



## **Harmony Cup – '09 at IIM Lucknow**

The occasion of Gandhi Jayanti has always been celebrated joyously by Indians. A national holiday not less than Independence Day, it has also been declared International Non-Violence Day. On this day and the two preceding days (from September 30th to October 2nd), Bhavishya with the support of its sponsors Beeaar Hyundai and Royal Enfield, organized Harmony Cup for the third year. The event kicked off on 30th September.

The amount raised through the event will be used for three purposes. Lack of basic educational infrastructure has been a major impediment in the proliferation of primary & secondary education in India. Prakash Bal Vidya Mandir, partner school in Bhavishya's *Disha* – the mentorship program for students from underprivileged background, is no exception. Due to its scant financial resources, it is unable to provide basic library facilities to its students. A part of the funds generated through this event will be used to set up a library at Prakash Bal Vidya Mandir.

Rajkiya Balgriha, an Orphanage in Lucknow, is ailing with the problem of ever increasing number of children and an old and rapidly deteriorating infrastructure to support the children. Bhavishya will contribute a part of the funds raised towards the improvement of living conditions at Rajkiya Balgriha, and provide the children a healthier environment.

Fatima Arunkumar Marneni was a student of the batch of 2010 at IIM Lucknow. To help his bereaved family through the difficult times following his sad and untimely demise, Bhavishya will contribute a part of the funds raised to a welfare fund established for the benefit of Fatima Arunkumar's family.

The entire IIM Lucknow community joined in to contribute for a cause, this time, with students and faculty alike playing with enthusiasm. The cricket tournament was held between the myriad committees and clubs of IIM Lucknow, and the non-committee teams. The popularity of the event also led to the inclusion of the corporate community of Lucknow, with the participation of a team comprising of Managers from TCS. Although called 'friendly-matches to support social causes' – as the tournament gathered momentum, the high-adrenaline, action-packed games seemed far from 'friendly' – with every team fighting it out to win the much coveted Harmony Cup!

A total of 28 teams participated in the tournament that was held at IIML grounds. The matches started off in the afternoon and went on till 3 am under the blazing floodlights. The game rules were generally as per the T-20 format. However, to add to the fun factor,

special rules were included like - a guy scoring off a girl would earn only half the runs etc. The running commentary, thanks to Varun Sadana of second year, was hilarious - picking up on the nuances of these special rules in action!

Day # 1 began with a round of league matches. The top eight teams in the league moved into the quarter finals that were held on Day # 2. The final day dawned with a special match between "Faculty and staff Team" Vs "joint Student Council and Corporate Team" Prof. Ashwini & Prof. Nirjhar stole the show with some blazing stokes. Both the players gave hard time to the bowlers by hitting boundaries and sixes all over the ground to put up a staggering total of 76 runs in 10 overs. The joint Council and Corporate team fought back hard in a thrilling game that went on till the last ball with 3 runs to win. The chasing team scored only a single off the last ball putting up a total of 75 runs! According to Smriti Tiwari of 'Bhavishya' Committee, "The match was extremely exciting, especially because it is a rare event to see the Professors let their bats do all the talking!" TCS as part of its Corporate Social Initiative - "TCS Maitree" fielded Mr. Harpreet, Mr. Danish Zafar & Mr. Navin Tewari in the "Corporate Team". Director Dr. Devi Singh awarded mementos to all the players and congratulated Team Bhavishya for organizing the tournament for a noble cause.

The main highlight of the Day # 3, of course, was the finals between 'Alcom' (Alumni Committee) and Team Fusion. In a spirited final match, Alcom thrashed Team Fusion, winning comfortably by a margin of 43 runs after having posted a total of 81 runs in the 1<sup>st</sup> innings. Bal Mukund and Pooja Vijayan were declared the man of the series & woman of the series respectively. The General manager of Hyundai Beeaar, Mr. Padmanabhan graced the occasion and presented the trophies to the winners and runners up.

Bhavishya - the Social Initiatives Group of IIM Lucknow is thrilled about the success of Harmony Cup '09. The tournament has played a big part in fulfilling Bhavishya's objectives of raising social awareness, being socially proactive and developing a culture of social responsibility. "The success of Harmony Cup '09 and the massive response it generated is definitely a shot in the arm for scaling our activities to a higher level", says Shirish Pathade of Bhavishya Committee.