Newspaper Clips April 19-21, 2016

<u>April 21</u>

Rashtrya Sahara ND 21/04/2016 P-04



सहारा न्यूज ब्यूरो

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) दिल्ली के छात्रों ने एक ऐसा अंडरगारमेंट उपकरण तैयार किया है जिससे बुजुर्गों को गिरने पर चोट से बचाया जा सकेगा। इसका प्रयोग करने पर खासकर कमर और कूल्हे के हिस्सों में लगने वाली चोटों से बचा जा सकता है। इसकी ऑनलाइन बिक्री के जल्द ही शुरू होने की उम्मीद है।

आईआईटी के मैकेनिकल इंजीनियरिंग विभाग के छात्रों ने इस उपकरण की संकल्पना विकसित की। इसके किनारों पर प्लास्टिक का सुरक्षा कवच है जिससे कूल्हे की हड्डी सुरक्षित रहती है गिरने पर उस पर चोट नहीं पहुंचेगी। इस प्रोजेक्ट की अगुवाई कर रहे प्रोफेसर नरेश भटनागर ने कहा कि 'यह उपकरण 100 फीसदी कपास से बना है और सूक्ष्म-कोशिकीय इंजेक्शन के साथ इसमें प्लास्टिक फोम का इस्तेमाल किया गया है। यह काफी मजबूत संरक्षण देता है।

Hindustan ND 21/04/2016 P-05

जेईई के प्रश्न सरल हिन्दी में होंगे

सुविधा

छात्रों को एक भाषा का चयन करना होगा

यह है कि इस बार छात्र परीक्षा के बाद

अपनी प्रतिक्रिया दे सकेंगे। 05 जून को

जन तक इस आंसर की पर छात्र अपनी

राय दे सकते हैं। गडबडी पर शिकायत

पिछंड जाते थे। अब ऐसा नहीं होगा।'

जेईई-मेन का परिणाम 27 अप्रैल को

आएगा। इसके बाद एडवांस के लिए

www.jeeadv.ac.in पर 29 अप्रैल

से 04 मई तक ऑनलाइन आवेदन होगा।

बनाने वाले परीक्षार्थी एडवांस के लिए

योग्य माने जाएंगे। पिछले वर्ष तक शीर्ष

डेढ़ लाख छात्रों को मौका मिलता था।

मेन में शीर्ष दो लाख छात्रों में जगह

आंसर-की जारी होगी। 05 से 07

कर सकते हैं। 12 जून को जेईई-

एडवांस का परिणाम जारी होगा।

आईआईटी जेईई-एडवांस की परीक्षा 22 मई को होगी। छात्रों को ऑनलाइन आवेदन करते समय बताना होगा कि वे हिन्दी में पर्चा चाहते हैं या अंग्रेजी में? एक प्रश्न-पत्र में हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी दोनों भाषा में सवाल नहीं आएंगे। पर्चे अलग-अलग भाषा में होंगे। अहम बात

प्रतिक्रिया ली गई थी। प्रतिक्रिया और पिछले वर्ष मिली शिकायतों के आधार पर हिन्दी सरल करने का फैसला किया गया। **हिन्दी के छात्र नहीं पिछड़ेंगे :** जेईई-मेन की कमेटी के पूर्व प्रमुख एचसी गुप्ता कहते हैं, 'सैकड़ों की संख्या में हिन्दी माध्यम के छात्र आवेदन करते हैं लेकिन सवालों का अनुवाद कठिन होने पर

समझने में समय अधिक लगता था। वे

नई दिल्ली रोहित पंवार

आईआईटी दाखिले के लिए जेईई-एडवांस का प्रश्न-पत्र सरल हिन्दी में आएगा। अंग्रेजी के पर्चे का हिन्दी में शब्दानुवाद नहीं होगा। सरल भाषा में सवाल होंगे।इस बाबत आईआईटी हिन्दी

के जानकारों की मदद ले रही है। आईआईटी गुवाहाटी जेईई-एडवांस की परीक्षा आयोजित करेगा। संस्थान के सूत्रों ने बताया कि पिछले साल के अनुभव को देखते हुए 10 सदस्यों का पैनल गठित कर दिया गया है। सूत्र बताते हैं कि अनुवाद शब्दों के आधार पर नहीं होगा। इस बार भावानुवाद होगा। पिछले साल जो छात्र आईआईटी पहुंचे थे उनकी

Economic Times Hindi ND 21.04.2016 P-08

IIM-A चेयरमैन के लिए पारेख, मुंजाल शॉर्टलिस्ट कला विजयराघवन & रिका भट्टाचार्य | मुंबई

एचडीएफसी के चेयरमैन दीपक पारेख, हीरो मोटोकॉर्प के ज्वाइंट मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर सुनील कांत मुंजाल और इंफोसिस के चेयरमैन आर सेशासायी को इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ मैनेजमेंट (IIM), अहमदाबाद के चेयरमैन पद के लिए शॉर्टलिस्ट किया गया है।

