



# ITI HAS



(IT Is Happening At SASTRA)

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Newsletter from SASTRA UNIVERSITY



*Message from*

**VICE - CHANCELLOR**

I am delighted to reach you through the pages of ITIHAS on this Silver Jubilee Year of SASTRA University.

The journey made by SASTRA in the last 25 years has been a memorable one and has been serving a constant reminder that Higher Education is a never ending pursuit with every day being a learning experience. SASTRA University was started as Shanmuga College of Engineering in the year 1984 by late Shri S. Ramachandra Iyer, who laid the foundation for a value-based education that SASTRA follows till today and will continue to follow. Right from its inception there has been no looking back. Started with 3 engineering disciplines at the B.E. level, SASTRA has now emerged as a truly integrated University offering various UG, PG and Ph.D. programmes in Engineering, Science, Pharmaceutics, Law and Arts. There has been many firsts to SASTRA's credit in its continuing march towards academic excellence.

- One among the first five self-financing colleges started in 1984 when this concept was introduced by the then Chief Minister late Shri M.G. Ramachandran
- First Self-financing college to offer its courses for accreditation when NBA was constituted in 1996
- First to be recognized as PG Education Centre in 1997
- First to be given autonomous status in 1998
- First to be identified by the Govt. of India to set up a TIFAC-CORE in Advanced Computing & Information Processing in 2000
- First of its type to be conferred with Deemed-to-be University status in 2001
- First to be accredited by NAAC in 2002
- SASTRA will continue to make many path breaking reforms, as it strongly believes in gaining the first mover advantage without compromising quality

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Dr. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM INAUGURATES SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, former President of India, inaugurated the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of SASTRA UNIVERSITY on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2008. In his inspiring inaugural address Dr. Kalam said that the 21<sup>st</sup> century university education is about developing enlightened citizenship for a knowledge society for peace and prosperity of nations and the world. He also said that wherever there was research intensity it had enhanced quality teaching.

Technological connectivity among universities has to be pursued on a war-footing using cost-effective virtual classrooms. Good teachers can be in any part of the world. The university has to bring in this resource through innovative content generation in virtual classrooms, he said.



Dr. Kalam lighting the traditional lamp

Dr. Kalam pointed out that the most important ingredient for realizing a knowledge society is the ignited minds of the youth using science and technology as a powerful tool. Science is linked to technology through applications, and technology is linked to economy and environment. Economy and environment are linked to technology that promotes prosperity to the society.

*Message from the Vice-Chancellor (Contd...)*

Various milestones have been achieved in SASTRA's journey to its Silver Jubilee. Apart from those mentioned earlier, SASTRA has recognized the need for quality research and has made research an integrated part of its growth. The establishment of 6 autonomous centres of research viz. Centre for Advanced Research in Indian System of Medicine (CARISM), Centre for Nanotechnology & Advanced Biomaterials (CeNTAB), TIFAC-CORE in Advanced Computing & Information Processing, National Facility for Mechatronics, Centre for Advanced Research in Environment-studies (CARE), Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre (SRC), is ample testimony to this. To encourage further research a new scheme called "Researching @ SASTRA" has been announced. All full time faculty in the age group of 30 to 50 who are guiding up to a maximum of 5 Ph. D. scholars, will get a monthly research incentive of Rs.10,000/- @ Rs.2,000 per scholar guided. I am sure this incentive will boost research activities at SASTRA and faculty guides be encouraged to use this opportunity in a productive manner.

Teaching is undoubtedly a noble profession. Another scheme is announced for students to encourage them to meaningfully engage in teaching. There are students from diverse backgrounds from different parts of the country studying at SASTRA. To bring all of them to a common intellectual platform, a new scheme called "SASTRA ANUKUULA SHIKSHAN" has been introduced. Special classes will be held by the students for students needing special assistance in various disciplines of study. Proposals will be invited from various eligible students for smooth implementation of the scheme and it is proposed to set apart a corpus of Rs. 1.00 crore for this initiative. This, I am sure, will encourage a collaborative learning environment amongst the students.

Both the schemes "RESEARCHING @ SASTRA" & "SASTRA ANUKUULA SHIKSHAN" will be a continuous affair and not just during the Silver Jubilee Year.

The present issue of ITIHAS features the visit of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam for inaugurating the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of SASTRA, the conduct of the International Conference on Number Theory and Modular Forms at SRC, Kumbakonam, DST - Royal Society of England sponsored International Thematic Workshop (LIWAN-2008), foreign visits by faculty and other events of the quarter.

I wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year 2009.

*Prof. R. Sethuraman*  
Vice-Chancellor



Dr. Kalam giving away the research grant to students

The former President praised SASTRA University for providing high quality education in the field of science and technology, management and arts subjects. Dr. Kalam said that nano-technology would be the solution in core competence programmes and pointed out that scientists and researchers would have challenges in bringing back a clean environment by replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy from sun, wind and nuclear systems.

Dr. Kalam also inaugurated the SASTRA Community OutREeach (SCORE) programme for Engineers and also presented research and innovation grants to faculty and students.

Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice-Chancellor who presided over the function, traced the growth of the institution in the last 25 years and pointed out that the university continues to give more thrust for research activities.

He also announced new schemes - 'Researching@SASTRA' and "SASTRA ANUKUULA SHIKSHAN" for the promotion of research and teaching at the University.



### SASTRA SAMSHODHANA UTSAAHA

SASTRA University has introduced the “SASTRA Samshodhana Utsaaha” scheme for the advancement of research in SASTRA University.

Full time faculty members with Ph.D. guiding full-time and part-time Ph.D. scholars at SASTRA, will be entitled to draw a sum of Rs. 2,000/- per month per candidate being the reimbursement for purchase of journals etc. for research work subject to a ceiling of Rs.10,000/- per month. The faculty shall be in the age group of 30-50 years.

### SASTRA ANUKUULA SHIKSHAN

SASTRA has created a Corpus Fund of Rs.1.00 Core for the “SASTRA Anukuula Shikshan” scheme for the benefit of student-learning. Bright students will be identified to handle special classes to the students needing special assistance in various disciplines of study. The classes will be conducted after University working hours and such classes will be conducted only in the campus to encourage a collaborative learning environment amongst the students.

Interested bright students will be asked to submit their proposals to the university. A sum of Rs. 9.00 lakhs will be spent annually towards remuneration to the students who handle classes under this scheme.

