

National Duniya ND 12/08/2012

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# राष्ट्रपति की मंजूरी के बिना कर दी आईआईटी निदेशक की नियुक्ति की घोषणा

नई दिल्ली (ब्यूरो)। केंद्र सरकार और राष्ट्रपति की मंजूरी के बिना ही आईआईटी कानपुर के नए निदेशक के नाम की आईआईटी बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स (बीओजी) की घोषणा से केंद्र सरकार नाराज है। जबकि संबंधित फाइल अभी सीवीसी की मंजूरी के लिए भेजी गई है और सीवीसी क्लियरेंस मिलने के बाद मंत्रालय इसे मंजूरी के लिए राष्ट्रपति भवन भेजेगा। इसलिए इस घोषणा को मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय भी नियमों के विपरीत मान रहा है। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल का कहना है कि जब तक राष्ट्रपति मंजूर नहीं करते, ऐसी घोषणा नहीं की जा सकती। नेशनल दुनिया से बातचीत में सिब्बल ने कहा कि वह इस मामले की पूरी जानकारी लेंगे।

गौरतलब है कि आईआईटी कानपुर के निदेशक संजय गोविंद धांडे का कार्यकाल पूरा होने के बाद नए निदेशक की नियुक्ति की प्रक्रिया चल रही है। लेकिन चार अगस्त को हुई बीओजी की बैठक में बीओजी के अध्यक्ष एवं निदेशक की नियुक्ति पैनल के सदस्य एम.आनंद कृष्णन ने इंद्रनील मन्ना को नया निदेशक बनाने की घोषणा करके नया विवाद खड़ा कर दिया। मन्ना आईआईटी खड़गपुर में प्रोफेसर हैं। इस घोषणा से निदेशक पद के दावेदारों में रोष व्याप्त हो गया है। उनका कहना है कि जब तक राष्ट्रपति किसी नाम को मंजूरी नहीं देते तब तक

■ आईआईटी, कानपुर के बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स के अध्यक्ष का कारनामा

■ मामले की पूरी जानकारी लेंगे सिब्बल

घोषणा कैसे की जा सकती है। बीओजी अध्यक्ष एम आनंद कृष्णन भी आईआईटी खड़गपुर से ही हैं। निदेशक नियुक्ति के लिए गठित किए गए पैनल के अन्य सदस्यों में विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग के उपाध्यक्ष वेद प्रकाश, एआईसीटीई के अध्यक्ष एस.एस.मंथा, इंफोसिस के गोपाल कृष्णन आदि शामिल हैं। आईआईटी कानपुर के निदेशक की दौड़ में पीएम की वैज्ञानिक सलाकार परिषद के सदस्य व आईआईएसआर भोपाल के प्रो. विनोद कुमार सिंह का नाम काफी आगे चल रहा था। इसके अलावा कई और वरिष्ठ शिक्षाविद इस दौड़ में थे। लेकिन सूत्रों का कहना है कि चयन समिति की बैठक में सिंह और दूसरे नामों पर विचार किए बिना ही मन्ना के नाम पर मुहर लगाकर उसे सीवीसी की मंजूरी के लिए भेज दिया गया। लेकिन प्रक्रिया पूरी हुए बिना ही इसकी घोषणा भी कर दी गई। इसे लेकर निदेशक पद के दावेदारों में खासा रोष है और इस मुद्दे को मंत्रालय तक ले जाने की तैयारी भी हो रही है।

# IIT-Hyderabad holds 1st convocation

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

TOI

**Hyderabad:** Throwing light on the present economic situation in the country, C Rangarajan, chairman of Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council said that India's per capita income can reach levels of \$8,000 to \$10,000 by 2025 if the economy grows at 9% annually. The current per capita income is \$1,600. He was addressing the first convocation ceremony of IIT-Hyderabad. A total of 111 B Tech students and 80 M Tech students passed out of the institution here on Friday.

A total of five gold medals were awarded to students with a B Tech degree and 11 gold medals to students with M Tech degree. Athavale Apoorva Mahindra of B Tech, Electrical Engineering (EE) stream got the president's gold medal at the ceremony. After the current admissions, a total of 1,045 students out of which 625 are B Tech students were enrolled in IIT-Hyderabad. IIT-H is now offering B Tech program in six disciplines including Electrical, Mechanical, Computer Science, Chemical, Civil and Engineering Science while all 12 departments



Students celebrate their graduation at the IIT-Hyderabad's first annual convocation at Sangareddy, on Friday

are offering post graduate and PhD programme. Ajai Chowdhry, founder-HCL and chairman, Board of Governors, IIT Hyderabad, Board of Governors, IIT-H also attended the ceremony.

