

ilfm
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF FOREST MANAGEMENT

ALMA MATTERS

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Volume 6



ALMA MATTERS

THE OFFICIAL ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF IIFM

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Friends, as we welcome the new year 2022, it is also the time to look in the rear-view mirror with this sixth edition of our own newsletter ALMA MATTERS. With this edition we complete one year of publication of ALMA MATTERS, thank you so much for your admiration, inputs and support. It has also been a year of learning for the Editorial Team.

Every time when a batch passes out from the institute it leaves behind and also carry back interesting memories of the campus. We try to trace those memories through the section "यादों के झरोखे से". In this edition we reflect the reminiscence of two alumni and reflect the emotions of the passing out batch (2020-22). Continuing to present the memories from the campus, after the reflection from Chandu Bhaiya this time we present the expressions from our own Tiwari Ji.

It is a matter of great pride for the community that our alumni shine across the globe with achievements. To celebrate this, we have introduced a section Alma Shine. The batch PFM 1995-97 is the "Batch of the Month" for this edition. It is so good to know about each one of you.

As always, the campus is full of activities and we tried to capture the fervour of the students as they share diverse activities through different forums.

The Alumni Association moved ahead with significant activities viz. launching of Social Media Platform, meeting of Alumni City Chapters, development of Whistle Blower Policy, MOA review, appointment of AA Manager etc.

We hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter and share your inputs as always.

On behalf of the Editorial Team, we wish you all Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year 2022.

au revoir
Avinash Kumar
(Editor-in-Chief)

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यादों के झरोखे से

I CHOSE IIFM OR IIFM CHOSE ME?

SNEHA KAUSHAL
PFM, 2012

Humor helps tough situations look easy, if not really change them! Isn't it? I experienced this closely in the last few months as I went through the vagaries of life...Writing this piece is an attempt to relive some of the best memories I had at IIFM and share the smile with all of you that it still brings to my face! Each one of us has thought by ourselves or told by someone at some point of time that IIFM was not a great institute for pursuing MBA. However, looking back at life pre and post IIFM I know that it was the best choice for me and it definitely made me a better person.

My life at IIFM was carefree and I used to believe that I am going to make a very big difference in society through my work. As I was outside my hometown for the first time, I made sure that having fun and good time was the top priority. I studied less, roamed around a lot, focused on friends and on recovery from untimely breakups. Even after all this I was able to score decent marks, I am sure if I focused a lot I would have been a gold medalist. The funniest memories I have of those times are of my sobbing outbursts due to some silly things and then looking at professors with a hope to get solutions for personal issues. I vividly remember getting my initial lessons on meditation and the significance of mindful living from CSR Sir. !! Believe it or not, most of the time those tips really served me well to survive the ordeal which seemed to be the biggest crises at those times.

I was most scared of Advait Sir amongst other professors but always reach upto him with really weird questions on managing relationships, once he told me - "You are going to laugh looking back, just take it easy! It's not a big deal" And I used to wonder why he doesn't understand what I want to say. Looking back that was the best advice anyone could have given me and I do laugh thinking about those days. Many of my classmates taught me to take things in stride and fight for your aspirations. Notwithstanding these, IIFM changed my life irreversibly and I know for a fact that I couldn't have had such exciting times anywhere else.

After I passed out of IIFM, I feel more drawn and connected to nature. PGDFM gave me a great platform to connect with and be surrounded by myriad passionate environmentalists and development professionals who chose to work at grassroots and followed their heart's calling. IIFM helped me in connecting with nature and I became less judgmental and more compassionate towards others. I developed a love for bird-watching and living amidst nature. This awareness that seeped within me has been my alma matters' biggest contribution to my life amongst many others.

यादों के झरोखे से

I CHOSE IIFM OR IIFM CHOSE ME?

SNEHA KAUSHAL
PFM, 2012

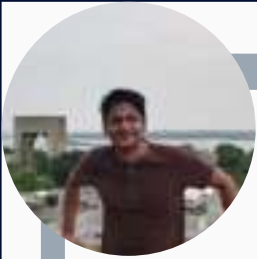
IIFM made me traverse remote, untouched pristine places in our country. Walking at grasslands, trekking to hilly areas during our field visits, observing cobras and pythons near the rocks in IIFM, experiencing nature and wildlife closely at our picturesque campus and many other such incidents enriched my life. Learning about different aspects of natural resources, their management, and having a carefree, relaxed time with my friends at the cafeteria made my life at campus quite fulfilling.

I cannot thank enough my seniors, Advait, Ravi, and Munish - a few among many others, who stood by me through thick and thin of the most difficult times of my life with their unmatched support, love, and kindness. As I sailed through health challenges and sometimes lost hope, they rekindled within me the spirit to fight back, emphasizing that this is just a passing phase and good times will come again. They gave me the strength to fight like a warrior with adversities and gave me the smile, strength, and hope to bounce back!