### SCORE (SASTRA Community OutReach Programme)

SASTRA University is known for its innovative practices and trend setting new initiatives. With a view to sensitizing the youth towards various social issues, especially to understand the problems of rural poor and to inculcate the spirit of social service and humanism, SASTRA has launched a unique programme under the title "SCORE " (SASTRA's Community OutReach programme) from the academic year 2008-09. Under this programme 1200 students of 7<sup>th</sup> semester who are placed with more than 50 different companies through SASTRA's campus interview programme were asked to select a village within 50 k.m. radius of the university to do their projects for 3 months.

The students who were divided into 120 groups, selected various topics for their project of their choice viz., Health and Sanitation, Literacy Awareness, Computer Awareness, Energy Conservation, Afforestation, Legal Awareness , Testing the Drinking Water Quality, providing information about various state and central government welfare schemes, information about various Competitive Exams, Entrance Exams for higher studies to rural students, Environmental Management, Women's Rights, etc. Students created a very good impact on the remote villages and won appreciation of the local public, Government officials and local body members. This novel project was formally inaugurated by Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, the Former President of India on 2<sup>nd</sup> October,2008.

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUMBER THEORY AND MODULAR FORMS

The International Conference on “Number Theory and Modular Forms” was organized at Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre of SASTRA at Kumbakonam from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2008.

Dr. Krishna N. Ganesh, Director, IISER Pune & J.C. Bose Fellow (DST), NCL Pune, inaugurated the conference. In his inaugural address he said that mathematicians in general concentrate completely on their work and do little to guide the aspiring scholars. He requested various experts in the field of Mathematics attending the conference to take serious note of it and steal time from their busy schedule to assist, encourage and guide the budding scholars in the field.



Dr. Krishna N. Ganesh lighting the traditional lamp

Over 100 delegates from various research institutions, Universities and colleges all over the country attended the conference.

Twelve invited speakers from U.S.A, France, New Zealand and various other parts of the world delivered lecture's on various topics of high research merit. Dr.K. Srinivasa Rao, D.S.T. Chair and the Convener of the conference welcomed the gathering and Prof. K.G. Rangunathan, Dean, EEE proposed a vote of thanks.

### SASTRA-RAMANUJAN AWARD

The 2008 SASTRA-Ramanujan Prize was awarded to Dr. Akshay Venkatesh, Professor of Mathematics, Stanford University, USA., during the conference.

Dr. Krishnan N. Ganesh, presented the award on 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2008. This Annual Prize launched in 2005, honours outstanding contributions in the areas of



Dr. Akshay Venkatesh with the SASTRA-Ramanujan Award

Mathematics which are influenced by the Mathematical Genius Srinivasa Ramanujan. The age limit for the prize is 32, because Ramanujan achieved so much in his brief life of 32 years. The award carries a cash prize of \$ 10,000 and a citation.

Dr. Akshay Venkatesh was selected for the award for his outstanding work on Quadratic Forms related to Srinivasa Ramanujan's Number Theory.

The 2008 SASTRA Ramanujan Award Committee was chaired by Prof. Krishnaswamy Alladi, of University of Florida. The members of the committee include Dr. Manjul Bhargava, Princeton University, Dr. Bruce Berndt, University of Illinois, Dr. Michael Waldschmidt, University of Paris and Dr. Jonathan Wein.

### RAMANUJAN BIRTH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE LECTURE

Dr. Akshay Venkatesh, Prof. of Mathematics, Stanford University, U.S.A. the winner of 2008 SASTRA-Ramanujan Award delivered the 122<sup>nd</sup> Srinivasa Ramanujan Birth Anniversary Commemorative Lecture on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2008. In his lecture on Quadratic Forms, the speaker laid a special emphasis on the role of educational institutions like SASTRA in promoting research work in Ramanujan Mathematics at higher level.



Dr. Akshay Venkatesh delivering the Commemorative Lecture



### SASTRA RAMANUJAN AWARD CITATION

Akshay Venkatesh is awarded the 2008 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for his phenomenal contributions to a wide variety of areas in mathematics including number theory, automorphic forms, representation theory, locally symmetric spaces and ergodic theory, by himself and in collaboration with several mathematicians. The prize recognizes the enormous influence his work has had involving an interplay of number theoretic and analytic techniques. In particular, the prize recognizes his path breaking work on sub-convexity of automorphic L-functions by himself and with Philippe Michel, his fundamental paper with Jordan Ellenberg in *Inventiones Mathematicae* 2007 on representing quadratic forms by quadratic forms - a problem having its roots in the work of Ramanujan, his work with Harald Helfgott in the *Journal of the American Mathematical Society* 2006 providing the first non-trivial upperbounds of 3-torsion in class groups of number fields, his seminal paper with Jordan Ellenberg in the *Annals of Mathematics* 2006 on bounds for the number of number fields with a bounded discriminant, his work with Elon Lindenstrauss on general Weyl laws which establishes a conjecture of Sarnak, and his work with Lior Silberman establishing partial results towards a conjecture of Rudnick and Sarnak for higher rank arithmetic locally symmetric spaces. The prize also recognizes his recent work with Manfred Einsiedler, Elon Lindenstrauss and Philippe Michel on Duke's theorem for cubic fields, among others.

Venkatesh, who is of South Indian descent (a Tamilian like Ramanujan), was born in New Delhi in 1981 but was raised in Perth, Australia. He showed his brilliance in mathematics very early and was awarded the Woods Memorial Prize in 1997 when finished his undergraduate studies at the University of Western Australia. His entry into research began as a Ph.D. student at Princeton in 1998 under Professor Peter Sarnak, one of the most versatile and influential mathematicians of our time. After completing his Ph.D. in 2002, he was C. L. E. Moore Instructor at MIT for two years before being selected as a Clay Research Fellow in 2004. He was then appointed as Associate Professor at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences at NYU. In 2007 he was recognized with the Salem Prize and the Packard Fellowship. And now, just as he is turning 27, he has been elevated to rank of Full Professor at Stanford University.

## PRE CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

The Department of Mathematics at SRC organized a preconference workshop from 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2008 in ahead of the International Conference on Number Theory and Modular Forms. All faculty members of the Department of Mathematics, attended the workshop. Prof. Thangadurai, Harish Chandra Research Institute, Prof. R. Jaganathan, IIMSc, Chennai and Prof. K. Srinivasa Rao, DST Chair, SRC, SASTRA were the resource persons.

## INTERNATIONAL THEMATIC WORKSHOP – LIWAN - 2008

The Electronics & Communication Engineering Department of School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering, conducted a three-day International Thematic Workshop on “Light Induced Waveguides & their Applications to Nanophotonics (LIWAN-2008)”, from 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2008. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. A. K. Sood, Scientist G, International Division, Department of Science & Technology, New Delhi. This workshop was sponsored by the Department of Science & Technology, India and Royal Society, England.



