

MUJ TIMES

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Editorial

M UJ Times is in your hands after a long gap in a totally new format. After long series of meeting and brain storming sessions, it was strongly felt that passing on information from one end to other in a mechanical way is not a sole purpose of a magazine, especially in an academic institution. Earlier, there was hardly any involvement of students in news gathering and shaping the magazine. There was dire need to change the shape and the format of the existing magazine. The only way was to honour the students and the readers' choice, which resulted into the present shape. Anyway, the success of the efforts much depend on the readers' acceptability and their reading habits, which is big challenge these days.

Anyway, I congratulate the team MUJ for their new and fresh endeavour and hope this will fill a big need of the exchange of ideas. I also expect that the conscious readership in and outside MUJ will encourage their morals for future innovations.

-From Chief Editor's Desk

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VC Speaks

Prof. G. K. Prabhu assumed the office of MUJ President after the completion of Prof. Sandeep Snacheti's tenure in February 18. MUJ Times team interviewed the new VC touching some pin-pointed questions underlining student related issues. MUJ Times is thankful for a very positive and receptive response. Here are the excerpts of the interview.

Q: What is your vision for this university?

VC: While at MUJ, it has been almost a month for me. I have started interacting with all my faculty members and students. For any educational institution, students are the stakeholders; hence, I have started interacting with them.

I would like to congratulate all the prior chancellors who have done a



marvellous job in bringing the institution unto this stage, as well as the hard work of the faculty and students for bringing MUJ up to this level.

• The immediate plan for MUJ is to have a vision that in the northern part of India, Manipal should be the most

preferred educational institute for both the faculty and students. However, it has to be quantified when you are saying 'most preferred'.

• The quantification that we are planning to do is we are participating in the national ranking. In the next 5 years we must be on the top 100 universities in the country.

• We have some road maps that I am going to present it with the board of the institution and once it has been approved, I will be sharing it with the faculty and the students. This is the immediate plan.

1st thing we are going to focus upon the Academic reputation because this is backbone of any university, though we have the curriculum, but the curriculum must be revisited frequently, and I would share the curriculum with the staff members and as well as the students.

Asking students about what they want to learn and how they wanted to learn. These are something called petrology change, where we are not going to design the curriculum and ask the students to learn that.

Q: What differences did you observe between MUJ and MIT?

VC: I observe some distinct changes and differences at MUJ compared to MIT. The 'students spread' i.e. students from different parts of the country come together to learn. Every institute has classroom learning, but since students at MUJ come from different cultures, it makes the university different. Also, along with the student spread, I observed the faculty spread is also high as compared to the main Manipal. The faculty comes from different backgrounds and cultures, which too, adds as a difference.

The second difference I observed is the 'infrastructure'. The growth plan has already been anticipated, the complete blueprint has been made. In the shortest time of 6 years, this institution has maintained accelerated growth.

Q:What your views on the lifestyle of the students in this institution?

VC Speaks

VC: People always call me a student directed person, they (students) have a lot of energy and new ideas. In case, if the ideas coming from the core are not appropriate, I won't mind completely changing them to something that is acceptable and is coming from the young generation. However, if something not good or something that is not giving any value is added to the energy, then I have to guide you that "beta this is not right". At this age you tend to do some mistakes. Do it when you are a student, because these mistakes will not tax you too much, but I don't expect students to do the similar kind of mistake



when they are out of the portal.

Majority of the activities are driven by the students only in academics. My days are gone, and now the students will decide what to learn, how to learn and when to learn.

Q: What are your hobbies? **VC:** As the president I need to have so many Alt Ctrl

Deletes. I have many hobbies that keep engaging me, I play Tabla. If there is some student body, I can also participate in weekend and have some event together. There is another electronic hobby "Han club". I am also a License Holder, to operate the wireless equipment that can transmit and receive. I usually go for cycling and trekking. The best part for me is talking and talking to the young kids like you.

