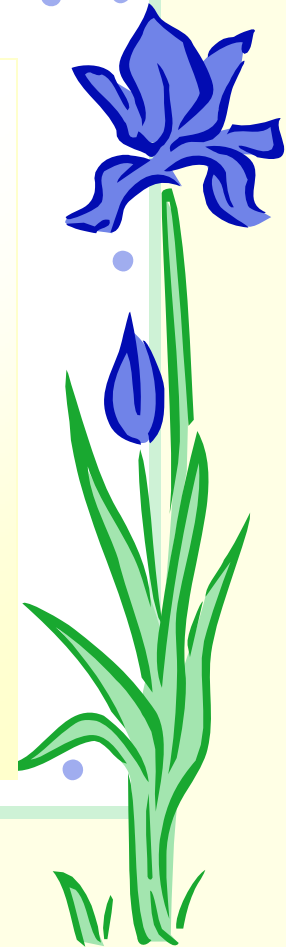
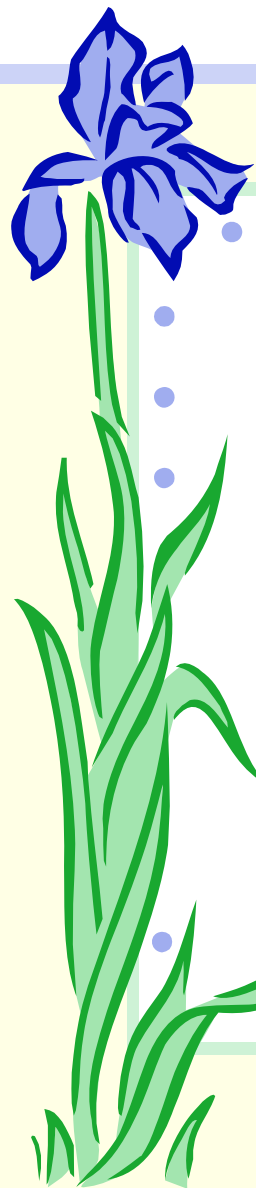


Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research has a unique Human Resources policy which has been successful in attracting talented students to do Science and Technology work as a part of degree and/or pursuing a career. We present some of their reminiscences about the stay at IGCAR as conveyed to us by them.

Ms.Aarthi Ganesan	Shri K.Krishna Nand
Dr.Arul Murugan	Dr.Madhivanan Muthuvel
Shri Avijit Soman	Dr.Margaret Marie
Shri Deepkumar Joshi	Shri Mukesh Kumar Sharma
Shri B.S.Ganapathy Prabhu	Ms.S.Praise Leena
Shri G.Gokulavasan	Shri Sagar Prabhuder
Dr.John Kennedy	Shri Santosh Gurunath
Dr.N.R.Karthikeyan	Shri Shanjeevi
Ms.S. Kiruthiga	Ms.P.Subashree



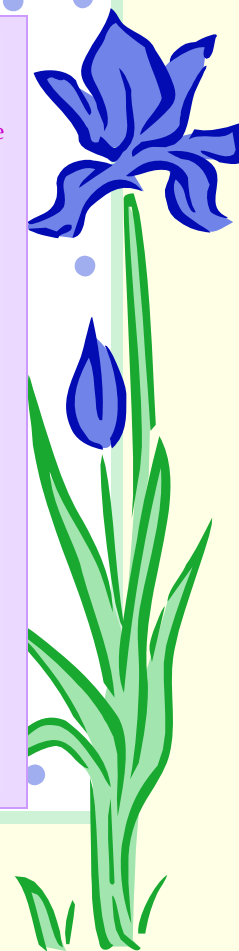


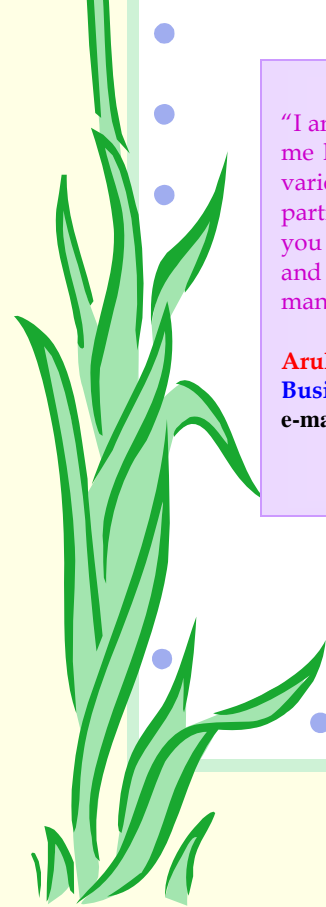
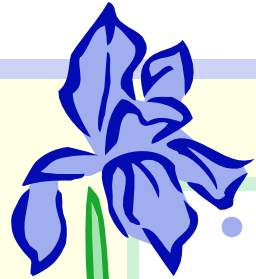
"It was my great experience working in NDE Division, IGCAR. When it was my new entry to the research field during my M.Sc project, I was given very neat guidance on how to proceed on my work with a complete schedule. I was given time to go through my basics and then start my work which enabled me to do a successful project. As my work was experimental I was allowed to operate the X ray diffraction machine myself and learnt how to take readings and taught how to analyse the result and record it. The confidence which was given in post graduation project made me to continue my M. Phil project also in the same field which gave me awesome experience.

With the confidence, subject knowledge and practice given by the NDE Division I was able to present by work on a National level conference held at Anna University and also my paper awarded as a Best paper. The hospitality and the friendly movement of all the scientific officers in NDE Division made me feel very comfortable as I was proceeding with my work. The atmosphere of IGCAR, the library facility, journals found in the website, transport facility, canteen and a very safe hostel facility was also another factor which helped me to have a good and healthy stay in IGCAR. I thank Director, IGCAR for giving me this opportunity to work with scientists and get the knowledge of latest scientific affairs going around. I also thank the NDE Division who helped me to do a successful project and helped to grow in my career.

