



# ITIHAS

(IT Is Happening At SASTRA)



Newsletter from SASTRA University



Vol. 14

I Quarter

2014



## Message from VICE - CHANCELLOR

'Quality, progress and transparency' are the watchwords of SASTRA University. These by no means are a onetime product, but an ongoing one. They are sustained not only by constant endeavour, but by corroboration from time to time through scrutiny by a competent authority. Based on our self-study report, the National

Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) sent a six-member team headed by Prof. H.P. Khincha, former Vice-Chancellor of Visvesvaraya Technological University and Retired Professor of IISc., Bangalore. The team visited SASTRA from March 24-26, 2014. It is the third round of accreditation in the twelve year functioning of SASTRA University. We look forward to be awarded the highest grade by NAAC.

SASTRA this year has instituted SASTRA-CNR Rao Award to honour scientists for their outstanding contribution to Chemistry and Material Sciences – the two areas of Prof. Rao's special interest. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 5 lakhs and a citation. Dr. Suresh Das, Director, National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology, Tiruvananthapuram and Dr. Sourav Pal, Director, National Chemical Laboratory, Pune are the first recipients of the award. It is the second such international award instituted by SASTRA, the first one being SASTRA- Ramanujan Award.

SASTRA launched on February 3, 2014 Desh-Videsh – a new scheme for faculty members of SASTRA to visit foreign Universities/Research Laboratories for a period of four to twelve weeks. SASTRA defrays the expenses. This scheme intends to promote collaboration and sharing best practices towards quality improvement. The first batch of seven faculty members will be visiting the selected foreign centres of excellence during March-June 2014.

SASTRA organised a panel discussion, jointly with 'The Hindu' on 'Economists on Economize' in Chennai on March 8, 2014 in which four eminent economists deliberated on the state of the Indian economy. Again, SASTRA was the title partner for the ThinkEdu Education Conclave organised by The Indian Express in January in Chennai.

Daksh, Kuruksastra and Tarkasastra, the national level technical, cultural and moot court competitions held in this quarter drew a record number of participants from many parts of the country.

45 B.Tech. students are involved in research internship in prestigious universities abroad. Our Law students have brought home a shower of awards in the various moot court contests held in many parts of the country, during the quarter.

This issue of ITIHAS features all these and many other events of the quarter.

*Prof. R. Sethuraman*  
Vice-Chancellor

## SASTRA-CNR RAO AWARD PRESENTED TO TWO OUTSTANDING SCIENTISTS

SASTRA University instituted the annual 'SASTRA-CNR Rao Award' this year to recognise scientists for their outstanding contribution in Chemistry and Materials Science – the two areas in which Prof. C.N.R Rao has made seminal contributions. The award is a tribute to his relentless service in strengthening India's position in science and technology. The award carries a cash prize of Rs.5 lakh and a citation.

The first SASTRA-CNR Rao Awards were presented to Dr. Suresh Das, Director, National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology, Tiruvananthapuram, and Dr. Sourav Pal, Director, National Chemical Laboratory, Pune. Prof. M.R.S. Rao, Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore presented the award at a function organised on February 28, 2014, to mark the National Science Day.

Presenting the award, Prof. M.R.S. Rao greatly complimented SASTRA University for having instituted two international awards in the interdisciplinary areas, named after the two great legends of our country, Srinivasa Ramanujan and Prof. C.N.R. Rao. He portrayed Prof CNR Rao as a living legend who not only made tremendous contributions to science but also nurtured several young scientists in our country. He added that the two awardees of this year's prize - Dr. Suresh Das and Dr. Sourav Pal – are outstanding scientists in their chosen fields.



Dr. Suresh Das and Dr. Saurav Pal seen with the awards

Accepting the award, Dr. Suresh Das felt that it was a great honour given to him by SASTRA. He said that India needs a lot of people who believe in the power of science and he also appreciated SASTRA for having strongly convinced on the power of Science and Technology. Dr. Sourav Pal in his acceptance speech mentioned that the award had encouraged him to pursue his passion with more vigour.

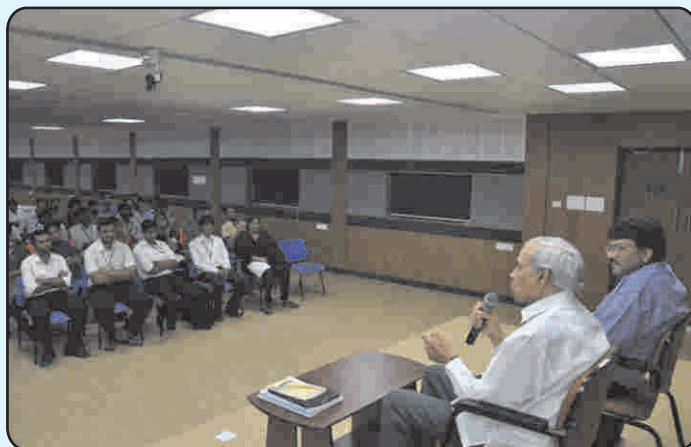
Dr. S. Swaminathan, Dean, Sponsored Research while welcoming the gathering said that SASTRA has a tradition of recognising the people who have made outstanding contributions to the people. He made a mention that the SASTRA – Ramanujan award, a cash prize of \$ 10,000, was instituted in the year 2004. The award is given annually to outstanding contributions by young mathematicians to areas influenced by Srinivasa Ramanujan. So far nine such mathematicians from US, UK and Germany have received the award. Dr. Swaminathan also introduced the awardees and read out the citations. Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice Chancellor presented mementos to the guests. Dr.M. Vijayalakshmi, Associate Dean, School of Chemical and Biotechnology proposed a vote of thanks.

### Science Day Lecture Series

Earlier on the same day, lectures were organised in view of the National Science Day. Prof. M. R. S. Rao spoke on 'Non-Coding RNA: New Players in Biology' and Dr. Suresh Das on 'Photoresponsive Materials.' Dr. Sourav Pal addressed the audience on 'Computational Chemistry: from Molecules to Materials.'

### NAAC PEER TEAM VISITS SASTRA FOR SECOND REACCREDITATION

A peer team from NAAC visited SASTRA for the third round of accreditation. The six-member team headed by Prof. H. P. Khincha, former Vice-Chancellor of Visvesvaraya Technological University & Retired Professor of IISc, Bangalore, visited the University from 24th to 26th March 2014 and made the assessment. Based on the team's recommendations, NAAC will award the grade and the results are awaited. We are confident of securing the highest grade, 'A'.



## DAKSH OCTA

The eighth edition of SASTRA University's techno-management festival DAKSH was held between February 21 and 23, 2014. Continuing with its practice of revolving around a theme, DAKSH OCTA this year focused on terrorism and peace. With thematically titled cluster of events like Shield, Guardian, Grey Matter, Reconnaissance, and so on, DAKSH celebrates concepts in civil, mechanical, electrical and electronics engineering, IT, biotechnology, law, management, etc. and uses them in competitive events to address issues concerning the security of the country and global security.

The event was inaugurated by Shri K.R. Ramprasad, Chief Technologist, Wipro Ltd. Inaugurating the event, Shri Ramprasad said that we are living in a very compelling and very disruptive environment because of the challenges of the digital world in which we are living. Shri Ramprasad who spoke on 'Innovation opportunities at the intersection of technologies' said that we are living in an era of creativity and innovation which are influenced by our perception. Our imagination has to be influenced by the perception of the reality of technology.



Shri K.R. Ramprasad lighting the traditional lamp

The flagship events for DAKSH OCTA are 'Forensics' and 'Be the Saviour.' Forensics is an event that simulates a crime scene to test the investigative brilliance of participants and Saviour is a robotic event that simulates a real-time terrorism encounter. Smart Room, Quad Copter, Space Trek are expos organized to provide infotainment and will see reality effects of vertical take-off UAVs, spacewalk and housebreak. In addition, a team of highly skillful master trainers from Calicut performed the traditional martial art Kalaripayattu to create awareness on the need for self-defence.



Over 2000 students from institutions all over the country participated in these events that carry a total cash prize of over Rs.6,00,000.



WIPRO was the title sponsor for the event and other reputed brands like TCS, Toshiba, Acer, Springer & Sika were also associated with this event.

### X Nani Palkivala Memorial Lecture

Shri Ajit Kumar Doval, Director, Vivekananda International Foundation & Former Director, Intelligence Bureau delivered the X Nani Palkivala Memorial Lecture on 'India's strategic response to Counter Terrorism.' He said that the Union Government's response to 2008 Mumbai terror attacks was very weak and misplaced.



Shri Ajit Kumar Doval delivers the Nani Palkhivala Memorial Lecture

Despite the strong proof pointing towards Pakistan's hand in the Mumbai terror attacks, India had not taken a tough stand. "Western countries helped us and we got inputs to show that the terror in Mumbai originated from Pakistan, but we have not given a fitting reply."

Mr. Doval claimed that statistics available with the Intelligence Bureau showed that more encounters have taken place in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh when compared to Gujarat between 2000 and 2013.

"Terrorism is a tactic used to achieve political or ideological goals. The intention is not just merely to kill people but to terrorize the entire population," Mr. Doval emphasized the need for evolving a strategic response to terrorism without going into the denial mode.

