

Newspaper Clips

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IITians trade jobs for laughs, strike it rich

Kiran Amit Wadhwa

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MUMBAI: 'Manmohan Singh to write an autobiography titled 3 Mistakes of my Life: 2G, CWG and Sonia G'

'All Facebook users have a dark past that they are not proud of: Orkut'

These quips are products of the minds of engineers from IIT, Bombay, who dumped juicy placement offers to start a stand-up comedy company in October 2009. Two years and plenty of laughs later, these engineers are literally laughing their way to the bank with successful shows across India.

The brainchild of Nitin Gupta (26), a former IITian, Entertainment Engineers is now a 10-member-strong firm. Many of them are engineers

ENTERTAINMENT ENGINEERS NOW HAS 10 MEMBERS, ALL IIT-B GRADUATES, WHO ARE EXPERTS AT STAND-UP COMEDY

from IIT-B. The company has done 48 shows in campuses and corporate houses across the country and has 16 more lined up this year.

"The aim is to make stand-up comedy a respectable profession in India and, of course, profitable," said Gupta, who started the firm with two of his IIT friends.

Has scepticism stopped them from striving for their objective? "I actually took up a day-job in the IT sector for three months but left it because I realised that stand-up comedy deserved my 100%," said Tushar Upadhyay, 23, a BTech in material science and now a stand-up comedian for Entertainment Engineers.

Their story has now become an inspiration for several students at IIT-B who want to join their company. "I was always interested in drama and comedy, but only after I joined the company did I realise that this is what I want to be," said Prashant Chandra, 19, a first-year mechanical engineering student, who looks after the company's business development. He hopes to become a performer like his seniors some day.

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Stress factor

IN ORDER TO HELP STUDENTS DE-STRESS AND COPE WITH THE DAILY COMPETITION, IIT-DELHI OFFERS A HELPING HAND THROUGH COUNSELLING SESSIONS. **VISHAKHA SHARMA** REPORTS

THE IIT-JEE may be over, but the real stress begins now. While students wait for their results, anxiety gets the better of them and sometimes they become victims of high stress-level even after managing to get through one of the IITs. Unfortunately, this hampers their overall performance.

In order to help them de-stress and cope with the daily competition, IIT Delhi offers counselling to students. Says Rupa Murghai, counsellor, IIT-D, "We come across many such cases where even after clearing the IIT entrance examination, students keep suffering from stress."

Narrating one such incident, she informs, "Last year, a very bright student went through tremendous stress to clear the IIT entrance exam. When he joined the institute, he sank into

depression. He would lock himself up in his room and not even eat. He even stopped attending classes. I realised that regular counselling sessions won't help. So I tried and engaged him in a new activity daily. It took some time, but he picked up his normal routine and became happier."

However, while counselling sessions often help one to snap out of the emotional pit, in 2007, Murghai recalls, a student couldn't cope with the stress level anymore and eventually left the institute.

She recalls, "He had joined the institute under parental pressure. Though academically bright, his stress level was so high that we apprehended a breakdown. After interacting with him on a regular basis, I advised him to leave the insti-

tute. Later, he joined Delhi University and did well for himself."

Shashi Mathur, dean of students, IIT-D, feels, "Due to the stress factor, students often find it difficult to manage their time judiciously. This is where counselling sessions can be of help." Also, the institute has a mentorship programme where seniors mentor freshers. "The idea is to encourage a comfort level between seniors and juniors," says Rachit Gupta, a third year student at IIT-D.

Due to the stress factor, students often find it difficult to manage their time judiciously. This is where counselling helps



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'I ALWAYS AVOIDED HOSTEL FOOD'

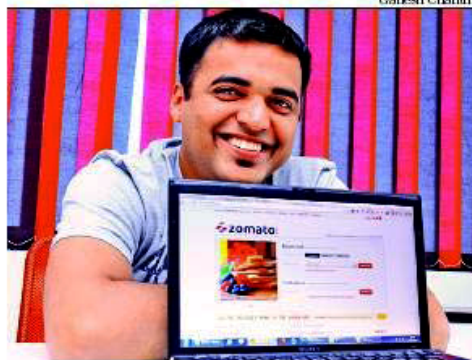
TECHNOLOGY NOT ONLY CONNECTS PEOPLE, BUT ALSO FOOD AFICIONADOS. **ADITI ISAAC** SPEAKS TO DEEPINDER GOYAL, A FORMER STUDENT OF IIT-DELHI, WHO USES TECHNOLOGY TO BUILD APPETITES

If technology is used in the right way it can not only connect people but also make life easier, believes Deepinder Goyal, CEO, *Zomato.com*, an online food guide.

