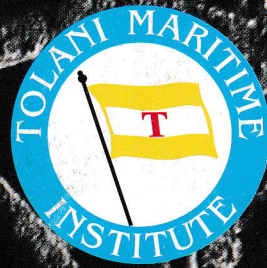


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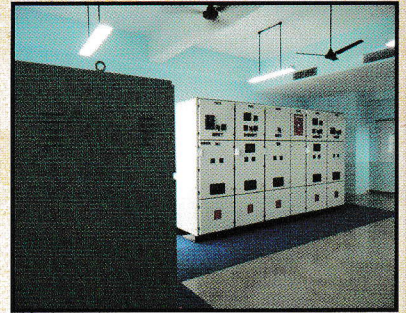
Memories linger and some fade away into oblivion. Moments encountered come with mixed emotions. Dark clouds do not always hover above us and the silver lining does come through in the darkest of times. The strong hold on and the weak move on. Some say Destiny guides us through whilst some prefer to take the road less travelled upon. Life is a basket full of surprises and it is up to us to enjoy it to the fullest. On this note, I would like to present to you the December issue of Maritimes. Inside is an interview with Prof. Sanjay B. Dabadgaonkar, a case study on pirate attacks, an interesting excerpt about one of our very own and many more. Best wishes to all our readers for the New Year. Na zdravje!

- Alakshendra Joshi

TMI Commissions High Voltage Switch-Gear Lab

- Tushar Raj

TMI, as always, keeps in pace with the modern technology and industrial need of providing much needed high voltage training in marine applications. Recently, it has established a new High Voltage Switch-Gear Laboratory for imparting value added training not only to the TMI undergraduate courses, but also for upgrading knowledge and skills of the existing seafarers. Headed by the highly experienced and expert Senior Associate Professor of Electrical Department, Mr. Laxman Tikore, the lab is introduced by massive efforts of the Workshop and Electrical departments only; rather than any external collaborations(outside partners).



Switchgears are as old as the electricity generation. It was invented at the end of 19th century for operating motors and other electrical machines. The technology has been improved and can be used with voltages up to 1,100 kV.

In an electric power system, switchgears are the combination of electrical disconnect switches, fuses or circuit breakers used to control, protect and isolate electrical equipment. They are used both to de-energize equipment to allow work to be done and clear faults downstream. These types of equipment are important because they are directly linked to the reliability of electrical supply.

Common types of switchgears are open-air isolated type, oil type and vacuum-insulated type (being the recent one with minimal arcing). Switchgear for low voltages maybe entirely enclosed within a building, as impeccably done in TMI workshop with utmost safety features and the whole setup is approved by Electricity Department of Pune division, Maharashtra.

The setup consists of Low Voltage Switch-Gear, High Voltage Switch-Gear and Step-Up Transformer. Low Voltage Switch-Gear (440V) consists of ACBs (Air-Circuit Breaker) to feed power to the entire system. High Voltage Switch-Gear (6.6kV) consists of two sections fed by two VCBs (Vacuum Circuit Breaker) and connected by Bus Tie as VCB. Also, there is provision of two outgoing feeders (VCBs) for future expansion. Two Step-Up Transformers (oil-filled type) are worth Rs. 30 lacs (approx.).

The special feature of this lab is that it includes circuit breakers of Vacuum-type which are the latest technology in the field of arc extinction. These breakers are compact, maintenance free and highly reliable. Therefore, this technology is gaining popularity in the marine field.

The training includes teaching of observing safety while working on HV Switch-Gear, reading of layout, carrying-out switching sequence, shifting of load, proving system dead, earthing down procedure for feeder and Bus-Bars, filling up EPTW(Electrical Permit To Work). Ultimately, diminishing fear in one's mind about HV and making one feel confident while working with it.

Indian Navy's visit to TMI

- Siddhartha Wankhade

The Indian Navy, with 58,000 men and women, including 7,000 naval aviation personnel and 2,000 Marine Commandos(MARCOS), is the world's fifth largest navy. It currently operates more than 180 vessels and 181 aircrafts. It celebrates Navy Day every year on 4 December. This day commemorates the daring attack by Indian Naval Missile boats on Karachi Harbour during the Indo-Pak War of 1971.

India uses its navy primarily for safeguarding its coastline and Special Economic Zones. It is also used to enhance India's international relations through joint exercises, port visits, and humanitarian missions, including disaster relief.

On 22 November, 2012, for the first time ever, Indian Navy visited a Marine Engineering college for campus selections. The very first campus to be visited by them happened to be our very own, 'Clean and Green' campus of Tolani Maritime Institute. It is one of the greatest moments for TMI. Volunteers turned up in large numbers for this placement drive.

