

Workshop on Interfacing of Microcontroller and

Udaipur: 2 Days workshop is being organized at Aravali Institute of Technical Studies on "Interfacing of Microcontroller" for ECE and EE students and 2 Days workshop on "Android" for MCA and CS students parallelly. Mr. Bhupendra Singh Thakur, Sr. Trainer, ROBOTRONIX Engineering Tech Pvt. Ltd. training the Students with Programming of 8051, Assembly of Hardware and all Interfacing concepts. In android workshop students are trained in Android SDK, Android Implementation, Installation of Android by Mr. Ankit Kavadia, Appundit Pvt. Ltd

Baba Ramdev and Acharya Lokesh took part in Narmada



Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan expressing gratitude towards Eminent Yogguru Baba Ramdev and Founder of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni for participating in 'Namami Devi Narmade' Save Narmada Yatra at Alirajpur said that Acharya Lokesh Muni who gives message of Peace and Harmony to the world has graces Narmada Yatra is a matter of great pride for us. He appreciated the large number of people who have been participating in Narmada Yatra. Chief Minister talking about the sacred objectives of Narmada Yatra appealed to people for protecting environment and saving Narmada. He said that Yatra which began on 11 December 2016 will cover 2930 kilometres of Narmada Banks and will take around 118 days to complete. He said that lakhs of trees will be planted on banks of river Narmada. He said that to protect rivers Government, Saints, Religious leaders and social workers have to work together. Appealing to people for alcohol free society said that on this issue government can make law and make arrangements for punishment who break the law but social and religious organisations have to create awareness among people about the existing laws and encourage them to follow the law.

Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni on the occasion said that earth can fulfil the needs of people but cannot fulfil the extreme desires of the people. Luxurious lifestyle is harming the environment and natural resources. Bhagwan Mahaveer preached controlled lifestyle for environment protection. Acharya Lokesh said that 24th Tirthankar of Jain religion Bhagwan Mahavir gave the principal of 'Shat Jeevnikay' which means that earth, water, fire, wind, plants all are living. These should not be unnecessarily broken or punctured. They should not be used more than requirement. He said that rivers are symbol of faith and development they also give life. He greeted Madhya Pradesh Government for organising Narmada Yatra and lakhs of people who are participating in it.

Yogguru Baba Ramdev said that human life is born from water. We have to protect vegetation and grow more trees and vegetation to protect the rivers. Measures should be taken so that adequate flow of natural fresh water flows throughout the stretch of the rivers throughout the year. This is necessary to protect and preserve their ecology and meet the basic water needs of the habitations on their banks. He said that Narmada has historic, religious, spiritual and social importance. Social awareness should be created to protect Narmada.

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Yogguru Baba Ramdev and Acharya Lokesh Muni together walked on the bank of river Narmada with symbol of environment protection flag in their hands for many kilometres.

Rights Of "Amit Khan's" Novels Sold Even Before Publishing

The name Amit Khan needs no introduction today. He is a big name in the world of Hindi thriller novels. More than hundred novels written by him have been published so far. Not only that, his novels are now being published in English and Marathi by reputed publishing houses. Amit Khan is also very active in Bollywood. He has written many films and lot of episodes of television serials scripted by him have been telecasted so far. He is also doing Marathi films. 'Laal Ishq' produced by Sanjay Leela Bhansali Productions released recently was based on Amit Khan's story.

'Fifty-Fifty' produced by 'Manmohan Desai Productions' will be releasing soon. His writing achievements are far more diverse. Amit Khan has written a lot of Diamond Comics which have been published in Hindi, English and Bengali language. The biggest and most interesting news is film rights of two of his novels have recently been purchased by two producers. Rights of those novels which have not even been published yet!

How did this journey of writing begin?

Even I did not realize! I was 12 years old. I wrote a story based on life of American President George Washington and it got published. Since then writing and getting published became part of my life. It is still in progress. My first novel was published when I was 15 years old. So far total 105 novels have been out. I have also written many short stories. From English magazine Women's Era to Manohar Kahaniyaan and Navbharat Times, everywhere my stories have been published.

What do you feel about films based on novels?

Today there are many writers in Bollywood but very few of them are good writers who are creating remarkable work. In a film, screenplay matters more than a story and I believe every story must have a USP. Based on that USP, the complete marketing strategy is designed. Crores of rupees are at stake on that. Many times the script is good but there is no USP. 'Films based on novels' is a new concept in Bollywood but this has been going on in Hollywood since a long time. Many of Gulshan Nanda's novels have been turned in to films earlier.