In the fight against terrorism, there is no guarantee that a country with better technology, defence and power will always win.

## DAKSH POWER TALKS

### Shri S. Gurumurthy, Thought Leader - 'Does Terror have a Religion?'

Delivering the first of the Daksh Power Talks, Shri Gurumurthy, Columnist said that many countries witnessed barbaric rule but that was unheard of in India. Deeply religious countries in the world are neither extremely peaceful nor extremely violent. India is peaceful because our understanding of religion is proper, said Shri Gurumurthy.

In India tolerance is inbuilt in our behaviour. We understand the nature of human relationship properly. We have a very good family culture where everyone behaves well. Our religious tolerance alone sustains our country in spite of our problems. Though we created a number of Gods, we know very well that God is one.

The concept of harmony of religions and harmony of people is the greatest gift India is offering to the world. Hinduism has never created gender difference. Hinduism is also doctrinally tolerant, argued the speaker. The culture of India guarantees freedom to minorities. India is not only the spiritual guru of the world but it is a living laboratory of noble qualities the world needs, pointed out Shri Gurumurthy.

Shri T.S.R. Subramanian, former Cabinet Secretary Spoke on 'Emerging Role of Judiciary & Bureaucracy.'

Smt. Priyadarsini Govind - Director, Kalakshetra, delivered a talk on 'Peace through Art.'



**KURUKSASTRA 2014**

Kuruksastra 2014, the national level cultural festival of SASTRA was held from March 20-22, 2014. Four nights of music and dance on a massive stage under colourful lighting and three days of intense competition among 2,000 students from over 30 colleges, over 50 hours of fun and food in the specially erected food and fun stalls provided the right mix of entertainment to over 10,000 lovers of arts, music, literature, drama, and dance.

This cultural extravaganza saw some of the biggest professionals in the music and dance circuit performing before a vibrant audience. The inaugural night saw the SASTRA University music band performing its various award-winning tunes followed by a fusion concert on the second day by renowned piano artist Shri Stephan Devassey and Veena artist Shri Rajesh Vaidya who sent the audience to a musical tizzy.

Professionals from Thanjavur performing folk dance revived the memories of traditional arts and the final day honours belonged to renowned playback singers Haricharan and Sakthishree Gopalan who mesmerised the audience with their outstanding musical numbers. The Vellore Institute of Technology bagged the overall trophy.



## TARKA SASTRA 2014

The third edition of TARKA SASTRA, the National Moot Court Competition of SASTRA was organised between March 28 and 30, 2014. Dr. G. Bhalachandran, Registrar, SASTRA inaugurated the event that witnessed participation from twenty six teams from various parts of the country.

Hon'ble Justice K. R. Shriram, Judge, High Court of Bombay, Shri Arvind Pandian, Senior Advocate & Additional Advocate General, High Court of Madras and Shri Rajib Hota, IRS, Commissioner of Income Tax, Chennai were the judges for the Finals. Delivering the valedictory address, Justice K. R. Shriram spoke on legal profession, ethics and guidance for law students. He goaded the students to become good court officers and good citizens. Shri Arvind Pandian appreciated the institutional achievements of SASTRA and beseeched the students to prepare for a career ridden with challenges. Shri Rajib Kota spoke on the challenges on protecting the tax bases.

The team comprising Shri Rishabh Malhotra, Shri Ishan Vyas and Shri Shreyans Gupta of the Jindal Global Law School, Haryana was crowned the winner of TARKA SASTRA' 14. They were given a Trophy, certificates and a cash prize of Rs 50,000/-. The team from Symbiosis Law School, Noida comprising Kum. Vanita Bhatnagar, Kum. Shubhangi Arora and Kum. Roopal Arora was declared the Runners up and was awarded a trophy, certificates and a cash prize of Rs. 25, 000/-. Jindal Law School also won the Best Memorial Award and Shri. Shreyans Gupta of the Jindal Global Law School was declared to have made the best written submission and won the Best Researcher Award. Kum. Vanita Bhatnagar of Symbiosis Law School, Noida won the Best Speaker Award. The winners of the individual prizes were given a cash award of Rs. 5,000/- each, a trophy and certificates.

Kum. Cindhuja Crishanan, Student Co-convenor of the event welcomed the gathering at

the valedictory function. Shri. S. Santhosh, the student convenor proposed a vote of thanks.



Moot competition in progress



The team from Jindal Global Law School receives the Trophy

**DESH-VIDESH SCHEME FOR SASTRA FACULTY**



Desh-Videsh,  
a new scheme for the faculty members of  
SASTRA has been launched which enables the faculty to visit  
foreign universities/research laboratories.

Shri N. Chandrasekaran, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of TATA  
Consultancy Services Ltd., launched the scheme on February 3, 2014.

Every year under the scheme, teaching faculty of the University will be selected to visit the foreign  
universities and research laboratories for a period of four to 12 weeks. The University will sponsor the  
visit of select faculty members who will explore collaborations with the host university and also bring back  
best practices that can be replicated at SASTRA. The faculty will also share the best practices at SASTRA  
with the host University.

The first batch of seven faculty members selected will be visiting Universities like Georgia Institute of  
Technology, USA, University of Cologne, Germany, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, University  
of Bologna, Italy and University of Windsor, Canada. The total cost for this  
programme is around Rs.20 lakhs.

The seven faculty members selected under this scheme are Dr. V. Badrinath,  
Dr. R. John Bosco Balaguru, Dr. K. Ramkumar, Dr. S. Venkatesh,  
Dr. V. Muthubalan, Dr. M. Sridharan and Dr. V. Ponnuswamy. They will  
be visiting the Universities from  
March to June, 2014.





SASTRA University organised a panel discussion, jointly with ‘The Hindu’ on the state of the Indian Economy, 'Economists on the Economaze,' at Hilton, Chennai on March 8, 2014.

Four eminent economists presented ‘New Ideas for a New India’ at the discussion. Dr. Arvind Virmani, Former Chief Economic Advisor, Government of India, Shri. S. Gurumurthy, Corporate Advisor, Dr. Ajit Ranade, Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group, Dr. Rathin Roy, Director & Chief Executive of National Institute of Public Finance & Policy were the panelists.

The fiscal deficit problem is not as visible in the States' public finances as it is at the Centre, said Dr. Rathin Roy. “With consistently improving quality of management of public finances despite their continued demonstrated ability to give handouts, the States have completed fiscal consolidation,” he said.

The Hindu Editor-In-Chief, Shri N. Ravi, moderated the discussion. “Touch any area of the economy, and you find so much remains to be done in so little time. We look to our economist-speakers for guidance in navigating the economic maze,” he said.

The first panelist, Dr. Virmani, said the slowdown could not be fully explained by the global economic downturn. He also rejected the view it was a temporary phenomenon owing to the UPA government's policy paralysis and governance deficit. “If a new government

implements known solutions to well-known problems, Indian economy will not return to the 8-per cent growth.”

“Sustained high growth decade after decade needed a package that comprised cuts in wasteful government expenditure, higher national savings, reduced dependence on short-term dollar inflows and a loose monetary policy,” he said.

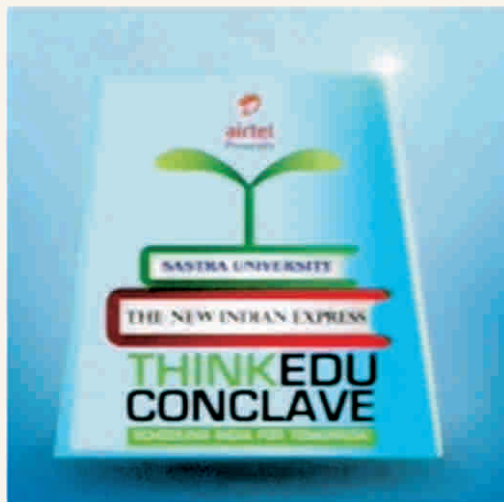
Dr. Ranade had a more optimistic take on the state of the economy. As a \$1-trillion economy, India was growing at 9 per cent seven years ago. Now, as a \$2-trillion economy, it needed to grow at 4.5 per cent to maintain the same rate of expansion, he said. The current rate of economic growth was, in fact, higher. India was estimated to grow at just under 5 per cent in the current fiscal. “Sometimes, one has got to keep perspective.”

Drawing on anecdotes, Shri Gurumurthy challenged the application of Western economic theories to Indian problems. “There is a disconnect between institutions and economic agents...where is the study on diamond-cutting when nine of ten diamonds in the world are cut in Saurashtra?” he said.

Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice Chancellor, SASTRA and Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning and Development, SASTRA also participated in the discussion.



**SASTRA – TITLE PARTNER FOR THINKEDU CONCLAVE**



SASTRA was the title partner for the ThinkEdu Education Conclave, organized by The New Indian Express on January 30 & 31, 2014 at ITC Grand Chola, Chennai. Eminent academicians, thinkers, social scientists and India's top political and corporate leaders came together to brainstorm on the challenges faced by the Indian education system and ways to overcome them.



**SASTRA'S SOLUTION FOR TREATING EFFLUENTS OF DYEING UNITS**

SASTRA University has come out with a novel method for treating effluents let out by Tirupur dyeing units.

