

ALUMNI LINK - PUJA ISSUE
IIEST SHIBPUR



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Cover Art : Dipayan Lodh



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Alumni Link | Editorial Team

Manoj Kar | 1980 ETC

Sandeep Chatterjee | 1998 ME



A NEW BEGINNING

Manoj Kar | 1980 ETC

Graduates are the backbone of an educational institute. They are campus ambassadors proudly wearing the name of their institution on hats and shirts, they are supporters cheering at sporting events, they are recruiters helping to place new graduates into jobs, and they are lifelong students staying active within their fields. Since a thriving alumni community continues the legacy of an institution, 62 percent of institutional representatives report that their top priority is to increase the number of engaged alumni. The key to alumni engagement is relationship building. They are engaged with the academic unit partly because of their gratitude. They were grateful for the career preparation and mentorship from their professors, before and after graduation.

When students graduate, the student-institution relationship does not end, instead it continues to evolve as needs and expectations change. Proud alumni often serve as powerful ambassadors for their institution's brand and speak glowingly of their college years. Alumni are nostalgic and love opportunities to return to campus. 85 percent of alumni agree they would donate more often if they knew their money was funding organizations or initiatives with which they had been involved as a student.

Industry-academia collaborations are like earth and water, and they live in harmony. They cannot exist apart from one another. A vital first step toward closing the gap in this is harnessing alumni engagement in industry and academia.

GAABESU is mandated to build a bridge between institution and alumni by fostering lifelong partnership resulting in infinite number of opportunities to advance programs of our beloved alma mater.

Alumni Link in its new form and frequency will facilitate this purpose by bringing individual alumni or alumni organizations across different states and cities around the world in a common platform where they can share their initiatives, activities, individual success stories, significant achievements apart from sharing literary or technical articles, paintings, photographs etc. On the other hand GAABESU will share their plans, activities and progress for different institute facing initiatives they are mandated to initiate and run.

Alumni Link will be published quarterly for the purpose of reinforcing this bond by providing regular updates.

Let us all work together to transform Alumni Link into a true global networking platform as a vehicle to strengthen the bond of eternal brotherhood and successfully continue our journey of 'Giving Back'.

Special thanks to Sukanta-da, Swapan and Debal for arranging reports from different parts of the world.



DIFFERENT STROKES



Sandeep Chatterjee | 1998 ME

“Durga Pooja is celebrated in various parts of India in different styles. But the one basic aim of this celebration is to propitiate Shakti, the Goddess in Her aspect as Power, to bestow upon man all wealth, auspiciousness, prosperity, knowledge (both sacred and secular), and all other potent powers”~ Swami Sivananda

This is that time of the year when the whole state of West Bengal is immersed in Durga Puja celebrations. The city of Kolkata wears a decorative look with state-of-the-art puja pandals, wall paintings, alponas, and people dressed in various colors.

Like every year, this year also has been a few firsts in the city. In a heartfelt tribute to the vibrant culture and people of West Bengal, Asian Paints has orchestrated a magnificent transformation of Kolkata's iconic tram from Tollygunge to Ballygunge into a living canvas, celebrating Kolkata tram's 150th year. For the first time ever, a brand (electronic retail chain Croma) has done a larger-than-life Alpona painting with skilled artists on the iconic Howrah Bridge, bringing together tradition and innovation in a captivating display of artistry.

IEST Shibpur has its own share of glory in the successful launch of Chandrayaan 3 with 4 of its alumni namely Sumitesh Sarkar (ETC'87), Debojyoti Dhar (ETC'87), Rintu Nath ('95 EE) and Jayanta Laha (ETC 2009) being part of the team. The entire IEST Shibpur fraternity is proud of you.

However, once mentor to IIT Kharagpur, IEST Shibpur has been struggling with vacant posts, large number of students, dwindling funds even after joining the NIT network. The college has 302 teachers' posts for its 4,000 students but unfortunately 120 of

them, which is close to 40%, are vacant. The latest recruitment and promotion cycle which began in 2019 is continuing with those appointed four years ago still awaiting confirmation.

It was thought that becoming a centrally funded technical institution (CFTI) can solve funding and staffing problems, but IEST Shibpur has proved otherwise.

The 167-year-old institute, once one of India's top engineering colleges hasn't had a permanent registrar for two years. As a consequence of such operational issues, IEST Shibpur has dropped 20 places on the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)'s list of top engineering colleges in India. In 2016, it ranked 20 on NIRF Ranking for engineering; in 2022, it had slipped to 40. The slide continues in 2023 where it is at 66.

Like with all pedigreed engineering colleges in the country, there was talk of converting the Shibpur BE College into an IIT. However, there is a problem with converting state-run institutions into national ones – seat distribution. State-run institutions admit students from within the state, and central institutions from across the country. That is why it could never be converted into an IIT. And amidst all this drama, only BEC Shibpur was converted into a central institution, and it became the first and only IEST. The West Bengal and union governments agreed to divide seats with 50% each for state and out-of-state students.

However, I see this as a silver lining with demands for a more diverse, inclusive, and equitable world. But we need to gear up to take the college to its earlier glorious days.

We lost a few of our alumni and our sincere condolences to the departed souls.

We hope you will enjoy reading this Puja Edition!





FROM THE SENIOR MOST EC MEMBER, GAABESU



Baidya Roy | 1965 ME

Though I don't have any personal literary contribution to add to it I want the debut puja edition to be successful and have a sustainable future.

We all know that in addition to numerous outstanding technical contributions to the nation and the world many of our alumni (Badal Sarkar, Narayan Sanyal. et al) have made significant contributions to our literature and cultural heritage and earned national recognitions that make us all proud. We also are aware that many of the new generation of alumni have exhibited their varied artistic and literally talents in multiple forums in recent years. It would be mutually beneficial to recognize and publicize their works in this new magazine. I hope they all would enthusiastically contribute to it.

I wish again a grand success of the publication and eagerly wait to receive its debut edition.



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT, GAABESU



Amitabha Dutta | 1974 CE

Month of October is a very special month for us as it brings in the joy of the Festive Season with Durga Puja and many other festivals thereafter.

It is heartening to know that GAABESU, to add up more joys to our community, has planned to issue the Puja Special number of the Alumni Link.

On behalf of the Global Alumni Association of this great institution, it is my pleasure to welcome you all to enjoy this publication along with your family and friends. Also please come forward with any

contribution in days to come for making our Alumni Link more and more interesting and colourful. We all are aware that such family magazine helps create bonding, much stronger, which also helps association to exist, purposefully, to help our alumni and, by extension, the Institute itself, to succeed.

Before I conclude, I wish every success of our Alumni-Link and also thank you all for your continued support and generosity of spirit in keeping GAABESU active and agile for the good cause.



FROM THE SECRETARY, GAABESU আবার ফিরে আসা



Prosenjit Chakraborty | 1987 EE

আরো একটা পূজা এসে গেলো, আর এই লেখা ছাপার অক্ষরে দেখা হতে হতে ঠাকুরের বিসর্জন ও হয়ে যাবে। তারপরে আবার এক বছরের অপেক্ষা। সত্যেন দত্তের ভাষায়, আমরা “দেবতারে প্রিয় করি, প্রিয়রে দেবতা।” তাই ঠাকুর আমাদের ঘরের মেয়ে, মা এর বেশ ধরে বৎসরান্তে পিতৃগৃহে আসেন আবার চার দিন কাটিয়ে ফিরে যান। ফের ফিরে আসবার প্রতীক্ষা শুরু। এ যেন “শুধু যাওয়া, আসা, যেন স্রোতে ভাসা”।

আমাদের মধ্যে অনেকেই প্রবাসী, কাজের, উপার্জনের তাগিদে ঘর থেকে দূরে দেশে বা বিদেশে থাকতে বাধ্য হই। কেউ বছরে একবার বাড়ি ফেরেন, কারুর বা হয়তো সেটাও বিভিন্ন কারণে হয়ে ওঠে না। বাড়িতে বৃদ্ধ বাবা-মার ছবি বা এখন মোবাইল সম্বল। নান্দীকার এর নাটক “পাতা বরার দিনগুলো”, যেটা রুদ্রপ্রসাদ – স্বাতীলেখা করেছিলেন, সেটা মনে পরে যায়।

আর তিন দিনের পরে,

“ঠাকুর থাকবে কতক্ষণ, ঠাকুর যাবে বিসর্জন”;

বেজে ওঠা ঢাকের বাদ্যি থেমে যাবে। আবার চরবেতি, চরবেতি, এগিয়ে চলো, এগিয়ে চলো। কোথায় যাচ্ছি জানি না, কিন্তু, চলতে থাকি। থেমে গেলেই তো “শেষ”।

“তিনদিন স্বর্ণদীপ জ্বলিতেছে ঘরে,

দূর করি অন্ধকার, শনিতেছি বাণী,

মিষ্টতম এ সৃষ্টিতে, এ কর্ণকুহরে,

দ্বিগুণ আঁধার হবে এ ঘর জানি,

নিভাও এ দীপ যদি, কহিলা কাতরে,

নবমীর নিশা শেষে গিরিশের রানী।।

Wish All of You very best wishes, on the occasion of Sharadiya Durga Puja, and Shuva Bijaya Dashami. Our old "Alumni Link" is going to be revived, resurfaced once again, this time, as an e-version, but soon, during Alumni Day, we shall come back with a hard-copy.



