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## From the Editor's Desk

**Dear Readers,**

January is a harbinger of change. It heralds the coming of New Year and along with it a whole new set of months, days, hours and minutes presenting new opportunities and inviting us to start all over again if we could not succeed the previous year. Let's welcome this New Year with a hope that we will be able to harness the new energy and fulfill the incomplete tasks of last year or just shine in all the endeavours we undertake.

This issue contains news from January and February months both. While we entered into January with numerous programmes to mark our celebration, we bid it good bye and welcomed February with the zealous Ingenuity 2015 in progress.

We have, however, introduced a few changes in this issue. A new student editor, Boudhayan Gupta has joined us in our venture. We have christened student editor, Divya Sara Kurian's articles about Asian Flora and Fauna as Nature Talk where, in this issue she informs us about the mighty Indian elephant. A new section as Student Editor's Special has been introduced, which will have some expression from the student editors of NU NL. You may look forward to interesting experiences or expressions by our young editors.

**Anshima P. Srivastava**

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## Campus News

### Welcome 2015!!

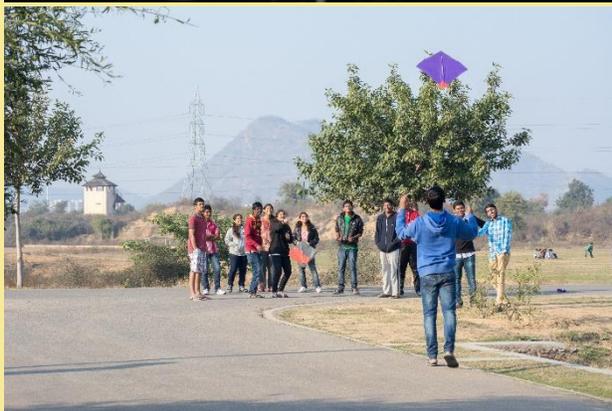
On 9th January 2015, we welcomed another blissful year with joyous celebrations taking place in the Auditorium, NU. We saw some amazing performances with the students dancing and singing to music from all eras. Everyone enjoyed the celebrations. We all hope to have a prosperous year ahead.





### **Sky is the Limit-*Makar Sankranti***

With hope shining bright in each eye, the students at NU celebrated *Makar Sankranti* on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2015. There was a Kite Flying Competition among the students, faculty and the staff. We witnessed several kites flying in the sky, symbolic to bringing happiness and bliss in our lives. Everyone had lots of fun.



## 66th Republic Day Celebrations

On 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015, we celebrated the Republic Day in NU. We hoisted the national flag near the Bowl, sang the national anthem followed by a few patriotic songs and speeches. It was a great feeling. We remembered our national heroes and martyrs and vowed to work towards a better and a more prosperous India.



## IngeNUity 2015

Finally, it was the time for the much awaited event in the university, our annual techno-cultural fest- IngeNUity 2015. The theme for this year was 'Mythos of our Ethos'. The 3-day Fest was held from 30<sup>th</sup> January-1<sup>st</sup> February 2015. The whole atmosphere of the college was filled with fervor and excitement. This year, ours was a Sunburn Campus, much to the delight of the students. Colleges from all over the nation participated in various events. We all had a great time during the fest and indeed, it was a huge success.



## Nature Talk

### Indian Elephant or the Asian Elephant



The Indian elephant (*Elephas maximus indicus*) is one of three recognized sub-species of the Asian elephant and a native to mainland Asia. In general, the Asian elephants are smaller than the African elephants and have the highest body point on the head. Indian elephants reach a shoulder height, somewhere between 2 and 3.5 m (6.6 and 11.5 feet), weigh between 2,000 and 5,000 kg (4,400 and 11,000 lb), and have 19 pairs of ribs.

Indian elephants are a native to mainland Asia: India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Thailand, Malay Peninsula, Laos, China, Cambodia, and Vietnam. They inhabit grasslands, dry deciduous, moist deciduous, evergreen and semi-evergreen forests.

In the early 1990s, their estimated population size was 26,390–30,770 in India, where populations are restricted to four general areas:

- 1) In the north-west- at the foot of the Himalayas in Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh

- 2) In the north-east- from the eastern border of Nepal in northern West Bengal
- 3) In the central part- in Orissa, Jharkhand
- 4) In the South- Karnataka, Western Ghats, in Bhadra-Malnad, in Brahmagiri-Nilgiris-Eastern Ghats, in Nilambur-Silent Valley-Coimbatore, in Anamalai-Parambikulam, in Periyar-Srivilliputhur, and one in Agasthyamalai.

The pre-eminent threats to Asian elephants today are habitat loss, degradation, and fragmentation, which are driven by the expanding human population and in turn, lead to increasing conflicts between humans and elephants when elephants eat or trample crops.

Status in the Wild: Endangered

Source: wikipedia.org

**Divya Sara Kurian**  
**B Tech II**

## **Asian Lenses**



### **Anti-Ageing Ayurveda**

One of the primary reasons of skin ageing is genetic factors. As our genes determine our eyes and hair colour, similarly, they determine our skin age. Our skin is constantly renewing itself by shedding the older damaged cells of the outer epidermis and replacing them with newer ones. This process keeps our skin looking fresh and revitalized. The lower layer of skin (dermis) contains collagen and elastic fibers which provide skin with structure, support and elasticity. After twenty years or so, the skin cell renewal process slows down and your skin becomes thinner and more prone to damage by external factors, like sun, harsh weather, and pollution, which gives a dull, poor and an uneven texture to the skin. In addition, the collagen and elastic fibers begin to break down and as a result, fine lines and wrinkles appear on the skin. Lastly, the lipids or natural fats that protect the skin from water loss also start to break down. The skin's natural barrier, thus, becomes leaky and allows water to escape, which is why the skin becomes dry with age. Environmental factors may accelerate the normal ageing process. Long-time sun exposure also becomes a cause of premature ageing. UV rays from the sun reach melanin, causing it to produce too much pigment or colour, leading to freckles and age spots. Signs of ageing become apparent near 40s or 50s. Fine lines around eyes deepen, forehead lines may begin to appear, age spots and other pigmentation generally start appearing in sun exposed areas. <sup>i</sup>

Some basic tips for healthy face skin are:

- Anything that happens to touch your face should be cleaned (e.g. phone, pillow, bed-sheet)
- Exfoliate your skin 3-4 times a week to clear the dead skin cells

- Keep yourself hydrated (by drinking plenty of water)
- Don't sleep on your hair (there might be bacteria in it that may enter your face skin)
- Sleep on your back (for natural lift by gravity)
- Take 7-9 hours sound sleep
- Avoid smoking
- Limit alcohol intake
- Laugh- best medicine
- Vitamins A,C,E,D (regular intake)
- Mental sharpness helps you feel active

To go deeper with the skin care routine, I would suggest that one must take care of the skin from an early age itself and not merely at the time of ageing.

For example:

- You should wash your face twice to remove the make-up on your face.
- Use spin brush instead of hand for a proper cleansing.
- Wash your skin at night before you sleep. Sleeping with make-up on at night is damaging. Your skin, while you are asleep, tries to renew itself naturally but the make-up acts like a barrier and also results in blackheads, acne etc. making the skin look dull. <sup>ii</sup>
- Use face masks once in a week depending on the demand of your skin (like for moisturizing, removing blackheads, detoxifying etc.), because they'll help in maintaining a clear skin. It has multiple skin care benefits.

