



# Work Report

## “Literary Arts”

### Targets of the tenure

1. To improve the scenario of writing in the institute and provide sufficient avenues and exposure to the good writers
2. To have regular practice sessions before major tournaments
3. To ease up the process of entering the club for the freshers
4. Increase the online visibility of Vaani and revive the blog
5. Successful conduction of all the General Championships, Books by weight expo and Hindi Utsav

- **Battle of the Batches:** The sending off ceremony for the passing out batch was conducted through an all encompassing competition between every batch of institute.
- **Vaani Rukhsat:** The sending off ceremony for the passing out batch was conducted in a small informal ceremony
- **Merchandise:** Introduced the club T-shirt which was bought by almost 100 people.
- **Literary and Speaking Arts room:** The room was repainted and an almirah for keeping all the inventories was purchased.
- **Summer Blogs:** Four Summer blogs ( three in English and one in Hindi) were run this summer : DonQuizote, LitWar, Grad's Bucket List & Vaani
- **Vaani blog revival:** A new blog was created in the summer and periodically updated.
- **Summer School of Cult:** German classes were taken by Ms Pallavi Paliwal where 30 students enrolled. French and Spanish classes saw lukewarm response and hence were forfeited.
- **Cult Online Challenge:** This year's online challenge included a short writing exercise and a poem. More than 30 entries were submitted for the same
- **World Quizzing Championship:** IIT Bombay hosted the World Quizzing Championship in Mumbai which ran in tandem with cities all over the world
- **Barefoot Sports Quiz Fest:** IIT Bombay Hosted the Barefoot Sports Quiz Fest 2017, for the first time in Mumbai. The quizzes were set by eminent quizmasters like, Major Chandrakant Nair and Joy Bhattacharya.
- **PG and UG Cultural Orientation:** The PG and UG cultural orientation was held on 19 and 26 July respectively in LT PCSA. The focus was to give the freshers a glimpse of what the club has on offer during their stay in IITB
- **Club Orientation:** The club orientation was conducted on 3 August. The motive behind this was to give a detailed overview of what the club represents and arenas that they can explore. More than 150 freshers turned up for the event.
- **Weekly Snatch Sessions:** Weekly snatch session were conducted throughout the semester on Wednesday.

- **Freshers' Snatch Session:** Snatch session were conducted in Hostel 15 and 16 exclusively for the freshers
- **Quiz Club Meets:** As of now six quiz club meets have been conducted apart from the ones done during Inter-IIT and Nihilanth practice sessions. The rationale behind these is to have regular interaction between the quiz enthusiasts and preparation for upcoming quizzes like Nihilanth and Inter IIT.
- **Writers' Club Meets:** Eight writers' club meets have been conducted. These are aimed at providing the writing aficionados an avenue to get their work critiqued by like minded people while trying out some out of the box writing exercises. For the first time, a writers' club meet was conducted specifically for Hindi.
- **Book Club Meets:** Five book club meets have been conducted.
- **Boardgames session:** One of the initiatives that was undertaken this semester was the boardgames session. These were conducted every Saturday in SAC. However it had to be discontinued because the frequency wasn't sustainable.
- **Freshers General Quiz:** The freshers' general quiz was conducted in the mess of hostel 15. There more than 35 teams who participated and the winners got a direct qualification to the finals of the Open General Quiz 2017.
- **TAPMI QoTB:** IIT Bombay hosted the Mumbai regional round of TAPMI QoTB 2017, a Business quiz which is conducted all over India. The winner of the same was a team from IIT Bombay comprising of Adway Gupta and kavin Aadithyan and they shall represent our institute in the finals which will be conducted on January 2018.
- **Scrabble Workshop:** A scrabble workshop was conducted on 19 August to get the newcomers acquainted to the game. About 20 people attended the workshop.
- **Freshers' Wordgames:** A wordgames competition for the freshers was conducted in the mess of hostel 15 as a precursor for the upcoming competition in freshiezza.
- **Open General Quiz:** The biggest event of the semester, the IIT Bombay open general quiz was conducted on 24 August 2017. The quiz was conducted by Parantap Singh and Prateek Vijayavargia.
- **English Creative Writing GC:** The first literary arts GC of the semester was the English creative writing GC. More than 130 students from various hostels participated. The top 5 contestants got a chance to present their writings in a meet-up organised by alphet sambhar, a writing community of

Mumbai.