Referring to the current economic growth of the country, Rangarajan said that Indian economy is currently passing through a difficult phase with growth slowing down and inflation remaining high. The fiscal and current account deficits also

stand at high level, he said. "These issues need to be addressed, if we have to achieve a sustained high growth rate. However, these developments should not cloud the fact that over the seven year period beginning 2005-06, the average annual growth rate has been 8.3%," he said. "As we look ahead, growth is an important factor in generating employment and reducing poverty," Rangarajan added.

# IMF official to chief economic advisor of India

**HT Correspondent**

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**NEW DELHI:** Raghuram G Rajan, a former International Monetary Fund (IMF) chief economist who is currently employed as professor at Chicago University, is set to take over as India's new chief economic advisor. The 49-year-old economist had achieved fame for his perceptive warning on the global financial crisis of 2008.

Rajan will replace Kaushik Basu, whose term ended on July 31. Basu will return to Cornell University, so he could don his academic robes once again. He has been on leave from the university since 2009, where he is employed as a professor of economics and the C. Marks professor of International Studies.

Official sources confirmed that the government has cleared Rajan's appointment, and a formal order will be issued shortly. They, however, did not comment on the likely tenure for Rajan or the date on which would assume his new role.

Such assignments usually have a three-year tenure.

Rajan (49), a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has done pioneering work in the areas of banking, corporate finance and economic development. He is taking over at a time when policy makers are grappling for options to reverse the deceleration in India's economy due to the crippling industrial slowdown.

An honorary advisor to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, he is known for his outspoken views on India's economic management. He had also chaired a high-level committee on financial sector reforms in India.

Rajan is of the view that immediate steps need to be taken on key aspects of second-generation reforms, such as raising the retail prices of fuel, besides deregulating and align-

## Ex-RBI chief: No policy paralysis

Former RBI governor YV Reddy on Saturday said there is no policy paralysis in Indian economy, but there are policy difficulties, as forming them is now a complex process. He said the challenge before India is to equip itself with adequate policy tools to cope with the uncertain prospects around a pessimistic outlook in the global economy. "Special efforts are needed to restore 9-10% annual growth rate in output and domestic savings should be restored to pre-economic crisis levels and it should be enhanced to make-up for the possible difficulties of obtaining net foreign savings on an assured basis in future" he said at the Prem Bhatia Memorial Lecture.

**HTC, NEW DELHI**

ing them with international crude price movements.

Many expect Rajan, who studied at IIT Delhi and IIM Ahmedabad, to help finance minister P Chidambaram guide the country out of its current economic crisis. Rajan is expected to frame policies on the unfinished reforms agenda — most of which Chidambaram had unveiled in his stint as the finance minister in UPA-I between 2004-08.

His recent book, 'Fault Lines: How Hidden Fractures Still Threaten the World Economy', won the Financial Times Business Book of the Year award in 2010. He had also co-authored a book with Luigi Zingales, titled 'Saving Capitalism from the Capitalists'.

# Technical education loses sheen

By Ritika Chopra in New Delhi

**CONTRARY** to popular perception about India's rising technical manpower, technical education is slipping rapidly.

With thousands of seats falling vacant over the last few years, there seems to be little interest in opening new technical institutes. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has witnessed an 80 per cent decrease in the number of applications for approval of new institutes over the last four years.

For the 2012-13 cycle, the Council — which is the only authority empowered to grant recognition to technical courses such as engineering, MBA, architecture and hotel management run by different universities and colleges — has received only 689 applications for fresh approvals as opposed to the 3,200 requests four years ago in 2009-10 (see box).

The trend, according to AICTE chairman S.S. Mantha, indicates that the technical education sector is heading toward saturation. "The supply side (number of students going for higher education) needs to improve. After years of boom, it's now time for consolidation in the technical education space, during which the good institutes will shut down and the

better will survive," said Mantha. This revelation has come at a time when Union HRD minister Kapil Sibal has been calling for the creation of at least 1,000 more universities to achieve a

## AICTE saw 80 per cent decrease in applications

Gross Enrollment Ratio of 30 per cent in higher education.

The vision, however, seems too ambitious, at least for the technical education sector considering several colleges are being forced to shut down for want of students — 140 private insti-

tutes running engineering, management and MCA programmes applied for closure this year.

