



Editors' Message

Connecting Thinkers...

Dear Thinkers,

It is a busy time for the researchers and the research section!! After having completed their end term exams the scholars in the second term are attending three workshops for Research Methodology and another three/four subject specific workshops. The research section offered four broad themes for the Research Methodology workshops which covered Quantitative and Qualitative methods to suit the requirements of the research scholars under various domains. The subject specific themes offer a range of subjects which will aid the research scholars in creating a research design and a structure for their study. The entire enquiry begins with the area that one wants to study, at the macro level, and the specific subject they may wish to investigate, at the micro level. This entire exercise has been designed to help the research scholar identify the area that they choose to study and probably be able to articulate the research question. The wise one said 'Anything well begun in half done'. As the very beginning of the research work it is critical for the research scholar to invest as much time as possible with this stage since it marks the beginning of the real research. Many a times we find the researcher fumbling at a later stage only because he/she did not do due diligence at this stage. With the vast resources at our disposal it is not a very big challenge to be able to zero-in on that one subject that we want to immerse ourselves in and produce quality work.

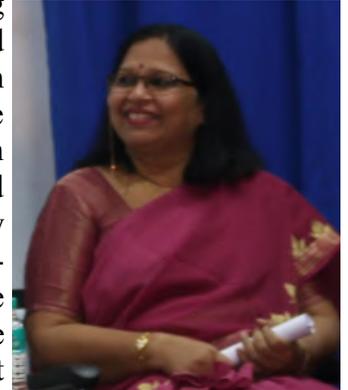
Cambridge Dictionary defines Method as 'a particular way of doing something'. Dictionary.com makes it a little more elaborate while saying that it is 'a manner or mode of procedure, especially an orderly, logical, or systematic way of instruction, inquiry, investigation, experiment, presentation, etc.' and also 'a procedure, technique, or way of doing something, especially in accordance with a definite plan'. The second part of the word is 'logos' which is mainly associated with philosophy. It is a Greek word which according to Collins Dictionary means reason or the rational principle expressed in words and things, argument, or justification; especially personified as the source of order in the universe'. When combined the word 'methodology' indicates to us the enormity of the task undertaken. What is chosen as a path for various reasons, is actually the path of understanding the philosophy behind the subject at hand. Therefore at the core of our investigation is philosophy and not just a study. This realisation will be enough for all of us to be alert about this stage of our journey of research. As the Rhyme goes "Twinkle Twinkle little star, How I wonder what you are" Let's all begin the quest with 'How' and then reach the 'What'!!

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GUIDE'S COLUMN

In the fast-paced knowledge economy, where creating, distributing and consuming knowledge has become the basis of most economic activities leading to prosperity and poverty of nations, research in universities is considered the pathway to creating such economies. The better the quality of research conducted at institutions, higher is the quality of teaching and academic rigor in classrooms. This onus of quality research rests on the three important pillars, namely the research guide, the research scholar and the research culture prevailing in an institution of higher learning. These are intricately linked and a synergy between them is most desirable. For an academician, guiding research is one of the most fascinating and multifaceted academic experience where one not only learns newer fields of knowledge but also finds several opportunities to use one's own experiences encountered during research for turning a scholar into an expert in his/her field of knowledge. Guides are not just experts in their domain of knowledge but also represent the epitome of critical and creative thinking skills.



Becoming a benevolent guide calls for a deep understanding of the larger issues that plague the education system. Scholars may have gone through poorly designed courses, incomplete and poorly developed reading, writing, note taking and note making skills and more so lack the level of diligence required of academic work. Problems also arise from the way they have been evaluated. Library usage may not have been a central part of their learning processes. Many scholars also take to research not purely motivated by the spirit of inquiry but due to other compelling reasons such as the demand of the labor market. In such cases, the skills and abilities of the scholar pose a further challenge to the research guide. Given these realities of today's academic world, it is all the more important than possibly ever before that a guide is not only concerned about the frontiers of research which he /she is interested in but also provide time, guidance and patience in assisting their scholars to equip with these academic skills.