The foreign delegates with the organizing committee

Eighteen delegates participated in the workshop with representations from abroad by Dr. Noel Frederick Smyth and Prof. David F. Parker, University of Edinburgh, U.K.; Prof. Gaetano Assanto of University of Rome, Italy; Prof. Yuri S. Kivshar of Australian National University, Australia. The Indian scientists were from IIT Bombay, University of Hyderabad, Pondicherry University, Cochin University of Science & Technology and SASTRA University. Dr. Noel Frederick Smyth from School of Mathematics, University of Edinburgh, U.K. was the U.K. coordinator and Dr. R. Ganapathy, Senior Lecturer, School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering, SASTRA University, was the Indian coordinator.

The theme of the workshop was centered around all optical signal processing using nematic liquid crystals and their applications to nanophotonics. The following topics were discussed in the workshop: i. Nematicons: Light Guiding and Routing Light; ii. Mathematics and Guided Waves in Liquid Crystals; iii. Nonlinear Optical Effects in Metal Nanostructures; iv. Nonlinear Effects and Solitons in Periodic Photonic Structures and Soliton Dispersion Management. Prof. Tim Marchant of University of Wollongong, Australia gave a lecture on “Numerical Methods for Nematicon Equations” via video conferencing.

The delegates were very much impressed by the research facilities at SASTRA University, especially the research facilities at CeNTAB. The foreign delegates had a fruitful discussion with Dr. S. Swaminathan, Director CeNTAB and Dean, Sponsored Research. Also, a visit was arranged to SRC campus, Kumakonam, to visit Ramanujan Museum and his ancestral house.

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATIONS, NETWORKING & CRYPTOLOGY

A National Conference on Communications, Networking & Cryptology (NCCNC 2008) was organised by the School of Computing on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> December 2008. Shri Yusoof Mohamed, Vice President, Cognizant Technology Solutions inaugurated



the conference and delivered a key note address on the topic “Network Security.” Shri Yusoof Mohamed in his address spoke on the importance of Network security in our day to day life.

90 delegates from various institutions attended the conference and 32 papers were presented in various sessions. The sessions were chaired by Dr. Hema A Murthy, IIT Madras, Dr. Dheeraj Sanghi from IIT Kanpur and Dr. V. Kamakoti from IIT Madras. Dr. N.K. Sakthivel, Professor, School of Computing was the Convener for the conference.

## XV ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING

The XV Academic Council meeting of SASTRA University held on October 23, 2008 decided to introduce open book examination at least in one paper per semester in all the UG and PG Programmes of engineering subjects.

The open book examination will encourage in-depth appreciation and application of knowledge acquired.

The Council directed the School of Civil Engineering to teach all international codes of British/American standards, besides Bureau of Indian Standards so that the employability of the students will improve.

The council also approved the suggestion of Dr. Raman Srinivasan from TCS to introduce a Diploma Course in Hardware covering a wide spectrum like servicing, networking, maintenance, etc. which offers job potential as well as self-employment.

The council also decided to introduce PG diploma programmes in construction management, electrical-wiring and winding, electrical safety and security, and air conditioning and refrigeration.

These courses are introduced so as to facilitate students who have got a flair for logically repetitive jobs, whereas students with creativity and other soft skills can pursue other professional courses.

The Academic Council also decided that the curriculum for law can be redesigned to accommodate a full-year or one semester for observing the proceedings in the District Court or and High Court and for preparing pleadings, filing cases, etc.

The Council also approved the establishment of V.S. Srinivasa Sastri Centre for Oriental Studies at SRC with focus on translation and classical literatures of English and other languages.

Vice-Chancellor Prof R. Sethuraman presided over the meeting Dr. P.V. Vaidhyathan, former Vice-chancellor, Annamalai University, Dr. B. Ilango, former



Vice-Chancellor of Bharathiar University, Dr. Raman Srinivasan, TATA Consultancy Services, Dr. R. Sethuraman, former Director, MIT, and senior academicians from SASTRA participated in the meeting.

## MRSI MEDAL 2009 FOR SASTRA FACULTY



**Dr. S. Swaminathan**, Director, Center for Nanotechnology & Advanced Biomaterials at SASTRA University has been selected to receive the 'MRSI Medal' for 2009. This will be presented during the Annual General Meeting of the Materials Research Society of India to be held at Kolkata during February 10-12, 2009. Materials Research Society of India (MRSI) is an interdisciplinary professional society brought into being when there was a world-wide appreciation of the role of materials science and engineering in the design, development and performance of nearly every system associated with a wide spectrum of sectors. MRSI Medals are awarded in recognition of excellence in a particular field of expertise within the domain of materials and processes. Dr. Swaminathan will also deliver the MRSI Medal Lecture based on his on-going research on the use of nanopolymeric materials for applications in tissue engineering and drug delivery. Dr. Swaminathan also received the Innovative Young Biotechnologist Award from the Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India for the year 2006 to develop a targeted drug delivery system for anti-cancer drugs. He has already filed four international patents and is a visiting Professor at the University of Virginia, USA. At present he is conducting research at SASTRA University on developing new scaffolds for engineering various tissues and also drug delivery vehicles for both targeted and sustained release. He is also the Co-ordinator for the PG teaching programme in Medical Nanotechnology funded by the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India.



## NANOMATERIALS LAB INAUGURATED

Dr. V. Aiyagari Rao, Mission Director (Nano Mission) and Advisor and Head, Science and Engineering Research Council (SEC), Department of Science and Technology, inaugurated the Nanomaterials Laboratory and the State-of-the-art characterization facility at SASTRA University, on 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2008.

The field of nano-technology offers tremendous opportunities for research, Dr. Aiyagari Rao said that the financial allocation for human resource development and higher education in the country had tripled from six percent of GDP in 2007 to 18 percent this year. But the proportion of students taking science as a career was not commensurate with the financial allocation, probably because of low remuneration and lack of excitement, he said.

The Union Government has embarked on a massive research expansion programme with the launch of five new Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISERs) with thrust on basic research over an integrated programme of five years and with the establishment of more IITs and Central Universities in the next couple of years, he said.

Dr. Rao pointed out that the Department of Science and Technology has undertaken the Nano Mission with a view to fostering interdisciplinary research in nanoscience and technology. Three research institutes with special focus on biopharmaceutics and nanomaterials have already been set up at Mohali, Bangalore and Kolkata. Centres of Excellence have also been conceptualized in Medical Electronics, Tissue Engineering and Nanomedicine, he said. He said that fields promoting interdisciplinary research like computational neuroscience, bioinformatics and nanobiotechnology would continue to fascinate young researchers.

