



Dear Friends,

Greetings from IIT Bombay!

Hope you are healthy and safe.

It has been an extremely eventful month for us here at IIT Bombay. We had a flurry of online interactive activities for the students and staff alike. After the completion of the first month of the New Year, the online semester is also in full swing, and with the commencement of mid semester exams this month, the atmosphere for the students has turned quite somber as well. Classes and exams continue to be online for the current semester.

As for the situation on the campus reboot program, we had started inviting requests from resource-constraint students around mid-December. More than 300 students from this category have voluntarily returned to the campus as of now. Priority is now given to final semester Masters Students. On-campus, more shops are open outside the hostel areas, and the gymkhana ground is open as well. Wearing masks is mandatory in public, with a fine for non-compliance.

The Interim Session of 59th Convocation of Indian Institute of Technology Bombay was held on February 27, in virtual reality mode, keeping in view COVID-related protocols. Mr. Adil Zainulbhai, Chairman, Quality Council of India, and Former Chairperson, McKinsey, India was the Chief Guest for the occasion.

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News from IIT Bombay



With its 6th executive MBA batch launch, IIT Bombay and Washington University in St. Louis rolls back to the old normal

On January 13, 2021, the senior leadership of IIT Bombay and Washington University in St. Louis flagged-off their 6th executive MBA batch. The launch function was inaugurated by Mr. Gopal Shukla, the CEO of the IIT Bombay and Washington University in St. Louis joint venture. Professor Subhasis Chaudhuri, Director IIT Bombay welcomed the cohort 6. Mr. Mayank Pareek, a seasoned industry leader and the President of TATA Motors was the special guest of honour. The other senior dignitaries present were Professor Prasanna Majumdar, Deputy Director Finance and External Affairs, IIT Bombay, Professor S. Narayan Rao, HoD Shailesh J. Mehta School Of Management and Professor Daniel Elfenbein, Professor of Strategy, Olin Business School.

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Faculty Research at IIT Bombay

'We being a teeny-tiny part of the Universe, there is a lot to be explored'

This month in the Faculty Interview series, we got the opportunity to talk to Dr. Gopalan Rajaraman, professor in Chemistry department at IIT Bombay. He is one of the Swarnajayanti fellowship recipients in 2019 and is a leading scientist in the field of Molecular Magnetism, Biomic Catalysis and Spintronics materials.

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Student Research activities at IIT Bombay

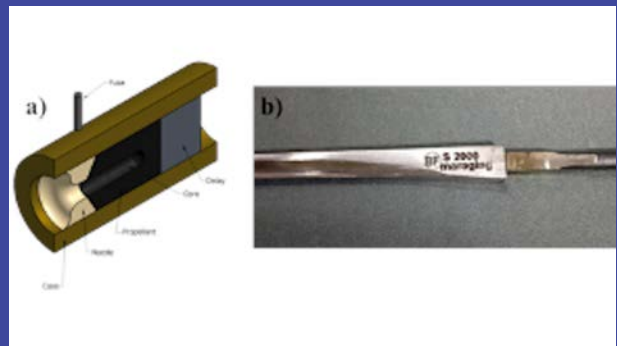


The search for killer asteroids

Name: Kritti Sharma | **Guide:** Prof. Varun Bhalerao | **Department:** Mechanical Engineering (B.Tech.)

66 million years ago, a devastating asteroid impact wiped out the dinosaurs. The next one may do the same to us. Millions of such potentially hazardous objects lurk in the solar system, most of them undetected. Several telescopes around the world swing into action every night to identify such threats well in advance so that we can launch planetary defence missions to protect our civilization. Now, IIT Bombay with the GROWTH-India telescope has joined in on this effort. GROWTH-India is a wide-field optical telescope located at Hanle, Ladakh. It was funded by the government, & set up jointly by IITB & the Indian Institute of Astrophysics as a part of the GROWTH international project.

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High Pressure Torsion Processing of Maraging Steel 250: Microstructure and Mechanical Behaviour Evolution

Name: Kevin Jacob | **Guide:** Prof. Nagamani Jaya Balila | **Department:** Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science (Ph.D.)

Precipitation hardening/age hardening is a technique used to increase the strength of the materials through heat treatment. We work with Maraging steels which are a class of high strength Fe-Ni martensitic steels whose strength increases by nearly 75% due to age hardening. These steels are extensively used in rocket motor casings and landing gears due to their excellent combination of strength and ductility. The current study follows a quantitative and comprehensive approach to explore the influence of severe plastic deformation (SPD) processing parameters on the precipitation kinetics of maraging 250 grade steels and the resulting microstructural stability and mechanical response.

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