PMI Project Management Institute®

MANAGE India

AUGUST 2019

STARTUP DIVE IN SEGMENT NEW!

INSPIRING TED TALKS NEW!

SHARING STARTUP SUCCESS STORIES

TED

#PMNC19
EXCLUSIVES FOR PMI'S
50TH ANNIVERSARY

DESIGN AWARENESS NEW!

PMI50 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

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Dear Practitioner,

With the Project Management National Conference 2019 just days away, the excitement is building up for the biggest professional development event in the region for the project management profession. The theme for the conference in Hyderabad on 20 and 21 September is "Adapt. Transform. Accelerate. Made possible by a project manager." As you know, this is the theme for PMI's 50th anniversary celebration this year.

This time the conference has been structured around the four pillars of startups, infrastructure, digital transformation, and leadership. We have an impressive lineup of keynotes and panel discussions, besides a session in which startups will make business pitches to a panel of experts and an interactive session on design thinking. For the first time, the national conference will host a series of TED Talks in which experts will speak on our four sub-themes. Another addition this time will be a cultural evening in which delegates can tap their feet to Indo-Western music.

PMI recently released a report that provides an assessment of infrastructure projects in India and makes recommendations to improve project performance. Titled *Revamping Project Management,* the research report takes stock of progress in the infrastructure sector after its first such report in 2012. This is a joint effort among PMI, KPMG India, and the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India.

On 9 August, we organized a roundtable conference for public sector undertakings and government officials on the findings of the report. We brought senior officials from the public sector, nodal agencies, government think tanks, and industry to discuss ways to strengthen infrastructure development through effective governance.

Many of you have enthusiastically participated in the monthly slogan contests since March 2019. We thank you for your response. Look out for the last contest in August, and the theme is leadership skills. This is your last chance to win free or discounted passes to the conference.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference.

Kind regards,
PMI Editorial Team

LEARN, GET INSPIRED, BE FUTURE-READY

National conference gets bigger and better with focus on startups, TED Talks, and cultural showcase

#PMNC19

ADAPT. TRANSFORM. ACCELERATE.
MADE POSSIBLE BY A PROJECT MANAGER

**Project Management
National Conference, India 2019**

Hyderabad | 20 - 21 September

50 ANNIVERSARY PMI
Project Management Institute

In just a few years, iconic brands have disappeared with millions of dollars of market value wiped away as organizations have failed to remodel themselves for the digital economy. Young companies have forced old and established players to relook at their business models. Change is inevitable to survive in today's world, but the pace at which an organization needs to change and the complexities involved have led to many failed attempts at transformation.

The success of digital transformation depends heavily on project and program managers who have the dexterity to maneuver through complex technical, business, and culture factors. What must organizations do to prepare their project talent for these challenges? What skills must a project manager develop to be future-ready?

PMI India's premier annual conference, the Project Management National Conference, in Hyderabad on 20 and 21 September will explore the role of the project manager in today's disruptive times. The conference theme, "Adapt. Transform. Accelerate. Made possible by a project manager", also goes with PMI's theme for its 50th anniversary celebration this year.

The conference has been structured around the four pillars of startups, transformation, infrastructure, and leadership. Experts who represent these four pillars will bring to light the role of project management in their areas of work.

The focus on startups, which has been brought in for the first time in the national conference, will add a new dimension to it. Besides keynote addresses by investors and entrepreneurs and panel discussions, startups will get a chance to present their business pitches. Eight startups will go on stage to present their business ideas to a panel of experts.

Under the sub-theme transformation, industry experts will talk about the latest trends, learnings, and practices that organizations and practitioners must adopt to stay relevant in today's business environment. In a special interactive session on design thinking, delegates will get to develop a clearer understanding of this highly talked about problem-solving approach.

Another hot topic has been the role of project management in infrastructure. The conference is bringing together luminaries to share their knowledge and insights on infrastructure building, such as smart cities, railways, and airports.

Building leadership skills is an important area for today's project manager. But leadership lessons need not be taught in a corporate setting alone. Conference delegates can expect to get inspiration and pick lessons from motivational and celebrity speakers who have fought battles in different situations in life.
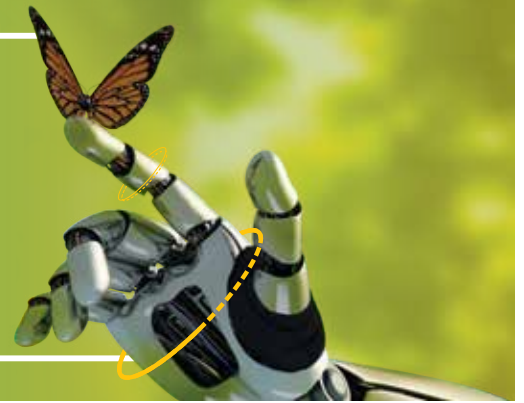
Another exciting addition this time is a series of TED Talks. Four speakers will take the stage to deliver these talks. The names of the speakers will be revealed at a later date.

Like every year, the conference will host the presentation of the PMI India Project of the Year awards. A total of 21 nominated project teams from across industries will be vying for the two prizes — winner and runner-up — in six award categories.

