



E - NEWS LETTER

IITR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROORKEE
ROORKEE - 247 667 (UTTARAKHAND) INDIA



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IMPORTANT MESSAGE

The recent Nepal earthquake has left that country shattered. Though it also caused damage in India, the economy of our neighbour, a developing nation, is set back by a decade. Their road to rehabilitation and recovery will be arduous and long. They will require huge inputs.

As you know, Nepal has a large and active Local Chapter of IITRAA. The executive committee of IITR Alumni association has thought it befitting to offer the chapter token financial support for use in Nepal's rehabilitation programme, as a gesture of one-ness with our alumni there. The IITRAA a/c is setting aside a sum of Rs. 2.0 Lacs for this purpose, and, we seek contributions from our fellow alumni to build on this amount. It is worthy of mention that donations to IITRAA are eligible for 50% tax exemption under section 80 G of Income Tax act.

(Details for remittance of your donation are given in the annexure)

JUBILEE FUNCTIONS 2015-2016

The Alumni Association will be organizing the following Jubilee functions as has been the practice in past years:

Silver Jubilee	November 07 & 08, 2015
Diamond and Golden Jubilee	November 24 & 25, 2015
Coral & Ruby Jubilee	Dates to be decided

LOCAL CHAPTERS

Alumni Association is making efforts to activate its local Chapters in other parts of country and abroad to widen the base of Alumni and connect them to its parent body at Roorkee. Bye Laws have been modified accordingly to make the process easier. In the process, so far few new chapters have recently initiated their activities in the following cities. Efforts for making few more Chapters are also in progress.

Inception of New Chapters

(a) Haridwar (b) Roorkee (c) Mumbai (d) Ranchi

Activities of Local Chapters

Get-together of Alumni for Haridwar & Roorkee Local Chapters

A combined get-together was organised by alumni of Haridwar Local Chapter and Roorkee Local Chapter of IITRAA on 15th Feb 2015 at Lal Bahadur Shastri Sports Stadium located in IIT Roorkee campus. It started with sports events like ladies & gents musical chair, 50m race for ladies, 100m race for gents and a separate race for children. This was followed by self-introduction by alumni along with their family members who briefly recalled old



memories of campus life and recited song / short story etc.. Thereafter, everyone enjoyed the sumptuous food and felt elated by finding oneself surrounded by serene beauty of the campus.

Towards the end, everyone tried luck by participating in Tambola and side by side enjoyed sips of hot tea. The programme was closed with high praise for the nice arrangements made by organisers of Haridwar & Roorkee Local Chapters.

Haridwar Local Chapter announced the new Executive Committee, as under, for the period 2015-2017;

President, Er Anil Kapoor (1982, BE Elect.); **Vice President**, Er Pradeep Kumar Bansal (1989 BE Mech.); **Co-Vice President**, Er Vikas Goel (1992, BE Mech.); **Secretary**, Er Ravi Goel (2008, BE Met.); **Treasurer**, Er Shiv Kant Yadav (2007, BTech Met.); **Ex Officio Secretary**, Er Amit Mittal (1997, BE Elect.)

LAUDABLE INITIATIVES BY OUR ALUMNI

Award by Sri M. P. Singhal, 1954 batch alumnus

A Scholarship of Rs. 10,000.00 named “Om Prakash Gupta and Sushila Devi Memorial Scholarship” to be awarded to the first year undergraduate girl student obtaining highest marks in mathematics was constituted by Er. M. P. Singhal, 1954 batch alumnus with effect from 2015.

Corpus set up by 1981 batch for the Manoj Jain award

A corpus of Rs. 7.5 Lacs has been set up by “Legacy of UOR81”, a trust consisting of some alumni of 1981 batch with Mr Sunil Kumar Agarwal as President for the institution of an award at the Institute named as “Manoj Jain Award of Excellence in Human Values”. Late Er. Manoj Jain was a 1981 graduate of Mechanical Engineering who endeared himself to his batch mates with his exceptional humanism. Two awards of Rs. 25,000.00 each will be given to two final year students—a boy and a girl.

Corpus set up by 1989 batch for giving scholarships

The 1989 batch have established a fund 'ENCORE' with Rs. 43 lacs as an initial amount to give scholarships and awards to meritorious and deserving IITR students.

OUTSOURCING OF ONLINE ALUMNI PORTAL SERVICES

An experienced professional outfit called Alma Connect has been engaged to update and maintain the IITRAA website as well as the database on membership.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2015-16

The new Executive Committee given below for the year 2015-16 was elected by the General Body during Nov. 2014. This EC will take over from April 01, 2015.