Earlier, Dr. S. Swaminathan, Director, Centre for Nanotechnology and Advanced Biomaterials, said that the nanomaterials facility established at SASTRA would emerge as a nodal centre for nanomedicine research.



Dr. Aiyagari Rao inaugurating the lab

## FOREIGN VISITS BY FACULTY

### Invited Talk Tour to USA

Dr.K.Vijayarekha, Professor, School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering visited USA between November 10 & 19, 2008 and delivered three invited talks related to her current areas of research. At the IEEE IECON 2008 conference at Orlando, Florida she presented a paper on “Multivariate image analysis for defect identification of apple fruit images”. After this she was invited by the University of Arkansas, Little Rock to give a talk on “Machine vision application for quality grading of citrus fruits based on external defects”. The last presentation at Food and Drug Association (FDA), Washington DC was on “Real time application of Machine vision Techniques for defect identification of fruits”. Dr.Vijayrekha's findings are based on her original research work carried out at SASTRA.



Dr. Vijayarekha (Third from Left) among the delegates

### Indo-French Nanotech Workshop

An Indo-French Workshop on Nanotechnology for Biomedical Applications was held on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2008 at Paris, France. Ten delegates from India and an equal number from France made their presentations at the Workshop. The major focus of the Workshop was on “Nanoparticles for drug delivery”. The Indian and French delegations consisted of representatives from leading universities and industries from the respective countries. SASTRA University was one among the four universities invited from India. Dr.K.Uma Maheswari, Professor, Centre for Nanotechnology & Advanced Biomaterials (CeNTAB), SASTRA University made a presentation highlighting the various research activities being carried out at SASTRA especially in the development of targeted delivery systems for anti-cancer and anti-retroviral therapy. Her presentation was highly appreciated by both French and Indian participants. In the interaction session that followed, both French and Indian delegation



Dr. Uma Maheswari during her presentation

expressed their interest to collaborate with C e N T A B , S A S T R A University. The Workshop was organized by the Indo French Centre for the Promotion of

Advanced Research (Centre Franco-Indien pour la Promotion de la Recherche Avancée). SASTRA University was also invited to participate in a high level delegation meeting that was held during the visit of French President Nicolas Sarkozy's State visit to India during January 2008.

### Conference in China

Shri. H.R. Bhargava, Lecturer in Zoology, School of Education, presented a research paper titled "Pollen analysis of honey samples from Chickmagalur District, Karnataka, India" at the 9<sup>th</sup> Asian Apicultural Association Conference & Exhibition, Hangzhou, China from 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> November 2008.



Shri Bhargava at the China presentation

In his research paper Shri. Bhargava established that the pollen analysis of honey samples from Chickmagalur District, Karnataka may be helpful in setting up new Apiaries and Migratory Beekeeping practices and Modern Bee management technologies. 500 delegates from 40 Countries attended the Conference.

### SASTRA Faculty in Germany

Dr. Eugene Wilson, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Advanced Research in Indian System of Medicine (CARISM), SASTRA was invited by the Department of Complementary and Integrative Medicine, University of Duisburg Essen, Germany to take part in the 12-month academic exchange programme in the capacity of Guest Scientist on "Preventive Medicine and Age in Traditional Indian Medicine (TIM)" under the 7<sup>th</sup> European Union Research Framework.

During this period, Dr. Wilson's expertise was of immense help to establish standardized TIM diagnosis and provide therapy in Germany integrating traditional

Indian medicine with traditional European and Western Medicine. Under his supervision, three doctoral studies were initiated. The first one was intended to study the effect of dietary supplement Shilajit on the cardiovascular performance in borderline hypertensives. In addition to the basic standardization and pre-clinical studies on Shilajit carried out in SASTRA, a pilot clinical trial was initiated. The next study was aimed to evaluate the efficacy of external application of Mahatriphala ghrita in reducing effects of dry eye. The final research work was on the Analysis, Systematization and comparison of educational levels of TIM in India, Sri Lanka and Germany. He also worked on a booklet about 'Indian remedies for Common cold and cough' to be published as a guidebook for German patients.

The Chair of Complementary and Integrative medicine was impressed by the performance of Dr. Wilson with his approach to TIM and the thoughtful way he attended



Dr. Wilson (Second from left) during a ward round

to the major research topics of his studies. In addition, Dr. Wilson also taught the group practices of traditional medicine and suggested interesting ideas. The University is keen to initiate

joint collaborative program with CARISM, SASTRA.

Dr. Eugene Wilson, during his stay in Germany participated in an International Summer School on "Research Methods of Complementary and Alternative Medicine" in Seminaris Seehotel Potsdam, Germany during 3<sup>rd</sup> September and 7<sup>th</sup> September 2008. This International Summer School was organized by Charite University Medical Centre, Berlin, Germany and Technical University of Munich, Germany and supported by the Robert Bosch Stiftung. Dr. Wilson was selected as one among the 18 participants to attend the International event. Dr. Wilson was the only participant to represent India.

Dr. Eugene Wilson took part in the Mind/Body Medicine (MBM) Specialist Seminar in Coronary Diseases hosted by the Foundation – Chair of Complementary Medicine, University of Duisburg Essen, Germany during 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> August 2008 and the Summer School on the same topic hosted by the organization from 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

## SASTRA @ INDIA EDUCATION EXPO, SRI LANKA

SASTRA University participated in the India Education Expo (ADYAPANA 2008), conducted from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2008 at Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo.

SASTRA's MCA Distance Mode and On-line programmes were popularized to the Srilankan Students. The interaction with the visitors shows that there is a good scope for the Under Graduate programmes viz. Information Technology, Computer Science, Networking, Management, Commerce and Accounting by distance mode. Nearly 500 persons visited our stall and had enquires.



Dr. Gopalakrishnan speaking to the Sri Lankan Students

The E-learning Package DVDs prepared for SASTRA-TCS-MCA programme received a very good acclaim by the visitors and also by the other exhibitors.

Dr. S. Gopalakrishnan, Head, Dept. of Computer Applications and Shri V. Anand, Sr. Lecturer, of the Department represented our University in the exhibition.

## PROGYAN'08

The school of Management organized a National Level Management Symposium "PROGYAN '08" on 17th October 2008. The symposium was inaugurated by Shri. Subir Kumar Dhar, Principal, Strategic Resource Planning, Infosys Technologies, Bangalore. He stressed that the theoretical knowledge that the students gain in colleges must be suitably integrated in the practical atmosphere. Further, students should not aim for quick promotion and job hopping. He asked the students to update themselves with the talent technology so that the job opportunities will be prosperous. He advised the students to utilize the resources provided by the University to enrich their knowledge.



