad's rich past. While the old city proudly flaunts its cultural heritage, the residents have also embraced modernity. The city beautifully blends its old attractions with contemporary life. You'll see high-rise buildings that are as trendy as the latest fashion, making it clear that Ahmedabad is keeping up with the times.

Speaking of trends, the Sabarmati Riverfront is the perfect example of urban development. This riverfront isn't just a pretty face; it serves as a hotspot for recreational activities, sports facilities, and green parks. Whether you're out for a morning walk or a leisurely cycle ride, you'll find locals enjoying the fresh air and scenic views.

And let's talk about food—oh, the food here! You'll never go hungry in this city. For delicious street food, head to Manek Chowk, Law Garden, or HL College Road. These places are treasure troves of flavors, offering everything from sandwiches to sweets that won't break the bank. Manek Chowk, in particular, is a gem that transforms from a jewelry hub by day to a bustling street food paradise by night.

If you're looking for a fine dining experience, places like Tinello, Agashiye, and Patang Re-evolve are perfect for treating yourself. If you're feeling fancy, head to Patang, the revolving restaurant. Eating there is like dining on top of the world—literally! You get a 360-degree view of the city while indulging in the cuisines. Talk about dining with a view!

When it comes to shopping, Ahmedabad has got you covered! Lal Darwaja and Law Garden are great spots for affordable finds. From handicrafts, jhumkas to trendy clothes, you'll lose track of time browsing through stalls selling colorful chaniya-cholis and accessories. Whether you're window shopping or hunting for a unique treasure, you'll find it all here.

Festivals in Ahmedabad are celebrated with unmatched enthusiasm. Navratri, the most prominent festival, turns the city into a vibrant dance floor, with everyone dressed in stunning traditional attire. Last year, Navratri was celebrated at the AMC hostel for the 10th Foundation Day of IITRAM—talk about a festive spirit! Diwali and Uttarayan also light up the city with joy, and there are several cultural events like the International Kite Festival and the Ahmedabad Heritage Festival that you won't want to miss.


In the entrepreneurial realm, Ahmedabad is a powerhouse. The city is home to numerous successful businesses and startups, reflecting a dynamic spirit that can inspire anyone looking to make their mark. With a rich business culture, this city is the perfect launching pad for aspiring entrepreneurs. And for sports fans, the Narendra Modi Stadium is a must-see. As the largest stadium in the world, it's the home ground for the Indian national cricket team and has hosted unforgettable matches, including last year's World Cup showdown between India and Pakistan.

There's nothing quite like the thrill of cheering for your team in this electrifying atmosphere! Ahmedabad also has a rich tradition of arts, including embroidery, mirror work, baandhani textiles, and block printing. You can witness the skilled artisans at work, creating beautiful handicrafts like pottery and metalwork that reflect the city's artistic soul.

Whether you're exploring historical sites, diving into cultural experiences, or indulging in mouth-watering cuisine, there's always something delightful in the vibrant city of Ahmedabad. But let's be honest—this city is like a giant treasure chest, and you can't just learn about it from an article! It's like trying to explain the taste of a delicious samosa without letting someone take a bite—just doesn't work!

So, make it a point to explore Ahmedabad. Sure, studying is important, but nothing beats wandering through the bustling markets, dancing during Navratri, or sampling street food that could make your taste buds throw a party! And remember, as the legendary Amitabh Bachchan puts it, "Kuch din to guzaro Gujarat mein!" In addition to that, we have a bonus as we have little more than the 'kuch din' uttered by him. So, pack your bags and get ready for an adventure—because in Ahmedabad, the only thing you'll regret is not staying longer! The time you will exit Ahmedabad, your heart will start its cry and your ears will only hear, "Abhi na jao chhod kar, ke dil abhi bhara nahi!"

~Suhani Brahmbhatt



## *for the love of our unconditional Friendship...*

You and I make a perfect pair,  
When we are together, I will never be in despair.  
I have always loved you, and I always will,  
My dear friend, our friendship is like a bag full of thrills!!

I still remember the day I met you, my dear,  
O Its still so fresh in my mind, my eyes fill with tears.  
Like two peas in a pod, like birds of a feather,  
We are indeed inseparable and will remain together.

O thank you O thank you for lifting me up,  
When I'm feeling down.  
And putting a smile on my face,  
When I'm wearing a frown.

Your friendship means a lot to me dear,  
I'm glad you are here.  
We indeed make a perfect pair,  
When we are together, I would never be in despair.

~M. Adhitya



# KNOW OUR INDIA: DARJEELING

## भावनाएं

दिल की गहराईयों में छुपी बातें,  
अनकही, अदृश्य सी रातें।  
भावनाओं का बहता प्रवाह,  
कभी थमता नहीं, हमेशा सजीव।

खुशियों की चमकती रोशनी,  
दुख की स्थिर गहराई।  
हर अहसास की अपनी पहचान,  
मन के अंदर एक अद्भुत जहान।

प्यार का मीठा रस,  
विरह का दर्द भरा सफर।  
हर भाव की गहराई में,  
जीवन का अनमोल अनुभव।

हँसी के पल, खुशी की धार,  
आंसू की बूंदें, चुप्पी का संसार।  
हर धड़कन की सच्चाई,  
भावनाओं का विस्तृत आकाश।

भावनाओं की अनंत गहराई में,  
हर अनुभव, हर स्पर्श, एक नई कहानी।  
जीवन का मर्म, हर भाव का इजहार,  
सच्चे दिल से, सरल और साफ।

मन की आवाज, दिल की पुकार,  
शब्दों से परे, भावना का संसार।  
जीवन का असली रूप,  
उसका इजहार।

- सचिन शर्मा

When you arrive at this place, you'll immediately be greeted by a unique sound. And who knows, as you stand there, the train might just begin its journey alongside you. Somewhere in the distance, you'll catch a glimpse of India's highest peak peeking through the mountain's summit. And if the smell of tea fills the air along the way, then you know you've reached Darjeeling, the most enchanting place in West Bengal.

Nestled at a height of 6700 feet, Darjeeling resides amidst the stunning Eastern Himalayas. What sets it apart is the presence of trains chugging through these lofty terrains. In fact, Darjeeling boasts India's highest railway station, a marvel in itself. Imagine, even at such altitudes, steam engines power these toy trains, a nostalgic throwback.

The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway showcases vintage steam engines, some dating back over a century. As they traverse through, you'll marvel at their narrow tracks, earning them the endearing nickname of "toy trains." It's a journey that captivates both young and old alike, offering unparalleled scenic beauty. Exploring Darjeeling, you'll encounter a rich tapestry of history, with many heritage buildings still standing tall.

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Despite its age, the steam engine pulls new 'Vista Dome' coaches, offering panoramic views from every angle. The journey loops from Darjeeling to Ghum station, overcoming steep gradients with the Batasia Loop's ingenious design. Passing through Darjeeling's streets, the train weaves past houses and markets, a testament to the locals' resilience. Darjeeling's history intertwines with tea, introduced during British colonial rule. The region's favourable climate and altitude birthed exceptional tea varieties, earning global renown. Today, Darjeeling tea remains a hallmark of quality, with prized variants fetching hefty prices. Out of many journeys one such journey will lead you to Kanchenjunga, India's highest peak, a sight to behold on clear mornings. Its majestic presence, resembling a sleeping Buddha, evokes a sense of wonder. Darjeeling isn't merely a city; it's a collection of diverse experiences. Here, modernity coexists harmoniously with tradition. It's a world in itself, offering a display of sights, sounds, and sensations—an experience that goes beyond mere description.

~ Sachin Sharma



**The moon is up in the sky  
Beautiful and stunning but  
Night is frightened coz  
Sky witnessed the bloodshed  
There on the land !  
But you, my foolish little brother  
Do not be afraid coz  
Sooner sun will rise there in East  
Sooner a dawn will arrive.  
And night will go away  
Engulfing me for the bloodshed  
The sky witnessed.  
For the cries i ignored.  
For the love of my life  
I failed to protect.  
But I'll accept my fate of  
Utter sadness and pain happily  
If and only if you promised  
To believe that for sure a dawn will arrive  
And you'll live happily, safe and sound !**

This poem is an imagined version of unspoken things Itachi must have in his mind for his brother while leaving him all alone at a very young age. It is setup in the universe of a well known anime : Naruto.

- Divya Pandor

## अधूरा स्वपन/पूरा ख्वाब

इक कुरबत सी थी उनसे  
नसीब से उन्हे भी  
फिर उनसे मोहब्बत ही हो गई  
नसीब से उन्हे भी

शून्यता का इक भाव अदृश्य सा हो गया  
प्रेमपंथी मैं अपने ही मन का शिष्य सा हो गया  
उनके माथे की बिंदिया ने  
उस चाँद को फीका कर दिया  
मकान को मेरे घर बना दिया  
अपनी दुआओं में मेरा नाम सजा लिया

खुशी ये मेरी चंद पलों की ही थी  
ज्यादा टिकी ही नहीं  
जिंदगी को इक ख्वाब बेचना था  
बिक सका ही नहीं

मेरा सुंदर सपना टूट गया  
खुशफैम वो बच्चा रुठ गया  
रूठा सा वो बच्चा फिर भी न टूटा  
मुस्काराना मेरा फिर भी न छूटा  
अधूरी सी जिंदगी मेरी  
इक ख्वाब मे पूरी हो गई

जो सब पा लिया  
तो आस किस की करोगे  
जिसे चाहो, वो मिल जाए  
तो याद किसे करोगे

उनकी तलाश में हम इतना मशरूफ हुए  
कि वक्त का तकाजा ही न हुआ  
फिर वक्त ही पूछ बैठा  
तुम मुझे क्यों नहीं  
वो तुम्हारे पीछे से, तुम्हे देखते-देखते गुजर गई  
तुम मुझे तो सही!

-अज्ञात कौशिकेय

# FINANCIAL LITERACY IN INDIA : A CRITICAL NEED FOR EDUCATION REFORM

As of 2019, 18,830 crore rupees of assets remain unclaimed in Indian banks. These are assets of people who have not claimed their money for more than 10 years. Some of them may be deceased, and some may have no inheritors.

A survey found that most people save up or build assets if they can, even in retirement. For what? For unforeseen costs, legacy, fear of running out of money, and feeling secure. Twenty percent said they didn't want to spend money even in retirement because money once spent cannot be recovered. But why earn money if you cannot spend it?

In India, 75% of the population is literate, but only 24% of the adult population is financially literate. This means only 24% of the adult population understands the fundamentals of saving, investing, debt, and budgeting. Fifty percent of Indians save between 0% and 20% of their earnings or salary. Then, there are Indians with unclaimed money in banks because of excessive saving. We are either overspending or oversaving. We don't know how to handle our money better. Why is that?

