

Newspaper Clips

April 3, 2013

HT Indore

PANEL GIVES 'CLEAN CHIT' TO IIM-I DIRECTOR

INDORE: The committee that was formed by the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development on the direction of the MP high court to investigate the allegations of financial, academic and administrative irregularities against N Ravichandran, the director of the Indian Institute of Management, Indore, (IIM-I) has reportedly given a clean chit to him on the charge of financial irregularities.

According to a highly placed source, there has not been much evidence to establish the charge of financial irregularities and prima facie it looked like the allegations have been dropped completely. The committed submitted the report to the ministry a month ago; however, there has not been any action on the report till date.

HTC

Hindustan Times ND 03/04/2013

P-7

IIT Roorkee seeks ₹2 cr fee for Yamuna restoration plan

Bhadra Sinha

■ bhadra.sinha@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee has sought six months and ₹2 crore as consultancy charges to prepare a complete plan for the restoration of Yamuna river. The Supreme Court had in December, last year, asked the directors of IIT, Delhi and Roorkee to prepare a new project for cleaning the Yamuna.

In response to the SC order, the Ministry of Environment and Forest constituted a committee following which IIT, Roorkee submitted a conceptual plan to clean the river. The Ministry has submitted the plan before SC along with an affidavit informing the court about IIT's demand for consultancy charges.

In its conceptual plan, IIT Roorkee has suggested construction of a parallel drain along the right bank of river Yamuna from Wazirabad bar-

rage to Okhla barrage joining the Agra canal. This drain shall intercept effluents from all the drains and divert to Agra canal directly after due treatment. As per the plan, the envisaged parallel drain will also be equipped to release storm water during the monsoon.

It has also been suggested to enhance storage of rain water in the river. The necessary storage capacity may be obtained either through the existing barrage or by constructing a new one. For the improvement of sewerage system, the plan advises preparation of comprehensive GIS and data-based complete sewage system including other sewer lines, pumping stations, outfall, interceptors and storm water drains.

The proposed plan will soon be considered by SC that has on several occasions expressed displeasure at civic bodies' failure to clean the Yamuna.

Amar Ujala ND 3/04/2013 P10

यमुना सफाई योजना को आईआईटी ने मांगा परामर्श शुल्क

पर्यावरण मंत्रालय ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट को बताया, आईआईटी ने की है 2 करोड़ रुपये की मांग

● पीयूष पांडेय

नई दिल्ली। मैली यमुना को साफ करने के नाम पर पैसा बर्बाद करने के नाम पर जहां सुप्रीम कोर्ट कई बार खफा हो चुका है। वहीं मंगलवार को पर्यावरण मंत्रालय ने सर्वोच्च अदालत से कहा है कि आईआईटी रुड़की ने यमुना की सफाई के लिए एक नई योजना तैयार करने के लिए छह माह का वक्त और परामर्श शुल्क के रूप में दो करोड़ रुपये मांगे हैं। शीर्षस्थ अदालत ने ही दिसंबर में निर्देश दिया था कि आईआईटी दिल्ली और रुड़की नदी की सफाई के लिए एक नई योजना तैयार करे।

सर्वोच्च अदालत में दाखिल किए गए हलफनामे में मंत्रालय ने कहा है कि समिति गठित करने की तैयारी के दौर में आईआईटी रुड़की ने केंद्रीय



शीर्षस्थ अदालत ने दिसंबर में आईआईटी दिल्ली और रुड़की को यमुना की सफाई के लिए एक नई योजना तैयार करने का दिया था निर्देश

प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड (सीपीसीबी) को एक मेल भेजा है। इसमें उन्होंने नदी की सफाई की अवधारित योजना के बारे में जानकारी दी है। मंत्रालय ने कहा कि पूरी योजना को तैयार करने से पहले आईआईटी की ओर से परामर्श शुल्क मांगा गया है। आईआईटी ने अवधारित योजना में सलाह दी है कि यमुना के समांतर वजीराबाद से ओखला बैराज तक एक नाला बनाया जाए, जो आगरा

कैनल से जुड़ता है। इस नाले में सभी नालों को मिलाया जाए और आगरा कैनल में सीधे तौर पर उपचार के लिए भेजा जाए। साथ ही इस नाले के जरिए मानसून में आने वाले तेज पानी के बहाव को भी छोड़ा जाए। आईआईटी ने यह सलाह भी दी है कि बारिश के पानी को एकत्र करने की क्षमता को बढ़ाया जाए। जरूरत पड़ने पर क्षमता को बढ़ाने के लिए मौजूदा के अलावा नए बैराज का निर्माण भी