Goyal's brain child *Zomato.com* is a website that seeks to provide you everything that you might want to know about food before you actually take the first bite. From the *nukkad wala dhaba* to the swankiest restaurants in your town, all eating joints are made available just by the click of mouse.

Goyal who has always been a food lover, says, "My love for food dates back to the time when I was studying at IIT. I remember I would always avoid hostel food and pounce on every chance to grab a bite outside."

My love for food dates back to the time when I was studying at IIT-Delhi and it actually turned into a business idea



Deepinder Goyal

His love for food actually turned into a business idea while he was working at Bain and Company.

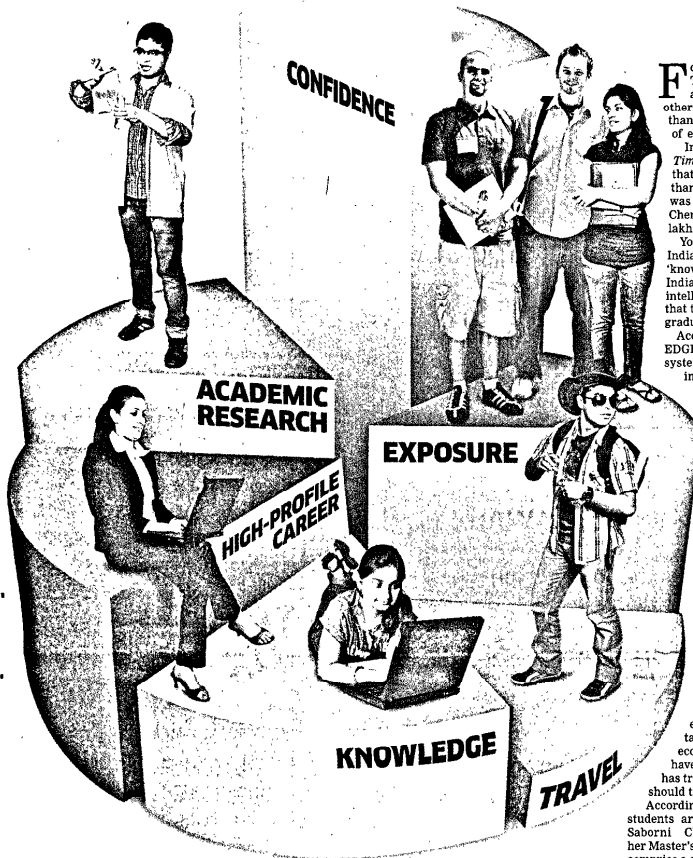
"People at Bain used to look up at menus in the pantry to order food from the pantry. This is when it struck me, 'what if all this was available online?' Soon I decided to pursue this as a career and convinced my friend Pankaj Chaddah who is a marketing expert and was working with me at Bain and Company to help this business draw maximum attention."

So how does he and his team members work? Their team is divided into three main sections — the editorial team, a marketing team and a feedback team. "A client who wants to get a review done for his place sends a request online. In a month's time, we discretely pay a visit to the place and then write about the place, its ambience, the average cost for customers and the facilities available," said Goyal.

According to Goyal, keeping up with the technology is important and allowing the application on mobile phones will give users the freedom of accessing information without the internet. As of now, the website is available through search application on the Android and Blackberry phones.

WHAT ARE THE INDIAN YOUTH'S PRIORITIES TODAY — A SUCCESSFUL CAREER, A SUAVE LIFE OR HIGHER EDUCATION? WITH THE HELP OF A STRAW POLL CONDUCTED BY EDUCATION TIMES, TIRNA RAY TAKES A PEEK INTO THE YOUNG INDIAN'S PSYCHE

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER



Forget high-profile careers and loads of money. Today, the Indian youth's priorities are higher academics, travelling and lifelong education. In other words, they want to lead a meaningful life rather than get trapped by an all-consuming job and the bait of earning more.

In a recent straw poll conducted by Education Times across India — 18-28 years — around 58% feel that life is more about intellect and being cerebral than about a good job and a high-flying life. The poll was conducted among 150 people in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore and Kolkata (income group: 8-10 lakh per-annum).

