

PRAGATI ANNUAL DAY 2015



PRAGATI EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION Bangalore



EDUCATION - THE ONLY REAL SOLUTION

School dropout is one of the most serious social problems we are witnessing today.

Thousands of children with substantial potential are forced every year, for want of financial resources, to give up education prematurely and take up work way below their innate potential.



We at Pragati believe that a proper education and a decent life are the birthrights of every child in a civilized society. And it is everyone's duty to see that every child gets them Worse, in most cases, they simply become unemployed, restless youth with no skills or resources to help them pursue a respectable life. Many of these frustrated, highly vulnerable youth predictably degenerate into misguided or criminal behavior and meet tragic ends. Just a little assistance at the right time can prevent this disaster and increase the feasibility of their receiving education more consistent with their potential.

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PRAGATI EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Pragati Educational Foundation is a registered charitable organization established in 2002 with the objective of providing financial and non-financial support to students from economically weak backgrounds to enable them to receive education commensurate with their potential and to become self-independent.



We supported 12 deserving students during the academic year 2002-03, and have supported hundreds of them till now.

Every year, Pragati receives a few hundred applications from children with good academic record but inadequate means. Our selection committees meet these bright and eager children along with their parents / guardians to determine which of these could be served with our limited human and financial resources.

We are always looking to expand our means to support a greater number of deserving children.

And with your support, we will....







NOTABLE MILESTONES ON THE PRAGATI JOURNEY



Mr. Tej Arora

Trustee

Virtuous Cycle

In early 2000, my esteemed friend Surya started Pragati with a vision. The vision was to enable bright students with economically challenging backgrounds to build better lives for themselves and their families, through education. There was one important detail in the framework he created. When students were accepted into the Pragati Scholarship, they pledged that once they reach self-sustainability, they will come back and join hands with the Pragati mission. Of course, this pledge was not binding in any way. It was simply a seed in the mind of the student that they should in the future share with society the benefit they are getting today.

This little detail was going to be instrumental in making Pragati itself selfsustainable! And it has worked!! A majority of the Mentors in Pragati today are ex-Pragati Scholars, who went on to get their degrees, got placed in good jobs, and came back to Pragati. Their motivation to further Pragati's cause, their dedication, their energy, the goodness in their heart is the wellspring of Pragati's progress in the future!

Ambika, Deepak, Divya, Kavitha, Kumaraswamy, Madhuri, Mahesh, Shalini – thank you for your dedication – Pragati was lucky to find you! May you continue to inspire others and may there be more like you!

Technology behind the scenes

Pragati works on a zero overhead budget. We have no office, so there is no rent to pay. We have no paid staff, so there are no salaries to pay. We have to be lean, but not at the cost of efficiency and nimbleness. There are a lot of tools and

technologies we use that enable us to be efficient and agile. The best part is that most of it is available for free. Over the last year, we switched to a simple, powerful and popular open-source content management system (Joomla) to power our website (www.pragati-edu.org). This has made it easy to update the website with events and news about Pragati. We rely on Google groups for email communication within the team, Google photos to maintain photographs from all events, and Google docs to maintain and share documents. We have used WhatsApp for instant team communication – this has helped us organize some things very quickly, and to share photos from events instantly with everyone, no matter where they are.

While technology keeps us connected at all times, there is nothing that can replace the good old-fashioned face-to-face meetings. We do have periodic team meetings which we all look forward to. We use these meetings to brainstorm ideas, plan upcoming events, and discuss strategies.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to the Rotary Club (Coles Park) for their invaluable support in providing a facility that we have used for our meetings and various events. We are also grateful to the many principals and teachers at our partner schools which our scholars attend, for their cooperation and support in managing the scholarship & mentorship program. Last but not the least, we are grateful to all the benevolent donors of money, time, and expertise for their generosity.

WARM REGARDS,

TEJ ARORA

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PRAGATI DIARY 2015-16



Mr. Vijay. K

Trustee

2015-16 has been an action packed year for Pragati with a definite upsurge of enthusiasm and involvement of mentors as well as many events successfully conducted.