इस मामले की जानकारी रखने वाले अधिकारियों ने बताया कि इंस्टीट्यूट की सर्च कमेटी ने ये नाम एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री को भेज दिए हैं। लार्सन एंड टुब्रो के चेयरमैन ए एम नाइक ने अपनी व्यस्तता की वजह से जनवरी में यह पद छोड़ा था। नाइक को दूसरी बार आईआईएम अहमदाबाद का चेयरमैन नियुक्त किया गया था लेकिन दूसरे कार्यकाल का एक साल पूरा होने से पहले ही उन्होंने यह पद छोड़ दिया था। फिलहाल कैडिला हेल्थकेयर के चेयरमैन पंकज आर पटेल अंतरिम चेयरमैन हैं।

आईआईएम-अहमदाबाद के डायरेक्टर आशीष नंदा ने इस मामले में कुछ भी कहने से इनकार कर दिया। एक टॉप अधिकारी ने कहा कि इंस्टीट्यूट ऐसे लीडर्स पर फोकस कर रहा है जो इंस्टीट्यूट की स्वायत्तता सुनिश्चित करने के साथ-साथ सरकार की गुड बुक में भी हो। आईआईएम के पूर्व डायरेक्टर समीर के बरुआ ने कहा कि अगले चेयरमैन को इस पद के लिए कुछ वक्त देना चाहिए। उन्होंने कहा, 'अगर वह कॉरपोरेट सेक्टर से होते हैं तो उन्हें एक बिजनेस और एक एकेडमिक संस्थान चलाने के बीच का फर्क समझ में आना चाहिए क्योंकि ये दोनों अलग-अलग चीजें हैं।' उन्हें से इंस्टीट्यूट से जुड़े लोगों और संस्थानों के नजरिए को भी समझने की कोशिश करनी होगी।

आईआईएम अहमदाबाद की सर्च कमेटी में नाइक, नंदा, पटेल, अरविंद मिल्स के चेयरमैन संजय लालभाई और पेप्सिको इंडिया के चेयरमैन डी शिवकुमार शामिल हैं। आईआईएम अहमदाबाद से नाइक के गहरे जुड़ाव और उनके बड़े कद को देखते हुए उनका पद छोड़ना हैरान करने वाला है। एकेडमिक सर्कल के अधिकारियों का कहना है कि सरकार और इंस्टीट्यूट की स्वतंत्रता को बैलेंस रखना बड़ी चुनौती है। एलएंडटी के चेयरमैन नाइक का शुमार उन लोगों में होता है जिन्होंने आईआईएम बिल के मसौदे के खिलाफ खुल कर बोला था। यह बिल अब वापस ले लिया गया है। इस बिल का मकसद आईआईएम को वैधानिक दर्जा देना और उसको डिग्री देने का अधिकार देना था। नाइक आईआईएम अहमदाबाद को ग्लोबल मैनेजमेंट इंस्टीट्यूट के लेवल पर ले जाना चाहते थे। संस्थान के कामकाज पर नियंत्रण को लेकर संस्थानों ने काफी विरोध किया था।

April 20

P-2 Statesman ND 20/04/2016 IIT-D's Open House to showcase innovations

ABHINAV SINGH

abhinavbismark@gmail.com New Delhi, 19 April

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, is all set to organise its twelfth annual Open House on 23 April in the IIT Delhi premises, where people would get an insight into the research work, student projects, advanced facilities and laboratories available in the prestigious institution. Start-upsornew initiatives by young technocrats developed keeping in mind societal reach and implications will take centre stage.

House represents the culmination of a year of unmatched innovations at IIT Delhi. The publish notices, announceexhibition provides an opportunity for public to experience our students state of theart vision," said Prof V Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT Delhi. "Like every year we are confident that this year too will witness thousands line up to catch aglimpse of the visionary innovations," he said.

Among the interesting innovations which would form part of the exhibition are SmartBoards or dynamic no- ments can originate from hunticeboards consisting of large dreds of administrators, facul-

campus and connected via Wi-Fi/Ethernettoawebportalto ments, initiatives, etc., in real time.

"It can seamlessly integrate live news & weather with site specific information providing excellent user experience. The developed solution is scalable both with respect to screens as well as user base. It provides for approval and distribution mechanism to support a large campus like IIT Delhi where notices or announce-

"The annual IIT Open TV screensdistributed across ty as well as student groups," said a student associated with the project.

> Other "start-ups" by students and faculty of IIT, Delhi, includee-Subzi, amobile based solution for increasing market efficiency of perishable food products or items, Campus Traffic Monitoring to ensure safe commutation within campus. affordable high quality tactile graphics for persons with visual impairment, production of environmental friendly biofertilisers, hipprotection device for elderly and preparation of Drainage Master Plan for NCT of Delhi.

