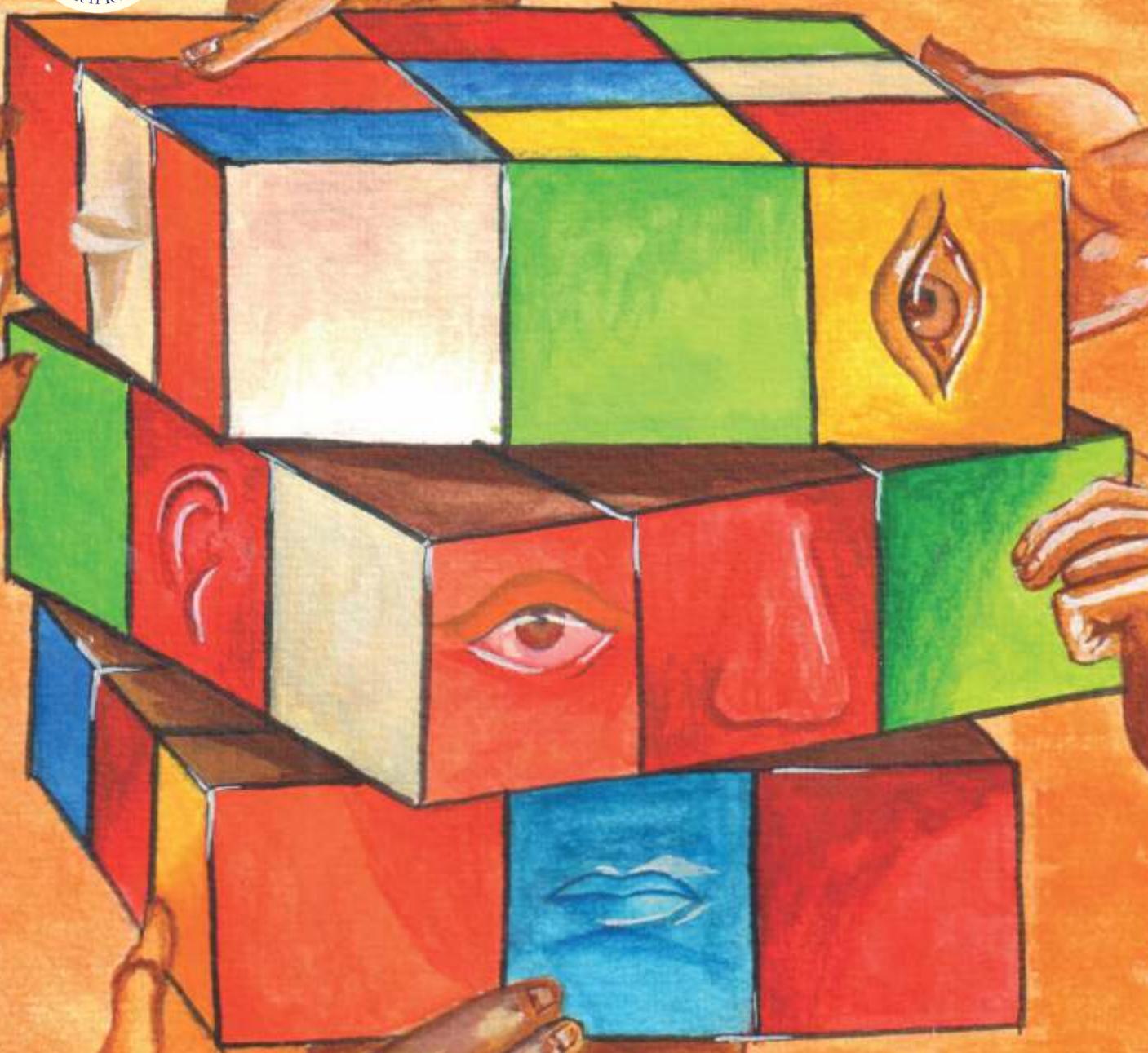




LBSNAA



PRATYEKA

House Journal of the Special FC 2021

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Photograph by Vasu Deogar, IFS.



Message from the Director General



Like all Foundation Courses, the Officer Trainees in this Course are a microcosm of India belonging to all States and Union Territories of India.

The Foundation Course started in physical mode on January 18, 2021 duly following all Covid protocols. Initially outstation and inhouse faculty delivered their sessions in virtual mode. Luckily Covid curve dropped and inhouse faculty started delivering their sessions in physical mode. Due to favorable conditions, we could organize Athletic meet, Sports meet and FETE physically. The Clubs elected by Officer Trainees could organize several activities for the Trainees.

Village Visit to villages of Telangana was organized in mid-March. Unfortunately few Officer Trainees tested positive after the visit. Trek was organized in two batches in April – one batch went to Himalaya and other batch to Nilgiris. Unfortunately again some Officer Trainees tested positive.

On return from Trek, Covid protocol was followed rigorously and all classes were conducted in virtual mode. Due to Covid reasons, A K Sinha One Act play and India Day was cancelled. The Course concluded on April 30th.

This Foundation Course used participatory training methodology. Lectures were organized theme-wise followed by a weekly assignment. Some lectures were converted into Syndicate topics to be delivered by Officer Trainees. Experience sharing sessions were organized.

I interacted with as many officer Trainees as I could.

I am confident that this Foundation Course has broadened the horizons of Officer Trainees and the many friendships they have made shall last lifetime.

I wish all the Officer Trainees best in their career and family life.

Harpreet Singh, IAS

Director General, MCRHRDI
Prl. Secretary to Govt of Telangana



Message from the Course Director



The Foundation Course is a transition from the academic world of the college and universities to the structured system of government and administration.

This Special Foundation course, unlike the previous batches is different and stands apart for the reason that it withstood all the odds created by the COVID-19 Pandemic and completed its term on campus. Congratulations to all the officer trainees for sailing through successfully during turbulent times.

During these 15 weeks of rigor, all the trainees were trained to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes, values and wisdom necessary for their effective functioning in the Government, in the class rooms and outside. They learnt to understand the social, political and economic milieu in which they would be required to function and I am sure that the Institute's faculty and galaxy of distinguished speakers from across the globe who addressed you in person as well in virtual mode have proved useful in this regard. The academic focus this time was on getting the trainees to write assignments on various contemporary topics and syndicate group presentations covering the academic syllabi. This pedagogy has brought out the innate talents and skills of all the trainees with team spirit evolved during training. Activities such as FETE-Utsav 2021, Shivaji Jayanthi food festival, Athletic Meet, short treks, Hyderabad Darshan, Cultural Evening and other activities were well organized and enjoyed by one and all.

The village visit in one go and trek activity in two batches were successfully conducted. In the trek activity, one batch of 68 trainees trekked the Himalayas and 40 trainees trekked the Nilgiris range successfully against all odds. The group presentations reflected the glimpses of bonhomie, camaraderie and the Esprit de corps expected of them by the end of the training.

The heterogeneous mix of civil servants of 2012 to 2019 batch from 9 services with 28 lady officer trainees and 93 gentlemen officer trainees hailing from 28 States/UTs has rendered this program a bouquet of uniqueness in itself. I am sure that all the officer trainees have developed strong bonds of friendship with fellow officer trainees and that they would endure the bond of kinship right up to the end of their professional career and beyond.



In every foundation course, a house journal is a strong tool of communication of the experiences and feelings of the officer trainees and it also provides a creative space for them. Every individual has a multi-dimensional personality. A trainee may have a fantasy of drawing or writing and poetry. This house journal provides him/her the space to share their creative quality with others. Thus it helps the trainees to satisfy their self-actualization need and motivate them in their professional field. Some of them will be reflected in this Journal too. I hope that you all enjoyed your

15 week sojourn at this Institute and you will reminiscence to your days in the foundation course as the most joyful and the most memorable.

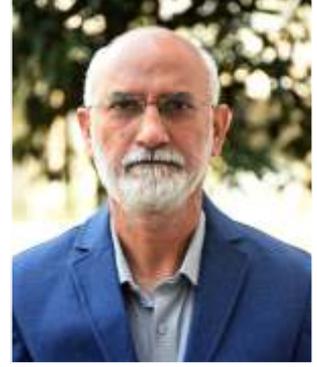
I wish all the officer trainees a bright and successful future.

Benhur Mahesh Dutt Ekka, IAS.,

ADG & CD (Spl. FC)



Message from the DG's Nominee



I am extremely pleased that the House Journal Society of Spl FC 2021 has come out with 'PRATYEKA' which is a colourful treasury of pictures, poems, articles, and other features that promises to hold fond memories for all the OTs of Spl FC 2021.

'PRATEKYA' is a beautiful bouquet that features not only the contributions of the OTs but also the faculty and other staff of MCRHRD who have endeavoured to make life as comfortable as possible for the OTs in the Institute. 'PRATYEKA' is a culmination of weeks' long painstaking efforts of the House Journal Society, especially Ramesh N (IDES), the Secretary of HJS and also Nikita Joshi (IIS) who have shown true commitment and amazing creativity in gathering the pictures, poems, articles, etc from other OTS and putting them together in what appears to be an item worth keeping for all the wonderful memories that it contains. I am sure each and every OT of the Special FC 2021 will hold on to 'PRATYEKA' forever.

I am grateful to Shri Harpreet Singh, IAS, DG of MCRHRDIT and Sri Benhur Mahesh Dutt Ekka, IAS, Addl DG and Course Director, for reposing faith in me and nominating me as the DGN of the House Journal Society of Spl FC 2021.

I once again congratulate the House Journal Society of Spl FC 2021 for bringing out two issues of 'SAANJHA' the newsletter and also the journal 'PRATYEKA.' I hope all the OTs will keep their creativity alive in the dry maze of bureaucracy, and I also wish them a successful career.

Vinod Ekbote

Faculty, CSDGs &
DG's Nominee for HJS



From the Editors' Desk

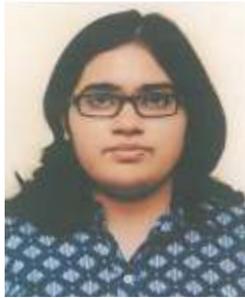
We at the In-House Journal Society are thrilled to present to you – “PRATYEKA”, the Journal for the Special Foundation Course for AIS and CCS Officers 2021. “Pratyeka” means special in Telugu. Located in the beautiful locales of Hyderabad, the course gave us a chance to immerse ourselves in Telugu culture. Apart from it being a backlog Foundation Course, each and every person and the bonds we made amongst ourselves, more than anything else, make this course truly special. That is why we feel this name best captures the essence of the three-month foundation course at MCRHRDI.

The time here seems to have passed in a blink of an eye. So much has transpired in this time. No publication can ever do justice to the knowledge acquired, memories made, the bonds formed and the events celebrated. However, it is our hope that long after we have gone back to our respective services, opening this journal will give you a chance to remember the wonderful people, relive the beautiful moments and forever have memories of these days etched in your minds and hearts!

We are grateful to Sri Harpreet Singh, IAS (Director General), Sri Benhur Mahesh Dutt Ekka, IAS (Course Director) and all the other members of the course team for providing us with necessary support for successful publication of the two newsletters and this journal. We are also thankful to Sri. Vinod Ekbote (DG's Nominee, IHJS) for his constant support and guidance. A special mention of Sri M. Prabhakar (IT Dept.) for formatting and designing the newsletters.

Finally, we would like to sign off by saying that, being a part of the In-House Journal Society has indeed been a unique experience filled with challenges as well as accomplishments. All of this would not have been possible without the immense support we got from all our batchmates. The journal was truly owned by

the entire batch through rich content provided by different officers. We were mostly left only with the job of compiling this diverse content and presenting it for all of you to see. We indeed feel lucky to have been part of such a talented group of people and hope all of you continue to find numerous avenues for your creative writing, painting and photography!



Tanvika Singh, IP&TAPF



Sri Sai Vempati, IIS



Nikita Joshi, IIS



**Ramesh N, IDES
Secretary**

~In-House Journal Society



Glimpses of the
months gone by...



Release of the Course Manual for the Special Foundation Course of AIS and CCS officers 2021 at the hands of Sri. Syed Akbaruddin, IFS(R) and Sri Sanjeev Chopra, IAS, DG, LBSNAA.



Inauguration and Oath Taking Ceremony followed by DG's welcome dinner.



Performances of Perini Natyam, Fusion Bharatnatyam+Yoga+ Kallaripayattu and Oggu Dolu enthrall the audience and introduce them to Telangana's cultural heritage.



A proud moment for all the Officer Trainees as Hon'ble Vice President of India, Sri Venkaiah Naidu graced the institute as Chief Guest for the celebration of Parakram Divas.



Election for the position of secretary and members of the different clubs and societies of the Foundation Course.



Officer Trainees participating in Ice-Breaking activities in full gusto !



Immersed in the city's Nawabi heritage, OTs enjoy Hyderabad Darshan.



Celebrations @MCRHRDI



The Special FC was blessed by the presence of the Hon'ble Vice President of India who was the Chief Guest for the celebrations of the first Parakram Divas in the memory of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Holi



Colorful people of Special FC celebrating the festival of colors! Holi @ MCRHRDI!

Shiv Jayanti



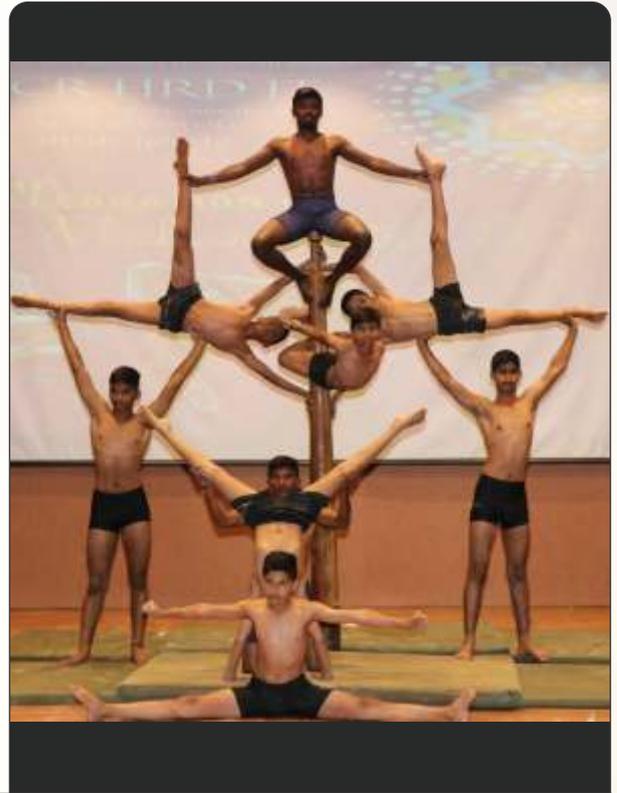
When Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj himself could not stay away from the action-packed event!



Traditions and flavors of Maharashtra on display on the occasion of Shiv Jayanti



Dhol, Tasha, Lezim and Fugdi. A miravnuk (procession) bursting with colors and energy!



Young athletes of Health League, Hyderabad, stun the audience with display of traditional Maharashtrian martial arts - Mallakhamb.

Women's Day



Girl Power on display on the occasion of Women's Day celebrated at the institute.

Republic Day



Celebrating the Republic Day always holds a special significance for each and every civil servant. 72nd Republic Day celebrations at MCRHRDI.

Fete – The Utsav



Inauguration of the Fete and release of Saanjha.



North Zone: Punjab, Haryana, J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Delhi, Chandigarh- ChholeBhature, PapdiChaat, Pancakes, Lemon Chicken, Barbeque Chicken, Roohafza.



East Zone: UP, Bihar – Litti Chokha, Champaran Chicken, Paan.



East Zone: Bengal and North East – Red rice and sticky rice, Chicken with bamboo shoots, Baked Fish, Baked Roshogolla, Beguni, Ice Tea.



West Zone: Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh – Paav Bhaji, PaaniPuri, Sev
Batata DahiPuri, Bombay Falooda



West Zone: Rajasthan – Dal Kachori, Malpua, Cold Jaljeera.



South Zone: Karnataka –Ragi Mudde + Bassaaru and Palya, AkkiRotti + Tomato Gojju.



South Zone: Tamil Nadu – Idiyappam and stew, Dosa, Shakara Pongal.



South Zone: Kerala – Kappa+ Fish Curry, Egg Roast+Puttu, Pazham Pori, Banana Fritters, Lemonade

Sports @MCRHRDI

Cricket Tournament



Cricketers in action !



Winners & Runners-Up of the Cricket Tournament

Athletic Meet - Track Events



Javelin throw



The Shotput Champion !



Women's 100mts



400 mts Relay Race

Mini Marathon



Mini marathon in solidarity with all the corona warriors.

Athletic Meet - Games



Basketball



Badminton



Volleyball



Tennis

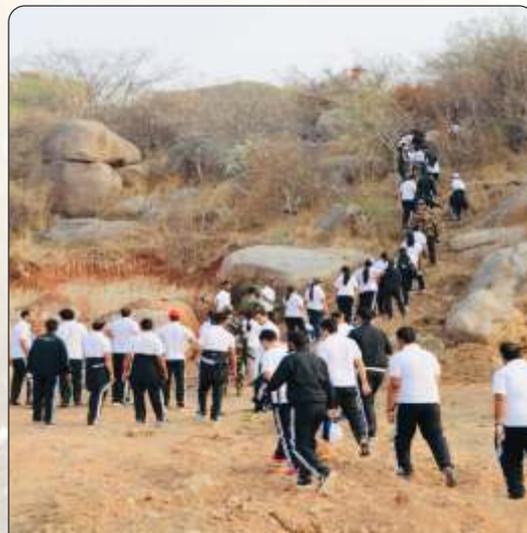


Carrom



Chess

Short - Trek at TSPA



Village Visit

VILLAGE MEMOIRS – K.B.PALLY

How great it would be if God suddenly appears before you and says “let me bring your every little wish to reality”? It was like that when I visited Konda Bheemana Pally(K.B.Pally) in Devarakondamandal. I(Uma) come from a town(Tirunelveli in Tamilnadu), which is neither a city nor a village, but with the negative externalities of both village and city. People from towns can totally relate with me in the sufferings of living in such places. I got downright enthralled when I visited the first city(Chennai) experiencing the astonishing liveliness. I also yearned to experience the village life. The village visit to K.B.Pally as part of SFC rendered the opportunity to live in a village for a week. When the academy, gave a detailed plan with daily schedules, I had my own checklist of dreams to be fulfilled in the village. With tons of hopes and nervousness of a new joinee, we entered the village. The greeny farms and the lovely birds welcomed us smilingly.

When we travel to new places, it is not just about the places. It is also about the people with whom we travel. The love shown by the villagers is beyond words. The taste of the hot and spicy home made yummy food by Sujata amma still lingers in my tongue. From the soft and fluffy idlis to the rough and tough jowarirotis with delicious gravies, we had hefty meals for the whole week. I must heartfully thank the group members(Karthikeyani, Jabbar, Ajay Gandhi) for being an amazing family throughout the visit. Though it was just a week, the familial bond created with each one of them is unexplainable. The wits of the dancer-cum-sports star Karthi, gazelles of Jabbar and crime stories of Ajay added more fun to the visit.

Further fun was in the place where we stayed for the week. Having seen the Panchayat Web series, I couldn't stop relating the Panchayat Office in which we stayed, with the one shown in the series. The structure was exactly the same, including the water tank nearby. We didn't miss climbing to the top of the tank to have a panoramic view of the village. With properly planned concrete roads, piped water through mission Bhagirathi, Anganwadi, Primary Health Subcentre, Primary School, Post Office, Nursery, Village Park, Dumpyard, PDS shop etc. the village in deed was near to a model village. We checked the working of every institution and were really astounded.

The actual surprise came when we visited the Adharsh School which was residential and primarily meant for Scheduled Tribes in the village. After testing few students for reading and maths, we asked about their ambitions in life. We were stunned, when a girl stood up and answered that she wanted to become an Agriculture Officer to support her farmer parents. Nextly, when a boy from class 8 said that his ambition in life was to protest against sexual harassment of women, we literally got goosebumps. Their goals were not just positions, but causes. They didn't believe in destinations but in the journeys. Young India is very much promising. Instead of we inspiring them to dream bigger, we got inspired by them.

Besides visiting institutions and collecting data, I didn't forget my little dreams. Early in the morning by 6.00 AM, we used to take a stride to experience how the village wakes up. We moved to far-off streets, where the villagers did not know who we were. With the cattle grazing, cows milking, birds chirping, roosters crowing, elders yelling, the loveliness in such simple things can only be felt. My first wish got fulfilled when we rode a tractor through the cotton fields. At that moment, I felt like a millipede(Train worm) crawling amidst the cutoff-fields.

