

Hard work Pays but blessings count in journey of life



In my 70 years lifetime, I neither became a good speaker in public nor a good script writer. In my view, Life is an album of memories that we often wish to re visit and re live. Today I am sharing a few of them while re visiting the memory lane.

I am proud to be a PAPER TECHNOLOGIST, but; like many it was never on my mind when I decided to choose a carrier and got admission at SCHOOL OF PAPER TECHNOLOGY, SAHARANPUR way back in the year 1966.

Just imagine, a young man of < 16 years age with an education up to High School, having no idea of the Course and the working in Paper Industry. Our institution, the SCHOOL OF PAPER TECHNOLOGY was something very new at Saharanpur (U.P.), my native place. The SCHOOL later renamed as INSTITUTE OF PAPER TECHNOLOGY was the only institute in the country with dedicated studies in Pulp and Paper Technology. The stalwarts Dr. D. C. Tapadar, Dr. B. L. Bihani, Five Swedish Advisors and all Departmental Heads, Professors and Instructors made us to complete our studies in a very good environment. With blessings of GOD, perfect guidance of my Teachers, an exceptionally good company of my Classmates and my Good Luck, I passed my 3 years CERTIFICATE COURSE IN PAPER TECHNOLOGY with 1ST Division and FIRST POSITION in my Batch in 1969.

And the actual story began thereafter. Being from SAHARANPUR, I tried for an apprentice job at STAR PAPER MILLS, SAHARANPUR, but; could not get the opportunity as the LEGEND Sh. M. B. Kapoor, the CHIEF PAPER MAKER had a mindset for not preferring CERTIFICATE COURSE candidates for STAR PAPER MILLS for the reasons best known to him. Next; I received an interview call from ANDHRA PRADESH PAPER MILLS, RAJAHMUNDARY, but; I had to miss the opportunity as my parents did not allow me to travel from SAHARANPUR to RAJAHMUNDARY

considering it just a petty job with meagre earning. In December 1969, I got a job at SHREE GOPAL PAPER MILLS (BALLARPUR INDUSTRIES) at YAMUNANAGAR. At Shree Gopal Paper Mills, I along with my two batch mates joined as apprentice in Chemical House (it was an old Chemical Recovery Plant). With all our best knowledge and efforts, learned the on-hand operation of Black Liquor Evaporators and passed the written tests with distinctions. But somehow, I was missing to work in Paper Machine Section. With no hope of getting my choice of working on Paper Machine, I made up my mind and quit the job in less than one-year time.

The next thing was to join MEERUT STRAWBOARD MILLS at MEERUT (U.P.) as Supervisor in Production. In November 1973, there was an accident there in the mill. The Rotary Digester gave way jumping from its foundation – giving severe BURN injuries to me and many workers. That was the time, when my parents and well wishers were of the view that I must think something other than Paper Industry.

But destiny always has many other unpredictable things in store. In March 1976, I joined Ansal Papers at Sikandrabad (U.P.) --- a new project under erection. At Ansal Papers, my classmate Sh. K. K. Katiyal was my helpful and well wisher boss.

And gradually the life moved on with working at Shivalik Cellulose, Gajraula (U.P.) and Mukerian Papers, Mukerian (Punjab).

Once again, got an opportunity to join VINOD PAPER MILLS, MALERKOTLA (Punjab) as Senior Process Engineer. The Second-Hand Imported Paper Machine was under erection. Sh. R. C. Rastogi ji (Khatema Fibres) was my boss – the General Manager.

It was around 1981-82. At that time Terrorism in Punjab was growing. Bhindrawale was a name of terrorism. At this time, I changed my job and joined PPL Plastics at ROHA (Maharashtra) – a Paper Mill of GTC (Golden Tobacco Company). As Manager Paper, I fulfilled my responsibility of managing THREE Paper Machines working. PM-1 was having an unbelievable low capacity of just 100 Tons per Month writing and printing paper. It never touched 100 Tons Target in its past history of several years. With some changes in Agro based Furnish and sincere efforts from all, we managed to achieve a record output of 125 Tons in one month.

And then came a switch to move on to VAPI (Gujarat) in the year 1983. I have to believe on a forecast made by Sh. Alibhai Nathani (Chairman RUBY MACONS). Sh Alibhai Natahni visited PPL Plastics, ROHA on his business trip. On Lunch Table, I casually informed him that Rama Pulp and Paper Mills of Vapi has offered me a job of Chief Paper Maker. In response, very confidently, Sh Alibhai told me that once at Vapi, I would never wish to move anywhere else. And it turned to be true. I am here at Vapi for last 37 years giving my services to Paper Industry.

In my 37 years at VAPI, I have served RAMA PULP and PAPER, RUBY PAPER MILLS, ARYAN PAPER MILLS, RUBY MACONS LIMITED at executive levels. And; For last Seven Years working as Free Lance Consultant giving my services to Best Paper Mills, Supreme Kraft (P) Ltd, Revival Papers, Amit Engineers etc. Also visiting some of the small and medium scale Paper Mills across the country as and when called. I am trying to help the managements by giving appropriate solutions for day to day Technical Problems, Plant Modifications and Up gradation of Production Capacities etc.

In my 50 + years of working career, I had the opportunity to work on Paper Machines from 3 Tons per Day to 300 Tons per Day. Other than earning of my livelihood, I have tried to be a helping hand to my Seniors, my Juniors and many times beyond my periphery of work field.

Lastly, my sincere thanks to my classmate and bosom friend Sh. M. K. Goyal, Secretary General of IPPTA who inspired me to write this note and IPPTA to share my experience of Paper Industry.

Thanks,



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