

EDITORIAL

The response to the call for articles seems to be fading away. We hope that the prize of Rs. 20 for the best article of the month will galvanize you into writing something. Articles published from this issue onwards, are eligible for the prize.

Two inmates seem to have been busy in the Histech class and have written letters to the Editor. - Keep it up!

This issue carries a puzzle. The first person to solve it correctly should hand in the written solution to Chandramouli in room no. 152, or slip it under the door. The puzzle carries with it a prize of Rs. 10. As soon as it is solved, the name of the prize winner and the correct solution will be put up on the notice board. The prize winner will be given his prize the same evening at 7:15 p.m. in the mess.

Every week there will be a different contest - e.g. blurb contest, photo caption contest, etc.

Kudos to Suresh Babu and Kondaiah. Our picturesque garden has won the Institute prize for the best garden. This is the result of the combined hard, sincere and dedicated work of Suresh Babu and Kondaiah. Mention must be made of the NSS volunteers who helped in the process of beautification.

On Tuesday, one of the sheets of the RAG, which had been pinned at all four corners, had been removed under mysterious circumstances. The sheet was promptly retyped and replaced. On Wednesday, three sheets of the Rag had been removed by Vellaiswamy. They were eventually found crumpled and creased in the back pocket of the common room boy, the Rag having been audaciously removed on the pretext of putting up some new notices.

Now let us make one thing clear: If the RAG has to carry on, we must be given full access to one half of the notice board. Thanks to Karthik, Asst. Warden and Moses, we hope the matter has already been taken care of.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

The standard of articles is pretty good, and is improving issue by issue. Stylo has real talent, and I enjoyed his style of writing. Another thing I wanted to say is that MANDAK RAG always seems to have articles only on or concerned with Mandakini. Is it not possible to include articles pertaining to Institute activities or things in general?

I suggest a column be started in which opinions on a certain subject be given every week.

Mandakini

Rajeev Jayaraman.

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Sir,

The last issue of MANDAK RAG was superb. Many shady things about the mess have been brought to light, thanks to Hogpot. The article about Otto von Gepik was simply a 'freak out'. Last but not least, the absence of PJs I really appreciate. I hope many more issues of the MANDAK RAG come up.

Mandakini

Raghavendra.

P.S.: The article about Pane Rao was a bit too mild.

WHAT'S WHAT

Plates: Circular arrangements to keep the dirty food off the clean tables; found to be useful acoustic sono generators, when the vocal chords cannot do any more.

Chapaties: (World leather selection award winner.)

Tough breed of little, round pancakes. Incidentally, that's where all your enamel has been going. (CLRI research going on in our mess.)

Poories: Vegetable oil sponges with a retaining capacity of 500 ppuv (parts per unit volume).

Queues: A suitable training ground for the young Indian whose life is measured by the number of queues he is in. You stand anywhere in the mess, and you will find yourself in the middle of a queue with angry tenor and soprano protests from behind.

Extras: Leftovers. It's your funeral if you get coaxed into buying more of the stuff.

Cooler: Buckets and buckets of piping hot water.

Glass: See tumbler.

Tumbler: For which glass is a misnomer. Made of steel-coated cast iron with a dark hue that effectively hides the colloidal suspension of water in it. Of course, it's too late when you find out.

Spoons: Use with acoustic sono generators(viz. plates). Incidentally, each spoon has a completely balanced diet sticking to it.

Mess Sec.: An individual who eats his meals under the table. Of course, he is to blame for everything, but can't be found.

Rice: Available in all shades. More shady stuff forthcoming.

Poisson: French for fish and English for Mandak grub.

Vegetables: Strictly non-veg, with bits of toes, hair, gents' fingers, etc.

Cool drinks: Long time no see.

De-servers: The only guys who are really concerned about all that sop you eat. They remove most of the stuff before you can fully poison yourself.

Tables: Useful arrangements to spill things on, so that you can identify the stuff hidden in those buckets.

Chairs: Oh! You'll never find them anyway.

Sambar: A convincing imitation.

Curd rice: Healthy stuff for unhealthy guys. May be mistaken for pudding, were it not for its pleasant odour.

Rasam: See hot water.

Manager: A lie detector with X-ray eyes - effortlessly makes calculation mistakes.

Fish: The Bongs call it peesh. The veg guys don't have to be told what it is - it has a convincing aroma.

Butter: C.g.s. unit of volume of fat.