Nextly, I wanted to have a bath under the pumpset. We walked long into the fields to locate one while bursting Calotropis plant buds(crown flower/ erukkam poo) all along the way. Finally, when we identified a pumpset, there were 3 dogs guarding the field which came to attack us. If there is one thing that I am scared of the most in the world, it is undoubtedly, the dog. While Jabbar became a warrior, throwing stones and scaring them, I sprinted away as if in Olympics race. We panted heavily escaping the dogs. As we were almost exhausted, we decided to return back and while returning I saw a small pumpset. It was so small that only my feet could take bath in it. Yet, it was a pumpset and I had to fulfil that wish too. When we went near, there was an old person who directed us to another field. The person was a total stranger, and, hence, we were little doubtful whether to trust him or not. As it was not a city, we blindly trusted him and went to the field and we were overwhelmed by the big pumpset in it. We stood and took bath splashing out water on each other. When we fail to admire the little joys of life, we fail to live life in itself.

My next wish was to run across the paddy fields. We took bike rides to reach the far-off fields, breaking through the cool evening winds. I wore white salwar and green dupatta to match the farm landscape. The experience of running inside the fields was so wonderful that I felt like jumping out. Unexpectedly, my legs slipped and I dragged Karthi also along with me. We both fell into the greeny fields which had dampened ground. My white salwar turned black and we came out like tar roads from the green fields. We couldn't help laughing at each other by then. We went to the farm waters and cleaned ourselves. The funniest part is that I had asked Karthi to take a video of me running across the fields. Instead she took a video of me, cleaning the mud after fall. Friends are always like that!

While accomplishing my little wishes, we also conducted several events to build rapport with the villagers. Friendly Volley ball matches, Rangoli competition, Speech Competition, Drawing Competition as part of Swatchh Bharat Campaign and a scintillating cultural evening. Every place has a soul. The soul of the KB Pally village, lied in the vibrant women of the village who actively participated in almost all competitions. We were surprised by their talents especially in rangoli. We also danced Bathukamma, a traditional dance along with the villagers. As Tagore tells, "Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls", the entire village appeared like a family non-fragmented.

Entertainment apart, when we were campaigning for financial literacy, we came to know about a serious problem. The villagers were reluctant to save their money into banks. When we inquired deeper, we found about a potential fraud. Self Help Groups had opened

bank accounts to deposit their hard earned money. Usually, they deposit their money through Banking Correspondent(BC) and the BC had not deposited the amount in bank. When they checked with the bank, they were not giving proper reply. The BC also became unreachable. The amount was almost 2 lakhs owing to 4 SHGs and they had been waiting for 8 months. They did not go to Police due to unfounded fears. We called the SHO to the meeting and we made the victims lodge a formal complaint against the BC. We also invited the SHO to the gram sabha meeting convened, in which he spoke about cyber crimes, traffic rules and other safety measures to be followed and he became familiar to the villagers.

While the main village had its own problems, there were 6 Tandas(separate hamlets away from the main village) who had very different problems. When we visited the Tandas, we felt the unequal development between the main village and the Tandas and poor infrastructures in the Tandas. Sewage water got logged in front of the Tanda Streets and houses, the drinking water pipes were broken, Mission Bhagirathi Water Tank had cracks and other vital issues. We noted everything. A guilty feeling arose for the first time as the villagers trusted that we would solve their problems. Though, we didn't give any promise, we said we will report the issues to the Collector. Unlike, other village groups, the District Collector did not meet us during the start of the visit neither at the end. The reports and ppts lay obsolete for academic marks. If the reports are sent to the respective District Collectors by MCRHRD, our village visit would be truly meaningful.

On the final day, when I came out waking up early in the morning, I saw a sparrow sitting on the bike mirror and chipping on it. It chipped the mirror continuously that I felt it would hurt its beak sooner. But the bird continued unmindful of anything around. When Jabbar came after half an hour, I showed him the bird and said, "I pity the bird very much as it is very much self-obsessed that it is unable to see how wide the world is. Many of us are struck in our own lives like this bird". Jabbar replied, "The bird is not self obsessed, but it sees its enemy in the mirror and fights with it. Many times, we think our enemy is on the other side, but it is our own self in the mirror who is the real enemy." After some time, Karthi saw the bird and told, "The bird sees its lover in the mirror and is kissing it without knowing it is unreal. Love is unreal too." We were surprised to find very different interpretations of just the bird chipping. So is life where we meet different people and different perspectives. The Village visit gave one such different perspective on the real India. Cities may be lively, but villages are extremely lovely.

-Uma Maheshwari G,
ICLS.



Village Buddharam, Bhupalpally



Village Sirnapally, Nizamabad



Village Kondabhemmanapally, Nalagonda



Village Narsapur, Mulugu



Village Salveed, Vikarabad



Village Motamarri, Khammam



Village Bandalanagpur, Adilabad

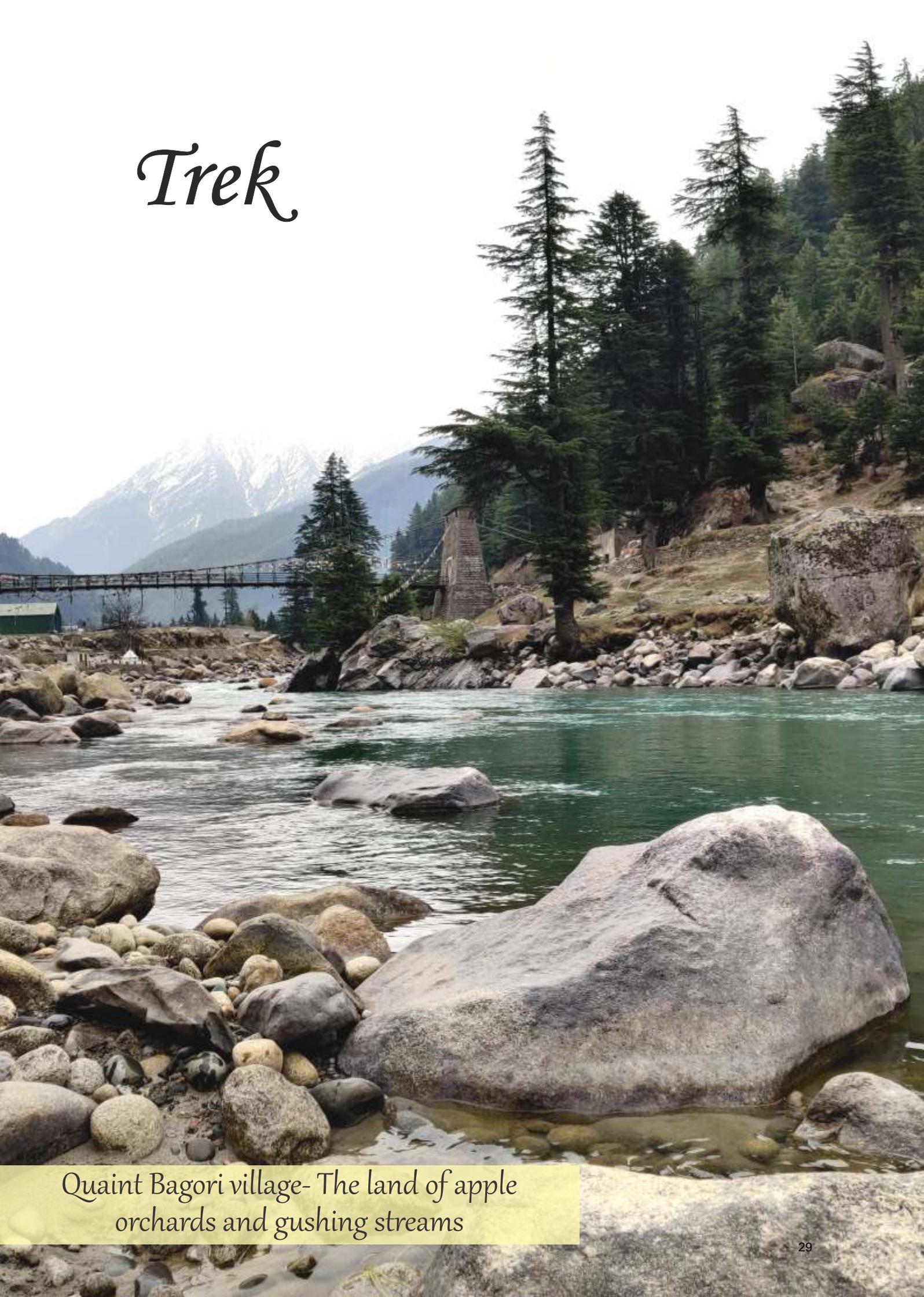


Village Moodapalli, Rajanna Sircilla



Village Tekulapally, Vikarabad

Trek



Quaint Bagori village- The land of apple orchards and gushing streams

“And the Mountains Echoed!”

Six days.

4 teams.

Negotiating steep slopes and difficult terrain, pausing to take in the dazzling beauty of the surrounding landscape, absorbing the delicious newness of a bunch of experiences and forging bonds to be cherished for a long, long time. However varied the location- Harshil or Kedarkantha, Dodital or Gulabkantha- the essence of the Himalayan Trek perhaps resonates the same across all hearts.

There were teeth-chattering dips in freezing waters and delighted leaps into hot springs. Snowmen were built, complete with gloves for hands and mountain blossoms for accessories. Tea and Maggi were consumed in copious amounts. Songs were sung around flickering bonfires, conversations flowed freely under starlit skies. Over shared journeys, shared secrets and innumerable moments captured on camera, the most precious memories were created and sealed carefully away.

The trek was not much more than just an adventure. When one answers the call of the mountains, one cannot but come away with one's own set of realizations and truths.

First, when stepping across rocks and ice and snow, where each step becomes a challenge, it is difficult to fathom that one can keep at it for miles at a stretch. At times like these, we channelize our entire energy on where we put our foot at the very next moment, knowing that if we keep going, we'll arrive at our destination. This isn't such a lesson for the mountains, but for life- when the going gets tough, one does not stop, but keeps walking: one step at a time.

Second, the trek was probably the greatest lesson in team-building that any of us could have hoped for. Distanced from the rest of the world, with no electricity and no network, we found ourselves interacting far more closely, learning quirks about one another that no amount of time at the academy could have taught us. The stories of support, interdependence and motivation from fellow teammates that those six days brought with them would fill several pages.

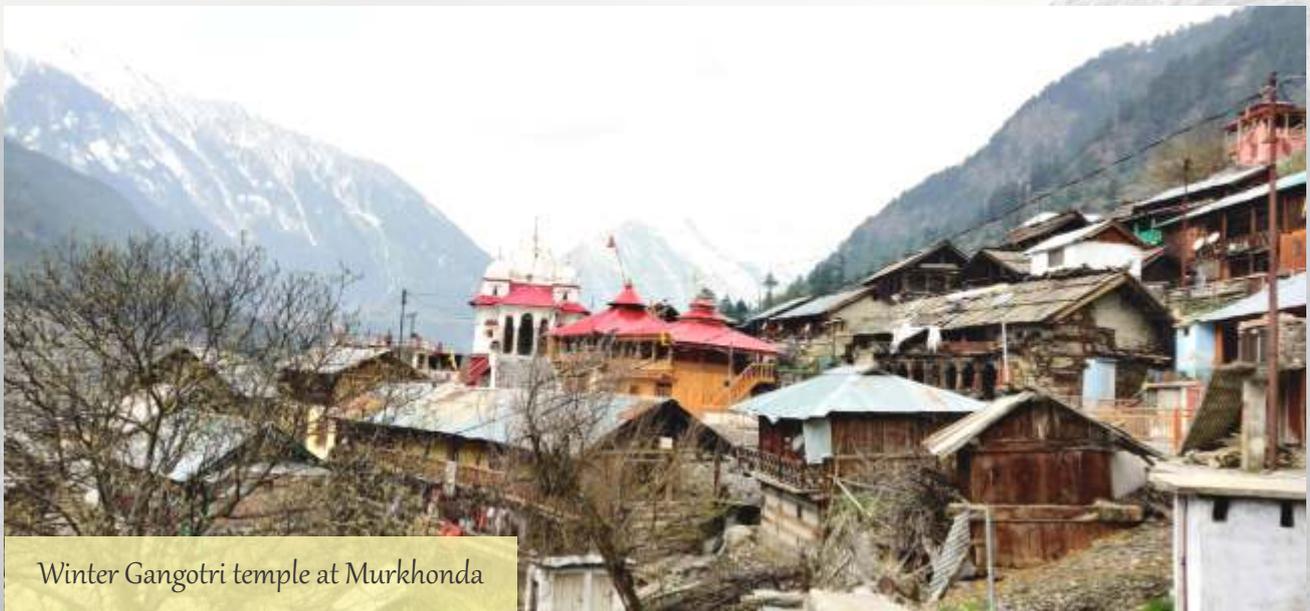
Third, the mountains are majestic, but they can also be very cruel. Intense weather conditions and one's own limitations can pose obstacles at sudden bends along the way. Such moments remind us that the mountains are far stronger than we are, and we must bow down to that fact and take a step back where necessary. It does not amount to quitting, but as a fellow Officer Trainee put it- a 'tactical retreat'.

Finally, the week brought with it a host of 'firsts'. For many of us, it was the first trek, bringing with it the first encounter with snow at such close quarters, the first snowstorm, and the first experience of campsites. While all of these came with a sense of awe and exhilaration, they

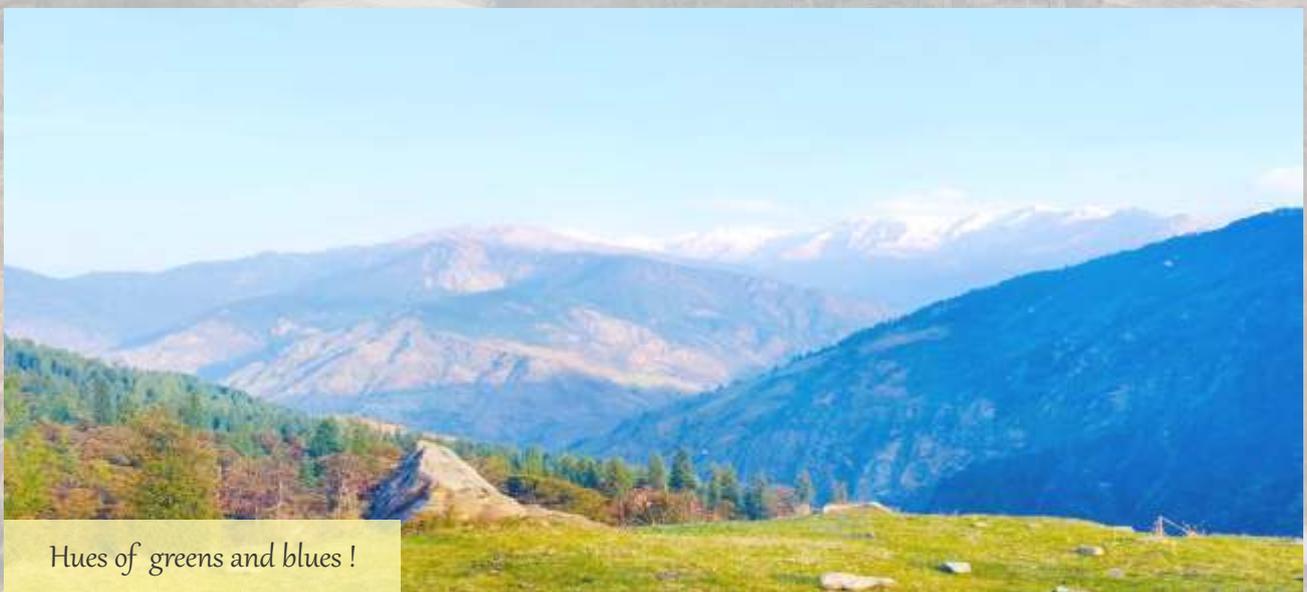
didn't always come with the greatest ease and comfort. However, the trek taught us that all these experiences must be embraced in their entirety, with the wonders and the difficulties alike. After all, at the end of the day, this is the stuff that our tales and memories will be made of.

We extend our warmest thanks to Dr Sanjeev Chopra, Director LBSNAA, for making possible the very first Himalayan Trek from the Special Foundation Course at Dr MCRHRD Institute. Our gratitude to Dr MCRHRD Institute, Garhwal Mangal Vikas Limited and ITBP personnel for their support in organization, their attention to detail and their cooperation at all stages of the trek. Finally, a huge shoutout to all the Officer Trainees and fellow teammates, who made this an experience that we will treasure for a lifetime.

- Rini Choudhury, IIS



Winter Gangotri temple at Murkhonda



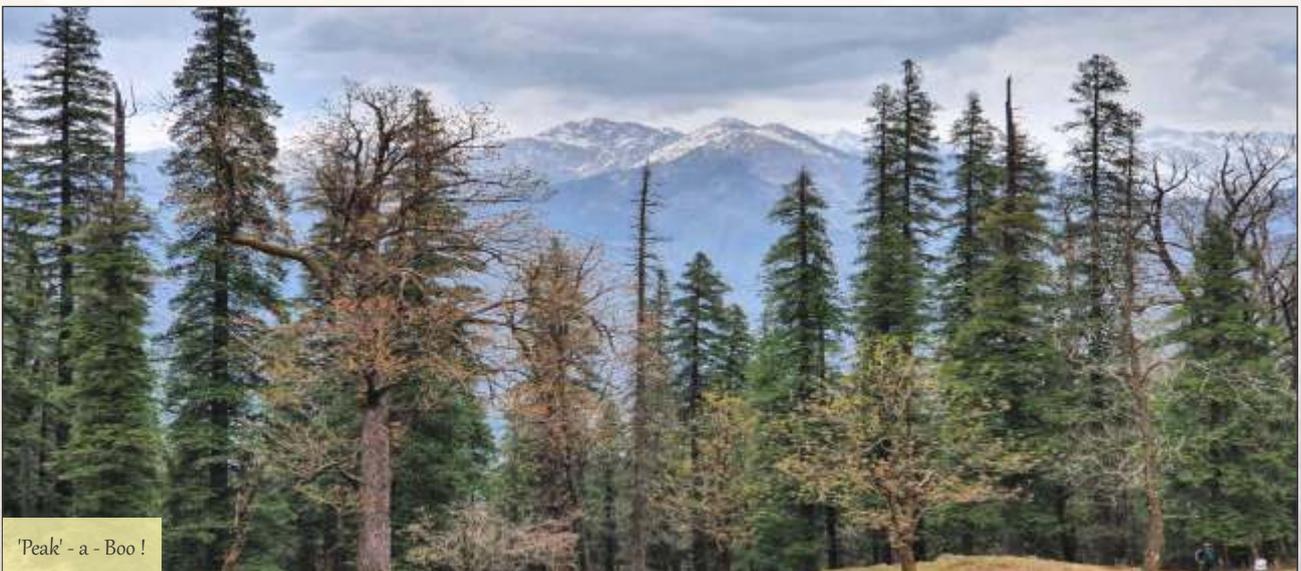
Hues of greens and blues !



Enroute Darwa top !



Kedarkantha conquerers of trek group 2 !



'Peak' - a - Boo !



Faces in places



Snow capped mountains of Yamunotri.



Group 1 at Doditaal



The scenic and serene Doditaal.



The Harshil Valley looking like a christmas postcard studded with snow.



Group 4 - A photostop amid the mighty Himalayas during the trek to Chholmi



Flowing conversations @ Sayanchatti stopover.

Trek with a Broken Leg!

On joining MCR for the Special FC, trek was one of the things I was waiting for eagerly. When Himalayan Trek option was offered it doubled my excitement. But just one month before the scheduled trek I got a minor fracture on my right foot and all my trek plans turned left with this. All I could do is plead with my foot to heal quickly in a month and as the day was approaching my pleading turned into begging. Even after 1 month of room confinement my dream shattered one day before the scheduled departure when after plaster removal it was found that my foot has not healed fully. With a heavy heart I packed my bags just to travel till the base camp "Harshil". On the way to Mussoorie, with each concern from my friends and fellow OTs about recovery my heart was sinking deep into sadness.

Day 0: When everyone was scaling George Everest point, I was lost in mourning my loss of the great opportunity. In all this I didn't even bother to google the base camp and with no expectations I left for the base camp.

Day 2: Upon reaching Harshil, everyone was mesmerized by the beauty of the village. The mighty snowclad mountains. The serene Bhagirathi river flowing down and our guesthouse on its bank made all my negativity disappear and I couldn't stop myself from going to Bagori village just two kms away from our stay. The village looked like a perfect location for horror movies with empty wooden houses in the lap of deodar forest. The night was even better with a camp fire and singing and dancing. The day ended with a promise not to grieve about what is missing and rather enjoy what the present moment has to offer.

Day 3: The next day provided a perfect opportunity for me with a broken leg to enjoy the trek as our whole group went to Gangotri in a bus. The eager took a dip in the Ganga river while I just took blessings from the temple and hoped that was enough to wash away all my sins!

Day 4: I woke up with Nikita (my roomie and our AGL) shouting snow...snow! Without brushing, I just grabbed my raincoat and shoes and ran outside to enjoy the snow. We all were kids again making snowman. . . playing snow fights. It was the only day when everyone actually woke up at 6:30 am without our GL and AGL continuously calling. By afternoon my other group members left for their trek to Kyarkoti Glacier. I was left to rest in my

room for the day...but chirping sounds of birds made me come out with my bazooka lens to shoot few :P and I actually walked for 11kms!