Anti-ageing food: Exercise and healthy diet are best ways to help you look younger. Some foods have the quality to make your skin look young and fight diseases at the same time.

- Blueberries- high in fiber, loaded with vitamins and minerals, antioxidants
- Wild salmon
- Pistachios- high in nutrition
- Whey protein
- Greek yogurt- protein + sugar of regular yogurt; easy to digest compared to regular yogurt
- Coffee/Chocolate(Cocoa)- slows down the ageing process (get rid of ageing signs like fine lines and wrinkles)
- Barramundi
- Oats- fiber source
- Spinach- anti-aging property
- Corn- anti-cancerous property
- Whole grains- prevent cholesterol
- Cinnamon
- Sweet potatoes- protect skin from UV damage
- Green tea- 3 cups a day slows down the ageing process

- Watermelon- repairs cells damaged by sunlight
- Hemp- counters the effects of ageing
- Kiwi- vitamins C and E
- Pomegranate- enhances the functioning of dermal cells
- Avocado - complex vitamins B and E; maintains a proper water level in the body
- Mangosteen- highly concentrated with vitamin C
- Papaya- highly concentrated with vitamins A, E and C, which clean the skin and provides proper nourishment to the skin
- Apple- proper regulation of pH levels
- Banana- immense amount of vitamin C and B6; help in shielding the skin from destruction; pre-mature ageing can be prevented due to the manganese
- Grapes- contain manganese and the vitamin C
- Walnuts- sources of omega-3 fats
- Honey- calcium, niacin, thiamine, Vitamin B6 and C

Now, let's move on to some homemade stuffs that you can apply on your skin to keep it vibrant and delay ageing:

- 1 ripe banana + oat flour- Apply to face for 30 min; then wash your face with warm water.
- ½ cup milk + 2 tablespoons oatmeal + 2 teaspoon olive oil- mix the milk and oatmeal and let it cook on low heat until the oatmeal is soft, mix the olive oil with the cooked oatmeal, allow the mask to cool then apply it for 20-25 minutes every other day for best results. Rinse with warm water and moisturize.
- Pomegranate + grape seed oil + a tablespoon of green tea leaves + 3 teaspoons of hot boiling water-add pomegranate to green tea leaves, add grape seed oil to the mixture (1 tablespoon), add mushy avocados, apply it to your face for 10 minutes, rinse with warm water
- Apply olive oil on face and leave it overnight.
- After applying olive oil to skin, put a hot towel on your face for 30 sec, remove oil with towel.
- 1/3 cup of the carrot grinded + ½ cup of milk + 2 tablespoon of grape seed oil- add everything in blender and make a thick paste. Apply for 30 minutes on the face and then wash with lukewarm water.
- 1 tablespoon plain yogurt + 1 table spoon honey + 1 teaspoon lemon juice- mix well, apply on face for 15 minutes and then rinse with warm water and moisturize. Repeat the process 3-4 times a week.
- On a freshly washed skin, apply a cube a pineapple (ripe and fresh) directly on your face skin and leave for 5 minutes. Take steam (maximum 2 minutes), tap your face dry and then apply some moisturizer.

- Egg yolk contains a special anti-ageing compound called the biotin which helps in the fat production in the body and repairs the damaged skin. Also it is known to tighten the skin.  
1 teaspoon of egg white in a bowl + half a teaspoon of *malai* + a teaspoon of lemon juice- mix well and apply this all over your face for 15 minutes; rinse with cold water. Also, one can apply this face pack every alternate day.
- Vitamin A, present in carrots, helps in booting the collagen production of skin, thus making the skin tight and at the same time, potato is also considered as a great skin smoothing agent. One boiled carrot and potato, chopped into small pieces; mash to form a paste. Add turmeric and baking soda. Mix well to form a smooth paste. Apply all over the face and leave it as it is for 20 minutes; then rinse with warm water.
- A teaspoon of honey + 2 teaspoons of yoghurt(rich in Vitamin A) + 1 teaspoon of fresh lemon juice + a capsule of vitamin E + a pinch of turmeric; mix well and then apply on the face for 15 minutes and then rinse off with lukewarm water.
- Those using Rose water very well know about its rejuvenating property and calming effect. Also, it has many more additional properties like increasing blood circulation in capillaries, reducing puffiness under eyes, etc. Here is one more anti-ageing property that makes it much more useful. 2 teaspoons of pure rose water + half a teaspoon of lemon juice + a few drops of glycerin; mix them and then with the help of cotton, apply it all over the face.
- Coconut, being an antioxidant fruit has the property to fight all the signs of ageing, making your skin soft and smooth. Take a coconut and squeeze the milk out; soak the cotton into it and apply on face; Leave it for 20 min; then rinse with cold water.
- Banana, containing vitamins A,B,E, is beneficial for women because of the anti-ageing property. Take a ripe banana; chop it and mash it. Add 1 teaspoon of rose water + 1 teaspoon of honey + 1 teaspoon of yoghurt; mix well till it forms a paste. Apply on the face as a pack and leave it on for 20 minutes; then rinse with cold water.
- Vitamin A in Potato helps to regenerate collagen that is supposed to become damaged during skin ageing. Take a raw potato and squeeze its juice out. Apply all over the face using cotton ball. Keep it on till it is absorbed completely by your skin; then rinse your face (if needed).
- Papaya, rich in antioxidants, contain papain enzyme for curing skin impurities and also provide elasticity to the skin. Take a ripe papaya and chop it; mash it with warm water and make a smooth paste. Apply it all over the face and leave it as it is till 10 minutes; then rinse it with lukewarm water.

Now, let's hear from the dermatologist:

"When people first see signs of ageing- fine lines, brown marks, smile lines, crow's feet, is when they pay attention to anti-ageing care," says dermatologist Diane C. Madfes, Assistant

Clinical Professor at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in New York City and a Spokesperson for the American Academy of Dermatology. "The good news is that it's never too late to respond to what you see."

Tip 1: Focus as much on what you put in your body as on what you put on your skin.

The skin is the largest organ of the body, thus diet largely affects it and in a way affects how you look and your visible age. Many of us think that dermatologists emphasize only on skin care products, generally from companies they might be having tie-ups etc. but it's not the case, really. Madfes says, "Younger skin starts with the nutrients that reach you skin from the inside body".

- Take Vitamin D supplement
- Eat plenty of omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids
- Drink water
- Avoid processed food and sugars

Tip 2: Halve your sun exposure

UV exposure is the number one skin-ager. Sun damages elastin and causes a loss of collagen. Madfes says, "Simply saying, 'Stay out of the sun!' isn't practical, though, so I tell patients to just try to cut your exposure in half. That seems more doable."

- Sunblock - older skin tends to be more vulnerable to the effects of the sun than younger skin- use sunscreen
- Walk on the shady side of the street. "You really can decrease your exposure with little things," Madfes says.
- Exercise outside in the early morning or late afternoon. If you can, avoid sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., when UV rays are the most potent.

**Prachi Singh**

**B Tech III**

## **TALF Summit**

The first Student TALF Summit revolved around knowing why and how our histories help build a sustainable future.

TALF endeavours to create a network of students sensitized to both, the need for Asians to know other Asians and to know themselves. In the Summit, a group of about 30 students from different universities came together to discuss the theme of how our histories shape our future and the importance of viewing problems in their respective cultural context.