Young Indians are convinced that the reason why India is respected internationally is because of its 'knowledge' capital. They feel that over the years Indians have established themselves as the ace intellectual workforce globally. Most are of the opinion that the tradition should be maintained if India has to gradually move towards a knowledge economy.

According to a recent report by Ernst & Young, EDGE 2011, India has the largest higher education systems in the world in terms of the number of institutes. Also, it is the third largest in terms of enrolments, behind China and the US. The report further states that the government has set itself a highly aggressive target of achieving 30% GER by 2020, which translates into an enrolment of 40 million students in the higher education sector.

FIRST CHOICE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Master's: 21%
Phd/post-doc: 18%
Degree courses: 14.5%
Lifelong education: 4.5%

Says Sanjay Chauhan, a 22-year-old software engineer, "Ours is an emerging economy and it will take us time to compete with the developed economies of the world. The only area in which we have an edge over others is higher academics. India has traditionally been known for its grey matter and we should try and exploit it to the best of our ability."

According to recent reports, not less than 13.6 million students are undergoing higher education in India. Says Saborni Chakrabarty, future microbiologist, pursuing her Master's from the University of Calcutta, "Indian students comprise a chunk of international students across the world."

WHY TRAVEL

International exposure: 38%
Gain confidence: 17%
Think global: 18%
Cultural awareness: 12%

In fact, according to the Open Doors report, 2010, published by the Institute of International Education (IIE), with support from the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Indian students represent 15% of all international students in the US higher education, and India is the second leading place of origin.

However, 20% of those surveyed believe that academics alone cannot give India the much needed boost in terms of a strong economy.

They feel that young India, not only need aspiring entrepreneurs and innovators, but also dreamers who want to make it big vis-à-vis the new world order.

According to Sonali Bhatia, who took the IIT-JEE exam recently, "While an academic edge is commendable, we need to equip ourselves with good jobs, corporate profiles and a global exposure. That is what is going to give us the confidence to face a world that is fast-changing and demanding."

In order to cater to this new world, almost 65% of those surveyed agreed, travelling is important to gain a global exposure, assimilate broader cultural elements and become world citizens.

In a world where diversity is emerging as a new phenomenon, says Viren Sharma, 22, a Chennai-based statistician, one can learn a lot in course of visiting different places in the world.

"I want to work, keep studying and travelling. Considering the fact that higher academics globally is becoming job-oriented, a good exposure through travelling coupled with a rigorous academic experience could not only lead India towards a knowledge economy, but also help us to place ourselves in the world map," he concludes.

INDIA NEEDS

Entrepreneurs: 9%
Innovators: 5%
High-profile jobs: 6%

Times of India ND 25/04/2011 p-17

2011 to be landmark yr for IT hiring after 2007

Mini Joseph Tejaswi | TNN

Bangalore: The calendar 2011 is expected to be a landmark year for tech hiring and job movements after 2007 as market visibility improves, global customers step up spending and pipelines remain packed. External head hunters are optimistic of a very bullish trend with hiring requirements going up substantially this year by 60% to 70%, compared to last year's 20% jump over the previous year.

The industry will see around 2 lakh fresh engineering graduates entering the job market this year while another 3 lakh people will move and change jobs within the industry. Also, there will be another over a lakh graduates (BSc com-

FLOODING THE JOB MARKET

- ▶ Hiring requirements to rise by 60% to 70% this year
- ▶ The industry will see 2 lakh fresh engg grads entering the job market
- ▶ Another 3 lakh will change jobs within the industry
- ▶ 1 lakh BSc grads from colleges across the country will also look for jobs



puter science, electronics, and bachelor of computer applications) coming to the market from colleges across the country.

Also, some 50,000 mid-to-senior people are expected to join the IT industry from traditional verticals like manufacturing, auto, oil, telecom and logistics as the sector is

suffering from an acute shortage of senior talent, say industry observers.

The IT/ITES industry employs around 15 lakh people and at least 25% of it that population will be part of a job churn/change this year. "Many people stayed put in organizations for the last three years due to sheer

want of options outside. All in this category are exploring opportunities outside and moving," said B S Murthy, CEO, LeadershipCapital, an IT hiring firm.

So calendar 2011 will witness a net hiring of around 4 lakh people (campus and lateral), against 2 lakh in 2010. Calendar 2009 was the worst year, with less than 1 lakh people getting jobs, with companies going back on their campus commitments and widespread lay-offs. Year 2008 saw a hiring of 2.5 lakh while calendar 2007 was a bumper year that threw up 5 lakh jobs in the market.