President, Prof. Prem Krishna (1959, BE Civil); **Vice President**, Prof. V. K. Gupta (1971, ME Civil); **Honorary Secretary**, Dr. Achal Kumar Mittal (1986, BE Civil); **Dean, Alumni Affairs** Dr. Sandeep Singh (1986, M. Tech, Earth Science); **Joint Secretary**, Dr. R. D. Garg (1989, BE Civil); **Treasurer**, Er. Dinesh Singh Pawar (1993, BE Mech.)

Members Dr. Pradeep Kumar (1986, ME Civil), (Ex Officio); Dr. Narendra Singh, (1986, ME Mech.); Er. Mayank Kumar Tilak, (1986, BE Civil); Er. Naresh Chandra Garg, (1963, BE Civil); Dr. A. K. Gupta (1971 BE Chem.); Er. Nand Kishore Sharma, (1979, BE Civil); Ar. B. D. Mittal, (1969, B. Arch.); Er. H. K. Verma, (1988, BE CST); Dr. Rajnish Garg, (1989 BE Mech.); Er. Pradeep Kumar Bansal, (1989, BE Mech.); Er. Sudhir Kumar Mittal, (1966, BE Civil); Dr. Bhavana Sindhu, (1987, Ph.D. Humanities); Prof. P.P. Agarwal, (1983, ME WRD); Mrs. Surjeet Sharma, (1979, BE Electrical); Dr. Satyendra Mittal, (1988, ME Civil); Dr. Dinesh Kumar Garg, (1992, Ph.D. Biotech)

OUR ALUMNI IN THE TOP ECHELONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Shri Shankar Aggarwal received a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Electronics and Communications from the University of Roorkee (now IIT Roorkee) in 1977 and Master degree in Computer Technology from IIT, Delhi in 1979. He started his career from Telco, Pune in the year 1979 as System Analyst and was instrumental in Conceiving, Designing and Implementing the Computerization of entire Financial Management system there. He joined Indian Administrative Service (IAS) in the year 1980 and has since then served the Government of Uttar Pradesh (Parent Cadre) and Govt. of India in various capacities, important posts in the State of Uttar Pradesh where he is credited with drafting and implementing Housing Policy of UP, drafting and implementation of New Energy Policy of UP, Reforms in Technical Educational System, key initiatives in improving the public transportation system etc. During his stint in Govt. of India he held important assignments of Director (Vigilance), Deptt. of Personnel & Training, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Small Scale Industries, CVO, Indian Oil Corporation, Jt/Addl. Secretary, Department of IT; Addl/Spl. Secretary, Ministry of Defence, where he was associated with the important tasks of restructuring of Central Vigilance Commission, ISO-9001:2000 accreditation for Vigilance of IOCL - a first in any Indian PSU, Implementation of National e-Gov. Plan, Defence Policy Formulation, Defence International Cooperation etc.



He was appointed Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development on 2nd May, 2014 wherein he started many innovative measures such as Amendments in Juvenile Justice Act, establishment of Nirbhaya Centres. He was entrusted with the responsibility of Secretary, Urban Development, Govt. of India in July 2014. He is the Chairman of Metro companies of Delhi, Bangalore, Kochi, Mumbai and Chennai.

He was conferred the Meri Dilli Award in August, 2014 as a mark of his contribution to the Urban Development Initiatives. The IIT Roorkee honoured him with the Distinguished Alumnus Award 2014.

The Roorkee alumni have served the Indian Railways extensively, in various capacities across the spectrum, for almost 100 years. Theirs has been a strong presence in that organisation, and, the Roorkee alumni can justifiably take substantial credit for the efficient functioning of the system, the fourth longest in the world with about 65000 route km. The Railway Board is the apex body of the Indian Railway responsible for the system and its performance. It is a matter of pride that the Board currently has three members including the Chairman who are alumni of Roorkee. Their brief CVs follow:

Shri Ashok Kumar Mital graduated with Bachelor of Engineering (Hons.) from University of Roorkee (Now IIT, Roorkee) and joined Indian Railways Service of Stores (IRSS) in 1976. He has held a number of important positions in Railways including Director, Stores, Executive Director, Vigilance and Executive Director, Stores in Railway Board in the Ministry of Railways. He worked as Divisional Railway Manager of Izzatnagar Division in North Eastern Railway and Controller of Stores in South Central Railway, Secunderabad and Diesel Locomotive Works-Varanasi. He also led South Western Railway, Hubli as General Manager. During this period, he held additional charges of three major Railways viz., Southern Railway, South Central Railway and Central Railway for varying periods.



He was appointed as Member Staff, Railway Board in 2013. Ashok Mittal, has brought glory to his alma mater, by his elevation to the position of Chairman, Railway Board with effect from 01 January this year. It is noteworthy that he is the 7th alumnus to occupy this highest position in the railway hierarchy.