The Key Speakers for the event were:

1. Dr. Rajender S Pawar: Chairman and Co-Founder of the NIIT Group. He is a member of the Prime Minister's National Council on Skill Development and has also served in the Prime Minister's National Task Force which aimed at making India an IT superpower. He was also a founding member of the NASSCOM .
2. Mr. Arun Kapur: Director of Vasant Valley School. He has served as Executive Director of Learn Today, a learning division of the India Today Group. He is the

Chairman of Ritinjali, a non-governmental organization which aims at serving the society through education and constructive work in marginalized societies. He also started Pallavan, an early childhood development programme. He has authored a book titled, 'Transforming Schools: Empowering Children'.

3. Ms. Meeta Sengupta: Founder of Centre for education strategies. She has been an Advisor at the Center for Civil Society and is also a member for FICCI Skills Development Forum. She is also on the India Advisory Board of STIR Education that gathers micro---innovations in low cost classrooms.
4. Jyotsna Bapat: She has been a faculty in Sociology at the University of Mumbai and also Rural Energy Research, IGIDR, Mumbai. She has been a Research Officer at TISS Mumbai and also a visiting fellow, Agrarian Studies Programme, Yale University. Dr. Bapat has been a Fulbright Scholar and a fellow at TERI, New Delhi.

### -NU ASIA Lenses Forum

## Community Connect



Walking through the gates of the school at Janaksinghpura to see the children could not have been more satisfying. The excitement to see their mentees after the past week was only trumped by the palpable joy of the mentees themselves, to see their new teachers and friends. Just as we entered the school, we could hear joyous shouts such as “*Prakrit bhaiya*” and “*Roselin didi*” resounding in the school courtyard. As we all reached for our mentees and sat down with them, we could sense the excitement they held for their lessons. There were interactive sessions with fun games and laughter coupled with an element of study. After teaching them all for an hour (a major part of which being just laughs and giggles), as we got up to leave, we could see the reluctance with which they bid us adieu. Some even wanted to accompany us back to college. We finally reminded them to do their homework and promised to see them again the next week.

**Mihir Sharma**

**B Tech I**

## Student Editor's Special

### A Letter to Love

Dear Love, when you knocked on my door that day, I was not in my proper senses. I was lost thinking about you, about why you were so late. I had been waiting for you since many days. When I came to know that you are planning a new trip and you recently purchased a ticket for my address, I was very happy. But, when you did not show up for days, I lost hope, I lost you. I thought that you are not at all interested in me. I was sad and angry. I was so angry that when you came to see me the second time, I forced myself to shut the door on your face.

You felt bad, didn't you?

And when they told me that it was you that day on my door, that day when I did not answer, that day when I was not in my senses, I felt bad. I am really sorry.

You see, it is not my fault completely. I had never seen you in that form before in my life. I was just waiting for you, not knowing what you look like. I was hoping you would look like Mommy or Daddy. When you came to me again, you were so charming and so sweet that I mistook you for another person altogether, who has come to taunt me about not having you. I am sorry I did that. I am really sorry.

Later, people who know you told me that it was you, not any other random person. They told me that you were sad on your way back. I was shocked. I did not know how to react. This time I was sure that you wouldn't show up again.

Then I realized something- you were there. You had been there every time. You were there when a friend came down, leaving everything behind, just to hear me out. You were there when a friend gave me a hug and told me that everything would be okay. You were there every time, under disguise. But now? Come back, please. You want me too, right?

I was supposed to make this happy, you know. I have been told to be happy. But, I was sad and could not think of a happy ending. I was just going to make peace with a sad one, when you happened. "*Knock-knock*".

I opened the door and there you were, in tears, searching for me, waiting for me like a kid waiting for his parents, hoping that I would understand. I understand you, I totally understand you now.

You saw me and smiled. Your tears found their way into your mouth through that wide smile of yours. You were happy, content and so was I. You jumped into my arms. I was happy to feel you for the first time in this form. I spoke aloud the only words I could manage at that time, "Welcome to my life".

Thank you for being there in my life.

Yours loving,  
Pradumn Kumar Mahanta.

**Pradumn Kumar Mahanta**  
**B Tech II**

## **My Days in the North-East**

Like most modern ancient wisdom, it all started with the Romans. “Carpe Diem”, they said. Seize the day. The American playwright Jonathan Larson rehashed this sometime during his career. “No day but today!” he proclaimed. And then Drake turned it into a hashtag #YOLO. You only live once.

When I was a kid, I was really adventurous. I used to live in Guwahati. It’s a nice place, and it’s two hours by car from Shillong. We had days when my father would come home from office (which was a ten-minute walk from home) at ten-thirty or so to pick up some papers, and casually mention that he was going to Shillong for a little business and would be back by the evening. My mother, who would be cooking lunch at the time, would simply turn off the gas, tell us to get ready at once, and two hours later, we’d be tucking into a sumptuous lunch at some of the North East’s best Chinese restaurants in Shillong.

I don’t know whether this is because of the very active vibe that the region constantly gives off, or because the inherent natural beauty of the place constantly inspires you to do things, you should shed all your inhibitions and just seize the moment, but for most of the two years that I spent in Guwahati I was constantly either scolded by my parents for putting myself in harm’s way, or picked on for my uninhibited craziness. I say most of, because towards the end of our stay they just gave up.

We used to fly quite often, because my grandparents lived in Kolkata and taking the train was a giant waste of time. Airfares between Kolkata and Guwahati weren’t much in those days, and even in the economy section, Jet Airways would treat us like royalty, showering us with free chocolates and face tissues the moment we boarded and treating us to a sumptuous lunch on intricate (albeit plastic) cutlery once we were in the air, some of which we could keep as a souvenir. And since I was but a kid back then, my brother and I would get bags full of goodies every time we flew. They called it the JetKids Programme and I believe I have a few faded sidebags even to this day.

I would always be in my formal best when I flew. A coat jacket was a must and I had a navy blue bow-tie that we once bought for a wedding and which became my favourite piece of man-jewellery, which was to be worn without fail at any formal event I attended. The flight attendants, who back in those days wore a navy pencil skirt with a blouse imprinted with yellow tulips, would light up when they saw me, and greet me with a “good morning” in

their cheeriest voice, to which I would reply “good morning” in the exact singsong voice. When they brought chocolates before takeoff, they’d hand me an extra fistful of candies.

It appears I was a massive hit with the flight attendants before I could even realise and appreciate the gravity of my achievement. These days, I can barely find it in me to reply when they greet me upon boarding an aircraft, simply nodding with a half-smile before I hurry off to find my seat.

Needless to say, my success with the flight attendants would result in more than a fair amount of leg-pulling by my father, who in the interest of fairness must have been denied his share of their attention because of his own offspring. I’d hate that to happen to me. No, really!

One winter, my cousins came over and we went to Kaziranga to see the rhinos. We did see quite a few and one of them got too close for our comfort, bearing down on our open-top jeep, forcing us to back away slowly. I simply stood up and stared it in the eye. It stared back. It eventually got bored and went away, which prompted a sigh of relief from the adults. Not me.

A few days later, we went to Shillong and from there to Cherrapunjee and Mawsynram, which you might know to be the wettest place on Earth (the region receives an annual rainfall of 1187 cm on average). The road from Shillong to Cherrapunjee is breathtaking and in certain portions the road is on the top of a ridge and the mountain drops away vertically into a gorge on either side.