Connecting the dots of my experience, I sincerely feel that the biggest contribution to any person's life is to extend this solidarity and support to our peers, juniors and seniors. Mostly during tough times we just want some care, motivation, guidance and sincere concern. I hope that I can be instrumental in helping this camaraderie grow and support many others like me harnessing their true potential to the best of my abilities.

Cheers to this fantastic spirit, good health, and prosperity in the times ahead!!

Sneha Kaushal
PFM 2012,
Consultant PRADAN Chhattisgarh



यादों के झरोखे से

MELANCHOLIA FOR MY MASTERS

SANDIP CHOWDHURY
PFM, 2016

The final days of IIFM were upon us. Everyone was placed and it was almost customary to visit your favourite professors' room to offer your gratitude, give your regards and say goodbye. I had quite a few favourite professors who I respected and loved (still do). In my mind, I had been preparing for these farewell talks weeks before. In fact, I dreaded the days when I had to say goodbye to IIFM and my professors. After all, IIFM proved to be a 22-month roller-coaster ride full of love, laughter, learning, unlearning, fun, friendship, success, failure and everything that made you feel alive and engaged. To leave all these behind forever was indeed a dreadful thought that I was not prepared for.

Prepared or not, leaving IIFM without saying goodbye was not an option. My first stop was the office of a professor who had become quite special to me. He was one of the most loved professors both for his exceptional teaching skills as well as his nonchalant demeanor. He had mentored me whenever time permitted him and even went to the extent of finding an INGO for campus placement which at that time was my dream organization. I was indebted to my master and this showed when I faced him in his office for the very last time. I had politely knocked on his door and he happily welcomed me and gave me a chair to sit. I was supposed to say thank you for all the knowledge and life lessons but no words would come out from my mouth. Instead, streams of tears started flowing from my eyes. "Is it something that I said?", he calmly enquired and I could only shake my head to gesture no. For a good 2-3 minutes, I just kept crying and with a lot of effort mustered to utter the words "Thank You". I don't remember what followed next but I touched his feet in reverence and left the room in tears. I had always been an emotional wreck but this outburst even surprised me. Why would I ruin the last treasured moments with dear Sir? I guess I was simply overwhelmed by the occasion.

After this heady encounter, I should have ideally returned to my room, get myself together and come back another day but then days were running out and I had to visit so many other professors. So, I went to see my second-favourite professor who thankfully was not present. Adjacent to his office was another professor who had taught me for only one elective. He was not in my primary homage list but then, I was in love with IIFM and when you are in love with someone, you tend to love everything about him/her (in this case 'it') even if it meant a professor who had taught only one elective and who you had hardly interacted with so far (except seeing him smoke in the dark corners of admin building). So I went ahead to see this waitlisted professor. I knock on his door - He ushers me in - I sit in a chair in front of him - I am lost for words again - Tears started coming hot and clean. It was a bizarre moment and I realized I don't know myself enough.

MELANCHOLIA FOR MY MASTERS

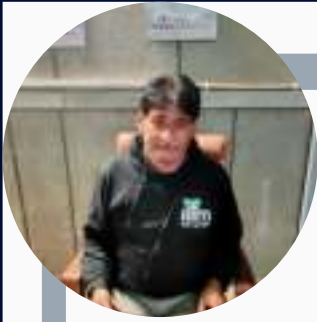
SANDIP CHOWDHURY
PFM, 2016

I can fathom the emotional backdrop for my previous encounter but why the hell am I crying in front of him? Why? As if he heard me telepathically, professor said "Oh Ok. You guys! Every time a session ends, you cry". It was clear from his dismissive tone that maybe I am not the first person to cry here. Maybe the occasion seems unique to me but the professors witness such melodrama every year. Taking heart from the realization, I collected myself and retired for the day. Two back to back episodes were enough to convince me that I am not prepared for this one to one encounters. So, for the rest of the professors, I bid my farewell along with my friends. It wasn't that bad. At least these were graceful and I didn't make a fool of myself again.

I had learnt quite a few life lessons in my time at IIFM and even in the last days, it taught me something about myself. I am forever indebted to my alma mater for giving me many such moments and opportunities of self-reflection which has helped me to become a better person. As for the melancholic day in question, I still feel embarrassed about the whole thing but I have matured enough to laugh about it today.

Sandip Chowdhury
PFM 2016,
Project officer - Climate Justice
Oxfam India

यादों के झरोखे से



TIWARI JI KI DIARY

AVINASH KUMAR
PFM, 2000

33 Years back when a young boy from Manaini Majhiaon village of Bhojpur district (erstwhile Shahabad district) of Bihar came to Bhopal, he never knew that he will become a common name among the students of IIFM. Yes, your guess is right, we are talking about our own Tiwari ji and we never bothered to know his full name. Chandra Kant Tiwari (C.K. Tiwari) was 18 years old when he came to Bhopal with his elder brother Sri K.K. Tiwari. As he was not much inclined to pursue higher studies, his elder brother decided to engage him with some vocation. It was 1988 and Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM) had its small office at E-5 Arera Colony. Dr. J.K. Chaturvedi was the Director of IIFM when Tiwari ji got opportunity to join IIFM as contractual staff. Soon the institute shifted to the big campus in Nehru Nagar. Tiwari ji along with some other staff wondered that what will happen in such a big campus. With commencement of PGDFM this question faded over a period of time as the activities were engaging enough to think anything else.