Another purpose of the Indian Navy's visit was to enlighten us all about career aspects. Cadets of all years were addressed by Commodore NN Rao, Commander R Rajagopalan and Lieutenant Commander Alok Lange, and were

numerous presentation slides, enlightening all of us and eradicating misconceptions about the Navy. The clips displayed their might of, showed its technological and its fighting-fit and skilled sailors. The slides covered all necessary information about the Navy, right from pay and perks, canteen facilities, medical facilities, insurance, schooling for children and sports facilities.

One can join any of the various cadres of the Navy namely Logistics, Law, Administration, Air Traffic Control, Armament Inspection, Hydrography, Submarines, Electrical, Aviation, Research, Survey and Navigation. It has a vast fleet of warships and submarines, with state-of-the-art technology equipped with advanced machinery and propulsion systems.

What Indian Navy has to offer is much more than a career. It offers a life full of pride and respect, adventure and glory. It cares for its people by ensuring personal, financial and emotional security. The Navy calls for people who are ready to take up challenges up ahead in life, who are mentally tough and are determined to achieve something in life. The navy brings out the best in its personnel. Joining the Navy is a decision which one can never regret in his/her lifetime.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru rightly said, "To be safe on land, we must be supreme at sea". The men in white are the ones responsible for safeguarding coastal boundaries and are one of the very reasons we sleep peacefully. Their never ending determination will always ensure a safe and bright future for India. TMI will be proud to have Naval officers as their alumni and we believe that many more are yet to come. ANCHORS AWEIGH!!!

Cultural Night

- Pranav Gupta

TMI hosts a lot of cultural events in the campus. One such occasion was on October 2012 when a night of music and dance commenced with the felicitation of Dr. Dhananjay Daithankar, Mrs. Swati Daithankar & Mr. Kanetkar. Mrs. Daithankar performed 'Bharatnatyam'; a rare type of dance form which kept the audience spellbound. The other two maestros (Dr. Dhananjay and Mr. Kanetkar) with their instruments, Santoor and Tabla, took up the stage. Their mesmerizing *Jugalbandi* was a feast for the ears. The best part of the evening was when Mrs. Swati & Dr. Dhananjay stunned the crowd with their breath taking performance in which the former showcased a dance depicting the might of Lord Shiva on the up flow of tones given by the Santoor maestro. The harmonization among them was impeccable. The whole crowd of TMI could relate to the emotions emanating in their performance.



The Provost acknowledged the artists for showcasing their talents and for their efforts in protecting and popularizing the identity of India that is her rich heritage. The institute in true sense felt honoured to witness such an extravagant display of a piece of classical India.

Prerna: A festival of Lamps

- Sonal Kumar

On 30th November, '12 CHRD club organised a musical evening for all the enthusiastic cadets, caring wardens and faculty of TMI. The event started with a small session on 'The Power of Love' that was the central theme of the festival. It was beautifully promulgated by the Chief Speaker that the ultimate purpose of religion is to bring one to the understanding that everyone belongs to God and that every living entity is an eternal servant of God.

After that, a meticulously plotted drama titled 'Mind Your Mind' was performed by the cadets of TMI depicting the importance of controlling one's mind. This was followed by a performance of singers from Talegaon. Then it was time for the most awaited moment of the evening; all those who were present there offered lamps to the Lord with great devotion alongwith the soothing tune of 'Damodarasthakam' in the background which was accompanied by a splendid performance of the 'Gandharvas'-the band of the club. The cadets danced in ecstasy to the mesmerising music proclaiming the holynome of the Lord. Moreover, Dr. Sanjeet Kanungo spoke few words of inspiration to the students at the end. The evening ended with the serving of Prasadam in the form of dinner. Finally, the CHRD Club thanked everyone present there for helping them in making the programme a great success and the college administration for granting permission to organize the

Rendezvous with Prof. Sanjay B. Dabadgaonkar

-Tushar Raj

Let me tell you a story of an impressive and electrifying personality-which has no beginning or end as such. Arbitrarily, one has to choose the moment of concern of his life from which to look back or to look ahead. However, you will find it admirable in either ways, for sure. Born on 25th November, 1966, he is the gentleman who always exudes generosity and love to others as well as an unmatched devotion to his work. Better known as Prof. Dabadgaonkar, he has always been dynamic and friendly in imparting imperative knowledge to all the cadets. Recently, Maritimes luckily managed a colloquy with this virtuous persona and is overjoyed to present to you the overview of the same in a nutshell.



1) A child prodigy, hearty human and a staunch professor, Sir, where did the journey begin?

I was born in the serene environment of Osmanabad(MH) and did my primary and secondary schooling from S.B. high school. Later, I completed my higher secondary in 1984 from Ramakrishna Paramhansa College. In 1989, I did my B.E. (Electronics) from Marathwada University, Aurangabad(MH) and subsequently, secured my M.Tech. in Power Electronics from Gulbarga University (Karnataka) in 1998. *(smiles)*

2) How did you get where you are today?