Cherrapunjee itself is perched on the top of a mountain, bordered on one side by another vertical cliff that goes straight into a gorge. In the monsoon, these cliffs are speckled by some of the country’s most spectacular waterfalls. In the winter, it isn’t very difficult to climb down a thousand feet or so on these cliffs, as my cousins and I discovered while we clambered down on all fours with no special equipment. Shoes? Nothing but my trusty black school shoes from Sreeleathers.

I also went spelunking in Mawsynram, before I knew what it was. Proper spelunking, with a guide and without special equipment- squeezing through small crevices barely bigger than me. I liked it very much.

These days, the sense of adventure is gone. It’s as if when you grow up, an inner voice awakens which has nothing better to do than to second guess every single thing you try to do, crippling your resolve to stray out of your comfort zone. Sometimes it gets a little out of hand and tries to play with the established mental boundaries, and if it succeeds it narrows down the comfort zone even more. Some like to call it the voice of reason. I blame it for playing spoilsport for most of my post-childhood time. For one thing, it won’t let me wear a tie to class in college.

Almost ten years after we first came to Guwahati, in 2011, we went back as tourists. We had a chinese lunch in Shillong, and then shopped at the markets at Police Bazaar, saw one-horned rhinos in Kaziranga, and traversed miles upon miles of highways in Assam and Nagaland on the way to Dimapur, making our way through breathtaking forests that are the

hotbeds of militant activities. My mother put it most eloquently- even if militant violence killed us there, it would have been worth it, because there is not one more beautiful place on earth where you could die.

I haven't planned what I'm going to do after I retire. It's much too early for that. But I do know where I'll live, though.

**Boudhayan Gupta**  
**B Tech II**

## **Expressions**

### **Gone Are the Days**

Gone are the days, those each one of us misses,  
Gone are the cheeks that used to get warm kisses.

No worries, just hands to pull to destination,  
Now we have delusions and they say, where's your determination?

Gifts, love and care used to be on cards all the time,  
I miss those innocent friends and my dearest chime.

Mantra's changed, happiness is to be searched for,  
Life was so sweet till it slowly became sour.

.....looking at the sky, while I was wondering.....

Just then came a hand with a lovely smile,  
It was an angel, promising togetherness till the last mile.

Sunshine, long drives, cuddles and laughs,  
Life's first phase was good and now starts the second half.

**Anoop Kumar Sharma**  
**MBA Finance & Banking, Batch VIII**

## Me and Meenu's Diary – Short Story Series



### Chapter 15:

I don't know how hard it is for others when their loved ones move out of their life, but for me it was like I had completely lost my soul. I felt like someone had left me in a strange place or locked me up in a dark room. My life was traumatized suddenly because till then, he had been

everything to me. I was desolated and oppressed for days and months and I didn't touch my guitar since then.

Meenu was depressed too, because she was also quite attached to my Dad but she recovered soon. She was the only one, who was with me during those dark days and encouraged me to start a new life. She tried all the ways to bring me out of that acute despondent state, but I couldn't help being that way. Finally, one day she lost her tolerance and shouted at me.

"How many days will you be like this, Preeth? Why are you so dejected? Did you forget all your dreams?" she screamed.

"I don't have any dreams now," I said to her in frustration.

"But your father had, Preeth. How could you forget his dreams?" she reminded me.

"Yeah, I do remember but who will care even if i achieve them? Who will feel proud about that? No one!! Not even my mother!!!" I said hastily. I didn't want to speak about our family but that day I couldn't resist myself.

"I couldn't tell my mother about the pain. I couldn't even share this grief with my brother. They left me alone," I said with anguish.

"I thought your mother was like my Mom. Do you have a brother? You never mentioned him!!" She was startled.

"Yes. My parents were divorced and I do have a twin brother, Meenu. I don't know where they are now, even if I want to tell them about this" I said with agony. Later, I explained everything to her.

Though she was quiet after listening to me, she understood my pain. She didn't insist on me doing anything later and she turned a little less stubborn than before. But, she didn't stop trying to make me get back to myself. I was really lucky to have her as a friend because if she wouldn't have been with me, I couldn't have tried so hard to be normal again. After a few months, she succeeded in her mission and I started playing the guitar again after a year. I started practicing music again and felt much better than before.

After we entered our final year, Meenu's dad returned to India permanently. Their family shifted to another house. I felt sad thinking that she wouldn't be my neighbour anymore but at the same time I was happy that she was with her family. I thought that she would be delighted on her Dad's arrival but strangely she was depressed. One day she looked more dejected than usual and I couldn't stop myself.

"What happened to you these days? You are not like before?" I asked with concern.

"My Dad doesn't like dance. He asked me to discontinue my dancing, Preeth," she said slowly.

"Why? What's the matter? Is he strict?" I asked, baffled.

"Yes. He is like that only, and also, he didn't like me being with you, Preeth," she said sullenly.

"Meenu, he might be concerned as a father. Tell him that we are good friends. I am sure he would understand that." I was optimistic.

"I told him, Preeth. I told that to him a lot many times. He asked me not to talk to you but I said I can't. He is angry," she looked serious.

I was tensed but I tried to make her feel better. "It's okay. He will be fine soon," I assured her.

But my words couldn't console her. After a few days, she became even more reserved than before. She stopped sharing things with me. I thought that she would be fine after a few days but suddenly, she stopped coming to the college. I was upset and a bit tensed too. When I called her up, she said that she was not feeling well but it wasn't convincing enough. I doubted that she might be facing problems in her house. I understood that her father didn't accept our friendship. I decided to go to her house and talk to him about our relation and make things clear to him.

I reached her house and tried calling her but she didn't answer my call. I didn't want to upset her, so I decided to meet her father on my own. The watchman stopped me but I told him that I wanted to meet Meenu's father. He allowed me inside and I entered the house. Her father was talking over the phone loudly when I entered the hall. My eyes searched for Meenu but she wasn't present nearby. He had a strange expression after he noticed me. I waited patiently till he finished the call.

"Yes! Whom do you want to meet?" he demanded.

"Um... Uncle, I'm Preetham, Meenakshi's friend. How's she? I haven't seen her lately. So I thought that I should check up on her once," I said sincerely, using our full names to avoid conflicts.

"So, you are Preetham. I have heard about you. She is out of the town, actually. Take a seat" he offered.

"Oh. It's okay, Uncle. I just want to say few things," I hesitated. "Carry on," he challenged. I didn't understand how to frame my words. I took a minute and then slowly said,

"Uncle, Meenakshi said that you were upset with our friendship. There is nothing to worry about. We are good friends since childhood. Even my Dad used to like her a lot. I assure you, you have nothing to worry about," I gulped. He glared at me. I shivered for a minute but soon he looked relaxed.

"That's okay. Yes, I was tensed but I do consider your point. If you guys are just friends, I don't have any problems. I will meet you some other time," he said and continued talking over the phone.

"Thank you so much, Uncle. I will see you too," I said smiling. He just nodded. I felt happy because I hadn't expected him to take it in such a positive manner.

I came outside and messaged Meenu about the meeting. I hoped that would make her feel better.