Amar Ujala ND 20/04/2016 P-4 ओपन हाउस में 550 प्रोजेक्ट आईआईट

23 अप्रैल को 12वां वार्षिक ओपन हाउस-2016 का होगा आयोजन, एक्सपर्ट की वर्कशॉप देखने का मौका मिलेगा

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नर्ड दिल्ली। भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) दिल्ली में 23 अप्रैल को 12वां वार्षिक ओपन हाउस-2016 का आयोजन किया जाएगा। इस ओपन हाउस में संस्थान के दुर्लभ शोध कार्यों और छात्रों के प्रोजेक्ट को प्रदर्शित किया जाएगा। साथ ही एक्सपर्ट के वर्कशॉप देखने का भी मौका मिलेगा।

संवाददाताओं से बातचीत के दौरान आईआईटी दिल्ली के निदेशक प्रोफेसर वी रामगोपाल राव ने कहा कि संस्थान में एक साल में हए शोध प्रयासों को ओपन हाउस में लोगों के सामने लाया जाएगा। इसके माध्यम से आम लोगों को छात्रों के कार्यों को देखने का अवसर प्राप्त होगा। प्रोफेसर राव ने उम्मीद जताई कि इस बार भी ओपन हाउस देखने के लिए बड़ी संख्या में छात्र व अन्य लोग आईआईटी पहुंचेंगे। ओपन हाउस में आईआईटी के अलग-अलग विभागों के तैयार किए गए लगभग 550 प्रोजेक्ट को दिखाया जाएगा। ओपन हाउस में पोजेक्ट को देखने के लिए सबह 10 बजे से प्रवेश दिया जाएगा। आम जनता के लिए प्रोजेक्ट का प्रदर्शन दो बजे बंद हो जाएगा।

डेनेज सिस्टम सधारने के लिए आईआईटी ने दी रिपोर्ट : दिल्ली के डेनेज सिस्टम को सधारने के लिए आईआईटी दिल्ली विशेषज्ञ ड्रेनेज मॉस्टर प्लान बनाने का काम करे हैं। दिल्ली के हर क्षेत्र के आधार पर आईआईटी ने दिल्ली सरकार को अपनी ड्राफ्ट रिपोर्ट सौंप दी है। बताया जा रहा है कि इस रिपोर्ट में सरकार को आईआईटी ने बताया है कि ठोस कूड़े के लिए अलग ड्रेनेज व्यवस्था हो। कई जगहों पर लोगों ने नालों पर घर बनाए हुए हैं। ऐसे में डेनेज सही तरीके से नहीं हो पाता है।



संवाददाता सम्मेलन के दौरान आईआईटी के डायरेक्टर प्रो. रामगोपाल राव।

स्मार्ट बोर्ड से लें कैंपस की जानकारी

नई दिल्ली (ब्युरो)। उच्च शिक्षण संस्थानों के कैंपस में जानकारी के प्रसार के लिए आईआईटी ने पर्यावरण के अनुकूल ग्रीन

समाधान निकाला है। आईआईटी ने पोस्टरों के प्रकाशन को कम करने के लिए स्मार्ट बोर्ड तैयार किए हैं। संस्थानों के अंदर इन्हें लगाया जा सकता है। एलसीडी की भांति डन स्मार्ट बोर्ड के ज़रिए कैंप्रस में क्या होगा या होने जा रहा है। इसकी जानकारी

मिल सकेगी। आईआईटी में फिलहाल इस स्मार्ट बोर्ड को लगाने के लिए चार जगहें चिन्हित की गई हैं. जिसमें दो स्थानों की टेस्टिंग की जा रही है। स्मार्ट बोर्ड तैयार करने के पीछे सोच यह है कि वर्तमान में पोस्टरों या नोटिस का मुद्रण न केवल महंगा और पर्यावरण के अनुकूल नहीं है, बल्कि बोझिल भी है।

चित्र और नक्शे को स्पर्श से समझ सकेंगे दुष्टिहीन छात्र

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नर्ड दिल्ली। दुष्टिहीन छात्र अब स्पर्श के माध्यम से ही चित्रों, तस्वीरों और नक्शे को पढ़ व समझ सकेंगे। अब तक बेल में उपलब्ध



पुस्तकों में चित्र व नक्शे नहीं होते हैं। ऐसे में दुष्टिहीन छात्रों को इन्हें समझने में परेशानी होती हैं। आईआईटी दिल्ली ने दृष्टिहीन छात्रों के लिए टेक्टाइल (स्पर्श) डॉयग्राम आधारित पुस्तक तैयार की है। 9वीं कक्षा की गणित की पुस्तक को टेक्टाइल डॉयग्राम आधारित बनाया गया है। इसी तरह से विज्ञान की पुस्तक को तैयार करने की प्रक्रिया जारी है, जबकि अपर प्राइमरी कक्षा के बच्चों के लिए टेक्टाइल मैप तैयार किए गए हैं।

