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Editorial

ALUMNI POWER

According to an article in The Guardian, the game is changing. Alumni were once seen, first and foremost, in terms of their potential as benefactors, rewarding institutions with endowments in return for some kind of personal gratification or institutional recognition, whether the naming of a building, funding of an academic post and so forth. Indeed, alumni are still a critical element to any university's development strategy, but they have an increasingly important role to play in how institutions are responding to and meeting the changing expectations of their students now.

IEST, the second oldest engineering college in India boasts of an alumni base which is amongst the best in the world.

In a course correction mode, MHRD has made an upward revision of the rank of IEST; the Institute is now ranked 20 amongst the Engineering Institutes in India with an aggregate score of 70.35 out of 100 in the National Institutional Ranking Framework. Our revised RPC (research score) is 83.07 out of 100 which will modify our research ranking to 8.

Week - Hansa Research Survey 2016, for the best universities and colleges in India, ranked IEST Shibpur as 15th in the country, 4th in Eastern India (and 2nd in West Bengal) in the category of top technical universities in India. While these are very encouraging, a lot remains in hand as we march towards our goal of being amongst the top institutions in the country.

There has been substantial financial contributions by alumni for the betterment of the college. We salute this noble gesture which will go a long way in stabilizing the foundation of the college.

There have been notable achievements by our alumni over the years. We have provided a snapshot of some of them. We intend to cover this on an ongoing basis in the future editions.

We hope you will enjoy reading this edition.



BEUNION 160 WAS HELD ON SEPT 4, 2016 AT COLUMBUS, OHIO

Saptarshi Majumdar'95 EE

Our Bengal Engineering College is turning 160 years this year. To celebrate this milestone, the alumni members organized a reunion – “BEunion 160” on Sunday, September 4th, 2016 at Columbus, Ohio, USA. It was a bright and clear day in September and the venue at the riverside Grigg’s Boathouse was poignantly reminiscent of the location of the college campus next to the river.

Attendees included members from the 1960s graduating class to as recent as a few years back. The event was well represented by members of the alumni coming from different parts of continental USA traveling thousands of miles for the event in some cases.

The program kicked-off with a quick introduction of all members of the alumni. This was followed by variety of cultural programs performed by alumni members and their children. There were singing performances, folk dances, multiple instrumental recitals on piano, violin, flute and trumpet. All the programs were well appreciated. However, the loudest applause was reserved for stories and anecdotes from college days shared by alumni members.



INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH THE FRESHERS

An interactive session between GAABESU EC Members and 1st year students from the University was held on 7th September, 2016 from 4:00 pm to 5.20 pm at Alumni Seminar Hall at IEST, Shibpur.

Dr. Chirantan Chattopadhyay , Mr. Subhasish Majumder and Working President Mr. Koustav Biswas were present there to interact with the students. There were 35 students present in the session. Dr. Chirantan Chattopadhyay shared his experiences to motivate the students to have a plan for their future. Koustav Biswas explained about GAABESU and its activities. Subhasish Majumder advised them to continue their education along with other activities.

The students were very pleased to interact with the EC members and thanked GAABESU for organizing the session.





IEST STUDENT TO PURSUE RESEARCH ON VARIOUS GOOGLE PROJECTS AND PRODUCTS

Rachit Belwariar, a 5th Semester Undergraduate Student (Integrated B.Tech-M.Tech) of Information Technology at IEST Shibpur has been selected by Google U.S. to pursue research on various Google Projects and Products. This was a worldwide competition in which the students from all over the globe (including Ivy League Schools and IITs) participated to secure the top spots as there are only about 100 seats. It is believed that getting a research/internship in Google is tougher than getting into MIT or Harvard. There are multiple technical interview rounds as part of the screening process.

Rachit's favorite subjects are Data Structures and Algorithms. Gennady Korotkevich, a three time Google Code Jam Winner is his idol. Rachit has also cleared the initial rounds of Google Code Jam 2016 and Facebook Hacker Cup 2016.