Presentation of memento

Prof. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning & Development, SASTRA University, who presided over the function opined that the development of B schools should result in the concentration on the three factors - individuals, organization and society. Development of individuals is highly essential not only for the well being but also for the development of the society. When quality education is given- then there will be a substantial improvement in the development of the individual.

The Symposium comprised four major competitive events - Paper presentation, Business Quiz, Business Plan and Stock Market Game. 300 students from various Business Schools participated. The competitive events brought to the fore new thoughts and ideas from the young brains which the judges of the events Mrs. Rani Muralidharan, Industrialist, Trichy, Shri Adwaith, Planning Manager, Infosys Tech, Bangalore, Shri V.Karthikeyan, Regional Manager, ICICI Bank, Trichy and Shri. K. Balasubramaniyan, Creative Management Consultancy, Trichy found really innovative and path-breaking. The winners of the various events were awarded cash prizes. Shri Thirumeni, Chief Vice President, India Cements participated in the valedictory function and distributed the prizes and certificates to the participants.

## PRATYARTH'08

COMBIGS, COMputational Biology Group @ SASTRA, took a giant leap by organising Pratyarth '08, a national level technical symposium on bioinformatics on the 6th and 7th October 2008. This event saw enthusiastic participants from across the country in which they demonstrated their computational and modeling skills. They were enlightened by lectures by Dr. Vibin Ramakrishnan, IBAB, Bangalore, Dr.P.Gautam, Anna University, Chennai, Dr.M.Sridharan, School of EEE, SASTRA and Dr.A.Uma Makeswari, School of Computing, SASTRA.

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## TEXT OF DR. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM'S SPEECH AT THE SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF SASTRA UNIVERSITY (Excerpts)

**“Past meets the present and creates the future”**



Dear friends, I am delighted to participate in the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of SASTRA University, Thanjavur. My greetings to the Vice Chancellor, Professors, teachers and students of this university.

SASTRA has grown to become a technology institute with advanced research programmes. I am happy that TIFAC had chosen SASTRA for establishing the first TIFAC (Centre for Research and Excellence in Information Technology) specializing in advanced computing and information processing. During the last five years, this TIFAC-CORE has provided over thousand post-graduate technologists to the IT industry. In addition, SASTRA has a reputed bio-technology centre which has been able to question the validity of Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA) articles on metallic contents in Indian herbal products. This expertise has been recognized by Harvard and Boston school and these institutions have shown their interest in becoming partners of SASTRA in carrying out studies on metallic contents.

### RESEARCH – TEACHING – RESEARCH

Good teaching emanates from Research. The teachers' love for research and their experience in research are vital for the growth of any institution. Any institution is judged by the level and extent of the research work it accomplishes. This sets in a regenerative cycle of excellence. Experience of research leads to quality teaching and quality teaching imparted to the young in turn enriches research.

### NEW PARADIGM FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Many challenges are going to be thrown on the sea, under the sea and above the sea. Scientists and researchers will also have challenges in bringing back a clean environment by replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy from sun, wind and nuclear systems. Some of the future research tasks are:

1. Evolution of clean atmosphere by replacing fossil fuel by cost-effective renewable energy systems, leading to energy independence;
2. Exploring the human body, particularly gene-characterization through the proteomics project for developing gene-based drugs;
3. In the area of communication, a big revolution is setting in. High-bandwidth mobile wireless is in the offing. This could result in the mobile phone becoming a convergent system for multi-media applications for meeting the needs of communication in the office, home and on the move.
4. Particularly for India, having 1 billion plus population, enhancing the food-grain output from the present nearly 230m tonnes to 380m tonnes with reduced land, water and number of people working in the farms through the use of technology could be a role model for the rest of the population in the world
5. A sustainable Rural Development through provision of urban amenities in rural areas (science and technology as the focus) will need innovation, research leading to products, systems and services in physical, electronic, knowledge and economic connectivity.
6. Understanding precursors for phenomena like earth quake and tsunami which damage decades of development and put humanity into misery
7. Evolution of Unified Field Theory, which may be the ultimate of physics, by revealing how the universe is born and how we are born;

8. Evolution of an alternate habitat among the system of our galaxy for humanity by the scientific community of today and tomorrow;
9. Evolution of earth, moon, mars complex to bring to the earth new material like helium-3 and other rare materials for the generation of solar power;

These are the some of the major areas of research and innovation, which need the joint research and development efforts of multiple nations based on their individual core competence. Certainly SASTRA University can work on certain specific missions which are of our national interest.

### 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY UNIVERSITY VISION

I have in the last ten years have met more than 3 Million University students and faculty from more than 150 universities in India and 50 universities abroad. Based on this spirit, I wish to formulate a 21<sup>st</sup> century university vision for your consideration.

- ◆ The universities have to prepare citizens of the future with a global outlook and be capable of serving his/her nation or nation of his/her choice.
- ◆ Science and technology and public policy are interrelated for mutual benefit and ushering in human kind's development. This link has to be solidly built in the university education
- ◆ Good teachers can be in any part of the world. The university has to bring in this resource through innovative content generation in virtual class rooms.
- ◆ Technological connectivity among universities have to be pursued on a war footing using cost effective virtual class rooms.
- ◆ Cost effective continuing education possibilities are essential for citizens to be in tune with time.
- ◆ Can university education lead to sustainable development of the nation?
- ◆ With the world population increasing and resources dwindling, a mindset has to be developed for conserving and sharing the resources and look for new research for abundant resources. This calls for a “noble spirit” as well as a “research spirit”

In summary, the 21st Century University education is about developing enlightened citizenship for a knowledge society for peace and prosperity of nations of the world. The 21st century University has to be the incubator of world knowledge powerhouse. Based on my interaction with Indian and foreign universities, I have detected certain dynamics. Research intensity, has enhanced quality teaching and also the universities with research intensity have got a great name in the world of teaching. Universities from developed world with their vast experience of a century, have realized the significance of research as a foundation for the university. This is one dimension. The other dimension is that the student community with research focus will most aggressively ask questions. The third dimension is that the sharp gradient and accelerated development processes can give a platform for research for sustainable development. There is a large student community in the developing countries and there is an urge for higher education. Hence, we should see how we can empower them through university to university collaboration, student – faculty interaction, lab to lab collaboration, reaching out the world class quality teaching and research through a virtual reality environment with the excellent content generated.