1988-89 was not the time of mobile and internet therefore letters delivered through Postal department used to be the means of communication for the students staying far away from their home. Tiwari ji, remember those days and his role as postman for the students. Probably, this was the beginning of his relationship with the students which only grew stronger over the years. In the initial days he used to stay at Vanika Hostel and students would even walk down to Vanika to know from him if any letter has come for them.

Right from the beginning, Tiwari ji received the message from the faculties and warden about his role as caretaker for the students. When asked, how does he monitor students activities, he mentioned "बच्चों को लगता है तिवारी जी हमारी गलतियां नहीं देख पाएंगे , और तिवारी जी सोचते हैं कि हैं तो हमारे बच्चे ही इन पर नज़र तो रहेगी ही लेकिन नज़रअंदाज़ करके".

When asked about some interesting incidences in his long journey at IIFM, he says the journey has been full of stories and he can go on. He narrated a story about the alumni Shakeb Nabi (PFM 1996-98). He had to be admitted to Dewani Hospital for the treatment of stone. Next morning his father generally called at Hostel landline number to know about Shakeb. As the health condition of Shakeb had improved and he was well supported by the Warden and support staff, Tiwari ji thought that telling Shakeb's father about the hospitalization might create unnecessary worry for him. He said that Shakeb is busy preparing for his exam and he will call back in a day or two. Next day Shakeb's father called back again and Tiwari ji gave the same reply. Shakeb's father told Tiwari ji " I know my son that how much he will read for exam, you are definitely hiding something from me and I want to know the truth". Tiwari ji had no option but to tell the truth and arranged a phone call at the hospital. All along his stay at IIFM, Tiwari ji always had concern for the students and he always volunteered the role of local guardian for them.

With changing time, technology changed but the caring attitude of Tiwari ji for students remained. He is still in good touch with many alumni over WhatsApp. A couple of years back, Tiwari ji received health insurance document of one alumni Aman Mehta. He was not having the contact details of Aman but he wanted the information to reach him. He had an innovative idea and mentioned the details about health insurance of Aman as his WhatsApp status. Soon he was approached by a batchmate of Aman who was working at Bhopal. She visited the campus with thanks and box of sweets from Aman for Tiwari ji and expressed the gratitude from Aman.

यादों के झरोखे से

TIWARI JI KI DIARY

AVINASH KUMAR
PFM, 2000

On the personal front, Tiwari ji has two sons Anjani Kant Tiwari and Dipak Tiwari. Anjani completed his B.E. from Radha Raman College of Engineering Bhopal and is working while Dipak is in B.E. fourth year in Patel College Bhopal. Tiwari ji expresses his gratitude for the MRM alumni Vivek Mishra who helped his elder son getting the job. He is quite happy that after spending significant time in Bhopal he and his elder son have bought a piece of land in Bhopal. While Tiwari ji is happy in his personal life but he expresses his grief on the passing away of his wife in 2018. He says, his wife was great support for him and he always misses her presence.

Tiwari ji has six more years at the institute before he retires and expresses the same zeal towards his work which he had when he joined. He shares the happiness of the students when they get campus placement and shares their anxiety too if there is delay in placement for any student. We extend our good wishes for Tiwari ji that he continues supporting the student batches with same care and concern.

Interviewed by:

Rajat Goyal (PFM, 2022)

Prachi Majumdar (PSM, 2023)



Tiwari Ji winning the best performer of IIFM



ALMA SHINE



Mr, Rajaram Sankaran, PGDFM 1998-2000,
Awarded Africa Business Leader of the Year Award at
Africa Leadership Awards organized by the CMO
Global Group



Mr. Vineet Rai, PGDFM 1992-1994,
Recognized for Championing Financial Inclusion at
the prestigious 13th Inclusive Finance India Awards
2021



Mr. Vishwanath Divya, PGDFM 2003-2005,
Awarded "Marketer of the year, 2021" at BFSI
Excellence Awards, Mumbai



Mr. Puneet Dwivedi, PGDFM 2003-2005,
Indian scientist creates plant-based aircraft fuel that
cuts emissions by 68%





