HT Delhi

Tallest shopping complex to come up near Botanical Garden

HT Live Correspondent

Decks are being cleared to have the highest shopping complex cum multi-level parking lot in the city. The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi has prepared the design and estimates for the complex that will come up near the Botanical Garden.

The project assumes importance in view of the fact that a new Metro rail station is to come up at the Botanical Garden for the Botanical Garden-Janakpuri West Metro rail corridor by 2016 end under Phase 3 of Metro rail expansion that will result in a huge footfall there.

As of now, the Botanical Garden Metro station caters to commuters on the Noida City Centre-Dwarka corridor. However, once the other Metro rail corridor becomes functional, Botanical Garden will be an interchange station, demanding a lot of parking space for vehicles.

As Botanical Garden is situated at a vantage point, Noida Authority (NA) has also decided to make use of the available land to develop a commercial centre there.

NA project engineer, work circle-2, SC Mishra, said a shopping complex of international standard with a multi level parking lot to accommodate 8,000 four wheelers will come up near the Botanical Garden. "IIT Delhi has prepared the design. Everything has been done and it has been sent for administrative approval. It will be a 23-storied commercial complex with a huge parking facility," he said.

The shopping complex will come up here. A new Metro rail station will also come up at Botanical Garden. SUNIL GHOSH / HT PHOTO

The estimated cost of the project is Rs 502 crore. The scheduled time of completion of the project is two years.

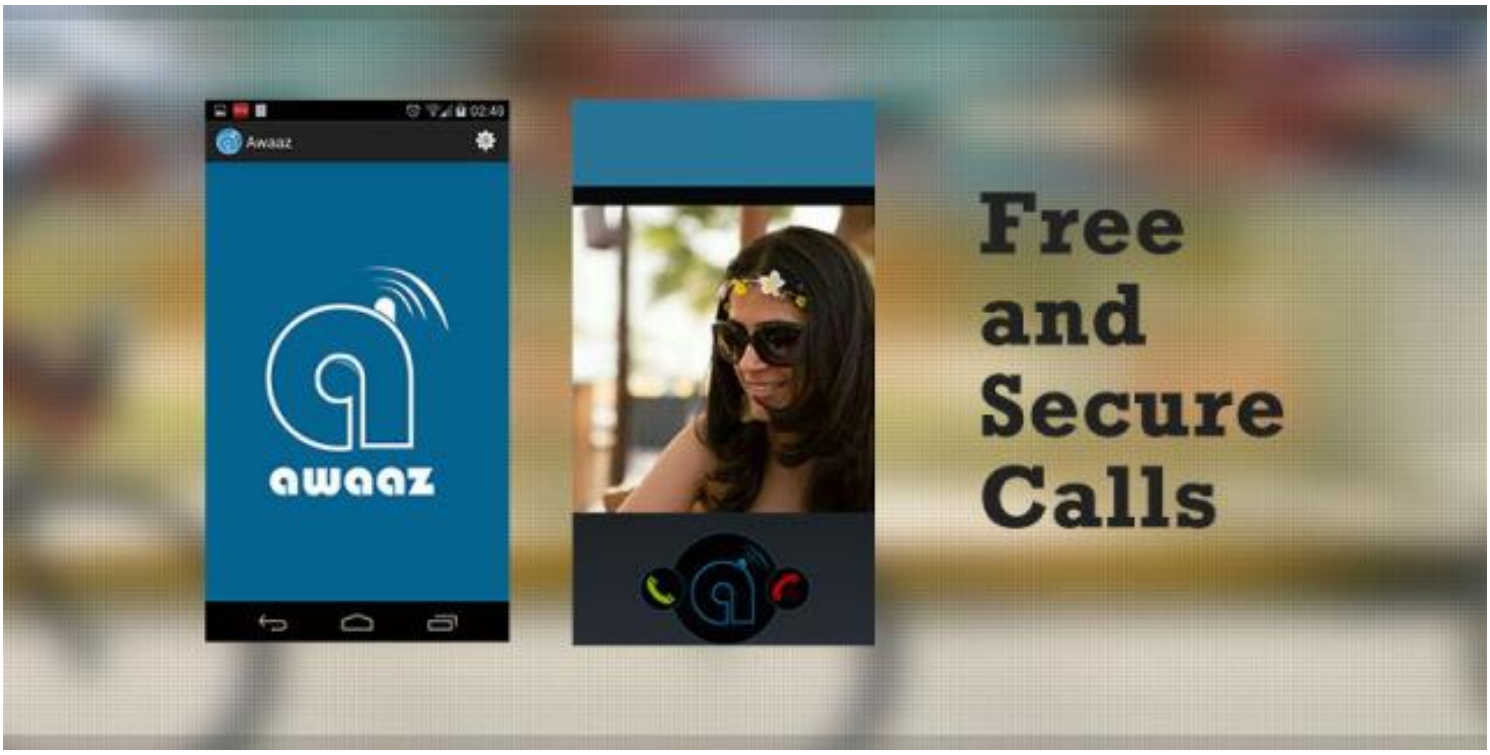
"The existing parking facility at the Botanical Garden is sufficient to take the load of vehicles of the commuters. But the vehicular load is going to increase considerably as there are 26 stations on this 36.988 km long corridor that will have an interchange station at Botanical Garden.

