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Not just magnitude, but direction also!

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IIT JEE SCHOLARSHIP



Established way back in 1960, from a one classroom set-up, Vidyalankar has for over half a Century provided quality education to students through its classes and Government approved colleges. In 2011, as a part of its golden jubilee celebrations, Vidyalankar announced a Scholarship Program for top 100 rankers of IIT JEE. This scholarship stipulates that the students will be provided free IIT JEE coaching and 100% sponsorship of the 4 Years of IIT tuition fees.

This year two Vidyalankar students have qualified for the award – Anand Dhoot and Aditya Kale. Anand Dhoot bagged an All India rank of 83 at IIT JEE 2013 and another student Aditya Kale secured All India Rank 93.

Aditya Kale scored 331 out of 360 at the JEE Mains 2013 and stood first amongst Mumbai Students.

In accordance with Vidyalankar's scholarship, both these students have been honored with "FULL SCHOLARSHIP" of their entire four years of IIT Bombay Education.

Vidyalankar stands out as THE ONLY Coaching Institute in Mumbai having the maximum selections in the Top 100 All India Ranks at IIT JEE 2013.

Vidyalankar is taking its tradition of facilitating IIT Aspirants forward, this year too. Students will be selected for IIT JEE 2016 Program on the basis of the an ALL MAHARASHTRA Vidyalankar Scholarship cum admission test which will be conducted on 29 September, 2013 at various Vidyalankar Centers across the city.



"Rigorous and systematic coaching at Vidyalankar helped me achieve an All India Rank in the top 100 at JEE Advanced. The faculty ensured we learn the subjects thoroughly. They mentored us, monitored our progress and took us to the next level. I am very glad to be associated with Vidyalankar."

—Anand Dhoot



"Studying at Vidyalankar's IIT JEE 2013 Classroom program has been a wonderful experience. The excellent course plan, study material and continuous motivation from my teachers, laid the foundation for my success. All in all, Vidyalankar has been the right choice for me for my JEE preparation."

—Aditya Kale

Laurels for Vidyalankar from foreign shores



When Vidyalankar dreamt of foreign collaborations with prestigious universities in the UK and US, it was a dream to give quality education to aspiring engineers and management students here in Mumbai, who have always nurtured a desire to study abroad in an unconventional system that allows their talents to take precedence and give them a global edge. The collaboration gave the students the opportunity to acquire an internationally accepted degree, while being a part of an extremely meaningful educational experience both in engineering and management studies. The uniqueness of this program lies in the fact that the Indian students enrolled in this program benefit from both the systems of education at the undergraduate level itself and thus hone skills to face the global challenge.

The teaching pedagogy is delightfully innovative, providing a perfect blend of Indian and global study methods. During their study time at Vidyalankar the students, sit through interesting lecture sessions delivered by faculty from international universities. This acquaints students to the teaching styles, deliverables and evaluation methods that they will be engaged with once they reach the foreign shores. The bridging modules help bridge the gap between two different curricula and this equips the students to be on par with their foreign counterparts. The online submission portals, lectures through video conferencing, live projects, experiential learning, Dale Carnegie training and Research Bend Training are some of the innovations that not only make teaching-learning a fun experience, but also allow the latent talents of the students to flower and bloom, the

fragrance of which reaches across the shores making everyone proud of their achievements.

Some of the notable achievements this year include Purva Chitnis from Penn State University who has earned a seat into the renowned New York University-Stern School of Business to pursue an MBA in Journalism. Another achiever to name among the many is Pranav Shirodkar, who has joined BIG (Business Information Group) as a SAP Analyst.



Purva Chitnis

Mr. Saha, the proud parent of Surabhi Saha enrolled in California State University, FRESNO says - "My experience with Vidyalankar has been that a lot of detailing has been done.... They have helped us in many ways including this day, the send-off party day which is a very important day for all of us. The visa affair was so simple because of the detailing of the staff at Vidyalankar. Today I feel quite safe sending my child abroad. They seamlessly combined two kinds of pedagogy to better each student. ALL THANKS TO VIDYALANKAR."