आईआईटी दिल्ली के कंप्यूटर व इंजीनियरिंग विभाग के पोफेसर एम बालाकष्णन ने बताया कि विज्ञान, गणित, भूगोल, जैसे विषयों में चित्र, नक्शे, डॉयग्राम कॉफी महत्वपर्ण होते हैं। सामान्य बच्चों के लिए तो ये पुस्तकों में उपलब्ध होते हैं, लेकिन दष्टिहीन छात्रों के लिए ब्रेल लिपि में केवल पठन सामग्री ही उपलब्ध होती है। भारत में कहीं भी दुष्टिहीन छात्रों के लिए नक्शा और चित्र पुस्तकों में उपलब्ध नहीं है। ऐसे में ये बच्चे विज्ञान, गणित व भूगोल जैसे विषय कम पढ़ते हैं। इसे देखते हुए थ्री-डी प्रिंटिंग का उपयोग करते हुए ब्रेल की तरह टेक्टाइल डायग्राम आधारित 9वीं कक्षा के लिए गणित की पुस्तक तैयार की गई है। इससे स्पर्श के जरिए छात्र चित्र, तस्वीर, डायग्राम व नक्शे को समझ सकेंगे। छह खंडों में तैयार इस पुस्तक की फिलहाल टेस्टिंग हो रही है। वर्तमान . संत्र में यह कुछ स्कूलों में दृष्टिहीन छात्रों को उपलब्ध कराई जाएगी।

IIT-D Open House on Saturday

Projects include a device to protect the elderly from accidents, drainage master plan for city

TABU AGARWAL

NEW DELHI: From a device to protect the elderly from accidents to preparation of drainage master plan for the Capital, the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi (IIT-D) will showcase more than 500 projects by its students in the 12th edition of "Open House" this year.

The projects will be thrown open for public viewing on Saturday at the IIT campus from 10 a.m. onward. Over 80 demo projects and 500 research projects will be on display at the Open House, the annual technical exposition displaying the finest of projects to technology enthusiasts, students and colleagues from other technical institutions, school children, the general public and industries.

Speaking about the event, IIT-D Director V. Ramgopal Rao said: "With more than 500 research projects and 80 demo projects on display, and the participation of bearly 4,000 school children, we are focusing on high-impact societal projects which will hopefully live up to the expectations of tech connoisseurs. Technology incubation will be our main focus for the next few years at IIT-Delhi."

One of the main projects this year is the preparation of



TECH TREAT: Prof. M. Balakrishnan during the media preview of the IIT-Delhi Open House on Tuesday. — PHOTO: SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

a drainage master plan for Delhi. In order to address the perennial problem of water logging here, the Delhi government decided to come out with a new drainage master plan to streamline the sewerage network and tasked the IIT-D with the same.

The IIT students are trying to address the problem by studying existing natural drainage system, urban storm and waste management, and preparing a region-wise guidelines for augmentation, among other measures.

"The storm water drainage system of Delhi demands serious attention due to frequent flooding and water logging, especially during the monsoon. By 2021, the plan will involve the study of the existing drainage systems, including streams, natural depressions and evaluating water carrying capacities of culvers and other cross drainage structures," Assistant Professor Dhanya C.T. of the Department of Civil Engineering told *The Hindu*.

The event will also put on display a hip protection device for saving the elderly from getting injured in case of a fall. Composed of lowvelocity impact on injection of moulded plastic, the selfcontained protective device is designed to protect the hips and pelvis of the elderly. Due to its small size and light weight, it can be put on and removed easily. The device also does not interfere with the body movement.

Another interesting project this year is the smart campus programme. This programme has been conceived in line with making use of smart technology for various aspects of the campus to minimise waste of time and resources. Under this project, smart cards will be given to all campus residents, including guards, for availing cashless facility, normal bulbs will be replaced by LED lights for better energy saving and exchange of information will also be made easier.

Besides displaying projects, Open House 2016 will also include educative sessions on 3D vision and holograms by Prof. Joby Joseph.

(The writer is an intern with *The Hindu*)

IIT focus on plans with social benefits

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/IIT-focus-on-plans-with-social-benefits/articleshow/51901372.cms

NEW DELHI: "Blind children can now 'see' an Indian map," says M Balakrishnan. His team from Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT-Delhi), has developed a way of mass-producing "tactile graphics", including diagrams and maps, which can make such visual elements accessible to the blind at less than the current cost of Braille paper. Their project will be "showcased" at IIT-Delhi's Open Day, scheduled for April 23, 2016.

Balakrishnan describes the existing system of creating tactile graphics as a "cottage industry" as these are handmade and are commissioned by organisations or libraries working in the field, who, hence, become custodians. The production process was "not scalable." "There are heavy-duty Braille presses printing books but they routinely leave diagrams out. It will ask the reader to refer to figure 5.3 but there won't be one," Balakrishnan said.

The department of electronics and information technology has funded the project and they've already produced books on yoga, physiology and anatomy, and an atlas with the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT).

Open Days are for the benefit of school children and the institute is expecting a crowd of about 4,000 on Saturday. IIT highlights projects that "high societal benefit."

"We hope to create technology and products that have social relevance. We will connect with another institutions within Delhi — there are institutes for agriculture, healthcare here — and we will focus on these and multidisciplinary PhD programmes," says IIT-Delhi's new director, V Ramgopal Rao.

Over the next four years, they intend to focus on "technology incubation." Several IIT-based innovators are tying up with e-commerce companies to sell their products. A team, led by Naresh Bhatnagar, has tied up with an e-commerce company to sell "Troguard" —- a "hip-protection device" that can be inserted in a specially-designed underwear to protect hip-joints of the elderly. "It helps us save the marketing experiences," he says.

