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WHY ALUMNILINK 3.0?

Our beloved Institution is undergoing enormous transformation. It is now an Institute of National Importance (INI) and will be known as the first Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (IIST). Its alumni community has worked with the faculty members, staffs and administration from 2002 to achieve this status for our Alma Mater. The efforts put forth by few alums made the entire alum community to be very active and involved in the causes of our Alma Mater. Communication and networking have increased many folds through social sites and e-mail lists. Sporadic initiatives have been converging under the banner of GAABESU.

GAABESU, since its inception, has been evolving and maturing, learning as it was moving along, and improving upon more fruitful accomplishments. One such effort was its Newsletter, aptly named Alumni Link the intent: keeping the alum community connected and informed.

Alumni Link had its roots in a simple textual summary that was single-handedly conceived, prepared and distributed by an enterprising alumnus, a founding member of GAABESU. In its second coming, circa 2006, it underwent aesthetic and structural changes. The readership also went up. In its 5th year, it grinded to a halt primarily due to logistical issues in procuring content. All involved were disappointed, but had accepted it.

A few of us believe that the time is ripe to revive Alumni Link. But, this time, we want to start on the right foot so that we could regain your trust and support. We launched a brief survey in January 2014 to hear from our alumni/alumnae. In only 5 days we received close to 100 responses with an overwhelming support for the revival of Alumni Link.

So here we are, taking this opportunity to serve our alumni community. Please help us make the third time a charm!

Alumni Link | Editorial Team

Alumni Link | Editorial Team

Tarun Basu | 67 CE

Indranath Sinha | 82 MIN

Partha Pratim Roy | 97 CE

Debargha Sengupta | 98 ARCH

Shankha Kar Bhowmik | 97 MIN



IEST SHIBPUR MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

With the signing of the bill by the President of India, our Alma Mater becomes the first IEST in the nation and our dream becomes a reality. The mission to convert BESU to an Institute of National Importance (INI) has been accomplished.

During the entire process from the first appeal (becollege.org/news/news_item.asp?NewsID=19) on 10th August 2003 to the final signature on 4th March 2014, the power in Delhi changed from NDA to UPA 1 to UPA 2, and in West Bengal from the Left Front to TMC. Several changes occurred in central (especially HRD) and state (especially Higher Education) cabinets and in the university administration (Vice Chancellors). These changes meant new challenges and starting afresh with every new administration. However, with focus and faith in the cause, we started involving more and more alums from around the globe in this journey. This effort snowballed with thousands joining the cause including students, faculty members, staffs, administration, well-wishers, legislators, and government administrators to upgrade our Alma Mater to an INI – first, as an IIT and then as IEST along with support and coverage by the local and national media as an important factor

“Faith is the bird that feels the light when the dawn is still dark.” ~ Rabindranath Tagore

The journey with details of turns and twists is documented in detail at www.becollege.org under "Mission: IEST Shibpur".

On behalf of an army of volunteers, dreamers and servants of our Alma Mater.

Tarun Basu | 67 CE
Swapan Saha | 88 EE



MESSAGE FROM THE GAABESU PRESIDENT

I offer my best wishes and congratulations to the entire BEC/BESU community on achieving the most important structural conversion and being declared as the first IEST by the acts of the parliament.

I feel proud that our association was an integral part of this important journey with other entities in and outside of the campus and most of our Alumni whole-heartedly supported this drive. On behalf of our alumni association I thank each one of you to uphold the Alumni Spirit, the only unaltered component in the past 158 years of our Alma Mater, as she had undergone several name, location and affiliation changes.

I consider our association is still in its formative stage and it is upon us how we want to shape the course of GAABESU and help the maturation process. Thus far we do have a few committed volunteers who spearhead all activities and it is their leadership that are guiding us through many different activities we all can take pride on. We couldn't support the Alumni Link for the last few years to keeping us connected and informed primarily due to lack of resources and I am glad to inform you that infusion of some fresh energy are allowing us to revive this link with new features and we are indebted to those young volunteers and team members.

I hope our Link will help all of us to get and stay connected and please extend your reach to recruit new members and contribute in a meaningful way in rebuilding our Alma Mater and its communities for this newly dawned era and put IEST, Shibpur as a leader in the area of technical education in India.

With best wishes for 1421, the Bengali Nababarsha!

Biman Ghosh | 81 MET

GAABESU OFFICE BEARERS

President:	Biman Ghosh, 81/MET, Ohio, USA
Working President:	Amitabha Datta, 74/CE, Lake Town, Kolkata
Vice-President:	Arya Sengupta, 66/ME, Jodhpur Park, Kolkata
Secretary:	Pratik Dutta, 90/MIN, Madurdaha, Kolkata
Joint Secretary:	Prosenjit Chakraborty, 87/EE, Hooghly, West Bengal
Treasurer:	Malay Kumar Ghosh, 86/ARCH, Kalighat, Kolkata
Assistant Secretary:	Koustav Biswas, 2000/ME, Rajarhat, Kolkata

GAABESU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Aditya Bandyopadhyay, 79/ARCH BESU Campus, Howrah	Amal Kanti De, 67/CE Nova Scotia, CANADA,
Amitava Roy, 90/ARCH Behala, Kolkata	Apurna Kr. Ghosh, 93/MIN Western Australia
Asim Deb, 77/ETC Vikhroli, Mumbai,	Banibrata Mondal, 84/CE Dwarka, New Delhi,
Barun Kumar Basak, 71/ME Salt Lake, Kolkata,	Bhaskar Dasgupta, 81/EE New Jersey, USA,
Debashis Bose, 96/CE Texas, USA	Dibakar Adhikary, 09/ME Berhampore, Murshidabad
Kabita Jha, 81/ETC Old Airport Road, Bangaluru	Manasij Das, 66/EE Garia, Kolkata
Partha Pratim Roy, 97/CE Burdwan, West Bengal	Prabir Kumar Neogi, 62/CE Ottawa, Canada
Rajdeep Dutta, 88/EE Dubai, U.A.E.	Samarjit Chatterjee, 62/CE Sarita Vihar, New Delhi
Subhashish Majumdar, 80/ME Keyatala, Kolkata	Susobhan Ghosh, 69/CE Texas, USA
Swapan Saha, 88/EE California, USA	Tapas Das, 78/CE Alberta, Canada



GAABESU FELICITATES CENTURION PROFESSOR

A group of alumni led by Amitabha Datta, '74CE, Working President and Syama Prasad Datta, '67CE, ex-President, GAABESU along with few other alumni met Prof. Kamada Kanta Majumdar at his Salt Lake residence on his 100th birthday, December 19, 2013.