Nishita Sule a student ready to leave for Penn State says - "The Vidyalankar experience was too good, the collaboration is one of its kind and we learnt the difference between the Indian and the American environment through its unique teaching methodology. It gave us an incentive to experiment with a new way of education which will benefit us immensely in the long run."

Students and parents alike, the collaboration has been much appreciated and with excellent placements and opportunities for further education - there is no looking back for Vidyalankar. It will always support students to the fullest to live their dreams.



Live Concert: Pandit Ronu Majumdar

Indian classical music has its roots in Vedas, which are the oldest scriptures of Indian culture. It is so pure that one can attain the highest peak of spirituality by following Indian Classical music. One finds that amidst the sparkly and glamorous music which is preferred by the youth these days, Indian Classical music seems to be lost somewhere. Hence, there is a necessity to create awareness about our vast and beautiful culture amongst the youth.

Vidyalankar Institute of Technology, Mumbai witnessed a classical evening, a live concert of Pandit Ronu Majumdar was organised by the combined efforts of VIDYALANKAR and SPICMACAY on 23 August, 2013. Mr Sanket Sharma (Faculty of Management) was instrumental in arranging this programme. SPICMACAY stands for Society for Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth. It is the largest voluntary driven, non-profit organisation which works for enriching learning and education by creating awareness about the vast and diverse Indian culture.

The sincere attempt made by Vidyalankar is remarkable, as the audience of 130 plus consisting of students and faculty members who attended the concert were completely mesmerised by the beautiful 'Ragas' played by Panditji and his accomplice Shri Ajeet Pathak on the Tabla.

The concert created cultural and positive vibes among students, faculty members and staff, which has set learning cues for future events on similar lines.

—Kamal & Manjiri- SE VIT

Know the CMAT

By now, most of you who are aspiring for a degree in management would know that the CMAT (Common Management Admission Test) conducted by the AICTE has become the exam through which most of the MBA / MMS / PGDM seats in our country would be filled.

Back in 2011 when the first CMAT was conducted, candidates did not really know what to expect from the exam. However, it is now more than a year since the first CMAT and ever since, 4 more CMATs have been conducted. We now roughly have a fair idea about the entrance exam tests and the level of questions.

Over the past year we can certainly say that the CMAT is not as tough as the CAT. This is probably since it is a national level exam and needs to cater to the needs of all kinds of students - even those who are not strong at academics. However, it is not as easy as the CET that used to be conducted before the CMAT.

The topics that are covered in the CMAT are Quantitative Aptitude, Language Comprehension, Reasoning and General Aptitude

The topics for quant are those covered in 8th, 9th and 10th grade Math. So a candidate would typically see a lot of questions on arithmetic progressions, number systems and Time-Speed-Distance. The good news is that the exam does not go deep into the depths of topics such as permutations and combinations and probability. This is because not all education boards in India teach such topics at the primary level.

The logic section of the exam too is nothing to get worried about. Basic aptitude test like questions are asked on topics such as finding the odd man out, predicting the next number in the se-

ries etc.

However, the part where the CMAT gets tricky is the "Language Comprehension" section. It is almost as if the AICTE wants us not to think of this section as a typical verbal section since a typical verbal test would check a candidate's knowledge topics such as synonyms and antonyms. Instead, the CMAT focuses on testing how well students can comprehend the English language and how well students can draw infer-

ences from incomplete information. Hence questions asked are almost completely based on Reading Comprehensions, Critical Thinking and Sentence Correction.

ences from incomplete information. Hence questions asked are almost completely based on Reading Comprehensions, Critical Thinking and Sentence Correction.