### CONCLUSION

The challenges in S & T will increase and would require the best minds to work. There are many leaders in S & T who are our icons today and I wish that the youth derive encouragement and get stimulated from these icons and become the ICONS OF TOMORROW. Besides everything, to succeed in S & T, you need to have dream and have courage to realize it.

With these words, I inaugurate the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of SASTRA University. My best wishes to all the participants for success in their mission of generating quality scientific and technological human resource for the nation.

May God Bless you.

**Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam**

02.10.2008

Continuation form Page 9



Dr. Vibin Ramakrishnan delivering his lecture

Around 250 students from all over the country participated in the proceedings. 40 technical posters and 35 papers were presented during the 2-day event. Protein modelling contests and technical quizzes were also organized. Prizes worth Rs.10,000 were awarded to the winners

### OPEN ELECTIVE COURSES

The Academic Council has approved the introduction of Choice Based Credit System to facilitate students to register for courses under the Open Elective category. Under this system, B.Tech. students, who are currently in the II year of study, can select one course from each of the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> semester. All the courses will be for 3 credits and will be offered between 5.30 p.m. and 7.00 p.m on working days. The students will be attending two sessions per week in any given semester. Following are the list of courses that are being offered as open electives during the IV semester.

- **Business Analysis for Engineers**
- **Fundamentals of Nanoelectronics**
- **Intellectual Property Rights**
- **Laser Technology & Applications**
- **Introduction to Nanotechnology**
- **Webtechnology**
- **Modern Building Systems**
- **Thin Film Fundamentals**
- **Organisational Behaviour**
- **Quality Management**

### SRI MOOLA RAMA POOJA

His holiness 108 Shri Sushameendra Teertha Swamiji & His Holiness Shri Suyateendra Teertha Swamiji of Sri



Raghavendra Swamy Matha Mantralayam performed Sri Moola Rama Pooja at SASTRA campus, on July 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The pooja began with a Ganapathy Homam on 4<sup>th</sup> July. Staff and students of SASTRA and a large number of devotees in and around Thanjavur participated in the Pooja and received blessings.

### KNOWLEDGE LEADERSHIP FORUM LECTURE

The Knowledge Leadership Forum of SASTRA met on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2008 for a lecture on 'Nano DNA : templated assemblies of Gold/Ag nanoparticles on DNA towards function' by Dr. K.N. Ganesh, Director, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune. Dr. Ganesh in his talk highlighted the potential applications of different structural forms of DNA in medicine and engineering. Motivating the audience with his work on DNA self assembly and templating, he demonstrated how the nanoscale ordering of DNA can be used to build biosensors, nanowires and switches.



Dr. Ganesh during his presentation

## SHRI V. NARAYANAN MEMORIAL LECTURE

American economy collapsed because of the socio-cultural collapse in the country said Shri S. Gurumurthy, Chartered Accountant and Columnist.

“There is no family, no society in America. Government has nationalized all families,” said Mr. Gurumurthy while delivering the fourth V. Narayanan (Former Chairman of City Union Bank Limited) Memorial Lecture on “Issues in Global Financial Integration”, on 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2008.



Shri S. Gurumurthy delivering the lecture

Savings in banks dropped while investment in stocks increased in USA. Its borrowings have increased tremendously over a period of years. Its borrowing stood at eleven trillion dollars in 2008. There are 11 crore households but they have 120 crore credit cards, he said.

Stating that the European economy based on the American model collapsed, he said that its effect on Indian economy was minimal because Indian economy is a family based one. Ninety six per cent of the savings in India is in banks and only 1.8 per cent in stock exchange.

India should follow its own model instead of following the American model of economy.

Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. S. Vaidhyasubramanian, Dean, Planning & Development and Shri N. Kamakoti, Executive Director, City Union Bank and son of Shri V. Narayanan participated in the meeting.

## LECTURE ON INDIAN ECONOMIC RESILIENCE



Prof. S. Vaidhyasubramanian, Dean, Planning and Development delivered a lecture on "Indian Economic Resilience: Social & Cultural Perspective" on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2008. In his lecture he traced the growth of America's leadership position in terms of its

defence power and economic supremacy in terms of its dollar value. The universalization of human life in the US, the abundant human rights enjoyed by its people and the consumerism led to the social degeneration of the country that started in 1930s which still continues. He also explained that the Asian economy is safe, due to the fact that the Asian countries like Japan, China and India, do not invest their savings in the share market. Speaking on the unique nature of Indian economy, Prof. Vaidhyasubramanian said that Indian economy is feminine in nature and it is highly privatized. Though our country faces many hardships like poverty and illiteracy our economy is safe. Indians should try to understand their country in its socio, economic and cultural context. India can be a model that the entire world is trying to emulate. He also announced that lectures will be arranged under 'Know India' series.



## USE OF BICYCLES ON CAMPUS

200 bicycles imported from China were distributed to the hostel inmates of SASTRA for their internal mobility from the hostel blocks to various academic blocks of the sprawling campus. 100 Bicycles were also distributed to Professors and faculty members including ladies.



## VC ADDRESSES THE B.Ed. STUDENTS

Our Vice Chancellor Prof. R. Sethuraman addressed the B.Ed., students (Distance Mode) on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2008, during the personal contact programme. He built an immediate rapport with the trainees and started his lecture with a SWOT Analysis on education. Then he expatiated on the merits of teaching profession and its everlasting relevance. He exhorted the teachers to rise to the occasion and serve the society earnestly. He made the session highly interactive. The teachers were greatly inspired by the address. The VC's emphasis on Computer Education was well-received. He also announced free diploma courses and various other facilities to the teachers.



Our Vice-Chancellor training the teachers through an activity

## Certificate Programmes

With a view to strengthening the 'Science Teaching Programme' in schools, based on the call made by the three National Sciences Academies of the country, SASTRA University has proposed to conduct 3-week Certificate Programmes in **Biology, Biotechnology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Commerce, Mathematics and English**, for the B.Ed. (Distance Mode) students who are all in-service teachers of schools. The student-teacher trainees can register for any programme of the subject of their choice without any payment of fees, after completing their B.Ed., course. The idea is to encourage the teachers to learn what they have missed earlier or to update their knowledge and to keep themselves abreast of the developments in science and technology and their subjects so that they can teach the students well and make them more creative and imaginative.

Our Vice Chancellor has also graciously announced that the student-teacher trainees can make use of the University Library, Computer Lab, etc. for improving

their knowledge whenever they want, free of charge. They are also advised to bring the students studying under them to the University to show the latest equipment and instruments etc., during any working days after fixing necessary appointment.

