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July-September 2021

Gajgamiini

THE HOUSE JOURNAL OF THE MEHTA GROUP

Gajgamiini: The graceful gait of an elephant. Strong, sure-footed and alert, the positive characteristics of this majestic animal are also qualities found in The Mehta Group.

SUGAR CORPORATION OF UGANDA LIMITED ACHIEVES NATIONAL PRIDE IN UGANDA WITH SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF 25 MW CO-GENERATION PROJECT



Sugar Corporation of Uganda Ltd. (SCOUL), Lugazi, Uganda has won itself the pride of not just generating enough power for its in-house use, but the immense dedication of the team has ensured that the Company from now on will also supply more than the agreed Power of 15W continuously to the National Grid in Lugazi, Uganda. With the team's hard work, this feat has been going on since the last two months and the same is expected to continue in future as well.

CREATING HISTORY – THE EXCERPTS

A journey begins with a single step and this adage is well proven by the task undertaken by the team at SCOUL. In 2015, the journey towards establishing the Co-generation Power Project took shape wherein SCOUL, Lugazi, Uganda, embarked on utilizing its by-product, Bagasse a residue of cane crushing in sugar factory for value addition by establishing the Co-generation Power Project.

The new mill that was recently established with higher cane crushing capacity is producing more bagasse. This led to the team deciding on the means to opt for a practical solution for a Co-generation Power to generate 25MW. What is commendable is that in spite of learning that not more than 10MW Power was needed, the team undertook the responsibility of pushing further to also export 15W Power to the National Grid.

Though the current capacity is 25MW, the team is of the opinion that it can go up to 30MW which would enable SCOUL to supply excess Power to the National Grid in due course of time. This would be carried forward in accordance with the arrangement with relevant Government Department.

It is indeed praiseworthy to note that the Project is also under study for renewable energy under Clean Development Mechanism.



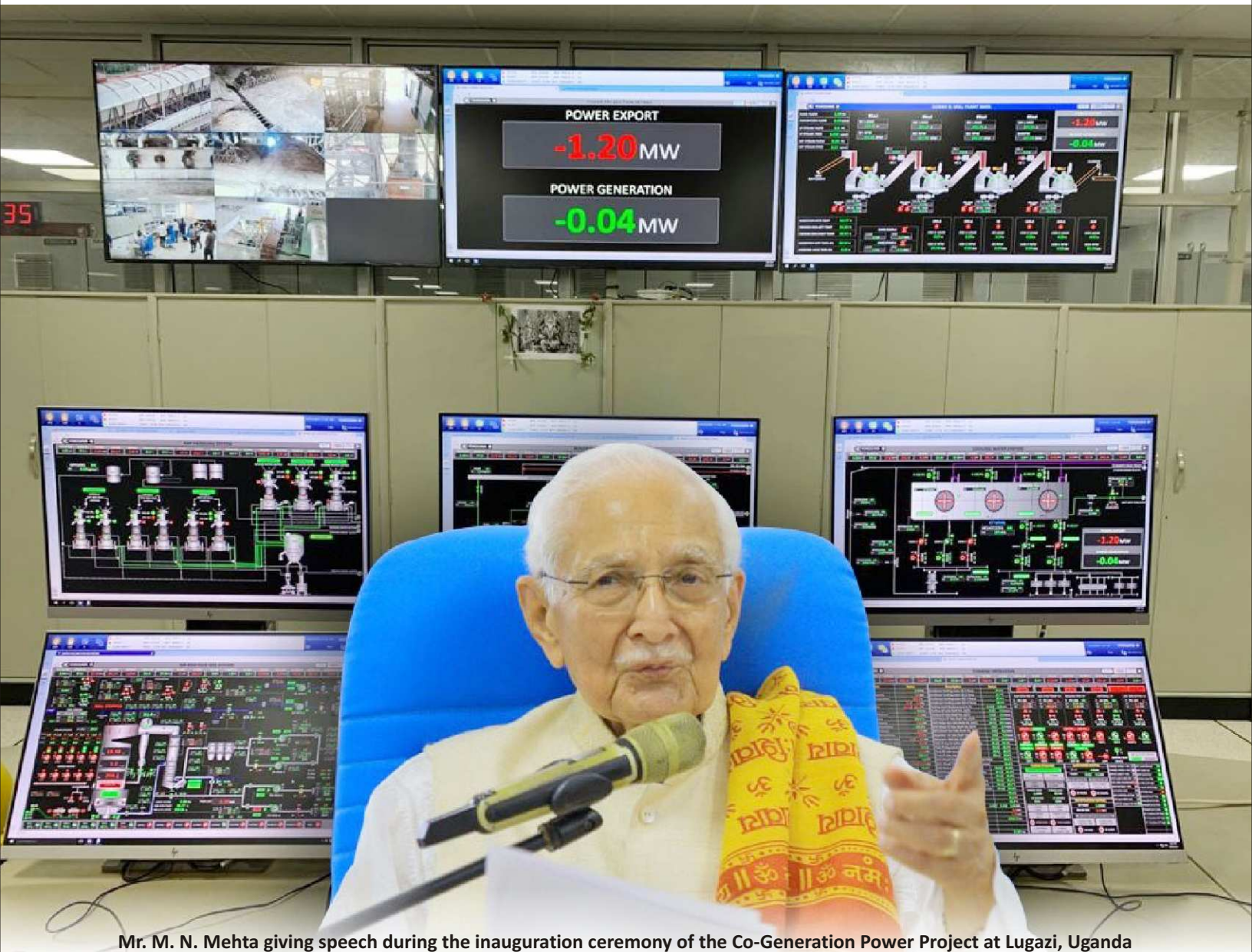
GETTING THE ACT TOGETHER

Not leaving any loose ends, SCOUL took various steps to obtain approval of requirement of multiple Government Agencies, for generation of power and sell to National Grid.