I am currently working as a training faculty in SMART training resources, Chennai. The job profile is, I keep going to number of engineering colleges and give lectures on aptitude maths and train the students on their placement."

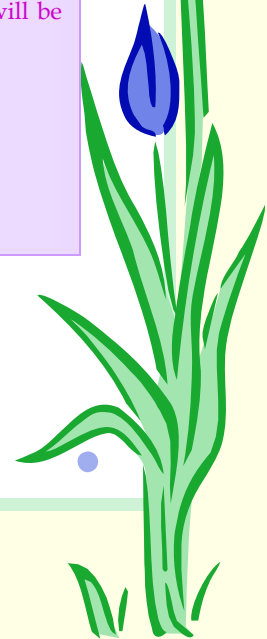
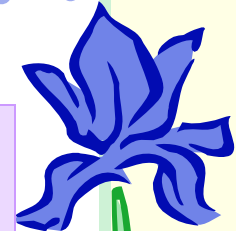
Aarthi Ganesan (She has done her M.Sc. project with Dr.B.P.C.Rao)
Faculty, Smart Training Recourses,
3-F JP Towers, 7/2, N.H. Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600 034
Ph. 39124441 e-mail : smartindia.co.in

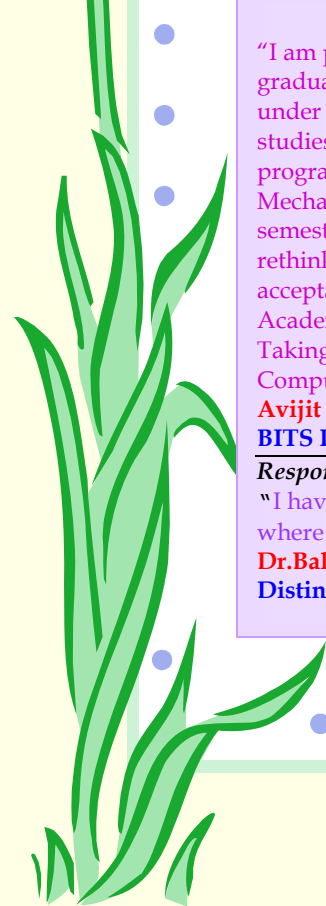
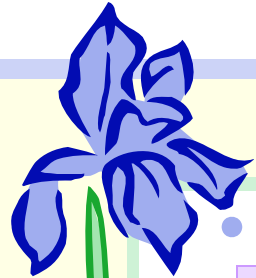




"I and my family sincerely thank you for the special interest you showed, which paved the way and brought me here. If I could do something, get a Ph.D., all because of the support and encouragement I had from various sources with IGCAR toping the list. I have a list of scientist to whom I have to be grateful. To you particularly, the number of days you have spent for helping some one struggling like me and not known to you was something unimaginable. I still have the encouraging mails sent by you and I really owe you a lot. I and my family are thankful to you for all the support and interest you showed and I believe there will be many more students benefiting from your guidance. I am gifted and happy to be in touch with you."

Arul Murugan , (A part of his Ph.D. dissertation was done with Dr.M.Sai Baba)
Business Consultant, Ferrotec, Japan
e-mail: arulphysics@rediffmail.com





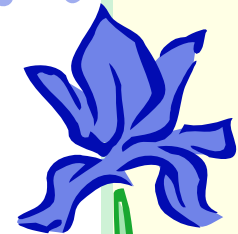
"I am pleased to inform you(Dr.Baldev Raj) that I have received an offer of complete funding for my graduate studies at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. I have received an offer for Research Assistantship under Professor Veeraraghavan Sundararaghavan of Aerospace Engineering. Currently, the program of my studies is MS in Mechanical Engineering. However, Professor Sundararaghavan wants me to change the program from MS in Mechanical Engineering to MS/PhD in Aerospace Engineering. The offer of RAship would be for the first semester if I do not wish to change my program from Mechanical to Aerospace Engineering. He might rethink about funding, after the first semester. My dad has expressed some concerns regarding the acceptance and scope of the Aerospace Engineering degree in India. I wish to work in an Industry (and not Academia) and am not very convinced right now if I would like to go for a Ph.D. after completion of my MS. Taking these things into consideration, what will be the best decision? The lab work at UM would be on Computational and Structural Mechanics. Please advise."

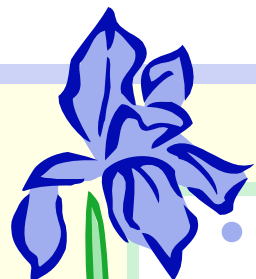
Avijit Soman (former student of BITS Practice School at IGCAR in 2006)
BITS Pilani, Rajasthan

Response from Dr.Baldev Raj, Distinguished Scientist and Director, IGCAR

"I have received your message. My perspective is that MS in Mechanical Engineering is more flexible from where you can spread to other disciplines very easily. My advice can be considered as one input."