ALMA SHINE



**Ms. Sneha Kaushal, PGDFM 2011-2012,
Chevening Scholarship, 2021 Awardee**



**Mr. Rajaneesh R, PGDFM 2013 -2015,
Chevening Scholarship, 2021 Awardee**



**Ms. Neelima Mishra, PGDFM 2011 - 2013,
Chevening Scholarship, 2021 Awardee**



**Ms. Snehal Verma, PGDFM 2017 - 2019,
Fullbright Scholarship Awardee**





ALMA SHINE



Ms. Neha Pahuja, PGDFM 2006-2008,
Spoke about necessity of decarbonization pathways
and fulfillment current commitments such as Green
Climate Fund during Newshour debate



Mr. Bishnu C. Parida, MRM 2005
Author of the book "The Buddha for All"



Mr. Pranay Lal, PGDFM 1992 - 1994,
Author of his second book "Invisible Empire"



Mr. Vaibhav Sharma, PGDFM 2001 - 2003,
Joined editorial board of energy policy as
international advisory board member





ALMA SHINE

Honorable Prime Minister of India Shree Narendra Modi pledged to make a substantial shift to green energy by 2030 and achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2070 at the recently concluded COP 26 at Glasgow.

Al Jazeera, in the wake of recent announcements made by the Prime Minister and so many eyeballs set on India, reached out to Ms.Ritu Bharadwaj (PFM 2000) & Mr.Vaibhav Chaturvedi (PFM 2003), to have their expert opinion on the same.



CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

WEEKLY INTERACTION WITH ALUMNI



Lalit Kumar
PFM 2012

On 12th September, we had the second session of Weekly Interactions 2021 with Mr. Lalit Kumar, PFM 2012.

He is currently working as an Associate Director at Standard Chartered Bank, with a strong foothold in Commercial Banking (Priority Sector Lending).



Bhushan Patil
PFM 2018

On 18th September, we had the third session of Alumni Weekly Interactions 2021 with Mr. Bhushan Patil, PFM 2018.

He is currently working with Intelicap, as an Associate in the field of Social Impact Consulting.



Binay Soreng
PFM 2012

On 3rd October, we had the fifth session of Alumni Weekly Interactions 2021 with Mr. Binay Soreng, PFM 2012.

He is currently working with KPMG as a consultant and has previously worked with several consultancy firms.



ALUMNI
WEEKLY INTERACTION 2021

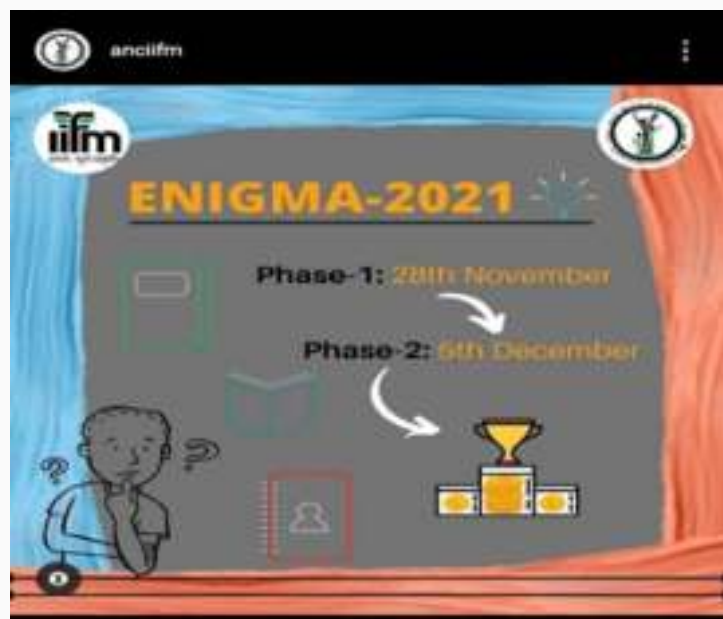
Ritika Tajpuriya
(PFM-2013)
Founder,
Green Growth Consultancy.

Sunday at 5 pm | 10 October | Platform: Google meet

ENIGMA

Alumni Network Committee, IIFM brings you to the biggest competition of the year the “**Enigma**” to provide you an analysis of all your skills with a single competition and to give you a taste of solving real-life problems under various scenarios.

The competition will also provide you a real-time experience of your upcoming SI and Placements and give you a chance to kick start your career, enhance your leadership skills, and develop the diversity of skills needed to be successful in this dynamic global workforce/market.



Number of Participants: 52

Organizing Team: Akash Singh, Ashrut, Shruti Singh, Rishabh Chaturvedi, Prachi Majumdar, Rishika Sharma
Rounds, Mentors and Judges

1. Role Play
2. Extempore: Advait Edgaonkar, Siddhartha Das, Sneha Kaushal, Kalpana Kashyap
3. Case Presentation: Anil Singh, Shubham Shodani
4. Mentors: Aman Kumar, Varun Grover, Rishi Prakash, Bhushan Patil, Sejal Agarwal
5. GD: Lalit Kumar, Sunpreet Kaur
6. Interview: Avinash Kumar, Tarun Vipin Mapra

Finalists

Rony M Roy, Alisha Seth, Ayushi Dwivedi

Winner

Alisha Seth

UMANG

GURU PURNIMA

On this special occasion of Guru Purnima Umang collaborated with the Alumni network committee and made a card for you to thank all the faculties for enlightening our souls. To the world they may be just a Guru, but to us they are everything. Umang along with ANC brought all the beautiful greetings from the alumni who considered the IIFM faculties as the sole reason for their success today and wanted to thank them all for the same.

