



Sharing of a Vision

Freedom & Growth through Education

The first part of The Mehta Group's journey to fulfilling our self-inspired Corporate Social Responsibility was outlined in the last issue of Gajgamiini. This journey of contributing to society was born, not from the law of the land, but was an inherent part of the corporate vision of the Group. Shri Nanjibhai Kalidas Mehta was a strong believer in the positive aspects of education, awareness, and in the role of women as mothers. And education was an integral part of this vision to grant women and children freedom from the societal constraints of those times.

He imbibed Gandhiji's doctrine of trusteeship and for a number of years set aside ten percent of his earnings for the betterment of society. This vision is now the legacy that permeates and flows through the group as a whole. Shri Nanjibhai's sons, Shri Dhirendrabhai Mehta and Shri Mahendrabhai Mehta have carried the torch ahead.

Multiple schools have been established by The Mehta Group for the benefit of the local people and the families of employees in India and abroad. These schools have deeply ingrained belief in their educational system to provide overall "learning" and development to each child. Like the vision, the education is all embracing. All traditions aimed at empowering humanity are taught, honoured and followed. Some students of these schools have matured and are doing very well with many achieving merit grades. Some of them will be leaving very soon – to study further, take up jobs, start their own families, contribute to the society and to the nation. Within the group there is hope and a deep seated confidence that these students will assume ownership of this legacy and carry it worldwide.



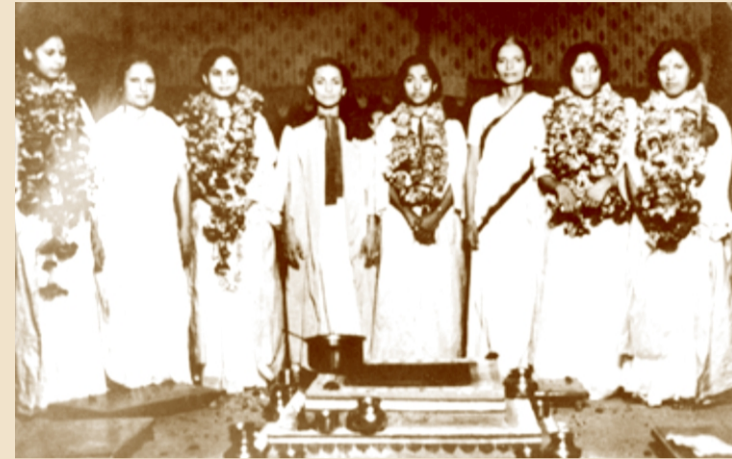
Gujarat (INDIA)



Where it all began - the Arya Kanya Gurukul inauguration



Dr Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan at the Gurukul



Students with Principal Pujya Savitaben Mehta



The Arya Kanya Gurukul, Porbandar

Shri Nanjibhai Kalidas Mehta established the first educational institute of The Mehta Group -The Arya Kanya Gurukul for women, in Porbandar. The foundation stone for the Arya Kanya Gurukul was laid during Diwali in 1936 by a Harijan girl. To bolster confidence in the institution, his daughter Nirmala (now Mrs. Nirmala Khatau) was enrolled in Gurukul and then seven more girls followed. More than 30,000 children have since graduated from the Gurukul and have enriched themselves with the best in Indian culture irrespective of caste, creed or colour. Recently the 81st anniversary of the Foundation day of Arya Kanya Gurukul was celebrated at Porbandar on 5th December, 2017.

Pujya Savitadidi Mehta (Shri Nanjibhai's elder daughter) was inspirational in overseeing all the activities of the Gurukul. At the tender age of 19, Didiji took up the challenge of running Gurukul. She breathed life into it and transformed it from its humble beginning into the institution it is today.

The Gurukul education system is a quaint mix of ancient Indian culture and modern sciences. The Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium and the Bharat Mandir were set up at Porbandar as a blending of the two. The Bharat Mandir has our history and cultural heritage depicted in paintings and quotes on the surrounding walls and pillars with a relief map of India in the center. Two more educational institutes were established for the girls residing within the city. The Santokba Vidya Mandir was established in 2006 followed by the Santokba English Medium School, based on the CBSE system, in 2012. Similarly, keeping alive the memory of Swami Dayanand Saraswati, Shri Nanjibhai built the Maharshi Dayanand Science College and donated it to the Education Society of Porbandar and thereafter detached himself from its management.