I was driving back home, feeling relaxed. But why had she gone out of the town? And why did she lie to me about not feeling well? I got confused. While I was in deep thought, a car hit my bike from behind. It wasn't too hard but I couldn't balance my bike and I hit the ground. I moved away from the bike immediately. I tried to get up but suddenly, within a fraction of seconds, the car ran over me. I gasped and tried to roll towards the other side

but it was too late. My right hand was crushed under its tyres and I was out of my consciousness instantly.

When I opened my eyes, I was in a strange room. I tried to move but it hurt me. I noticed medical equipments next to me. I tried to turn my head slightly but it was too painful for me to move. All I could do was blink my eyes. I tried to remember what had happened but my mind rebelled. I heard someone entering the room hastily. A nurse checked my pulse. She removed the oxygen mask and tapped my face.

“Am I okay? How badly am I injured, Sister?” I struggled hard to talk.

“Don’t strain yourself. You have a broken hand, a few broken ribs and some wounds. But you are really lucky,” she said smiling.

“Preeth, are you okay? Preeth!!” someone screamed from the door. It was Meenu. She reached me quickly and started to cry.

“Meenu, I’m okay,” my voice was weak but I was happy to see her again.

“No, you are not, Preeth and it’s all because of me. I’m sorry. I’m so sorry,” she was screaming. She looked gloomy.

“You didn’t do anything. I drove rash, I guess. I just couldn’t balance,” I was searching for words.

“Preeth, that accident was planned by my Dad,” she couldn’t finish her words. She was weeping out loud.

“Your Dad? Why will he do that, Meenu? I talked to him. He was fine,” I tried to remember.

“He is not, Preeth. I heard him ordering his men to kill you off, after you left,” she was breathing heavily.

“You were there when I came? Where were you? And why did your father want to kill me?” I was shocked.

“Listen to me, Preeth. I was locked in my room when you came. After you left, my Dad turned wild. He was angry that you had come home directly and talked about us in such a blunt manner. He called his men. I thought it was just to scare me. I didn’t think he would really try to kill you,” she said in a very low voice. I was anxious. I didn’t understand what made him so angry.

“He locked you up? Why? What’s happening?” I begged her to tell me.

“You remember Arun? He proposed to me in the first year and later you fought with him?” she said in rush.

“Yeah, I do. Why? What did he do now?” “I was blank. I remembered that that guy was crazy about her but I had thought that he had listened to me after I gave him a deadly warning.

“After you fought with him, he hated you. He collected our pictures and mailed them to my Dad, saying that we were in a relationship and everyone knew about us in the college and the city. I don’t know how he got my Dad’s mail-id, Preeth. After my Dad came to India, he made enquiries about us in the college. Most of them told him that we were a couple. I tried telling him a thousand times, Preeth but he didn’t listen to me. He was obsessed with his reputation and he didn’t want me to spoil it. He even thought that I might elope with you. That’s why he locked me up. But after you come, he was so angry! You shouldn’t have come to my home, Preeth” she cried.

I was frozen. I had no idea that her father was so cruel. However, the brighter side was that atleast, he hadn’t hurt Meenu physically.

“Meenu, it’s okay. I will recover soon,” I said.

“You will, Preeth but you broke your hand. And now, you won’t be able to play the guitar anymore. You won’t be able to achieve your Dad’s dreams anymore,” she yelled.

I was dumbstruck with the realization.



## Chapter -16:

I couldn’t see her crying over my pitiable state. I tried to make her feel better. “Meenu... It’s just a broken hand!! I will recover soon and the music will start playing.” I was still optimistic and looked at her, smiling. Before she could answer, a lady doctor entered into the room and came towards me. Meenu wiped her tears and stood near me silently.

“How are you feeling Mr. Preetham?” she asked with a loving smile.

“Good Doctor. How much time it will take for me to be normal again?” “I asked her in my feeble voice.

“Well... you can recover in three to four months, but you have a broken elbow and minor shoulder damage and unfortunately your wrist nerves were also damaged. So you may not be able to move your hand like you used to...” she said. I was upset after listening to her.

“Is it paralyzed? Don't i have a chance?” I took a deep breath and asked her again, hoping for a better reply.

“Not exactly... But kind of. I can't say that you don't have any chance, it depends. But for you, the chances are very less Preetham.” She paused. I did not reply, but accepted what she said.

“Don't worry Preetham!! Be with good spirit. You are not critical” she said to assure me and left the place.

I was not in a shocked state of mind but tried to make sense of things. I looked at Meenu, she looked hopeless, but she was calm. I understood why she was dejected before.

“Preeth, Whatever it is, I'm responsible for this. I could have warned you about my dad. It was my mistake and I can never ever forgive myself. I don't want to make this worse... We shouldn't continue our friendship. Stay away from me Preeth, It's good for you.” She said silently, her face was emotionless.

“You are not responsible for anything Meenu. It's not your mistake. I already lost my dad and his dreams, now I don't want to lose you” I was pleading to her to be by my side.

“Same here Preeth. I don't want to lose you either... But, if you are away from me, I can be happy that you are doing well somewhere. Do you think I came to the hospital all by myself? My dad sent me here Preeth. I don't even know whether I can see you another time. He sent me just to warn you and he cautioned me against meeting you. If we meet again, he may...” she stopped. Her voice lowered and tears rolling down her cheeks. She was struggling to be normal.

Her words hurt me more than the state I was left in. But I understood the severity of the situation. I was not scared for the warnings but I was concerned about her. I don't want her father to hurt her. We remained silent for a long time. I felt I lost everything in my life, even though I was not depressed. I felt courage was the only thing which my dad left for me.

“Take care Meenu... Where ever you are... We will remain friends till death separates us.” I said to her without looking in her direction. I never saw her after that. I could only hear her crying deep within me.

“Preeth... I’m gonna miss you” she said crying and left the place silently.

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The rain finally mellowed down to a quieter drizzle. It was almost half past twelve. Preeth looked tired after he finished. He was silent for a while and looked like he was lost in his thoughts. Most of the questions within me were answered. But I couldn’t easily connect with the past, because I didn’t expect life was so cruel to him as well. I was surprised to know that, Preeth was also a guitarist, but I felt sad about his situation. I was happy that I was trying to fulfill my dad’s dreams as life unfurls. But I still wonder why didn’t Meenu tell about all these things to me? I was really upset about Preeth. I felt bit angry on her, but not for too long.

“How’s your hand now? Can’t you move it at all?” I asked him with concern.

“Yeah. But I’m undergoing treatments and I’m not sure, if there is a chance.” He said hopefully. I wished silently he could get back his hand soon, because I know how it pains when we are unable to fulfill our dreams despite our capabilities.

“So did she love me just for you and our dad’s dreams?” I asked him slowly.

“Well... To answer your questions I need to know what really happened between you and her.” He said thoughtfully.

“Didn’t you ever love her? Didn’t you feel anything towards her in all those years?” I asked him hesitantly. He looked at me intently.

“I just wanted to know, nothing else” I continued.

“No Vikki, I never felt that way. She has always been a great friend to me. That’s it. Even after thirty years I will feel the same. If I had loved her, i could not have let her go away!! That’s why I never met her after that. Because I know if I do that, her father will come to wrong conclusions and I did not want that to happen.

I moved to a different hospital after a week. I moved to another place with our grandparents, which was located on the outskirts of the city. I decided to not to trouble her in the college. It took me six months to recover and start going to college again. When I went to college in the second semester, I could not find her. When I asked people about her, they said she was doing a project outside the campus and nobody knows her whereabouts.

