

# Buddies for Life

Away from home, tiny hostel rooms teach hostelers to adjust and face any situation. It is here that lifelong bonds are formed in the course of eating, sleeping, meeting academic deadlines and preparing for exams

## Guardian angels

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, GANDHINAGAR (IIT-GN)**

**BOYS HOSTEL: 1  
GIRLS HOSTELS: 1**

**A** messed-up room with books, musical and sports equipment lying on the bed and chairs will remind many of us of our hostel life. While being away from home for studies, classmates and roommates become your new immediate family. They act as guardians at times to ensure that we don't miss our family till we complete our course. A common sight in the boys' hostel in the afternoon is students having fun in one of the rooms. The moment we entered the room we saw Gaurav Sharma, third-year mechanical engineering student, teasing Akhilesh Gotmare, a third-year electrical engineering student on his guitar.

Well, Gaurav wasn't alone. There were some seniors too, final year students, who were supporting Gaurav. Though it was just fun, they were trying to cheer Akhilesh.

Akash Keshav, a final year engineering student who also happens to be the general secretary of IIT-GN's student body, said, "We live

like a family as we have to spend almost 24 hours together." Akash who hails from Gorakhpur said, "The students come from different backgrounds and states. So, a year goes in understanding each other. But we learn a lot in the process." Agreeing with Akash, Preet Shah, a fourth-year electrical engineering student has the responsibility of Student Guide Coordinator. "Our job is to make juniors feel comfortable when they are freshers. Later, when they become seniors, they have to play the role of coordinator," Preet said.

The rule at IIT-GN is, if the roommate is absent in class then the other person will be held responsible. Means, the roommate has to play the role of a guardian too for his pal.

The students also mentioned that though the rooms have been allotted but people keep hanging around in someone's else's room for entire day, sometime nights too, chatting, playing games, doing project work along with other works.