The year began with Pragati having to bid a fond but regretful goodbye to Mr. Surya Rao and Mrs. Sundari Rao. Surya was the original founder of Pragati and its Managing Trustee till date. Mr. Surya Rao, with his vision, dynamism and commitment has been instrumental in bringing up Pragati from a fledgling organization in 2002-03 with just 8 scholars to its present healthy and mature form and has steered it through the years with his affection and wisdom .Over 500 scholars have passed through the portals of Pragati and many have gone on to very successful careers.

He has left, relocated to Bhopal to be closer to his children. Surya and Sundari – we bid you a fond farewell and wish you the very best for the future. We will all miss you greatly both as wonderful human beings as well as for your contributions.

Last year also saw the relocation of one more of our senior mentor Mr. Dinesh Nehte, who has been such a source of strength and whose contribution has had such a great impact on the organization. Dinesh has relocated to Pune with his family. Fond farewell, Dinesh .Good luck in all your future endeavors.

However the great comfort for the mentor team is that both Surya and Dinesh continue to remain engaged with Pragati.

The calendar of events for 2015-16 began with a trip to Visveswaraya Industrial and Technological museum. Over 50 children and 10 scholars participated. The children were both curious and excited with the many splendid and thought provoking exhibits in the different sections of the museum. The visit was capped by a 3D film on the pre-historic mammals such as Dinosaurs and T-Rex. The visit was immediately followed by a picnic in Cubbon park, with the mentors organizing some great games. The trip was topped off by a heart packed lunch. All agreed that it was a really fun day and a great opportunity to know each other better.

The selection for the new batch of scholars took place on Aug 2nd. A record 170 applicants gathered at Rotary House of Learning and went through the written test and interview process spread over 6 hours. A total of 37 students were selected, mostly from Class 8 & 9. It was a really difficult task managing such a large number of aspirants. Thanks to our young Mentor group for managing this exercise so smoothly and flawlessly.

Another significant event in our calendar was an inspiring talk by Mr. Ajit Kaikini –MD of Buoyancee to our young charges on "Going from good to great " . Ajit is an extraordinarily gifted speaker who is able to reach his audience and drive home his points. His talk with doubt inspired the children to give of their best in all that they do. Ajit also fielded many questions that the children threw at him and answered them with aplomb and wisdom. Without doubt both scholars and mentors would have been greatly motivated by Ajit's talk.

Excitement has been afoot among the mentors for the last one month in organizing the Annual Day scheduled for Dec 20th. WhatsApp messages and e-mails have been flying back and forth while the contours of the event has slowly taking shape. I am sure it is going to be a grand success.

Finally, a word about mentors. We started the year with 18 mentors-the most there has been in the history of Pragati! What was most heartening though was that most of these mentors were our erstwhile scholars who have gone on to extremely successful careers .It is only thanks to these young brigade and their enthusiasm, fresh ideas and their commitment that Pragati has been able forge ahead with even greater drive this year. On behalf of all the Trustees, thank you, my dear Friends.

WARM REGARDS,

VIJAY. K



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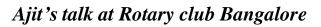
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Blast from the past



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MENTORS' SPEAK



Ambika

Ambika has been associated with Pragati since 2007 initially as a scholar and now as a mentor. She graduated from University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering, Bangalore in 2010. Her area of specialization is Electronics & Communication. She has been working in Motorola Solutions, Bangalore since then as Wireless LAN Developer.

Pragati in Ambika's words:

"I would say Pragati is all about learning to me. Not just academics, it is about social responsibility, discipline, commitment and what not.. Proud to be part of Pragati."



Deepak

Deepak's association with Pragati dates back to 2003 when he joined as a scholar and later on became a mentor. He graduated from Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technology, Bangalore in 2009 in the field of Electronics & Communication Engineering. He currently works as a Java Developer (Supply Chain Domain) at JDA Software in Bangalore.

Deepak's views on Pragati:

"More than working for a social cause I feel Pragati as a family which always keep me active during my leisure times."



Divya

Divya completed her B.E. in Civil Engineering from Dr.Ambedkar Institute of Technology, Bangalore. She works a Design Engineer at Bremer India engineering Pvt Ltd, Bangalore. She joined Pragati as a scholar in 2005 and later came back as mentor in 2014.

Divya's take on Pragati:

"Pragati foundation was one of the key to my future. Pragati has been doing a great job helping many students with talent to pursue education. This noble work is worth appreciating by all. Wish the foundation all success..."



