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Sagar Samachar

A Quarterly News Letter





MENTORING

A tool for the teachers and students to realize their dreams in life

A human being is the product of his genetic make up and the influence of his environment. Environment is a wider term that encompasses both physical environment and social environment. Social environment covers influence of parents, siblings, neighbours, friends, school peers, teachers, the nature etc. During the course of growth and development of a person, each one of them will try to emulate others or try to adopt to the set pattern of other persons. He gets influenced by such person in one or more attributes. One can emulate or try to adopt more than one person in different attributes. This pattern of getting influenced by other person or consciously trying to emulate or mould himself/herself based on another or directed coaching or grooming a person can be categorized as mentoring.

What is Mentoring?

Mentoring usually used to refer to a professional relationship in which an experienced person (the mentor) assists / guides / coaches another (the mentee) in developing specific skills and knowledge that will enhance the less-experienced person's professional and personal growth. However, the mentoring need not always be on professional lines and it can be an informal also. Mentoring always require an initiator. It may be the mentee or mentor, depending on situations. This relationship need not be a formal one. It can be an informal and mentor need not know that he is acting as a mentor. The mentoring may also happen without even meeting in person. For example, a student respects the personality of Sri. Abdul Kalam, the former President of India, because of his great contribution and achievements to the country, the student may follow his foot steps and assimilate the attributes of Sri. Abdul Kalam. That means, a mentee i.e student is taking the guidance from the great attributes, his writings, speeches etc of Sri. Kalam, the mentor. The circumstances under which a child is brought up also have similar effects as that of mentoring. A case of a child as to how his personality is shaped is narrated below.

Case study of a child getting influenced by random acts

At the early night fall in the month of March, in 1970, a group of middle and old aged women and men assembled in the Veranda of a old house in a village. A 10 year old boy was sitting before the group and reading "The Ramayana" in Telugu, aloud under a blinking light of the kerosene lamp before him. His mother was sitting next to him as an encouragement. The audience sitting around this boy is all farm families, who have completed their farm activities of the season and days work and can afford to have some leisure during which they like to spend listening to such epics. They are keenly listening what the boy is reading and nodding their heads at frequent intervals. The boy is sleepy as it is already late part of the night. His mother gives him some water to wash his eyes and also to have a sip and continue reading page after page for about an hour. This activity continued for almost three months i.e entire season of post harvest period. This activity got closed once the monsoon showered its first showers in the year and again resumed in the next year after the harvesting season.

During the course of the activity, various chapters of Ramayana (they are called as "Khandas") are covered. The Ramayana being the life story of a Great Mythological King, the Rama, with all great virtues for every boy to adopt, it is definitely impacted the listeners and also the boy who read unmindful of the content and substance. The boy grew up and completed higher education and reached a very responsible public position. He acquires number of virtues of the hero of great epic of the Ramayana, **The Rama**.

We can say that the simple reading of the Epic Ramayana, had influenced the boy in the years to come and shaped his personality that can be characterized

by being truthful, helping to others, respecting elders, respecting women, being empathetic, thinking about societal well being etc. This influence can also be termed as informal mentoring by the Epic Ramayana.

Reading good books as a tool of mentoring

The habit of reading any good book can be indirectly termed as mentoring and the reader definitely gets influenced by that book. All the students must cultivate this habit of reading, in addition to the subject books. The reading habit is a great skill, one must cultivate, to achieve life ambitions/goals. This also improves the personality and enables him or her to realize his or her full potential in life and contribute to the welfare of the society.

Academic Mentoring

Sagar Group of Institutions right from its inception encouraged and monitored the academic mentoring with utmost care. It is intended to support the professional growth of the students who are in the early stage of their career and to promote excellence in teaching & learning, research and academic leadership and maximize their potential and enable them to become what they want to be.

Academic Mentoring is multi-faceted activity. A brief of its characteristics, needs, benefits, tips are as follows:

- Its primary aim is to **build capability and self-reliance** in the Mentee
- Mentors can help **highlight issues** and to assist the Mentee in **planning** ways through them
- They can help **clarify the Mentee's perspective** while bringing an additional **impartial view** to bear on the issues
- Sometimes, when the issues are straightforward and urgent, a Mentor might offer advice or give some direction
- **Confidentiality, trust, understanding and positive expectation** are key to a successful partnership
- Mentoring can help in dealing with underperforming individuals and improve their level of performance
- Taking on the problems or work of the Mentee – a Mentor should not find themselves doing things outside the mentoring sessions for a mentee
- Mentoring can also deal with personal issues, take up therapy for psychological constraints and allow to moan or lean their head on the shoulder of the mentor
- Address the issues and concerns of their daily working life and find solutions that work for them
- Engagement is on a voluntary basis for both the Mentor and the Mentee
- Mentoring is non-directive in its approach
- The Mentor empowers the Mentee to take responsibility for their own learning and career development
- The relationship places no obligation on either party beyond its developmental intent
- It is not the role of the Mentor to interfere with Mentee's day to day activities or objectives. The Mentee may however, wish to discuss how they can improve daily activities with the Mentor
- A Mentor's effectiveness is decided by his ability to build rapport with the mentee, Communication skills, feedback skills, questioning skills, listening skills, interpersonal skills

Mentoring provides great joy and satisfaction to the mentor and great guidance to the mentee. Every one of us, either a teacher or a student or an employee must have one or more mentors in their life. They can either formally participate in the mentoring or take guidance on a continuous basis for ones improvement. The social media has now come in handy to take the benefit of mentoring on the virtual platform. The Linked In, Facebook can effectively be used for mentoring.