The Metro passenger load is bound to increase when the new corridor that cuts down a lot of time in commuting from Noida to important places in south Delhi and west Delhi. This means more area will be required for parking private vehicles as feeder service for last mile connectivity," said Hartosh Singh, a resident of Sector 37.

Janakpuri west, Janakpuri C-2B, Dabri Mor, Dasrath Puri, Palam, Sadar Bazar, IG Domestic Airport, Shankar Vihar, Vasant Vihar, Munirka, RK Puram, IIT, Hauz Khas, Panchsheel Park, Chirag Delhi, GK Enclave, Nehru Place, Kalkaji, Okhla Ph 3, Ishwar Nagar, Jamia Nagar, Okhla Vihar, Jasola Vihar, Kalindi Kunj, Amity and Botanical Garden will be the stations on the corridor. The new Metro station at Botanical Garden will come up towards Master Plan-3 Road of Noida. Mishra said as soon as the administrative approval for the project is obtained, work will begin in the right earnest.

IIT Delhi graduate develops Awaaz, a free VoIP Android App

http://www.coolage.in/2014/04/03/iit-delhi-graduate-develops-awaaz-a-free-voip-android-app/



Anuj Jain, an IIT-Delhi graduate developed a new VoIP (Voice over IP telephony) app which enables android users to make free calls to each other as all calls get routed over the internet automatically.

The app which works more like a plug-in allows users to make calls through the regular phone dialer and the app automatically connects the call provided the other user has the app installed in his android phone as well.

Awaaz carries few similar features from WhatsApp, as a user's phone number becomes their identity, and the user is able to see all the phone's contacts. Along with this, user can also see which of his/her contacts are currently online.

Nav Bharat Times ND 04-Apr-14 p-17

भारत जून-जुलाई में एस्ट्रोनॉट को स्वदेशी मिशन से भेजेगा

अपने दम पर स्पेस में

■ सुरेश उपाध्याय, नई दिल्ली

मंगलयान के बाद भारत ने अब अपने दम पर अंतरिक्ष में इंसान भेजने के लिए कमर कस ली है। इसकी शुरुआत करते हुए इसरो ने इस मकसद से बनाए गए रॉकेट को तमिलनाडु के महेंद्रगिरि से श्रीहरिकोटा के अंतरिक्ष केंद्र में पहुंचा दिया है। इस मामले में यह पहला प्रायोगिक मिशन होगा। इसमें अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों के बजाय साढ़े तीन टन का क्रू कैप्सूल भेजा जाएगा। वापस इसे धरती पर पैराशूट की मदद से उतारा जाएगा। इस मिशन को इस साल जून में या फिर जुलाई के पहले हफ्ते में अंजाम दिया जाएगा। इसके नतीजों के आधार पर आगे की रणनीति तैयार की जाएगी और इंसान को अंतरिक्ष में भेजने या न भेजने का फैसला किया जाएगा।