"The mood today is very optimistic. Therefore, clearly there is an upsurge in hiring. The intake of IT and retail sector is surely going to more than double this year,"

says K Jayshankar, MD, Empowered Learning Systems. Fresh hiring will be led by domestic players like Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys Technologies and Wipro. Freshers will account for 70% to 80% of their hiring this year while MNCs like IBM, Accenture, HP and Capmini will drive the lateral hiring sector each with an annual mandate of 15,000 to 20,000 people.

According to Nirupama V G, MD, AdAstra Consultants: "The quantum of people requirement from companies has rapidly increased in the last a quarter or so. To meet this requirement, some external hirers were forced to increase the number of their support staff, after maintaining a thin staffline for last three years."

Times of India ND 25/04/2011 P-5

Net tech test aims at 1 lakh, gets 4,904

Manash Pratim Gohain | TNN

New Delhi: The pilot run of the online All India Engineering/Architecture Entrance Examination (AIEEE) has received a lukewarm response with only 4,904 students registering themselves for the Net version while over 11 lakh aspirants will still be going for the traditional mode.

The Central Board for Secondary Education (CBSE), which conducts the exam, was planning to register 1 lakh students for the online version this year. Interestingly, the board is also planning to scale it up to a complete online examination in a year or two.

But CBSE officials are upbeat and said the plans were in place to make it a complete online exam in the near future. "I don't see it as lukewarm. We have created a capacity of 1 lakh, but we are happy with the 5,000-odd registration, primarily because there are registrations from across 20 cities and none of our centres is going vacant. We will see increase in numbers in subsequent years," said CBSE chairman Vineet Joshi.

CBSE officials are of the view that as this is the first time that the exam is going online and most students are comfortable with pen-and-paper-based exams, aspirants are apprehensive of making a shift.

"One should not measure the success of the exam by its number but by its conduct. And we are confident of the smooth conduct of the online exam. These are teething problems, but the success of the CAT is an indication that computer-based test (CBT) is the future," said the media coordinator of CBSE, Rama Sharma.

AIEEE has witnessed a dip in the overall registration this year as well. In all, 11.18 lakh aspirants registered for the test to be conducted on May 1, while in 2010, over 12 lakh students took the exam, making it the world's largest entrance test.

Both the CBT and paper-based tests will be conducted simultaneously across 20 cities and 81 cities, respectively, between 9.30 am and 12.30 pm. The paper-based test will also be conducted in Dubai and Riyadh on the same day.

A common entrance exam for engineering colleges is a good plan, but it will need fine tuning



IT SEEMS engineering entrance exams in India are going the same direction as the medical ones, towards a common, country-wide exam, rather than separate tests for different states and colleges. While the common medical entrance test will be put into practice next year, the idea for a common entrance exam for engineering has been mooted by the T Ramasami committee. At present, prospective engineering students have to sit for a large number of tests at national (eg, BITSAT, AIEEE), state (eg, Karnataka CET, CEE Delhi) and institutional (eg, IIT-JEE, Manipal UGET) levels. In total, there are around 150 different engineering entrance exams to choose from. The rationale behind a common entrance test is "to reduce psychological and financial stress on students and give more emphasis to Class 12 results than coaching," T Ramasami, secretary, Department of Science & Technology, said in the report. This report is the fourth attempt to reform the JEE system since 2008. The first was an internal committee under VG Idichandy of IIT-Madras, who suggested the scrapping of the JEE in favour of using class 12 marks for admission to IIT. In October 2009, the IIT Council proposed increasing the eligibility cut-off from 60% to 80% in the class 12 exams. Then, the Acharya committee was set up, comprising four IIT directors, to suggest JEE reforms. Its recommendations were rejected by the IIT stakeholders, faculty, state board chief, etc.

Of all the recommendations, the Ramasami committee's report seems to make the most sense. It gives more weight to the class 12 board exams, already taken very seriously by all students, and has a standardised, all-India test of aptitude, proficiency and knowledge along the lines of the JEE. However, there's much that it can learn from other entrance systems. For example, in most B-schools, the GMAT exam is no longer enough to secure admission, an interview must be cleared as well. The CAT format keeps changing to keep students on their toes, and put paid to a formulaic approach to cracking the test, something many fear is the case with the JEE.