Q: Are you a foodie?

VC: Oh yes, I really like eating a lot. I also prepare and love to cook. In the evening I prepare something for me, it feels nice and tasty. Some of you can also come and have some food with me but I am purely vegetarian (laughs).

Q.: *MUJ Times conducted a survey with 1st year students and we found that they know nothing about the Student Council. What do you think about it?*

VC: I'm also aware of that. We will have a separate meeting with the Student Council. I have to check whether their ideas are being accepted, whether their new initiative being encouraged, what kind of power we have given to them and in what form are they representing. Empowerment always comes with responsibility.

Q: Any last message for the students?

VC: Only one message, a student is a very important person in the world. I want that important person to behave responsibly. Having fun is acceptable, but having responsible fun is more important. That is the only message I want to convey to the students'.

Book Review

Narcissus and Goldmund Uncertainty, a lesson First published in 1930, Narcissus and Goldmund is one of the most iconic works of Herman Hesse. Set in medieval times when life was still about experiences as opposed to things, this story explores the internal contradictions of mind, soul and body that characterises every man. Herman Hesse does this cleverly under veneer of fiction while taking the reader through a journey of friendship, love, learning and realisations.

Goldmund, a young student in the monastic cloister, yet impervious to the bitter realities of life for a lack of experience, symbolises the body. His hunger for adventure and a yearning to charm women he encounters on the way takes him on a journey of a lifetime. Narcissus, a man in his young thirties, is quite learned and has chosen to live a life of abstinence and service to the cloister, where he is a teacher. Narcissus symbolises the soul.

Even though this story could be interpreted in many other ways, one view to take while understanding its meaning would be to look at Narcissus and Goldmund's relationship as representing the two very contrasting yet cohesive sides of a human being, each of which believes that it has a different destiny to fulfil. Goldmund does not wish to be stifled within the four walls of cloister for the rest of his life and sets outs to live a life of adventure (symbolising the youth). The spectacles he sees and the people he meets, especially the women, are no match to the lessons he learned while in the cloister (read: school and college.)

Letting out spoilers and the ending would be an unforgivable vice and I do not wish to indulge in that, even though I would like to assert that books like these are what challenge your pre-conceived looking through a veil of your own prejudices and opinions of life. This book definitely deserves more recognition for its honest writing, almost life like characters and its ability to make the reader detach from oneself and become a part of the time and place of the story and more importantly because it stays with you for a long time even after the reading has been done.

KMC Alumni: Looking back in days A lumni from Kasturba Medical College (KMC) visited Manipal University, Jaipur on 10th March to interact with students. MUJ Times conducted a series of interviews with some of the alumni. Here are some extracts:

What are the major changes that you've experienced?

"It was a very small place and what we have in present wasn't there in our times. Now all the hostels (I mean, everything) is top class in Manipal (main campus)," said Dr Ranjeet Kumar Shetty, KMC, 1969.

Would you like to share some of your college memories with us?

"In those days also, the boys used to roam around the girls' hostel. Now, there is more freedom for boys and girls, we didn't have the money actually. That is why we couldn't take girls out, but now money is not the issue. Now they are freer to take the girls out and have fun," he added.

What changes do you see?

"The attitude has changed. I mean, at that time I would not dare to talk to any girl in the class. I feel there is no gender discrimination now," said Dr H. Ganeshpai, KMC, 1969.

What about the cultural changes?

"I find a lot of differences in girls. They have become straight-forward and are not bothered about so many things. I am a gynaecologist, when I see unmarried pregnancies previously they all came here very scared and so crying but now they come and say that my test is positive so do something. So sexually it is a big change," said Dr Girija, KMC, 1969.

Is there any advice you would like to give to the current students' community?