मार्क-3 से होगी शुरुआत

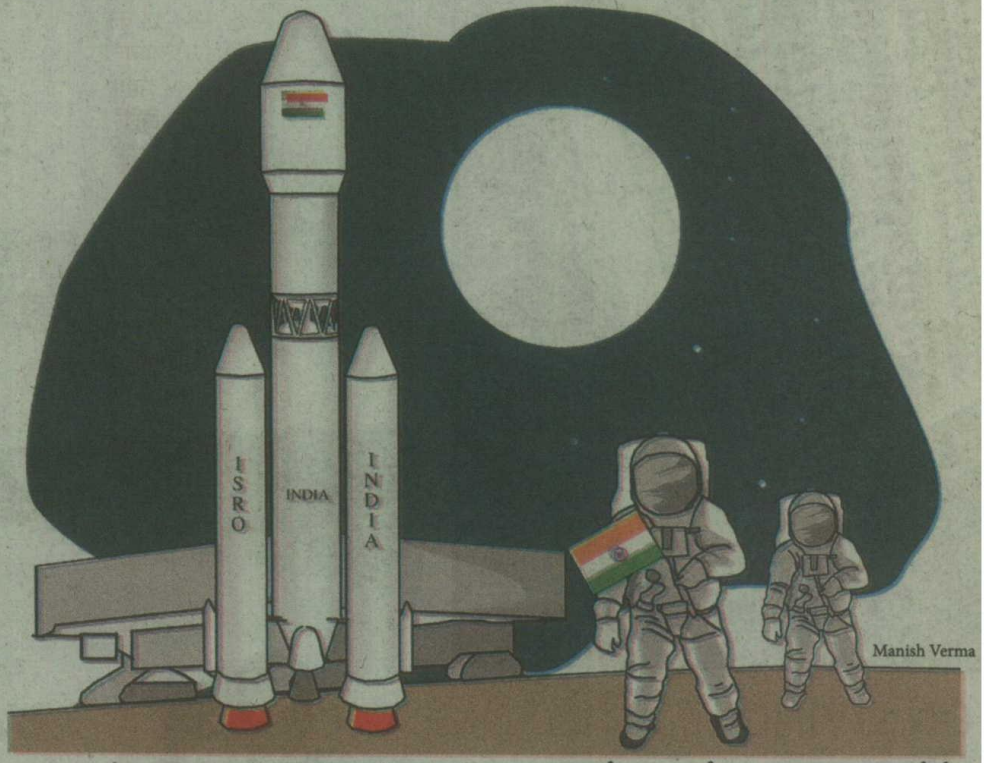
इस मिशन के लिए जीएसएलवी-मार्क 3 का इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा। इसकी कोर स्टेज का वजन 110 टन से अधिक है। इसे पृथ्वी की कक्षा में पहुंचाने के बाद कई स्तरों पर परीक्षण किए जाएंगे। भारत एक अरसे से इंसान को अंतरिक्ष में भेजने की कोशिश कर रहा है। स्वदेशी क्रायोजेनिक इंजन का विकास करने के बाद उसकी उम्मीदें अब काफी बढ़ गई हैं। भारत के जो अंतरिक्ष यात्री अभी तक स्पेस में गए हैं, वे दूसरे देशों के स्पेसक्राफ्ट से वहां पहुंचे हैं।

पुराना है इतिहास

जहां भारत अब अपना एस्ट्रोनॉट भेजने की कोशिश कर रहा है, वहीं इंसान को अंतरिक्ष में भेजने की शुरुआत 12 अप्रैल 1961 को गई थी। तब पूर्व सोवियत संघ के यूरी गागरिन वोस्तॉक-1 पर सवार होकर अंतरिक्ष में गए थे। इसके बाद से अब तक करीब 540 लोग अंतरिक्ष यात्री होने का गौरव हासिल कर चुके हैं। भारत की ओर से सबसे पहले राकेश शर्मा रूस के सहयोग से अंतरिक्ष में पहुंचे थे। उनके बाद रवीश मल्होत्रा और कल्पना चावला अंतरिक्ष में पहुंचे।