The group included President and General Secretary of B. E. College Ex-students' Club Bidhannagar, namely Subhas C. Dutta Gupta and Diptasundar Mallik along with Shyamal K. Lahiri, Amal K. Dam, Sourananda Chatterjee, Samares Bandyopadhyay and Prabir Joardar.

Alumni enjoyed stay with delighted Kamada Babu, for about two hours. During their stay Prof. Ajoy K. Ray, VC, BESU and Dr. Arun Deb, ex-President, GAABESU called him to pay their respect. Prof. Majumder very emotional and he reacted with tearful eyes, "I never realized that so many people love me. It is only because I had the greatest opportunity to be a hostel superintendent and that made me so close to the boys. Just being a teacher and attending only classes according to routine wouldn't give anyone such greatest opportunity of having so many students close to my heart. My life is B E College and the students". Biography of Prof. Majumder is published in our website: www.becollege.org.



INITIATIVES

GAABESU SCHOLARSHIP DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY



On 21st February 2014, GAABESU announced the Scholarship Programme for 2013-14 comprising 97 Full scholarships of ₹12,000, 15 Half Scholarships of ₹6,000 and 8 Book Grants of ₹2,000 at the campus Institute Hall. “Research Fellowship Award” was also included in the programme. The total committed amount to the students of BESU for this academic year was ₹12,70,000. BESU & GAABESU officials and all invited eminent personalities were present at the ceremony.

Rajdeep Datta | 88 EE
Somnath Sinha Roy | 87 ARCH



TAZIN WINS NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD

Catharsis, the Photographic Society of BESU, has recently organised a National Photographic Salon. Apart from JUPC, catharsis happens to be the only students' body in India that has approval of Federation of Indian Photography to hold a national level photo contest.

The contest drew more than 1000 entries from all over India. The judging of the Salon was done on January 18, 2014. The 1st award in the Monochrome section went to Sumayia Tazin, a 2nd year Civil Engineering student from BESU and an active member of Catharsis, beating such

veteran and internationally known photographers like Amitabha Sil or K. Shibu. This is Tazin's first Salon participation. All 3 judges were extremely surprised at the identity of the winner. Mr. Sayan Sarkar immediately invited her to join Indian Visual Arts Foundation, saying “You can easily bring international accolades to our organization”. Mr. Abhijit Chakraborty told, “She is a gem. Don't let her talent go waste”. What about Tazin? She told, “I will never leave Catharsis”.



The photographs of a few other members of Catharsis, who had so long been shy to exhibit their works to the outer world, had been accepted by the judges for the exhibition in due course. Check her award winning click: www.flickr.com/photos/shikutozopromy/9477984284/sizes/o/in/photostream/

Sumayia Tazin is winner of the first "Class of 1988 Silver Jubilee Award for Excellence", which includes ₹25,000/- plus a trophy (≈ ₹2,000/-) and a certificate.

Amitabha Roy | 90 ARCH



ALUMNI CRICKET MATCH

We had a cricket match on 05 April 2014 at Houston between local alumni of B. E. College (BEC) vs Jadavpur University (JU) here, where JU defeated BEC hands down. We will wait for the revenge game next year.

Susobhan Ghosh | 69 CE



NATIONAL SEMINAR ON CONCRETE TECHNOLOGY

In India, Prof. K. K. Banerjee was the pioneer in research of Pre-cast and Pre-stress concrete technology. He developed methods for pre-cast buildings and low cost housing. He constructed precast and pre-stressed experimental building known as Netaji Bhavan in the year 1968 (claimed to be the First Precast Building in India).



Workshop in memory of Prof. K. K. Banerjee

Low cost houses were also built under his supervision at different parts of West Bengal including many high rises in Southern Avenue, Golpark and BESU Campus which are more durable than conventional buildings. He showed us the future in concrete technology. In his memory, a National workshop on “Innovation in Concrete Technology” is organised by Civil Engineering Department, BESU (10 -12 December 2013).

Partha Pratim Roy | 97 CE



SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABILITY & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Department of Architecture, Town and Regional Planning, BESU Shibpur organized a National Symposium on *Sustainability and the Built Environment: Searching for Synergies* on February 21-22, 2014. The

programme was inaugurated by Prof. U. Gadkari, President of Council of Architecture, India. It addressed the two broad themes of *Environmental Sustainability* and *Social Sustainability*. Padmashree Gopal Shankar delivered the Valedictory Lecture. A special session was also organised where leading architects of the country met the students to discuss contemporary academic and professional issues. Financial support was received from ACC, UGC, DST-GoI, CSIR, HUDCO, MN Dastur etc.

The 22 published papers deliberated on different issues including Green building strategies and techniques; Disaster resilient and energy efficient systems in vernacular, rural and urban settings; Risk analysis studies; Bio-diversity conservation studies; Urban grey water management strategies; Social equity; Slum development; Use of visual communication and urban design as tools for urban regeneration; Sustainability of traditional temple architecture; Gender equity in disaster management; and many others.

Participations of the institutions such as IIT Guwahati, IIT Kharagpur, Jadavpur University, NITs (Bhopal, Hamirpur, Raipur etc.) SPA Bhopal, ADDA etc. has given the National Symposium much of the required diversity and richness.