A K Gosain's team from the civil engineering department is likely to submit the drainage master plan by the end of this year. Vikram Sahai's team from the department of biochemical engineering and biotechnology have created a "potent" biofertilizer that can increase the yield of poor farmers, whose use of mineral fertilisers is low, by as much as 40%. The rich farmers who do use can't switch over and their yield will increase by 40%, says Sahai. "We used a unique design, a new process that's highly automated," he adds. It was developed in collaboration with the Swiss and has been tested over a period of nearly a decade.

Snapdeal partners IIT Delhi to sell smart-canes online

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/tech/tech-news/Snapdeal-partners-IIT-Delhi-to-sell-smart-canesonline/articleshow/51880475.cms

NEW DELHI: E-commerce marketplace Snapdeal today said it has partnered IIT Delhi and Phoenix Medical Solutions to sell 'SmartCane' online, priced at Rs 3,500.

SmartCane is an advanced version of the white cane used by visually impaired people and ensures independent mobility and safety of the user.

As a part of the partnership, potential donors can also choose to donate SmartCane via Snapdeal Sunshine platform, where the product will be shipped directly to NGO partner Saksham that works for empowering persons with blindness.

Using ultrasonic ranging, SmartCane helps predict above knee-level obstacles and therefore, ensures safety against collisions.

The device is already used by nearly 10,000 people in the country.

तकनीक

एनआईटी छात्रों का पढाई के दौरान इस

"We are confident that this product will be well received and our customers will also come forward to donate SmartCane to NGOs working with persons with visual impairment," Snapdeal senior vice president (Partnerships and Strategic Initiatives) Tony Navin said in a statement.

M Balakrishnan, Professor at IIT Delhi and Smartcane Team Lead said the product was initiated as a class project.

"It is an outcome of several years of joint effort of academia, industry and user community to make in India an affordable device that conforms to international quality standards. The online availability of such assistive technology products will go a long way in empowering persons with visual disabilities," he added.

Nai Duniya ND 20/04/2016 P-4

कपड़ा ध्रुलाई के काम में भी ढूंढ़ ली नई तकनीक, कम समय और खर्च में बेहतर सेवा



कपडे घर से ले गए. छोडेंगे **ऑफिस-कॉलेज तक:** इस तरह की सर्विस भी इस एप द्वारा दी जा रही है। इसके लिए आठ अन्य लोगों को भी जो भी लिखा रहेगा।

इसमें डिलिवरी की तारीख और समय

के कपड़ों का दाम अन्य जगहों से काफी किफायती है।

The Pioneer ND 20/04/2016 P-11

NTPC AND IIT KANPUR SIGN MOU FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT NTPC Ltd and IIT Kanpur have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Research and Development in the areas of mutual interest such as Power System Engineering, Real Time Digital Simulations, Smart Grid, Computational Sciences, Grid Connectivity of Renewables and micro grids, Sensor, Robotics and automation in Delhi. Joint R&D projects will be also taken up for development of new technologies, process, and product in the field of optimization & efficiency improvements etc by the two organisations. The MoU was signed by RK Srivastava. Executive Director, NTPC-NETRA, and Prof Amalendu Chandra, Dean (R&D), IIT Kanpur.

<u>April 19</u>

IIT to Develop Nanosensors to Boost Farm Productivity

http://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/IIT-to-Develop-Nanosensors-to-Boost-Farm-Productivity/2016/04/19/article3387680.ece

HYDERABAD: In an initiative that may improve farm productivity, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mumbai and Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agriculture University (PJTSAU), Hyderabad have joined hands to develop nanosensors that can read the percentage of moisture and nutrients in the soil. This new research is expected to provide an important technological innovation in the field of agriculture. This is for the first time an IIT is collaborating with an agricultural university to devise solutions for the farmers.

"While we were exploring the possibilities of nano technology in various fields, the idea of using it in agriculture sector struck us. Thanks to the interest shown by some agricultural scientists at PJTSAU, we decided to develop nanosensors which can calculate the moisture content of the soil. There is a need for IITs to work for solving the problems faced by farmers and this is a step in that direction," said V Ramgopal Rao, director of IIT Delhi, who was instrumental in initiating the research project, while he was the chief investigator of Centre of Excellence in Nanoelectronics Project at IIT, Mumbai.

While IIT, Mumbai will develop the nano soil sensors, PJTSAU will serve as the testing partner and conduct field tests to assess the efficacy of nanosensors. Already, funds have been allotted by IIT for the research project and a team of agricultural scientists and technologists has been formed to work on the project.

"Farmers are facing various problems due to drought, irregular monsoon, floods and lack of investment. We are exploring the possibility of using technology to find solutions for the age-old problems faced by Indian farmers. For instance if the nanosensors research project succeeds, then farmers can judge the percentage of moisture and nutrients in the soil even before sowing the crop and use only the required amount of water and other inputs. This will not just help in reducing input cost but also increase yield," explained Dr D Raji Reddy, Director of Research, PJTSAU. While research and development for nano sensors to test soil nutrients is yet to be grounded, work has begun to develop nanosensors for the purpose. The field level tests may be taken up by PJTSAU by the end of the year.