Good films have been created based on Chetan Bhagat's novels too. I am being approached by producers with good offers. Two of my novels on which I was working, rights of those novels have been purchased even before publishing of those novels. One of them was purchased by Dhaval Gada (Pen India) and other was acquired by NRI businessman Pradeep Rangwani. Based on this latter novel, production of film has actually began.

Semal - A Tree Of Multifarious Importance Plz Don't Burn In Holi



Dr. Vartika Jain

Semal, Shimul, Red Silk Cotton Tree, Indian Red Kapok Tree etc., all these names belong to one of the most magnificent multi-purpose tree species of India, scientifically known as Bombax ceiba. This large tree could be recognized by sharp, conical spines present all over the stem and branches making it a relatively fire-resistant tree. It becomes major centre of attraction when it blooms during January-March and paints the complete landscape in red hue by bearing beautiful scarlet red flowers on a leafless tree. Later, fruits appear during April-May and spread immensely soft silk-cotton along with seeds in the near vicinity. Whether leafless or with leaves; with flowers or fruits; it remains a hotspot among various insects, birds and animal species in all the seasons and sometimes also referred as One Tree Wild Life Sanctuary in itself.

Semal is considered as sacred tree and also referred as 'Dev vriksha' and 'Nakshatra Vriksha' (Constellation Tree) of people born in 18th constellation 'Jyestha'. It was one of the five sacred trees of 'Panchwati' - a place where sages used to do psycho-spiritual meditation in ancient times. It is also an important part of Indian

(Ayurveda), Chinese and Taiwanese traditional systems of medicine. Every part of the tree i.e. root, stem-bark, spines, leaves, flowers, fruits, seeds and gum possesses medicinal potential and indigenous communities use it for treatment of various human and animal ailments. The plant is very popular for its use in seminal weakness in man and genital infections and inflammation in females. Root of Semal known as 'Semal-musli' is used for treatment of diabetes, heart disease, leucorrhoea, impotence, debility, diarrhoea and dysentery in folk medicine. Powder of its thorns is mixed with milk and used to remove acne of face. Stem-Bark is used to treat gastro-intestinal diseases, boils, kidney stone, headache, heart disease, snake bite etc. in tribal medicine. Its protein rich leaves are used for treatment of diabetes, leucorrhoea, arthritis, anemia, body pains and dysentery. Young flower buds are cooked as vegetable and used to remove acne of face. Flowers are used for treatment of anemia, bleeding piles, leucorrhoea, gonorrhoea, menorrhagia, colitis, skin disease, internal bleeding, ulcers and boils. Young fruits are utilized for the treatment of urinary and kidney stones, gonorrhoea, leucorrhoea, menorrhagia,

uterus prolapse and snake bite while gum known as 'Mochrasa' is useful against asthma, bleeding piles, debility, diarrhoea and dysentery. Notably, many of these folk claims have been validated scientifically and its various medicinal properties such as anti-inflammatory, anti-hyperglycemic, antihyperlipidemic, antimicrobial, analgesic, antioxidant, anabolic, hypotensive and fibrinolytic enhancement have been demonstrated in animal and human studies. Commercially, timber of Semal tree is utilized for match-stick production and also for plank ceilings, canoes, catamarans, shingles, toys, pencils, pen-holders, veneers, scabbards, coffins, brush-handles, picture frames, wooden sculptures, ladles, paper pulp and artifact production etc. Its vermin-proof Silk-cotton is used to fill life-saving appliances, sleeping bags, mattresses, cushions, pillows, upholstery, wadded cloth quilts etc. and seed oil is used as an edible, illuminant and also for soap making.

It is popular among naturalists as 'Little Bird's Cafeteria' and 'Umbrella Tree' as many birds and animals visit this tree for its beautiful nectar rich flowers and huge dense foliage.

The height and dense canopy of its leaves makes it among the most favorite roosting and nesting sites of many large birds especially Vultures, Eagles and Storks. Many of the birds visiting Semal trees comes in Red Data list of IUCN (3.1) for example Grey-headed Fish Eagle, Red-breasted Parakeet, Slender-bill vulture and White-rumped vulture, Greater and Lesser Adjutant Storks etc. This clearly indicates importance of this tree as a habitat on which birds are dependent either for feeding, roosting or nesting purposes. Over-exploitation of this tree for commercial purposes has led to decline in population of an endangered bird 'Greater Adjutant Stork' in Assam and reduction of Honey Bee colonies in Maradvaly forest area in Western Ghats. These instances prove that loss of even one member of food chain may have a profound effect on the entire ecosystem. Looking to these, it becomes very important to protect and conserve the populations of Semal trees in order to protect fauna dependent on it.