To go with the 50th year celebrations, the national conference this time includes a cultural section. The gala reception will include a performance by Bryden-Parth, a band that performs a fusion of Indo-Western music.

#PMNC19

MEGA CONFERENCE!
MARKING 50 YEARS OF PMI

PROJECT MANAGEMENT NATIONAL CONFERENCE, INDIA 2019

SEPTEMBER 20 - 21, 2019 | HYDERABAD

This mega conference coincides with PMI's 50th year.
Offering fantastic delegate experiences with exciting new segments & sessions.
REGISTER NOW!

— LEARN FROM ACCOMPLISHED SPEAKERS —

Dr. V. R. Lalithambika
Scientist, Director, ISRO

Sudhanshu Mani
Chief Architect 'Train 18'

Dr. Archana Sharma
Principal Scientist, CERN

Randall T. Black
Chair, 2019 PMI Board of Directors

Many more exciting speakers await you at **#PMNC19**. For updates, please visit **pmi.org.in/pmnc19**

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS
A special evening of entertainment

PMI INDIA AWARDS
Biggest honour for exemplary projects

DESIGN AWARENESS NEW!
Session on Design Thinking

STARTUP DIVE IN NEW!
Learnings from startup success stories

NEW ATTRACTION!!!!

INSPIRING TED TALKS

CELEBRATING OUR
50 ANNIVERSARY
PMI
Project Management Institute

HOSTED BY **PMI®**
Pearl City Chapter

REVAMPING PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Assessment of infrastructure projects and corrective recommendations for performance improvement

Infrastructure development is critical for the economic progress of a country. In India, the slow pace of infrastructure development has often been cited as a major factor impeding economic progress. PMI, in association with KPMG India and the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India, has published a research report on the state of infrastructure projects in the country and ways to improve project performance. The research report, *Revamping Project Management,* is a follow-up to a similar report that PMI had published in 2012.

According to a "flash report" by the MoSPI in January 2018, around 20 percent of projects by the central government are delayed beyond their scheduled date of completion. As many as 345 projects have incurred cost overruns, amounting to Rs. 2.19 lakh crore, and 354 projects have recorded an average delay of 45 months. Multiple factors have contributed to shoddy performance: poor planning and risk management, lack of collaboration among stakeholders, uncertainties in the land acquisition process and regulatory approvals, scarcity of skilled workers, and above all, lack of mature project management processes.
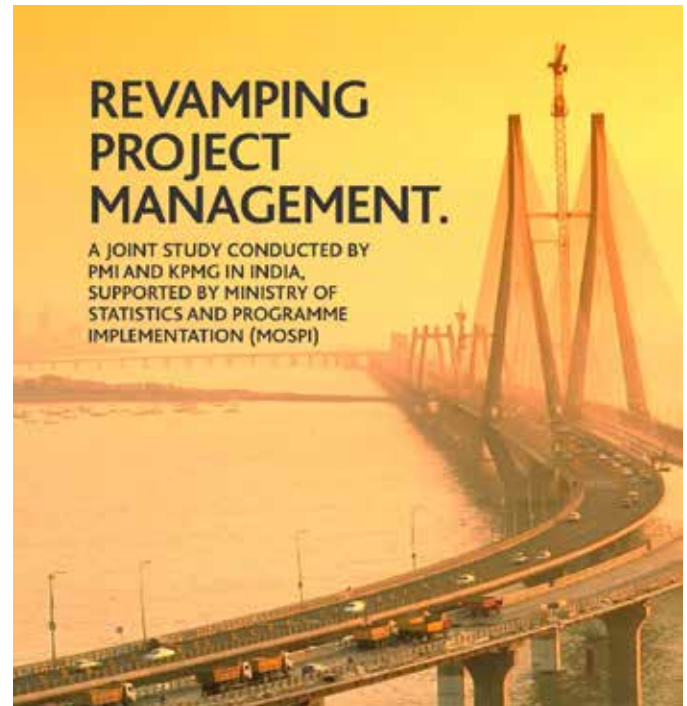
As the Narendra Modi government kick-starts the agenda for its second term, the report serves as a stark reminder of the need for pre-planning, robust project management processes, capability building, improved construction methodologies, risk management, skill development, and stakeholder management.

The report is based on a study that includes qualitative discussions and interviews, case studies, an impact assessment of the 2012 MoSPI-PMI-KPMG study and its recommendations, an analysis to ascertain thematic root causes for time and cost overruns, and recommendations for implementation agencies.

The study includes insights from interviews conducted with individuals from 25 public sector undertakings across nine sectors. The case studies are from five infrastructure sectors — roads, power, oil and gas, railways, and civil aviation.

The study reveals that the root causes of overruns can be classified into three categories:
1. Process and capability: unavailability of skilled staff, inadequate technology usage, ad hoc planning
2. Culture and mindset: limited sense of project ownership, "contractual" party focus, weak risk management, delayed decision-making
3. External factors: delay in regulatory approvals, delay in land acquisition, market factors such as price escalation and economic factors

The report makes a number of recommendations for implementation agencies to improve project performance. The key recommendations are:
1. Invest heavily in pre-planning and site investigation
2. Implement collaborative and agile planning
3. Reform procurement processes and strengthen contract management
4. Implement lean construction principles for productivity improvement
5. Embed a culture of risk management from concept to commissioning
6. Strengthen people management processes
7. Augment organizational skill sets
8. Deepen stakeholder management for land acquisition and regulatory approvals
9. Establish a robust project governance structure

The performance of infrastructure projects in the country will improve only when these measures are implemented across various stakeholders including key ministries, nodal agencies and think tanks, government departments that are overseeing project implementation, central and state public sector undertakings, and engineering and contracting firms.

