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Dr. K. C. Raveendranath
Principal
College of Engineering, Trivandrum

As Principal of College of Engineering Thiruvananthapuram, I am immensely pleased to pen this introductory note to "Aakar", a unique venture by the updated student and professional (faculty) members of the Civil Engineering department. History vividly records that CET started functioning in 1939, with just a couple of engineering aspirants, and their training was oriented mainly to meet the demands of the world war II . Practice of Civil Engineering, even now, is a noble profession as providing a decent dwelling, inexpensively to the masses is formidable challenge. The Indian Concrete Institute and its affiliated student chapter is very vibrant with lots of activities in CET, as the student secretary reported. Such professional networking should be encouraged by the faculty at all times. I also take this opportunity to place on record my sincere gratitude and congratulations to the student/faculty editors of Aakar, and the whole team behind them, who made untiring efforts for the magazine brought by the ICI CET chapter. Happy reading the ICI Technical Magazine, Aakar!



Dr. P. G. Jairaj

Head of the Department

Department of Civil Engineering
College of Engineering, Trivandrum

It is with great pleasure that I write for the ICI students chapter technical magazine "aakar". ICI have been actively organising various events like Pantheon ,Ctalks,S.P.I.C.E ,and Daksha which enrich the students knowledge and give them experience to the real world of civil engineering that invites them when they are graduated .We have all just grazed the surface of the wonder, that is civil engineering .The bachelors curriculum is just an introduction to what lays ahead .It is the technical student bodies like ICI that take it one step further.

Hoping that the ICI students chapter grows better and better and touches more and more student hearts along the years to come.



Dr. Mini Soman

Coordinator,

ICI CET Students chapter

ICI CET student chapter since its inception in 2013 has been providing a platform for the students to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and experiences in the field . In the last year we have organised several technical visits , invited talks and training programmes to this end. The prestigious technical festival PANTHEON, launched with a view to provide an opportunity for technical knowledge upgradation and organisational skill development of the students was conducted successively for the second time in an exemplary manner with about 600 participants from across the state. DAKSHA a similar programme for the students of the chapter was also organized very successfully. Apart from this ICI cherish to give a humane face for the chapter with a vision to produce not only technically brilliant but socially responsible citizens . With this in view, one day repair and rehabilitation works at Govt. School, Marianad , was undertaken exclusively by the students of the chapter very successfully. About 70 students participated in this programme. We have also initiated peer mentoring activities to support students from rural areas and from weaker sectors of the society.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the support we received from ICI Trivandrum chapter and all sponsors of PANTHEON for helping us to make the year a fruitful one.



Prof. Biju. V

Coordinator, ICI CET Students Chapter

It is the third year since the conception of the ICI student Chapter in CET. No one could've comprehended the magnitude to which it would grow in such a small period of time. The students not only have their identities as CET-ians and as future Civil Engineers, but they also take pride in being members of the ICI family. It has been a joy to watch the growth of this unit. Enriching student lives; showing them the real world of civil engineering that lies beyond lectures and exams, pushing them to develop not only their technical knowledge but their individual personalities as well.

Aakar, the ICI Technical magazine is another icing on the cake. Very rare are student technical magazines in professional colleges. *Aakar* gives a platform for students to pen their thoughts and share their knowledge. It also broadens their technical perspectives. Here's hoping that the future brings greater achievements to this ever-growing family that is CET's very own ICI Student Body.



Milan S. Thottathil

Secretary, ICI Students Chapter, CET

The previous year marked an epoch in the history of Indian concrete Institute CET Students' chapter considering the changes that has been inculcated into the students' chapter functioning and the kind of leadership role that the chapter played in guiding our prestigious institution towards a new direction in its 78th year. The executive committee took charge when the college as a whole was in stagnation and had a large deficiency in student organised events inside the campus to promote and encourage both technical and non-technical events. The well represented executive committee took serious note of this circumstances and perspired to break this stagnation. ICI CET chapter with its 350 odd student members, with the guidance of dedicated faculty coordinators created a platform for every budding civil engineer to dream beyond the four walls of a classroom. We organised various Technical and Non-Technical Events in Various levels during the past year.

ICI CET STUDENTS' CHAPTER in its fourth year not just organised events and activities, but ushered in a structural reform in its leadership and functioning. Greater transparency of the executive decisions, Transparency in financial accounting, push for greater digitisation, inclusion of wider spectrum of students into the decision making process and greater push for imparting advanced technical know- how to student members were few of the reforms that were insinuated into the chapter .ICI chapter has become the backbone of student activities of civil engineering department and the hence an effort was made to organise events so as to create an interaction and bonding between the members belonging to different semesters. This effort payed off during the conduct of Pantheon, the national level technical fest which saw the whole student group working as a team for the successful conduct of the event.

.The year also saw various new additions to the ICI initiatives. The social services wing, Ctalks etc. were the new platforms for the chapter to develop and expand as it grows. The social services wing is actively engaged in making a difference in the lower niches of the society. The rehabilitation and repair works carried out at the Marianadu LP School and supply of medicine covers at primary health centre, engineering college, were some of the initiatives. Ctalks has also been a breath of fresh air, where new ideas are shared and effective learning takes place

The momentum was kept going throughout the year with regular industrial visits, workshops, sports events etc. The year also saw the comeback of Daksha, intradepartmental technical fest, organised for the members by the members. The event with almost 8 events which saw the student members actively participating for the top prizes.

Nothing is complete without mentioning the crown jewel of the chapter PANTHEON. Pantheon 3.0 was a marked difference from its previous editions. The event was conducted on two days and was a huge success with almost 650 participants across the state borders. The event created a new benchmark for the manner in which intercollegiate technical events are organised in Kerala. With all its vigour and energy to make a difference, and lead from the front, the ICI CET Students' Chapter has always actively engaged with the student community and their surroundings. Our aim has always been to nurture and support the civil engineering student community with utmost sincerity and we believe this year we were able to achieve the milestones set by us. With the right amount of dream and perspiration we believe the Chapter will scale greater heights and always be an asset to our prestigious institution



Aishwarya H. Chief Editor, Aakar

'Magic to one man is engineering to another.'

Being an ICI member is almost synonymous with being a civil engineering student at CET. ICI activities are the highlights of our technical student life. Events like Pantheon, Daksha and CETalks add colour to our everyday lives. It is the third edition of Aakar. I have been on the editorial board for all three editions, and this year it is my privilege to be the chief editor of ICI's technical magazine.

‘Aakar’ translates to ‘Shape’. And that’s precisely what each and every one of us is meant to do. We shape buildings. We shape our dreams. And we shape our thoughts and ideas. ‘Aakar’ is a platform that gives shape to the many technical (and non-technical) ideas that float through our minds shapelessly. This magazine is the culmination of our knowledge.

In my final year in the capacity as Chief Editor, I hand down this legacy, hoping that over the years, the thirst for knowledge becomes deeper, and our love for civil engineering only becomes greater.

EXECUTIVE 2016-17



MILAN S THOTTATHIL
SECRETARY



ZOHEB FAISAL
TREASURER



AMINUL HASSAN
EVENTS COORDINATOR



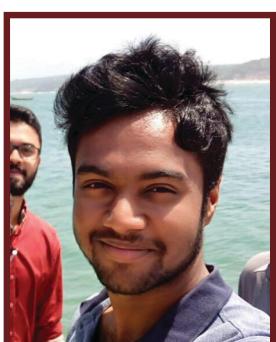
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TECHNICAL HEAD



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INDUSTRIAL VISITS HEADS



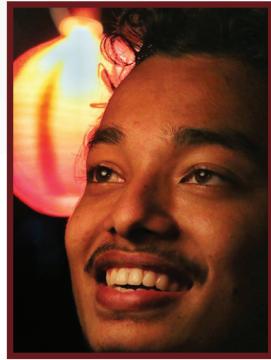
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MAGAZINE SUBHEAD



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B2D IN CHARGE



AKSHAY SUDHI
TECHNICAL TALK SERIES



PRASOON
JOINT EVENTS COORDINATOR



HANEENA KADHEEJA
SPICE IN CHARGE



SMRITHI
WORKSHOPS AND FB PAGE



GROUND IMPROVEMENT OF KUTTANAD CLAY USING PRESTRESSED GEOTEXTILES

By Naeem A.P., Rashid E.K., Sidharth A., V.S. Akshay Kumar, Zoheb Faisal ; S8

Kuttanad is a waterlogged area criss crossed with rivers and canals and it is below the mean sea level. The general characteristics of the clay soil is its high compressibility & very low shear strength. During the rainy season the water level

Increasing the height of the road by construction of an embankment will lead to consolidation of soils. Geotextile are prestressed under a prestressing force about 2-10% of the allowable tensile strength of the geotextile. The prestressed

geotextile is placed over the existing embankment. Another embankment can be constructed over the prestressed geotextile. The newly added load gets transferred by the prestressed geotextile as strain energy, thus reducing

the net load coming to the embankment below, reducing consolidation. This project is a study whether this technique is feasible or not. The concept of soil reinforcement is extensively used in many

Geotechnical structures including retaining walls, embankments, foundations, slopes, highway and airport pavements, and railway tracks are often placed beneath foundations to improve the settlement characteristics and load-bearing capacity of the weak foundation soils.

