



Presidential Council
Students' Gymkhana
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
Mid Term Report 2013
October 2013

(21st March—20th October)

Presented by:

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President, Students' Gymkhana
IIT Kanpur

And

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Students' Gymkhana
IIT Kanpur

150th Birth Anniversary Celebrations of Swami Vivekananda

Vivekananda Samiti



Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur



“So long as the millions live in hunger and ignorance, I hold every man a traitor who, having been educated at their expense pays not the least heed to them. We want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, the intellect is expanded, and by which one can stand on one's own feet.”

“What our country now wants are muscles of iron and nerves of steel, gigantic will which nothing can resist, which can penetrate into the mysteries and the secrets of the universe and will accomplish their purpose in any fashion, even it meant going down to the bottom of the ocean and meeting death face to face.”

— Swami Vivekananda

Coordinators: Arnab Pal (11112061), Ajay Vikram (Y9227046)

1. Introduction

Vivekananda Samiti, a club under the Students' Gymkhana, IIT Kanpur has been instrumental in propagating the thoughts of Swami Vivekananda among the campus community for over past four decades. Our activities include Vivekananda Youth Leadership Convention, workshops and seminars focused on self and social awareness, and youth empowerment, community service activities like health camps and collection drives, weekly discussion sessions, and many more. In particular, since Jan., 2011, based on a MHRD directive, we initiated the celebration of the 150th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

Through this proposal, we plan to hold regular skill development workshops for our bright and talented student community. Often we see students lacking in self-confidence, social awareness, communication skills, interpersonal skills and leadership skills. Addressing the same, we have organized few workshops in recent years, which have been very well-received. Therefore, we would like to organize such workshops and seminars on a more frequent and regular basis. Our thrust areas would include:

- Principled Leadership
- Communication Skills - Public Speaking, Presentation skills, GD skills, etc.
- Inter-Personal skills
- Mental skills like goal setting, decision making, concentration, emotional intelligence, mind mapping, etc.
- Entrepreneurship
- Self and Social awareness
- Indian Culture and Heritage
- Healthy Eco systems
- Indian Science and knowledge systems

2. Our Recent Activities

A brief overview of some of the major recent activities of the Samiti are as following:

(i) **Various talks for the IIT Kanpur Community during 2012-2013**

- 9th April, Tuesday, 2013:
Seminar on The Bhagvad Gita- Mr. Rajeev Joshi.
Participation: 60
- 10th, 11th and 12th August, 2013:
Vivekananda and Modern Science- Intuition, Innovation and Imagination by Dr. TGK Murthy (Former ISRO Director) and Prof. HC Verma (IIT Kanpur).
Participation: 90.
- 12th September, 2013—
Talk on Swami Vivekananda's views on Nation Building- Swami Suhitananda Ji (General Secretary Ramakrishna Math).
Participation: 75

- (ii) **Workshop on Entrepreneurship and Social Responsibility Sept 29, 2013**
Workshop on Entrepreneurship and Social Responsibility by a leading entrepreneur and author, Ms. Rashmi Bansal, IIM-A graduate. Other speakers include Swami Atmashraddhananda, Editor of Vedanta Kesari, and Mr. Amit Tiwari, an IITK alumnus and CEO of MKT Softwares.
- (iii) **Community collection Drives 2012-13**
Vivekananda Samiti with the help of other NGO organized community collection drive in which the old clothes (both summer and winter) were collected from the IIT residents and then distributed among the needy people.
- (iv) **Donation collection for Uttarakhand Flood Relief work June-July 2013**
Vivekananda Samiti IITK collected the donation of about 2 Lacs rupees from the campus community for the flood relief work being carried out by Ramakrishna Mission at Uttarakhand.
- (v) **CHS general health camp on 21st-22nd September, 2013:** health checkup of around 300 children was done with medicine.



THE GROUP FOR ENVIRONMENT

AND ENERGY ENGINEERING (GE-3)

Coordinators: Rahul Yadav (11564), Rithwik J Cherian (11605)

Activities Conducted

Open House Session and Documentary Screening

An open house was conducted in order to publicize and make aware the new campus residents about GE-3. In the open house a brief talk was conducted on the issues of global warming and climate change. Rest of the session involved informal discussions.

A documentary (Do the Math - 350.org) screening was also organized to gain more attention from the campus.

Green Opus Phase I - Electricity wastage reduction

Phase 1 of Green Opus was conducted in the month of September. Electricity usage readings of the student living areas of hostel were collected, at the beginning and at the end of the month.