Dr.W.R.Reddy
Secretary, SVVR Society
Hyderabad



From the Desk of the Director

10.05.2014

I welcome you all to the Second Quarterly issue of Sagar Samachar. I hope you have enjoyed the first issue released in January'2014, wherein a plethora of information on various issues was provided. I am sure in the current issue also you will find many interesting information that caters on various sectors.

Sagar Group of Institutions aims at providing world class platform for education, research and knowledge creation in Agriculture, Engineering & Technology & Management. Food and Agri Business School is striving hard to achieve greater milestones in terms of pedagogy, placements etc. For the Academic Year 2013-14 we are able to achieve success in placing FABS Management professionals in Agri Business sector of the economy. Various organizations who recruited our FABS students are Coromandel International Ltd., Ankur Seeds, Efresh, NCML, Coromandel Retail, Crystl Crop, Seed Buzz, Navjyoti Commodity Management Services Ltd, etc.

Food and Agri Business School is confident of providing greater opportunity to the exceptional Agri Business students for the Academic Year 2014-16. In this context we invite graduates from Agriculture and allied subjects to take part in our Academic Programme and become successful Agri Business Management Professionals.

I am sure that Sagar Samachar will provide platform to students, faculties, staffs to sharpen their writing talent and will strengthen the academic activities in the campus.

I send my warm greetings and good wishes to all on this occasion.

Prof. Biplab Halder

Director, Sagar Group of Institutions

EDITORIAL NOTE

Dear readers

I thank wholeheartedly one and all, who contributed for the successful inauguration and release of the First issue of Sagar Samachar in January, 2014. I also extend my immense thanks to the contributors and participants for the current

issue. It is needless to say that, Sagar Samachar is a platform for the members of Sagar Group of Institutions and associated Sagar group organizations to express their valuable ideas, views, experiences, skills, etc. There is a lukewarm response from all the said stakeholders in contribution and participation. Results of surveys says that there are good number of jobs that are available for the graduating students, but it is hurting to share that majority of students lack required soft skills resulting in no employment and/or under employment.

Effective communication and interpersonal skills are crucial to increase employment opportunities and to compete successfully in the business environment. The real key to the effectiveness of professionals is their ability to put their domain knowledge into effective practice. In this context, soft skills have a crucial role to play. If future managers know how to deal with people at the emotional level (peers, subordinates, superiors, clients, suppliers, etc.) through Emotional Intelligence (EI), they can build and sustain effective relationships that will result in mutual gain. Soft skills provide students with a strong conceptual and practical framework to build, develop and manage teams. They play an important role in the development of the students' overall personality, thereby enhancing their career prospects. The soft skills training provides strong practical orientation to the students and helps them in building and improving their skills in communication, the effective use of English, business correspondence, presentations, team building, leadership, time management, group discussions, interviews, and interpersonal skills.

Sagar Samachar could be a unique opportunity for all students to develop their personality and upgrade their communication and presentation skills. There by increasing their chances to get excellent placements and further go up in position ladder. I wish all the readers' a great and inspired days ahead.

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"Bitcoin: An Innovation or Imperil"

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Introduction

A digital or virtual currency that uses peer-to-peer technology to facilitate instant payments. Bitcoin is a type of alternative currency known as a cryptocurrency, which uses cryptography for security, making it difficult to counterfeit. Bitcoin issuance and transactions are carried out collectively by the network, with no central authority. The total number of Bitcoins that will be issued is capped at 21 million to ensure they are not devalued by limitless supply. They are divisible to 8 decimal places; Bitcoin fractions are called satoshis. Users store their Bitcoins in a digital wallet, while transactions are verified by a digital signature known as a public-encryption key. Its supporters argue that Bitcoin possess several properties that could make it an ideal currency for mainstream consumers and merchants. The merits of the bitcoins are: a) high liquidity, b) low transaction costs, c) quick mode of payment, as they can be used to remit payments quickly and d) a medium for micro-payments. Experts opine that this new currency may hold the key to permit organizations like Wikileaks, hated by governments, to receive donations and conduct business anonymously.

Bitcoin is gaining steam, which becomes evident from its high usage. As of October 2011, a bitcoin (currency ticker BTC) was worth about two US dollars (USD), there were about \$20 million worth of bitcoins in existence, there were probably 20,000 bitcoin users, and more than \$300,000 worth of bitcoins were traded every day. The total number of bitcoins in circulation as of 1st February 2014, is 12,341,375.00, which is expected to touch 25 million by 2029 (please refer exhibit 1).

Is it a Real Currency?

However, despite its rising usage, a million dollar question that rises storm or may be creating in near future as more and more people get conversant with bitcoins is that whether it can be considered as a real currency? No doubt, when we hear about events like a virtual currency (bitcoin) which begun trading at less than five cents in 2010, exceeded \$1200 during the month of November 2013 (the U.S. Dollar exchange rate for one Bitcoin rose more than fivefold), government regulators testifying that a virtual, stateless currency have the potential to play a pivotal role in the commercial payment system, travelers managed a long stay by spending only Bitcoin, and various businesses, including Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic space travel startup lured publicity by agreeing to accept Bitcoin as payment, make us to believe that bitcoins are real currencies but bitcoins gauged on the criteria of a real currency, i.e. a) as a medium of exchange, b) a unit of account and c) a store of value, it is being observed that bitcoins increasingly satisfies the first criteria, because a large number of merchants, especially in online markets, appear willing to accept it as a form of payment. But it performs poorly as a unit of account and a store of value, as it exhibits very high time series volatility, which tends to undermine its useful role as a unit of account (please refer exhibit 2). Normally, a currency should have negligible volatility in order to be a reliable store of value. Bitcoin's daily exchange rate with the U.S. Dollar has virtually zero correlation with Dollar's exchange rate against other prominent currencies like the Euro, Yen, Swiss Franc or British Pound. Thus, Bitcoin's value is almost completely un-tethered to that of other currencies, which makes it nearly impossible to hedge for businesses and customers and renders it more or less useless as a tool for risk management. Bitcoins are devoid of another key characteristic that are usually linked to currencies in modern economics, i.e. it cannot be deposited in a bank, instead must be possessed through a system of "digital wallets" that have proved vulnerable to hackers. No form of insurance has been developed for holders of Bitcoins comparable to the deposit insurance relied on consumers in most of the economies. No lenders use Bitcoin as the unit of account for standard consumer finance credit, auto loans, and mortgages, and no credit or debit cards have been denominated in bitcoin. Bitcoin cannot be sold short, and financial derivatives such as forward contracts and swaps that are routine for other currencies do not exist for Bitcoin. Thus by merely looking at the whopping figure of Bitcoins circulation one should not consider it as an impeccable currency. It is the absence of key parameters of a real currency that may be triggering its growth.

