



AAIP

ALUMNI AFFAIRS AND
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DELHI

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ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Giving Week 2020



For making donation kindly use this link:-
<https://iitd.almaconnect.com/donations/giving-week-2020-4>

The Institute is observing its "Giving Week" during March 16-23, 2020. The motto behind this is to come together to support the Institution, to which 'we owe a lot for what we are today', and to make a huge and significant impact leaving a legacy to be cherished forever. This 'Giving Week' will count considerably towards the show of strength in numbers for an Institute cause. The Institute wants the whole of the IITD alumni community to play a role towards contribution. Thus, no amount of contribution will be small and each "giving", when combined with thousands of others will go a long way in helping the Institute move towards its envisioned financial self-sustainability. This year we plan to have donations from at least 1000 alumni.



Ruby Reunion Batch - 1979

The alumni of 1979 batch celebrated their Ruby Reunion on 31st January 2020 - 1st February 2020. The event began with the talk on "Driving Digital Strategy" by Prof. Sunil Gupta on first day. On the second day an interaction meeting among Director, Dean (AAIP), other dignitaries of the Institute and alumni was held in the Seminar Hall. Sunil Agarwal, an eminent cartoonist, led a very interesting session where he discussed how he got the inspiration for his cartoons. Director, Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao briefed alumni about the recent developments in the Institute.



He also called out to the alumni to contribute to the recently launched IIT Delhi Endowment Fund. Prof. Sanjeev Sanghi, Dean (AAIP) thanked the alumni of the Batch of 1979 for contributing more than Rs 1 crore to the Institute as a part of the Reunion. The event provided an excellent stand for deep engagement and sharing of thoughts among Alumni and IIT Delhi officials. The event ended with a talk by Mr. Shanker Trivedi on "Artificial Intelligence" on next-generational transformation in India.



Annual International Students Dinner Organized by Dean, Alumni Affairs & International Programmes along with Dean, Student Affairs.

Alumni Affairs and International Programmes organised Annual International Students Dinner titled "Celebrating Global Culture, an Orchestra of Diversity." The dinner was hosted by Director Prof V Ramgopal Rao at Director's lawns on 27th February 2020. It witnessed 120+ attendees with more than 60 International Students coming from over 25 Countries. Everyone dressed up in their traditional wear to give the ethnic vibe to celebrate the Global Culture.



With the arrival of the international students, all of them pinned their respective countries on the world map, the event began with the Director addressing the gathering. He talked about the diversity on the campus and Institute's vision on Globalization. Prof Ramgopal Rao asked International Students to be an ambassador of their respective country and requested each international student to further motivate at least two international students to come here. It was followed by a speech by Dean AAIP IITD, Prof Sanjeev Sanghi addressing the audience about the initiatives and innovations being undertaken by IIT Delhi. It was followed by a performance from the Music Club of IIT Delhi. The event included international students' dance, vocal, recitation performances and painting showcases.



New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister Endorses Strengthened Education Ties with India

On 26th February 2020, Mr Winston Peters, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, New Zealand officially endorsed the New Zealand Centre at IIT Delhi and recognised the growing research connections between the New Zealand universities and IIT Delhi. Earlier this month a delegation of New Zealand university academia collaborated with the Indian institution to announce the New Zealand Centre at IITD to strengthen New Zealand's education ties with India. Speaking at the occasion, Prof Sanjeev Sanghi, Dean, AAIP said: "This visit cements the new agreement which IIT Delhi has signed with the universities of New Zealand. Many more collaborative visits, joint seminars, joint projects are expected in the near future." The Centre will host visiting researchers and academicians, act as a forum for diplomatic and trade dialogue among different sectors, and support student mobility.



IIT Delhi and NIT Agartala Sign MoU for Early Admissions of B.Tech students to PhD in IITD

The MoU was signed by Prof V. Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT Delhi and Prof H. K. Sharma, Director, NIT Agartala.

