

# PROFESSORS SPEAK

Prof. Ayon Chakraborty



Dear Alumni!

Happy New Year to all of you! Wish year of 2020 will be the year of great success for your endeavours!

This might sound like clichéd that "Alumni is the backbone of any institute" but this is a hard fact. The institute is known by its Alumni. Understanding this importance, we have started taking steps to connect with you and happy to see your equal enthusiasm in connecting with your Alma Mater. Last year we have achieved great success in terms of connecting with you. We have opened two chapters. Beginning with Chennai Chapter and following it up with Bangalore Chapter. Both the openings have been a grand success and all because of active participation and interest shown by you. This year we want to continue the good work and open more chapters in different cities so that we become more connected with each other.

Keep doing the good work because your achievements not only make us feel proud but also inspire future aspirants. I wish you all the best and look forward to your continuing association with us..

# IIMT SOARS

Derech Negera(DCD'20) Dreced Scindena(DCD'21) Abbiebalt Duba

(PGP'20), Sameer Kumar(PGP'20) and Mayukh Mukhopadhyay (PGP'21) won the Zonal Round, reaching National Finals of CFA Institute Research Challenge India 2019-20.

Team Incognito having Rishabh Jain, Ramalakshmi V, Saurabh Shukla qualified for the Grand Finale of TVS Credit EPIC.

Team 'A few loose screws' (Ahana Bhattacharjee, Shubham Kumar and Abhishek Dubey) was the winner in the Reliance T.U.P. competition and qualified for the national round.

Team Hum Nahi Sudhrenge comprising Aishwarya (PGP'20), Sen (PGP'20), Sayali (PGP'20) qualified for the National Finals of L&T OutThink 2019. Team Chai pe Charcha (Alekhya Konidena, Namitha K, Sricharan Nagaram, Vinod Sanapala) won the CEO round of Mahindra War Room Season 12.





# IIMT LIFE

## **Bangalore City Chapter**

IIM Trichy inaugurated it's first-ever Bangalore City Chapter on November 16, 2019. The event was a huge success owing to a large number of participants from our alumni across the batches of PGPM and PGPBM giving them a chance to relive their college moments with their family and friends. The event was graced by Dr Bhimaraya Metri, Director of IIM Trichy, Dr R. Karunamoorthy, Academic Administrator & Strategic Planner of Gopalan Foundation and an eminent Board Member of IIM Trichy, Prof. Ayon Chakraborty, Chairperson of Alumni Committee and Prof. Satish S Maheswarappa, Chairperson of EEC.



#### Sangram



## **Prayudh**

Sangram 2019 comprised three thrilling days of sporting action where IIM Trichy contingent put up spirited performances in different sports. Enthusiasm, team spirit, morale, and confidence ran high as there were multiple wins and performances to be proud of. The ardent hard work paid off when the roaring performances from IIM Trichy contingent ended with winning Gold in Hockey, Throwball, Women's Basketball and men's Pool, Silver in men's basketball, men's and women's Carrom, women's Tabletennis and Bronze in Volleyball, Football, Futsal, Swimming, Badminton and Cricket.

The contingent performed to the best of their abilities bagging 5 Gold, 6 Silver and 9 Bronze medals marking IIM Trichy's best performance in the history of Sangram and also, winning the most number of medals (20) along with IIM Bangalore. IIM Trichy heartfully congratulates and thanks IIM Kozhikode for winning the tournament and for being a wonderful host.

Prayudh, the much-awaited annual Badminton and Basketball tournament kick-started with a lot of energy and excitement. After a series of interesting knockouts, Team October's Outliers (Bairav Gowda, Dhruv Sharma, Swetha Vadlamudi) won Prayudh'19 - Badminton and Team VBBG (Kasu Phani Sai Reddy, Ashleesh Koganti, Aahladitha Gandhe) stood runners up. Team Dreamteam (Ashresh Nanisetty, Swetha Vadlamudi, Bairav Gowda, Sreenath Maruthiyat) won Prayudh'19 - Basketball and Team Dobara Mat Puchna (Niharika Singh, Shubham Yadav, Shubham Gade, Sharven Khator) stood runners up.





#### INDAM





IIM Trichy took pride in organizing the sixth Biennial Indian Academy of Management 2020 (INDAM) at our own campus. The three-day event was conducted on the theme of 'Architecting Indian Management Scholarship in the Era of Disruption' which hosted 650 delegates including experts and keynote speakers from the nation and abroad. INDAM was full of workshops and a panel discussion between dignitaries on diverse topics pertaining to the current world. Elixir, the social responsibility club of IIM Trichy organized 'Kalaikaatchi' thereby providing a platform for rural artisans to express their art and talent.