Financial Implications

Bitcoins are like bubbles which are sure to burst at some point of time. There is couple of reasons for the same. The first is that when any financial product's value increases abnormally it is sure to witness a steep fall in value after a certain point, the same law is applicable for bitcoins. Another reason is that bitcoins are an uncomfortable combination of commodity and currency. The commodity value of bitcoins is rooted in their currency value, but the more of a commodity they become, the less useful they are as a currency.

Moreover, if bitcoins comes into practice in a large scale then the cases of thefts will surge. It can be explained with the help of an illustration. Suppose a person holding 25,000 bitcoins worth \$500,000 in a digital wallet on his computer having internet connection and leaves the computer on, then there is every probability that hackers may steal his money with wallet being untouched. Now assuming further that there is a substantial jump in the value of stolen bitcoins, i.e., its value stands at \$3.5 million, one can easily observe the mammoth loss the aggrieved person will be incurring.

The basic features of bitcoin that proves beneficial to its survival, and harmful to effective Anti Money Laundering (AML) regulation, those are the protocol's anonymity and resilience through flexibility. In absence of being able to link an identifiable user to a single bitcoin address, tracking the injection, layering, and reentry of laundered funds would be an uphill task for enforcement entities. Additionally, as each mining node of the bitcoin network receives and processes all transactions, and the bitcoin network automatically scales the difficulty for completing blocks based on the total processing power of all miners, stopping the bitcoin network from functioning requires disabling every miner on the network. Thus, AML efforts may witness a target that is both difficult to identify and essentially resistant to interruption.

Bitcoin potentially allows any user, genuine or criminal, to transfer money at near instantaneous speed at little or no cost, with negligible blockades to entry, while remaining almost anonymous without what could otherwise require a public paper trail. In case the fund transfer is for criminal or unlawful activities then it can be detrimental to the interests of the society at large.

A very important financial implication of bitcoin in the form of tax treatment will be observed once Federal Government provide an answer regarding the nature of the bitcoin. If it is treated as a capital asset, then it will be subject to capital gains taxes and as a currency it will be taxed according to ordinary income taxes. In case it is decided to treat bitcoins as capital asset, the good news for those who hold bitcoins is that the rate will be lower than on ordinary income (23.8 percent for high-income tax payers). On the other hand, the bad news is that they can only deduct losses against ordinary income up to \$3000. But the matter of concern is volatility of bitcoin which could become an issue for someone who incur losses. The investor would have to ascertain the basis by tracking keenly what the bitcoins was worth when acquired and what it was worth when the investor disposed of it and pay the tax on the difference. Another area that demands a concrete answer regarding bitcoin is regarding its taxability, i.e. when somebody acquires something with bitcoins. For instance, if someone acquires bitcoins for \$400 and purchases something for \$500, the question arises that is that \$100 difference subject to capital gains tax.

Conclusion

There may be several unanswered questions pertaining to bitcoins and its implications on the financial system or financial markets. The above discussion, though brief, brings out the villainous character of bitcoins. However, if in near future, central banks of various countries or government authorities start recognizing and regulating bitcoins, situation may improve and many dark aspects will be removed.

The first bitcoin specification and proof-of-concept was published in 2009 by an individual or individuals under the pseudonym Satoshi Nakamoto. Satoshi left the project toward the end of 2010, leaving the motivation behind setting up bitcoin is a continuing mystery and today that motivation is creating a storm in the financial system of several economies, by giving a new definition to currency and revolutionizing the world of finance. But again the million dollar question that confronts us is whether bitcoins can be really termed as innovation or a path towards imperil.

Management Guidelines from the Bhagavad Gita

Management Guidelines from The Bhagavad Gita(Part II)

The Gita further advises to perform action with loving attention to the Divine which implies redirection of the empirical self away from its egocentric needs, desires, and passions for creating suitable conditions to perform actions in pursuit of excellence. Tagore says working for love is freedom in action which is described as disinterested work in the Gita. It is on the basis of the holistic vision that Indians have developed the work-ethos of life. They found that all work irrespective of its nature have to be directed towards a single purpose that is the manifestation of essential divinity in man by working for the good of all beings -lokasangraha. This vision was presented to us in the very first mantra of Isopanishad which says that whatever exists in the Universe is enveloped by God. How shall we enjoy this life then, if all are one? The answer it provides is enjoy and strengthen life by sacrificing your selfishness by not coveting other's wealth. The same motivation is given by Sri Krishna in the Third Chapter of Gita when He says that 'He who shares the wealth generated only after serving the people, through work done as a sacrifice for them, is freed from all the sins. On the contrary those who earn wealth only for themselves, eat sins that lead to frustration and failure.'