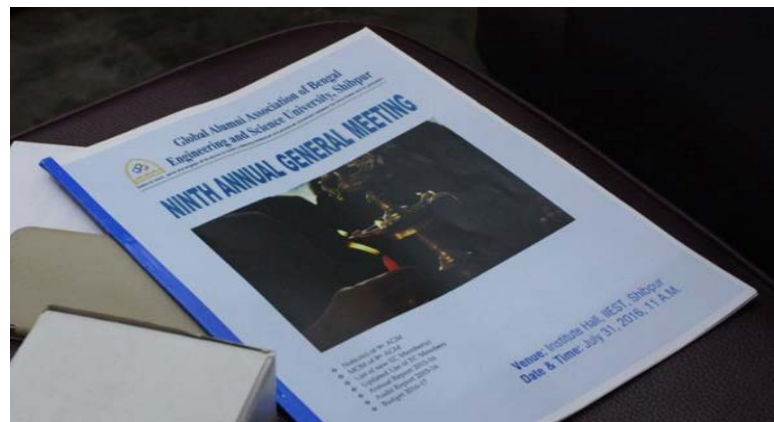


Rachit (in Red T-Shirt) with the other finalists in a programming competition organized by Flipkart



9TH AGM OF GAABESU WAS HELD ON 7TH AUGUST, 2016

The initially convened 9th AGM of GAABESU of 31st July, 2016 was held on 7th August, 2016. 63 members were present physically in campus, 9 members sent their proxies while 8 members joined remotely via Skype and/or telephone. GAABESU thanks all our Alumni for their active involvement during the AGM.



GAABESU OFFICIALLY INAUGURATES ITS NEW LOGO



The new logo of GAABESU was officially inaugurated on 7th August, 2016 during the Annual General Meeting. The logo was selected through a globally announced competition which was open for the alumni and student communities of IEST. The

competition was judged by a nationally recognized panel of judges from diverse background which included faculty members from different IITs. The most fundamental parameter criteria for judging the best entry was that it must communicate GAABESU's key tenets. Other aspects to signify

were its global nature, its strong ties to our Institution, and its efforts to contribute to our Institution's development and growth. The proud winner is Mr. Soham Karmakar, a final year Architecture student at IEST, Shibpur.



LECTURE BY AIR VICE MARSHALL ARCHAN KUMAR BHATTACHARYA (79ME)

Air Vice Marshall Archan Kumar Bhattacharya delivered a lecture on 8th August, 2016 at IEST, Shibpur on "Present and Future of Aerospace & Aeronautical Engineering". Air Vice Marshal Archan Kumar Bhattacharya is the proud recipient of Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) and Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM). Archan da is an alumni of 1979 Mechanical and a Life Member of GAABESU.



GOLDREN JUBILEE- 1966 BATCH!

Indrajit Karmakar'71ME

(For & on behalf of B.E.College-1966 Entrants)

B.E.College - 1966 entrants celebrated the Golden Jubilee of their admission on August 14, 2016 at the University Guest

House. It was a wonderful day-long program from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. It started with a two-minute silence in memory of our departed friends and was inaugurated by lighting of the lamp followed by cutting of the cake, distribution of mementoes to and self-introduction by the participating alumni. Presence of Mrs. & Prof. Ajoy Ray, Director IEST, added grace to the occasion. Prof. Ray gave an update on the activities and the developments of IEST. The scrumptious lunch included a variety of seasonal Hilsa preparations and ended with delicious Rabri. Post-lunch 'adda' and typical B.E.College parody songs made everyone nostalgic. Despite the heavy rains outside, the alumni went out and toured the campus reminiscing the good old student days, half a century ago. It was joie de vivre all the while. The entire program was well planned & executed, thanks to all the participating alumni.