Dr. Meera Parthasarathy, Senior Assistant Professor, Center for Nanotechnology and Advanced Biomaterials, (CeNTAB) School of Chemical and Biotechnology, and inventor of the novel method, explained it to the industrialists and technical persons of Veerapandi Common Effluent Treatment Plant, at the University on January 7, 2014. The method involves treating effluents with a special bacteria identified at SASTRA University named SASTRA bacteria for which patent had been filed and a powder in a two-step process instead of the seven-step process that was followed by dyeing units.

The untreated effluent undergoes bacterial treatment and powder treatment and becomes non-toxic.

Collecting untreated effluents from Tirupur, the SASTRA team conducted the experiments using bacteria and the powder prepared by them. Treated water was put to Zebra Fish Model (rearing fish in it) to find out whether it has been detoxified. Fish survived even after seven days and there is no toxicity in fish too, Dr. Meera said.

Following the court order, the dyeing units have been using a common effluent treatment plant.

Shri K.K. Padmanabhan, Technical Director, Veerapandi Common Effluent Treatment Plant, said that as per the court order the units should follow zero liquid discharge and hence wastewater could not be let out.



**SASTRA'S MOOT COURT TEAMS BRING A SHOWER OF AWARDS**

The team comprising Sathishprem S. R. Raghuvarathan (X Semester B.A.,LL.B.(Hons.)), Karthikeyan Gopinath (VI Semester B.B.A.,LL.B.(Hons.)) and Ashwin Ramesh (IV Semester B.A.,LL.B.(Hons.)) was adjudged the best Trial Team in National Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition, 2014, conducted by Government Law College, Thrissur from February 14 to 16, 2014.



The team consisting of Harini .S. (IV Semester B.A.,LL.B.(Hons.)), Chi.Krishnaswamy A.K.(IV Semester B.B.A.,LL.B.(Hons.)) and Haree Priya E.N.(IV Semester B.A.,LL.B.(Hons.)) won the IX All India Human Rights Moot Court Competition, 2014 held at School of Indian Legal Thought, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam from 20th to 22nd February,2014. 12 teams from various parts of India including National Law Schools participated in the event.

SASTRA TEAM was against National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS), Kochi in the finals held on 22nd February, 2014. Kum. Harini, S. was adjudged both as 'Best Lady Student Advocate' and 'Best Student Advocate.' Kum. Haree Priya E.N. was adjudged 'The Best Researcher'. Justice A. Hari Prasad, Judge, High Court of Kerala distributed the prizes to the winners.



The team comprising Aishwarya Krishna Iyer, final year BA.LLB,(Hons.) Dhanya V, final year BA.LLB (Hons.), Karthikeyan Gopinath, third year BBA.LLB, (Hons.) stood Runners Up in the 9th all India National Moot Court Competition conducted by GLC Trivandrum, from March 21-24, 2014. The team won 7 trophies, which consist of 3 rolling trophies, 3 individual trophies and one team trophy. Aishwarya Krishna Iyer was the second best speaker and G. Karthikeyan was the third best speaker. A total of 22 top national law schools participated in the event.



Chi Adarsh S (VI Sem. B. A., LL.B. (Hons.)), Kum. Smrithi S (VI Sem. B. B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) and Chi Ram Kumar N ((VI Sem. B.B.A., LL.B. (Hons.)) participated in the M.K.Nambyar Memorial National Level Moot Court Competition, 2014 held on 7th - 9th March, 2014 at Raja Lakhamgouda Law College, Belgaum. Chi. Adarsh, S was adjudged "Best Male Speaker" in the Competition. Totally 32 teams including National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS) Kochi, Symbiosis Law School, Pune, Indian Law Society Law College, Pune participated in the competition.



The team comprising Adith Narayan (VI Sem B. Com., LL.B. (Hons.)), Manasa Ananthan (VI Sem B. Com., LL.B. (Hons.)) and Akshay Ravi ((VI Sem B.B.A., LL.B. (Hons.)) reached the Semi Finals of the Prestigious 4th Ramamani Memorial Taxation Moot Court Competition, 2014 held from 14th to 16th March, 2014 at School of Excellence in Law, Chennai. Twenty two teams including Teams from National Law Schools participated in the Competition. Adith Narayan was adjudged the “Best Speaker” of the Moot Court Competition and was awarded a Trophy, a Gold Medal and cash prize of Rs. 5000/- . Hon'ble Justice Shrimathi K.B.K. Vasuki, Madras High Court distributed the prizes and awards.



Kum. Bharkavi S (IV Sem B.A.LL.B. (Hons.)), Shri Kiran M (IV Sem B.B.A.LL.B. (Hons.)) and Shri Ganesh Aravindh (II Sem B.Com., LL.B. (Hons.)) won the 35th All India Moot Court Competition organised on the 13th, 14th, & 15th of March 2014 by Dr. Ambedkar Government Law College, Pondicherry. The SASTRA team was declared the winners of the moot and were given the winner's trophy, individual mementos and certificates. SASTRA has won this competition three times in a row now.



### SASTRA STUDENT BAGS TCS BEST STUDENT AWARD

Dr. K. Kesavasamy, Global Head, Academic Interface Programme, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), India presented TCS Best Student Award to Chi. Kaushik Santhanam, Final year B.Tech student, Computer Science and Engineering, of SASTRA University on February 24, 2014. The award consists of a gold medal, certificate and cash prize of Rs 10,000.

Speaking at the function, Dr. K. Kesavasamy said that TCS has selected 100 best Institutions in India including SASTRA University for presenting TCS Best Student Award. The awardee is selected based on academic excellence, participation in Institute level activities and membership in technical forums such as IEEE, ACM etc.



### NATIONAL SEMINAR ON FORENSIC SCIENCES

A one day National Seminar on Forensic Sciences was held at SASTRA University on February 1, 2014. The Seminar, organized by the Bioengineering Division of the School of Chemical & Biotechnology was inaugurated by Mr. K. Sridharan, the Assistant Commissioner of Police, Tiruchirapalli. In his inaugural



address, Mr. K. Sridharan shared with the audience several interesting cases he and his team had encountered and emphasized the importance of intuitive and logical deductions from the evidence collected that enabled his team to crack the cases and apprehend the perpetrators. This Seminar had sessions on Forensic Psychology addressed by Mr. N. Arunkumar, Deputy Director, Athma Institute of Mental Health, Trichy, Forensic Toxicology by Mr. D. Bhaskar, Assistant Director, Forensic Sciences Department, Chennai, Ballistics by Mr. B. P. Babu, IOFS, General Manager, Ordnance Factory, Trichy and Cyber Forensics by Mr. S. Anbuchelvan, Inspector of Police, Cyber Crime Cell, Trichy. The Seminar had an overwhelming response with more than 300 participants. Dr. K. Uma Maheswari, Associate Dean, Bioengineering, welcomed the gathering.

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SRIMAD RAMAYANA

A National Conference on SRIMAD RAMAYANA was organised by the Department of Oriental Studies and Research and the School of Humanities and Sciences on February 17 & 18, 2014.

Inaugurating the two-day Conference, Dr. Roop Kishore Shastri, Secretary, Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Vedavidhya Pratisthan, Ministry of Human Resources Development, Ujjain, said, "The great epics Ramayana and Mahabharata of our ancient India stand reflectors of our culture and traditional values. The divine values have been nourishing our society for a long time. Till today no other work has evolved to exceed the mightiness of Valmiki's Adikavya Ramayana. The lucidity of language used, the meaning employed through mystical words, the morals imbibed, the significant arrangements of choice words and measured phrases make the readers go through the Epic tirelessly and vigorously for hours together."



The following eminent speakers addressed various sessions:

Dr.R.Krishnamurthy Sastrigal, Principal (Retd.), Sanskrit College, Mylapore - Veda and Ramayana

Velukkudi Sri Krishnan, The great Vaishnavite Scholar - Ramayana and Divya Prabandham

Dr. S Sowmyanarayanan, HOD of Tamil (Retd.), Madura College, Madurai - The Character of Sri Rama as depicted by Tulasidas

Sri Rangan Ji, Bangalore - Slide Show on The Character of Sita Devi as depicted by Valmiki

Kalyanapuram Sri Aravamudan, Thanjavur - Hari Katha in traditional style on Sri Ramanubhava of Saint Thiagaraja from his Telugu keertanas.

Nagai Sri Mukundan - The Character of Sri Rama as depicted by Kamban

Sri Thiruvengkatacharya, Ernakulam - The Character of Sri Lakshmana as depicted by Ezhuthachan in Malayalam.

Dr.N.Kannan, HOD, Department of Oriental Studies & Research, SASTRA - The Character of Sri Hanuman in Ramayana

Dr. B Sundar Kumar, Chennai - Characters of Sri Rama and Sri Bharata as depicted by Valmiki and Kamban

A written quiz programme was conducted on Ramayana to the student participants. Gold coins were distributed to the first three prize winners by Dr. B. Sundar Kumar

Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice- Chancellor and Dr. G. Bhalachandran, Registrar were among those who participated actively in the conference. The venue of the Conference was adorned by more than fifty informative and astounding flex boards, revealing the rich heritage of our ancient India through various Ramayanas of different languages

### SEDS INDIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE



Students for the Exploration & Development of Space – SASTRA (SEDS SASTRA) is an organization for student space enthusiasts. SEDS SASTRA at

SASTRA University boasts a population of around 800 members from the University and other Schools in Thanjavur and Trichy. Also, SEDS SASTRA is fortunate to have the support of various Space Agencies such as ISRO, TIFR, BAS and their scientists.