The disinterested work finds expression in devotion, surrender and equipoise. The former two are psychological while the third is the strong-willed determination to keep the mind free of and above the dualistic pulls of daily experiences. Detached involvement in work is the key to mental equanimity or the state of nirdwanda. This attitude leads to a stage where the worker begins to feel the presence of the Supreme Intelligence guiding the empirical individual intelligence. Such de-personified intelligence is best suited for those who sincerely believe in the supremacy of organizational goals as compared to narrow personal success and achievement.

Work culture means vigorous and arduous effort in pursuit of a given or chosen task. When Bhagawan Sri Krishna rebukes Arjuna in the strongest words for his unmanliness and imbecility in recoiling from his righteous duty it is nothing but a clarion call for the highest work culture. Poor work culture is the result of tamo guna overtaking one's mindset. Bhagawan's stinging rebuke is to bring out the temporarily dormant rajo guna in Arjuna. In Chapter 16 of the Gita Sri Krishna elaborates on two types of Work Ethic viz. daivi sampat or divine work culture and asuri sampat or demonic work culture.

Daivi work culture - means fearlessness, purity, self-control, sacrifice, straightforwardness, self-denial, calmness, absence of fault-finding, absence of greed, gentleness, modesty, absence of envy and pride.

Asuri work culture - means egoism, delusion, desire-centric, improper performance, work which is not oriented towards service. It is to be noted that mere work ethic is not enough in as much as a hardened criminal has also a very good work culture. What is needed is a work ethic conditioned by ethics in work.

It is in this light that the counsel 'yogah karmasu kausalam' should be understood

Kausalam means skill or method or technique of work, which is an indispensable component of work ethic.

Yogah is defined in the Gita itself as 'samatvam yogah uchyate' meaning unchanging equipoise of mind.

The principle of reducing our attachment to personal gains from the work done or controlling the aversion to personal losses enunciated in Ch.2 Verse 47 of the Gita is the foolproof prescription for attaining equanimity. The common apprehension about this principle that it will lead to lack of incentive for effort and work, striking at the very root of work ethic, is not valid because the advice is to be judged as relevant to man's overriding quest for true mental happiness. Thus while the common place theories on motivation lead us to bondage, the Gita theory takes us to freedom and real happiness.

Work Results

The Gita further explains the theory of non- attachment to the results of work in Ch.18 Verses 13-15 the import of which is as under:

If the result of sincere effort is a success, the entire credit should not be appropriated by the doer alone.

If the result of sincere effort is a failure, then took the entire blame does not accrue to the doer. The former attitude mollifies arrogance and conceit while the latter prevents excessive despondency, de-motivation and self-pity. Thus both these dispositions safeguard the doer against psychological vulnerability which is the cause for the Modern Managers' companions like Diabetes, High B.P. Ulcers etc.

The driving forces in today's rat-race are speed and greed as well as ambition and competition. The natural fallout from these forces is erosion of one's ethico-moral fibre which supersedes the value system as a means in the entrepreneurial path like tax

evasion, undercutting, spreading canards against the competitors, entrepreneurial spying, instigating industrial strife in the business rivals' establishments etc. Although these practices are taken as normal business hazards for achieving progress, they always end up as a pursuit of mirage -the more the needs the more the disappointments. This phenomenon may be called as yayati-syndrome.

In Mahabharata we come across a king called Yayati who, in order to revel in the endless enjoyment of flesh exchanged his old age with the youth of his obliging youngest son for a mythical thousand years. However, he lost himself in the pursuit of sensual enjoyments and felt penitent. He came back to his son pleading to take back his youth. This yayati syndrome shows the conflict between externally directed acquisitions, motivations and inner reasoning, emotions and conscience.

Gita tells us how to get out of this universal phenomenon by prescribing the following capsules:

- Cultivate sound philosophy of life.
- Identify with inner core of self-sufficiency.
- Get out of the habitual mindset towards the pairs of opposites.
- Strive for excellence through work is worship.
- Build up an internal integrated reference point to face impulses and emotions.
- Pursue ethico-moral rectitude.

Cultivating this understanding by a manager would lead him to emancipation from falsifying ego-conscious state of confusion and distortion, to a state of pure and free mind i.e. universal, supreme consciousness wherefrom he can prove his effectiveness in discharging whatever duties that have fallen to his domain.

Bhagawan's advice is relevant here:

"tasmaat sarveshu kaaleshu mamanusmarah yuddha cha"

'Therefore under all circumstances remember Me and then fight' (Fight means perform your duties)

Management Needs those Who Practice what they Preach

Whatever the excellent and best ones do, the commoners follow, so says Lord Krishna in the Gita. In one verse the Lord says "I do not need to work, yet I am working continuously, because if I stop working, everybody would fdo the same, resulting in total chaos "This is the leadership quality prescribed in the Gita. The visionary leader must also be a missionary, extremely practical, intensively dynamic and capable of translating dreams into reality. This dynamism and strength of a true leader flows from an inspired and spontaneous motivation to help others. "I am the strength of those who are devoid of personal desire and attachment. O Arjuna, I am the legitimate desire in those, who are not opposed to righteousness" says Sri Krishna in the 10th Chapter of the Gita.

The Ultimate Message of Gita for Managers

The despondent position of Arjuna in the first chapter of the Gita is a typical human situation which may come in the life of all men of action some time or other. Sri Krishna by sheer power of his inspiring words raised the level of Arjuna's mind from the state of inertia to the state of righteous action, from the state of faithlessness to the state of faith and self-confidence in the ultimate victory of Dharma(ethical action). They are the powerful words of courage of strength, of self confidence, of faith in one's own infinite power, of the glory, of valour in the life of active people and of the need for intense calmness in the midst of intense action.

When Arjuna got over his despondency and stood ready to fight, Sri Krishna gave him the gospel for using his spirit of intense action not for his own benefit, not for satisfying his own greed and desire, but for using his action for the good of many, with faith in the ultimate victory of ethics over unethical actions and truth over untruth. Arjuna responds by emphatically declaring that all his delusions were removed and that he is ready to do what is expected of him in the given situation.