Partha Pratim Mukhopadhyay | (Professor) ARCH



SIXTEENTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION

The 16th Annual Convocation of Bengal Engineering and Science University was held on 25th February, 2014. Shri M. K. Narayanan, Chancellor and Governor of West Bengal presided the session. The Chief Guest was Padma Vibhushan Prof. Roddam Narasimha, a member of Prime Minister’s Scientific Advisory Council and the Guest of Honour was Minister of Education of the State of west bengal, Mr. Bratya Basu.

On this occasion, BESU conferred Honoris Casua D. Sc. degrees on Padma Bhusan Prof. P. Balaram (Professor of Molecular Physics and Director of IISC Bangalore) and Padma Bhusan Dr. K. Radhakrishnan (Electrical Engineer and Chairman of Space Commission and Secretary of Department of Space at ISRO). The university also conferred Honoris Casua D. Litt degree on Padma Shri and Banga Bibhushan Shri Sourav Chandidas Ganguly, former Indian Cricketer and current Chairman of Cricket Association of Bengal's Cricket Development Committee.

The University also conferred 'Distinguished Alumnus Award' to Prof. Amitabha Ghosh, Prof. Indranil Manna and Prof. Nihar Biswas.



In this convocation the University also paid tribute to Prof. Sisir Basu Mallick, Prof. Padip Kumar Roy, Prof. Shanti Chakraborty and Late Prof. Panchanan Prasad Das, through the conferment of the "Distinguished Teacher Award". Degrees were awarded to 432 undergraduate students, 376 postgraduate students and 34 Ph. D. Fellows. 38 University medals were also awarded to top candidates in different disciplines.



STUDYING IN WINDSOR PAYS OFF FOR PHD STUDENT

Under the supervision of electrical and computer engineering professor Narayan Kar, Xiaomin Lu works on one of her experiments at a BESU Machine Lab on her recent trip to India. Coming to Windsor might have

been the best move ever for a young Chinese engineering graduate student who's trying to improve the performance of hybrid electric vehicles.

"It's been really good for me," said Xiaomin Lu, a PhD student who will soon return to Windsor after a productive six-week trip to India to conduct more research. "If I had stayed in China, I never would have had the opportunity to experience so much." For details becollege.org/news/news_item.asp?NewsID=552.



UDBHAVANI 2014 - TECHNICAL FEST BY SOCCE

The Society of Civil Engineers (SOCCE) – the students' body of Civil Engineering Department of Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur organised 1st Technical Fest in IEST - Udbhavani (Innovation) – a platform to float innovative ideas for budding Engineers across the nation. Udbhavani aimed to bring undergraduate engineering students to compete at a common platform on the theme of "Innovate, Design, Build" between March 28-30, 2014.

Opening with a song by a student and Sa Re Ga Ma finalist Abhrakanti, an industrial meet followed where alumni of the 158 year old department discussed the need for a more industry friendly curriculum, faculty argued the obligation to pursue national interests. Vice Chancellor Prof. Ajoy K. Ray offered middle path inviting

alumni and corporations to come forward in this effort. The event was supported by alumni and companies like Babtech, Shapoorji Pallonji, Z-Tech, Geocon, M. N. Dastur, Foster-Wheeler, ADAPT etc.



The brainchild of Prof. Kalyan Kr. Bhar, and led by Prof. Subrata Chakraborty (HOD), Udbhavani was a great success. Young and energetic student organisers like Soham, Sayanta, Subir, Saptarshi, Triptesh, Saikat, Twisha and others worked hard to ensure the success of this inaugural meet with help from Prof. Goutam Bhattacharya and others. Besides hundreds of IEST Shibpur students, more than 120 students participated from 24 different engineering colleges in interesting and truly innovative events like Info Race (General Quiz), Aqua Percolate (Design of Water Filtration System), Overload (Slab Design Event), Inovace (Paper Presentation), Isometry (CAD Design), Grid Iron (Chess), War of Words (Debate), Treasure Hunt (Survey and Map), Artistique (Poster Design) and Exuberance (Cultural Program). www.soccebesus.com/udbhavani

Partha Pratim Roy | 97 CE

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ROUTE 55: THE ROAD TO B E COLLEGE 10KM RUN

Till the end of the 20th century, anyone pursuing engineering at Bengal Engineering College, Shibpur would begin his or her journey at Slater Hall, one of the heritage buildings of this historic institution. But that journey, in those days, would always be preceded by another bone jarring journey on a rickety wooden box aka bus, which ran on what is called Route 55, from Esplanade to Botanical Garden. One Sunday morning this winter (15th Dec '13), a few alumni of 90s retraced that route through a 10 km run to their Alma Mater.



Gourab Basu ('97MIN) who is now based in San Francisco initiated the proposal through social networking site during his trip to Calcutta. He was helped by a number of his classmates including Partha Pratim Roy ('97CE). The group started from another Calcutta landmark, the Metro Cinema, over the Howrah Bridge to the Centenary Gate about an hour later. A T-shirt was designed by Sankha Kar Bhowmick ('97MIN) to celebrate the theme - Route 55, inspired by the famous Route 66 in the USA. The finishers were truly a reflection of diversity - of the eleven, two are based in San Francisco, two in London and the seven in Kolkata.

Many joined virtually through social media, participants posted pictures in regular intervals to keep the global alumni aware about the progress.

After the run concluded, the group assembled for a grand breakfast with luchi, chholar dal, egg and sweets at the University Guest House. Inside the college, alums, professors and present students joined for the cause. At last there was a gathering of more than 60 alums inside the campus. The event was covered in local and national newspapers. Check the upcoming events section for the announcement 2nd version.

Gourab Basu | 97 MIN
Debanjan Sengupta | 97 CE



SILVER JUBILEE REUNION OF 1988 WITH A PURPOSE

Class of 1988 and/or 1984-entrants celebrated Silver Jubilee Re-union in December 2013. The mission of the silver jubilee re-union has been to combine the spirit of camaraderie with the “Giving back” to the Alma Mater. The Class of ‘88 set three goals -

- To have a memorable reunion with entire family,
- To participate in “Giving Back” to our Alma Mater in a meaningful and innovative way and
- To join fellow alumni under the GAABESU platform to scale up its activities joining hands with juniors and seniors.