# IIMT LIFE

## IQ Fest: Chennai Chapter

On 30th November 2019, the IIM Trichy Alumni: Chennai Chapter organized IQFEST, at Hotel Radha Regent, Chennai. The case competition was conducted at executive and associates level and had a poster presentation contest. ABI Showatec, Ashok Leyland, Carborundum Universal, Modine Thermal Systems, Rane (Madras) Ltd, Rane Engine Valves Ltd, Rane NSK Steering Systems, Rane TRW Steering Systems Ltd, RSMIPL (Formerly Foxconn), SRF Ltd, Surin Automotive Pvt Ltd & Yazaki India Private Ltd participated in it. The event was also, attended by Prof. Ayon Chakraborty, Prof. Gopal V. and Prof Karthik Dhandapani. Mr R.Nanda Kumar, President of IIMT Alumni Chennai Chapter gave the welcome speech. Ennore, the team from Ashok Leyland won the 1st place in the Executive level & Rane Group of Companies and Yazaki India Pvt. Ltd won the GOLD Awards at the Associates level. Mr.Jeyesh Jeykar, Secretary of the IIMT Alumni Chennai Chapter delivered the vote of thanks. A total of 200 delegates attended the IQFest making it a huge success.



#### **TEDx at IIM Trichy**



## **Festivities @ IIM Trichy**

IIM T was delighted to organize the TEDx event – TEDxIIMTrichy on Saturday, 11Th January 2020 at our home campus with the theme "Colouring beyond the lines". The event witnessed distinguished speakers from diverse fields- Aishwarya Rajesh (Actress), Sidd Ahmed (Entrepreneur), Sibichen K Mathew (Civil Servant), Sai Satish (Ethical Hacker), Mohan Shanmugam (Geologist), J Chandrasekaran (Social Entrepreneur). The topics discussed ranged from revolutionizing the education system through the use of technology and ethical hacking, the issue of income inequality and the global phenomenon of tax evasion to making households all over India, healthier in terms of water and sanitation with low-cost filters and innovative techniques to bring about a positive change in the field of organic farming.

IIMT celebrates the diverse culture of the in-campus students belonging to more than 24 states of the country through various festivals. We celebrated Diwali-the festival of lights and the holy Christmas full of zeal and euphoria. The occasion of Diwali was graced by the Director lighting the lamp and diyas with the students followed by the launching of sky lanterns. A secret Santa brought smiles to many faces on the occasion of Christmas and a beautiful Christmas tree & decoration enticed the whole crowd. Call it Pongal or Makarsankranti or Lohri, everyone relived their childhood memories through kite flying. IIMT Carnival, though the name looks familiar but it was for the very first time this happened in the history of IIM Trichy wherein our own students showcased their business acumen by putting up food, fun and gaming stalls to not only earn out of their setup but also to entertain the crowd and relive the memories of funfair that we all associate with our childhood. The happiest were the little kids of the professors in campus and the event was a great hit with a tickle of music performance too on the ending note.



#### **International Week**

The third edition of the International Week at IIM Trichy was held from 30th December 2019 to 5th January 2020. The week-long event witnessed renowned professors from several countries interacting and sharing their expertise with PGP and PGPBM students of the institute. This programme brought together 14 faculty members from countries such as U.S.A., U.K., Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Switzerland and Fiji from various reputed universities such as Tennessee Tech University, National University of USA, University of Wisconsin, etc

# IIMT TALES

## Kartik Sivaraman, Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India

#### **1**. Tell us about your current role.

With the automotive industry making the transition from traditional to connected vehicles and then toward autonomous vehicles, development of connected mobility in cars becomes a central part of the modern automotive design. In this context, as a senior program manager at Mercedes Benz Research and Development India, I lead a team of talented engineers responsible for bringing in really cool features related to vehicle infotainment & digital connectivity for Mercedes Benz cars, catering to global markets.

# 2. What are the necessary skills for the management domain (product, project or program management)? What advice would you give someone interested in pursuing a career in this field?

General problem solving and analytical skills are a must. However, willingness to experiment, fail fast, learn and adapt in the fast paced world would be a plus.

#### 3. How does the industry perceive IIM Trichy?



## KARTHIK SIVARAMAN Sr. Program Manager Mercedes Benz R&D India

There is a lot of awareness in the industry and corporate circuit about IIM Trichy, thanks to the diligence and efforts initiated by the professors and student community. There is a lot more work to be done in terms of growing & sustaining the outreach & I'm sure there's already a lot of focus and momentum on this front.

