MY FIRST DAY AT  - K. Sudharsan

After completion of my Stream Training, I got a mail regarding the next move. I eagerly opened the email to know the information lying in the mail. The message notifies **“**If you don’t get any hard lock mail, kindly please report to ITP (bench) leads available in your location**”** This is the exact statement, I have received through mail. Most of my Batchmates got this mail. I was happy when I saw this mail, because my friend once told that Bench is the period the company will pay you for seeing movies, sleeping in the office AC hall. I was learning hard to clear my fundamentals and my stream exams. We were asked to score 60% in our exams. This was hard for people, who are coming from non-IT background.

That evening as soon as I went home, I started browsing net on what all things can be done during bench. They suggested me with some ideas. After some time, I was into the processing of selecting the movies for the next day. **Note:** Please don’t forget to take your earphones.

The next day morning, when I entered 100s of people were standing crowded. We all are in confusion where to sit and what to do. There was a bay with many systems and some of them were occupied. Among them, some people were wearing headsets and continuously starring at the monitor. I thought they were working seriously on some projects.

Some person in our group started marking manual attendance in a white paper. The next one followed. Everyone in our group marked their attendance. **Note:** During Bench, manual and online Attendance to be marked thrice a day. Every employee tagged to ITP should enter the manual attendance in the morning time once you enter the office and once you complete the lunch and finally when one leaves the office. I think this is the only official work we will be doing during bench.

I was waiting for the right time to start watching the movie. Then I grabbed a chair and clicked the play button. Occasionally I peeked at every direction and was observing what Everyone is doing and then continued watching movie.

Suddenly a person came and told us to change our supervisor name in all the company websites. Done. Then again clicked the play button. As usual Stomach started alarming. Lunch time. **Note:** Don’t forget to keep your bag or at least hand-kerchief in your chair before leaving or else you should be ready to sit on floor. I adopted the first method. So, my chair escaped. Then again clicked the play button.

At last the movie got over. I looked around the bay, everyone was busy doing their work. I got a feeling somewhere in the edge of my heart, “Are we wasting our time”. Then immediately, I opened the company browser and searched for some online courses that can be completed in 10 – 15 days. As usual got lacs of results. I clicked on the first link, a pop-up opened stating “The site become unresponsive”. Then I clicked the second link, again a pop-up opened stating “The site become unresponsive”. I felt ‘uh’. Then I clicked the third link, again the same pop-up stating, “The site become unresponsive and clearly notifies a message because of the long time, the session is not responding, and will give an option to kill the page or continue with the process”. A doubt cracked in my mind, the systems lying in the ITP location for a long time may be a reason for its slowness. Then, there from, I have got a clear message, lying in the bench for long time intervals is never good for system and employees too. Then I put that computer to sleep mode. Slowly again took my phone to watch the second movie. But Battery low. **Note:** Please don’t forget to take the charging cable. Then after a nap, marked my evening attendance and successfully completed my first day of bench. Still stories yet to come.

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After Completing my Under graduation in Mechanical Engineering with good aggregate, I can’t feel as a complete engineer. This is mainly because of me. I have been lethargic during my studies. I studied only when someone insisted me to do.

I used to open the book the day before the exam and mug up some important questions and vomits them in the exam the next day. Unfortunately, I got some average marks, which made me to do like this for every exam. For the final exams, I would learn some concepts of important topics and present them in my own way in the exam. This kind of thing fetched me some good decent score but I use to forget everything within few days.

I used this technique for all exams until 6th semester. 4th year my life started changing. My Grandfather used to ask me some working of some mechanical components which we use in our day to day life. I can’t explain him and I felt ashamed.

When I entered my final year, I planned to learn things deeply. I started attending workshops at my final year. I started learning the concepts of things which we use in our daily life. I started doing various science and engineering projects that can be done at house at low cost. I started learning animation. It was interesting. During my final year I use to go to college and I use to do animation everyday evening. I learnt animation and modelling through internet.

When you enter Final year, the placement starts. You need to prepare aptitude (basic mathematics and some logical questions). I started solving small problems daily which made easy for me during the time of interviews. During placements, your hard works pays 80% of your result and remaining is luck.

I cleared the aptitude round in 1 of the 4 IT companies which came to my college. After clearing it, I went to technical and personal round of interview. I had a chance of telling about my life to them.

I considered myself as a sand hour hand, where one sand at a time can pass through the nozzle at the center. If many goes in at a time it would get stuck and nothing behind goes through. So, I have a habit of doing only one task at a time. But during my final year I started doing multiple task by overcoming my comfort zone. They saw my animation works, other 3d model images and the quality inside me. I got the offer letter a month after the interview process. I felt happy.

The Final year project came. We are separated into groups. I was eagerly doing some new thing which would be useful to the society. I had two ideas in my mind which I planned to do in my project. When I tried to express my ideas, no one in my project was ready to listen. They were in the mind set to complete the project as soon as possible and be in the safer side. So, I decided to give up on my idea. But I was clear on that day like, I am going to do this project on my own after completion of my college.

Then the life goes by. Completed my graduation and became VIP. Everyone in my family started calling me in a nickname called “Dhandapaani”.

I decided to make some tutorial videos on animation in Tamil. I started making one tutorial every week. I started uploading it in a YouTube channel. Then I got the DOJ from the company which I got selected. I felt very happy at first and told my parent about this. They felt happy about it. They started telling everyone whom they met. I felt guilty and then decided to learn some technologies related to IT.

When people asks me about my studies, I used to tell them I completed my graduation in Mechanical Engineering. The next question is, did you get any job? I replied yes. I got a job in an IT company. They asked me, you have studied Engineering in the stream of mechanical, but you got job in IT. Then they used to tell their stories and experience in IT. They used to warn me that you must work day and night. You will be losing your personal life. Their stories made me to think twice to take up this job.