Carrying forward India's successful launch of the Mars Orbiter Mission, SEDS SASTRA hosted the SEDS India National Conference 2014 (SINC'14) on March 1 & 2, 2014, at SASTRA with the theme "Deep Space Exploration," to develop a future vision for Indian Deep Space Exploration Scenario.

The conference was inaugurated by Dr. Y.S. Rajan, Distinguished Professor and former Scientific Secretary, ISRO.

Dr. Rajan inspired the audience with his vast life experience and never ending journey through the field of Space Science. He insisted on "both physical and mental exercising, simultaneously" for students to realise their passion for living.

The other dignitaries who spoke in the two day conference were Dr. Prajval Shastri, Professor, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Dr. Avinash Deshpande, Scientist, Raman Research Institute, Mr. Srinivas Laxman, Eminent Space Writer.

Also, several events and workshop were conducted for the students on both the days. The conference witnessed a participation of more than 600 delegates from various institutes, school students from Monfort School (Trichy) and faculty members.

The sessions included a panel discussion on "Employability versus Entrepreneurship." These sessions provided invaluable tips on career growth and professional aspirations to budding young engineering graduands from various streams.

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE ADVANCES IN PROCESS ENGINEERING



The Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, Student Chapter of SASTRA University organised the First National Conference on Advances in Process Engineering (CAPE-2013) on October 18 & 19, 2014.

The Plenary Talk was delivered by Dr.Kannan Moudgalya, Professor of Chemical Engineering, IIT Bombay on "Sherlock Holmes on a HDPE Reactor". Followed by that, an enthralling talk on role of a chemical engineer was taken up by Dr. N.Anantharaman of NIT-Trichy. Optimisation techniques was the subject of Dr.V.K.Jayaraman's talk, who was a senior scientist at CSIR-CDAC, Pune. It was a moment of pride when our own alumnus Dr.B.Sridhar of IIT Bombay, took centre stage to deliver a talk on Computational Fluid Dynamics.

Mr.T.N.Chandrasekharan of ProU India Engineering, was the Chief Guest for the valedictory function and distributed the prizes to the winners and to the members of the organising committee.

### PROFESSIONAL AWARENESS CONFERENCE



The IEEE SASTRA University Student Branch conducted a Student Professional Awareness Conference (S-PAC 2014) on March 8, 2014. The Conference was inaugurated by

Shri. H.R.Mohan, Vice-President, The Hindu and Chairman- IEEE Computer Society. The event was attended by a total of 190 student participants of various engineering colleges from Southern India. The panel of invited experts in the conference included Shri. H.R.Mohan, Vice-President, The Hindu and Chairman-IEEE Computer Society, Shri.S.Gopalkumar, Vice-Chairman, Information Management & MGA Chair IEEE, Shri.G.Lakshminarayanan, CEO UmoldIT and Shri. Vijay Anand, CEO, The Startup Centre.

### ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

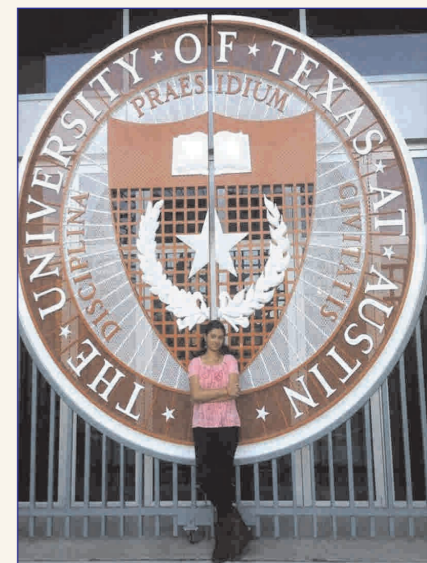
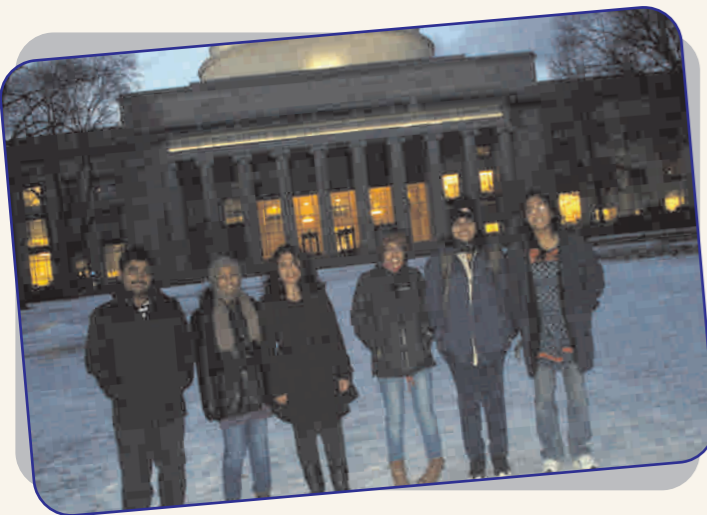
A twelve day Entrepreneurship Development Programme for the educated unemployed youth of Thanjavur District was organised by the Entrepreneurship Development Institute, Government of Tamilnadu, hosted by the Entrepreneurship Development Cell of SASTRA at SASTRA Campus. The programme was conducted from January 20 to February 4, 2014. Shri G. Lakshmi Narayanan, CEO, UMold IT Chennai delivered the inaugural address and



(continued on page16)

**SASTRA'S SEMESTER ABROAD PROGRAMME - 2014**

45 B.Tech. students of 2014 batch are undergoing their Research Internship at the following prestigious Universities, under the Semester Abroad Programme. They are being paid a monthly stipend of USD 200 and round trip airfare by SASTRA University with tuition fee waiver.



**Harvard MIT**

- Sruthi Subramanian
- K. M. Suganya
- M. Muthulakshmi
- G. S. Rajalakshmi
- Krithika Shankaran
- Dhivya Murali
- K. Ramya
- S. Niranjana
- N. Sivakumar
- R.Sankaranarayanan

**Georgia Tech, USA**

- T. Ram Mohan
- Vempalli Sessa Sai Swaroop
- Pujhitha Ramesh

**Orebro, Sweden**

- R. Kaushik
- Chennamaneni Rohith Rao

**University of Windsor, Canada**

- Himavarsha D
- M. Shruthi

**Virginia Tech University, USA**

- Sadhanaa B

**UPC, Barcelona**

- S. Namitha
- A.V.Sindhu
- V.K.Sadhvi
- S.Sanjana
- Saikrishna Karthik Molluru
- V.Radhakrishnan
- Aambarish Vaidya
- V. Prasath Krishnaswami
- Sathya Narayanan

**University of Wisconsin, Madison**

- Nittala Venkata Krishna

**University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee**

- M.Sivashankar

**University West, Sweden**

- Arvind Srinivas
- Abhinav . S

**NIMS, Japan**

- Naga Vijayalakshmi. M

**NUS, Singapore**

- J.S Bharathwaj
- Gadam Ramya

**Deakin University, Australia**

- Poornima Sampath
- R. Abirami

**University of Barcelona**

- Abhinav Kadambi
- Gowtham. S

**University of Tennessee, USA**

- N. Vignesh

**Leibniz University, Hannover (self)**

- Rajamathangi.K

**Michigan State University**

- Venkateswaran. L

**NTU**

- Nikhita Sarathy
- Akshaya Srinivasan

**University of Texas, Austin**

- Kathyayini. S

**University of Groningen, Netherlands**

- Prem Kumar. V

Shri Ramalingam, GM, District Industries Centre Thanjavur delivered the valedictory address. Thirty one unemployed youths participated and gained knowledge in the different fields namely, human resource management, financial aspects, marketing aspects and entrepreneurial skills.

Phoenix Association and National Institute of Personnel Management, School of Management organised a guest lecture on “Effective IR and role of stakeholders” presided by Shri. K.Manickam, Chairman, NIPM, Madras Chapter on 6th February 2014.

### TCS ACCREDITS SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

A team of experts from Tata Consultancy Services Limited visited the School of Management, SASTRA on 28th December 2013 and interacted with the students and faculty for the accreditation of the School. Based on its assessment TCS-AHAS accredited the School of Management of SASTRA on 4th March, 2014.

### TCS POST OFFER CONNECT



Mr. Sriram Joshi, Head of IT Infrastructure, TATA Consultancy services addressed the students placed with TCS on the

skills that students should accomplish to have a smooth on boarding with TCS, on March 4, 2014. He emphasized on the present industry trends and the areas students should concentrate and develop. Around 450 students of SASTRA participated in this programme.

### WIPRO MISSION 10 X PROGRAMME

Dr. Sugatha, Wipro Mission 10 X trainer conducted a three day faculty development programme from January 23-25, 2014. 32 faculty members from all the schools participated.