किया जाए। सीवेज तंत्र को बेहतर करने के लिए आईआईटी ने सलाह दी है कि व्यापक तौर पर डाटा स्तर पर तकनीकी तंत्र तैयार किया जाए, जिसमें अन्य सीवर लाइनों, पंपिंग स्टेशनों और पानी के बहाव के नालों की देखरेख हो सके। इसके अलावा संबंधित एजेंसियों को मास्टर प्लान के लिए तैयार करना चाहिए ताकि मौजूदा सीवेज तंत्र में सुधार किया जाए। सर्वोच्च अदालत इस प्रस्तावित योजना पर जल्द विचार करेगा क्योंकि नागरिक निकायों की नदी को साफ करने में विफल रहने पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने आईआईटी को इसमें शामिल किया है। दो दशकों में यमुना की सफाई में 1200 करोड़ रुपये से भी ज्यादा खर्च को लेकर अदालत कई बार कड़ी नाराजगी जता चुकी है, लेकिन नदी की हालत जस की तस है।

Hindustan Times ND 03/04/2013 p-1 (ht education)

'Amazed at the response'

Saving lives matters

The idea of a helpline, BloodConnect, started when Nitin Garg got a request for blood from a friend. "Going from one hostel door to another, finding donors to help, I was amazed to see such a positive response from all the students. This made me realise that we needed a proper channel for students to participate in such causes and help others. That is when BloodConnect as an online helpline started. Later on we brought about a lot of changes in our model, our plan of action, to tackle the problem of blood shortage. However, it all began for me with a

helpline request," he says.

Utkarsh Kawatra was "roped in" by Garg for the helpline through the NSS wing of IIT Delhi. "We met some experienced people working in the field of blood donation and realised that a helpline is not a permanent solution. The problem of blood shortage in the blood banks is not addressed by a helpline. Need-based emergency demands will automatically end if there is enough blood in the bank. With this thought, we decided to focus on blood donation camps as well. IIT came first and soon other colleges joined in for this cause.

HOW CAN SUCH AN INITIATIVE HELP?

The founder and co-founder of BloodConnect talk about how students benefit from the movement

- **Making true impact:** Before BloodConnect, some colleges did not even organise blood donation camps. Now young people come forward and realise the impact they have. They spend 20 minutes and save three to four lives!
- **Quick helpline:** Recently there was a blood request from a college where we organise regular camps. There was a need of quite a lot of blood units and their family could not arrange much. They quickly guided the person needing help to a BloodConnect volun-

teer who in turn helped them out

- **Building relations with other colleges:** BloodConnect makes it easier for students from social service/ NSS wings of colleges to coordinate and work on other aspects as well



Nitin Garg (left) and Utkarsh Kawatra



Time to celebrate: BloodConnect members celebrated three years at the India Habitat Centre recently

MAKING TIME FOR A CAUSE

It's not easy to study and take time out for volunteer work. Since we are supposed to handle calls 24x7, I plan my day very carefully. When I walk from my hostel to my department at IIT-D, I use that time to talk to donors or volunteers. If I know I am busy with a presentation, I call up another BloodConnect member and ask him or her to take over in my absence. If your commitment levels are high, you can find time for anything

Sumant Chinthala, BloodConnect member

A bunch of young students from Delhi are making great efforts to push blood donation drives. Ayesha Banerjee meets up with them

When her husband was brought to Delhi from Kolkata and admitted to the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS), Medha (name changed to protect privacy), did not know what had hit her. Largely dependent on her husband and struggling with limited finances, she felt her world falling apart when doctors asked her to arrange for blood for her husband's liver transplant. Worried sick about his illness and unable to figure out how to get more than 10 units of blood for such critical surgery, Medha also found herself completely alone in a new city with no support. She knew professional donors would charge money for such a precious resource. Then a doctor informed her about BloodConnect, an initiative managed entirely by the students of the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi

(IIT-D), Delhi University and IP University. "The moment we heard from Medha, we flashed an emergency call to our members and in a couple of hours 22 people had turned up at ILBS to donate blood," says Sumanth Chinthala, a PhD scholar at the civil engineering department of IIT-D, and an active member of BloodConnect.