कई और भी कोशिश में

अभी तक रूस और अमेरिका के साथ ही चीन ने अपने दम पर अंतरिक्ष यात्री भेजे हैं।



नासा ने रूस के साथ संबंध तोड़े

एएफपी, वॉशिंगटन : अमेरिकी स्पेस एजेंसी नासा के मुताबिक यूक्रेन संकट की वजह से उसने रूस के साथ अपने कई कामों पर रोक लगा दी है। हालांकि इंटरनैशनल स्पेस स्टेशन में नासा रूस के साथ सहयोग करेगा। यूक्रेन की संप्रभुता और उसकी अखंडता पर जारी उल्लंघन को देखते हुए नासा ने रोक लगा दी है।

IndiaToday.in New Delhi, April 3, 2014 | UPDATED 18:00 IST

President Pranab Mukherjee: Quality of education in India needs improvement

President Pranab Mukherjee during an address to a meeting of the directors of Indian Institute of Science (IIS), Bangalore, and Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISER) in the capital, stressed the importance of 'quality education' and providing 'requisite skills' to the youth of the country to promote overall growth.

He added that "demographic dividend would be an empty dream if present educational standards are not upgraded".

"The number of central institutions nearly doubled, from 55 to 106 during the 11th Plan period... (but) our youth will end up contributing less to nation building unless they are imparted quality education and requisite skills," he said.

As per IANS, the meeting was organised as a follow up to the conference of vice chancellors of central universities of 2013 and 2014 and the conference of directors of NITs of 2013.

The president called upon IISc and IISERs to promote a "culture of excellence" with "zero tolerance for mediocrity".

"Science, education, research and innovation are the four pillars on which the development as well as the work culture of a nation rests. Scientific temperament cannot happen unless we improve the delivery of education at all levels.

"The government has announced the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy. One of the key elements of the policy is to position India among the top five global scientific powers by 2020."

Speaking on the issue of brain drain, Mukherjee said in spite of established institutions like IISc and IITs, more than two lakh Indian students go abroad every year for tertiary education.

He called upon the attending directors to "explore opportunities not only for our students but also to attract more foreign students to study in India".

Business Standard

President calls on IISc and IISERs to promote a culture of excellence

ANI | New Delhi April 03, 2014 Last Updated at 18:53 IST

President Pranab Mukherjee on Thursday addressed a meeting of the Directors of Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore and Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs).

The meeting was organized in follow up to the Conference of Vice Chancellors of Central Universities held in February 2013 and 2014, as well as the Conference of Directors of NITs held in November 2013.

Speaking on the occasion, the President called upon IISc and IISERs to promote a culture of excellence with zero tolerance for mediocrity.

He said science, education, research and innovation are the four pillars on which the development as well as the work culture of a nation rests.

"Scientific temperament cannot happen unless we improve the delivery of education at all levels. IISERs must teach sciences in an intellectually vibrant atmosphere of research," he said.

The President also noted that the Government has announced the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, 2013.

"One of the key elements of the Policy is to position India among the top five global scientific powers by 2020. The IISERs and IISc have to play a leading role in realizing our dream of scientific prowess," he added.

Pointing out that the number of central institutions nearly doubled, from 55 to 106 during the Eleventh Plan period, the President expressed concern about the quality of education, and said the demographic dividend would be an empty dream if present educational standards are not upgraded.

"Our youth will end up contributing less to nation-building unless they are imparted quality education and requisite skills," he said.

Following the President's opening remarks, the Directors of IISc and IISERs made presentations on the agenda items for discussion, namely status of IISc and IISERs; issues which require Government support and preparation of a road map for making IISc and IISERs world class institutes.

Union Human Resource Development Minister M. Pallam Raju, Dr. C.N.R. Rao, National Research Professor and Ashok Thakur, Secretary, Higher Education, also addressed the meeting.

In his concluding remarks, the President said in spite of established institutions like IISc and IITs, India sends more than two lakh students abroad every year for tertiary education.

He called upon Directors of IISc and IISERs to explore opportunities not only for our students but also to attract more foreign students to study in India, and also said that to make India a world power, we must nurture our own talent as well as global talent.

The President said good governance is the key to success in any organization.