The MoU will provide an opportunity to NIT Agartala students, who are currently pursuing Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech) and Dual Degree (Integrated B.Tech. and M.Tech.), to explore the option of semester-long internship (project) and undertake courses in IIT Delhi and be considered for direct admission to the PhD programme at IIT Delhi without the need to qualify GATE or any other national level examination, provided they maintain a CGPA of 8.00 or higher after their 6th semester of study (8th semester for Dual Degree students).



SATHI—Sharing Research Infrastructure

To boost the research ecosystem, IIT Delhi is set up to house high-end analytical, processing, characterization and manufacturing instruments-SATHI - Sophisticated Analytical and Technical Help Institutes. It aims at generating new information by participating in cutting-edge research and fostering academic development by providing state-of-the-art undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programs, defining the fields of specialization that the institute should concentrate on, and pursuing collaborative projects that offer opportunities for long-term academic and industrial interaction. Prof Pankaj Srivastava, Head of SATHI at IIT Delhi said that all the facilities procured through SATHI scheme will be housed in the Sonipat extension campus of IIT Delhi. Other facilities already established under Central Research Facility (CRF) and Nanoscale Research Facility (NRF) in IIT Delhi Hauz Khas and Sonipat campuses will also be available to the users of SATHI facilities. These facilities will boost the research eco-system and academia-industry interaction of this region in particular and of the country in general. IIT Delhi's SATHI centre will provide production, testing and advanced analytical equipment, as well as providing expert advice, mentoring to assist and promote entrepreneurship, small and medium-sized companies towards creativity, prototype creation and product development.

SATHI : Sharing Research Infrastructure



Franco-German partnership in the 21st century: Opportunities for India

On 17th February, the Ambassadors of Germany and France to India addressed students of IIT Delhi at the grand event "Franco-German partnership in the 21st century: Opportunities for India". Prof Sanjeev Sanghi, Dean AAIP IITD began the event by praising DAAD and campus France for their efforts that have enabled a significant number of students to come to IIT Delhi. The foreign exchange program of IIT Delhi facilitates the significant number of students from the countries France and Germany. The scholarships encourage international mobility, manage alumni network and programmes, and promote the exchange of experience and networking amongst global colleagues. He then invited His Excellency Emmanuel Lenain, Ambassador of France to India and His Excellency Walter J Lindner, Ambassador of Germany to India, to address the students gathered to hear from them. They talked about opportunities provided by Franco-German institutions such as sufficient financial aid to students, the excellent institutions in Europe and how the language barrier which existed in the past is gradually being erased as English is being employed as the medium of instruction

IIT Delhi to start MSc Economics, Cognitive Science from July 2020

(IIT Delhi) is launching two new programmes under its Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) department - MSc Cognitive Science and MSc Economics. The postgraduate programmes will launch in July 2020. The two full-time two-year courses will have 25 seats each. Admission to economics programme will be made through an entrance test to be conducted by the institute, which will consist of a written test and an interview while that for cognitive science will be through COGJET (Cognitive Science Joint Entrance Test), an entrance test conducted by IIT Kanpur and some more institutions. The institute will select students through COGJET, which will be followed by an interview.

Faculty Awards & Academic Positions

Prof. Saptarshi Mukherjee, Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, has received the Award in Quantitative Social Sciences category from Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), DST, Government of India. Prof. Sreedevi Upadhyayula, Department of Chemical Engineering, has been awarded "Innovation Award 2018-19" for "K-Model: Quick and Accurate Prediction of Crude Oil Blend Compatibility and Blend Optimization of N-Number of Crude Oils" from Secretary, Government of India, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas. Prof. Shashank Deep, Department of Chemistry has been elected as "Fellow of Royal Society of Chemistry" (FRSC).

Prof. Shalini Gupta, Department of Chemical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology IIT Delhi, received National Award for Young Women Showing Excellence through Application of Technology for Societal Benefits as she led the development of a technology Septiflo™.