Geosynthetics are nowadays used for a lot of applications not only in geotechnical engineering. Most of the road construction projects all around the world have succeeded with the use of geosynthetic reinforcement. In low-lying areas with poor foundation soils, the geosynthetic reinforced granular bed can be placed over the weak soil. The resulting composite ground will improve the load carrying capacity of the footing and provide better pressure distribution on top of the underlying weak soils, hence, reducing the associated settlements, which is proven to be a cost-effective foundation system. It was found that the addition of prestress to reinforcement resulted in significant improvement in the load bearing capacity and reduction in settlement of foundation compared to its non-prestressed counterpart. The magnitude of prestressing force applied was equal to 2-10% of the tensile strength of the geotextile.

The addition of prestress to geogrid reinforcement significantly improves the bearing capacity of square footings supported on geosynthetic reinforced granular beds

overlying weak soil and settlement behaviour of the soil. Prestressing the geosynthetic reinforcement, results in increased load bearing capacity of soil without the occurrence of large settlements, as compared to geosynthetics without any prestress. The improvement in bearing capacity depends upon the thickness of granular bed, magnitude of prestress, direction of prestress and number of layers of reinforcement. The improvement in bearing capacity is found to be more with biaxial prestressing than uniaxial prestressing. The improvement in bearing capacity increases with the thickness of granular bed.

Photoelasticity can be effectively explored to experimentally measure the internal stresses in indeterminate structures with complicated shape and loading. Photoelasticity is an NDT, an experimental technique for stress and strain analysis that is particularly useful for members having complicated geometry, complicated loading conditions, or both.



NATIONAL HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

By Reshma M; S6

The National Highways Development Project is a project to upgrade, rehabilitate and widen major highways in India to a higher standard. The project was implemented in 1998 under the leadership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee. "National Highways" account for only about 2% of the total length of roads, but carry about 40% of the total traffic across the length and breadth of the country. This project is managed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) under the Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways. The NHAI has invested US\$71 billion for this project, as of 2006. The NHDp represents 49,260 km of roads and highways work and construction in order to boost economic development of the country.

The National Highways Development Project is composed of the following phases:

Phase I: The Golden Quadrilateral (GQ; 5,846 km) connecting the four major cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata. This project connecting four metro cities, would be 5,846 km (3,633 mi). Total cost of the project is Rs.300 billion (US\$6.8 billion), funded largely by the government's special petroleum product tax revenues and government borrowing. In January 2012, India announced the four-lane GQ highway network as complete.

Phase II: North-South and East-West corridors comprising national highways connecting four extreme points of the country. The

North-South and East-West Corridor (NS-EW; 7,142 km) connecting Srinagar in the north to Kanyakumari in the south, including spur from Salem to Kanyakumari (Via Coimbatore and Kochi) and Silchar in the east to Porbandar in the west. Total length of the network is 7,142 km (4,438 mi). As of 31 October 2016, 90.99% of the project had been completed, 5.47% of the project work is under Implementation and 3.52% of the total length is left. It also includes Port connectivity and other projects 435 km (270 mi). The final completion date to 28 February 2009 at a cost of Rs.350 billion (US\$8 billion), with funding similar to Phase I.



Phase III: The government recently approved NHDP-III to upgrade 12,109 km (7,524 mi) of national highways on a Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis, which takes into account high-density traffic, connectivity of state capitals via NHDP Phase I and II, and connectivity to centres of economic importance. Contracts have been awarded for a 2,075 km (1,289 mi).

Phase IV: The government is considering widening 20,000 km (12,000 mi) of highway that were not part of Phase I, II, or III. Phase IV will convert existing single-lane highways into two lanes with paved shoulders. The plan will soon be presented to the government for approval.

Phase V: As road traffic increases over time, a number of four-lane highways will need to be upgraded/expanded to six lanes. The current

plan calls for upgrade of about 5,000 km (3,100 mi) of four-lane roads, although the government has not yet identified the stretches.

Phase VI: The government is working on constructing expressways that would connect major commercial and industrial townships. It has already identified 400 km (250 mi) of Vadodara (earlier Baroda)-Mumbai section that would connect to the existing Vadodara (earlier Baroda)-Ahmedabad section. The World Bank is studying this project. The project will be funded on BOT basis. The 334 km (208 mi) Expressway between Chennai Bangalore and 277 km (172 mi) Expressway between Kolkata Dhanbad has been identified and feasibility study and DPR contract has been awarded by NHAI.

Yamuna Expressway

Phase VII: This phase calls for improvements to city road networks by adding ring roads to enable easier connectivity with national highways to important cities. In addition, improvements will be made to stretches of national highways that require additional flyovers and bypasses given population and housing growth along the highways and increasing traffic. The government has not yet identified a firm investment plan for this

phase. The 19 km (12 mi) long Chennai Port Maduravoyal Elevated Expressway is being executed under this phase.



LOOKING BACK...

By Nejla Ayesha; S8

One thing is for sure. Life is going to change. However slight it may be, the effects are going to be drastic .

I remember, four years ago, the very first day I stepped my foot on the land of CET, my alma mater.

The golden walkway was just a flight of stairs then, the buildings were huge, the roads all confusing, the campus a perfect stranger.

It was amazing how grand CET was being a fully government college. Admission procedures were quick and I was officially a CETIAN.

Returning home that evening, my eyes welled up thinking how miserable my life is going to be in this strange place 372 kms from home. Well, I didn't know then, how very wrong I was.

The initial college days were cliche. Unfamiliar faces, awkward glances, finding-my-type-of-person period. Eventually the hostel roomies initially forming small groups, which gradually got bigger and bigger, and later on turning to be the best buddies of life-family away from home.

I was one among those who were least bothered about the classes. No matter how hard the teachers guided us, we got inside the four walls just for the attendance. But now, just a footprint away from the peak, I realise how much all those were worth. When you realise the chrysalis is over and the butterfly is ready to fly.

Growing up here was not always easy and fun. We had our own share of unfortunate

experiences. Losing two of our dear friends was the hardest among them. The realisations became lessons for life. The pain and the regrets will always be buried deep in our hearts.

Looking back, the four years went by in a blur. From our Disha, where being a CETIAN turned into an emotion to the hyped "demos" of the last Sargam, from orange tags to losing tags, from Drishti and Dhwani to the election celebrations, from the late mornings to the long nights, from the trips and tours to the projects, assignments and exam rush, every single thing that helped me grow will be missed and cherished forever to come.

The transformation , from where I was then to what I am now, was slow yet immense. The evolution within me, the grit I gained, the way I see things now and how different it was before, how small things started to matter, how the once best things turned out to be not good enough anymore-all this, intensified 'that' something deep within me. I have definitely a lot more to go, a path to choose, a destiny to rewrite and I have to discover myself enroute but my roots are now firm, thanks to every road I have travelled especially this place. I am ready now.

Sometimes it feels like this college was never the same, the thinning pancharakkad which once witnessed thousands of "sweet" moments, the buildings popping up, changing generations... And sometimes it feels like this college never changed, the vibe , the spirit, the engineers or rather human beings it produces... I wonder how many decades of stories the walls and corridors of this place holds and treasures within. For outsiders it might be just the best college in the state but for us it is definitely more than that - our second home.

THE GOLDEN QUADRILATERAL

By Reshma M; S6

The Golden Quadrilateral is a highway network connecting many of the major industrial, agricultural and cultural centres of India. A quadrilateral of sorts is formed by connecting Chennai, Kolkata, Delhi and Mumbai, and hence its name. Other metropolises also connected by the network are Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhubaneswar, Jaipur, Kanpur, Pune, Surat, Nellore, Vijayawada and Guntur.

The largest highway project in India and the fifth longest in the world, started by NDA Government led by Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee it is the first phase of the National Highways Development Project (NHDP), and consists of building 5,846 km (3,633 mi) four/six lane express highways at a cost of 600 billion (US\$8.9 billion). The project was launched in 2001 by Atal Bihari Vajpayee under the NDA government, and was completed in 2012.

The vast majority of the Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) is not access controlled, although safety features such as guardrails, shoulders, and high-visibility signs are in use.