"A flexible governance structure, which is monitorable, creative, and which keeps pace with the best global practices in the field of higher education is required," he added.

He called upon the Directors to create a data-base of alumni and induct alumni into positions in the governance structure.

The President said an 'Industry Interface Cell', comprising representatives of local industry, industry associations, alumni and faculty must be set up. The IISc and IISERs should also join the IITs and CUs in establishing an 'innovation web' to promote linkages between advanced research centres and grassroots innovators.

The President urged the Directors to expeditiously expand infrastructure and faculty to ensure that their institutes operate at full capacity. He said such meetings would be held every year.

IndiaToday.in Delhi, April 3, 2014 | UPDATED 16:15 IST

IITs witness decline in second phase of campus placements

http://indiatoday.intoday.in/education/story/iits-witness-decline-in-second-phase-of-campus-placements/1/352708.html

If reports are to be believed, Indian Institute of Technology (IITs) have faced slowdown during second phase of campus placements .

According to a news report, at most IITs, the final placement process is conducted in two phases with the first in December, while the second is spread through a few months beginning January.

Now, as per the sources, there was a large decline in the highest compensation packages being offered in the second phase. Also, in terms of the number of students being placed, the momentum in the second phase is slow. Also, the placement season could be extended beyond May-June 2014.

At IIT-Madras, the highest compensation package offered in first phase was about Rs 1.25 crore which came down to Rs 16 lakh in the second phase. For IIT-Guwahati, highest domestic salary in first phase was Rs 32 lakh a year which came down to Rs 7.18 lakh in the second phase. For IIT-Kharagpur, the highest salary in the first and second phases stood at Rs 37 lakh and Rs 21 lakh, respectively.

Even the student placement numbers went down as at IIT-Madras, compared to 785 students being placed in the first phase, the institute placed 73 students in the second phase. For IIT-Kharagpur, which placed 1,026 students in first phase, the second phase saw 300 placements. The sectors that made their most of the placements during the second phase included core engineering, information technology, consulting, education, teaching, finance and health care.

According to officials, IITs also attributed the dull second phase to the absence of public sector undertakings (PSUs). Though the Madras high court had vacated a stay on direct recruitments by PSUs from campuses, a final order in this regard is pending.

Business Standard

Deceased IIT Graduate's kin demands Rs 5 crore compensation

Press Trust of India | Bulandshahr April 03, 2014 Last Updated at 14:45 IST

Blaming the medical authorities for the death of an IIT Graduate, a relative has demanded five crore rupees as compensation from the Health Department of Uttar Pradesh Govt.

Alleging that basic medical assistance was not provided to his nephew, one Shambu Kashyap has filed a complaint with Consumer Redressal asking for compensation.

Shomesh an IIT Graduate at Kharagpur was returning to Delhi on Feb 5 when he fell at the Davar station in Bulandshahr and was rushed to the nearest Community Health Centre (CHC) at Muni village from where he was then taken to Aligarh Medical College, where he succumbed to his injuries.

As per the postmortem report, Shomesh died due to excessive blood loss because of the first aid not given to him at Muni CHC.

Deepak Ohri, Chief Medical Officer at CHC Muni, said,"we have received a copy of the complaint from the Consumer Court and the probe is on.

Times of India ND 4.04.2014 p-19

Simple blood test to predict sudden cardiac death risk

Kounteya Sinha | TNN

London: A simple blood test can now predict your risk of sudden cardiac death.

Samuel C Dudley, a life-span researcher from the Cardiovascular Institute at Rhode Island in the US, has found that a simple blood test can predict a person's risk for Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD) enabling physicians to accurately assess a patient's need for an implantable cardiac defibrillator (ICD).

Currently risk assessments are determined by measuring the fraction of blood ejected from the heart in any one heartbeat, the ejection fraction. When the ejection fraction falls below 35%, a patient may benefit from an ICD. It is believed that approximately 60% of patients who receive defibrillators as a result of these assessments may not actually need one. This blood test will determine more accurately which patients need the defibrillator.