FROM SHIBPUR TO MOON: THE INSPIRATIONAL JOURNEY OF IEST ALUMNI ON CHANDRAYAAN-3

Manas Dey | 1996 MET

In the thrilling space race to the moon Saheb Para won decisively over Muchipara. Interestingly, except one day scholar, every single BEC Junta can trace their roots back to one of these hostels – 14, 15 or 16 and spent their hushed busy nights walking down the corridor of Sen or Sengupta Hall. Those are the distinguished alumni from our alma mater in the remarkable Chandrayaan-3 webinar, graciously provided us another compelling reason to swell with pride. We had the privilege of inviting them to our inaugural

webinar Sep-30, 2023 as part of our alumni networking initiative. Let me quickly introduce our esteemed panelists:

- 1) Debajyoti Dhar – H-15/SEN, 1987 CST, Outstanding Scientist and Deputy Director of Signal and Image Processing in ISRO.
- 2) Dr. Rintu Nath – H16/SENGUPTA, 1995 EE, Principal Scientist in the Department of Science and Technology, an expert in Data Acquisition Systems (DAS).
- 3) Sumitesh Sarkar – H16/SEN, 1987 ETC, Outstanding Scientist and Deputy Director of Satcom and Navigation Payloads.
- 4) Jayanta Laha – Day Scholar 2009 ETC. Scientist/Engineer, ISRO

Goutam Chattopadhyay, a Senior Scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and a Visiting Professor at Caltech, Pasadena, USA was humble enough to play the role of moderator. In his own words he is an "apadomostok bangali, BE college a mora" (the purest form of Bengali, carrying the full legacy of BE College).

Debajyoti and Jyanata found themselves in the heart of ISRO war room on that momentous day. Chandryaan-2's setback and failure of Russian Mission just two weeks prior fresh in mind made the situation tense in the control room much like a nerve wrecking Indo-Pak ODI in the knockout stage of WC. But Vikram with a huge payload of one hundred and forty crores of dreams and the hope of an entire nation, finally touched down like a feather in the southern side of the moon without any manual intervention. The entire nation was watching them, and in their own account the feeling was once in a lifetime.

According to Rintu, the day symbolized a grand celebration of science everywhere including social media which surely would inspire and motivate an entire young mind across the country. They all recounted how profoundly their alma mater shaped them and played an enormous role for their success. It is their teachers who imparted the knowledge which helped them build the fundamentals in engineering and technology. It was also the camaraderie forged in the hostels, collaborative experiments in the labs and shared laughter in canteens and "Bakultala" had ingrained the essence of teamwork into their character.

Sumitesh's advice to budding engineers or scientists of IEST is to pay enough attention to fundamentals. Debajyoti stressed on being truly passionate and professional about what we do and that'll propel us forward relentlessly. Rintu had few words of advice to the current faculty members on how to tap the funds for their projects. He suggested the students unlock the potential of available fellowships in the country and abroad. In Jayanta's opinion, space is a place where AI/ML is used more than any

conventional industry and ISRO, with its boundless potential, should not just be an option but a prospective career filled with limitless possibilities.

They also delved into how the space economy is shaping up and the dynamic influence wielded by private sectors in the country. They also underscored how ISRO is undergoing transformation, how the burgeoning start-up ecosystem is being built where innovation sprouts like cosmic seeds, how space technology is going to be a catalyst for the welfare of the nation.

Their odyssey from humble beginnings in Shibpur to the landing of Chandrayan-3 on moon's soil is an awe-inspiring one. These remarkable individuals, who hailed from ordinary middle-class families with all the odds against themselves, can touch the moon, why can't you? India is on the ascent and is in dire need of young engineers like you. Let's come together as an IESTian community to build the nation, let's be part of fulfilling yet another dream and let's make every heart swell with pride including your cherished alma mater.

The event kicked off with a warm welcome from Kalpana Majumdar, 87CST, extending heartfelt greetings to our beloved students, faculty, staff, and cherished alumni of our beloved Alma Mater. She proudly introduced the IEST Shibpur Alumni Networking project.

As the program concluded, she extended a cordial invitation to all alumni to join the upcoming Alumni Day scheduled for December 30, 2023, organized by GAABESU on our campus. This event presents a wonderful opportunity for attending alumni to meet with our panelists in person, fostering meaningful connections and reminiscing about the shared experiences at our Alma Mater.



BECAAC - ALBERTA SUMMER ACTIVITY EXCERPT

Rupak Bhattacharyya | 1979 CE

This year the BECAAC Alberta members organized their summer picnic on Aug 19, 2023 at the Rotary Park, Red Deer, Alberta on . It is a beautiful place surrounded by green belt, hills, and a ravine. Red Deer river is about 20 minutes walk.

A total of 26 people participated the picnic, from 12 BECAAC families. Initially we planned to buy cooked food from restaurants. Later Sankha Roy took initiative to use home cooked food and mobilized 4 more volunteer for the endeavor. Sankha's family cooked the lion's share of the food, while others chipped in for various dishes. On the overall food was great, and was relished by all participants.

Most people came between about 10:30 AM and 11:30 AM. We served jhalmuri, ghooghney, and begun-bhaja (eggplant fry) fried onsite for breakfast. Most participants got engaged with various games and activities like cricket, hiking, adda, music, engaging kids, managing food (heating up, serving, frying eggplant, cleaning up etc.). A lot of pictures were clicked to capture the mood of the participants and the activities.

The picnic was wrapped up at about 5:30 PM, when the participants dispersed from this wonderful event. On the overall It was a great and memorable event that was managed flawless. About 6 to 7 families who participate regularly to the Alberta chapter picnic could not make it due to conflict with other commitments, resulting a comparatively thinner attendance in comparison to the recent past years. Sankha Roy, Soumya Roy Choudhury, Pradip Saha, Rupak Bhattacharyya, Jyoti Prakash Ghosh, Dilip Das Mahapatra, Koushik Halder, Arunava Mitra, Somnath Basu, and Prabir Mandal along with family members joined the picnic as BECAAC members. Dipankar Das and Santanu Samanta joined the picnic as our guests.



