



ALMA MATTERS

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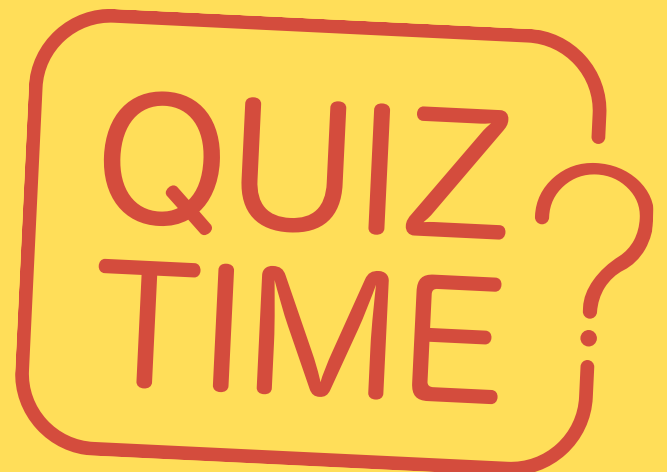
AA DASHBOARD

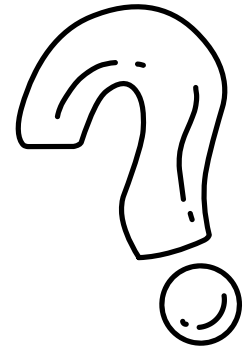
Number of members	1691 <small>(As on August, 2024)</small>
Total Alumni Count <small>(approx.)</small>	2100
Number of Batches	34
LinkedIn Followers	1056
X(Twitter) Followers	276
Instagram Followers	640
Facebook (IIFM Alumni Endowment Fund) members	730





QUIZ OF THE MONTH



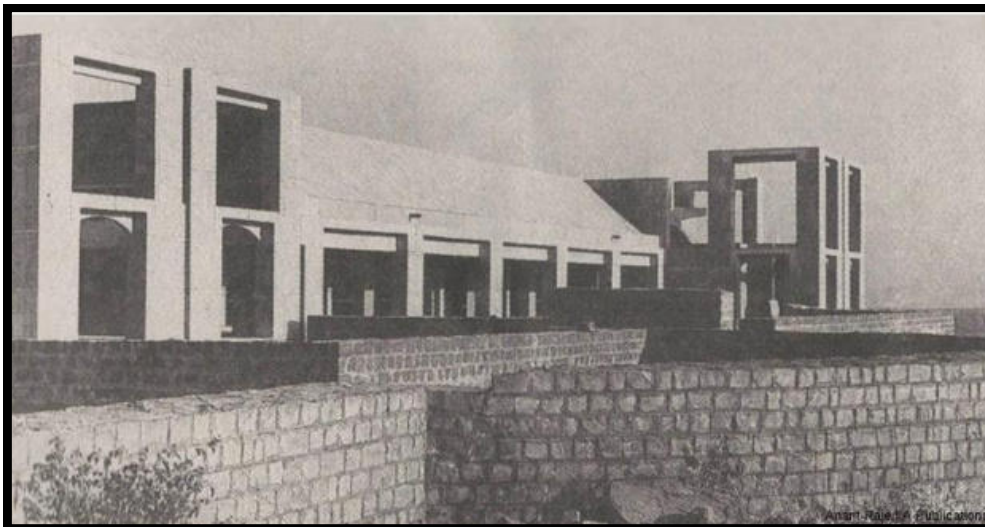


QUESTION FOR AUGUST:

"How CAFE Kurseong is related to IIFM?"



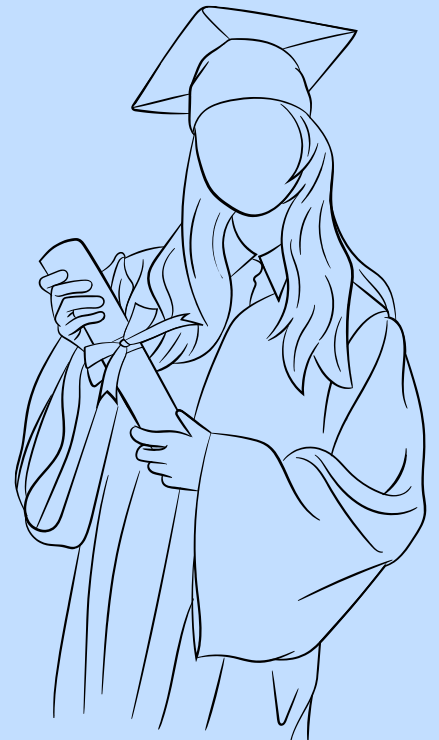
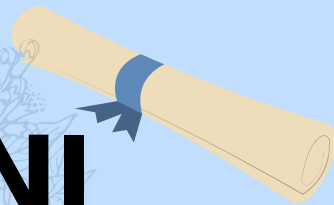
Previous edition question: Can you recognize the place in the picture below?



Answer to the Quiz question of July:
IIFM Mess



ALUMNI IN NEWS





Bharati Joshi, Interim Chief Executive Officer–Grameen Foundation for Social Impact (PFM 1996–98)

Grameen Foundation brings innovation in Digital Finance. They work for farmers', entrepreneurs's requirement regarding which type of knowledge, which type of inputs, which type of technical education or market linkages are required. For Financial Inclusion in rural India they work on Business Correspondence Model for which they mobilise Human Resources from the villages. Through Business Correspondence they support for financial transaction, training on climate change etc. through mobile phone.

Grameen Foundation works with entrepreneurs, Farmer Producer Organisation (FPOs) in rural area and their presence is lacking on digital platforms. How to bridge this gap is the question, presence of someone is required to bridge this gap. For this Grameen Foundation is now connected with ONDC (Open Network for Digital Commerce) network so as to help rural entrepreneurs and FPOs to be able to market their products to the urban customers.

COMMUNITY WATER CONSERVATION



Village women are all smiles as they enjoy the benefits of water points in their homes and public institutions, when across their daily commute to obtain the resource.