Click to read the report

HONORING A PLEDGE: TOWARD 100,000 HOURS OF SERVICE

At PMI, celebrations come with a strong undertone of service. So for our 50th anniversary celebrations this year, we chose to commit 100,000 hours of service toward creating a better and more sustainable future.

We made a pledge to work toward any of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG). We invited members, chapters, credential holders, staff, volunteers, individuals, and other organizations from around the world to join us in this mission. With five months of the year left, we have already crossed our goal. Encouraged by the response, we have now doubled the target.

PMI India chapters accepted the pledge and picked community projects in their cities and neighboring towns and villages. Here is a snapshot of some of these projects.

PMI MUMBAI CHAPTER

A GREEN DRIVE

Every year in the first week of July, India celebrates Van Mahotsav and encourages citizens to plant trees. As a part of this initiative, a group of citizens from in and around Mumbai planted close to 2,500 saplings in the last three years. The group calls this movement Mega Tree Plantation (MTP).

MTP is not an association or organization, but a loosely formed group of like-minded citizens who want to make their city greener.

On 7 July, MTP planted saplings in collaboration with PMI Mumbai Chapter at Depoli in Angaon, Bhiwandi. The planting took place on forest land that belongs to the Thane forest department. According to records, the survival rate of saplings in forest land is as high as 80 percent. More than 190 volunteers, including children and senior citizens, took part in it.

Close to 200 volunteers plant saplings in Bhiwandi on the outskirts of Mumbai.

Volunteers pick up trash from the Bandra beach in Mumbai.

PMI KERALA CHAPTER

SUPPORT FOR DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN

PMI Kerala Chapter launched PMIK-Udaan, a program to support the children of terminally ill patients, on 8 June at Kowdiar Lions Club in Thiruvananthapuram.

The initiative is in collaboration with Pallium India, a registered charitable trust that works with people who need palliative care. Pallium India also supports the education of children of terminally ill patients. PMI Kerala Chapter will now provide project management support for Pallium India's pan-India initiatives.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by Chapter President Dr. Krishnakumar TI; chairman, Pallium India, and Padmashri awardee Dr. M R Rajagopal; Gopakumar Menon, second district governor, Lions Club; Leena Gupte, India liaison, PMI Educational Foundation; Chapter Vice President — Operations Harikuttan K, along with the chapter board members and officials from Pallium India. After the lighting of the lamp, leaders of both the organizations signed a memorandum of understanding that sealed the collaboration.

It was also a time to celebrate the success of 42 children of Grades X and XII who cleared their board examinations in spite of the obstacles. It also distributed back-to-school kits,

Students with chapter board members M R Rajagopal, Gopakumar Menon, and Leena Gupte

each worth Rs. 300, to 135 children who were sponsored by chapter members and well-wishers. Oceans Lions Club also donated Rs. 6,000 for the cause, while the Trivandrum Chamber of Commerce and Industry provided the venue at a nominal rate.

The chapter contributed approximately 400 volunteer hours until the event day and committed over 1,400 hours in the year toward continuous educational support to 100 children.

TREE PLANTING

PMI Kerala Chapter joined hands with the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and KNR Constructions to plant saplings along a 1.5-kilometer stretch of a median on the Thiruvananthapuram national highway. "Plant the Future" is the chapter's way to contribute toward the UNSDG priority of "life on land."

As many as 50 chapter volunteers assembled at the Vellar Junction on the Kovalam national highway on 21 July morning. NHAI had made arrangements for traffic diversion so that volunteers could move freely. A downpour at the start of the sapling planting did not dampen the enthusiasm of volunteers, some of whom had brought their kids along.

Seventy-five volunteers from organizations such as TravelSpoc, Prathidhwani, Technopark, Technopark Today and Star Health & Allied Insurance Co, Flyair Technologies, and Channeliam Group participated in the event. Volunteers from two social organizations — Signature of

Volunteers gather at a national highway for the sapling plantation drive.

Nishagandhi and Team Relief — also joined in.

By 12:30 p.m., the volunteers had planted 680 saplings along the 1.5 kilometer stretch.

PMI CHENNAI CHAPTER

BLOOD DONATION

PMI Chennai Chapter organized a blood donation drive at Egmore Institute of Child Health and Hospital on 14 July. This was in keeping with PMI's 50th anniversary commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG). PMI has committed to 100,000 volunteer hours for UNSDG.

Volunteers at the blood donation camp

PMI PUNE DECCAN CHAPTER

RAINWATER HARVESTING IN RURAL MAHARASHTRA

PMI Pune Deccan India Chapter joined hands with non-government organization Paani Foundation to work toward drought prevention and watershed management in rural Maharashtra.

About 140 chapter volunteers participated in the drive on 1 May to build 48 continuous contour trenches to store 480,000 liters of rainwater.