Jam: Expensive squashed fruit that comes in two attractive flavours - cough syrup and antipar.

Coffee: One tumbler per person, please!

Tea: For those who don't get fooled by the coffee.

Cats: The only ones that are wise to the food. That's why you too need eyes of two colours.

Buttermilk: Obeys Raoult's law of dilute solutions.

Hotchpotch: Potato peels submerged in a sea of leftovers, permitted colouring agents, beetroot, etc.

Hosteler: Mutant breed of homo sapiens with corrosion resistant stomachs.

Cutlets: Browned non-veg potatoes.

Buckets: 'Handles!' with care. Sustained in vertical position by gyroscopic effects.

-- Roy Matthew.

HOWZAAT!

- Chelluri.

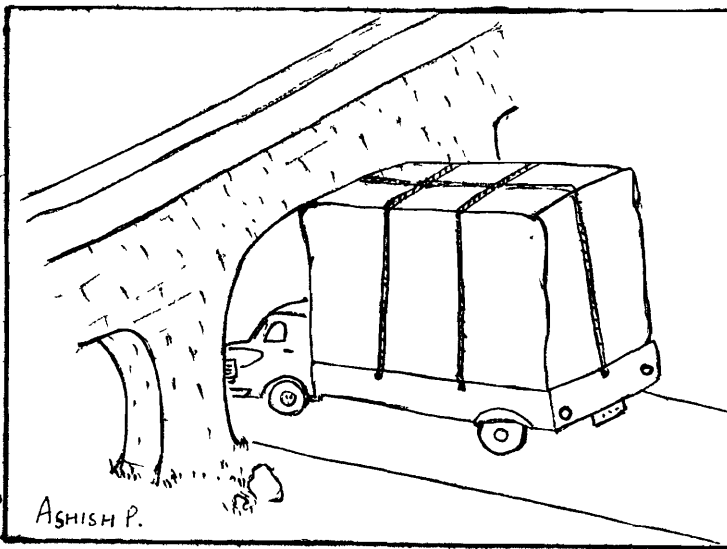
The Melbourne cricket stadium is considered to have the greatest distance between the pavillion and the pitch. Once, during the body-line series, an outgoing batsman passed the incoming one. 'I
'It's a long walk,' whispered the new batsman.
'Yes, but only one way. The stretcher will bring you back.'

2. A lorry loaded high with crates got jammed under a bridge. The lorry was extricated without damage either to the lorry, cargo, road or bridge. How?

3. Why won't a detective believe the following statements?

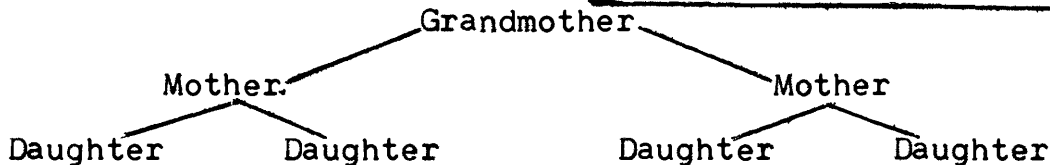
(i) 'I found the suicide note between pages 101 and 102 of the novel lying on the table.'

(ii) 'She dreamt that she was drowning, and choked to death in her sleep.'



Answers:-

1. The family tree is as follows.



2. By deflating the tyres.

3. (i) Pages 101 and 102 are on two sides of the same sheet.
(ii) How does the witness know what she dreamt?
-- Laddoo.

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Try this one: (Answer at bottom of page.)

A man dressed all in black was walking in the middle of a street which did not have any lights. A car which had no headlights or lights of any other kind drove straight up to the man and stopped by his side. How did the driver know that the man was in the middle of the street?
-- Laddoo again.

PUZZLE

Prize: Rs. 10

A certain lottery director sold n lottery tickets, each ticket costing Rs. k to n different people. Of the money collected, he kept Rs. $20a$ to himself. The remaining Rs. $(nk - 20a)$ he distributed in the form of n equal prizes.

The draw was conducted as follows: One counter was picked from a box containing all the n counters, the prize awarded, and the counter returned to the box. This procedure was repeated till all the n prizes were given away.

After the draw, each person who hadn't won even a single prize was given a consolation prize of Rs. a by the director.

The director makes a positive profit when he sells a certain fixed number of tickets, n . He faces a loss when he sells $(n + 1)$ tickets. For what value of n is this most likely?

[See Editorial for further info.]

Answer to riddle: It was broad daylight.

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