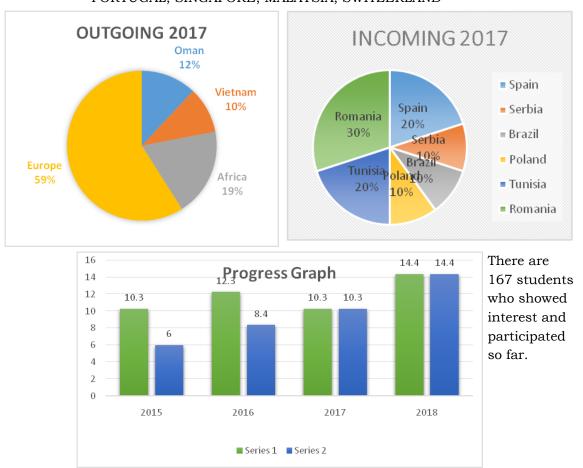
"You must work hard. Start slow and everything will fall in place," she added.

Let's Fly International

tudent exchange programme pulls one out of the comfort zone and forces one to adapt to different situations and people in a totally different culture, and sometimes, speaking totally foreign language. This helps one's character to become stronger and more resilient. Students become more confident in themselves. With international tie ups the programs facilitate networking of our students and faculty as well as impart training to them to: Enjoy living and working in other countries with different cultural environment, Gain practical experience in International work environment, industries, research institutes, consulting firms and laboratories, Obtain cutting edge technical knowledge and experience, Develop professional contacts and stand out to potential employers by enhancing their CV, Improve social and cultural skills. Manipal University Jaipur gives students the opportunity to experience the change in different aspects through the exchange programme, as mentioned, exchange programme enhances ones' character. Students must grab every opportunity they see and participate in them with enthusiasm, so that they come to know that student exchange is not a trip or vacation, it's a second life.

International Programmes - Academic and Research Association(Manipal University Jaipur)

The countries covered through the programme are: UK, USA, FRANCE, NEW ZEALAND, GERMANY, HUNGARY, AUSTRALIA, PORTUGAL, SINGAPORE, MALAYSIA, SWITZERLAND



Awareness About Students'

der.

Council

• "I am aware about the fact that a student council exists but what exactly does it do?" said Vrinda, CSE, 1st year.

In the wake of upcoming students' council elections, MUJ Team conducted

explanatory . *In response to the question about their knowledge of the students council, the reply was almost unanimously. A brief report is hereun-*

a survey in the university and hostel residents. Results are self-

• "I thought that 1st year students aren't involved in any of the activities the student council conducts," said Shanvi, ECE, 1st year.

• "I feel like the student council should be more public about who they are so that students are more aware about their responsibilities," said Naman, BSC, 1st year.

• "I have a brief knowledge about who the president might be but have never seen the student council or the president in person till now, "said Hemang, BSE, 1st year.

• "I would want to know the role the student council plays in this university," said Sandipani, ECE, 1st year.

• "How many members exist in the student council. And how can you get to be a part of it?" said Ditaya, BJMC, 1ST year.

Why the underpass' but why not?

MUJ Times conducted a survey to find out whether students preferred the underpass or the hostel gate to commute to college, we got some interesting responses:

"The new underpass is extremely helpful in extreme weather conditions as it shields us from the rain and the extreme heat during the summer,"
"It would be much more convenient if both the options, the underpass and the main gate were kept open for the students, as each would choose

the path of their choice,"
"The new underpass plays a vital role in allowing students to work in the college campus or study in the library till 8 pm, that wasn't allowed earlier,"

• "There are several complaints of mobile phones unable to receive network in the underpass, that is rather inconvenient as one has to cut off from their phone completely to use the underpass,"

• "A straight road is much easier to walk on and is a much more direct route to reach the college campus as compared to having climb the stairs in the underpass,"

• "I never liked change, I have gotten used to using the main gate, the underpass seems like a lot of work and I feel lazy,"

"The new underpass in extremely convenient for me as my classes are conducted in the 1 AB Block and the underpass directly opens up there,"
"I find the main gate easier to use as it is a straight and direct walk to reach the college campus,"