Archers garlanding a guest



Technology in Education



The Santokba Vidya Mandir



The Santokba English Medium School



Gurukul Mahila College

Gujarat (INDIA)

With respect, devotion and to honour the ideas of his father, Shri Mahendrabhai N Mehta laid the foundation stone of the NK DAV School in 1989, within the premises of the Gujarat Sidhee Cement Limited, at Sidheeegram.

Starting with 132 students and classes 1st to 5th, it now has a strength of 772 students with classes from Nursery to the 10th. Teaching a multi-language, scientific curriculum, the school has consistently achieved exceptional results in All India Secondary School Examinations

Yoga, Physical and Health Education, Computer Science, Arts subjects are available to all the students. The school teachers and staff focus on ensuring an environment where students can freely imbibe the basic ethos of Encouragement, Excellence, Empowerment and Enlightenment and gain proficiency in competencies to enable them lead lives of honour, truth contribution to the society and the nation.



Principal Ms Anto addresses the gathering on Annual Day



Yagya at NKDAV School

OUR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN INDIA - A Quick Glance

	Arya Kanya Gurukul	Gurukul Mahila College	Santokba Vidya Mandir	Santokba English Medium School	NKDAV Public School	Saurashtra Cement Vidya Vihar
Located at	Porbander	Porbander	Porbander	Porbander	Sidheeegram	Ranavav
Established in	1937	1966	2006	2012	1989	1980
Classes Taught	5th to 12th	Arts and Commerce Degree Courses	LKG to 12th	LKG to 9th	Nursery to 10th	KG to 8th
Students Benefitted every year	More than 2,000				772	425
The Ethos	Infusing Vedic Culture and Competencies to be worthwhile citizens.					



Shri Saurashtra Cement Vidya Vihar, Ranavav

The Shri Saurashtra Cement Vidya Vihar School was started in 1980 with classes from KG to 2nd standard at Ranavav. Now with the classes upto 8th standard, the school has 425 students.

The focus remains on all around student development, including information technology. Scholarship exams are provided assistance by the school and participation in the "Khel Mahakhumb" in Gujarat are a must. The school teaches children from the neighbouring areas and most of the children belong to uneducated and under-privileged families.



Uganda & Kenya (East Africa)



Schools in Lugazi, Uganda

The Sugar Corporation of Uganda, established in 1924 in Lugazi, runs 2 Nurseries, 13 Primary Schools, and 1 Secondary School for children of employees and surrounding areas. Scholarships were established in 2008 for deserving students who want to go in for higher studies. Over 6500 children are given an education at a subsidized fee in these schools. The school nurtures sporting talent and the accent on sports training achieved a record of sorts in Lugazi, when in 2012, an under 13 team won the regional title and played in the Little League World Baseball Series held in Pennsylvania, USA. They received thunderous applause when they came on the field and won the hearts of all the viewers

CNN NEWS reported: "None of the family members from Lugazi were able to afford the trip, but Uganda still received the loudest cheer of all when they were announced at the opening ceremonies. Throughout the tournament, fans were seen wearing Uganda shirts and hats, and constantly asking the team for photos and autographs."

OUR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN EAST AFRICA - A Quick Glance

	UGANDA			KENYA	
	Nurseries (2)	Primary Schools (13)	Secondary School (1)	The Santokba NK Mehta Primary School	The Vocational Training Centre
Located at	Lugazi	Lugazi	Lugazi	Mombasa	Mombasa
Established	The first school was established in 1924			Since 1934	
Classes Taught	Play School	Primary Classes	Secondary Classes	Primary Classes	Vocational Training
Students Benefitted every year	More than 6,500			More than 240	



Kenya – the First Nursery School in East Africa - 1934

In Kenya, Shri Nanjibhai made citizens of Mombasa proud by starting the Mombasa Nursery School there in 1934. The school was refurbished and expanded in 2006. It now has a vocational training centre for ladies and trains physically challenged children. It has all the latest facilities like a swimming pool, Jacuzzi, playground and a well equipped kitchen. Known now as the Santokba Nanji Kalidas Mehta Nursery School & Vocational Training Centre, it is a grand centre of learning and carries forward the principles on which it was founded.



Santokba Nanji Kalidas Mehta Nursery School

IMS Training

An Integrated Management System (IMS) training programme was organised at the Ahmedabad office by Mr S D Khunti and Mr T M Solanki from the ISO Cell, SCL.