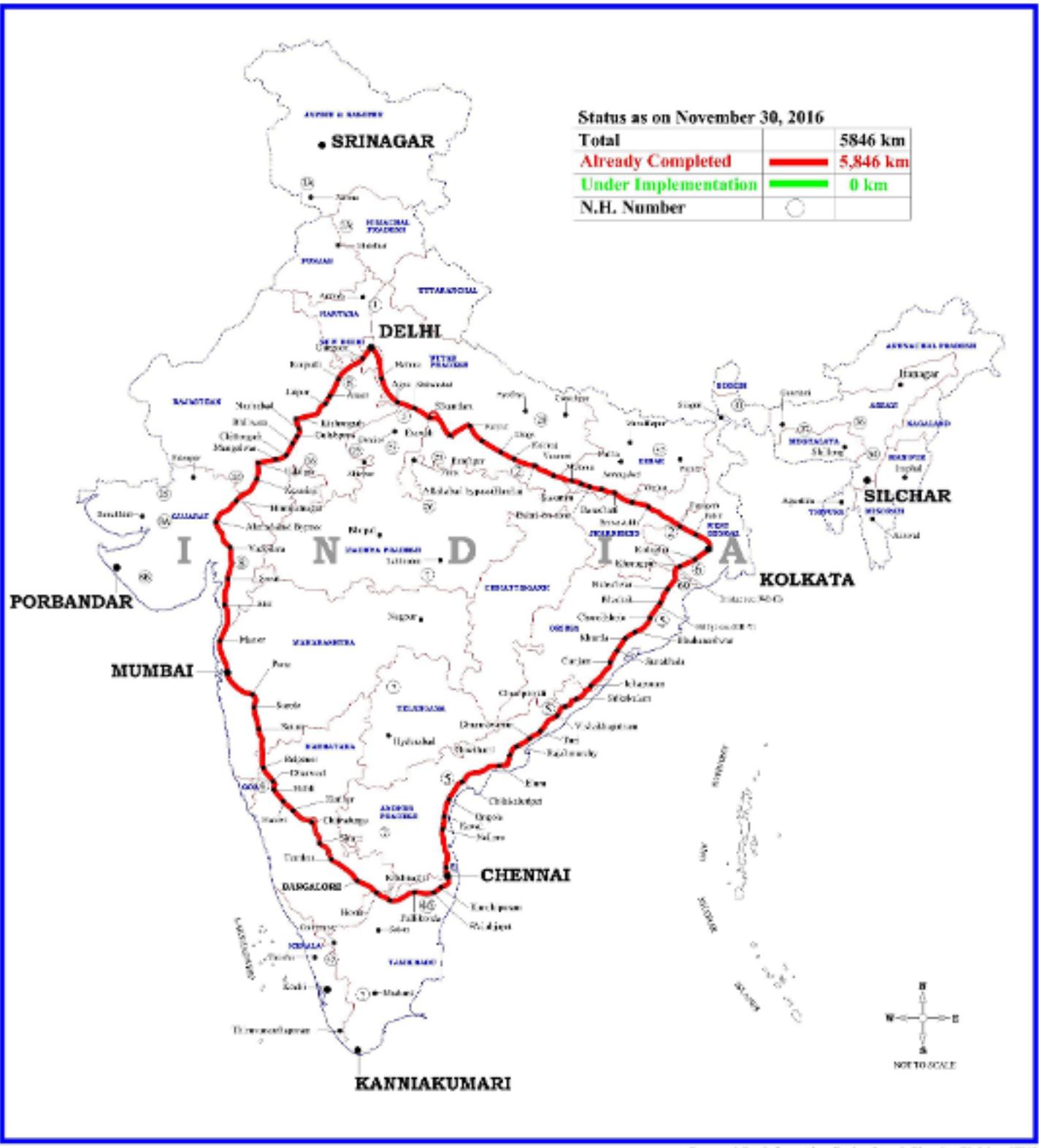
The vast majority of the Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) is not access controlled, although safety features such as guardrails, shoulders, and high-visibility signs are in use.

The GQ project is managed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) under the Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways. The Mumbai-Pune Expressway, the first controlled-access toll road to be built in India is a part of the GQ Project as it was not funded by NHAI, and separate from the main highway. Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS) has been one of the major contributors to the infrastructural development activity in the GQ project. It is a project that came in 1999 and initiated in 2001 by Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. It was projected to connect four metropolitan cities of India: Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata. The project consisted of constructing four and six-lane express highways. The project was planned to be completed by 2006 but due to delays (like land acquisition, awarding contracts, zoning challenges, and funding problems) it got completed in 2012.



NATIONAL HIGHWAYS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT GOLDEN QUADRILATERAL

India's Golden Quadrilateral
NADP
Under Construction Sector



Prepared By: Information Technology & Planning Division, NHAI



QUALITY CONTROL OF RCC STRUCTURES ON SITE

It is said that a good day starts with a sound sleep during the previous night. Similarly, a good concreting is possible only with certain works done in advance before the day of concreting. In this discussion, the important parameters prior to and during concreting to obtain a good quality RCC member is overviewed. A few related issues are also touched upon.

RCC is the most popular construction material used in the world, due to its various advantages. But it has a major disadvantage , that skilled supervision and on site decision making is necessary at various stages of concreting- from storage of constituents till removal of formwork.. Hence, quality control at site is of utmost importance.

By Aishwarya H., Aswathy Shaji, Manisha Asok ; S8

With brief inputs from Ganesh R., Assistant Executive Engineer, Kerala Water Authority

Quality of materials

Since concrete is a heterogeneous material, the primary step is to ensure the quality of the constituent materials- Cement, Fine Aggregate, Coarse Aggregate, Water and Reinforcement Steel. For all the constituents, the laboratory tests as per IS Codes should be carried out ,by competent authorities, in site laboratories or in Government approved agencies like Government Engineering Colleges ,NHRI, etc. Matching of test results with the IS Specification should be confirmed. Sampling should also be in conformity with codal provision

Cement should be stored in watertight platforms, elevated from the ground , away from walls and protected against any other possible contact with dampness. Hooks shall not be used while unloading from truck, as it will result in tearing of bags. Manufacturing date and BIS marking on the bag should be noted. In case of OPC, grade should also be verified. PPC shall not be substituted for OPC.

Steel should be protected from corrosion.

PROCESS	CONTROL MEASURE
1. Batching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weigh batching is preferred to volume batching. • All foreign matter should be removed from fine and coarse aggregate. • Accurate measurement is imperative. • Bulking of fine aggregate should be accounted in calculation of W/C ratio and weight of fine aggregate.
2. Mixing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machine mixing is preferred over hand mixing. • Mixing should be uniform. • The blades of the mixer should be checked to ensure proper working.
3. Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segregation is likely to occur due to undulations on the road. It is necessary to ensure that there is no loss of water after transportation. • Concrete sets in 30 minutes, so duration of transportation should be minimum.
4. Placing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete should not be dropped from a height greater than 1m as it may result in segregation. • Positions of reinforcement base should not be disturbed.
5. Compaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete should be neither under nor over compacted. There is no guideline regarding compaction time. The thumb rule is that compaction is satisfactory when air bubbles stop forming on the concrete surface, and when no further subsidence of concrete occurs. • The same area should not be compacted twice. The needle of the vibrator should be so placed that there is no overlapping of compacted area. A standby vibrator including needle and fuel.
6. Curing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most underestimated process in concrete. 28 day curing is necessary and the water should be replenished as soon as it dries up.

Safety at site

Safety of workers is critical. The workers should be equipped with fully covered boots, gloves, helmets and safety belts (for high-rise buildings). It should be ensured that the conditions at site are safe enough to move around without any possibility of injuries (open pits should be clearly visible/marked, trenches should be fenced wherever required, sharp protruding items properly covered, etc). Proper lighting arrangements should be ensured at night. Safety Engineer's service should be insisted upon as per Contract conditions.

Labour camps

Periodic inspection of labour camps should be conducted through a Statutory Authority like Labour Officer and a hygienic living environment with proper sanitation facilities should be ensured. Health card for labourers , issued by a Medical Officer is also relevant.

In the context of increased migrant labourers, contractor should be asked to produce photo identity cards and proof of age of labourers. A copy of the same shall be handed over to the Inspector of Police, with intimation .

Other general considerations

- FIFO (First In First Out) arrangement should be followed for storing cement.
- The field engineer should have a copy of the mix design ready for reference at any time.
- If the source/characteristics of the sample changes, mix design has to be done again.
- If the source/characteristics of the sample changes, mix design has to be done again.
- In case the contractor is responsible for obtaining mix design through a competent authority, the sample of constituents for mix design should be collected in the presence of field engineer.
- Cover blocks should be cast with mortar and properly cured. They should be sufficiently strong.
- Formwork should be removed gently without causing any impact to member. Props should be kept for the required time after removal of formwork.
- Availability of materials for estimated quantity of concreting is to be ensured.
- Shelf life of cement should be checked before use.



Curing of slab by ponding



-For slabs, thickness gauges should be sufficiently prepared Passage for inspection (wooden planks, stairs, ladder) to be ensured.

-Sufficient moulds for preparation of cubes, and slump cone with compacting rod should be ensured.

-Concrete cubes should be given a clear identification mark.

-Successive mixer loads should be dumped only after previous loads are fully used.

-In the case of RMC, vehicle operation to ensure continuous availability to be ensured. Provision for parking also may be looked upon.