Day 5: The group trekked to Chholmi village and to snow high up in the mountains, I had different adventure in mind. The rest of the group was testing stamina and strength on their trek up to village whereas I went for test of patience to capture beautiful songs of the migratory birds. Trust me birding has its own adrenaline rush and it made me forget my pain.

I found a serene yet perfect location on the bank of Bhagirathi and kept my bazooka ready. I was truly enjoying the scenery. I stayed there for 4 hours captured atleast 7 types of birds and variations in their call sound. It was the most satisfying part of the whole trek.



Day 6: On the last day in Harshil village, a few went to a tough trek to Sattal. The rest trekked to Mukhowa village. The path to Mukhowa was so beautiful, full of apple and pear orchards. Birds hopping from tree to tree and calling out to their love....mixed with the music of Bhagirathi. We had our last lunch in the village which was a treat of its own for food lovers like me. Many of us ate till our throats and still wanted to eat more. We left for Uttarkashi and back to LBSNAA with happy faces and tons of happy memories.

This trek taught many lessons and offered much more than what I expected....Friendship of 16 fellow OTs...Memories of camp fire singing.. Dancing...Playing mafia and bluff.., Cute little snowman...Snow fights...and in the end - the melody of singing birds and a promise to return!

-Rishibha Singh Netam
IFS



Experience of Nilgiri Trek

The heightened mountains of Western Ghats covered eloquently with beautiful green forests and tea estates in the form of Nilgiri have always been point of attraction for many. These mountains naturally attracted us also. So many of the OT's selected Nilgiri trek.

The first day itself started with our landing in Coimbatore from where we went to Ooty. Ooty one of the most famous hill station in India is really very beautiful and its pleasant environment makes anyone fall in love with it. The presence of many tea and coffee shops, chocolate stores and wax candle shops makes one very well aware that he is in Ooty. The presence of extensive tea plantations, lakes and other natural splendours helps it garner its name as 'Queen of Hill Stations'.

After briefing in Ooty we went to our respective starting camps with all the heavily loaded rug sacks to start our beautiful and sweet journey of 5 days of trekking. Naduattam was the starting point and Pandiyar was our last point. The trek helped us to cherish the nature, flora and fauna. On the way we could see different trees like Eucalyptus, chir pine, cones etc. We also crossed some dams like Parsons valley. The trek taught us to live in adverse conditions and helped increase our endurance and patience level.

Many adventures also were experienced by us. We saw the pug marks of different wild animals. We also found some of the remains of a deer most probably hunted by a tiger or leopard. While going through one of the route we also saw a jaguar running. While going on one route it was literally a do or die situation on one side was steep slope of a hillock and we had to walk on the edge. We encountered some of the routes deep in the wild covered with thorny plants and trees which even cut some of us.

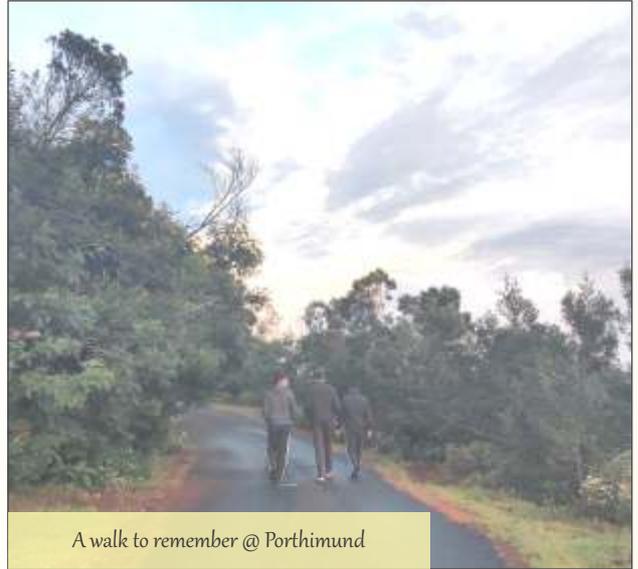
In some of the instances we had issues with the accommodation and logistics arrangement made. But the things that makes it more memorable is how the OT's coped with these difficulties and saw these things positively. Many of the OT's took the difficulties in positive spirit as one learns how to cope with difficulties.

The trek was indeed memorable one where many of the OT's understood the importance of teamwork, team spirit and solving problems collectively. On top of it the trek also helped develop a good bonding in all of the OT's and thus promoting esprit de corps.

- Vishwajeet Chimankar
ITS



Moments to remember on the way to Pandiyar



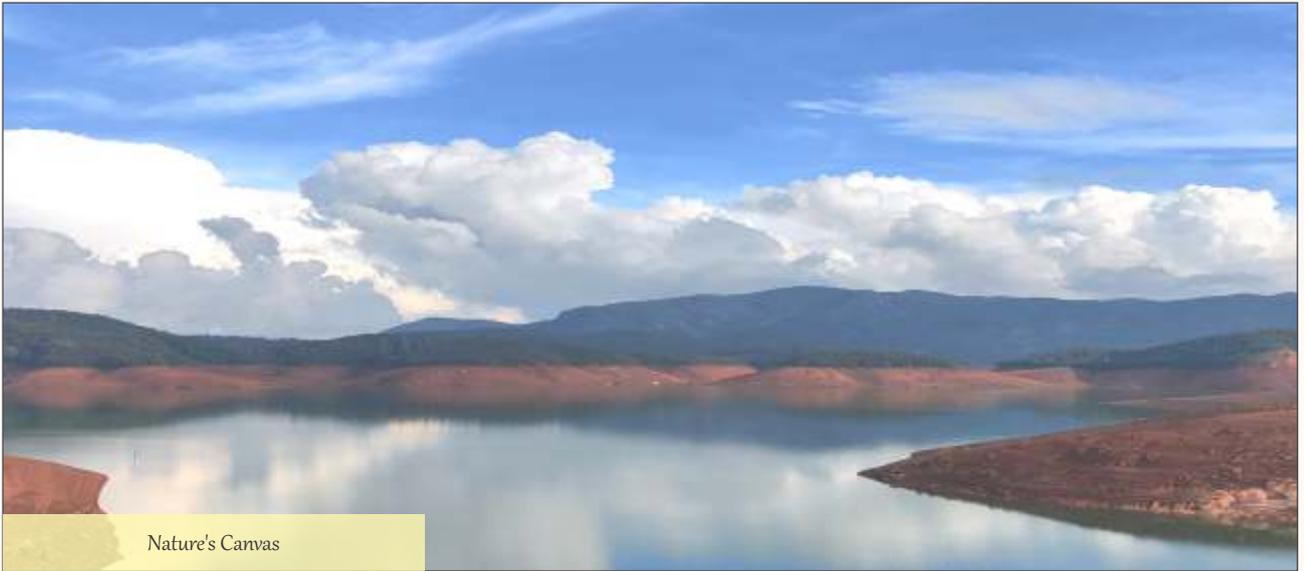
A walk to remember @ Porthimund



A picturesque tea Estate near Naduvattam.



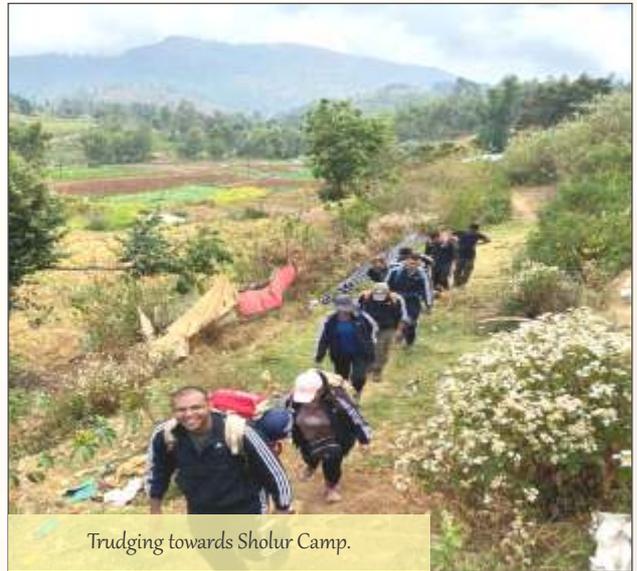
As the sun sets on Sholur Camp.



Nature's Canvas



Tea estates enroute Mudhumalai



Trudging towards Sholur Camp.



The team and the captains !



Naduvattam Camp



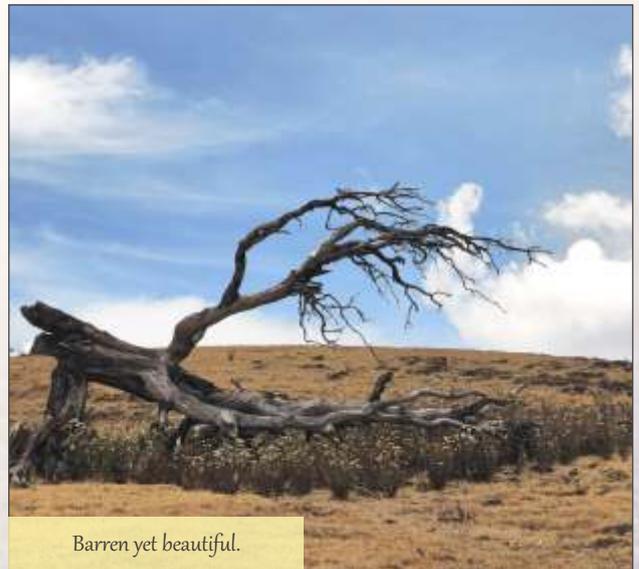
Tea leaves and tranquil skies.



Parson's Valley



Of rivers, mountains and clouds!



Barren yet beautiful.

Nilgiri trek

We waded into the wonderful Nilgiri hills,
In the simple serene world full of thrills,
Some mornings were pleasant some were far too chill,
We trekked through tea gardens, mountains and some unknown rills,

We breezed through the Valleys and walked through the clouds,
We rolled through the heights and strolled through the crowds,
The awe and the bliss in our minds were hard to shroud,
Pandiya, Porthimund, Parsons Valley- pulled us away from our proud.

At last, the Game of card was not so hard,
We played till the academy schedule called us apart,
This trek shall be remembered as lifelong reward,
For eternal friendships and that shall bore in our hearts!!

Shailendra Singh
IFS -2018

Eminent Speakers



Sri. Syed Akbaruddin, IFS(R), speaking to the OTs on the inaugural evening about managing change and yet remaining anchored to your values.



Sri. Anil Swarup, IAS(R), sharing his experience about what it takes to be an ethical officer in the Civil Services.



Dr. Faizan Mustafa, explaining the difference between the constitution and constitutionalism.



Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant, IRTS, shows the OTs the beauty of Bharatnatyam and the importance of not letting go of your passion.



Sri. Bezwada Wilson, Magsaysay award winner and founder and National Convenor of the Safai Karmachari Andolan (SKA), talks to the OTs about the realities of manual scavenging and the duties of civil servants.



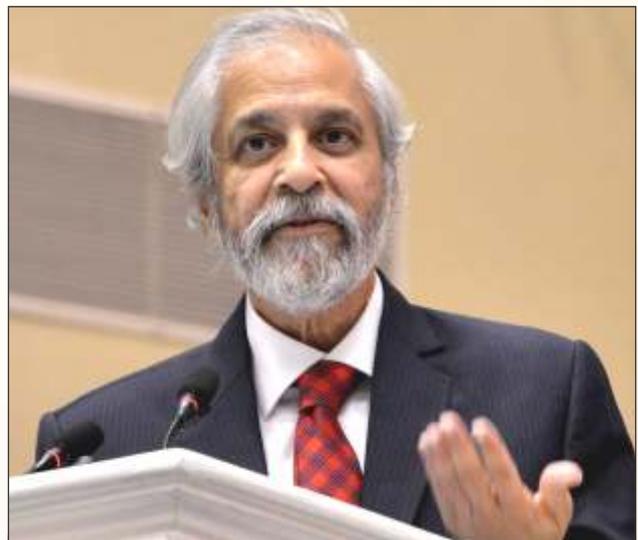
Child rights activist, founder of Mamidipudi Venkatarangaiya Foundation, and Magsaysay award winner Smt. Shanta Sinha explaining the various struggles she faced in her struggle for empowering children in India.



Magsaysay awardee, Sri. Sonam Wangchuk who is an innovator, education reformist and founding-director of the Students' Educational and Cultural Movement of Ladakh (SECMOL). Mr. Wangchuk speaking about his work in Ladakh and the role of civil servants in bringing about innovations in public systems.



Padma Sri recipient, Smt. Sunitha Krishnan, founder of Prajwala, talking about the horrors of child trafficking and ways of dealing with victims in the process of rehabilitation.



Justice Madan Lokur, analyzing the paradox of Judicial Activism.



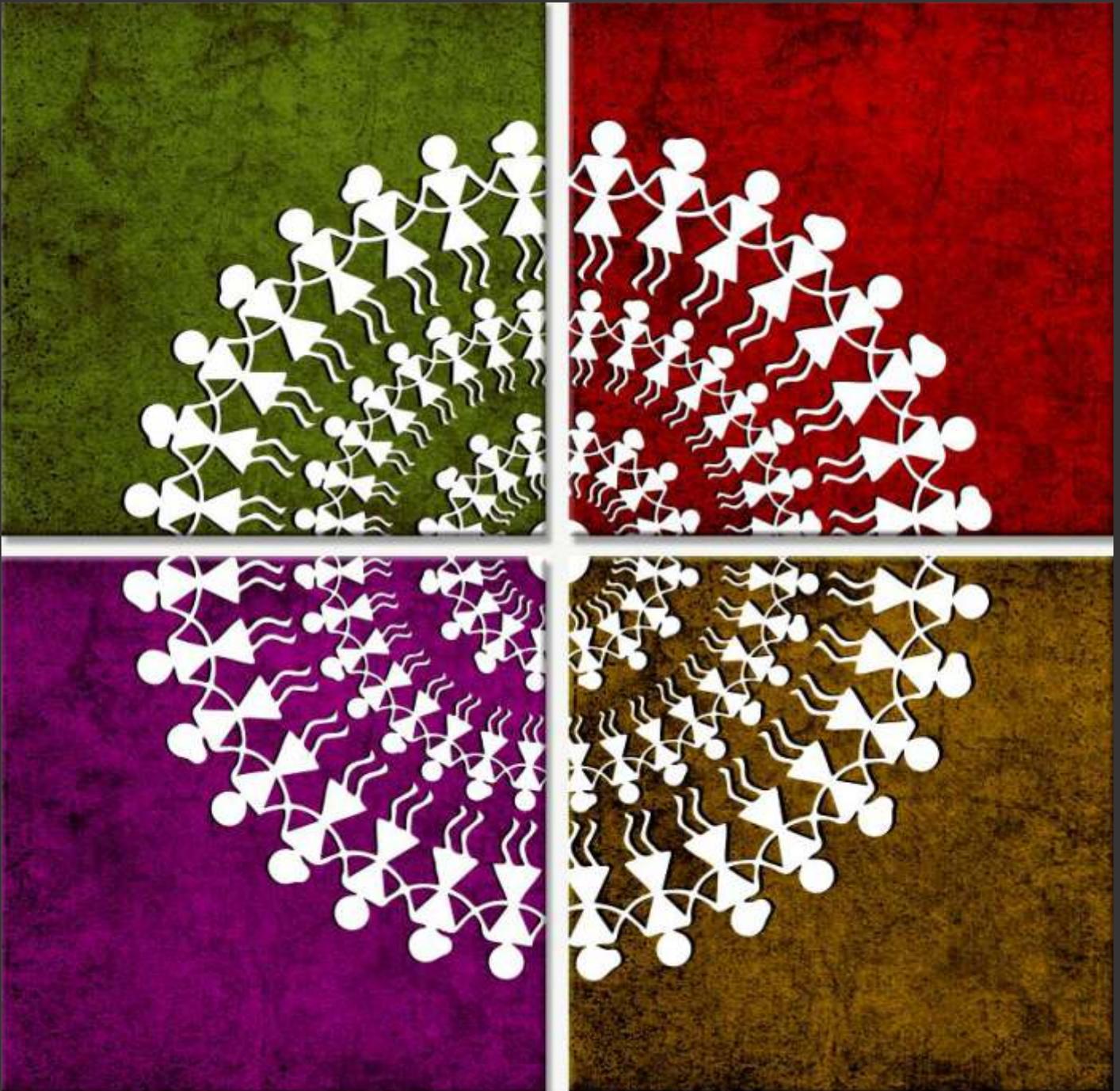
Smt. Aruna Roy, founder of the Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS) shares the RTI story with the OTs.



Smt. Medha Patkar, founder of Narmada Bachao Andolan, talks about the importance of maintaining the balance between developmental ambitions and environmental sustainability.



Sketch by Akhil Thampi, IFS.



Common Cause

Officers Club

Officers' Club comprises of 5 members including a secretary. All the members of the Officers' Club worked in tandem, looking out and cooperating with each other, to form a strong and a cohesive team. As the name suggests, the club is responsible for various activities to make the stay of officers in MCR HRD a cheerful experience. First major event organized by the club was the DJ Night, which effectively served as the real ice breaker for the Officers' Trainees, as people from various services, different cadres, put their dancing shoes on, and sway danced to the tunes of Bollywood,



Tollywood, Hollywood and, basically anything with a little bit of tune and beat. Subsequently, we conducted an Open Mic session, wherein the OTs got an opportunity to express themselves. From singing, to poetry, shayari to even a stand-up comedy act, the evening was fun filled, and served as an opportunity for the OTs to not only showcase their talents, but also to express, to communicate, and convey the depths of their hearts and souls. (Very dramatic, but where's the fun without the drama??).

To add to this, we organized a band performance in the picturesque Vivekananda Lawns, resulting in a musical and a melodic night. Like all other events, this also ended up in the OTs grabbing the opportunity to dance and to create memories that will never fade, and bonds that will not be broken.



Events such as celebration of Maharashtra day in collaboration with Officer Trainees from Maharashtra showcased club's endeavour to give expressions to various regional cultures of India. This was meant to collectively experience the diversity of India.

The most challenging bit however, done by our club was to organize the sports competitions. We got an experience of making the sports competitions competitive, yet fun, exhilarating and thrilling.

The hooting and cheering by the audience, and brilliant commentary by Officer Trainees made the competitions a really memorable time in the Special FC. To further the goal of inculcating physical fitness among OTs, the club also organized the Mini Marathon within the campus.

To further the camaraderie among the OTs, the officer club took the initiative of celebrating birthdays of OTs. Celebratory messages were also put up on e-notice boards.

The club also organized the celebration of women's day. Self defence classes were organized with the help of National Police Academy, Hyderabad. Photo competition was also organized in collaboration with Film and Photography Club themed on breaking the gender barrier.

The club also emerged as a channel of communication between administration and OTs. Many concerns of day-to-day nature were conveyed effectively to the administration to seek effective solutions. Many trivial but important issues of OTs, such as laundry, room ACs, desktops in rooms, were proactively addressed by the club.

Mess Committee

The Mess Committee at the Special Foundation Course was responsible for providing tasty and healthy food to the course mates. The committee comprised of five members chosen from amongst the OTs. Three members joined the committee voluntarily while the mess secretary and deputy secretary were elected through a fiercely fought election. The mess infrastructure includes completely air-conditioned seating facility and a calm ambience overlooking the vibrant campus that presents a refreshing experience for everybody.

The Committee

Rishibha Singh Netam
(Secretary)

A.S. Ramachandra (DG's Nominee)

Pardeep Mahlawat

Ismeet Kaur

Purnava Ganguli

Hasan Safin Mustufaali



The Committee took utmost care to incorporate the preference of every officer, as much as possible, while deciding and planning the menu. Arrangements for special food/facilities for officers during all the events like the DJ night, live concert, food festival fests and other festivals was done by the mess committee on every occasion.

Being proactive was extremely important for the Mess Committee in the face of dynamic and ever-changing environment due to the presence of so many officers belonging to all parts of India with various food habits/requirements. Each member was given a responsibility to look after one of the various work profiles like procurement, quality, quantity and general issues related to the Mess. The whole committee worked with the target of timely operation every day, every meal during the course period, so that all officers are served nutritious meals to help them cope with the rigour of the foundation course, each and every activity concerned with food, right from deciding menu to managing staff, was handled by the members. The mess committee was also guided by Mr. A. S. Ramachandra - DG's Nominee for the mess, regarding all issues related to mess. The mess committee is extremely thankful for his guidance.



As a Mess Committee member, I thoroughly enjoyed all the responsibilities entrusted upon me. At times it was extremely hard to deal with the mess manager and staff for maintaining the quality, hygiene and the taste of the food. However, with help of Mess Duty Officers and the committee members we were able to improve things significantly. The committee faced an extremely hard time in controlling the mess officials for maintaining the standard of food.

At the same time committee felt extremely proud for organising special food events such as Maharashtra Day, DJ night, Chaat Festival, Open mike etc. The committee took special pride in organising a special lunch event for all the female housekeeping staff of MCR to celebrate International women's Day 2021. Overall, it was an awesome experience being the part of this committee and we are thankful to each officer of the foundation.

