

## Newspaper Clips April 17, 2013

HT Chandigarh, April 17, 2013

# It's serious issue: IIT Delhi director

Prof RK Shevgaonkar, director of IIT Delhi, says, "IEEE is the most respected society.

Plagiarism it is a very serious issue in research and must be dealt sternly. People can be denied their PhDs and even increments if their work is found to be plagiarised."

**MAIL TODAY  
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## **IIT-D creates liquid to keep clothes fresh**

**WHEN students living in hostels visit their homes at the weekend, the first thing their mothers usually do is open the luggage, sniff through the clothes and throw them in the laundry bag with a scrunched-up face.**

**But now IIT Delhi has created a chemical to spare mothers from this 'stinky' chore. IIT Delhi's department of textile technology has developed a chemical liquid which has nanosilver particles (or silver particles of 1nm to 100 nm in size) suspended in water that can keep garments fresh and cool for long even after worn in sweaty climate.**

**The wonder liquid has been invented in collaboration with a Bangalore-based company and was funded by the Indian government's department of science and technology. This technology will be showcased at IIT Delhi's ninth annual open house, I2 Tech 2013, on April 20.**

**Another project that will be exhibited during the open house is a multifunctional wheelchair which apart from providing the basic navigation system to the physically disabled can also double as a toilet. It is created by the students of applied mechanics.**

*Rupinder Kaur/New Delhi*

HT Jaipur

# No foreign faculty members for IIT-J

**IIT VISIT** Union HRD minister says IITs and IIMs should transform their research work into commercial products for the benefit of people

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**JODHPUR:** Despite a shortage of faculty, the government does not plan to hire professors from abroad for the newly set up Indian Institutes of Technology, said MM Pallan Raju, Union minister for human resource development.

Raju was talking to reporters here on Tuesday evening after a visit to IIT-Jodhpur. "We take the faculty shortage as a challenge and focus on raising the quality of teaching in schools and institutes of higher education such as the IITs and IIMs," Raju said.

He admitted the new IITs and IIMs also faced a problem in building permanent campuses. In Hyderabad, transfer of land is a major problem, but



■ (Left) Union minister for human resource development MM Pallan Raju addressing mediapersons during the foundation stone ceremony of the IIT building in Jodhpur. RAMJI VYAS / HT PHOTO

IIT-Jodhpur was lucky and got land with state support and will begin constructing its first building.

Appreciating the work of IIT-Jodhpur, the minister said it has met its energy needs using solar panels. It has become a model IIT in this regard, he said. He was accompanied by Anil Kakodkar, chairperson, National Solar Mission and sci-

entists from Defence Research Development Organisation.

Replying to a question, Raju said the ministry has asked all IITs and IIM to look into local problems and provide technical support to the local government. "We don't want research work done there to remain confined to campuses. We are trying to transform the research work into commercial products for

the benefit of people," Raju said. He said the HRD ministry plans to provide marketing support to IITs and IIMs.

"There should be more interaction between academic institutions and industry," Raju said.

Earlier, he spent about four hours interacting with students and faculty of IIT-Jodhpur. He also evinced interest in the solar power plants on the campus.

**There should be more interaction between academic institutions and industry**

**MM PALLAN RAJU**  
Union minister for human resource development

HT Lucknow

# 'Incubation centres of IITs are heavily tilted towards IT'

Two scientists on the need for more civil and mechanical engineers and how students can bring about a change

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After Prime Minister Manmohan Singh recently announced the new science and technology policy, HT Education spoke to Pradeep Khosla, chancellor; University of California, USA, and Ashish Lele, winner of the Infosys Prize 2012 for Engineering and Computer Science, about the engineering education scenario in India.

**How will India fare in the field of science and technology in the next decade?**

**Khosla:** I don't see India being a power in the science and technology domain in the next decade. It's not because of a dearth of talent, but because there aren't any strong policies supportive of creating enough talented people.

**Lele:** It is a challenge for

the scientists to strike a balance between both fundamental and applied sciences. The problem areas are energy and healthcare. Taking innovative projects to the masses is another hurdle. The challenge is to get institutes from many disciplines together to be able to address these.

**A lot of students come up with innovative projects in many engineering institutions such as the IITs, but very few get the chance to take them to the next level. What would you suggest to these students?**

**Khosla:** We need to work on getting people who can look at an idea and monetise it. The Indian government is investing a lot in research but it does not have an integrated policy that addresses this issue.

**Lele:** You need to have an ecosystem in place for this. A strong intellectual property cell and regular funding are



Pradeep Khosla, chancellor, University of California, USA, (left) and Ashish Lele, winner of the Infosys Prize 2012 for Engineering and Computer Science

some of the important things we need.

**Which disciplines in science and engineering need more attention in the next few years?**

**Khosla:** There is a need for material and civil engineers. But when you talk about the work coming out of IITs, all of it is significantly distorted because you are mainly aimed at the IT sector. There are a number of engineers who get educated but never practice what they learn.