SCOUL was able to mobilize US\$ 50 Million for this Project, majority of them funded from PROPARCO - a French Development Bank and FMO – Holland, balance from internal generation.

SCOUL has succeeded to meet various requirements of the Government of Uganda to supply Power to the Grid and capture the order for supply, under the Power Purchase Agreement of 20 years.

This will not only be a big contribution for the Company's operations to strengthen its financial base for a long term but the supply of Power to the National Grid also gives the Company an edge to be a part of Uganda's development in a small way by generating not just more Power for national use but also new employment opportunity for the youth.



Mr. M. N. Mehta giving speech during the inauguration ceremony of the Co-Generation Power Project at Lugazi, Uganda

Night View of the Co-generation Power Project

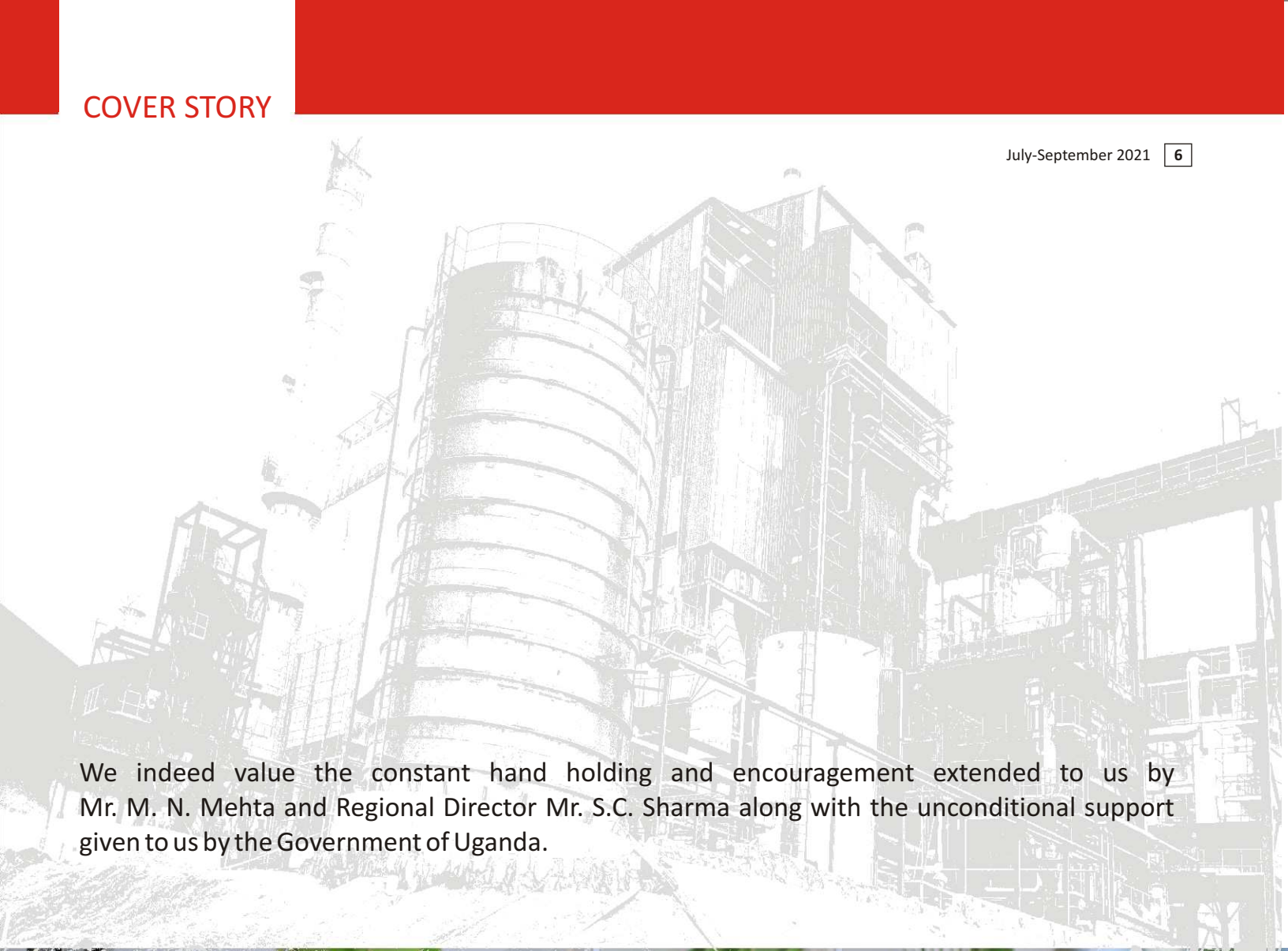


The Power Project is one of the most sophisticated and the prestigious Projects in Uganda as well as for the Company. Inspite of the challenges during the Covid-19 pandemic phase, SCOUL was able to commission the Plant on July 17, 2021.