The first three sections of the CMAT can be easily taken care of by regular studying for 4-6 months. However, it is the last section - the General Awareness section that really separates the toppers from rest of the crowd. On doing in depth analysis, Vidyalankar has found out the difference in the scores of a student in

exam and what Vidyalankar has to offer. You can also log on to www.vidyalankar.org to take a free sample test.

All in all, the CMAT is not an animal that cannot be tamed. Making a proper plan and more importantly, sticking to it is by far - the most important factor for success at the CMAT. You don't have to be a genius to ace the CMAT, you just have to be well organized.

—Ameya Gharpure, Vidyalankar



MBA ENTRANCE EXAM

A Day with Android

Computer Society of India-VSIT Student Chapter organized a 2 days intensive workshop viz., 'Mobipreneur' workshop on 22 and 23 of August, 2013. The workshop was conducted by Nurture Talent - an organization which encourages entrepreneurship through developing mobile applications, in collaboration with CSI.

The objective of the workshop was to train the participants in developing and selling mobile applications in the Android platform. The top three teams will be competing at the National level competition scheduled to be held in October 2013 at IIT-Bombay.

The registration process started 2 weeks prior to the event. The workshop was received grandly with the Student Chapter being forced to close the registration to ensure that all participants receive individual attention. The workshop had 75 participants across all

classes of BSc IT and MSc IT. The majority of the participants were from first year BSc IT, which is a great trend.

The trainer, Mr. Animesh Jaipurkar is one of the founders of Nurture Talent. He is an authority on Mobile Applications in general and Android, in particular. The unique aspect about him as a trainer is that, not only is he a prolific developer, but he also is a great seller. This is a unique trait because mostly developers are confined to technology and are cut-off from the market. However, selling is an art and demands a different set of skills.

The event was officially inaugurated by the Principal Mrs. Rohini Kelkar. The Chief Guest was Dr. Prof. Prakash Limaye. Animesh, a young entrepreneur himself could easily connect to students and the first day was filled with fun and curiosity.

The students formed into 23 groups



competed in what was one of the most exciting competitions ever organized by VSIT. The competitions saw innovative applications like, MedDoc which read the pulse of the user to do analysis to determine his present health condition. It even had out-of-box ideas like, Bunkinner which encourages students

to attend classes by giving them a probability of being in a defaulters list.

The judges thus had a tough time choosing the winners considering a high number of innovative applications. MedDoc and Bunkinner were chosen to be the top two innovative applications followed by the application Music in the

Cloud in the third place. These three teams will now hone their mobile apps development skills and compete with other winners at IIT-Bombay for the top prize of Rs. 1 Lac. All participants were given participation certificates by Mrs. Ujjwala Saw, VSIT IT Co-ordinator.

—Binesh Nair, Lecturer, VSIT

My Take on the Food security bill



After a prolonged delay and varied responses from the economists and the opposition parties, the much discussed Food Security Bill (FSB) was finally passed in the Lok Sabha on the night of 26 August, 2013. Dubbed as the game changer by the UPA-2, the food security bill makes subsidized food grains a right for 67 percent of the Indian population, or 82 crore Indians. Sonia Gandhi, the chairperson of UPA, in her speech in the parliament said "The food bill is meant for the less fortunate sections of our society".



Termed as a historic attempt to eradicate poverty by the UPA-2 government, the FSB categorizes the population into an Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), a priority group and an excluded category. The excluded category is retained at 25 percent of the rural and 50 percent of the urban population. The bill provides different entitlements to groups. The AAY group will receive 35 Kg of food grains per family per month while the priority group will receive 5kg of food grains per family per month. All the beneficiaries will have to pay Rs 3/Kg for Rice, Rs 2/Kg for wheat and Re 1/Kg for coarse grains.

The Central Government will be responsible for determining the total number of people to be covered by the food security bill in each state while each of the State Governments will be responsible for specifying the criteria for identifying the said households. The Central Government will be responsible for transporting food grains to central depots in each state. The state will be responsible for the last mile delivery and transporting the food grains from the state to each of the ration shops. In case of short supply, the centre will provide cash to the states which will be passed on to the beneficiaries.