Non-IIM grads too in demand, pay up 20%

SREERUPA MITRA
Bangalore

IT'S NOT just the graduates of Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) who are reaping the fruits of their labour at campus hiring this season, students from other business schools,

too, have seen good salary hikes. The recruitment season in most management schools in India came to a close over the past few days.

Salaries rose 12-20 per cent at non-IIM B-schools such as Indian School of Business (ISB), XLRI, Loy-

ola Institute of Business Administration (Liba), IMT Ghaziabad, TA Pai Management Institute (Tapmi), Xavier Institute of Management Bhubaneswar (XIMB) and Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT).

Hyderabad-based ISB witnessed an overall rise in

CTC (cost to company) levels across industry segments and functions compared with last year's.

The average compensation offered to lateral hires or professionals with several years of work experience was 2.3 times the average compensation they com-

manded when they joined the school.

This year, the average salary offered was over Rs 18 lakh compared with Rs 16 lakh last year. The number of offers made rose 22 per cent over last year's.

Turn to P10

Non-IIM B-schools are on a roll

From P1

"Our focused approach to get the right companies for right jobs has resulted in better fits, hence higher satisfaction for both recruiters and students and higher CTC levels. We have also witnessed an increase in demand across continents," said VK Menon, senior director for career advancement services at ISB.

This year 310 companies, both national as well as global, made 661 offers to ISB students, many of which were for senior management-level positions. Industries that saw maximum hiring were consulting (32 per cent), IT/ITES

(21 per cent) and banks and financial institutions (12 per cent).

Offers from the consulting sector doubled compared with those made last year.

At Loyola Institute of Business Administration (Liba), Chennai, the average package offered touched Rs 8.33 lakh per annum, a jump of around 12 per cent year on year. Liba director Fr Christie said the institute saw several high-profile placements in the financial sector, mainly in investment banking and treasury banking.

At Liba, marketing functions topped all hirings with 45 per cent students placed for such roles while

finance profiles accounted for 39 per cent and human resources 16 per cent. Banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI) dominated among various industries with 39 per cent placements. Companies that visited the Liba campus included ICICI Bank, Infosys, Cognizant Technology Solutions and Deloitte. YES Bank, KU Learn and Ramco Systems were first time recruiters on Liba campus.

XLRI School of Business and Human Resources, Jamshedpur, also saw encouraging placement trends, with 240 students getting placed in less than four days and 109 firms rolling out 317 offers.

According to college officials, the average domestic package at XLRI School of Business and Human Resources stood at Rs 15.8 lakh, an increase of close to 12 per cent over last year's figure. The median figure for domestic salary touched Rs 14.7 lakh while the highest domestic package was Rs 23 lakh per annum.

Institute of Management Technology (IMT) Ghaziabad saw students bag an average salary package of Rs 9.3 lakh, a substantial jump over last year's and almost matching pre-recession levels.

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Harvard's alumni meet: Marking the 375th foundation day of Harvard University, a stream of eminent Indian alumni, including Union telecom minister Kapil Sibal and former foreign secretary Lalit Mansingh, launched the 'Harvard India Debates' series in New Delhi on Sunday. Lending a fillip to the ongoing celebrations at Harvard, the series is an innovative initiative by the Harvard Club of India. ANI

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YOUNG INNOVATORS

Nine Indian students from different parts of the country will represent India at the 2011 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) to be held in Los Angeles, California, from May 8-13. The students are the winners of the India Initiative for Research & Innovation in Science (IRIS). The primary objective of IRIS is to promote and nurture science and scientific research amongst the young Indian innovators in secondary and higher secondary schools. The ISEF will bring together more than 1600 young students from more than 60 countries. ISEF 2011 is an opportunity for the young minds to come together to share ideas, showcase projects and compete for more than US \$4 million in awards and scholarships.

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DU panel makes way for courses in semester mode

HT Correspondent

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NEW DELHI: In a meeting of its standing committee, the University of Delhi on Sunday passed most courses under the semester system to be presented in the academic council (AC) and executive council (EC) meetings to be held on Monday.

The courses that were passed by the standing committee will be presented before the AC and EC, which are the highest decision making bodies of the university.

However, a few members of the AC, who were present for the standing committee meeting, condemned the fact that all the meetings were convened at short notices.

"I got a call at 10pm about the meeting today. It is impossible for anyone to go through the course content so quickly and give their inputs. The aim of the meeting becomes futile if we are not able to give our inputs," said Sanjay Verma, an AC member who teaches history at Kirorimal College.

