

Improvements to electrical network

The new 12.5 MVA 66KV/11KV transformer has been installed and is being commissioned. This will supplement the two existing 5 MVA transformers that are more than 25 years old. The new transformer will increase the total power that can be drawn by the campus, while providing some redundancy. A ring main is also being established for the substations on the northern side of the campus; this will reduce their downtime, as the power supply can be rerouted in case of failure at a substation. Steps have been taken to replace the overhead 66KV line from the CVH Gate to the 66KV/11KV substation with an underground cable. This will help protect the Institute's only power supply line from the vagaries of the weather, and the possibility of short circuit from contact with trees. An order has been placed for two 2 MW gensets to provide centralised backup when BESCOM power fails; these are likely to be installed in the next four months. All the substations on campus have been audited and remedial actions are underway.

Naming of new amenities center

The new shopping complex opposite the old Janata Bazaar will henceforth be referred to as the "North Campus Amenities Centre." The amenities centre for students at the old C mess will be called "Sarvam," as decided by the Students' Council.

Greening of campus

The Institute has taken up initiatives through the garden and nursery to increase the green cover on campus. Green grass has been planted on both sides of the main roads, Gulmohar Marg and Tala Marg, to prevent soil erosion due to rains. Around 80 saplings have been planted along the peripheral road from Faculty Club to D gate, and around 150 behind "Sarvam," to compensate for the trees that naturally fall due to heavy rains, and those that are removed in exceptional cases for developmental activities. These efforts will continue, and our next greening effort will be around the Biological Sciences building.

Rain havoc on 'Friday the 13th'

The Institute encountered unprecedented rains on the evening of the 13th of October, causing flooding and damage to infrastructure. Some parts of the hostels and housing were flooded with storm water. Several trees fell, including a large one on Tala Marg, disrupting vehicular movement. The Institute's compound walls gave way in two stretches. The subway was flooded with water, with one vehicle getting stalled in the accumulated water. The administration took rapid action, and helped the students and staff whose rooms/houses got flooded. Alternative accommodation was provided wherever needed. Housekeeping staff was deployed to clean up the mess. Rapid response by the garden and nursery helped in the removal of fallen trees in record time. The areas where boundary walls had given way were provided additional security to safeguard the Institute's property. Stagnant water was pumped out of the subway and the vehicle was towed away. Normalcy was restored within twelve hours of the deluge.

Exchange programs for students

The Institute enters into agreements with many foreign universities and institutions, enabling academic cooperation. In such cases, financial support needs to be acquired through various sources. A list of these agreements with their salient features are listed in the Office of International Relations (OIR) website under the "MOUs/Agreements" hyperlink. Similarly, funding opportunities are announced through the same website under the "Funding opportunities" hyperlink, apart from notifications sent through Broadcast. Please visit the OIR website at <http://www.oir.iisc.ac.in> for more details.