How is the animation industry in India doing today?
I would say that it is doing quite okay—neither great, nor in trouble. The economic recession has slowed down projects to an extent. The cost of production is high in animation. Besides, since the animation industry is not recognised by the government, it’s not easy to get financial loans to study in this field.

What is the career scope for new entrants in animation and how fast can they grow?
People can enter the animation industry in a number of ways. One is by doing a short-term course in animation. Then there are people from fine arts who opt for this field after some time. And finally, there are those who devote a considerable amount of time to study animation and then enter the industry. It’s always better to have a solid knowledge of the industry, as limited knowledge will be a setback in the future.

The scope is great for those with knowledge. As of today, the gaming arena provides for much faster growth.

Any challenges faced in this profession?
The main challenge is your maintaining your skills and knowledge regularly. Technology is growing at a rapid pace, and so those in animation need to constantly update themselves on the changes. Another challenge often faced is that there are not enough scriptwriters to write scripts specifically for animation films. Also, project management is quite an unexplored area in India.

What is the career scope abroad?
Animation has good career scope in India itself, so professionals need not worry much about having to move abroad for a career. Animation abroad is a mature market, where people come into the profession after studying it for five to six years. Hence, it might be difficult for someone educated in India to adapt to the technology level used there.

Any suggestions for students who want to join the animation industry?
There has to be absolute hard work and dedication from the students to make it big in animation. There are no short cuts to success in this field. With capability, there is no limit to what s/he can achieve.