Shri Navin Tandon graduated from University of Roorkee in 1976 and holds a Masters Degree from IIT (Delhi). He belongs to the 1976 batch of Indian Railway Service of Electrical Engineers (IRSEE). Shri Tandon has rich experience of holding a number of important positions and serving Indian Railways in varied capacities. He has worked as Director, Indian Railways Institute of Electrical Engineers, Nasik, Chief Electrical Engineer of South Western and North Central Railways, and, Railway Electrification. He has also held important portfolios like Divisional Railway Manager, Varanasi, AGM, Eastern Railway and General Manager of South East Central Railway, Bilaspur giving him rich and enormous experience in general administration. Shri Tandon acquired training in Canada, Japan and USA on computerization of Railways and Rolling Stock Management.



Shri Tandon was appointed as Member Electrical, Railway Board, a position of vital importance for the functioning of the Indian Railways, on 31 December last. Navin Tandon has thus brought credit to his alma mater.

Shri Pradeep Kumar graduated in Civil Engineering from University of Roorkee in 1977. He has also done Masters Diploma in Public Administration from IIPA, New Delhi. He joined Indian Railways Service of Engineers (IRSE) in 1978. Shri Pradeep Kumar has held many important



positions and served Indian Railways different assignments. He has worked as Divisional Superintending Engineer, Moradabad, Chief Engineer (Construction), Jammu-Udhampur Rail Link, Divisional Railway Manager, Delhi and Chief Track Engineer on Northern Railway. He also been Principal Chief Engineer, South Central Railway and it was during this time that excellent work done there was recognized at Minister's level and coveted Civil Engineering Shield was awarded consecutively for three years in a row from 2009-10 to 2011-12. He also held the important position of General Manager of North Central Railway as well as Northern Railway. He had a stint at the Railway & Standardization organization, Lucknow, and made an important breakthrough by designing concrete sleepers with Fan shape turnouts, which have been adopted as standard in Railways. He had been Executive Director Civil Engineering and Adviser (Civil Engineering) in Railway Board.

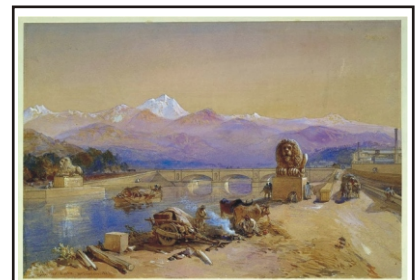
These assignments had given him wide experience in technical as well as administrative fields in Railways. He went abroad on official assignments to USA, Canada, Germany, Italy, France, Finland, Hungary, Malaysia and Singapore. He has recently been promoted and appointed as Member Staff, Railway Board from January 01, 2015,-a coveted position in the organization.

INTO HISTORY

Sir Proby Thomas Cautley

The role of Sir Proby Thomas Cautley in the establishment of Thomason College at Roorkee cannot be over emphasized. It was the foresight and active support of Sir James Thomason, the then Lt. Governor of North West Provinces that led to the decision to establish a college for training civilians (mainly native Indians) to become engineers primarily to man the public works in India. However, the choice of locating the college at Roorkee was based on the fact that a very important structure - "the Solani Aqueduct"- was being constructed near Roorkee to carry the Ganga canal thus laying the foundation of formal technical education in India.

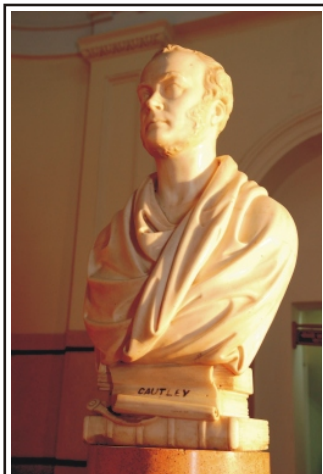
Sir Proby Cautley, son of Rev. Thomas Cautley of Stratford St. Mary's, Suffolk was born in Suffolk on 3 January 1802. He had his early education at Charterhouse School (1813-18)



A painting of the Ganga view by the artist William Simpson (1883-1899). The Bridge on the Canal, the Roorkee Lions and the Government Workshop at the right hand side of the picture. The workshop was established for making equipment required for the construction of the canal. (Photo reproduced from http://through_picture.blogspot.in/2014/01/proby-cautley-ganges-canal-in-indian.html)

followed by the East India Company's Military Seminary at Addiscombe 1819-19. He joined the Bengal artillery in 1819, and served in different capacities; as acting adjutant and quartermaster (1823 and 1824); as Lord Amherst assistant to Captain (afterwards Colonel) Robert Smith of the Bengal Engineers, who was at that time employed in reconstructing the Doáb Canal on Yamuna. The experience he gained in the construction of Doáb Canal was of immense use to him later while visualizing and constructing the Ganga Canal.

