We had our exam on Monday and our **IoT** practical on Wednesday. So, we decided to make our project on Tuesday. But unfortunately, Tuesday turned out to be a holiday because of Maharishi Valmiki Jayanti! Now we were all confused — where should we make our project?

That's when I decided to invite my team to my home. On Tuesday morning, everyone came over and we started connecting wires, uploading codes, and testing our circuit. But soon, we realized our LEDs and resistors were not working properly, and without them, our project couldn't run. So, we decided to go out and buy new LEDs, batteries, and resistors.

My friends are from Kanpur and Gorakhpur, so I wanted them to try the specialty of my place — *Jain Shikanji*! After buying all the components, we went to have that, and they loved it. My mom had also made fried idlis and pav bhaji for everyone, and we had a great lunch together before getting back to work.

Finally, our LEDs started working perfectly. But then came another problem — our code had a reverse logic! The lights were turning ON during the day and OFF at night. We all laughed for a while and then fixed the code and circuit. Finally, our smart street light was ready! We made a demo video and shared it in our class group. Everyone appreciated our project, and some were even a little jealous too.

The next day, we were all confident and ready for our practical. We even helped other teams with their code and wiring. But just 10 minutes before our turn, a new issue came up. The lab's bright lights were disturbing our sensor, and it started fluctuating. We panicked because we had to present soon. We quickly searched solutions on Google and ChatGPT, and realized that the potentiometer might need adjustment. We didn't have a screwdriver, so we used a thin key instead — and guess what? It worked! Our sensor finally responded correctly.

We learned something new that day — sensors don't work properly under very bright light. But more than that, we learned the power of teamwork, problem-solving, and staying calm under pressure.

When the examiner came to us, he was honestly shocked to see a first-year team with such a working project. He didn't even ask us questions — just clicked photos and took videos of our model. He simply said, *"Best project."*

That moment made everything worth it. We were so proud because, unlike many others who got their projects made by someone else, we built ours completely by ourselves. Everyone said our team was the best, and I smiled and said — *"Of course, because the leader has to be the best!"* 😎

Looking back, the Smart Street Light project wasn't just about making a light work. It was about learning, trying, failing, and finally succeeding together.