GAABESU

Global Alumni Association of Bengal Engineering and Science
University, Shibpur
University Guest House
Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur
(Erstwhile Bengal Engineering and Science University/B. E. College,
Shibpur)
Po.: Botanic Garden, Howrah, West Bengal, India - 711103



ATLANTA ALUMNI PICNIC 2023

Sujan Bhattacharya | 1981 CE

পিকনিক

সুজন ভট্টাচার্য, সিভিল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ১৯৮১

এসে গেল, এসে গেল, কলেজের পিকনিক,
কে যাবে কে যাবে কে, করো লিস্ট ঠিক ঠিক।
কতো কতো idea আর brainstorming,
দাদা আর ভাইদের নিখুঁত planning।
লুচি ডাল বোঁদে জলখাবারে,
Buford Park এ, শনিবার সকালে।
নীল নীল গ্যাসে গনগনে আগুন,
ছোট ছোট ভাইদের সৃষ্টি কি দারুন।
মাংসের সুরভিতে মাতাল বাতাস,
ছ্যাঁচড়া আর ইলিশের এ কী সুবাস।
ফুলকপি পটল আর পনির
মিষ্টি ও দই মধুর মদির।
একে একে ষাট জন জড়ো হলো দুপরে,
দ্যুতি থেকে পার্থদা ছয় দশক জুড়ে।
কত গল্প, হাসি আর leg pulling
Handshake, ছবি তোলা আর Hugging।
স্মৃতিচারণ - ১৩, ১৫ উলফেন্ডেন হল
লর্ড, পাঁচু, ভোটু, ভজা করে জ্বলজ্বল।
Park এ তে রান্না আর badminton
হয়ে গেলো গিন্নিদের পুনর্মিলন।
কুলু কুলু Lake Lanier যায় বয়ে,
B .E College এর ধারা না যায় ধুয়ে।
কিছু স্মৃতি কিছু হাসি কিছু কিছু ব্যথা,
মনে পড়ে বহুদূরে কলেজের কথা।

It was on a sunny summer day on 9th September 2023, Atlanta area alumni of our college/institute got together and celebrated the much-awaited college picnic. This year picnic was spear headed by a group of local alumni: Dr. Raktim Sen (ETC'1975), Tapan Mukherjee (EE'72) and Sanjib Banerjee (98'Min), who were supported by many other members of the alumni community. The venue of the picnic remained unchanged at

Buford Park, Lake Lanier Island where the picnic'22 took place. Lake Lanier Island is a beautiful weekend gateway including a historical Buford Dam with a Powerhouse in the northern suburb of Atlanta, Georgia. About forty (40) B.E. College/BESU/IEST alumni live in this area.

The Picnic was attended by the local alumni and their families with a lot of enthusiasm. The menu was selected carefully to cover breakfast, lunch, and snacks. Breakfast items included, Luchi that was prepared on site by our local alumni. In addition, Dal and mouthwatering Bonde were served with Luchi. The lunch menu included Mutton, Ilish Mach, Chanchra, a Vegetable-Curry, Fulkopi'r Dalna, Potol, Panir and Chatni together with Mishti and doi. Thanks to our counterparts who also extended their helping hands. The most popular item, mutton was as usually a smash hit, cooked by the chief chef Shri Shudhashis Roy (2007, IT).

Some alumni arranged some games such as badminton and bucket ball at the site for fun. Some of our kids and wives played badminton reminiscing the fun of yesteryears. Lots of pictures were taken. The youngest and oldest alumni in this year's picnic were respectively, Shri Dyutimoy Chakraborty (ETC'2023) who is currently a PhD student at The Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta and Shri Partho Mukherjee (CE'1962) who currently lives in Austin, Texas and flew down to Atlanta specifically to attend the college picnic. It was a profound manifestation of a deep-rooted bondage and brotherhood that Partho-da's presence reflected. The notable absentees this year included our senior most Dada, Shri Asit Sengupta (Architecture, 1956) who could not make it due to his impending overseas flight schedule to India. One of the alumni, Shri Banamali Das (CE, 1969) who was visiting his daughter from India, attended our picnic and hugged his classmate Shri Pradip Bose (1969, CE). Ms. Amrita Ghosh (EE, 2016), Kaushik Das (ME, 1997), Shri Bibhu Das (IT, 2005), Shri Dip Narayan Das (1997, CE), Shri Saibal Ghosal (CST, 1988), Shri Abhijeet Mallick (ETC, 1992), Shri Chiranjit Das (ETC, 2008), Shri Bhaskar Chatterjee (ETC 1989) and Shri Surojit Auddy (ETC, 2005) were some of the new faces in this year's picnic. Altogether, a record turnout of 60+ alumni and their families showed up in this year's picnic. Alumni from all decades beginning from 60's, were present. At the end of the event, Partho-da read his own story about how he got into the prestigious B.E. College in the late 50's and concluded with a remark that this picnic should continue as a token of love, friendship, and fraternity. Last but not the list, A magnificent banner embodying the century old history of CEC,

GCH, BEC, BESU and IEST was another highlight of this year's picnic; see pictures below:



Picture 1: A snapshot of Atlanta Area Alumni present at the 2023 Picnic



Picture 2: Mrs Rakhi Dey, Wife of Shri Manas Dey (1995, MET) is assisting in frying Ilish Mach

আটলান্টা বিই কলেজ অ্যালামনি পিকনিক-৯ই সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৩

Manas Dey | 1995 MET



মাংস হতে তখনো অনেক বাকি। নচিদা একটু বোল মুখে ফেলতেই মুখটা কুঁচকে গেল। পরমুহূর্তেই কৌচকান মুখ লম্বালম্বিভাবে প্রসারিত করে ঘোষণা - "সুদুকে ফায়ার করা হবে। কিছুই হয়নি।" সুদু কাঁচুমাচু মুখ করে বললো - "আগে পুরোটা হতে দাও, তারপর না হয় টেস্ট করবে।" সুদু তো বলে দিল কিন্তু ভেতরে প্রচণ্ড টেনশনে। তারপর আমাকে আর সঞ্জীবকে মাঝে মাঝে ডেকে একটা প্লাস্টিকের চামচে চরণামৃত মুখে দেওয়ার মতো মাংসের বোল দিয়ে জিজ্ঞেস করছে - ঠিক আছে? বিজ্ঞের মতো ভাব করে কিছু বলতে যাব, সুদুও ততক্ষণে চেখে বলছে - কি একটা মশলা নেই যেন? বলে মশলার প্যাকেট খুলে কি সব মশলা মেশানো শুরু করল। তার আমি নাম গোত্র কিছুই জানিনি। সুদু পুরো টেস্ট, কানে কানে বললাম - "কিছু না থাকলেও চলবে। শুধু এই আবেগটা যেন থাকে। বি ই কলেজিও আবেগ। তাহলেই চলবে।"

আবেগ এতটাই ছিল যে এবারে রেকর্ড টার্ন আউট। সংখ্যার হিসাবে প্রায় সত্তর। এতলোক নিয়ে পিকনিক আগে কখনো হয়নি। মেনু বলার মতো কিছু নয়। সকালের জলখাবারে ফুলকো লুচি, সঙ্গে ছোলার ডাল আর হাতে বানানো বৌদো। আর দুপুরে ছিল ভাত, স্যালাড, ডাল, বুড়ি ভাজা, বেগুন ভাজা, আলু ফুলকপি, ইলিশ মাছ, ইলিশের তেল, খাসির মাংস, ইলিশের মাথা দিয়ে ছাঁচড়া, চাটনি, ওপরে লাল স্তর দেওয়া দই আর সন্দেশ। খুবই সাদামাটা। যারা এই সাধারণ মেনুতে খাবার কিছু পাবেন না তাদের জন্যে অতিরিক্ত ছিল ডিমের ডালনা, চিকেন, পটোলের কোরমা, পনিরের মত যৎসামান্যই কিছু আয়োজন।

আমাদের কারো সঙ্গে কোনো কম্পিটিশন নেই। আমাদের পিকনিক আমাদের কলেজের মতোই পুরানো। সেই দেখে নাকি অনেকে অনুপ্রাণিত হয়। ভালোই তো। আমার বৌ যাদবপুরের। আমি ডিপেন্ডেন্ট কোর্সে ওদের পিকনিকে যাই এই কয়েকবছর ধরে। চুপচাপ থাকি। ট্যাঁ-ফোঁ কিছু করি না যদি বের করে দেয় সেই ভয়ে। শ্রীরূপাও যাদবপুরের। তাই সঞ্জীবের কথায় সে নাকি যাদবপুরের জামাই। ওখানে গিয়ে বুক ফুলিয়ে ঘুরে বেড়ায় জামাই সুলভ ভঙ্গিতে। নিশ্চয় কেউ পাত্তা দেয় নাহলে অমনি করে ঘুরে বেড়াবে কেন। আমাদের বৌদের সঙ্গে আমরা পিকনিকে জামাইয়ের মতো ব্যবহার করি। ওদের আগে খেতে দিই যত্ন করে। আমাদের খাবার দেখে বৌ বলে - "মনে হচ্ছে তোমাদের মেয়ের বিয়ে লেগেছে।" আমি বলি কেন - যাদবপুরেও তো ভালো খাওয়ায়। কথাটা বলার পর বৌ এমনভাবে আমার দিকে তাকাল যেন বিশাল একটা মিথ্যা কথা বলছি। আবার বলছি আমাদের কারো সঙ্গে কোন কম্পিটিশন নেই।