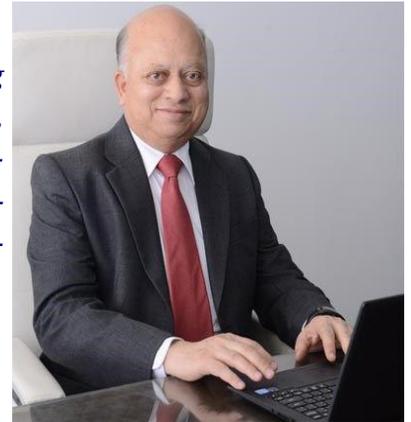
Some may begin from concrete experience, while the other could be using reflective observation yet another has the ability to conceptualize abstract situations or follow an active experimentation style of learning. These different styles of learning can pose challenges to the research guide and s/he could get impatient and demotivate the scholar. The challenge thus is of designing appropriate work for each scholar, providing time to practice, encouraging successes and guiding them towards the best method of learning that suits an individual learner. While there are indications to different disciplines using more of a particular style, yet a guide who is creative enough can design learning styles differently for different scholars. This support system can immensely help a scholar to gain confidence, equip with academic and professional skills required not only to pursue his/her academic interest but also to guide further research which will be of high quality. Thus a research guide is responsible not only for the quality of research that will be carried on under his/her guidance but also in the quality of teaching-learning and research of the next generation and in turn building a research culture in an institution of higher learning.

Since each individual has a different learning style, all the more the research guide needs to be aware of Kolb's learner's internal cognitive processes.

*Dr. Subhashini Muthukrishnan,
Professor of Economics and Dean, School of Social Sciences and Humanities,
Jain University, Bangalore*

Interview with Prof. S. K. Bhagavan

Prof. S K Bhagavan has been associated with JAIN in several capacities having been a Member of its Academic Council. He was Professor and Head, Electrical, Electronics, Telecom Department and Placement Head at RV College of Engineering and PESIT. He has also been Director of Placement & Training, Jain University, General Manager, Training at WIPRO and Director, Learning and Development, Marwadi University, Rajkot, Gujarat.



How was it for you to move from academia to the corporate world

Prof. S. K. Bhagavan : It was not easy. As I learnt later, the way we communicate changes, the way we manage time changes and the way we look at the rules changes. Furthermore, I was a known force in academics and enjoyed a very large fan following of students. I did not need to change, but, the eagerness to learn something new and the keenness to measure myself with the best in the world in the field of communication, took over. I made the decision and changed. Loved every minute of it.

What is the kind / nature of shifts that you find in the academic world today?

Prof. S. K. Bhagavan : My generation was very much dependent on the teachers. Books were expensive. Libraries lent them for only a limited amount of time. Now the dependence on teachers are gone. The world has taken over. Quick fixes are sought. A new method of teaching is required, which pushes the teacher to change. But, has it happened? Your guess is as good as mine. The students are willing to be led by an excellent teacher, strong in the subject, has a good hold on the concepts and is willing to understand the students. The concepts need to be introduced in an innovative fashion.

A new method of teaching is required, which pushes the teacher to change.

As an expert on communications and having travelled the world what are the soft skills important for research scholars?

Mr. S. K. Bhagavan : Research scholars are those who bring in the Innovation required in the present day world. The change is rapid.

The discovery of new things needs are uncovered by research. The soft skills are needed to make oneself understood. Therefore the needs are :

- Brevity of language
- Clarity of speech
- Comfortable pace
- Body language that doesn't confuse the other.
- A neutral accent

Wastage of time, resources and money is what everyone needs to avoid

These ensure that research scholars can present themselves and their topic of research in a manner which is clear and understood well. The ability to grab attention is an added quality.

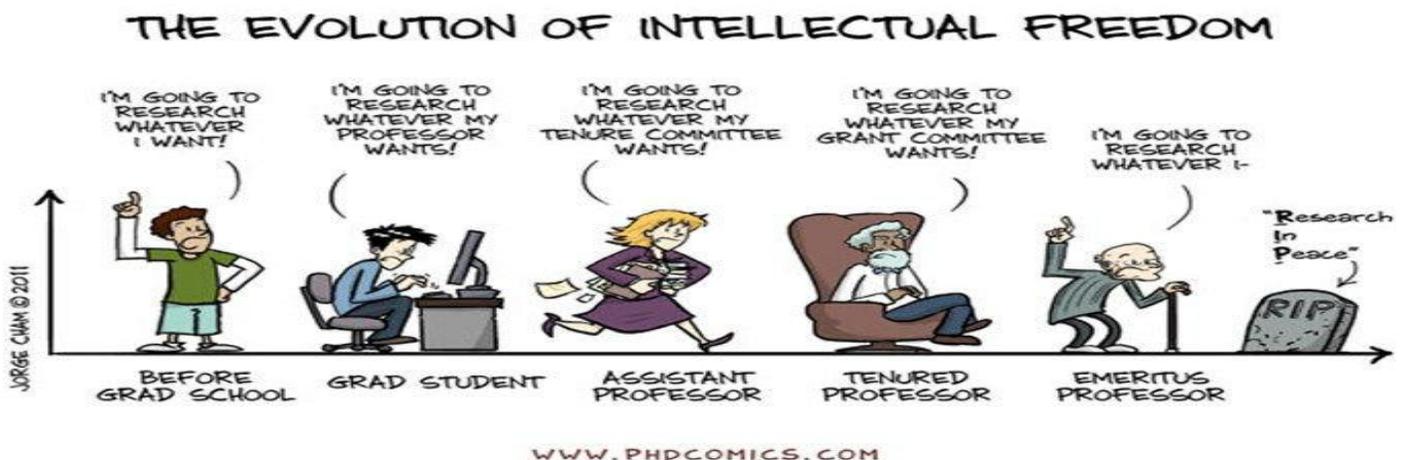
How does one bring about the idea of relevance in research work