GROW WITH THE FLOW!

Water For People India Trust aims to provide clean and safe access to water to as many people as possible. Applying a sustainable and collaborative approach, it is their goal to ensure every single drop of H2O counts.

By RHEA MULANI

IT ALL STARTED IN THE YEAR 1996 with the aim to tackle arsenic contamination in the water bodies of Nadia, West Bengal. After establishing multiple effective partnerships with district and block officials, gram (village) panchayats, and more, a locally registered NGO called Water For People India Trust was established in 2008. Today, the organisation relies on collaborative efforts to meet its objectives, working with local authorities and foundations along the way. Keen to ensure long-term, sustainable results, the NGO adopted the 'Everyone Forever' model in 2011, with a motto as clear as water—'Everyone' has water that lasts 'Forever'. The trust also adheres to the guidelines of the WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) programme, originally initiated by the World Health Organisation, which involves providing equal access to clean drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene services to one and all. Let us explore how the trust is achieving its noble goals.

MAKING WAVES
The team has designed and implemented programmes across West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Assam to uplift water-deprived regions across the country. "We train local community members as local entrepreneurs and service providers, who we call *jalandhas* or 'water friends', to offer water and sanitation services. They are either accountable to the panchayat or operate on a fee-based model through Points of Purchase (PoPs)," reveals Bishwadeep Ghose, Country Director at Water For People India Trust. As of 2022, the Trust's efforts across Bihar, West Bengal, and Maharashtra have resulted in intermediate or high levels of water access for 2.6 million people living in 71 blocks across 28 districts. Additionally, nearly 3,100 community water points, including new or renovated hand pumps and piped water supply systems, have been installed, alongside water and sanitation facilities in 1,700 public institutions in the above states. With a razor-sharp focus on their initiatives, the organisation also offers families access to skilled

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COMMUNITY WATER CONSERVATION



School children drink clean water from a tap set up by Water For People India Trust.

Villagers and volunteers participate in artistic behaviour change communication activities in Bamnaha village of Birbhum district, West Bengal.

Contractors repair a water pump in South 24 Parganas district, West Bengal.

contractors and waste-management solutions, including menstrual waste management, to build self-reliant communities. "We facilitate access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities in schools, enabling students to stay in school by providing facilities for menstrual hygiene management (MHM)," shares Ghose.

BRIDGING GAPS
Further, in a creative bid to connect with society more effectively, the Trust partnered with artists in West Bengal's Rajnagar and Khoyrasol CD blocks. This group includes traditional singers known as the 'Bauls', folk dancers, magicians, puppeteers, street performers, and drum players. The aim was to highlight the importance of the WASH programme within the community through plays called *jatras*, local art, and culture. The engaging performances educated onlookers on water handling, environmental cleaning, use of toilets every day, hand washing with soap, menstrual hygiene management, and more. These initiatives have proven to be conduits for these artists to earn as well, thus creating a win-win situation.

Another ambitious project in West Bengal's Digambarpur village involved infrastructural improvements to ensure access to clean water in a region mainly characterised by low-lying, marshy lands. Initially, the area had only one hand-pump, located at a fair distance. Just fetching water took at least one hour of their day, every day. However, the NGO set up a ground water-fed storage tank, linked to a piped water supply scheme with the first-ever metering system at household level. Initially, 375 families benefited, and soon, the remaining households of the village did, too. This project earned the Digambarpur gram panchayat the Best Performing Gram Panchayat Award by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MOPR), Government of India. Now, that's a win to be proud of!

A DROP SAVED IS A DROP EARNED
But Water For People India Trust doesn't want to simply rest on past laurels. To ensure continued progress in the sphere of water conservation, the organisation has formulated a plan called Destination 2030. "We will strengthen country systems that provide improved WASH services for 200 million people and use direct implementation to improve services for 20 million people by 2030," shares Ghose. They plan to achieve this by partnering with districts, governments, and civil societies to co-finance the implementation of water resource management and completion of WASH infrastructure for communities, families, schools, and clinics in 150 partner areas.

By 2030, the organisation aims to evolve into a leading water, sanitation, and hygiene non-profit that's recognised internationally for its water and sanitation systems. They plan to achieve this through consultancy, innovation, and entrepreneurship. With many years' worth of experience backing them, Water For People India Trust recognises the need to exponentially scale up its work in order to achieve the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goal 6: clean water and sanitation for all. And we wish them the very best!

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Bishwadeep Ghosh (PFM 1994–96), Country Director Water for People India Trust in the Vistara's in-flight magazine, Vol. 10 Issue 7.

ORGANISER
APAC NEWS NETWORK

HOST PARTNER
Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Water Resources,
River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation

SUPPORTING PARTNERS
NARMADI GANGE
NARMADI WATER BOARD

10th ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT CONCLAVE

Leveraging Technology for Effective Water Management

12th July, 2024 - New Delhi

Key Speaker



Bishwadeep Ghose
Country Director
Water for People
India

www.apacnewsnetwork.com @APAC News Network

Bishwadeep Ghose (PFM-1994-96), Country Director Water For People, India was chosen as a Key Speaker at 10th Annual Sustainable Water Management Conclave hosted by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India and organised by APAC News Network on 12th July in New Delhi.





Ramesh Mukalla (PFM 1989–91), Senior Water & Sanitation Specialist and his colleagues from the World Bank had a fruitful meeting with N Chandrababu Naidu (Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh). The Chief Minister requested for their help in completion of pending irrigation projects, river basin planning, dam safety, flood management for longer-term water security, water supply and sanitation in rural areas. The team responded positively to my requests. Looking forward to strengthen our water management capacity with their help.