Now-a-days, I'm pursuing my PhD in 'Variable Frequency Drives and Its Application On-Board Ship' from Jawaharlal Nehru Technical University (Hyderabad). Till date, I have submitted more than fifty research papers that were published in various national and international journals. *(gesticulates)*

I was also nominated to submit proposals for the books by In-Tech Publication (Vienna, Austria) and Lambert Academic Publishing (Germany). As far as my professional memberships are concerned, I'm a fellow member of Institution of Engineers (India), Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers (India) and Indian Society for Technical Education.

Not long ago, I was bestowed by the honour of 'Outstanding Technical Staff Award' for teaching Undergraduate courses. Also, my biography was published in 2010 edition of 'Marquis Who's Who in the World'. Last but not the least, I'm an approved Asst. Prof. and Lecturer in Pune University and Dr. B.A.M. University, Allahabad; and, Area Chair of Electrical and Electronics Department in TMI. *(grins)*

And, recently because of encouragement given by Tolani Management, I presented a paper in IWCEM, 2012(Singapore) and was also the Session Chair for it. In addition, I have been honoured with the invitation for the IWCEM Board Meeting, 2013.

3) What dreams and goals inspired to reach the pinnacle of your successful life?

My longings in life were to serve as an Academic Counsellor to the students, engaged in scholarly acts and creative endeavours; hence, providing contribution to education and training system of our country. Besides, I also saw highly-educated and respected people in my life and always dreamed to be like them one day. Perhaps, these might be the reasons that motivated me to strive for a successful and meaningful life. *(declaims)*

4) What do you like most about your teaching career?

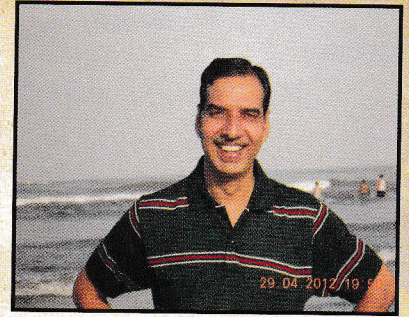
Foremost of all, teaching is a two-way interactive learning procedure. Thus after taking every lecture, I find my knowledge, teaching expertise and relations with students increased manifolds. *(titters)* Furthermore, it always fascinates me when cadets come and tell us what they have accomplished in life, after passing out years ago. Verily speaking, at that moment it feels like, we professors, along with them have achieved something very precious in life and our efforts didn't go in vain! *(Giggles)*

5) What hobbies do you pursue to live a balanced life?

I do painting and crafting in my leisure time. And, as far as outdoor hobbies are concerned, I'm fond of Mountaineering and Trekking. In sports, I play Cricket, Basketball and Badminton (a bit); in addition, being a college Chess champion, my favourite pastime is to play and defeat my friends in Chess. *(chortles)*

6) What was the happiest moment of your life?

I'm perplexed to point out one particular happiest moment of my life as there are myriad ones. However, my few revelling moments are when I completed my M.Tech. and got my first job. Along with this, I also felt ecstatic when I got married and was blessed with my two sons Satyam and Manthan. *(smiles)*



7) What are the underlying beliefs, paradigms and assumptions of your life?

In short, we always need to be confident within ourselves. Moreover, we should take life as it comes with utmost courage and dedication. This is all you can call as the notion of my life. *(states)*

8) Who has been the biggest influence in your life? What lessons did that person teach you?

Undoubtedly, my mother has been the most influential person in my life. She taught me that there is no substitution for hard work and we should always flood our heart with love and affection for others. *(professes)*

9) What is the one thing you'd most like to change about the world?

The very one thing I'd like to modify is world's education system. We need to focus on world literacy and establish ways for people to receive a good quality education. We have to find ways to supply standard education consistent for years to come. As a repercussion, it will provide feasible solution to all the problems as well as prove itself to be useful for the betterment of mankind and society to a massive extent. *(conveys)*

10) What is the one simplest way to make life less complicated?

These days, people are getting overwhelmed, stressed, worried and confused owing to daily life complexities. *(worries)* In my opinion, problems will always keep coming, so don't try to run away, because every problem has a solution. Therefore, get relaxed and think positively; remove fear from the mind and take problem as a challenge and try to live life in a simple way. Meditation is also a good solution to remove negative thoughts from our minds.

11) Our Indian Education System puts less interest in 'Research Work' in higher studies. Is this compatible in times to come, or it needs a little modification? What do you think?