FROM ALUMNI WITH LOVE

Amrita Roy Chowdhury 2015 CS

(PhD, CS, University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Lexically alma mater is the educational institution one has graduated from. My alma mater is BESU (now known by a glistening new moniker IESTS). But for me, alma mater is so much more than just my academic christening. As I peer through the dewy eyed kaleidoscope of my undergrad days, unfurling the moth eaten curtains once again to see the sanguine sun rays beaming down on the graveyards of the yore, I discern the etymological root of alma mater - "nourishing mother". One's allegiance to his/her alma mater

is a venerable vow that needs no voice, its sanctity needs no vindication and its avidity stands tall against vicissitudes and vagaries of time. We are all compeers bustling our way into the tumble train whose wheels have chugged down the same endorphin-al undulations; we have ambled along the same misty lanes chuckling at age old chestnuts (albeit still oddly amusing) and warbling discordant yet salving tunes in our lips; we are like paper dolls cut out in catholic shapes but strung together, fluttering and flittering in cohorts. BESU is the place where we all have been mutated, molded and morphed; the seminary which has drilled us to fight off the Trojan horses and tame the Chimera.

Kudos to GAABESU, our alumni association, for doing a laudable job in attending to the wholesome weal of this extended milieu. Our alumni have always been known for their largesse catering to the amelioration of the institution, ranging from infrastructural overhaul to handsome academic scholarships. During my undergraduate years, I was awarded the Ashok Kumar Sarkar Undergraduate Fellowship in 2014-2015 and the Prof. Sankar Sebak Baral Memorial Fellowship in 2014-2015 and 2013-2014. Such recognitions are a huge impetus for whetting students towards scholastic excellence; after all the carrot in the end of the long haul doubly rewards for all the sticks braved hitherto. I have also interacted with the donors on a personal front, their geniality and munificence extends well beyond just the scholarships. My alliance with BESU is an insignia I wear with pride and as for the memory films of my days in BESU, just as the “Bard-of-Avon” once famously wrote, “This is a gift that I have, simple, simple; a foolish extravagant spirit full of forms, figures, shapes, objects, ideas, apprehensions, motions, revolutions; these are begot in the ventricle of memory, nourished in the womb of pia mater, and delivered upon the mellowing of occasion.”

I had a chance to chat via email with her when she was looking at Wisc. A classmate of mine (Suman Banerjee) from IITK is a prof there so I had directed her in that direction but not sure what happened out of that -- anyway I pinged her once on the faint chance she is working for Suman there.

The credit is the BEC alumni org's - my thanks to you all for giving us the opportunity here. If there are other

opportunities like this (like a chair or a lab or something), happy to pitch in. Please let me know as all.

Aveek Sarkar, IIT Kanpur Alumnus

I am very happy to see that the fellowship in my fathers memory helped a hardworking student to achieve her dreams. I will pass on your email to my mother and sisters - who met Amrita during the ceremony.

I had some communication with Amrita over email after she was selected. She mentioned that she was planning to come to Wisconsin. I am glad that she is now able to pursue her higher studies in this country. I am sure she will do well in her life.

This note encourages me to donate some more. This time I was thinking of creating a best Young Teacher of the year award to encourage and grow better teachers.

Dr. Debasis Baral, son of late Prof S S Baral



GLOBAL HONOUR FOR CITY WETLANDS SAVIOUR



City-based ecologist Dhrubajyoti Ghosh ('67 CE), whose pioneering work on the East Kolkata Wetlands (EKW) and its wise use in treating the city's wastewater led to the international recognition as a Ramsar site, will be awarded the prestigious Lac Hoffmann Award next month at the World Conservation Congress in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Instituted in 2012 by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), an global organization working in the field of nature conservation and sustainable use of natural resource, the award is given to

environmental leaders who set inspirational examples for nature conservation and ecosystem management.

Announcing the award, IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) chair Piet Wit congratulated Ghosh, who is also special advisor (agricultural ecosystems) to CEM.

Explaining the decision, Wit said: "Within CEM, professionals from science and practitioners in ecosystem management are united in a network where innovative ideas emerge from the meeting of these two groups of constituents. While members of CEM are professionals, volunteering their time for the commission, we also regularly meet other individuals, spending substantial amounts of energy to conserve our natural resources. Many do not belong to a network like ours, and all too often have no access to anything other than their own direct surroundings. They demonstrate environmental leadership within their communities, thereby setting shining examples for the outside world."