### TRANSITION FROM COLLEGE TO CORPORATE

Shri Krishnan, CEO, Accurus Solutions addressed the final year students of B.Tech – CSE, IT, ICT, ECE & EEE on the topic “Transition from College to Corporate,” on January 20, 2014. 350 students from B.Tech circuit branches participated in the program.

### SOFTWARE WORKSHOP

M/s KLA Tencor conducted a Software workshop titled “Pursuing your dreams” for the III B.Tech students on March 30, 2014. 176

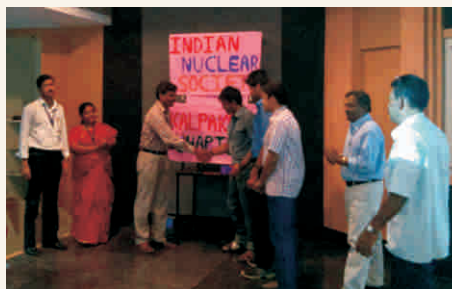


students from School of Computing participated. 5 of our students won the contest and were presented “Raspberry Pi.” Out of these 5 students, 2 students have also got internship opportunity with KLA Tencor.

### IIT MADRAS OUTREACH PROGRAMME

IIT Madras organised its Outreach Programme at SASTRA University to address 3rd & final year B. Tech students and M. Tech students regarding admission to MS/PhD programme. Around 100 students attended the Orientation session on March 31, 2014. Prof. Sathya Chakravarthy and Prof. Vengatesan from IIT Madras lectured on the higher education and research opportunities at IIT Madras and answered the questions of students. The professors from IIT Madras also explained the objectives of the outreach programme viz. Inquisitiveness, Search, Innovation and Application.

### WORKSHOP ON NUCLEAR ENERGY



A workshop on “Nuclear Energy” was organized by the Dept. of Physics on February 28, 2014 to mark the National Science Day.” In the

workshop scientist from IGCAR, Kalpakkam, Shri V. Subramanian, delivered lecture on Protection against Nuclear Hazards. A Quiz programme of “Nuclear Science” was conducted by IGCAR Scientist Shri P. S. Devanathan. Prizes were distributed to the winners by Nuclear Society of India.

**PRADIPTA 14**



The School of Management, SASTRA University organised a State level student meet "PRADIPTA 14" an inter collegiate

event for Commerce and Management undergraduate students, on March 28, 2014. Dr.S.Pugazhenthii-Dean, School of Mechanical Engineering, SASTRA inaugurated the meet and addressed the students about the key to success and the ways to develop the problem solving skills. Various colleges participated in four events namely, Knowledge Bowl, Business Quiz, Talk and Discuss and Dumbsheraz. The overall trophy was won by GTN Arts & Science College, Dindigul. Shri.Subramani Ramakrishnan - Head, Delivery Quality IBM-Chennai, distributed the prizes at the valedictory function.

**SAKSHAMA '14**

Sakshama'14, the annual technical festival organised by MECASSO, the Students' Association of School of Mechanical Engineering was held on February 8, 2014. As many as 14 events were organised on the theme "Go



green!" and "Go frugal!" The flagship events like Manual Robotics, Hydraulic arm, Tech debate and Industry defined problem solving

had a whopping response from the participants numbering more than 700. Dr. K. Thiyagarajan, Dean, Research, SASTRA distributed the cash prizes to the winners.

**WORKSHOP ON QUALITY SYSTEMS**

MECASSO organised a one day workshop on 'Quality systems in meeting manufacturing challenges' on February 2, 2014. Dr. N. Ravichandran, Executive Director, LUCAS TVS Ltd. who spoke on the topic explained the business world today and how quality plays a key role in the competitiveness of a company in



its market. He explained the importance of quality and time management in the production line. Topics like Total Quality Management

and TPM were explained with live demonstrations on stage.

**D.Sc. BY FACULTY**



Dr. N. Subramanian, of the School of Humanities & Sciences obtained his D.Sc. degree in Mathematics from Berhampur University, Orissa in February 2014. In appreciation of this achievement, he has been promoted as

Professor from Senior Assistant Professor cadre.

**EX-GRATIA TO RETIRED PROFESSOR**

A sum of Rs 8.37 lakh was given as ex-gratia payment to Dr. T.R. Sivaramakrishnan formerly Senior Professor at the School of EEE on March 3, 2014. Besides he was paid Rs 14.50 lakh from the Employees Provident Fund, which includes Management contribution.

**EX-GRATIA TO NON-TEACHING STAFF**

An ex-gratia, equivalent to one-month gross salary has been given to all Non-Teaching Staff of SASTRA University in April 2014, to commemorate the successful completion of the 30th academic year of SASTRA.

**PONGAL GIFT TO VILLAGERS**



SASTRA distributed Pongal Gift - bags containing 5 kg raw-rice, 1 kg jaggery and ½ kg dhal to each of the 1770 ration

card holders of Tirumalaisamudrum, Vallampudur, Monnaiyampatti and Kuruvadipatti villages on January 12, 2014. Dr. S. Swaminathan, Dean-Sponsored Research distributed the gifts.

**KNOWLEDGE LEADERSHIP FORUM LECTURES**



**Shri Sushant Jena**, Vice President, Design and Development, TI Cycles India of Murugappa Group, Chennai spoke on

“Robust, Industrial and Product Design” at a lecture organised by the School of Mechanical Engineering on February 26, 2014.

The speaker concentrated on the innovation required in the field of industrial design and the speed with which one has to keep abreast of in the industry to thrive. The lecture touched upon topics like future design, product design and also graphical design. The 6 D's that command the process of design were also focussed by the speaker.



Renowned Harikatha Exponent **Smt. Vishakha Hari** delivered a talk on the topic “Great Men on Great Women,” on February 28, 2014. Delivering the lecture she traced the contours of

Indian history with specific reference to the role of great women across all ages – Vedic, colonial and modern. Citing examples of Garghi, Sita, Draupadi, the Goipkas of Brindavan, Sarada Devi, Sister Niveditha, etc. Smt. Vishakha explained the distinctive greatness in each of the women and how great saintly men and kings like Yajnavalkya, Yudhishtira, Karna, Lord Rama, Swami Vivekananda, etc. have specifically pointed to the greatness of Indian women. Stressing on the need to understand India's historical greatness, she explained the unique characteristics of Garghi and her intellectual dialogue with Sage Yajnaavalkya that made her a naturally great philosopher. The holy wifehood of Sita, the compassion of Draupadi towards Ashwathama, the modesty of Sarada Devi and the spiritual nationalism of Sister Niveditha were some of the significant and unique characteristics that made them great not only in front of normal eyes but accepted great by men of equal

greatness. Highlighting the greatness of ancient women that laid down the country's foundational asset that has endured for many centuries she advised students on the growing responsibility on them to understand the true spirit behind the concept of Indian Womanhood in modern times.

**Smt. Visaka Hari appointed Honorary Professor**

Dr.S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean – Planning & Development handed over a formal letter of appointment designating her as Honorary Professor of Arts & Culture at the Department of Oriental Studies at SASTRA University. Welcoming the gathering, he recalled SASTRA University's introduction of two courses - Life & Message of Swami Vivekananda and Indian Womanhood in its mainstream curriculum. He stressed on the need for enlightened empowerment for women than on the west-centric model of empowerment which is rights driven at the cost of respect.

**Dr. Shankar P. Bhattacharyya**, Professor, Electrical Engineering, Texas A & M University, USA spoke on 'Linear Systems: A measurement based approach analysis, synthesis and design,' on January 1, 2014. The speaker elaborated on the measurement based approach. He pointed out that any linear system, be it electrical, mechanical or hydraulic can be analyzed and modified by the approach.



**Prof. M. Lakshmanan**, Professor of Eminence and DAE-Raja Ramanna Fellow, Centre for Nonlinear Dynamics, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli delivered a lecture on 'Nonlinearity in science and engineering (NSE): Relevance and applications,' on January 8, 2014. He explained all types of dynamical equations to describe the science and engineering problems with the physical examples like Chua's circuit, memristor, fibre and nonlinear materials. The dynamics of



chaos, soliton and fractals using appropriate model equations to study the dynamical properties of physical system were also covered by him.



**Dr S.Venkataraman**, Group Director, System Engineering Group, Advanced Data Processing Research Institute (ADRIN), Department of Space, Govt. of India,

Secunderabad spoke on 'Secure Embedded Bootable and Vault Devices' on February 10, 2014. The lecture concentrated on data security over the cloud and effective storage systems. This was explained in detail with several examples on leading technical and social networking companies. The disadvantages of having only software security protecting sensitive data was discussed with a case study.

**Shri Badri Narayanan Parthasarathy**, Vice President, TATA Communications, Chennai delivered a lecture on Software Defined Networking (SDN) and Next Generation Internet on March 28, 2014. He provided a detailed view on telecom and its advancements till date. He also talked about the differences between SDN and NFV.



**Prof. Ning Sun Yang**, Distinguished Research Fellow and Professor, Agricultural Biotechnology Research Center, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan delivered a talk titled "The multi-facet inflammation-modulatory activities of medicinal

phytochemicals (Shikonin): Revealed by transgenic and omics studies" on Feb 04, 2014 organised by the School of Chemical and Biotechnology. His lecture detailed the potent activities of phytochemicals via multi-factorial effects on specific stromal immune / fibroblast cells, that could result in anti-growth and anti-metastatic activities in mammary cancer systems. He also focused on the development of gene-based



vaccines against cancers to induce strong and long-lasting cell-mediated immunity.