Holi-The traditional fatal axe in Udaipur

Semal tree is a common species of tropical dry deciduous forests of India and distributed in entire country. Traditional burning of Semal trees and its branches on Holi festival by considering this as a symbol of mythological character 'Prahlaad' has caused a negative impact on population of this important tree species in Udaipur, Rajasthan. The most tragic thing is that the tree is cut during February- March when it is in full bloom and thus destroys the chances of its future survival through fruits and seeds. Moreover, fissiparous tendencies in society has caused increasing num-

ber of Holi burning events instead of one common Group-Holi and therefore, putting extra burden on demand of Semal trees. Not only this, a competitive trend of burning Longest Holi of the city is also causing loss of fully grown 50-60 ft. tall Semal trees.

To protect and conserve this tree species, Society for Microvita Research and Integrated Medicine (SMRIM), Udaipur has initiated 'Semal Conservation Mission' in 2007 and intensive awareness program was started through various publications in national and international journals, magazines, newspapers, bulletins about the grave situation of Semal tree population in Udaipur. Along with that, awareness is also being created through pamphlet distribution, short message services in mobile, emails, social media etc. Besides that, direct interactions with various rural and urban communities in the form of group meetings, table talks, seminars and lecture deliveries are also being made to aware them about the importance of this tree species and its plantation in large scale.

SMRIM developed saplings of Semal from seeds and planted about 500 Semal plants in and around Udaipur district. It is also motivating people to plant five Semal saplings every year for each tree cut on Holi festival or to symbolically use only a small twig of Semal tree so that the tradition could be continued without causing harm to the plant as well as environment. Not only this, Society has also suggested a novel concept of burning an 'iron-pole' covered with dried grass and hay material instead of Semal tree and implementing it since 2011 in Udaipur. This eco-friendly concept of burning iron-pole instead of any

kind of wood has been adopted by many societies and colonies in Udaipur city and by this approach, main purpose of survival of 'Prahlaad' even after burning in fire is also served.

Nowadays, availability and accessibility of food material for birds and wild animals has become a major problem in many parts of the country. In this regard, this multipurpose tree species providing food, fodder, fuel, fiber, timber, medicine and also having a long life span could be used as a potential bio-resource for various faunal species. By planting this tree species in dotted fashion, availability of food can be improved in forests, wastelands, urban, peri-urban and rural areas. Semal trees require relatively less water to survive and also possess drought tolerance potential. Dry flowers and leaves of the plant are employed to make a good quality of vermicompost manure and protein rich leaves make it one of the most preferred fodder species. It possesses soil binding property and also used for reclamation of wastelands and mine spoils. It can also be used for city beautification by doing roadside plantations where it may help to support a good number of city dweller birds as evident in New Delhi.

Semal tree touches every sphere of human life whether social customs, folk songs, medicine, commerce, environment balance or spiritual advancement etc. Depletion of such important bio-resource can cause a deleterious impact on the entire ecosystem and hence, there is an urgent need to protect and conserve this tree species so that future generations could also be benefited from this majestic 'King of the Forest' tree species.

"While we fight for what is wrong, we also work to repair the injustice."- Arnab Goswami



Mumbai: "We hear of so many heinous crimes everyday and it happens because some people think they can get away with it," said Arnab Goswami, during the release of the book 'Alyosha, A Blaze...like a shooting star' on 25th Feb 2017 at Entertainment Store, 'Title Waves', St Pauls Media Complex, Bandra (West), Mumbai. Written by Cmde Arun Kumar, AVSM, NM (Retd), the biography is a fathers tribute to his brave son Alyosha Kumar and functioning of 'The Brave New World Foundation' for education of underprivileged and willing children.

"I know the spirit in which you are naming it 'The Brave New World Foundation'. You are showing fortitude and saying there is a never give up spirit in you.

But that must not stop us from questioning that must not stop us from campaigning, and acting and confronting. Because we can't take it lying down anymore", said Arnab Goswami. Speaking about his new venture, Arnab Goswami informed the audience that Republic TV should start airing in two months. "I will in my way, I am promising you today, I am starting a new media and we will

actively work with you. I don't make false promises. When I go back, I will institutionalize this. So while we fight for what is wrong, we also work to repair the injustice that has been done to this wonderful family. I will remain connected to 'The Brave New World Foundation', through my journalism or whichever way we do, so that we can campaign on behalf of the people.