International Tours for Dealers: South Africa and Sri Lanka



On the basis of sales performance, some of our dealers won international tours to South Africa and Sri Lanka. The winners visited various exotic locales with their spouses in the months of October and November, 2017. Our Director (M&S) also joined them during the South Africa tour. We appreciate the efforts made towards increase in sale and wish them more success in years to come.

Domestic Tours for Dealers: Ooty, Mysuru and Panchmarhi





Visiblity Drive

Focused efforts were made to increase the visibility of our brand across Gujarat through massive shop painting, replacement of signage and hoardings.

Dipotsav Carnival



Tug of War between children of Channel Partners

Continuing with the tradition from the last few years we enjoyed a day together with the families of our Channel Partners during the auspicious festive period of Diwali. Various activities such as Rangoli Competition, a game of tug of war, Chhote Sitare singing and dancing competition and many other such fun-filled activities made the event memorable.



Channel Partners and their families were welcomed in a traditional manner



Participants busy at making rangolis at the Rangoli Competition



The Dipotsav Carnival was followed by the inauguration of Excellence Awards Ceremony by our Managing Director Mr M S Gilotra, along with Mr Randhir Singh, Director (Marketing & Sales) and Market Organizers by lighting the ceremonial lamp followed by a Maha Aarti.

The Excellence Awards honour our Channel Partners and their efforts to improve sales performance in last financial year. Top performers in both 'Market Organizer' and 'Dealer' categories were felicitated by Mr Gilotra and Mr Singh as Saurashtra Ratna, Saurashtra Utkarsh, Saurashtra Gaurav and Saurashtra Sinh. The memorable evening culminated in power packed performances by various dance troupes and Bollywood singer Ms Abhinanda Sarkar.



Diwali

Diwali or Deepawali, the autumnal festival of lights is the most important festival in the Hindu calendar. On this day people light lamps, clean and decorate their houses, wear new clothes, burst crackers, feast with their families and exchange gifts with their loved ones. Laxmi, the Hindu goddess of prosperity is worshipped on this day. The festival ushers in the New Year for many Hindu communities and is particularly auspicious for traders and business communities. It is the end of the financial year for them when old account books are balanced and new ones are started.

Laxmi Pooja and Diwali celebrations lit up the offices of The Mehta Group this year too.



Ugandan Independence Day celebrations at Lugazi

Did you know?

On 9 October 1962, Uganda gained its independence from Britain as a parliamentary democratic monarchy with Queen Elizabeth II remaining as Head of State. The kingdoms of Ankole, Buganda, Bunyoro and Toro received federal status and a degree of autonomy. Milton Obote the leader of the Socialist Uganda People's Congress (UPC) became the first Prime Minister.



Sharad Poornima Celebrations

Sharad Poornima marks the brightest and fullest moonlit night of the year due to the angle of the earth and the sun. It is celebrated as a harvest festival during the months of *Ashvin* (September-October).

Following the festivities of Navratri (9 nights in praise of Goddess Amba), Sharad Poornima was celebrated with great enthusiasm in GSCL Sidheegram. The programme included Raas Garba and refreshments. The best dance performers were awarded in a prize distribution ceremony at the conclusion of the event.



New Year's Eve Celebrations

Like every year, New Year's Eve was celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm by our staff at Sidheegram, Ranavav and Mumbai.



Eye Testing Camp For Drivers And Peons

A free eye testing camp for our drivers and peons was organized by Dr. Ashok Shroff's Shroff Eye Clinic, in Mumbai on December 2017. Over fifteen people have benefitted from this noble endeavour.



Inauguration of Sidhee Premiere League & New Sidhee Cricket Ground

To promote team building & sportsmanship, Sidhee Premiere League was inaugurated at GSCL, Sidheegram. Players were picked up from all the departments in an auction. Six teams were created, and the matches were played in league format. The new Sidhee Cricket Ground was also inaugurated to host Sidhee Premiere League cricket matches and other sporting events.



Lugazi kids were chosen to represent the country in Uganda's National Spelling Bee Competition

We are extremely proud to announce that our Lugazi kids were chosen to represent Uganda in the Uganda's National Spelling Bee competition. Their astounding performance scored them the second place in the country, and they have been selected to represent East Africa next at Addis Ababa in July, 2018. We wish them great success!