Kavitha

Kavitha has been an integral part of Pragati since 2004. She graduated from PESIT, Bangalore in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in Telecommunication engineering. She is currently working as a Senior Test Engineer at Evolving Systems- A Telecom Product Company. Previously she was with Nokia Siemens Networks.

Kavitha's views on Pragati:

"I am Kavitha LM, a beneficiary of Pragati (scholarship and much more). "Sometimes all we need is a helping hand" and Pragati has been that for me.

I will forever be indebted for the support I was offered financially at the time of dire need.

But more than financial support it was my mentor's role and influence that helped me in achieving my goals and better myself. My mentor – Mr. Vijay has always been available to help me with career choices, to motivate me in academic and overall development. Without Pragati, my life would have been very different and I am sure it wouldn't be as good as this one. Thank you Pragati."



Kumaraswamy

Kumaraswamy graduated from Sapthagiri College of Engineering in Electronics and communication branch in 2011. He is currently working as a System Analyst at Allstate India as a Tibco Application Developer. He has been a part of Pragati since 2003 both as a scholar and mentor.

Pragati in Kumaraswamy's view:

"Joined as a scholar and now being part of Pragati is a different experience. It's always a pleasure working with Pragati."



Madhuri

Madhuri has been a member of the Pragati family for over more than a decade since 2002. She is an Electronics and Communication Engineer from Sapthagiri College of Engineering and has been working with Infosys for the last 4 years as a mobile application developer.

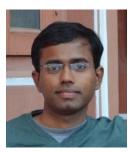
What Pragati means to Madhuri:

"I am proud to be called a Pragati scholar. Pragati has been with since my high school phase, extending financial grant and guiding me to excellence in various fields.

I can never forget my wonderful mentors, Mr.Surya, Mr. Vijay, Mr.Tej, Mrs.Sundari and Mr. Dinesh, for their inspiring guidance.

Pragati caters to the all-round development of its scholars. My public speaking, event organizing, social responsibility and awareness skills received a fine tuning during my interaction with Pragati.

I am deeply indebted to the Pragati family for its constant encouragement and support."



Mahesh

Mahesh is a part of Pragati since 2003. He completed B.E in Electronics & Communication at R.V. College of Engineering, Bangalore in 2009. He worked at ARM Inc till 2012 and later on graduated with M.S. degree from Purdue

University, USA in 2014. Since then he has been working as a Staff Design Engineer at Broadcom Corporation, Santa Clara, USA.

Pragati in Mahesh's words:

"It has been a remarkable journey with Pragati so far. The very idea of fulfilling a collective responsibility towards society by providing educational assistance coupled with mentoring is truly inspiring and the longevity of Pragati serves as a testimony to the vision of founders of Pragati.

I have been fortunate enough to be a part of Pragati family – it has been a humbling experience to know what it takes to give back to the society and in the process grow within yourself.

Pragati scholars becoming self-reliant and reaching out to others is truly gratifying and this is where it comes a full circle – something which Pragati has accomplished emphatically and continues to do so.

Proud to be part of Pragati ... "



Shalini

Shalini graduated from National College with a degree in Computer Applications and she has been working with LG Soft India as a Test Engineer in Android domain. She has been a part of Pragati since 2007.

Pragati in Shalini's eyes:

"In one word, it's just "amazing". My co-ordination with Pragati has had a huge impact on my education as well as career. It has provided immense support both morally and financially. I am glad I am a part of Pragati. Thanks :)"

STUDENTS' SPEAK

"I am K.Keerthana of Ist PU PES College, one of the beneficiary from the "PRAGATI'S TRUST" from past 3 years as I was unable to pay my school and college fees because of my financial problems, this trust helped me in my studies. So I and my family are thankful from the bottom of our hearts to the Pragati's trust. Now I can continue my studies further and stand on my own strength and I'll also try to help students like me in future when I am stable in life."

"KEEP HELPING ALL STUDENTS LIKE ME"

Keerthana.K,

PES College 1st PUC (BASM)

"The term Pragati refers to "DEVELOPMENT", so Pragati foundation is the development foundation for the students. Pragati foundation has been very helpful for me. I was selected to Pragati foundation when I was in my 8th standard and now I am in 2nd year degree, it was helping and guiding me from long ago. For the progress and success of Pragati foundation the mentors are the base or actual foundation. The mentors there are very concerned, helpful for the students of Pragati. They guide us, advise us in right manner.