Dr.Baldev Raj,
Distinguished Scientist and Director, IGCAR

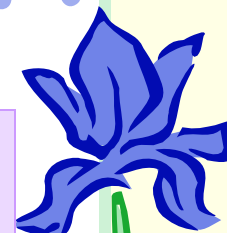


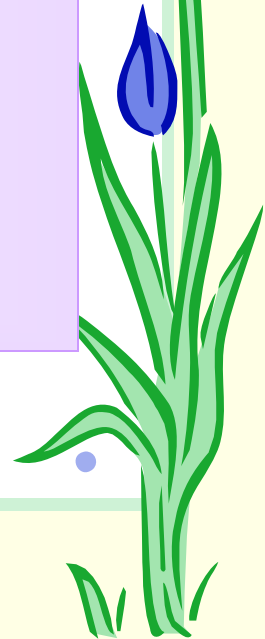
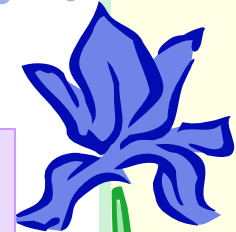
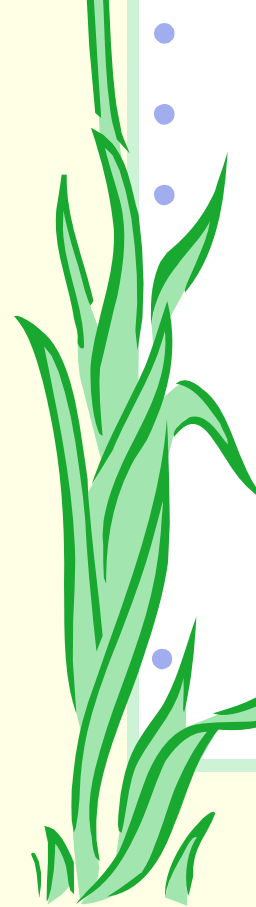
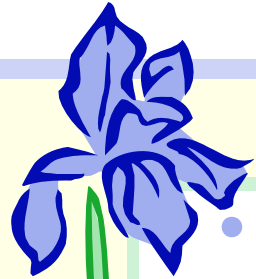


"I am one of the STIC students who pursued the summer training for six weeks at RCL (IGCAR). Really this training has helped me a lot and motivated me to pursue Ph.D. as my future career, at present I am in the final year of my masters with specialization in organic chemistry and in the I am thinking strongly upon pursuing Ph.D. from a good university.

Thanks for the support you gave me at IGCAR , this training will help me a lot ."

Deepkumar Joshi (Student of "Summer Training Programme in Chemistry (STIC-2009))
Bhavnagar University, Bhavnagar 364002
Tel.: 09974147411, 09377100966
e-mail: deepjoshi359@yahoo.co.in

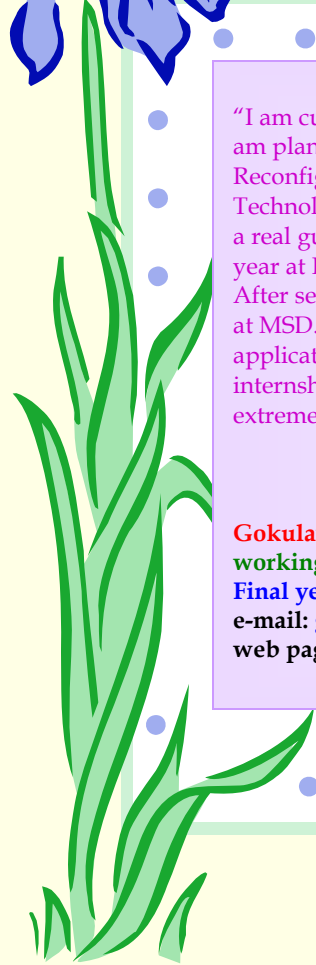
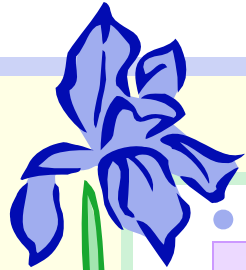




"My INAE fellowship was indeed good. I had a lot to learn during that summer- I learnt some experimental techniques and had a lot of learning from the lectures that were delivered as a part of the workshop on Nanomaterials that was held around that time. Also, I did some interpretation of the XRD and SEM results. It was a quite a wonderful experience!

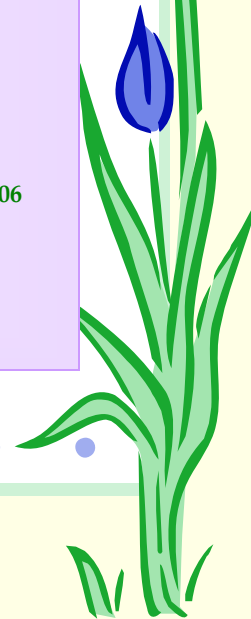
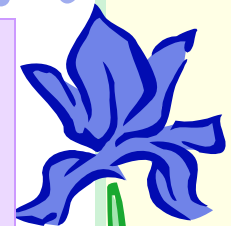
I'm thankful to you for the opportunity!"

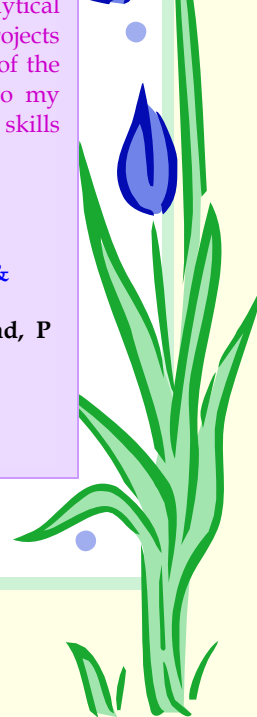
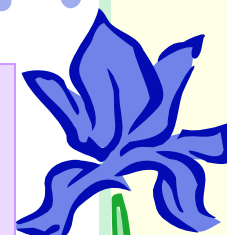
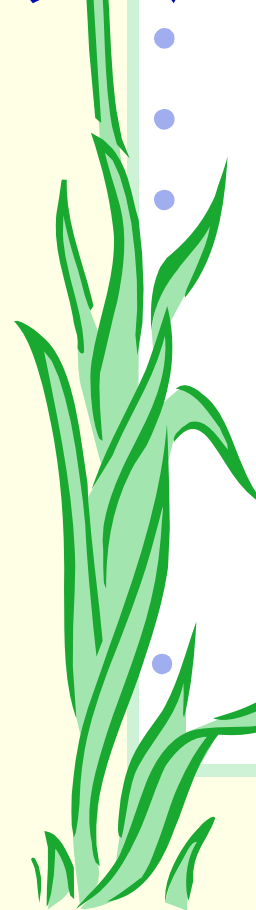
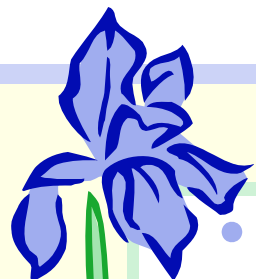
B.S.Ganapathi Prabhu, (Dr.Baldev Raj mentored his INAE summer fellowship)
Graduate Student,
Department of Materials Science and Engineering,
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute,
Troy, New York- 12180.
Tel.: 518 258 9486
e-mail:prabhu.ganapathi@gmail.com