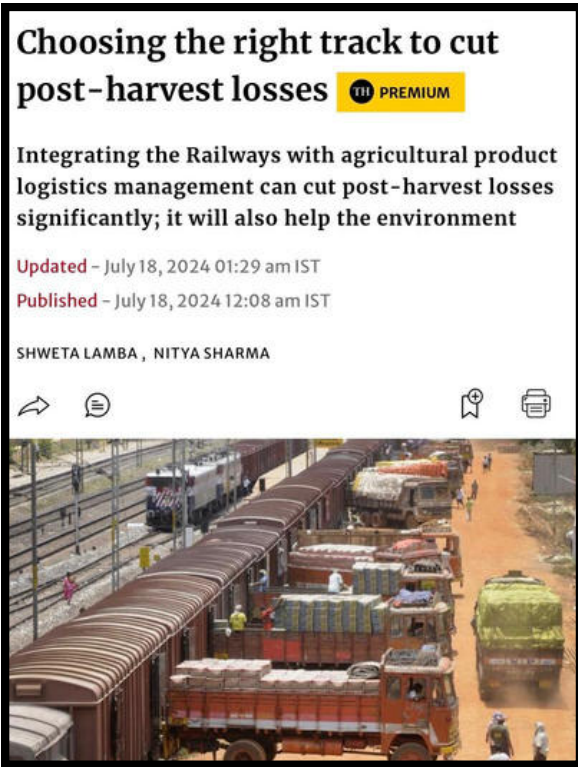
Ashutosh Sengar (PFM 2012–14) appointed Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Govt of India as Junior Standing Counsel. DRI (Directorate of Revenue Intelligence) is the Premier Intelligence & Enforcement Agency of Govt of India on Anti-Smuggling matters.



Dr Ajith Chandran (PFM 1991-93) has been selected as the New Chair of the Clean Water & Sanitation Working Group for the newly reinvented IET Future Tech Panel.



Chhattisgarh SRLM got 2 Gold Awards at SKOCH. **Alice Lakra (PFM 1997-99)** received the Awards. She is the COO (Chief Operating Officer) for SRLM Chhattisgarh State Rural Livelihood Mission.



'Choosing the right track to cut post-harvest losses'- Article by **Shweta Lamba (PFM 2016-18)**
<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/choosing-the-right-track-to-cut-post-harvest-losses/article68415099.eceodytext>



Prof R Shrinivasan (PFM 1991-93) as a guest in this new podcast released
<https://open.spotify.com/episode/5Gfrgf0YuZCg5La1011W0o?si=94fa68ef0f024433>



Indrajit Chaudhuri (PFM 2000-2002)





“तुमको ना भूल पायेंगे”



Kapil Singh (PFM 2020-22), Polycab-Noida, met with an accident.

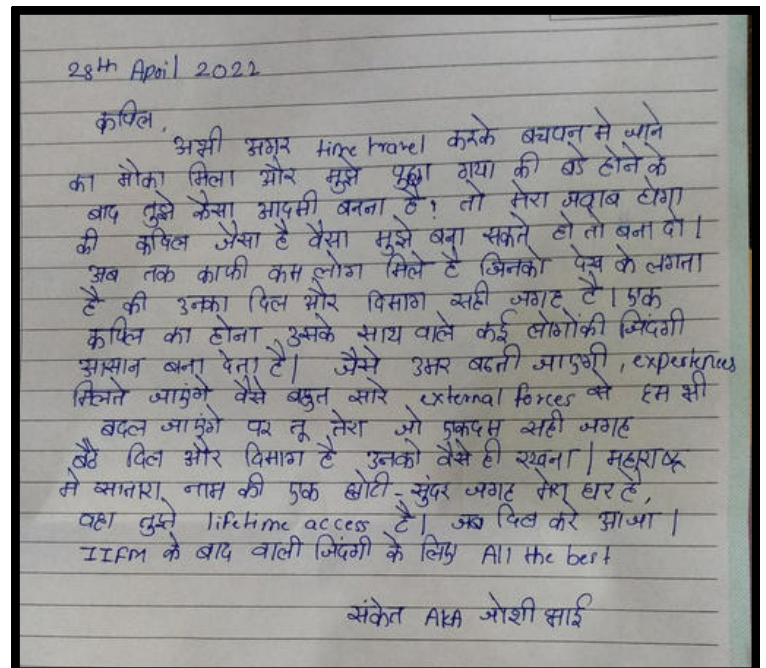
“Kapil was a very good person. I remember he was very confident and cheerful. He would try to bring up the confidence and spirits of those with whom he interacted with. He taught many batchmates financial ratios during the placement time. He loved sports and I still remember his backhand slice in badminton. It was one of the most beautiful shots I have seen.”

-Arabinda Panda (PFM 2020-22)

“It has been a very difficult week since the news came out and most of us are still unable to articulate what we are feeling.

Here is the letter I had written to Kapil while leaving the campus. I had tried to convey the cumulative impact Kapil had on me while roaming around the campus, chatting in the common room, planning the water park trip and most importantly playing cricket together!”

-Sanket Joshi (PFM2020-22)





Coimbatore Reunion

L to R: Alisha Seth (PGDFM 21-23), Aditya Sengar (PGDFM 22-24), Dr. K. Ravichandran (Director-IIFM), Derick Suraj (PGDFM 22-24), Vinati Sirkeck (PGDFM 22-24)



Expressions from **Ravi Gupta (PFM 1989-91)**: "Met the super entrepreneur Vineet Rai (PFM 1992-94) at Qutub Golf Club in Delhi. Has heard about him so much but knowing his remarkable journey was very exciting!"

What's in a meeting?

"Our network is our net worth!" – This mantra was ingrained in us from day one at IIFM. Slowly, we began hearing about alumni meets and chapter meets. We learned that every year, first-year students organize chapter meets for alumni in the cities where they intern. These events offer a chance to network and also to savor delectable meals at various restaurants or hotels. When you think about it, it seems like a golden opportunity. Sadly, COVID robbed my friends and me of this experience – we had to do our internships from home.

During my time at IIFM, I heard countless stories about these alumni meetings – some inspiring, some less so. Some said these gatherings were incredibly dull. Others wondered why bother attending when you could just meet your friends outside. They argued that you'd end up sitting with your friends anyway, not talking much to the hundred other strangers. This logic seemed sound back then.