If we institutionalize the spirit of Alyosha, we will create many more like him," he said.

Alyosha lived a short life, which he lived to the fullest following his convictions, with utter honesty and showing compassion to his fellow beings.

His simplicity and positivity of outlook endeared him to those who came in touch with him whilst his brutal forthrightness quite often brought him into conflict with those in authority.

Ever since his birth, it was apparent that Alyosha was a special and exceptionally gifted child. He excelled in sports and academics with equal ease. He was also very perceptive of the human nature. His friends knew him to be a daring and brave boy, who



stood up against odds and injustices in life with dignity. In the wee hours of 30 Sep 2007, he was fatally stabbed at Bangalore whilst defending his friend from molestation. His parents, Cmde Arun Kumar, Ms Deepa and his paternal aunt Ms Prabha Rao have set up a public charitable trust 'The brave New World Foundation' as per Alyosha's desire, to help the disadvantaged sections of the society. Cmde Arun Kumar, AVSM, NM (Retd) said, "A Blaze...like a shooting star is the story of Alyosha Kumar, whose life was short lived like that of shooting star. In that short span, Alyosha blazed his unique trail of brilliance. As a classmate he said Alyosha Kumar was amongst a rare concoction of talent that combined a brilliant mind with fine sportsmanship. Even as a school kid most wondered how he managed to excel in so many fields.

Yet his most fine qualities were his uncompromising honesty and his faith in people. His Headmaster from Lawrence School thought Alyosha was too wise a head for so young a body and epitomised all that is brave about 'The Brave New

World".

The name Alyosha signifies 'Defender of Man' and true to it, Alyosha Kumar died defending the honour of his friend. In the country that he was born in 'Russia', a monument to 'Alyosha' stands in the city of Murmansk as the defending spirit of the Russian people in 'The Great Patriotic War (1940-45)'. In most ways, the story of Alyosha Kumar depicts that very spirit.

Alyosha's compassion for fellow beings was manifest in a will he wrote at the tender age of nine years wherein he foresaw with great equanimity and clarity his own end and expressed his desire wanting his monies to be used to start a charity forum to help the poor and the needy.

Even though short, Alyosha lived his life to the full doing in his way, uncompromising in his convictions and yet experiencing the full spectrum of human endeavour. He leaves behind a rich legacy which most falls short of even in a full lifetime.

"The book is published under the imprint Frontier India and the foreword has been written by Dev Lahiri, ex headmaster at the Lawrence school, Lovedale.

Abhijit Sarkar appointed as Vice President of Asian Hockey Federation

Udaipur : Basis an Executive Board Meeting held on 7 February 2017, the Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) has today confirmed the appointment of Mr. Abhijit Sarkar as it's new Vice President and also the Chairman of the AHF Commercial and TV Committee with immediate effect.

Mr. Abhijit Sarkar has been associated with the Sahara India Pariwar for last 23 years, where he led the group in promoting various sports in India by sponsoring both the Indian National Cricket Team as well as the Indian National Hockey Team. Mr. Sarkar has served as the Head of Corporate Communications, Corporate Affairs and Relations, and the Sports Division at Sahara India Pariwar. He is also the guardian of Sahara's Media business. His ability to form and execute strategies relating to the promotion of sports in India has played a major role in his appointment as the Vice President of AHF. Mr. Abhijit Sarkar has also been deeply involved in the development of Indian hockey in recent times, as under his leadership Sahara India bought the Uttar Pradesh Wizards' franchise in the Coal India Hockey India League. Earlier this year, Sahara had also renewed its sponsorship with Hockey India until 2021 which includes promoting both the men's and women's senior and junior teams. Sarkar's dedication towards the development of the sport, is one of the key reasons why he has been chosen to take up a position which would see him doing the same for the Asian subcontinent region as a whole. Speaking on the occasion, Mariamma Koshy President, Hockey India said, "I would like to congratulate Mr. Abhijit Sarkar for his well-deserved appointment as Vice President of the Asian Hockey Federation. I believe that it is a strong decision of the AHF as Mr. Sarkar's dedication and contribution to the sport has been immense. I am sure under his able leadership and with his rich experience, the Asian Hockey Federation will be able to achieve much success."

Mr. Abhijit Sarkar further said, "I am deeply honoured to be selected for this position at the Asian Hockey Federation. Over the years with my deep involvement in the development of the sport, I am keen to support all Asian hockey playing countries to achieve better success and make a mark in the world of hockey."