Started with a family get-together with all participants checking-in at the Panchwati Holiday Resort (Kona Expressway in Howrah) including buffet lunch & dinner, informal meeting & greetings and poolside big campfire in the evening. Next morning started with a Wellness Session at sunrise followed by breakfast. A reserved bus took all alumni families to Vivada cruise jetty next to the Millennium Park where a cruise ship - M. V. Ahalya was waiting to sail on Hooghly river.

On December 29, 2013, main event took place inside BESU campus at Netaji Bhavan which was converted into a hall with stage and 100 seats. Front area had main gate, registration counter and covered children play area, whereas back side was converted into lunch buffet area.

Alumni took their families to a walking tour of the campus, old hostels and department. Ceremonial exotic Bengali lunch buffet was served to total 185 including alumni, their family, BESU faculty/staff & guests.

Post lunch, business meet took place from 2 pm to 4 pm where Vice Chancellor of BESU was the chief guest. It was followed by a group photo in the first lobby and evening magic show and cultural performances by the alumni and family members.



From the Silver Jubilee Celebration fund In presence of BESU Vice Chancellor and West Bengal Higher Education Minister, Class of ‘88 donated:

- ₹ 3 lakhs to the Gymnasium Renovation Project
- ₹ 3.57 lakhs to a corpus fund to award a special award for outstanding national and/or international achievement, namely “Class of 1988 Silver Jubilee Award for Excellence”. This perpetual award commences from academic year 2013-14 and will be executed through established GAABESU’s Alumni Fellowship for Excellence Programme.

Swapan Saha | 88 EE
Rajdeep Dutta | 88 EE



UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 18, 2014: ABOUT POET BINOY MAJUMDAR AT SALT LAKE

From 6:00 PM onwards B. E. College Ex-Students' Club, Bidhan Nagar organises Program on Poet Binoy Majumdar at the club location of CK-14, Sector II, Salt Lake.

APRIL 18, 2014: ALUMNI MEET AT SINGAPORE

Singapore chapter is going to organise an Alumni Meet on 18th April 2014. If any of you are in or around Singapore please join this Alumni meet. Contact Nirbhik Sengupta (CE95): nirbhik@hotmail.com or +65 9139 7723 for more details.

APRIL 24-27, 2014: REBECA 2014

Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology Shibpur presents - REBECA 2014, Eastern India's Second Biggest Cultural Festival. rebeca.becs.ac.in

MAY 15, 2014: DRAMA "JEEBITO O MRITO" AT SALT LAKE

From 6:00 PM onwards B. E. College Ex-Students' Club, Bidhan Nagar will stage a drama "Jeebito O Mrito" of Tagore - performed by members of the club at Rabindra Okakura Bhavan, DD- 27/A/1, DD Block, Sector-1, Salt Lake City, Kolkata, West Bengal 700064

25 MAY 6 PM : RABINDRA JANMA JAYANTI AT SALT LAKE

From 6 PM onwards B. E. College Ex-Students' Club, Bidhan Nagar will celebrate Rabindra Janma Jayanti at the club location of CK-14, Sector II, Salt Lake.

DEC 21, 2014: ROUTE 55 - 10KM RUN/WALK

Inspired by the success of the inaugural run, and with a spirit of giving back, the 2014 run will combine doing social good while having fun. Mark your Calendars for the 2014 edition of the Route 55 run. Check out facebook page - www.facebook.com/R55TheRoad2BEC

DEC 28, 2014: GAABESU ANNOUNCES FIRST ALUMNI DAY

GAABESU Executive Committee decided in a meeting, held on January 11th 2014, to establish a new tradition of celebrating annual "Alumni Day" on the last Sunday of each year. Our plan is to observe the first "Alumni Day" on December 28th 2014 at our own BESU Campus.

The goal here is to reminisce our bygone days with friends and families and rekindle our camaraderie at our own campus. The celebration will comprise of day-long fun filled family events organized by the alums for the alums and their families. We like to fix the date of the annual event on the last Sunday of each year so that our local alumni/alumnae can plan their out of town vacations and our out of town alumni/alumnae can plan their Kolkata/India trip well in advance. So, before we proceed further, please block your calendar for the first Alumni Day on 28th December 2014, Sunday.

Most of our alums meet regularly with their local alums in chapter events and/or meet fellow batch-mates in various batch events like Silver Jubilee, 30th, 40th and 50th Jubilee or even at annual reunion, when we wish to meet your immediate juniors or seniors who stayed in the same hostel or played together at Lords or Oval. In addition, this allows to network as well as socialize with other alums working in the same industry or having same interest.

GAABESU Executive Committee appointed Mr. Amitabha Datta, '74CE, Kolkata, Working President, GAABESU and Dr. Arya Sengupta, '66ME, Kolkata, Vice President, GAABESU as co-Chairpersons of the first Alumni Day ad-hoc organizing committee.

Please visit www.becollege.org or join our facebook page www.facebook.com/gaabesu for more update.



OBITUARIES

PROF. KALYAN KUMAR BANERJEE '46 CE

We regret to inform that our beloved teacher Prof. (Dr) Kalyan Kumar Banerjee ('46 CE), breathed his last in the morning of 17 June 2013. He was the First Doctorate in engineering from Calcutta University. Prof. Banerjee recently attended Diamond get-together of 1953 entrants in January 2013 at Lake Club driving his own car when he was found hale and hearty. A teacher with innovative and practical approach in design was very popular among students. (Partha Pratim Roy | 97 CE)



Prof. Banerjee with his landmark creation

PRIYABRATA SEN '63 EE

Sri Priyabrata Sen of ('63EE) has breathed his last on Saturday 1st March. He was ailing for quite some time but appeared to have recovered recently. He was a good student and spent his entire career in (GKW) Guest, Keen, Williams Ltd. setting up a benchmark of organised maintenance in the steel division of GKW. Everyone in GKW was respectful of the high calibre and gentlemanly behaviour of Priya da, who always guided his juniors and specially the 'graduate' engineer trainees - the cadre that GKW built up when we were joining from the mid sixties onwards. Though GKW disappeared from the map of West Bengal, loyal Priya da never left GKW till his retirement. (Barun Kumar Basak | 71 ME)

ARUN KUMAR NANDY '75 ETC

Arun Nandy, Electronics & Tele-Communication (1975 batch) passed away on Nov 15, 2013 at Bellevue, WA. He moved from Australia to Seattle, USA in early 2000 and survived by his wife and son. (Saumitra Sinha | 81 MET).



