



Ignorance is always afraid of change.
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU, POLITICIAN

HINDUSTAN TIMES, MUMBAI, WEDNESDAY MARCH 03, 2010

admission alerts

MANAGEMENT | Patna
The LN Mishra Institute of Economic Development and Social Change in Patna has announced April 8 as the last date for applications for its MBA and MHRM courses. A Bachelor's degree with a score of MAT 9 or 10 is the minimum eligibility requirement, followed by a group discussion and interview. Visit www.lnimpatna.ac.in

HUMANITIES | Mumbai
March 10 is the last date to apply for the BA (Honours) course in social work (rural development) at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. A 10+2 or its equivalent with a minimum of 50 per cent marks is required in order to apply for the course. To apply, visit www.tiss.edu or call 02471-242061/560

ENGINEERING | Kerala
The Amrita School of Engineering in Kerala has announced March 30 as the last date for applications for its Blech course, which required a minimum eligibility criterion of 10+2 with at least 60 per cent. The admission will be based on an entrance test slated for May 2. Visit www.amrita.edu or call 0422-2985169/70

CORRIGENDUM
In the previous HT Horizons issue dated February 24, a spelling error occurred on page 3, where Centrum was spelt as Centrum and Readiness was spelt as Readlines. The errors are deeply regretted.

To give the healing touch

From colour dopplers, X rays and MRIs to artificial heart valves and pacemakers, the profession of biomedical engineering offers something for all. Adit Mathai

Aminnaha Nene is a small town boy who made it big. He comes from Kalvan, a nondescript Mumbai suburb. Nene overcame family opposition, became a biomedical engineer and eventually set up, in alliance with a host of other companies, 21st Century Health Management Solutions, a consulting firm dedicated to providing a range of health management and health information solutions for hospitals, healthcare institutions and service providers in the government and private sectors.

"Samant" as the family calls him, was polished at AVM High School, Kalvan, and at MHI high school and junior college, Thane, and later at the Veerwata Jijabai Technological Institute, Matunga, where he acquired a Bachelor of Engineering (B.E.) degree in electrical engineering. He capped this with a Master of Technology (M.Tech) degree at IIT, Powai.

It was at IIT that Nene met students of pharmacology, physiology and pathology, who, along with a maverick professor, Dr Navdeep Singh, influenced him to get into biomedical engineering. He finally selected medical imaging as his major at IIT. The possibility of early detection of diseases through the use of mathematical calculations and scans without dissection appealed to him. "Early detection leads to less trauma, mortality and morbidity and medical imaging provides a noninvasive means of doing exactly that, which is what drew me to this subfield of biomedical engineering", he explains.