Nanotech for Better Yield

IT, Mumbai and PJTSAU collaborate to develop nanosensors to study the moisture and nutrients in soil

While IIT will develop the nanosensors, PJTSAU will test its efficacy.

This is a first-of-its-kind initiative where nano technology is explored in the field of agriculture.

P-8 Economic Times 19/04/2016 **IIT/IIM Fee Hike Justified**



The steep fee hike announced by IITs earlier this month has drawn flak from several quarters. Though the human resources development ministry has clarified that the hike will not apply to students already enrolled at IITs, sporadic protests by students have been seen at the likes of IIT Kharagpur. The hike came around the same time when several IIMs announced a fee increase for their flagship post-graduate management programmes. ET's Sreeradha D. Basu and Prachi Verma Dadhwal spoke to some former and current IIT/IIM students, who argued that the fee hike is justified to make these premier institutes financially sustainable and maintain the quality of courses offered by them. Edited excerpts:

Saugata Gupta MD & CEO, Marico



IIT Kharagpur, **IIM Bangalore** Alumnus

Indian human capital in STEM as well as management is hugely appreciated across the globe and a significant part of this credit goes to the IITs and IIMs. The most critical imperative for these institutions is to raise the bar and institutions is to raise the bar and retain their cutting edge in churning out talented techies and managers. For this to happen, they need to change and reinvent themselves in terms of providing quality education and creating an enabling environ-ment for training this already high-quality talent. With reference to the fee hikes, I feel there is no reason why these institutions should not charge market rates to those who can afford them as long as there are enough provisions for funding meritorious students who can't afford the fees. The fee hike should also deliver more autonomy, investment in infra-structure and quality of faculty.

The illustrious alumni of the past who have enjoyed highly subsidised education can play a greater role in giving back to their Alma Mater as a part of their personal social respon-sibility – some are already doing that in a big way. But the biggest differentiator should be more academia-industry partnerships and more undamental research in these institutes.





Ajit Balakrishnan Founder-CEO, rediff.com

Chairman, IIM Calcutta Board of Governors, IIM-C Alumnus

The fee increase at the IIMs, as you can see from IIM Calcutta's statistics below, is to cover a variety of cost increases: capital expenditure on additional infrastructure for the increase in intake of students, increased costs of providing online access to journals and cases, expanding the subsidised PhD programmes, funding research as well as providing fee waivers to students whose parents can't afford to pay fees.

We feel it is unfair to ask the public exchequer to pay for all these cost increases because available public funds for education has many demands on it: extending low-cost school and polytechnic education, scholarships for the needy, etc. Liberal loan facilities are guaranteed to all students with repayment plans, which take

into account the starting salaries at campus placement.

IIM-C has increased the fees for its PGDM course by 17% this year after no increase for some time. This is in response to a variety of cost pressures: doubling programme intake in the last few years to 460+, which has necessitated additional classroom and hostel space of about half-a-million square feet. In addition, we have expanded our subsidised PhD programme, self-fund our <2 crore a year research budget, spend <2 crore a year on international research journals and case studies, which all students have free access to. Around 15% of the students are given partial or full waiver of tuition fees based on family income. All these activities are funded out of fees.

In the future, increased use of online tools will help reduce the very high number of direct contact hours spent by faculty and will hopefully limit fees increases.



Sandeep Sharma Founder and COO, Yepme.com

IIT Delhi **IIM Bangalore Alumnus**

In my opinion, IIT/IIM fee hikes are justified because we need to make such institutions financially sustainable and less dependent on government support. As such, there are enough safeguards in place for economically backward students to manage their expenses. Anyone who takes loan for such premium education would be able to pay back very easily due to existing job opportunities and demand for talent from such institutes. I had personally taken loan for my IIM education, though the process was not simple during those days and could manage to pay it back on time.

Institutions should use additional funds to improve their existing infrastructure

including R&D facilities that can lead to future income from consulting/patents and create job opportunities. Additional funds from fee hike should also be utilised to attract talent for the faculty expansion as that is the core for sustainable success of any institute. A lot of bright students take up careers in reputed foreign universities instead of Indian universities and time has come for our institutes to take up top ranking in the world. 'Make in India' is relevant for the higher education sector as well!



Divya Pratap Singh Fourth Year Student, IIT Kanpur

I believe any institute should not compromise on the quality of education and human values they inculcate in their students. IITs are already facing a fund crisis due to the deduction in the allotted budget from MHRD and this is going to directly affect the student community. So, a fee hike to ensure that the IITs are able to maintain the standard of education and other amenities provided to students, is the need of the hour. In my opinion, the most dominant criteria in deciding fee waiver should be merit and economic background, rather than category of the student.

The fund crisis has affected many activities on campus such as construction of new infrastructure, research, salary to employees, etc. I think the extra money paid by the students should be utilised to improve these facilities.

Hindustan Times ND 19/04/2016 P-2

'Find more ways to curb pollution'

Mallica Joshi

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NEW DELHI: While the odd-even scheme's impact on air pollution in the Capital, considered among the most polluted cities in the world, is under dispute, experts suggest ways to tackle other polluting sources.

