

April 2012

VAANI

The Voice of IITRAAA



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EXPAND THE ACRONYMS

The acronyms given here are in day to day use by a common man. Write the expanded form of the acronyms and self evaluate your IQ. The score can be calculated as follows

All 22 correct-distinguished,

14-17 correct-excellent

8-12 correct- poor

18-21 correct-outstanding

13-16 correct- good

0-7 correct- hopeless

SIM

ICICI

MBBS

PAN

GMAT

SOS

LCD

ATM

LG

PhD

DVD

MCB

PTO

LED

PIN

LD

USB

MICA

DRDO

LPG

CNG

The answers are given at page 15



Dear VAANI Readers,

The VAANI team has come up again with its latest issue of April 2012. Though there were no significant events in the last quarter from Jan to March 2012, there have been lots of activities behind the scene. The major one was regarding the preparation for the release of its souvenir after about a decade. This includes an annexure document on the contact details with photographs of the members. That is the reason the IITRAAA news section could be filled only a little. So in such a moment we could sustain the magazine with whatever contributions we got from the members. Few contributions received, have been included in this issue. We are attempting our efforts to inspire the members and their family in one way or others. This time we have introduced ACRONYM POWER to test and self evaluate one's IQ. Hope the members and their family will participate and further encourage similar efforts in future. I would be happy if feed back is sent to me for inclusion of similar items in future.

The last quarter was a buzz with children exams, financial year closing and budget fever. There were some good news in the budget for salaried people and retired persons. We have acquired the salient details and reproduced here for the quick look benefit of our readers. When I go through the PANIIT website, I discover a high band panorama of the professions, the IITians have adopted. They are politicians, monks, cartoon makers, social activists, social workers, vigilance commissioners and the list goes on like this. Similarly IITR alumni are positioned at top positions in the country. We are trying to get the profiles of more alumni who have distinguished themselves based on their noble work. I am sure one or two more colors will be added in the panoramic band in every issue released in future. I appeal to the members to send me the profiles of such distinguished IITR alumni along with their photographs for the purpose.

Dear members , what you see in this e-magazine is the outcome of the hard work carried out by the VAANI team. This includes the collection of news/article items for the quarter, formulating the theme of the cover page and designing it accordingly, formatting, editing and so on. I am thankful to those who have contributed for photography. I would not have been successful in bringing out the magazine, had my family not been cooperating and supporting in deciding the matter, theme, ideas for the cover page, designing the cover page etc. I have no hesitation to acknowledge their immense contribution for the magazine. I alone do not make a team. So I thank my wife Veena and daughter Vishruti who have been my inspiration and foundation support.

To conclude, I would like to thank the readers of this magazine and their encouragements I receive through their feed back.

Enjoy the leisure reading of VAANI.

Vijai Kumar
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IITRAA NEWS

The quarter 'Jan to March 2012' passed with no events. It was so, due to the yearly exams for school going children and financial year closing in most of the government/private offices. It was intended, though, to have a gathering with cultural activities along with felicitations to the distinguished alumni. However publishing the souvenir had very encouraging progress. The text, pending few of the messages was sent to the press for formatting and proof setting. There was a very good response from the members to fill the space with articles relevant to vast field of interests. We do hope to bring out a highly exuberating souvenir and release it on some good opportune moment. Another booklet, a subsidiary of the souvenir, on directory of contact details of the members is also on the anvil. The directory will include the names of the member alumni.

IITRAAA is today a social organization limited to get gathers of its members and families. It is true in accordance with the basic spirit of the association. However it tried to widen its arena and connect with local culture by organizing a heritage walk last year through the old city of Ahmedabad. It was a resounding success and roared through media. IITRAAA needs to think now attempting some compassionate services for those who need it. For example, visit to an old age home and join them at lunch sponsored by IITRAAA. This in turn will help them breaking the loneliness and boredom. We can also think to do some service to an orphanage home and donate the utility items collected from the IITRAAA members.

IITRAAA, with its elite alumni may also attempt to give science and technology oriented talks to some schools, colleges and engineering colleges. This, in a humble way, will enable us to make place in the heart of the citizens of the city.

IITR ALUMNI IN NEWS

Mr Ravi Sharma, an Alumni of IITR and the CEO of Adani Power donates Rs 3 lacs every year

Mr. Ravi Sharma, 1984 Electrical Engineering Alumnus, has made big strides in Power Sector. As CEO of Adani Power Ltd., his company has been awarded most Admired Infrastructure Company-overall Award . Mr. Sharma has a passion of giving back to his Alma Mater. He has been encouraging many student activities with donations of Rs. 3.00 Lacs every year through a foundation called Prama Jyoti, founded by him.