PRAGATI FOUNDATION is not like the other foundation. It is very different from other foundation in the sense that it is arranging the "get together" for the students of Pragati foundation. The get together is very useful for us in way that it tells us how to behave with others, and also helps in better communication with others.

In all the way PRAGATI FOUNDATION IS HELPING ME. I wish that all the Pragati foundation students should work hard for getting the scholarship further in future. All I can say to the Pragati is THANK YOU."

THANK YOU PRAGATHI...

Bharati,

BMS College 2nd year B.Com

BEST ESSAY

I am Amrutha.B.R studying in X standard of Deccan English School. I am getting scholarship from Pragati Institution from 8th standard.

28th June 2015 was one of my memorable day. On 28th all the Pragati scholars from all the schools along with our mentors, went to trip around Cubbon Park and Visvesvaraya Museum.

On that day at 10am all of us went to museum and we started with the entrance. This museum has 3 floors, in the ground floor we saw some experiments related to Physics such as gravity, steam wagon, steam engine, jet engine, petrol and diesel engines, water coolers, aircraft etc. It was so fantastic that we enjoyed it a lot even though many questions arose in my mind. After that we moved to 1st floor, here we saw the gears acceleration which are used in vehicles. There were not many things to be known here. Moving further we saw a huge statue of Dinosaur which was exciting, for me to see all those along with my friends and then we saw the 3D movie Dinosaurs Alive! Which was about the arrival and decline of dinosaurs. After coming from there we went to the 2nd floor, then we saw the experiments related to Biology. It was all so advanced that we could not understand about it properly. But we understood about the basics of Biology and I along with one of my friend even answered many quiz questions in the system. Along with us even our teachers too enjoyed and we also had a great time spending with them.

After that we went to the third floor which was the last one. There we saw all the 3 branches Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Vijay Sir explained some part of the experiments. This floor was the best one where it was so adventurous for me to explore them in my mind. Here we saw the conversion of solar energy into electrical energy, solar energy into thermal energy, ohm's law and many laws and theorems which was discovered and invented by many scientists. At last we saw a strange mirror house which was horrifically done because as we entered the place we wouldn't be knowing the route to get out of this place. It was almost 12.30pm to come out of the museum. But as I was inside the museum I did not feel a bit tired. But as soon as I lift the museum I felt very tired.

Then all of us were tired and went to Cubbon Park to have our lunch, we went to a nice spot and decided to have our lunch there. Along with that even our mentors enjoyed a lot, chatting with us in the museum and after coming out we all took a group photo with our mentors. This was the unforgettable moment.

We went inside the Cubbon park and had our lunch which was given to us. I enjoyed a lot in talking and enjoying spending my time out of the house and school with my friends. After having all our lunch we moved a little deeper in the park. We all sat in the circle and we introduced among ourselves along with our mentors like Shalini sister, Deepak sir, Vijay sir, Sneha sister, Divya sister etc. After introducing ourselves we all decided to play some games and played until the clock turned 3.15pm. After that we moved out of the park and decided to meet again.

In the busy life of 10th standard going out of the school and house for a trip with new friends and mentors was a great experience for me. I spend just 5.30-6 hours with them. So this was my experience and it is the memorable day which I cannot forget. Even I am going to become a mentor after I grow up, like the teachers/mentors.

I thank all the teachers/mentors who spent their precious time and knowledge with us. I sincerely and whole heartedly thank all the Pragati mentors. I really enjoyed very much that whole day even I am very proud to say that "I am a scholar of Pragati institution".

Yours faithfully,

Amrutha.B.R

TIPS FOR STUDENTS

Public speaking

Whether you're talking to a small group of people or speaking to a large audience, you want to be sure your speech is memorable and enjoyable. Follow these five easy tips to help ensure your speech delivers:

- Be prepared. Your audience is giving you their time and consideration, so rehearse enough to be confident you'll leave a good impression.
- Start strong. Begin your speech with a powerful opening that will grab your audience's attention, such as a startling fact or statistic, an interesting story or a funny joke.
- Be conversational. Avoid reading your speech word for word. Instead, refer to notes or points from an outline to help your speech have a more free-flowing, conversational tone.
- Speak with passion. If you're truly invested in what you're saying, you'll be better able to keep your audience's attention.
- Be patient. It's easy to get frustrated if you make a mistake. But remember that public speaking is not easy and it takes time to hone your skills. Keep practicing and you will reach your goals.