The odd-even scheme was started to curb air pollution, after the Capital drew repeated criticism from the courts. But various studies threw up different results, leaving doubts about the road rationing's impact on Delhi's air. While the government claims pollution is down, independent think tanks say otherwise. According to a Delhigovernment commissioned study by IIT Kanpur, dust, fly-ash, and biomass burning are bigger contributors to particulate matter pollution than vehicles in summers. Vehicles become bigger contributor in winters.

The study showed diesel cars, the main focus of the odd-even scheme, caused less than 1% of the particulate pollution. Contribution of two-wheelers, exempted from the scheme, is about 2.5%.

So, why is it difficult to gauge odd-even's impact on Delhi's air?

According to scientists, air pollution is dependent on a variety of factors. Change in any of them can change air quality in a big way. With pollutant levels the same on two days, the air quality can improve significantly on a day if it rains or is windy as dust particles get dispersed. Putting an exact figure on pollution, unless weather and wind speed remain constant, is near impossible.

Experts suggested ways to combat other sources of pollutants, which the IIT study lists as bigger contributors than vehicles. Of these, the Delhi government started vacuum cleaning roads to deal with dust pollution. Crackdown on open burning and construction without controlling dust is still lax, but is on. Thermal power plants, which produce fly ash, are still in the process of being shut.

Hindustan ND 19/04/2016

P-12

गंगा के लिए मंत्रालय-आईआईटी साथ आए

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

गंगा को निर्मल के साथ अविरल बनाने के लिए सरकार अब सारी दुनिया के जल अनुभवों, ज्ञान व तकनीक को बटोरने जा रही है।

इसके लिए जल संसाधन मंत्रालय व आईआईटी कानपुर अगले दस साल तक मिलकर काम करेंगे। यह काम गंगा नदी बेसिन प्रबंधन एवं अध्ययन केंद्र (सीजीआरबीएमएस) के जरिए किया जाएगा। सीजीआरबीएमएस सरकार के लिए एक थिंक टैंक के रूप में काम करेगा। केंद्र राष्ट्रीय और अंतरराष्ट्रीय संस्थानों के साथ सहयोग भी करेगा।

साल 2010 से ही विभिन्न आईआईटी सम्मलित रूप से गंगा नदी बेसिन प्रबंधन योजना के साथ जुड़े रहे हैं। लेकिन इसबार काम कुछ अलग और अहम है। इसकी जिम्मेदारी आईआईटी कानपुर को दी गई हैं। गंगा की सफाई के चुनौती के सामने जन जागरण, और तमाम प्रदूषण रोकथाम के उपाय नाकाफी पड़ रहे है।

निर्मलता के लिए अहम अविरलता

जल संसाधन मंत्री उमा भारती ने केंद्र की नई जरूरत को स्पष्ट करते हुए कहा है कि सरकार ऐसी रूपरेखा तैयार करने की कोशिश कर रही है, जिससे हमारी नदियों में दिलवस्पी रखने वाले पूरी दुनिया के लोगों के मतों को आमंत्रित किया जा सके। सरकार भी अपना ध्यान प्रवाह उपचार संयंत्र (ईटीपी) व सीवेज उपचार संयंत्र (एसटीपी) लगाने के बाद गंगा को साफ रखने पर केंद्रित कर रही हैं। आईआईटी के प्रोफेसर डॉ. विनोद तारे ने नई चुनौती को स्वीकार करते हुए कहा है कि केंद्र गंगा नदी बेसिन में सभी गतिविधियों के लिए एक ज्ञान केंद्र के रूप में काम करेगा। इसमें विज्ञान, प्रौद्योगिकी, नवाचार, सामाजिक, आर्थिक, वित्तीय व निवेश से संबंधित पहलू शामिल हैं।

Asian Age ND 19/04/2016 P-6 Globalisation at the IITs The decision to let IITs, and possibly IIMs in the near future, hire foreign faculty is welcome. This should be a merit-based process to help fill the gaps created by a national staff quality crunch as well as shortage of resources in the elite institutes that inhibit their ability to compete internationally in hiring the best brains. The \$14,000 (under ₹10 lakh a year) salary cap is on the lower side when it comes to assistant professor and associate professor pay scales in elite institutes, but they may have been defined by existing pay for national faculty so as not to be discriminatory. At these salaries, India can, however, offer young and bright faculty members the opportunity to come home and serve. Also, there are already well-defined ways in which the lectures of acclaimed faculty members are shared among colleges through the Internet and, to enhance their usefulness, interactive sessions across IITs can be organised online. Amid the brain-drain and brain-gain arguments there is a also a debate raging over whether far too much is being made about hiring teachers from abroad rather than Indian ones on the grounds that university standards abroad are more stringent. Considering the high number of engineers leaving to study abroad, hiring should be more oriented towards attracting non-resident Indians to take up the cause as much as foreigners. The exercise is not so much about the country's elite institutions wishing to climb the world rankings as it is to look for a higher quality of young teachers to help lift standards. In being allowed to hire internationally, an important principle is being upheld and it is the task of the

IITs to ensure the process works.