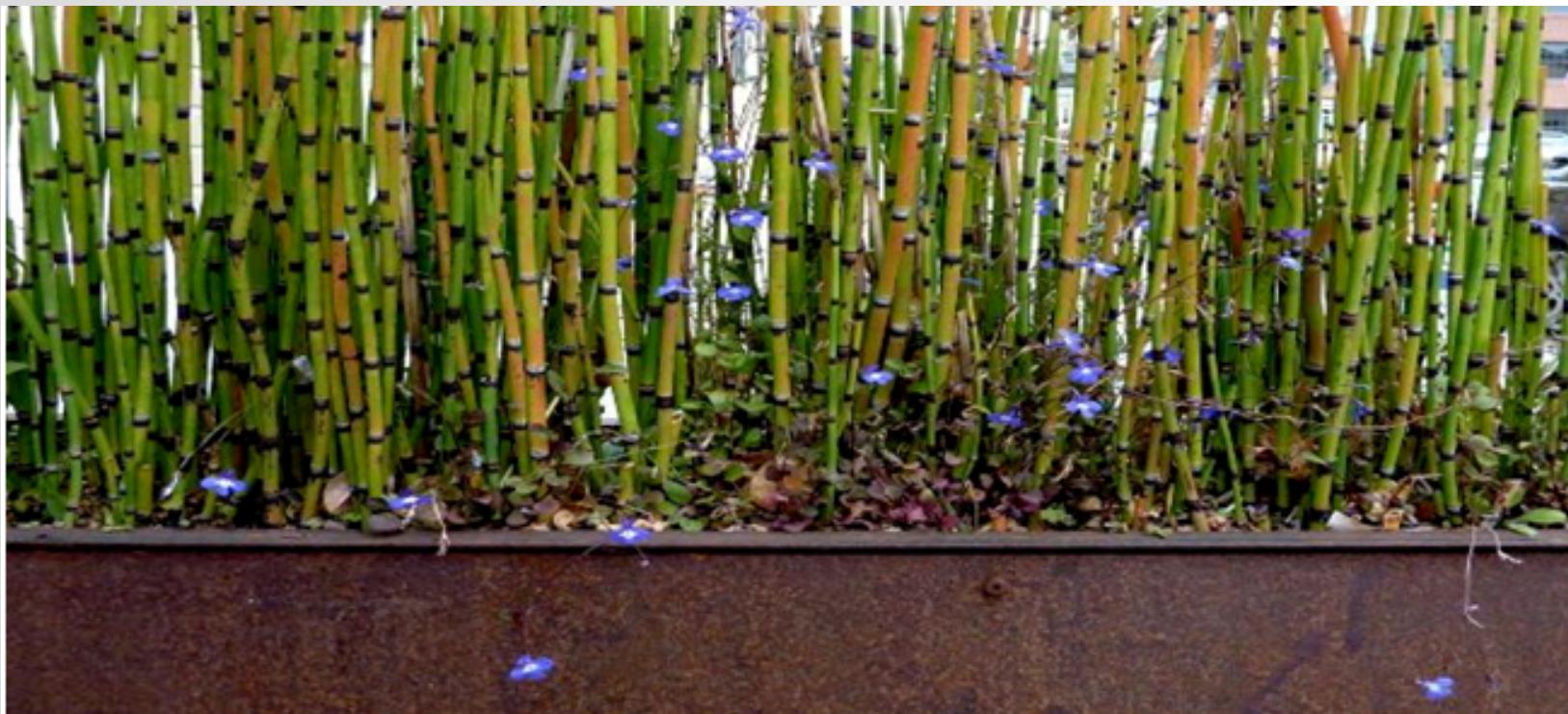
-Standby vibrators, adequate fuel and a technician for vibrators and

mixer should be ensured Tarpaulin/blankets should be ensured to cover concreted member in case rain is anticipated.

-First Aid Box is to be ensured. Also, a vehicle with driver for service in the case of accident.

Many defects in concrete like cracks, leakage, spalling etc are due to the neglect in one or more of the above areas. By having proper supervision, these defects can be prevented, and the performance of the structure can be improved substantially.

By having preliminary knowledge, being alert during the entire process and with a determined attitude, these activities can be implemented. The management should ensure competent human resources for achieving the desired objective.



LANDSCAPE NOISE CONTROL

By Kanjana Raj; S8

A sound attenuation barrier is most effective when located closest to the source of the sound.

Large shrubby trees can also be effective at scattering sound waves. The deeper and more dense the barrier the greater its scattering potential.

1. Sound Absorption

This method uses plants to entrap or absorb sound vibrations. It is the most commonly used, particularly for large scale applications.

Sound is absorbed by all parts of the plant such as leaves, branches, twigs and wood. The rougher the bark the better it absorbs sound. Experts say the best species for this will have many branches and thick, fleshy leaves with thin petioles (leaf stem). These broadleaf species lose their effectiveness in the winter when deciduous. Fortunately they leaf out for

maximum advantage during the months when windows are open and you're spending time outdoors. In warm climates many more broadleaf evergreens can be used all year around.

2. Sound Deflection and Reflection

This method causes the noise to bounce away from the recipient and sometimes back toward the source. The difference is based upon the density and rigidity of the barrier. Your designer can create attractive and effective partitions that may serve as a fence, but also double as sound barriers.

3. Sound Refraction

This little known effect occurs when noise is dissipated, diffused or dispersed by striking a rough surface on any plain. It's easier to understand using a room of your house as an example. If it is empty with a bare floor and walls, every sound bounces off the hard surfaces to magnify it or even cause a slight echo as it bounces around. Add carpeting and the echo vanishes.

4. White Noise

This is a very different solution than the first three. It is designed to create sound that is appealing to the human brain as a mask for undesirable noise. The most widely used method is a fountain that makes loud splashes.. A landscape where absorption, deflection or refraction solutions are in place can help a smaller fountain become far more effective than one might think.

Creating effective sound attenuation requires a professionally trained designer who is well aware of the nuances of all these techniques. For more serious projects a civil engineer may be able to put serious mitigation measures into place. The nature of noise and its source are so highly variable that the viable solutions may be few and only partially effective.





DEMONETISATION AND IT'S IMPACT ON REALTY SECTOR

By Jubin James; S6

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 8 Nov,2016 said the Indian Economy was a bright spot but corruption and black money were destabilising the country.In a surprise address to the nation,the Prime Minister took the fight against black money to a new level and scrapped the use of Rs500 and Rs1000 notes which was effective from midnight of November8.This meant the notes would no longer be legal tender.

It is high time to tame the wild rumours and uninformed angst about the impact of demonetisation — and other macroeconomic and policy changes in 2016 — on the Indian real estate sector. While the demonetisation initiative by the Central government means further delays in ongoing real estate projects due to the massive cash crunch, it also paves the way for a cleaner and more transparent real estate industry in the times to come. Developers will now look for alternative

funding arrangements while end-users or investors will wait for more certainty before making any move.



Short-term Impact:

Market to undergo a slowdown. The sudden ban on Rs 500 and Rs 1000 currency notes has resulted in a situation of limited or no cash in the market to be parked in real estate assets. This has subsequently translated into an abrupt fall in housing demand across all budget categories in the short term. While a share of this dwindled demand could be attributed to distractions caused by the move, many industry experts opine that this is a result of a trust deficit in the market. Money has become dearer, leading to cautious spending and minimal transactions.

Mid-term Impact:

Reduced inflation, better home ownership appetite, improved rental landscape. With limited money floating in the economy, the inflation rates are expected to fall in the next 2-3 quarters. This, coupled with key policy developments such as speculative repo rate cuts by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), could mean a better home ownership appetite. However, this could be restricted to the affordable housing category.

The heavily cash-dependent secondary market could bear a colossal brunt of the demonetisation move. With the gap between circle rates and market rates bridging, owners would reduce 'ask' prices, impacting the average housing prices across cities. Resale properties would, thus, become cheaper and this could pressurise the primary market, as well. Developers might offer new projects at discounted rates or propose incentives to magnetise buyers.

Long-term Impact:

Transparency, revived trust and capital inflows in the realty sector. The real estate sector is expected to get cleansed of its ailments in the due course of time owing to the elimination of black money clubbed with multiple regulatory changes such as the Goods and Services Tax Act, Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act and amendment of the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act. Subsequently, project approvals will be quicker, resulting in a substantial reduction in the total cost of construction, thereby, the 'per unit' cost. Fair pricing would mean a revived demand for new projects in the market.

Demonetisation could also mean fresh sources of funding for developers to complete their projects. The real estate sector could witness a major revolution with cash transactions getting eliminated and a major share of trades going online with the penetration of alternative forms of payment such as E-wallets, apps and plastic money. The good news is that the GDP of Q3(oct-dec) of India surprised at 7.1%, a tad slower than 7.4% in the previous quarter but much faster than 6.4% expansion forecast by major economists. To sum it up, the demonetization of old currency has ushered a new era for the real estate industry in India that would be transparent, corruption-free, organised and veracious.

DYNAMIC TOWER



After thousands of years in which buildings are static, David Fisher's dynamic skyscraper is an important step ahead towards future architecture. Each floor of 80 storey building is designed to rotate independently in changing the shape of the tower. Each floor will rotate a maximum of 6 meters per minute. It will take 90 minutes to make a complete revolution. It can be controlled by voice command.



STRUCTURE DETAILS

The structure is based on reinforced on reinforced core of about 22m diameter that carries all the vertical loads.

About the rotation of floors:

The rotation of floors is done with steel bearings and combination of air cushion, allowing the floors to rotate smoothly and with no vibrations.

About floors:

The floor will be made of steel structure becoming a monolithic platform with a cantilever upto 15 meters.

