

Day 5 Feb. 20

Building a better Asia future  
leaders retreat 2008



## Togetherness.....at Work and at the Beach

Today was the most awaited day in the itinerary....it promised a free afternoon and a free evening! Prof. P.R.Ramanujam's spoke on the theme of disability and urged the Fellows to articulate their views on this very pertinent question while deliberating on the communiqué. He said that this was central to the common good of an all-inclusive Asia.

We then completed the "impossible" poem task "carried forward" from the previous evening!!!! ("impossible" because all believed – some very vocally! – that the task of blending five people's poems into one composite one, with the idea of 'common good' reflected therein was "impossible"; "carried forward" because we didn't want to be late for the River

Cruise the evening before!!!!) Of course, it is needless to say that with the excellent guidelines of the Fantastic Four and the ingenuity of the team members, the poems were quite "possible" and very beautiful at that! All the teams also displayed the pictures of the field tour on the poster.

The serious discussions – of the country presentations (Vietnam, Myanmar and Thailand) then followed. We were urged to give a brief sketch followed by the imminent problems as well as the common good of each of our countries. After a quick lunch we were supposed to assemble at the Reception of the Centre to go to the beach and/or market. The situation at this juncture was a lot of fun – first we waited (for what seemed like a l-o-n-g time) for the cars to

arrive, and then the group started sorting out the beach versus market (or both and how and when!) dilemma. Of course, (yet again!) both were "possible"! We went to both the places and came back – loaded with shopped stuff, sand and tiredness!



Debora Eflina Purba (Indonesia)

Yuli Nugroho (Indonesia)

Manisha Singh (India)

# Time Schedule

0900

Interactive Session V  
by P.R.Ramanujam

1030

Break

1100

Breakout Session  
Presentation of "Dula-Tula"  
Country presentation

1330

Lunch

1500-

Free afternoon  
Free evening



Prof.Ramanujam's call-make the society



Waiting for cars.....



Toan in action



Old lady waiting for buyers to come



Groups creativities - the 'impossible poems'



Flea Market on free afternoon



Henry's note for participants to ask short questions!



'Common food' for everybody



Country Reports