Sri Krishna's advice with regard to temporary failures in actions is 'No doer of good ever ends in misery'. Every action should produce results: good action produces good results and evil begets nothing but evil. Therefore always act well and be rewarded.

And finally the Gita's consoling message for all men of action is: He who follows My ideal in all walks of life without losing faith in the ideal or never deviating from it, I provide him with all that he needs (Yoga) and protect what he has already got (Kshema).

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Miracle of Positive Thinking

Positive thinking leads a man to success. One, who thinks that he can achieve the things, will put his best to achieve, will not fetter by the problems in the path of success and one day he will win positively. Self confidence, determination, perseverance, and hard work are the key factors of success.

Every small or big, easy or complex problem has its solution. There is a way out of every labyrinth; there is an answer to every enigma. The only requirements are the confidence, hard work and determination and you get the answer.

Where there is a will, there is a way. If you find any problem, a typical one, don't lose heart, go ahead and devote yourself fully, analyze each aspect, and get the problem solved. Every invention taken place so far, were riddled with many unfound answers, but the inventor's zeal and perseverance found the solution and a new invention took place. For a confident person, the word 'impossible' is nowhere in his dictionary. A determined and dedicated person finds way in all complexities undaunted by the initial problems and failures. He keeps on finding solution to every teaser and one day he achieves his cherished goal.

Dedication, devotion to the task and positive thinking with determination has been the important factors of success of every successful person. Life is a battle; one has to fight it fearlessly. Fight with confidence, positive attitude, and right aptitude, with determined and concentrated efforts, leads to the surest path of success. Fortune is said to favor the brave. God also help those who help themselves. A coward, a pessimist dare not even to fight in the race, it is an optimist and determined soul, who dares to fight, has the chance of success.

A winner never quits and a quitter never wins shows that one who constantly tries to achieve something, one who endeavors hard incessantly to achieve something, he is the winner, later or sooner, but a quitter could never be a winner. Organizing the efforts properly, in right direction, striking at the opportune time, are essential for achieving a target. Optimism, determination, undaunted will power makes every impossible task possible.

Confidence is the most important key to success. It boosts the morale and creates determination to attain a goal. The loss of confidence makes a man pessimist, coward or a dead man. It should also be remembered that the positive and constructive thoughts which aims for the betterment of mankind are met with success. It should not be riddled with self aggrandizement. Evil thoughts never bear good results.

Your biggest assets are your enthusiasm that enriches with your positive thinking. Never lose hope, keep cheerful put the best possible efforts with your total involvement, have confidence in you and you are the winner.

Through positive thinking one can overcome the mountains. One who always think positively even in adverse circumstances wins. Positive thinking always pays. Life belongs to the ambitions.

8 Powerful Steps to Positive Thinking

"The positive thinker sees the invisible, feels the intangible, and achieves the impossible."

It's much easier to be pessimistic than to be optimistic, isn't it? To look at the half empty glass instead of the half full glass, to criticize and complain instead of expressing our appreciation and gratitude for everything that happens to us and all around us. Well, not anymore.

Today, I want to present you eight steps toward positive thinking, therefore for a positive life. Hopefully, you will realize that it is a lot easier to be positive than to be negative, and it is a lot easier, healthier to be optimistic rather than pessimistic.

1. Always focus on what you want rather than what you don't want
2. Know that every problem comes with a lesson
3. Don't hail in assumptions.
4. Choose to express your gratitude for everything that happens to you, whether good or bad, and also for every person you interact with
5. Know that there is a reason for everything
6. Let go of your need for perfection
7. Let go of your resistance
8. Learn to be present in everything you do

Today You Can

Today you can choose to count your blessings
or you can count your troubles.

Today you can live each moment
or you can put in time.

Today you can take action towards your goals
or you can procrastinate.

Today you can plan for the future
or you can regret the past.

Today you can learn one new thing
or you can stay the same.

Today you can seek possibilities
or you can overwhelm yourself with the impossible.

Today you can continue to move forward
or you can quit.

Today you can take steps towards resolving your challenges
or you can procrastinate.

You see today the choices are up to you
in deciding what you do today.

"Take up one idea. Make that one idea your life – think of it, dream of it, and live on idea. Let the brain, muscles, nerves, every part of your body, be full of that idea, and just leave every other idea alone. This is the way to success"- Swami Vivekananda

All the Best

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TRUE ART OF LIVING - GIVING

We make a living by what we get or receive
but we make a "life" by what we give.
-Winston Churchill



Winston Churchill rightly stated the above line. Every morning, the sweet chirping sound of the birds wakes us up to the fresh day. The bright sun rays touch the window on the bed side, welcoming us to another lively day. While the warmth of the loved ones cherish us every moment we are home, when we are set for the world outside, we are greeted with a smile of hope to gear us up to the day's journey.....

When we start counting the good things that happen to us every single day, the list goes endless. Do we realize that we are the receivers of so much priceless good that we cannot hold or contain? But what are we offering in return?

The Bible infallibly says that it is more blessed to give than to receive. So let's start giving out our best to the world around .Only then we could get rid of our selfishness that's so deep within our hearts. It could be a hearty smile, a word of comfort, a couple of handshakes, caring warmth or a helping hand.

Let's take a pledge to invest ourselves to the true art of living that's right.....GIVING and make this place a better place to live in...

WE ARE EDUCATED?

On 25.3.14, I had an excellent opportunity to attend a motivational lecture conducted by Sri Jawaharlal Nehru in the seminar hall of SITECH. The session was attended by all first year students. The session was highly beneficial since it was successful in causing awareness in the young minds on the vices(bad doings) of the people , particularly , students under the guise that “ we are educated ”.