SANDARBH

On the occasion of Independence Day Umang organized a debate competition named "Sandarbh", the competition demanded the participants to compete against each other in form of teams with topics ranging from Indian Politics to Nationalism to Freedom of speech and The Vision of India post 100 years of Independence. The competition was judged by our esteemed Alumni MR. Manas Ranjan and esteemed faculty at IIFM, Dr. Bhaskar Sinha, the competition forced the participants to brainstorm rigorously and come up with various arguments aligning in different directions and bringing in multiple aspects of the given topics. It was an event that helped IIFMites learn more about the ideology of youth and how they feel about India as a diverse country.

GARBA NIGHTS

Garba Nights was the first offline event of the PFM22 batch, Umang celebrated the festival of Navratri with fervor and happiness, the situation was not yet normal therefore all the social guidelines were taken care of and only the students inside the campus were invited for celebration night. The esteemed faculties residing in the campus were also invited and the IIFM family celebrated the festival by performing Aarti and offering prayers to Maa Durga, later all the students and teachers grooved to the beats of Garba and Enjoyed Dandiya Nights.

UMANG

LUMINESCENCE

On the occasion of Diwali Umang organized an online event with multiple rounds. The participants registered as a team of three members and few registered individually who were randomly organized into teams of three individuals. The event's first round was a quiz with questions based on Indian culture, traditions, tribes and monuments, the quiz was conducted through an online platform Kahoot by dividing the teams into three segments with google meets going on simultaneously, hence managing things smoothly in the virtual mode. The second round was conducted in the presence of an audience with a total of six fun-filled challenges to be faced by the teams. Three teams entered the final round where the teams were asked to design a poster on the theme Eco-Friendly Diwali, the posters were evaluated by esteemed faculty at IIFM, Dr. Anup Prakash Upadhyay.

DIWALI

The 2022 batch of IIFM has seen so many ups and downs since the day they started their journey to IIFM, those digital classes, online meets and virtual celebrations, but since IIFM is blessed by god's grace we were lucky enough to celebrate Diwali in the campus experiencing the calmness in nature's lap. The batch was far away from the family, but as always said IIFM is a student's second home and it's a family, Umang the cultural club and the IIFMites gathered together to celebrate the festival of lights by making beautiful rangolis, lighting diyas and performing the rituals of the day, the long lasting tradition of paying a visit to the faculties' home lost its importance amidst the chaos, but those times are back again, the student-faculty relationship is no less than a family bond, IIFM is known for its culture and diversity afterall. Swaruchi the mess committee won the hearts once again by organising such a wonderful feast with delicious foods and beverages, it felt like home to dine in the mess with such beautiful decorations and mouth watering food. IIFM is one of the most beautiful campuses in the country and no doubt the heavens fall here, it's not just the nature but the culture, the diversity, the celebrations, the food, the faculties and the students that keeps the institution alive.

MERAKI: THE LITERARY CLUB

The Book Exchange

The Literary Club of IIFM organized one of its signature events in the beginning of September, THE BOOK EXCHANGE. This event has been a significant part in MERAKI's legacy for a very long time and aims to bring senior batch, junior batch as well as the Alumnis of the college together. Every year in the month of August or September, MERAKI starts its series of events with this particular fiesta, to break the ice between the new batch and the existing batch.

Abhivyakti

Abhivyakti was an essay writing as well as speech competition organised on the occasion of Hindi Diwas to re-establish the essence of Hindi, as a language. There were 12 participants and the judges for the events were Amitabh Pandey, Faculty at IIFM and Mr. Avinash Kumar, Alumni (2000 Batch). It was a wonderful experience that enlightened the love in all of us for Hindi and its beauty

Aviral

Essay writing competition on Namami Gange Project: Organized from 1st to 3rd November 2021, Aviral, was an essay competition organised in collaboration with National Mission to Clean Ganga to celebrate the National Ganga Day.

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ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT CELL (EDC)

The Indian Institute of Forest Management's (IIFM) Entrepreneur Development Cell (EDC) is working to promote entrepreneurship activities in the institute with the ultimate goal of providing a platform for students to gain inspiration and one day launch their own business. For this reason, EDC has been working since its inception in the institute to achieve its goal by holding interactive sessions, competitions, webinars, and other events. While the physical presence of students at such events always provides 100 per cent benefits for all, in light of the current pandemic situation, all sessions and competitions were online.