In class 8th, we are taught how to calculate cost price and selling price, and how to calculate simple and compound interest. This sums up our financial literacy. We are taught the calculations but not the applications. We are not taught how to make decisions in money matters. We make money-related decisions every day, but how often do we need trigonometry or the value of  $x$ ?


Financial Literacy in India  
(Source: National Centre for Financial Education Report, 2015)

- Gujarat – 33%
- Delhi – 32%
- Karnataka – 25%
- India (Overall) – 24%
- Haryana – 21%
- West Bengal – 21%
- Assam – 20%
- Maharashtra – 17%
- Jharkhand – 15%
- Punjab – 13%
- Arunachal Pradesh – 10%
- Bihar – 8%
- Sikkim – 8%
- Nagaland – 8%
- Chhattisgarh – 4%

Data for BRICS Countries  
(Source: ConferenceWorld)

- India – 24%
- China – 28%
- Russia – 38%
- Brazil – 35%
- South Africa – 42%

BRICS countries are a mess when it comes to financial literacy



Developed Countries Aren't  
Much Better Off  
(Source: Forbes)

38% of US households have  
credit card debts.  
33% of American adults have  
saved 0 dollars for retirement.



The lack of financial literacy is a global problem. Most of us turn to friends or that one Mamaji or Fufaji for personal financial tips. Many of us don't even know a person who understands finance. The solution lies in our classrooms. There should be lectures and discussions on how to manage personal expenses embedded in the school curriculum. Today, parents take high-interest loans for higher education for their children. In Western countries, students themselves take loans and spend much of their salary repaying the debt. They fail to save. They take up credit cards to meet their expenses and get trapped in a vicious cycle of borrowing and paying off. Today, the concept of budgeting is alien to many millennials and even older people.

A survey found that 72% of Indians are unaware of how much money to put aside or invest to achieve financial freedom. Seventy-six percent of Indians agree there's a need for more financial education. Fifty-one percent of Indian millennials say their level of personal finance knowledge is holding them back from making progress. Financial literacy can help in making that progress. It helps in maintaining a healthy credit score. Nowadays, a good credit score is important to take loans or even rent an apartment. Recruiters take credit score into account too.

Financial literacy can also improve one's standard of living. It can teach you to make smart investment decisions without being too economical. You can save enough money without being needlessly frugal. The key to life is not saving aimlessly but making smart investments.

#### Financial Experts Have Some Suggestions:

- Start investing early
- Diversify your portfolio
- Divide your goals into short-term (a vacation or a new fridge) and long-term (retirement and a house on the hills)

This is just the tip of financial literacy. It is a subject we all must delve into. Governments around the globe have understood the importance of this issue. Twenty-one states in the US have made financial literacy compulsory, Florida being the latest. In Australia, financial education has been embedded in the school curriculum. Russia has introduced financial education programs for classes 2 to 11. Two countries which take too much pride in their educational systems, India and the UK, are yet to take mandatory steps to address financial illiteracy.

There is a misconception among people about what finance is. For many, finance is nothing but accounting. Finance consists of budgeting (personal budgeting as well), saving, investing, etc.

-Tarang Lotwala



#### What Can You Do?

You can go online; there are many courses on the fundamentals of finance. Many are free, and some are paid. You can refer to books and listen to podcasts. Maximize your savings by not undermining your dreams today.



# Unleashing the Benefits of Veganism

What's veganism anyway? It's a way of life that seeks to abstain as much as possible from the use of animal products. Vegans don't eat animal-derived foods such as meat, milk, and dairy. Many even boycott clothing and other products that involve animal exploitation, such as leather and fur.

The term "vegan" was coined by British animal rights activist Donald Watson in the 1940s. "Vegan" describes the philosophy that animals should not be exploited and hurt for food or other purposes. Why should we try veganism? While the decision to adopt a vegan lifestyle is often driven by ethical concerns about animal welfare, it also brings forth numerous benefits for the environment and personal well-being. Currently, the top three reasons that make people choose veganism are improving their health, saving animal lives, and helping the planet.

Let's first shed light on the health benefits of veganism. A vegan diet can reduce blood pressure levels and lower cholesterol. Recent studies have found that a plant-based diet can reduce your chances of developing certain cancers and type 2 diabetes. On a vegan diet, vegans' metabolisms burn calories 16% faster on average than the metabolisms of meat-eaters. A vegan diet is low in saturated fat and cholesterol, which are two major risk factors for heart disease. Studies have shown that vegans have a lower risk of heart disease than meat eaters. Not only is vegan food delicious and diverse, but it can also provide complete protein when taken correctly.

"Many clients tell me they are surprised by how easy it was to lose weight once they transitioned to a fully plant-based diet," Jennifer Mimkha, RD, registered dietitian and owner of Prana Nutrition, told Health.

Going vegan also has the potential to promote healthier skin. Veganism is great for the environment, too! Our planet is heating up.



Livestock and their byproducts are accountable for around 15% of all greenhouse gas emissions worldwide. By eating vegan food for a year, you could save the same amount of emissions as a family taking a small car off the road for six months. You might not be able to stop using your car in day-to-day life, but you can choose vegetarian food.

As the global population continues to grow, the demand for food resources becomes increasingly challenging to meet sustainably. More agricultural land is used to raise cattle than all other domesticated animals and crops combined. rainforest destruction. A vegan diet requires two-and-a-half times less land to grow food compared to a meat-based diet. And as a result, animal agriculture is responsible for up to 91% of the destruction of the Amazon rainforest. Research shows that we could feed an additional 4 billion humans if we grew our crops directly for human consumption rather than feeding the crops to farmed animals and then consuming them. Which means Veganism can contribute to a solution to world hunger!

A chicken breast takes over 735 liters of water to produce, which could fill up your bathtub 4.6 times. 2,500 gallons of water are needed to produce 1 pound of beef. Not only this, but veganism can save our oceans too. Animal agriculture causes ocean dead zones due to overfishing, pollution, and climate change, which are ruining marine ecosystems. Scientists expect fishless oceans by 2048 unless we change the animal food industries and their practices. You can save lives! Most farmed animals spend their whole lives confined to factory farms. Around the world, over 150 million farmed animals are killed each day. By adapting veganism, you can spare 30 animal lives every year. It is so easy to help the planet; by eating a plant-based diet, you will be living a much more sustainable life.

-Ankita Sewada





# PIANO MAN

"IT'S NINE O' CLOCK ON A SATURDAY...." HE SANG,

"THERE'S AN OLD MAN SITTING NEXT TO ME....."

A FLUENT, BEAUTIFUL MELODY WAS SUNG BY THE HARMONICA.

"SON CAN YOU PLAY ME A MEMORY, I'M NOT REALLY SURE HOW IT GOES....."

BILL WORE A DUSTY BLACK COAT AND RUGGED PANTS. HIS FINGERS DANCED ON THE PIANO KEYS. HE DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO THINK BEFORE PLACING THEM. A LITTLE SCAR ON HIS LEFT EYEBROW WAS EFFORTLESSLY VISIBLE.

HIS BEER BREATH ENTERED THE MIC, "SING US A SONG, YOU'RE THE PIANO MAN...", AS HE STARED INTO THE DISTANCE.

HE GOT UP AFTER FINISHING AND WENT TO JOHN AT THE BAR. FAT, WITH VISIBLE PATCHES ON HIS HEAD, JOHN HADN'T BEEN AT THE BEST OF HIS HEALTH.

"HEY JOHN, HOW WAS TODAY? I'LL HAVE THE USUAL."

"NOTHIN' TO WRITE HOME ABOUT. AS IT ALWAYS IS." JOHN SAID, AS HE POURED BILL HIS DRINK. "SAY BILL, DON'T YOU GET TIRED OF SINGING THIS SONG EVERY TIME?"

"DON'T YOU GET TIRED OF POURING ME A DOUBLE BOURBON EVERY TIME? OR THESE PEOPLE THEIR DRINKS?" BILL REPLIED.

"OR PAUL, WRITING STILL ABOUT REAL ESTATE?" JOHN ADDED, AND THEY SHARED A CHUCKLE AS BILL GLANCED OVER TO PAUL, ACROSS THE BAR ROOM, ENGAGED IN A CONVERSATION WITH DAVEY.

BILL AND JOHN WENT BACK A LONGTIME. JOHN KNEW BILL WAS A BROKEN MAN. THE SHELL OF A SINGING, DANCING, JOLLY, GLEEFUL MAN, WHO HAD A LOT OF AMBITIONS, WHO NO LONGER WAS. BILL DRANK. THEN LEFT.

SNOWFLAKES FELL AND SUCCUMBED ON BILL'S SHOULDERS AS HE RETRACED HIS FOOTSTEPS BACK TO HIS APARTMENT. ON THE WAY, HE TOOK A STOP AT THE LIQUOR STORE, AS HE SOMETIMES DID ON A MELLOW NIGHTFALL. HE TOOK HIS BOTTLE OF BOURBON AND RESUMED.

BILL HAD ONCE BEEN A RISING STAR. A COUPLE OF HIT SINGLES. EVEN APPEARED ON A COUPLE OF RADIO TALK SHOWS. HAD MARRIED HIS CHILDHOOD SWEETHEART, JENNY. INFACT, THEY HAD MET EACH OTHER AGAIN AT THIS VERY STORE, YEARS AFTER JENNY HAD MOVED OUT OF STATE. JENNY AND HE, WHILE THEY WOULD BICKER EVERY NOW AND THEN, HAD A BEAUTIFUL LIFE TOGETHER. JENNY WOULD WORK THE RECEPTION, AND BILL GO OFF TO HIS JOB. IN THE EVENINGS THEY WOULD SING. BILL WOULD ALWAYS BE AT THE PIANO, COMING UP WITH NEW STUFF, AND JENNY WOULD PREPARE FOR THEM THE DINNER, AS SHE DANCED TO THE RHYTHM. BARNEY WOULD JUST WAG HIS TAIL, AND HOWL ALONG WHEN BILL SANG THE FALSETTOS. THOSE THREE WERE ALL EACH OTHER HAD EVER WANTED, AND ALL THEY COULD'VE WISHED FOR. NOW ONLY TWO OF THOSE THREE REMAINED.

OSWALD THE TRAMP, TUGGED AT HIS PANTS. BILL TURNED AND STARED DOWN AT HIM. BILL GAVE HIM SOME SPARE. OSWALD STARED STILL. BILL DRANK WITH HIM.

HAVING RETURNED FROM THE OFFICE, BILL GOT TO THE BAR. THERE WAS SOME COMMOTION; PEOPLE CROWDED THE BAR WITH NO ONE TO TEND TO THEM. BILL COULDN'T SPOT JOHN. WAS HE SICK? DID HE GO OUT? HE WOULDN'T JUST LEAVE HIS BAR UNATTENDED LIKE THAT! MAYBE HE WAS AT THE BACK OFFICE. HAVING HUNG HIS COAT AND FEDORA, BILL MADE HIS WAY ACROSS THE HALL AND TO THE BACK OFFICE.