The inauguration was possible only with the blessings of our Chairman – Mr. M.N Mehta, his wife, Mrs. Sunayana Mehta and all the Directors of the Company.

Mr. M. N Mehta at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony during the inauguration of Co-Generation Power Project at Lugazi, Uganda.
Seen with him are Mrs. Sunayana Mehta, Mr. Arjun Mehta, Mr. A.K. Shah, Mr. Hemnabh Khatau and Mr. Jay Mehta





We indeed value the constant hand holding and encouragement extended to us by Mr. M. N. Mehta and Regional Director Mr. S.C. Sharma along with the unconditional support given to us by the Government of Uganda.



L-R: Mr. Hemnabh Khatau, Mr. Jay Mehta, Mrs. Sunayana Mehta, Mr. Mahendra N. Mehta, Mr. Arjun Mehta and the priest - Mr. Dikul Dave performing pooja during the inauguration of Co-Generation Power Project

HAPPIEST BIRTHDAY WISHES TO MRS. SUNAYANA MEHTA!



We take this opportunity to extend belated birthday wishes to Mrs. Sunayana Mehta. In her own subtle and humble way, she has been a mentor to many of us and a guiding star for the organisation in a lot many ways. May her life ahead be filled with good health and happiness.



L-R: Mr. Jay Mehta, Mrs. Sunayana Mehta, Mr. & Mrs. Ranvir Khatau and Mr. M. N Mehta celebrating Mrs. Sunayana Mehta's birthday at Uganda

FUN-TIME FOR THE MEHTA FAMILY IN UGANDA WITH A UNIQUE GORILLA TREKKING ADVENTURE



Mr. Mahendra N. Mehta and Mrs. Sunayana Mehta, both in their glorious late 80s along with five other members of the family which included their grandson, Mr. Arjun Mehta went on a gorilla trekking adventure in Uganda's Bwindi Impenetrable National Park.

In spite of being in Uganda for over six decades, the couple so far had not had the opportunity to go for gorilla trekking. No doubt they had been avidly visiting other tourist destinations across the country but this one was in their to-do list for way too long.

Thanks to their grandson, the family was encouraged to take on this adventure. For 3 days and 2 nights, the family experienced the thrilling gorilla tracking activity in the thick tropical rain forest and also tapped onto the same opportunity to celebrate their grandson's 18th birthday in an extraordinary way surrounded by beautiful sights and sounds of nature, diverse bird species, tranquility, gorgeous unique tea plantations and heartfelt interactions with the local community.



Narrating the experience, Mr. Mehta recounted, “Gorillas are quite a unique animal species as they keep climbing up and down the stem branches, moulding, playing around, rolling up and down like a dice, feeding on leaves and breaking down branches. The thick tropical rainforest of Bwindi has the most beautiful scenic views and the feeling of untouched nature is incredible.”

He further added, “A whole lot of young people in Uganda especially in the middle and upper class segments prefer spending hundreds of dollars on foreign trips for their vacations and honeymoon. I would like them to enjoy the beauty that Uganda has to offer with such a varied range of animal species, diverse bird life, natural freshwater lakes, falls and rivers not forgetting the picturesque mountains like Rwenzori; among others. Uganda is the place to be! Uganda is a very secure country thanks to President Museveni and the entire government for the good investment environment. The Uganda we saw in the 1970's is way much different from the current one as there's a lot to lay our pride on and talk about positively all across the World.”

Sharing her experience of the trek, Mrs. Mehta said, “I fell in love with the tranquility and topography and the local community. It was humbling above all to experience another set of indigenous life on the Countryside right from clouds, mountain, gorilla lodge to mixing and mingling with friendly and charming locals.” She was particularly charmed seeing the Silverback male gorilla seated in calmness while the female adult gorilla watched the baby gorillas play, jump over from branch to branch, break down stems fending for food, roll up and down each other.

She applauded the Uganda Wildlife Authority rangers for their support and Clouds Lodge for the customer service and unique construction of the lodge, “The beauty about this lodge is inexplicable, geographically positioned on the rock edges and we lived high in the inter-cloud; which gave us another taste of what life is in the real cloud atmosphere.

We surely plunged into real luxury in the wild,” she said.



UNDERSTANDING THE FESTIVAL OF ONAM



Ms. Rachel Noronha, Manager-Estate at Corporate Office, Mumbai explains to us what Onam is all about. The festival of Onam brings together a multitude of colours and flavours from across God's Own Country, Kerala. This multi community festival commemorates the return of a mythical, righteous king – King Mahabali to see his people and is filled with celebrations and food.

Households are decorated with exquisite floral carpets (Pookkalam). A Velaku (Lamp) is lit in the middle of the Pookkalam. Traditional clothes are worn, the women dress in a two-piece draped garment called the settu mundu and men wear a sarong like mundu with a shirt. The colours are typically white with borders in gold and other colours.

Onam is always special for me, as each year I celebrate with my sister and our families. The delicious, elaborate Onam sadya or meal is prepared with great love by my sister. Twenty to thirty different items are freshly prepared and served on a banana leaf. This year too, the pandemic didn't dampen our Onam spirit and the families gathered for the meal. In spite of all the hustle and bustle, there lingers a sense of peace and divinity. Friends are always welcome around the table, so for those of you who want to celebrate Onam, come along with me next year to shout out Onashamsakal!