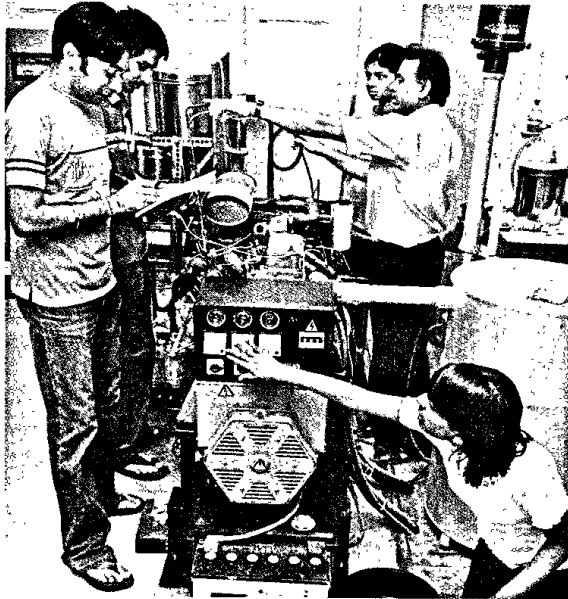
Mantha, however, disagrees. "It's not as if the students are not there. The truth is that currently, we are operating at a sub-optimal level, in which only 52 per cent of our class XII students are being able to pass their Board exams. What if the other half passes the exam, then do we have enough institutes to accommodate them? No. So the minister is correct in his call for more new universities and colleges," he added.

But at present, the supply of technical colleges, at least in a few states, has clearly outstripped the demand.

## SLUMP IN APPLICATIONS

YEAR	APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	NEW INSTITUTES APPROVED	% DECREASE IN APPROVAL
2009-10	3,200	1,001	NA
2010-11	2,176	572	32%
2011-12	1,067	438	51%
2012-13	689	389	35%

\* Applications for approval of new institutes has decreased by 78 per cent since 2009



The demand for new technical institutes is rapidly slipping.

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# DU plans mega meet to redefine education

Manash Pratim Gohain | TNN

**New Delhi:** In its attempt to prepare a roadmap for its overall development, Delhi University is planning to reach out not only to teachers, students and parents but also people from other professions through a first-of-its-kind academic congress in September. The university, which will host the congress on September 6 and 7, is looking for "constructive suggestions and criticism" and direction to improve its academic

programmes as well as overall functioning.

Focusing on 'redefining education', the conference plans to engage the participants at micro-level discussions on various topics. While invitations will be sent to people from various professions like medicine, legal, policing and media, the university also expects people to volunteer to join the congress. Schools will also be invited.

But major participants will be teachers. "Primarily, the idea is to hold

discussions with teachers and other stakeholders on focused themes. Though the larger theme is redefining education, there will be parallel sessions such as 'taking education beyond classrooms', 'meeting the needs of the society', and 'open learning'," said DU vice-chancellor Dinesh Singh.

Engaging with school students and administrators is also important as it means engaging with the university's future students, Singh said. "We want to understand the present structure of

school education. The aim is to do away with disconnect with schools and deliberate on how schools' good practices can be awarded during the admission process. We would also invite school boards to the congress," he added.

DU is also expecting its teachers to come up with presentations for various sessions. All the participants will be divided into smaller groups for parallel sessions and each session is expected to come up with definite recommendations at the end.

## Opinion » Lead

Published: August 9, 2012 01:22 IST | Updated: August 9, 2012 04:21 IST

### Universities, ours and theirs

Krishna Kumar



*As long as we discourage young talent, encourage an obsolete examination system and remain indifferent to research, we will continue to lag behind the West*

There are four critical differences between universities of the western world and ours. The *first* is that they do all they can, when they recruit young faculty, to make way for excellence. We do everything to block its entry. We start discouraging talent early, but a few bright youngsters manage to come up despite our best efforts. They are the ones who face the greatest resistance from our institutions at the time of selection for vacancies. The norms and standards that western institutions apply for selecting young faculty focus on individualised assessment of potential. Senior people and administrators who make decisions make sure that the aspirants are assessed on the basis of what they have published, the quality of research they have done, and how passionate they seem about the pursuit of knowledge and teaching.

### Mechanical criteria

In our case, the initial criteria applied are purely mechanical. Any hint of trans-disciplinary interest means that the candidate loses the chance to be interviewed. And those who somehow escape this fate are ultimately sized up at the time of interview in terms of the lobbies they might belong to. Someone rare enough to be independent of personal as well as intellectual lobbies is the first to be eliminated. In the semi-final act of short listing, those lacking support from the dominant lobbies get weeded out. Then, in the ultimate moment, hard bargaining takes place and the institution's future gets sealed. If there is someone with an unusual background or achievement, you can depend on the selection committee to find a technical ground to reject him or her. The only way he or she might get appointed is if a determined Vice-Chancellor forces the person in. Democratic procedures and correctness have become incompatible with respect for quality. Our universities feel comfortable with the labyrinth of eligibility norms that the University Grants Commission has nurtured with relentless energy to issue circulars over the decades. Selection committees debate over the finest of technicalities to justify the selection of the average, allowing anyone with sheen to get stuck and lost in the maze of criteria.