Prof. Yang is collaborating with Dr. S. Senthilkumar, School of Chemical and Biotechnology, through Indo-Taiwan Science and Technology Cooperation Programme funded by Department of Science and Technology, Government of India and National Science Council / Ministry of Science and Technology, Taiwan.

**Shri.R. Varadarajan**, Chief Manager (PBD), State Bank of India, Thanjavur Main Branch, Thanjavur gave a special lecture on the topic 'Legal and Regulatory Aspects of Banking' on



January 16, 2014 to the second year MBA Students. He gave the useful guidelines for the preparation of Institute of Banking and Finance examinations.

Phoenix Association and National Institute of Personnel Management of School of Management organised a guest lecture on "Effective IR and role of stakeholders" presided by Shri. K.Manickam, Chairman, NIPM, Madras Chapter on 6th February, 2014. He emphasised the significance of industrial relations and the role played by different stakeholders in building effective industrial relations in an organisation.



**Er.K.V. Rangaswami**, Former Director, L & T, Chennai spoke on "Use of Technology in Modern day Construction" on 28th March, 2014. The session began with a presentation

highlighting the need for the use of modern techniques in construction industry. He stressed on five principles essential for the successful completion of a project being time, cost, quality, safety and sustainability.

**Prof. V.S.Raju**, Chairman of the Naval Research Board, Defence



Research and Development Organization, Government of India and former Director of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi spoke on the topic “Challenges and Opportunities for Indian Engineers” on 14th February 2014. The speaker discussed the 21st century challenges of Population Explosion, Poverty, Depleting Natural Resources, Environmental Degradation and so on.

**CENTRE FOR NONLINEAR SCIENCE & ENGINEERING (CeNSE)**

A Centre for Nonlinear Science & Engineering (CeNSE) has been established at SASTRA. The centre was inaugurated by Dr.M. Lakshmanan, Professor of Eminence and DST Ramanna Fellow, Centre for Nonlinear Dynamics, Bharathidasan University on March 8, 2014. The objectives of the centre are to carryout research in frontier areas of nonlinear dynamics; to promote interdisciplinary areas of research using nonlinear concepts; to train students on nonlinear concepts and its applications; to develop collaborations with leading groups and to facilitate students with exchange-visits to international research labs.



**CERTIFICATE COURSE ON NAMASANKEERTHANAM**

A Two-year Certificate Course on Namasankeerthanam offered at SASTRA was inaugurated by Udayalur Shri Kalyanaraman Bhagavathar on February 17, 2014. Shri Kalayanaraman also performed Namasankeerthanam on the occasion.



**SASTRA FACULTY IN GLOBAL TASK FORCE ON INVESTIGATING THE COMPLEXITIES OF CANCER**

Dr. Gunjan Guha, Assistant Professor, SCBT, is among 5 scientists from India working in a global task force on cancer called "the Halifax Project", based in Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada. He is a part of a highly prestigious team comprising of more than 350 cancer researchers from prominent research institutions in 31 countries in a project that hopes to tackle the complications of cancer. This collaborative international initiative is being led by a non-governmental organization called “Getting to Know Cancer”.



Cancer is a disorder with not one, but multiple defects. To overcome these defects, an innovative, multi-pronged and multi-targeted approach to treatment is essential. In this direction, “the Halifax Project represents the first global initiative that involves the collaboration of a large number of the very best cancer scientists and researchers from around the world”, according to Dr. Keith I. Block, Medical & Scientific Director of the Block Center for Integrative Cancer Treatment in Skokie, IL, USA.

Within the project, Dr. Guha is working as the designated specialist in "evasion of anti-growth signaling in cancer", a putative hallmark of cancer. He is specifically looking at how cancer cells evade anti-growth signaling pathways, which in normal cells inhibit unchecked proliferation by interrupting cell division (mitosis). Dr. Guha is working along with other cross-functional teams of scientists who are focusing on different aspects of cancer biology. Together, they are looking forward to design a ground-breaking 'broad-spectrum' therapeutic approach that will be aimed at many prioritized targets simultaneously. The results of these studies are scheduled to be published in multiple publications in Seminars in Cancer Biology (Elsevier) and Carcinogenesis (Oxford).

## THE 13<sup>TH</sup> SPORTS AND ANNUAL DAY AT SRC

The 13<sup>th</sup> Sports and Annual Day of Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre, SASTRA, Kumbakonam was celebrated on April 12, 2014.

Shri.K.Balamurugan, IFS, Regional Passport Officer presided over the function and delivered the Annual Day address and distributed prizes.



The Chief Guest also honoured the winners of various competitions held by SASTRA for the schools in and around Kumbakonam. The representatives from Sri Saraswathi Patasala Higher Secondary School, Kumbakonam, Little Flower Higher Secondary School, Kumbakonam and G.S.K. Memorial Senior Secondary School, Pateeswaram received a cash award of Rs.5000/- each for the development of their library.

Kum. Kanimozhi of IV CSE, the Chairperson of the Students' Forum, welcomed the gathering. Shri K.Sathyamoorthy, Physical Director readout the Physical Education Annual Report. Major A.Balasubramanian, Principal, School of Education and Prof.K.G.Ragunathan, Dean, SRC presented the annual reports for the year 2013-14 and Kumari M.Zahraa Batoool of III B.Sc proposed a vote of thanks.



## NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS



National Science Day was celebrated at SRC on February 28, 2014. Dr. N. Chidambaram, Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Madras, delivered a lecture on 'The Demands of Modern System of Education.' Lecture method of teaching and spoon feeding would not help any more, observed the speaker in the course of his talk that centered round the concept of self learning. Curiosity to learn, willingness to work hard, desire to be innovative and self reliant, unquenchable thirst for self expression, creative thinking and communication skills are some of the ingredients of success in academic arena in modern times, said the speaker.

### Microscope and Chemical Balance donated to Schools

As part of National Science Day Celebrations, SASTRA donated a Microscope and a Chemical Balance to four schools at Kumbakonam namely Vallalar Hr. Sec. School, Sri Saraswathi Patasala Girls Hr. Sec. School, Town Hr. Sec. School and Native Hr. Sec. School. Representatives of these institutions received the gifts.



### INTER SCHOOL COMPETITIONS - 2014

SASTRA University organises Inter-School competitions every year to bring out the latent talents of the school children in and around Kumbakonam. Oratorical contest in English and Tamil, Quiz competition, Vocal carnatic music and Sanskrit recitation are held to motivate the young learners to master these arts. The individual winners are honoured with a cash award of Rs 2000 & 1000 for the first and the second prize respectively. The winners in the Quiz contest receive cash award of Rs 3000 and 1500 for the first and second position. Apart from these prizes, the school to which the first prize winner belongs receives a cash award of Rs 5000 for development of their library.

This year, the interschool competitions were held from January 6 to 10, 2014. Kum. B.Alankrutha of Saraswathi Patasala, Kumbakonam bagged the first prize in the English oratorical competition. Kum. V.R.Renganayaki of Town Higher Secondary School, Kumbakonam came second and Kum. A.Jayasree of DBTR National Higher Secondary School, Mayiladuthurai won the third prize. In the Tamil oratorical contest, Chi.A.Nagamuthu Pandian of Little Flower Higher Secondary School stood first and Kum.T. Manimekalai of Saraswathi Patasala, Kumbakonam came second. In the Quiz competition Dr.GSK Memorial School won the first prize and Town Higher Secondary School, the second.

In the Vocal carnatic music competition, Kum. V.R.Varshini of Sri Matha Matric Hr. Sec. School bagged the first prize. In the Sanskrit recitation, Kum. K.Nandhini of Town Higher Secondary School, Kumbakonam won the first prize and Chi. G.Aravind Balaji of Oriental Higher Secondary School won the second prize. In the instrumental music contest, Chi. T.Ezhilarasu of Sri Matha Matric Higher Secondary School won the first prize.



### THIRUPPAVAI AND THIRUVEMPAVAI RECITATION CONTEST

SASTRA University organises Thiruppavai and Thiruvempavai recitation contest every year to the school students in and around Kumbakonam to promote cultural integrity among the student community. In the contest conducted on January 10, 2014, 25 students from



14 schools participated. Oduvar Shri. Muralidaran, Dr. Rajagopala Nadathur, Head, Dept. of Computer Science, Dr. R. Sowrirajan, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Mathematics served as the judges for the event. A.Madhumitha of Town Higher Secondary School bagged the first prize of Rs 3000, R. Seethal of Town Higher Secondary School won the second prize of Rs 2000 and M. Jeevitha of New Light Matriculation School received the third prize of Rs 1000. The University also honoured all the participants with a cash award of Rs 500 each.

### SASTRA STUDENT TO ATTEND GURUKUL PROGRAMME OF DALAI LAMA FOUNDATION



Kum. Priya Raj, Final year M.Tech. Advanced Manufacturing has been selected to attend the Gurukul Programme conducted by The Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness Dalai Lama. The foundation conducts the programme every year for University students to

make them experience the ancient method of learning and to give insight of Tibetan culture etc. During the programme, the students get an opportunity to meet and interact with HH Dalai Lama. The programme will be conducted from June 1 to July 7, 2014 at Dharmasala, Himachal Pradesh. Only 32 students are selected to attend the programme.