**Lele:** If you look at the incubation centres of the IITs, they are heavily tilted towards IT. The first preference of IIT graduates is to



work in banks, the finance and IT sectors. Engineering comes in as a third option and that too for areas like computer science. We really need more civil and mechanical engineers to give an impetus to the manufacturing sector.

**Do collaborations with foreign institutes really help Indian institutes?**

**Khosla:** I think it will have an impact but the problem is that a lot of such tie-ups are not solving the real problem. Solving that problem would mean bringing that style of education to this country and I don't see that happening right now. The brand name of

an institute holds greater importance in Indian ethos. It's important to get the pedagogy, innovation and research capacities here. **How are the new engineering areas growing? Where are the jobs?**

**Lele:** Both the public sector and the private sector are investing heavily on R&D. This will allow engineers to enjoy the freedom to innovate and also give them funds for research. Companies like the Aditya Birla Group, Reliance Industries, L&T and Indian Oil Corporation are some examples.

**How should a student choose the discipline in engineering?**

**Khosla:** It should be based on their passion. The institutes should also understand what the students want. In the US, if a student joins an engineering programme he has the freedom to study other disciplines as well. So a computer engineering student can go for civil engineering as well. This makes learning interdisciplinary.

HT Jaipur

## IIM Indore may link water use to grades

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**INDORE:** Soon, water usage might become a criterion to rate the academic performance of students at the Indian Institute of Management Indore (IIM-I), which is considering installing water meters in the hostels.

"Every student will have to stick to a standard level of consumption. We might impose fines for excessive water use," IIM-I director N Ravichandran said on Tuesday, adding that the meters would sensitise the

students.

"If there is no control on the use of water, it would reflect in their performance sheet."

IIM-I students are not opposed to the move to save water, but have some reservations and want a say in fixing a reasonable standard consumption level.

Postgraduate programme student Monami Bagchi said, "The intention is noble, but I feel the student body should be consulted to arrive at the daily quota."

"If water use is to be linked to performance, there should be allowance for

**Every student will have to stick to a standard level of consumption. We might impose fines for excessive water use**

IIM DIRECTOR

exceptions. Extensive feasibility tests should be done before implementing it," she added.

Integrated postgraduate programme student Kapil Kanungo supported the "commendable" plan, which has come about amid fears of water shortage.

The number of students at the 15-year-old institute has swelled over the years with the addition of new programmes and the population in the campus, including the staff, faculty members and their families, is now around 1,500.

The IIM-I receives nearly 300,000 litres of water every day from the Narmada river, which is metered, and recycles an equal amount daily.

IIM-I spokesperson Akthar Parvez said, "The recycled water is used for keeping the campus lush green."

## STATUS OF CONTEMPORARY IITS

- On March 28, 2008 the then minister of human resource development Arjun Singh had announced that the government would establish more IITs, after which eight new IITs were added to the list under the Institute of Technology (Amendment) Act, 2011.
- IIT Bhubaneswar was the first to get operational and it functioned from IIT Kharagpur campus.
- IIT Ropar, also known as IIT Punjab, was established in 2008 and it started working from IIT Delhi campus.
- IIT Hyderabad was set up in 2008 and its permanent campus is under construction at Kandi, close to the Outer Ring Road (Hyderabad). It is one of the fastest growing IITs of all the new ones. It has over 1,000 students on its campus.
- IIT Gandhinagar is currently being run from the temporary campus in a government engineering college.
- IIT Patna is also being run from a temporary campus and is slated to shift to its main campus in a couple of years.
- IIT Rajasthan was also established in 2008 and its classes were held at IIT Kanpur initially
- IIT Mandi shifted to its main campus in Mandi in Himachal Pradesh in September 2012.

HT Indore

# Lot to cover for snail-paced IIT

**LAGGARD?** Four years after it was established, IIT-I still runs from temporary facilities and the work on its Simrol campus is far from done. The institute needs to pull up its socks for even getting closer to other newly established IITs



AMRITA U KADAM

Considering the slow pace of land acquisition at Simrol for Indian Institute of Technology Indore (IIT-I), one is forced to think if Madhya Pradesh really wants an IIT. Four years and on, the IIT-I authorities have struggled to put up a half-done 200 meters of a wall that runs along the boundary of 501 acres allotted to the institute.

The forest that falls under the allotted land area cannot be covered till the required forest clearance. Nearly 70 of the 198 acres of the forest area, which falls under IIT-I land, are stuck in file work.

Adding to this, some 'unruly elements' have been creating hurdles preventing IIT-I from completing the boundary wall.

Even as all this has been happening, IIT-I director Pradeep Mathur said, "Despite all odds we have been able to produce world class engineers who have been picked up by the best of the companies."

Talking about the shifting of campus he said, "There is a status quo. We are still waiting for the clearances. We cannot dig in the forest area even for the boundary wall as of now. It is against the law. We have everything ready, all the planning has been done. We just need a final environmental clearance to take the land in possession."

Mathur added that the institute expects more support from the police and the local authorities so that it can go ahead with the construction work.

Despite all odds, the institute hasn't fallen short in planning for the good of the locals. The main campus at Simrol will have a school, a hospital and a community teaching centre, besides another school for the locals.