Nature Lovers and Adventure Sports Club

We kick started our operations with a successful election! We had the privilege of being the only club with all the posts filled. All of us, including me the secretary got elected unopposed. And we got a good diversity as Kunal from IDES, Sushmitha and Uma from ICLS and Rajendra from ICAS joined the league.

The first event, we decided to conduct was the 'World Wetland day Quiz'. Though the event was about Nature, it became an adventure activity for the club, since it was a last minute decision.



I still remember the night we assembled at Uma's room and testing our Quizzing abilities. Sushmitha even told out loud 'I thought it was a fun club'(I was thinking the same)! But with the help of Kunal's Harry Potter questions, Uma's awesome Poster, Rajendra's entertainment, Sushmitha's Hippo Dilemma and of course my leadership(!) with 6hrs of team work, we nailed it.

Common guys, we gave you cash prizes!

The second one, was truly adventurous. We had a rifle shooting session at Telangana State Police Academy. For many of OTs it was the first time handling weapons. Surprisingly, many first timers topped the shooting targets. Sushmitha and Kunal lead the batches with military discipline to and fro.

On popular demand we organised 'Ramoji film city visit 'which is 'must visit' for all Hyderabad visitors. We also organised a 'Wonderla visit', which definitely was a wonderful Experience. (At least that's what the Coordinator Rajendra told us).

We do have a regret of not able to organise an Amrabad visit. It got postponed due to COVID surge and could not take place.



Overall, it was a very happy experience to work with such a wonderful team, who shouldered the responsibilities at every step

I'm grateful to DG Sir, Cd Sir, Addl. CD mam and faculty members specially DGs nominee, Dr. Sreenivas Sir for the constant encouragement. Hope that we gave u some good memories!

Social Service Club

The Social Service Club always strives to induce a sense of realization among fellow Officer Trainees that we all are indebted to society & therefore should contribute in every possible way to promote the welfare of the people. Our focus was to involve more and more officer trainees in productive & at the same time interesting activities to bring out the best in them. It was their commitment towards their social responsibilities that enables this club to conduct more and more activities in an effective manner. The enthusiasm and positivity shown by them in the form of ever-increasing participation & resource sharing is really commendable.



“Charity begins at home”. So, we decided to interact with Housekeeping Staff, security staff & gardening staff of the institute to know about their problems & requirements. Knowing their stories, I experienced the striking difference between the abstract learning and the ground realities. There were stories of corruption, resource-crunch, domestic violence, physical disabilities & many more. Some of them were happy & satisfied with the fact that government officers approached them to know their problem. In those moments we could actually feel their pain. The hope, trust & gratitude, that I have seen in their eyes will remain a constant source of inspiration for me throughout my life. It will always keep me inspiring to work untiringly for the uplifting their lives. This is how I understood the real meaning of “empathy”.

As a member of Social Service Club, I got an opportunity to work with many NGOs & great social workers. Nirman Foundation, Mr. Malleshwar Rao, Ms Sunita Krishnan & Mr. Sai Prasad Vishwanathan are few to mention.



I happened to visit Kondapur & Saidabad Slum where the club conducted activities like Sanitary Pads distribution, Food distribution and raising Awareness on sanitation & women hygiene. At Saidabad Slum, the children presented folk dance to welcome us. I was moved by the affection & respect displayed by them in their own unique way. No material help could ever repay that. Deep in my heart, I felt indebted for their affection.



The Sensitization Session regarding Persons with Hearing & Locomotive Disability gave me a platform to address the day-to-day problems faced by the Hearing-Impaired employees at workplace. The insightful experiences shared of our super achiever guest speaker Mr. Sai Prasad Vishwanathan was so inspirational that the audience lost track of the time. It happened to be the longest ever session of the Special FC. I hope that the words of Sh. Vishwanathan, would keep echoing in the minds of all the Officer Trainees – “Our country's infrastructure is 4+ Crore People's real Disability. Reject India's Infrastructure Disability”.

I consider myself fortunate for being part of the Social Service Club as it gives me a platform to serve the society and have a glimpse of dreams, aspirations and problems of the last man in the queue. Working as club member gave me an opportunity to transfer the abstract knowledge to its practical application and also to transform experiences into knowledge, beliefs & values. It not only helps me to hone my managerial skills but communication and interpersonal skills as well. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to MCRHRD Institute of Telangana for providing this platform as well as the necessary resources to make our efforts meaningful & effective.



Birds in my Window

(By Madhumitha. S., IFS)



Rufous Treepie



The Rufous Treepie is a distant cousin of our common crow. A long and stiff-tailed bird with primarily rusty-brown upperparts and dull orangish underparts. Found in a wide range of habitats from woodlands to scrubby patches, singly or in pairs, feeding in the treetops. The metallic "krowwiiii kroo" can be heard almost everywhere in the campus.

Purple Sunbird



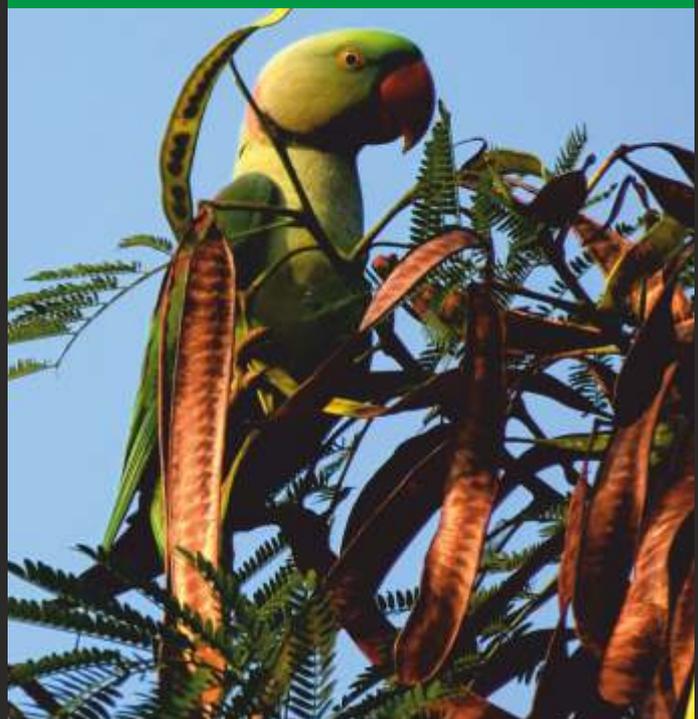
This bird is almost always seen in pairs. Breeding males display themselves by fluttering their wings in front of females while singing. Their diet is nectar-rich, but they may pick up insects in flight, and feed on spiders, often stealing their web silk to build their own nests. Check for this sharp bird on the tree near the hostel entrance.

Greater Coucal



A large bird that resembles a cross between a crow and a pheasant. Largely black with distinctive rusty wings, glossy underparts, a long and heavy black tail, and deep red eyes. Interestingly, this bird, also known as Bharatwaj is associated with so many superstitions and is also believed to be a messenger of good fortune. Next time before replying show-cause notices, search for this lucky bird on the tree trunks!

Alexandrine Parakeet



Large and long-tailed, the green parakeet is recognised by its bright red beak. The female lacks the male's pink-and-black ring around the neck. This bird is similar to the Rose Ringed Parakeet. Raucous and loud; it gives piercing screeches and screams along with the PT instructor in Vivekananda Lawns.

Copper Smith Barbet



The Coppersmith Barbet is a difficult bird to miss. This bird is a kaleidoscope of colours with a crimson forehead and patch on its breast and has a vibrant yellow throat. Both males and females participate in incubating the eggs and taking care of the young ones when they arrive. These frugivorous (fruit-eating) barbets too have larger parties raiding ficus trees!

Tickell's Blue Flycatcher



A small perching bird which is blue on the upperparts and the throat and breast are a reddish brown. This tiny, cute, active, colourful bird is rare to be spotted in a city but we have one regularly sitting in front of Vivekananda lawns with its musical call.

Indian paradise flycatcher



A graceful looking flycatcher, the adult male sports a long ribbon like tail which can grow upto 30cm. The males occur in two color morphs cinnamon and white. Females of all races resemble rufous-phase males, except they have shorter tails. Next time when u catch upon this ultra-gorgeous bird near Chai Kahani, try identifying the gender!

Plum Headed Parakeet



A brilliantly-colored parakeet.(The term 'parakeets' refers to certain species of parrots); males have a plum-colored head while females have grayish-blue head. Many of these birds—especially the males—are good talkers(Yes,Males). As an interesting courtship practice, males offer food to the females as a nuptial gift.

Golden Oriole



Males are bright yellow overall save for the black wings and inner tail feathers. Note the yellow patch on the wings, the yellow outer tail feathers, the black stripe through the eye that gives it a masked appearance, and the fleshy pink bill. The female is dull greenish-yellow overall with dirty brown/green wings and a completely yellowish tail. Both males and females have red iris. Most often found feeding in tree canopies either singly or in pairs. A pair can almost always be sighted in the circular garden connecting Godavari, Tungabhadra and the Admin building. They generally give a harsh "krrrrrrrrrr" call while feeding. In flight, note its characteristic dipping flight style.

Green Bee Eater



The green bee eater is mostly bronze-green, with golden-green crown and nape, black eye line, pale bluish-green cheeks, chin and throat, and narrow black half-collar between throat and breast. They have curved and long beaks that end in a sharp point. Their sharp claws enable them to perch on vertical surfaces and are also helpful when excavating nesting tunnels. Sexes generally look alike, although in some species the males have red irises while the females' are brown-red. Green bee-eaters are omnivorous. They predominantly inhabit arid woodlands. Breeding season varies from March to June and sometimes from July to August according to the range. Breeding pairs nest in long, vertical nesting burrows that they themselves excavated in earth or sand banks, such as river banks or sand quarries. You can always see green bee eaters perching on the wires in the evening, from the lounge on the third/fourth floor of Godavari.

Kingfisher



The kingfisher is a small bird with unmistakable plumage. Its back is bright metallic blue and its breast is a coppery-brown. The beak is long and black, though females have a red patch at the base. Kingfishers are, as their name suggests, expert fishers! They hunt by diving into the water for small fish, such as minnows, as well as invertebrates like dragonfly nymphs. Lightning fast and technically coloured, seeing a kingfisher always feels special. Spot it near the canal opposite the basketball court diving low to catch tiny fish with impressive dexterity.

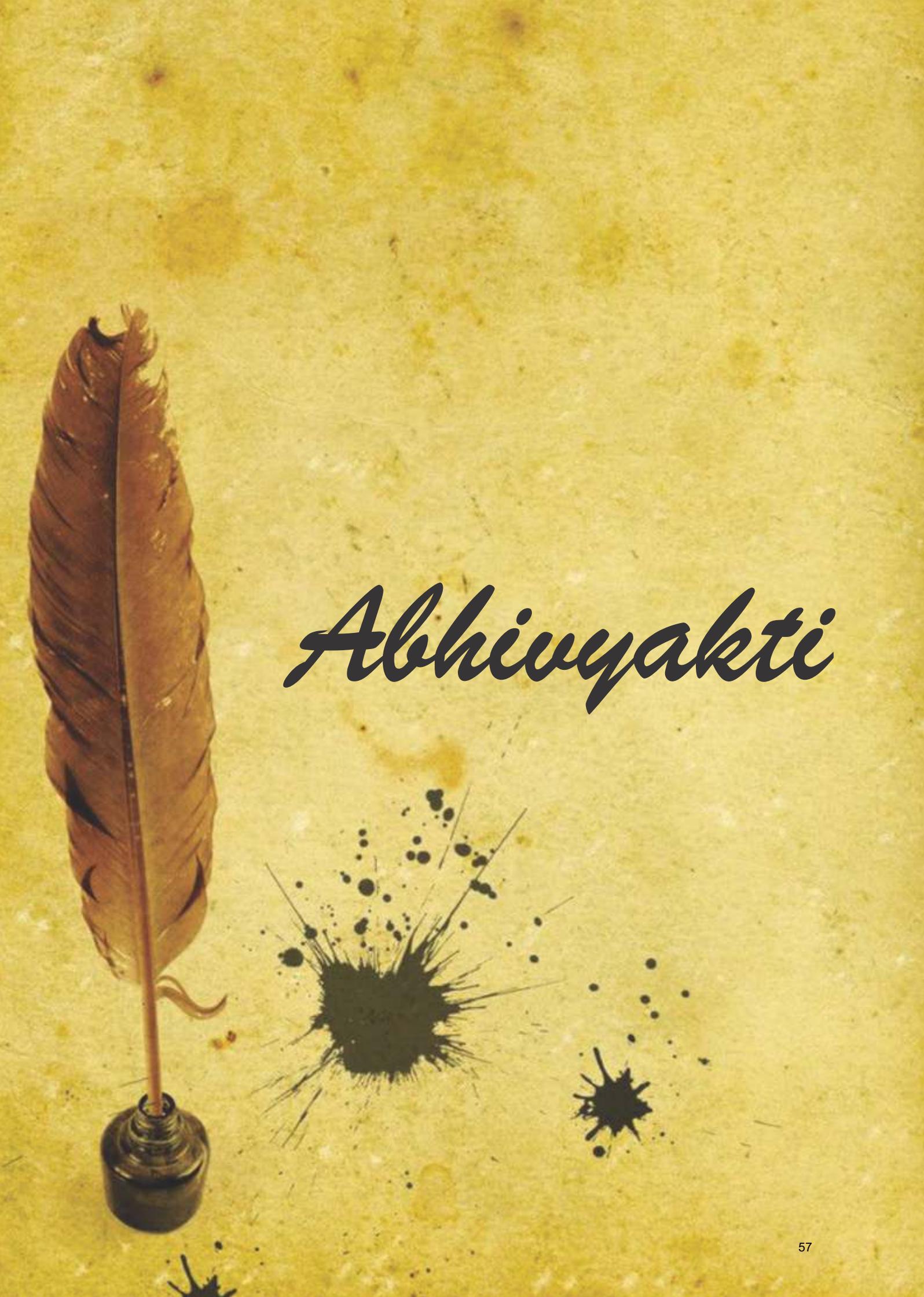
Red Vented Bulbul



The Red-whiskered Bulbul (*Pycnonotus jocosus*) is a sprightly and commonly found garden songbird that likes urban gardens, scrubland found on the outskirts of the city, and even humans. This bird was often traded in Asia, so a number are escapees. A slender medium-sized bird (20 cm), it is dark brown above, white below, with a conspicuous white patch on the cheeks and an elegant black crest. It has crimson tufts below the eye, a crimson red vent (undertail coverts), black beak and legs. The bird's diet consists of mostly fruits and the unfortunate odd invertebrate. You'll find them in pairs or small groups in gardens with fruiting trees. Their flight is strong, but slow and jerky. Their lively nature always livens up gloomy days. Their calls include loud and musical notes that sound like 'pettigroo' or 'kick-pettigroo'. You can find these birds all over the campus.



Painting by Rujuta Bankar, ICLS.

A quill pen is positioned vertically on the left side of the page, its tip resting in a small, dark glass inkwell. The quill is a rich brown color with visible feather texture. The background is a textured, aged, yellowish paper. Several dark ink splatters of varying sizes are scattered across the lower half of the page, particularly around the inkwell and the quill's base. The word "Abhiuyakti" is written in a black, elegant cursive script across the center-right of the page.

Abhiuyakti



Barter

Rini Choudhury, IIS

*We barter stories, you and I.
Lilac twilights that taste of cinnamon,
In exchange for walks through rain-soaked afternoons,
Collecting the last drops of the drizzle in empty paper teacups.
I search for words to show you dazzling rust-tinged sunsets in distant lands,
As you describe the sudden sad lurch of the heart
When the evening wind blows in haunting strains of the Azaan.*

*We barter losses, you and I.
Shards of innocence salvaged from lost childhoods,
In exchange for once-precious friendships
Lost to the ravages of time.
I tell you of the loss of a loved one,
While you long for a home lost to ineffaceable lines
That once appeared on a whim on shape-shifting maps.*

*We stack our memories, you and I.
A bit of me, in exchange for a piece of you.
One fragment of reminiscence removed at a time,
Balanced on another, building up a precarious tower of fragile Jenga blocks.
We weave our life with odd bits of words and carefully forgotten secrets
Strung on a nameless tune,
Building ourselves a song to live a life by.*



Building happy and humane society

Shaifali Barwal, IPS

Since the advent of human civilization, it has been the constant endeavour of mankind to build a happy and humane society. India's rich cultural and spiritual heritage comprising of teachings of the Vedas, Upanishads and Dharmashastras and philosophical ideas such as Ashoka's 'Dhamma' and Akbar's 'Din-e-Ilahi' (based on Sulh-e-Kul) encompasses all that we need to build such a society. Further, our constitutional and preambular values and Directive Principles of State Policies provide the basic framework for building a welfare state and by implication a happy and humane society.

However, notwithstanding all these historical developments, it would be safe to say that our society is not happier and more humane than what it was say 50 years ago. There has been a general decline in the ethical standards as reflected in increased violence and incidents of inhuman crime, especially against vulnerable sections such as women and children. New threats to internal security in the form of terrorism and organised crime have emerged while the old problems of communalism, naxalism, parochialism, social divisions and discrimination on the basis of caste, gender, language and ethnic identity still beset us. India is poised for an economic upsurge that can potentially change the lives of its people, as it gears up to tap the demographic dividend available from its youthful and talented population. However, for the economic boom to be sustained, the country has to move not only to a trajectory of high and sustained growth but also to high levels of social stability and public tranquillity through maintenance of 'Rule of Law'. Governance needs to go beyond the daily dose of crisis management and has to rise above merely a "holding of the fort".

This is where role of the police becomes extremely important. Police is one of the major instruments to uphold the rule of law which is one of the cardinal pillars of a democratic society and is a basic feature of our constitution. It is a sine-qua-non to build a happier and humane society. As the eminent jurist, Locke, put it succinctly, “wherever law ends, tyranny begins”. The threat of possible collapse of public order has the potential to destroy the faith of citizens in its government and erode its legitimacy, leading to chaos and instability.

For upholding the rule of law, what is needed is to usher in an era of accountability, functional autonomy, transparency, responsiveness and professionalism in the Indian police. The emphasis needs to be on changing the character of the police from a “force” meant to enforce the writ of the State to a “service” meant to secure the lives and liberty and constitutional freedoms of the citizens of a free and democratic country.

Most of all, the mindset of negativism and arbitrary use of power has to go. Police stations need to become service centres rather than power centres. They need to play a multi-dimensional role, consisting of responsive policing, preventive policing, proactive policing and developmental policing to achieve the objective of building a happier, safer and more humane society. I would like to conclude by quoting a shlok from ‘Brihadaranyako Upanishad’ which lays out the vision of such a society.



COVID-19 and Indian Economy

Shailendra Bamaniya, IPS

Coronavirus outbreak was first reported in Wuhan, China in December, 2019. The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic was an unprecedented shock to almost every economy in the world. In response to the spread of the virus, many governments announced lockdowns.

After reporting its first case in late January 2020 in the southern state of Kerala, India introduced rigorous airport screenings for the coronavirus (COVID-19). The following weeks saw a quick succession of events leading to a suspension of all travel in and out of the country by March 22. That same day, Prime Minister called for a 14-hour Janata Curfew, which some called a trial-run for the lockdown that was implemented later that week. While infections continued to increase during this period, Indians were now confined to their homes to contain the spread of the virus. The announcement did not come without chaos – it created widespread panic, specifically among lower classes of society including farmers and migrant workers who were left stranded and jobless overnight from their faraway homes and no mode of transport.

The Governments, both at Union and State levels, commenced necessary actions on war footing to prevent the spread of pandemic. It was all the more so when it is known that this deadly disease has no medicinal cure. Till February 10, 2020 in India total 10,858,753 Covid-19 cases are registered and 155,285 Deaths are recorded.

The effect of Corona virus is badly felt and noticed in the world's most developed countries like USA, Britain and Germany etc. Obviously, India was bound to be affected not only because of its domestic slowdown but also because of international recession. Learning the lessons from the developed countries like Spain and Italy, India put all its machinery and material into motion to curb and/or prevent the disease.

The Indian economy saw a steep decline in 2020—primarily due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The staggering falls in its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth, which was already in a slowdown before the pandemic, reflected the total suspension of economic activity in the first quarter of this fiscal due to the series of lockdowns to stem the spread of virus.

The April-June quarter figure was not only India's lowest growth rate since the country started reporting quarterly data in 1996, but also worse than the 21.7 per cent contraction reported by the UK economy in the June quarter—one of the sharpest GDP contraction among the top 20 global economies.

Within the next three months of lockdown, India entered into a technical recession after GDP contracted for the second straight quarter through September. Although the 7.5 per cent contraction in the July-September quarter was a significant improvement over the 23.9 per cent contraction in the preceding quarter, the Indian economy remained one of the worst performers among major economies.

Small and Micro Enterprises (MSMEs) are the worst casualty of Covid-19 induced lockdown.

Barring agriculture, all other major indicators of growth in the economy are massively impacted. The worst affected sectors are construction (−50%), trade, hotels and other services (−47%), manufacturing (−39%), and mining (−23%). It is pertinent to note that these are the sectors that generate the maximum new jobs in the country. In a scenario where each of these sectors is contracting so sharply - that is, their output and incomes are falling, it would lead to more and more people either losing jobs (decline in employment) or failing to get one (rise in unemployment).