## Computer Training

A One-day training programme for SASTRA-B.Ed. students (Distance Mode) on "Educational Technology – Computer as a Teaching Aid" was organized by the Department of Computer Applications on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

Hands-on-training was given in Basics of Computers and Networking, PowerPoint preparations and LCD usage, Recording Online Lectures using Tegrity Cart facility, EDUSAT demonstration and Internet preliminaries.



## Dr. B. ILANGO INTERACTS WITH STUDENT-TEACHERS

Dr. B. Ilango, Former Vice-Chancellor, Bharathiyar University interacted with the students of the School of Education at SRC on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2008. He stressed on the need for communication skills for teachers. He also spoke on teaching of prose, poetry and grammar.



## BUSINESS LINE CLUB INAUGURATED

There is a tremendous scope for the domestic IT industry and the present crisis in the US will blow over in six or eight months, according to Mr C. Mahalingam, Senior Vice-President, Symphony Services Ltd., Bangalore.

Addressing the MBA students on 'Turbulence in the IT industry and career opportunities' after inaugurating the 'Business Line Club' activities on 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2008, Mr Mahalingam said that in spite of the slowdown, the domestic IT industry is doing well.

Referring to the present crisis in the US, the main cause was due to sub-prime lending and grant of NINJA (no income, no job and no asset) loans to persons without ability to repay the loan. Mortgage-related frauds increased by 1,411 per cent and 25 per cent delinquency rate and over-spending by the people with the money that came from the banks had resulted in the present economic crisis. However, this will not have much impact on Indian IT industry, he added.



Prof N. Anantharaman, Registrar and Dr P. Vijayanthi, Dean in charge, School of Management also spoke.

## MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR MICRO LEVEL ENTREPRENEURS

The Entrepreneurs Development Cell of the School of Management organized a one-day workshop on Management Training for Micro Level Entrepreneurs in association with Tiruchirappalli District Tiny and Small Scale Industries Association (TIDITSIA) – Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development (STED) on October 20, 2008 at SASTRA Campus.



Shri T.V. Krishnan, Addl. General Manager, Outsourcing, BHEL, Trichy inaugurated the workshop. Shri S. Abdul Rasheed and Shri T. Raju Rebero of TIDITSSIA were also participated. 50 tiny and small scale entrepreneurs from Trichy Region attended the workshop.

## OPEN SOURCE LAB

The Open Source Laboratory was set up at the Computer Block, on September 1, 2008. M/s Cognizant Technology Solutions(CTS) has sponsored the lab and provided 25 systems. Fedora-9 and Open Solaris have been installed in all systems for their best utilization and development of many projects and thereby laying the path for strong foundation. Mr. Appa Rao, Vice President of CTS inaugurated the lab. Ms. Anusha Rajagopalan of the HR Department of CTS was also present. The objective of setting up the lab was to give a good opportunity for all the future technocrats to get to know more about open source and get used to it.



A view of the open source lab

## NEW COMPUTER LABS FOR MCA DEPARTMENT

Two computer labs have been set up for the MCA Department in the third floor of TIFAC-CORE block, at a cost outlay of Rs. 50 lakhs. 90 systems with high end configuration with all necessary software, printer and other facilities were equipped in the labs in a plinth area of 242 meter square.



Students working at the new labs

## MOOT COURT COMPETITION

Dr. P. Ravisekhara Raju, Professor and Head, School of Law, SASTRA and Professors R. Chandramohan, and K. Nilamudeen, of the school acted as judges in Stetson International Environmental Law Moot Court Competition, held at the Department of Legal Studies, University of Madras, on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> October 2008. All students of I Semester B.A.,LL.B. and LL.B. programmes of SASTRA attended the competition as observers.



## SINGAPORE STUDENTS VISIT SRC

A batch of 23 students of Tampines Junior College, Singapore made a visit to the Srinivasa Ramanujan Museum of SASTRA at Kumbakonam on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2008. The students who came under the leadership of Prof. Sowmi Kheng took serious note of the authentic materials of high research value displayed in the museum. They visited SASTRA as part of our MoU with National University, Singapore.



The Singapore Students at SRC Campus

## INTERSCHOOL CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Interschool competitions were held from 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2008 to 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2008 at SRC, under Youth Talent Encouragement Programme. Schools in and around Kumbakonam and from adjoining districts participated. English and Tamil Oratorical, India-Quiz, Carnatic-Vocal and Instrumental and Sanskrit Sloka reciting competitions were conducted. Prizes to the tune of Rs.42,000 were distributed to the winners and to the School to which they belong. Town Higher Secondary School, Kumbakonam and Vallalar Higher Secondary School, Kottaiyur received cash incentives for best performance.



## CLASSICAL MUSIC COMPETITIONS

Competitions on classical music - vocal and instrumental were organized by SASTRA University at Sri Kamakshi Amman Temple, Thanjavur for school and college students from 25<sup>th</sup> December 2008 to 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2009. Prof. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning & Development participated in the valedictory function and presented the cash award of Rs. 5000 to Kum. A. Srividhya and her team from ARR Matriculation Hr. Sec. School, Kumbakonam for instrumental music - Veena.



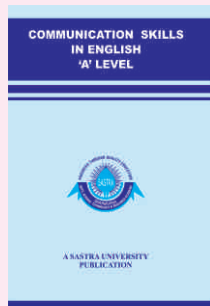
## Ph.D. BY FACULTY

Prof.D.Srinivasan, School of Mechanical Engineering obtained his Ph.D. from NIT/Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirapalli on the topic “Speed Box Design Optimization of Machine Tools Using Genetic Algorithms” in October 2008.



## BOOK PUBLISHED

A text book titled “Communication Skills in English – 'A' Level” was published by the Department of English, Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre, Kumbakonam in July 2008. The book edited by Dr. B. Krishnamurthy and Prof. S.A. Sankaranarayanan is being used as a course book for the Arts and Science students of the undergraduate courses. The book aims at enriching the learner's communication skills in English resulting in much better performance in campus selection for students.



## LAURELS IN CULTURALS



Chi. Syed Babu a student of I MCA, won the Second Prize in Non-Percussion Instrumental Music event in the South Zone Level cultural meet organized by the Association of Indian Universities at the Calicut University from 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>

December, 2008.

Chi Syed Babu, who is the great grandson of late Dr. Sheik Chinna Moulana, a noted Nadaswaram exponent, played Nadaswaram (solo) in the competition and has been selected to participate in the National Level event to be organized in West Bengal in January 2008.