Sudden cardiac arrest is the most common cause of natural death in the US resulting in approximately 3,25,000 adult deaths in the country each year. The incidence rate is quite high in India – about 10% of all cardiac-related deaths are sudden while the mean age of the patients who die is lower than 60 years.

For full report, log on to www.timesofindia.com

PREVENT AN ATTACK

Times of India ND 04-Apr-14 p-6

JNU gets ₹60cr for research

New Delhi: UGC has granted JNU the status of University with Potential for Excellence (UPE) and has given it Rs 60 crore for focused research and infrastructure development.

The UGC on April 1 wrote to JNU saying the grant is to be utilized on two major research areas – life sciences, social sciences and humanities.

A part of the fund is also to be utilized for infrastructure development including building of research laboratories. "We are also supposed to utilize the funds for improving the instrumentation facilities, library upgradation, network connectivity, outreach programmes. A part of the fund will also be used to fund participation by faculties and students in national and international conferences," said vice chancellor, S K Sopory.

The UGC team of experts visited JNU earlier this year and studied its proposals. TNN

Economic Times ND 04-Apr-14 p-10

B-schools CEOs' New Problem Solvers

They are well positioned with faculties of thinkers and the power to unite executives and academics

PAUL LEINWAND AND CESARE MAINARDI
WASHINGTON

Chief executives in most fields tend to agree that it can be hard to separate their companies from others selling similar products. Increasingly, the businesses that stand out are successful because of what they are able to do — their unique set of capabilities — not just what they sell. Think about Apple's design capability, Amazon's customer support and data analytics, or Danaher's superb operational skills.

This form of success has eluded most companies because these distinctive capabilities almost always require help from many squares on the patchwork quilt of corporate functions: sales, marketing, IT, distribution, and so on. The success of a company such as Amazon is extremely difficult to replicate in a world of organisational silos, where companies seem to focus on developing world-class capabilities department by department.

CEOs can't just relegate innovation or customer management to the R&D or sales groups. Successful companies tend to set up more permanent teams around a specific task and add high-level people (a chief innovation or digital officer) to help accomplish it. But many companies struggle to excel in a world that demands fewer departmental borders.

Challenges of this magnitude require more than incremental adjustments — and business schools are ideally situated to help CEOs with the problem. Business schools have great faculties of

thinkers across many disciplines and the convening power to unite executives and academics to rethink their issues. B-school students also come from all kinds of fields, locations, educational perspectives, and motivations, offering a much broader set of perspectives than is always available in the boardroom.

Imagine MBA classes that convene people from different disciplines to foster new, innovative answers to business problems. Students in a class that combined manufacturing, R&D, and marketing, for example, would have to move way beyond the typical innovation curriculum to figure out how to leverage supply chain strengths and market insights. Business schools can be an ideal forum for untethered thinking on the topics that businesses are wrestling with and as a way to train future leaders to work beyond traditional corporate strictures.

There's another reason, too. Functionally driven B-schools have to rethink their own structures. The current set-up may strengthen deep research in such areas as economics, marketing, and finance, but it makes research and teaching that cut across different disciplines more difficult.

Some schools are taking steps towards a more democratic approach to business education. The Stanford Graduate School of Business is well-known for attacking tough problems by bringing together experts from various disciplines, and the Kellogg School of Management (where we both teach in the management and strategy department) is putting in place a matrix structure to bring together academics and practitioners from various disciplines.

The approach is already changing how the school approaches the field of data analytics, traditionally the bailiwick of marketing and/or technology. Under the new setup, Kellogg brings in experts from operations, strategy, and finance, as well as marketing and technology, with the goal of connecting the science of data more directly with applications that could benefit the most.

Today, B-schools confront something of an identity crisis as they rethink their purpose in research and education. But they also face a singular opportunity to position themselves as think-tanks for CEOs to develop new ideas.

Bloomberg Businessweek

Dr. Srikumar Banerjee appointed as the Chairman, Board of Governors of IIT Kharagpur

http://www.coolage.in/2014/04/03/dr-srikumar-banerjee-appointed-as-the-chairman-board-of-govern/

Credits: bloomberg.comWe are delighted to inform that Dr. Srikumar Banerjee, Ex-Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission & Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy and presently DAE Homi Bhabha Chair Professor, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, has been appointed as the Chairman, Board of Governors of IIT Kharagpur with effect from, 21st March, 2014, for a period of three years.