Pointing to the hurried nature of the meeting, Sheo

It is impossible for anyone to go through the content so quickly ... aim of the meeting becomes futile if we are not able to give our inputs.

SANJAY VERMA,
AC member

Dutt, another AC member and a teacher at Bhagat Singh college, said: "There has to be a minimum days of notice given to the members for meetings, but the university is in such a hurry to pass the courses under the semester mode that they have abandoned all norms."

Sources said that the varsity wanted to pass the courses for the semester system before April 28, when a petition related to semester is due for a hearing in the Delhi high court.

Regarding courses such as English, Germanic romance studies, history, sociology and economics, whose teachers were resistant to the switch from the annual system, university will take a call only after the high court hearing.

कारोबारी शिक्षा

गूगल-यू ट्यूब खंगालें, पाठ्य सामग्री पालें

विनय उमराजी

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों (आईआईटी) का उद्यम एनटीपीईएल अपने दूसरे चरण में विज्ञान और मानविकी पाठ्यक्रमों को भी शामिल करेगा। इस साल के अंत तक विज्ञान और मानविकी के छात्र भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों की बंदौलत गूगल और यू ट्यूब से पाठ्य सामग्री प्राप्त करने में सक्षम हो जाएंगे।

आईआईटी और इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ साइंस, बेंगलुरु का उद्यम नैशनल प्रोग्राम ऑन टेक्नोलॉजी इन्हास्ट लर्निंग (एनपीटीईएल) देश के अभियांत्रिकी छात्रों के लिए जल्द ही विज्ञान और मानविकी की पाठ्य सामग्री का डिजाइन तैयार करेगा। गूगल और यू ट्यूब के जरिये भी यही पाठ्य सामग्री मुहैया कराए जाएंगे। ये पाठ्यक्रम मुफ्त में उपलब्ध कराई जाएगी। एनपीटीईएल पहले ही गूगल और यू ट्यूब पर अभियांत्रिकी का पाठ्यक्रम मुफ्त मुहैया करा रहा है। एनपीटीईएल की शुरुआत अमेरिका में एमआईटी के ओपन कोर्सवेयर की ही तर्ज पर हुई है।

आईआईटी-मद्रास के राष्ट्रीय वेब पाठ्यक्रम समन्वयक सुंदर कृष्णन कहते हैं, 'पहले चरण में हमने अभियांत्रिकी में 300 विभिन्न पाठ्यक्रम शुरू किए हैं और दूसरे



चरण में हम विज्ञान और मानविकी के पाठ्यक्रम भी शुरू करेंगे।' भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान विषय-वस्तु तैयार करने के लिए अन्य 30 अभियांत्रिकी महाविद्यालयों की सेवाएं ले रहे हैं। देश में करीब 600 अभियांत्रिकी संस्थान एनपीटीईएल द्वारा तैयार पाठ्य सामग्री का इस्तेमाल करते आ रहे हैं।

कृष्णन कहते हैं 'अभियांत्रिकी महाविद्यालयों के बाद दूसरे चरण के तहत हम देश के सभी तकनीकी विश्वविद्यालयों को इस जद में लाने पर विचार कर रहे हैं। पाठ्य सामग्री टेक्स्ट और वीडियो के रूप में लेक्चर फॉर्मेट में अपलोड किए गए हैं। हम चरणबद्ध तरीके से लगातार इन सामग्रियों में नई चीजें

जोड़ते रहते हैं।' भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान गूगल और यू ट्यूब पर अभियांत्रिकी पाठ्यक्रम लाने के बाद दूसरे चरण के तहत 2012 तक 900 अतिरिक्त पाठ्यक्रम जोड़ने के प्रयास में जुटे हैं। कृष्णन के अनुसार पिछले साल अखिल भारतीय तकनीकी शिक्षा परिषद (एआईसीटीई) ने अभियांत्रिकी संस्थानों के लिए बुनियादी विज्ञान और अभियांत्रिकी पाठ्यक्रम का इस्तेमाल अनिवार्य कर दिया है।

एनपीटीईएल ने परियोजना के पहले चरण के तहत 250 पाठ्यक्रम तैयार किए हैं। ये सभी पाठ्यक्रम 4,500 घंटों के लिए मुफ्त में ऑनलाइन उपलब्ध हैं।