Ghosh's work on EKW began with identifying the uniqueness and opportunities of the ecosystem. He named the wetlands, mapped it and calculated the economic value it was adding to the economy of a metropolitan city .

Ghosh had to spend 10 years to impress upon global arbitrators the importance of EKW . It was finally declared a Ramsar site in 2002 when Ghosh was chief environment officer in Bengal.

He is one of the few government servants to have been recognised as an Ashoka Fellow and has also served on the board of trustees of the World Wide Fund for Nature - India for eight years. A new generation thinker, Ghosh evolved barefoot pedagogy to learn and teach ecology .



SEMINAR ON SUSTAINABLE HABITAT

A seminar on Sustainable Habitat - CPWD guidelines was held on 29 July'16 which was organised by Housing Directorate at N.S. Building, Kolkata. Our alumni Rajib Gupta Sharma, Arup Sengupta, Bonny Biswas Pal and Kausik Banerjee were among the Speakers.



A SHORT BIO OF PROF ANIL KUMAR CHAUDHURY

(From his daughter Tilottama Lahiri, 1980 Architecture)

Prof. Anil Kumar Chaudhuri was born on 5th July 1926 in a small village named Kanchan in Narayangunj Mahokuma (sub division), District Dhaka of the then East Bengal. He was the 6th child of 7 siblings. His father was a practicing lawyer at Narayangunj Munsef Court. Prof. Chaudhuri moved to Narayangunj from his ancestral village at the age of 5, and was admitted to a school called Bar Academy. He studied in that school



till the 5th standard, and then moved to Narayangunj High School in the 6th standard. He completed his matriculation with distinction in 1942, and joined Hooghly Mohsin College thereafter. He passed the Intermediate Science (I.Sc.) in 1944 with a Gold Medal called KATYANI GOLD MEDAL and then took admission at Ripon College for pursuing Physics Hons. In 1946 he left Ripon College and enrolled at Benaras Hindu University for the undergraduate course in Engineering. After Graduation as an Electro-Mechanical Engineer in 1950, he joined B.E. College in 1951 as a Demonstrator.

In 1955 Prof. Chaudhuri went to Wisconsin University, Madison, U.S.A. for higher studies. He came back to India in 1956 after completing his M.S. in Hydraulics & Hydraulic Machines and continued to teach in B.E. College. He did

extensive Research Work on various Govt. of India sponsored projects like Development of Electro Hydraulic Actuator, Hydraulic Transportation of Solids, sponsored by BCCL, Lake Town water Treatment Plant - Model Study, Development of 60 ft. Tilting Flume etc. to name a few. 60 ft Tilting Flume was developed at the Hydraulics Laboratory, of Applied Mechanics Department, B.E. College and is still being used by PG students and Research Scholars. In 1972 he represented Govt. of India as a delegate of 13th International Congress of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics held in Russia and visited a number of Hydel Power Plants of Europe.

Prof. Chaudhuri became Head of the Applied Mechanics department in 1975 and continued in that capacity till his retirement in 1986. He got an extension for two years, and finally demitted office in 1988 after a long association of 37 years with B.E. College.

He was the Superintendent of Hostel No.13 since its inception and continued in that capacity till 1978.

After a brief illness he passed away on 11th September, 2008 at Delhi while on a visit to his elder daughter.



TEACHER'S DAY TRIBUTE TO LATE PROFESSOR SHOBN RAY

Atalanta Chakraborty '88ME

(A Teacher par excellence, Prof. Ray (21st. December, 1944 – 2nd January 2016) was an excellent teacher and, because of his wonderful friendly attitude, he was highly popular across all sections of student. As the Joint General Secretary of the 125th Anniversary Celebration of B.E. College in 1981, he played a key role and the programme was a grand success)

আজ এদিনে করি আপনায় স্মরণ,
স্পর্শ করি আপনার দুটি চরণ,
আপনি আমাদের অতি বরণীয়,
হয়ে থাকুন চির স্মরণীয়,
আমরা পেয়েছি যে ভালোবাসা,
আর কারো কাছে করি না সে আশা,
আজ এই দিনে আর কিছু নাই চাই,
আপনার আশীর্বাদ পাথেয় করে তাই,
এগিয়ে যেতে চাই বাকি জীবনে,
আপনাকে তাই খুব পড়ে মনে.