A SOFT CHATTER ENTERED HIS EARS AS HE GREW CLOSER. TWO VOICES. HE PUSHED AGAINST THE DOOR AND FOUND JOHN AND KURT, ENGAGED IN A CONVERSATION. BILL HAD MET KURT BEFORE, A LONG TIME AGO. JOHN'S NEPHEW. "YOU RAN AWAY AGAIN?" BILL ASKED WITH A FAINT GRIN.

THE THREE OF THEM CLOSED UP EARLY AND LEFT FOR A WALK BY THE PIER. BILL AND JOHN OFTEN WENT UP TO THE PIER WHEN THEY WERE YOUNG. THEIR EYES USED TO LIGHT UP WHEN THEY SAW THOSE STALLS WITH FLASHING LIGHTS AND TOYS. JOHN WAS ALWAYS ENCHANTED BY THE MIME PERFORMING HIS ROUTINE AND WOULD ENACT OUT HIS OWN ROUTINES IN FRONT OF BILL AND COUPLE OF OTHER FRIENDS. THEY WERE REMINISCING OF SIMPLER AND CARELESS TIMES. WHILE KURT SEEMED MORE CONTEMPLATIVE AND RETROSPECTIVE, BARELY REGISTERING WHAT WAS BEING SAID.

".....AND KURT, YOU'RE MY CHILD. I'LL ALWAYS BE THERE TO HELP YOU OUT. I'LL TAKE YOU ON AS A BUSBOY IF YOU SO DEARLY DESIRE IT. BUT IS THIS REALLY WHERE YOU WANT YOUR LIFE TO BE HEADED?" ASKED JOHN.

KURT HAD FLUNKED HIS STUDIES. HIS FATHER WAS A STRICT DISCIPLINARIAN. HE USED TO BEAT HIM UP. HE BEAT HIM UP BAD. KURT COULDN'T STAND THE CONSTANT TAUNTS AND PUBLIC HUMILIATIONS AND HIS FATHER DESCRIBING, QUITE ELOQUENTLY TOO, HOW WORTHLESS HE WAS.

KURT RAN AWAY. FOR GOOD THIS TIME. LEFT BEHIND HIS HOUSE, MOTHER, FATHER, AND A YOUNGER BROTHER, SEVEN YEARS YOUNGER THAN HIM, WHOM HE LOVED THE MOST.

HE CAME TO HIS UNCLE JOHN FOR SOLUTION. NOT ONE DID HE GET. HE NEEDED TO EARN HIS LIVING. HE WAS NOW OUT IN THIS WORLD, WITHOUT A SHIELD OF PROTECTION. WITHOUT THE WATCHFUL EYES OF HIS PARENTS. WITHOUT THE COMFORT OF HOLDING THE TINY HAND OF HIS YOUNGER BROTHER. NEVER HAD HE COME SO CLOSE TO ACTUALLY UNDERSTANDING WHAT LONELINESS WAS. IN A WORLD, SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE ALL THE TIME, YET THE FARTHEST AWAY FROM EVERYONE. AS A BUSBOY, AT LEAST HE WOULD EAT TWICE A DAY. HE HAD FELT HUNGER, REAL, RAW, AND CRUEL HUNGER FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME.

"HOW MUCH LONGER WILL I CONTINUE THIS, BILL? I HAVE BEEN SICK A LONG TIME NOW. AND EVERY TIME IT GETS SERIOUS, IT IS HARDER FOR ME TO GET BACK. MY EYES GET BLURRED, STANDING FOR HOURS AT A STRETCH. MAKING THEIR DRINKS. LIGHTING THEIR CIGARETTES. LISTENING TO THEM COMPLAIN ABOUT HOW LIFE SUCKS..."

JOHN BROKE OFF. THEY SAT DOWN AT THE PIER WITH THEIR LEGS HANGING OFF OF THE LEDGE. KURT KEPT WALKING AROUND, ENTRAPPED BY HIS OWN THOUGHTS.

"WELL, IT DOES." REPLIED BILL.

"LIFE ISN'T EASY FOR EVERYONE YA'KNOW... I HAD A DREAM BILL. AND WHAT A DREAM I HAD! I WANTED TO BECOME A MOVIE STAR. AND I HAD IT IN ME. I COULD'VE BEEN RIGHT THERE NEXT TO BOGART AND HOLDEN AND WHOEVER. A GREAT ACTOR. AND YOU KNOW I HAD IT IN ME."

"I KNOW JOHN. I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN."

"LIFE SUCKS, BILL..... LIFE SUCKS. I HAD A DECENT JOB. PAID WELL..... BUT HEART WANTS WHAT IT WANTS. DREAMS AND PASSION. I QUIT. YA'KNOW ALL THIS. I WENT TO HOLLYWOOD. AND FOR WHAT? REJECTIONS. DAY AFTER DAY. TIME AFTER TIME. NO CARE FOR TALENT. THEY WANT BOLD, HANDSOME GUYS. GREEK GODS! AND YOU KNOW WHAT ALL THIS REJECTION AND DISAPPROVAL AND TAUNTS DO TO YOU?"

BILL KNEW. VERY WELL. BUT HE KEPT QUIET.

"IT BREAKS YOUR WILL. IT CRIPPLES YOUR SOUL. THE PERSON STARTS THINKING LESSER OF HIMSELF THAN THE WORLD DOES. HE STARTS THINKING HE IS UNWORTHY OF HAPPINESS.

HE EXPERIENCES GUILT, IF HE EXPERIENCES HAPPINESS."

BILL SIGHED, SMILING SLIGHTLY, "THAT'S PRETTY ACCURATE. ONE JUST WANTS TO CURL UP AND GO TO SLEEP, AND TO BE AWOKEN."

JOHN'S FACE SUDDENLY DROPPED AND TURNED EMPATHETIC. "I'M SORRY BILL. YOU DIDN'T DESERVE ALL THIS."

"YA KNOW WHAT HURTS MORE, JOHN? ME KNOWING THAT I COULD'VE HAD A BETTER LIFE... JUST THE REALIZATION OF IT. WHY ME? I GUESS THE BUDDHA HAD SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT THAT. DOES THAT MAKE SENSE?"

"WHEN YOU'RE FOUR GLASSES DOWN, EVERYTHING MAKES SENSE."

THEY LAUGHED. SOFT AT FIRST, AND THEN THEY CRACKED UP. HAUGHTY LAUGHTER, AND TEARING UP BECAUSE OF IT. THEY GOT UP LAUGHED, AND ROARED. EVERYTHING THAT THEY HAD BOTTLED UP. JUST LAUGHING AT IT ALL, FELT FREEING. LIBERATING.

THEY SETTLED DOWN.

"I'M NOT GONNA MAKE IT FOR MUCH LONGER NOW. I FEEL MY TIME COMING. GUESS I'M GLAD TO HAVE KURT AROUND. THE BAR IS HIS TO TAKE WHEN I'M GONE." JOHN SAID. "AND I'M GLAD TO HAVE HAD YOU AS A FRIEND TOO, OF COURSE."

BILL AND JOHN HUGGED. NEITHER WANTED TO LET GO. BOTH HIDING AND HOLDING BACK TEARS.

"YOU ARE A FINE FRIEND JOHN. THE BEST I COULD'VE ASKED FOR." BILL TALKED SLOWLY.

"YOU'RE NOT SO BAD YOURSELF, BILLY BOY."

KURT JOINED THE TWO AS THEY HEADED BACK. JOHN GAVE A COMFORTING PAT ON KURT'S BACK. BILL SMILED BACK, REFLECTING ON HIS LIFE, THINKING OF JENNY, AND THEN OF BARNEY WHO MUST BE WAITING FOR HIM, BACK AT HOME.

-MAURYA PATEL



# SUNIL CHHETRI: TRANSFORMING INDIAN FOOTBALL

Sunil Chhetri is a name synonymous with Indian football. Born on August 3, 1984, in Secunderabad, he has become a beacon of hope and inspiration in a country where cricket has long been the dominant sport. Through his remarkable career, Chhetri has made significant contributions to Indian football, both on and off the field. His impact is profound, touching many aspects of the game and influencing countless young players.

Before Sunil Chhetri, Indian football struggled for recognition both domestically and internationally. His success has changed that narrative. Chhetri's journey from a young boy with a dream to the captain of the Indian national football team has inspired a new generation of football enthusiasts. His story has shown that Indian players can achieve great things on the global stage, motivating many young Indians to pursue football as a serious career. This shift in attitude among the youth is a direct result of Chhetri's influence.

Sunil Chhetri's impact on the quality of Indian football is undeniable. His presence in the national team has led to significant victories, including winning the SAFF Championship and achieving commendable performances in the AFC Asian Cup. These successes have not only boosted the team's morale but also placed Indian football on the global map. The increased international recognition has led to better opportunities for Indian players and more respect for Indian football worldwide.

One of Chhetri's most significant contributions is his emphasis on professionalism. His commitment to maintaining peak physical fitness, disciplined training routines, and continuous skill development has set a new benchmark for Indian players. Chhetri's professional approach has raised the overall standards of the sport in India. Younger players look up to him as a role model, emulating his dedication and work ethic. This shift towards a more professional attitude has made Indian football more competitive.

As the captain of the Indian national team, Sunil Chhetri's leadership qualities have been crucial in uniting and motivating the team. His ability to lead by examples, combined with his on-field strategies, has been instrumental in the team's improved performances. Off the field, Chhetri's humility and sportsmanship have made him a respected figure. He often takes the time to mentor young players, providing guidance and support. His influence extends beyond his playing career, as he actively nurtures the next generation of Indian footballers.

Chhetri has been a vocal advocate for the growth of football in India. Although cricket reigns supreme in India, Sunil Chhetri is a beacon of hope for Indian football. His dazzling skills and dedication inspire aspiring players, while his leadership on the field sets a positive example. Chhetri's remarkable career puts Indian football in the spotlight, attracting fans and media attention. He may not single-handedly overshadow cricket, but his efforts are paving the way for a brighter future for football in India. Using his fame and influence, he has campaigned for better infrastructure, more investment in youth programs, and increased media coverage of football. His efforts have led to a greater interest in the sport among the general public and have attracted sponsors and investors. The visibility he brings to the game helps in developing a stronger football culture in India. Many young footballers look up to Chhetri as an example of what can be achieved through hard work and dedication. His story motivates them to pursue their dreams despite the odds.