Interviews - dos and don'ts

An interview is a discussion between you and an employer to find out if you can do the job. It's your chance to make a good impression. However, there are certain rules you should follow in interviews.

What to do:

- Dress smartly, look bright and attentive, and speak clearly and confidently. First impressions really do count - studies show that employers make a decision about whether to hire you within the first seven minutes on average.
- Find out where the venue is beforehand, how to get there and how long it takes.
- Get your outfit ready the night before.
- Find out what kind of interview it will be so you can prepare.
- Examine the person specification and your CV/application form, and think about what type of questions they will ask you.
- Prepare answers for the main questions for example, why do you want the job, what are your strengths and weaknesses, what are the main tasks in this job?
- Make about three or four points in each answer.
- Quote real examples of when you've used certain skills just saying you've got a skill isn't enough.
- Take your time when answering the questions: make sure you understand the question and take your time if you need to think.
- Sell yourself: no one else is going to! Be positive about yourself and your experiences.
- Prepare some questions to ask at the end of the interview use it as an opportunity to find out more about the role and the company. (Don't ask about money or perks just yet!).
- When discussing salary, know your market worth and start by quoting a little higher than this.
- Get feedback on your performance, whether you were successful or not.
- Turn off your mobile phone: Treat the interviewers with respect and give them your undivided attention.
- Keep your answers focused on what you can do for the employer, not what they can do for you.

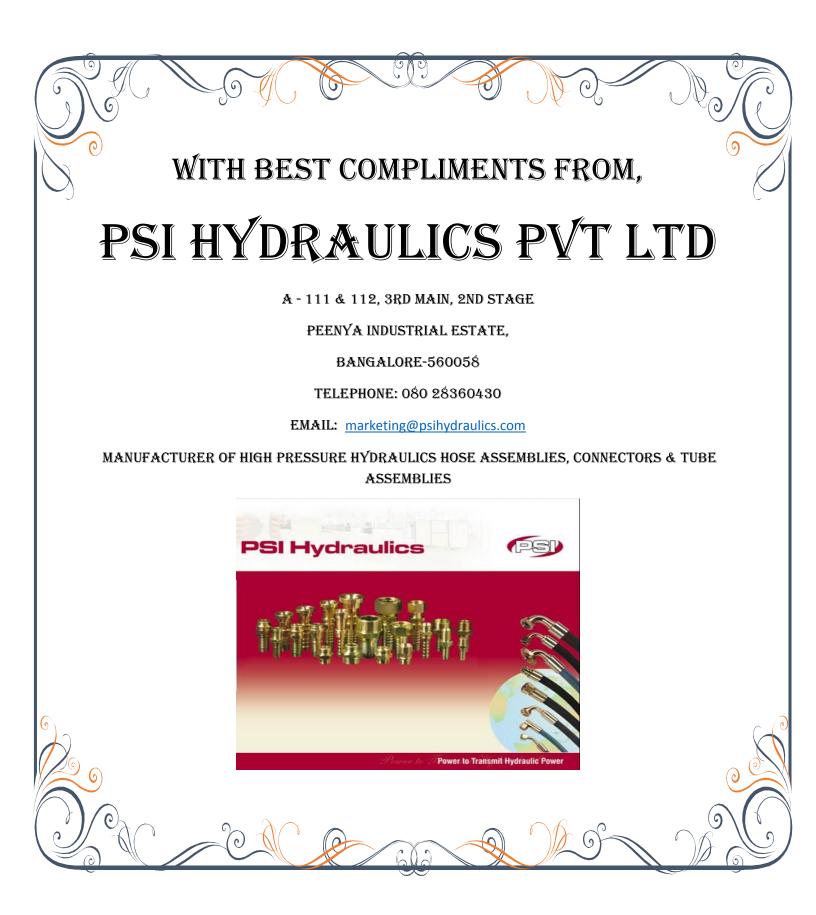
What not to do:

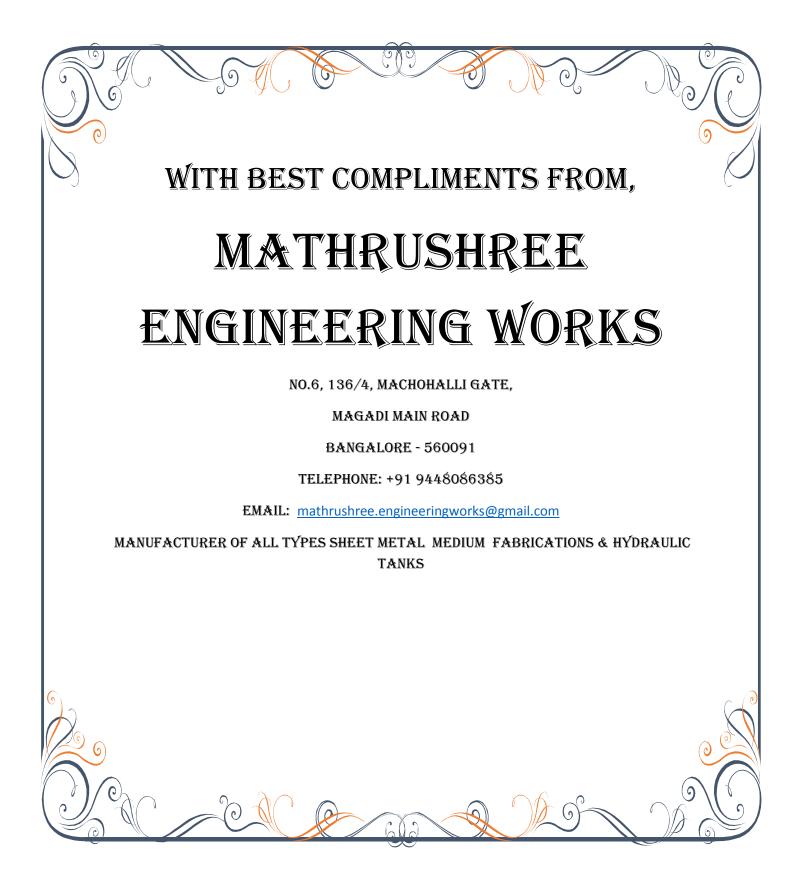
- Don't be late.
- Don't swear or use slang words.
- Don't slouch in your seat or do anything that makes you look uninterested.
- Don't smoke.
- Don't lie: the interviewer may see through you. Even if you get the job, your employer can dismiss you if they find out that you have not been honest.
- Don't let your nerves show too much; a few nerves are normal but extreme nerves will affect your performance. Use breathing techniques and try to remember that it's not a life and death situation there are plenty of jobs out there!
- Don't be arrogant and assume you've got the job. Nothing turns off employers more than someone who is disrespectful and over-confident.
- Don't discuss controversial topics such as religion, politics and gender relations.
- Don't read from notes or your CV you should be familiar enough with your own history to be able to talk about it unprompted.
- Don't criticize former employers or colleagues. Interviewers may mark you down as a troublemaker and a gossip.
- Don't argue with the interviewer, no matter what. Remember to keep things positive!