Other Club Activities

Club meetings are organized from time to time, to keep the group active.

Various projects are being pursued by the members. Work is ongoing in the following projects:

- 1 Waste segregation
- 1 Increasing energy efficiency of library
- 1 White roofing of hostels and buildings in Academic Area
- 1 Bio-Gas Plant

Notes/Suggestions:

No clear instructions or protocol exist for noting the electricity readings of halls. A document with detailed instructions is to be made and passed on so that there are no discrepancies in the readings noted every year.

BIO-GAS PLANT

All the equipment required for the biogas plant has been procured. The assembly and work will commence this Sunday. Work involved is mainly cutting of water tanks to required shapes, making holes for fittings etc. The manual work will be done by the club members.

After assembly is complete the bio-gas plant would be ready for use. But due to oncoming winter and falling temperatures, starting the plant or running it won't be possible. After the winter is over, the plant functioning will be initiated. This will involve a one time initial input of cow dung (~40kg) as digester material, and daily addition of 2-3 kgs of food waste.

It will be attached to the hall 5 canteen.

Entrepreneurship Cell

Coordinators: Pranay Jain (11513), Naman Purwar (11098)

VISION

- E-Cell's annual newsletter, 'Accendo' was released in the starting of this semester.
- 1200 copies were distributed among the campus community.

E-Summit 2013

The Entrepreneurship Cell IIT-K organized E-Summit 2013, from 16th to 18th August with the theme, 'Prism of Opportunities'. The show was the confluence of ideas facilitated by various competitions, workshops, talks and a panel discussion.

➤ Competitions:

Various competitions were organized as a part of E-Summit 2013 with the aim of providing a platform to the students to showcase their talent and their entrepreneurial ideas. The competitions were:

- 'Mind your business', organized on 16th August at IME Building.
 - Simulation of the real start-up arena with students divided as entrepreneurs and investors.
 - About 100 students participated in the game.
- 'So-Cha' abbreviated for Social Change, organized on 17th August at IME Building.
 - Was a social entrepreneurship challenge aimed at eradication social evils by innovative solutions?
 - 21 teams registered for the event and 12 were shortlisted for final presentation.
 - Judging panel included Prof. Deepak Gupta and Prof. Madhav Ranganathan.
- 'Pitch your product', organized on 17th August at IME Building.
 - Was aimed at presenting a B-Plan for the technical projects and assessing commercial viability.

- 18 teams registered, from which 12 were shortlisted to present their bplan before the judges.
- Judging panel included Prof. Amitabha Mukherjee and Prof. Jayanta Chaterjee.
- ‘E-Sell’, organized on 18th August at IME Building.
 - Marketing competition, aimed at devising a new marketing strategy and tagline for the given product.
 - 27 teams registered, from which 17 were shortlisted for final presentation.
 - Mr. Mushir A Siddqui was the judge for the competition.

➤ **Workshops:**

A couple of workshops were organized as a part of the E-Summit 2013.

- Workshop on ‘Idea Generation and Opportunity Evaluation’ :
 - Two day workshop by NEN (National Entrepreneurship Network), organized on 17th and 18th August at IME Building.
 - Dr. Deepak Roy, Head, Centre of Excellence at SCMHRD, Pune conducted the workshop.
 - 22 students attended the workshop.
- ‘Innovation Workshop for Aspiring Entrepreneurs’ :
 - 3 hour long workshop by Focus Adventure India organized on 17th August at IME Building.
 - 30 students attended the workshop.
 - The participants got familiarized with different tools and methodologies which help enhance one’s innovative mindset. It also focused on various models of idea presentation.

➤ **Talks:**

As a motivational trigger for students, talks by young achievers from different backgrounds and experiences was organized on 18th August, 6 pm at IME. The speakers were:

- Bestselling author Preeti Shenoy.
- Ambarish Gupta, founder and CEO of Knowlarity and alumnus of IIT Kanpur, 2000 batch.
- Harishankaran Karunanidhi, co-founder of HackerRank and InterviewStreet.
- Piyush Agarwal, founder and CEO of Aurus Network and alumnus of IIT Kanpur, 2008 batch.
- Prashant Raj, Managing Partner and Director of The Viral Fever.

The talks were followed by a networking dinner, where the winners of various competitions got a chance to interact with the guests.

