

Director's Message: Student Yearbook 2018

Dear Friends:

As you prepare to leave the Institute, I imagine you are experiencing two conflicting emotions. On one hand, you are excited about the new opportunities that await you. On the other, you are likely somber about leaving the Institute that was your home for four impressionable years, during which you built many deep and lasting friendships.

You are the last batch of “bachchaas” to spend time at both our temporary campus in Chandkheda and our permanent campus in Palaj and thus have experienced the transition. More importantly, you have experienced our expansion, not just in size, but also in the curriculum, faculty, systems and institutional culture. In a short span of 10 years, the Institute has developed a formidable reputation on the strength of its innovations, its beautiful campus, and the outstanding performance of its alumni.

A college is not defined by its buildings, laboratories, or administration. It is above all a collective of students and faculty who learn and share knowledge and wisdom together. IITGN's growing reputation to a significant degree has been built on the exceptional maturity, leadership and passion of its student body, for which we will always be grateful.

I have often wondered: what made IITGN students so mature and responsible? Some day, I hope a scholar will undertake a study to answer that question. For now, I can only reiterate what you have often heard me say — that I am a big fan of the “bachchaas” and my admiration for the IITGN student body grows every year.

IITGN has been exceptional in the financial support it provides to its students in the form of scholarships, loans, grants, and funding for internships in India and overseas. This has been possible thanks to the extraordinary generosity of well-wishers, who have shown faith in the future of the Institute with their donations, even though they had no association with the Institute or its student body. Their support is a tribute to the exciting innovations underway at IITGN and the potential they saw in you, our students.

As we grow, the onus of this support will shift increasingly to our alumni, which is the case with academic institutions globally. Already many of our alumni have stepped up to the challenge and have initiated regular contributions. I challenge the Class-of-2018 to become a leader in the proportion of alumni making monthly donations, however small or large. This will ensure that your juniors can receive the same opportunities that you were blessed with. We are also counting on your continued engagement with the Institute in the years ahead in our joint ambition to elevate IITGN to the ranks of a world-class university.

Nothing gives us greater happiness than to see our alumni shine. Already IITGN 'bachchaas' have brought us glory by their successes in academia, entrepreneurship, corporate jobs, or pursuing unconventional paths. I am confident that you too will be equally successful and I hope you will remain in touch with us and share your personal and professional journeys. I personally will love to hear from you in the years ahead.

Life will bring its ups and downs and force difficult choices upon you from time to time. I am confident that IITGN has prepared you not just academically, but holistically, to navigate life's detours successfully.

I wish you courage and wisdom in the choices and decisions you make.

Sudhir Jain