After graduating, I attended several alumni meets, especially in my city. Traveling to other cities for these events felt beyond my ambivert nature. Yet, in these chapter meets, I've played many roles – an attendee, an organizer, a host, someone assisting another organizer, and sometimes just an observer, watching people, their conversations, and the atmosphere.

At my first chapter meet post-graduation, I met one of the co-founders of my company. I approached him, introduced myself, and mentioned that I worked in his office. He was silent for a few seconds before saying, "Really? We haven't met at the office, but it's nice to meet you." I might have embarrassed him a bit. Surprisingly, at that same meeting, two senior alumni offered me new job opportunities! I wasn't sure what they saw in me in those ten minutes, but I thought, "Wow! These alumni meets are amazing! People call them boring for no reason!" Though the offers came, I hesitated – the companies were good, but the packages didn't seem enticing enough. Fresh into the corporate world, the allure of money was still strong.

Over time, each meeting brought new experiences and lessons. For us new graduates, there were two selfish reasons to attend these meetings:

first, to see what they were all about, and second, to network, hoping some senior might be helpful one day. Many attend, unhappy with their jobs, seeking new offers or connections in other companies.

Of course, people also come to reunite with their batchmates and friends. Many veterans attend just to see their old friends. I've heard people exclaim, "It's so good to see you after 15 years, my friend! Come, give me a hug!" Then they set up a lively gathering, sharing stories from their time, making everyone laugh with tales of their campus antics, internship adventures, which professors they used to trouble, who is where and doing what, and even old love stories.

Speaking of love stories, some IIFM couples announce their marriages at these meets, while some heartbroken individuals remember past relationships seeing their exes.

Meetings end with many promises – "We'll meet again, we'll meet soon, we'll stay in touch, I'll get back to you," etc. I don't know how many of these promises are kept, but the way people hug each other after ages, looking into each other's eyes, reminiscing about their youthful campus days – the happiness they feel is indescribable. In just a few moments, emotions like happiness, sadness, nostalgia, and excitement swirl in their hearts and in the small meeting hall or venue.

Sometimes, it feels quite sad when people don't show up despite promising to come. Some wait for their campus friends who never arrive, while others don't appreciate the efforts of the organizers. Organizers endure a lot – setting dates, gathering people, creating interest, arranging venues, collecting contributions, checking all arrangements, and whatnot! And when people don't come or the food gets wasted – it's unbearable for us in the development sector. Perhaps Delhi chapter leader Rishi can describe this pain well. Anyway, these things happen – such small things are common in big cities, Seniorita!

All that I can say is, these meetings can sometimes seem boring, but if you look for it, you'll find both gossip and entertainment!

What's in a meeting is for you to answer – a job opportunity, a lost friend, a love story, or a sight to behold and memories to create!

- Anonymous

'IIFMIGHT in Focus' Team

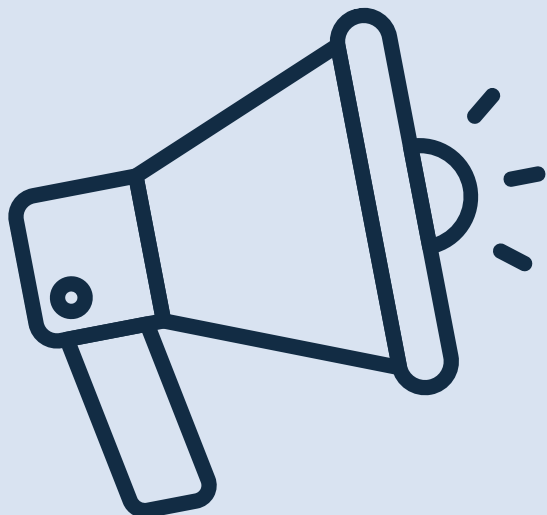


Santosh K Singh (PFM 2004-06), Rishi Prakash (PFM 2005-07), Sreyamsa Bairiganjan (PFM 2006-08), Rajnish K Singh (PFM 2019-21), Christi Kesh (PFM 2019-21), Nikita Loharuka (PFM 2020-22), Ayushi Dwivedi (PFM 2021-23), Rishabh Chaturvedi (PFM 2021-23), Kamalpreet Kaur Dhawan (PFM 2022-24), Khyati Patwa (PFM 2022-24), Gokul Gopal Iyer (PFM 2022-24), Shri Sankari VM (PFM 2022-24).

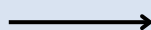
“We are lucky to get support from our wonderful alumni world which has enabled us to continue this Sunday series week after week from July 2020. We just completed 4 years :)”

Every Sunday is like a celebration of IIFM's success while we read such amazing journey of IIFM'ites, so thanks again to 200+ alumni who agreed to take out time and share their stories which is also helping IIFM's brand building slowly in its own way apart from connecting all of US”

-By **Rishi Prakash (PFM 2005-07) and Team**



IIFM IN NEWS





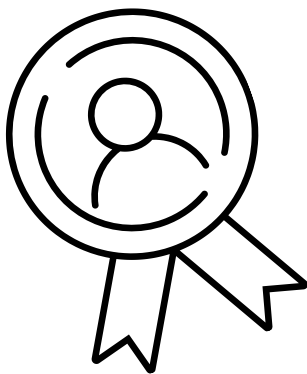
Stripes Play: IIFM Celebrates International Tiger Day

On July 29, 2024, the IIFM and the Madhya Pradesh Tiger Foundation Society (MPTFS) celebrated International Tiger Day with a powerful street play, 'Daastan-e-Baagh,' performed by the Dramatics Club 'Pratibimb' at DB Mall. A team of 22 enthusiastic students, including 12 talented actors, highlighted tiger conservation issues, drawing a large crowd, including forest department officials. Special thanks to Dr. Yogesh Dubey, Dr. Advait Edgaonkar, Mr. Surendra Khare (Senior Manager, MPTFS), Mr. Nikhil Prajapati (Project Coordinator, MPTFS, IIFM alumnus), and the DB Mall management for their support.



