

DECCAN HERALD

EYE-OPENER

Carnival of a different sort

The students of Sri Bhagawan Mahaveer Jain College sure know how to mix academics with fun. The college recently hosted a science carnival — and true to its name, the event had plenty of both 'science' as well as a carnival-like feel that made the students all the more enthusiastic about it.

Twenty teams participated in the event this year, and showcased a host of complicated models and projects which belied their inexperience. The event was anything but drab; to lend a carnival atmosphere to the proceedings, the event was kicked off with some high-energy rock numbers and also had quite a few cultural programmes, each infused with a science-related theme. For instance, the students could take part in events like 'Science Rangoli' and 'Science Collage'.

The centre of attention, however, were clearly the

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models. Many of them were quite advanced — such as a Ruben's Tube, which is an antique piece of equipment that demonstrates acoustic standing waves in a tube. A space rover was also presented — that is, a space exploration vehicle which is designed to move across the surface of another planet. Some students even created a dam to trap water, which is then channeled to

turn turbines and drive generators, producing hydro-electric power. In short, it was an enlightening experience.

Tejas, who was part of the team which put up the Ruben's Tube, was clearly delighted that his project was such a success. He says, “Actually, our team — which had five people in total — was planning to do an entirely different project. But then, we were browsing the internet and suddenly came across a model of this

tube. So, we decided to do it.”

Executing this project, however, was anything but easy. “Basically, a Ruben's Tube is designed to show different types of stationary waves. We connected one end of the tube to a gas supply and the other end to a sound system. We then lit the inside of the tube. When we applied the sound, the fire inside the tube appeared in a wave. It was quite a success,” adds Tejas.

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BUSY The students at the event.