• "I like the new underpass, it has air conditioning, it is much easier to use in the summer, it also provides heating in the winters,"

• "I don't like being forced to use any one option, the guards create havoc,"

अंतराष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस

🖁 मार्च को मानाने मनाये जाने वाले अंतराष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस पर सम्पूर्ण विश्व की महिलाएं देश, जात–पात, राजनीतिक, सांस्कृतिक भेदभाव से परे एकजुट होकर इस दिन को मनाती है। साथ ही पुरुष वर्ग भी इस दिन को महिलाओं की सम्मान में समर्पित करता है।

दरअसल इतिहास के अनुसार समानाधिकार की यह लडाई प्राचीन ग्रीस में लीसिसट्राटा नाम की एक

महिला ने फ्रेंच क्रांति के दौरान युद्ध समाप्ति की मांग र खते हुए इस आंदोलन की शुरुआत की, फारसी महिलाओं के एक समूह ने वरसेल्स में इस दिन एक मोर्चा निकाला, इस मोर्चे का उद्देश्य युद्ध की वजह से महिलाओं पर बढ़ते हुए अत्याचार को रुकना था।

सन 1909 में सोशलिस्ट पार्टी ऑफ अमेरिका द्वारा पहली बार पुरे अमेरिका में 28 फरवरी को

महिला दिवस मनाया गया। सन 1910 में सोशलिस्ट इंटरनेशनल द्वारा कोपनहेगन में महिला दिवस की स्थापना हुई और 1911 में ऑस्ट्रिया, डेनमार्क, जर्मनी, स्विटजरलैंड में लाखो महिलाओं द्वारा रैली निकाली गयी।

महिला दिवस अब लगभग सभी विकसित, विकासशील देशो में मनाया जाता है। यह दिन महिलाओं को उनकीं क्षमता सामाजिक, राजनैतिक व आर्थिक तरक्की दिलाने व उन महिलाओं को याद करने का दिन है, जिन्होंने महिलाओं को उनके अधिकार दिलाने के लिए अथक प्रयास किये।

महिला दिवस के अवसर पर मणिपाल विश्वविद्यालय में आयोजित कार्येक्रम को विशेष बनाने के लिए डॉ मीता सिंह (नारी सशक्तिकरण एवं महिला संरक्षण हेतु किये गए कार्यो से राष्ट्रिय एवं अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर सम्मानित) मुख्य अथिति के तौर पर आयी थी। महिला दिवस के दिन महिलाओं के संघर्ष का उल्लेख करते हुए उनकी सफलता की बानगी पेश की जाती है। महिलाओं के संघर्षो पे रौशनी डालते हुए विश्वविद्यालय की छात्राओं द्वारा सामूहिक गीत एवं नृत्य प्रस्तुत किये गए। प्रेजिडेंट प्रो. (डॉ.) जी. के. प्रभु द्वारा मुख्य अतिथि का पुष्प गुच्छ द्वारा सम्मान किया गया। प्रो. मृदुल श्रीवास्तव (डीन, आर्ट्स एंड लॉ) ने स्वागत भाषण प्रस्तुत किया और मुख्य अतिथि द्वारा महिलाओं को संरक्षण हेतू उनके अधिकार एवं कर्तव्य से परिचित करवाया।

मातृभाषा दिवस का आयोजन

THE VOICE BEHIND THE GAME

In a conversation with MUJ Times team Prof. Ravi Chaturvedi, the first Hindi cricket commentator gave his frank opinion about some pros and cons Of present day cricket scenario of the country.

R avi Chaturvedi, the first man ever to be a cricket commentator in Hindi language, is from Delhi. He joined All India Radio in 1962 as its first Hindi commentator. In this long career, he has covered 102 Tests and 220 ODIs in Cricket. Also, he has been associated with Star Sports, ESPN, TWI, Nimbus Sports, World Tel. New Zealand TV, Doordarshan, Sab TV, Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, Guardian Radio, Trinidad TV, BBC, Voice of America (VOA) and All India Radio. An author of 23 books, he has also been honoured with the Padma Shri award. Speaking on The Indian Premier league, as pointed out by Mr. Ravi Chaturvedi, has several pros and cons.