"Our students are already teaching in the small villages near Indore. Similarly, at our new campus, we plan to share as much knowledge as we can with the locals. We will also have a hospital which would help

## ARCHITECTURAL ICON: LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

In the master plan, approved by the Town and Country Planning department, the learning resource centre would be the iconic structure at IIT-I. The institute plans to spend a little more on this landmark structure. It would have flaps for sunset control, environment control and would be a complete glass structure with free access to light. Under the plan, the building has been positioned in such a fashion that the students will have to pass through it to go from one side to the other, which would ensure interaction between the students from different faculties. "By having such a structure, we intend to provide a platform where the students can have interdisciplinary knowledge. Students would realize that with the combination of science and technology, they can develop skills and add to their researches and projects," said Mathur.

**We have everything ready; all the planning has been done. We just need a final environmental clearance...**

PRADEEP MATHUR, director, IIT-I

them," said Mathur.

IIT-I was one of the seven new IITs that were set up during the 11th five-year-plan period (2007-12), and, for last four years since its inception in 2009, it has been operating from IET campus of Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya (DAVV) and one building on PAUL campus - both at a distance of nearly 20 km. Last year, the institute nearly spent Rs 3 crore on rented college building, hostel facility and bus transportation etc. This expense grows every year.

Even as the wait for the land acquisition seems to be endless, the institute has ambitious plans to generate nearly six megawatt of power from its main campus that can be given to the state to meet its ever increasing demand.

According to the current estimate, the institute would need less than one megawatt. With all the solar panels and systems in place in the next twenty years, it would generate six megawatt.

While all this would take time, the institute has decided to give its first batch the best farewell possible.

"Our first batch has suffered a lot but we intend to give them the best convocation ceremony possible. It is going to be very historical event considering the fact that it would be the first for IIT Indore," said Mathur.

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HT Lucknow

**Former IIT-Kanpur director appointed as NSA board member**

**KANPUR:** Padma Shri awardee and former IIT Kanpur director Sanjay Govind Dhande has been appointed as a member of the National Security Advisory Board. The term of appointment of Dhande is for a period of two years, an IIT Kanpur press release said. “National security has become multi-dimensional. Whether its technological development, cyber attack or research, all are related with national security. Central government has vested an important responsibility to me,” Dhande said in the release. The security board consists of persons of eminence outside the government with expertise in external security, strategic analysis, foreign affairs, defence, the armed forces, internal security, science and technology and economics.

DNA Mumbai 16-04-2013 P-3

# BMC, IIT-B set out on Powai lake clean-up mission

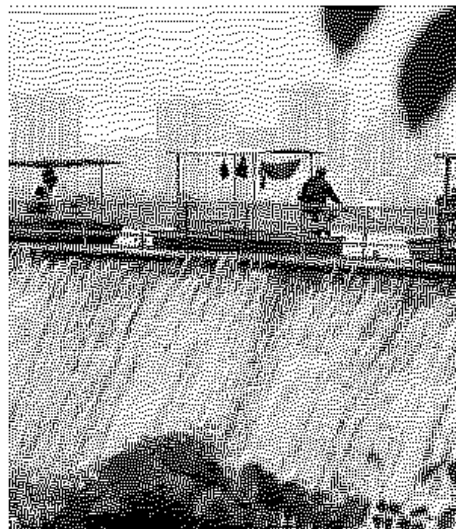
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What makes Powai a prime residential locality is the presence of a lake. However, this lake, spreading across 600 sq hectares, is now full of water hyacinths and garbage. Hence, representatives of IIT-Bombay along with the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) have kick-started 'Powai Lake Rejuvenation' project.

The 15-member team will include representatives from IIT-B, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Bombay Natural History Society, MMRDA, MPCB, town planning and directorate of national lake conservation. The project will be spearheaded by additional municipal commissioner (Projects) Rajiv Jalota.

Professor Shyam Asolekar, head of the centre for environmental studies and engineering at IIT-B, will coordinate the



project. "If everything goes as per plan, in 6-7 years the lake will get a new lease of life," he said. Asolekar has handled the Mansagar (Jalmahal) rejuvenation project of Jaipur, which is believed to be India's first lake rejuvenation project.

In the first phase, the BMC is fixing all the drains, while IIT-B is working on a natural water-filter bed at drain points to check the pollutants. The next phase will focus on the remov-

al of water hyacinths and desilting. In the last phase, they will beautify the lake which will include building of small islands for birds, crocodiles and butterflies, solar lighting and floating pavements. The draft plan also talks about water sports and leisure fishing.

The BMC has allocated Rs1 crore for the project. Jalota said, "Besides our own ongoing work, the first phase is the test of technologies and systems provided by IIT-B. Depending on the success, more funds can be allocated later."

Ironically, while identifying sewage drain spots, the BMC realised they play a major role in polluting the lake. Sources said there are 17 such spots. An official blamed MSRDC's haphazard work for damaging and choking pipes. Jalota said the sewer is now being diverted away from the lake.

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