International CoE on Computational and Biomedical Sciences to be set up at IITD

IIT Delhi has agreed with Open Health Systems Laboratory (OHSL), the USA to set up an International Centre of Excellence (CoE) on Computational and Biomedical Sciences with initial funding of Rs 10 Cr from the OHSL. The MoU was signed by Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao, Director, IITD and Mr Anil Srivastava, President, OHSL, the USA on 09th February 2020. The objective is to build a global team science consortium by leveraging the best of biomedical informatics to address critical questions of biomedical sciences. The major areas that will be addressed are an integration of Ayurveda and Western medical sciences for cancer biology and therapy; reconfigurable computing, systems biology approaches for cancer, drug development and discovery etc. The CoE is being set up on the above areas at IIT Delhi, to bring together excellence in knowledge and expertise for the advancement of cutting edge scientific research.

Punjab Police Traffic Wing to work with IIT Delhi

Punjab Police traffic wing in collaboration with IIT Delhi would implement the United Nations transport and environment-related Sustainable Development Goals in the State. This initiative was commenced on the request of ADGP (Traffic), Sharad S. Chauhan under which traffic wing of Punjab Police to collaborate with TRIPP, IIT Delhi in the areas of Traffic and Road Safety. IIT Delhi will adopt three cities mainly S.A.S. Nagar Mohali, Hoshiarpur and Bathinda in Punjab for development of a traffic and road safety blueprint in association with the International Association of Traffic Safety and Sciences of Japan.

IIT Delhi, UiT The Arctic University of Norway sign MoU

Recognising the mutual benefits to be gained through a cooperative programme promoting scholarly activities and international understanding, UiT The Arctic University of Norway and IIT Delhi signed an MoU on 04th February 2020. The two institutions also agreed to contribute to the development of the Universities curricula; exchange of research, teaching, technical and administrative staff; exchange of students and PhD candidate and the exchange of publications and other materials of common interest. Prof Joby Joseph, Dept. of Physics will be the Coordinator from IIT Delhi to manage the development and conduct of the joint activities under the MoU.



International CoE on Computational and Biomedical Sciences to be set up at IITD



Nano 2020: An Industry-Academia Interaction organised at IIT Delhi

In the run-up to the 11th edition of 'BENGALURU INDIA NANO 2020', India's biggest nanotechnology event to be held on 2nd & 3rd March, 'Nano 2020: An Industry-Academia Interaction' was organised at IIT Delhi on 05th February. It was inaugurated by Prof V. Ramgopal Rao, Director, IITD. The interaction brought forth industry advancements and relevant research in the nanotechnology space, while fostering a business environment for growth and networking in the sector. On this occasion, Prof Neeraj Khare, Dept of Physics, and Head of the Nanoscale Research Facility at IIT Delhi briefed the participants about the features of the unique facility the institute is having. In the conference, industry representatives like Mr Sathyadeep Viswanathan, Lead Member of Technical Staff, Bigtec Labs; Dr Samik Hait, Chief Research Manager, IOCL; Dr Ashwini K Aggrawal, Director, Govt Affairs, Applied Materials India Pvt Ltd; Dr Sumitesh Das, Chief of Graphene Business, Tata Steel were present who interacted with the academia.



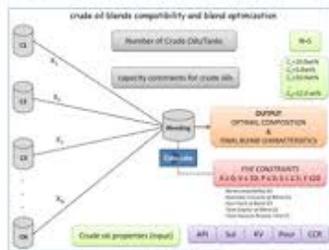
IITs Showcases Clean Air Technologies at IIT Delhi Exhibition

The exhibition on clean air technologies organized by the Center of Excellence for Clean Air Research at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi was inaugurated by Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development Shri Sanjay Dhotre on 25 Feb 2020. Clean air technologies developed by IIT Bombay, IIT Ropar, IIT Dhanbad and IIT Delhi were showcased at the event.

IIT Delhi highlighted the work it had done in the field of clean air through IIT Delhi incubated start-ups namely Aerogram and Kriya Labs. He said the government is completely committed to fighting the country's rising air pollution levels and is taking all possible measures to raise awareness of clear air issues and provide every possible support for the country's development and promotion of clean air technologies. Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT Delhi appreciated the efforts that the young scientists are making to build prototypes for tracking and regulating air pollution. The water used upon the IITD campus is now being used for gardening purposes and other uses that contribute to zero waste. He said that IIT Delhi strives to become a zero-waste campus, meaning no wastes will be sent from the IIT Delhi campus to the dumping site. Household waste is used to fuel vehicles based on biogas. Three MW of electricity is generated at the campus from solar panels on the rooftop. IIT Delhi will lead the way in showing the path to zero waste campus which is expected to follow by other Institutions.