From a socio-economic standpoint, the pandemic exposed class and caste brutalities in determining who had access to basic healthcare. The country's lockdown began in late March and was subsequently extended several times. Stringent restrictions halted most economic activities and caused millions of people, many of them daily wage earners, to lose their jobs and revenue streams.

All anecdotal evidence available, such as hundreds of thousands of stranded migrant workers across the country, suggested that the Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises (MSMEs) were the worst casualty of Covid-19 induced lockdown. Hence, the government laid its primary focus to lift the stressed MSME sector with its relief packages, especially a massive increase in credit guarantees to them. It essentially means that the government has resorted to taking over the credit risk of MSMEs should they want to remain in business.

The AtmaNirbhar Bharat (Self-reliant India) package, rolled out in several tranches to mitigate the biggest crisis since 1979, reinforced the 'fiscal conservatism' ideology of the government rather than large cash transfers, the growth philosophy centres around creating an ecosystem that aids domestic demand, incentivises companies to generate jobs and boost production, and simultaneously extends benefits to those in severe distress, be it firms or individuals.

Government revenue has been severely affected with tax collection going down, and as a result the government has been trying to find ways of reducing its own costs.

No one has been spared of pandemic's ill effects. Businesses across the country namely hospitality, entertainment, aviation etc. have seen a major negative impact. Various sports events such as IPL have been postponed. Schools and colleges have been closed. The virus had also disrupted the functioning of various online giants such as Amazon.

A number of young start-ups have been impacted as funding has fallen. Electricity consumption has declined strongly after the national lockdown was enacted. It was nearly 30 percent below normal levels at the end of march and remained a quarter below normal levels in April. In May it was on an average 14 percent below normal and in June it was still 8 percent below normal. Lower electricity consumption implies lower economic activity. In the past, a unit of additional economic activity in India has been associated with 1.3 unit's additional electricity consumption.

India has been associated with 1.3 unit's additional electricity consumption.

The labour sector is adversely affected, as labours are not provided jobs due to lockdown, most of the labour are associated with the construction companies and daily wage earners. Travel restrictions and quarantines affecting hundreds of millions of people have left Indian factories short of labours.

The negative effects of coronavirus are well known. But every cloud has a silver lining. Above points stated mostly the negative impact of the lockdown, but we would miss out something if we do not acknowledge the growth of digital infused technological gain. With the advent of the lockdown most of the sector shifted their functioning online the MNC are utilising their work from home option to carry on an uninterrupted working.

While these trends were already in the baby steps, they were forced to hit the fast-forward button. The digital world got such a push that the small retail sectors like the Bricks and Mortar stores are also using apps like PayTM and other digital channels. The education sector is now completely based on the digital platforms the colleges and universities are conducting their routine classes being in the comfort of their home with various online platforms such as google classrooms, zoom, etc. they are also introducing new software to their curriculums such as digital campus where the students can access their college library, fee payments, online exams etc. This present crisis has highlighted the importance of investing in technologies like cloud data and cyber security, self-service capabilities, and e-governance.



Police Sensitization: Imperative and Way Forward

Rajarshi Verma, IPS

“You have served the previous regime under different conditions. The people then had a different attitude to you, but the reasons for that attitude have now vanished. Now the time has come when you can secure the affection and regard of the people.”

These words, addressed to a gathering of police officials, post independence, were spoken by Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel. During colonial times, the British developed the police as a coercive force, not to serve the people of India, but to maintain the authority of the crown through oppression and subjugation of masses. At independence, Sardar Patel, even though a witness to indiscriminate use of bullet and the lathi by the police, believed that if the police could serve a foreign power efficiently and effectively, there is no reason why they could be expected to serve, with a greater sense of dedication and sensitivity, their own country when free. However, it would not be wrong to say that the transformation that Sardar Patel envisaged is still to be fully achieved in post independence India, even after the lapse of more than half a century. As noted by the National Police Commission in 1981, “the present organisation of the police, based on the Police Act of 1861, is not suited for the current times because an authoritarian and insensitive police of the imperial regime cannot function well in a democratic country.” Even at present, the relationship between the people and the police is marred by mutual distrust and suspicion rather than cooperation and collaboration to achieve the objectives of nation building.

Keeping this context in mind, let me first delineate the need for police sensitization. In recent times, new threats to internal security in the form of terrorism and organised crime have emerged while the old problems of communalism, naxalism, parochialism, social divisions and discrimination on the basis of caste, gender, language and ethnic identity still beset us. Reports of occurrence of human rights violations have become increasingly related

to counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism activities of the police. Further, incidents of violence and crimes against vulnerable sections of the society such as women, children, elderly, dalits, tribals and minorities have increased.

A responsive, professional accountable and sensitive police is needed to deal with all these challenges. Moreover, citizens have also become more aware and are demanding good governance. And a sensitized and a citizen friendly police is a sine-qua-non to achieve good governance.

Now, let me come to the solution part i.e. what needs to be done for police sensitization.

To begin with, police personnel, especially the cutting edge level functionaries such as constables, ASIs, SIs, Inspectors etc who deal with citizens on a daily basis, need to be given training in elementary professionalism to ensure that they treat citizens with respect and courtesy. To this end, it is important to understand that all the police personnel, including us, come from the same society and suffer from the same biases and prejudices as a commoner. Hence, police training needs to focus on getting rid of these biases and bringing about attitudinal and behavioral change so that police become more responsive and sensitive to citizens' needs. Respect for human rights, citizen centricity and development of emotional intelligence need to be made an integral part of the training exercise at all levels. For instance, in 2013, MHA issued guidelines vis-à-vis functioning of CAPF and police in LWE affected tribal areas which entailed basic things such as respecting the culture and traditions of tribals, treating them with courtesy, saying 'inconvenience regretted' after searching tribal property, respecting tribal women and not staring at them while they are bathing in pond or lakes, providing medical help to the elderly and pregnant women etc. Equally important is sensitization of the police towards the needs of specific vulnerable and marginalized sections of the society.

Let us start with gender sensitivity. In recent times, there have been increased incidents of crimes against women. Various surveys and media reports have highlighted that women are often reluctant to approach the police due to their insensitive behaviour. Many women have accused the police of asking uncomfortable questions and unnecessary harassment even for lodging an FIR. Leave the common citizens, even women officers inside the police have many times accused their male colleagues of being insensitive and condescending. What is needed is a well-designed gender training programme, which internalises responses, and helps in changing mindsets, biases and entrenched attitudes. Moreover, gender training needs to be specific to the special gender requirements of the states/regions (for example, trafficking of women in Andhra Pradesh/Telangana, female foeticide and dowry deaths in large parts of North and West India etc).

Apart from women, there are certain other sections of society like the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, children, elderly and minorities, who are more vulnerable to exploitation and are often easy victims of crime. For instance, children, unlike other victims, often do not even realise that they are being wronged, and even if they do realize this, very few would complain about it to the authorities. Therefore, police needs to be more proactive and sensitive in such cases. Further, it needs to be ensured that the victims are not subjected to secondary victimisation even as they suffer from post traumatic stress.

Let me mention here that in the past decade or so, a lot of steps have been taken in different states vis-à-vis police sensitization. For instance, in Rajasthan, 'Swagat Kaksha' (Reception) are being constructed in all Police Stations to ensure that the victims/complainants/witnesses etc are treated in a pleasant manner when they visit the Police Station. Similarly, police has collaborated with CLGs (Community Liaisoning Groups), Police Mitras, women based NGOs etc to bridge the trust deficit exists between police and citizens and address the needs of vulnerable sections of the society.

To conclude, the objective of police sensitization is to change the character of the police from a "force" meant to enforce the writ of the State to a "service" meant to secure the lives and liberty and constitutional freedoms of the citizens of a free and democratic country. Police needs to win the hearts and minds of the people. Police stations need to become service centres rather than power centres to achieve the objective of building a happier, safer and peaceful society.



Night

Vaishnavi Dhandapani, IP&TAFS

*A few dim-lit stars of the city sky,
And the quiet rustling of the sleepy leaves,
Sight of the lonely roads resting after a busy day,
And the gleeful street dogs owning the lanes;
A mild breeze kissing your cheeks,
And a distant music making its way to you;
Ain't a terrace and half the sky enough to appreciate
The beauty of the approaching night !*



Of battlefields beyond guns

Nikita Joshi, IIS

Pune (Maharashtra) and Sukma (Chhattisgarh) are 1100 km apart. With no direct mode of transportation between the two, I was headed via Hyderabad. On the flight to Hyderabad I was one among the many commuters running from one target to another. But as I waited on the bus stop for my bus to Sukma, the crowd thinned and I became part of the minority that makes its way to the dense forests in the southern part of Chhattisgarh formerly known as Bastar. Some travelling by choice, some by the lack of it.

Visits to rural heartlands have always bought within me a sense of calm and contentment. They have refreshed me and prepared me to once again face the hustle bustle of urban living that I am so used to. So, when I saw an application for a Fellowship in Sukma offered by "Shiksharth", I promptly filled the application form hoping to try and see if I was able to live away from my urban lifestyle for longer and also pursue my love for teaching children which until then had only remained a hobby that I religiously pursued although only in my free time. I first heard of Shiksharth when one of the founders, Shalini Srivastava had come to Pune with 20 children from various schools in Bastar as a part of "Gyan Utsav", an event organized by EARC – Jnana Prabodhini. I had enjoyed interacting (although very briefly) with the children then and still vividly remembered their cultural dance performance – vibrant and energetic. At that time Shalini didi spoke passionately about Shiksharth's work in Sukma, the kind of atmosphere the kids live in and the crying need for intervention to help the people of Bastar realize their true potential, which lay hidden beneath years of government apathy and left wing extremism. Her words and the children's bright young faces came right back to me as I filled the application form.

Before I knew it, here I was, off to Sukma with my bags packed. I arrived in the small town of Sukma the next day having experienced the luxury of air conditioned air travel and a back breaking bus journey on an almost non existent road surrounded by dense forests- in complete darkness - all within a span of 24 hours. This perhaps was an example of one among the various contradictions of life in our country. With the road, cellular network also disappeared. In today's connected world thanks to whatsapp and facebook, the distance between Sukma and the rest of the world could not have been starker. As I was soon to find out, network was just the beginning. Electricity in this region is prone to frequent power cuts and is completely absent in some parts. The same applies to running water. The girls of the school I later on went to stay in, spent half of their time fetching water from a hand pump outside the school compound to fulfill their daily needs. It is in places like these that you realize the many luxuries around you that you take for granted. I still question the effect of these luxuries on our lives. While they have made us comfortable and saved time and effort in our daily routine, we never seem to have enough. Due to their daily dose of labor even tiny kids here put me to shame with their strength and ability to complete tasks involving tremendous hardwork, I was also amazed at how they had learnt to build their lives and adjust around these circumstances that would probably halt lives in the cities.

Of the days I spent in Sukma, some were spent in the district headquarters understanding the efforts put in by Shiksharth and the administration to tackle the development deficit here. The headquarters has been developed as an 'education city' - a hub of various education initiatives. New and elegant infrastructure has been built in the past couple of years, that can easily accommodate about 5000 students. A centre running bridge courses for out of school children, a rehabilitation centre for disabled children, a coaching centre for the navodaya entrance and the competitive examinations after grade XII, a vocational training centre, a polytechnic institution, there is something here for everyone. What remains to be seen is the utilization of this infrastructure, as human resources have been a perennial challenge here.

By far, the most enlightening experience was that of spending days in a residential girls school, referred to as 'PotaCabin'. (A lot of naxal violence related stories behind this nomenclature too, but that is a story for another day!) While I have often visited schools, I have never stayed in one, and spending days with 500 girls was a one of its kind experience. I realized how the definition of school differed from what I have so far known. Although the girls were up by 6 am, classes only begin at 10 am, and the teachers typically don't show up until 11 am. There are no fixed periods and the bell rings only four times. In the beginning, to announce start and end of lunch and when school gets over. What the students learn each day is somewhat questionable, when the teachers don't spend enough time in the classrooms. Then again, to sit in our cosy homes and blame the teachers is not completely justifiable. The teachers have not received adequate training to deal with mostly tribal children who are first generation school goers, who speak varied languages such as gondi, halvi, durla, etc. Expecting them to magically transform the students (and such expectations exist) is unfair and is a part of the problem that plagues the system.

A little while after I entered the Pota cabin for the first time, school was over for the day. The girls rushed to their dorms. One made her way in the opposite direction, towards the gate. Soon enough, her eyes filled with tears, that soon became full sobs. This, as I was to find out in the next few days, was Shanti's daily routine. Everyday, after school she would inquire when her parents would come to collect her. On getting no positive response she would sit and stare longingly at the gate. Well beyond her age, Durla speaking Shanti had been brought to school for the first time and enrolled in Std I. Her face was a reflection of the pain she felt being uprooted from her home and being left in a place where few spoke her language.

Barely six years old, Manisha was one of the shortest girls in the PotaCabin. I was amazed at how such a young child was able to stay away from her parents. However, she did have a family here. Someone would wash her clothes for her, someone would wash her hair, and another would give her a new hairstyle everyday! However, I wondered about the reasons behind why a child so tender had been left to fend for herself away from her family.

'Anudeshaks' are the caretakers / guardians of the PotaCabins. On a meagre salary of about 5000 per month, they are typically young 12th pass adivasis harbouring ambitious dreams while they struggle to make ends meet at times. Gangi didi, who joined a few months before I met her, failed to pass the 'police bharti' exam although 2 of her best friends did. According to her, many outsiders have secured jobs here, leaving locals like her stranded. Somdi didi has a tablet she does not know how to use. She would love to read and write English one day. Bharti didi seems to be closer to her goals, having begun early morning computer classes.

The girls when in class were quiet and seemed incapable of conversation. They were forced to read and learn concepts far beyond what surrounded their lives in the villages. However once outside class and beyond the boundaries of expectations put on them, they were bubbles of skill and energy. They were stories within themselves. They sang and danced and were skilful with bamboo crafts. They all had grown up in lives of hardship and neglect. Yet here they were. Looking out for one another and finding joy in remote corners of the world. When I think of those days, with ceiling less bathrooms, electricity less summer nights and worm infested PDS rice grain, what comes back to me is not the adventure or the discomfort of it all but the love and warmth I got from all the girls in Murtonda Potacabin. Maybe we give to the world what we seek from it!

I came to Sukma a few weeks after a deadly conflict between the naxals and the CRPF. Such events put a sense of insecurity and misplaced identity about the region. I came here a little terrified about what lay in front of me. It is unfortunate that this region comes in the limelight time and again for such ghastly reasons. Sukma and all of Bastar stand for so much more. My biggest learning through my stay here was to look at a place not through the lens of the outside world, but through the perspective of the people inhabiting the place. Sukma with its shy yet friendly locals, its primitive lifestyles, vast natural resources and dense forests represents a land filled with challenges to many, and a land filled with opportunities to some. Sukma doesn't need just modernization, it needs better harmony between the traditional and the modern.



Love Dilemma

Shailendra Singh, IFS

*Bewildered, baffled, bleeding heart,
Weave waves of a mysterious part,
Whispering with wind what others say,
I and she care scarce for this hay.*

*I and she and she and I,
Speak for hours but you deny,
There she stood with exorbitant charm,
Filliping a feeling feathery and warm.*

*Swirling swiftly into my ear,
She spells a chant that none else can hear,
Mesmerizing my thoughts and overpowering my soul,
She makes me follow her without a foul.*

*And then she deceives me with a smile,
Disappearing into something unknown for a while,
Was it her or a figment of mine?
Wondering, I concluded she is someone divine.*

*Sometimes she sneaks into my mind,
and asks, "whats the logic behind,
Admiring a non-existent me,
You know, I'm nothing more than you see ,*

*Bury my memories and end up this mystery,
Let my thoughts be a part of your history,
Let my ashes fuel the birth of your new soul,
Let my identity be lost over your console,*

*Pull yourself out of this hallucination,
Embrace the truth of with all its manifestations,
Return to the real world of sufferings my dear,
I am nothing more than a part of your fear."*

*"Best of real isn't the test of real,
Virtual world isn't the rest of real,
Latched literally like a pest of the real,
It clings casually on the nest of real."*

*Reality ravaged my longings and dreams,
And went unheard were my scary screams,
sufferings poured from clouds of hate,
And poor souls are asked to call it fate.*

*Where the race religion rules the mind,
Traces of humanity hardly left behind,
Torn by wars through thorns of past,
Seems reality my dear will never last...*

*Years rolled and so did the tears,
I lost the lullaby of my parents and peers,
With them departed my worldly fears,
Tears rolled and so did the years...*

*To the imaginary space I owe my cheers,
All my delight and the people so dear,
Free as a bird it's here I now wonder,
New realisations, old I now surrender
Bewildered, baffled, bleeding heart,
Weave waves of a mysterious part.*



You Better Know

Pooja Gupta, IP&TAFS

*What is right, you better know;
Devious preaching finest vows,
eposing on golden thrones,
On what they thrive?
How they grow?
Don't ask me, you better know;
Govt funds river of soaring flow,
Not a drop for poor, where it goes?
Can't we change it for sure?
Don't ask me, you better know;
Girls not safe, children are raped
Where is 'dharma'? Where is faith?
Poor suffer in every case,
Can't we end their endless woes?
Don't ask me you better know;*



कई दिनों तक

राजेंद्र चौधरी, भा.सि.ले.से.

कईदिनोंतक

छोटेसेअनजानवायरससे
महाबलीमनुष्यकोडरतेदेखा

कईदिनोंतक

गांवकीचौपालऔर
शहरीबसअड्डोंकोखालीदेखा

कईदिनोंतक

मास्कसैनिटाइजरऔर
सोशलडिस्टेंसिंगजैसेशब्दोंकोप्रचलितहोतेदेखा

यहमंजरथालॉकडाउनका

यहखंजरथाअकेलेपनका

पररचनात्मकता कादौरआया

कुछनयाकरनेकाशौरलाया

बरसोंबाद

प्रकृतिकोफिरसे

निहारनेकामौकामिला

भागतीजिंदगीको

स्लोमोशनमेंसरकतेदेखा

बरसोंबाद

बुद्धकोफिरसेपढ़नेऔर

गांधीकोजीनेकीइच्छाजागी

भीतरीदुनियाकेखातिर

चिलचिलातीजिंदगानीत्यागी

बरसोंबाद

बचपनकेअधूरेसपनोंको

फिरसेहरेहोतेदेखा

मायासेदूर

रिश्तोंकीप्रभुताकोमजबूतहोतेदेखा

बरसोंबाद

छुट्टियोंकेखत्महोनेकाइंतजारदेखा

स्कूलकेबिछड़ेसाथियोंकोमिलतेदेखा

खेतकीरखवालीमेंवक्तकोकटतेदेखा

बरसोंबाद

लोकडाउनसेभीनजरिएकोबदलतेदेखा

प्रकृतिकोअपनासंतुलनसाधतेदेखा

बरसोंबाद

आपकेहमारेरिश्तेकोमजबूतहोतेदेखा

रुकीकलमकोकोरेकागजपर

फिरसेचलतेदेखा

बरसोंबाद

लॉकडाउनसेभीनजरिएकोबदलतेदेखा।

बरसोंबाद

लॉकडाउनसेभीनजरिएकोबदलतेदेखा।



Bhargav - The Master Blaster

Uma Maheshwari G., ICLS

In a world enslaved by fame, money and power, very few individuals chase their passions fervently. While altruism is taught as the basic virtue of life, it is quite miraculous to meet an individual who lives life for his/her own self unmindful of societal norms. One such misfit of society is the versatile personality who is an aspiring actor, established dancer, fitness trainer, intelligent mathematician, ex-software engineer, and an amazing human being. He is none other than the Zumba master at MCRHRD Mr. Bhargav Kumar.

Every OT from SFC who has attended Zumba classes at MCRHRD would have observed a unique sanguinity with which Bhargav comes around. Whether it is the power-packed Zumba dance moves, or his powerful positivity, or the synergy of both, whatever, there exists a special liveliness in his Zumba classes.

When we think, powerful are people who control others, true power lies in controlling one's own self to do what one likes. The people who have full control of their self, have a special spark which one can find in Bhargav.

Ever since childhood, Bhargav has been a great dancer and a mass entertainer. If there was any cultural event, there would be Bhargav there. Applauses and awards pursued him all through his school and college days.

After completing Electronics and Communications Engineering, Bhargav like a typical guy from Indian families, joined CTS, Chennai as a software Engineer. His friends and family were extremely happy about his prosperous career in IT. For 3 years, he almost had no second thought.

One day, when he woke up, he was hit hard by a simple deep question, “Am I really living the life I want to live?”. He couldn’t get a convincing answer. He always wanted to do something which he is good at and which he loved to do. Working in IT, did not satisfy both. He worked just for the sake of an unknown status or an enticing pressure given by the society, his family and friends. Never in his wildest dreams, did he ever want to become a software engineer, doing technical stuffs throughout his life. That day, he quit the job unmindful of any criticism.