GAABESU EMERGENCY FUND

EMERGENCY FUND RAISING DRIVE FOR Ms UPASONA JASH, MSc CHEMISTRY STUDENT

One of our current IEST (MSc, Chemistry) student Ms Upasona Jash is suffering from advanced Breast Cancer. So far she has completed 2 cycles of Chemotherapy. She is due for another 4 cycles followed by Breast Surgery and radiotherapy. The treatment cost is estimated at Rs. 5 Lakh. The certificate in this effect is also attached in this document.

GAABESU Emergency Fund Raising Committee has decided to initiate a global fund raising drive to support the young student. We request all of you to donate generously. We wish her speedy recovery.

References:

1. Dr. Sudip Kumar Chattopadhyay, Professor, Department of Chemistry, Associate Dean (Academic), Coordinator - QIP and Continuing Education Programme, Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur, Howrah - 711 103, INDIA; Phone: (91)(33)26684561/62/63, Ext. 515; Email: sudip_chattopadhyay@rediffmail.com/ sudip@chem.iests.ac.in

2. Prof. N. D. Paul (Faculty, Department of Chemistry)

Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur, Howrah - 711 103, INDIA; Mb No: 08902431148



TRIBOLOGY FRONTIER WORKSHOP 3RD AND 4TH AUGUST, 2016

The Two-Day Tribology Frontiers Workshop organized by Department of Mechanical Engineering, IEST Shibpur on 3rd – 4th August, 2016, and sponsored by Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP – II), deemed to expose the different challenging areas of tribology and biotribology, and disseminate the state-of-the-art experimental as well as analytical tools to the participants from academia, R&D organizations and industries. Tribology, “the science and technology of interacting surfaces in relative motion and the practices related thereto” and Biotribology, “aspects of tribology concerned with biological systems” become technologically relevant and scientifically fascinating

thrust areas of interdisciplinary research which involve almost all branches of engineering and science. The research work during last six decades on sources of friction, wear mechanisms, lubrication methodologies, lubricants, additives and tribo-materials have not only minimized power loss and material loss but also enhanced the life of both machine components and implanted synovial joints of human body. The vast, yet unexplored areas, the movement of molecules in the human body, measured through newer techniques of bioelectricity, bio-impedance; the visualization being at the microscopic level; relevant to the diagnosis of common medical problems involving neurology, blood flow, lungs ventilation and cancer has further diversified the application of 'tribology'. The focus of the lectures encompassed the sector of tribology of ionic and molecular transport in the human body, at microscopic level to the dynamic domain in the confluence of FEM and Tribology in reference to adhesive contact mechanics to modeling the contact of rough surfaces. The industrial aspects of tribology from the development of bearings and alternative coating materials for bearings were discussed among the different challenging areas in tribology. The mechanism of rubbing between the surfaces - Plastic Deformation Mechanisms (PDM), Tribo-Oxidation (TO) and Mechanically Mixed Layers (MML) were one of the key aspects of the lectures in the workshop. Further, the talk encompassed 'Biotribology' which in the recent decades, has emerged as one of the key research areas in the domain of tribology. The development of artificial prosthesis for diseased human joints has fuelled research activities in the field of biomedical tribology. The workshop sought to create a forum for critical analysis and cutting-edge commentary on issues at the nexus of the topics - surface engineering, friction and wear, tribo-materials, biotribology and case studies. The participants also critically examined the current challenges in the areas of tribology and biotribology. The Workshop's organizers aimed to publish and promote research in this field that will impact the future of healthcare and industry.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION BY ALUMNI

The Class of 1991 handed over a cheque of Rs 50,000 from their 25th year celebration committee to father of Upsana Jash on 14th August.