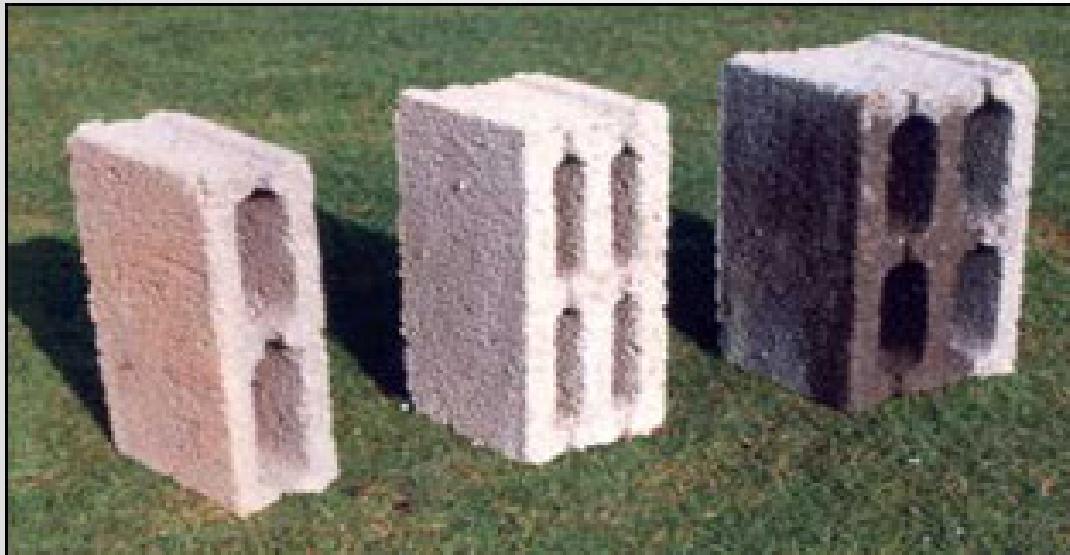
The floor will be connected to the core in the way that will allow continuous rotation to either direction with no vibration or noise.

There is limited power of about 4 kW required to rotate a floor. The drive system is situated in the base of each floor so it cannot be seen in the same time it allows easy maintenance when required.

In addition, the dynamic tower will also be generating its own energy for use, thanks to

79 wind turbines located between the floors. It will also have solar panels which will coat both the roof of building and roof of each level. As it runs out, the excess energy generated from wind turbines and solar panels can produce enough electricity to power five more buildings of same size. By combing the motion, given energy and efficient construction the dynamic tower will change the scope of architecture and will start the new era of dynamic living.

LOW-COST CONSTRUCTION



Rat trap bond : Rat trap bond is a brick masonry method of wall construction, in which bricks are placed in vertical position instead of conventional horizontal position and thus creating a cavity (hollow space) within the wall.

Filler slab: Filler slab technology is a simple and a very innovative technology for a slab construction. Reinforced cement concrete work for RCC filler slab using old M.P. tiles, two layers as filler and cement concrete 1:2:4 mix. Including hire and labour charges for form work, mixing, placing and compacting concrete, bending typing and reinforcement in position and curing etc., complete.

Ferro cement material : Ferro-cement is a type of thin wall reinforced concrete construction where usually hydraulic cement is reinforced with layer of continuous and relatively small diameter mesh. Mesh may be made of metallic materials or other suitable materials.



RAT TRAP BOND



FILLER SLAB

Hollow concrete block: Made out of concrete mix of suitable proportion. This is made by using cement, sand and metal chips and normally manufactured in a yard. · Compressive strength: 35 kg/cm² and above. 8 Sizes: 40x40x20 cm, 40x20x15 cm, 40x20x10 cm. Cost savings: 23% with respect to country burnt bricks.

Brick arches: Made with brick and cement mortar. A mould of circular or segmental shape is made and brick is laid on the mould with mortar. When mould is removed, an arch is formed. Better compression resistance. Cost savings: 40% with respect to concrete lintels

Concrete door and window frames: Made of concrete mix 1:2:4 by using 20 mm metal drips. It is reinforced in order to overcome tensile force coming over. The mould of required dimension is made in steel and is used to cast it. Reinforcement is placed in position. Wooden plugs are also fixed for fixing shutters

Rubble filler block: These blocks are made of rock boulders which are locally available. These boulders are bound together with the help of thin cement mortar say 1:8. A mould made of steel or wood in the required dimension is used for casting the block. Thin cement concrete may also be used as binders.

Funicular shells: Funicular shells are doubly walled precast concrete units and which owes its strength to its shape. The casted shells are placed between small concrete beams having necessary reinforcements to take up the dead load of the shells. Reinforcements are provided only at the periphery. Their dimension is 90cmX2.5cm.

Ferro cement slab: Made by using cement mortar of 1:2 mix and weld mesh(20 gauge) and chicken

mesh (10 gauge).The weld mesh and chicken mesh are bound together to form a skeleton, then it is plastered with rich cement mortar.

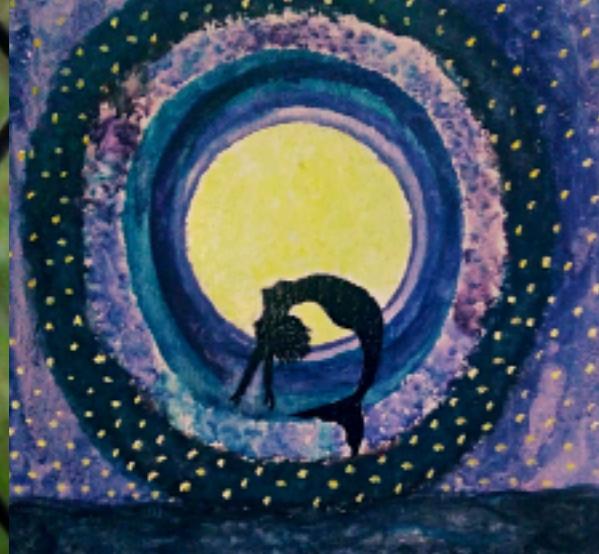
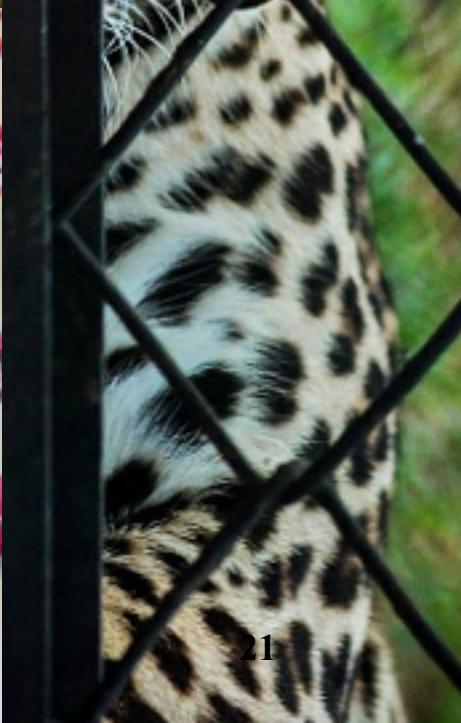
Ferro cement water tank: Made by using cement mortar of 1:2 mix and weld mesh(20 gauge) and chicken mesh (10 gauge).The weld mesh and chicken mesh are bound together to form a skeleton, then it is plastered with rich cement mortar.



KALEIDOSCOPE

Student Art and Photography

Clockwise from top right: Hari Krishnan (S6); Aishwarya H.(S8); Merin Mathew (S8); Aju Ani Justus(S4); Smrithi Prasas (S8); Vivek Daniel (S8)





PANTHEON 3.0

Pantheon is an inter college technical fest organized by the ICI student's chapter of College of Engineering, Trivandrum exclusively for the civil students from all over the country. The competition seeks talent exhibiting potential to be titled the best among the amateur civil engineers who are at the doorsteps of entering the professional world. This year we launched the third version of Pantheon, with a whole new palette of colors. The event took to a higher level this year, with a total of ten events and three workshops. The event witnessed a wide participation, with over 650+ students from around the state.

Events conducted as part of Pantheon:

1. Event-X

Event X, the main event of pantheon 3.0, was a technical event which tested the potential and talent of aspiring civil engineers. The event was conducted on September 30th. A total of 36 teams (around 140 students) from various engineering colleges in the state participated. 5 teams were shortlisted after the preliminary round, which consisted of objective and short answer type technical questions. In the second round, the teams completed a series of civil engineering tasks which comprised of rock specimen identification, specific gravity determination, anthropometry and a civil based crossword. In round three, a plot was surveyed using plane table and in round four, the teams designed a single storeyed house for the plot they surveyed. In round five, a scaled model of the planned building was made out of forex sheets. In round six, the teams were asked to market their plans and model in front of a panel of judges. The winners were found out based on the cumulative points from round two onwards. The first prize of Rs 20000 was won by the team lead by Manu K Soman from TKM College of Engineering.

2. Alphaminds

Alphaminds was an innovative paper presentation event. The competition was conducted on 30th September. The topic was given a week before Pantheon and the students were asked to send in abstracts. The topic given to the students were "Latest innovations in Civil Engineering (with emphasis on their applications in India) or Case study of major Engineering Disasters in India." Only the best twelve abstracts were selected to the next round. The competition saw different styles of presentation and all the students were well aware of the topic. After the presentation there was a questioning round, where the judges asked the students from their presentation. Based on the presentation and the performance in the questioning round, the students were awarded. Dr. Jeenu G and Dr. Ajitha Bhaskar were the judges of the event. The first prize of Rs 6000 was won by Sheetal S J.