Prof. S.K Bhagavan : A thoughtfully chosen topic that kindles the curiosity of the world is always something that becomes relevant to us. The world otherwise becomes stagnant. Research throws up new things.

How can Universities establish a synergy with the industry? / what are the challenges and expectations from industry academia interface

Prof. S.K Bhagavan : The synergy between the University and the Industry can be brought about by a thorough understanding between the two. Else it can result in a waste of time for both and bring in the consequent widening of the gulf. The Industry comes up with problems which requires a good amount of time to research and solve. The university can devote the time to research and solve the problem. This requires expertise in people management and the reliability that the problem solving requires.

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Short Report on the First South Asia Short Course on ‘Refugee Rights and Advocacy’ held at CERSSE, Jain University, June 4th - 8th, 2018

The Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education, Jain University, Bangalore and the Asia-Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) together hosted the first *South Asia Short Course on Refugee Rights and Advocacy* at the Atria Campus, Jain University, Bangalore from 4-8 June, 2018

The South Asia Short Course is an initiative organised by the South Asia Working Group in conjunction with the Legal Aid and Advocacy Working Group (LAAWG) of the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN). APRRN partnered with the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education, Jain University, Bangalore. ***This is the first APRRN Short Course to be held in South Asia.*** The course aimed to strengthen participants’ understanding of forced migration in the Asia Pacific through a human rights perspective and to strengthen participants’ capacity and knowledge in advocating for the rights of refugees in the region with a specific focus on the South Asia sub-region.

It was the first course of its kind to be held in South Asia, providing an opportunity for 16 participants from 8 countries (India, Nepal, Kyrgyzstan, Bangladesh, Australia, Afghanistan, Thailand, Singapore) to come together over 5 days and gain practical skills and knowledge to improve their work in the areas of refugee rights and advocacy. The group comprised participants from a broad range of disciplines including NGO and humanitarian workers, human rights advocates, social entrepreneurs, academics and a journalist – providing an opportunity for the sharing of ideas and networking between the participants.

Throughout the week, sessions were facilitated by a range of key resource people all bringing their own expertise and diverse experiences into the sessions. These included Dr Gopal Siwakoti from INHURED International (Nepal), Caroline Stover from the Centre for Asylum Protection (Thailand), Dr. Sandeep Shastri – Jain University (India), Dr. Priyanca Mathur Velath - Jain University (India), Ashok Gladston Xavier and Florina Xavier - Loyola College (India), Ipshita Sengupta - UNHCR (India), Bhaktimayi Nair – Amnesty International (India).

The sessions covered over the week included; The Global Negotiation of Refugee Protection, Advocacy Principles and Guidelines, Advocacy with International Organisations and UN Agencies, Incorporating Refugee Voices into Advocacy, Working with Researchers, Planning for Advocacy, Ethics in Refugee Advocacy, Statelessness, Developing Advocacy Messages, Working with the Media and Social Media, and Human Rights Defenders. The short course sessions were largely interactive allowing for participation and input from the participants, and also opportunities for mutual learning and collaboration between everyone involved. The entire course was delivered through a combination of lectures, case studies and small group work. The participants also conducted practical group work over the five days, giving them the opportunity to use the knowledge and skills acquired.