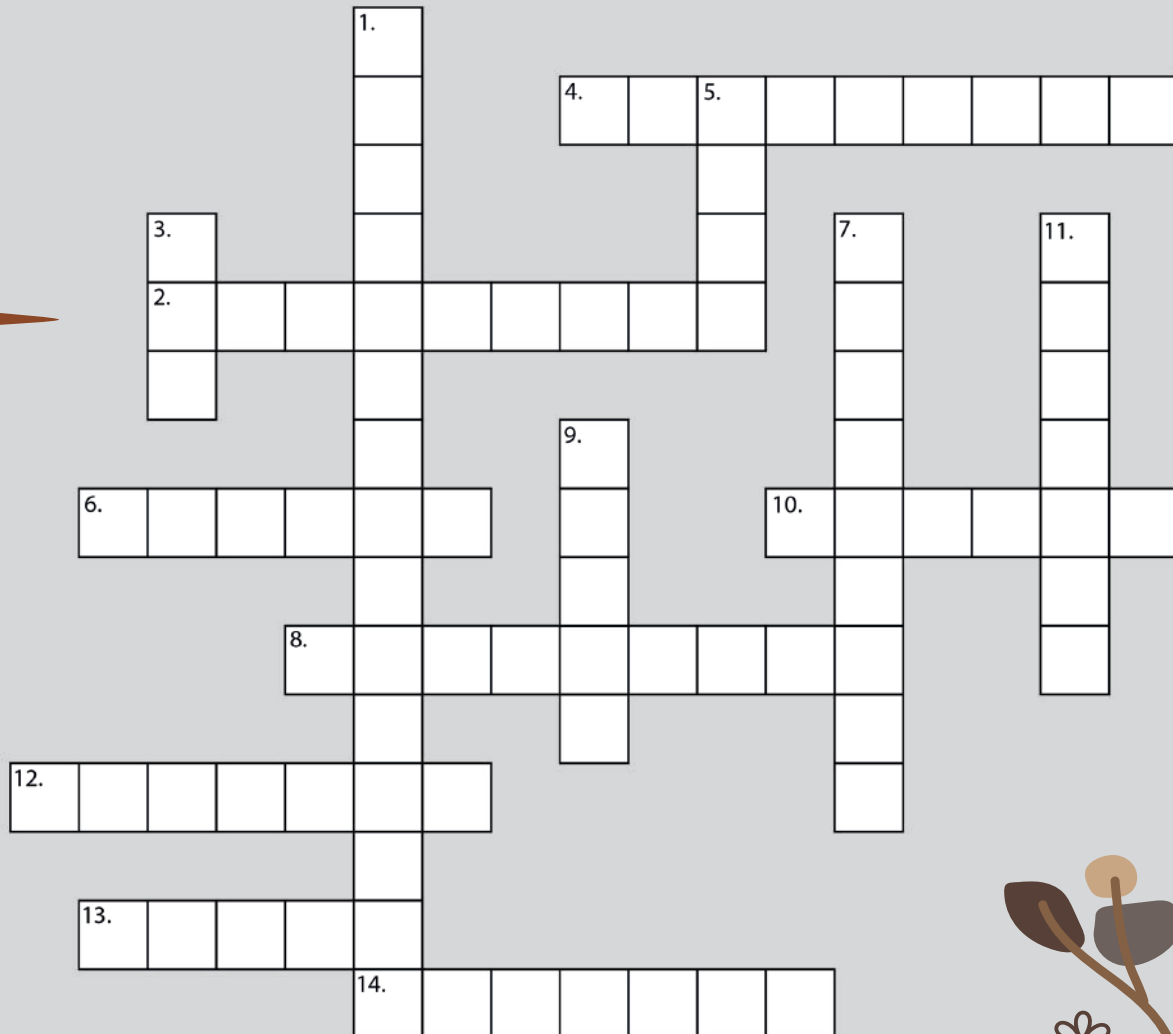
Sunil Chhetri's legacy in Indian football is very inspiring. His remarkable achievements have not only brought glory to the nation but have also significantly uplifted the sport's profile. By inspiring young players, elevating the quality of the game, setting high professional standards, leading with integrity, and actively promoting football, Chhetri has ensured that Indian football continues to grow and thrive. His impact will be felt for generations, making him a true legend and a cornerstone of Indian football's development.

~Dhritiman Ghosh



# The Nerd's Crossword

These crosswords are nothing too serious, they are designed to see how familiar you are with the buzzwords of engineering. If you can get most of them right, congratulations! You're a nerd. But if you can't, don't worry, there's another one on page 46. Happy solving!

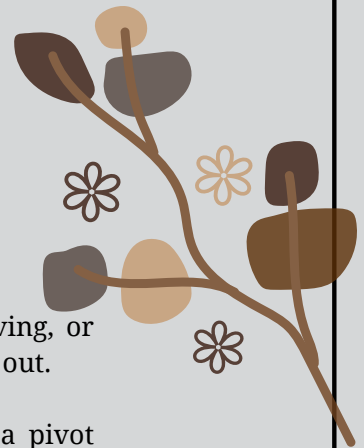


## DOWN:

1. A tiny computer that controls devices.
3. The software that turns your doodles into blueprints
5. A structural element that holds things up, just like your friends hold you up.
7. The first attempt at your masterpiece, usually a mess—but hey, even pizza started as dough!
9. The open-source operating system family, for the cool kids who love coding.
11. The sticky black stuff used in roads.

## ACROSS:

2. A step-by-step method for problem-solving, or your elaborate plan to get the best solution out.
4. The art of finding and fixing code errors
6. The rotational effect of a force about a pivot point.
8. The number of times something occurs—like how often your food cravings hit during lectures.
10. A vertical support that keeps structures from toppling.
12. Relating to tension; the ability to handle pulling forces.
13. A storage area for quick data access, like your secret box of snacks hidden from
14. The time a program takes to execute





# MOVIE REVIEWS

Title: Laapata Ladies

Director: Kiran Rao

Google Reviews :



Laapataa Ladies is a cinematic gem that shines a light on the timeless struggle against patriarchy and is skillfully set against a rural backdrop. This movie delivers numerous messages and promotes the idea of equality between men and women. The genre of this movie is comedy and drama. The movie is directed by Kiran Rao and produced under the banner of Aamir Khan Productions. The lead cast includes Nitanshi Goel, Pratibha Ranta, and Sparsh Srivastav.

The story of the movie is set in 2001, somewhere in rural India. It showcases the adventures of two young brides who get exchanged on the same train. The main lead Sparsh Srivastav portrays Deepak Kumar, Nitanshi Goel plays Phool Kumari, and Pratibha Ranta plays Pushpa Rani. Phool Kumari and Pushpa Rani are new brides. They are exchanged with their respective husbands. This chaos is very well directed and will make you laugh easily. Upon reaching home, Deepak and his family realize that his wife has been switched with someone else's during the journey. Phool Kumari is lost at an unknown station, where she meets Manju Mai and a few others, waiting in the hope that Deepak will return someday. The character of Manju Mai is indeed played well and gives the warmth of a mother. Meanwhile, Pushpa Rani and Manju Mai represent women's empowerment. Phool Kumari's innocence will easily make you fall in love with her character. When Deepak files a missing person report, Shyam Manohar dramatically handles his role as a police officer. Ravi Kishan beautifully plays the role of Police Officer Shyam Manohar. The character of the police officer will not only make you laugh but also remind you of one's duties towards marriage.

Of course, we can't forget the music of the film. Ram Sampath is the music director of the film. The music blends earthy tones with comedic elements. The four-song album strikes a harmonious balance. "Doubtwa" and "Sajni Re" are the most popular songs of the film. These songs have a lively tone with witty lyrics and catchy compositions that suit the film. They provide a soothing constant that complements the direction quite well.

At times, the film feels a little slow around the interval, and some scenes become monotonous. However, this doesn't diminish the overall worth of the movie. It is a once-in-a-lifetime movie for Bollywood and a must-watch!

~ Sujeet Kumar

Title: THE WIND RISES

Director: Hayao Miyazaki

Google Reviews : ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Hayao Miyazaki; a well-known name among movie enthusiasts and animators for many outstanding cinematic works, he has given to our worldwide audience. Few of his movies are a mere fantasy while some of them are about simple lives of complex crowds. But the films that had revolved around times of war can be seen as vintage window for us to peek into the lives of people during war. How were they affected? How cities were developing after being to ruined to ashes? How dreams of young people were altered for the purposes and war?

One such story 'The Wind Rises' which is based on the works of one of the greatest aeronautical engineers the world has ever seen, Jiro Horikoshi. Though there have been parts which are fictional but the primary theme is how changes made by an engineer steers development of aircraft through his burning passion.

The movie begins with a kid's dream. We see Jiro (the kid) making a flight but eventually crashes. As the story continues, it is portrayed that he has a dream of flying and see the world from the sky. But due to his bad eyesight he gives up on this dream. But later, Miyazaki creatively shows us his meeting with a German aeronautical engineer, Caproni, in Jiro's dreamland. Caproni who he meets only in his dreams becomes his role model. After having a deep conversation on their shared dream of flights and airplanes, Jiro wakes with a decision of becoming an aeronautical engineer who is going to design beautiful planes.

His passion for planes and the sky burns brighter than ever. He even finds inspiration in the simple curve of a fish bone from his lunch. Time has passed, he is now appointed as an aeronautical engineer in emerging aeroplane manufacturing company. The company is already working on a project to be used by Japanese military for war.

From here onwards, we see how the developments took place. Development of aircraft body from wood to completely metal. Though during the war, the actual dream of Jiro to create planes which will carry people to travel the world, is seen to be crushed by the necessities of war. In the end we see the last meeting of Caproni and Jiro in their kingdom of dreams. Jiro is disheartened and says that none of his creations has ever returned home. To this, Caproni describes aeroplanes are beautiful, cursed dreams waiting for sky to swallow them up.

Ending of the movie carries the heaviest weight compared to any other scene. At times greatest inventions were not meant for destruction but for serving the humanity. But the necessities of environment thoroughly alter. And in the end, you have nothing but your kingdom of dreams where everything is possible.

-Divya Pandor



Title: The Truman Show  
Director: Peter Weir

Google Reviews:



The Truman Show, released in 1998, is a satirical drama directed by Peter Weir. It emerges as a thought-provoking masterpiece as it challenges the very notions of reality and human autonomy. Exploring the themes of reality, free will, and media manipulation, "The Truman Show" is an unforgettable film that continues to resonate even decades after its release. The movie continues to captivate audiences with its remarkable performances, appealing storytelling, and profound philosophical themes.

#### Plot and Narrative:

"The Truman Show" introduces us to Truman Burbank, an ordinary man living an ordinary life in the town of Seahaven. Unbeknownst to Truman, his entire existence is part of a massive television production, with his every move and interaction broadcasted to millions of viewers. The show's creator, Christof, is obsessed with creating the perfect life for Truman, but in doing so, he has taken away Truman's freedom and ability to make his own choices.

As the film proceeds, we get to see Truman's gradual realization of his artificial surroundings and how he figures out ways to escape them. As Truman becomes skeptical about his reality, he starts questioning his relationships, experiences, and surroundings. He started noticing the unusual behavior of the people around him.

