

## THE SANDPAPER 2.0 TEAM

## BITS &amp; BITSAA NEWS

**Rising above barriers**

**Archna Bhandari (Chem)**, presently the Principal Engineer, Mitretek Systems, Inc. is one of the Special Recognition Winners of 2004 National Women of Color Technology Awards. In the words of the awards committee "In many cases, they have broken through barriers of culture, class, and even language. In others, they have surpassed racial and social expectations. But they have risen above these barriers to demonstrate the importance of perseverance and the power of a



Archna Bhandari

dream."

**Breaking new ground**

**Dr H P Vyas ('71 ME)**, Director, Solid State Physics Laboratory (SSPL), Delhi, has been promoted to the rank of Sci H and Outstanding Scientist w.e.f. 19 August 2004. He obtained his ME from BITS, Pilani in 1971. In recognition of SSPL team's outstanding research contribution under his leadership, he has been honored

with prestigious Path-Breaking Research Award for developing and establishing 12 GHz MMIC Technology in DRDO.

**Ride across the river**

**Dilip D'Souza's ('76 EEE)**

Ride across the River was adjudged the winner of the fourth Outlook/Picador India Non-Fiction Competition on Feb 25, 2005.

**Faculty of eminence**

**Dr. Yogendra Gupta (Phy)** has been recently honored with the prestigious Eminent Faculty Award from the Washington State University.

**President's Award**

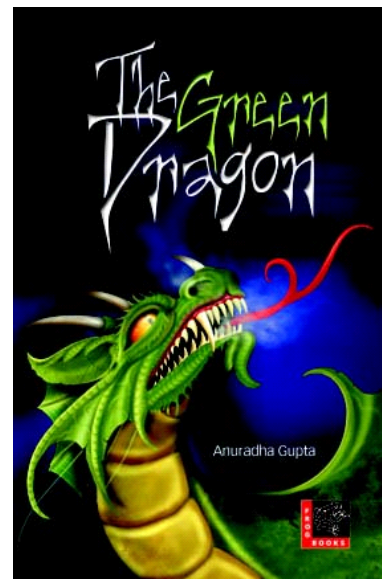
**Padmanabhan Seshaiyer**, Asst. Prof. Texas Tech University has been awarded the prestigious 2005 President's Excellence in Teaching Award, Texas Tech University.

**The new biz mantra**

Perhaps anyone who has ever worked in an industry has had trouble with the four letter word. Well, we don't know what you thought but we meant the dreaded species called BOSS.

**Rashmi Datt ('MMS)** managed to survive for 19 years in an HRD environment with 5 bosses (Gosh!). And now, she has come up with a new book on "Managing Your Boss". This 174 page book has been received well and is a treat to read.

**Anuradha's debut novel endorsed by 'The Hindu'**



**Anuradha Gupta (86A6)**'s debut novel, *The Green Dragon*, dealing with environmental issues is 'a handy tool for projects and debates on the environment, tells you why the earth is in need of help.'



according to a review from Subajayanthi B, **The Hindu**. With other good reviews from the Free Press Journal, the book makes us 'think about issues like war and preserving the environment'.

**New kid on the block**

**Harish Lakshman**, a BITSian of the 1989 batch, has been

featured in The Week Cover Story. "By the third generation a family business usually goes kaput. But there are ways and means to buck the trend," says Gita Piramal. "Harish is a hands-on scion" says the writer about the 31 year old Director of Rane TRW Steering Systems of Chennai.

### Keeping the lights on in TN

Congratulations to **Hans Raj Verma ('82 MMS)**, IAS, on his appointment to the post of Chairman of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. This prestigious post carries with it, as you'd expect, a far from light amount of responsibility.

### Captured in time

BITS alumnus, **Agendra Kumar**, country manager, Veritas Software, never forgot his two passions---IT and photography. His recent photography exhibition, Symphony of Silence, organized at the India Habitat Centre last year, demonstrated that the BITSian way of life lives on with us even when we are far away from our alma mater.

### Rajendra Khare is Chairman of India Semiconductor Association



BangaloreIT.com 2004 conference saw the launch of the India Semiconductor Association - a forum for better interaction between members

and the government, academia, VCs and industrial bodies. MD of Broadcom, **Rajendra Khare** is the first Chairman of ISA.

### Movie 'Swades' inspired by a story written by Dilip D'Souza – a BITS alumnus

The director of 'Swades,' Ashutosh Gowariker, got the idea for the film from a column **Dilip D'Souza ('76 EEE)** did for rediff.com about the true story of two young engineers from Kerala who built a dam in rural Maharashtra and supplied electricity where there was none. Dilip's contribution was acknowledged in the titles of the film. Dilip adds, "The articles about these two guys were used to nominate them for the MIT Technovators prize last year, which they actually won".

### Open-Silicon Announces Hitesh Bhatnagar, as GM

Open-Silicon, Inc., a fabless ASIC company that provides an alternative to traditional chip design and supply chain models, today announced the appointment of **Hitesh Bhatnagar** as general manager of Open-Silicon India.

### 2 Indians in CNN/Time's 25 Global Business Influentials – Both BITS, Pilani Alumni

**Time Magazine and CNN** recently released its list of 2004 Global Business Influentials, 25 leaders in a broad range of industries recognized for setting standards in areas like innovation, globalization and effecting change. This year's list includes 2 Indians – **Vivek Paul**, CEO of Wipro

Technologies and **Balaji Krishnamurthy**, CEO of Planar Systems, both alumni of the BITS, Pilani.

### BITSian MBA from Harvard Business School?

BITS, Pilani, may soon have its first MBA from Harvard Business School. One of our recent applicants has been admitted and has not yet made the decision. The person in question has the initials N.S! More on this next time.

### Autar Kaw selected CASE Florida Professor of the Year

**Autar Kaw ('76 Mech)**, a professor of mechanical engineering in the University of South Florida's College of Engineering has been named the 2004 Florida Professor of the Year by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement for Teaching.

### BITSians win Columbia B-School competition

**Rajashekhar, Sriram, Kavikrut, Srikanth and Amit** with guidance from alumnus **Anupendra** won the 2005 annual A. Lorne Weil Outrageous Business Plan Competition. The contest is organized by the Eugene M Lang Center for Entrepreneurship.