The course spread over five days covered the following thematic areas: • Overview and update of forced migration in the Asia Pacific • Understanding the global refugee “crisis” and latest developments • New developments in international refugee law and relevant human rights law • Introduction to advocacy & challenges in advocating for the rights of refugees at the national level • Exploring effective strategies for national level advocacy e.g. working and advocating with national and local authorities, engaging National Human Rights Commissions, strategic litigation etc. • Community engagement strategies for effective advocacy • Conducting effective refugee research for use in advocacy.

On the final day of the Short Course, participants were awarded a certificate of completion and also an opportunity to provide feedback through a written evaluation and feedback session. The feedback indicated that all the participants found the course to be relevant and useful to their own work and also that they would recommend it to their colleagues.



The evaluation and feedback sessions also proved a useful way to determine some of the ways to grow and improve the course for next year. Some of the suggestions include more opportunities to include the voices of local refugees living in the India context, and some more exposure trips to refugee communities. Funding for next year’s course has already been confirmed and planning is underway to build upon the success of this year’s course.



Research: A Worthy and Rewarding Experience

My journey as a research scholar in Jain University started on a melancholic note. It was so due to the fact that the area of my research proposal was not available. However, the awry situation was short-lived and put behind me. Thanks to Dr. Sandeep Shasthri, Dr. Mythilli Rao and Dr. Padmavathi, T. who played key and vital roles in making me look at other equally important and beneficial areas of research that could very much meet dire needs of the society (especially where I come from). The first six months of lectures in research methodology, core and guide papers served as spring board that has helped me to wade through the challenges with an undampened spirit. My research is in the area of biofertilizer, how that microbes in the soil can be used to change minerals in the soil from their insoluble, unavailable forms to soluble, available forms for use by plants. It also seeks to eliminate the use of chemical fertilizers which are detrimental to human health and the ecosystem. It is exciting and heartwarming to report that we have succeeded a great deal in this quest because among the microbes isolated is a bacterium that has never been reported in this type of research. Suffice to say, the bacterium is novel in this area of research. The isolates have demonstrated a more luxuriant plant growth and better yield than the control and reference treatments. To the biofertilizer industry/market and the farmers I can now boldly say look out for our products soon. It has indeed been a worthy and rewarding experience.

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A Learning Experience

Before starting on my doctoral research fieldwork, I wanted to do a pilot study to practically understand the data collection process. For this, I wanted to look into one of the social welfare policies of the Karnataka government, and the first thing that struck my mind was Indira Canteen programme which was one of the newest government schemes. I wanted to explore how beneficial this programme was to the public, and the users' feedback of the canteen. When I started visiting the canteens, I doubted whether the customers would respond to my questions when I interacted with them. I visited many Indira Canteens located in Bangalore and found that the quality and quantity of the food provided there was adequate, according to the opinion of most respondents. A majority of them were satisfied with the cost of the meals, and hygiene maintained in the canteen. It was also interesting to note that the decision of whether the meal quantity was sufficient or not, depended on whether the respondent was a physical laborer, a vendor, or a student, and I found that respondents undertaking more intense physical work during the day found the quantity of food insufficient, as opposed to their counterparts. However, they all seemed to agree that this was one of the best policies initiated by the government to meet the most basic need of the people at a subsidized cost. The fieldwork not only gave me insight into one of the social welfare programs of the government, but also made me get over a personal hesitation of approaching and speaking to respondents for my research work.

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Fascinating Story of Organic Semiconductors

In this generation of technology, new innovation majorly depends on the novel materials with exciting properties, be it conductivity, flexibility, durability, or all these virtues put together in one material. Semiconductors play a pivotal role in numerous applications such as television, mobile, computers, satellites, and various other electronics. Organic semiconductors enjoys several advantages over conventional inorganic semiconductors as it is flexible, inexpensive, lightweight, easy to process and has low power consumption. Organic field effect transistors (OFET) and organic light emitting diodes (OLED) have especially revolutionized the field of organic electronics. OFETs can be fabricated at room temperature with solution processing and it is used in smart digital gadgets, displays, sensors and bio-organic electronics. OFET based sensors such as biosensors, pressure sensors and vapor sensors are promising in niche application.

OLEDs have millions of pixels switching on/off compared to back-light LCDs which not only saves power but enhances the picture quality. The main advantage of OFET and OLEDs is that, they can be made into thin screen with flexibility, making it possible for smart displays and miniaturization like lab-on-chip technology. It would be fascinating to realize how new organic semiconductors have the ability to revamp the domains of electronic, biomedical and information technology

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RM Classes at Jain – Distinctive!!