Medha's husband life was saved, thanks to timely intervention by this youth initiative launched exactly three years ago by IIT-D students Nitin Garg and Utkarsh Kwatra, as part of the National Service Scheme (NSS), the students' community programme.

Garg, now a mobile engineer in the US and Kwatra, now in his final year, mathematics and computing, wanted to do "something different". They decided to get into blood donation activities after the IIT-D NSS team kept getting constant requests for

blood from hospitals in the Capital. Chinthala, who was then studying for a masters remembers how they contacted members of their hostels and cobbled together a database of donors and pushed friends to go to the hospitals on weekends to donate blood.

Soon, a helpline was set up and the IIT students started reaching out to Delhi University and its colleges for expanding their reach. "Our aim was to ensure that blood-banks were not exhausted. For camps we tied up with hospitals such as the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Deen Dayal Upadhyay, Safdarjung, Ram Manohar Lohia, AIIMS Trauma, the Red Cross and Army Hospital," says Chinthala.

Today, BloodConnect has a team of 30 individuals across seven colleges volunteering up to 200 hours a week. They include students from Jesus and Mary College, Miranda

House, Sri Venkateswara College, Hans Raj College and IP University. NGOs helping them include Sapna and CanSupport. BloodConnect has organised 6000 voluntary donations through 57 blood donation camps and helped save over 15,000 lives (with 3000 donations last year). Members have reached out to over 40,000 people through activities such as street plays and awareness sessions.

Shweta Veeravalli, a student of economics at Jesus and Mary and a BloodConnect member, says she tries to get students to volunteer for camps. They do not have resources, offices or rooms and depend on just ₹2500 given to them after each camp by the Delhi State Aids Control Society.

f Talk to us

Fighting for a cause? Tell us about it on facebook.com/htedu or write to ayasha.banerjee@hindustantimes.com

Economic Times ND 3/04/2013 P6

IIMs Asked to Submit Views on New Bill Within Two Weeks

IIM-A has reservations on the proposal to do away with the society system, representation on board

OUR BUREAU
NEW DELHI

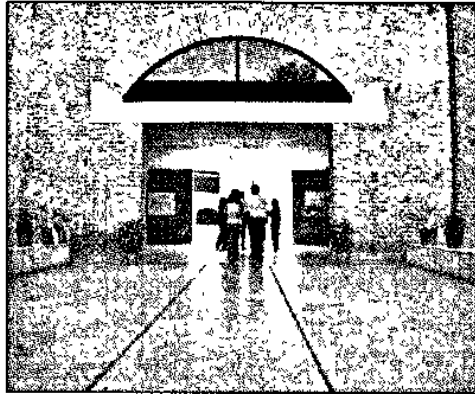
A final decision on the proposed Indian Institutes of Management Bill, which would give business schools the power to grant degrees, has been postponed by a fortnight.

Human resources development minister MM Pallam Raju, who chaired a meeting with the chairpersons and directors of the IIMs, said at the end of the day, "the meeting was productive and there was consensus on all the matters. There are some minor outstanding issues on the IIM Bill, but on the whole, there is consensus."

The institutes have been asked to revert with their comments on the proposed legislation while the outstanding issues will be worked out over the next 15 days.

"The draft law is a work-in-progress. We are supposed to revert with our comments in two weeks. Each chairman and director put across views and concerns at today (Tuesday)'s meeting," an IIM director said.

The erosion of autonomy has been a major issue, for IIM Ahmedabad in par-



CORRIDOR OF DISSENT

ticular. IIM-A has been a vocal opponent of the proposed law. At Monday's meeting, both the institute's director and chairman AM Naik reiterated their concern.

The IIMs were set up as societies under the Societies Registration Act. The proposed bill does away with the system of societies. Instead it proposes each institute will draw its powers from an Act of Parliament.

IIM-A in particular is concerned as it has traditionally used the IIM society to accommodate big donors. The institute has consistently argued that it is not interested in having the power to grant degrees, and would rather stick to the current system. Naik is understood to have also raised the issue of giving members of the IIM-A society due representation on the board of governors. IIM Bangalore has articulated a similar concern.

In a spirit of compromise, the ministry agreed to accommodate the concerns of

both the IIMs by allowing some members of the societies to be accommodated in the boards. There is some difference of opinion on the number of members that could be accommodated.