ALUM OF THE MONTH





ALUM OF THE MONTH

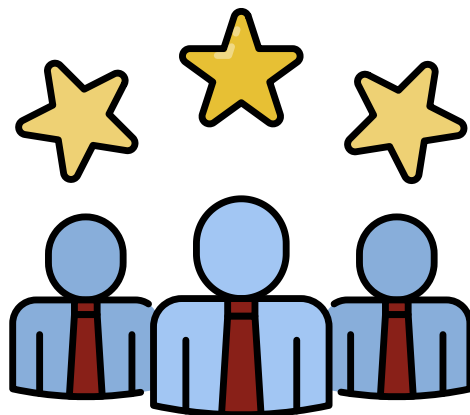
JULY 2024

This certificate recognises the contribution of
ADVAIT EDGAONKAR (PFM 91-93)



The Alumni Association of IIFM feels privileged to announce Advait Edgaonkar, PFM 1993 and faculty at IIFM, as alumni of the month. Always choosing to stay away from the limelight, Advait has always been a beacon of support to students and alumni, especially in the area of wildlife management, his passion. Currently he is playing a key role in IIFM 's transformation led by Director and his batchmate, Dr. K. Ravichandran. Always available, he admirably plays the dual role of being both faculty and alum through constant engagement and compassion.

PRESIDENT





CAMPUS THIS MONTH





Top Gun: Students engage in productive discussion

Academic Club 'Vedam' and Literary Club 'Meraki' collaboratively hosted 'Top Gun' - a group discussion to hone the soft skills of the students. 35 students engaged in a lively debate on topics revolving around CSR, EdTech, and PPP Forest Management; under the supervision of Dr. Chitra Khari and Dr. Santanu Das. Participants were given feedbacks to improve further. Kudos to the participants for their enthusiastic participation!



Freshers' Night 2024: A Joyous Beginning at IIFM

The senior batch at IIFM warmly welcomed the freshers, marking their exciting journey's start. Director Dr. K. Ravichandran awarded winners of the 'Life at IIFM' reel competition. The night featured performances by junior and senior batches. Ice-breaking activities, like confessions and saree draping competitions, added joy. The event set a fun-filled tone for the new students at IIFM.



Brainstorming for Mission LiFE

MoEFCC has invited ideas from the premier institutes across the country to actualize Mission LiFE. Out of the 7 themes, IIFM has been assigned 'Adopt Sustainable Food Systems and Healthy Lifestyles'. Faculty members, staff, and students at IIFM are actively engaged in discussions to develop innovative ideas to support Mission LiFE. The Institute is conducting various training programs and workshops for different stakeholders to educate them about the same.



Lit-Jam at IIFM: A Rhythmic Rhetoric

IIFM recently hosted Lit-Jam, an engaging speech competition organized by the Literary Club (Meraki). Participants formed groups and competed in thrilling rounds where they had to speak nonstop, with added challenges like rhyming under pressure. The enthusiasm among the students was palpable as they navigated these creative hurdles. Lit-Jam was a memorable and successful spectacle for all present.



Nature-Trail at IIFM: A Journey Beyond Academia

At IIFM, the "Nature-Trail" offers a unique experience. At dawn, students explore pristine grasslands and tranquil lakes, witnessing the morning mist and rising sun. The symphony of birdsong and rustling leaves adds to the serene ambiance. This immersion in nature enriches their time at IIFM, adding value beyond academics.



IIFM Hosts Mid-Career Training for IFoS Officers

IIFM and IGNSA launched a week-long Mid-Career Training (MCT-IV) "Management Module." Chief Guest Shri Aseem Shrivastava, PCCF & HOFF of Madhya Pradesh, attended the event. Dr. K. Ravichandran, IIFM Director, emphasized the training's importance. The program includes lectures on leadership, management, communication, and sessions on emotional intelligence and digital technologies. Participants will also visit World Heritage sites like Bhimbetika and Udaygiri.



Rising to the Challenge: IIFM's Sports Events Ignite First-Year Energy and Solidarity"

At IIFM, sports activities are given as much importance as academics. Team Zest (the adventure club) and Samarthya (the sports club) organized various events to foster engagement and camaraderie among students. The Tug of War, initially seeming easy, proved challenging against three strong opponents. The men's volleyball and women's throwball matches were fiercely competitive, showcasing a high level of skill from both batches. These events have set a high standard and boosted the morale of the first-year students.



IIFM's Climate advocates raise the bar at the C2EC3 Debate

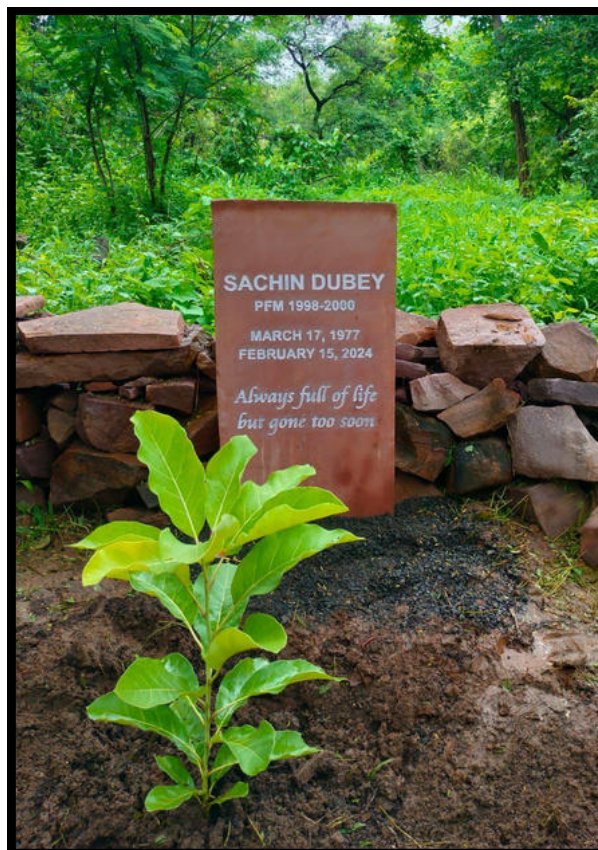
The much-awaited "C2EC3 Debate Competition" took place on the 25th of July, amongst the top 14 finalists who emerged victorious from a challenging preliminary round that tested their critical thinking. Under the esteemed jury of Prof. Yogesh Dubey and Prof. Bhaskar Sinha, these finalists delivered novel and diverse perspectives on a range of pressing issues of climate change. From nuclear energy and electric vehicles to nature-based solutions, inclusive growth, the role of developed nations, and smart cities, the competition showcased a dynamic exchange of ideas. The jury was amazed by the "Whispers to Roars" that the event brought forth. Kudos to the top two performers Miss Shrishti Agrawal and Miss Shreya respectively and the best performing team of Manjasha & Yaswanthi Kanala. The event left a profound impact, prompting deep reflection on the emerging issues of climate change and inspiring participants to be the change.