RANJIT GHOSH '68 EE

With heavy heart I have to announce the sad demise of our dear Ranjit Ghosh ('68EE). He passed away this morning (22 January, 2014) after a massive heart attack at Chandannagar. Ranjit and I studied together since school days. He was a jovial fellow and always went out of his way to help his friends. In professional life he served in Indian Railways and later Customs, Kolkata. He leaves behind his wife and numerous friends to mourn his loss. (Saktinath Mukherjee | 67 MET)

PRADIP KUMAR SANDEL '64 ME

Alumnus Pradip Kumar Sandel ('64ME) passed away at Kolkata on February 4, 2014 after a brief illness. Pradip was the General Secretary of the BE College Students Union and later on became the Union President. The present Students Canteen that stands beside the Students Institute was built up in his time, primarily on his initiative and enthusiasm, with ample encouragement from the late principal A. C. Roy. We proudly remember lending our physical labour and sweat during one summer break in erecting the canteen

building along with masons and other skilled hands. Pradip, an excellent debater, was warm, large-hearted and friendly to each and all in the campus. After graduation he joined Foseco International in England but subsequently shifted to its India operations and held various senior management positions there. Later on he set up his own enterprise and was an active professional till the end. A remarkable alumnus of our College who will be fondly remembered by all students of his time. **(Jayanta Mazumdar | 63 MET)**

SUKANTI RAY '81EE

With heavy heart and deep sorrow I regret to inform that our batch-mate Sukanti Ray ('81EE) breathed his last this morning at 7.30 am, 17 February 2014, following a massive heart attack at his Kolkata residence. May his soul rest in peace and we pray to almighty God to give his spouse Madhumita and son Symantak the strength to bear this insurmountable loss. **(Alok Bhunia | 81 ETC)**

DR. SAMBHUNATH GHOSH '56CE

Dr. Sambhunath Ghosh ('56CE) passed away on February 16, 2014 at his residence in Salt Lake City, Utah. He did his doctoral studies at Georgia Tech and joined IIT R&D organization in Chicago as a group leader. Subsequently he joined University of Utah and worked as Chairman of the Civil Engineering Department, till his retirement. Dr. Ghosh distinguished himself as a pioneering researcher in his area of expertise, gaining national and international recognition. He was my classmate at the college and a lifelong friend of myself and the family. We deeply regret this loss and pray that his soul may rest in peace. **(Kajal K. Gupta | 56 CE)**

ANNUAL REPORT ON OCTOBER, 2013:

At the outset let it be mentioned with heavy heart that we lost some of our Alumni during last year including Commodore S K. Chatterjee ('36CE), Rajendra Prasad, Niranjana B. Benegal ('60ARCH), Major General Pijush Gupta ('65CE), Samir K Sen ('55ME), Prof Shyam Pada

Sen ('48ME), Asit Kumar Chatterjee ('71CE), Tapan Mitra ('68CE), Kalyan Sarkar ('87CE), Sujay Basak ('71ME), Sunil Kumar Majumdar ('48ME), Anuj Banerjee ('69CE), Manas Kamal Roy Choudhury ('64EE), Naresh C. Sarkar ('62EE), Satyen Guha-Biswas ('55CE), Utpal Kahali ('77), Ashoke Giri ('77), Sitendra Nath Sikdar ('66CE), Gautam Basu (ME '69), Sailendra Kumar Mitra, ('41CE), V. Sundareswaran (VS) ('54ARCH), Utpal K. Ray ('57EE), Arun Kanjilal ('60EE), Pranab Sengupta ('61CE), Binayak Mallick ('87CE), Sanjib Mukherjee ('69MIN), Sankar Bose ('70CE), Amitabha Muhhopadhyay ('67EE).

ANNUAL REPORT ON AUGUST, 2012:

At the outset let it be mentioned with heavy heart that we lost quite a few Alumni during 2012. They are Jayanta Prasad Lahiri ('74ME), Ashis Kumar Ghosh ('61ME), Utpal Ganguli ('67CE), Sushit Dasgupta ('79EE), Taraknath Chattopadhyay ('63CE), Pradip Kumar De ('76EE), Nirmalya Ranjan Das ('60EE), Makhan Lal Dasgupta ('42EE), Subrata Banerjee ('65CE) Salil Mohan Saha ('77CE), Pratip Mondal ('73MET), Ashok Kumar Chakraborty ('78CE), Samindra Nath Ray Choudhury ('63EE), Mrinal Kanti Bera ('58ME), Santanu Chatterjee ('65EE), Debi Prasad Roy Choudhury ('46CE), Bhupesh Chandra Mitra ('46CE), Saradindu Chatterjee ('53CE), Shyamal Kanungo ('68CE), Tarun Kanti Chatterjee ('69ME), Santanu Mitra ('72ME), Ashok Bhattacharya ('68CE), Subir Dasgupta ('62MET), Subir Chandra Set ('68EE) and Sougata Mukherjee ('97ETC).

Prof P K Chatterjee, former Professor of Physics at B E College, breathed his last on 26th. July' 2012. A condolence meeting was held at BESU next day.

On behalf everyone at GAABESU, we offer our sincere condolence to their families and friends. We pray for the eternal peace of the departed souls.



DR. SAMAR BASU - HALL OF FAME BY CONSUMERS ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION

In the past century, the consumer electronics industry has evolved from isolated hobbyist creations to lavish audio and video systems. These consumer electronics



gadgets that we have become so accustomed to are due to the tenacity and vision of the pioneers of the industry. CEA - The Consumer Electronics Association honours leaders whose creativity, persistence, determination and sheer personal charisma helped to shape an industry and made present the consumer electronics market by inducting them to their "Hall of Fame".