People are fortunate, who have identified the one thing for which they can give their life to. Bhargav, was too fortunate to have a clear vision of becoming a top actor in Tollywood, not just because of the fame rendered by the cine industry, but because acting engrossed his soul completely. He joined BOFTA Film Institute, Chennai for a Diploma in Acting. Bhargav being a fanatical foodie, started dieting. He began to check on cast agents and attended auditions. The actor in him grew gradually.

Having done some short films and quite some roles as an atmosphere artist in big films, Bhargav got committed for a lead role in a big film. His joy knew no bounds and he worked on it ardently. After all the hard work, when the moment arrived to celebrate the realization, the movie got struck in some production issue and did not get released. It is very usual for the cruel world to punish passionate people. Creators are always harassed in the hands of the second-handers (producers/publishers etc) who had no idea of what creativity is and how much effort it requires to complete a creation.

Courage does not mean always roaring. It is also the confidence that remains inside, when everyone around has given up. Though courageous, and highly hopeful about becoming a top-actor, Bhargav had to survive the struggling phase. He exploited all the things he knew for an earning. He started working as a fitness trainer, took Zumba classes, taught maths and what not. Covid-19 has been very unforgiving even to his survival. Though he takes online classes, the takers have reduced severely.

“There is nothing bigger than freedom. Don’t stake it for anything!”, revolves his life around this philosophy. Yet, he is worried about his mother who is extremely unhappy about his career. While all his friends have settled on six digit salaries, she couldn’t stop comparing him with them. She couldn’t bear with the thought that he has to jump and dance to earn his bread. She even feels bad to spell out his profession as “Fitness Trainer” to others. So harsh and discriminating is society’s recognition of one profession over the other.

Undoubtedly, “Bhargav” would be the buzzword of Tollywood someday. Yet, I couldn’t stop the second thought and hence asked him, “If you don’t become successful in the film industry, do you have any back-up plan?”.

He smiled and replied, “I am already successful. Success is very subjective and it doesn’t mean social recognition or monetary advancement to me. Success is when one is able to do what he/she wants to do. Right from waking up, I decide what I have to do for the day. I don’t think there is something called success beyond this!”. His answer, gave a heavy blow to my beliefs, I had been holding so long.

Many of us still think, success is all about achieving and getting rewarded. In this process, we have been compromising on Bhargav’s core element Freedom. Isn’t it time to re-engineer success and hence our mindset?

PS: Relish his short-film “Samayugam” at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22NIZntsiSo>



My Hobby Postcrossing: A Bridge That Connects The People And Cultures

Ranjith Kumar K., IP&TAFS

I started Postcrossing about a year ago, and I am so happy that I did!

So, what is Postcrossing??!!

It is a postcard exchange project that invites everyone to send and receive postcards from random places or people around the world. The goal of this project is to allow anyone to send and receive postcards from all over the world. While the project is coordinated online, the postcards are real, sent and received via regular mail and using postage stamps.

The idea is simple: for each postcard you send, you will receive one back from a random Postcrosser from somewhere in the world.

The project's tag line is "send a postcard and receive a postcard back from a random person somewhere in the world!" Its members, also known as Postcrossers, send postcards to other members and receive postcards back from other random Postcrossers. Where the postcards come from is always a surprise. Not only is receiving postcards from all over the world is unique experience, but sending postcards is equally joyful. Connecting with someone around the world through the medium of a postcard and learning about them and their country is fun.

My journey into this astonishing world of Postcrossing...

I am very much thankful to Pradipta Kumar Bisoi Sir, who was Director of our academy when I joined my training, from bottom of my heart for talking about this amazing product with so much vigour. His words guided me to start this hobby, which is nothing but pure joy and excitement. In this short odyssey of mine, seniors like Bishnupada Sarangi Sir who himself is an avid Postcrosser, has encouraged me to become a Postcrosser.

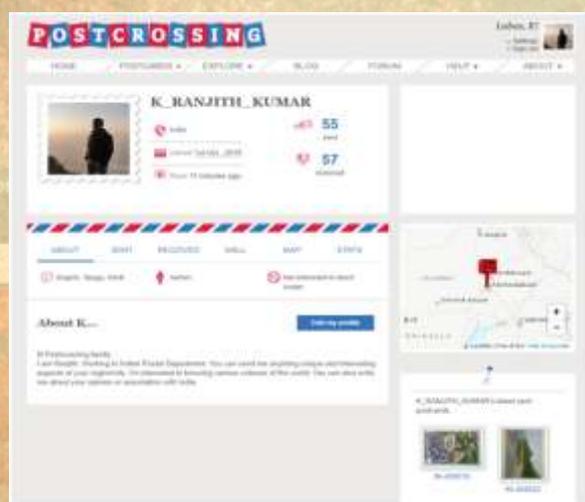
I love Postcrossing because....

Postcrossing builds bridges between cultures. Builds friendships. It becomes much easier to understand other cultures when you know the people. It connects the people, cultures because in each Postcard someone might have shared about themselves and their lives. The meaningful messages written on the postcards can spark enlightening exchanges about culture, politics and global relations. I have made few amazing mail friends through this endangered yet self-fulfilling form of correspondence.

I love the fact that through it, you can get to know people all around the world, you can learn about their culture, and you can introduce them yours. Aside from the truth that writing, sending and receiving postcards, is relaxing as it helps in expressing yourself. Postcrossing also lets out the creative side of every person. I felt that there is still charm of putting pen to paper and writing to each other. In this voyage, Postcrossing helped me in developing my personality. Postcrossing has possibly even made me a better person.

In this wired age when everybody is used to instant messages, Postcrossing requires patience as this entire project is run through simple Postcard, but I can say with conviction that it is worth. It's because, Postcrossing is real friendship, learning and fun. I soon became more & more fascinated by this awesome combination of suspense & joy. Postcrossing brings surprise along with smiles to me every week,

My profile says...



I hope with every postcard I wish to send a bit of positive attitude and India's cultural richness into the world!

Thank you Postcrossing creators and community! Happy Postcrossing!!!

“We write to taste life twice, in the moment and in retrospect”

– Anais Nin



Photograph by Rishibha Singh Netam.

Petals and Poetry

(A compilation of flowers blooming across the campus at MCRHRDI, clicked and captioned by Rini Choudhury, IIS)



The Road Not Taken



Sprigs of Sunshine



Wreaths of Ivory



Fuchsia Fires



Blushing Blooms



The Blazing and the Barren



Magenta Musings



Careless Whispers



Scarlet Solitude



Of Whorls and Wonders



Of Entanglement and Intimacy



Proximity



Painting by Himani Sharma, ICLS.

Over-View!

(A class co-ordinator's perspective, describing every OT in one word.)



**Dr. MCR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE OF
TELANGANA GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
Special Foundation Course for All India Services & Central Civil Services
Officers 18th January to 30th April 2021
List of Officer Trainees
Classroom-A**

Venue: Classroom No. 28 - PVRK Prasad Hall, Ground Floor, Admin. Block

SINo	OT Code	NameoftheOfficer Trainee	Service	observation
1	A01	Abilash G	IPS	Invisible
2	A02	Kaushal Kishore Meena	ICAS	Attentive
3	A03	Kushagra Pathak	IFS	Fun-loving
4	A04	Kunal Srivastava	IP&TAFS	Sincere
5	A05	Rahul Gupta	IPS	Concealed
6	A06	Nikita Satish Joshi	IIS	Playful & active
7	A07	Suraj Singh	IFS	Meticulous
8	A08	Rickey Agarwal	ICAS	Artistic
9	A09	Vivek	IPS	Audacious
10	A10	Vaishnavi D	IP&TAFS	Positivity
11	A11	Mayank Singh Gurjar	IFS	Conceit
12	A12	Vikas Sangwan	IPS	Pride
13	A13	Deepali	IP&TAFS	Pragmatic
14	A14	Praveen A	IFS	Quiet
15	A15	Uma Maheshwari G	ICLS	Humble
16	A16	Tushar Dudi	IPS	Unknown
17	A17	Vikas Negi	IPoS	Precise
18	A18	Madhumitha S	IFS	Bold
19	A19	Shubhranil Das	IP&TAFS	Polite
20	A20	Arvind Pratap Singh	IPS	Persistent
21	A21	Viswanath Pratap N	IFS	Observant
22	A22	Avula Saikrishna	ICLS	Determined
23	A23	Shaifali Barwal	IPS	Amicable
24	A24	Kunal Rohilla	IDES	Anomalous
25	A25	Suman Beniwal	IFS	Fugitive
26	A26	Rahul Singh Tolia	IFS	Sportsman
27	A27	Samay Singh Meena	IPS	Charming
28	A28	Tanvika Singh	IP&TAFS	Logical
29	A29	Narendra Kumar	IFS	Funny
30	A30	Diksha Langthasa	ICAS	Calm
31	A31	Sahil Sarangal	IPS	Bold
32	A32	Milish Dutt Sharma	IFS	Determined
33	A33	Rashmi R D	IP&TAFS	Considerate
34	A34	K Ranjith Kumar	IPoS	Cool
35	A35	Albert John	IPS	Philosophical

SINo	OT Code	NameoftheOfficer Trainee	Service	BatchYear
36	A36	Arpit R Parakh	ICAS	Calm
37	A37	Makwana Meetkumar Sanjaykumar	IPS	Audacious
38	A38	Rishibha Singh Netam	IFS	Calm
39	A39	Mali Ramraja Bharat	IP&TAFS	Anomalous
40	A40	Shailendra Bamaniya	IPS	Charming
41	A41	Prasad Ravi Radhakrishna	IFS	Observant
42	A42	Ashok Kumar S	ICLS	Stranger
43	A43	Arpan Yaduvanshi	IPS	Mischievous
44	A44	Pardeep Mahlawat	IP&TAFS	Turbulent
45	A45	Sri Sai Vempati	IIS	Exemplary
46	A46	Swapnil Madhukar Mahajan	IPS	Determined
47	A47	V Rose Mary	IP&TAFS	Momentous
48	A48	Vasu Doegar	IFS	Respectable
49	A49	Dr.Ichake Abhijit Diliprao	IPoS	Hospitable
50	A50	Santosh Kumar Meena	IPS	Stranger
51	A51	Ravi Meena	IFS	Perceptive
52	A52	Yow Peter Raiphea	IP&TAFS	Perfectionist
53	A53	Shubham Singh	ICLS	Sagacious
54	A54	Mukesh Kumar Lunayat	IPS	Unknown
55	A55	Shailendra Singh	IFS	Master
56	A56	Ismeet Kaur	IIS	Diligent
57	A57	Ajay Gandhi	IPS	Invisible
58	A58	Himani Sharma	ICLS	Pleasant
59	A59	Wageesh Shrotriya	IP&TAFS	Active
60	A60	Nikhil Pathak	IPS	Logical
61	A61	Krishan Lalchandani	IFS	Quiet



Dr. MCR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE OF TELANGANA
GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA

Special Foundation Course for AIS, & CCS Officers
18th January to 30th April 2021

S. no	OT code	OT name	service	Remarks
1	B01	Vikas Meena	IFS	Sensible
2	B02	Tanushree	IPS	Proficient cop
3	B03	Rajendra Chaudhary	ICAS	Cheeky
4	B04	Dharmveer Dairu	IFS	Virtuous
5	B05	Kanta Jangir	IPS	Twin stars
6	B06	Ankit Verma	IP&TAFS	Pleasant
7	B07	Abhinav Chouksey	IPS	Picture-perfect
8	B08	Karthikeyani.K	IFS	Quiet and Cute
9	B09	Siddharth Kumar Meena	IDES	Up-front
10	B10	Anita Verma	IP&TAFS	Bubbly
11	B11	Nathu Singh Meena	IPS	Focused
12	B12	Varun Yadav	IFS	Humble
13	B13	Jabbar	IPoS	Thinker
14	B14	Dr. Bhukya Sneha Priya	IPS	Determined
15	B15	Akhil Thampi	IFS	Cool

S. no	OT code	OT name	service	Remarks
16	B16	Gunjan Bharti Mishra	IP&TAFS	Curator
17	B17	Lakhan Singh Yadav	IPS	Abettor
18	B18	Shiv Aasheesh Singh T	IFS	Vibrant
19	B19	Loukik Sumatilal Parakh	IIS	Diligent
20	B20	Rohit Kashwani	IPS	Intellectual
21	B21	Ramesh N	IDES	OT's heartbeat
22	B22	Pooja Gupta	IP&TAFS	Perfect
23	B23	Maaz Md	IFS	Stranger
24	B24	Purnava Ganguly	ICLS	Doyen
25	B25	Vishakha Ashok Bhadane	IPS	Twin Stars
26	B26	Siddharth Vikram Singh	IFS	Impeccable
27	B27	Ankit Anand	IP&TAFS	First-born
28	B28	Himanshu Chaudhary	I3PoS	Seeking
29	B29	Rajarshi Raj Varma	IPS	Bravura
30	B30	Sushma Negi	IP&TAFS	Attentive
31	B31	Hemant Gupta	ICAS	Effervescent
32	B32	Krishna Devan S	IFS	Devious
33	B33	Kundan Kanwaria	IPS	Mafia
34	B34	Vivek Drolia	IP&TAFS	Fugitive

S. no	OT code	OT name	service	Remarks
35	B35	Abirami S P	ICAS	Earnest
36	B36	Nagaraj Devarakonda	IPS	Rebellious
37	B37	Raunak Agrawal	ICLS	Fuzzy
38	B38	Ganesan P	IFS	Gangster
39	B39	Rini Choudhury	IIS	Marvellous
40	B40	Prince kumar	IFS	Exhausted
41	B41	Joseph K Mathew	IP&TAFS	Exemplary
42	B42	Susmithaa Selvaraj	ICLS	Mischievous
43	B43	Hasan Safin Mustufaali	IPS	Dynamic
44	B44	Ankit Kumar Singh	IFS	The boy next door
45	B45	Raut Gaurav Kishor	IP&TAFS	Off-the-cuff
46	B46	Chimankar Vishwajeet Gajanan	ITS	Vanished
47	B47	Puneet Gehlod	IPS	Dutiful
48	B48	Piraisoodan B	IFS	Abettor
49	B49	Stefan Simon Tobias	IPoS	Stefan the Great
50	B50	Rujuta Bankar	ICLS	Determined
51	B51	Aswinkumar T	IFS	Nobleman
52	B52	Manoj Swargiary	IPS	Admirable
53	B53	Amarnath Ojha	IP&TAFS	Saviour

S. no	OT code	OT name	service	Remarks
54	B54	Chandra Kant Meena	IPS	Nice Person
55	B55	Sachin Yadav	ICLS	Bubbly Boy
56	B56	Om Prakash Jat	IPS	Veracious
57	B57	Anupam Sharma	IFS	Benevolent
58	B58	Sandhya Sameera Mekala	IP&TAFS	Pride
59	B59	Ankur Aggarwal	IPS	Swashbuckler
60	B60	Swetha Boddu	IFS	Precise

Civil Servant, an OT in MCRHRDI

-Saka Venkateswara Rao, Jr. Faculty, CPA, MCRHRDI
(Spl. FC - Classroom Incharge of Group-B,
Manager-Morning Activities of Group-B
and Incharge-Medical Emergencies)

Morning Activities (6.30am – 7.30am)

Officer Trainees greet me Good Morning.

They wake up and come directly to PT venue @ 6.30am – as it cannot be escaped

They concentrate on Attendance, but not on PT, just to avoid a Memo.

They need to Run / Jog after warm-up exercises, no Run, no Jog, just a brisk Walk & Talk

All the concentration is on signing the attendance 2nd time before 7.30am

And try to help their absentee friends

All these tasks are to avoid a Penal PT and a Memo.

The OTs were happy as the Face Recognition machines were not functional.

Classroom! (9.30am onwards...) (Off line / Online)

OTs perform Escort duty – contact Guest Faculty and collection of Bio-Data – since it is unavoidable

Introduction of Faculty – even for in-house Faculty - unavoidable

@ 9.30am – (as a school child) stepping up of 58 steps to Group-B class room No.222 – unavoidable

Initially some OTs came with Note Book and Pens as college students

Later, following other OTs, No Note Book, No Pen even for signing in attendance (All are Artificially Intelligent)

Going out for Water, Toilet, in spite of breaks for every 50mts – no sound from shadows

Seating arrangements- changing of chairs and OT codes, but shadows set right every time

Trying for signing absentees, but shadows are continuously watching

Signal for sharp closing of class, but never maintained the time at the beginning

Warning bells in the Breaks: Even after 10 mts lapse, the OTs are not willing to respond to the classroom bells

Online classes – all formalities maintained by OTs up to joining and start of the online class.....good closing.

Medical Emergencies (24/7)

Prayed the GOD that no OT shall fall sick (by me and Drivers of Emergency duty vehicles)

OTs for no problem – meeting Pharmacist taking general medicines – problem that did not exist got solved

For Small problems – visiting in-house Doctor – but never advised rest

For Medium problems - visiting Big Hospitals (Apollo / Susheel etc) –

non acceptance of CGHS cards-no permission for class absence

OTs not willing to visit morning shift Senior Doctor

as he has seen so many OTs in previous batches experience gathering

: 2 :

Tried to escape/avoid the outdoor activities on medical grounds

but concerned authorities have not granted leave

CC advise to place the sick OTs in the SICK ROOMS, but, initially

OTs not willing to go to Sick Room from their own room – However, stayed up to recovering

75 days, 11+5+2 OTs suffered, but God's grace Institute good name remains un-changed

Last, but not least, taken the patient OTs to Hospitals and I was affected with CORONA Positive & recovered.

...

BEST WISHES

Dr.K. Suresh kumar,
Faculty, & In-charge Group A
Dr. MCRHRDI

लोग आते हैं जाते हैं

हर जगह नई यादें बनाते हैं

आज तुम भी हमें

अपनी यादों के संग छोड़ जाओगे

शुभकामनाएँ हैं हमारी ना रहे कोई ख्वाहिश अधूरी तुम्हारी॥

I wish all the Office Trainees excellence in their respective fields and hope that all of you would write grand success stories.

Thank you.

UNDERSTATED

KERALA

~ *Krishna Devan, IFS*

Kuttanad in Kerala is the only place in the world other than in Netherlands where Paddy cultivation is done below Mean Sea Level and is recognized by the FAO of the United Nations as a Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System.



Attukal Pongal which is a 10 day festival Celebrated in Attukal Bagavathy Temple in Thiruvananthapuram is the largest religious congregation of women in the world.

It is the first state to bring a transgender policy and transgender school in the country.

GUJARAT

-*Shaifali Barwal, IPS*

Global restaurant chains like Subway and Pizza Hut have opened their pure vegetarian outlets in Ahmedabad. These are their first completely vegetarian restaurants in the world.

Gujarat has 14 airports, 2 international and rest domestic, making it the state with highest number of operating airports in India.



RAJASTHAN

- *Shaifali Barwal, IES*

Mandodari, Ravana's wife and the queen of his empire were from Mandore in Rajasthan. It is believed that their marriage ceremony was organized at the same place. RavanaChavri is the site where the couple vowed for their lifetime.



Almost every city in Rajasthan is color coordinated. Jaipur is pink, Udaipur is white, Jodhpur is blue and Jhalawar is purple.

BIHAR

~ *Kunal Srivastava, IPELTAFS*

1. Oldest Hindu temple of the world at Mundeshwari temple, Bihar.

2. World's longest WiFi zone in Bihar, 20km



HARYANA

~ *Sachinyadav, ICLS*

Haryana is the land of champions in sports .

Just for fact, in 2010 commonwealth games ,22 out of 38 medals that India won came from Haryana

Also known as the sports capital of India.

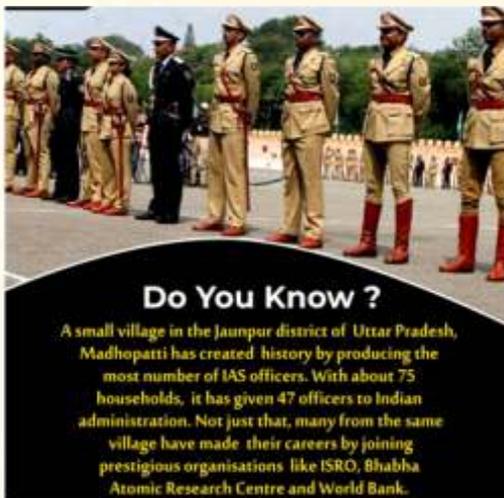
UTTAR PRADESH

~ Shailendra Singh, IFS

Perfume is made in large quantities in Kannauj district of UP. If you ever pass through this city then the glitter of roses can be easily felt in the air.

In the Muzaffarnagar district of Uttar Pradesh, the name of a village is "SnapDeal.com Nagar", the old name of this village was Shiva Nagar. The people of this village had to go away for water. Then SnapDeal e-commerce company had put 14 handpumps in this village.

Madhopatti village in Uttar Pradesh has 75 families, 47 IAS officers from that village.



Tree of Parijat, which keeps changing the color of its flowers in the day. There is only one tree of Parijat all over the world, which is 40 kilometers away from Lucknow

Jalesar-The next time you see those lovely small cast bells hung around the necks of cows in Switzerland, be sure to ask where it comes from. You'd be surprised by the answer. Jalesar, a small town with a population of around 40,000 in Etah district is known for casting brass bells and exporting it around the world.