#### 4. How did IIM Trichy help in shaping your career? How did you manage the hectic schedule?

Honestly, it was indeed a truly memorable experience. People with different academic & professional backgrounds really helped me cultivate the aspect of respecting diversity. I truly cherish the class discussions with professors and batchmates as the whole experience was so rich, I really do not know how the whole time went by. The whole experience even when I think about was so enriching that it was worth every bit of it and more. It's like a family.

#### 5. Your most memorable experience at IIM Trichy..

A pat in the back and appreciation that I received in the classroom for a presentation well done, from Mr Suresh Ramadurai, Analytics in Market Research, at a time when you had least expected it.

#### 6. A word to your juniors..

When the going gets tough only the tough get going. Develop the 4Cs of leadership – Courage, Commitment,

Conviction & Character. These elements will help every individual go a long way to reach your true potential. Be strong, stay humble!

# IIMT TALES

## Prateek Saraf, FinSuggest Investment Advisors Pvt Ltd

## **1.** Tell us about your entrepreneurial journey. What were the key challenges you faced and how did you overcome them?

During my final year of engineering in Bangalore, one day on a news channel I saw that potato produce was so much in Punjab that it was being sold for Re.1/kg, while in Bangalore the price was Rs. 24/kg.I did some research and came to know that Potato and onion trucks from all over India would come to Yeshwantpur market, and one would need to bid for the vegetables. Within a week, I along with a friend started selling potatoes and onions to around 25 hotels around my college. We were making 100% profit daily. That went well for a month, but we had to stop it as our families wanted to take up a job after engineering. I was also home-tutoring then to cover my expenses and was being paid Rs.500/hr. I felt there was a good demand for home tutors. So, I along with a friend started a platform "HomeShiksha" to provide home tutors in Bangalore and within 6 months expanded it to Hyderabad and Pune. We had more than 3500 active tutors with us in these 3 cities, and that helped us to convert a new client in a few hours. I was a part of the business for 2 years before I decided to do an MBA. This business was along with my job as a Senior Actuarial analyst. I am thankful that I got an opportunity to complete my MBA from IIM Trichy.



**PRATEEK SARAF** Founder, FinSuggest Investment Advisors Pvt Ltd

Post-MBA, I am currently running my third start-up (InvestSaathi Financial Services). I have been trading for 11 years now and was confident that I could make good returns from the stock market. So we ventured into Wealth advisory space as there's a lot of scopes to bring in improvements using technology. We currently manage a portfolio for HNIs, provide financial advisory, and are building a platform to sell various financial products. Key challenges were always to build the right team with a similar mindset and enthusiasm. Another challenge specifically with the financial services start-up is to get through all different levels of government regulatory approvals which requires a lot of time and paperwork leading to continuous iteration on deadlines for your various other works.

#### 2. What are the necessary skills for venturing into entrepreneurship?

Entrepreneurship is a very dynamic field where you have to continuously reiterate your vision for your product based on the collective feedback you gain from the market. People's skill is one of the major requirement to take people along with your vision. The person should be skilled in sales and marketing as well as open to taking feedback from the market.

#### 3. What advice would you give to an aspiring entrepreneur?

If you start something to give it at least 6 months. Not everything will go as planned. Deadlines will get delayed multiple times. Pivot your idea but keep going. The biggest challenge is to have enough money to pay your team and cover the costs when things get delayed. So be frugal. Think of innovative ideas to get the work done while saving money. Do not hesitate to contact people, whether it is to pitch your product or to ask for help from a stranger. It's better to first focus on building a prototype of your core product, test it with some users before investing too much into it. Be "Tech front" if you are into B2C business. You will learn a lot more being an entrepreneur, than from a usual job. And if things don't work out you can always take up a job later.

#### 4. How does the industry perceive IIM Trichy?

IIM Trichy as a brand has good perception. It helps you during the introductions.

# IIMT TALES

#### 5. How did IIM Trichy help in shaping your career?

Apart from improving my business skills, IIM Trichy also gave me the confidence to take the risk and follow my dreams. There was a guest lecturer who had said "With this MBA degree from IIM Trichy you will not sleep hungry, you will always get a job. So work on your start-up." That day I decided I will give at least two years building a startup.

#### 6. Your most memorable experience from classroom or campus life

Every single day was a memorable experience.

#### 7. A word to your juniors.

Keep chasing your dreams until you reach your destination.

# MEET THE TEAM



Top Row: (From left to right) Devarun Dutta, Reetu Karmakar, Tejaswini Narala, Praveen Kumar, Rishabh Raj, Shamad Munauwar, Shantanu Pandey

Bottom Row(From left to right): Aishwarya R, Ashwini Patil, Ms. Sruthi M, Prof Gopal V., Prof. Jang Bahadur

Singh, Prof. Ayon Chakraborty, Prof. Apoorv Khare, Rishabh Jain, Sameer Kumar



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