आईआईटी और इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ साइंस, बेंगलुरु का उद्यम एनपीटीईएल देश के अभियांत्रिकी छात्रों के लिए जल्द ही विज्ञान और मानविकी की पाठ्य सामग्री का डिजाइन तैयार करेगा। गूगल और यू ट्यूब के जरिये भी यही पाठ्य सामग्री मुहैया कराई जाएगी। ये पाठ्यक्रम मुफ्त में उपलब्ध कराए जाएंगे।

कोई भी कहीं से भी इन पाठ्यक्रमों (वेब और वीडियो दोनों) तक पहुंच सकता है। इस बारे में कृष्णन कहते हैं, 'पेशेवर इनका इस्तेमाल कर अपने ज्ञान में इजाफा कर सकते हैं। एनपीटीईएल की विषय-वस्तु का इस्तेमाल करते हुए मुक्त और दूरस्थ शिक्षा भारतीय तकनीकी संस्थानों के लिए लंबी अवधि के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हो सकती है।'

इतना ही नहीं यू ट्यूब पर 5,000 घंटों का वीडियो अपलोड करने के बाद एनपीटीईएल के तहत पाठ्य सामग्री को देखने वाले लोगों की संख्या 4 करोड़ की संख्या को पार कर चुकी है। 96 करोड़ रुपये में से लगभग 50 फीसदी रकम

मानव संसाधन एवं विकास मंत्रालय पहले ही जारी कर चुका है और 2012 तक परियोजना के तहत अतिरिक्त 15,000-20,000 घंटों के लिए वीडियो भी अपलोड किए जाएंगे। कृष्णन ने कहा कि बाकी अनुदान भी निकट भविष्य में जारी किया जाएगा जिससे 2012 तक हमें अतिरिक्त पाठ्य सामग्री अपलोड करने में सक्षम होंगे।

एनपीटीईएल की शुरुआत करीब चार साल पहले देश में अभियांत्रिकी शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता बढ़ाने के उद्देश्य से हुई थी। इसके तहत पाठ्यक्रम आधारित वीडियो एवं वेब पाठ्यक्रम तैयार किए जाने की व्यवस्था दी गई है। कुल 15 संस्थानों में से सात भारतीय तकनीकी संस्थान, इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ साइंस और अन्य अभियांत्रिकी संस्थानों ने इस उद्यम को आगे बढ़ाने में सहयोग दिया है। मुफ्त विश्वविद्यालय पाठ्यक्रम मुहैया कराने में भारतीय तकनीकी संस्थानों को बेहतरीन संस्थान घोषित किया गया है। आईआईटी मद्रास आधिकारिक रूप से इस उद्यम का काम-काज देखता है और सरकारी सहायता से चलने वाले संस्थानों को वेब विषय-वस्तु का वितरण करता है। एनपीटीईएल परियोजना को 2009 से फंड नैशनल मिशन ऑन एजुकेशन थ्रू इन्फॉर्मेशन एंड कम्युनिकेशन टेक्नोलॉजी (एनएमईआईसीटी) से मिलता है।

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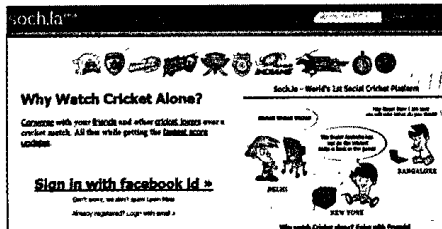
तीन छात्रों ने मिलकर बनाई क्रिकेट के लिए वेबसाइट, हर गेंद पर कर सकते हैं चर्चा

आईआईटी के छात्रों की नेटवर्किंग की गुगली

नई दिल्ली | अनुराग मिश्र

अब आप फेसबुक की तर्ज पर ही क्रिकेट मैचों के बारे में आप अपनी राय देने के साथ-साथ उस पर बहस भी कर सकेंगे। इस पर मैच के दौरान एक-एक गेंद पर डिस्कस कर सकेंगे। आईआईटी दिल्ली के तीन छात्रों कपिल, मानस गर्ग और प्रदीप चोपड़ा ने मिलकर **soch.la** नाम की एक सोशल नेटवर्किंग साइट बनाई है। इस साइट का दावा है कि यह दुनिया में क्रिकेट का पहला सोशल प्लेटफॉर्म है।

फेसबुक और ट्विटर से जुड़े इस सोशल क्रिकेट नेटवर्किंग साइट पर चल रहे वर्ल्ड कप मैच के हर क्षण पर हजारों लोग अपने विचार रख सकते हैं और एक दूसरे से चैट कर सकते हैं। डिजिटल मार्केटिंग फर्म डिजिटल विद्या द्वारा लॉन्च यह वेबसाइट लाइव स्कोर, खिलाड़ी और टीम अपडेट भी करता रहता है।