Research@IITD Model for Prediction of Crude Oil Blend Compatibility and Blend Optimization for increasing heavy oil processing



Model for Prediction of Crude Oil Blend Compatibility and Blend Optimization for increasing heavy oil processing

Researchers at IIT Delhi have developed a model for predicting compatibility of crude oil blends in collaboration with BPCL R&D, Greater Noida and blend optimization for increasing heavy oil processing. Professor Sreedevi Upadhyayula from the Department of Chemical Engineering and the author of the study IITD was recently awarded the "Innovation Award 2018-19" by the Secretary, Government of India, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for the "K-Model: Fast and Accurate Prediction of Crude Oil Blend Compatibility and Blend Optimization of N-Number of Crude Oils"

Advanced Equipment for Environmental Soil Sampling: Field demonstration Workshop at IITD



Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi has procured state-of-the-art equipment capable of providing continuous core soil samples without cross-contamination used in characterizing environmental sites through a research project funded by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change. This equipment is first of its kind in India and is usually used for characterization of high-resolution sites. This type of equipment is widely used in the industry to identify polluted sites at sites. It is lightweight and highly mobile, enabling service in difficult terrain. Another innovative feature of this equipment is collecting soil samples either at a specified depth as continuous cores or at discrete depths as per project requirement. It can collect soil samples, pore/groundwater samples, or soil-gas samples and the findings are used for environmental risk assessment and remedial design of polluted soil sites. Field demonstration of the equipment was demonstrated at IIT Delhi at Geoenvironment-2020 from 17th to 19th Feb 2020.

Developing Antimicrobial Water Containers

Nanosafe Solutions is a start-up based on technology that focuses on imparting innovative features from nanotechnology to polymer and material systems. The current work focuses on the creation and manufacture of antimicrobial water containers and bottles which use nano-copper technology to help keep stored water safe from microbes for up to 10 days. It is ideal for disadvantaged people who need to walk a 30 min round trip to get their supply and have to store water for extended periods. The bottles of antimicrobials are intended for use in households, workplaces, hospitals, and schools. The project has won the prestigious Biotechnology Ignition Scheme (BIG) grant to show proof of concept with seed funding funded by BIRAC, DBT, Gov. It is the first grade of polymer nanocomposite which will be sold in India. Dr Anasuya Roy developed the antimicrobial technology as part of her doctoral research program at IIT Delhi with National Award winner in polymer nanocomposites Prof. Mangala Joshi as PhD supervisor who is also the startup's co-founder. Other members of the team include Shubham Agnihotri: Executive Operations & Mr Rahul Sahu: Technical Assistant. Their vision is to develop their manufacturing plant, equipped with production machines by 2024. Currently, micro and small-scale industry partners outsource the production.



INTERNATIONAL DELEGATIONS AT IIT DELHI



International Delegations Received at IIT Delhi

- A. A 2 members delegation from Nagoya University visited IIT Delhi; 03 February 2020.
- B. A group of 15 members from The University of Auckland visited IIT Delhi; 10-11 February 2020.
- C. A 2 members delegation from Kyoto University visited IIT Delhi; 11 February 2020.
- D. Mr. Jean-Francois Dutrey from Campus France Agency, Paris visited IIT Delhi; 13 February 2020.
- E. Mr. Yan Xiad, CEO ZTE India visited IIT Delhi; 19 February 2020
- F. A 2 member delegation from IMT Atlantique visited IIT Delhi; 21 February 2020.



IITD Alumnus Elected Member of National Academy of Engineering, USA

1987 Batch IIT Delhi alumnus Dr Amarpreet Sawhney (M.S. ChE 1989, PhD ChE 1992) has been elected a Member of the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) in recognition of his distinguished contributions to engineering.