Students tend to be guided by a “so called “friend” sitting next to him or her.This ‘friend’ keeps on talking in the class, thus causing disturbance to the entire class. We (all students) do not have guts to ask them to keep quiet because “we are educated”.

We are often so much guided by others that we ask them about what is good instead of setting a Goal by ourselves. The other person unknowingly suggests a goal which is suitable to him because it has been thought over by him. We move on aimlessly (because we cannot achieve the goal set by others) because “we are educated”.

We have been brought up by our parents. In our younger days they would have kissed us several thousand times to express their love. But, we do not have the basic instinct to return back the love we got because “we are educated”.

We forget that our brain is several times more powerful than many super computers and hence do not use our brains. We depend on some other external person for direction. That person will take us in a direction he wants to proceed and not in the direction we want to. We forget or do not want to realize the infinite potential within us because “we are educated”.

We try to worry about many things –Present, Past and Future at the same time. Having set a goal, we need to focus on the present. Instead, we carry loads of past & future things along with the present. This causes immense stress. We are unable to concentrate in the present because “we are educated”.

We forget to smile or laugh since we are so much habituated to artificiality. We put up stiff faces under the pretext that “we are educated”. The video of the child enjoying dancing while taking a bath demonstrates how we used to be. Best thing is to first see your own smiling face in the mirror early in the morning and smile.

If we are able to correct ourselves in certain aspects like above, be self-dependent, we can unleash the potential of “Real Education” and “Real Personality” to achieve our goals in life.



D.V.Seshai

Prof. & Head of Dept.
Civil Engineering
SITECH

FARMER – A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION

Till 1990s, agriculture was credited as back bone of our country. To some extent, it's a fact even today. It provides employment and livelihood for majority of people. Indian farmers, most of them are uneducated or less educated, but they are feeding this huge nation and even some parts of the world.

If we observe the routine job of a farmer, we really get inspired to work hard and to achieve our goals. A farmer stays in a remote village with poor infrastructure like transport, communication, electricity, educational, medical and entertainment facilities. He wakes up early in the morning about 5 a.m... It is not by keeping alarm but by habit. First, he goes to cattle shed for cleaning the shed and then feeding the cattle. It's a good physical exercise for him early in the morning. Then, after having a cup of tea, he immediately proceeds to the job which was very clearly planned a day before. It may be usually making ready the farm implements or going around the village to call once again the agricultural labor who will be attending the field work. Then, he takes meals as breakfast and moves to the field. Generally, farmers take bath in the evenings because they have to do lot of physical work during the day. In the field, he manages 10 to 30 agricultural labor to extract reasonable work and thus to get desired results. Farmer himself involves in the work and sometimes he demonstrates the work how to do it thus imparts skills to the labor. Farmer is a master of all field operations right from tilling the land to reaping the crop. He feels that plants as his babies who can't express their needs and pains and the field as his house and sun and rain as his GODs. To protect his crop, he has to know the enemies of the crop like several pests and diseases and fight with them. However some abiotic factors like temperature, winds and excess or deficit rains pose unavoidable threat to the crop. He spends whole day under the bright sun and in the evening he plans next day's work and returns to home. After coming to home, he immediately rushes again to the cattle shed to water and feed the cattle. After that he records the particulars of the work done in the day like how many labor have come and what are their wages, how many hours a hired machine worked in the field and its cost etc for future payments. After it is dark, then he takes bath and will have dinner . If he finds time, he watches Television for a while or chats with his family members or neighbors. He goes to bed early and gets quick and healthy sleep. At this juncture, I think it is apt to tell a story about the farmer which I heard from a farmer. Once the fever wants to attack a farmer. It approaches a farmer and reveals her wish and requested him to fulfil her wish. Farmer at last agrees but tells her to come after some time as he is busy with weeding operations in his farm. Fever happily agrees. After some days as requested by the farmer, the fever knocks the door. Then farmer again asks her to come later as he is busy with harvesting of crops. Well, the fever comes after that period and was asked by the farmer to come on some other time as he was busy with field preparation and seed collection works for the next season. This time fever feels bad but strongly decides to attack next time without fail. The time has come. The farmer though he was busy with agricultural works but welcomes fever as he promised her long back. The fever attacks the farmer and he was sick. Even then he goes to field to watch the works and to advise the workers. In the field puddling operations were going on. There, somehow he was not happy with the work being carried out in the field. Hence he decides himself to step in the field and bring the work on right path. In that process, he steps into the field which was full of mud and works vigorously forgetting he was sick. Here fever which was generally honoured by its hosts (patients) with variety of fruits, milk and bed rest, feels shameful for the way that was being treated by the farmer with full of mud. Hence it wants to leave and decides not to come again near to a farmer. This is the story which clearly tells the way farmer works hard throughout the year. His life is very simple and very healthy. A farmer maintains his body fit for longer time. Irrespective of crop success or failure, he pays labor dues in time as he knows that they are landless and purely dependent on wages. Sometimes, two to three years in a row he may witness crop failures with bad weather conditions but he still withstands and bounces back to normal level with his good money managerial skills.

Hence, a farmer is a great hard worker , good planner, good manager, good teacher and good employer. With all these good traits, a farmer stands before us as a Role Model to get success in the life.



Guruva Reddy. D
Vice-Principal,
SAP.