"I am currently in my final year of Electronics and Instrumentation engineering at the BITS Pilani campus. I am planning for graduate studies in the area of Computer Engineering, esp. Embedded Systems and Reconfigurable computing. Besides the plans for MS, I have also got a placement offer from Shell Technology India through the campus recruitment process. The two summer internships at IGCAR acted as a real guiding light enabling me to understand and work in my field of interest. The internship after my first year at IGCAR equipped me to work on projects along with seniors which won national level competitions. After seeing the work carried out by Mr. Jayapandian Sir, I was motivated to do my second year internship at MSD. The internship provided me a chance to work on a real world project having practical applications which very few people would have dreamed of in their second year. Overall, the IGCAR internships were a great learning experience in both academic and non-academic spheres. And I am extremely thankful to you, Sir for giving me that golden opportunity."

Gokulavasan.G., (He was a Summer Research Fellow of Indian Academy of Sciences at IGCAR in 2006 working with Shri J.Jayapandian and Dr.C.S.Sundar)
Final year student of Electronics and Instrumentation engineering at the BITS Pilani campus
e-mail: gokulavasan@gmail.com
web page: <http://gokulavasan.googlepages.com>





"I have carried out my PhD research at Particle Irradiation Facilities, Materials Science Division, IGCAR during 1994-1998 under the IUC-DAEF scheme. I have received motivating thoughts from Dr. Kanwar Krishnan, Mr. N.S. Thampi, Dr. K.G.M. Nair and an exceptionally priceless support and help from Dr. Placid Rodriguez and Dr. Baldev Raj.

I had very valuable time at IGCAR. I learned basics of the applied nuclear physics based analytical techniques from highly talented scientists of IGCAR. I was involved in quite a few developmental projects which enabled me to set-up at PIXE facility at IGCAR for the first time. Even today, I still use some of the skills learned during my stay at IGCAR to develop new innovative projects. As I always say to my colleagues, IGCAR is one of the best R&D organisations in India for young students to develop their skills and make discoveries."

John V Kennedy,

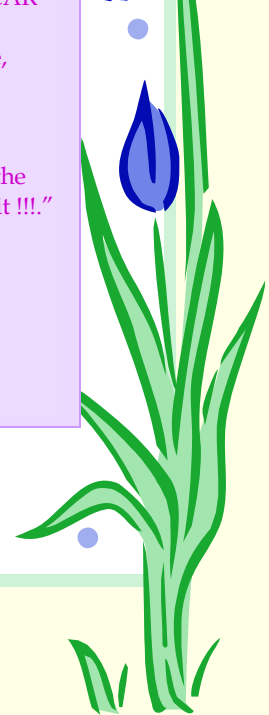
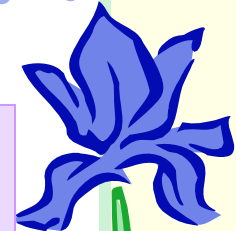
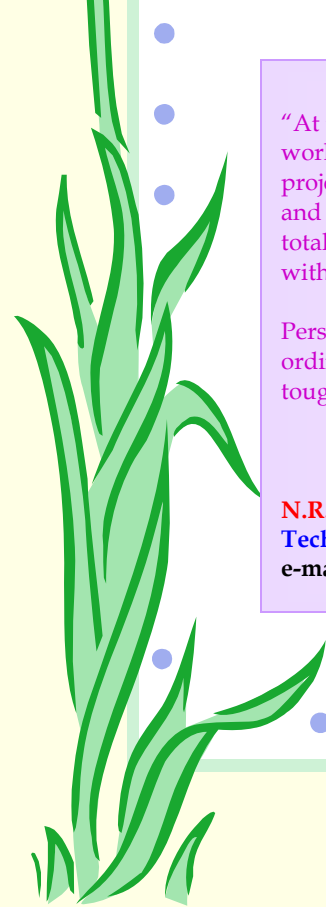
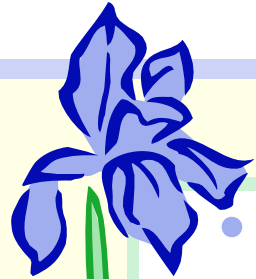
Senior Scientist, Programme Leader, Ion Beam Physics and Nanotechnology Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences, (New Zealand Govt owned Crown Research Institute), Wellington, New Zealand.

National Isotope Centre, GNS Science (Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences), 30 Gracefield Road, P O Box 31312, Lower Hutt, Wellington, New Zealand.

Tel: ++64-4-5704771

Fax: ++64-4-5704657

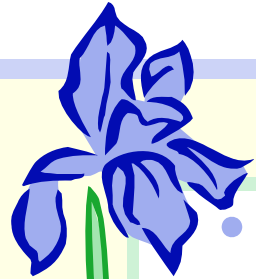
email: j.kennedy@gns.cri.nz



“At the outset, I am very much thankful to Dr. P.Shankar & Dr. Baldev Raj for introducing & grooming me to working under one of the eminent scientists in the world, Dr. John Philip. I have learnt a lot, during my project work both science as well as the art of using science. At the end the day, I can see my stay at IGCAR and working under Dr. John Philip, Dr. Shankar, Dr. Baldev Raj and many scientists at IGCAR was like totally a transformation from student to professional, which I am incorporating in my life at many place, without giving any credits to you people at IGCAR.