Ms. Rachel Noronha celebrated Onam festival along with her husband Mr. Theo Noronha, her sister and extended family

**JOY AND CELEBRATION –
A PICTORIAL ACCOUNT OF THE FUN TIMES AT THE MEHTA GROUP!**



Group party by Sidhee Ladies Club and Janmashtami celebrations at GSCL, Sidheeграм





Sidhee Ladies Club Celebrating Sports Day with a group party



Independence Day Celebrated at GSCL, Sidheegram



Hariyali Teej celebrations by Sidhee Ladies Club



Mr. Narendra Singh, Director-Works, SCL, Ranavav
offering Aarti to Lord Ganesha



Mr. & Mrs. Dinesh Randad during
Ganesh chaturthi



Navdurga Pooja being performed at SCL, Ranavav

NAVRATRI CELEBRATIONS AT OUR PLANTS AT GUJARAT



Keeping the Covid blues at bay, it was heartening to see the teams at our Plants in Gujarat come forward to celebrate the nine days of Navratri the way it is always done! Dressed in ethnic attires, the team played Garba at the plant premises, and believe us, it was a sight to see!

Men at SCL, Ranavav
enthusiastically playing garba during Navratri



Festive celebrations at the workplace are very welcome in today's day and age. This is primarily because they provide a respite from the monotony. You need that dash of fun and colour - festivals give you the festive and bonding mood. It gives the employees something to look forward to.

These nine days of Navratri give us a chance to purify negative thoughts and start afresh. Garba is a dance that honors, worships, and celebrates the feminine form of divinity.

Women swaying to the garba beats at SCL, Ranavav during Navratri



Navratri being celebrated by Sidhee Ladies Club, Sidheegram

NAVRATRI CELEBRATIONS AT CORPORATE OFFICE, MUMBAI

At our Corporate Office in Mumbai, on each of the nine days of Navratri, our team followed the special colours dedicated to each day to the hilt. It is believed that if you don the special colour on the designated day, it will bring you great prosperity.



Vibrant red colour code followed religiously by our Corporate Office, Mumbai, during Navratri



White colour code on Navratri



Yellow colour code on Navratri



Blue colour code -Our Mumbai team sticking to the nine days Navratri colour code



Navratri Winners on Zoom Contest in the Corporate Office, Mumbai

WHEN NAVRATRI GOES ON ZOOM!

Yes, literally! No one would have in their wildest imagination thought that the festival of dance and colours would be celebrated at home on a Zoom meeting! But the team at The Mehta Employees Club made this feat achievable this year where everyone actively and enthusiastically participated in the Navratri Zoom event organized by the club. This was particularly done keeping the restrictions of the pandemic in mind and we are proud to share that each and everyone involved had a gala time! A special thanks to Mr. Manoj Wadhwani, Sr. Executive, Mr. Sanjay Malkar, Dy. General Manager-Logistics and Ms. Manisha Naidu, Manager-HR, for their efforts to take this initiative forward.

The theme for the evening was Navratri & Bollywood quiz, in which the employees actively participated in the program and depending on the number of correct answers given by the employees, prizes were distributed. Prizes were also given to the best dressed Males and Females.

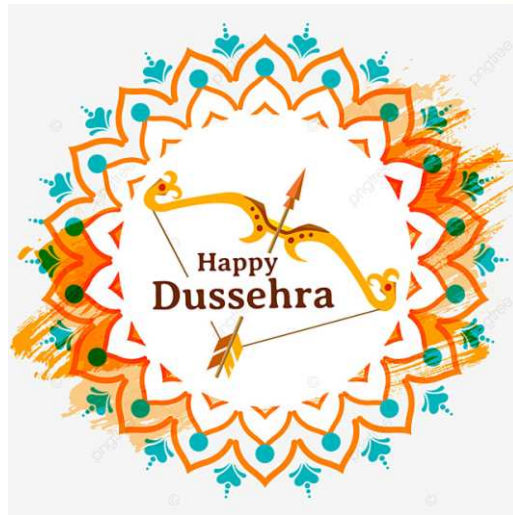
We congratulate the winners for the evening.

Trupti	Priti	NitinChalaliya	Neha Joshi	NayanDaftary
Mohini	Aarti	H A Trivedi	Uttara	Harishchandra Joshi
			A P Rao	Sneha

Best Dressed Females:-
 Rekha Artani
 Pareena Mehta

Best Dressed Males:-
 Brijesh Sharma
 Sampat Yadav

DUSSEHRA PUJA



Mr. & Mrs. Dinesh Randad
performing Navratri Puja



Our M.D., Mr. M S Gilotra performing
Dussehra Puja in Corporate Office, Mumbai



CONGRATULATIONS TO NIRAV & HIS PROUD PARENTS!

Nirav Suvarna, son of Mr. Ravi Suvarna, Deputy Manager-IT from Corporate Office, Mumbai scored 97.66% in H.S.C. Board in the commerce stream from Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School & Jr. College, Vashi, Mumbai.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to him and his family!

Proud of you, Nirav!

