**THE LAST SONG**

After spending 5 precious years of life in IISER Bhopal, what an individual is left with in the end is tonnes of silhouettes of good old memories and some ever lasting friendships. Every individual who completes the journey of College life contributes something towards the empowerment of the Institute that is worth appreciating. Thus, remembering the old memories and celebrating the spirit of Happiness, the Cultural Council, IISER Bhopal organised a one-night Musical Event **“The Last Song”** on 14th April 2019 (Sunday) for all the music enthusiasts and the 5th year, PhD and iPhD students.

Music can only be felt with an open mind and a peaceful soul. And an ideal place for embracing the beauty of Music was the Ideation Hut (Chintan Chaupal) where the Music club IISER Bhopal (aka the Musical Family) set up the Huge speakers, dozens of Mics and melodious instruments to create one-night open air gala. All genres of music from progression to Bollywood songs were sung by the students of the music club as a token of respect for the senior students.

Albeit the sky was dark, there were hundreds of people in the audience who lit up the Musical arena like fiery glowing fireflies and the odyssey of Music was adding a mist to it. The night witnessed some beautiful revival of the memories for all the final year students where they remembered their old memories, especially the Music club where the final year students played songs with their friends again. That night, the event “The last Song” truly made its place among the loads of happy memories in the genius minds of our Amazing senior students.

**HAKUNA MATATA**

“Hakuna Matata”- means no worries for the rest of your life.

Often in the hustle-bustle of life people forget to invest some time out of their busy schedule for the most important thing in their life, that is, themselves. Thus to revive the carefree days when we busy people use to sit and relax for the whole day, play joyously with our buddies, Eat street food and watch movies together, the Cultural Council IISER Bhopal along with the Sports Council organised a Two Day Street fest namely “Hakuna Matata” on 5th and 6th April 2019 (Friday and Saturday). To create an authentic setup, Hakuna Matata covered a whole range of location from the canopy area, the football ground to a long street with a centre of attraction- “the Cultural Tree” where all the cultural events were held.

With an attempt to bridge the gap between the students and faculties by the founding pillars of enjoyment and activities, this community based event gave a breakthrough from the monotonous lives. As a reward, Hakuna Matata saw the widespread participation from the entire community including students, faculty and all the staff with full enthusiasm and zeal. In the end, everyone was seen going to their homes with a relaxed and happy face.

Hakuna matata created an environment of a childhood street festival with proper blend of fun-filled sports, artistic galleries, delicious food stalls and a whole gala of cultural events. The Two Day event witnessed a lot of cultural performances from the energetic dances, deep slam poetry, hilarious stand-up comedy, powerful Hindi Drama to the peaceful open air Music night performances. Justifying the name of the event, Hakuna atata gave the whole community of IISER Bhopal an opportunity to take a ride down their memory lane and relive the amazing time of their childhood.

**INDEPENDENCE DAY**

“Our flag does not fly because of the wind it flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it “

Every Year India celebrates its Independence Day with infinite zeal and passion. People throughout the nation take pride coming down to the streets, participating in cultural events, hoisting their National flag and singing the National Anthem and other patriotic songs. This day of National Importance is considered to be the time where all the people from every religion come together to collectively take pride by embracing the greatness of the authenticity of India. Therefore, On the occasion of 73rd Independence Day, the Cultural Council, IISER Bhopal organised the Independence Day Celebrations to rejoice the spirit of freedom and salute all the freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives to see an independent nation.

The celebration started off with flag hoisting where the national anthem was sung by each and every individual who was present on the ground after which the cultural celebration witnessed a varied variety of performances. From the energetic dances depicting the lives of the soldiers, the pleasant old dance forms of India like Bharatanatyam and Odissi to some of the mesmerising Musical folklores, The Independence day celebration truly witnessed the blend of Cultural Diversity of India. Large number of people coming to enjoy, performing and encouraging the cultural performances was overwhelming which made the event worth spending time.

Independence day celebration made the people realise their love and respect for the cultural diversity of India, the pride towards the glory of the nation and the spirit of patriotism in the hearts of every individual.