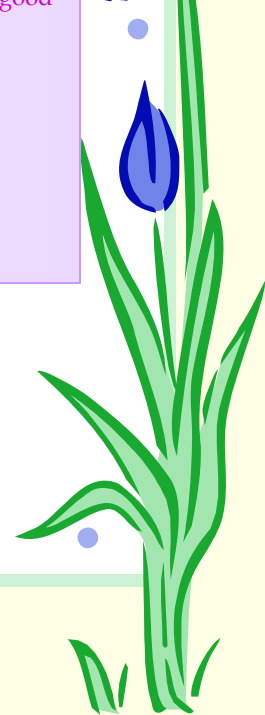
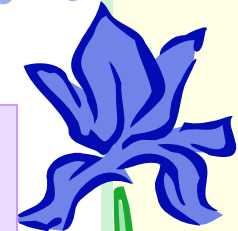
Personally, I very much admire the craftsmanship of Dr. John Philip in handling his projects and subordinates. In a nutshell, Dr. John Philip has shaped me in such a way, that I can sustain the toughest of the tough situations, no matter what ever it. Missing IGCAR a lot. All the credit goes to my mentors. Thats it !!!.”

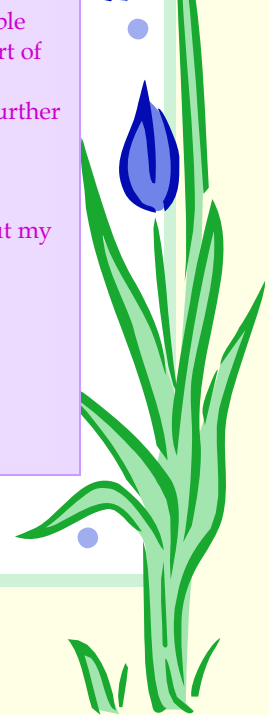
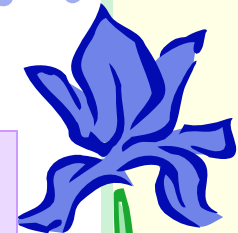
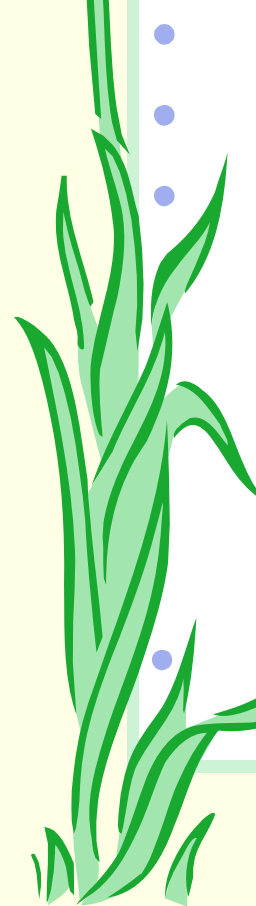
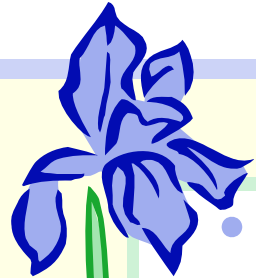
N.R.Karthikeyan (He has done a B.E. project with Dr. John Phillip during 2007-2008),
Technical Analyst to Director Projects at JSW Steel Ltd
e-mail:karthikeyan.rajana@gmail.com



"I got job in NDT area in Mumbai. I thank NDE Division, IGCAR very much for defining a very good M. Tech (NDT) project and giving all the support and guidance. I specially thank you and Dr. Jayakumar Sir, for the encouragement. Because of you I could present the paper in NDE-2007 seminar and generated very good confidence. Sir, I will look forward to your reply and guidance in NDT"

S.Kiruthiga , (She has done her M.Tech. project with Dr.B.P.C.Rao)
Sievert India Private Limited, Plot No.2 Sector 2
Phase II, Nerul, Navi Mumbai, Mumbai
e-mail:kiruthiramy@gmail.com

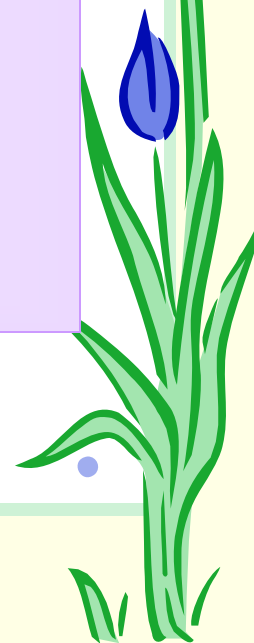
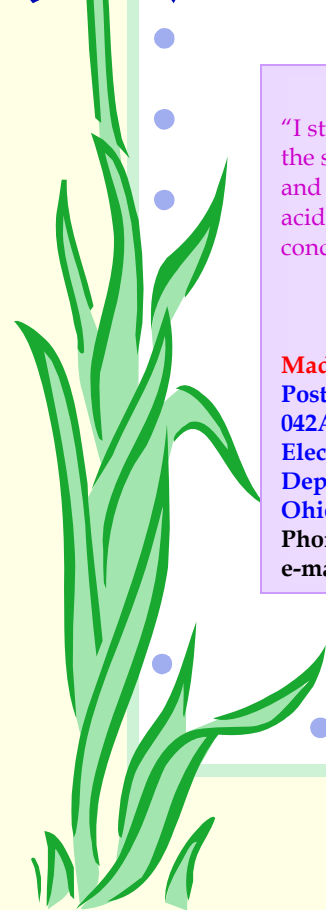
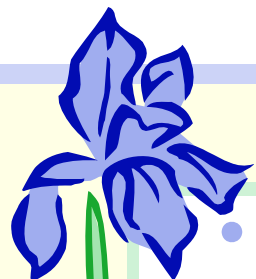




"I often get reminded of those wonderful days that I spent working in IGCAR. Working in your lab, has instilled in me the confidence and the constant thirst to learn and understand new things. The encouragement and freedom to do research under you was very helpful, because of which, it was possible to bring out the work in the form of research papers. I am really glad to have carried out the work as part of the INAE internship (third year B. Tech), which I received with your and Director's support, and which enabled me to contribute in some way to your lab. The exposure I had at IGCAR has helped me in my further endeavours during my B.Tech Project work at IISC, Bangalore and also in my current role as a R&D Engineer in Nokia R&D Centre, Bangalore.