If it all looks so noble and above board, why has the bill received so much flack from various quarters? Let us see where the problem lies. The bill was drafted by the UPA just 8 months before the general elections. Expectedly, the opposition has criticized the bill as an attempt by the Congress party to get mileage in the run up to the 2014 elections.

Implementing this bill in a fair, equitable and transparent manner is going to be a big challenge for any Government. Many agricultural experts believe that this bill may discour-

age agricultural production in the country. Hence the government must make sure that farmers are not burdened with the cost of subsidizing the supply.

The bill is expected to cost the government Rs 1.3 Lakh crores (\$ 22 billions) every year. Economists have raised concerns about the cost to the

national treasury at the time when the Government is struggling with the departure of investors, the lack of international confidence in India, the huge fiscal deficit and the slowing economy. It should be noted that the Rupee and the Sensex both suffered immensely on the days when this bill was proposed in the parliament. The upper middle class might have to suffer with larger inflation, higher interest rates and lower growth.

The distribution system for a bill of this magnitude has to be very strong. The documentation required for completing the process might instantly disqualify many who deserve to get the benefit of this bill. The beggar on the road will not qualify because he can't prove that he or she exists. The homeless mother with a baby to feed will not get wheat at Rs 2 per kg simply because she doesn't have an official address. The real poor will not benefit from the FSB. People may forge their papers to show that they are below the poverty line and thus qualify for the subsidy. The potential may instigate some of the ultra-rich people to create a system of non-existent people with fake names and fake addresses in order to siphon out the cheap food and sell it on the market elsewhere. And the statistics will look like we have fed the poor, when in fact we will have not. The storage of the food grains will be another important issue that the government will have to focus on. Last year, 40 percent of the food grains meant for PDS rotted and was not distributed because of poor warehouse conditions.

To sum it up, it can be safely said that in terms of the magnitude of the effect the "Food Security Bill" will have on the common man, it is one of the most important bills that has been drafted in this decade. Given the magnitude of this bill, it could turn out to be a great mistake if a half-baked bill is put forward just for the sake of votes.

—Shadwal Shrivastava, Extc - 2, VIT

Roadshow - Professional Bodies

The 'Roadshow- Professional Bodies' was a mega event organized at the VIT campus on 22 August, 2013. It was a common platform for the meeting up of the professional bodies and the students and faculty members who are the prospective members for the same.

A professional body is basically an association of professionals from a certain field. E.G A.I.M.A (All India Management Association) which serves as a common platform for the professionals to come together and share their views, opinions and update their knowledge with the latest happenings in the respective fields.

The role of the professional bodies in today's world has come a long way. Apart from a common meeting ground, professional seminars, workshops and webinars are now being organized by these professional bodies. Members are also encouraged to share their opinions using the latest technologies. The professional bodies also organize conferences on the related subjects.

The advantage for the students to be members of these professional bodies is that they get to network and interact with professionals whose credentials are established in the related fields and get a first hand update of the latest happenings. Furthermore being members they can avail the regular newsletters and bulletins and keep themselves informed. Net-



working with senior professionals also enhances their chances of employability.

The road show was organized with the sole purpose of introducing the students to the respective professional bodies relevant to their chosen professional areas and educating them on the benefits of the same. The event was organized in the form of a trade fair wherein every professional body had an individual stall with student members educating them on the benefits of the same. The exercise was supported with running presentations.

The net takeaway of the entire exercise was that the students were enlightened on the existence of the professional bodies and the various benefits of being associated with the same.

Bullets and Me

Remember the first time you shot a target? If you haven't, you have really missed something important in the life!