DIWALI CELEBRATIONS



Mr. & Mrs. Jay Mehta performing Laxmi Puja during Diwali in the Corporate Office.
Mrs. Medhavini D. Mehta, Mrs. M.S. Gilotra are seen during the puja proceedings



Mr. V.P. Mehra, Dy. Manager-Accounts and his wife performing aarti during Diwali puja at GSCL, Sidheegram



Mr. Dinesh Randad and his family at GSCL, Sidheegram and Mr. Narendra Singh along with his staff at SCL, Ranavav performing Diwali Puja.





GUJARAT TEAM CELEBRATES NAVRATRI

Taking a break from the monotony, the team at our Ahmedabad and Rajkot offices got together to celebrate Navratri at their respective office premises. We thank them for sharing their fun moments with us! Kudos to you, team!



Rajkot team playing Garba at the office premises



Amazing Navratri Garba mood in the office premises during Navratri festival at Ahmedabad office



Posing for a group photo by Rajkot team during Navratri festival



DIWALI RITUALS & CELEBRATIONS

Keeping with the tradition, Diwali celebrations at The Mehta Group were carried out with pooja and prayers for all.

At the Ahmedabad office, the day began with evoking the divine with a pooja attended by the office staff and family of the senior staff members.



Mr. & Mrs. Randhir Singh performing Diwali Pooja on November 02, 2021 at the Ahmedabad Office

This was followed by a fun filled afternoon where all the team members got together to make the day special. Each member was graciously dressed for the occasion.

Ahmedabad Office staff during Diwali Celebrations on November 02, 2021





L-R: Ms. Viral Shah, Manager-MIS,
Ms. Jyotsna Singh, wife of Mr. Randhir Singh – Director (M&S),
Ms. Hemakshi Trivedi, wife of Mr. Dharmesh Trivedi – Vice President-Sales,
Ms. Buntty Raval, Sr. Officer-HR and
Ms. Himani Singh, daughter of Mr. Randhir Singh at the Ahmedabad office

Mr. & Mrs. Randhir Singh performing Diwali Pooja alongwith the staff in attendance at Ahmedabad



LEADING NEWS DAILIES IN AHMEDABAD COVER OUR COMPANY'S DIWALI CELEBRATION!

We are proud to state that the coverage was seen in newspapers like Ahmedabad Mirror, Navgujarat, Prabhas and Times of India.

AhmedabadMirror

City

Auto-rickshaw fares revised; minimum to Rs 18
The minimum fare for auto-rickshaws has been set to Rs 18 from the current Rs 15. The government approved the demand of rickshaw drivers' association for an increase in CNG prices. The new minimum per/km h Rs15. The new rates will come into effect from November 5.

PICS: JIGNESH VORA



Praying for good health and wellbeing of all
A family performs puja on the auspicious day of Dhanteras, which marks the first day of Diwali festivities. Diwali will be especially memorable after the pandemic this year as families and loved ones reunite to celebrate the auspicious festival.

(Left) Family members join to create a rangoli at a home in the city on Monday.



GOT A THEMED RANGOLI? SHARE IT WITH US
Click clear, hi-resolution photographs of your rangoli (along with you) and mail it to us at ahmedabadspeaks@gmail.com till Thursday, November 4, 12 noon


प्रभात खबर



હિન્દુઓનો સર્વોચ્ચ દિવાળીનો પ્રારંભ થવા પામ્યો છે. અને તે સમયે નિમિત્તે શ્રુતહીઓ દ્વારા રંગબેરંગી રંગોળી બનાવવામાં આવી હતી.
(તસવીર - ટેલિગ્રાફ)

REWARDING CUSTOMER LOYALTY

HATHI-SIDHEE'S
bandhan
rewards

હાથી સિમેન્ટ | સિધ્ધિ સિમેન્ટ

પોઇન્ટ રિડેમ્શન માટે
175 થી વધુ ગિફ્ટ પ્રોડક્ટ્સનો આકર્ષક કેટલોગ

આસાન રીડેમ્શન / ઓર્ડર્સ
ઝડપી ઓર્ડર પ્રોસેસ,
ડિલિવરી ટ્રેકિંગ

Pt. 654600

Pt. 267200

Pt. 123600

Pt. 93400

Pt. 87600

Pt. 85000

Pt. 17800

Pt. 15500

અહીં દર્શાવેલ વિગતો પ્રતિબદ્ધ છે. Terms & Conditions Apply.

Loyalty Programmes have had a long history and it is only right that customers and patrons loyal to your brand are suitably rewarded for their trust in you.

We are happy to share that to make the Bandhan Rewards programme stronger, we have recently launched Bandhan Rewards App, a user-friendly digital interface (WebApp & Mobile App) fully functional on Android & iPhone mobiles as well as on desktop and laptops.

Purchase of cement for constructing a house is a complex decision to make for a customer. A person is always emotionally attached to his "Home" hence here the role of the influencer plays a vital role in the buying cycle of cement. As cement manufacturers hence it becomes important for us to address the concerns of each of the influencers and also ensure they are made to be an important part of our family.

HATHI-SIDHEE'S
bandhan
rewards

હાથી સિમેન્ટ | સિધ્ધિ સિમેન્ટ

હાથી - સિધ્ધિ બંધન રિવોર્ડ્સ App
www.shop.hathi-sidheecements.com

1 મોબાઇલ નંબર થી લોગ-ઇન

2 સરળ રજીસ્ટ્રેશન

3 સરળ પોઇન્ટ ડિસ્પેન્સેશન

Terms & Conditions Apply.