The *second* major difference between our universities and the western ones relates to the concept of teaching. We

calculate teaching in terms of periods taken. The Radhakrishnan Commission had bemoaned the fact that our colleges work like higher secondary schools. More than six decades after the commission gave its report, life in our undergraduate colleges is just the same. The UGC demands 18 periods of teaching per week from an assistant professor. “Isn’t that reasonable?” one might ask. Of course, it is, if you ignore what the word “teaching” means. The practice of calculating teachers’ daily work by counting the number of periods they stand beside the blackboard exposes the hollowness of our system and the concept of education. It also shows how little we have progressed since colonial days when accountability was tied to crude measures. How far Britain has moved away from the procedures it introduced in India long ago became apparent to me a year ago when I was invited to serve on a course evaluation committee in a British institute. After examining the course content, the recommended readings and the description of each lecture session taken through the year, the committee met groups of students from the previous three years. We also read the detailed feedback each student is required to give at the end of each course.

Our discussion with students and — separately — with their teachers was frank and detailed. We learnt how students assessed their teachers in terms of preparedness for each class, personal interest in the subject, the pedagogic strategies used to arouse interest, and not just regularity — which was, in fact, taken for granted. In India, we worry about attendance records to keep the student under pressure to attend classes that may be altogether devoid of intellectual stimulation. Despite attendance norms being stringent, there are classes without much attendance. There are also numerous cases of attendance *without* classes. An obsolete system of examination helps teachers who miss classes and make no effort to relate to students. There are many who take the number of periods required, but their classes have no soul or spark.

## Concept of knowledge

The *third* critical difference between life in an Indian university and a university in the West arises out of the concept of knowledge embedded in the system. The crude measures our regulatory bodies such as the UGC apply in the name of accountability mask the epistemic sterility of the curriculum, the pedagogic process and examination. In the West, curriculum and pedagogy both follow the teacher’s own research interests. Even smaller universities with limited resources attempt to cultivate a research environment. Topics of research reflect the university’s concern for the social and natural world surrounding it. Research is seen as an inquiry to solve problems as well as to induct the young into a community of inquirers. Keeping a record of hours spent on direct teaching becomes irrelevant in such a system, even in the case of undergraduate students. To keep their research interests alive and popular, senior professors engage with young undergraduates who bring fresh questions and perspectives to ongoing inquiries. In India, you stop teaching undergraduate classes as soon as you attain professorial status. Teaching and research are seen as two separate activities. While teaching is perceived as institutional work, research is viewed as a personal agenda for moving forward in one’s career. Not surprisingly, infrastructure and administrative procedures that might facilitate research do not exist. Obstacles do, and the teacher who makes the mistake of initiating a research project has to struggle all the way to its completion and the ritual of report submission to the funding agency. No one among colleagues or in the administration cares to know the findings, let alone their implications. Teaching goes on following the grooves of preset syllabi, like the needle boring into an old gramophone record.

The *fourth* critical difference lies in the library. In the West, even in the most ordinary universities, the library forms the centre of life, both for teachers and students. Librarians enjoy a high status as their contribution to academic life cuts across academic disciplines. They work closely with teachers and students in the various tasks involved in procurement of books and journals, keeping the library quiet and friendly, and ensuring speedy access. Our case is the opposite. The library exists on the margins of the classroom. In many universities, undergraduate students are not allowed to use the university library. Subscription to journals and magazines has dwindled over the years, and maintenance of past volumes is now seen as an obsolete practice because e-storage is available. We forget that the library is not merely a service; it is also a physical space whose ethos induces the young to learn the meaning of belonging to a community of scholars. Our reading rooms carry an unkempt, hapless look, with clanking ceiling fans and dog-eared books waiting to be removed. Book acquisition has been saturated with petty corruption and a crowd of spurious publishers has thrived on the outskirts of the academia.

## Symptomatic

These four critical differences are, of course, symptomatic of deeper problems entrenched in structures that govern higher education in India. Those who perceive all problems in financial terms miss the barren landscape of our campuses. Inadequacy of funds is, of course, worrisome, but it cannot explain the extent to which malice, jealousy and cussedness define the fabric of academic life in our country. There is a vast chasm that separates the Indian academia from society. Let alone the masses, even the urban middle class cares little for what goes on inside

classrooms and laboratories.