What a great time I had playing with that small plastic ball bearing pistols when young. During my 10th my dad introduced me to the shooting coach in Jalgaon, who insisted on me joining the sport of shooting as an extra-curricular activity. I can still remember the feeling while holding a weapon for first time! It was not actually fear but a kind of aggression. I soon began climbing the ladder of success with the blessings of the almighty and qualified for the All India Inter School Championship and secured my first medal in shooting. I was guided by my coach Mr. Vishwajeet Shinde who himself is an international coach and shooter in Mumbai.

As of now, in Air Rifle Events, I have Earned a National GOLD (representing Maharashtra Team), 5 All India, and numerous State level medals! I have also been awarded as "Renowned Shooter of India" by The National Rifle Association of India and Govt. of India. This certification has many privileges attached to it. Along with these, in the All India G.V.Mavankar Championship which is the biggest shooting event in country, I had my All India Record for highest score in my category which was not broken for the next 2 years. I am a proud VITian and Ruparelite, I have represented The D.G.Ruparel College (My junior college) at State level and more recently for the [very] first time our institute, VIT was in the Mumbai University Shooting Team of which I was the representative. Including all of this, in recently held Maharashtra Air Weapon championship July, I secured a GOLD. Speaking of Medals, I have also earned many cash prizes on the way, some of them are from local championships but most recently in an All India Championship held in June 2013 I won Rs.25000/- in cash for being 2nd in Champion of Champions event.



Usually, we have a good semester break, but to the contrary I was busier in it than usual. Apart from winning the above mentioned medal and cash prize, I practiced and started 0.22 LR Rifle Shooting in Prone and 3P events. It was not more than a month or two when I secured, whooping 3 Golds and 1 Silver in these events at the State level. I have just started my 0.22 Rifle events and am bound sure to play for Maharashtra state this Nationals.

Thanks to my achievements in sports, I am the youngest person in my district and among the very few young people in Maharashtra state for getting license by The Govt. of Maharashtra for possessing 0.22 rifle and 0.32 Revolver/Pistol for sports and self-protection.

I remember those days when I was in the school and won the International GOLD medal in Martial Arts. Back then I also used to ride horses on weekends and am still a good horse rider with around 11 horses in our stud farm.

I have always got support from God, my father Dr. Prashant, mother Dr. Vandana and specially my Grandfather, Dr. P. M. Chaudhari who has always accompanied me to every tournament I play in and handle all the necessary, non-shooting matters along with my health. I practice every day late after college and on the weekends, I am confident about my continued journey in sports. From the bottom of my heart I would like to thank all my professors & college management for their continued co-operation and the support and request all of them to keep blessing me even in the future.

—Nishad Chaudhari, VIT

Teacher's Day

Teacher's Day



What comes to your mind, when you come across the word "Teacher"? To me a teacher is a nation-builder, who builds the future citizens of the country.

There was a great Philosopher in India. He was named Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan. He was also a teacher. As a professor he taught in many universities in India and abroad. He was also a great freedom fighter. But the Indians know him more as the former President of India. He had a deep love for the profession of teaching and he loved the teaching community.

So his birth day is observed as the Teachers' Day in India. He was born on 5 September, 1888. He was a philosopher, educationist, humanist and religious thinker. He was also a gifted speaker and a writer, a statesman and diplomat. He wrote many books on religion and philosophy.

Dr. Radhakrishnan believed that teachers are the real shapers of the future of India. Without the good advice of a teacher, nobody can be great. Teachers played a very important role in ancient India. They taught discipline, morality and manners. Those who obeyed their teachers became famous in different fields.

To me, professors at VIT, are friends in disguise. I still can't stop laughing, when I cherish the moments of being pointed by almost all the professors for wearing casuals and my westernized accent. Somewhere deep inside, I had firm faith in them, and I knew that whatever they said is for my own good. All our professors direct their energies in honing our skills. They leave no stone unturned and don't ever mind to go the extra mile to help us. Be it core academics or something personal, we don't have to think twice to approach them. On behalf of the entire student community of the MMS department, I would like to express my gratitude to all the teachers for their selfless efforts in helping us become better human beings.