Dr Sawhney was recognized for the development of innovative medical devices that have impacted millions of patients. He is the Founder, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Instylla Inc. and Executive Chairman of Ocular Therapeutix, Inc.

IIT Delhi Alumnus Vinay Chhabra Appointed CEO of Real Time Data Services

Vinay Chhabra has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer by Real Time Data Services Pvt. Ltd. (RTDS). RTDS is a company responsible for providing advanced IT solutions in the field of communication, accounting, and cloud computing to customers. In his new role, Chhabra will identify and address challenges, scout opportunities, and strive to build alliances and partnerships. He will be responsible for working with senior stakeholders of RTDS, business heads, and other executives. He will also be working closely with RTDS's executive board to determine the company's values and mission and, alongside the board, set the company's long and short-term goals. Chhabra, a graduate in Industrial Engineering (B.Tech/M. Tech) from the prestigious IIT-Delhi, has held prestigious positions like Chief Commissioner of Central Excise and Customs, Chief Controller of Govt. Opium and Alkaloid Factories, and Principle Director-General of GST in the Indian Revenue Service.

Digital Vidya Acquires Delhi School of Internet Marketing

Digital Vidya, a provider of training solutions for digital marketing, has acquired Delhi School of Internet Marketing (DSIM) to expand its presence in India.

The all-cash acquisition will help Digital Vidya expand in major cities via offline channels, CEO Anuj Batra said in a statement. It also complements Digital Vidya's core strength in providing training programmes via online channels, he said.

Digital Vidya, operated by Engaging Ideas Pvt. Ltd, was started by IIT-Delhi alumni and serial entrepreneurs Pradeep Chopra and Kapil Nakra in 2009. The marketing training solutions provider says it also offers training modules for corporations and says it has worked with companies such as Adobe, Wipro, Sony, SAP and Viacom 18.



Chaayos Raises \$21.5 Mn Series B to Expand Store Network

The food chain has raised a mix of equity and debt from new and existing investors. InnoVen Capital has invested \$3 Mn through venture debt in this round. Chaayos was founded in 2012 by Nitin Saluja and Raghav Verma (Btech Chemical Engg, batch 2010). Food chain Chaayos has raised \$21.5 Mn in a mix of equity and debt in its Series B funding round. Sunshine Teahouse, which runs Chaayos, secured \$18.5 Mn in equity funding from San Francisco-based investment firm Think Investments and other investors, and it also received \$3 Mn in the form of venture debt from InnoVen Capital.