With the online pathway, EDC held a logo competition in the last week of September to provide a platform for students to showcase their design skills and stimulate their creative minds. The competition drew a large number of entries, each of which was a work of art in its own right. Mr Rohit Raina, one of our beloved alumni judged the entries and selected the top three and Anurag Dhir from PGDFM 2021-23 batch won the tough competition at the end.

In October 2021, we gave students a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to interact with senior IFS Jyotsna Sitling, the topic of discussion was "Emerging skill needs in the field of social entrepreneurship and social stock exchange."

In November 2021, EDC hosted a webinar for students by Dr Mahesh Kadam of the Ch. Charan Singh National Institute of Agriculture Marketing, Jaipur. It centred on an awareness campaign to encourage young people to pursue entrepreneurial opportunities and receive professional assistance in developing their business ideas and models.



PRATIBIMB

The Dramatics Club of IIFM never fails to entertain and rejuvenate and the IIFMites with its interesting activities and power-packed events. Whether, its about flaunting your movie knowledge, expressing your theatrical and acting skills or directing short plays and movies, the club which works on the principle of esprit de corps, have always remained a leader in winning the hearts of IIFMites. This year also, the club conducted several activities and events in the form of short films, movie nights and dumb charades over the weekends.

'Ahamiyat'- a short film, which revolves around the theme of gratitude and compassion for a normal life, was released in the 'Monsoon Nights' event conducted in the month of September. The entire cast and production team received a lot of appreciation from the faculties and students in terms of acting, cinematography, editing, direction and brilliant teamwork.

MESS COMMITTEE

Feast was organised on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi, Navaratri and Diwali. Before the feast members of Cultural club and Mess Committee decorate the mess with joy.

Onam is the biggest of all festivals in Kerala and to celebrate such a festival, Swaruchi- the Mess Committee organized BAE! Biggest of all Events. Due to the pandemic, it was not possible to celebrate the festival at the mess of the campus, but Swaruchi did not just stop there and organized an online event of food exchange. The whole Swaruchi team was astonished and mesmerized by seeing the kind of response and enthusiasm of the fellow IIFMites.

Expressions from the passing out batch



**Debajyoti Halder,
PGDSM, 2020-22**

Hurling winds, erratic bursts of rain and the serene beauty of the hill top suddenly made me realize that it wasn't home anymore, that the endless wait was finally over and we all were where we meant to be. The dusty benches, the disappearing wild trails and the empty hostel rooms were longing for our return while we all were waiting in anticipation. This was just the second year following the coronavirus outbreak though our enthusiasm was unravished. Silently as time always does, kept passing on.

The rainy season went away, paving the way for spring and now we are just about to enter chilling winter; but still this place never fails to dazzle us with a new mystery every day and I wonder whether it is a consequence of all the unique people that we were destined to be with or the sheer beauty of the splendid surroundings filled with soothing greenery. Then I realize that it is a combination of both that makes this place so special so as to be profoundly spellbound by it.

In a few months from now we all will be waving goodbyes to one another; some with teary eyes, some with a smile and some crying only on the inside but that is inescapable, yet we hope to cherish the rest of our remaining days with a joyous heart. Years from now when we all will be in someone else's story, we might look back and find these days to be the most memorable ones. As of myself, I only hope to not wake up and find it all to be a dream someday.

Expressions from the passing out batch



**Rajat Goyal,
PGDFM 2020-22**

The praises of the IIFM campus hail from all corners of the country and from students across various batches. Just imagining the scenic beauty of the campus with lush green flora and peacocks and birds traversing the paths of the institute brings smiles. The question that me and my batchmates faced was – “Will we be able to walk along those paths, frolic around and giggle with friends, spend time connecting with the exquisite beauty of nature during our PGDFM course?”

On 17 August, we received a circular addressing the reopening of the campus for the second year students. The disheartening separation and the incomplete goodbyes that were due, because of the unprecedented situation, were now to take a swift turn towards the essence of togetherness and a more oriented form of relationship building with the institute and its stakeholders. The e-mail addressed by the institute involved all the rules and regulations viz. seven days quarantine, the strictness to follow Covid associated norms. We all agreed to abide by all these rules without second thoughts and our happiness was at the peak.

When I arrived at the campus post the gates were opened by the institute for the students, I was nostalgic as memories of those 13 months spent in the initial phase of the year rushed past me.

I met all my friends and realized that the bond has grown stronger despite the physical separation. We started attending online classes, sipping tea at the terrace and sharing our views on course work and the opportunities it presents to the students. I woke up early some days to watch sunrise from one of the most prestigious locations of IIFM- “The India Gate” and made all effort to seize all these moments in photographs. The time flew by real quick and post our term 4 exams, the management announced the opening of the campus on 3rd November. The excitement was unparalleled, we were allowed to step out of the campus and experience the city of lakes- Bhopal.