I am thankful to you, Dr. Jayakumar Sir and Director, IGCAR for your support and guidance throughout my stay and I feel proud to be associated with you and also IGCAR."

Krishna Nand , (He did his B.Tech. project with Dr.B.P.C.Rao)
R&D Engineer, Nokia R&D Centre, Bangaluru
e-mail:krishnaanandk@gmail.com



"I strongly value my experience from the project work I performed with your guidance at IGCAR, as it was the stepping stone for various projects I undertook during my graduate school and even in the present job. I and B. Rajesh were working in your lab during the Summer of 1996(twelve years before) to design a nitric acid loop, which was eventually used for analyzing the corrosion rate of various materials under flow conditions. Well our project was more like internship than anything related to our thesis for B.Tech"

Madhivadan Muthuvel , (He did his B.Tech. project with Dr.U.Kamachi Mudali)

Post Doctoral Research Associate

042A Stocker Center

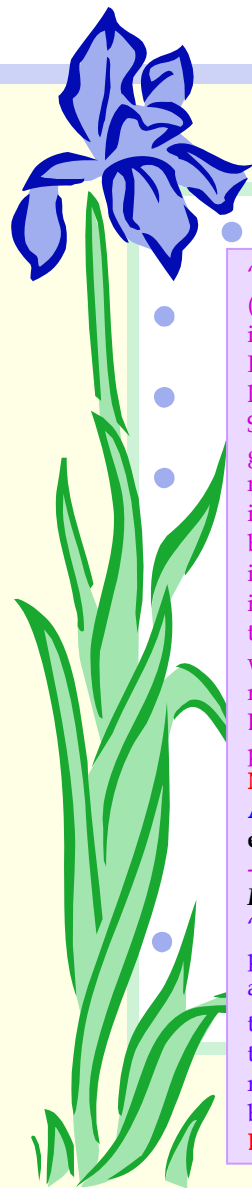
Electrochemical Engineering Research Laboratory (EERL)

Department of Chemical and Bio-molecular Engineering

Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701,USA

Phone: +1-740-593-1443 Fax: +1-740-593-0873 (Work)

e-mail: mmadhi@yahoo.com



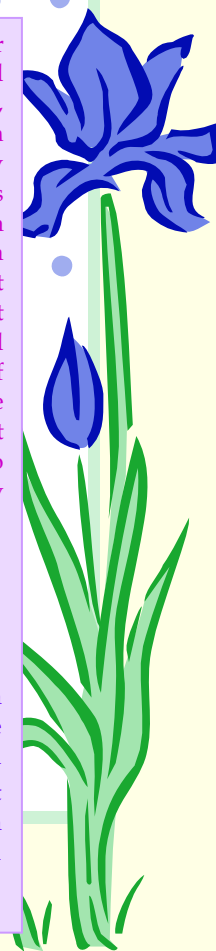
"We are extremely thankful to you for taking time out of your busy schedule to be with us through our visit. Your (Dr.M.Sai Baba) scintillating interaction with the students will remain etched in our memory. The detailed introductory presentation by you was thought provoking and an eye opener. The one day trip to IGCAR, Kalpakkam has enriched our students' mind with a quest for knowledge and learning. This exposure has made a lasting impression on their outlook to Science and Technology, especially Nuclear Energy generation and Energy Security. The visits to the FBTR, Hot cells and Non destructive lab were astonishing experiences. The students grew inquisitive and I should say were unwilling to leave the lab. A short interaction with Dr. John Philip on nanomagnets was an enchanting experience. The visit to the material science labs was enlightening with introduction to particle accelerator and magnetocardiogram. The crisp introduction of the chemistry department by Dr. T. Gnanasekaran was food to the students' questioning minds on the role of chemistry in this great institution. The scientists in all the labs were generous in their knowledge sharing. The students benefited immensely from their lectures. It is indeed a privilege we have received and we thank everyone who was part of this. Our special thanks are due to Mrs. Jalaja, for making our visit comfortable and information 'enriched'. She was with us, guiding us to different departments. Having prepared a detailed itinerary she ensured we didn't miss out the schedules. Her energy is contagious. She is a perfect host! We place on record our sincere thanks to Dr. Baldev Raj for having provided us this wonderful opportunity. Thank you so much for the hospitality provided."

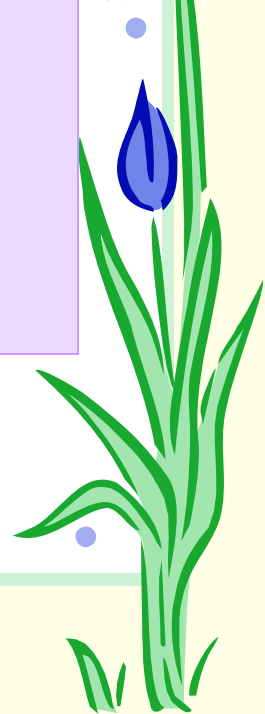
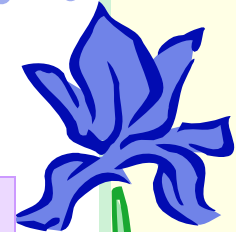
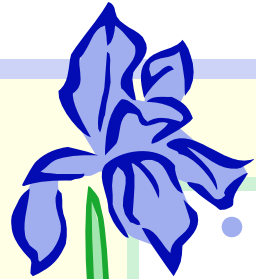
Margaret Marie (On her visit with chemistry students from Women's Christian College to IGCAR)
Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, Women's Christian College, Chennai
e-mail: margaretxavier@gmail.com

Response from Dr.M.Sai Baba, Head,S&HRPS and SIRD

"Under the leadership of Dr. Baldev Raj, Director, IGCAR, our Centre has taken a very proactive approach in providing learning opportunities to the students. We believe each of our interactions with the students should be as complete as possible to let the students know the challenges ahead in the areas of Science and Technology and the approach of our Centre towards meeting the challenges. If the young minds can be kindled we consider that the effort is worth. We believe that such interactions should not only enrich the students with the information related to our Centre but also motivate them to take up the R&D as a career. If some of the students grew and become part of our Department, we would be very happy."