Trichogramma-one Of The Miracles Of Nature To Benefit Agriculture

Trichogramma is a minute wasp insect and is an egg parasitoid of many insect pests of agricultural importance. Trichogramma is a genus and there are many species attacking different agricultural pests. Prior to knowing its mode of action, we must know its life cycle. Like majority of the insects, it also has four stages in its life viz., egg, larva, pupa and adult stages. To complete its life cycle, it may take hardly one week. Most of the insect pests damage the crops in larval stage which hatches out from an egg. This friendly insect Trichogramma, attacks eggs of the harmful insects. Pest eggs are very small and are laid in different parts of the plant according to their nature of damage. With our naked eye we can't trace them on the plant. Such minute eggs are identified by this Trichogramma which inserts her eggs inside the freshly laid pest eggs with the help of needle like ovipositor. Pest egg generally takes a week time for hatching out into a larva. Within this short period, Trichogramma eggs hatch inside, feed on the reserve food of the pest egg, undergoes pupation and finally emerges out from the pest egg as an adult. After emergence, adults participate in mating and again female adults lay their eggs in the same fashion and die. In this way Trichogramma completes its life cycle inside the pest egg and successfully kills the pest in egg stage itself. All this natural phenomenon occurs in the agricultural fields without the notice of the farmer. This is how the pests are kept under control in the natural ecosystems. But in agri ecosystems, with the intensive and indiscriminate use of insecticides, friendly insects like Trichogramma are disappearing leading to pest outbreaks and crop failures.

Trichogramma adult laying its eggs on the insect pest egg, a microscopic picture

Guruva Reddy. D
Vice-Principal,
SAP



SAGAROSTAV 2014

Sagar Group of Institutions, Chevella, Hyderabad is one of the premier institutions in the State of Andhra Pradesh. It is offering B.Tech, PGDM(ABM), PGDM, Agri Polytechnic and MBA courses. Sagar Group of Institutions is known across the country for its path breaking initiatives at undergraduate and higher education levels. It's been a tradition to involve the students in various co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. It is to mould their personality into complete professionals. To this end, SGI had organized a management and cultural festival, SAGAROSTAV-2014 on 3rd February 2014. The organizing committee identified more than 300 colleges, and then visited personally some of the colleges also. 427 registrations were received from various colleges. Here are the names of some colleges:

1. Institute of Public Enterprises, Hyderabad
2. Gandikota Business School, Hyderabad
3. Bandari Srinivas Institute of Technology, Chevella
4. Vidya Vikas Institute of Technology, Chevella
5. Srinivasa Pharmacy Institute, Vikarabad
6. Saraswathi Degree College, Vikarabad
7. Viswabharathi Degree College, Vikarabad
8. SAP Degree College, Vikarabad
9. Peoples Degree College, Tandur
10. Sri Sai Degree College, Tandur

Following events were organized:

1. RATANGAASS - BEST MANAGER
2. SUR SANGAM - SOLO SINGING
3. ABHINAYA - ADZAP
4. MEHFIL - ANTAKSHIRI,
5. VASTRA ALANKAAR - FASHIONSHOW
6. DHIKAOO - JAM
7. VYAPAAR PRASHNA - UTTAR-BUSINESS QUIZ,
8. VAAD VIVAAD - DEBATE

Faculty members from respective colleges also participated.

Cash prizes were awarded to the best performers for all the events.



Events

Annual Day Celebrations



Students receiving the awards



Inauguration Of Sagar Samachar, A Quarterly News Letter Of Sagar Group Of Institutions



Presentation of a bouquet to the Chief Guest, Mr. Srihari Kotela, MD, eFresh Portal Pvt., Ltd.



Dr WR Reddy, Secretary, SVVR Society felicitating the Chief Guest, Mr. Srihari Kotela.

Mr. Srihari Kotela, delivering Sagar Samachar inaugural speech



Inauguration of Sagar Samachar

Guest Lectures/ Seminars/Worshops

CSE DEPARTMENT



Prof. Senapathy presenting seminar on
Self Development for Success



Guest Lecture on **Compiler Design**
(24th, Mar, 2014)

CSE IV Year B.tech Student Presenting Technical Seminar



Final Year B.Tech CSE Students (2010-2014)





CSE Students Attended two day
“National Conference on Information Security”
at JNTU Hyderabad from 31st Jan – 1st Feb 2014



IV Year B.Tech CSE students presenting Major project

Report on FDP HELD ON 1st Jan 2014

Sagar Group Of Institutions conducted Faculty Development Programme (FDP) for the Teachers of Saraswathi Degree College, Vikarabad on “EFFECTIVE METHODS OF TEACHING” at our campus. Faculty members were given certificates.

Report on one day seminar on “self confidence” held on 7th Feb 2014

Sagar Group of Institutions took initiative to motivate the students from Saraswathi Degree College, Vikarabad. Totally 200 students attended the seminar. Dr. Shiva Kumar delivered a lecture on MOTIVATION. Prof. Anil Kumar delivered lecture on GOAL SETTING. Prof. Raghava shared information on ATTITUDE.

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

We are happy to announce that the respective faculty from various departments has come up with diverse paper publications in preceding semester. Following are the details:

S.No	Name of the Author	Name of the Title	Name of the Journal/Conference	ISSN or ISBN N	Month
1.	V. Sidda Reddy HOD, CSE Dept	International research paper on “Knowledge Discovery from Static data sets to Evolving Data Streams and Challenges”	IJCA (International journal of Computer applications)	Volume 87, No 15, ISSN 0975-8887	Feb 2014
2.	V. Sidda Reddy HOD, CSE Dept	International research paper on “TIFIM: Tree based Incremental Frequent Itemset Mining over Streaming Data”	IJCT (International journal of Computers & Technology)	Volume 10, No 4, ISSN 22773061	Aug 2013
3.	V. Sidda Reddy HOD, CSE Dept	A paper on “Bench Mark Algorithms and Models of Frequent Itemset Mining over Data Streams: Contemporary affirmation of state of art”	JGCST		May 2013
4.	B. Mahesh Assistant Professor	“Relative Performance Evolution of Single Chip CFA color reconstruction Algorithms used in Embedded vision Devices”	IJCCE	Volume -4, Issue-1	

Workshops & National Conferences:

- V. Sidda Reddy, K.Ramakrishna Reddy and A.Raju attended one day workshop on “Software Offerings to Academics” at JNTU Hyderabad on 23 Nov, 2013 conducted by IBM & SPsoft.
- A. Raju , J. Suneetha and III B.Tech CSE students attended two day “National Conference on Information Security” at JNTU Hyderabad from 31st Jan – 1st Feb 2014 conducted by SIT Hyderabad and CSI Hyderabad chapter.