The Indian Express
Ahmedabad, 12.12.2011



Ravi Sharma, CEO, Adani Power Ltd receives the Most Admired Infrastructure Company - Overall Award from Dr Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission at KPMG Infrastructure Today Awards held in New Delhi.

A K Garg Takes Charge As MTNL CMD

Sri AK Garg an alumni of IITR took over the charge as CMD-MTNL in Dec 2011. Prior to this he was the Director (Human Resource Development) with BSNL.

He passed BE in Electronics and Communication from IIT Roorkee in 1975. He then completed ME in Communication Systems also from IIT Roorkee in 1977. He joined the Department of Telecommunications, Government of India through Indian telecommunications services group A, soon after.

Subodh Jain Becomes the GM Central Railways

Mr Subodh Jain an engineering graduate from IIT Roorkee has taken over the charge of General Manager, Central railways. He is an engineering graduate from IIT Roorkee from 1974 batch of Civil Engineering. During his 37 years of professional experience he has worked with BHEL, Engineers India Ltd and IRCON International Ltd, before

joining Indian railways. He has extensive international experience through IRCON International Ltd. He also acquired the international patent for one of his innovations and was bestowed with the best innovations award of the year 2006-07 by Railway Board. He was also awarded with the Engineer of the year 2009 by CBR International.

IIT ROORKEE NEWS

IIT ROORKEE REACHES OUT TO POLIO VICTIMS

The National Service Scheme (NSS) of IIT Roorkee, which has been consistently working towards the uplift of the weaker sections of the society, has come forward to help instill hopes in the lives of the polio victims by providing them with relevant medical facilities required for overcoming their disability

Powered by about 700 volunteer students, NSS's drive to help the physically challenged began when NSS volunteers, while visiting the nearby villages of Roorkee, were moved by the suffering and helplessness of the handicapped victims. The RT EDUSLUM cell of NSS IIT Roorkee conducted a medical survey in Bhangedi and Khanjarpur villages to ascertain the number of physically challenged people and the types of disability. The survey revealed some shocking statistics. In these villages they found people suffering from polio, deformed leg and ankle bones, limb problems like limb damage, fracture, bent hand, polio in their arms and hand shrinkage. Many of them were suffering from paralysis and acute back problems. legs and crippled legs. All the victims were in urgent need of wheelchairs, crutches, artificial limbs and other such contraptions

NSS looked out for organizations like Delhi-based Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS) for providing medical facilities to these people with imputed limbs and polio. NSS selected that works for the physical and socio-economic rehabilitation of the physically disabled, so that they were able to lead a life of dignity and become productive members of the community. The sufferers are also taken out for outing for rendering them a changed environment and rejuvenating.

IITRAAA hails the initiative taken by the IIT Roorkee and its students and join them to provide the moral & emotional support needed.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD was instituted in the year 2001 with conversion of University of Roorkee into IIT Roorkee to honour the progenitors of this institute who are excellence-at-par in varied fields and have contributed immensely for the promulgation of the interests of their country and Alma Mater.

Distinguished alumni awardees are adjudged based on their contributions to the following sectors :

- Academic/Research
- Social Sciences, Engineering & Public Administration
- Corporate Development/Entrepreneurship Service to the Society

Applications are invited for Distinguished Alumni Awards 2012. Last date for application is April 30, 2012.

Completed nomination forms may be sent to:

Prof. S.P. Gupta, Dean, Alumni Affairs
Main Building, IIT Roorkee
Roorkee – 247667
India

E mail: spgfee@gmail.com, de-analumni@iitr.ernet.in

Mobile: 9837074284

Fax: 01332-273560

MIND BENDERS

- If the first three of the following statements are true, is the conclusion also true?
All Nebraskens are Cornhusker fans
Some Cornhusker fans are also Hawkeye fans
Some Hawkeye are also Cyclone fans
Therefore, some Nebraskens are Cyclone friends.
- Mohan Sohan and Rohan are all sports fan. Each has a different favorite sport among football, baseball and basket ball. Mohan does not like basket ball. Rohan does not like basket ball or base ball. Name each person's favourite sport.