Yes, it should be modified like US, UK and other European countries where professors don't tell students to find out the answers of research problems themselves alone. Rather, they have decided their priorities required for technological, social and medical development. So, they are working on these tasks in the form of group activities. The professors from all the renowned universities are there on the panel. These activities related to research are sponsored by corporate and industry. There is proper infrastructure, adequate fund allocation for the research related work. The newly registered student has to join some of the groups based on his/her interest and s/he has to add something new that maybe incremental to that field, which can be considered as a part of his research work. Then, the new team will add further new concepts to the field. So, research will become a continuous process, just not to achieve some short goals. But, there must be research after research and after that it should be again a research work for the benefit of the society.

12) What are the few beautifully written books that you feel we should read, and why?

- a. Wings of Fire: An Autobiography of APJ Abdul Kalam
- b. Hamlet by William Shakespeare
- c. My Experiments With Truth by Mahatma Gandhi
- d. Revolution 2020 by Chetan Bhagat



13) Sir, are there any words of wisdom you'd like to convey to us?

Firstly, the reasonable man adopts himself to the world, while the unreasonable one persists to adapt the world to him. Therefore, almost all progress depends on the unreasonable fellows. So, try and be reasonable in critical times. Secondly, keep in mind that- 'Wisdom is always mightier than strength'. May God bless all of you! *(winks)*

Tennis: All the way best game ever played!

- Ameya Mutatkar

“Tennis is a perfect combination of violent action taking place in an atmosphere of total tranquility”, quoted former great Billie Jean King. The Inter house Tennis tournament was held from 22 to 30 October. Each house had two teams playing for the coveted cup. The tournament saw some wonderful rallies and accurate shots being placed. The initial stages of the tournament witnessed league matches being played in order to decide which teams would face each other in the finals.

The finals were nail biting till the end, Morarjee house remained victorious defeating Cassim. They retained their title in show of raw power, sportsmanship and determination.

This victory run was not an easy one as Master and Mudaliar proved tough adversaries and made their rivals sweat their way to the finals.

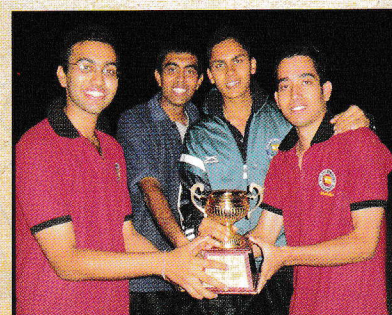
Finally, being the Chief Guest, Mr. Wallace Jacob bestowed the cadets with rewards for their brilliant performances.

The outstanding players were :-

1. Best Single :- Aamir Poonawala (MOR)
2. Best Doubles pair :- Hemant Behl and Samanshu Minhas (MOR)
3. Best Mixed Doubles pair :- Shantanu Malik and Mangala Deoghare (CAS)

The overall house standings were :-

1. Morarjee House
2. Cassim House
3. Mudaliar House
4. Master House



Inter-House Table Tennis Tournament

- Abhinav Agastya

Awe, Amazement and Anxiousness! Such was the atmosphere during the Inter-House Table Tennis Tournament held at Tolani Maritime Institute from 9th Oct., '12 to 15th Oct., '12. The steady sound of ping-pong was captivating and the players skillfully wielding their racquets was a sight in itself. After its origin in England during the 1800's, the sport found its way to India where it was played with much enthusiasm.

One of the fastest playing sport, it has gained extreme popularity in Asia with China adopting it as its National Sport.

Moreover, this sport was given full justice during the aforementioned tournament. Spanning a duration of one week, the teams saw rigorous competition and faced tough opponents. By the end of the tournament, the results were as follows: Master house skillfully defeated Cassim house and bagged the first position. Cassim house took second position with an extraordinary performance in the Doubles category. Mudaliar house grabbed the third position and Morarjee house came fourth.

Players were also awarded with the following medals for their phenomenal performance by the Chief Guest, Mr. Shailendra Kumar:

Best Player Singles (Boys): Cdt. Raunak Apte

Best Player Singles (Girls): Cdt. Jannat Bhullar

Best Doubles: Cdt. Mahesh Prasad Das and Cdt. Ankit Khattar



Tug of War

- Archie Gracias

A contest of strength in which two teams tug on opposite ends of a rope trying to pull the other across the dividing line. This is called the game of 'Tug of war'. The college football ground became the storehouse of energy when it hosted the Inter House Tug of War tournament. The tournament was held from 26th November, '12 to 28th November, '12. Team A and Team B of each house took on each other with all their might to achieve the number one spot. The semifinals showed mixed results in which Mudaliar house beat Cassim house and Morarjee house beat Master house. In team B matches Morarjee house beat Mudaliar house and Cassim beat Master house.