Environment Awareness

As a part of Ms. Juhi Chawla Mehta's initiative for clean environment, various team activities were taken up to spread awareness about the initiative. The best individual performers and teams from GSCL and SCL Mumbai and Ahmedabad, were awarded by Ms. Juhi Chawla Mehta during a video conference on the 15th of November, 2017. Ms Falguni Mehta presented the projects made by various teams. Tree Plantation initiatives were also made on the same day.



Horticulture & Environment



Large scale transplantation of twelve year old mango trees took place at Sidheegram. The pioneering transplantation was first of its kind in the state of Gujarat and it was undertaken with the help of local Forest department. A total of 150 trees were transplanted having a healthy survival rate of 90%.

Tree Plantation Activities at SCL and GSCL

As a part of Clean India - Green India initiative, fruit orchards covering an area of almost 8.5 hectares have been developed in different parts of the Sidheegram colony. Till date, approximately 3750 trees have been planted in the colony, plant, mines, school and nearby areas during the current financial year of 2017-18 (till October 31, 2017) with 92% survival rate. The work has been done in-house without incurring any extra cost.

Similarly, 2203 trees have been planted at SCL colony, plant, mines, school and nearby areas during the current financial year of 2017-18 (till October 31, 2017) with 94% survival rate.



Supporting 'Make in India'

In our endeavour to support Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi's 'Make in India' campaign, our Mechanical and Electrical departments at GSCL have instituted various initiatives.

These measures which have yielded several positive results including major cost saving were presented as a paper by our departmental heads at the 15th NCB International Seminar in New Delhi held between 5th and 8th December 2017. Mr Dinesh Randad was invited for chairmanship of the session on 'Emerging Trends-I'. Our company sponsored the delegate bags.



SWACHHTA PAKHWADA AT SAURASHTRA CEMENT LIMITED



Swachh Bharat Mission was launched by our Hon'ble Prime minister Shri Narendra Modi, on 2nd October, 2014 to fulfill the vision of a cleaner India by 2nd October, 2019 as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th birth anniversary. The Ministry of Mines has initiated this drive through regional Offices-Indian Bureau of Mines to promote and propagate awareness among the mining community of entire country. Adityana Limestone and Marl Mines celebrated SWACHHATA PAKHWADA from December 16 - 31, 2017.

During the 15 days period, numerous activities related to maintaining cleanliness in and around mines, and nearby areas were undertaken. Adityana Limestone and Marl Mines were adjudged the best by the District Collector –Porbandar.

During Swachhta Pakhwada- Grand Swachhta program was organized on 28th December 2017, where all departmental staff of SCL contributed towards the cause.





INITIATIVE FOR IMPROVING SAFETY STANDARDS

SCL – Ranavav has introduced new safety standards for Mechanical department by introducing Boiler suites for the entire contractual man power. This measure was undertaken to avoid wearing loose clothing during work, which may lead to accidents.

The Mechanical department has also introduced foldable Hard Barricading with reflective radium sticker for easy barricading & safe handling of job sites.

This endeavour has substantially reduced the amount of time that was required to barricade a site with pipe and clamp.

WORLD HEALTH DAY

World Health Day saw a series of health awareness and wellness activities being undertaken at Lugazi. These included awareness session on HIV prevention, blood pressure and blood sugar check up camps, dental camp, community mosquito prevention drive, and a walkathon for SCOUL employees.



New Joinees



Mr. Jawed Amber
Manager
Safety, Saurashtra Cement



Mr. Ajay R. Barad
Engineer
Process, Saurashtra Cement



Mr. Rijwan Iqbal Mothiya
Jr. Engineer
Process, Saurashtra Cement



Mr. Bhavesh B. Solanki
Jr. Chemist
QC, Saurashtra Cement



Mr. Jesabhai N. Bera
Engineer
Process, Saurashtra Cement



Mr. Kamlesh Chavada
Officer
Stores, Saurashtra Cement



Mr. Ishan C. Gedia
Engineer Process,
Saurashtra Cement



Mr. Maneesh Mohan K. T.
Sr. Engineer
E & I (Project),
Saurashtra Cement



Mr. Devendra Raj Jasmatiya
Assistant Manager -
Purchase,
Saurashtra Cement



Mr. Pradeep Kumar
Sr. Officer
CCR, GSCL, Sidheeagram

Forty Years
and Counting



CONGRATULATIONS SUMITRA

Our ever pleasant Inspector Packer Ms Sumitra Patel, completed forty years of dedicated service at Monarch Plastics Limited, Canada. Sumitra came from Gujarat and joined MPL a week after her arrival. One of the reasons of her forty years of association with Monarch is because she is passionate about her work.