Dr.M.Sai Baba, Head,S&HRPS and SIRD

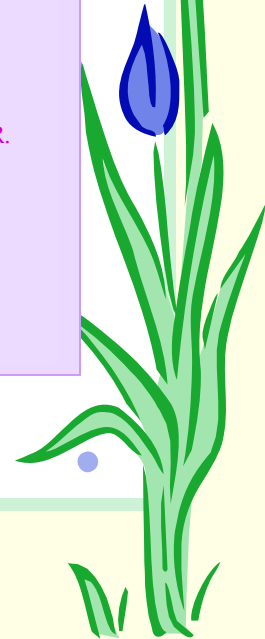
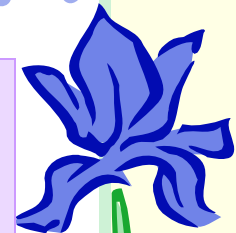
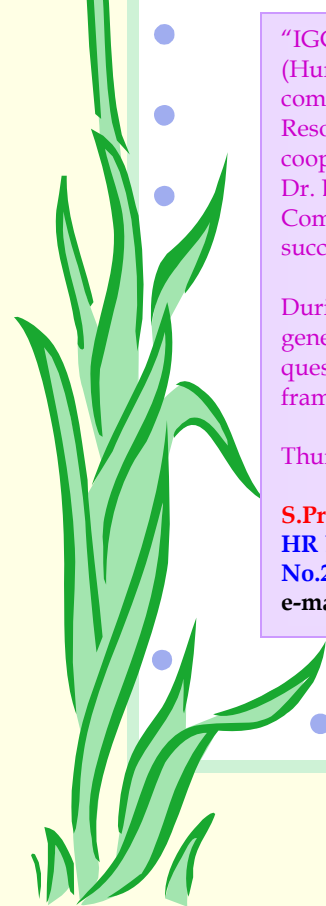
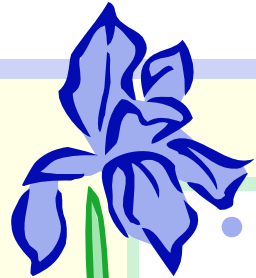




"I would like to thank you very much for being my mentor for my INAE summer fellowship. I am also grateful to all the people there at PMD (IGCAR) who helped me with my project especially Mrs.Mythili, Dr.Saroja and Dr.Divakar.

With your blessings and the confidence that I got at IGCAR I think I will get what I want.
I once again thank you for your enormous help and support"

Mukesh Kumar Sharma, (Dr.Baldev Raj mentored his INAE summer fellowship)
IV year, Metallurgy and Materials Engineering,
B.E.S.U, Shibpur,
Howrah-711103.

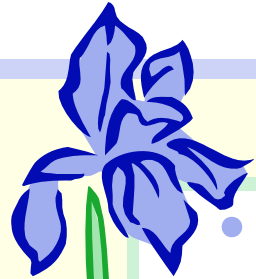


"IGCAR provided a unique environment to conduct my research during my post- graduation i.e. MBA (Human Resources). The support from the start allowed me to closely intertwine theory and practice. Having completed graduation in Electronics & Instrumentation Engineering with post graduation in Human Resources, broadened my thought process in understanding other side of the spectrum. While I had cooperation from a highly talented group of researchers (sample) in IGCAR, my dedicated research associate Dr. B P C Rao, Head EMSI Section, NDED, under whose guidance I worked, deserve special mention. Commitment, persistent research support and drive for perfection were the main ingredients for the successful completion of the study.

During the course of my research, I met and discussed with several IGCAR scientists / engineers who generously gave their time and insight which greatly shaped the ideas in my research. The challenging questions and thoughtful feedback clarified and strengthened the framework. Many of the ideas and framework developed during the research sharpened my thinking. I was fortunate to work with IGCAR.

Thumps up to men of science (IGCAR)!"

S.Praise Leena, (She has done her MBA project work with Dr.B.P.C.Rao)
HR Executive, Peoplestar HR Consultants
No.2, Air Force Station Road, East Tambaram, Chennai 600059
e-mail:daesbels@rediffmail.com

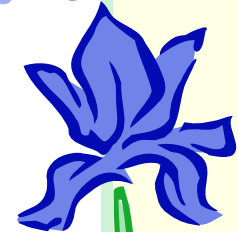


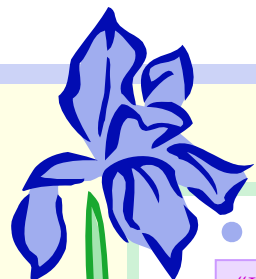
"Those were the days when a small school boy had dreamt of being a scientist with his head full of stories of Newton, Edison and Einstein. And here comes a day, the same boy sitting at 'IGCAR' writes on spending his 'Vacation with Scientists'.

I am one among those many who came here with nothing and walk out with their heads for Science. Can you just imagine scientists of top-most positions providing needful guidance for a little stranger who walks in for two months? It is that hands-on experience you got on all equipments [Costlier and Difficult], which makes IGCAR unique from other institutions. I know many Institutions where equipments are not meant for students and are kept safely inside a locker for years with no use. I feel IGCAR has well established the principle of '*Yatha Raja Thatha Praja*'. I can still show many mails, I received from many researchers rejecting and insulting for my request to work under them. IGCAR was a place for me where I got something more than what I wanted. Kalpakkam is a hot place to people who come here on a vacation, but it is a centre of scientific Research to people coming here for science. I was literally shocked looking at the huge library getting everything you ask for.

