

Director's Message: Student Yearbook 2016

Dear Friends:

So, it is time for you to go... time to leave IITGN after spending some wonderful four years at the Institute. During the Udaan of your batch, someone remarked that he was glad he did a few problems wrong in the JEE and ended up at IITGN rather than at one of the older IITs; this got me emotional. What more I could ask for? If my "bachchaas" feel good about what IITGN gave them, my years at IITGN have been spent well.

Indeed, it never stops surprising me how far we all have travelled together in creating a great environment for learning and growing. It amazes me to see how responsible our students have been to take care of not just their own needs, but also the needs of the entire IITGN student body. How easy it is to communicate with our students and seek their help in solving a problem.

Your batch was a pioneer: pioneer in terms of moving into the Palaj campus when we had so many teething problems in the new hostels, in the class rooms, internet was a huge challenge... and the Institute operated from two locations. It could have exasperated any other group of students and there would have been complaints on social media. Not at IIT Gandhinagar. The student leadership here was a part of the solution, fully aware of the challenges, fully partnering with us in addressing those difficulties.

There are so many of our well wishers outside the Institute, that have provided time, money and resources, so our students could have extra-ordinary opportunities to learn and grow. They have had great faith in future of the Institute and it is now incumbent on you to prove them right in their confidence in us.

May I therefore suggest that you remain connected with IITGN, and see in what way you can provide support and help in the years ahead. In my Udaan speech, I asked that each one of you must send a small sum every year as a gift for future generations of students. Such symbolic (and substantial) gestures will not only help IITGN reach greater heights, but will also give you pride in the Institute.

It is personally sad for me to let you go, but that is the way of the world. I hope that the great qualities that I see in you, the leadership and maturity that you have displayed will enable you to lead a fulfilling life, to tackle the challenges that may come in your way, and to make a positive impact to the environment around you.

Life has its own turns and twists and every one must go through the good and the not-so-good times. More than taking the right decisions, it is important to learn to live with our decisions and make a success of what we have. I hope you have not just learnt to take the right decisions, but also to ensure successful outcome of your decisions.

My best wishes,

Sudhir K. Jain