The volunteers adopted agile techniques for this program — there was a product owner, a scrum team, planned sprints, agile ceremonies, and a timely approach to the hours clocked. Along with a different way to use scrum, this activity had several impacts — 560 hours of shramdaan (voluntary work) and creating a water storage capacity of 480,000 liters, as this was the estimated water freely available to villagers every year.

BHIMA RIVER CLEANUP DRIVE

On 15 June, PMI members and their families put in four hours of work to rejuvenate the flora and fauna of Bhima River. Water hyacinths and plastic waste had turned an otherwise beautiful green picnic spot into a dump yard. The water had become polluted, and sunlight couldn't reach beyond the surface. As a result, many fish were dying and mosquitoes multiplying, leading to an outbreak of dengue and malaria. In this shramdaan, participants became change-makers, choosing action and empathy over silence and apathy.

Volunteers all set to start work on the Bhima River cleaning work

TREE PLANTING

PMI volunteers took part in the Vasundhara Abhiyaan on 21 July, planting about 200 saplings in Baner, Pune. This was another shramdaan activity in which families of PMI members also participated.

Chapter members with their families getting ready to plant saplings

PMI BANGALORE CHAPTER

PROJECT MANAGEMENT TRAINING

PMI Bangalore Chapter has committed to extending project management training to nongovernment organizations (NGO) in and around the city. The chapter has created a schedule for one-day workshops on project management concepts and will be rolling it out soon. It has also partnered with Rotary Bangalore (West) to reach out to more NGOs in the state.

PAPER BAG ACTIVITY

This year the chapter added a service element to its annual Project Management Practitioners' Conference, held on 12 and 13 July in Bangalore. As a part of the post-event celebration, the chapter arranged a dinner for all chapter volunteers and their families. During the celebration dinner, participants took part in a paper bag making activity. The paper bags were then donated to an NGO.

PMI WEST BENGAL CHAPTER

THALASSEMIA AWARENESS DRIVE

Volunteers taking part in the thalassemia awareness drive

PMI West Bengal Chapter has partnered up with Rotary Club of Calcutta Suncity to work toward thalassemia prevention and control. On 5 May, the two organizations jointly launched a yearlong thalassemia awareness drive. Volunteers planted saplings and spoke on various aspects of the hereditary blood disorder.

SPREADING PROJECT KNOWLEDGE

In an attempt to make social sector projects more effective, the chapter organized a workshop on project management skills for NGOs. Representatives from eight Kolkata-based NGOs attended the workshop that focused on the unique challenges that social sector projects face and what project managers can do to ensure better outcomes. The chapter conducted a workshop on project management as a life skill at Management Development Institute, Murshidabad on 22 June. Around 140 students attended the session.

NGO representatives receiving project management training

PROPAGATING THE SERVICE PHILOSOPHY

On 27 July, the chapter celebrated the first edition of its members' and volunteers' summit. The theme of the conference, held at the auditorium of Tata Communications, was "Collaborate and Serve." The primary objective was to discuss ways to build an ecosystem of knowledge in project management across industry, academia, social, and professional bodies. The keynote speakers were Debashis Biswas from LinkedIn Kolkata and Subhojit Roy from Rotary Club. Both of them spoke about spreading project management knowledge in the social sector and academia in line with PMI's service philosophy.

HR Sampark was a partner for this event. Besides chapter members and volunteers, members from the Indian Society for Training and Development also attended it.

Participants at the first members' and volunteers' summit

PMI PEARL CITY CHAPTER

PROMOTING ETHICAL CONDUCT

The chapter's ethics volunteer team recently completed the translation of professional ethics documents from English to Telugu. These documents are the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, the Ethics Value Card, and Ethical Decision-Making Framework (EDMF). The EDMF is a practical resource that seeks to guide practitioners who are faced with ethical dilemmas.

With this activity, the chapter has contributed several hours towards PMI's Celebration of Service pledge. The translations relate to the UNSGD Goal 16 of "Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies."

Ethics is all about making the best possible decisions concerning people, resources, and the environment. Ethical choices diminish risk, advance positive results, increase trust, determine long-term success, and build reputations.

The translation work will also promote PMI's Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct that applies the values of honesty, responsibility, respect, and fairness to project management. Overall, it is mandatory for PMI members, volunteers, certification holders, and certification applicants to comply with the Code.

EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE IS A KEY INGREDIENT IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT
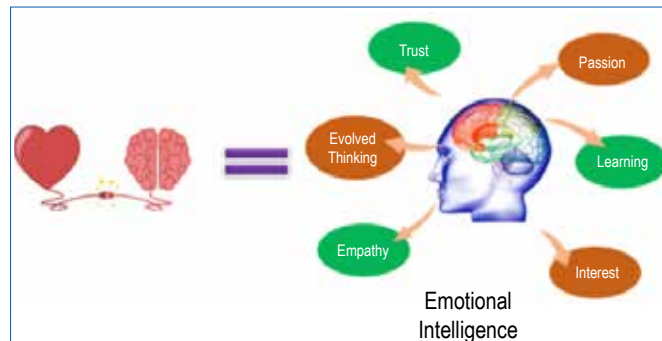
Leesha Nair

Reams have been written on the philosophy of project management and on achieving sound project management practices. A lot has also been written on why projects go wrong. Have you ever wondered about the common thread in such project-end analysis conversations? If you dwell further, you will realize that a common chord is the emotional divestment of the people involved. The reasons for this are varied but remember that emotional quotient plays a pivotal role in project management.