While discussions were held on implementing reservation policies in hiring faculty, it was agreed that more discussions are required. "We have a three-four stage process of hiring. And while we have a positive bias to ensure that the reservation criteria is met and the law is observed, all faculty members must meet a certain minimum criteria," an IIM official said.

The ministry has already reworked the proposal of an overarching pan-IIM Council to make it more acceptable for the institutes. The proposed IIM Co-ordination Forum will be a co-ordination body for the exchange of ideas, without any effective powers unlike the IIT Council. "What we have worked out is the formalisation of the current informal system by which IIM chairmen and directors interact with the HRD minister and officials," an IIM director involved in the drafting process explained.

In its original formulation, the council would "deliberate on matters of common interest, review achievement of policy objectives and make reports on each institute and recommend appropriate action that will be acted on by the government". It was to have 50 members, with a huge preponderance of government officials. The reworked proposal has reduced government representation.

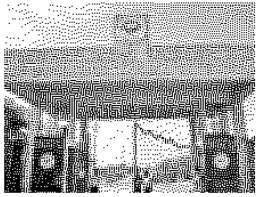
Dainik Bhaskar Bhopal 02-04-2013 P-2

राजधानी में इस साल शुरू होगा आईआईआईटी

तकनीकी शिक्षा फिलहाल आरजीपीवी परिसर में संचालित होगा इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इंफॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी

नगर संवाददाता | भोपाल

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय द्वारा संचालित इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इंफॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी (आईआईआईटी) राजधानी में नए शैक्षणिक सत्र 2013-14 से शुरू हो जाएगा। फिलहाल इंस्टीट्यूट के लिए



भवन नहीं होने से इसे राजीव गांधी प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय के परिसर में संचालित किया जाएगा। इधर, राज्य सरकार ने ग्राम बरखेड़ा नाथू में 50 एकड़ जमीन चिह्नित कर इसकी सूचना केंद्र सरकार को दे दी है।

इंस्टीट्यूट की स्थापना में 128 करोड़ रुपए की लागत आने का अनुमान है। इसमें से 60 फीसदी राशि केंद्र सरकार देगी जबकि शेष 40 फीसदी राशि राज्य सरकार मिलाएगी। राज्य सरकार की ओर से 20 करोड़ रुपए खनिज विकास निगम ने

देने का फैसला किया है। हालांकि अब भी राज्य सरकार को करीब 30 करोड़ रुपए देने होंगे।

पिछले दिनों मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय की ओर से एक पत्र राज्य सरकार को मिला था। इसमें नए शैक्षणिक सत्र 2013-14 से कोर्स शुरू करने की मंशा जताई गई थी। इसके बाद अस्थाई तौर पर आरजीपीवी परिसर में इसे संचालित करने का निर्णय लिया गया। इसका मॉडल इंस्टीट्यूट कानपुर आईआईटी रहेगा।

एडमिशन में हो सकता है कोटा

हाल ही में हुई खनिज विकास निगम की बैठक में इंस्टीट्यूट की स्थापना के लिए 20 करोड़ रुपए देने का फैसला किया गया। निगम के अध्यक्ष रामेश्वर शर्मा ने बताया कि यदि इसमें एडमिशन का कोटा निर्धारित किया जाता है तो इस राशि के एवज में निगम का भी एडमिशन कोटा रहेगा। वैसे भी राजधानी के लिए इस इंस्टीट्यूट का खोला जाना गौरव की बात है। लिहाजा निगम की ओर से यह राशि दी गई है।

दो साल से चल रही थी कवायद

केंद्र सरकार ने दो साल पहले प्रदेश में आईआईआईटी खोलने की मंशा जताई थी। हालांकि यह राज्य सरकार को तय करना था कि यह संस्थान किस शहर में खोला जाए। इसे लेकर भोपाल, इंदौर और ज्वालियर के जनप्रतिनिधियों में लंबे समय से खींचतान चल रही थी। अंततः राज्य सरकार ने इस इंस्टीट्यूट को भोपाल में ही खोलने का फैसला किया।

आरजीपीवी ने दी स्वीकृति

■ राज्य सरकार की ओर से अस्थायी तौर पर आईआईआईटी संचालित करने के लिए जगह मांगी गई थी। इसकी स्वीकृति दे दी गई है। इसके लिए यूनिवर्सिटी परिसर में करीब 20 हजार वर्गफीट में बनी बिल्डिंग दी गई है। इसके अलावा यदि यूनिवर्सिटी की लैब की सुविधा मांगी जाएगी तो वह भी दी जाएगी।”
डॉ. पीयूष त्रिवेदी, कुलपति, आरजीपीवी



* A view of the IIM-Calcutta campus. IIM-C is one of the most coveted B-schools anywhere in the country.