- **Freshiezza:** Four events were conducted in Literary Arts during freshiezza; creative writing, wordgames, spelling bee and pot pourri. The idea behind these was to give the freshers a chance to explore different activities.
- **Lit Lukkha Weekend:** The annual Lit Lukkha Weekend was held on 23 and 24 September. The purpose of this event is to help students unwind after the midsems through fun and informal events.
- **Open Wordgames:** The open wordgames as conducted on October 2 which also acted as the trials for inter IIT cultural meet 2017. The top 5 teams were given the chance to progress into further rounds of the trials.
- **General Quiz GC:** The general quiz GC was conducted on October 4 which saw a participation of more than 200 students. The quiz was set by ace quizmaster J Ramanand. The top 10 teams were considered for the further rounds of trials for inter IIT cultural Meet.
- **Arcade:** An event aimed at improving the freshers and sophomore interaction was conceptualized. This included a written quiz and wordgames where freshers were teamed up with sophomores.
- **Open Quiz 2.0:** Another open general quiz was conducted on 6 October which was set by Sandeep Albert Mathias.
- **Cult School Classes :** The cult school classes for German and Spanish was conducted in the month of October with each getting 49 and 15 registrations respectively.
- **Books by weight expo:** The books by weight expo was conducted on 14 and 15 October. The aim was to provide subsidised books to the residents of IITB. The response was really good and a lot of people turned to buy the books.
- **Alphabet Sambar Meet-up:** A meet-up was organised between the winners of creative writing GC and the members of Alphabet Sambar, a reputed writers' circle of Mumbai.
- **Hindi Utsav:** Hindi Utsav 2017 was conducted on 14 and 15 October. On 14 October a poetry competition was organised for students and in the evening a kavi sammelan was held which had the famous ghazal poet Waseem Barelvi in attendance. On 15 October an interactive session with Sameer, a reputed lyricist of Bollywood was conducted. The last event was a stand up comedy show.
- **Hindi Wordgames GC:** The last GC of the semester was the Hindi wordgames GC where more than 90 students participated. The set was made by an alumnus Antariksh Bothale.

- **Institute Scrabble League:** The 3rd edition of the ISL was launched in the month of October and saw an overall participation of 14 people.
- **Winter Blogs:** All the blogs were regularly updated during the winter vacation.
- **Echoes:** Published the first ever magazine of the literary arts club of the institute. The magazine helped the writers of our institute get a wider reach and increased the overall appeal towards the genre. It was quite well received and could potentially act as a starting point of an inter-genre collaboration to make a cumulative cultural magazine.
- **Institute Scrabble League:** The fourth edition of the Institute Scrabble League was launched in March which had almost twice as many contestants than the previous edition. The format of the league was tweaked to include two round robin leagues and semi-finals and finals.
- **Nihilanth:** Organised month long extensive practice sessions for the inter IIT-IIM quizfest, Nihilanth which helped our institute clinch third position out of more than 25 participating institutes. This year the contingent included a good number of freshers and sophomores who performed and could bring additional laurels in the next 2 years thanks to these sessions.
- **Infrastructure:** Purchased scrabble boards, board games and almirah which will be kept in the Literary and Speaking Arts room in SAC.
- **English Wordgames GC:** The first GC of the second semester, was conducted on 8 January where about 75 teams participated. The set was made by Tanmay Srivastava.
- **Creative Writing Workshop:** Two workshops were conducted for creative writing as part of "Cult Not Difficult". About 15 people signed up for it. The classes were taken by Toshi Parmar, a third year student and winner of creative writing GC.
- **Cryptic Crossword Workshop:** A workshop on cryptic crossword was organized on 12 January where the basics of solving cryptic crosswords were covered. It was taken by Charvi Rastogi.
- **Poetry Slam Workshop:** For the first time ever a poetry slam workshop was conducted for the students of IIT Bombay. It was taken by Ramya Pandyan, a renowned member of Mumbai's poetry circle. About 20 people attended the 3 hour session where all the nuances of performance poetry was taught.
- **Cult School classes:** German classes were conducted during cult school. This edition had 20 classes as opposed to 10 that were being conducted earlier. The course content includes the entire A1 certificate syllabus.

- **Hindi Creative Writing GC:** The second GC of the semester was organised on 17 January. The participation in this particular GC was quite less. The entries were judged by the faculty members of the Hindi Cell of IIT Bombay.
- **Open Potpourri:** The potpourri open (an event comprising of all informal games like snatch, tinto, manhunt, dumb charade etc) was conducted on 19 January. The event was set by Devang Thakkar.
- **Sci-Tech Quiz:** The Sci-Tech quiz was conducted on 23 January. The quiz was set by Adway Gupta.
- **Wolf-pack GC:** The last GC of the year was the wolf-pack GC. This year's edition saw a change in its format. There was just one written round which suited well the scoring system. The quiz was set by ace quizzers Abhinav Dasgupta and Anannya Deb.
- **Books by weight expo:** The books by weight expo was conducted on 10 and 11 February in collaboration with "Butterfly Books". The expo was quite well received by staff and students alike.
- **Entertainment Quiz:** The entertainment quiz was conducted on 9 March. The quiz was set by Harshit Sahay and proctored by me
- **Lit Lukkha Weekend:** The second edition of this year's Lit Lukkha Weekend was conducted on 10 and 11 March. This edition had 15 quizzes, pot pourri and boardgames.
- **Sports Quiz:** The sports quiz was conducted on 12 March and set by Snehasis Panda, one of the top college quizzers in sports
- **India Quiz:** The India quiz was conducted on 16 March which was set by Prateek Vijayavargia.
- **Business Quiz:** The Business quiz was conducted on 19 March and set by Parantap Singh
- **Chhatra Kavi Sammelan:** The annual students' poetry competition was held on 14 March. This year's edition included Marathi poems in addition to the Hindi poems.

## Follow ups for next year

**SAC Library:** Plans are in place to introduce a centralised fine system for issuing any book. Other alternatives like shifting the books to central library is also being explored

SAC Room, SAC, IIT Bombay, Powai, Mumbai-400076  
Phone No: 0222576896 Email:[gsecult@iitb.ac.in](mailto:gsecult@iitb.ac.in)