কী বলতে কী বলছি? কাজের কথায় ফিরে আসি। বলছি যে সকাল আটটার সময় নচিদা তার বায়োমেট্রিক স্টোভ নিয়ে চলে এসেছিল লুচি ভাজার জন্যে। বায়োমেট্রিক এ জেনেই নচিদার স্টোভ একমাত্র নচিদার হাতেই জ্বলো। খুব বড়সড় দেখতে, অনেক ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিংয়ের খুঁটিনাটি আছে তার মধ্যে - এয়ার ফুয়েল মিক্সচার নাকি কন্ট্রোল করতে হয়। জ্বললে তার ফ্লেম দেখা যায় না। ফ্লেম দেখা গেলে আবার রান্না হতে চায় না। নচিদার সেই স্টোভে নাকি মাছ ভাজা হবে। তেল ঢেলে শঙ্করদা আর ভাস্করদা হত্যা দিয়ে পড়ে আছে, তেল কখন ফুটবে। মাথার ওপর রোদ ছিল তাই রক্ষণ তেল অবশেষে ফুটল। তারপর শঙ্করদা আর ভাস্করদা মাথা ঠান্ডা রেখে গভীর অধ্যবসায় সহকারে ষাট জনের একশো কুড়ি পিস মাছ ভাজছে তো ভেজেই চলেছে। মাছের মাথাগুলোকে অবজ্ঞায় গড়াগড়ি খেতে দেখে শঙ্করদার বৌ রুবিদি মাথা ঠান্ডা রাখতে পারেনি। বললো - ইলিশের মাথা আর তেল দিয়ে ছাঁচড়া বানাব। আমরা বললাম - কে বানাবে? সুদুর ওদিকে মাটন করতে গিয়ে চাকরি নিয়ে টানটানি চলছে। ও বানাতে পারবে না।" রুবিদি বললো - "আমি বানাব।" বলেই সামনে একটা বাচ্চা ছেলে, মনে হয় চিরঞ্জিত, কিছুদিন আগে পাস করে বেরিয়েছে তাকে বললো - "যাও ক্রোগার থেকে কুমড়ো, মূলো, আলু আর পালং শাক নিয়ে এস।" চিরঞ্জিত একটু রোগা প্যাংলা টাইপের, তাই স্যাট করে চোখের আড়ালে চলে যেতে কোনো প্রব্রম হয়না। এতক্ষণ তাই করছিল। বৌয়ের সঙ্গে ঘুরে বেড়াচ্ছিল কোনো কাজকন্মো না করেই। নতুন বিয়ে করেছে বোধহয়। তাকে খপাৎ করে ধরে ছাঁচড়ার বাজার করতে বলবে সে বোধহয় কল্পনা করতে পারেনি। যাইহোক বেচারি নিজের চেহারার সঙ্গে সামঞ্জস্য রেখে ছোট ছোট তিনটে পালং শাকের প্যাকেট কিনে আনলে রুবিদি চিরঞ্জিতকে নয় তার বৌ কে ডেকে সে কি বকাবকা। "হ্যাঁ, বরটাকে মানুষ করতে পারনি। এই দ্যাখো ছাঁচড়ার বাজার করেছে। তারপর আবার পেঁয়াজ নেই। ছেলেদের ছেড়ে দিলে তারা মাথায় চড়ে বসবে কিন্তু।" তারপর শুরু হলো রুবিদির ম্যাজিক। নচিদার সেই বিখ্যাত স্টোভে ছাঁচড়া শুরু হলো। সে হচ্ছে তো হচ্ছেই। কিন্তু যখন হলো - মাই গড! হেভেনলি! বললাম না, আবেগটাই শেষ কথা। ছাঁচড়া কখনোই প্ল্যানে ছিল না, কিন্তু স্টোভ হলো - আমাদের অনেকের মতো যাদের ইঞ্জিনিয়ার হওয়ার কোন প্ল্যান না থাকলেও শেষ পর্যন্ত হয়ে গেছিল।

ওদিকে তখন জমিয়ে আড্ডা। আমাদের কলেজের আবার আড্ডার একটা বৈশিষ্ট্য আছে। বি ই কলেজের পাবলিক একা থাকলে হয় উপন্যাস পড়ে না হয় কবিতা লেখে না হয় ঘুমিয়ে ঘুমিয়ে ভাবে, দুজন থাকলে গান শোনে, তিনজন থাকলে আরেকজনকে জুটিয়ে নিয়ে ব্রিজ খেলে আর তার বেশি হয়ে গেলেই কলেজের মেয়েদের নিয়ে চলে সুখ দুঃখের আলোচনা। তার ব্যতিক্রম এবারেও হয়নি শুধু মাঝে মাঝে বউরা এসে পড়লেই আলোচনায় কখনো আটলান্টার পূজা কখনো বা দেববাবুর মাংসে ঘুরে গিয়ে আবার যথাস্থানে ফিরে আসে।

যাইহোক ততক্ষণে রক্তিমদার মাইক হাতে অমায়িক এনাউন্সমেন্ট - খাবার রেডি। প্রথমে ষাট থেকে পঁয়ষট্টির মধ্যে যারা পাস করেছে তাদের, তারপর পঁয়ষট্টি থেকে সত্তর। প্রতিবছর অসিতদা থাকেন। এবারে পারেন নি। থাকলে ওটা "পঞ্চম থেকে ষাট" থেকে

শুরু হতো। শুদ্ধাশীস তখন প্রমাদ গুনছে চাকরিটা থাকলে হয়। প্যাটেলের সবরকম মশলা মিশিয়ে সঞ্জীবকে দিয়ে বেশ কয়েকবার টেস্টও করিয়েছিল মাংসটা। শেষমেশ নচিদা বললো - মাংস ভালো হয়েছে বলে সুদুর নাচানাচি করার কোন কারণ নেই, দেব বাবুর পাঁঠাটা অনেক ভদ্র পাঁঠা ছিল।

এভাবেই বছরের একটা দিন আমরা সবাই মিলে জড়ো হই। জড়ো হই তিনটে প্রজন্ম একসাথে। ধরতে চেপ্টা করি গঙ্গা দিয়ে বয়ে যাওয়া ফেলে আসা সেই সময়টাকে, বোটানিক্যাল গার্ডেনের পাশে সেই ঘড়িওয়ালা ক্যাম্পাসটাকে। যেখানে জীবনের কয়েকটা বছর বন্ধুদের সাথে প্রতিটা সকাল, দুপুর, বিকেল, সন্ধ্যা কেটেছে। কেটেছে ঘুমের মধ্যে রাত। জীবনের কৈশোর। যেখানে এতগুলো রাত কাটে সে তো মনের অজান্তেই কখন বাড়ি হয়ে যায়। নেহাত একটা ডিগ্রী নয় দিয়েছে অনেক কিছুই - কত স্মৃতি, কত বন্ধু। দিয়েছে আজকের 'আমি'কে। দিয়ে যাচ্ছে এখনো কোন না কোনভাবে - আমার উপলব্ধিতে, আমার বোধে, আমার গভীরে কোথাও। তার টান অমোঘ, দুর্বীর। সেই টানেই ছুটে আসেন পার্থদার মতো মানুষ, (১৯৬২ সালের সিভিল) অস্টিন টেক্সাস থেকে। তার পাশে দাঁড়িয়ে ফটো তোলে ২০২৩ এর দ্যুতিময়। মাঝে আমরা, তিন তিনটে প্রজন্ম - সম্ভাবনাময় সকাল, তপ্ত দুপুর, পড়ন্ত আলোর গোখুলির মতো বেঁধে বেঁধে থাকি। এই তিনটে প্রজন্মকে একসাথে বেঁধে রাখে যে আবেগ সেটাই কারো কাছে বি.ই কলেজ, কারো কাছে বেসু, কারো কাছে বা আই আই ই এস টি। বছরে একটা দিন না হয় থাকল সেই আবেগের স্বীকৃতির উদযাপনের দিন হয়ে।