It's been only few years after which the course work was enforced as a part of Ph.D. program. After knowing the course work agenda/syllabus of few universities, I doubted if the course work was really useful. What much can we study in six months, which we had already studied for three years in bachelors and two years in masters!! Moreover Ph.D. scholars would have been narrowed down to their topic of interest, then why should they study something which is not essential. If at all needed, they would read individually!! Initially when registering for Ph.D. at Jain, the same feeling sustained. And since it was mandatory, I had to be present. But, for my surprise, Jain RM classes were distinctive.

The topics involved and the way they were taught made me understand the significance of course work.

It was real fun to attend the classes. And to share the classroom with scholars from various disciplines and also of different ages, was something interesting and well-intentioned. We were made swot through discussions, presentations, assignments, activities. I enjoyed the student life after a break from college that too in a jovial way. It has given me academic as well as personal motivation. And I can honestly tell that, I have learnt the prominence of course work now and for sure it is going to benefit me a lot in various aspects of research. I am grateful for that. Proud to be a JAINite!!

Suveditha S.

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Being Local and Naatiness!

There are a lot of people in Namma Bengaluru who take pride in not knowing Kannada, the language of the people who have been sprouted, rooted, grown, flowered and fruited here. Fredrik Jameson says, "...the language controls you and not vice-versa." That is a domain of the experts. Here, the concern is about people and language for mundane existence. Way back, a colleague in a nursery school said, "Chee, Kannada (na)? I don't know!" I stopped talking to her. But I was concerned with the little children in her section who could speak only Kasturi Kannada. Sad she didn't know Kasturi (musk). The real concern was the impact on poor children when she imposed this "cheeness" on them! A topic for research in interdisciplinary domain.

P. Lankesh helped his 'poor', rural Kannada pupils become aware of this danger when it was highly fashionable for many students to flaunt their ignorance of Kannada and even get a mileage out of it!

Working with activists whose mother tongue was a different Indian language, but were eligible to apply for a BDA site invariably tended to be exploitative. However, providing sociological support comes naturally to the locals. That is the tradition Hanumatha left for Kannadigas when he helped none less than Sri Rama while the latter was aimlessly wandering in search of Seetha! The ignorance of illiterate rural women about a Shakespeare or a Marx would sadden the activists, but access to illiterate women's space and the heartfelt gratitude they received for having chosen to interact with them made them happy. What these 'outsiders' never acknowledged was the same rural women's insights, a natural gift in them, which eventually provided the 'outsiders' fertile ground for sustenance and luxury. This is exploitation. Foucault? Respecting the very land on which one stands in its entirety is nothing less than spiritual. The choice is not just between Pata-najali and Colgate herbalised paste, it is both and beyond!

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If you don't go after what you want, you'll never have it. If you don't ask, the answer is always no. If you don't step forward, you're always in the same place. – Nora Roberts

Skill Development Workshop Feedback

The two day workshop conducted on skill development has greatly expanded my understanding on how to present our intellectual work and has improved my personality as a research scholar. A lot of group activities were part of the workshop which made the sessions very interactive and enthusiastic. It had lots of fun activities which tended to bring out surprising amounts of creativity and sensitivity. Concepts of resource management and time management were put to task. Groups were formed to bring out the communication skills, team work and leadership qualities.

Trivial matter like holding the mike, voice modulation, body language, pace at which we speak, contents to be put on presentation slides, how not to deviate from topic were analyzed and they made research scholars realize the responsibility they have towards the receivers when communicating. It was an ice breaking session which has brought improved my confidence levels

Prakurthi

Ph.D Research Scholar in Computer Science & Engineering, Jain University.

"Talent is inborn; Skill is acquired and developed." This was exactly what the Skill Development workshop did for us. In the word HABIT - remove H - A BIT remains; remove A - IT remains. It may be our mannerisms, behavior patterns, postures, language, pronunciation, etc, which have become such a part of us, that left to ourselves, we would be "happily" unaware and also defend/justify these actions. But, the keen eye of our facilitators and peers demolished this facade, opening our eyes, ears and mind to critical aspects, sometimes even innocently overlooked by self. "Experience talks for itself" - This statement held true with our facilitators. All the activities were purposeful, direct at some points, surreal at others. All research aspects were reinforced in a nutshell. Overall, a very productive 2-days spent.