In October 2013, Dr. Samar Basu was among the twelve inductees which also included Meg Whitman, CEO of HP. Dr. Basu was honoured for inventing the "lithium-ion battery (LIB) anode". Luck is a residue of design; and the University of Pennsylvania post-doctoral researcher had plenty of luck when he stumbled across the key to enabling the development of the modern rechargeable LIB while researching something completely different.

Dr. Basu was born Sep 1, 1943 in Shimla, but grew up in Howrah. He graduated in Metallurgy from B.E. College (BEC) in '66. Then he went to IIT-Kanpur for his M. Tech ('68) and Ph.D. ('72) in Chemical Metallurgy and returned to BEC to teach until 1975 before emigrating to the US. He joined a UPenn team doing research work on Lithium batteries, studying titanium and tantalum sulphides for use as cathodes.

All batteries include cathodes and anodes. While Basu pursued cathode materials under Worrell, associate Jack Fischer was working on graphite intercalation compounds (GIC) to replace heavyweight copper cables in heavy electrical equipment or transformers. Fischer wanted to combine Li with graphite to produce the simplest GIC to serve as a model material for fundamental studies, which seems impossible initially.

Basu, while working at Penn's Laboratory for Research on the Structure of Matter (LRSM), found a workable solution and successfully synthesized the pure LiC₆. The main problem with Li batteries was the thick surface coatings of Li₂O, LiOH or Li₂CO₃ eating away the Li electrodes after multiple charging/ discharging cycles. Earlier attempts to replace pure elemental Li by Li alloys and compounds, didn't work until LiC₆.

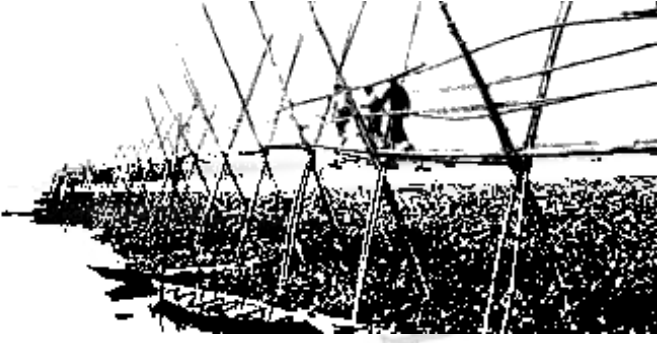
In 1978, Basu joined Bell Labs' Battery Development Department, in NJ and after initial fiasco, he found that a molten inorganic salt (LiCl-KCl) mixture worked at elevated temperatures. In 1979 he showed that cells with an organic electrolyte worked at room temperature and a real cathode material to work with the LiC₆ anode. Bell Labs' researcher Gunther Wertheim proved that Li existed as Lithium-ion in the LiC₆ solid, which is how the name LIB was assigned by the industry.

After patents were approved, Basu faced a corporate gag order against publication of the research results in journals until the end of the 1980s. It wasn't until the U.S. Department of Energy's Sandia National Labs approached Bell Labs in 1992 to develop a product based on Basu's two patents – and forceful arguments from Basu himself – that the gag order was lifted and Basu's paper was published in 1999. In 1990, engineers at Sony Energy Technology converted Basu's patents, together with the Co₃O₄ cathode material of John Goodenough, into the first commercial LIB, which powers most modern rechargeable portable electronic devices. For his contributions to the invention of LIB, Basu received the Lucent Technologies' Patent Recognition Award in 1998.

Basu took early retirement from Bell Labs in 2000 and accepted the invitation for the Tata Chair Professorship from his Alma Mater (BEC) to pursue his lifelong dream of developing Li-ion-based electric vehicle batteries. Later, he moved to the IIT- Kharagpur in 2003, to set-up a R&D facility on campus and retired in 2008. He now spends summers in Hawley (Pennsylvania), with his wife Soma and two sons, Samik and Avik and winter in Calcutta.



নড়বড়ে সাঁকো



আমোদে, বিষাদে মাখো মাখো
স্মৃতি ও বিস্মৃতির মাঝে নড়বড়ে সাঁকো।

মাঝ রাতে ঘুম ভেঙ্গে গেল। কেউ উদাত্ত গলায় “গ্রাম ছাড়া ঐ রাজ্জা মাটির পথ” গাইছে। দেখলাম অনেকেই বিছানা ছেড়ে সামনের টানা বারান্দায় বেরিয়ে এসেছে। সাত নম্বর হোস্টেলের চারতলা, দুর্ভুঙ্কির প্রেক্ষাগৃহ। এই বারান্দার সামনেই বিল। ওপারে স্টাফ কোয়ার্টারে শ্যামলী থাকে। বিকেল বেলা কলেজ থেকে ফিরে আমরা ডাকাডাকি করলে অনেকক্ষণ পর ওদের ঝোলা বারান্দায় এসে দাঁড়ায়। কানাইদার বানানো চা অমলেট খেতে খেতে আমরা তাকে দেখি।

স্তিমিত সন্ধ্যায় স্মিত বারান্দায় ভুলের সব দায়, অসমীচীন
আমার কারো নয়, প্লাবন মনোময়, তখন অসময় শাসনহীন
যতটা সংশয় রক্ত মাংসয় তার চে’ বেশি ভয় মানুষী তোর
খুঁড়ছে অহেতুক নিহিত নতমুখ ভুলের স্মৃতি সুখ জীবনভোর

শান্তনুদা বলল, “গানটা ছাদের থেকেই আসছে মনে হচ্ছে”। শান্তনুদা তাল পাতার সেপাই। চারতলার জানলার কার্নিশ দিয়ে হেঁটে যায় যেন হাইওয়ে দিয়ে হাঁটছে। সি জি চেঞ্জ এক্সপার্ট। সি জি মানে সেন্টার অফ গ্র্যাডুয়েট। ভারসাম্যের কেন্দ্রবিন্দু।