A team of six I B.Tech students (Avipsha Das, R.Akhilandeswari, D. Lekshmi, Chithroobini, Pavithra and Teresa) won the I prize in the Miming event in the 'World Food Day' contests organized by the Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Govt. of India, Thanjavur, held on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> October 2008. Another group of eight students of I B.Tech participated in the same event and won the second prize.



## IN VIVO IV RELEASED



IN VIVO IV, a magazine by the students of Bioengineering, SASTRA was released on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2008. The focal theme of the magazine was man-machine interface. A number of interesting articles on current topics of Bioengineering like an article by Dr. S. Sivaram, Director, National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, an

article on “BioMechanics of Dance” and another on “Bioastronautics” make interesting reading. The 60-page multi-colour work is a testimony to the scholarly and artistic talents of our Bioengineering students.

## SASTRA – CCCL SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES WITH STIPEND

SASTRA University has planned to conduct skill development programmes with M/s Consolidated Construction Consortium Ltd (CCCL), Chennai, on Masonry, Carpentry, Plumbing, Electrician, and Survey Training. The one-year training programmes will be conducted at SASTRA for the first three months with a monthly stipend of Rs. 3000/- and the remaining nine months at CCCL, Chennai with Rs. 4500/- as monthly stipend. Candidates who successfully complete the training will be offered employment at CCCL. Applications have been called for from candidates in the age group of 18 – 24, with 8<sup>th</sup> standard qualification for the first three trades and ITI (Electrical Trade ) for Electrician and +2 for Survey Training.

## SPECIAL LECTURE ON ROAD DEVELOPMENT

Shri D.P. Gupta, formerly Director General, Road Development and Additional Secretary to the Government of India delivered a technical lecture on, “Road Development in India – An Overview” on 26<sup>th</sup> December, 2008 at a special function organized by the School of Civil Engineering. Shri Gupta spoke on various system approaches in road sector right from design criteria, conceptual methodology, financial investment details and also the vision for the future. He stressed the important role of Civil Engineers in maintaining infrastructural development. He also elaborated on the post care to be given on effective maintenance and longevity of highways.



## SASTRA STUDENT AT TATA JAGRITI YATRA '08



Chi. Boddupalli Vijay Anirudh, III B.Tech, CSE participated in the **TATA Jagriti Yatra 2008** conducted from 23<sup>rd</sup> December to 11<sup>th</sup> January 2009. He was one of the 340 participants selected from all over the country out of thousands of applicants in the age group of 18-25. There were 20 other international participants and facilitators. The yatra which covered more than 8000 kilometers started at Mumbai passed through 13 states and Union Territories of India and reached the destination. The primary focus of the yatra, true to its motto "Awakening the Entrepreneurial Spirit," is to connect with, learn and promote enterprise in 500 million Indians.

## ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES AT SRC



**ExACT** association and CSE department of SRC, organized a Special Lecture series on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2008. Ms. G. Saranya, Software Engineer, **Soft Smith Technologies Pvt.**

Ltd, Chennai, delivered the first Lecture on "Dot Net Technologies and Web Technologies"

**EIPower** association, EEE and Physics department of SRC organized a special lecture on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2008. Shri G. Vishwanath Ashok Leyland, Chennai, delivered a lecture on "MEMS (Micro-Electro Mechanical Systems)"



## N.S.S. ACTIVITIES

65 NSS volunteers of SRC assisted the Police Dept. in crowd control for a week during Deepavali and won the special appreciation of the public and the police. They, along with the NCC cadets were involved in controlling the crowd at Arulmigu Swaminatha Temple, Swamimalai during Karthikai Deepam Festival.

47 NSS volunteers were deputed at Kumbakonam Bus Stand and Railway Station on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2008 to take part in National Pulse Polio Immunization Programme.

## 60TH N.C.C. DAY CELEBRATIONS AT SRC



The 60<sup>th</sup> N.C.C. Day was celebrated by 8(TN) Battalion NCC at SRC on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2008. Shri. V.R.Srinivasan, Deputy Superintendent of Police was the guest of honour.

Culturals, Blood donation, Tree Planting and Temple Cleaning were conducted as part of the celebrations. The cadets also performed a street play insisting on the theme of organ donation. 450 cadets, from both senior and junior division from various schools and colleges participated in the function.



## GROUP COMMANDER HONOURED

The NCC Senior Division and Sr.Wing cadets presented a guard of honour to Group Commander Col. Benz K.Jacob at 8 (TN) Batallion NCC. at Srinagar Colony, Kumbakonam on 13 Nov 2008.



### COMPUTER TRAINING FOR TEACHER TRAINEES AT SRC

The School of Education at SRC, in order to make the teacher trainees computer friendly, conducted a training programme for B.Ed. regular students for 40 hours. Computer Applications related to teaching profession like Designing and Formatting Question Papers, Analysing Results, Conducting Achievement Tests, Diagnostic tests, etc., were taught.



### NEW LANGUAGE LAB

To facilitate the conduct of the “English Communication Practical Course” introduced to the IV / V Semester Diploma Classes, a new language lab has been set up at the First floor of the Central Library. The facility includes 40 student booths and a master console.



## SNIPPETS FROM SHANMUGHA POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE

### PERIYAR MEMORIAL PRIZE

Six students from Shanmugha Polytechnic College have won the Periyar Memorial Prize (Rs.5000 each) given by the State Government.

The prize is awarded to Backward class and Most Backward class students who have scored high marks in class X in the district and joined Polytechnic Colleges.



### SPECIAL LECTURE

Shri. G.Venkatraman, Assistant Professor of English, SASTRA, delivered a special lecture on “Leadership Motivation and Personality Development” on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2008, organized by the NSS Units of Shanmugha Polytechnic College. The top scorers of the final year diploma classes of all branches attended the lecture. Shri Balasubramanian, NSS Coordinator, and Shri. R. Chandramouli, Dept. of Mechanical Engg. also participated in the programme.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

**“WE CARE SO WE SHARE”**

**FACULTY  
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES**

1. Disaster Management & GIS – Jan. 24,25
2. Nanomaterials – Synthesis Characterization  
Jan.31 & Feb 1
3. Instrumentation and Process Modelling  
Feb.7,8
4. Wireless Communication – Feb 21,22
5. Emerging Trends in thermal Technology  
Mar. 7,8
6. VLSI Design – Mar. 14,15
7. Emerging Trends in Management in  
Management Studies – Mar. 21,22
8. Career Advancement through Research  
Mar. 28,29
9. Pedagogy and Classroom Management  
Apr.4,5

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