➤ **Panel Discussion:**

A Panel discussion was organized on the theme 'Funding Scenario in India and Future Opportunities' on 17th August, 6 pm at IME with the distinguished panelists like:

- Navin Honagudi of Investment Team, KAE Capital.
- Ashu Agarwal, Head of North India Operations, Indian Angel Network.
- Anil Joshi, Head of Operations at Mumbai Angels.

Moderated by Prashant Raj, Managing Partner and Director of The Viral Fever.

PRIME '83 Innovation Awards

- The Pilot run PRIME Innovation Awards for aspiring innovators, as a part of the PRIME83 Initiative, was organised.
- First round involving project documentation saw participation by 24 technical projects by students.
- 7 teams were shortlisted for final round held on 25th August at the Department of IME, where they pitched their project in front of faculty and alumni representatives from 1983 batch.
- The judging panel included Prof. J Ramkumar, Prof BV Phani Mr. Rahul Swarup and Mr. Srinath Mukherji, while the first round short listing also involved Prof. Nachiketa Tiwari and Mr. Srikant Sastri.
- Cash prizes worth 1, 25,000 were distributed among the teams, with further funding to be provided depending on the proposals made by the teams.

Meeting with alumnus

- The Core team of E-Cell met with a prominent alumnus of IIT-K, Mr. Kushal Sacheti who is also an entrepreneur residing in the U.S.
- E-Cell core team discussed with him about the work of E-Cell, entrepreneurial ecosystem in the campus and about entrepreneurship in general.
- Mr. Sacheti appreciated the work of E-Cell and gave valuable suggestions on improving and expanding the entrepreneurship culture in the campus.

TiECON Delhi

- Several teams of IIT Kanpur participated in TiECON Delhi, a national level professional networking conference on entrepreneurship held on 4-5 October.
- E-Cell in coordination with NEN (National Entrepreneurship Network) looked after all the logistical details and sorted queries regarding the registration of students including team members for the same.

TATA First Dot Workshop

- E-Cell will be hosting the workshop on 'Business Model: Getting it right' as a part of the National Entrepreneurship Promotion program, 'TATA First Dot, Powered by NEN'.
- The workshop is scheduled on October 19th and is being organized by TATA Group and NEN (National Entrepreneurship Network).
- According to the data provided by NEN, about 50 teams have registered till now and 40 teams were invited to participate.
- Workshop is for colleges of Kanpur and U.P. Teams from IIT Kanpur, IIT BHU and other colleges from Kanpur, Lucknow, Allahabad have also registered.
- E-Cell is responsible for the marketing, publicity as well as on ground logistics in collaboration of SIDBI Innovation and Incubation Center.

PRAYAS

Coordinators : Sangeeta Kumari (10641), Sumit Kalra (11211061), Kamlesh BHarodiya (11346), Karn Vohra (10342)

Team Size: 20 Volunteers

PRAYAS was started in 2001 with a vision to help the kids in and around the campus, who do not have access to quality schools, in their studies. Cantered on this theme, the vision has steadily evolved to encompass the idea of overall development of the kids which may not be possible in the environment which they come from. To realize this vision, in addition to regular teaching on 5 days a week, PRAYAS has various daily/weekly/ yearly activities in its schedule, like daily assembly to inculcate speaking and listening skills in the kids, 'play day' on Fridays, organizing in-house drawing competitions as well as encouraging and arranging their participation in various competitions in the district.

The major highlights of the achievements/activities so far are as follows:

- 1. Paper Craft Workshop:** A paper craft workshop was conducted in April 2013. A professional paper craft artist based in Kanpur was hired to teach the kids various paper crafts like paper bag etc.
- 2. Special English Classes during Summer Vacations (English Summer Program 2013):** During summer-2013 besides the regular classes in the evening, special classes were conducted in morning for English for children of Class VI to Class IL. Number of students enrolled in this program was 60.
- 3. Prayas Premier League (PPL):** Considering the interests of children in games and sports, we organized PPL which was a cricket tournament, played together by kids and volunteers of Prayas in the summers.
- 4. Special Navodaya Vidyalaya entrance exam classes:** Considering the financial status of the kids studying in PRAYAS, Navodaya Vidyalaya is a very good option if they get into it. Special classes are being conducted since May 2013 for the students of Class 5 to prepare them well for its entrance exam.
- 5. 8 students were selected for Bhakti Vedanta Camp in summer-2013:** Bhakti Vedanta Club organized a competition in which 200 students participated from all schools of Kanpur. 50 students were selected for the camp in which 8 students were from Prayas.
- 6. Fine arts Workshop:** It was organized in the summers where workshops were provided by the Fine Arts Club for different types of painting, origami, thermocol carving, charcoal and pencil sketching, sand art and paint and whole Team Prayas actively participated in that.
- 7. Library Expansion:** Along with many course books, different varieties of new books were added to our existing stock of books such as story books, comics etc. with a motive to attract children towards reading.
- 8. 15th August celebration:** Among the national festivals, we collectively celebrated 15th august. Also Prayas was started on 15th August 2001, so we celebrate this day as "**KARMA DIWAS**" of Prayas.
- 9. Rakshabandhan Celebration:** Among the various festivals that we collectively celebrate at PRAYAS, Rakshabandhan holds a special place. Like previous years, this year too, Rakhi was celebrated with much festivity with Rakhis and sweets.

