



**GOLDEN JUBILEE
CLASS OF 1976**

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FOREWORD BY

Professor Nilanjan Senroy, Dean of Alumni Relations

Dear Friends,

As the Batch of 1976 stands at the threshold of its Golden Jubilee, it gives me immense pleasure to extend my warm greetings to each one of you. This milestone marks not just the passage of fifty years, but a remarkable journey defined by excellence, enduring friendships, and contributions that extend far beyond the campus of IIT Delhi.

This reunion is a moment to pause and reflect on the formative years spent at the Institute, years that shaped intellect, character, and aspirations. Within these hallowed halls, lifelong bonds were forged, ideas were nurtured, and ambitions took root. The experiences you shared here laid the foundation for the diverse and distinguished paths you have since pursued across the world.

The yearbook, thoughtfully curated for this occasion, stands as a rich chronicle of your shared journey. It captures moments of camaraderie, challenge, discovery, and triumph, and reflects the spirit that continues to bind the Batch of 1976 across time and distance. As you turn its pages, may it rekindle memories of academic pursuits, spirited debates, friendships formed, and the unique energy of campus life that defined your years at IIT Delhi.

In preserving these memories, we celebrate not only a shared past but also the values that define the IIT Delhi community resilience, innovation, integrity, and a commitment to excellence. These values are evident in the lives you have led and the contributions you have made to society, industry, academia, and beyond.

May this Golden Jubilee Reunion be a time of reflection, reconnection, and celebration. Cherish the memories, renew old friendships, and take pride in a legacy that goes far beyond degrees earned a legacy of lives enriched and meaningful impact created.

Welcome back to your alma mater. May this reunion be a fitting celebration of the extraordinary journey of the Batch of 1976 and the enduring bond you share with IIT Delhi.

WARM REGARDS,

Prof. Nilanjan Senroy

Dean of Alumni Relations

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Those Were The Days

The foundation of facing real-world challenges was laid in School and College

I must confess that when I entered IIT Delhi, my emotional state was somewhat akin to that of a reluctant bride. My real aspiration at the time was to pursue theoretical physics. Having secured a reasonably good rank in the JEE, I had the option of choosing almost any discipline at any of the five IITs that then existed. However, tremendous parental persuasion—reinforced by the enthusiastic counsel of neighbours in the government colony where we lived—eventually convinced me to join IIT Delhi.

It was only much later that I fully realised the brand value of an IIT education in our country. Many years afterwards, my wife casually remarked that my proposal for an arranged marriage might not even have been considered had I not been an IITian. At that moment, I silently thanked the combined forces of parental guidance and social pressure that had nudged me toward IIT—and thereby prevented me from becoming the “fourth idiot” in the famous movie.

My stay in the hostel was rather brief, as I obtained exemption from hostel residence. Consequently, while a few of my friendships with fellow IITians were forged during the years 1971–76, acquaintance and friendship with many more developed later in life.

Needless to say, those formative years at IIT Delhi left me with many vivid memories: In my first year, I successfully resisted ragging and bullying that went beyond the bounds of decency—an act that, for a while, earned me a certain heroic status among some friends and classmates. I won second prize in the Freshers’ Debate, where I argued strongly in favour of India’s intervention in Bangladesh. Curious about the outcome—since the audience reaction had been very encouraging—I later asked the judge why I had not won first prize. His reply was disarmingly simple: I had spoken for only three minutes instead of the allotted five. So much for the idea that brevity is the soul of wit.

On one occasion after class, I accepted a challenge from a group of classmates to perform 100 push-ups. Having successfully completed the task, I was generously rewarded with a bottle of Coca-Cola.

During one annual sports meet, I decided—rather ambitiously—to participate in the 5000-metre race. While practising on the road the previous day, I accidentally injured my right ankle. Nevertheless, I turned up for the race the next morning and, despite limping for most of the distance, managed to finish in fifth place. These small anecdotes, and many other similar ones, form part of the mosaic of memories from those formative years at IIT Delhi—years that, in retrospect, shaped both my outlook and my journey in life.

Message For Classmates

I cherish pleasant memories of the days with all of you at IIT-D.

My Life After IIT Delhi...

PROFESSIONAL:

Started career with Larsen & Toubro (L&T) in 1976. Joined HCL in 1980 when the Indian Computer-industry had started emerging as a significant force. Subsequently, shouldered responsibility in many senior positions in the Information-Technology and Telecom-sectors. During 1993-2000, as a Strategy & Management Consultant (through my own consulting company), handled major assignments (including India Entry-Strategy) for organizations like – Compaq Computers (S'Pore), Apple Computers (Hong Kong), Mathys (Switzerland), Chase, Shearman & Sterling (USA), et al;

As General-Editor, compiled 'The Business Guide to India' (a best-selling handbook on Foreign Investment) published in end-1996 by Butterworth-Heinemann, UK/Singapore.

In 2000, co-founded ElectronicTender, a company focussed on bringing Transparency & Integrity in Public-Procurement. ElectronicTender has developed a cutting-edge e-procurement/ e-tendering/ e-auction software product, Electronic-Tendering-Engine (ETE) for public-procurement that is licensed to e-Procurement Service-Providers. Based on available information, ETE is distinctively ahead in respect of 'Security, Transparency, and Integrity' related functionality, compared to any other e-Government Procurement (e-GP) related initiative in any other part of the world.

PERSONAL:

Married in 1983, and have 3-children (twin daughters and a son)

ElectronicTender, has now developed 'First-of-its-type-in the World', Multilingual e-Tendering system, where apart from the option of bidding in English, a Buyer-organization can provide Bidders the option of bidding in other allowed-languages. In public-interest, have shared in public-domain and with authorities in various countries (India, EU, Multilateral agencies, et al), important Security, Transparency and Integrity related aspects of our ground-breaking research over the last 26-years, to enable them to check malpractices under the garb of e-procurement.

How My Stay At IIT Impacted Me

The ability to handle and find solutions to complex new tasks at short notice, thinking out of the box, aiming for the optimum (rather than maximum or minimum), continuous improvement through the mathematical concept of iteration, giving due importance to the impact of technology on society, working as a team, et al are some of the qualities/ traits that were honed during the days at IIT-D