Suman Ghosh, 91 CE

Abhijit Dutta, on behalf of the 1972-77 batch of students, handed over a cheque of Rs.3.72-Lac to GAABESU Emergency

fund. (Emergency funds are used mostly in medical supports for the alumnus)

This is the 3rd collective financial support from 1972-77 batch. The first was initiated in 2006 for an Admission fund. Since then candidates breaking in JEE but facing financial challenges in admission are given full financial support (only in admission, & then subsequently College / GAABESU is extending further support). This is unique in nature as College / GAABESU never had any provision to support anyone who are not enrolled as students. So the 1972-77 batch came forward during admission process. And I must mention the name of Dr. Sarbari Banerjee, (wife of our 77 ETC batchmate Arnab), who was the true mastermind for this drive.

Then in 2011-12, another fund was raised for rewarding students for presenting technical papers or showing excellence in various competitions hosted by selective reputed institutes like IITs, IIMs, IIS, JU, Presidency, ISM, NITs, etc. So far about 50 students been rewarded for presenting papers in IIS, Roorkee etc. or winning competitions in Leadership, Quiz, Debate, Music, etc. from these institutes.

So far, our collective support is in the tune of Rs.35-Lac. We have our 40th anniversary of graduation in 2017, & lets see if we can add something more. (No commitment as of now)

Note: We are grateful to Delhi Alumni Association and also to few individuals Hillol Ray, Dipankar Pal, Dipak Bhattacharya, Dipak Chakrabarty, Purba Ghosh who came forward and joined hands with the 1972-77 batch for this cause. Sorry, if I have missed out any name.

Asim Deb, '77 ETC



মহাদেশের পথে পথে- A Book BY NIHAR RAY '69 ME

It gives us immense pleasure to tell you that a book named 'মহাদেশের পথে পথে' by Nihar Ray will be published in December 2016 and will have a opening ceremony during Kolkata Boi Mela. All proceeds will be donated to charitable organization. This is not an autobiography. The author's intent is to share his experience and motivate young generation.

Based on internet search, Nihar Ray is among 10 individuals (out of 7 billion people) who have completed the Seven Continent Marathon and successfully climbed one of the peaks of seven continents



CII-IEST CONFERENCE ON ENABLING MAKE IN INDIA

The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated a CII-IEST Conference on the theme of "Enabling Make in India through Industry Academia Innovation Platform" in Kolkata, West Bengal on August 22, 2016.

The President said that India has initiated the Make in India program and it is the collaboration between industry and academia which will catalyze our national efforts to make this program a success. The success of this campaign shall rest on several pillars namely Ease of Doing Business, Infrastructure and industrial corridors with world-class facilities and connectivity, Foreign Direct Investment, Intellectual Property Rights and Start-up India. Present during this session were TV Narendran – MD Tata Steel, Naushad Forbes-President CII, Chandrajit Banerjee- Director-General CII, Prof. K. Radhakrishnan – the Leader behind the Mars Mission, ISRO and presently, Chairman, Board of Governance IEST, Shibpur. Dr. Partha Chatterjee, Education Minister, West Bengal, in his speech realised the importance of tie-ups of the Industry-Academia. Prof. Ajoy Ray, Director, IEST, Shibpur stressed that funding was extremely crucial, and large support be it from industry and Government, is essential to build up world-class infrastructure.



OBITUARIES

Homage to Dr. (Prof) Srinibas Das, Department Of Mechanical Engineering, Bengal Engineering College(Shibpore)

Born On -24/01/1930, Passed Away On- 03/07/2016.

B E Mechanical from Calcutta University in 1954.

Master of Engineering from Calcutta University in 1962.

Recipient of Chandra Prakash Memorial award in 1966 for best paper in Mechanical Division by Institution of Engineers (India).

Prof S Das was Awarded D. Phil in Mechanical Engineering in 1968.

Dr. S Das Was the First Candidate Awarded D. Phil In Mechanical Engineering from Calcutta University.

This Was Published in College News dt. 24 th Feb,1968(enclosed).

We feel deeply grieved by the Sad News about the Unexpected Demise of Dr. (Prof) Srinibas Das Sir.