Bandhan Rewards is a loyalty program scheme for loyal customers i.e. contractors, masons, retailers/sub-dealers offered by Saurashtra Cement Limited & Gujarat Sidhee Cement Limited on regular purchase of Hathi Cement - Sidhee Cement bags from authorized dealer of Hathi Cement – Sidhee Cement in trade (retail) category.

What makes the App special is its OTP based secured transactions that allows users to transact, interact, view statements and track the details pertaining to their user profile. Bandhan Rewards offers more reward points on purchase of PPC bags, easy registration process, and attractive catalogue with over 150 products of different categories of well-known brands, order tracking, occasional surprises and many more.





We congratulate Mr. Jivabhai Nandaniya (Upleta) on the successful redemption of a new refrigerator through Bandhan Rewards

Welcoming New Team Members

- **Mr. Kalhan Razdan** Manager-Administration, Ahmedabad
- **Mr. Dharmik Purohit** Officer-Sales, Amreli
- **Mr. Dipen Gandhi** Officer-Technical, Anand
- **Mr. Mahesh Prajapati** Officer-Sales, Kutch
- **Mr. Himanshu Parmar** Sr. Sales Officer, Baroda
- **Mr. Bhargav Kharani** Officer-Sales, Rajkot

MR. J. N. NAKUM – THE MAN OF ACTION

Where there is a will, there is way and a living example of this would be the unbeatable feat achieved by Mr. J. N. Nakum, Assistant Engineer – Mechanical at GSCL, Sidheegram.

We are proud to state that with his extraordinary efforts, he successfully completed the task of Inlet Trunnion Replacement in Cement Mill solely by all the available in-house efforts and machinery. His efforts have resulted into tremendous cost saving for our organization and he has set an example for the future to beat the odds with cost effective in-house modification.

We take this opportunity to congratulate and thank him for his exceptional hard work.



Mr. J. N. Nakum, Asst. Engineer-Mechanical

GETTING THE BALL ROLLING FOR PRODUCTION AT SAURASHTRA CEMENT LTD (PAINT DIVISION) AT SINNAR, NASIK, MAHARASHTRA

Snowcem
P A I N T S

SCL's recently acquired Snowcem Paint business is all set to begin at location E-6, MIDC Malegaon, Sinnar, Nasik, Maharashtra. Amongst other things, the major challenge to set the ball rolling for the same were to procure various government licenses under the new name – SCL, obtain electric connection, water connection, cleaning of the factory from scratch, setting up the civil structure and refurbishing all of the production equipment.

Though the work on the project began in May 2021, it gathered pace only the month after and very soon the company expects to begin production at the plant.

GLIMPSES OF THE REFURBISHED PLANT – A PICTORIAL JOURNEY



The gate to the Sinnar Plant with the new branding

NEW PRODUCTION EQUIPMENTS INSTALLED AT THE SINNAR PLANT



Refurbished ETP Plant at Sinnar, Nasik, Maharashtra



New Transformer



New Generator 320 KVA



New Panels at the SinnarPlant

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR ASSOCIATES AT THE PAINTERS MEET



Painters during the Painters Meet

The Mehta Group has always taken pride in handholding and respecting the Associates. We strongly believe that the growth of our Associates is not only our responsibility but it is through them that we see ourselves grow as well. Recently, for our newly acquired paints business – Snowcem, we held a Painters Meet and it was humbling to see a full house attendance of all our Associates.

The Painters Meet was organized for Painters to know us better and become Associate with Snowcem Paints. The role a Painter plays in influencing the purchase of paints for the end-user cannot be undermined and this meet was specifically organized to ensure business continuity, build/increase sales, and brand visibility of Snowcem Paints in the market.



Brand Visibility: Merchandising Activity deployment of Poster at dealer's store



Visibility: Merchandising Activity deployment of Dangler's at dealer's store

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT FROM JULY TO OCTOBER 2021



In-house training on Fire & Safety conducted by
Mr. Ashwani Kumar, Dy. General Manager-Administration in Corporate Office, Mumbai

The ongoing commitment to employee training by The Mehta Group saw a record number of training sessions being completed with huge participation from everyone across all the offices.

To share an estimate, from the month of July to October, 550 training sessions were carried out covering 1947 total hours. Out of the 550 training sessions, 267 were Functional, 201 Behavioural, and 73 Wellness.

Due to their global recognition for inculcating the right attitude, Behavioural and Functional training are considered very important elements of all the corporate training programs. It is a widely accepted fact that - “If you want to change attitude, start with a change of behaviour”.

From soft skills to emotional intelligence training, all of the training sessions were aimed to further help and equip the participating employees with the right tools, incentives, and learning platform. Lots of training topics like Advance Analytics, Business Strategy and Financial Performance, Contract and Dispute Management, Effective Negotiation Skills, Fire & Safety, Leadership for Middle Managers and Interpersonal Skills were covered amongst other topics during the quarter having 49% of functional, 38% of behavioural & 13% of wellness training.