We welcome him as our Chairman, Board of Governors and look forward to his support and guidance for taking IIT Kharagpur forward.

We also take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to Dr. Shiv Nadar for having guided this Institute over the last three years as Chairman, Board of Governors.

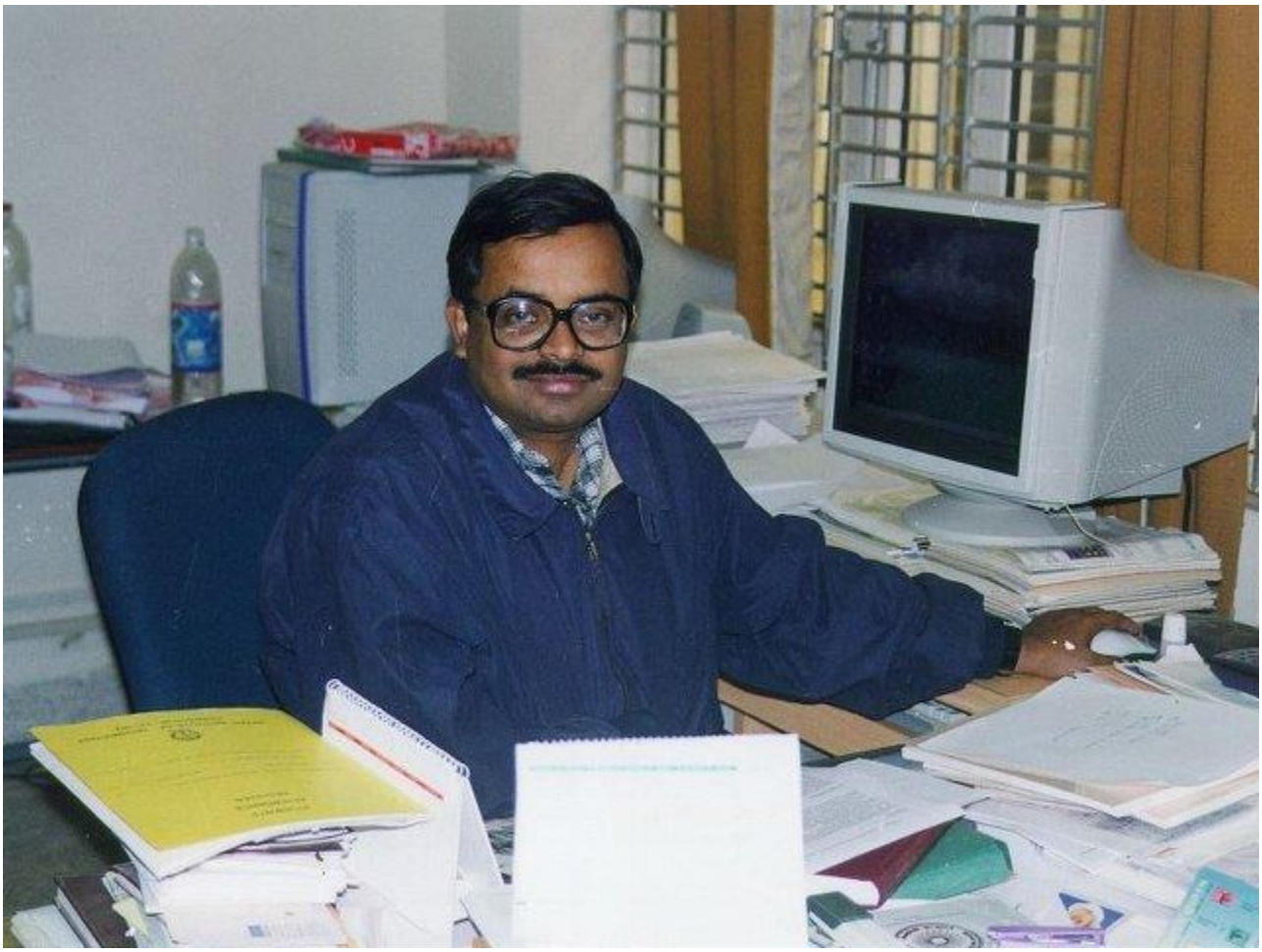
Dr. Srikumar Banerjee joined Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai in 1967 after obtaining B. Tech. in Metallurgical Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur. He also obtained Ph.D from IIT, Kharagpur while working in BARC. As Director, BARC during 2004-2010 he provided leadership in the development of Advanced Reactor Technology, Fuel Cycle technology and strategic programmes.