NEED FOR EMOTIONAL QUOTIENT

As a project manager, it is essential to understand the pulse of the people involved. This is where I remember Plato's quote on learning: "All learning has an emotional base." When we strike an emotional connection, teams can be inspired to pull out all the stops to make a project happen. Some of us would term this emotional connection as passion or drive. No matter what we call it, the fact remains that there has to be a conscious effort to make an individual connect with the project cause.

To start a new endeavor, there is always a learning curve, but learning without emotion leads to disengagement. Research has proved that emotions like interest, inspiration, and compassion lead to inferences, interpretations, and ideas. In a knowledge economy, these are the traits needed to implement and bring projects to fruition.

I recollect a project where the team was in the phase of forming and norming. There were many changes which the team was undergoing in terms of client expectations, productivity targets, and functioning as a single unit. There were conflicts, one-upmanship, and push-pull across the project team. On realizing this, we made a conscious decision to separate the warring factions, get team members on a single page, and help them understand the need for unity. Of course, this was not a day's work. It required changing team dynamics, structure, and reporting. In retrospect, things didn't work out in the beginning because the team members were not emotionally invested in the project and in each other. It took some time to find the right way to work in tandem and remove the barriers. The most important factor that worked for me was to bring in an anchor who steered the course in the right direction by using emotional quotient and being invested in the growth of each team member.

Emotional Intelligence

PROJECT MANAGER AS AN EMOTIONAL ANCHOR

Project management is not just about milestones, metrics, and achievements. To achieve a milestone, project managers must carve out the path using empathy as a key skill. At the end of the day, project managers and leaders need to strike a chord with all team members, and the best way to reach out to a fellow being is by hitting the emotional chord.

Being emotionally invested in a project brings about the pace, passion, and substance required for a project's success. As project managers, it is prudent to have leaders with high emotional intelligence. The true nature of the human self will flourish when a relationship is built on trust and emotion, and when there is an inherent belief in bringing out the best in others. In such situations, people go out of their way to help, accommodate, and sacrifice for others. Otherwise, it would be a robotic process with no empathy, and machines could as well do the jobs of humans. There would then be no give and take, and zero alignment with the project goal. All that would matter to every member would be individual tasks. No one would view the part as a whole and consider the larger goal.

As the captain of our ship, we must provide enablers to ensure the project moves forward smoothly. When a dose of emotion is added in everyday interaction, speed barriers disappear and the end result is a sense of achievement for the self as well as for everyone involved. It brings in a feeling of team accomplishment and evolved thinking. As Karen McCown puts it, "There is no thinking without feeling and no feeling without thinking."

(Leesha Nair is a program manager in Capgemini Technologies India Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai. She has over 15 years of diverse experience in leading large teams across geographies.)

PMI BANGALORE INDIA CHAPTER

PROJECT MANAGEMENT PRACTITIONERS' CONFERENCE 2019

Members of the executive committee at the Project Management Practitioners' Conference at NIMHANS

V Laxmikanth delivering the inaugural speech

It was all about embracing disruptions at the 14th edition of the Project Management Practitioners' Conference (PMPC) on 12 and 13 July at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore.

The theme for PMI Bangalore India Chapter's marquee event was "Architecting Project Management for Embracing Disruptions." PMI Bangalore Chapter Vice President, Special Projects, Tanish Mathur extended a warm welcome to the delegates on Day 1 and set the tone for the conference.

It was followed by a religious song and a lamp-lighting ceremony presided over by Lt. Col. (retd.) L Sri Harsha, PMI Bangalore Chapter president; V Laxmikanth, managing director, Broadridge Financial Solutions (India) Pvt Ltd.; B S Ravi, general manager (military radar), Bharat Electronics Ltd.; Geetha Vargis, global functional excellence lead, Shell India Markets Pvt Ltd.; and Thomas Walenta, member, PMI Board.

In his welcome address, Mr. Harsha emphasized the need to stay relevant in a disruptive market. He gave the example of PMPC, which is still going strong in its 14th year by generating powerful content that strikes the right chord with the audience.

Keynote speakers, selected from different industries that have adopted technological innovations, kept the audience enthralled with examples such as building the Statue of Unity, the world's tallest statue, in Gujarat, in 57 months and using artificial intelligence to help radiologists to identify potential breast cancer cases in women. Speakers included chief guest Mr. Laxmikanth, who spoke on "Leadership in a Disruptive World"; Mr. Walenta, who delivered a keynote on "Leading Projects in an Era of Disruption — PMI's Talent Triangle®"; Mr. Ravi, who presented a case study on "Meeting Strategic

Yakshagana performers at the conference

Thomas Walenta making his keynote address

Requirements of Defence"; and Guna Sundari Sridhar, general manager, global functions — IT, Shell India Markets Pvt Ltd., who spoke on "Staying Relevant in a Disruptive World."

Practitioners presented a number of technical papers and took part in the PM Posters event at the conference. These were focused on innovations that were making a big impact in the industry.