সপ্তাহান্তিক ছুটি কাটিয়ে সোম বার সকালে হড়তে পুড়তে ফিরছি। আসার পথে একটি মেয়ে মাঝখান থেকে ওঠে। তার সাথে চোখে আলাপ। জানি একই ইয়ারের। একদিন ঠিক কথা বলব।

একলা হলেই সুযোগ বুঝে অমোঘ টানে দু চোখ
চোখের ভিতর ঘর বেঁধেছে কি করে ঘর গুছোই।

ফার্স্ট ক্লাশ ডঃ ব্যানাজীর। দেরীতে ঢুকলে রক্ষা রাখবেন না। মিস করলে তো গলা পর্যন্ত পুঁতে ফেলবেন। একবার নন্দকে পঞ্চানয় ধরেছিলেন, “কি মশায়, ব্যাতাইতলায় চায়ের দোকানটা তুলে দিলেন? অত চালু দোকান...”। নন্দ কাঁচুমাচু হয়ে বলল – “স্যার, মানে, আমি আপনার স্টুডেন্ট, সেকেণ্ড ইয়ার...”। ডঃ ব্যানাজী চোখ পাকিয়ে বলেছিলেন, “আমার স্টুডেন্ট? কই ক্লাশে তো দেখি না!”

সেকেণ্ড গেটে পঞ্চানন নং বাস থেকে লফিয়ে নেমে দৌড়ুতে দৌড়ুতে চারতলার ঘরে পৌঁছে দেখি সি জি চেঞ্জ। খাট উল্টানো, তোষক বালিশ মেঝেতে। মশারীটা জানলার বাইরে নৌকার পালের মত হাওয়ায় উড়ছে। খাতা বই ড্রইং শীট সারা ঘরে ছড়িয়ে ছিটিয়ে। ব্যাস, ক্লাশে যাওয়া মাথায় উঠল।

কিন্তু মাঝ রাতে রবীন্দ্র সঙ্গীত। তাও আবার অপসংস্কৃতির পীঠস্থলে। আমরা সবাই মার্চ করে ছাদে চললাম। চাঁদের আলোয় আকাশ দুধ সাদা হয়ে আছে। জলের ট্যাঙ্কের ওপর সিল্যুট হয়ে দাঁড়িয়ে আছে প্রভাত। দেহে সুতোর লেশমাত্র নেই। হাতে একটা একতারা। কোথা থেকে যোগাড় করেছে কে জানে? সেটা বাজিয়ে গান গাইছে, গেয়েই যাচ্ছে। আমরা ডাকছি, “প্রভাত, নেমে আয়”। কানেই নিচ্ছে না।

স্মৃতি নাকি মানুষের সুখের সতত
আমি কি মানুষ নই, আমাকে দেখতে নয় মানুষের মত?

সরু পাঁচিলে ভর দিয়ে শান্তনুদা ট্যাঙ্কের ছাদে উঠল। ওর অভ্যেস আছে। বুকের মধ্যে জড়িয়ে ধরে সাবধানে প্রভাতকে নামিয়ে আনল। আমরা সবাই হাত বাড়ালাম। প্রভাতের নড়ে যাওয়া সি জি আবার যথাস্থানে ফিরিয়ে দিতে হবে।

এইসব কথা লিখতে বড় কষ্ট হয়। প্রভাত কী সত্যিই ছিল। নাকি ট্যাঙ্কের ছাদে দাঁড়িয়ে চাঁদ দেখছিলাম আমিই। আমাকেই আমি নামিয়ে আনলাম হাত ধরে সমতলে।

*তুমি তো স্মৃতির দিকে, বিস্মৃতির কত সুখ
সাঁকো পেরোলেই সুখা ভুলে যাবে মুখ।*

Siddhartha Mukhopadhyay | 86 EE



কলেজ কোলাজ



একটা বিশেষ আন্ডার এসেছে – মানসদা, লেখা চাই -- এম্ফুনি। একে আমি লেখক নই। আর, তার উপর, কলেজ ক্যাম্পাস সম্বন্ধে লিখতে শুরু করতে না করতেই বিষম বিপত্তি। একরাশ টুকরো টুকরো স্মৃতি গেট ক্রাশ করে ঢুকে পড়তে চাইছে হইহই করে - কাকে অগ্রাধিকার দেব? আর কাকেই বা কলেজের স্কলারশিপ সেকশনের কাউন্টারে বসা সেই ক্যাশিয়ারটির মতো বলব - না ভাই, আজ হবেনা, পরে এস! সেই প্রথম কদিনের সন্ধ্যাবেলায় “হরিবোল হরিবোল”-এর জায়গায় “হাত-তোল – হাত-তোল” শুনতে শুনতে

“গৌরাজ” হয়ে কলেজ যাওয়া? না উল্ফের লাস্ট জিএফ (GF)-এ উদ্দাম নাচের পর রুমে ফিরে গিয়ে নিশ্চুপ হয়ে ভাবা “সব কি শেষ হয়ে গেল? ক্লক টাওয়ারের মোরগটা কি আমার অস্তিত্বকে আর কোনো দিন জাগাবে না”!

শুরু আর শেষের মাঝখানের পাঁচটা বছর, প্রতিনিয়ত জীবনের স্নেটে নতুন নতুন আঁচড় কেটেছে, সে ওভালের মাঠেই হোক, বা ঘোড়া, ইঁদুর, ডিংডং-এর ক্লাসেতেই হোক, অথবা কলেজ ফেরত কবরখানার পাশ দিয়ে আসার সময় মডেলের কোনো সুন্দরীর মুচকি হাসিই হোক - সব কিছু মধ্যস্থেই একটা পাওয়া ছিল, একটা আনন্দ ছিল।