I still wonder about the good treatment that IGCAR showed to an undergraduate like me, when my friends wasted their time having gone to so-called prestigious institutes just for the reason that they are 'undergraduates'. Talents are always respected and encouraged at IGCAR. I am really thankful to Dr. Baldev Raj sir for giving me this golden opportunity and IGCAR for giving me so many things."

Sagar Prabhuder
IAS-Summer fellow-2009
II-B-Tech Chemical Engineering
NITK - Surathkal





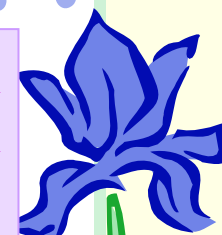
"I would like to introduce myself as Santosh Gurunath. I was a Summer Research Fellow at IGCAR Kalpakkam, during May-July 2009, under the Indian Academy of Sciences Fellowship program. I have completed my B.Tech in Chemical Engineering at NIT Calicut, and now I am heading to TU Delft, Netherlands for a course in MSc Chemical Engineering, specialization Nuclear Science and Engineering. I had met you (Dr.Baldev Raj) once in your office, and multiple times during various conferences at IGCAR, during my time there. I would like to express my deepest gratitude for your support and guidance throughout my stay there, without which it would not have possible for me to achieve this feat. You (Dr.Baldev Raj) had even advised me to pursue my MS/PhD abroad, where I can benchmark with the best in the world, and then come back to India. I am definitely heading for the same, and this is my first step. Once again I would like to thank you (Dr.Baldev Raj) and IGCAR for making this happen."

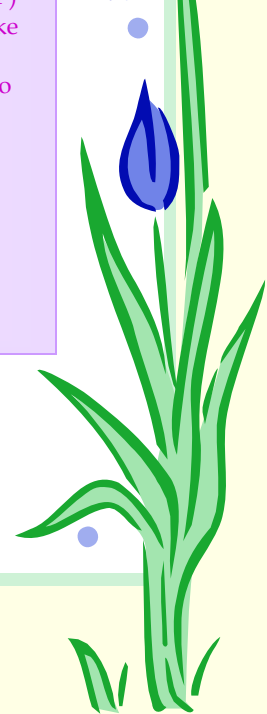
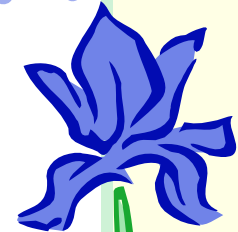
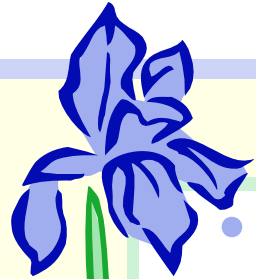
Santosh Gurunath(Project done under the IASc-INSA-NASI -Summer Research Fellowship Programme)
M.Sc. in Chemical Engineering, TU Delft, Netherlands,
Former student of NIT, Calicut
e-mail: santosh_bch06@nitc.ac.in

Response from Dr.Baldev Raj, Distinguished Scientist and Director, IGCAR

"I am very happy that your stay as a Summer Research Fellow at IGCAR enabled you to do education in Netherlands which is one of the outstanding Universities in the world. I am happy that you are keeping high aspirations and expectations from you. I am sure, you would succeed on the basis of your intelligence and conviction."

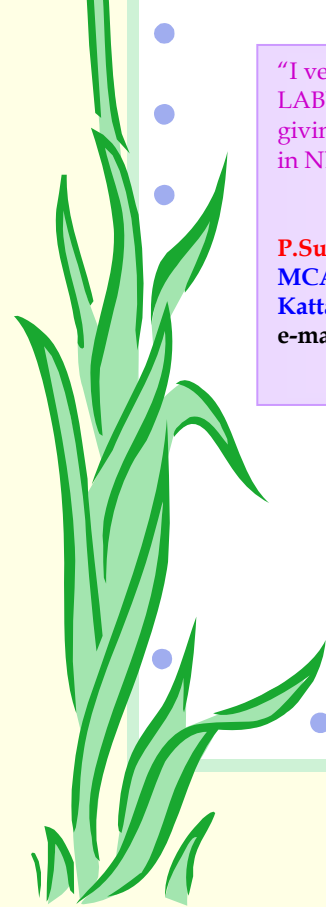
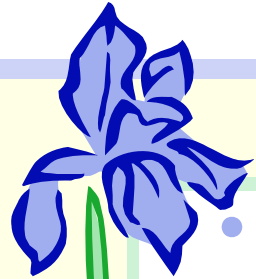
Dr.Baldev Raj, Distinguished Scientist and Director, IGCAR





"I did my M. Tech project in IGCAR under your guidance. I am working in Padmini VNA Mechatronics (P) Ltd. as an Engineer-Quality Assurance, I have to check the samples through different testing conditions like environment test, corrosion test, shock test, vibration test, etc., to check whether the sample is accepted or rejected. My stay in IGCAR was comfortable and I learnt a lot in NDT in Kalpakkam. I tell my juniors to do project in IGCAR".

Shanjeevi, (He has worked with Dr.B.P.C.Rao for his M.Tech. project)
Engineer, Quality Assurance, Padmini VNA Mechatronic Pvt. Ltd.
Jal Vihar, Basai Garhi Road, Village Dhankot, Gurgaon - 122001, Haryana
Phone: 91-124-3207398/99 Fax: 91-124-2278585
e-mail: shanjeevii@yahoo.com



"I very much liked doing project in IGCAR under your valuable guidance. I could learn MATLAB and LABVIEW in IGCAR and they are going to be useful to me in my new job. I sincerely thank IGCAR for giving me this golden opportunity. For me it is a dream come true to do project on NDE Sensor Data Fusion in NDE Division, IGCAR"

P.Subhashree, (She has worked with Dr.B.P.C.Rao for her MCA project)
MCA, Velliammal Engineering College
Kattankulattur, Chennai
e-mail:sshree83@gmail.com