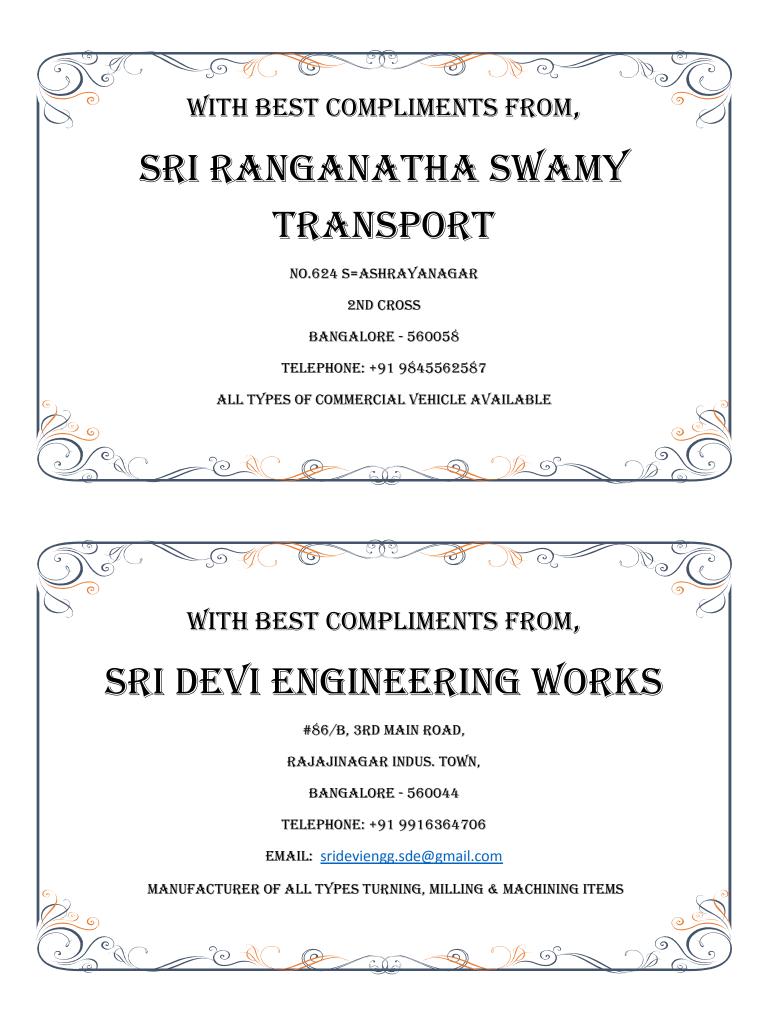
These rules apply for most jobs. However, employers in some industries can use more relaxed and informal interviewing techniques. In some creative fields (design and media for example) it may be expected that you turn up for the interview in casual clothes, as that is the dress code in the office. However, smart casual is better than very casual. If you're in any doubt, do some research on typical interview techniques in your line of work?

Above all, preparation is the key to performing well in interviews. Research the role and organization, and prepare evidence and examples of your skills and competencies.