DALLAS-Ft. WORTH TX SUMMER ALUMNI GET TOGETHER

Niladri Sannigrahi | 2001 CE

বেশ কয়েক বছর ধরেই DFW Alumni Group বছরে অন্তত একবার Dallas র বিভিন্ন county তে যে সমস্ত প্রাক্তনীরা থাকেন তাদের নিয়ে Family Get together র

আয়োজন করছে। ২০২৩ সালেও ব্যতিক্রম হয়নি। বেশ গরম ছিল এবার Texas এ। কিন্তু গরমকে উপেক্ষা করেই প্রাক্তনীদের Family reunion এর আয়োজন করা হয়েছিল। বেশ কয়েকজন Organizer এর তত্ত্বাবধানে পুরো Event organized করা হয়।

Organizer দের তরফ থেকে Nabarun Konar (Batch of 2004) জানালো "Event র মেনু, বাচ্চাদের engaged রাখার জন্য Fun Events বড়দের Entertainment র জন্য Fun Competitions, winner দের জন্য gift র ব্যবস্থা সবই Organizer দের দায়িত্ব। দেশের বাইরে এই Reunion সত্যিই Exciting" Besu r senior Alumni Rajiv Shorey র বাড়িতে Last দুবছর হল get together হচ্ছে। বাঙালী মানেই খাওয়াদাওয়া খাবারের দায়িত্বে ছিল কলেজের আর একজন প্রাক্তনী Shatadru দার Rakhi's Kitchen।

Starter এ ছিল জমজমাট আড্ডার সঙ্গে বালমুড়ি আর আলুর চপ। ছোটবেলায় সেই পাড়ার কমলদা বিমলদার চায়ের দোকানের পাশে বালমুড়ি আলুর চপের স্টল মনে আছে? আমাদের starter এর মেনু যেন সেই স্মৃতিকেই উসকে দিলা। আর এই প্রত্যেক বছরের meetup Nostalgia র থেকে কম কিছু নয়। আমাদের অত্যন্ত প্রবীন সদস্য Subir Purkayastha (batch of 1967) র কথায় 'Dallas এ Last ২৩ বছর আছি। অনেক বছর ধরে চেষ্টা করছিলাম একটা get together এর কিন্তু কিছুতেই হয়ে উঠছিল না। দুবছর আগে কিছু তরুন সদস্য উদ্যোগ নিয়ে শুরু করল organize করে। Engineering পড়ার সময় কোনদিন ও ভাবিনি কলেজের সঙ্গে hostel এর সদস্যদের সঙ্গে এমন একটা bond তৈরি হবে আজ ৫০ বছর পরেও সেটা অটুট। এত বছর পরেও hostel life কলেজের সেই দিন গুলোর স্মৃতি আজও এত টাটকা।

বাইরে temperature তখন 38°C feels like 45°C বাকি গল্পের আগে একটু আম পোড়া শরবতে সকলে গলা ভিজিয়ে নিলাম। আমাদের 1988 batch এর দুই প্রিয় সদস্য Sudip Roy এবং Yash Sinha র কথায় এই get together তাদের কাছে স্মৃতি রোমন্থনের একটা সুন্দর excuse। Yash দা র কথায় "বিভিন্ন batch এক সঙ্গে meet করি তাই memory পুরো refreshed হয়ে যায়। আজও মনে পরছে canteen এর মোগলাই পরাঠার কথা।"

Sudip দা একটি অত্যন্ত সুন্দর কথা বললেন "কলেজে hostel e senior junior রা মিলেমিশে থাকতাম। প্রথমে ভাবতাম কলেজ পাশ করেছ এত বছর হয়েগেল নাজানি কত বড় হয়েগেছি কিন্তু এই meetup এ এসে আমাদের ও senior দের দেখে তারাও যখন দেখছি same language এ কথা বলছে সেটা আরও exciting মনে হয়। "গল্পের মাঝেই lunch এর সময় হয়ে গেল। বাচ্চাদের জন্য ছিল veg - non veg pizza। আমাদের জন্য মেনুতে রাখা হয়েছিল পটলের দোলমা, পনিরের তোরকারি, সাদা ভাত, কুরি আলুভাজা, পোলাও, মাছের কালিয়া, chicken curry, mutton kasha, চাটনি, মিষ্টি।

Last year বাচ্চা থেকে বড় সবার জন্য ছিল অনেক fun events কিন্তু এবছর Texas এ

এত গরম ছিল outdoor activities এর risk নেইনি। Indoor এ বাচ্চাদেরজন্য ছিল drawing competition আর মজার কিছু gifts এর ব্যবস্থা।এভাবেই অনেক হৈছল্লোর স্মৃতি রোমছনের মাধ্যমে একটা সুন্দর দিন কাটালাম আমরা। দুর্গাপূজার পরে আমাদের বিজয়া সম্মিলনীর পরিকল্পনা আছে।



SEATTLE GATHERING 2023: IEST SHIBPUR ALUMNI REUNION PICNIC



Hasan Sheikh | 2002 CST

Seattle boasts a vibrant community of almost 60 alumni hailing from BEC/BECDU/BESU/IEST Shibpur. Each year, we come together for a heart-warming family picnic, a cherished tradition that allows us to reminisce about our shared past.

In 2023, we continued this tradition by organizing our annual summer family picnic. Like every year, this time also our beloved Saumitra da (Sinha) with some of our alumni organized it. It took place on September 16th. Our chosen venue was Newcastle Beach Park, Bellevue, a beautiful park that provided the perfect backdrop for our gathering. We were delighted to welcome nearly 38 members from our alumni community, all eager to bask in the joys of the day while reconnecting with old friends and forging new connections.

Amidst the laughter and camaraderie, we also organized a quiz to test our knowledge about our alma mater. It was a wonderful opportunity to reminisce about our college days and celebrate the achievements of our esteemed institution. We also had engaging discussions about the recent IEST Shibpur Alumni Networking Project, which promises exciting prospects, developments and opportunities for our alumni community.

As we picnicked, shared delicious food, and relished the bonds of friendship, our Seattle chapter once again proved that distance may separate us, but the memories and connections we've built endure, making our annual reunion an event to look forward to year after year.





SAN FRANCISCO BEC/IIEST ALUMNI CHAPTER - HISTORY AND RECENT EVENTS

Swapan Saha | 1988 EE

The San Francisco Bay Area boasts a thriving community of over 300 alumni hailing from BEC/BECDU/BESU/IIEST Shibpur. While there have been organized alumni activities championed by those from the 1950s and 1960s, the chapter had not effectively bridged the generational gap to connect alumni spanning multiple decades, despite their active involvement in Giving Back to our Alma Mater individually and through collective efforts.

One noteworthy contribution to this noble cause came from Mr. Bhudeb Lodh, an alumnus of 1952EE, who generously donated USD 35,000 in March 2000 to establish the "Promoda Lodh Laboratory," dedicated to mobile technology research. An agreement inked on December 19, 2000, with the Bengal Engineering College (Deemed University) saw Mr. Bhudeb Chandra Lodh ('52 EE) contribute an impressive USD 71,000.00 toward the construction of a section of the newly-constructed 8-storey Science building.

Adding to this philanthropic legacy, Dr. Arun Banerjee ('62ME), another alumnus from our region, recently bestowed a generous gift of \$150,000 to establish the Alpona Banerjee Memorial Centre for Innovation and the Alpona Banerjee

Memorial Research Fellowship. These acts of benevolence inspired many of us, alongside a handful of alumni in the USA, to initiate several successful alumni-driven endeavors, including Scholarships, Fellowships, Research Awards, the Ganapati Sengupta VLSI Lab, and an emergency fund, all of which preceded the formation of GAABESU. We actively engage in various GAABESU activities.

Nevertheless, there remained a gap, particularly in connecting with newer alumni. Post the Covid lockdown, our local chapter has reignited its activities, forging connections among local alumni through various social initiatives. We are delighted to report that 2023 has proven to be a successful year in bridging the gap, uniting a substantial number of alumni spanning the years from 1960 to 2021 through numerous social gatherings.

In May 2023, we organized our Spring Alumni Get-Together, graced by the presence of the esteemed Bhatnagar Award winner, Prof. Soumtro Banerjee ('81EE) from India, alongside former GAABESU President, Dr. Biman Ghosh ('81MET) from Ohio, and Kallol Sen ('82EE) from India. Nearly 50 alumni attended this event, which featured delectable cuisine and a sense of camaraderie.