Hindustan Times ND 19/04/2016

P-11

Govt nod to more start-up incubators at colleges

Neelam Pandey neelam.pandev@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Human Resources Development (HRD) Ministry is giving a major legup to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Start-up India scheme that is aimed at promoting entrepreneurship in the coun-

The ministry has approved plans for four research parks to house incubation centres at three Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) -- Delhi, Kanpur, and Guwahati —and Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore to incubate about 400 start-ups in a three year cycle.

The approvals to the new projects, totalling ₹300 crore, are in addition to similar research parks at IIT Madras,

HRD HAS APPROVED PLANS FOR FOUR **RESEARCH PARKS THAT** WOULD PROMOTE **TECHNOLOGY, START-UPS** AND FUNDING IN **NEW VENTURES**

Kharagpur and Bombay.

According to a senior HRD official, a number of proposals were received but a nod has been given to four so far in a meeting held recently.

"The research park would become an anchor for innovative enterprises by promoting technology, incubation, start-ups and funding these new ventures on soft terms. The move will also benefit the industry in enhancing the competitive advantage of the individual companies by making use of these centres to hone their innovation plans and research," said a senior HRD official. It is expected that the start-up enterprises will redefine existing business or production process by bringing in innovations that would serve the people better.

The HRD plans to expand the concept to all IITs, National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Indian Institutes of Management that are receiving interest from students and faculty for start-up ventures.

"The industry will benefit through an increased thrust on innovation and research, which will enhance the competitive advantage of individual companies," said a senior HRD

official.

Research Parks all over the world are supported by governments, especially for creation of initial infrastructure.

On January 16, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had unveiled the Start-up Action plan for the country and had said that seven new research parks would be set up modelled on the research park at IIT Madras.

The Start Up India scheme to encourage entrepreneurship includes three years of tax and compliance breaks aimed at cutting onerous government regulations and red tape for budding businesses. The also plans to set up a ₹10,000 crore start-up fund, first announced by finance minister Arun Jaitley in the interim budget of 2014-15.

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आइआइटी के प्रवेश में नहीं चलेगा फर्जीवाडा जागरण संवाददाता, कानपुर : आइआइटी की प्रवेश परीक्षा में अब सॉल्वर फर्जीवाडे को अंजाम नहीं दे सकेंगे। छात्र को ठेके पर पास कराने वालों की धरपकड के लिए पहली बार जेईई एडवांस की परीक्षा में परीक्षार्थियोंके अंगुठे के निशान लिए जाएंगे। इसके साथ परीक्षा कक्ष में उनकी फोटो 🔶 परीक्षा कक्ष में लिए जाएंगे परीक्षार्थियों भी ली जाएगी। के अंगूठे के प्रवेश के लिए आवंटित निशान व फोटो आइआइटी में . बायोमीट्कि मशीन पर अंगुठे के निशान व फोटो सत्यापित करने के बाद भी छात्र को प्रवेश मिलेगा। आडआइटी व एनआडटी में प्रवेश के लिए 22 मई को होने वाली जेईई एडवांस परीक्षा में कानपुर परिक्षेत्र से 20 हजार परीक्षार्थियों के शामिल होने की संभावना है। जेईई एडवांस के चेयरमैन प्रो. एसएन सिंह ने बताया कि पिछली घटनाओं को देखते हुए इस परीक्षा में पहली बार परीक्षा कक्ष में बायोमीटिक उपस्थिति व फोटोग्राफी का नियम लागु किया गया है। हल प्रश्नपत्र देख सकेंगे छात्र : जेईई एडवांस में पुछे गए सवालों के हल व प्रश्नों के उत्तर अब छांत्र ऑनलाइन देख सकेंगे। परीक्षा के बाद प्रश्नपत्र के उत्तर पहली बार जेईई एडवांस की वेबसाइट पर अपलोड किए जाएंगे।

New laser material could make solar energy harvesting more efficient

http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-karnataka/new-laser-material-could-make-solar-energyharvesting-more-efficient/article8491531.ece



A new laser material designed by scientists at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) could change the way solar energy is harvested and make solar power generation more efficient.

Unlike an ordinary flashlight, lasers can generate an intense, narrow beam of light of a single colour. Professor Ayush Pandey and his team of researchers at the Solid State and Structural Chemistry Unit of IISc have succeeded in designing a nanocrystalline material which can emit a concentrated beam of light from a smaller amount of light than ordinary lasers.

This material requires the lowest reported amounts of energy to start working as a laser. "It can thus convert extremely low energies of light into a laser beam," Dr. Pandey said.

It is also capable of absorbing a wide range of colours of light, meaning that in the future, one could take a source like a light bulb and turn it into a laser beam, he added.

"This material can emit a weaker beam of light in a specific direction, which is not possible with most existing lasers," he said. Laser materials existing today need a very powerful light source to work.

One of the possible applications of the discovery could be in solar power harvesting. The material can absorb a larger fraction of light from a source like sunlight, and emit it in a specific direction.

Having light coming from a specific direction makes it easier to harvested by solar cells.

This is one of the possible applications for the discovery, Dr. Pandey added. This material requires the lowest reported amounts of energy to start working as a laser.