Pros • Players involved in domestic cricket (like the Ranjhi trophy) are better off now. They are making good money and also, getting a chance to rub shoulders with international players. This gives them a lot of confidence. In long term, this will be really beneficial

for the Indian cricket.

• The bench strength of the Indian team is strong. We have a lot of players in reserve for every position. We have a replacement which is perhaps more or less of the same level.

• Improvement in fielding

• Running between the wickets has improved

Cons

• The basics or the artistic part of cricket (which we see in test cricket) is losing its ground.

Will Kohli be as successful as Tendulkar?

"Comparisons are always odious. Because players from different times play in different conditions. Therefore, these comparisons are really odious!" said Ravi Chaturvedi.

"Sachin Tendulkar reached Himalayan heights. However, what we need to look at is he played for 20 years in all formats. Whereas, Virat too, is as great as any other batsman. He has evolved certain strokes which fetch him certain runs. But will he be able to maintain his game as Sachin did? That is the question," he added.

What role does Hindi Cricket Commentary play?

"This question is really relevant in the present time. Cricket is not confined to the metropolitan cities. The game has gone into the masses, into the countryside. You go to the countryside when the fields are harvested, you will find kids playing only cricket. So, this is the degree of the popularity of the game that has gone to the masses. Now, the language commentary has played its role. The people in those (far-flung) areas do not understand English. It is because of the regional commentary that they not only understand the game but have an emotional connection to it. For example, people don't eat when the Indian team loses, and people celebrate when the Indian team wins. The hopes and aspirations of rural India are connected with Indian cricket," he further said.

Reading Habits on Decline

-Ravi Chaturvedi

In an interview for a job in an MNC, a candidate, who has done his graduation with honours in English literature from a local college, was asked to name any novel by an Indian author which he read recently. After keeping mum for some moments, the candidate frankly admitted that he had read none.

In another interview for a BPO job, a candidate feigned his ignorance when he was asked to comment on Chetan Bhagat's bestseller "A Night at a Call Centre". Surprisingly, this candidate, too, was a student of English literature.

In another example, when a group of students of journalism and mass communication, who attended 4 days Literature Fest in Jaipur, was asked about Ruskin Bond, who had a very interesting session, the answer was a big silent.

All these three instances clearly indicate a sharp decline in the reading habit of the new generation. If Gandhi's "Experiments with Truth", Tagore's "Geetanjali" or Premchand's "Godan" fail to attract them, they are not conversant with Shakespeare's "The Tempest" or Salman Rushdi's "Midnight Children" either. Few years back if someone said that he or she had not read a Tagore or a Tolstoy that person was looked down upon by others. There was a strong sense of accountability and responsibility among the youth. But with the gradual advent of globalization and nuclear family structures, life has become mechanical and money oriented. Students are under pressure for performance and the concept of intrinsic value addition is now a long lost idea. In an age, when browsing the internet, playing with cell phones and sending SMSes seem to be the order of the day, reading a book in a peaceful corner of a library has become an archaic idea for most of the people. Of course, reading is not something that people can live without. It provides both knowledge and entertainment for humans. Some teenagers, and even adults, live off of reading because it takes them to a reality that is not their own. Non-readers first need to find their right type of book so they can enjoy reading for what it really is. Schooling is one of the factors that keep people from enjoying the nature of reading. Instead of passing up the next book, maybe read it and don't judge the book by it

This is high time when the academic planners, teachers and the social scientists must understand that the reading habit are developed in a well-planned and deliberate pattern of study which is essential to attain a form of consistency on the part of students toward understanding academic subjects and passing at examinations. Reading habits determine the academic achievements of students to a great extent. Both reading and academic achievements are interrelated and dependent on each other. Students often come from different environments and localities with different levels of academic achievement. Therefore, they differ in the pattern of reading habits. While some students have good reading habits, others tend to exhibit poor reading habits.