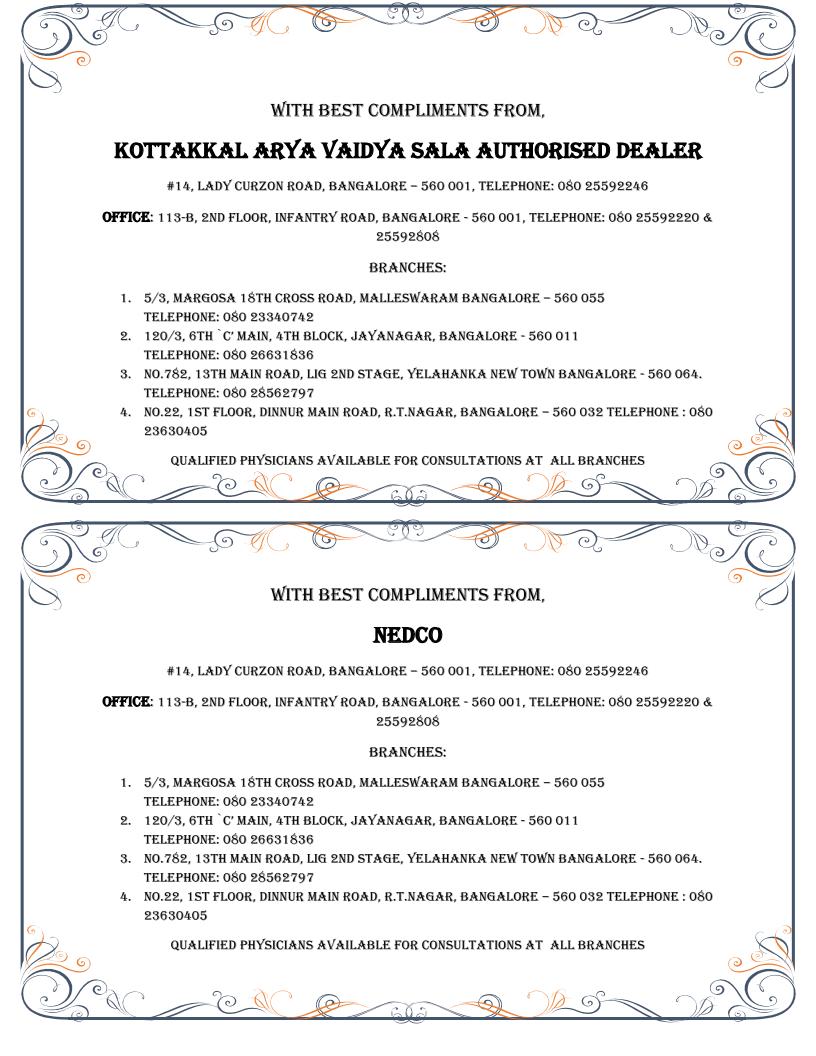


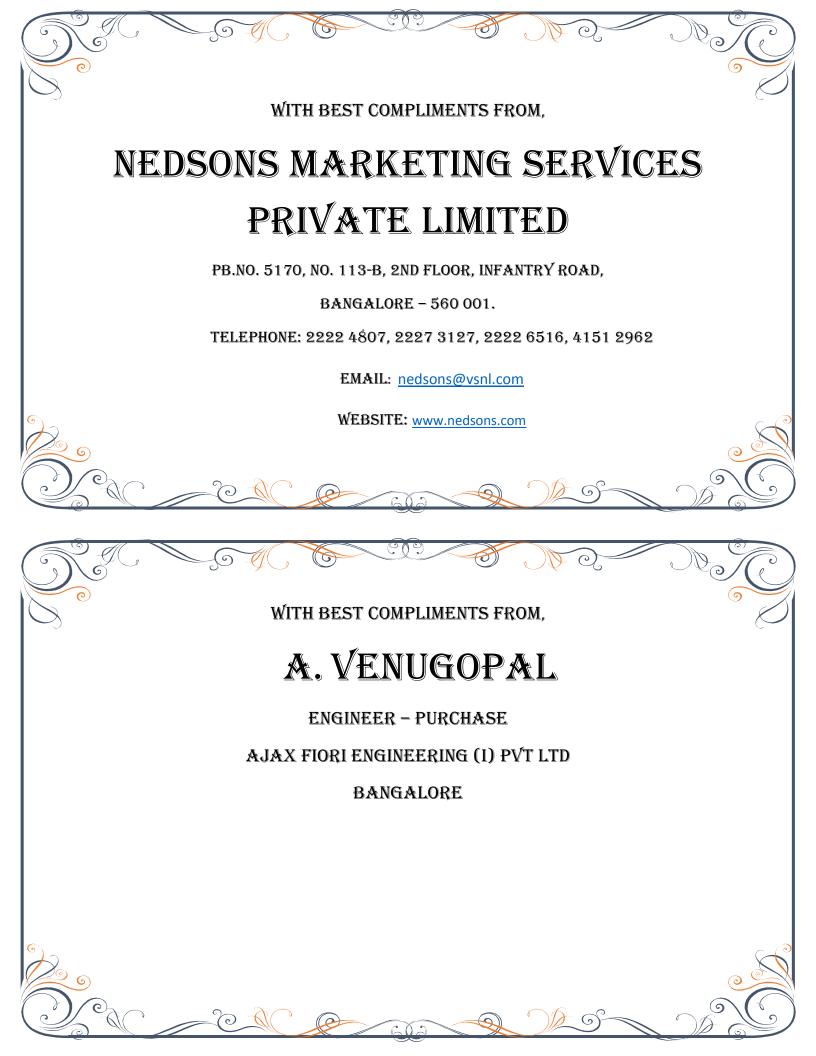














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What we do-

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Real time embedded software and hardware designs, Circuit design, system analysis, software development, control system modeling and design, printed circuit design, product qualification testing, manufacturing, system integration and more..

Few of our developments ~



- Data acquisition, Data Loggers Transmission controllers
- Equipment monitoring system
- Speed Processors, RPM Counters
- Speed Sensor
- Steering control system
- Payload monitoring system
- Hoist control system On-board diagnostic system
- Various types of shift levers
- Battery Chargers/DC-DC Converters
- Temperature scanners, controllers
- Programmable high precision timers
- Hour meter, Speedometer, Odometer
- Vehicle Wire harness
- DC Regulated Power Supplies
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- Any custom-built product to customer

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