10. Prayas students participated in a competition organized by “EK SPARSH PRAKATI KA”: 30 Prayas children took part in SPARSH competition. In final round 12 students were selected. 3 positions were occupied by Prayas children.

11. 12th Annual Function of PRAYAS: The biggest of celebrations at PRAYAS, its annual function- where the kids get a platform to display their talents in dance, music, drama, fine arts etc. was all the more special this year as we completed 12 years of being a Gymkhana Club this year. This time our children performed on the theme “Save Girl Child” with a motive to spread awareness, it was a grand affair with many PRAYAS alumni starting from the pioneer volunteers to those of Y4 batch attending the program.

12. Budget:

Budget Used	7183/-
Budget Left	50317/-

Book Club

Coordinators: Anirudh Kumar Agrawal (11042), Aditya Tandon (11098)

Secretaries: Abhijeet Sinha, Amit Kumar, Anurag Sharma, Ayush Agrawal, Jay Mehta, Nandha Kumar, Nilay Jain, Prakash Vishnoi

Vision of the Club:-

“A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies, said Jojen. The man who never reads lives only one.”

— George R.R. Martin

Our goal is to provide enriching and fun filling reading experience to the campus community. People read for various reasons. Some read to broaden their perspective of the world and learn new things, others read to learn how to channel their thoughts, some read to get inspiration, some read to get their mind free and see faraway places through the eye of their mind, some read to relax their mind after a tiring day full of hard work, while some read just for fun, We provide all of them a platform. We also aim at promoting literature and reading habits amongst the campus community.

Activities Done/Taken:-

1. Automation of the club, which started last year is at an advanced stage with most books that are regularly issued having been barcoded.
2. Including Donations, around 150 new books belonging to diversified genres have been added till now, taking the total catalogue to 6850 Books & Magazines
3. 280 new members have been added during last 3 months.
4. All new purchases were made by popular demand of the readers and the information was circulated to all the members
5. Several popular magazines like Reader's Digest, Caravan, etc. have been subscribed for.
6. A large number of Hindi Books (~65) were added using the Golden Jubilee funds.
7. Binding of a number of books was done using the Golden Jubilee funds.
8. To encourage book donations from the campus community, free slots were given in exchange for old books donated to the club.

Events Organized:-

1. Online Write-up Competition

To encourage the art of reading & writing, we organized an online write up competition which invited entries in the forms of poems, articles, stories, haiku's in English, Hindi. We received around 90 entries from 70 participants. Evaluation of results is under-way and winners will be given books and free slots as prizes.

Activities Planned:-

1. Literary Discussion Meets, Read-Meets will be regularly organized in coming days
2. Regular reorganization of books & updating of the catalogue will be ensured
3. Lit quizzes, Continue the story, Fan Fiction Writing competitions will be organized.
4. Online renewal facility will be started on the website.

ARC (Alumni Relationship Cell)

Coordinators: - Mahesh Dadhich (11396), Utkarsh Panday (11779)

Vision:-

Our Goal is to work towards the enhancement of relationship between Student and Alumni of IIT Kanpur, to involve Alumni in various activities of Institute, Provide students the opportunities to interact with Alumni.

Activities done:-

- 1 Contacted Alumni for Extended Orientation Programme (which is then cancelled)
- 1 Invited Alumni in Antaragni'13, made arrangement for their Antaragni visit.

Future Plans:-

1. Launch of peer connection programme: - This will be a portal where Alumni can find Info about their batch mates and other Alumni.
2. Will be Inviting Alumni for Techkriti'14.
3. Start coordinating with the other cells concerning Alumni like ACP, SPO and AA etc. A letter will be written to all the