Guest Lectures & Seminars:

- Conducted Guest Lecture on Compiler Design (24th , Mar, 2014)
- Conducted two day workshop on Web Technologies (14th – 15th Mar ,2014)
- Conducted seminar on Enhancing Technical Capabilities (6th, Feb,2014)
- Conducted Guest Lecture on Computer Forensics (25th , Oct, 2013)
- Conducted Guest Lecture on Operating Systems (27th ,Sep, 2013)
- Conducted seminar on Self Development for Success (2nd Aug, 2013)

FORTH COMING EVENTS

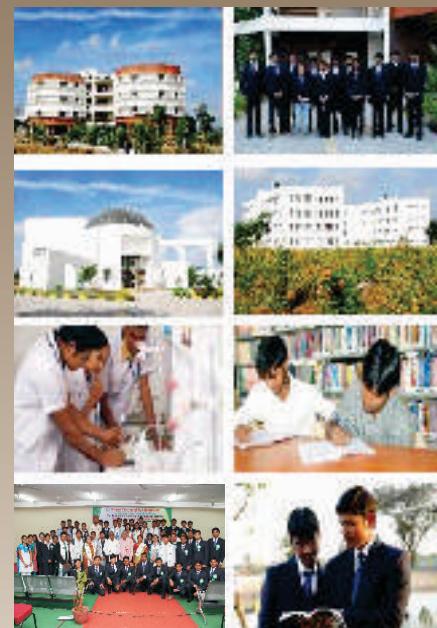
EVENTS IN THE A.Y 2013-14

1	25-07-2013	Organized a Guest Lecture on “Energy conservation”	EEE	Sri. S.Ganapathi, SE (Retired) APTRANS CO
2	26-07-2013	Guest Lecture on “Construction & Challenges of Barrage works”.	CIVIL	Mr.S.K.Karimulah,AEE (Assistant Executive Engineer), A.P. Irrigation.
3	31-07-2013	Inauguration of 20KW solar plant in Sagar campus.	EEE	Dr.P.K.Nag, Professor, IIT Kharagpur,(Retired)
4	31-07-2013	Paper Presentation on Recent Trends in Renewable Energy Sources”	EEE	Dr.P.K.Nag, Professor, IIT Kharagpur,(Retired)
5	31-07-2013	“1st International Workshop on the Role of Thermodynamics in Engineering and Environment” Dated:31-07-2013	MECH	Dr.P.K.Nag, Professor, IIT Kharagpur,(Retired)
6	01-08-2013	Inauguration of Students Association of ECE (August 1st 2013). “TECH WAVE” and Guest Lecture on A.W.P.	ECE	Professor: Jaya Shankar Prof & Head of ECE Department VASAVI College of Engineering Technology.
7	02-08-2013	Guest Lecture on Self Development for Success	CSE	Prof: M.R. Senapathi, Associate Prof & Associate Chairperson (Development) Siva Sivani Institute of Management
8	27-09-2013	Operating Systems (Dead Locks, Memory Management)	CSE	Ms.Spandana, Asst.Prof, KMIT, Hyd.
9	25-10-2013	Computer forensics	CSE	Mr.Vijay Baby, Assoc.Professor, JBREC, Hyd
10	09-12-2013 to 23-12-2013	CRT Programme	CSE	Globarena
11	11-08-2013	PranaYoga Orientation	All Departments	Ms. Nagalakshmi
12	23-01-2014 to 25-01-14	Image Processing Theory, Tools and Applications (IPTTA)	ECE	Dr.B.L.Deekshatulu
13	28-01-2014 to 30-01-14	Voltage Instability in Power Systems	EEE	Dr.Durga Prasad
14	18-02-2014	Compiler Design	CSE	Prof.G.Narayana, JBREC, Hyd
15	06-02-2014	Enhancing Technical Capabilities	CSE	Mr.Ramesh, Mr.Rahul, Mr.Sidharth, BITS, Hyd
16	14-03-2014 to 15-03-2014	Web Technologies	CSE	Mr.Ravindar Reddy, Software Engineer, Blackberry

COURSES OFFERED

M-Tech	: Mechanical-CAD/CAM ECE-VLSI and EMBEDDED SYSTEMS DESIGN
B-Tech	: Computer Science Engineering (CSE) Electronics & Communication Engineering (ECE) Electrical & Electronics Engineering (EEE) Civil Engineering (CIV) Mechanical Engineering (MECH)
M.B.A	: Marketing, Finance, HR
PGDM	Marketing, Finance, HR, IT & Operations
PGDM-ABM	: Agri Business Management
SAP	: Two years Agri Diploma

- Best in class faculty, excellence in academics & research, alumini of IIT, IIM as faculty
- 50 acre integrated campus, wi-fi facility
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- Uniquely designed central library with modern amenties
- Special focus on employable skill development through Global Academy of Life Skills Development(GOALS) & CRT
- Guidance for Civil Services
- Excellent hostels for boys & girls, gym, sports club and cafeteria
- International collaborations & industry interactions



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Super Market, Tolichowki, Hyderabad-500008
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**EAMCET/ ICET/
PGCET/POLYCET:
SAGR**