	Total Trainings	Total Hours
July	149	451
Aug	133	480
Sept	119	496
Oct	149	520
	550	1947

ACCIDENT PREVENTION TRAINING



Accident Prevention Training in progress conducted by Mr. R.B. Bharadava, Sr. Manager-Safety at GSCL, Sidheegram

Basics training on “Email Etiquette & Business Writing Skills” which are most often than not taken for granted go a long way in enhancing communication by quick circulation of information and providing fast response to customer inquiries and we are proud to say that such minute details were covered during our training sessions.

We also had a wonderful training on “Assertiveness Communication Skills” which eventually helps a person improve his / her interpersonal skills and understand the difference between being assertive and aggressive.

As we move forward towards the transformation of The Mehta Group to be an organization that encourages each employee well equipped with skills to strengthen his personal and professional life, we are happy to share that we have also introduced “POSH” training especially in the Hindi language for blue-collar employees. Here the content is also directed towards making them understand, provide protection and acquaint them against sexual harassment of women at the workplace.

“Webinars on Nutrition, Health Awareness and Stress Relaxation” were aimed at understanding the study of nutrients in food, how the body uses them, and the relationship between diet, health, and disease. Similarly, “Mindfulness at the workplace” was targeted to help instill confidence around change, enhance decision-making with some good mindfulness exercises, and understand the connection between our thoughts and feelings.

Onboarding New Team Members at the SCL Paint Division, Corporate Office, Mumbai



Mr. Girish K.V.,
National Sales Head

■ Mr. Satish Nivrutti Ingale	Manager-Maintenance	■ Mr. Rajendra Mulkapalli	Territory Sales Manager
■ Mr. Deepak Kumar	Senior Sales Executive	■ Mr. Sarvesh Kumar	Territory Sales Manager
■ Mr. Malay Paul	Senior Sales Executive	■ Ms. Himadri Mondal	Sales Officer
■ Mr. S. Nagaraju	Senior Sales Executive	■ Mr. Rajin G R	Territory Sales Manager
■ Mr. Sagar Kapoor	Senior Sales Executive	■ Mr. Ramanuj Singh	Sr. Sales Executive
■ Mr. Veera Reddy	Territory Sales Manager	■ Mr. Rahul Prasad	Sales Officer
■ Mr. Laxman Pawar	Senior Sales Executive	■ Mr. Praveen Shidhaye	Factory Manager
■ Mr. Sanjay Kumawat	Asst. Manager-Accounts		
■ Mr. Rizwan K Salam	Senior Sales Executive		
■ Mr. Anand Singh	Senior Sales Executive		

Welcoming New Members at GSCL, Corporate Office, Mumbai

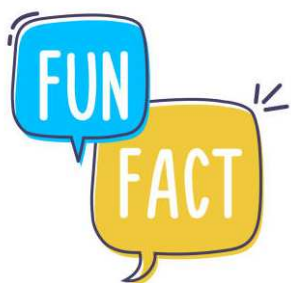
■ Ms. Mitali Naik	Officer-Accounts
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Mr. Mahendra Kandukuri,
Vice President-IT

Welcoming the New Members at SCOUL-UGANDA

■ Mr. Thirumalaisamy Siva Kumar	Dy. General Manager (Co-gen.)
■ Mr. Jagannath Salunkhe	Dy. Manager-Boiler
■ Mr. Mani Marichelvan	Sr. Manager-Electrical (Co-Gen.)
■ Mr. Manish Vishwakarma	Deputy Manager-Electrical
■ Mr. Murali Selvarathinam	Sr. Manager-Turbine
■ Mr. Muragesh Kumbar	Asst. Manager-WTP
■ Mr. Orathai Sadaippan Dhandapani	Supervisor-Mill



THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS –

Diwali is one of India's most favourite festivals. With lights and happy faces around, the entire aura is transformed with positivity.

We present to you some interesting facts about Diwali we bet you didn't know! Read on...



HAPPY
diwali

1. Diwali is the festival of lights and is considered to be an homage to declare the defeat of darkness with light. The festival occurs on a moonless night which is illuminated with diyas and crackers!
2. The most popular tradition behind Diwali dictates that it marks the day on which the Hindu deity Lord Ram returned to his home city of Ayodhya after vanquishing the demon king Ravana. According to mythology, lights were lit all across the country to celebrate his return to rule.
3. For many people, Diwali honours the Hindu goddess of wealth, Lakshmi. The lights and lamps are said to help Lakshmi find her way into peoples' homes, bringing prosperity in the years to come!
4. Another popular belief that signifies the occasion of Diwali for Jainism, India's sixth largest religion, is that this is the day on which the last of the 24 Tirthankaras (Great Teachers), Lord Mahavira attained 'Nirvana'.
5. In southern parts of India, Diwali is celebrated as the day on which Lord Krishna killed the demon Narakasura and brought peace to the lands. According to legends, Narakasura repented in his last moments and requested Mother Earth that his death be celebrated with lights and colors across the lands every year. A wish that was gladly granted.
6. The city of Leicester, in the United Kingdom, holds the largest Diwali celebrations outside of India. Every year, tens of thousands of people gather in the streets to enjoy vibrant shows of light, music and dancing!
7. India and Pakistan have been at odds and have fought three wars over the last 70 years, and as a result the border between the two countries is always tense. However, Diwali is one of the few occasions on which soldiers from both sides lay aside their differences, meet and greet and even distribute sweets across the border to their counterparts every year.