I understood that, her father wanted to keep her away from me. So I didn't take the final semester exams to avoid meeting her and I took another year to finish my engineering. I don't know where she left for her project and how she finished her exams." he said with sadness in his voice.

"She came to Hyderabad for her project and stayed with her cousin Pragna. It was during that time, we met each other." I said. He was listening to me carefully.

"Her diary gives you more details on what you are looking for than what I can tell. Now I understood, why she missed you every time and why she struggled to be my girlfriend" I said and took out her diary from my bag and handed to him.

He hesitated a minute, but I gestured him to read on. He opened the diary and started reading it. I left the place to give him some privacy for reading it.

The rain had almost stopped. The sound of the breeze was clearer than before and my thoughts too. Initially I was filled with anger at her for not disclosing anything to me. But even if she had at that time, I would have not believed her. But did she love me? Was it only for my dad's dreams and her friend? Nothing with me? I was filled with questions, but I did not have answers. I remembered her love in her eyes. They never lied to me. In her every hug I felt the oneness of our souls and she has written about the love for me in her diary. But why did she ever hesitate to tell me about Preeth after we fell in love deeply? I would have definitely understood her at that time. These questions kept bothering me again and again. We are no different from each other and she knows him from her childhood, but then why did she love me? Why didn't she love Preeth? I could not find answers. The thoughts made me uncomfortable and I was feeling tired and sleepy.

I came and sat beside Preeth. He was involved in reading the diary. He was flipping the pages. I could see his confused expressions while reading it. He would be left wondering how she fell for a loser like me. I went to the kitchen and prepared coffee for us and served him.

He looked at me and continued reading again. I sipped on the coffee slowly. I waited in patience till he completed the diary. He looked surprised after he finished the book.

"She shouldn't have done this for me" he mumbled. He looked worried.

"No Preeth, if she had not done like that, I would have never taken my career seriously. Its only because of her, I met with success" I quibbled.

“But... she has loved you a lot Vikki... I never had seen her showing interest towards guys when we were in the college. Many guys proposed her but she never considered any of them. “He gave me a surprised look.

“But whatever she has done is for you Preeth. She was close with me just to make me serious about my career. I thought she was interested in me. “I said, disappointed.

“Initially she was Vikki, but later she fell in love with you. I can understand how much she loved you just by her words. You are the one who experienced it. You know her better.” He said assuring.

“I know she loved me Preeth, but I don’t get it!! We were almost same, and you care for her more, and she knows you from the childhood, then why didn’t she fall for you? “I challenged.

“Tough one to answer. No one can give a reason for love Vikki. No one knows when they will fall into love. It’s magical. May be it’s because, you showed your love in such way that she couldn’t resist herself to love you back. Only she can answer this question.” He explained.

“Yeah. And she was also aware of her dad right, then why was not she scared about her dad before she loved me? “I said, confused.

“Because she didn’t realize she loves you. She didn’t plan for that Vikki. It just happened to her, unknowingly. She wanted you to fulfill our dad’s dreams as she felt she was responsible for it. She wanted to be close to you, so that she can encourage you. She did not want you to get distracted. That’s why she would have agreed to be your girlfriend. But later she couldn’t control her feelings towards you. “He said trying to make sense.

He was looking at me for my response, but I was lost in thoughts. We remained silent for few minutes. After some time I said slowly.

“Even I don’t know when I fell in love with her Preeth. She is so different from other girls. In the beginning, I was just impressed by her looks, like every other guy. But when I started to know her better, she appeared more special to me. She changed me completely Preeth. I don’t know whether she gave me a new life or she took my life with her, but still she lives within me, in my heart and soul. “I said emotionally.

“But she left me Preeth, all of a sudden. I would have fallen into deep frustration after she left me, but only this diary held me alive. I didn’t know whether its fate or destiny, but

Neither I could get her back nor did she give me a chance. She suddenly disappeared from my life and never came back.” I said in despair.

“She left you suddenly? Don’t you know anything about where she was?” He questioned me. “No I don’t. I don’t know where she is now and neither have I wanted to, because she is not mine. She was married off to someone else” I said trying to control my emotions.

“Married?! When did you meet her last time?” he asked, bewildered. I was surprised to see this sudden change in his reactions. I told him everything that had happened till her marriage.

“Vikki, she is not married. How did you believe that she will marry someone else when she loved you madly?” He shouted at me suddenly.



## Chapter -17:

Either his words or his expressions, I was not sure, left me in a state of shock. That day I came to learn many things new, but what he had just said didn’t get me startled. Like in the movies, neither the tides rose from the dark blue ocean nor the red hot volcano had erupted; it was all silence. Indeed, a deadly silence. My heart had for sure skipped a beat.

I didn’t ask him for a clarification, because that was the statement my heart was longing for months and years silently. I felt like I was released from a prison, a prison of pain and misery. It was not happiness or excitement; I was experiencing something new, perhaps its peace. A deep sense of peace I never felt for the past three years.

He was telling something, but I don’t know why, I couldn’t hear anything of what he said, because my heart was too reluctant to hear anything more. I was scared that the truth which I heard may turn into a dream again and I was not prepared for that.

He turned to me and suddenly realized that I was not listening and called out to me. “Vikki....?” I looked at him expressionless.

“Are you listening to me or not?” He questioned me.

“Yeah... Um... No actually,” I was not concentrating on what I said.

“What happened? Listen to me... It is important.” he said with a stern look.

“I don’t want to hear anything Preeth...” I replied.

“Don’t be crazy Vikki... It’s about her. We’ve got to know what had happened to her”. He looked worried.

Even though my mind had rebelled to take anything negative, his words stirred me up again. After listening to him, I was worried too. I gave up finally and decided to accept whatever he says.

“What happened to her?” I repeated my question.

“I don’t know Vikki. After she left for her project, I didn’t see or met her for a year and half. After my studies, I started working in my dad’s company. I was undergoing a therapy for almost a month. And one day, I met her unexpectedly again when I went for treatment” He sighed.

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I was there in the hospital for treatment. The doctor said that the condition of my hand was improving slowly, it made me feel better. I wished that I could play my guitar again. I took my reports and went to pay the bill. When I was at reception, someone called me. I turned to see who it was.

“Hey dude! How are you doing?! .“A guy came smiling towards me, it was Vivek. He was my schoolmate. I was happy to meet him after all these years.

“Hey Boomer!! What were you doing here wearing a white coat?” I started teasing him immediately. He was one my best friends in the school, but I lost touch with him after school.

“Guess! I’m a senior surgeon here!” He smirked.

“Hey! Liar! Tell me!” I insisted. I know he was kidding.

“Cool... I finished my MBBS and now working as a junior doctor here in psychotherapy and planning to do my Masters man!” He said cheerfully.

“Oh! That’s good. Anyway, you are a doctor now and a Psycho doctor! Cool dude” I said mockingly.

“Hey! What happened to your hand?” He asked me surprisingly looking at my hand.

“It was an accident. I come here for treatment every month, you never showed up here?” I asked him.

“Well, I have been here since three weeks. Just to study a few special cases.” He said and continued to speak about his experiences.

We both were walking towards his department and spoke about a lot of things we wanted to share with each other. Suddenly, I heard someone scream. We both turned towards the direction of the voice. A lady was running here and there and the few workers over there are trying to stop her. I couldn't see her properly as she was running too fast. She ran all along the corridor and tried to jump over the wall in the end, but she fell down.