A Person with Profound Knowledge, Inspiration with Pleasing Personality to Entire Student Society, his Teaching & Ideas will long live in the Mind & Hearts of his Students In India & aboard .

His Death is an irreparable loss to our nation which created a big Void Impossible to fill.

We Reverse in the Bright Memories of Him During Our College Life. Paying Our Tribute to the Departed Soul & May His Soul Rest in Peace. Myself & Shri Debasis Jana (1982-Mech) have been privileged to get an opportunity to be Present during His last journey to Heaven.

He has left behind his Only Son and two daughters. Family Contact details: Mr. Sandipan Das, Mobile No-9836744337, Mail : sandipan.das@andrewyule.com.

Sailendra Nath Mullick, '82 ME



With heavy heart I convey that our beloved friend and batch mate Asim Sett, Civil 1974, passed away on June 21, 2016 morning leaving his wife, son, daughter and host of friends and admirers. Only about a couple of months back he was diagnosed suffering from cancer (Retroperitoneal Sarcoma) but unfortunately all the good and sincere effort went in vain.

Asim will be always remembered for his friendly relation with everyone.

Amitabha Datta, '74 CE



Mr. Dharendra Nath Mukherjee, a graduate of B. E. College, in Civil Engineering, 1947, breathed his last at SanteVita Hospital, Ranchi at the ripe age of 94 years on this 4th July at about 8 am in the morning.

His last rights were held at MUKTIDHAM at Ranchi on 7th July .

His "Shesh Kritya" was held on 14th of July at Ranchi.

He was born at village Tikerdanga, in the district of Jessore in the year 1922. Prior to joining B. E. College, he completed 'Kabyatirtha' in Sanskrit & B.Sc in Chemistry. At B.E.College, he stayed at Slater Hall, and there is a co-incidence.

Initially he was involved in construction of roads & buildings under PWD,

West Bengal; and then joined Indian Railways.

Sri Narayan Sanyal, Sri Dilip Chakroborty. Sri Basudeb Mukherjee (ASP, Durgapur), Sri Voumik (of Shouvonic) and Sri Ashu Guha were some of the few of his distinguished

classmates, and I was blessed to meet many of them.. Prof. P.N. Banerjee, of B.E.College, Electrical Department, was one of his brother-in-law.

One of his great contributions in late '50s was laying Noamundi- Banspani railway line through dense forest and hilly terrains. During the course of the execution it was revealed that river 'Tundraa', was creating an insurmountable problem, as its course deviates during different seasons of the year. Mr. Mukherjee, then in charge of the project, as an Asst Engineer, visualized the solution, and selected an alternative location of laying out the bridge, which was subsequently approved by Railway Board. Ultimately A CURVED in PLAN CONCRETE BRIDGE was constructed. Engineering, and design were done jointly by Mr. Mukherjee and one of his classmates from B E College, Sri Sanat Niyogi .

This was the FIRST CURVED in PLAN CONCRETE BRIDGE in the history of Indian Railways.

I met him while I was working at DSP, spend enough time together, enjoyed speaking to each other in Sanskrit and he used to be my Bridge Partner. His son Shankar is my close friend, and was also my Bridge Partner, who also worked , and retired from DSP.

He has left behind four sons, and a daughter.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Sarasij Majumder , '73 CE



চলে গেলেন বি ই কলেজের প্রাক্তন উপনিবন্ধক নরসিংহ দাশগুপ্ত

Indranath Sinha, 82 MIN

We are saddened to inform you that our beloved Amrit-da (Amrit K Das) is no more. He passed away in a hospital in Kolkata on Saturday (August 27th) early morning. As many of you know he was suffering from a deadly disease for the last few months. May his soul rest in peace. He was a legend and his life will continue to be an inspiration for many of us.