Abhijith Shinoy K

Ph.D Research Scholar in Music, Jain University

The two-day skill development workshop was conducted by an eminent Resource Persons to a medium-sized group of research scholars at the Atria Campus of Jain University. As a scholar who is in the early stages of conceptualizing my research proposal, the two-day skill development workshop was a prerequisite for the synopsis presentation that is forthcoming in a few months. The first day of the skill development workshop included several activities emphasizing the processes of communication, presentation and defense of a research paper. Though the initial expectations prior to attending the workshop included theoretical lectures and written assignments, the Resource Persons level of enthusiasm and her deliberate choice of teaching the skills mentioned above through different types of activities enthralled me. It has prompted me to organize a huge amount of information related to my research topic in a simple and concise manner.

The feedback received from the presenter and the group regarding my verbal and nonverbal presentation skills provided useful insights regarding the importance of verbal and nonverbal communication from the stage of presenting a research proposal till the phase of defending the thesis and acquiring a doctoral or MPHIL degree. The activities also led to a series of interesting discussions and debates among the group members regarding the importance of competence versus presentation skills during a research scholar's journey which was addressed effectively by the Resource Person.

I realised the importance of communicating sound knowledge and appropriate verbal as well as non-verbal expressions during the process of presenting research papers or thesis. The second-day of the workshop was also filled with loads of activities to highlight the importance of acquiring in-depth knowledge regarding aspects such as research topic, goals and objectives , research design till the completion of the thesis or research paper and acquiring a doctoral /MPHIL degree. The multiple analogies that were used to relate the same to several research activities through daily-based activities helped us to build insight regarding the applications of research in daily living.

*Shruthi Jayakumar
Ph.D Research Scholar in Psychology, Jain University.*



Achievements and Publications

The book titled "Nārada ḡilpaĜāstra" (Text, Translation and Notes) authored by Prof. R.N. Iyengar from the Centre for Ancient History & Culture, Jain University was released on 14th June at the Knowledge Campus of Jain University. This book is brought out by the Jain University Press

Fr Vineeth George, M.Phil Scholar in Management received the International Award for the Best Researcher 2018 conferred by the Idamas Learning Centre, Malaysia on 19.06.2018. The award consisted of a citation, a certificate, life membership of Idamas Learning Centre and induction into the Editorial Board of the International Journal for Research Under Literal Access (IJRULA). The award was presented by the Director of IJRULA in special recognition of Fr Vineeth's M.Phil dissertation for its robust sample size and zero plagiarism, under the guidance of Dr Harold Patrick, the Dean of CMS Business School, Jain University.

M.S. Vijaykumar, Research Scholar, Mechanical Engineering published his research in UGC approved paper details are as follows

1. International Journal of Advanced Mechanical Engineering - Research India Publications

Title - "Mechanical vibration test on pottery clay lap shear adhesive sample by Resonance search tracked and dwelled method".

2. International Journal of Applied Engineering Research - Research India Publications

Title- "Application study of pottery clay adhesive on structure enclosure for water proof and pressurization condition".

M.S. Sujatha M.Phil Scholar in Management, won the " Best Research Paper" award in the National Conference organized by T. John College, Bengaluru.

Title-"The Mediating Role of Psychological Capital on the Relationship between Self Esteem and Creative Performance Behaviour: A Cross Sectional Study among Employees Working in the selected Indian SME's"

Dr. Anjanapura V Raghu has been awarded with *LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD* in the RSRI Conference on Recent trends in Science and Engineering organised by REST Society for Research International held at Goa on 23rd June 2018.

Thinklet Congratulates the Achievers and wishes them Good Luck for all their future endeavours!

Responses to Thinklet Issues

Kakali Roy Chowdhury, Dept. Of Cultural Studies, Jain University

Thinklet is enriched with the motivational thoughts of renowned scholars. The article on career opportunities by Dr. Soudamini, the research journey of an experienced scholar like Professor Ramakrishnan and various other scholars who has pursued their research work recently....it's a mind blowing combination that represents the culture of research. The editorial page consists of message that is never to miss in the strenuous but joyful journey of research. The comic strip at the end is another reason that makes the reader wait for the next issue. Thanks a lot for the think tank like Thinklet.

Malatesh S. Akkur, Dept. of Electronics & Engineering, Jain University

All the articles are so informative. Thanks a lot to the Thinklet team.

Team Thinklet

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ARTICLES FOR NEXT ISSUE
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WITH **NOT MORE THAN**
250 WORDS

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, E-
MAIL ADDRESS AND THE
KNOWLEDGE DOMAIN OF YOUR

**Education is what survives when what has been
learned has been forgotten. – B. F. Skinner**