#### Outstanding Performances:

Jim Carrey's performance as Truman is astounding. He captures the innocence, vulnerability, and depth of the character. His ability to seamlessly transition between comedy and drama makes Truman a relatable and sympathetic protagonist. He ensures the emotional investment of the audience throughout the film.

Christof, played by Ed Harris, is the creator and director of "The Truman Show". He manipulates the events and people in Truman's life, constantly monitoring him through hidden cameras and designing various situations to keep him within the boundaries of the show. As the show's fame increases, we see Christof blurring the line between ethics and entertainment.

#### Cinematography:

The remarkable production design is something that we cannot overlook. Every aspect of Seahaven, the town where Truman resides, feels authentic and convincing. Another prominent aspect is the use of different camera angles and perspectives. Wide shots and aerial views are used to emphasize the vastness and artificiality of Truman's world.

#### How real is 'reality'?

The Truman Show raises a lot of questions regarding the reality of our lives. It highlights the power of the media and its ability to shape and control our perception of reality. Truman's entire life is a constructed reality show, where aspects of his existence are manipulated for the entertainment of the masses. This raises questions about the authenticity of what we see and experience in the media and how easily it can be manufactured and controlled. As Christof says in the movie, "We accept the reality of the world with which we're presented. It's as simple as that."

The movie also tackles the issue of surveillance and the loss of privacy in modern society. Truman is unknowingly monitored and filmed 24/7, with every aspect of his life captured by hidden cameras. This reflects the increasing prevalence of surveillance technology in our own lives and raises concerns about the invasion of privacy and the extent to which our actions and behaviors are being observed and recorded.

"The Truman Show seemed all too credible, but in the making of it, the concept seemed a stretch to many involved: "The problem was we had to accept [The Truman Show] was watched by a worldwide audience for 30 years, 24 hours a day." Now, such programming seems far less absurd, thanks not only to the endless parade of reality shows but also to online streams on all manner of social media platforms in which users document lengthy periods of their lives for viewers to endlessly gawk at." -Peter Weir

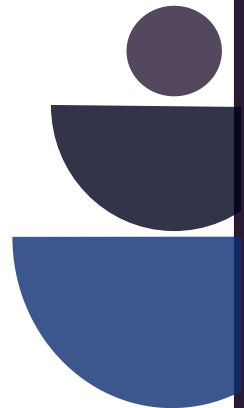
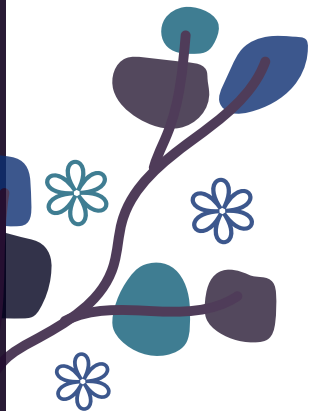
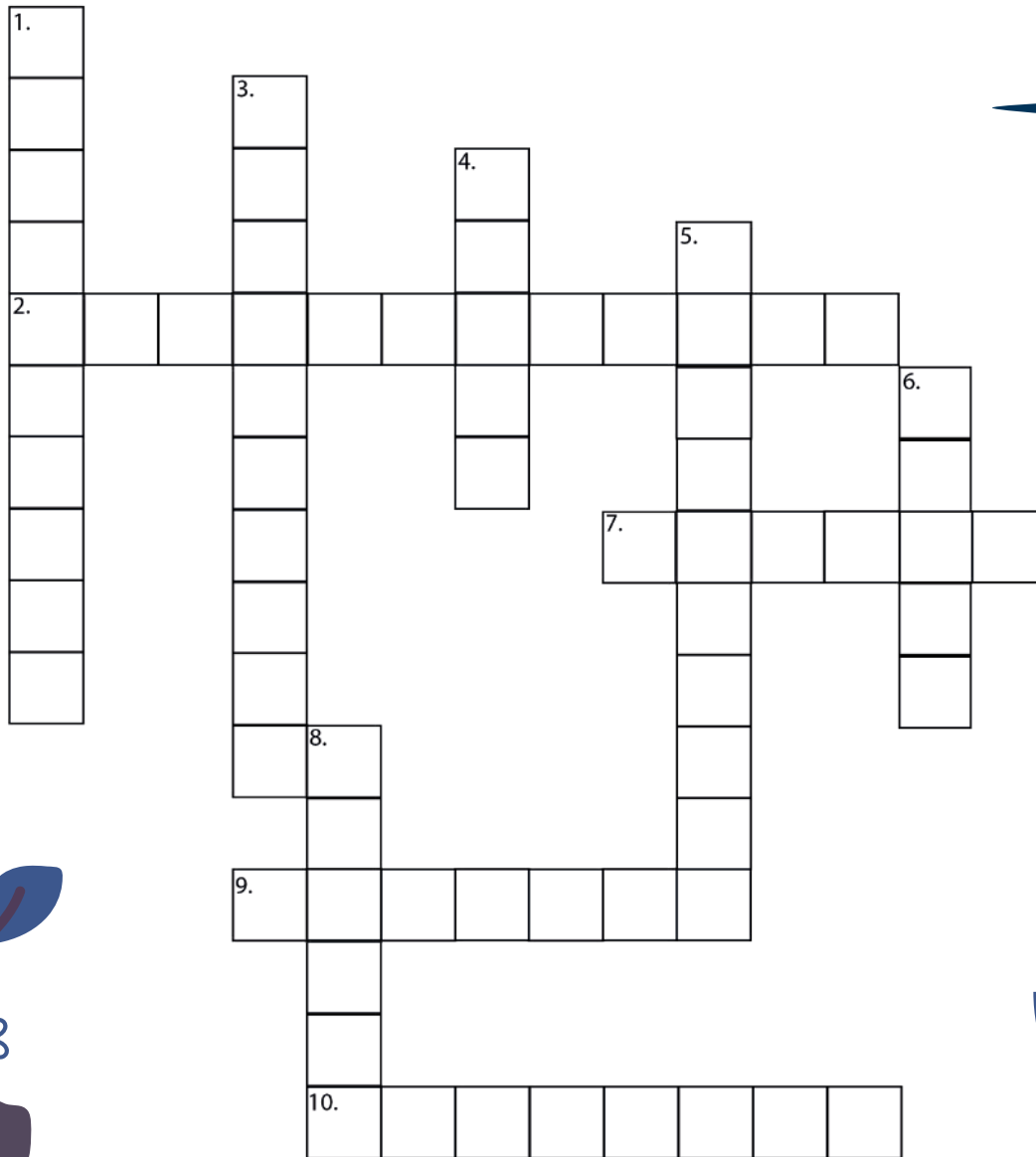
"The Truman Show" is a cinematic masterpiece that combines exceptional storytelling, a powerful performance by Jim Carrey, and thought-provoking themes to deliver an unforgettable viewing experience.

At its core, "The Truman Show" raises existential questions about identity and personal freedom. Truman's journey represents the struggle of an individual to break free from societal expectations, limitations, and constructed realities imposed upon them. Through Truman's awakening, the film inspires us to reflect on our own lives and raise questions about the authenticity of our choices.

Oh, in case I don't see ya, good afternoon, good evening and good night."

~Mahak Chauhan

# The Nerd's Crossword – 2



## DOWN:

1. A beam anchored at only one end.
3. A special scalar associated with a matrix in linear algebra.
4. The type of force that cuts through materials like scissors.
5. A property that changes depending on direction.
6. A tool with a mesh or perforated surface used to separate finer particles from coarser ones.
8. Discrete packets of energy or matter, fundamental to quantum mechanics.

## ACROSS:

2. When two waves overlap and alter each other's amplitude.
7. A swirling mass of fluid or air, often forming a whirling motion around a central axis.
9. The delay before something starts working, like your brain in morning classes.
10. The point of maximum displacement in a standing wave, opposite to a node.



# WHEN IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR

## Notification: Outlook mail

Regarding timetable of 3rd semester

Your autumn semester starts from 1 August, 2024.  
Attached file.

Oh, yes. Now I am no longer a freshie but a second-year senior now.

*Checks the date.*

In one week. I see. Lemme see the timetable.

*Opens Outlook.*

Only maths and HSS will be the common classes for all the departments. Jeez. I am going to miss those shared classes in which we usually didn't study. Now that I think of, I am not really on friendly terms with people of my own department. Seniors once mentioned about their struggles of finding project partner. I wonder if I won't be able to find one, would I be okay on my own? Never mind. For now, let's pack for it.

*Day 1*

Classes start half an hour later than they did last year; at 9:30AM. Bingo. But still, I am late. With dosa for breakfast now I shall walk alone among the crowds. First class is of NT. Harsh bhaiya told me, it is one difficult subject. Anyways, good luck to me. Half classes are done and dusted with introductions. Now is HSS. They must be arriving soon. Reconnecting after a long time, it felt nice. Few of us have started some online courses. Few were busy with their families. Few, including me, enjoyed vacation doing art. Sir was giving a brief introduction of the subject but we talked in-between all lecture. It felt nice. In no time class was over. We are again in mess for lunch. Initially you frown when you have been enjoying the luxury of *ghar ka khana* for a long time and now you are here with mess food for next few months. Even if lunch wasn't that good, you will always feel sleepy for the labs and tutorials that are scheduled in next half of day. Today we have lab. Spending hours in lab you're now done for the day and all you want is to fall asleep in your bed. But we all know that things never go the way we expected it to be. I am now being added in group chats. Group for your department, group for your department excluding teachers, lab group and all. These groups keep piling up until you graduate.



### *Week 1*

I've now realised classes commencing at 9:30 doesn't make much of a difference. For all senior years it remains the same. The rush is getting real. I have somehow started interacting with people of my department and realised that they are not the weirdos I thought of them to be. They seem normal. For the moment at least. Shared classes are still fun. I have started get some grip of my department-based subjects. Some bore me while others I find interesting enough to interact with in class. Also, more group chats. I was informed that freshers will be arriving by 15th August, 2024. Nice. I often get busy with this. Regarding their orientation, club activities, sports and what not. Keeping all these things aside, I really need to start focusing on maths.

### *Mid sem period*

Freshers have already arrived. Now I feel more like a senior. Volunteering for orientation and taking the lead for club activities, I didn't realise how time flies by and you see class tests waving hello to you. For some reasons I am not anxious about these quizzes and tests. Also, I know I will make it somehow, score decent. I always do. But these classes, tutorials, labs, assignments, club work, and sports are really exhausting. I might also add doubt clearing sessions for juniors. With being a second-year senior who is seen almost everywhere you become a familiar and friendly face for juniors to approach. So, yes, they often ask about subjects, mess, hostel, clubs and also the works that aren't related to me. After all this chaos you get to see your marks, it is more often than not an unpleasant experience. It feels as if a mirror that had been in front of you for eternity has now become visible. I realised that whatever amount of work I am putting now isn't enough. I must work harder. With this I got more focused towards my studies. I have often seen people quit from sports and club activities to keep up with academics. Initially I used to think that it is wrong. But with time their actions became reasonable. Though I didn't give up, the frequency of my active participation gradually dropped. It really is difficult to be everywhere. After midsem, I realised that it is still not enough. I need to prioritize.