ALUMNI IN CAMPUS



THE ALUMNI FROM THE BATCH OF PFM 1998-00 WERE IN THE CAMPUS DURING 20TH AND 21ST JULY, 2024



“The batch of PFM 1998-2000 invites you to commemorate the memory of our beloved batchmate Sachin Dubey, who we lost earlier this year. Please join us from 10.45 to 11.30 am on July 21st, 2024 Sunday, at the Memory Grove, IIFM, where we would plant a sapling in memory of Sachin and reminisce over a cup of tea.” **-Message from the batch of PFM 1998-00**

The 1998-00 batch addressing the FM and SM (2023-25) batch



Alumni of (PFM 1998-00) with Dr. K Ravichandran (Director, IIFM), Dr. P. K. Biswas and Dr. Amitabh Pande (ex-faculties, IIFM)





Alumni (PFM 1998-00) L to R:

1. Ashish Aggarwal, Professor at IIM Lucknow.
2. Radhika Agashe, Sr. Consultant, Samunnati Foundation.
3. Dipak Jha, Director (Contractor/SME) at EPUNDIT TECHNOLOGIES LTD. London. He has created the website of Alumni Association of IIFM and supports in its regular functioning.
4. Nikhil Mathur, Head Water division of Azim Premji Foundation & VP of Alumni Association of IIFM.
5. Sonali Chowdhary, works as Independent Consultant, Economic Inclusion.
6. Swapnil Shekhar, Co-founder and Director at Sambodhi Research and Communication Pvt. Ltd.
7. Rajaram Sankaran, Strategic Partner for Leadership Advisory and Executive Search, Heidrick & Struggles.
8. Yogesh Jadhav, Chief Operating Officer, Barli Development Institute for Rural Women, at Indore.
9. Dharmendra Chandurkar, Co-founder and Chief Knowledge Officer, Sambodhi Research and Communication Pvt. Ltd.



Shubham- The Drummer (2021-23)
stays in Bhopal n soon moving to
Dehradun...for higher studies
Akashdeep- Singer & Guitarist (2021-
23)- on short visit to Bhopal, work
place- Jharkhand
Kallol- Audience (2006-08)

PFM 2022-24 alumni
visited their 2nd home-
IIFM during the Rains
(One of the Best times to
Visit IIFM).

L to R- Parikshit, Ex-
President SAAC (TERI),
Akshay (MPSFDC),
Nikhil (MPTFS), Vishesh
(CIFOR)



L to R -
Amar Saxena (1989-1991: 2nd
batch). He is teaching an
elective named Business
Analytics,
Kallol Mandal (2006-08),
Ujjwal (2007-2009) Program
Lead at CEEW, Delhi



Mr. Ronak Javiya (PFM 2015-17) alumnus and carbon credits expert, offering an enriching informal talk to the IIFMites (both batches) at the eternally cherished CC Lawn.

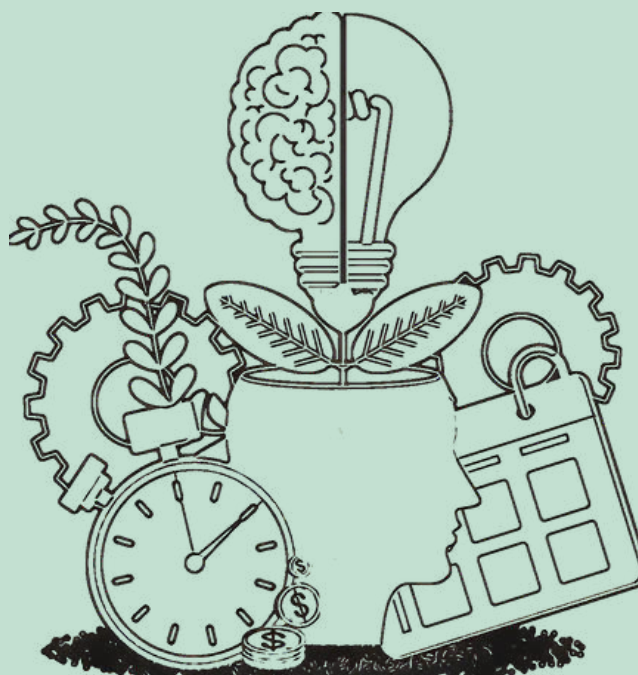
(PFM 2005-07) Alumni and Senior Programme Lead from CEEW - **Mr. Abhishek Kar**, stopping for a picture after taking inaugural classes of the newly introduced Elective - "Environment Management" in collaboration with CEEW.