The post-lunch sessions on the first day comprised three workshops. Sukumar Rajagopal and Kumaran Anandan from Tiny Magiq led a workshop on digital transformation; Vasudev Murthy from Focal Concepts conducted one on managing change and high-impact communication; and physicians from the department of clinical psychology at NIMHANS — Mahendra P Sharma, Paulomi M Sudhir, Manjula M., and Ajay Kumar — steered a workshop on destressing mindfully.

The PM Poster presenters were then congratulated. The day was rounded off with a Yakshagana performance by the Yaksha-Kala Academy.

Muktesh Murthy, vice president, membership, PMI Bangalore India Chapter, flagged off the events of the second day.

The first keynote speaker, Sanjay Sahay, IPS, additional director general of police, police computer wing, Government of Karnataka, spoke of the challenges in implementing a digital transformation project for the police force and the pitfalls project managers and teams need to be aware of. This was followed by a session by Dr. Manish Gupta, co-founder and CEO, VideoKen, who presented on "The Brave New World of Artificial Intelligence."

Major Edmund Keen, project director, Turner International, dwelt on the making of the Statue of Unity in Gujarat, while Mark Dorsett, executive vice president, global business, partner programs and ICT, Prosci, talked about "Mobilizing to Deliver Results in a Sustainable Way." The post-lunch session had industry veterans presenting six technical papers that focused on disruptions and digital transformation.

After the celebration of the PM Poster presenters, Dr. Geetha Manjunath, CEO, Niramai Health Analytix, spoke of using artificial intelligence to detect cancer. She received a standing ovation for her presentation. The valedictory address by Dr. Pallab Saha, chief architect, The Open Group, focused on how digital transformation is shaping future India and changing the nature of governance.

The curtains were drawn with a vote of thanks by T V Seshasai, chapter secretary and treasurer. Volunteers from PMI and Wellingkar Institute of Management that is part of the chapter's academic outreach program, along with PMI staff and chapter executive committee members, went on stage to celebrate a job well done amid applause from the attendees.

PMI KERALA CHAPTER

INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY CELEBRATIONS

PMI Kerala Chapter teamed up with Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM), TravelSpoc, and EventsDo.com to celebrate International Yoga Day at KSUM Meetup Café on 21 June. Chapter member Anoop R. Nambiar, a certified yoga trainer and martial arts professional, conducted the one-hour session. He guided 20 participants through yoga and provided them insights for a healthy mind and body.

INTERNSHIP EXPO

PMI Kerala Chapter organized an internship drive that helped connect over 100 students from engineering and business schools with 30 startups from the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) in Technopark. The Internship Expo, held on 5 July at the KSUM Meetup Café, was an exclusive event for startups to identify bright minds from educational institutions in Kerala through internships.

The program, as a part of PMI Kerala Connect, was aimed at providing a platform for organizations and educational institutions to connect with students and thus reduce the gap between academia and industry. All 100 students have now got internship offers.

The students were part of the Academic Student Forums set up by the chapter as part of its academic outreach program. These forums have been functioning since the last academic year in Rajadhani Business School, Thiruvananthapuram, Amrita School of Business, Amrita Viswa Vidyapeetham Kollam, Saintgits College of Engineering, Kottayam, and TKM Institute of Management, Kollam.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

It was a two-in-one celebration on 21 July at Uday Samudra Leisure Beach Hotel & Spa in Kovalam, Thiruvananthapuram. PMI Kerala Chapter members celebrated the chapter's 15th anniversary as well as PMI's 50th anniversary.

Playback singer R. Ravishankar was the chief guest. After a short welcome address by Chapter President Dr. Krishnakumar T I, Mr. Ravishankar inaugurated the celebrations with a melodious song.

After lunch, Dileep Viswanath, chapter vice president — membership, updated the attendees on the chapter's membership efforts and exhorted all to strengthen the chapter with timely membership renewals. Chapter mentors Rajeev Panicker and Jayakrishnan P S, former chapter president, spoke about global volunteering opportunities. This was followed by the president and chapter mentors cutting a cake, and a performance by a music band. Harikuttan K, chapter vice president — operations, and Jayakishore S.R., chapter vice president — education, also sang with the band.

PMI PEARL CITY CHAPTER

WORKSHOP TO IMPROVE RURAL PROJECTS

The PMI Pearl City Chapter (PMIPCC) Academy conducted a two-day workshop on preparing project reports in collaboration with the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (NIRDPR).

Mohit Mathur, PMP, facilitated the workshop, which was attended by Dr. W V Reddy, IAS, director general, and members of the NIRDPR teaching faculty.

NIRDPR and PMIPCC also signed a memorandum of understanding to increase the adoption of project management best practices in panchayat raj projects.

The chapter also conducted workshops for practitioners of Cotiviti and Ctrls.

Members of the PMIPCC Academy and National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj at the workshop

PMI CHENNAI CHAPTER

KNOWLEDGE-SHARING SESSIONS

Participants at the knowledge sharing session in Coimbatore

Two green warriors, D Suresh and A. Sadhana Rajkumar, shared their thoughts on the environment at PMICC's knowledge-sharing and networking session at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras Research Park on 27 July. Mr. Suresh spoke about green initiatives in a household, while Ms. Rajkumar shared her views on sparrow conservation.