### *End of second year*

I have learned.

Art of prioritizing.

With time you meet new people. Some stay. Some leave. Some stay until project submission. Some will stay even after graduation. Poem of my potential and interests, I get it right only by hit and trial. I have learned to say no. But I have yet to learn to say it without guilt. I have learned to focus on my studies but I have yet to do more art for myself. I have learned so many things but I am yet to learn much more. As I prepare to enter the third year of my BTech, I must plan my time because the rush is real. If I am not fast enough, I'll be left behind.

I don't want that.

-Sia



# Introduction to Engineering: The First-Year Courses

## 1. MSW

Course code: GE181002

Course name: Manufacturing Science and Workshop

Course credit: 3.5



The MSW course is similar to the Hogwarts of engineering—except your wand is the plier and you are more likely to conjure sparks than magic. However, by the end of this course, you will have the skills to create some real-life magic in manufacturing. It is where you will learn to turn raw material into master pieces and discover that the cross-cut saw can be your best friend (or your worst enemy). Earlier while looking to a moving fan, you might take an interest about it's working; however, after completion of this course, you will be more intrigued for its manufacturing. It is like playing with Lego, but for grown-ups and with a lot more noise.

Rated as the most engaging and interactive course in first year where theory and practicals are perfectly balanced, MSW is the most relatable course yet!

### Pro tip:

Whenever you are in doubt, just pretend you are Tony Stark in the workshop - minus the explosions.

## 2. CP

Course code: CS181001

Course name: Computer Programming

Course credit: 4.5

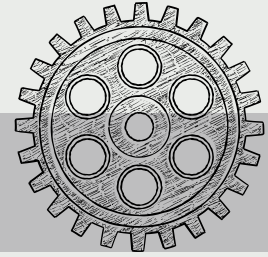


Welcome to the course and get ready to say, “hello world!” to the world of algorithms, loops and the occasional debugging nightmares. It is like solving a puzzle where the pieces keep changing shape. But once you get it right, you will realise the power you have at your fingertips. Remember to save your work though! At the end of this course, whether you live with a profound love for coding or just a healthy respect for it, you will never look at software the same way again.

### Pro tip:

Remember whether you are building bridges, designing circuits or charting the stars, CP is your secret weapon. Think of it as the swiss army knife in your engineering toolkit. Handy for everyone, not just for the computer wizards.

## 3.EG



**Course code:** GE181001  
**Course name:** Engineering Graphics  
**Course credit:** 3.5

Welcome to the world of EG, where you will learn that a straight line is your best friend. This course is all about mastering the art of visual communication in engineering. Whether you are sketching out a blueprint for a bridge or designing the next big gadget, engineering graphics will give you the tools to turn your ideas into precise professional drawings.

There are two simple rules for mastering EG:

1. Never think EG is easy
2. Always remember rule number one.

This course will help you learn a new language- the universal language of engineers where a single line can make or break your entire design. In EG, “close enough” is not close at all. You will soon learn that even the tiniest arrowhead error will turn your masterpiece into a mess-terpiece

**Pro tip:**

1. Keep your eraser close and your patience closer.
2. Never buy the T-square.



## 4. I TO I

**Course code:** CE/EE/ME181001/CS221001  
**Course name:** Introduction to Infrastructure  
**Course credit:** 2

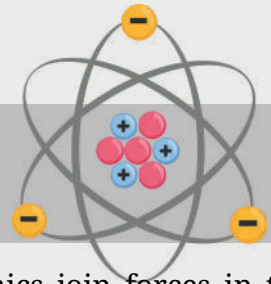
Welcome to I to I, the course that gives you a sneak peek into the core subjects you'll go through in your engineering journey. This course introduces you to the basic concepts for exploring different engineering disciplines. It helps you to get a taste of what's coming in your core subjects. Whether it is fluid mechanics, transport engineering, signal system or data structures, you will get a mini preview of each, so you know what to expect when the real course work hits. This is certainly not the main course, but it sets the stage for the subjects that will become your bread and butter

**Pro tip:**

Imagine this course as a trailer for the blockbuster movie of your academic career, where you get a glimpse of the plot in cast.  
(spoiler alert-the course is not just about construction)(relevant for my civil engineering homies)



## 5. THE PH COURSES:

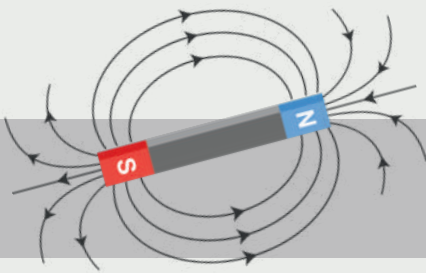


**Course code:** PH181001

**Course name:** Physics-1

**Course credit:** 3

Welcome to Physics-1, where classical physics and quantum mechanics join forces in the most mind-bending crossover event after 2021's Spiderman: No Way Home. It is like going from a predictable sitcom to a trippy sci-fi movie. One minute you are dealing with Newton's laws, the next you're trying to wrap your head around particles that don't play by the rules. It is a wild ride from apple falling to Schrödinger's cat, so put the pedal on the metal and get ready for the most mind-bending science adventure ever!



**Course code:** PH181002

**Course name:** Physics-2

**Course credit:** 5

Welcome to Physics-2, the second part of your physics journey where vector calculus, electrostatics, magnetostatics along with electrodynamics takes centre stage. If you thought Physics-1 was a wild ride, get ready for the roller coaster of Physics-2. It is like an upgraded view of how forces and fields shape our universe. Vector calculus is like having a cheat code for understanding physics problems. This course will help you to explore how electric and magnetic fields work together with dynamic visualization.

**Lab Laughs:** "Welcome to Physics Lab—1.5 credits of 'Why isn't this working?!' moments! Here, you'll discover that the true physics experiment is figuring out how to get your setup to cooperate before your patience runs out.

**Pro tip:**

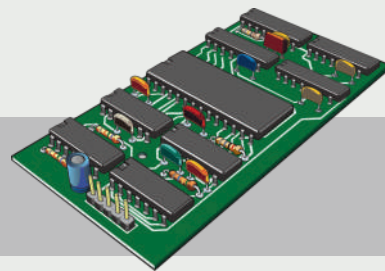
1. Read the lab like your personal science playground, though be sure to follow safety rules.
2. Remember to do the Fresnel bi-prism experiment most attentively.
3. Keep the physics manual in the best condition, you have to return it too.

## 6. BEEE

**Course code:** EE181002

**Course name:** Basics of Electrical and Electronics engineering

**Course credit:** 4



Welcome to BEEE, where you'll learn to make things light up. This course is like a treasure map to the world of electricity, but instead of gold and diamonds, you're finding out why your TV turns on when you press the right button. All in all, BEEE is your ticket to understanding the magic behind switches and sockets that make your world go 'round'. You will connect wires, resistors, breadboards and capacitors creating setups that light up and beep. By the end of this course, you will have enough knowledge to impress your friends with your understanding of ohm's law. Build circuits that actually work and hopefully avoid any shocking mishaps. Get ready for a fun spark filled adventure into the world of electricity- just don't forget to keep your fingers away from the wrong end of the circuit.

**Pro tip:**

You might fascinate BEEE course as a magic show, but remember if your circuit starts to smoke, it's certainly not a performance enhancing feature...



## 7. THE CH COURSE

**Course code:** CH181001

**Course name:** Chemistry

**Course credit:** 4

Welcome to Chemistry, the subject that is about to become your best friend (or at least your lab buddy) in your first year. It is the foundation that helps you understand why steel is structurally sound, why your smartphone's battery lasts longer, and why your car doesn't explode when you start it! Without chemistry, your engineering dreams might just fade away.

**Lab Laughs:** It also includes the lab course CH181101 of 1.5 credits. It has nothing much, just get your lab coat on and prepare for some hands- on fun! Whether you are mixing colourful solutions or trying not to blow things up (We're looking at you, Bunsen burner!). Lab sessions are where the magic really happens.

**Pro tip:**

Pay strict attention to classes otherwise getting an FR grade hurts more than spilling a concentrated HCL on your hands...



# S.THE MA COURSES:

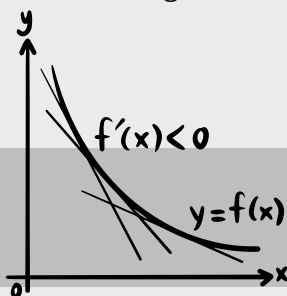
**Course code:** MA181001

**Course name:** Mathematics-1

**Course credit:** 5

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$$

Welcome to calculus, where you'll dive into the world of limits, derivatives and integrals. This course is your gateway to understanding how things change and accumulate from the path of a rocket to the area under a curve. You will learn how to calculate the rate of change of functions. Calculus is the course where you will get to see Mathematics in its full glory. Treat calculus as the ultimate math circus. Enjoy the acrobatics of derivatives, the limbo of limits, and the magic of integrals.



**Course code:** MA181002  
**Course name:** Mathematics-2  
**Course credit:** 6

Welcome to Mathematics-2, where linear algebra, vector calculus and ODE (Ordinary Differential Equations) come together for the ultimate mathematical experience. It is like a live performance where linear algebra is the headliner, vector calculus is the opening act and differential equations are the surprise elements. Each of these topics contribute to overall understanding and problem-solving abilities. Thereby, approach each topic with curiosity and excitement and let this course enhance your understanding of the mathematical world.

**Pro tip:**

Miss a lecture, and you might lose a formula. Miss a tutorial, and you might lose your mind! Tutorials are where mathematics starts making sense, so consider them your weekly brain workout. Never skip tutorials!

# 9.HSS

**Course code:** HS181001/HS181002

**Course name:** Indian English Literature and Language/Functional English and Comprehension

**Course credit:** 4



## 1. HS181001:

This course is where you get to enjoy the best of both worlds the charm of Indian storytelling and the elegance of English prose stories such as “Swami and friends” will certainly light up your mood being surrounded daily by the technical subjects. It is where you will see how English can be both a global language and a vehicle for Indian storytelling.

## 2. HS181002:

Welcome to the fitness boot camp for the communication and language skill of a brain. You will dive into activities with that makes grammar and comprehension as fun as a word game. From decoding tricky texts to writing perfect sentences, you will develop skills that will make you a linguistic superhero. It is about making sure you not only use English correctly but understand it deeply. Keep ready language skills for action.

### Pro tip:

Prepare yourself for lab hours. HSS lab is not just an academic lab, it is a stressbuster consisting of acting drama and lot more surprise elements.