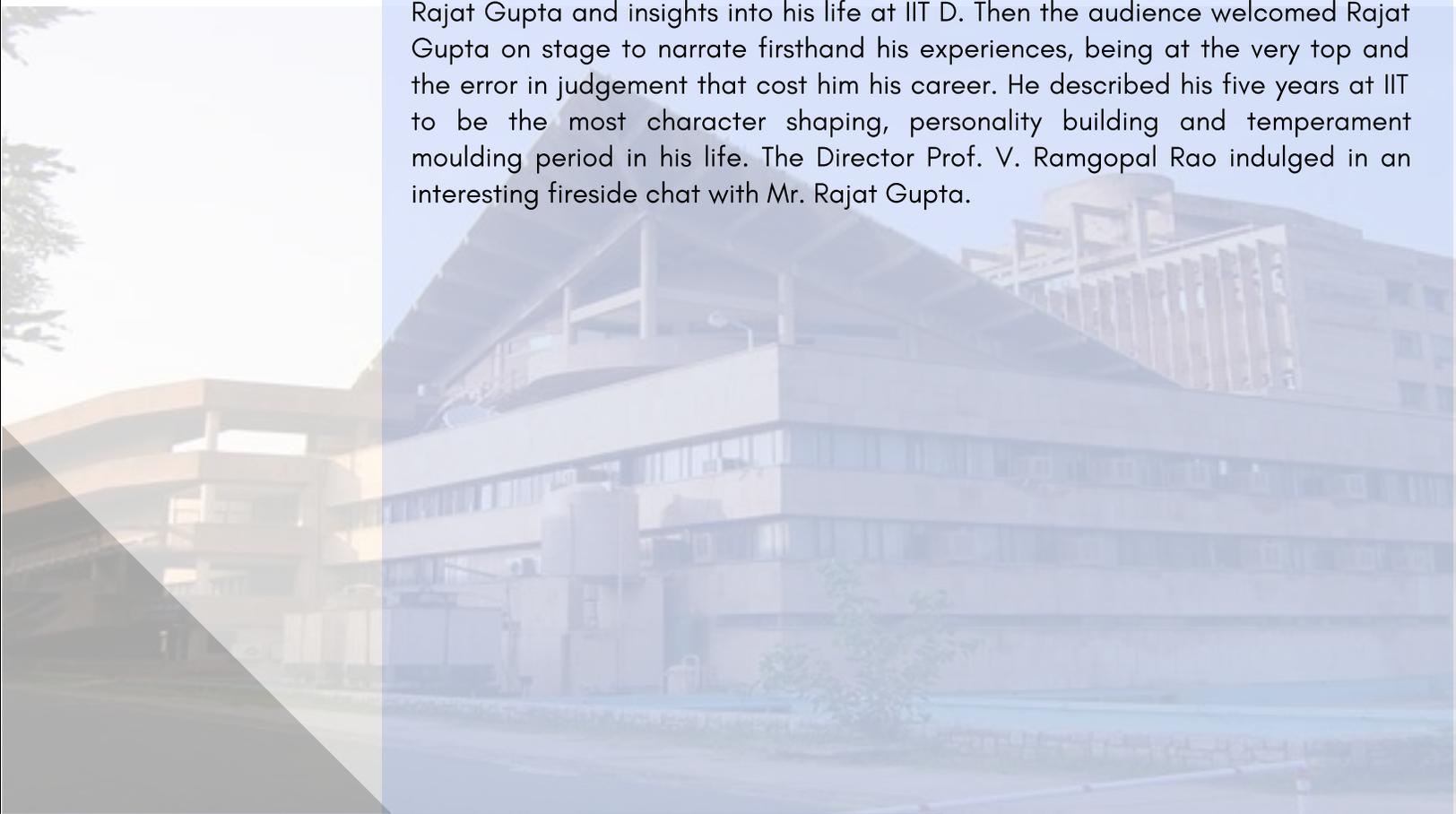


Fireside Chat with Rajat Gupta

On 10th February, AAIP IIT Delhi organised a fireside chat with Rajat Gupta moderated by Director IITD Prof V Ramgopal Rao. Rajat Gupta was the global head of McKinsey and Co. He was a part of the board of directors for multiple high-profile companies such as Goldman Sachs, P&G, AA, etc. Rajat Gupta established ISB as a breakthrough for management studies in India and PHFI (Public Health Foundation of India). Rajat Gupta was recognized by the Economic Times Corporate Excellence Award as the Global Indian of the Year in 2007. In 2005, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan appointed Rajat Gupta as a special assistant for Management Reform.



Prof. R.C. Malhotra, former Professor, Mechanical Dept, IIT Delhi, former head of IDDC, and former director of IIT Kanpur, gave a heartwarming introduction to Rajat Gupta and insights into his life at IIT D. Then the audience welcomed Rajat Gupta on stage to narrate firsthand his experiences, being at the very top and the error in judgement that cost him his career. He described his five years at IIT to be the most character shaping, personality building and temperament moulding period in his life. The Director Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao indulged in an interesting fireside chat with Mr. Rajat Gupta.



GIVE BACK TO IIT DELHI

(February 2020)

RUBY REUNION(1979 Batch)

Rs 1.08 Crores

Silver Jubilee 1993 Batch (Mr Nilesh Jain)

Rs 50 Thousand

Hi Tech Distinguished Chair: INR 14.64 Lakhs

ZTE Telecom India Scholarship: INR 12 Lakhs

Aditya Birla Scholarship: INR 2 Lakhs

Global Alumni Endowment Fund (Mr Pushpendra

Mohta): INR 1.05 Lakhs

Miscellaneous Donations: INR 1.11 Lakhs