In July 2023, we hosted our summer picnic, where almost 80 attendees enjoyed a full day of outdoor activities.



We rounded off our 2023 events by welcoming the newly elected GAABESU Executive Committee member from Georgia, Mr. B. N. Roy ('65ME).



The spirit of unity and philanthropy continues to thrive among San Francisco Bay Area alumni, fostering connections across generations and strengthening our commitment to supporting our beloved Alma Mater.



BECAAC - ONTARIO SUMMER ACTIVITY EXCERPT

Sunit Datta | 1981 ETC

Canada is home to more than 150 alumni from erstwhile BE College and current IEST. The group is very active, both professionally and socially. Alumni is mainly spread over two provinces i.e. Ontario and Alberta. We have alumni, who has passed out in 1954 (Mr. Jyoti Ranjan Sengupta) and who passed out in 2015 (Mr. Soham Mitra). Whenever there is an alumni meet, the families have become part and parcel of it. The warmth and the unique relationship we enjoyed in college about “Didi/Dada” is evident all the time, where Soham will address “Jyotida”!!

Recently, we had a gathering for the Ontario alumni, on 12th Of August 2023. The occasion was organized and managed by Mrinmoy Nath, (2009) Soham Mitra (2015), Souvik Guha and Shovini Dasgupta (2001). The location was close the shores of Lake Ontario with mesmerizing vista. There were about 60 participants, with around 30 alumni. Included in the participant list was Sabyasachi Singha Roy 4th yr. CE and Anubhav Sen 4th yr. ETC, the two interns from IEST. Both made it a point to meet with the alumni. Anubhav had an examination on that day. He wrote the exam, travelled for 2 hours, and came!!

The eldest participant was Dr. Samir Basu (1964 EE) and of course, youngest were the two interns. The picnic was a grand success, in terms of arrangement, food, warmth and camaraderie shown by all participants. Fun events included card games and a 6 over cricket match.





BECAA -PUNE FAMILY PICNIC - A DAY TO REMEMBER!

Pallab Bhattacharya | 1981 EE

On the 6th of August, 2023, our BECAA Pune family came together for an unforgettable day at the serene backwaters of Varasgaon Dam (a place near Pune, Maharashtra, India). The day was filled with laughter, camaraderie, and cherished memories that will last a lifetime.

🎵 Musical Extravaganza: Our talented members and their family members brought out their musical talents, and the melodies resonated across the picturesque landscape. From classic tunes to foot-tapping beats, the music added a special rhythm to our day.

📖 Recitation and Memories: Poems and shared anecdotes took us on a nostalgic journey through our college days. It was heartwarming to see the fondness we still hold for our alma mater.

🎮 Games Galore: The competitive spirit was alive as we engaged in various games. It was not just about winning but also about the joy of playing together.

🍽️ Culinary Delights: The highlight of the day was undoubtedly the delectable spread of traditional local favorites, our taste buds were in for a treat.

📸 Capture the Moment: Our shutterbugs ensured that every smile, every shared laugh, and every heartfelt moment was captured for posterity.

👥 Stronger Bonds: The picnic provided an opportunity to strengthen old friendships and forge new ones. It's heartening to see our alumni community thriving and growing.

🌿 Nature's Beauty: Surrounded by the tranquil waters and lush greenery, we reconnected with nature and found solace in its beauty.

🙏 Thank You: A big thank you to all the members who made this day a resounding success. Your active participation and enthusiasm were truly remarkable.

Let's cherish these memories and look forward to more such gatherings that bring our alumni family even closer. Stay tuned for updates on our next exciting event!





BECAA-MUMBAI ACTIVITIES IN 2023

Ananda Bhattacharya | 1991 CE

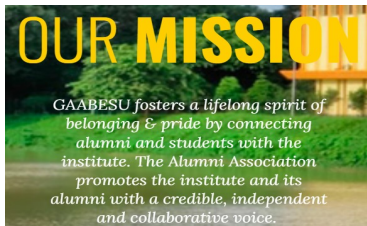
BE College Alumni Association, Maharashtra (BECAA, Maharashtra), a meeting point of all alumni who have passed out from BE College, Shibpur (or its newer avatars) and working in Maharashtra, especially in Mumbai.

BECAA, Maharashtra is multiple activities through out the year to stay connected with its members and their families. During this financial year (2023-24), it has conducted following activities till date:

Annual Cultural Programme:

BECAA Maharashtra organised its 11th annual cultural programme at CIDCO auditorium, Navi Mumbai on 30th April, 2023. The name of the programme was "Kaleidoscope" and it was performed by "Hybrid X". These performers (Upal Sengupta, Abhijit Barman (Pota), Gourav Chattapadhyay (Gaboo), Satadal Chatterjee, Ujjaini Mukherjee, etc) were extremely popular names in the Bengal musical circuit and have gained their prominence through their performances in different bands, popular shows & collaborations, independent music platforms and film playback music. However, for this presentation, they have come together under the brand of **Hybrid X**, which is a cultural conglomerate and a coming together of creative minds that have been spear heading the contemporary and popular music from West Bengal for nearly three decades and aim to create a medium of exploration and extrapolation of roots, of the past becoming present and morphing into the future to produce a unique musical experience for the discerning audience.

The programme was hugely successful with houseful of highly satisfied and entertained audience.



Football Match:

Games and sports are always very close to the hearts of BECites, specially new generation X and due to their popular demand, BECAA, this year, first time arranged a friendly football match between their alumni at Chembur Gymkhana on 15th August. Needless to say, the result was not at all important, because the match ended with lots of fun, laughter and body ache to people who have not seeing football ground for ages. It was heartening to see that players of 60 + years are comfortably dribbling ball against the opponent players in the age group of thirties.

The match ended with snacks and hi-tea for the players, cheer leaders and the families.





REPORT ON SEMINAR TITLED 'WHAT AN EMPLOYER EXPECTS FROM FRESH ENGINEERING GRADUATES'

Partha Sarathi Majumdar | 1982 CE

Over the years, GAABESU has always focused on the concept of 'giving back' to our alma mater and its students and the newly formed Executive Committee (2023-25) showed its commitment to this mantra by organizing a seminar titled 'What An Employer Expects from Fresh Engineering Graduates' in collaboration with SOCCE and SOSMINE on 11th Oct, 2023 at the Institute Hall in IEST. It was wonderful to see the large turnout of students as they assembled to get insights on a subject that they consider vital as they make transition from the academic world to the professional one. Presence of Prof Ajoy Ray, former Director, IEST and senior faculty such as Prof Chaitali Ray (HoD Civil Engg Dept), Prof Netai De (HoD Mining Dept), Prof Manas Sanyal (HoD Training & Placement), Prof Aparna Dey Ghosh (Civil Eng. Dept), Prof Anuj Budhkar (Civil Engg Dept), Prof Anirban Gupta (Civil Eng. Dept) and Prof Arun Chakrabarty (Civil Eng Dept) among others added to the importance accorded to the seminar.

Mr Amitabha Datta, President GAABESU welcomed the gathering and spoke of careers in the core Engineering industry while Prof Manas Sanyal gave an overview of campus recruitment and issues pertaining to placement in the prevailing employment scenario.

The Keynote Address was delivered by Mr Gautam Ray (1981 EE), Director HR, CESC and President, Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industries followed by Mr Jayanta Basu (1986 CE), CEO ITD Cementation, Mr Pratip Bhattacharya (1986 CE), VP and Business Head, Tata Consulting Engineers in Kolkata and Mr Himanshu Gupta (1995 Min Engg), Solution Delivery Head, Digital & IT, Mines & Minerals Div, HINDALCO. The speakers shared their insights on various aspects related to career counselling, key personal attributes, transition from campus to corporate world, upgrade of skills, dynamics of the workplace etc. The speakers also emphasised on requirements in the core engineering segments at present. There was a Q&A session

where students sought advice and clarifications from the panel speakers on issues related to the topic of the Seminar. The Vote of Thanks was given by Partha S Majumder (1982 CE) and the entire programme was moderated by Ms Kuntala Bhattacharya (1999 ETC).