কতোকিছু হাবিজাবি কাজ করতুম আমরা। তারমধ্যে, হোস্টেলে অনেকে মিলে প্ল্যানচেস্ট করার কথা খুব মনে পড়ে। ফরশোর রোডের গঙ্গার ঘাট থেকে ওষুধের শিশিতে গঙ্গাজল এনে, তা দিয়ে একটা ড্রয়িংবোর্ডকে শুদ্ধো করে, সাদা চক দিয়ে এ থেকে জেড (A-Z) আর শূন্য থেকে নয় (০-৯) এবং হোম লিখে শুরু হতো সেই প্ল্যানচেস্ট। ডিম লালরঙের আলো - খুপ কিংবা সিগারেটের ধোঁয়া সেই আলোর দিকে ঊর্ধ্ববাহু হয়ে দুলে দুলে এগিয়ে যাচ্ছে। আর আমরা চার-পাঁচজন ধ্যানমগ্ন হয়ে অপেক্ষা করছি আমাদের প্রার্থিত আত্মার ড্রয়িংবোর্ডে নেমে আসার।

আমাদের পপুলার প্রশ্ন ছিলো “আচ্ছা বলুনতো, নেতাজী কি বেঁচে আছেন আর কোথায় আছেন?” অথবা “সামনের ম্যাচে কে জিতবে? মোহনবাগান না ইস্টবেঙ্গল?” রামকৃষ্ণদেব এলে তো হুলুস্থুলু পড়ে যেত। ক্যাম্পাকোলার ছিপিটা গোটা বোর্ডময় পাগলের মতো এঘর ওঘর করে বেড়াতো! রবীন্দ্রনাথ এলে সঠিক সহ করে যেতেন একটানে (রবীন্দ্র রচনাবলীতে যেমনটি থাকে) - যেদিন আমাদের বেস্ট মিডিয়াম বানী (অধুনা ব্যাঙ্গালোরনিবাসী বানীপ্রসাদ গুহঠাকুরতা) কলম ধরত!

প্ল্যানচেট সম্বন্ধে এই জন্যে লিখলুম কেননা হোস্টেল লাইফের আগে বা পরে আর কখনো ওটা চেষ্টাও করিনি।

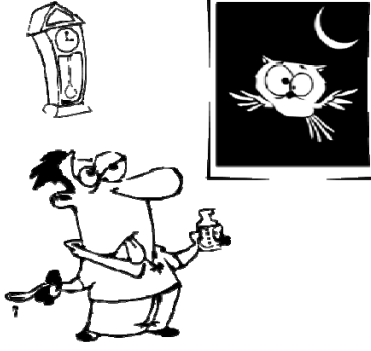
সারমেয়দের যেমন ভাদ্রমাস, বি ই কলেজের অনেক ছেলেদের (বিশেষ করে মুচিপাড়ার) ছিল ক্রিস্টমাস - বট্‌স সীজন – ডিসেম্বর ও জানুয়ারি। প্রবাদ ছিলো, “হাওড়া গার্লস (বা মারকারি ব্যাচ এইচ জি) ইজ মেড ফর বি ই কলেজ”। কিছু লোকে বলতো, ওই অঞ্চলের ঠাকুমা-দিদিমারা নাকি ওনাদের উঠতি বয়েসের নাতনিদের কানে-কানে বলে দিতেন “বি ই কলেজের ছেলেদের থেকে দূরে থাকিস মা, আমরা ভুক্তভোগী”। সেই ট্র্যাডিশন হয়তো এখনো চলছে।

আড়াই নম্বর গেটের মাটির ভাঁড়ে মালাই দেওয়া গরম চাফির স্বাদ আর জানাদার দোকানের সেই অদ্ভুত একটা নতুন বই-কালি-পেপার-পেন্সিলের সুগন্ধ - এখনো বুক ভরে নিশ্বাস নিলে অনুভব করি।

কিন্তু পাঁচ বা চার বছরের পরেই কি ক্যাম্পাস লাইফের ইতি? তাহলে আমি যে এই কয়েক বছর আগেই মাসকাটে সৌম্যর বাড়ীতে লক্ষ্মীপুজোর ভোগ খেতে যাওয়া একপাল নানা ইয়ারের ছেলেপুলেদের সাথে আড্ডা মেরে এলুম! যাদেরকে আমি চিনতুম না, জানতুম না। কিছুক্ষণের দেখার মধ্যেই যে একানুভবতা – সেটা কি ক্যাম্পাস লাইফের অঙ্গ নয়? আর রাজদীপ? মাসকাটে ওর পাঁচ দিনের সাহচর্য, আমার পাঁচ বছরের রুমমেটের থেকে তো কোনো অংশে কম নয়!

কলেজে পড়ার সময় আমাদের ক্যাম্পাসটা শুধু আট বা দশ বছরের এজিয়ারেই সীমাবদ্ধ থাকে। পরবর্তীকালে বি ই কলেজ ক্যাম্পাস মহাসমুদ্র। কোনও সময়ের বা স্থানের বন্ধনে আবদ্ধ থাকতে একদমই নারাজ। আমি কি BEশায়ন দেখতে পাচ্ছি। আর তোমরা?

Manas Samanta | 81 ME



অরুণ মজুমদার আরে ভাই অরুণ মজুমদার,
শান্তশিষ্ট, স্বভাব মিষ্ট, ফিগারটি স্লেন্ডার,
প্লাইড রুলের হিসাব মতে,
ওষুধ খাবে মধ্য রাতে,
শিশির গায়ে লিখন আছে - "প্রত্যহ চারবার"।

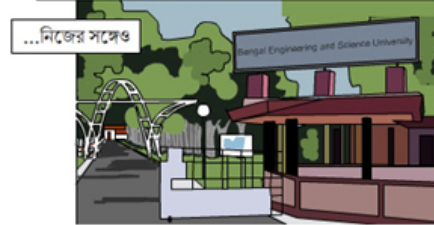


বিঙ্কলেজের ছাত্র ছিল সুব্রত রায়, সুব্রত,
সময় মতো ভাত না পেলো ষ্টীলের খালা তুবড়তো,
তাহার ঘণ্টা দুয়েক পরে,
দেখতে পাবে খাবার ঘরে,
টুলের উপর দুই পা তুলে হাড় চিবনোয় খুব রত।

Pradip Kumar Ray | 65 CE



PAG-লামি



...to be continued

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SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

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