3. Cad Drawing

As part of PANTHEON 3.0, Cad drawing competition was conducted successfully on 30th September 2016. The competition was conducted in two stages, aptitude test and drawing. 62 teams wrote the aptitude test from which 15 teams were selected for the main drawing competition. The question was given by INTERCAD. The participants were asked to draw the plan of ground floor and 1st floor of a residential building along with the cross section. The winners of the event were decided by Prof. Biju V and Samuel D Sagar . The first prize of Rs 5000 was won by Akhil K Nair and Ashik N from Mohandas CET Trivandrum.

4. Best Engineer

Best Engineer is an event which has always been popular among the students, right from the first edition of Pantheon. It tests the technical knowledge of students in the civil engineering domain. The event turned out to be a huge success as expected with an overwhelming participation of 60+ students. The judges of the event were Dr. K Girija, Dr. R Padmakumar, Dr. Bindhu K R and Prof Abhilash(MBA Dept). Nihal A Saleem of NIT Calicut became the best engineer and won Rs 12000.

5. Situation Management

Situation management was an event which tested the capability of the participant to handle the situation ahead of time which would demand technical skill as well as creativity. It was conducted on October 1st. The event consisted of three rounds. The first round was a general aptitude test which consisted of 25 questions and each team consisting of two participants were allotted 20 minutes time. Out of the 40 teams, who wrote the aptitude, 15 teams were shortlisted for the second round. In the second round, the teams were asked to analyze an image, video and a statement and were also asked to find a solution for each by relating each problem to civil engineering field. The judges were Prof. Thulasidharan T and Dr. Ajith G. Nair. 5 teams were shortlisted to the next round. In the final round, the teams were asked to construct a building model based on certain situations such as wind direction, direction of north, available resources etc.

6. Creatrix

Creatrix is an event which tests the structural knowledge of students. The students had to use their intellects to create a model with limited resources and time frame to withstand the adverse load conditions. The event was conducted on 1st October 2016. It consisted of two rounds. There was a preliminary written test in which 27 teams participated. The top five teams were selected to the next round. The participants had to attempt the 20 technical questions in the test within 30 minutes. Since the event involved, testing of models the teams were called for round two after specific intervals. Each team was given 150 ice cream sticks and 25 gm Glue to construct their model. The time limit to make the model was 100 minutes. Within the time frame, the participants had to build a 3D structure of minimum height 30 cm and base area 15cm X 15cm, and minimum top area 10cm X 10cm. The students were given a 10 minutes cool off time before the models were taken for testing. The models were tested in the blower type wind tunnel present in the Fluid Mechanics lab. The maximum wind speed was 18mps. The team which secured first place created a model which withstood a wind velocity of 17mps.

7. Build My City

It was for the first time in the history of college technical fests that a 'Town Planning Gaming' event was conducted, for which SIMCITY, a well renowned virtual city building game, was utilised. The event received a huge acceptance among the contestants as they assured their utmost interest and participation, experiencing a new perspective of town planning event in their life as an engineering student. The 'Build My City' team, could positively conduct the event in 2 batches on a day and so they could successfully conduct a total of 4 batches of the event in two days of Pantheon 3.0. The event attracted a huge number of contestants, including students from other districts of Kerala and even from other states! The contestants of each batch were scheduled to build their own virtual cities in 120 minutes. Judgments were efficiently based on three basic criteria that the game gave out at each stage of the contestant's quest for building their own cities – approval rating by the people in the built city, city's savings and city's population at the 120th minute. For each 120min batch, cash prizes of Rs.2000 and Rs.1000 were awarded for the first and second prize winners respectively. This gaming event saw a participation of fourteen teams in each batch, summing up a total of almost 150 individual registrations in the two day event.

8. Mix Design Workshop

The mix design workshop was conducted at College of Engineering Trivandrum on September 30th and October 1st and was handled by Ultratech Cements. The co-ordination team was a team of eight members comprising of two coordinators from fourth year and six volunteers from second year.

9. Etabs Workshop

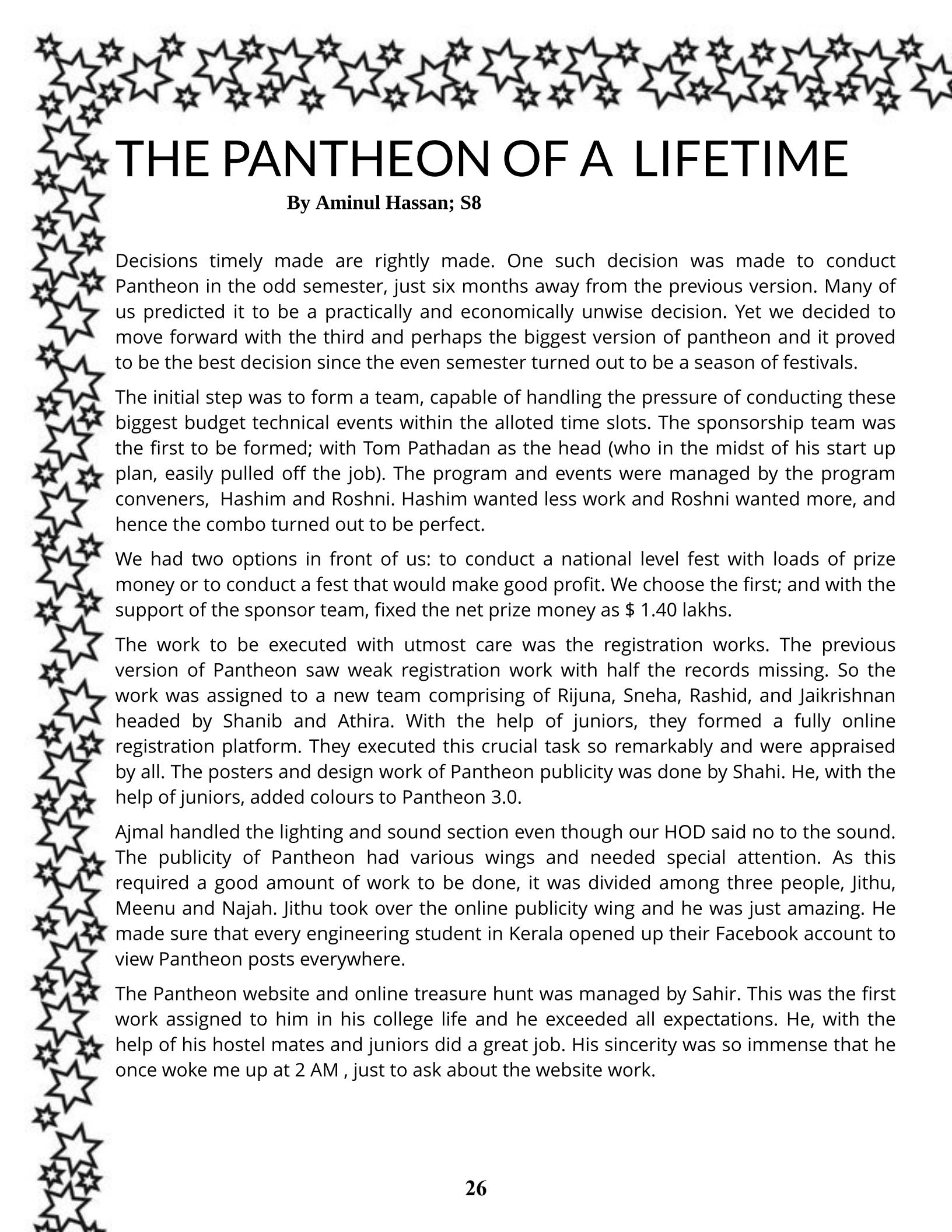
The ETABS workshop was conducted at College of Engineering Trivandrum on September 30th and was handled by faculties from InterCAD. The co-ordination team was a team of eight members comprising of two coordinators from fourth year and six volunteers from second year. Lab facilities for the event were arranged by the team. Participants for the workshop were led to the Sri ChitraThirunaal computer lab where the classes for Etab workshop were arranged. There were a total of about 70-80 students. They included a few who came via spot registration. The class was engaged by two faculties from InterCAD. The students got the opportunity to familiarise with the leading structural analysis software. Classes comprised of two sessions.

10. Revit Workshop

The REVIT workshop was conducted at College of Engineering Trivandrum on October 1st and was handled by faculties from InterCAD. The co-ordination team was a team of eight members comprising of two coordinators from fourth year and six volunteers from second year. Lab facilities for the event were arranged by the team. Participants for the workshop were led to the Civil DCF and Architecture computer lab where the classes for Revit workshop were arranged. There were a total of fifty one students. Twenty nine students were seated in the Architecture computer lab and twenty two in the Civil DCF. They included a few who came via spot registration as well. Each class was engaged by two of their faculties. The software they dealt was REVIT 2016. The students got the opportunity to familiarise with the leading 3-D design software. Classes comprised of two sessions. Classes at both the venues ended at 4:00 pm. Refreshments were provided for everyone at the end of the workshop.

