

Meeting held @ Alumni Cell with Dr. Gajanana C Birur, a Social Entrepreneur.

Birur Educational Foundation for Children (BEFC) is a charitable educational organization founded in 2004 for the purpose of supporting primary school children in rural parts of Karnataka in India. It is the strong belief of BEFC that providing educational support to the children of economically and socially weaker sections of the society goes a long way in raising healthy children, educated adults, and an enlightened society.

Starting in April 2004, BEFC has been working with four primary schools in the towns and villages around the town of Birur. Over five hundred students in the age group of five to twelve years attend these four primary schools.

The current activities of the organization are focused in the rural areas around the town of Birur. The town of Birur is located about 200 km to the northwest of Bangalore city.

Dr. Gajanana C Birur, an Advisor for BEFC is also an **alumnus of IISc from Department of Aerospace Engineering. He did his ME during 1969-71** and later worked with ISRO for 2yrs. Till date he is working for Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), NASA. He is in the Mars Mission Program group.

A meeting with Dr. Gajanana C Birur was arranged at the Alumni Cell Office which was attended by The Chairman, Alumni Cell and also few students of IISc. Dr. Gajanana C Birur highlighted the following activities of BEFC:

- To provide material resources such as books, computers, special uniforms, and school supplies to elementary school students in order to create a better learning environment
- To provide teachers with a variety of resources including training programs to enable them to better teach elementary school children in rural areas
- To assist in the improvement of the infrastructure such as classrooms, libraries, sports facilities, drinking water, and toilets at schools for a more conducive learning environment for children
- The foundation works with Rotary clubs, which helps the foundation by investing 50% of the expenditure for the above activities.
- Dr. Gajanana C Birur's Brother who is a Retired Defence person takes care of the activities at Birur.

Dr. Gajanana C Birur wants to take this foundation to the next level with the help of Students from IISc. In connection with this, a Lecture was arranged by the **Alumni Cell on November 05, 2009 at Chokshi Hall. This was attended by around 70 students.** The lecture was followed by an Interactive session between the students and Dr. Gajanana C Birur.

The program concluded with vote of thanks by the Student Council Member Mr. Sridhar P.

A few photographs of the above Meeting.....