FILE PHOTO

IIM THE AIM WHILE BELLING THE CAT

SURVEY 64% took the test with sole intention of making it to the country's top B-schools

HT Correspondent
writes@hindustantimes.com

KOLKATA: A survey carried out by Prometric, which conducts the Common Admission Test (CAT) every year on behalf of the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), has revealed that 64% of the examinees took the CAT with the aim of getting into one of India's 13 IIMs.

The key findings from the recent survey conducted at the end of the CAT 2012 indicated that the mean satisfaction level among surveyed candidates was above 92%. More than 64,000 students participated in the survey.

Candidates were also surveyed with regard to key influences behind their decisions on CAT. At 64%, a majority of the respondents stated that their main reason for taking the test was to apply to the Indian Institutes of Management, while 90% said they would consider taking the test twice if that option was made available.

Prometric also revealed that a vast majority of CAT candidates were well adapted to the computer-based format of the prestigious management admission test. The detailed feedback is being analysed by Prometric and will form part of the inputs for the CAT



programme's continuous improvement process.

As IIM's partner in developing and delivering the CAT since 2009, Prometric has continued to review and improve the exam's processes to provide the best candidate experience. Intended as an objective way of getting direct feedback from candidates, Prometric designed its survey to include demographic, multiple-choice, rating scales and open-ended questions.

"The IIMs have entrusted Prometric to deliver a consistent and fair testing experience to all CAT candidates," Soumitra Roy, managing director, Prometric India, said. "We conducted

this survey to get honest feedback from candidates and are delighted to have received such a positive validation of the quality of our service. We will continue to learn and improve every year."

The survey measured satisfaction levels in nine areas of the candidate experience, including pre-exam information, the registration process, candidate care support and test navigation and functionality. Candidates were asked to rate each area on a five-point scale, ranging from 'Very Satisfactory' to 'Very Unsatisfactory'. Seven out of the nine areas received satisfactory ratings from an overwhelming majority (89%-98%) of respondents, while the

remaining two areas received more than 85%, making the mean satisfaction level across all areas above 92%. While a small percentage (7-9%) of the survey respondents had not made use of the preparatory material on the CAT website, a large majority (89-91%) found the practice test and test-day video to be useful in familiarising themselves with the navigation and functionality of the actual test, as well as the test-day procedures.

The majority of respondents (68%) said they had taken the CAT for the first time in 2012. Of those who had taken the CAT previously, 83% found their experience to be either more satisfactory or similar to their last experience.

The survey was administered through a third-party online survey tool. Prometric distributed the email link to candidates after the end of the CAT 2012 testing window, and a total of 64,575 respondents completed the online questionnaire over a period of three weeks.

The CAT is conducted by the IIMs as a prerequisite for admission to the various management programmes offered by each of the institutes. Prometric Testing Private Limited (Prometric India) delivers more than 650,000 examinations annually through a network of close to 450 testing centres.

HT Mumbai

High court notice to UGC on college teachers' strike

HT Correspondent

■ htmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: The Bombay high court on Tuesday issued notices to University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Union ministry of human resources and development in response to a public interest litigation (PIL) that has challenged the boycott called by teachers, who have decided not to assess TYBCom answer sheets until their demands are met.

The ministry and UGC will have to submit their replies at the next case hearing; the case has been adjourned till April 16.

The petition filed by the Akhil Bhartiya Vidhyarthi Parishad (ABVP), the BJP's student wing,

has pointed out that last year too there had been a similar situation. The petitioners' advocate, Uday Warunjikar, argued that the matter was has not been solved this year too.

The Maharashtra Federation of University Colleges Teachers' Association has called for boycott until teachers are paid salaries as recommended by the Sixth Pay Commission.

Warunjikar contended that the teachers have made several representations to the government, but the state has not yet acted.

The petition urges that teachers should sort out their differences with the government without jeopardising the future of lakhs of students.