Project management knowledge multiplied for 22 participants at a session in Coimbatore on 4 July. They were joined by 150 others via Skype. The topics included an overview of PMI and an introduction to the Chennai chapter, and PMI's *A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide)* including project management framework and processes. Other topics for discussion were the code of ethics and professional conduct, the environment in which projects operate, and the role of a project manager.

PMI PUNE DECCAN CHAPTER

MONTHLY SEMINARS

The monthly seminars hosted by the chapter have not just boosted member retention, but have also attracted new members as they are open to non-members as well. The last quarter saw several sessions by experts: Cdr. (retd.) Yogesh D Chaudhari on "Project Risk Management Insights from the Depths of the Ocean: Submarine Operations"; a project management forum in which industry experts participated; Rajesh B C, head, services business, Themax Limited, on "Transcending from Managing Projects to Leading Business: A Perspective"; and Eric McCamey, executive vice president, principal analytics and solutions, NYMBUS Corporation, on "A Project Manager's Primer on Project Profitability and Cash Flow." Other sessions included one on "Project Management in Oil & Gas Projects" and "What Not to do in Social Projects."

PMI LOUNGE SESSIONS

As a part of the chapter's efforts to engage members, it has started a series of lectures and discussions called the PMI Lounge which takes place every Saturday at the PMI Pune Chapter office. This initiative aims to bring members to the chapter office at least once a month so that they know which opportunities to explore while gaining domain knowledge.

In April, there were case study presentations on "digital lean." The May PMI Lounge sessions included an informal talk on project management offices (PMO) in the automotive sector, a session on the strategic role of project management in an organization's growth held at BMC Software, Yervada, and a discussion on the theory of constraint in project management.

Vikram Shende, chapter volunteer; Rajarama Rao, former president, PMI Pune Deccan Chapter; Girish Kelkar, former chapter president; and Harish Honwad, former board member, delivered these talks.

PMP PREPARATION

PMI Pune Deccan India Chapter conducts workshops for those preparing for the Project Management Professional (PMP)® examination at the chapter office every month. Experienced trainers have helped over 20 people in the last quarter to prepare for PMP® certification. Similar workshops are scheduled for the next quarter, based on an analysis of modules that the participants have appreciated.

(Chapter news contributors are Himadri Sekhar Chowdhury, Jayakishore S R, PMP, and Akhila Gowri Shankar, PMP, Komal Mathur, Nandakumar S, and Falguni Adbe, PMP)

STAR VOLUNTEERS

In this column, we shine the spotlight on our star volunteers from PMI India chapters who have made immense contributions through their dedication and passion. This is your opportunity to know a little bit about these remarkable men and women from our practitioner community.

KUNJANKUMAR B. MEHTA, PMP

Assistant Vice President, Group Operations Solution Delivery Division, Credit Suisse Services AG, Pune

PMI Pune Deccan India Chapter

Been a PMI member since: 2005

What attracted me to PMI: Formal and structured study of project management; internationally recognized credential

My dream project as a project manager and my proudest PMI volunteer moment: Successfully managing the Project Management Regional Conference, India on 10 March 2018, Pune

A life lesson I learned as a volunteer: Contentment and pride from self-motivated volunteering is unmatched by any paid job

I am looking forward to…shouldering greater responsibilities to serve my chapter and PMI

KUMAR VELINENI, PMI-ACP, PMP

General Manager — Central Technology & Engineering, Integra Software Services Pvt. Ltd.

Volunteer, PMI Chennai Chapter

Been a PMI member since: August 2017

What attracted me to PMI: Systematic approach and best practices in project management process

My dream project as a project manager: Development of Integra's copy editing application (IPubEdit)

My proudest PMI volunteer moment: Active participation and volunteering in the PMI Chennai Chapter's Sangamam 2018

A life lesson I learned as a volunteer: Engaging with the people around me and satisfaction in knowledge-sharing

I am looking forward to…actively engage in all PMI events and share gained knowledge to all

CHITTI RAVI SHANKER

Project Manager, Aditya Precitech Pvt Ltd.

Volunteer, PMI Pearl City Chapter

Been a PMI member since: September 2018

What attracted me to PMI: Continuous learning opportunities to enhance skills and professional network

My dream project as a project manager: I take every project as my dream project and take it to a successful closure

My proudest PMI volunteer moment: Getting a certificate of appreciation for translating CoE into my mother tongue

A life lesson I learned as a volunteer: It is inevitable that every project manager faces conflict of interest, and they should be prepared for it

I am looking forward to…serve the project management community

SUBHAJIT GHOSH, PMI-ACP, PMP

Project Manager, IBM

PMI India Champion & Volunteer, PMI West Bengal Chapter

Been a PMI member since: February 2014

What attracted me to PMI: Good things happen when you associate yourself with PMI

My dream project as a project manager: Any project/program which attempts to address India's hunger problem — contributing to U.N. Sustainable Development Goal 2

My proudest PMI volunteer moment: Delivering the keynote address at the Bangladesh Project Management Symposium 2019 where I represented the chapter

A life lesson I learned as a volunteer: "The secret of getting ahead is getting started" — Mark Twain