Closing ceremony

The Closing Ceremony of Pantheon 3.0 was held at CETAA Hall on Oct 1 at 4.00pm. Prof.Neena Thomas, U.G. Dean, CET presided over the meeting . The welcome speech was delivered by Dr.Mini Soman, ICI Staff Coordinator. Aminul Hassan,Pantheon 3.0 Convenor, gave a brief explanation about the various events and working of Pantheon. Dr.Jayaraj P.G.,HOD Civil Engineering,CET spoke about the role of Pantheon in bringing out the potential and talents of young aspiring engineers. Velapgy Madhumohan, Chairman, ICI Trivandrum Chapter and S.AnwarHussain, Secretary, ICI Trivandrum Chapter explained the working and activities conducted under the ICI Trivandrum Chapter. K.G.K.Moorthy and Prof.Biju V gave the felicitation speech about the successful conduction of Pantheon 3.0.The Prize Distribution for the winners of Pantheon 3.0 was also held during the meeting. The vote of thanks was delivered by Milan S. Thottathil, ICI Secretary, CET Chapter.



THE PANTHEON OF A LIFETIME

By Aminul Hassan; S8

Decisions timely made are rightly made. One such decision was made to conduct Pantheon in the odd semester, just six months away from the previous version. Many of us predicted it to be a practically and economically unwise decision. Yet we decided to move forward with the third and perhaps the biggest version of pantheon and it proved to be the best decision since the even semester turned out to be a season of festivals.

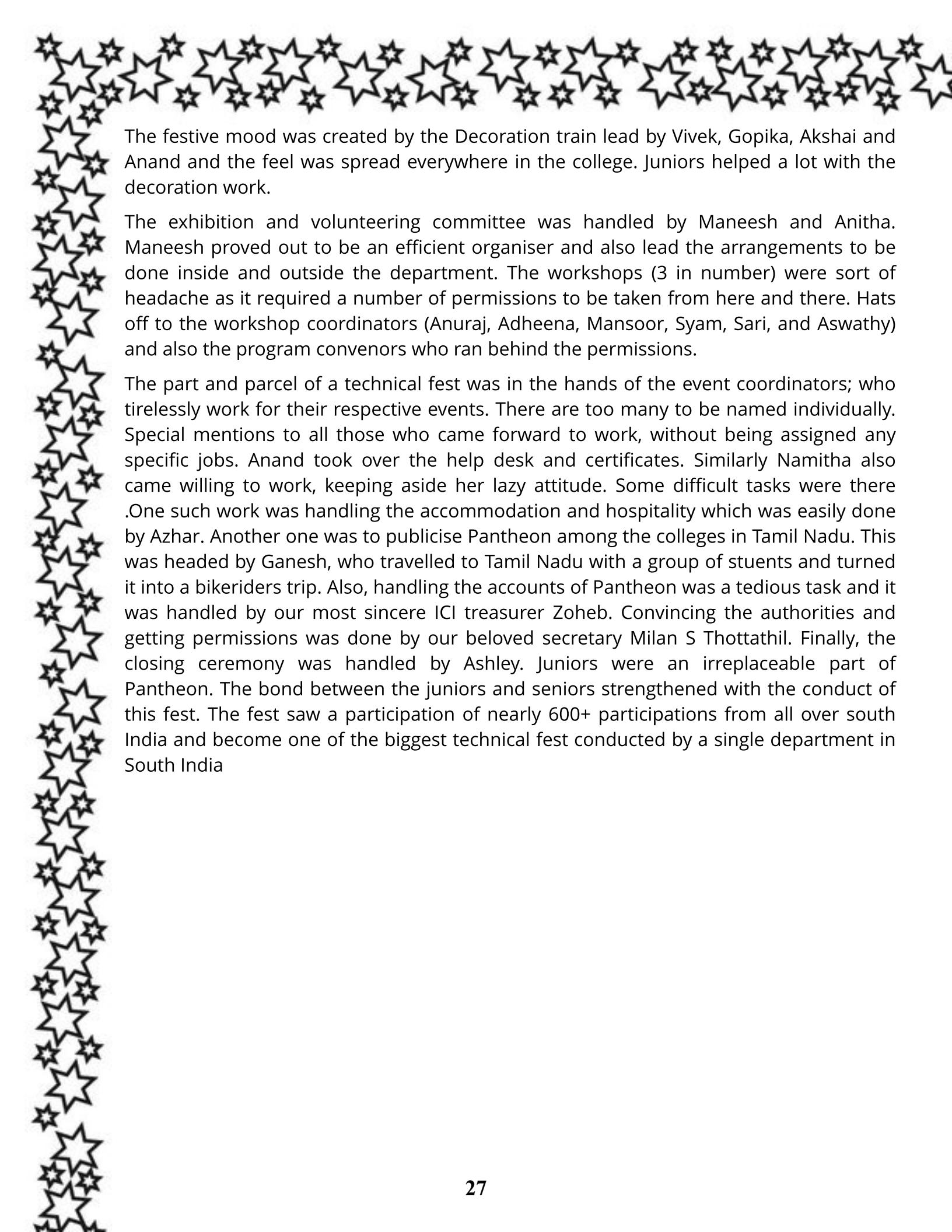
The initial step was to form a team, capable of handling the pressure of conducting these biggest budget technical events within the allotted time slots. The sponsorship team was the first to be formed; with Tom Pathadan as the head (who in the midst of his start up plan, easily pulled off the job). The program and events were managed by the program conveners, Hashim and Roshni. Hashim wanted less work and Roshni wanted more, and hence the combo turned out to be perfect.

We had two options in front of us: to conduct a national level fest with loads of prize money or to conduct a fest that would make good profit. We choose the first; and with the support of the sponsor team, fixed the net prize money as \$ 1.40 lakhs.

The work to be executed with utmost care was the registration works. The previous version of Pantheon saw weak registration work with half the records missing. So the work was assigned to a new team comprising of Rijuna, Sneha, Rashid, and Jaikrishnan headed by Shanib and Athira. With the help of juniors, they formed a fully online registration platform. They executed this crucial task so remarkably and were appraised by all. The posters and design work of Pantheon publicity was done by Shahi. He, with the help of juniors, added colours to Pantheon 3.0.

Ajmal handled the lighting and sound section even though our HOD said no to the sound. The publicity of Pantheon had various wings and needed special attention. As this required a good amount of work to be done, it was divided among three people, Jithu, Meenu and Najah. Jithu took over the online publicity wing and he was just amazing. He made sure that every engineering student in Kerala opened up their Facebook account to view Pantheon posts everywhere.

The Pantheon website and online treasure hunt was managed by Sahir. This was the first work assigned to him in his college life and he exceeded all expectations. He, with the help of his hostel mates and juniors did a great job. His sincerity was so immense that he once woke me up at 2 AM , just to ask about the website work.



The festive mood was created by the Decoration train lead by Vivek, Gopika, Akshai and Anand and the feel was spread everywhere in the college. Juniors helped a lot with the decoration work.

The exhibition and volunteering committee was handled by Maneesh and Anitha. Maneesh proved out to be an efficient organiser and also lead the arrangements to be done inside and outside the department. The workshops (3 in number) were sort of headache as it required a number of permissions to be taken from here and there. Hats off to the workshop coordinators (Anuraj, Adheena, Mansoor, Syam, Sari, and Aswathy) and also the program convenors who ran behind the permissions.

The part and parcel of a technical fest was in the hands of the event coordinators; who tirelessly work for their respective events. There are too many to be named individually. Special mentions to all those who came forward to work, without being assigned any specific jobs. Anand took over the help desk and certificates. Similarly Namitha also came willing to work, keeping aside her lazy attitude. Some difficult tasks were there. One such work was handling the accommodation and hospitality which was easily done by Azhar. Another one was to publicise Pantheon among the colleges in Tamil Nadu. This was headed by Ganesh, who travelled to Tamil Nadu with a group of stuents and turned it into a bikeriders trip. Also, handling the accounts of Pantheon was a tedious task and it was handled by our most sincere ICI treasurer Zoheb. Convincing the authorities and getting permissions was done by our beloved secretary Milan S Thottathil. Finally, the closing ceremony was handled by Ashley. Juniors were an irreplaceable part of Pantheon. The bond between the juniors and seniors strengthened with the conduct of this fest. The fest saw a participation of nearly 600+ participations from all over south India and become one of the biggest technical fest conducted by a single department in South India

ICI ACTIVITIES 2016-2017

ICI CET STUDENT'S CHAPTER INAUGURATION

22 September, 2016 The formal inauguration of the chapter's activities for the year 2016-17 was conducted on 22nd September 2016 in Department of Civil Engineering, CET. The gathering was welcomed by Dr. Mini Soman, ICI staff coordinator. The session was honoured by the presence Dr. Suresh Kumar, Manager Director RWDI India, Dr. P G Jairaj, HOD Department of Civil engineering and Sri. Madhumohan, Chairman ICI Trivandrum chapter. The presidential address was offered by Dr. Vrinda V Nair and declared the chapters activities open. Felicitations were offered by the dignitaries and a report of the previous year activities was presented by Sri. Milan S, Secretary ICI CET Student's Chapter. Prizes for the winners of the first ever ICI civil cup Sports events were also distributed by the dignitaries during the ceremony. The inaugural ceremony came to an end by vote of thanks by Sri. Biju V, teacher coordinator ICI CET student's chapter. The Inaugural function was followed by a Technical talk by Dr. K Suresh Kumar. A total of 100 students took part in the function.