After the programme, several students spoke to EC members present and thanked GAABESU for taking the initiative to help organize the seminar and bring such eminent alumni from the corporate world to interact with them. The Acting Gen Secy of Students' Senate said "I extend my sincere gratitude for the enlightening session conducted by GAABESU, SOCCE and SOSMINE. The valuable insights provided by the alumni, each hailing from top positions in esteemed organizations, have significantly enriched our understanding of the professional landscape. The comprehensive overview of the inner workings of the organizations shared during the session was particularly insightful. The real-world experiences and challenges faced by professionals in these core engineering and prominent organizations added a practical dimension to our academic knowledge. Their expertise in guiding us on how to prepare for job interviews was truly commendable. Their insights into what recruiters specifically look for in freshers during interviews provided us with invaluable guidance, empowering us to approach the job market with confidence and a clear understanding of the expectations. Their practical advice on navigating interviews will undoubtedly shape our future professional endeavours".

The report will be incomplete if mention is not made of the support and guidance of several faculty members like Professor Chaitali Ray, Prof Netai De, Prof Arun Chakraborty, Prof Anuj Budhkar and Prof Manas Sanyal and the untiring efforts of three final year students Palash Mandal (CE), Deepak and Soumyodip (both Min Engg) all of whom contributed in making the Seminar so successful.





REPORT ON B. E. COLLEGE EX-STUDENTS' CLUB,

CK-14 SALT LAKE SECTOR-II,
KOLKATA - 700091

Shyama Prasad Datta | 1967 CE

In early 1980s Salt Lake plots on the eastern fringe of Kolkata (then Calcutta) were mostly vacant. But many B E College Alumni started living in Salt Lake. With the nostalgic memory of their campus days some of them started moving around in their

new place of residence searching for ex-students of B E College. Their enthusiasm yielded positive response. It did not take much time to form a group of B E College Alumni residing or working in Salt Lake. Salt Lake being developed and administered that time by the Irrigation and Waterways Department, the group got the favour of the Department in holding meetings in the Department Guest House.

With passing of days, the group thought of forming a formal registered Society. All agreed. Objects and Regulations were prepared. There were varying opinions on the name of the Society. Finally Prasantada (Prasanta Kumar Paul 1942 Met) prevailed on others and the name "B E College Ex-Students' Club" was chosen. Prasantada was the unanimous choice to be the first President of the Club. The Club could get the shape due to proactive and sustained efforts of Bani Bhusan Dasgupta, 1951 Civil; Birendra Chandra Pal, 1951 Mechanical; Mrinal Kanti Mitra, 1957 Electrical; Anil Sen, 1960 Civil and a few others. They were included as Office Bearers or Members of the first Executive Committee. The Club was finally registered as a Society and was allotted Registration No. S/54923 of 1987/88.

In the very first meeting, Executive Committee (EC) took a decision that EC meetings shall be held on the third Sunday of each month at 10.00 AM and the practice is followed even today. The meetings were always extended meetings with participation of Advisory Council Members, Block Representatives and others besides Executive Committee members. There used to be many requests from club members for hosting EC meetings at their residence. Meetings were always with sumptuous breakfast. With enthusiasm the club started growing. Quarterly get-togethers with family members used to be held mainly in auditorium complex of Vidyut Bhaban, BD or TTTI. It was a practice to invite an old eminent alumnus as Chief Guest in the Get-togethers.

Members thought of having their own place and Salt Lake Authority was kind enough to allot a plot of land at CK-14 in Sector-II. There were spontaneous positive responses from members to contribute for purchasing of the plot of land and construction of the building. Quarterly publications and Seminars were other sources of generating fund. Positive approach having been there, Narsingh Kerr, 1962 Arch designed an innovative beautiful tent and it did not take time to build the tent in the plot of land. Meetings, some programmes and games were organised there for quite some time and preparations for permanent building went on. Prof. Sankar

Kumar Sen, 1948 Electrical laid the foundation stone of the Club Building. It was planned to have a three-storied building. With the resources available one floor was constructed initially. At the request of Prof. Bimalendu Sen, then Club President, Dr M N Dastur contributed Rs.5 lakh for the Club Building. After sometime another floor was constructed. After a long gap, second floor lounge was constructed. Santa Ghosh, Managing Director of DCPL was kind enough to contribute Rs.15 lakh for the Club lounge. Now the Club is having a three storied fully air-conditioned building and B E College Ex-Students' can proudly say "We have our own building".

Initially alumni residing in and around Salt Lake used to be members of the club. With the development of electronic communications, alumni residing in faraway places including abroad are now members of the Club. It has been a place of social interactions among alumni and their family members. It is one of popular choices of holding batch get-togethers

The club is buzzing with activities like Technical and literary discussions, Cultural programmes, Drama, Publication of periodic magazines, Indoor games, Adda and what not. It is also having a decent library where, along with books of eminent authors, publications of our ex students are displayed with equal importance.

Our appeal to all the alumni of B E College, B E College (Deemed University), BESU and IEST, Shibpur all over the globe to come and be a part of this unique initiative, so that in future it can serve the society at large in various ways.

Dipakdipti Roy, 1968 Civil; Nikhil Ranjan Chatterjee, 1981 Civil and Dipankar Ray, 1980 Civil are present President, General Secretary and Treasurer of the Club respectively.



Picture 1: Dipakdipti Roy and Santanu Bhattacharya in Club Drama Chitra Chor



Picture 2: Club Library



Picture 3: Amitabha Ghoshal, 1957 Civil delivering Second Sailapati Gupta Memorial Lecture on Vidyasagar Setu – A Contemporary Engineering Marvel



EMPOWERING FUTURES: THE IMPACT OF GAABESU RESEARCH AWARDS - A GRATEFUL RECIPIENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Avik Ghosh | 2019 ME

When I attended a Summer '23 alumni gathering to bid farewell to interns returning to their graduate schools after their stint in the Bay Area, I met Swapan Saha, an alumnus of the '88 batch

of Electrical Engineering. His surprise at meeting a two-time recipient of the GAABESU Research Awards led him to ask for my perspective on receiving these prestigious accolades.

I am Avik Ghosh, a 2019 Mechanical Engineering graduate from IEST Shibpur. In the fall of 2019, I embarked on my PhD journey at the University of California, San Diego. I was honored to receive the Sailendra Kumar Sen and Indira Sen Memorial Research Award in 2018-19, established by Dr. Subir Sen '64CE, as well as the Gouri and Jitendra Mazumder Memorial Research Award in 2017-18, graciously donated by the late Prof. Jyoti Mazumder '72MET, each awarding me a grant of INR 18,000.

Let me share my perspective on this journey through three key points: motivation in research, alumni connections, and the spirit of giving back. Engaged in research during my undergraduate years, I found immense encouragement in being acknowledged and rewarded for my out of curriculum endeavors. This recognition fueled my ambition, prompting me to apply directly to a good PhD program in the USA. The GAABESU Research Awards played a pivotal role in affirming my path in the world of research. In our Shibpur hostels, in our closely knit friend groups, we had regular discussions about research and (also) the awards, and I think it motivated a few of my friends to jump into the sea of research too, most of whom are pursuing graduate studies in top Ph.D. programs in India and the US.

Furthermore, what set this experience apart was the profound connection with our alumni community. It was heartening to learn that our esteemed alumni actively participated in the entire process, from the rigorous application procedures to the heartwarming award distribution ceremonies. Upon my relocation to the Bay Area for my internship, I became a part of a vibrant WhatsApp group and a formal Google group, linking me with over a hundred alumni residing in the Bay Area. Attending a local event solidified these connections, creating a network that I now cherish deeply.

Looking forward, I am eager to reciprocate this generosity through the spirit of giving back. Once I complete my PhD and transition into the professional realm, I aspire to engage in activities that contribute to our Alumni Community. Together with my friends, I am keen to sustain the tradition of support and mentorship that I have been fortunate to receive.

In conclusion, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Sen, the late Prof. Mazumder, and his family for their unwavering support and sponsorship of these research awards. Their generosity has not only shaped my academic journey but has also instilled in me a profound sense of responsibility to contribute meaningfully to our community and the world of research.



BIO-SKETCH-JYOTI RANJAN SENGUPTA (1954-CIVIL)

Prabir Neogi | 1962 CE



Mr. Jyoti Ranjan Sengupta, our beloved “Jyotida”, is currently the seniormost Bengal Engineering College (BEC) alumnus in Canada, having celebrated his **90th birthday on January 19, 2023**. He graduated from BEC (now IEST, the Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology) in 1954 with a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering.