The final match was held on 28th November, '12. As usual the anchors played a vital role in their respective team's win. After the finals, the award to the winner team was bestowed by Professor Anand Pandya and the overall house standings were as follows:-

- 1st :Morarjee House
- 2nd :Mudaliar House
- 3rd :Cassim House
- 4th :Master House

Inter House Cricket Tournament

- Deep Ghatak

The much awaited 'Gentleman's Game' had an enthralling opening at TMI on the December 6, 2012. The spirits of all the cadets clearly reflected that though the year has come to an end, the best is yet to come. In the deciders, the Cassims overruled the Mudaliars and the Masters were better than the Morarjees. The semi-final results were:

- Cassim house beat Morarjee house
- Mudaliar house beat Master house

In the finals, the Cassim house showed some exhilarating batting to set a decent target of 115 in 16 overs. The openers were undoubtedly in the best of their form. But the Mudaliars were in no mood to lose the grand title. The winning stroke was hit by Cdt. Anjan Roy by hitting a six on a no ball who couldn't have finished his TMI career in any better way.



Being the Chief Guest, Mr. N.K Mishra, bestowed the best players and the elite ones were:

Man of the Match- Cdt. Neeraj Saini (Pre-sea Mudaliar.)

Man of the Series- Cdt. Ajyinka

Finally, the overall house standings were:

- 1. Mudaliar
- 2. Cassim
- 3. Master
- 4. Morarjee

Inter House Cross-Country Tournament

-Hiten Parmar

The Inter-house Cross-Country Competition, 2012 was held on Sunday, 9th December, 2012. Around 600 runners from all four houses participated in this event. The race was flagged off by Capt. Razdan at 0630 hrs. The time limit for all male participants was 30 minutes, and that for female participants was 40 minutes.

The event comprised of a 6 km run. It tested the runner's skill and endurance. Each runner had the determination to complete the race within the given time limit.



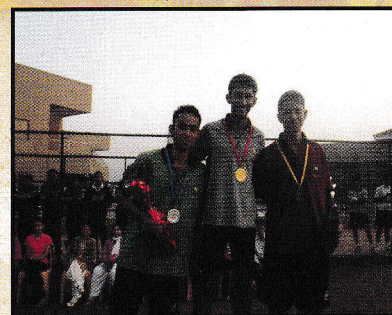
Cadets from all four houses gave their best and sportsmanship was at an all time high. Even a faculty member, Mr. Shishir Dutt, took part in the race and completed within the time limit. The overall house positions were as follows:

- 1st place-Master House
- 2nd place-Mudaliar House
- 3rd place-Morarjee House
- 4th place-Cassim House

Cdt. Namrata Choudhary of Morarjee House stood first in the women's category.

The first three male cadets to complete the race were :

- 1.Sharath Krishna-Master House
- 2.Meghraj Singh-Cassim House
- 3.Gaurav Sasane-Mudaliar House



Radiant Hues of Femininity

- Zeeshan Ali

Cdr. (Retd.) Sukanta Dasgupta held an art exhibition from 27th September to 02nd October at Darpan art gallery titled "Radiant Hues of Femininity", representing its beauty and intricate character. Cdr. (Retd.) Dasgupta is a professor in TMI and deals with subjects related to power plants and thermal engineering. He is a retired Commander of the Indian Navy. Not only does he harbor a great interest in arts, but his hard work and passion have turned him into a great self learned artist. This man from Gaya, a small town in Bihar, owns the power of blending various art forms, the variant spectrum of lights and colours, and the precision of technicality along with the vagueness of beauty.

Talking about his art exhibition, it was a splendid success. It was paper collage art depicting various moods, right from bright charming faces, strange streetscapes to abstract art. His wife and children's portrait and the goddess "Gauri" were a few of the main attractions. The exhibition was attended by cadets and faculty members of TMI and his friends. This exhibition was a very great source of inspiration for the budding artists of TMI and other passionate art lovers as well.

Visits

- Saumya Singh

DATE	NAME OF THE VISITOR	COMPANY
27-Sep-12	Mr. Michel Mc Corkle Mr. Kenneth Fortier Mr. Adrian Prangnell Mr. Prasad Hariharan	Carnival PLC ,USA
1-2 Oct -12	Capt. Ajay Wagle Capt. Parulekar Mr. Varun Ms. Raine Lim	Maersk
5- Oct -12	Mr. Raymond Mendes	MSC ship Mgmt.
3 Nov -12	Ms. Shanti Mojumdar	NGO Operator in Mumbai
12 Nov -12	Mr. R. Ashok	Country Head of ABS
21-22 Nov -12	Cmde. N N Rao (PDMPR) Cdr. R. Rajagopalan (JDMPR) Lt. Cdr. Alok Lange (DDND) Mr. Husain Zulfiquir	Indian Navy
26-27 Nov -12	Mr. CP Paul	Senior Marine Surveyor, MPA Singapore
2- Dec -12	Mr. Tapas Kumar Basu	NYK
4- Dec -12	Mr. Mahesh Garimella Mr. Rahul Dudhade	CEO, OCS Services DMCC Northern Marine
11- Dec -12	Ms. Karen Hughey Mr. Thomas Tan	President & COO, American Bureau of Shipping Vice-President, American Bureau of Shipping