The citizenry does not see higher education as an intellectual resource. Nor do political leaders. The only commonly understood purpose that the system of higher education serves is to alleviate — and keep under tolerable levels of discomfort — what the British economist, Ronald Dore, has called the ‘Diploma Disease’ in his 1976 classic on education in developing economies. Dore has explained why a country like ours will continue to lag behind the West in knowledge and technique so long as we keep using mark-sheets and certificates to screen the young for further education and employment. His insight that the valid goal of widening the pool of talent is defeated by bureaucratisation of selection continues to be pertinent across the colonised world.

*(The writer is Professor of Education at Delhi University and a former Director of NCERT.)*



PM Manmohan Singh at IIT convocation

## IIT-D junks score hierarchy at convocation

By **Ritika Chopra** in New Delhi

CGPA. These four letters may not mean much to most people, but for a student at IIT, it practically defines his or her life at the institute. Cumulative Grade Point Average or CGPA is the average of a student's grades for all semesters completed up to a given academic term.

For the very first time in 50 years, the four letters will not turn up to haunt students of IIT-Delhi on their last day at the institute. Breaking a tradition that is as old as the institution, IIT-Delhi has decided to not call students in the order of their CGPA — from the highest to lowest — to collect their degrees on the day of their convocation.

Traditionally, the student with the highest CGPA in a department is called first on the stage to collect his or her degree; students holding the subsequent ranks follow. Predictably, the lowest scoring candidate is last to get his or her degree.

IIT-Delhi wanted to do away with the discrimination.

After consulting students, the institute's senate, in its last meeting on August 8, decided to call students in the alphabetical order from this year onwards. The senate is the highest decision making body of the institution.

### Students will not be awarded degree in the order of rank

"The convocation is a day of celebration. Anyone who has qualified is awarded a degree. Why make a show of who has performed the best and worst in class on that day," said Anurag Sharma, dean, academics, IIT-Delhi.

According to Sharma, this proposal first emanated from the faculty and was sent to the students to get their feedback. The issue was taken up by the co-curricular

and academic interaction council — which is empowered to represent student views on academic matters — on April 19. Although some students were in favour of the current system, the majority agreed to the change.

"The merit of a student with the highest CGPA is anyway recognised through awards. Moreover, it was pointed out that it does not augur well for a student if he/she is called last just because he/she had the lowest CGPA," said Ananth Govind Rajan, general secretary, co-curricular and academic interaction council.

"CGPA, anyway, haunts an IITian all the time especially because it's crucial at the time of placements. I am happy this change has finally happened. The convocation is attended by our parents, too. It is a moment of pride for them to see their children graduate from an IIT. This moment should never have had such stress attached to it," said Sumit Agarwal, an alumnus.



आईआईटी दिल्ली के चार छात्रों ने बनाई अपनी सोशल नेटवर्किंग वेबसाइट

# अपनी पसंद के लिए ले 'अवतार'

नई दिल्ली | अनुराग मिश्र

सोशल नेटवर्किंग वेबसाइटों पर अभद्र व्यवहार और अशोभनीय भाषा से बचने और अपने विचारों से मेल खाते लोगों से सीधे मिलना चाहते हैं तो आईआईटी दिल्ली के छात्रों की वेबसाइट आपकी समस्या का हल है। इस साइट जिस को सबसे ज्यादा पसंद किया जाएगा वह अवतार कहलाएगा। अभी इस वेबसाइट के 44,000 से अधिक प्रशंसक हैं।

**www.zumbi.com** वेबसाइट बनाने वाली टीम के सदस्य उत्कर्ष ने बताया कि चैट में शुरुआती स्तर पर लोग उनसे जुड़ते हैं जिनको वह जानते हैं। वहीं, अनजान लोगों से जुड़ने के दौरान होने वाली परेशानियों के कई मामले सामने आते हैं। इसके अलावा कई बार अपने रोजाना के दोस्तों से बात करते-करते ऊब जाते हैं लेकिन इस वेबसाइट की खासियत यह है कि इसमें अकाउंट खोलते समय आपको अपनी रुचि बतानी पड़ती है।

ऐसे में आपसे आपकी रुचि को पसंद करने वाले लोग जुड़ते जाएंगे। एक व्यक्ति की रुचि को जितने अधिक लोग पसंद करेंगे इस आधार पर उसे अवतार का टैग मिल जाएगा। उदाहरण के तौर पर यदि किसी व्यक्ति की रुचि पढ़ाकू है। ऐसे में उसकी पढ़ाई प्रवृत्ति को पसंद करने वाले लोग उससे जुड़ते जाएंगे। उस पढ़ाकू ग्रुप में जिस व्यक्ति को सबसे

