

Met as **strangers**, now departing as **brothers**

TMI bids adieu to its cadets

[Talegaon, 19 July]

The atmosphere at the Tolani Maritime Institute (TMI) Talegaon, Induri campus was filled with marvel, happiness, excitement and celebration, tinged with a bit of disappointment too on the 17th of July: Cadets of the fifth "Shore based training of Bachelor of Science in Nautical Technology" and the first "DNS IMU" batches were being sent off in style by the TMI faculty. A little sadness was evident; the understandable feeling echoing amongst the Cadets was that they had met at TMI first as strangers, but were now leaving it as brothers.

The day also marked the beginning of a new chapter in the Cadets' lives, as they left their comfort zones to enter a completely new world of challenge, responsibility and adventure. The attitudes, skills



A cadet receives a Silver Medal from Capt Rangnekar

and knowledge transferred from the TMI faculty would now be put to test; in turn, events would shape them into better individuals and professionals. TMI had taken the opportunity to invite Cadets from each batch to narrate their experiences, being, as they were the main attractions of the day.

From the DNS IMU batch, Cadet Manav Sagar pointed out that TMI had made their training so perfect that they did not miss their homes at all. "Today is a special day for us. The teachers and Captains made an everlasting impact; TMI has inculcated in us

the knowledge that will help us to develop the desired attitudes and be successful in our profession," said Cadet Sagar.

Cadet Craig Raberts from the BSc Nautical batch said, in his turn, that 17th July, the day that the trainees had always longed for, had finally arrived. Their journey had begun on 28th August 2007 when the students were a bit raw and did not know what to expect at TMI. "Coming from our comfy cocoons at home, we learnt what being independent really meant. Our training here has been a mix of smooth sailing and some rough seas, because the market was hit by recession just as we were ready to grab offers from companies", he said, thankful that their training had been challenging and one "where we have been taught to be

competitive seafarers ready to face any challenge, be it at sea or in our day to day lives." In conclusion, Craig said, "To meet and depart is a way of life but to part and meet again is a hope of life."

Principal Mr BK Saxena heartily welcomed the Chief Guest, Captain Prashant Rangnekar, General Manger – India Operations, Ebony Ship Management Private Limited, besides other representatives from the shipping industry and parents of the graduating batches. After briefly introducing the Chief Guest, he told the Cadets, "You are now entering the second phase of your career. You have received all the necessary training, knowledge and skills that are required for your profession. Use these to the fullest and make your parents, the institute and the country proud."

Delivering the course report,



Captain Krishnamurthy Iyer, Programme Chair– Nautical Technology, informed the audience that all 116 cadets had been sponsored by reputed shipping companies. Capt. Iyer's advice to the Cadets: "You have been well trained to become thorough professionals. Use the confidence developed to do right, see right and believe in yourself and your work. Then resolve to grow intellectually, morally and technically."

In his address, Captain Rangnekar said that it is always a pleasure to be present at the sprawling TMI campus, adding that the association between TMI and ESMPPL went

back nine years, when ESMPPL started inducting young professionals into their company. He revealed that ESMPPL had inducted more than 100 trainees from TMI so far, 30 of whom have sailed in various ascending ranks. Elaborating on the conditions in the industry, Capt Rangnekar pointed out that shipping was facing challenges on many fronts today; these challenges were getting more complex with new ones thrown in the mix almost daily. However, his message to the cadets was: "With challenges come opportunities; those of you who have the determination and the right attitude will reign through all. As marine professionals, you will always remain in demand."



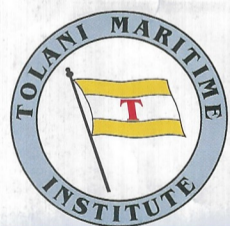
There are enough job opportunities waiting for you out there; you should shoulder the responsibility with pride."

At the prize distribution ceremony that followed, top performers were bestowed with trophies and medals that were complemented

with cash prizes of Rupees 10,000 each. These had been sponsored by leading shipping companies.

Captain Govindarajan proposed the vote of thanks and invited all the guests for lunch thereafter.

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Cadets Speak



"I entered clueless about the industry and today am well versed with it." –

Mukund R Shirhatti – Spirited Performance Nautical Technology Cadet



"Do your best, be prepared and serve with all your heart." –

Nakoool Pandya – Spirited Performance Nautical Technology Cadet



"The experience was rocking. Will be taking fond memories back home." –

Craig Roberts – Spirited Performance Nautical Technology Cadet



"I am very proud to be part of this esteemed institute that has moulded us into thorough professionals." –

H Karthik – Best Leadership Award Nautical Technology Cadet



"Learnt the value of a disciplined life and to be what you are." –

Lakshay Soni – Best in Computers DNS - IMU Cadet



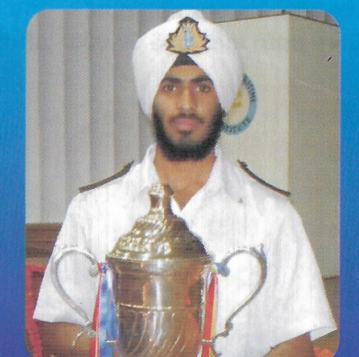
"Give respect and get respect." –

Dharamjeet Singh – Runner Up for Best All Round DNS - IMU Cadet



"TMI is a very good institute for academics and sports. My three years here have been well worth it all." –

Anand Kishore – Best Sportsman Nautical Technology Cadet



"At regular intervals, this institute gives us many opportunities to grow and excel in our careers." –

Jaspal Singh – Best All Rounder DNS - IMU Cadet