12-Dec-12

Mr. Setsuo Nomura

LL.M. Japan Maritime Center

Mr. C.P. Paul

NYK Ship Management

13-Dec-12

Capt. Shinsuke Ogura

Manager, Seafarers Group, MOL

Of Sailors & Seas

- Kashish Anand

It's a well-known fact that the shipping industry since ancient times has always been a dynamic, ever evolving body, striving for continual and sustainable development at each stage of its evolution. It has not only learnt from its mistakes but has also made conscious efforts to improve upon them while aiming to perfect the already existing customs and regulations that have fared well not only for the marine fraternity but for the environment and the maritime nations as well. It is with this premise that Maritimes brings to you some of the recent happenings in the marine universe. The persistent cognizance of which is not only necessary for complete, all-round development of a marine officer, but of late has also become an informal prerequisite if one is to thrive in this highly competitive industry amidst a recession

1. World seaborne trade- A measure of demand for shipping, port and logistics services – climbed by 4 per cent in 2011, reaching a record high of 8.7 billion tons.

But over the same year, world ship supply capacity expanded much faster, at a rate of 10 per cent, reaching for the first time a total of 1.5 billion deadweight tons, the report says. This supply and demand mismatch is bad news for the industry and for market profitability, especially in view of the continued growth in ship supply capacity, and the current fragile and uncertain economic outlook which threatens prospects for a robust growth in demand.

A total of 60 per cent of world seaborne trade by volume was loaded, and 57 per cent unloaded, in developing-country ports. That is a remarkable shift away from previous patterns, in which developing economies served mainly as loading areas for raw materials and natural resources.

2. Maersk Line receives Energy Efficiency Certification from ABS

- Maersk Line Limited (MLL) has become the first shipping company to receive global certification from the American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) for energy management as per the Guide for Marine Health, Safety, Quality, Environmental and Energy (HSQEE) Management.

- Successful implementation of the standards required a commitment from all levels and functions of the organization, and it underscores MLL's ongoing effort to improve the environmental sustainability of its operations.

- ABS requirements for energy management are based on the international standard, ISO 50001:2011, Energy Management Systems, which sets forth the systems and processes necessary to improve energy performance and efficiency. Implementing an energy management system supports reductions in energy costs, greenhouse gas emissions and other environmental impacts.

- Members of the ABS audit team were present at MLL's Norfolk, Virginia headquarters to verify conformance and present the certificate to the hard working team members who were involved in achieving the milestone. MLL joins a select group of companies who have demonstrated their commitment to sustainable operations and improving energy performance in accordance with ISO 50001

3. Baltic Ace sinks in North Sea

A rescue operation is underway in the North Sea, to rescue the crew of the car carrier- Baltic Ace. Reportedly, 13 of the ship's 24 crew have been rescued following the collision with the 707 TEU container vessel- Corvus J. Four sailors were dead and another seven were missing. The Dutch coastguard said the Baltic Ace "almost certainly has sunk" following the incident about 40 miles from Rotterdam. The shipping lane where the accident happened is one of the busiest in the North Sea, about 60 miles from Europe's busiest port, Rotterdam.

4. Gazprom successfully completes world's first LNG supply via Northern Sea Route

The Ob River liquefied natural gas (LNG) carrier chartered by Gazprom Group successfully completed the world's first LNG supply via the Northern Sea Route (NSR) on 5th Dec. The carrier left the Port of Hammerfest (Norway) on 7th November and arrived at the regasification terminal in the Port of Tobata (Japan) delivering a Gazprom Group-owned LNG cargo to

Two return passages of the Ob River LNG carrier via the NSR confirmed technical and economic feasibility of the NSR for international LNG shipments. High-class icebreaker support and escort vessels, reducing time for delivering cargos, fuel saving, reducing losses from LNG evaporation, increasing volumes of delivered gas, reducing CO₂ emissions and mitigating risks of pirates attack during the voyage – all these accomplished together may be considered as an attractive and reliable solution for the LNG interregional trade, bearing in mind implementation of Russian gas liquefaction projects in the Arctic region.

The successful voyage of the Ob River LNG carrier can make it possible to supply Russian LNG to Asia-Pacific and the European market via the Northern Sea Route.