Answers are given on page 15

Taken from Rd's Book of Mind Benders

AN IITIAN SWORN IN, AGAIN, AS CHIEF MINISTER OF GOA

Mr Manohar Parrikar has recently been elected to Goa assembly as BJP candidate. Being the leader of BJP there he has become the Chief Minister of Goa. First elected to the Goa legislative assembly in 1994 from Panjim, he lost power in 2002, but came back in four months and stayed in power until 2005. The 47-year-old CM is known for his impeccable reputation, austere ways and spearheading the campaign against illegal mining and corruption in Digamber Kamat's Government. Soon after he became Chief Minister, Parrikar has said that he would revamp the Directorate of Mines and Geology.



Mr Manohar Parrikar seen with Gujarat Chief Minister Mr Narendra Modi, attending PANIIT Gujarat Convention during Vibrant Gujarat Meet on Jan 11, 2011 at Nirma University, NIT Hall, Ahmedabad.

He is an IIT Bombay Alumnus of 1978 batch of metallurgical engineering.

IITIAN BRINGS LITERACY TO MILLIONS

[PlanetRead founder Dr. Brij Kothari \(IIT Kanpur\) brings literacy to millions. For PlanetRead's work, Brij was elected India's social entrepreneur of the year in 2009, by the prestigious Schwab Foundation and invited to 2011 World Economic forum in Davos. Bill Clinton talks about Brij as a perfect example of a small change that has a staggering impact on people's lives.](#)



This Davos story starts about more than fifteen years ago when Brij Kothari was doing PhD in Education, at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. Brij's passion was to use media to make the world a better place. His research took him to Ecuador where he had to learn Spanish for local communication. His project was to document indigenous people's knowledge of medicinal plants. The people he studied were illiterate, and he was illiterate in

Spanish.

Watching the movie "Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown" made in Spanish with English subtitles, his mind was enlightened what he could do for his own country. He realized he would accelerate his learning to read and write in Spanish if he could see the movie with Spanish subtitles, instead English ones. He started thinking about what this might mean in India, with all its linguistic diversity. Hindi subtitles for Hindi Bollywood movies? His community loves Bollywood. He left Ithaca believing his idea could mean a breakthrough in literacy for India.

He subsequently got a faculty position at the premier business school in India - IIM Ahmedabad. There, at the Center for Educational Innovation, his research continued. He was able to study firsthand the impact of putting same language subtitles on Bollywood music videos. The results were outstanding. In both children and adults his research showed dramatic reading improvements resulting from regular exposure to subtitles. He published his findings in academic journals and proceeded to talk to policy makers, media leaders, and education officials. Not surprising, such an innovative approach was rejected at first. But, he didn't give up there, he went on to apply for and receive a Global Innovation Grant from Development Marketplace at the World Bank. This provided \$250,000 of seed funding allowing him to work with India's public service broadcaster. So in 2002, PlanetRead was officially launched with Bollywood music videos over public television with same language subtitles.

Brij and others were immediately inspired by the



direct and indirect results. Literacy improved, and so did people's lives. Even the Private sector benefited. Specifically, newspaper reading in regional languages nearly doubled in groups who saw songs with subtitles; 37% to 70%. He claims that PlanetRead is fueling the newspaper revolution in India. Right now in India, it is estimated that there are over 300M "weak readers" who are officially literate, but who cannot read the headline of a newspaper.

Bill Clinton and the Clinton Global Initiative noticed. Bill talks about Brij as a perfect example of a small change that has a staggering impact on people's lives. For PlanetRead's work, Brij was elected India's social entrepreneur of the year in 2009, by the prestigious [Schwab Foundation](#). One of the benefits of this was attendance at Davos this year where Brij ran into Bill Clinton at the 'India Adda' café in Davos. Brij updated Bill about PlanetRead's growth in India. They are implementing subtitling in eight languages, on weekly programming of Bollywood songs with subtitles. Check out Brij's blog about his recent run-in with Bill at Davos [here](#).

Brij continues to focus on increasing reach in India, and has set his sights on mobile content. There are 110M TV sets in India. This provides fair reach because each set is viewed on average by 6 people. But with 750M mobile phones and growing, more people can benefit if mobile content also has same language subtitles. He also has a big dream of a nationwide policy requiring same language subtitles on every song in India. He has appealed to the broadcasting corporation of India (like the US FCC) and a national scale up is under consideration.

HARISH HANDE GETS MAGSASSAY AWARD

Harish Hande (IITK 1990) is one of the three Indians who won the Magsaysay Award, recently. Hande was recognized for bringing solar light to a country where half the households have no power. Harish Hande, 44, was recognized for "his passionate and pragmatic efforts to put solar power technology in the hands of the poor, through a social enterprise that brings customized, affordable, and sustainable electricity to India's vast rural populace, encouraging the poor to become asset creators."