## पसंद को पहचान



● उत्कर्ष, छात्र आईआईटी दिल्ली



● अभिषेक, छात्र आईआईटी दिल्ली



● सौरभ, छात्र आईआईटी दिल्ली

**12** करोड़ इंटरनेट उपभोक्ता थे 2011 में भारत में। 54 प्रतिशत भारतीय इंटरनेट उपभोक्ता 18-35 वर्ष के बीच हैं।

**03** अरब से अधिक प्रोफाइल हैं दुनिया भर में इंटरनेट पर सोशल मीडिया वेबसाइट पर

हिन्दुस्तान

नया नजरिया

भारत के तकनीक संस्थानों पर अक्सर यह आरोप लगते रहते हैं कि वह उन तकनीक पर काम नहीं करते जो समाज को सीधे तौर पर फायदा पहुंचाती हैं। पर पिछले समय से यह संस्थान अपने ऊपर लगी इस तोहमत को शिद्दत से हटाने में लगे हैं। सोशल मीडिया की पैट मौजूदा समय में हर व्यक्ति तक है। इस मीडिया में खुलकर आने वाले विचारों की वजह से कभी-कभार अशोभनीय शब्द आ जाते हैं। ऐसे में यह वेबसाइट इस दिशा में एक सार्थक पहल है।

**01** बिलियन से अधिक पोस्ट होती हैं फेसबुक में प्रतिदिन

**16.9** बिलियन डॉलर का रिवेन्यू एकत्रित होता है सोशल नेटवर्किंग वेबसाइट से

ज्यादा पसंद किया जाएगा उसे अवतार का नाम दिया जाएगा। इस वेबसाइट को कनाडा की एक कंपनी ने अपने इनक्यूबेशन सेंटर में जगह दी है। इसके अलावा सैमसंग ने वेबसाइट को वर्ष 2012 का इनोवेशन पुरस्कार दिया है। वेबसाइट को बनाने वाली टीम में उत्कर्ष ओम, अभिषेक, सौरभ और देवाशीष शामिल है। भविष्य की योजनाओं के

बारे में उत्कर्ष बताते हैं कि अधिक लोगों तक पहुंचाने के लिए वह पुरस्कार राशि भी शुरू करने जा रहे हैं। इसके अलावा इस वेबसाइट के पॉपुलर फीचर अवतार और टू प्लेयर गेम्स में नए बदलाव करने जा रहे हैं।

अवतार नाम चुनने के बारे में उन्होंने बताया कि यह नाम अंग्रेजी और हिंदी दोनों भाषाओं में प्रचलित है इसलिए इस

नाम को तरजीह दी गई। उत्कर्ष ने बताया कि यह वेबसाइट सुरक्षित है। इसके लिए नेचुरल लैंग्वेज प्रोसेस और सीमेंटिक तकनीक का प्रयोग कर वह वेबसाइट को किसी भी तरह के अभद्र व्यवहार से बचाते हैं। नेचुरल लैंग्वेज प्रोसेसिंग से विभिन्न भाषाओं के असभ्य शब्दों की पहचान कर ली जाती है और उन्हें रोक लिया जाता है।

## IIT Powai student raped by employee

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
MUMBAI, AUGUST 12

A 26-year-old IIT Powai PHD student was allegedly raped on campus by a member of the staff on Saturday morning. At the time of going to press late Sunday night, the Powai police were in the process of recording the statement of the victim.

The police said the victim is currently receiving treatment at Rajawadi hospital. After recording her statement, the police said they would register a complaint under Indian Penal Code section 376 for rape against the accused.

"The woman was admitted to the hospital in a serious condition. Only after she was in a position to speak on late Sunday night, we approached her to record her statement," said an official from Powai police station.

The police said a medical test would be conducted on the victim to confirm that she was raped. Further investigation is underway.