I am looking forward to…fulfilment and learning

HARIPRASAD P S

Project Manager, Allianz Technology India

Assistant Vice President — Education, PMI Kerala Chapter

Been a PMI member since: 2012

What attracted me to PMI: Giving back to society that impacts a person's life, either directly or indirectly

My proudest PMI volunteer moment: Supporting social organization Pallium in their children's education program and the chapter's tree plantation program

A life lesson I learned as a volunteer: Selfless support earns more happiness than a salaried job

I am looking forward to…more social engagement and supporting society in the best possible way

SREEGITH NAIR

Senior Project Manager, HCL Technologies

Vice President — Finance, PMI Mumbai Chapter

Been a PMI member since: April 2011

What attracted me to PMI: The collective learning and opportunity to give back to society

My dream project as a project manager: To lead a multi-geography, multilingual team, and make a product for the common good

My proudest PMI volunteer moment: Receiving the category 2 award at PMI's North America Leadership Institute Meeting (LIM) 2017 and being a speaker at the Asia Pacific LIM 2019

A life lesson I learned as a volunteer: The best way to make a positive change is to change yourself

I am looking forward to…contributing more towards the PMI cause and society at large

MANJUNATH A K

Volunteer, PMI Bangalore Chapter

Been a PMI member since: October 2012

What attracted me to PMI: Thirst for knowledge, eagerness to learn, and working with like-minded professionals across different industries

My proudest volunteering moment: When I got a chance to interact with industry stalwarts like Infosys founder Nandan Nilekani at Project Management National Conference in Bangalore

A life lesson I learned as a volunteer: Learning the art of flawless execution of any type of project

A person who inspires me: In my childhood, my father, a simple teacher, taught me the value of hard work, money, and time. My living role model is my father-in-law, a well-known doctor in Bangalore from whom I have learned commitment to the profession and service-mindedness

If I were to start a marketing campaign for PMI, my slogan would be... "Way ahead in project management with PMI."

RACHNA SINGH

Volunteer, PMI Bangalore Chapter

Been a PMI member since: November 2011

What attracted me to PMI: The selfless attitude of the volunteers, the continuous learning, passion towards giving back to the profession, and achieving excellence year after year

My proudest PMI volunteer moment: Being a part of the PMI Bangalore Chapter's Project Management Practitioners' Conference 2019

A life lesson I learned as a volunteer: One achieves inner self-satisfaction while giving back to society or the profession. Keep giving!

A person who inspires me: My father, a fighter with a go-getter attitude

If I were to start a marketing campaign for PMI, my slogan would be…Keep exploring, Be Connected, Never Stop! Success is a continuous journey, and PMI is its best friend

ANNUAL MEETING IN BENGALURU

PMI India Champions, members of the Champion Advisory Committee, and newly designated champions at the annual meeting in Bengaluru

The PMI India annual meeting and the champion designate graduation ceremony for the ninth batch of PMI India Champions took place in Bengaluru on 25 and 26 May 2019.

Following an ice-breaker, there were two knowledge enhancement sessions — Vijay Kumar, senior program manager, strategic operations, TiVo, spoke about the internet of things, and Bert Cherian, founder and CEO, Meta Results, spoke on self-improvement.

During this event, PMI India recognized achievers for their tireless contributions and welcomed on board new champions from diverse organizations like Ericsson, Dell, Schneider, Larsen & Toubro, IBM, and Mahindra & Mahindra.

PMP PREPARATION IN KOLKATA

PMI India Champion Amrita Banerjee collaborated with the PMI West Bengal Chapter to conduct an awareness session on the Project Management Professional (PMP)® for those interested in taking the PMP® exam. The session on 8 June in Kolkata covered an introduction to the PMP, organizational influences and project life cycles, project management processes, and project integration management. She also spoke about the benefits of PMI membership and provided some tips on the PMP application process and the completion journey.

The session lasted nine hours as Ms. Banerjee addressed questions from practitioners on various aspects of the PMP preparation journey. Seven professionals from various organizations took part in it.

Amrita Banerjee conducting a daylong PMP exam preparation session in Kolkata

ANNUAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT DAY AT CISCO, BENGALURU

It was a day packed with activities and learning opportunities at Cisco.

PMI India Senior Champions Abhishek Sharma and Gitika Sinha from Cisco Systems organized the third annual Project Management Day at Cisco, under the banner of the project management community, PM Connect. The event on 23 July brought together practising project managers and aspirants from different business units for a great learning opportunity.

The day started with a PM Poster session in which different teams — Customer Experience, Engineering, IT, and HR — showcased their best projects.

For the first time, it included Cisco's Employee Resource Organization that focused a poster on disability awareness. The poster covered its initiatives aimed at working together for the benefit of the community.

Post-lunch, the main event saw a full house with over 300 attendees. V C Gopal, senior vice president, CIO, and chief executive sponsor of PM Connect, kicked off the session. It was followed by a panel discussion with leaders from cross-functional teams on the value that project managers add to Cisco's business. One of the key messages that emerged was the capabilities of a project manager to become more of a leader than just a manager by spearheading excellence in the way projects are executed at Cisco.

For the PM Role Model Series, Jake Chander from Philips Healthcare spoke about his journey from a software engineer to a project manager. The event concluded with a presentation by Anees Haidary from Sasken on PMI's Project Management Competency Development Framework and its benefits.

PMI

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