Hande, who has obtained his B Tech (Hons) Energy Engineering from IITK (1990), followed by a PhD in Energy Engineering from the University of Massachusetts, works as the managing director and was the co-founder of Solar Electric Light Company (SELCO) India in Bengaluru. The company is a solar electric light company that has lit up over 120,000 households, and has emerged as India's leading solar technology firm.

Hande is the third IIT alumni to get this award. Dr Kiran Bedi (IITD) and Arvind Kejriwal (IIT KGP) are the other award recipients.

Mr Pradeep Kumar has recently been appointed

VIGILANCE IS THE NEW AREA, AN IITIAN EMBRACED RECENTLY



as the Chief Vigilance Commissioner of India (CVC). He is an electrical engineering graduate from IIT Delhi. Prior to this post he was the Defense Production secretary in the Ministry of defense.

Pradeep Kumar is known for his impeccable reputation—a key factor that many regarded as the Defense Minister's main criterion for an official to manage his ministry. During his tenure, he ensured that the ministry steered clear of any controversy of corruption.

India Nirman Sangh, an initiative of a PanIIT

INDIAN NIRMAN SANGH (INS)

Alumni, is engaged in a slew of developmental and community projects in the backward Palani Hills region of the state of Tamil Nadu.

The purpose behind the program is:

- To help some of the most deprived persons in the society in specific and immediate ways.
- To use the opportunity of having direct contact with some of our poorest countrymen and women to raise their awareness about society, the political structure and the need for change
- Starting And Supporting Savings Group

India Nirman Sangh helps to form small thrift and savings groups and then arranges micro credit through local banks. The group uses this money to give loans to their own members who may need the loan for a variety of reasons, including repaying loans taken from moneylenders at exorbitant interest rates, sickness in the family, festivals, education

fees, buying fertilizer, wedding, etc. Peer pressure among the members ensures a near 100 per cent loan recovery rate.

INS is also working with local people and the Government in a slew of community projects. Over time, the members of the saving groups has begun to take up local issues such as sanitation, drinking water supply, problems in the local ration shop, etc. The group also ensures proper implementation of Government welfare schemes and collectively resist both hooliganism and police high handedness.

- **Helping build toilets:** Due to lack of sanitation, Defecation in open area is a major problem in rural India. In 2007, INS-led savings group came forward to implement the Government scheme to build toilets for each home and thus eliminate open defecation. Today, more than 600 toilets have been constructed by the group members under this scheme.

The Sangh has also started tiny businesses like running grocery shops, ration shops, tea shops, distilling and bottling eucalyptus oil, processing and packaging Kodaikanal coffee, manufacturing inexpensive sanitary napkins and running a carpentry workshop. India Nirman Sangh incubates these businesses and helps them run profitably and professionally.

INS founder and mentor is Mr David Barun Kumar Thomas, an alumnus of IIT Kanpur of 1977 batch.

In the Jan 2012 issue of VAANI, we brought out about an IITian turned monk Mahan Mitra from IITK and Shreyas Navate (IIT Bombay) an editorial cartoonist for Hindustan Times.

CHANAKYA SAID

- **If there is a nectar in poison take it. If there is precious metal in filth, retrieve it . If a low breed man has some good knowledge, wisdom, art or quality, imbibe it.**
- **Too much beauty got Sita kidnapped; too much ego got Ravana killed and too much of charity got Raja Bali in deep trouble. Too much of anything is bad. Stay away from bad**
- **The purity of gold is tested by rubbing, cutting, heating, So is the case with human.**

THE POWER OF PREVENTION

- **No matter how bad you feel, you stay upright. Gravity helps to keep acid in your stomach**
- **Heart burn in night troubles your sleep. Eat your food two to three hours before bedtime. The acid levels in stomach will reduce by that time**
- **Sleep on your left side. That way fluids pool away from lower oesophageal sphincter**
- **Eating too much in one sitting can force open the lower oesophageal sphincter, the thick ring of muscle that separates the stomach from the oesophagus and keeps stomach acid where it belongs to.**
- **Give up smoking to avoid acidity. Smoking opens the lower oesophageal sphincter and allow the acids to come up. Breathing second hand smoke is as bad. Alcohol too has the same effect.**

Taken from RD'S Digest Guide to food

Your life is designed by three designers— circumstances, you and coincidences. Any one can be the chief designer at any particular moment

Javed Akhtar, lyricist

It is one thing to feel that you are on the right path, but it's another to think that yours is the only path

Paulo Coelho

Never tell any one to go to hell unless you make them go

Bill Clinton

I never get panic when I get lost. I just change where it is I want to go

Rita Rudner

(Taken from RD March 2012 issue)

Dr Pranav Desai,
Retired Chief Scientist
of ISRO



"I'VE TAKEN ANOTHER CLOSE LOOK AT THE BUDGET, AND I'M SORRY I'M GOING TO HAVE TO LET TWO OF YOU GO."