5. Contribution of shipping to world economy tremendous: SCI Chief

- “It is a unique industry ...shipping is considered to be a silent industry, but the contribution it makes to the world at large is absolutely fantastic ...” --S Hajara, CMD of the country's largest shipping company, SCI while addressing a gathering at the graduation ceremony of the Indian Maritime University.
- “Without shipping, half of the world would starve and the other half would freeze because it is shipping through which 90 per cent of international trade is carried out.”
- He said the centre of production and consumption had moved far apart and without shipping, connecting the two would not have been possible.
- “So, food grain is carried by ships ... crude is imported and that is brought in by shipping ... unfortunately, if you ask anyone how is oil brought, one only thinks of tanker lorries nobody thinks shipping because it is not considered part of your day-to-day activities.”
- “If it wasn't for shipping the entire Indian economy would collapse in a matter of a day because there would be no crude to produce petrol and diesel,” Hajara said.
- He said one aspect of shipping that was still not acknowledged was that although world over prices increased, “shipping contributed to the world economy, and reduced freighter charges in absolute terms.”
- Also, in terms of carbon footprints, it emitted 15 per cent of less gas than road transport, 45 per cent of rail and less than one per cent than that of aviation.

6. World's first and largest LNG-powered containerships to serve Puerto Rico for TOTE

TOTE, Inc. announced it has committed to the construction of two new state-of-the-art containerships for the Puerto Rico trade, with options for three more vessels for additional domestic service. The agreement with General Dynamics NASSCO represents a major technological milestone in international shipping.

The vessels will be the most environmentally friendly containerships in the world with CO₂ emissions-per-container that are 71% less than the vessels now in the Puerto Rican trade. Particulate Matter will be reduced by 99%. Sulfur oxides will be reduced by 98%. Nitrogen oxides will be reduced by 91%. The 3100 TEU vessels are expected to be the largest ships of any kind in the world powered primarily by liquefied natural gas (LNG).

Both ships will be powered by dual-fuel LNG engines that greatly surpass the requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's clean air regulations.

7. NYK building "next generation" vehicle carriers

- Japanese shipping firm NYK has announced the construction of four "next generation" panamax-sized pure car and truck carriers (PCTCs).
- All four vessels are scheduled to be completed from 2014 to 2015. These new vessels are part of the investment plan contained in NYK's medium-term management plan “More Than Shipping 2013”.
- NYK expects the worldwide demand for PCTC transport to “steadily expand.” These four new vessels will be Post Panamax vessels capable of transiting the Panama Canal when the third lane of locks, larger than the current two, becomes operational in the autumn of 2014.
- The new vessels will be 2-3 metres wider than current PCTCs and will be equipped with the latest energy-saving technology, improving fuel performance by about 30 percent per unit. NYK will continue its effort to offer advanced vessels by working positively to develop new designs, improve quality, and “emphasize environmental consciousness.”

Case Study on Piracy

- Sawant Faheem A.A.

The resurgence of pirate attacks in African waters is now a subject of deep concern in the global maritime community. During the last decade piracy has been mostly prevalent in three main areas – The Somalian Coast/ The Gulf Of Aden along the East African Coast, Nigeria's territorial waters in West Africa and the Mozambique Channel / Cape sea route in Southern Africa. However the emergence of piracy is also brewing in the Gulf Of Guinea.

The Gulf Of Guinea region has significant geo-strategic and maritime potential. The region encompasses a dozen countries which are an integral part of Southwest Africa. They are endowed with enormous mineral and marine resources such as oil, diamond, gold etc. The above mentioned Gulf Of Guinea contains 50.4 billion barrels of proven reserves and it produces an average of 5.4 million barrels of oil per day. The Gulf accounts for a total of 427 of the 1434 attacks in the African waters between 2003 and 2011. The frequency of attacks is on the high. The Gulf Of Guinea pirates are known to be extremely violent and extremely dangerous usually deploying sophisticated firearms like Kalashnikov rifles. The pirates are steadily modifying their tactics by high-jacking fishing vessels particularly within Nigerian waters and thus using the same to attack merchant vessels off the coast of neighboring countries. It is believed that the Mafia are organizing and financing the operations of pirates.

In a bid to contain the destruction left in the wake of pirates, the affected countries were given 2760 assorted guns, 287445 ammunitions of different caliber, 18 gun boats, 763 dynamites, 1090 dynamite caps etc. The cost of combating this mutating threat is proving to be a costly affair indeed. The loss of human lives and valuable property cannot be compensated not excluding numerous bodily injuries, mental trauma inflicted upon innocent crew members and their families. The cost of piracy both from stolen cargoes and higher insurance premiums and security costs are estimated to be around 2 million USD per year. For countering piracy and improving maritime security in the region several engagements both local and international have been brought into force. In order to prevent such a menace, there is a need to promote and preserve alertness at seas. Hence maritime safety holds prime importance in stamping out piracy. It is also necessary to uproot the origins of piracy which arise inland where the entire problem actually persists. Weak governments along with collapsing economies are hot spots for piracy eruptions and must be dealt with in a diplomatic way. As Mariners we should all work progressively towards eradicating piracy and making the oceans a safe place to work. After all, one's workplace must be safe.