Vivek reacted immediately and reached to her side. I followed him silently. Vivek grabbed her and pulled her curly hair back to her ears as it was covering her face. After looking at her, I was speechless, because it was Meenu.

“Meenu...” I shouted and took her from Vivek.

“Do you know her?” Vivek asked me surprisingly.

“Yeah. She is my best friend” I said looking at her and tapping her cheeks. She was unconscious and looked completely different. She was not like how I saw her last time. Her face was pale and her eyes surrounded by dark circles. She became thinner and looked feeble.

When I was about to lift her, the workers came and took her from me. They placed her on a stretcher and took her away. I said Vivek that I would come in few minutes and then followed them immediately. I could not understand the reason for why she was here. They entered psychosomatic rehabilitation block and took her into one separate room.

I was about to enter the room, but I turned back instantly, because her father was inside. I didn't want to create problems at that time, so I quickly moved in to a small pantry in the room without her father noticing me. Since it was adjacent to the entrance, I entered into the pantry. I closed the door slowly and breathed easily. I glanced at the room around. It was a small room, which has medicines and medical equipment. It was dark inside but some light was creeping in from a small glass window, which was on the door.

I was able to see what was happening inside the room but was not sure whether the people inside the room were able to see me. I stood one side and glanced through the glass to see what was happening. A Nurse came to Meenu and gave her an injection. She was moving restlessly but after giving injection she lied on the bed like a lifeless body.

I was wondering what to do next. I expected her father to leave soon but he didn't. I waited for more than 30 minutes but there was no change. My mind was full of questions, of what had happened to her? Why is she behaving strange? Why was she getting treatment in a rehabilitation center? I wanted answers for all my questions, whatever happened, because i couldn't see her in that condition.

After another half an hour, her father got a call and went out to speak. I immediately got to her side. I knew he will be coming in some time, but I had to take the risk. I tapped her trying to wake her up, but she didn't respond. I pushed at her hard and thanked God soon after she opened her eyes. I was sitting on the ground facing to her.

"Meenu..." I whispered in her ears. She turned to me slowly and looked astonished after noticing me.

"Vikki... Vikki... you came for me?" She was shouting in the happiness.

"Shhh... Don't shout Meenu... and who the hell is that Vikki?" I mumbled and checked whether her father was around. I didn't see him nearby.

"Vikki...?" she said softly.

"Who is Vikki? Meenu, I'm Preeth..." for a moment I got a doubt like whether she was normal or not.

"Preeth... is that you!?! Take me away from here Preeth. Please" she started crying.

"Hey, What happened to you actually? Why are you here? And who is that Vikki?" I asked her in rush.

"Preeth, Vikki is your brother. Your own brother Preeth... and I love him so much. I can't live without him" she was gasping and struggling hard to breath.

"Brother? And you love him? What are you blabbering Meenu. Why are you here?" I didn't understand what she was saying.

"They fixed my marriage Preeth. I didn't want that. I love Vikki, but I didn't know what else to do. They locked me in the room and I couldn't escape anywhere. I acted mad to avoid the

marriage and tried escaping from my home Preeth, but they brought me here. I want to go Preeth. I want Vikki. Take me away Preeth... "She was crying and breathing heavily.

"But Meenu... "I was about to ask her about what had happened, but I heard her dad's voice over the phone approaching.

"I will take you from here tomorrow morning for sure. Don't Worry Meenu... "I assured her and ran into the pantry again. Soon after her father entered the room, I went outside the room without him noticing me.

I breathed easy after I was out of the room. I remembered each and every statement said by her. I wondered how she met my brother and loved him and why she acted mad to escape from her marriage. I couldn't understand a thing but I knew she needed my help and she wanted to get out from that place. I ran to Vivek's consultancy room. He looked at me in surprise.

"Where are you? You said you will come within five minutes and you were lost!! And what happened to your friend?" he asked me, bewildered.

"Vivek, she is admitted here. Do I have any chance to take her away from the hospital?" I asked him.

"Why do you want to take her away? And why is she admitted here?" He asked confusingly.

"I will explain you everything later Vivek. She needs my help and she has to get out from here. Please, can you help me?" I begged him.

"Ok ok. I will try to help you" he said to assure me. I felt relieved and explained him everything. He thought for a long time about the chances.

"Well. We can do one thing. I will arrange an ambulance in the early morning. I will distract her father as a consulting doctor. Meanwhile you take her out and leave in ambulance" he said hopefully.

"Old plan Vivek! But will it work?" I asked doubtfully but he assured me. I thought of thinking some other plan. I was discussing with Vivek about all the possibilities for an hour and finally we decided to go with the one which he suggested with few changes.

I wanted to examine her room and surroundings once to understand the plan better, so I went to her block again. I went near her room and peeped through the window.

I was surprised. The bed was empty. I was confused and checked whether I came to the right place or not. It was the same room but I found neither her nor her father. As I was

thinking again, the nurse who had attended to Meenu crossed me. I stopped her and asked about Meenu. She said they decided to move to another hospital and she got discharged half an hour back.

I asked whether she knew which hospital they have gone, but she replied in the negative.

**Sowmya Rani Mendu**

**MBA F & B VIII**

## **Achievements**

### **Look Closely: It is e-Wealth**

In month of August 2014, NIIT University had received several cartons containing used electronic circuits and components as a gift from Electronics Research Laboratory, NIIT Ltd. At first, this appeared to be e-waste and of little practical use. A group consisting of NU's Electronics Instructor, Lab In-charge and a group of enthusiastic student volunteers inspected this 'e-waste'. Very often recycling e-waste implies destroying it to recover metals. However, this group begged to differ. They decided that this material could be put to many interesting applications in a teaching-learning setup.



**Picture 1: Vishal (left) and Rohit, the e-Wealth Creators!**

The first step was to segregate the different electronic components and circuits according to their use and worth. Rohit Samineni and Vishal Yadav(B Tech I) volunteered to help with this activity. In just about two hours of work, usable electronic components and circuits

worth over INR 15,000 were recovered and handed over to Mr. Narendra Bisht, Lab Instructor, EC Lab. These will now be used in laboratory experiments and student projects. In particular, hundreds of capacitors and resistances of various values were found in this heap of 'waste'. Microcontrollers and solid-state relays worth INR 300 and INR 400 respectively, were found in fairly large numbers.

In addition to having the satisfaction of creating this wealth for the organisation, the volunteers, with some help from their instructor, also discovered the purpose of these circuits and components. There were many rare and extinct components that instructors can use to demonstrate the development of technology down the years. For example, many EPROMs (Erasable, Programmable, Read-Only Memory), EEPROMs (Electrically Erasable, Programmable, Read-Only Memory) and flash memories were found. These can be used to instruct the students about the advancement of memory technology, from EPROM to micro SD cards.

The process of e-waste recycle still continues. There are lots of other untold stories and inventions to be discovered amongst this material, besides creating wealth for the EC Lab. We would have lost out on all of this, if this material was sold as scrap or re-used to create decorative items!