BUDGET 2012-13

While the main focus this time is on In-come-Tax Rules for F.Y. 2012-13 (as proposed in Parliament on 16-3-2012), a few other matters of interest touched upon towards the end are: Direct Tax Code for F.Y. 2013-14 & beyond [Parliamentary Committee's final recommendations (as declared on 10-3-2012), with the understanding that Govt. may or may not accept them in toto]; Interest Rates on Small Savings for F.Y. 2012-13; Dearness Relief Rate for 1-1-2012; New TDS Rules, I.T. Refund scope for F.Y. 2010-11 (A.Y. 2011-12); New Pension System News for central government employees; Avenues for investing Retirement Lumpsum Receipts for those retiring in April 2012 or afterwards.

PART-I: NEW INCOME TAX RULES FOR FY 2012-13

(i) THE NEW INCOME TAX SLABS ARE AS FOLLOWS

Taxable income Slab (Rs)	I-T rates	eligibility
Upto 2 lacs	nil	below 60 years
Upto 2.5 lacs	nil	60 years or above (Born on/ before 31/3/1953)
upto 5 lacs	nil	80 years or above (born on/before 31/3/1933)
Above thresholds as above and up to 5 lacs	10%	for all
5-10 lacs	20%	for all
10 lacs and above	30%	for all
Cess	3%	for all

(ii) Interests on Bank, P.O & Co-op. Society S/B A/C's put together (only the savings interest, usually

4%) upto Rs. 10000 is tax-exempted. You have to first add in gross income, then take `deduction by Sec 80TTA (erstwhile 80L), upto max. Rs. 10000 and the balance, if any, stay taxable.

(iii) The requirement of paying advance taxes (Sept/Dec/Mar) is pardoned for `senior' citizens (born on/before 31/3/1953) (if no `business'). This means, you can just pay all your (self-assessment) tax directly in July 2013 and yet, you need not add any `interest payable' in it (as of now, that would be 7.7% of the self payable tax, if this tax >10000). This is a great step to save you trouble and money!

(iv) Infra bond deduction sect 80ccf is deleted.

(v) In the 80-D medical premium deduction, a sum of (max.) 5000 Rs. can be included just for `preventive health check' charges. {For Senior citizens age now is 60, not 65}.

(vi) Security Transaction Tax is made 0.1% (instead of 0.125%).

(vii) The persons who so far do not have `demat' share A/c, if they open a Demat A/c (after passage of budget by President and due notification) and buy shares directly (not via Mutual Fund) upto max. Rs. 50000, 50% of this purchase (i.e. max. 25000) by Sec. (TBD) will be allowed as a Deduction, provided their total net income is below 10 Lacs and subject to keeping those shares intact for 3 years. [MF ELSS disqualified due to turnover].

(viii) If you purchase `property' (non-agricultural land/building) in urban area costing Rs 50 Lacs or more, TDS is deductible on the receipt of money by the seller @ 1%. For rural area the threshold is 20 Lacs. This comes into force wef oct'2012.

(ix) If your net taxable income is Rs 10 lacs or more, you must file online with digital signature (even for Ay 12-13). One can go to income tax website to know more about digital signatures.

PART II: DIRECT TAX CODE (EXPECTED IMPLEMENTATION WEF FY 2013-14)

Government had introduced a Revised DTC Bill in Parliament on 30-8-2010. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance was asked to review/comment on it. They submitted their Recommendatory Report to Hon. Speaker LS on 9-3-2012. Highlights of changes suggested by them are as follows.

- Tax exempt threshold 3 Lacs (more for ladies, Senior Citizens >60 age and Very Seniors >80 age).
- Rate 10% upto 10 Lacs, 20% from 10 to 20 Lacs, 30% beyond 20 Lacs. The thresholds/slab-junctions to dynamically change automatically annually to reflect inflation.
- Savings in PPF and NPS* put together (*this covers Govt. employees' New Pension System and optional All Citizens' National Pension System) upto 1.5 Lacs, Life & Health Insurances and Children's education upto 1 Lakh and 75000 for Higher Education and Parents' Health Insurance (a total of 3.25 lacs) are deductible from income.
- House Loan Interest deduction of 1.5 lacs (but not on principal repayment).
- Deductions under 80-DD (handicap child), 80-U (handicap self) and 80-G (donations) would continue as it is.