## THETA 2K14

Theta 2K14, a three-day Techno-Management Fest organised by various student Associations of SRC Campus, SASTRA University, Kumbakonam was



inaugurated on 28, March, 2014 by Shri. S.Murali Shankar, Joint Managing Director, Super Auto Forge, Chennai. The speaker motivated the students through his brilliant speech in

which he enumerated some of the challenges that await the student community in future. Harnessing human potential is an art that can be achieved only through proper governance, said the speaker who also went on to appreciate the University for making necessary efforts in that direction. Change Management is a complex skill that is very much needed for both personal and professional progress, observed the speaker. Work life balance and work ethics are the other qualitative skills necessary for the student community to face the practical problems in the complex, competitive life, affirmed the speaker.



51 technical competitions were organised under nine clusters. Technozard, Cricketrionics, Code Genix, Reverse Coding, Enigma, Quicker Mania, Bio-Quiz,

Ezudhukalam, Innopost, Knotty Crunch, Piratrix, Robo Race, Klick O Graphy and mind boggling games like FIFA and NFS were some of the events organized during the Fest. Around 3000 students from different colleges participated. Prizes to the tune of Rs 1.5 lakh were given away to the winners.

Shri. Sundaram, Director - Technology, KGISL Group of Companies delivered the valedictory address and gave away the prizes.



## SOCIAL SERVICE CAMP FOR TEACHER TRAINEES

The School of Education organised a five-day Social service camp for the students of B.Ed. and M.A. & M.Sc.B.Ed, programme from 24-28 February 2014. Prof. K.G.Ragunathan, Dean, SRC inaugurated the camp at Arulmigu Kolavalli Ramar temple at Thiruvalliangudi.



The student teachers cleaned the temple campus and planted saplings in the village. They attended Yoga Training at Arivuthirukoil and participated in the Blood Donation Camp jointly organised by the School of Education and the NSS wings at SRC. Dr.V.C.Nedunchezian, delivered a lecture on Indian Medicines. They visited the Yanayadi Municipal School at Kumbakonam to conduct the morning assembly and to clean the campus. A demonstrative lecture on The Principles of Scouts and Guides was delivered by the third year B.Com students. Shri.R.Nandakumar served as the camp officer.

## KALAMALIKA

In RIVIERA'14, organised by Vellore Institute of Technology from February 6 to 9, 2014 a team of 22 students participated in various events and won prizes.

In DAKSH, organized by SASTRA, SRC team managed to win a cash award of Rs.10,000 for the event JUNKYARD WARS.

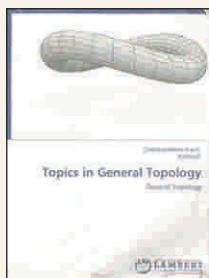
In the State Level Techno meet organized by Kumaraswamy College of Engineering, Karur. Chi. Y.Varunraj of IIB, Tech CSE won the event title Mr.Chakravar.

In the One day literary festival hosted by Jamal Mohamed College, Trichy on February 19, 2014 SRC team emerged as the overall champions and received the Rolling Trophy for the year.

In the One day literary Fiesta, ACME '14 conducted by Holy Cross College, Trichy on February 21, 2014, SRC won the first prize in Debate and Quiz competitions.

In the Literary Cultural Festival organized by Central University, Thiruvapur on February 28, 2014, K.Santhosh Kumar of II BCA won a Cash award of Rs.800.

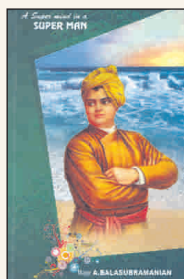
**BOOKS BY PROFESSORS**



Dr.K.Chandrasekhara Rao, Professor, Department of Mathematics, SRC published a book entitled ‘Topics in General Topology.’ The book is designed exclusively to meet the requirements of research scholars. Its coverage includes Smg-boundary, some types of normal spaces,

Separation axioms, Lower Separation properties etc. The book is published by Lap Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany.

A monograph on Life and Legacy of Swami Vivekananda entitled ‘A Super mind in a Super Man’, authored by Major A.Balasubramanian, Principal, School of Education, was released on February 3, 2014, the very date Swami Vivekananda visited Kumbakonam in 1897.



**ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES**

**ELCOM DAIS**, the Association for the students of ECE organised a seminar on “Analog Circuits in Digital Era” on February 7, 2014. Shri. G.Shriram, Senior Technical Member, Analog Devices Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore, spoke on the vital role played by the analog electronics in the world that is becoming increasingly digitalised. Around 200 students from the department of ECE attended the seminar.

A lecture on HAM Radio, was organized on March 7, 2014. Shri. S. Satyapal, Director, Indian Institution of Hams, delivered the lecture.

**Special Lectures by Genechem**



Genechem, the association of the Department of Chemistry & Bio-sciences, arranged a lecture on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014. Dr. B. Sundaravadivel, Associate Professor, Dr. Gazes Cardiac Centre, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, USA,

delivered the lecture on ‘Molecular Mechanisms of Cardiac Fibrosis’. During the talk, he elaborated the method of adaptation of heart during stress conditions and mechanism of fibrosis in heart. He also mentioned the precautions to be taken to keep cardiac ailments at bay.

Dr.Vazhaikkurichi M.Rajendran, Professor of Biochemistry, West Virginia University, USA, delivered a lecture on ‘Electrolyte water absorption related to Diarrhea’ on March 28, 2014.

**ELPOWER ACTIVITIES**

ELPOWER, the Association for the students of EEE organized a two-day workshop on ‘Computer aided power system engineering’ for the third year students on April 2&3, 2014.



COM MAN FORUM, the association for the Department of Commerce and Management Studies organised a two- day National Conference on ‘Emerging trends in Banking and Insurance Sectors’ (ETIBIS-2014) on February 21&22, 2014.



Dr. Raja Ruhnathan, DGM, IOB, Thanjavur, inaugurated the conference.

Dr. B. Vijayachandran Pillai, Prof. of Commerce and Management Studies, University of Calicut, Kerala, Dr. N. Thamarai Selvan, Associate Professor of Management Studies, NIT, Trichy, Shri. Ramani, Faculty Advisor of CUB Staff College, Dr. S, Sudalai Muthu, Associate Prof of Banking and Technology, Pondicherry University, Dr. K. Alamelu, Prof of Bank Management. Alagappa University, Shri G,Ramachandran, Sr. Manager, LIC of India, Mayiladuthurai and Shri. Ramanathan, Branch Manager, LIC of India, Mayiladuthurai were the invited speakers. More than 220 participants from various institutions participated in the conference.

EXACT, the association for the Department of Computer Science organised a workshop on 'Programming Skills in Java' on March 21, 2014. Shri.R.Balakrishnan, Smt. Sumathi and Shri. Yagnesh, Assistant Professors, Department of Computer Science conducted the workshop. Shri. R.Balakrishnan and Shri C. Bharathi conducted a Workshop on Application Development Using Adobe Flash on March, 22 2014. Shri. K.Raghuraman and Smt. K.Priya, Assistant Professors in the Department of Computer Science conducted a workshop on PHP on March 21, 2014.

## NSS SPECIAL CAMPS



A special camp was organised by the NSS Units of SASTRA Main Campus at Sellappanpettai, Thiruvengadandiyanpatti, Monnayampatti,

Kurivadipatti and Tirumalaisamudram villages from February 24 – March 2, 2014. 110 NSS volunteers participated in the camp. The theme of the special camp was 'Healthy Youth for Healthy India.'

Dr. G. Bhalachandran, Registrar inaugurated the camp and Dr. S. Seshadri, Dean SoCE delivered the key-note address. Veterinary Camp by Dr. S. Panchapakesan, Siddha camp by Dr. C.S. Sagayam, Ayurvedha camp by Dr. R. Devanathan were conducted in these villages. At Kurivadipatti village Vasan Eye Care, Thanjavur conducted eye testing camp for the primary school children and the village community which had a good response.

NSS volunteers involved themselves in Student Development Programmes at Government Primary Schools in these villages.

The special NSS Camp for the academic year 2013-14 was organised by the NSS wings at SRC from March 13-19, 2014. Healthy Youth for Healthy India was the theme of the camp which was held at three different venues namely Kottaiyur, Moopakoil and Pulianchery. Prof. K.G. Raghunathan inaugurated the camp. School Campus Cleaning, First Aid Training, Sapling Plantation, Rain Water Harvesting, Road Safety Awareness, Environmental Awareness, Ayurveda Camp, LPG Gas Users Safety Awareness Programme were organised for the benefit of the society. Dr. C.Savarirajsagayam conducted Siddha & Diabetic Screening Camp on March 15, 2014. Prof. Saravanan, World Community Service Centre organized Yoga Training on 17<sup>th</sup> and an Ayurveda Camp was conducted by Dr. Devanathan on March 18, 2014.



Around 60 NSS volunteers were deployed on crowd regulation duty at Arulmighu Sarangapani temple during Vaikunda Ekadesi Festival held on January 11, 2014.