However, the life spent at the campus is still etched and I remember the unforgettable days where we joined multiple tables to enjoy table- tennis during the quarantine days, the numerous birthday celebration and the smiles on the face of our friends. The learning through the peers, the exceptional gains of leadership quality as an ANC coordinator, knowing that at 6 pm my friends would be waiting for me at the Badminton court for a doubles game, tired yet pushing each other towards Swaruchi to have meals, and finally burning the midnight oil before the exams, are all together with an experience that I would never trade against anything.

All of these experiences together have made a memory trail that I shall cherish all through my life and I will be forever grateful to IIFM for these.

Expressions from the passing out batch



**Deepti Narsawat,
PGDFM, 2020-22**

For most of the students life at IIFM campus is filled with numerous experiences and memories and it is something which comes for granted. But due to COVID 19, this was not the case for our batch. In February 2021, after lot of efforts and prayers my batch got chance to finally be at campus and experience the campus life. As the pandemic was spreading fast across the country, not everyone could visit and only few lucky ones could meet each other personally.

The shift from google meets and WhatsApp calls to the offline mode was very exciting and we all got busy recognizing the faces which we have only seen virtually till now. Each and every day we waited for quarantine to end so that we can meet and explore campus. I remember when Tiwari ji announced that we could move in campus, we all ran out of our rooms as if prisoners have been given bail. We hugged our friends and kept roaming in the campus for the longest time. I miss those moments now.

After merely 55 days, second wave of Corona arrived and with a heavy heart and tears in my eyes I had to leave my friends who seemed like family now and my second home. I had a hope that I will come back soon and now I am at campus reliving all the moments once again.

For me, IIFM has been a beautiful journey with many ups and downs. We had very little time to cherish and many moments have been missed due to uncontrollable circumstances but I also feel that the few special moments have been celebrated with so much fun and enthusiasm that I have enough memories for the entire lifetime.

A special mention to my group (PraPti AViShriTa) you guys made my journey worth living.

BATCH OF THE MONTH 1995-1997



AMITA BHADURI

Birthday : October 13
Past Degree : Civil Engineering, VNIT, Nagpur
Current Location : New Delhi
Campus Placement : SPWD
Current Place of work : Independent Consultant



ASHIVINI KUMAR SAXENA

Birthday : August 16
Past Degree : B.Tech, MMMEC, Gorakhpur
Current Location : Banglore
Campus Placement : RUDA
Current Place of work : Technical director, Nutanix Technology



ATULYA TANKHA

Birthday : October 26
Past Degree : Electrical engineering, College of Engineering, Pune
Current Location : Redmond, Washington
Campus Placement : SPWD
Current Place of work : Self Employed



KAJOLI BHATTACHARYA TANKHA

Birthday : September 19
Past Degree : B.A Economics, Delhi University, Delhi
Current Location : Redmond, Washington
Current Place of work : Senior Director, Microsoft



JAYA PARBAT (ROY)

Birthday : October 06
Past Degree : Bsc, Andhra University
Current Location : Kolkata
Campus Placement : Vijayawada Sanghamitra Service Society
Current Place of work : Regional head for Fidelity Information Services

BATCH OF THE MONTH

1995-1997



K NELSON ROYAL

Birthday : April 11
Past Degree : B.sc (Electronics), University of Delhi, Delhi
Current Location : Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh
Campus Placement : Harihar Polyfibers
Current Place of work : Senior Programme manager, Leonard Cheshire Disability



MUKUL TRIVEDI

Birthday : June 03
Past Degree : B.E. Mechanical Engineering
Current Location : Dehradun
Current Place of work : Professor, IGFA, Dehradun



PANKAJ ANUP TOPPO

Birthday : September 25
Past Degree : B.A. History Hons, University of Delhi, Delhi
Current Location : Gurugram
Campus Placement : PSU foundation, Lucknow
Current Place of work : Former Editor Future Tech Magazine



PARIJAT SINHA

Birthday : July 16
Past Degree : B.Sc., BN College, Patna University
Current Location : San Jose, California
Campus Placement : TERI
Current Place of work : Director of Product Management, Meta (Facebook)



PRABHAT KR. HORO

Birthday : August 17
Past Degree : Bsc, Bot. Hons, B.ed (RIE), MBA (HR) IGNOU
Current Location : Ranchi
Current Place of work : DGM (P&A), Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL)

BATCH OF THE MONTH

1995-1997

**DEVBRAT KUMAR**

Birthday : September 09
Past Degree : B.A History Hons, Hansraj College, Delhi University, Delhi
Current Location : Mumbai, Maharashtra
Campus Placement : AFC, New Delhi
Current Place of work : Quantitative Derivatives Trader

**RAHUL MADHUKAR KAMBLE**

Birthday : July 23
Past Degree : B. Tech. Agri, Mahatma Phule Agricultural university, Rahuri
Current Location : Stevenage, Hertfordshire, UK
Campus Placement : JK Papers
Current Place of work : Compliance Manager, NHS