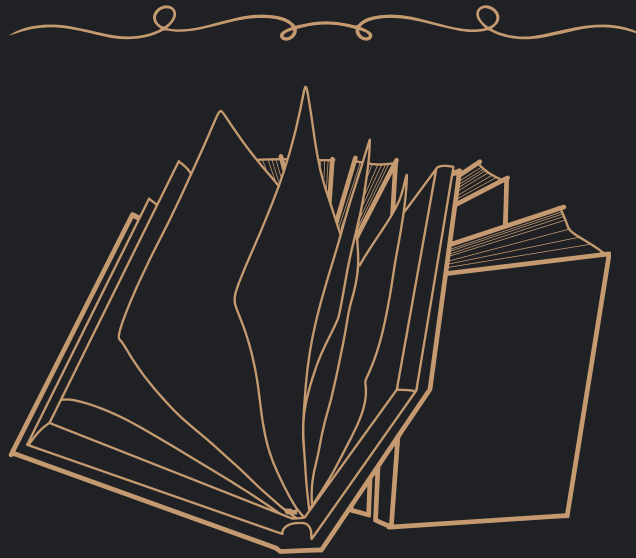






# SANVAAD WITH SENIORS

In this edition of Pratidhwani, we're delighted to introduce a brand-new segment dedicated to catching up with our esteemed alumni. From founders of budding startups to former editors and designers who directed and helped shape the very pages you're holding, these trailblazers have not only navigated life beyond campus but are also making their mark in the real world. In this interview section, we dive into their journeys, gain some real life advices from their experiences and successes, and explore how their experience at IITRAM helped mold their paths forward. Whether you're inspired to follow in their footsteps or simply curious to learn from those who once stood in your shoes, we hope these stories resonate and ignite your own ambitions.



*Ajaat: How do you feel after completing your college now?*

**Shourya:** First of all, I feel more knowledgeable, more confident, more like a person who can take pressure, and a better version of myself. After completing 4 years of my college life, I got some real values to learn from. It was great for personality development. I can say it was good overall development of mine.

...

*Aastha:* Since you were the past member of Pratidhwani, what was your role and experience with other team members?

**Vishakha:** I was interested in reading and writing since school time and as this was something new and Impactful, I was keen to join the magazine team. So since the start I was very excited to be a part of this. All the team members were also very friendly and it was overall a very nice and cheerful experience.

...

*Aastha: Being the inaugural cultural secretary, what is the advice for students who don't engage themselves in the events with the fear of academic loss?*

**Antara Tandon:** This life will not come back. Be involved in everything you can. It will not affect your academics or not make you diverted or less focused. It will make you holistic. Corporate life wants you to be holistic and come prepared. Your immaturity will not be entertained in the real outside world. These things make you mature, gives you personality, instills common sense, teaches you to how to handle pressure, tackle things in your day to day life, understand life and yourself better. Don't be afraid or ashamed or scared to try new things, to approach people, and involve yourself in the things you have never done before. Its you who has to start, its you has to handle everything, and its you who has to answer everything and everyone at the end. Life is not about being safe and calculative. Sometimes you have to go out experience everything and take risks.



*Ajaat: How did IITRAM affect your life and what role does it play in the decisions you take, or you will take in your life ahead?*

**Shourya:** I am more confident, I am more knowledgeable and also, I think when I came to IITRAM, I was not indulging in people, getting into conversations, starting new conversations, and was an introvert; however the people here are that much welcoming, I became an extrovert. Now, like everyone is my friend, I developed some great connections.

*Ajaat: When and why did the idea of starting a startup strike you?*

**Shourya:** I own a company called AI intelligence technologies. Before owning this company, I ran a business of personal tutors for 6 to 7 months in my college days only. So, I have developed several and learnt a lot from that business. So, when I am starting this business called as AI intelligence technologies, it is basically a software development company. So, I was not starting from zero, I have gained some knowledge and experience. Now if I was at 50 level in that business, I am starting from 50 at present. Also, many people mislead these things that is the culture of startup, they don't do market research, they don't take reviews of the people, they rush into the startup thinking that if it is good for me, so it will be good for other people; but the market research is very important because you have to cater a population, whole population of India if you want to create a unicorn or something like that. Creating such a huge business needs a proper market research and a proper experience which must be gained by the people, then only they can do a startup. When you look startups from outside, it looks lavish, but inside, it is hustle, it is pure hustle. In my company, I have to manage around 20 people, and it is a 24 hour hustle.



**Aastha:** How did you get the opportunity to participate in Yuva Sangam and go to Arunachal Pradesh?

**Vishakha:** I got the opportunity to go from college itself from mail describing Yuva Sangam and how to join it, So I registered and got a call from NIT Surat. After the interview I got selected and they took us to Itanagar in north-east Arunachal Pradesh. They took us to Rajiv Gandhi university. We met their students and had a good interaction. Our whole itinerary was planned, we had to wake up at 4am and overall the whole experience was different for our everyday routine back home. I had the opportunity to give a speech in front of Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh and also we met many startup founders. So overall the whole experience was very wholesome, got to see and experience different cultures.

...

**Ajaat:** Are you planning on hiring students from our institute?

**Shourya:** IITRAM has huge potential, I must say. The people here in the first year itself are brilliant. I haven't seen such brilliant minds in my life in first year. The newer batches are really something. Also, people from 2nd and 3rd yr are brilliant. I would love to work with them. People here are hardworking. If they don't know a solution, they will go on to learn the solution. I never heard a student say here ki mujhse nahi hota hai.. I would love to work with them.

...



**Ved:** How did your friends, faculties and colleagues helped you in your journey?

**Snail:** Very few people understood what I was going to do . I even tried explaining my idea to them, but most of them were of the opinion that first find a job and then do business which I feel is also very true. Even i had thought that getting a job first and getting to know the market better helps overall in the startup later (both in funding and knowledge). The faculties were also very supportive like Mahesh sir, Jiten sir and Manoj sir who always help out of any trouble you are in!

...

**Aastha:** What advice would you give to juniors?

**Vishaka:** Frankly I would suggest that 4 years will fly away, so enjoy with your friends wherever possible. The time really flies away and live the moment. Pitch any idea that you find to your professors.

...

**Ved:** What do you feel will be the status of IITRAM after 5 years down the line?

**Snail:** I feel IITRAM is on a growth curve with new hostels being developed and facilities being improved day by day. As construction comes to an end with more focus on research and it being the best in Gujarat for research, IITRAM is already on a good path and is in a position to be compared to IITs in many ways.

...

*Priyanshu:* As you talked about placements and you have a start up, so will your hire students from our institute or provide any sort of internship opportunities to the students?

*Ajay Tiwari:* When someone starts a company, they often dream of hiring students from their alma mater, working alongside juniors and seniors, having already observed their potential in the college environment. Also, I have talked to Faculties in the regard of internship.

■ ■ ■

*Aastha:* One golden piece of advice for your juniors?

*Antara Tandon:* At IITRAM, things come all at once. It can be a bit exhilarating at once but you need to be selective about your decisions. Obviously you need to experience and try everything because you don't know your interest, but as they come all of a sudden, be selective and smart. Be ready and upfront about the opportunities that come in your way. And when they don't, try to initiate things and make your own way. We have the benefit of less number of students in our college, anything we try is going to prevail. Be smart and make things work. Make the best out of all the negative points. Make the best use of research opportunities as the BTech level research projects don't happen in any other colleges. Also the quality of education is top notch and that you will realise after you move out of college.



As we close this alumni interview section, we hope their stories sparked a bit of inspiration (and maybe even a few ideas) for your own journey. It's a reminder that the path from campus to career is full of twists, turns, and unexpected adventures. Whether you're dreaming of startups, creative projects, or just surviving that next assignment, remember—every one of these alumni started right here, navigating the same classrooms, deadlines, and late-night coffee runs. Here's to new possibilities, small beginnings, and maybe one day sharing your own story on these pages!



## Student Activity Center: An Introduction Established : 2024

The Student Activity Center (SAC) at IITRAM was established in 2024 to oversee and regulate student activities on campus. It administers various extracurricular and co-curricular events, ensuring that students have opportunities to participate in sports, cultural, literary, and technological activities. SAC is responsible for organizing and managing student clubs under three main categories: Sports and Games, Literary and Cultural, and Science & Technology. It also supports satellite clubs, which operate under these core categories.

SAC functions under the supervision of its chairperson, vice-chairperson, and the Associate Dean of Student Affairs, with student representatives managing different aspects of its activities. It organizes events such as the annual sports meet, cultural fests, and technical competitions, along with facilitating student participation in external competitions. Through its structured approach, SAC provides a framework for student engagement outside academics while maintaining oversight on club activities and events.

The senate is responsible for all of IITRAM's biggest events this year and has overseen all the activities done by the original clubs such as the evergreen art and music competitions by AVISH, the Prayaas initiatives by Dayatva, and the AMC hostel residents' favourite intra-volleyball competitions and all the other sports activities. Apart from these, brand new events like IITRAM's first annual cultural festival were also added to the list.

The current senate members include Pihu Saharan as President and Jay Maganadiya, and Kushagra Gupta as vice presidents. The General Secretaries for the three core clubs are Ajaat Kaushikeya, Adityarajsinh Jadeja, Stuti Patel, Aastha Motwani, Dhritiman Ghosh, Aastha Maheta, Devanshi Kaushik, Pratham Patel, Tarang Lotwala and Ved Kolte.





**Kushagra Gupta**  
Vice-President

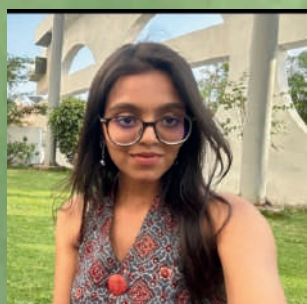


**Pihu Saharan**  
President



**Jay Maganadiya**  
Vice-President

### **Literary and Cultural Club - General Secretaries**



**Stuti Patel**



**Ajaat Kaushik**



**Adityarajsinh Jadeja**

### **Science and Technology Club - General Secretaries**



**Tarang Lotwala**



**Aastha Motwani**



**Devanshi Kaushik**



**Dhritiman Ghosh**

### **Sports and Games Club - General Secretaries**



**Pratham Patel**



**Aastha Maheta**

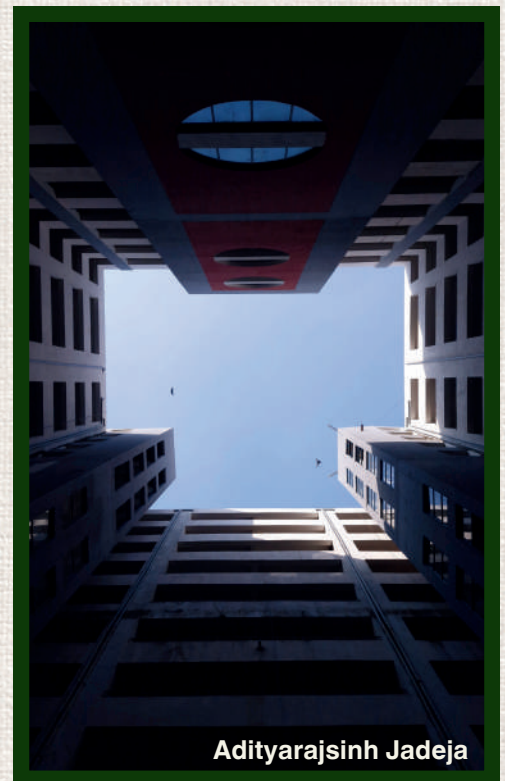
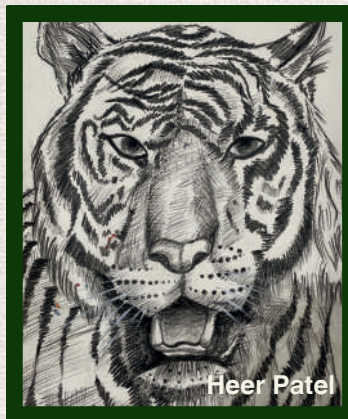


**Ved Kolte**



# PIXEL & PAPER

A showcase of creativity, from quills to brushes to pens to lenses. Straight from the students' desk.