Speaking on her journey with Monarch family Sumitra says, "Everyone here is like a family.

I still like coming to work every day." She is always there to lend a hand to her co-workers and participates in mentoring new Inspector Packers. We wish her the very best and many more years with Monarch.

Our own Doctor in
Sidhee Parivar



CONGRATULATIONS RITU

Ms Ritu Randad, daughter of Mr Dinesh Randad has successfully completed BDS in first division from Darshan Dental College and Hospital, Udaipur in December 2017.



The Gratitude for Unusual Things (by Falguni Mehta)

All of us know that true happiness lies in being thankful. Let's resolve this year to value all that we have, instead of being miserable about all that is missing. It's about appreciating good health, work, friends, family, frozen yoghurt – you know the all-important blessings that truly deserve our gratitude.

But what about the other stuff? The stuff that's less easy to talk about, or the parts of our lives we fail to see clearly because they hurt or trouble us? Our misfortunes can also be great sources of gratitude if we let them be.

This list might be a bit strange, but I will be thankful for them this year.

12 UNUSUAL THINGS TO BE GRATEFUL FOR:

1. Longing - I am not a crier, but if there is a time I get emotional because I miss my brother, it's during festive seasons. He lives abroad for most part of the year, leaving me reminiscing our fond memories of the childhood that we spent together, eating 'dhoklas' and playing Scrabble. I also really miss my closest friends who live in other parts of the world. Technology helps me stay in touch with my loved ones, yet, it's not really the same thing. However, I have come to realize that I am very lucky to have had such loving relationships that cause separation to be so hard.

2. Waiting - ... in the traffic or in line at the supermarket. When I have to wait for something for a minute or two, I have mentally trained myself to take a few meditative breaths. Throughout the day, you will notice how often it happens, and you will (hopefully) start finding it calming instead of frustrating. Now I'm happy when there are a few people in front of me at the boarding gate for the flight. Breathe in, breathe out, my friend!

3. Mistakes - Mistakes are the world's best teachers and inspirations, because, no one is perfect. Whenever you feel bad about a mistake, remember the errors that other people have made too. No one is an exception here. You will instantly feel better.

4. Bills - Surprising, right? But think about it for a second. Bills just represent the fact that someone has provided you with something – a cell-phone connection, tax advice, some dental care – believing that you will pay them back. Trust is a beautiful thing.

5. Haters - In the immortal words of Taylor Swift “haters gonna hate, hate, hate....”. Your critics will simply find anything or everything you do, worth criticising. So to think about it, it means you are actually doing something. Your level of success is direct proportional to the level of criticism you receive. So next time you are being criticised, smile a little and thank those naysayers.

6. Boredom - Getting bored is sometimes is a luxury. Think of all the parents running on no sleep, or those students juggling multiple jobs to stay afloat. I bet they'd love to experience just a little bit of boredom.

7. A (Minor) Illness - Nothing works like a health problem to get us sort out our messy lifestyle.

My friend was recently at the hospital with her daughter, who had high fever. It turned out to be nothing, but I have never seen her so relieved for health.

8. Modernity - There has never been a better time in history to be alive, with all the comforts that modern technology has given us: Wifi, Wordpress, YouTube, IVF, Uber, you name it. As we head into 2018, know that being alive in this era is the opportunity of a lifetime.

9. Mortality - Death is life's greatest equalizer. As the old saying goes, “Death has a 100% success rate.” I am aware of how fleeting life is; I want to make decisions based on creativity and love, not fear. This makes me feel more courageous when I make any important decision. Because life is temporary, it is so much more important to live every moment. How life affirming is that? Your special day with your loved ones will feel even more special if you remember this.

10. Unfair success - We all know a 'lucky' person who gets all the breaks. They are in the right place at the right time. They get promoted young, engaged first, and their jeans fit the same before and after the holidays. Whatever it is, what someone else has done, you can do too!

11. Annoying People - It is guaranteed that as long as we are alive so will live those who bother us. It could be a co-worker who always makes idiotic comments about the news, a talkative Tara with her irritating, non-stop complaining. Or your opinionated mother-in-law who can't stop her passive-aggressive remarks. They might, in fact, be doing you a favour by steering you in a new direction. Ask yourself: Why does this person set me off? When we understand our fears and triggers, not only do they loosen their hold on us, but we naturally begin to feel less aggravated by others too.