## आइआईटी बांबे परिसर में छात्रा से दुष्कर्म

जागरण संवाददाता, मुंबई : महानगर में आइएएस अफसर की वकील बेटी की हत्या का मामला अभी सुर्खियों में है। अब आइआईटी बांबे परिसर में पीएचडी कर रही छात्रा से दुष्कर्म की खबर आई है। पुलिस ने हालांकि ऐसी किसी घटना से इन्कार किया है। इसी हफ्ते प्रधानमंत्री मनमोहन सिंह को आइआईटी आना है।

घटना शनिवार सुबह की है। छात्रा टेनिस खेलकर अपने हॉस्टल लौट रही थी। तभी आइआईटी के एक कर्मचारी ने उसे अपने घर चाय पीने का निमंत्रण दिया। कर्मचारी से पहचान के कारण छात्रा ने उसका निमंत्रण स्वीकार कर लिया। बताया जाता है कि कर्मचारी ने चाय में कोई नशीला पदार्थ मिलाकर छात्रा के साथ दुष्कर्म किया और बाद में उसे अपने घर में ही बंदकर बाहर चला गया। काफी देर तक हॉस्टल नहीं पहुंचने पर छात्रा के सहपाठियों ने उसे फोन किया, लेकिन उसका फोन नहीं उठा। चिंतित सहपाठियों शेष पृष्ठ 2 कालम 3 पर

## आइआईटी बांबे परिसर में छात्रा से दुष्कर्म

ने जब छात्रा को ढूंढना शुरू किया तो उन्हें पता चला कि वह एक कर्मचारी के साथ उसके घर की ओर गई थी। संपर्क करने पर उस कर्मचारी का फोन भी बंद आ रहा था। इस पर आइआईटी के सुरक्षा गार्डों को साथ लेकर सहपाठी कर्मचारी के घर पहुंचे। घर का दरवाजा खोलने पर उन्हें अंदर छात्रा अचेतावस्था में मिली। उसे निकट के अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया गया है। प्रधानमंत्री को इसी सप्ताह 18 अगस्त को आइआईटी के दीक्षांत समारोह में शामिल होना है। प्रधानमंत्री के आगमन को देखते हुए आइआईटी प्रशासन ने भी घटना पर चुप्पी साध रखी है।

## LOCATION CLEARANCE

# Three years on, IIT Indore campus gets forest ministry nod

BY PRASHANT K. NANDA & NEHA SETHI

NEW DELHI

Three years after it came into existence, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) at Indore will finally breathe easy—the environment ministry has decided to give forest clearance to the land earmarked for the institute. This will pave the way for the construction of a permanent campus. The elite engineering school's first batch of students will graduate in less than eight months.

The environment ministry has given an "in-principle clearance to IIT Indore campus" but is awaiting a few certificates from the Madhya Pradesh government and the institute for a formal announcement, a ministry official said seeking anonymity.

One of the certificates awaited is a so-called mutation certificate—to be issued by the district collector's office stating that revenue land equal to the forest land diverted for the institute has been demarcated for compensatory afforestation.

"It is expected that the institute will get its final phase II forest clearance in two weeks," the environment ministry official said.

IIT Indore was set up by an act of Parliament along with seven other new IITs during the 11th Five-Year Plan period (2007-12). The institute, which started its operation in 2009, currently functions from two locations—one inside the Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, and the other from a stand-alone building around 20km away.

IIT Indore was awarded some 502 acres, including at least 198 acre of forest land. Unless forest land gets clearance from the forest and environment ministry, no construction or formal

transfer of land can happen.

"We have expanded our academic programmes quite a lot and currently are offering both undergraduate and post graduate courses. You would need a permanent campus to expand your courses and student intake," said Neelesh K. Jain, dean academics at IIT Indore. "But forest clearance is not something in our hand. We hope it will come very soon."

Another government official, who, too, did not want to be named, confirmed the decks had been cleared for IIT Indore to get forest clearance and that it will receive a formal letter in a couple of weeks. The clearance, however, has come at a price.

The institute has paid a compensatory amount of ₹107 million under a scheme called CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority). This amount will be used to plant trees on land earmarked to compensate for the loss of forest land that's been diverted for non-forest use.

Pramath Sinha, founding dean of the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad, said the general perception is that only private institutions face such problems; but, in reality, many state-run institutes, too, face problems from government departments.

"In the name of IITs or IIMs (Indian institutes of technology), you are taking students but not giving the IIT or IIM experience both in terms of soft or hard infrastructure. This is sad," said Sinha, who is opening a private university in Haryana. "Government went in a hurry to open so many institutes for policy sake and vote bank without putting much thought into it."