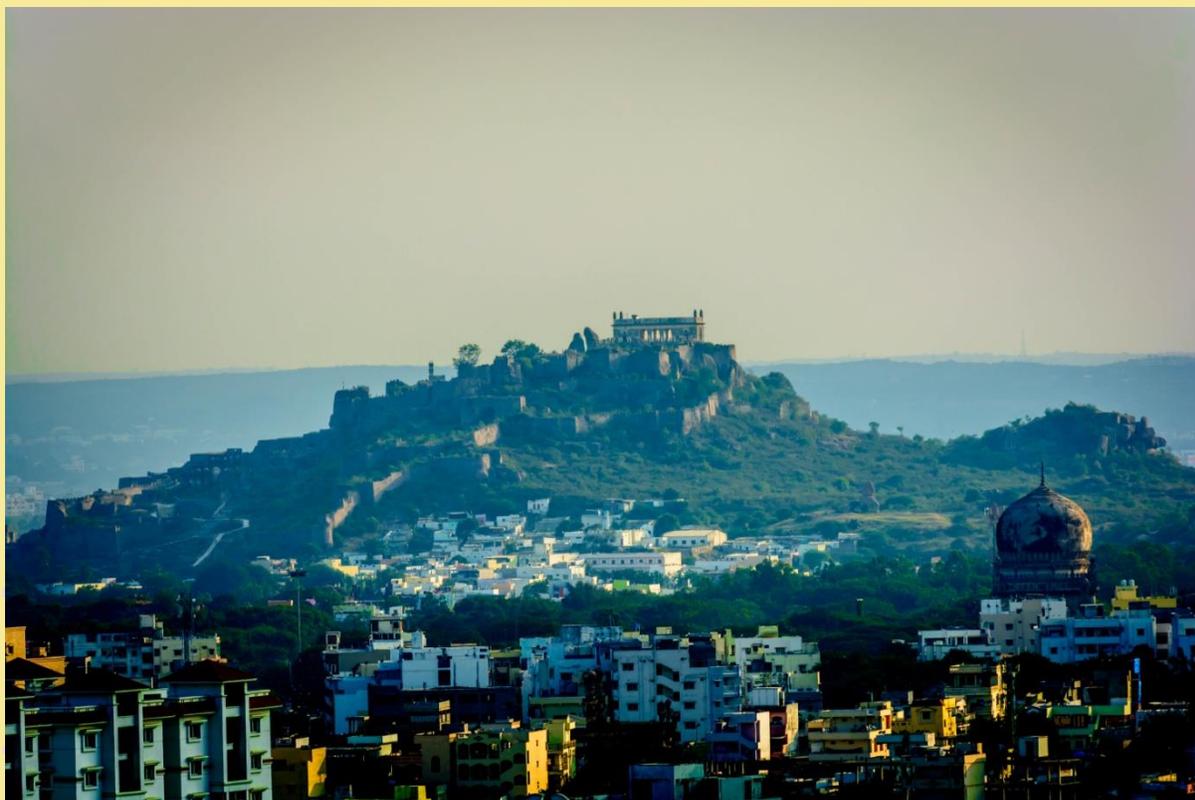


**Now, the World Knows of My Talent**

NIIT University takes immense pleasure in congratulating Shreyash Soni(B Tech I), who had taken part in the online photography competition conducted by the Lady Shree Ram College for Women during their annual fest, *Tarang*. The name of the event was '*Prakriti*'.

He bagged the first prize under the theme "Urban verdure".

He presented the beautiful picture of the old Golconda Fort the surroundings of which are now becoming urbanized. The photo was taken in Hyderabad.



### **AMI 2014**

The Association of Microbiologists of India (AMI) established in 1938 is one of the oldest and most reputed scientific organizations of the country. Since its inception, it has contributed significantly towards development of microbiology, particularly in areas of research teaching in the country.

The Association brings together all the Microbiologists and related scientists and professionals through Annual Conference every year. The main objective of the Conference is to encourage the exchange of scientific information on frontier discoveries and innovations in Microbiology and its interdisciplinary relevance. The Conference has plenary sessions with the lectures of renowned Microbiologists followed by some poster

presentations. The 55th Annual Conference of AMI was organised during 12-14 November 2014 at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore as an International Conference focusing on 'Empowering Mankind with Microbial Technologies' (AMI - EMMT - 2014).

I got an opportunity to present my ideas through poster presentations centering on 'Molecular Diversity of Expansion Gene'. Also, the lectures were informative and the events throughout were well-planned and engaging.

**Prachi Singh**

**B Tech III**

### **Another Step towards success**

Akshita Bhandari, Ashutosh Gupta and Debasis Das wrote a paper entitled "*Improved Apriori Algorithm using Frequent Pattern Tree For Real Time Applications in Data Mining*" under the guidance of Dr. Debasis Das which has been presented by Miss Akshita Bhandari in the *Elsevier International Conference on Information and Communication Technology-2014(ICICT-2014)*. The conference was held at the Bolgatty Palace Island and Resort, Ernakulam, Kochi, India during 3-5 December, 2014. It has also been accepted for the publication in Elsevier Procedia For Computer Science which will be available on March 15 2015 via ScienceDirect.com. Further modified version of this paper has been published in Cornell University's Library which can be accessed through the link <http://arxiv.org/abs/1411.6224>.



### **Success at Turku Science Park, Finland**

Our students Aayushman Gupta (B.Tech III year) and Vibhor Gupta (B.Tech II year) had the privilege of getting invited for a visit to the Turku Science Park, Finland. The visit lasted four days from 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> January 2015. They were invited to attend the pre selection camp for the Mobile World Congress which is to be held in Barcelona sometime in the last week of March. While at Finland they participated in a competition of web app development and secured second position. We are sure the experience must have proved very enriching for them.

## Turku Science Park, Finland, Invites NU- B. Tech. students to present business plan: Mobile World Congress 2015, Barcelona

We are happy to inform that two students of NIIT University have been invited by Turku Science Park, Finland namely Aayushman Gupta from B. Tech. (CSE) 3<sup>rd</sup> year and Vibhor Gupta from B. Tech. (CSE) 2<sup>nd</sup> Year. ([Invitation](#))



Aayushman Gupta



Vibhor Gupta

### What students have to say?

We had 4 days learning experience at ESA's App Camp held at Turku Science Park, Turku – Finland from 23<sup>rd</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> January, 2015. Both of us had a life time experience at international level as well as gained a global exposure. It was basically a fun learning experience the most exciting part was that we were teamed up with another team of two students from Finland, which was first time experience for us. Apart from the teaming up we also met a group of like-minded people which overall gave us confidence and an experience of how to present ourselves internationally on a global and a professional pattern. Being the only Indian participants at the competition we felt like representing India as well as our university - NIIT University, Neemrana. Had if we were not have visited the competition we would have been in our daily routine back in India, what we gained, what we learnt would not have been possible staying back in India.



### Interview with Local Media

The Students were also interviewed by the local newspaper as well as local media about our visit to Turku Science Park and the learning experience as well as the exposure we get from here.



([Finland News Coverage](#))

### Their Business Plan

The idea of Aayushman and Vibhor Gupta's is an application called myGeoInfo, with which a construction company, for example, could get a complete soil analysis from a certain, precisely defined, location. The made the best use of ESA Spatial Data as well as the theme Internet of Things.

### Final Outcome

Duos stood 2<sup>nd</sup> in the international competition: the SAP fraternity was so much impressed by their work that they are given a special invite to SAP Teched 2015 to be held in Bangalore to present their idea and application there as well. ([Bengaluru Invitation](#))

### Important Links:

Video: <http://guptasinterview.rev.li>

Photos: <https://goo.gl/ERShSs>

Certificate: [Certificate](#)

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