I even got placed in a core company. I went there for getting some details about that company. I approached the watchman and somewhere in the conversation he told that he was earning 9000/-

It was basically a spare part production company. I went in and seen various sections and various processes that is been done in that company. I asked a worker in there about the work life in the company and other things. Finally asked him about the salary. His reply was shocking to me.

He had 2 years’ experience in that company it seems and earning 8000/- which is less than the salary of a watchman in the same company. I respect every job and every person irrespective of their knowledge and position, but that man’s answer gave a shock to me.

Then I was in a dilemma which one to decide. I thought of my family. My father is a retd. bank officer and my mother is a housewife. I have a younger sister who is currently pursuing her under graduate in the field of commerce. For my college fees, my father had taken loan in the bank. So, I decided to get into the world of IT.

 A BRIEF ON MY CHILDHOOD:

I was born and brought up in Chrompet (Chennai). Since I was born 10 years after my parent’s marriage, I was very special in my family and everyone was happy. My mother used to think and pray that my child should be well verse in all the subject he is learning. My mother used to take me to Grandparents house daily when I was small. My Grandparents used to tell lots of stories.

The days goes by. The tough time came. I need to join school. I was admitted in a school near to our house. It was the golden period in my life. It is not just the word. Till now what all the things I learnt during my childhood is still in my mind. I learnt Thirukkural, Multiplication Tables, Cursive writing in school up to 5th standard. Besides that, since my mother wanted to develop certain extracurricular activities I also learnt Yoga, Karate, Kabaddi, Chess, Cricket, Abacus, Craft, Mridangam, Carnatic music mainly obeying elders and punctuality.

I completed my 10th (SSLC) public exam in the year of 2010. I scored a decent score in Maths and Science which helped me to get seat in a Big school in Chrompet. Still my 10th standard, our teachers used to teach and explain the concepts in Tamil. I was filled with fear after joining the new School assuming that the teachers will teach in English.

But things were ulta. Everything was fine. I came to know about Scouts and Guides and started playing badminton. I must really want to thank all my friends who guided me and inspired me. One of my friends taught me badminton. A good badminton racquet cost around Rs. 1000/-. I don’t have one. My friend gave me his racquet and taught me the game. I got some good friends there. We used to play cricket every weekend. It was also one of the memorable moment in my life.

Time for the climax, 12th public exam. Literally I wrote my public exam something like a cycle test or monthly test in our school. I don’t know the importance of the mark at that time. I managed to score 87% which is not sufficient to get an Engineering seat in a good college through merit. My Father got retired when I was studying 10th. I felt guilty when my parent was talking about the cost of an Engineering seat in a good college. They got some loans and joined me in the Engineering college. They didn’t show any hatred towards me. The only thing in my mind was to excel in my academics. This is how I joined Engineering.

**C:\Users\sudharsan.kannan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\bw without socks.jpg**A DAY IN ‘IT’ WITHOUT SOCKS **C:\Users\sudharsan.kannan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\bw without socks.jpg -** K. Sudharsan

I used to go to my office through train. One day it got late for me to get ready. So, I ate my breakfast very quickly. **NOTE:** Please don’t skip the breakfast. I was in a hurry to catch the train. I didn’t have time to wear my socks. So, I grabbed and dumped my socks in my bag and I hurried to the station to catch the train.

I need to go around 200m to reach the railway station. Somehow, I managed to catch the train. The train was heavily rushed. So, the socks remained dumped in my bag. After I reached my office, I reported to ITP bay. It was uncomfortable to wear the shoes without the socks. It was sticky and annoying. It started sweating in there, so went to restroom and wore my socks.

There sparkled an idea. Consider like, the person as a company and let shoes be the client. If they both meet it will lead to some uncomfortable state without the socks i.e., employee. To wear the shoes i.e., To get the Client, the Person i.e., the Company must have some good socks i.e., good employees.

To make employee as trained and well-equipped employee the Company must wash the socks i.e., they must train the employee and upskill them periodically. Or if the company fails the above step they must face the consequences.

The smell of unwashed socks is awful. Another thing to be remembered like the unwashed socks will cause some problem and irritation to the person. Then the person must spend some money to get medicine for that wound. I hope you can relate. Sometimes the medicine can cost millions of dollars.

It is natural that the person will throw the socks which is not useable anymore. The tragic part is that the person is throwing the socks which can be reused by washing. My kind request is Please try washing the socks in different detergent i.e., train them in different stream and try to reuse them. Thanks, and peace out.

MESSAGE TO ENGINEERING STUDENTS: 

Try to have a notepad or small notebook. During starting of every semester, list out all the subject name including chapter name. Then list the important topics in each chapter. There may be around 5-10 topics in each chapter. So, it’s not a big deal.

Then daily have a habit of browsing on some topic and learn some basic concept behind it. Watch videos related to it. You may get some base knowledge on that topic. Note down all the important things related to that topic. Try to make it flowchart or some infographics kind of thing.

Start learning same as the sequence of teaching in college so that if you hear things multiple time it gets registered in your mind. So, when you prepare for your internals it will be easy for you to brush up the subject.

**Note**: Learn the concept of each topic and explain it to someone (preferably your parents). So, once you explain or teach someone about the topic, the subject will be in your brain for some more time.

One day in the world, everyone will get a chance to transform them into butterfly. So please be prepared, wait for the chance and make use of it.

Everyone got to see some good people in their walks of life. In some point, we know what all the do’s and don’ts in our life. In short, we know some decent things to lead a perfect life. Our trouble is not ignorance but inaction.

Don’t keep looking Believe in yourself and Get into action. Thanks. Bye.