Thus in principle, one can have gross income of 7.75 Lacs and yet pay no tax! As for Wealth-Tax, DTC had

proposed free threshold upto 1 crore. The figures are yet to be firmed up by the government.

PART III : OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATIONS

- IT Return filing is waived (pardoned) for salaried/pensioners for F.Y. 11-12 also (like FY 10-11) if net taxable income <5 Laks subject to other stringent conditions which may make this provision a virtual reality.
- Refund for FY 2010-11 (Assessment Year 2011-12) will be given even if your 26AS does not reflect fully your TDS claim (upto a max. shortfall of 99000 Rs.).
- TDS certificate will be given by deductors (like Bank, Employer) only after referring to 26AS (In Tax Info. Network) henceforth, so that above type of mismatch can not occur. It will be posted to address as per PAN database; last Qtr's by 6/6/2012. [My guess – Many persons won't get TDS Certificates at all].
- Deadline to send ITR-V to Bangalore for AY 11-12 (for e-filers without digital signature): Now 31/3/12.

PART IV: MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL ASPECTS

- DA/DR for central gov. employees increased by 7% wef 1-1-2012 (That brings total to 65%).
- PPF Interest Rate for FY 12-13 is 8.85% (interest is tax free), SCSS-9.3%, POMIS-8.5%.
- Bank FD (typical) Interest Rate available (upto 9 years) now-a-days is 9.75% but soon, falling trend likely: still, this is superior to SCSS/POMIS, so preferred. Note that placing in major son/daughter OR parents' name allowed.

THUS SPOKE SRI RAMAKRISHNA (TOI FEB 23'2012 ON HIS 177TH JAYANTI)

- **In the scriptures you will find the way to realize God. But after getting all the information about the path, you must begin to work, only then can you attain your goal.**
- **You must speak of the scriptures, of philosophy, of Vedanta: but you will not find god in any of these. You will never succeed in realizing God unless your soul becomes restless for Him.**
- **A devotee who can call on God while living a house hold life is a hero indeed. God thinks: 'He is blessed indeed who prays to me in the midst of his worldly duties. He is trying to find me, overcoming a great obstacle. Such a one is a real hero.'**
- **You cannot realize God unless you get rid of all such egoistic ideas as 'I am such an important person' or 'I am so and so'. Level the mound of 'I' to the ground by dissolving it with tears of devotion.**

FUNTIME GOSSIP
(from DC Goel's pitara)

ONE

Once, in a party a very elderly couple was asked the secret of their happily married life for such a long time. Simple, said the old man. We do not interfere in each other's domain. She takes decisions on ordinary matters, and I do not interfere. I take decisions on major issues, and do not allow her to interfere.

On being asked to be more specific, he said that she has full liberty to decide, where the children shall study, where we shall buy a house, which Car/Fridge/TV/VCR/Micro shall we purchase. Where and when shall we go out on holidays. She is the one to select a match for our growing children etc. etc.

On being asked to elaborate upon the major issues, the old man sat upright, and looking into his wife's eyes, said with a sense of pride that "I never allow the old lady even to speak least to talk or interfere in major matters such as: Whether Pakistan has a Nuclear Bomb or not; If America shall invade Iraq or not; If an ordinary man can land on the moon within the next decade; whether China will become a super power in the next ten years; can India defeat Australia in the next World Cup Cricket Tournament; or what shall be the exemption limit for payment of Income Tax in the next Budget of the Government of India, etc. etc. You know these are important matters in which the ladies should not be allowed to have any say.

TWO

Once Emperor Akbar came to the *darbar* and related this incidence. Last night some one climbed upon my chest, kicked me on the chin and shoulders with his feet, twisted my ears with his hands, tried to pull my moustaches, and hopped over me as if upon a horse. However one of the palace attendant came to my rescue and took him away. I have ordered that he should be produced in the *darbar* at mid day.

He then asked his *Vazirs* as to what treatment should be given to him. Someone suggested that he should be publicly flogged, others preferred life imprisonment and even capital punishment by beheading in public. Birbal was the last to speak. He suggested that plenty of food, clothes, and currency should be distributed among the poor from the hands of the so called culprit, adding that none other than the emperor's grand son could dare do so to *Zille-ilahi*. Needless to add that soon after the cul-

prit was brought to the court, Birbal's suggestions were executed with lot of joy and fervor

THREE

A German and a Swiss, on board a plane, were boasting about the superior technology and complete automation in their respective countries, with specific stress on strict quality control. One of them narrated an instance in a factory manufacturing Ball bearings. He said that just raw material is fed into the machine at one end and after automatic process a finished product comes out from the other end. He further narrated an instance when a batch of the finished product was not found to be as per specifications. The whole lot was fed at the end of the plant, and the switch was pressed in the reverse position, resulting in the raw material emerging out at the starting point of the plant.