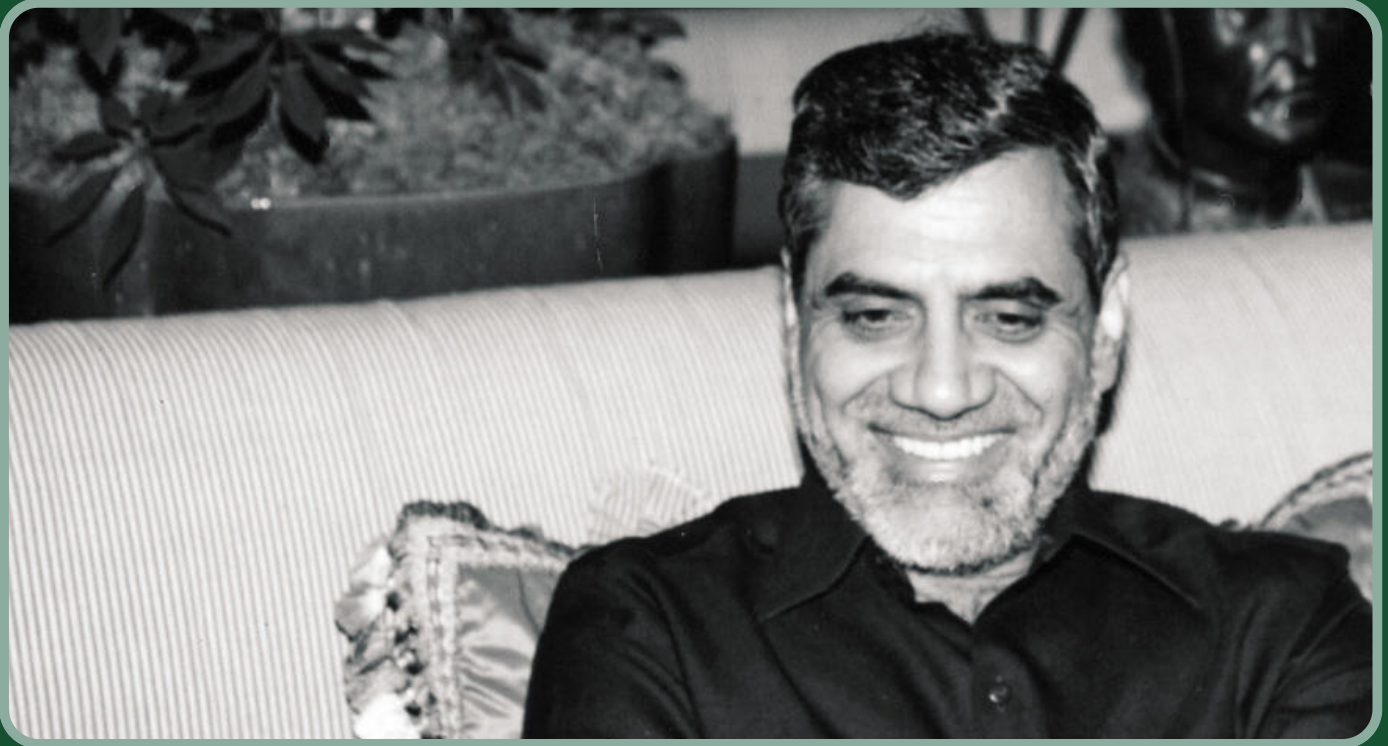


(PFM 2012-14) Alumni and Associate Director for KPMG India - **Mr. Shubham Sodhani** amidst the IIFMites after his inspiring informal talk arranged by the Alumni Network Committee (ANC).



KNOWLEDGE CORNER

The title 'KNOWLEDGE CORNER' is centered. Above the word 'KNOWLEDGE' is a small icon of an open book with a lightbulb above it. Below the title is a decorative laurel wreath. A leafy branch is also visible behind the text.



Mahesh Chandra Mehta: Pioneering Environmental Sustainability Through Law

Mahesh Chandra Mehta, a distinguished public interest attorney and environmental activist, is renowned for his transformative contributions to sustainability through the judicial system. In the late 1900s, Mr. Mehta pioneered landmark Public Interest Litigations (PILs) addressing crucial environmental issues, bringing significant concerns to the forefront of Indian legal and public discourse.

His PILs established essential precedents in environmental law, addressing air pollution, water contamination, and deforestation, and driving legislative and regulatory changes to preserve natural resources and promote public health. One of his most significant cases involved addressing industrial pollution of the Ganges River, resulting in a Supreme Court ruling for the closure of polluting factories and better waste management practices. Through PILs, MC Mehta has championed environmental protection and promoted greater accountability among industries and government agencies, significantly contributing to India's environmental sustainability.



'जीवनसाथी की नज़रों से' SPOUSE SPEAKS



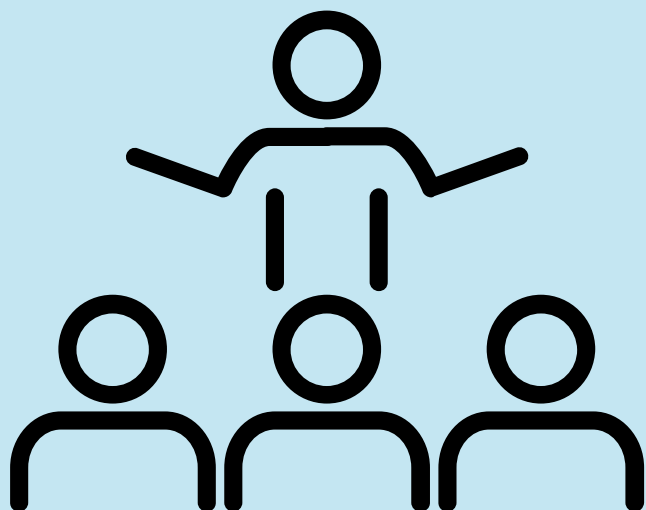


“I met Shashi for the first time while he was choosing colleges for his MBA. I felt his instant attraction to nature and living close to it if given an opportunity. He chose IIFM because it felt like living in a lush haven. Surrounded by sprawling forests and the tranquil Upper Lake, the campus was a flourishing Eden for nature enthusiasts and budding environmentalists. I have never been to the campus, but I could feel his love for it almost instantly. I remember asking him what made him decide to join this institute and I still remember him telling me you must be here to feel the calm and tranquility it exudes.