In 1840 Cautley proposed the Ganga canal. Initially there were many objections and obstacles to his proposal financial (by the East India Company - as vast amount of money was required); technical (by Lord Ellenborough who wished that the canal should be constructed 'primarily for navigation, not for irrigation,' and religious (by the priests at Hardwar, who felt that holy Ganga will be "imprisoned" by construction of the canal). Cautley was able to check the resentment by the



Bust of Sir Proby Thomas Cautley in James Thomason Building of IIT Roorkee, the administrative building of the institute named in his honour (earlier known as the Main Building).

priests by agreeing to leave a gap in at the Bhimgoda Barrage at Hardwar (headworks of Ganga Canal) from where some of the water could flow unchecked and also agreeing to undertake the repair works of ghats along the river. He also worshiped Lord Ganesh and sought his blessing for good beginning of the works⁽¹⁾. It is not surprising that even today some people are opposed to any form of construction on Ganga and development of hydro-power plants on Ganga and talk about the concept of "aviral dhara". Overcoming all objections, Cautley was ultimately successful in persuading the British East India Company to sanction the Ganga Canal project in 1841 and the work started in 1843. The construction of the canal was faced with many complications near Roorkee the land fell away sharply and Cautley had to build an aqueduct to carry the canal for half a kilometre. To warn the people regarding the dangers of breaching the canal in this section four lions (popularly known as the Roorkee Lions) were erected to guard the canal, so as to mark the beginning and end of the elevated section. It is said that the lions at Trafalgar square in London are a copy of the Roorkee Lions.

In 1845 Cautley was compelled by ill-health to return to Europe. During his absence the construction work was carried on by Major Baker (afterwards Sir William). Cautley on his return to India in 1848, assumed the office of director of canals in the N.-W. Rapid progress was

made with active encouragement given by both James Thomason and the governor-general of India, Lord Dalhousie. The canal was formally opened on 8 April 1854 by Lord Dalhousie. When it was opened the main channel of the canal was 348 miles (560 km) long, its branches 306 miles (492 km) long and the various tributaries over 3,000 miles (4,800 km) long. Over 767,000 acres (3,100 km²) in 5,000 villages were irrigated. The Ganga Canal changed life in the North West Province, from a poor region of the country, frequented by both drought and floods to 'the feeding bowl of India' known worldwide for its agricultural products and irrigation systems. Not only was Cautley responsible for the construction of the canal but also for creating facilities for making bricks, brick kilns and mortar for the construction.

Soon after the opening of the canal, Cautley left India, receiving on the occasion of his embarkation a salute from the guns of Fort William, in special recognition of the high value of his great work. The city of Calcutta presented Cautley with a memorial and placed his bust in the town hall. On reaching England he was conferred KCB (Knight Commander of the Bath a British Military Award) and in 1858 he was selected to fill one of the seats in the new council of India, which he retained until 1868.

Cautley died at Sydenham on 25 Jan. 1871. To honour his memory and contributions, a hostel of the Institute is named after him as Cautley Bhawan.

The multi faceted personality of Cautley is reflected in his writings which covered a wide variety of subjects, including a submerged city, twenty feet underground, in the Doab; on the coal and lignite in the Himalaya; on gold washings in the Siwaliks between the Sutej and the Yamuna; on a new species of snake; on the mastodons of the Siwaliks and on the manufacture of tar. In 1860 he published a full account of the making of the Ganga canal. In recognition to his work in Paleontology, he was awarded the Wollaston Medal of the Geological Survey of Great Britain in 1837. The plant *genus Cautleya* is named in his honour⁽³⁾

1. [Http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proby_Cautley.](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proby_Cautley)
2. [Http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Cautley,_Proby_Thomas_%28DNB00%2](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Cautley,_Proby_Thomas_%28DNB00%2)

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NEPAL EARTHQUAKE

Donations of IITR Alumni for Relief / Rehabilitation

Note:

1. As per FCRA guidelines IITRAA can receive donations from Indian Nationals and in Indian Rupees only.
2. All payments to be made 'Account Payee' in favour of **Honorary Secretary, IITR Alumni Association** and payable at **Roorkee**.
3. Address for sending donations is
**Honorary Secretary, IITR Alumni Association
Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee
Roorkee – 247 667 (Uttarakhand), India**
4. Donations for the aforesaid purpose are requested by **Saturday, 30th May 2015**.

For the donations, please provide the following details.

Name:

Year:

Branch:

Degree:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

Cheque No. / DD No.

For Electronic Transfer through **State Bank of India, IIT Roorkee Branch (01069)**, you may use following details:

A/c No: 10660278834

IFSC: SBIN0001069

You are requested to send (through email) the transaction details provided by your bank **positively**.