A Creative Endeavour by Mrs Shital Shah, wife of Mr Anil Shah, Chief Executive, SCOUT, Uganda

Some beautiful pieces of art have been created by Mrs. Shital Shah making use of waste that include tree branch, old shoes, shorts, tyres, broken bath tubs and other throwaway items.



AS WE GEAR UP TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS, HERE ARE SOME INTERESTING CHRISTMAS FUN-FACTS OF THE WORLD'S MOST CHERISHED FESTIVAL



*Merry
Christmas!*

Christmas wasn't always on December 25

While Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, the actual date is lost to history. There's no mention of December 25 in the Bible and many historians say Jesus was really born in the spring. Some historians posit the date was originally chosen because it coincided with the pagan festival of Saturnalia, which honored the agricultural god Saturn with celebrating and gift-giving.

(source: <https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/holidays/christmas-ideas/g2972/surprising-christmas-facts/>)

Jingle Bells was not drafted for Christmas

Jingle Bell was originally a song for Thanksgiving in 1857.

It was also the first song ever played in space by astronauts Walter Schirra Jr. and Thomas P. Stafford.

(source: <https://www.berries.com/blog/45-fun-christmas-facts>)



Hanging Stockings comes from a Legend related to Marriage

According to the Smithsonian, one of the most popular legends about the tradition's origins is the tale of a poor widower who worried that he wouldn't be able to marry off his three daughters because of his lack of wealth.

Fortunately, Smithsonian explains, "St. Nicholas was wandering through the town where the man lived and heard villagers discussing that family's plight. He wanted to help but knew the man would refuse any kind of charity directly. Instead, one night, he slid down the chimney of the family's house and filled the girls' recently laundered stockings, which happened to be drying by the fire, with gold coins. And then he disappeared." In the morning, the family found the gifts, and the daughters became eligible to wed. 'Twas a Christmas miracle!

(source: <https://bestlifeonline.com/christmas-facts/>)



RESPONSIBLY DEALING WITH EWASTE

Contributed by Ms Priscilla Nazareth,
Senior Officer-Accounts, Corporate Office, Mumbai

In our societies, schools and colleges we could inform our principals, teachers and society members wherein we could carry out specific drives wherein we educate everyone to leave their electronic waste which is very often put in our dustbins and empty boxes could be kept in a certain place and all be requested to leave their electronic waste like old laptops, non-usable mobile phones, non-used batteries and so many household items and gadgets which we would like to throw in dustbins should instead be put in these bins so that these people would come on their routine rounds to pick these e-waste and dispose of it in a proper way.



TALK TO AN EXPERT

Karo Sambhav is an organisation which translates into 'Make Possible' and they as India's leading Producer responsibility organisation (PRO) are steering the way e-waste is managed in this country by putting accountability, transparency and trust in the system. They volunteer in picking up the e-waste from schools, colleges, and open spaces. They could be contacted on +91-9311607811 or on engage@karosambhav.com



Recycle Your
E-waste

Winners of the last issue's contest are –

Ms. Priscilla Nazareth, Sr. Officer-Accounts (Corporate Office), Mumbai

Mr. Nipul Zala, Dy. Manager-HR, GSCL, Sidheegram

Mr. Alpesh Karena, Officer-HR, SCL, Ranavav



Answers to the last issue's contest

1. You cannot keep it until you have given it. What is it?

Ans. Your Word

2. Which of the following birds doesn't belong to this group?

- Finch, Gull Eagle, Ostrich or Sparrow

Ans. Ostrich- The only bird that does not fly

3. The more it dries, the wetter it gets, what is it?

Ans. A towel

4. What happened in the middle of the 20th century that will not happen again for 4000 years?

Ans. A Year -1961

5. How many eggs can you put in an empty basket?

Ans. One egg- Then it will no longer be an empty basket



Science Teacher: When is the Boiling Point reached?
Student: When my father sees my Report Card!

Lady: My husband just swallowed an Asprin by mistake, what shall I do?
Doctor: "Give him a headache now, why waste medicine!"

*(Both of the above jokes have been contributed by
 Mr. Manoj Wadhwani, Senior Executive, MD's Office, Corporate Office, Mumbai)*



The only secret
 behind a good day
 is a good attitude.

ONE OF THE HAPPIEST MOMENTS
 IN LIFE IS WHEN YOU FIND THE
 COURAGE TO LET GO OF WHAT YOU
 CANNOT CHANGE.





THE STORY OF A DREAMY MILK-MAID



Mary was a milk-maid. Every day, she'd milk the cows and earn money by selling the milk. One fine afternoon, Mary was heading to the market carrying a pail of fresh milk on her head. On her way, she starts daydreaming.

She says to herself, "I will buy eggs with the money I make from selling milk. The eggs will hatch into chickens which will grow into hens. Then I'll sell the hens and with that money, buy a big house on the hill. When everyone in the village asks me about the secret of my wealth, I'll refuse to tell and toss my head." While saying so, Mary actually tosses her head and spills the milk on the ground.

Moral of the story: Do not count your chickens before they hatch and be humble.



Make your child write a short essay on
'Importance of Festival in a Child's Life'
 and send it to neetam@mehtagroup.com

Inviting our readers to send in any interesting stories/contests/feedback/suggestions on the above email id.