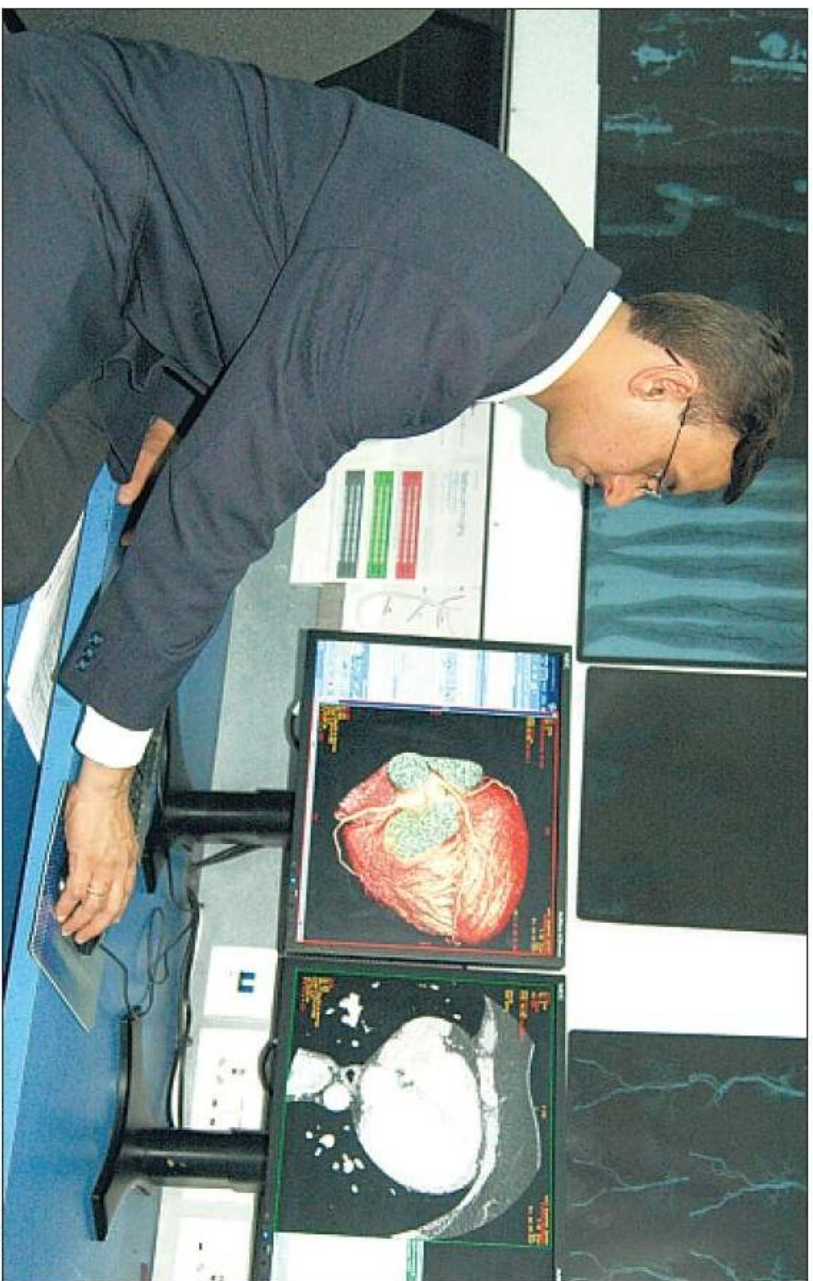
Immediately after graduation, Nene landed a job with Chrompton Greaves, Kanpur, as a management trainee in the design and power transformation division. Here, he was the highest paid trainee. In 1994, at a Tatafotech conference, he presented a technical paper which later became a reference manual for Chrompton Greaves. Here he did a lot of internal process work and was chiefly responsible for getting ISO certification for

the department. After a year with Chrompton he left and joined IIT. In his third semester, in industry interactions, he realised that biomedical engineering in India was a grossly underutilised field and that a lot of core

research was required to update it and bring it on a par with international standards. Nene felt that opportunities for such research were limited in India as most Indian companies in this field focused more on support,

sales and dealership. He also took a course in digital image processing and realised then that this was his calling in life. While doing this course he got the chance to work on PARAM, a supercomputer

domated by The Center for Advanced Computing (CDAC). On this supercomputer he ran a CT Scanner image reconstruction algorithm successfully. The success of this venture shifted his focus to post-processing, and spurred by an interest in IT, he joined Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) as a software consultant trainee after completing his M.Tech. At TCS, he was put on an IBM mainframe plat-



RISHIKESH CHOUHANRY / HT PHOTO

form in Chennai and was later transferred to Malaysia, where he handled areas like taxation, e-governance and finance. In 1989, he was hit by an entrepreneurial bug. Nene quit TCS and formed Informatics Solutions Pvt Ltd, a medical imaging company focusing on providing products like color dopplers, IT scanners, MRIs for cardiac catheters, gynaecology and endoscopic surgery. However, after some time he got disillusioned with the highly specialised but prohibitively expensive nature of medical imaging and decided to take a more holistic approach. The existence of like minded companies in the same field, along with their complementary resources and technologies, and a set of common clients led to the merging of Informatics Solutions Ltd with its competitors and the formation of 21st Century Health Management Solutions Ltd in 2005, where Nene is founder director and principal consultant in the imaging department. Nene's passion for sharing his knowledge led to extensive writing in magazines like Express Health Care and E Health. He also vacations extensively within India and abroad. He was an avid trekker in his college days and would often spend time with a group of friends in the lush but rocky Satydrats. But with a job as demanding as that of a biomedical engineer, he no longer has the time for this.