

## Mail from Akhil to his Friends after MS 150 – a charity bike riding....

By Akhil Chopra



(from left to right: Vivek Thakurdesai, Venkatachalam Krishnan, Balaji Vemula, Suhas Nare, Hemant Jadhav and Akhil Chopra)

I visualize six of us as six saints like Sapt-rishi, and I visualize MS150 as a pilgrimage. The reason I call it as a pilgrimage is because,

-All along the way you convince yourself that, 'Yes, we will make it'

-Although we were riding in the group, but still many a times you talk to yourself, you do introspection. Your soul says to your body, 'Let's make it'

-You get a chance to sit in the lap of Mother Nature who makes you smell beautiful flowers, makes you hear the chirping of birds, makes you see the clear blue sky.

-You ride because you are helping a cause to eliminate a chronic illness called MS (Multiple Sclerosis)

-You meet other saintly people on your way (people like David, who ride and who don't give a excuse of having just one leg, other too old and too young people who challenge their age and ride, and skaters whose skating is much more difficult than riding)

At the same time, we must thank the Lord who kept us going. Remember there were people stronger than us (That black stout guy who collapsed in Bastrop Park) and people had better equipment than us, but still Lord carried us all the way through the journey, and that too happily. In Bhagwad Gita, Shri Krishna says, 'I aim myself when my devotee takes up the bow and the arrow). Let us promise ourselves, always to chant God's name, in our glory or defeat.