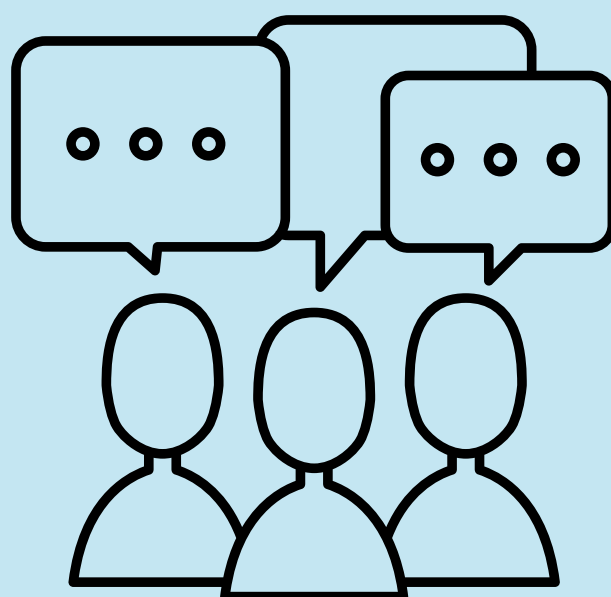
No wonder we ended up together as even our initial conversation revolved around “Acacia catechu” i.e. Katha as I now know thanks to my dear husband. I remember it being a silly game between us, asking scientific names of all the trees I saw and him showing off how knowledgeable he was.

There are so many stories that I hear of their late-night studies in the library preparing for exams, hanging out near the lake, long walks amidst the green cover, trips to national parks and what not that even without being a part of his journey at IIFM, I feel like a part of it. The unwavering friendships that he has forged during his journey remain his best accomplishments. Even though they are spread across geographies they plan trips and see each other often. It’s these friends, the culture, the calm and tranquility of IIFM that have helped him to be where he stands today.”

-(Prerna Kumar, better half of Shashi Prabhakar (PFM 2013-15))




FRIENDS OF IIFM



National Forest Resource Monitoring


In Conversation With Franz Eugen Arnold



**Monday, 1 July 2024
07:30 PM IST**


Franz holds both a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Forestry, has extensive experience spanning 29 years in forestry and climate change initiatives across various countries in Latin America, Central Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Caribbean. His work includes developing and implementing national-scale forestry programs and collaborating with international organizations such as the World Bank and UN-REDD. Since February 2024, Franz has been in Indonesia, leading the National Forest Inventory project and advising on MRV for the UN-REDD program in Jakarta.

Discussant: Prof. Madhu Verma



Madhu Verma is the Senior Economic Adviser at IORA Ecological Solutions, based in New Delhi. Previously, she served as Chief Economist at World Resources Institute India (2019-2023) and held positions at the Indian Institute of Forest Management and Bhopal University. Madhu has received prestigious fellowships including the Fulbright Nehru Environmental Leadership Fellow (USA, 2012) and a World Bank Fellowship for Postdoctoral research (USA, 2001). She has extensive experience in policy research, collaborating with international organizations and universities globally. She has authored numerous publications, led significant projects, and contributes to international reports on environmental issues.

**Moderator : DK Daukia
PFM 89-91**



Under the Friends of the IIFM Lecture Series on 1st July 2024, we invited Franz Eugen Arnold, FAO-Indonesia, courtesy Sandeep C., as our guest speaker for discussion on "National Forest Resource Monitoring and the role of FAO- Guidelines, tools and country experiences in SE Asia". We also invited our well-known Prof. Madhu Verma as discussant. The event was moderated by DK Daukia (PFM 89-91)

Franz (B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Forestry) has rich experience in forestry and forest related climate change actions in different natural, political and organizational environments. He is in Indonesia since February 2024 as CTA for the NFI project in Indonesia and as advisor for the MRV component of the UN-REDD TA programme with duty station in Jakarta.

Dr. Madhu Verma is the Senior Economic Adviser at the IORA Ecological Solutions, having wide ranging experience and exposure including Professor at the Indian Institute of Forest Management, for 25 years

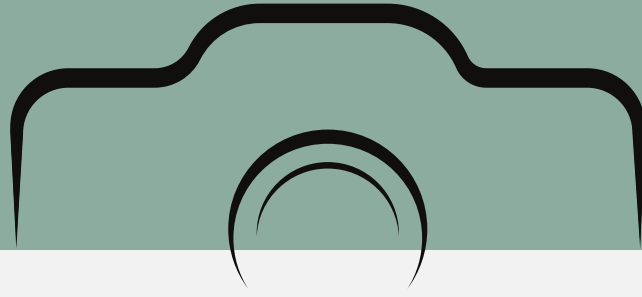
Franz took us thru the process of National Forest Inventory and Monitoring process of FAO and the changes in focus over time: Timber supply orientation to biodiversity and climate change. He updated us all about the FAO support provided to the nations for NFM and NFI while talking about Principles and Elements of the Voluntary Guidelines on National Forest Monitoring.

The introduction to various tools provided by FAO was found very useful for MRV objectives - NFM System assessment tool, Openforis, SEPAL

Then there are e-learning modules available which could be used by anyone and this could be used by IIFM as support tool.

Interesting discussions were about data partnerships, innovations happening, FAO support on EUDR compliance.

- D K Daukia (PFM 1989-91)



PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE MONTH





“Sometimes, rock bottom is your trampoline”

Photo by- Rana Siddhant Singh (FM'26)



***“There is light somewhere. It isn’t much light, but;
It beats the darkness.”***

Photos by - Anand Raj (SM'25)



APPEAL



Emergency Support Fund (ESF)

The IIFM Alumni Association (AA) is proposing the ESF to help IIFM Alumni in the times of distress.

Scope of Financial Support:

Financial help will be extended to the AA members in the following situation:

- AA member facing prolonged/ critical illness, rendering them unable to work
- AA member who has/had a major accident
- AA member who is facing permanent disability.

Support Us

Dear Alumni, thank you for all your open hearted engagement and support to various calls for financial contributions that we made. This has gone a long way in building up the AA and we find ourselves in a reasonable position. However, as you are well aware, finances are required constantly. We request you to contribute generously to the AA. The bank details and QR code is given here.



merchant398635.augp@aubank

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join Alumni Association



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