

## IMTECH'S Meeting (1990)

It was a bright sunny morning  
In October 1990 this year.  
I was in Chandigarh  
To be present at IMTECH to share  
My experiences with them  
In managing research in science and to search with care,  
Budding new scientists who would toil  
To shape IMTECH for a brighter inventive future.

Suddenly in the split of moments  
There were  
Sounds of firing bullets,  
Scream and scare!  
The news spread immediately thereafter,  
As wild loud thunders  
That the terrorists escaped  
After executing six daylight murders!

Police swung into action;  
They imposed one forty four  
They questioned everyone on the road  
And demanded for more  
To decide  
The necessity of issuing permits and adore  
Further safe travel,  
And to prevent chaos and to bring a cure!

We were allowed to pass,  
Destination being the institute's campus and we reached at nine  
Everything within the boundary walls of IMTECH  
Looked up bright and fine.  
The investigators were on their benches,  
Working with unchanged facial shine

The incident didn't alter the mood;  
They were engrossed in their search to reach the unknown divine!

So I found them  
And addressed them with joy,  
The peripheries of invention,  
The protection, the laws with which we work and employ.  
They had some queries  
Minor were they though,  
I clarified and they seemed satisfied;  
There were no manifestations or clashes of ego.

Thereafter, we sat down in a meeting room  
To start the selection process and search  
For the new candidates IMTECH would recruit,  
To begin research from the scratch.  
A lifetime was to be spent  
On the investigative eventful march,  
To make technological contributions  
Of international class!

We approached the aspirants from all over the country  
And all of them were new.  
They turned up  
In spite of the frightening curfew!  
After exhaustive interrogations and discussions,  
Finally we knew  
The contents and depth and the jests and ambitions  
Were only in a few!

The Committee worked untiringly  
And the Members leaving the premises were none  
The selections were made  
And the assignments were done.  
The Members were glad  
That the budding aspirants would join, work and learn  
To make IMTECH a center of excellence  
And the reputations it would earn!

Institutions excel  
With leaders and people  
Instruments, resources and environment  
Are also to be no less or too little!  
The blend is man-made  
With the elements in the right proportions  
And the results are  
Knowledge, skills, technology and newer inventions.

One day,  
Not immediately in the near future  
When the birds would be singing merrily  
In the nature  
Several results of break-through  
Would be announced through their scientific paper  
And our dreams would echo with joy  
In the air of IMTECH to reach far and near!

None would then recall  
Our today's passing through the horrifying hours  
Or how the city of Chandigarh  
Was in the grips of the worst evil powers.  
The Committee sat and worked  
With its all determined endeavor,  
And chose to select and sow the seeds  
That in time would bloom and flower!