साइट के सह-संस्थापक और आईआईटी छात्र प्रदीप चोपड़ा का कहना है कि क्रिकेट एक ऐसा खेल है जिसका परिवार और दोस्त मिलकर सबसे ज्यादा लुक उठाते हैं। **soch.la** साइट क्रिकेट फैंस को एक प्लेटफॉर्म पर आने का मौका देता है ताकि लोग एक साथ अपनी टीम को हौसला बढ़ा सकें। इस वेबसाइट में भी ट्विटर की तरह फॉलोअर्स और फॉलोइंग विकल्प है। फेसबुक की तरह

पोस्ट डालने की सुविधा भी है। एक आईटी कंपनी के सीईओ और क्रिकेट फैन आनंद पुरोहित बताते हैं कि एक मैच के दौरान **soch.la** लॉग ऑन करने के बाद ऐसा पहली बार हुआ कि मैंने मैच टीवी पर नहीं देखा। इस वेबसाइट से अनजान मेरी पत्नी ने साइट पर लोगों से अपनी बात शेयर करते हुए मुझे मुस्कुराते देखा और पूछा कि तुम आज मैच क्यों नहीं देख रहे हो?



कपिल



प्रदीप चोपड़ा

सह-संस्थापक प्रदीप चोपड़ा ने बताया कि यह साइट मेरे आईआईटी के कुछ छात्रों के साथ खेल खेल में बनाया गया, चूंकि हम सब यह सोच रहे थे कि आखिर वर्ल्ड कप को कैसे और रोचक बनाया जा सकता है। हम हमेशा से इस कोशिश में लगे होते हैं कि कैसे हम कोई उपयोगी चीज खुद के लिए तैयार करें। इसके बाद ही हम दूसरों के लिए इसे उपलब्ध कराते हैं। यह समय हमारे लिए काफी उपयोगी रहा क्योंकि हमें क्रिकेट के बहाने अपने जुनून को पूरा करने का मौका मिल गया। फिलहाल **soch.la** पर सिर्फ फेसबुक यूजर के लिए ही

एफएमएस की प्लेसमेंट हॉलीडे नीति

दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के फैकल्टी ऑफ मैनेजमेंट स्टडीज (एफएमएस) ने प्लेसमेंट हॉलीडे नीति शुरू की है। इस नीति के तहत छात्रों के अंदर छिपी उद्यमी क्षमता को नया आयाम देने के साथ-साथ उन्हें प्रोत्साहित करना है। इसमें छात्र को अपना कारोबार शुरू करने की हूट दी जाएगी और अगर उनका कारोबार नहीं चलता है तो कोर्स खत्म होने के अगले दो साल तक वह प्लेसमेंट प्रक्रिया में हिस्सा ले सकते हैं। एफएमएस के डीन कुरियाकोज ममकोट्टम का कहना है कि इस नीति के मुताबिक इच्छुक छात्र प्लेसमेंट प्रक्रिया में हिस्सा न लेने के लिए स्वतंत्र हैं।

उपलब्ध है। इसके लिए फेसबुक वाले यूजर नेम और पासवर्ड डालकर ही खुद को रजिस्टर किया जा सकता है। **डीयू में हैं इनक्यूबेशन सेंटर** छात्रों की उद्यमिता को निखारने और उन्हें बेहतर उद्यमी बनाने के लिहाज से डीयू के शहीद सुखदेव कॉलेज ऑफ बिजनेस स्टडीज में पहले ही इनक्यूबेशन सेंटर बनाए गए हैं। इन इनक्यूबेशन सेंटर का

मकसद यह है कि छात्र स्वरोजगार करें और उनके अंदर छिपी उद्यमिता को पहचानें। दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय में स्नातक स्तर पर पहली बार शुरू की गई है। इनक्यूबेशन सेंटर छात्रों को अकाउंटिंग और फाइनेंसियल मैनेजमेंट, बैंक लोन प्रदान करने, लोन की फंडिंग करने और शर्टी प्रोग्राम में सहायता करता है। इसके अलावा इस सेंटर द्वारा कांफ्रिहेंसिव बिजनेस ट्रेनिंग प्रोग्राम भी चलाए जाते हैं।