**SHAILESH NAGAR**

Birthday : July 07
Past Degree : BSc. Environmental Science, University of Delhi, Delhi
Current Location : New Delhi
Campus Placement : Foundation for Ecological securities
Current Place of work : Associate director, NR management consultants

**SHIRIN KUJUR**

Birthin : Sept 6
Past Degree : B.A. History Hons, University of Delhi
Current Location : Gurugram
Campus Placement : District Poverty Initiative Project, PMU, Rajasthan
Current Place of work : Assistant General manager, ReNew Power

**SRIDHAR REDDY SRIPATHI**

Birthday : September 26
Past Degree : Bsc, Nizam college, Osmania University
Current Location : Jakarta, Indonesia
Campus Placement : Kantar IMRB
Current Place of work : Executive Director, Kantar Indonesia

BATCH OF THE MONTH

1995-1997

**TANMAY CHETAN**

Birthday : February 22
Past Degree : B.Sc. Chemistry Hons, Patna Science College
Current Location : London, UK
Campus Placement : EDA/M - CRIL
Current Place of work : CEO, Agora Microfinance

**NAVENDU SHEKHAR**

Birthday : June 30
Past Degree : B.Sc. Banaras Hindu University
Current Location : Washington DC, USA
Campus Placement : IMRB International
Current Place of work : Evaluation Director, AARP

**RAJESH SRINIVAS UPADHYAYULA**

Birthday : December 31
Past Degree : B.E. Mechanical, College of Engineering, Andhra University
Current Location : Kozhikode, Kerala
Campus Placement : RUDA, Jaipur
Current Place of work : Professor, IIM Kozhikode

**DEVESH SHARMA**

Birthday : May 26
Past Degree : B.E. Mechanical, Bangalore University
Current Location : Mumbai
Campus Placement : RUDA
Current Place of work : Business Head, LCG West, ICICI Bank

**SUNEEL PADALE**

Birthday : August 28
Past Degree : B.Tech. Civil Engineering, NIT Calicut
Current Location : Noida, Uttar Pradesh
Campus Placement : Aga Khan Rural Support Programme
Current Place of work : Director-Programs, Care India Solutions

TULIKA SINHA - DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

The AA launched its Social Media platform on 4th November. Honourable Minister of State Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution Govt. of India wrote a letter to the AA congratulating on the launch of Social Media Interface.



A review committee for Memorandum of Association (MOA) was constituted. Ajay Rai (PFM 1990-92), Dr. Ajith Chandran (PFM 1991-93), Dipak Jha (PFM 1998-2000) , Sejal Agarwal (PFM 2016-18), Bhusan Patil (PFM 2016-18) and Tanushka Ojha (PFM 2016-18) were the members of the review committee. The recommendations are uploaded on the web site of the Alumni Association (AA).

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

Prof. Srinivasan R (PFM 1991-93), IIM Bengaluru is helping the institute to prepare a ten year perspective plan (2021-31). He had conversations with alumni around Academic Quality (research and teaching) at IIFM, students learning and career outcomes, institute finances (new project, partnership, grants, endowment). The AA arranged session of Prof. Srinivas with different batches of alumni



A fund-raising drive was taken up by the AA to support Dr. Aditya Sharma who is an alumnus from MRM 97-98 batch. He is currently suffering from a recurrent episode of cancer.

After a long gap thanks to the pandemic, the City Chapters meetings have restarted. Alumni in Bhopal, Delhi, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Ranchi have got together over weekend dinners

Delhi Chapter conducted five meetings, Ranchi Chapter one meeting, Bhopal Chapter one meeting, Mumbai Chapter one meeting and Telangana Chapter one meeting.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES



DELHI CHAPTER MEET



BHOPAL CHAPTER MEET



HYDERABAD CHAPTER MEET



RANCHI CHAPTER MEET



MUMBAI CHAPTER MEET

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

In November 2021, the AA appointed Ms. Amrita Bhamra as Manager Alumni Association.



Total number of members of the AA has reached to 164 (158 life membership and 6 regular membership)

In December 2021, the AA developed a Whistle-blower Policy and the same was uploaded on the web site of the AA. The committee which drafted the policy included Yogesh Jadhav (1998-2000), Shyam Patro (PFM 2004-06) and Varun Grover (PFM 2015-17). Read the policy <https://www.iifmalumni.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/AA-IIFM-Whistleblower-Policy.pdf>

AA's AUDIT STATEMENTS for 18-19, 19-20 & 20-21 is now available on the AA's website. You can check on them at <https://www.iifmalumni.com/index.php/audit-statements/>

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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF FOREST MANAGEMENT

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AFTER ALL, WE ALL TAKE PRIDE IN
PROCLAIMING – “IIFM के लिए कुछ भी”