TECHNICAL TALK - WIND ENGINEERING

An informative session to a relatively important and new field was handled Dr. K Suresh Kumar, MD RWDI India. An eminent speaker and an expert in the field of wind engineering, he shared with the student members his works and experiences of studying in foreign universities and working in the RWDI, a Canadian company. The speaker was instrumental in bringing a part of the RWDI, a prominent company in wind engineering, structural and a major consultant to India. He explained the technical facts underlying the process of determining wind coefficients and structural stability of large structures. He also explained the major works carried out under his leadership in RWDI. The session was an enlightening one for many students who were aspiring to be structural engineers.

INVITED TALK - BACK TO DEPARTMENT PROGRAMME

August, 2016 The Back to Department programme, aimed at bringing alumni who have excelled in their respective careers back to the department and to motivate the next generation was organised in the department was conducted on 28th August 2016 as part of B2D to felicitate our alumni who topped the 2015 Civil Services Examinations. Jeeva Maria Joy (2011 civil batch), who got allocated to the prestigious Indian Foreign Services and Sidharth Varma, (2013 Civil batch), got allocated in the IRTS were invited as part of this. Dr. P G Jairaj, Head of Department, Civil Engineering Department, CET and Dr. Mini Soman, staff coordinator, felicitated the gathering. Prof Biju and Prof Mitra addressed the gathering.

CIVIL SERVICES AFTER ENGINEERING

The session was an informative and interactive session where students from s7, s5, s3 and s1 participated. The Alumni shared their valuable experiences in preparing for the Civil Services Examination and inspired the audience to face challenges with courage.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE CAREER -SIDHARTH VARMA

The speaker emphasized the importance of proper planning of an individual's career during one's college years. An interactive session followed the talk where in the queries of the students were cleared.

INDUSTRIAL VISITS

1. POABS

The industrial visit to POABS M sand and RMC unit was conducted on 24th September 2016. The team, consisted of 50 from s3 and s5 semester students. The students visited the M Sand manufacturing unit and ready mix concrete manufacturing unit at Muttathara. Information on the details of sieve sizes, crushing methods, various chemicals used etc were made available to them by the instructors present. The Process of production of M sand was seen by the students and has enabled the students to gain knowledge first-hand. The students interacted with various officials present there for a detailed know-how of the working of the unit.

2. Aakkulam Bridge Construction

As part of ICI CET student chapter activities, 41 students visited Aakkulam Bridge during its construction phase. The staff coordinator Prof Biju V, accompanied the students for the visit. The client of the project is National Highway authority of India. The bridge was designed by KNRC. The bridge was being constructed across the Aakkulam River. The students got a clear idea of the type and dimensions of piles used in the construction. The students witnessed the concreting and spot welding techniques. They got an idea on the soil exploration methods, reinforcement details, and also the Metallic girder bearing structures from the site engineers. Prof Biju V also clarified the students through various doubts and clarifications. The students had both an enjoyable and informative session during the visit.

MOCK APTITUDE TEST

The mock aptitude tests were conducted for final year students every Mondays at 4pm, aimed at giving the students an idea on about how different companies recruited the students from campus using similar aptitude tests. The sessions proved to be very fruitful for the students, giving them experience and ample practice questions to work with.

MOCK GROUP DISCUSSION AND S.P.I.C.E. PROGRMME

The group discussion and S.P.I.C.E (Special Programme in Communicative English) sessions were conducted aimed at improving the communicative and knowledgeable skills of the final year students for aiding them in their placement training.

ICI CIVIL CUP

The ICI CET chapter conducted first of its kind Sports fest consisting of Men's football and women's badminton as part of its Sports events. The sports extended for a week from 3rd August to 9th August, 2016. The football competition was conducted between 8 teams, one from each class, consisting of quarter, semi-final and final rounds. It was inaugurated by Prof. Biju V of Civil engineering department. The team from S7 lead by Jose Joseph emerged champions after the finals with S3 students. The badminton competition was inaugurated by Dr Mini Soman of Civil Engineering and Dr. Jairaj, Head of department of Physical Education. It was conducted in 3 rounds. Smrithi and Saman of S7 won the tournament after defeating Ashly and Silna of S7.

MOCK APTITUDE TESTS



MOCK DISCUSSIONS



ICI CIVIL CUP



SPICE SESSIONS



INAUGURATION OF ICI ACTIVITIES



IV - POABS

AAKULAM BRIDGE



BACK TO DEPARTMENT



PANTHEON



DAKSHA 2.0

TRUTH & THE BACKSTAGE

By Bhadra.J; S6

DAKSHA 2.0 - Truths and other backstage anecdotes.

When the bright rays of April set in, the students of S6 came together with the sole purpose for conducting a fest - a prelude to the next pantheon. We did not know what would be the outcome or the reaction, we just decided to try. And through this trial we learned, got a bunch of solid memories and we enjoyed. Let me give you a brief insight into our experience.

This fest, originally scheduled for a meagre period of eight days, took over the major part of April, stretching beyond the time any of us had perceived. It kickstarted with 'The Best Fresher' event where more than seventy clueless freshers knocked their brains to formulate answers to a technical quiz. But, unfortunately that was the only round which involved such a massive participation. The rest four rounds, which excluded the paper and pencil, received pitiful responses, as not even a tenth of the total participants dared to come forward. Event coordinator Akhil Johnson expressed his disappointed, particularly for the third round where the participants were required to catch the attention of the entire class. "No one, absolutely not one dared to do it", were his words. To all those scared souls out there, live a little!!

Then came La Alnaceion (meaning unknown),

a figurine coined by La Mohammed Shabeeb, its La coordinator. The coordinators of this event did experience a wild goose chase, literally! They had to postpone their prelims due to the interference of one hartal and one unknown holiday. And on the day of finals, the judge was forced to take a leave of absence. The participants put forward their alignments and it was decided to face the judge with their explanations on the following day, for which the presence of the above said judge being doubtful, the coordinators cleverly arranged for another judge. To the amazement of all, ladies and gentlemen, all including both the judges and excluding one team of participants were present at the time of event. This one team consortied with the judges through the mobile phones, and impressed them so much with their explanations that they bagged first!!

Costruzione, involved constructing building with wires and setting out. The KU students despite not being experts of setting out, emerged with flying colours by defeating their KTU counterparts. This event also prompted Professor Samuel D Sagar to promise the KU students one last workshop on 'setting out' before setting off from CET.

Alpha Planner was the funniest of the lot. The finalists were judged by a three member team, both witty and conservative. The participants had to go a long way to convince the stingy customers to buy their houses. One particular team came up with an idea so bizarre, that they cracked up all the spectators, particularly the judges and themselves, till giant tears rolled down several cheeks. According to these great planners, they managed to do the planning by bunking three hours of their academic curriculum just before the event, never expecting such a memorable outcome. These enthusiasts might not have taken home any cash, but the memories speak for themselves. Beat the clock, fortunately, went smooth and sound. With a perfect team of coordinators who equally shared their jobs, this event was 'perfectness' personified, so speaks Abeeth, coordinator for the event. The rounds were simple and humble - pictionary, crossword, paper tower making and finally section drawing, the key to all being time. Eureka, the paper presentation event, witnessed the rise of certain Archimedes and Newton, many of them with genuine and some with borrowed ideas from peers. All stood on the platform, bright and brave, with their respective PPT's and scrolled forward with the defective remote.

Enigma, the hunt for the criminal, was the final event to take place. Five teams, seven location clues and eight identity clues, out of which as a participant, my team was able to crack about three of the identity ones. One team left for LH curfew, other for home

curfew, the rest stayed back. The killer was our dear friend and dearest Lady Representative, Shilpamol T Shaji, whose identity, all except one team uncovered! Unfortunately the solution to the clues were the tie breakers. With questions, most genuine and clues, hard to crack, this event was the toughest of the lot, and the only one I qualified. So who am I to say!

Along the sidelines, an online treasure hunt was conducted, courtesy of Aby Jose, Vaisakh Sukumar and Jofranci Tom. They claimed to have caught a fraud player from IIT Roorkee, setting off a parallel adventure of their own.

In short, Daksha 2.0 tasted like pellets of real dark chocolate. Smooth and velvet, dark and bitter, unfulfilling yet unforgettable. Late nights of poster making, question preparations, mad write-ups and heated discussions finally came to an end on the 27th of April. I could come out with diplomatic ending, but truly speaking, this 24 day fest gave some of us a chance to experience the backstage, some stacked their pockets with a thousand and some a half, some seriously involved themselves in their hobbies of admiring others, some got the adventures that came with participation. As for the rest, they remained spectators, often silent, sometimes encouraging the others through catcalls and likewise.

Daksha



FAREWELL