Rohit Kumar



Heer Patel



Raushan Kumar



Adityarajsinh Jadeja



Shivam Kumar



Sachin Sharma

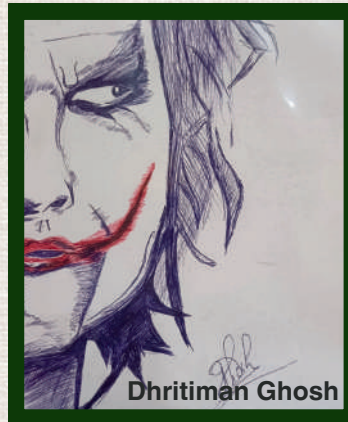




Gitika Verma



Samarth dwivedi



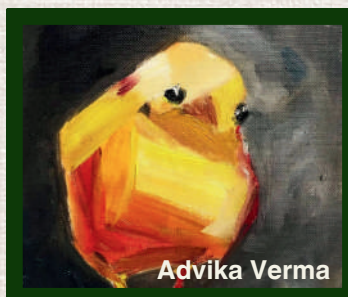
Dhritiman Ghosh



Divya Pandor



Anurag kumar



Advika Verma

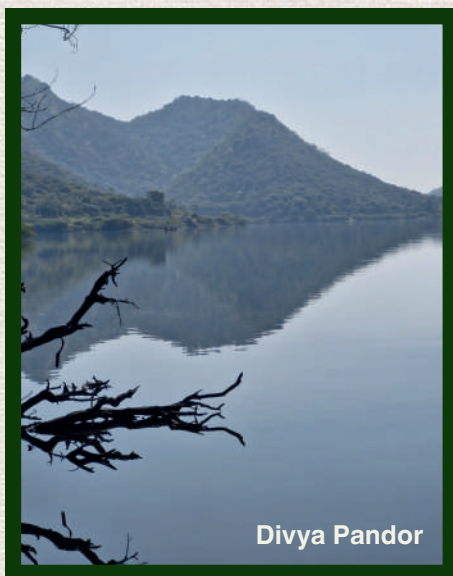


Mayank Gujar





Dhritiman Ghosh



Divya Pandor



Kushagra Gupta



Hasan Vohra



Suhani Brahmhatt



Nivedita Singh





# GLIMPSES

# SANSMARAN

23RD DECEMBER 2023



This academic year's homecoming event was a ride to the past for our esteemed alumni. The day started with students interacting with their senior gods and talking about life.



The events following that interaction were a nostalgia inducing travel to the campus and the faculty offices where they met their beloved professors, a visit to hostels where they relived their shenanigans of the home-away-from-home life. Followed by that visit was a high spirited cricket match where the staff and faculty tried to best the alumni but were unsuccessful. A Dance Night marked the end of the day and the ex-students once again bid goodbye to their home.







# गणतंत्र दिवस

## 26TH JANUARY 2024

Nukkad Natak on socially moving topics like Vikasit Bharat, Education awareness, and awareness about digital tech and its cons. Fantastic music from AVISH that moved souls, parades, speeches and hoisting the Indian Tricolor. A blast of a day was celebrated, which reminded us of the blessings we have had to be standing on the shoulders of the giants that built this great nation.





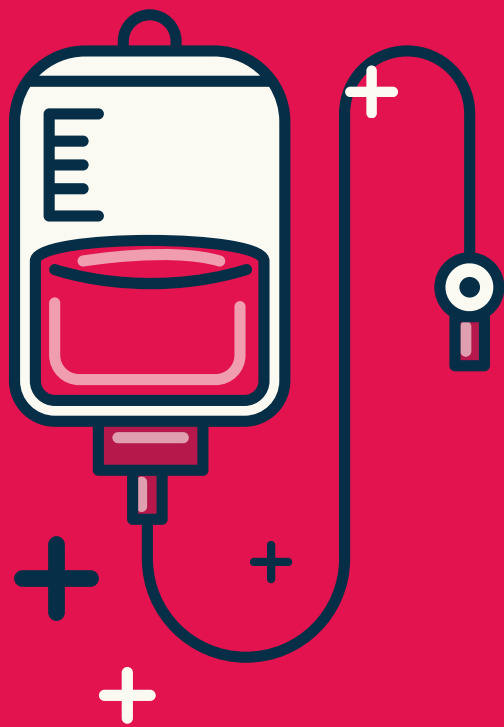
# Womens Day

8TH MARCH 2024

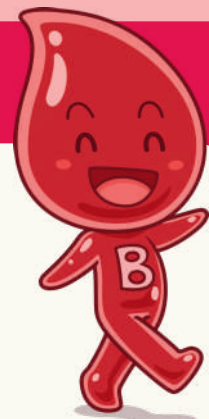
In honor of Women's Day, bright young minds from BTech 2nd and 3rd year organised and participated in a panel discussion about feminism and to reflect upon the evolving roles of women in society, the unique challenges they face and the contributions they make. The conversation started as the panelists shared their perspectives on how societal expectations impact their lives in career and everyday interactions. The panel, consisting of Devanshi, Parul, Ankita, and Divya, also addressed issues like gender bias, pay inequality and safety concerns.







+



# BLOOD DONATION DRIVE

8TH FEBRUARY 2024





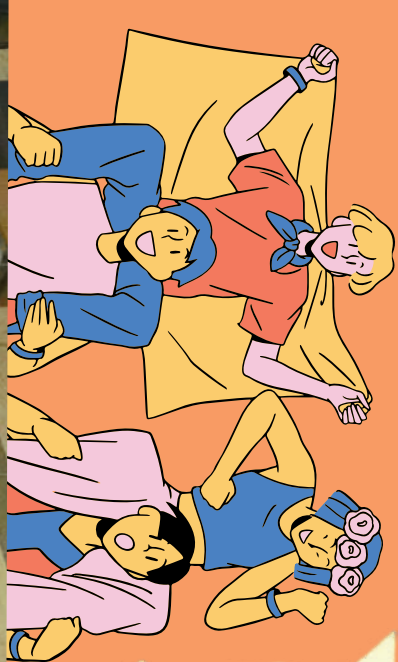


# दायित्व CLOTH DONATION DRIVE

26TH JANUARY 2024











IITRAM hosted the long-awaited annual Cultural Fest, 'ECHOES' in September this year. A first of its kind, the fest was the first of many successful undertakings of the Student Activity Center (SAC) and the culmination of long weeks of hard work from the Senate. ECHOES was held for 3 days, from 13th to 15th September and it was as vibrant as it gets here at IITRAM. Stand-up comedy performances, Competitions for performing arts, art exhibitions, food stalls, filmmaking competitions, and a grand musical night to mark the end of the fest. What more could one ask for?







# *Bidding Goodbye to the seniors - Farewell and Convocation*

5TH AUGUST 2024

The best memories,  
the best friends, the  
best mentors.  
Saying goodbye  
wasn't easy this  
year. But we had to.





# स्वतंत्रता दिवस

15TH AUGUST 2024

The 2024 Independence Day celebration upheld the values of freedom, valor, and nationalism, as it does every year. Various cultural performances such as dances, dramas, and music, eloquent speeches and poems and cries of 'Jay Hind!' resonated the campus walls.







# INTRA SPORTS EVENTS

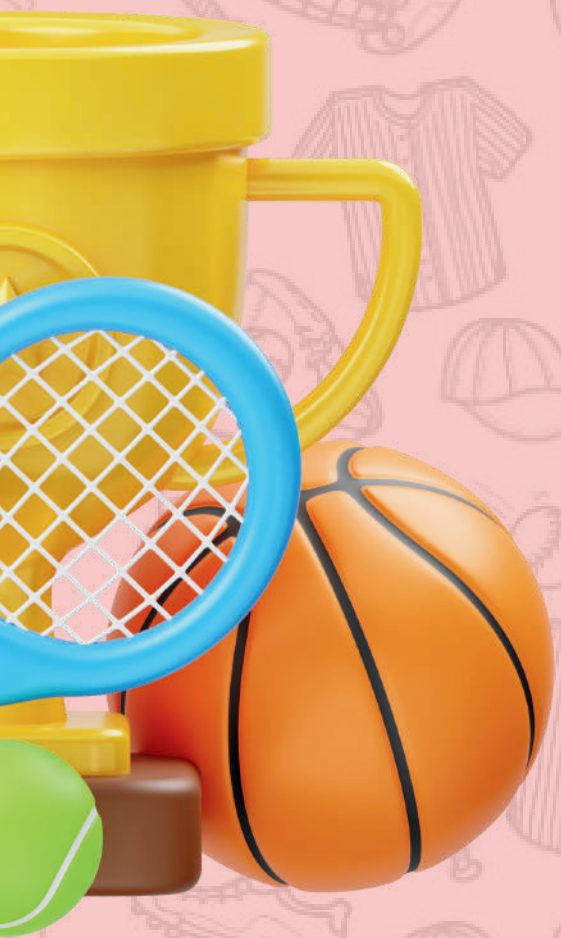
One cannot thank enough the active participants in the intra-IITRAM events every year, but even more praiseworthy are the organizers, the students who play the sport regularly and also manage the competitions, ensuring their fair and smooth execution.





# 'RA RTS NTS

The yeahs, the hurrahs, the teary-eyed moments, the fights, and the seniors are dearly missed. Bonds were created to last forever on these fields, and sports was the catalyst.







**PUBLISHED BY**  
**EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS, IITRAM**

**EXTCOMM@IITRAM.AC.IN**