Following an initial professional career in India and the Middle East, Jyotida came to Canada in the 1970s, to work for the Canadian engineering giant SNC-Lavalin (renamed AtkinsRealis in 2023). He worked for many years in the Edmonton office of

SNC, rising to the position of Vice-President and managing a large, multi-disciplinary team of engineers. SNC sent him on projects to Egypt and India (Delhi), and finally transferred him to its headquarters in Montreal. He retired from SNC and settled down in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), where he has lived for many years with his wife Mithu boudi.

Jyotida served as the Founder-President of BECAAC, the Bengal Engineering College Alumni Association of Canada, the national association of all the BEC alumni living and working in Canada. While the bulk of the alumni live in the provinces of Ontario and Alberta, there are alumni scattered across all of Canada, from British Columbia on our Pacific coast to Newfoundland in the east. It is due to Jyotida's vision and organizational skill that BECAAC was created as a single, national organization, as opposed to the various regional BEC alumni associations in the US, and it has operated successfully in this mode for some 20 years.

Jyotida guided BECAAC during its formative years, and continues to serve on the BECAAC Advisory Board, together with several other senior alumni. According to Dr. Shovini Dasgupta (2001, CE), at one time the youngest and only female member of BECAAC, Jyotida was always greatly admired by the younger alumni members and inspired them deeply. He always ensured that younger members were given more responsibilities and opportunities. He believed that if serious responsibilities are given to the younger alumni members, they would be able to get things done. He was also an ardent supporter of women's equality and empowerment. He always made sure that female members were actively participating in discussions, speaking up, providing their perspectives during AGMs and other meetings, and strongly encouraged them to provide their opinions on various BECAC activities.

Jyotida continues to be an inspiration to the Canadian alumni, and we shall miss him deeply if ill health prevents him from participating in our future BECAAC events.

**JOIN GAABESU &
BECOME THE
PERSON YOU
WANT TO BE**



**BIO-SKETCH-SOMNATH LAHIRI
(1989-CIVIL)**

Debu Basu | 1989 ME



Somnath Lahiri, graduated in 1989 with a B.E. degree in Civil Engineering, has recently been selected to serve as the Research Director of the College of Business, Illinois State University (ISU), USA. Somnath joined ISU in August 2007. He teaches courses in Organizational Strategy and International Business. As a Research Director Somnath coordinates multiple research activities and represents the college at university level. He lives with his family in the city of Bloomington in Illinois.

From B.E.College (Howrah, India) to ISU (Bloomington, USA) has been a long journey for Somnath. Between 1989 and January 2003, he worked as a civil engineer in a few private firms in India and two central government organizations (Haldia Dock Complex (Calcutta Port Trust) and Indian Statistical Institute). To learn more about managing organizations Somnath resigned from his relatively well-paid and stable job at ISI, Kolkata in January 2003, and left India to join the University of Memphis in Tennessee (USA) as a PhD student in Business Administration with full assistantship for 4 years. His dissertation was on the topic of Outsourcing which was considered a 'hot' topic in the 2000s. He specifically studied Indian outsourcing service providers and their global performance. After getting his doctorate in 2007, Somnath joined ISU as an Assistant Professor in the Management and Quantitative Methods (MQM) department. Currently a Full professor in the same department, Somnath continues to

research on various aspects of internationalization and firm performance.

He cherishes his 13 years of engineering career in India and 17 years of academic career in the USA. He has taught undergraduate, graduate, and corporate students in the USA and overseas and has presented his research in conferences held in Canada, China, Denmark, Dubai, Italy, Japan, Turkey, Poland, Scotland, USA etc. He has received 10 research grants in his university and was awarded the *Research Initiative Award*, *Outstanding Researcher Award* (twice) and *Outstanding Service Award*. In 2022, the *Journal of Business Research*, a highly regarded academic publication in the field of business, ranked Somnath among the top 5 most prolific scholars of India-based international business and management research based on the number of publications produced in the previous nearly 50 years. In March 2023, ISU's Redbird Scholar ran an article featuring Somnath's research accomplishments.

<https://news.illinoisstate.edu/2023/03/prolific-college-of-business-researcher-keeps-close-eye-on-india-based-international-businesses/>

We at GAABESU wish Somnath a very successful career ahead.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Empowering Early Talents: Navigating Professional Growth

Join us on 4th November 2023, from 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM IST,

for a session tailored for current students and recent graduates of IEST Shibpur.

Mr. Amit Das (1988 EE), an esteemed alumnus and Director HR & CHRO, The Times of India, will share invaluable insights about early career paths, challenges, and opportunities. The session will be moderated by Mr. Sanjay Basu (1995 CE). The Webinar will be live on YouTube at this link: <https://lnkd.in/gvJW5h3n>

Join us for an Exclusive Webinar by IEST Shibpur Alumni Networking Initiative

EMPOWERING EARLY TALENTS: NAVIGATING PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

LIVE 4th November 2023, 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM IST

GAIN VALUABLE CAREER INSIGHTS FROM OUR ESTEEMED ALUMNUS AND HR EXPERT,

This session is tailored for current students and recent graduates of IEST Shibpur, providing essential guidance for your professional journey.

Amit Das
(1988 EE) Speaker
Director HR & CHRO, The Times of India

Sanjay Basu
(1995 CE) Moderator

Live on YouTube: https://youtube.com/live/jt-IDrUlo_E

THIS WEBINAR IS PART OF A GAABESU-SUPPORTED ALUMNI PROJECT.

GLOBAL ALUMNI DAY 2023



Let's reunite, rewind & relive our fondest memories!!!

We cordially invite you to the 10th Global Alumni Day on 30th December 2023 (Saturday) at IEST Campus. This year's event is marking a decade & apart from a day of fun filled activities, we plan to honour several distinguished alumni for their contributions to their fields and to the IEST Shibpur community.

All alumni/alumnae are requested to register in advance by filling the online form & paying the registration fees. Also please request other alumni /alumnae, with whom you have contacts, for registration.

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/xKV88uo6srsZWkNN8>

Registration and payment up to 17/12/2023

- Registration fee for GAABESU Life Members - Rs.1000/- ;
- Other Alumni - Rs.1200/-; Each accompanying family Member is Rs. 700/-

Registration and payment after 17/12/2023 and Spot registration

- Registration fee for GAABESU Life Members - Rs.1200/- ;
- Other Alumni - Rs.1500/-; Each accompanying family Member is Rs. 800/-

**** Payment of Registration fee is optional for our senior honored alumni of class of 1967 or earlier. They are, however, requested to register for the event.**

****** Alumni/Alumnae yet to become GAABESU Life Members are most welcome to do so by filling and submitting membership form (available on www.gaabesu.in), with prescribed fees, and avail applicable fees towards Alumni Day registration as GAABESU members and participate in the activities of GAABESU.**

Donations are most welcome. For Registration / Sponsorship / Advertisement / Donation, please email gaabesu@gmail.com or call +91- 33-2668 4564/ 7436.

SPECIAL ISSUE OF ALUMNI LINK

A Special issue of the souvenir called "Alumni Link" will be brought out during the occasion of "Global Alumni Day 2023". We know many of our alumni/alumnae have exceptional talents in literature, paintings, photography etc. We invite write-ups in

English / Hindi /Bengali from all alumni and their family members for publication in the Alumni Link.

Contents: Anything you feel appropriate for our alumni community like articles on Campus Memoirs, Photographs, Paintings, Adventurous Travel, Stories, Poems, Essays, Logic Puzzles and Brain Teasers. (Please avoid technical articles which are suitable for technical journals).

Deadline: November 15, 2023

Format: In Microsoft Word only.

Articles must be sent to - alumnilink3@gmail.com

Contact for any queries: Sri Manoj Kar (E&TC- 1980), M and WA – 9820609515

The Souvenir Subcommittee will reserve the right to accept or reject any article.

GAABESU appeals all alumni/alumnae to join in this mega event.

Please follow our mailers & visit our website (www.gaabesu.in) for details and further announcements.

Brotherly yours,

Sitanshu Sekhar Ghosh, 80 ME (+91 9830853672)

Vinod Singh, 99 ME (+91 9831037137)

Joint Chairpersons

Global Alumni Day 2023 Sub-Committee