The Mayan Calendar

- Alakshendra Joshi

The Mayan calendar is a system of calendars used in the pre-Columbian Mesoamerica and in many modern communities in highland Guatemala and in Veracruz, Qaxaca and Chiapas, Mexico. The essentials of the Mayan calendar are based upon a system which had been common use throughout the region, dating back to atleast 5th century BCE. It shares many aspects with calendars employed by other mesoamerican civilizations such as the Zapotec and Olmec. Along with the Aztecs, the Mayan calendars are the best documented and well understood.

The Mayan calendar consists of several cycles or counts of different lengths. The 260 day count is known to scholars as the Tzolkin. It was combined with a 360 day vague solar year known as the Haab to form a synchronized cycle lasting for 52 Haab called the calendar round. Smaller cycles of 13 days, the tracená and 20 days the vintena were important components of both cycles. The Calendar Round is still in use by many groups in the Guatemalan highlands.

A different calendar was used to track longer periods of time, and for the inscription of calendar dates (i.e., identifying when one event occurred in relation to others). This is the Long Count. It is a count of days since a mythological starting-point. According to the correlation between the Long Count and Western calendars accepted by the great majority of Maya researchers (known as the Goodman-Martinez-Thompson, or GMT, correlation), this starting-point



is equivalent to August 11, 3114 BCE in the proleptic Gregorian calendar or 6 September in the Julian calendar (-3113 astronomical). By its linear nature, the Long Count was capable of being extended to refer to any date far into the past or future. This calendar involved the use of a positional notation system, in which each position signified an increasing multiple of the number of days.

With the development of the place-notational Long Count calendar (believed to have been inherited from other Mesoamerican cultures), the Maya had an elegant system with which events could be recorded in a linear relationship to one another, and also with respect to the calendar ("linear time") itself. In theory, this system could readily be extended to delineate any length of time desired, by simply adding to the number of higher-order place markers used (and thereby generating an ever-increasing sequence of day-multiples, each day in the sequence uniquely identified by its Long Count number). In practice, most Maya Long Count inscriptions confine themselves to noting only the first five coefficients in this system (a b'ak'tun-count), since this was more than adequate to express any historical or current date (20 b'ak'tuns cover 7,885 solar years). Even so, example inscriptions exist which noted or implied lengthier sequences, indicating that the Maya well understood a linear (past-present-future) conception of time. However, and in common with other Mesoamerican societies, the repetition of the various calendric cycles, the natural cycles of observable phenomena, and the recurrence and renewal of death-rebirth imagery in their mythological traditions were important influences upon Maya societies. This conceptual view, in which the "cyclical nature" of time is highlighted, was a pre-eminent one, and many rituals were concerned with the completion and re-occurrences of various cycles. As the particular calendric configurations were once again repeated, so too were the "supernatural" influences with which they were associated. Thus it was held that particular calendar configurations had a specific "character" to them, which would influence events on days exhibiting that configuration. Divinations could then be made from the auguries associated with a certain configuration, since events taking place on some future date would be subject to the same influences as its corresponding previous cycle dates. Events and ceremonies would be timed to coincide with auspicious dates, and avoid inauspicious one. The completion of significant calendar cycles ("period endings"), such as a k'atun-cycle, were often marked by the erection and dedication of specific monuments (mostly stela inscriptions, but sometimes twin-pyramid complexes such as those in Tikal and Yaxha), commemorating the completion, accompanied by dedicatory ceremonies. A cyclical interpretation is also noted in Maya creation accounts, in which the present world and the humans in it were preceded by other worlds (one to five others, depending on the tradition) which were fashioned in various forms by the gods, but subsequently destroyed. The present world also had a tenuous existence, requiring the supplication and offerings of periodic sacrifice to maintain the balance of continuing existence. Similar themes are found in the creation accounts of other Mesoamerican societies. Another important calendar for the Maya was the Venus cycle. The Maya kings had skilled astronomers who could calculate the Venus cycle with great accuracy. There are six pages in the Postclassic Dresden Codex devoted to the accurate calculation of the heliacal rising of Venus. The Maya were able to achieve such accuracy by careful observation over many years. Venus was often referred to as both "The Morning Star" and "The Evening Star" because of its visibility during both times. This makes Venus unique. There are various theories as to why the Venus cycle was especially important for the Maya. Across Mesoamerica, Venus was often depicted as "defeating" the Sun and the Moon, perhaps because of its persistent visibility after transitions from day-into-night (and vice-versa). Most scholars agree that Venus was associated with war and that the Maya used it to divine good times (called electional astrology) for their coronations and wars. Maya rulers planned for wars to begin when Venus rose.

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