WESTBENGAL

~ PurnavaGanguly, ICLS

It is the only state where the Himalayas and the coasts meet.

TAMIL NADU

~ Uma Maheshwari, ICLS

Tirunelveli Halwa,
Madurai Jigarthanda,
Stylenaa Rajini thandaa,
VOC, Periyar, Kamarajar, MGR,
Bharathi, Rajaji, Kamalhassan,
Shivaji,
Thirukkural, Filter Coffee,
Biryani kuThalappakatti,
Cricket in Chepauk,
MarinaaviJallikattu, Superkingsku
whistle podu!
Thanks to Rascalas of South India!



ASSAM



~ Diksha Langthasa, ICAS

Assam is a mini-India in itself. It is an ethnologist's living laboratory. The harvesting festival is not just called Bihu, but also Bushu, Kut. The mighty River is not just called Brahmaputra, but also Luit, Dilao, B u r l u n g b u t t h u r . M a n y communities migrating from all directions have made this ancient land their home.

MANIPUR

-Yow Peter Raiphea, IP&TAFS

Naamai Zho

Naamai Zho is a couplet valley located in between two rivers called Vourei and Vurei, which are two major river sources near the starting point of the Barak River. It is situated within the jurisdiction of Koide Villages, which is a conglomerate of three revenue villages viz., Koide Mathak (Upper Koide), Koide Makha (Lower Koide), Kapao and two non-revenue villages viz. Koide Biisho and Koide Zho, in Senapati District, Manipur. A nascent and less explored eco-tourist spot locally managed by villagers, especially Koide Women Society and Koide Youth and Students Organisation. It is also known by other names like Zhophao, Second Dzukou Valley.



The best time to visit Naamai Zho is during October, where beautiful Cosmos flower of different colors are in full bloom. It is about 29 km from Senapati District Headquarter and about 5 km from National Highway - 2. People living in and around are Poumai Naga tribe, Mao tribe, Maram tribe and Nepalese. Major languages and dialects spoken in and around Naamai Zho are English, Hindi, Manipuri, Nepali, Poula, Mao and Maram. It is a must visit tourist place if you are coming to Manipur.

MADYA PRADESH

~ Rohit Kashwani, IPS

Indore- The Food Capital of Madya Pradesh.

Famous of its vegetarian food, Indore is regarded as the food capital of MP. Chappan and Saraffa are the major markets. There are products to cater taste buds of every individual Range of products like SabudanaKhichdi,Poha, Indori Nankeen, Big Jaleebi, Shikanjee, Bhutta Kiese etc are there.



Behind the scenes of MCRHRDI



I am Mannamma. I have been working here for the past 16 years. I am gardener here in MCRHRDI. I work from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm. I love working with plants, tending to them and watering them. I love all my plants but my favourite is Golden Duranta. If you cut it well it looks amazing. My least favourite thing to do is washing vessels at home. I live with my husband and two sons. One of my sons is married and I recently also became a grandmother! My elder son is a dancer. My younger son had to quit education after tenth std and recently started working as an attendant in a company like my husband due to certain financial difficulties. My husband is the source of all my happiness because he always encourages me to do different things. He always says that ladies should also work, try new things and live a good life! I love dancing and one dream I would like to fulfill in life is to learn Bharatnatyam dance!

I am Chandraiya. My native place is Vikarabad where once upon a time I was a poor farmer struggling to make ends meet. Fortunately, I was then asked to work as a helper in the residence of an IAS officer. Gradually, I learnt driving on my own and worked as a driver there for 14 years until the retirement of the said officer. Later, I started working at MCRHRDI and have been working here as a driver here for the past 10 years. I feel the pay and working conditions here are satisfactory. I have a daughter who is in third year of graduation in MGIT. Having dropped out of studies as early as standard five my only motive in life is to provide good education to my daughter and see her as an officer. I am thankful to all the officer trainees here over the past years who have been cooperative and non-complaining. I am thankful to many well-wishers in the institute, who have helped me with financial assistance towards the expenses of my daughter's education!



I am Masrat. I am a native of Telangana. I work for housekeeping. I have been working here for the past three years. I like working here and looking after guests. I really feel nice when guests treat me well. I work really hard so I doesn't get a lot of time to pursue other activities. However, I like visiting zoos and parks. It is my wish to be able to go to Saudi Arabia one day and visit Mekkah!

I am Pranay. I am from Adilabad. I have just come back to Hyderabad after the lockdown, three months ago and started working here I work from 11 to 11 for all seven days a week. I get very little free time and most of it gets devoted to my mobile phone! I also enjoy swimming and spending time with my friends. Whenever possible I try going home to visit my family. I prefer staying with my family and friends in the village rather than all alone in Hyderabad. Life there is far more enjoyable and peaceful. I failed the tenth std math exam. Then I felt too embarrassed to give the exam again. I was not bad in studies. However, that one failure put a break to further education. Now there is no interest left. I started doing odd jobs after that. I have plans to become a businessman. I already have a small jewelry shop in my village that I started after taking a loan. My mother manages our shop in Adilabad for now. I have come here to save money, go back and expand that shop. I sometimes wish I had a degree, but now I have come too far away from all of that. Many of my friends have government jobs. I feel if I had studied, I would have got one too!





I am Rajani. I am a native of Karnataka. My husband is from Telangana and that's how I shifted here. I have been working as security guard for the past 11 months. I am a commerce graduate and I also have some experience in data entry. But I also enjoy this work. It includes making entries and checking who all pass through the gate. In my free time I like cooking and dancing. The fact that I know many languages allows me to make friends with many people, including Officer Trainees. My goal is to have enough bank balance to lead a happy life. I am really looking forward to the day that happens for me and my family.

I am Satish and this is my friend Dattu. We work in the mess here from 5pm am to around 5 pm. We both come from a village called Avalgoan in Kamareddy district of Telangana. We are not able to earn a lot of money on the farm hence we prefer working in the city. Farm work is strenuous, the terms are unfair and the money is meager. We had to stop studies due to financial difficulties. I have been working here for the past 5 years, while Dattu has just come here a few months ago. He was staying in Nizambad before that. Dattu has been training to pass the exam to become a constable. This time he was able to pass every physical test but missed out on the final list because he was unable to clear the height requirements. But he is planning to try again in a different exam whose rules are a little relaxed. Dattu likes to watch movies. Dattu's favorite actor is Nani and favorite actress is Tamanna. He also likes hanging out with his friends in the village and taking them on trips to the city. I have already told him, the best time in MCRHRDI is when FC batches come here. It is as if the whole campus comes alive. We get to chat with different people! We really enjoy life here during that time!



I hail from the village of Pocharamtadda in Kamareddy district of Telangana. My family consists of my father, mother, my daughter, my brother, his wife and a sister. I have studied upto first year. I was studying History, but I was forced to stop studying to be able to earn money. I have been working here for the past three months. I work from 6am to 2pm. I work seven days a week. I used to work in a pharmaceutical company before this. However, the contract there changed and I had to leave. I work on contract here too. Apart from this I do another job too. In my free time I am coaching to be a constable. Whenever I get time I try to spend it roaming around the city!

I am Seeta. I work in the kitchen. I report at 6 pm and make the rotis for dinner. After everyone finishes cooking and eating, we wash dishes and clean the kitchen. By the time I am done its 1/2 o clock at night. I am not scared of leaving for home that late as there are 4-5 of us. The security guards also drop me halfway if it gets too lonely. My wish is to own a house. My husband had one in our native village in Maharashtra. However, my mother-in-law was detected with cancer. Her treatment was expensive and we had to sell our house as well as our farm. I have four daughters and a son. Three of the girls are my step daughters. The happiest day of my life was when my son was born. My husband's first wife passed away during childbirth. All her life she waited for a son. So, if not for my own happiness, I am just happy I was able to fulfill her wish.





I am Jeevan. I am from Avalgaon in Kamareddy district. I have a younger sister and an elder sister. My parents are farmers. They mean the world to me. I also enjoy farming. When my elder sister got married, we acquired huge debts. Hence to pay back these debts I stopped my education, left the village and came to work in Hyderabad. I have been working here for three years now. Although I am away from my parents, my work gives me happiness. I put my heart and soul into it. When I came here Nagraj sir, Madhu sir, Naidu sir and Umakanth sir really helped me understand how to work. They taught me how to treat guests. They always tell us that only when you smile and serve guests will the guests feel like eating food. Since I earn, my younger sister is able to continue her studies. She loves to study. I have decided I will support her education. My family also supports this decision in spite of societal pressure to get her married. I was unable to fulfill my dreams, but I will see to it that my sister fulfills her dreams.

I am Ravinder.P. I am working as security guard here since 2013. I am from Yadagirigutta district. After my marriage I moved to Hyderabad with my wife and son in search of job. I own agricultural land but I don't like to toil in my farm because hardly any income accrues from agriculture. My brother manages the family farm. My highest priority in my life is my family and I spend all my free time with them. My wish is that my son, Aditya, should get good education to become an IAS officer. In fact, I am eagerly hoping that I can also make my son a good administrator for our country.



I am R. Swaroopa Thirupathi. After marriage I migrated to Hyderabad and soon found a job in MCR. This is also my first job. I have 2 children. I have been working for 15 years here. My son is studying a degree course. My daughter is preparing for EAMCET. I like my job as a gardener, that is why I am able to continue working for such long years. I come to work at 8:30 in the morning and work ends at 5:30 in the evening. For 9 hours at work, I get 1 hour for lunch and rest. I am so happy that I am employed and my husband is also in a job and so my children are getting education. I am content with how my life is proceeding. My hobby is also gardening (like watering plants, ensuring their growth). My aim is to work here and be able to support education of my children and make sure they achieve their goals and get good jobs. JAI HIND!

My name is Chitti Babu. My home town is Amalapuram district in Andhra Pradesh. My family resides in Hyderabad. I shifted here to find work. First, I got a multitasking job in DTS. Thereafter I found this job and have been working here for 1.5 years. I am happy with his job. I come to work at 6:30 in the morning and leave at 4 pm in the evening. My hobby is to watch TV. I have a son and a daughter. My children are very young (6-7 years old). I own 0.5-acre of agricultural land but that is insufficient for my family to lead a happy life. I am happy with my life and the fact that I am able to ensure my children's education. I am illiterate, still I can do something for this society through my children's goal.





Sketch by Akhil Thampi, IFS.

AKHIL THAMPI 104

REMINISCENCE

Name-Anita verma

Service-IP&ITAFS

Fondest memory of FC-Chai

kahani ka slow pace,

Rock climbing ka craze,

In between classes birthday

celebration ka phase,

And answer to every question

is Ramesh

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Rajendra Chaudhary

Service- ICAS

Fondest memory of FC-

Spendingtime at "ROCKS" !

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Karthikeyani

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- I had

chance to spend time with

myself.... beauty and

meaningful lone time in single

occupancy room.... I had

opportunity to meet

personalities who brought a

positive change within me.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Favorite Picture of FC-

Name- Vishakha Ashok Bhadane

Service- IPS

Fondest memory of FC- Himalayan trek.. It was full of fun, mastii, adventures and beautiful bonding among all of us. Created life long memories.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Swetha Boddu

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- Himalayan Trek & morning PT.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Vasu Doegar

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- Trek on wheels to Harsil.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Rickey Agarwal

Service- ICAS

Fondest memory of FC- Himalayan trek to Harshil (Dilon ki Manzil) is my favorite memory of SFC. Trek, mafia, bonfire, song, dance and drama, amidst snow capped peaks of the Himalayas, awesome deodar forests, babbling stream, and magnificent Bhagirathi, with most amazing members is memory forever.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Tanvika

Service- IP&TAFS

Fondest memory of FC- I will remember interacting and bonding with people across services, region, caste, religion etc.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Sneha Priya

Service- IPS

Fondest memory of FC- Maharashtra Day

Favourite Picture-



Name- Ismeet Kaur

Service- IIS

Fondest memory of FC- All the activities that we did as a group brought everyone together. It started with the DJ night and continued with the ice breaking session, Hyderabad darshan, Maharashtra day just to name a few. The Himalayan trek that the institute organised was specially memorable and once in a lifetime experience. In all it has helped create new bonds and happy memories.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Anupam Sharma

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- 1. Meeting some genuine & passionate personalities (Ms. Sunita Krishnan mam, Mr. Sai Prasad Vishwanathan, Mr. Azhar Maqsusi, Mr. Malleshwar Rao, etc) and exploring some possibilities of Social Services; 2. Making new friends from other services; 3. Village Visit; 4. Enjoying Swiggy-Zomato food, twice/thrice a day, along with Gyanis.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Kushagra Pathak

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- The Himalayan Trek

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Rujuta Bankar

Service- ICLS

Fondest memory of FC- Dancing to dhol on Maharashtra Day

Favorite Picture of FC-

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Vaishnavi D

Service- IP&TAFS

Fondest memory of FC- Fete was fun. Preparing and marketing food from our respective regions was an enjoyable experience!

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Rini Choudhury

Service- IIS

Fondest memory of FC- From singing along with the people I love to banter around bonfires beneath starlit skies, from lazy afternoons with jenga blocks to dancing through nights. Sharing of meals, trading of secrets, aimless wanderings and unexpected adventures. How do you pick only one?

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Pooja Gupta

Service- IP&IT&FS

Fondest memory of FC- The Social Welfare Club organized a sensitization session on "The World Hearing Day" to raise awareness about hearing care. I got the honor of conducting the session as faculty, in the presence of eminent guest Mr. Sai Prasad Viswanathan. The active participation and enthusiasm of my fellow officer Trainees and other officials of institute, made it quite memorable. That event will always remain close to my heart because I consider it as a step towards providing a barrier-free workplace to hearing-impaired employees & making their lives bit easier.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Shailendra Singh

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- Waiting for swiggy orders at 1'o clock,

Favorite Picture of FC-

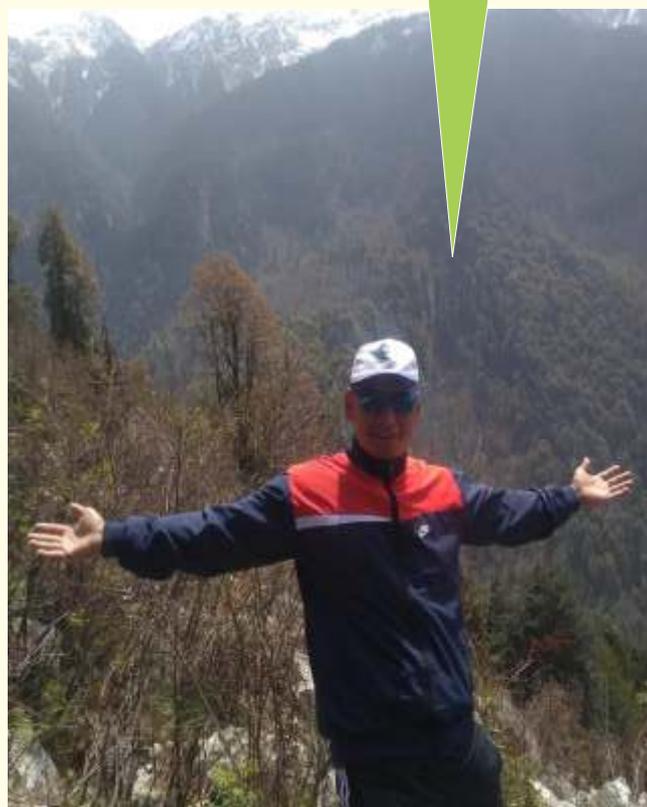


Name- Yow Peter Raiphea

Service- IP&ITAFS

Fondest memory of FC- Getting to know friends from All India Services and other Central Civil Services is a great treasure I will forever cherish. I thoroughly enjoyed morning PT and Sports events. Village Visit to Simnapally, Nizamabad was truly an enriching learning experience, fun-filled and memorable. Wish all brilliant special Foundation Course friends the very best and bright career ahead

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Om Prakash Jat

Service- IPS

Fondest memory of FC- Meeting people from different regions and different services was the most beautiful contribution of SFC. It was also an opportunity to meet old friends after a long time. The best module at SFC was the trekking and Village visit modules which I will always cherish.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Swapnil Madhukar Mahajan

Service- IPS

Fondest memory of FC- The Himalayan Trek was the most memorable and fun activity during FC.

It was surreal to be in the lap of Himalayas

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Akhil Thampi

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- Friends and party nights..!!

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Swapnil Madhukar Mahajan

Service- IPS

Fondest memory of FC- The Himalayan Trek was the most memorable and fun activity during FC. It was surreal to be in the lap of Himalayas

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- K Ranjith Kumar

Service- IPoS

Fondest memory of FC- The Himalayan Trek and the moments spent with my group are some of my favorite memories that I will always cherish. Especially a dip in cold waters of Ganga at Gangotri was one of my best memories and an adventure which otherwise I would have not done.



Name- Siddharth Vikram Singh

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- It was a good opportunity to meet with batchmates across the services and make new friends. Time outside the academy was memorable - specially- village visit where I learnt about ground situation in Telangana and how the system is working here. People were very hospitable and we practically lived with them for a week. While during Trek we had memories which I would not forget but for wrong reasons of mismanagement and abysmal facilities.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Suraj Singh

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- Each moment was fond memory. The parties of cafe three not nine will be remembered long.

Favorite Picture of FC-

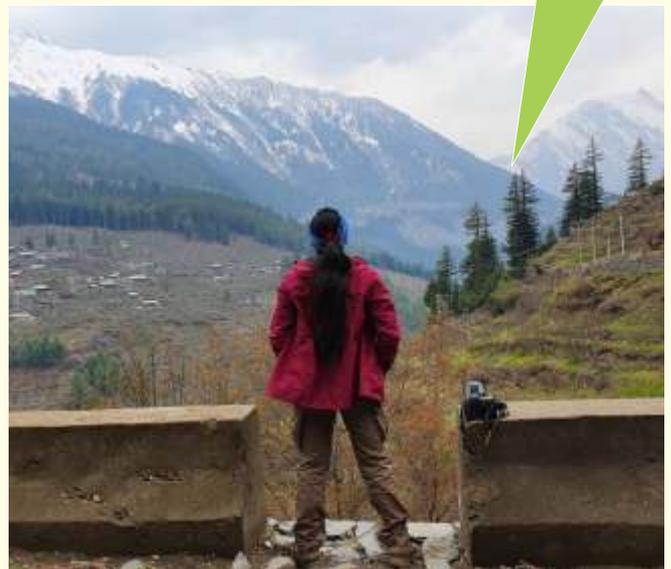


Name- Rishibha Singh Netam

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- Himalayan Trekking : went there with fractured leg with no hope of adventure. But it turned out to be most amazing trip I ever had till now.. Himalayas have something to offer to everyone. Made 16 good friends... Maharashtra day: Dressing up in Maharashtrian look,..Had awesome Maharashtra cuisine...Felt the enthusiasm and adrenaline rush whole day..

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Shubham Singh

Service- ICLS

Fondest memory of FC- Village visit. Going on a village visit, to some remote corners, with new set of people with different service backgrounds was a very pleasant experience. Made some bonds with people there.

Favorite Picture of FC-

Name-Narendra Kumar Jhirwal

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- The Himalayan Trek, The group we had, the journey we undertook, the heights we scaled, the fun we had, the camaraderie, the bonfires, all of this will always stay close to my heart. Also the visits organized by MCR Social Service Club.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Shaifali Barwal

Service- IPS

Fondest memory of FC- Having amazing time with friends from all other services, getting to know them and enjoying their company. SFC provided ample opportunity to have fun and roam around.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Dr. Ichake Abhijit Diliprao

Service- IPoS

Fondest memory of FC- Firstly, definitely the friends I made here and so much of fun. It was just deja vu from college days. On lighter note, I just wish we could have such FC every year .

Secondly, Himalayan Trek was destiny coming back for me as it was unexpected and came when last four years attempts to plan it from my end went in vain due to some reason or other.

Enjoyed like anything.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Vishwajeet Gajanan Chimankar

Service- ITS

Fondest memory of FC- FETE Food festival and Shiv Jayanti celebration are among the most memorable events of Special FC for me. I could see the magic brought about by teamwork, the fun and joy one can have while working for some event together. The food festival helped us to experience the diversity of Indian food and Shiv Jayanti celebration showcased our country's unity in diversity when OT's from different parts of India celebrated it and also enjoyed Maharashtrian culture.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Rose Mary Veeravalli

Service- IP&ITAFS

Fondest memory of FC- My best memory of the SFC is during Himalayan trek to Gulabikantha where I experienced my first snowfall.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Vikas Meena

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- Himalayan Trek

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Milish Dutt Sharma

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- Room no.343: Godavari hostel ka Las Vegas Going to PT with 'DUMRU' and making some Friends for Life.....

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Stefan Simon Tobias

Service- IPoS

Fondest memory of FC- The PEOPLE. Had a really great time with a bunch of truly wonderful people!