12. Unaccomplished Dreams - Not all of our desires can manifest into reality. As does life, our targets for success also keep changing; every New Year ushers in new goals and aspirations. Life is meant to be like this. As humans we are bound to evolve only through change and progress. Imagine if everything you ever wanted landed in your lap right then and there. What then? All of us need something to look forward to and work toward.

Thank You 2017, You Were Great. 2018, Welcome!

Interesting Facts from NKDAV School, Sidheegram

- Water droplets before they precipitate on earth, they combine with millions of other droplets until they become heavy enough to fall.
- The average speed of a single raindrop is 14 miles per hour, and is only 0.04 to 0.24 inches in diameter.
- According to United States Geological Survey, you may be drinking the same water as the dinosaurs did 180-245 million years ago.

Ms. Dhrashti Vainsh

- Did you know that an octopus can escape through a hole which is as small as a 10 cent coin?
- Did you know that ants can lift and carry 50 times their body weight?
- Did you know that a chameleon's stretched out tongue can be as long as one and half times it's body length?
- Did you know that you weigh slightly less when the moon is directly above your head?
- Did you know that the human thigh bone is stronger than concrete?
- Did you know that you are taller in the morning as compared to in the evening?
- Did you know that our heartbeat changes and mimics the music we are listening?

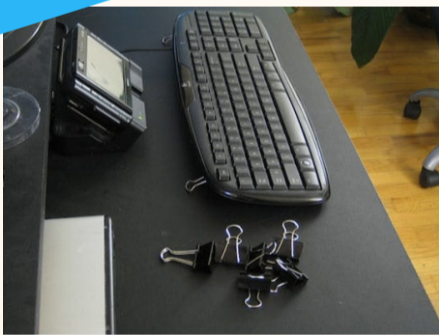
Ms. Harvita Barad

Christmas Beliefs

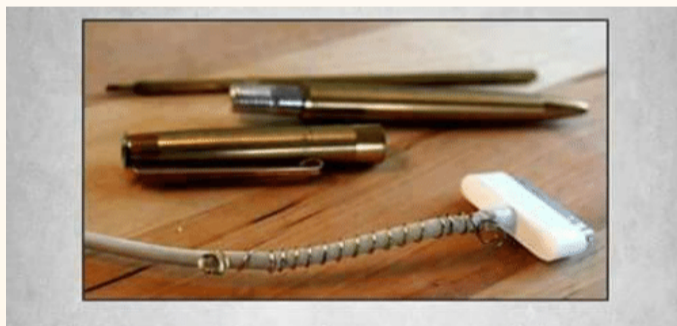
- December 25 was chosen because it coincided with ancient pagan festival Saturnalia, which was celebrated in the honour of agricultural god Saturn by partying, gambling and gift giving.
- In Switzerland Santa has a helper named Schmutzli who beats children with a broom.
- Every Christmas 1 million letters are addressed to Santa Claus at his postal address Santa Claus Main Post Office, FI-96930 Arctic Circle, Finland.

Ms. Jagruti J. Jadav

USEFUL HACKS



USE BINDER CLIPS TO FIX BROKEN KEYBOARD FEET



USE A SPRING FROM AN OLD PEN TO KEEP YOUR CHARGER FROM BENDING OR BREAKING

Readers feedback

Fantastic work, really, really enjoyed reading it ! Keep it up.

(Ms.ManjuMohamedbhai from Imperial Bank, Nairobi, Kenya)

GOODBYE
2017
WELCOME
2018

We have bid adieu to 2017. Years pass, and each year seems to be ending quicker than the previous one.

How quickly the time goes; it seems like yesterday when we entered into 2017. We cheered, we shed a tear. Inspiring events, new joiners, our Chairman's welcoming message, winning accolades for social causes, environmental management system, green belt development measures, recycling and consumption of AFR, preservation of environment and pollution control, Silver Awards for Exports in Sugar category, a graceful retirement and plethora of events made it to our cover page in each issue of Gajgamini.

We wish all our readers a great 2018, and we hope to bring out more exciting and interesting articles in the New Year!

Happy New Year Everyone!



Write to us in not more than 100 words about our Company and send your entries to neetam@mehtagroup.com
The best write up will be selected from each of our locations.

Gajgamiini

THE HOUSE JOURNAL OF THE MEHTA GROUP

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Digital

We'd love to hear from you!

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Feedback Form.

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