Dr.Banerjee is a recipient of many national and international awards and honours. National awards include Indian National Science Academy (INSA) Young Scientist Medal (1976), National Metallurgists' Day Award (1981), Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize in Engg.Sciences (1989), Materials Research Society of India (MRSI) Medal (1990), G.D.Birla Gold Medal of The Indian Institute of Metals (IIM) (1997), Indian National Science Academy (INSA) Prize for Materials Science (2001), MRSI-Superconductivity and Materials Science Prize (2003), Indian Nuclear Society (INS) Award (2003), Padma Shri (2005), MRSI Distinguished Materials Scientist of the Year Award (2008) and Indian Science Congress Association's Excellence in Science and Technology Award (2010). Notable among the international awards are Acta Metallurgica Outstanding Paper Award (1984) and Alexander von Humboldt Research Award (2004). Dr.Banerjee is a Fellow of Indian Academy of Sciences, Indian National Science Academy, National Academy of Sciences India, Indian National Academy of Engineering and Third World Academy of Sciences.

Dr.Banerjee is also recipient of both Distinguished Alumnus Award (2004) and Honoris Causa (2010) of IIT Kharagpur.

Open Letter From Prof P.P. Chakrabarti (Director, IIT Kharagpur)

http://www.coolage.in/2014/04/04/open-letter-from-prof-p-p-chakrabarti-director-iit-kharagpur/



Dear Students,
I am writing to you for a special purpose, requesting your combined cooperation.
Normally the month of March is one of the best times for students -- with Hall Days, Final Year Treats, GCs and several good things happening before the examination season begins. Moreover, several new plans are being initiated including bus service, international summer, 24x7 laboratory facilities, new programmes for placement, revision of academic curriculum, challenge grants, food courts, hostel renovation, alumni support for students, etc. to bring about improved standards of life at IITKGP.

However, this March has not been that good. We have lost three of our students under inexplicable circumstances and incidents of misbehaviour in Hall days, games and other instances of crossing the line have been and continue to be a cause of deep pain in the community with everyone grief-stricken, saddened and disturbed across all levels of students, faculty and staff.

It is important that we all come together quickly and consolidate ourselves to make sure that such unfortunate events do not recur. It is urgent that each of us tries to help your colleague / friend / hall-mate / department-mate / society-mate who may be in difficulty for any reason (academics, personal, jobs or anything else) and reach your hand out. It is

equally important that you discuss and share your concerns amongst each other and with us (including me) on how we can all improve things and take KGP forward to its true potential.

KGP life is different from all institutions. I have lived here at all levels for more than 30 years and so have some knowledge and feeling of it. We have the capability of building a unique community where collaboration and competitiveness, freedom and responsibility, academics and life all harmoniously blend without crossing boundaries of ethics, decency and law. This is the key USP of IITKGP. The learning, experience and memories of a few years as a student in KGP sustain us for the rest of our lives. The talent in each one of you is undeniable and we need to ensure that it flowers.

I am therefore requesting all of you to put your hand forward in reaching out to each other, to ensure that we are quickly able to recover from the current emotionally charged situation, find ways and means to prevent recurrence of the same and also come up with solutions to the core issues that we all need to look into to make KGP the finest place to develop young minds and hearts.

I am requesting you to select April 9 to 12, 2014 as 'REACH-OUT WEEK' for us to hold each others' hands. Please consider having formal/ informal interactions in halls, departments, societies, with faculty and staff. I leave it to you all at all levels to decide how to achieve this. I and my colleagues in the administration will be happy to participate.

Best wishes
P. P. Chakrabarti