AMRIT K. DAS was the Chairman, CEO and Founder of Research Engineers Inc. and then netGuru, Inc. He graduated from Bengal Engineering College in 1966 in Civil Engineering. Later on, he earned his master's degree from the University of South Carolina in 1967 with specialization in computer applications in engineering. After getting Master's degree, he moved to Philadelphia and started working in a Consulting Engineering Company (Catalytic Engineers). After working there for few years doing structural analysis, he started thinking about going into engineering business. During that period, he developed STAAD, now one of the world's leading general-purpose structural engineering software. He founded Research Engineers, Inc., in 1978. Widely known and respected in the Information Technology community worldwide. He is listed in the International Who's Who of Global Business Leaders, Who's Who of Outstanding Americans and Who's Who of Leading American Executives. The California Chamber of Commerce recognized Mr. Das as their Man of the Year in 1996, in recognition of his achievements. In the same year, Research Engineers was listed as a public company in NASDAQ. Realizing the immense commercial potential of the Information Technology industry, he diversified into the areas of Internet, e-commerce, Digital Media and IT products and services. In November 2005, he sold the Engineering division of netGuru to Bentley Systems.

On top of his various professional achievements, Mr. Das was an innovator. He went to school in the segregated South in the 1960s. When he came to USA, he had no prior knowledge about computer. He learned programming first and then started writing commercial level software in his spare time. If he was committed to an idea, he would leave no stones unturned in making it a reality. People said he couldn't start a software business as a structural engineer with little computer knowledge. He took STAAD to global heights and made it a household name. People said he couldn't take a company public and buy adjacent software businesses for piping, civil or architecture. He took REI public in 1996 and reached a market cap of \$700m in 5 years. When people said diversifying outside of his expertise was foolish, he started the largest online e-commerce site for Kolkata and bought 3 IT companies to boot. And finally, when they said he knew little about the media business, he started a successful

animation company, ran concerts with various Bollywood and Tollywood artists including Shah Rukh Khan and even made a feature film in memory of his first wife, Purabi Das. Although, he only survived to the age of 71, he lived the equivalent of ten lives. His legacy will inspire for many generations to come.

He had the deepest love for his Alma Mater (B.E. College) and used to visit the campus when he was in town. He made a substantial contribution to set up Purabi Das School of Technology (PDSIT) at B.E. College, in memory of his first wife Purabi Das. All through his professional life, he was an advocate for BEC graduates and recruited many in his company. He was a proud BEC alumnus.



His notable social commitments are:

- "The Purabi Das" School of IT at his alma mater BE College
- Shaid Khudiram Smrity Mohavidyalaya in Balichak
- Kamala bala high school in Balichak
- Sri Aurobindo Vidyabhawan in Balichak

He is survived by his mother, Bela Rani Das, wife Tamisra(Mithu) Das, two sons Santanu Das & Andrew Das,

daughter-in-law Kelly Das, daughter Sormistha Kerwin, son-in-law Paul Kerwin, grandkids Landon, Colin, Luke, Elliot & Connor.

Apurba Tribedi, '94CE and Tarun Basu, '67 CE

On behalf everyone at GAABESU, we offer our sincere condolence to their families and friends. We pray for the eternal peace of the departed souls.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Alumni Day (3rd Edition)

Your former classmates, seniors and juniors cordially invite you and your family to join the 3rd Edition of the Alumni Day. See your old friends and recapture your fondest memories. Please watch our Facebook event page at details and further announcements at <https://goo.gl/QBi56Y>



LET'S TWEET

GAABESU has a Twitter account @gaabesu. Please follow us to stay tuned about upcoming events, news, updates, pictures.



The Global Alumni Association of BESU (now IEST, Shibpur), popularly known as GAABESU, Shibpur seeks to reach, serve and engage all its alumni, faculty and students; to foster a lifelong intellectual and emotional connection between the college and its graduates; and to enhance the capability of Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur, India. (Erstwhile BESU / B. E. College).

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- Contents are accepted in English or Bengali
- All write-ups (both Bengali and English) should be in MS-Word format (no PDF please)
 - a. Font and size: Adorsholipi (9pt) for Bengali and Verdana (9pt) for English
 - b. Bengali typing software: Avro Keyboard (in MS Word)
 - c. Poems/ songs/quotations Font (that are part of the articles, not stand-alone content): Adorsholipi in italics (9pt)
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- Editorial team reserves the right to edit/accept/reject any entry