An Indian occupying next seat could not digest all this. He said that perhaps you people are not aware of the advancement of Technology in India. As you are aware that India is the largest manufacturer of leather goods in the world. In one of the modern plants he had visited, they put a live calf at the starting point, and after automatic processing, the shoes come out at the other end completely finished in all respects. During his visit to such a factory, a similar problem came up when the finished products were not found as per prescribed norms. The operator fed back the finished product at the outer end, reversed the switch, and in a matter of minutes, the live calf emerged at the starting point.

FOUR

During an International conference, three scientists, an American, a German, and an Indian were talking and bragging about the technological advances their respective countries have achieved in the field of medicine. The American said "In Washington, there was a baby boy born without arms so we attached artificial arms on him. And now that he's grown up and became a professional boxer and a gold medalist in the Olympics!"

The German replied, "That's nothing compared to what we have achieved. Back in Berlin, there was a baby girl born without legs so we attached a pair of artificial legs on her. Now she is a three-time Olympics marathon gold medalist!"

The Indian interjected, "Is that all you have achieved, just gold medalists? In Patna, Bihar, we had a baby boy born without a HEAD! We attached a COCONUT and he has grown up and now he is the railway minister of India!!"

FIVE

A 10 year old girl after returning on the first day of her new school approached her mother and asked her “MOM WHAT IS SEX?”. Taken by absolute surprise, the lady asked her to come back after changing, and in the mean time she will finish her work in the kitchen. After giving the matter a serious thought, she explained to her in a guarded language about the subject. The girl showed her school ID card, and said “but Mom how can I write all this in this short space in the card?”

RECIPIES

3,1,2,2 Nan Khatai

Ingredients

- Maida 3 cups
- Besan 1 cup
- Powdered sugar 2 cups
- Ghee 2 cups
- Baking powder 1/8 tea spoon
- Cardamom powder 1/8 tea spoon

Method

1. Sieve maida, besan and baking powder together three times to mix it well and keep aside.
2. Rub powdered sugar in ghee to make it fluffy in a broad flat thali.
3. Add maida, besan and baking powder and cardamom powder into it and mix well.
4. Make small balls, flatten them slightly
5. Bake them at 240 degree temperature till it becomes light brown.
6. *Enjoy with tea or milk.*



- Washing hairs with milk and egg yolk every day, protects the scalp from dandruff. It also promotes hair growth.
- A paste made of harad (haritake) boiled in coconut oil till the essence is completely dissolved, is a very good hair tonic.
- Boil 50 gms of mustard oil in a tin vessel. Gradually add 60 gms of henna (menhdi).leaves and keep heating for few minutes, cool, filter it and store in bottle. Massaging with this oil will promote hair growth.
- Washing hairs with a paste of cooked black gram dal (urad) and methi seeds (fenugreek) lengthens the hair, keep them black and cures dandruffs. Black gram flour along with green gram dal (mung) paste is also used for washing the hair. It lengthens the hairs and prevent dandruff.
- Two spoon full of methi seeds soaked overnight in water should be ground to fine paste. The paste when applied on the scalp for half an hour and then washed with shikakahi leads to healthy hair growth and cures dandruff.
- Apply amla juice mixed with lime juice on to the scalp at bed time. It is a healthy hair tonic
- Decoction of beet root (chukandar) mixed with a little vinegar cures dandruff
- Apply the juice of fresh grated pineapple on the scalp, then wash off after 20 mts with warm water. It cures dandruff
- Grind khus khus with water and mix with un-boiled milk. Apply the paste on the scalp. Wash thoroughly with water after an hour with water. It cures dandruff
- Apply coconut oil on wet hair to get rid of dandruff
- A fine paste of arhar dal (pigeon peas) is highly usefull in curing bald patches.