—Amit Pal, MMS 2nd Year

Badminton's million dollar leap, Hyderabad reigns supreme

The smashing success of Saina Nehwal and PV Sindhu on the world stage was just the kind of boost the Indian Badminton League needed. Touted as innovative and revolutionary, the league, which is modelled on the lines of cricket's Indian Premier League, has generated quite a buzz since it kicked off three weeks ago. The league has been seen as an attempt to revive national interest in a sport that like many others that has been ignored over the years taking a back seat to Cricket.

Offering hefty sums to players, the million-dollar league has attracted players from all corners of the world. The 18-day extravaganza, which was loaded with exhilarating badminton action as well as loads of entertainment of the Bollywood kind, seemed to strike the right chord with spectators.

When Hyderabad hosted the World Championships a few years back, spectators mostly chose to stay away. But possibly because of the 'Saina Effect', people were jostling for space to get a glimpse of their favourite shuttlers at the Commonwealth Games finals in New Delhi. Saina and the glamorous duo of Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponnappa won the titles, much to the delight of the packed house.

Saina followed up that splendid performance with a dozen more international titles, including several prestigious Super Series Premier titles, and the popularity of the game soared. Chief coach Pullela Gopichand's efforts yielded competent players such as Sindhu, Srikanth, Parupalli Kashyap and Sai Praneeth, to name but a few. It was then that the Badminton Association of India decided to derive the benefits.

In Ashish Chadha, a former shuttler and journalist, they found the right choice to take the idea forward. In spite of the initial blues and hurdles, Chadha, through his Sporty Solutionz, managed to accumulate huge sums from sponsors.

The absence of Chinese, Koreans and super stars like newly-crowned world champion Ratchanok Intanon has, however, robbed the



league of some sheen. That being said, there is no shortage of great players here with current World No.1 Lee Chong Wei waving his wand around. He also went on to say that the IBL is by far the best organized Badminton franchise tournament in the world.

While many have seen the introduction of big money in the sport as doing no good and

only corporate harm, majority of the former legends see this as an opportunity to grow and reach ever greater audiences. Badminton legend, Prakash Padukone said "Big money is good for the sport and the players but unlike in cricket, players here will still have to perform well in international tournaments to command a good base price. In that sense it is slightly different from cricket at least for the time being."

All the preparations and planning finally culminated into a nail biting final at the newly refurbished fully air-conditioned Vallabhbhai Patel Stadium in Mumbai. Star shuttler Saina Nehwal brought Hyderabad Hotshots on level terms by trouncing her young challenger PV Sindhu in the much-anticipated contest after K Srikanth gave Awadh Warriors an unexpected 1-0 lead in the Indian Badminton League final on Saturday.

Srikanth shocked his Thai rival S Tanongsak, ranked 19 placed above him in the world, 21-12, 21-20 in 38 minutes to put the Warriors 1-0 ahead in the summit contest of the \$1 million prize money tournament at the NSCI's Stadium.

Ajay Jayaram was the favourite ahead of the match but Guru Sai Dutt stunned everybody by winning the first game and then dominating for the most part of the second, before Jayaram bounced back to win the second game. Guru was leading 16-12 in the second game and Jayaram found it difficult to find his rhythm, but one he did, it was he who dominated in the 10-21, 21-17, 11-7 win.

The men's doubles match proved to be the turning point of the tie as Boe and Kido were the favourite to win the match but that was not to be and they gave Hyderabad a lead of 2-1 after which Jayaram finished off things in style.

At the end of it all, the Hyderabad Hotshots dismantled the Awadhi Warriors in what culminated into a fantastic performance and an excellent spectacle of dedication, experience and most of all, Teamwork.

Aakash Desai, SE Computers, VIT

