

eMERGE: A Session on computer hardware and network

(IT Club Initiative)

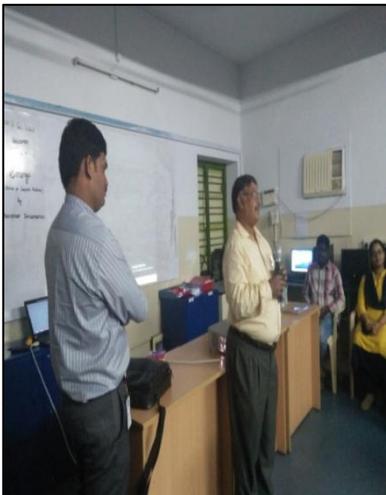
The 5th of November was a day when computer science students and IP students of class eleven had a workshop on hardware and network concepts as part of the IT club activities. The workshop was organized by our computer department and had lecturers and demonstrations from Precision Informatics. The team consisted of Mr. Arumugam, Mr. Elumalai and Mr. Balamurugan, all of them experts in hardware. The session consisted of a detailed description of the inner workings of a computer, giving the students an insight into the complexities of seemingly simple and quick machines. It also had a hands-on session including a live disassembly of a CPU.

The session began with a small discussion on what technology meant to each of the students, to make the session more interactive. After the small warm-up, so to speak, the experts launched into laborious yet passionate explanations. The first few minutes were spent in briefly discussing the structure of a computer and the various components that typically constitute one.

This was followed by explanations about the motherboard and its architecture and how different components evolved over time. There was also explanation given about BIOS and how the CMOS Battery is related to its working. And then, various technical issues that would arise with the system were dealt with in detail and lucid illustration was provided to aid the students to troubleshoot such kind of issues.

Moving on, Mr. Balamurugan explained about printers – tracing out the evolution of printers right from dot-matrix printers to the laser-jets of today. There was a clear animation illustrating the functioning of a laser printer. This made students appreciate the underrated power of printers. Students were reminded that the next time their printer stopped working, they shouldn't just hit it in pure frustration.

Finally, the most anticipated part of the session was the hands-on. This tied all the explanations given into a very clear picture and students were able to identify the parts of the CPU and at the end of this, one could be assured that every single person who had attended the event had come out as a better-informed person, and could deal with the terms and jargon dropped by IT technicians at any point of time.



Mr. Arumugam introduces the topic



Presentation on hardware and Networking concepts



Mr. Elumalai explains the functions of the parts of the CPU



The hands on session in progress



Interactive session followed by the valedictory function

*Ashwin T Shekhar & B. Bala Tamoghna XI-A
Reporter,
Cyber Pigeons , PSBB NGM*