LUST

Krishna said, it is lust which turns into anger arising from passion; know this lust to be insatiable, extremely sinful and the greatest enemy in this world

(Taken from the book on Indian medicine System compiled by Mrs Santosh Agrawal and published by Reneme International, Thane, Maharashtra)

THE AGONY OF TREES

Ever since the Green India campaign took off, lacs and lacs of trees have been planted in urban areas. The campaign has also served as the publicity platform for private entrepreneurs, VIPs and politicians. The horticulture department prepares suitable guide lines to be adopted by the tree planting people. People spend money on the plantation and its after planting care that includes its protection from cattles feeding on the infant plants, watering and preparation of soil time to time. We feel happy see-

grow. These steel cages, having no provision to remove once the plant does not need it any more, can not be removed. Thus the agony of the trees starts. The plants were happy during its infant and childhood stage in captivity. The happiness vanishes and the pain and distress starts when the girth of the tree touches the cage.

It is pitiable to see how the stem of the plants bulges out of the cage. Many plants develop additional shoots to surround the cage and take it inside their womb. It is something like an iron mesh implanted



ing the plants grow healthy. However when the plant reaches to adulthood and increases in its girth, the protection cage, which is not yet removed, does not permit it to

inside the stem of the trees. We do not realize the pains, these trees undergo in such situations, since they can not cry. It is not yet perceptible as to what would be the long term effect of this iron and stem sandwich, on the environment.

One can see hundreds of such plants in Jodhpur Village area of Ahmedabad city. Similar situation may appear at other places in the city and country. Care of manually planted trees requires meticulous planning and implementation till the plant becomes self sustainable. The plant needs to be freed from the cage at this juncture. For this the cages have to be designed with doors & latch system. The cages with the doors can be reused thus save on its cost.

It is hoped that IITRAAA and their family members, who are involved in tree plantation would take care of this aspect in future and propagate the awareness of the grave facts. Even corporate level management, as a part of their CSR, can take a decision to provide specially designed cages to relieve the trees from it after the plant has sufficiently grown. IITRAAA can play a catalytic role in alleviating the present chaos with the tree plantation.

ANSWER TO ACRONYM QUESTIONS ON PAGE 2

THE WATER BOWL PROJECT

Thousands of dogs, cats, cows, donkeys and birds die every year as they get no water to drink during the summer months. We need your help in helping these animals.

Last year, water bowls were placed in many parts of India, bringing succor to many animals across the country; Mumbai, Pune, Chennai, Delhi, Jaipur, Hyderabad, to name only a few. A web search can provide the images of some of the successfully placed bowls in various cities

The makers of the water bowl project are once again offering free bowls and this time in Ahmedabad too! We will provide the Bowls and all you need to do is to take the bowl, affix it outside your home, office or corner of your lane where animals can access it easily, and fill it daily with fresh water

If you are interested in placing a bowl, please contact Vishruti on 9725882334 or vishruti.agrawal@gmail.com

Also, right now, on an immediate basis, we are looking for volunteers who can be a collection center, from where people can collect bowls. This requires only 2ftx2ft of space, where you can stack 8-10 bowls for distribution. If you are interested to be a collection centre, please talk to Vishruti or Sarita Raturi (saritaraturi@hotmail.com), managing committee member and overseas representative IDA-India, who has initiated and manages this project.

Please circulate this mail among your friends as well. Thanks for your Kindness and Compassion for our 4 legged friends & birds

**Vishruti
IDA-India**

SIM	SUBSCRIBER IDENTITY MODULE
ATM	AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINE
PIN	PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER
ICICI	INDUSTRIAL CREDIT AND INVESTMENT CORPORATION OF INDIA
LG	LIFE'S GOOD (FORMERLY LUCKY GOLDSTAR)
CD	COMPACT DISC
MBBS	BACHELOR OF MEDICINES AND BACHELOR OF SURGERY
PhD	DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
USB	UNIVERSAL SERIAL BUS
PAN	PERMANENT ACCOUNT NUMBER
DVD	DIGITAL VIDEO DISC
MICA	MUDRA INSTITUTE OF COMMUNICATION AHMD
GMAT	GRADUATE MANAGEMENT ADMISSION TEST
MCB	MINIATURE CIRCUIT BREAKER
DRDO	DEFENSE RESEARCH & DEVPT ORGANISATION
SOS	SAVE OUR SELVES
PTO	PLEASE TURN OVER
LCD	LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY
LED	LIGHT EMITTING DIODE
CNG	COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS
LPG	LIQUID PETROLIUM GAS

ANSWER TO MIND BENDERS ON PAGE 5

<u>Question 1</u>	False	
<u>Question 2</u>	Mohan	baseball
	Sohan	basket ball
	Rohan	football

He who gains victory over other men, is strong, but he who gains victory over himself is all powerful

Leo Tolstoy