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Sri Sai Vempati

Service- IIS

Fondest memory of FC- The evening we spent at the tea estate in Neduvattam during our Nilgiris trek is my favourite memory of the Special FC.

Favorite Picture of FC-

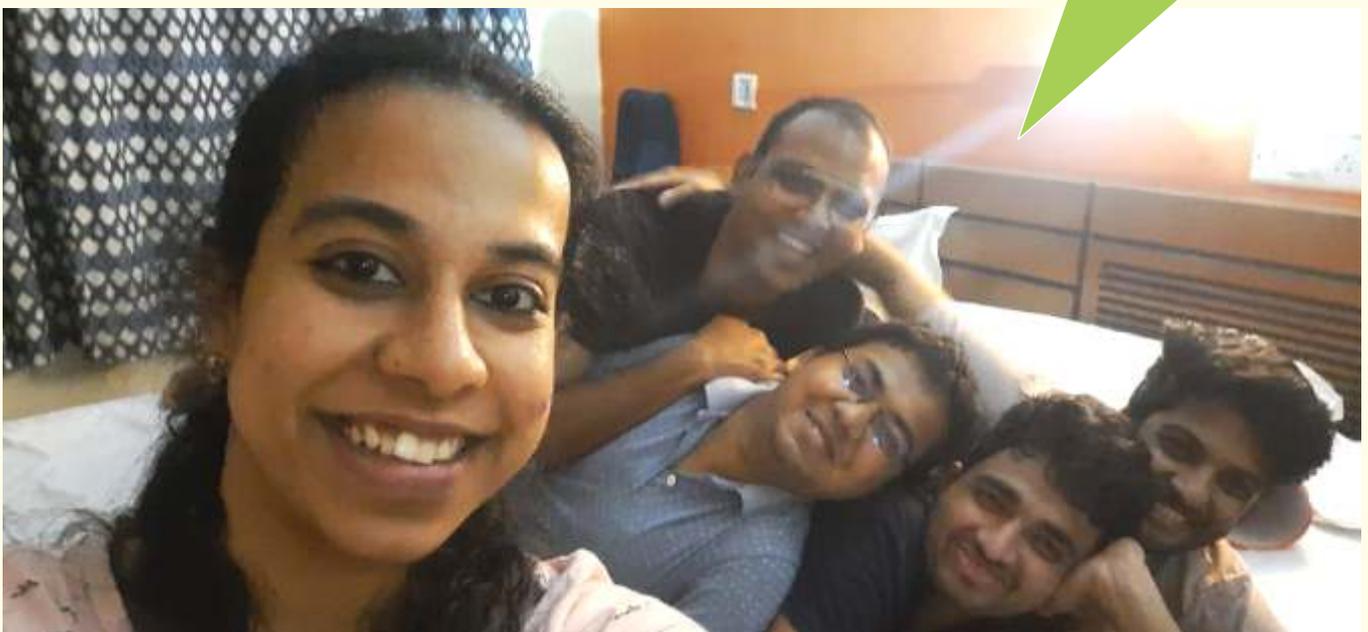


Name- Arpit R Parakh

Service- ICAS

Fondest memory of FC- Partying with bros !

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Ankit Kumar Singh

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- Room No. 343

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Gaurav Kishor Raut

Service- IPS&IAFS

Fondest memory of FC- Memorable experience of the Himalayan Trek

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Abirami S P

Service- ICAS

Fondest memory of FC- Freeze the moment

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Dharmveer Dairu

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- Best thing about the Special FC is the location of MCRHRD. It is in the Jubilee hills of Hyderabad. Going out with friends(Ravi and Vishvajet) for dinner and enjoying the Non-vegetarian food of Hyderabad is the best thing for me. Being foodie, I would like to enjoy this tasty food(Not in Ruchi dining Hall) again and again. Along with that I enjoyed the all the sports activities during the special FC, though these activities couldn't be completed. I will be missing every Tennis match I played here, especially with Pratap.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Diksha Langthasa

Service- ICAS

Fondest memory of FC- Time spent outside the classes! Dancing with special people!

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Susmithaa Selvaraj

Service- ICLS

Fondest memory of FC- The unadulterated joy and love I found in these kids.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Amarnath Ojha

Service- IP&TAFS

Fondest memory of FC- The Himalayan Trek was a wonderful experience with a wonderful group. Living in a group away from the hassles of everyday life; playing Mafia, Dumb charades, Bonfires at night, playing in snow will be cherished for lifetime.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Raunak Agrawal

Service- ICLS

Fondest memory of FC- Going to the MCR hill with friends.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Krishna Devan S

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- The whole SFC was very much special coz of the simple fact that it gave me the opportunity to relive the Academy days at IGNEA fully filled with tons of fun and love.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Sandhya Sameera

Service- IP&TAFS

Fondest memory of FC- Being a part of Special FC itself is a bountiful of special memories. The most cherished experiences for me would be getting an opportunity to be a part of social activities and Village visit. I already loved to engage in social interactions to understand ground level issues. All the activities added a new dimension for me as a civil servant. As the time flies, all the joy we shared will never fade away!!!

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Shailendra Bamaniya

Service- IPS

Fondest memory of FC- Nilgiri Trek

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Sai Krishna Avula

Service- ICLS

Fondest memory of FC- The bonhomie and the gleeful atmosphere that existed amongst the officer trainees during the special FC.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Kunal Rohilla

Service- IDES

Fondest memory of FC- Trek was the most memorable event of the SFC for me. Mighty Himalayas and amazing group of people, bonding while climbing treacherous paths, snow capped mountains vistas and bonfire - it was a memorable trek,

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Madhumitha

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- SFC will be remembered as the most chilled out time of my life.:)Going out to Pubs, Trying new food and Dancing till the end defined the SFC..The best memory is the Himalayan Trek where i enjoyed every moment(including the Ganga Dip) with our Group 4.Awesome Place with all of my favourite people!

Just Did It!

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Loukik Parakh

Service- IIS

Fondest memory of FC- To conversations, dances, songs, parties and being there for each other. To new yet closest friendships that made these 3 months the ride of a lifetime!

Favorite Picture of FC-

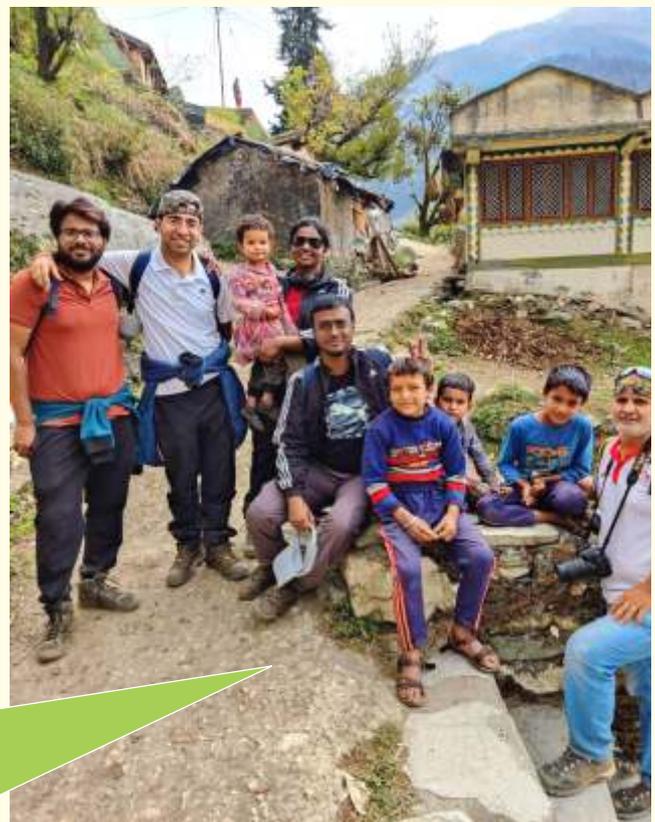


Name- Purnava Ganguly

Service- ICLS

Fondest memory of FC- Special FC gave me lot of special memories. It is very difficult to choose one among so many. starting from ice breaking sessions, the sports meet, various events, special camaraderie in those chai kahani moments and not to forget some spectacular performances, classes and speakers there are so many fond memories. But out of all these two things will forever remain special; one is the food packet distribution to underprivileged people which was one of the most satisfying and soulful experience of my life and the other being long 18 km trek to Dodital which gave me a unforgettable moments of thrill and natural and obviously the bonding with my groupmates which i will cherish forever.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Aswinkumar

Service- IFS

Fondest memory of FC- I would remember the last week of February as my favourite. Sports events, fete and much more happened. Every moment I spent then are beautiful memories. I wish that I could re-live those moments.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Nikita Joshi

Service- IIS

Fondest memory of FC- Discovering the beautiful campus, spending time with newly made friends, serving traditional Maharashtrian food and exploring far flung places - from villages of Telangana to mountains of Uttarakhand - with some of the best people. So many conversations, connections, experiences and exposures that I will cherish and always remember!

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Vikas Sangwan

Service- IPS

Fondest memory of FC- Himalayan Trek

Favorite Picture of FC-

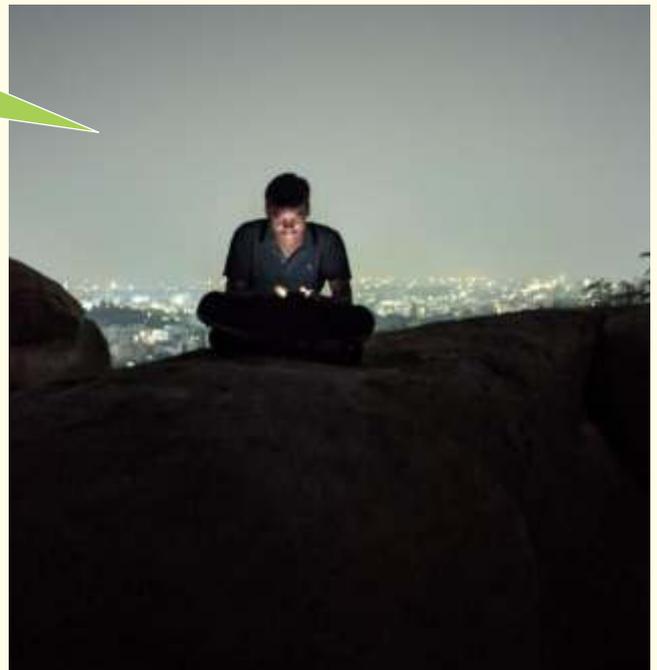


Name- Ramesh N

Service- IDES

Fondest memory of FC- I enjoyed my Himalayan trekking like hell with lot of memories that will be unforgettable forever in my life.

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Himani Sharma

Service- ICLS

Fondest memory of FC- Playing cricket in the tournament and winning the trophy!

Favorite Picture of FC-



Name- Pardeep Mahlawat

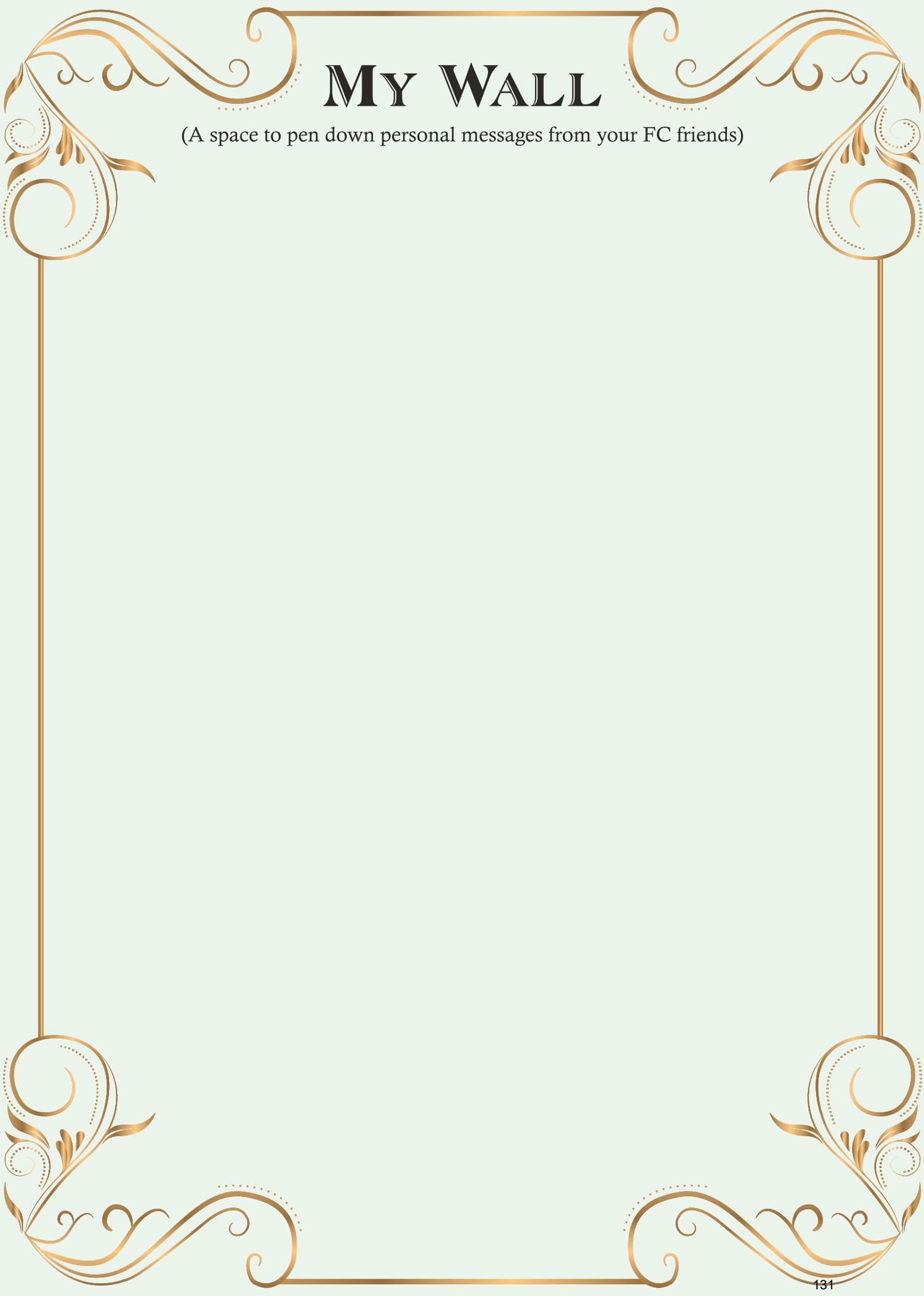
Service- IP&ITAFS

Fondest memory of FC- Every single night..Life in the hostel after 9 p.m. is a memorable time for me.

Favorite Picture of FC-

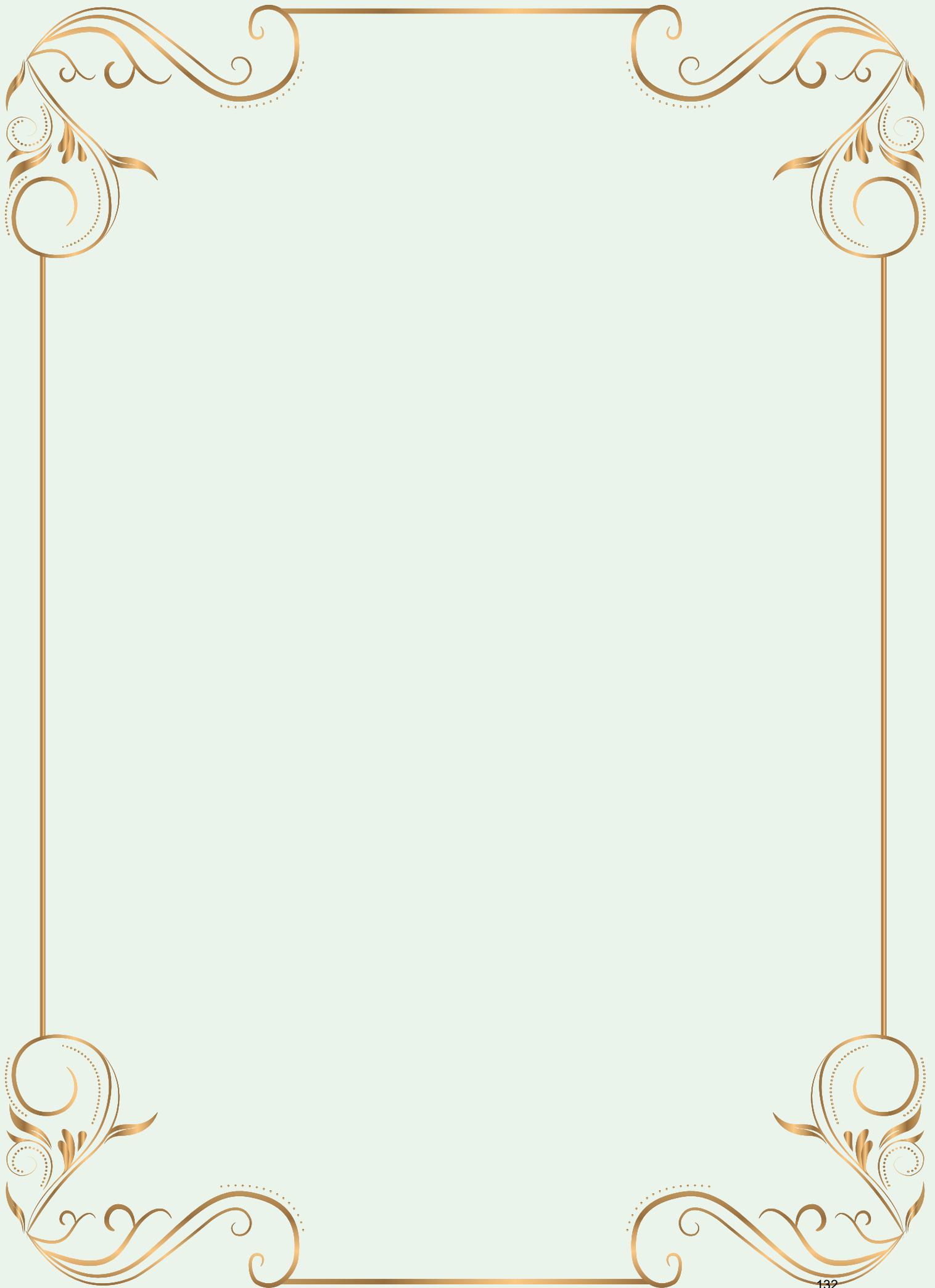


Painting by Purnava Ganguly, ICLS.



MY WALL

(A space to pen down personal messages from your FC friends)



Gratitude

A Foundation Course is a milestone for most as it is the beginning of their career in the Civil Services. However, since ours was a Special Foundation Course, officers from across services came here after one to five years of experience. In spite of this challenge Dr. MCRHRD Institute assured that this course indeed became a major milestone for all of us in a number of ways. We are all eternally grateful to the institute for giving us an opportunity to take a break from all our busy schedules and enjoy these three months in a carefree manner even as we immersed ourselves in a variety of experienced and gained knowledge thanks to the well thought out academic and non-academic curriculum.

First and foremost we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Sri Harpreet Singh, IAS, Director General, Dr. MCRHRDI and Sri. Benhur Mahesh Dutt Ekka, IAS, Course Director, Special Foundation Course for AIS and CCS Officers 2021. We also take the opportunity to thank Dr. Sanjeev Chopra, IAS, Director General, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Administrative Academy for suggesting the Himalayan Trek for the first time for officers in MCRHRDI and following through with his promise. LBSNAA made splendid arrangements for our OTs who went to the Himalayan Trek and all this would not have been possible without sir's enthusiasm and initiative. We are also grateful to all the respected mentors of our CGM groups who took time out of their extremely busy schedules and shared their thoughts and ideas with us during CGM meetings.

Next, we would like to thank Smt. Divya Parmar, IES, Addl. Course Director (General) and Proctor, Dr. Ravulapati Madhavi, Addl. Course Director (Extra Curricular and Co-Curricular Activities), Dr. Md Abbas Ali, Addl. Course Director (Academic), Dr. Gautam Pingle, Advisor (Academic) and the entire course team of the Special FC for taking all the efforts to make this foundation course successful in spite of the looming threat of the Covid 19 pandemic. We were fortunate to take part in numerous activities and grateful to have an opportunity to listen to eminent personalities who graced the foundation course as guest speakers. It was indeed an honor to be able to listen to the experiences of great minds that have molded the social, political and economic life of India in recent times. We also thank the faculty at Dr. MCRHRDI who went out of their way to make our lectures interesting and relevant to our work and service.

Smt. G. Jhansi Rani and Smt. K. Soumya Rani in the the FC Secretariat and all its functionaries ensured that the administrative side of the course never had any glitches with timely records and accounts of every event. It is their effort that led to a smooth foundation course. All the class coordinators and their associated staff ensured that classes were not missed and each and every officer gained optimally from everything the Special Foundation Course set out to offer!

Finally, a special mention of Chaitanya, who captured all the beautiful moments in the Foundation Course to be treasured for a lifetime and never got bored of giving in to our OT's constant demands for more photographs!

~Special Foundation Course: Batch of 2021



Dr. MCR HRD Institute
of Telangana

Since 1976