In the Nationwide Pulse Polio Immunisation Campaign organised on January 2014, 40 volunteers participated and vaccinated 1917 children.

The NSS wings organised a Road Safety Awareness Campaign on January 20, 2014. Around 1000 awareness pamphlets were distributed by the volunteers.

Dr.Rajeswaran from Dr.Agarwal Eye Hospital, Kumbakonam was invited by the NSS Wings to deliver a lecture on Ophthalmology on January 30, 2014. Around 195 volunteers attended the lecture.

The NSS Units in collaboration with Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation organised a Blood Donation Camp on February 14, 2014 in which 275 units of blood were donated to Government Blood Bank Unit, Kumbakonam.

Crowd regulation duty was assigned to 65 NSS volunteers during Masi Maham Festival.

Around 55 volunteers were assigned special duty at Arulmigu Oppiliappan temple on February 27, 2014. They rendered their services to the authorities in coin counting and campus cleaning.

75 NSS volunteers participated in Voter awareness rally conducted on March 26, 2014. The rally was inaugurated by Shri.Govinda Rao, Sub Collector, Kumbakonam.

Consumer welfare and Consumer rights protection camp was organized on March 31, 2014. Around 700 pamphlets were distributed to the general public. 50 NSS volunteers participated in the camp.

## NCC NEWS



A Combined Annual Training Camp was held at AVC College, Mannampandal, Mayiladuthurai from 21<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> Dec 2013, in which 8 SD Cadets (Boys),

11 SW Cadets (Girls) and 1 NCC Officer of our company participated and they bagged 6 Gold and 8 Silver medals.

A Combined Annual Training Camp was held at St. Antony's Hr. Sec. School, Thanjavur from 21<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> Dec 2013, in which 4 of our SD Cadets (Boys) participated and they bagged one Gold medal.

**LAURELS IN SWIMMING**

Chi. P.Narayanaswamy of the final year B.Tech. CSE represented Tamil Nadu in the State Level Contest organised by Tamil Nadu State Aquatic Association between January 5 and 7, 2014 at Velachery Aquatic Complex and secured II place in 200 mts back stroke and III place in 400 & 200 mts free style.

In the Balamurugan State Memorial Meet organised by Anjalaiammal College on February 2, 2014, he won the First prize in 4X50mts Free Style Relay. In Rivera14 Swimming Championship organised by Vellore Institute of Technology, he secured third position in 100 mts backstroke and 50 mts free style.

**SNIPPETS FROM SHANMUGHA POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE**

**30th INSTITUTION DAY & SPORTS DAY**

The 30<sup>th</sup> Institution Day & Sports Day of Shanmugha Polytechnic was celebrated on March 13, 2014. Shri B.Pattabiraman, Managing Director, G.B. Engineering Enterprises Private Limited, Trichy delivered institution day address and distributed prizes.



Chi. R. Chandramouli, Principal presented the Annual Report and Dr.B. Shreepriya, Physical Directress, the Physical Education Report. The Chief Guest distributed prizes to the students who excelled in academic and sports. Special awards and book prizes worth Rs 1.5 lakh were distributed to 162 students.

**MERIT SCHOLARSHIP DISTRIBUTION**

The merit scholarship scheme is extended to the students of the second & third year diploma Courses too Under this scheme, those who secure 90% above in the Board Exam of each semester will get Rs 10,000. Rs 7,500 will be given to those who secure 85-89% and Rs 5,000 to the students who score 80 to 84%. To receive the scholarship the student must also secure 90% of attendance.



(continued on page 28)

**LAURELS IN SPORTS**



Chi.M.G. Santhosh Kumar of 1<sup>st</sup> year B.Tech. Mech. won the Bronze Medal in the South Zone Taekwondo Championship-2014 held at V.K. Menon Indoor Stadium, Kozhikode, from

Jan 31 to February 2, 2014. He also won the Silver Medal in the Vels Cup State level Taekwondo Championship held at VELS University, Chennai on 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2014.



Chi. N. Kathiravan of IV B.Tech. CSE participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Karate Championship-2014 held at Malaysia from 14<sup>th</sup>- 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2014. Our Vice Chancellor, as a token of appreciation, gave him a special reward of Rs.55, 000/-.



Chi.P.V. Prasanth won the Silver Medal at 8<sup>th</sup> National Kung-Fu championship held at Lucknow, UP and was qualified for the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Kung-Fu championship to be held at Beijing, China in June 2014.

In the State level Football Tournament held on 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at Periyar Maniammai University,

Thanjavur, our University Football (M) Team were the Runner-up and were awarded a cash prize of Rs 5000/-.



## Admission to B.Tech./5-Year Integrated M.Tech. Programmes for the Academic Year 2014-15

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**Mode of Admission:** Admission to 70% of seats will be based on the scores obtained in JEE Main (2014) & normalised +2 aggregate marks in the ratio of 25% & 75%. For example if a student secures a JEE Main Score of 185 and normalized +2 aggregate of 95%, the combined score of the student will be  $(0.25 \times 185) + (0.75 \times 95) = 117.5$ . The combined score of all students will be used to determine the SASTRA Rank and admission will be based on the SASTRA Rank secured.

The remaining 30% seats will be filled based on normalised +2 aggregate scores.

**B. Tech. Programmes in :**

- Aerospace Engineering
- Bioengineering
- Bioinformatics
- Biotechnology
- Civil Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Computer Science & Engineering\*
- Electrical & Electronics Engineering\*
- Electronics & Communication Engineering
- Electronics & Instrumentation Engineering
- Information & Communication Technology
- Information Technology\*
- Mechanical Engineering
- Mechatronics and
- 5-Year Integrated M. Tech. Programmes

\* Also Offered at SASTRA UNIVERSITY Kumbakonam

Application form along with prospectus can be obtained in person from SASTRA Campus (Thanjavur & Kumbakonam) or at No.5. Subbaraya Nagar Main Street., Kodambakkam. Chennai - 600 024. (Samiyar Madam Bus Stop) (Phone: 044-24838029) on payment of Rs. 600/- or by post on payment of Rs 650/- by Demand Draft favouring SASTRA payable at Thanjavur. Applications can also be downloaded from [www.sastra.edu](http://www.sastra.edu) & also available at select branches of IOB and City Union Bank (Details at [www.sastra.edu](http://www.sastra.edu))

**Important Dates:**

Issue of Application forms	- April 9, 2014
Last Date for submitting filled applications	- June 7, 2014 (6:00 p.m.)
Release of Rank List	- June 7, 2014 (9:00 p.m.)
Counselling for Admission	- June 16, 17, 18 & 19, 2014
Classes for 1 year	- July 7, 2014

**Application for admission to M.Tech., M.B.A., M.C.A., and 5-Year Integrated Law Programmes are available online and also at SASTRA Campuses/Chennai Office.**

**Last Date for receiving applications :**

**MBA and B.Com. (CA) : June 7, 2014**

**M.Tech., M.C.A., and B.A. / BBA / B.Com., LLB : July 5, 2014**

Admission to M.Tech./MBA is based on qualifying degree marks and entrance exam.  
Admission to Law Programmes is based on +2 Aggregate Marks and CLAT 2014 scores

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The scholarships were distributed to students at a special function held on March 8, 2014. Shri S. Elamparuthi, Additional Superintendent of Police, Thanjavur distributed the prizes. Speaking on the occasion the speaker said that scholarship will encourage the students to study better. The student should utilise the scholarship money in a proper way, said the ADSP. 224 students received the scholarships amounting to Rs 13.75 lakh.

### LAURELS IN PROJECT CONTESTS

The following students won prizes in the Inter Polytechnic Project contests held in various polytechnic colleges: J. Joseph Twinston Beniz, G. Lokeshkumar, J. Rajasekar, B. Chakaravathy, M. Venkateshwaran, V. Vignesh, G. Rajkumar, U. Pavithran, M. Maniraj, M. Punniyamoorthy, G. Vignesh, M. Sabrish Kumar, S. Mansoorali. They received cash prizes ranging from Rs 500 to Rs 5000.

### BASKETBALL AND VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT



A State Level Inter-Polytechnic College Basketball and Volleyball Tournament was held at Shanmugha Polytechnic College on February 1 & 2, 2014. 10 basket ball

teams and 14 volleyball teams from various Polytechnics participated in the tournament. In the basketball Kongu Polytechnic College, Perundurai, emerged as the winner and secured the first prize of Rs 5000/- and trophy. Excel Polytechnic College, Kumarapalayam secured the second prize of Rs 3000/- and the third prize of Rs.1000/- went to M.A.M Polytechnic College, Siruganoor.

In volleyball, Elumalaiyan Polytechnic College, Villupuram emerged as the winner and got the first price of Rs.5000/- and trophy and Sri Rajiv Gandhi Polytechnic College, Senimalai secured the second prize of Rs 3000/-. The third prize of Rs.1000/- went to Meenakshi Ramasamy Polytechnic College, Thathanur.

Kum. K. Priyanka I / ECE secured 4<sup>th</sup> place in 200mts in the IPAA state level Athletic competition held at KSR Polytechnic College, Thiruchengode in February 2014.

*Book-Post*



## SASTRA UNIVERSITY

(A University under section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)

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