Theatre Buzz

Two Days Theatre Festival:



In a nation full of different art forms, the student of Cinefilia- the dramatics and film making society of Manipal University took an initiative under the guidance of Dr. Ravi Chaturvedi, Director SMC and organised the very first theatre festival- Utkraant.

27th March has been declared as the World Theatre Day by International Theatre Institute and has been celebrated internationally since 1961. It was a two day event graced by Shri.

Hemchandra Tamhankar on the first day and vice chancellor, Mr. G.K. Prabhu and with Mrs. Ruchi Bhargav on the second day. Karan Maheshwari, Lakshay Sharma and Murtaza Barwaniwala with the help of their whole team brought forth a whole new experience which was full of emotions. Out of the four plays that were performed, two were in house. Rawalakot and Wrong



house. Rawalakot and Wrong Number, directed by Akash Johnson and Karan Pillai and Mohit Singh received standing ovation from the audience. The other two plays were pre-

sented by Tamhankar Theatre Academy (Prahari) and MNIT college (Khat) which

were equally appreciated. Choreography with their amaze a part of the



ing performance also became a part of the festival. A small magic show was put up by the students: Bhavya Bhaadwag and Mohit Garg which left the audience in awe.

Ibsen on Stage: SMC Plans to Stage The play The town of Pushkar in which the play is set has built a huge bathing complex that is crucial to the town's economy. Dr. Ramnath Mishra has just discovered that the baths' drainage system is seriously contaminated. He alerts several members of the community, including the pess people, and receives generous support and thanks for making his discovery in time to save the town. The next morning, however, his brother, who is also the town's mayor, tells him that he must retract his statements, for the necessary repairs would be too expensive; additionally, the mayor is not convinced by Dr. Mishra's findings. The brothers have a fierce argument, but Dr. Mishra hopes that at least the press and media will support him. However, the mayor convinces media to oppose Dr. Mishra.

The doctor holds a town meeting to give a lecture on the baths, but the people and the mayor try to keep him from speaking. Dr. Mishra then begins a long tirade in which he condemns the foundations of the town and the tyranny of the majority. The doctor decides to defy authority and remain in town. His family is supportive, and he says that the strongest man is the man who stands alone.

School of Media and Communication is planning the thought provoking play originally written by Henrik Ibsen and adapted and directed by Prof. Ravi Chaturvedi. this month in the newly constructed Black Box Studio Theatre (#201 in 1AB Building).

One Year PG Diploma in Theatre Arts

Duration: One Year (Two semester)

Overview

Theatre brings people together with a sustainable and integrated understanding. Both, the making of theatre and attending of theatre contributes to education and literacy. The course introduces students to issues and methods in analyzing historical and contemporary performance practices from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, while reviewing the broad history of theatre and performance. Exposure to theoretical and practical courses. The course also stretches students physically, emotionally, intellectually and creatively – preparing them to meet the highest demands of the profession. This course also offers intensive vocational training for excellence in the industry. The program will influence the way we think and feel about our own lives and encourages us to take a hard look at ourselves, our values, and our behavior. The program will generate better opportunities in entertainment industry.

Career Opportunities

After completion of the program, post-graduates can work as Actor, Character Artist, Film Director, Play and story writer, Music director, Casting Director, Radio Producer, News Anchor, Set Designer, Costume Designer, Copy Writer, Theatre Director, Announcer, Audio Editor, Radio Jockey, Video Jockey, Production Supervisor, Screenwriter, Sound Mixer, Sound Recordist and Art Director.

Eligibility:

The candidate must have passed a Bachelor's degree in any discipline from a recognized university.