Currently, India has 16 IITs.  
[prashant.n@livemint.com](mailto:prashant.n@livemint.com)

ET EXCLUSIVE Q&amp;A

AMITABHA GHOSH

CHAIR, SCIENCE OPERATIONS WORKING GROUP - MISSION OPERATIONS, NASA

# We have the Technology to Send Humans to Mars

The key scientist behind the Mars Mission talks about what next in space for NASA and India

**A**mitabha Ghosh, Chair, Science Operations Working Group -- Mission Operations at the NASA Mars Exploration Rover Mission, has worked on Vesta -- an asteroid whose geological processes uncannily resemble those of Earth's -- and several generations of Mars missions, starting with the Pathfinder in 1997 and most recently, the Curiosity Rover. The NASA geologist speaks to Rituparna Chatterjee in San Francisco about Mars, the future of space explorations out of India and the US, the debate over manned missions and about his Indian roots. Edited excerpts:

## What's next after the Curiosity mission? Where will it eventually lead us to?

Can life survive on Mars? That's what we want to know. Water sustains life on Earth. And this decade, we have already verified the presence of water on Mars. Life on Earth is made of carbon and all life is made of organic compounds. This mission will verify if there are organic compounds on Mars or not. If there are, then the next step would be a biological mission to determine whether this Martian organic compound is animate or not.

## What are the technical and financial challenges facing expensive government missions?

Whenever you go to another planet, you have to take into account engineering constraints, which are enormous and vary from case to case. For instance, where do you deliver the spacecraft? Suppose if Curiosity had landed on a rocky bed with boulders, it could have toppled; there could have been inherent risks to the spacecraft. Then there are atmospheric constraints like what is the atmospheric speeds. The landing site is chosen on many such parameters.

When it comes to sending humans to Mars though, it's not a technology issue. We have the technology. What we don't have is the money. Sure there's tremendous national pride. But can any country spend a trillion dollars to send its people to Mars? Even if we weren't in an economic recession, it's a hell lot of money!

## What then is the long-term future of space explorations?

Any frontier explodes only when there is a commercial reason to do it. Look at the Internet: when it happened in a lab, nobody cared. But when cloud computing came up, it exploded.

The fundamental cost of getting out of orbit is enormous! And while a private company like SpaceX might take care of some parts, we are at a stage when we need to make a plausible business case to a venture capitalist. For instance, there are diamonds in space and so I'll go and get it. Therefore, the Google Lunar X Prize model, while commendable, might not be a valid business model. There isn't a compelling financial case for it. Even if you look at SpaceX, who is the primary customer? It's the government, which is certainly not a very good place to be at.

And if you look at startups wanting to fetch moon rocks, it's a niche market. Diamonds aren't that rare but De Beers sold a campaign, "A diamond is forever". Will a rich trader from China or India want to give a moon rock to their wife or



**We have the tech to send humans to Mars. What we don't have is money. Can any nation spend a trillion \$ to send people to Mars?**

Any frontier explodes when there is a commercial reason. At some point there will be resources scarcity & planets could provide resource

**Everybody supports our space program -- the BJP, the Congress, the public. India has public & political mandate to move ahead**

girlfriend and pay a ton of money for it? Does the market want what you're bringing? Space exploration is yet to build a market and a fundamental business case and I'm afraid we aren't there yet.

Another huge thing is the advent of robotic space exploration. We have just sent three generations of rovers to Mars. Not only is it cheaper it's a lot easier than a human mission. And we will see a lot more countries get into it. You don't have to support life systems. You also forgo huge technical and financial challenges of the launch factor involved in a human mission: you have to launch from the gravity of not just your own planet, but also the other planet, because you have to bring these humans back to Earth.

If there was a specific economic reason it might still be possible. For instance, we can get iron ore and other geological resources (that we could run out of on Earth in 65 years or so) from other planets and asteroids. At some point, there will be a major geological resource scarcity. But even then, will we be able to justify the cost of a human mission? After all, we use robots for anything that's dangerous, dull or dirty. And this is dangerous. So, why take the risk of sending humans when robots can do the job better and cheaper? The only case for a human mission would be public fascination.

## What about NASA? Are its golden days truly over, as believed?

First, it's not true that budget cuts have crippled NASA. Budget cuts have happened across all US government agencies and NASA can still deliver on tough projects. For some reason s-- perhaps a fascination for space -- the best people still come to work for NASA. So, unless the budget cuts get really drastic, NASA will do innovative projects. It already has a very aggressive portfolio of missions like a Mars Orbiter planned in 2013, and missions to Vesta and Pluto. Not all space agencies are as successful in attracting talent as NASA. And as long as it can, it will do just fine.

## How does this compare with India's own space programme?

India is at a very interesting crossroads in space. Space is bipartisan. Everybody supports it, the

BJP, the Congress, the public. Nobody is opposed to it. Chandrayaan was almost a matter of national pride. It's similar to the US space scene in the 1960s and the 1970s. ISRO's budget too has gone by almost seven times in the last few decades. And India has the public and political mandate to move ahead. But it does not yet have the technology heritage; this is something it has to build. For instance, it is nowhere near sending a human to space like say, China which is much ahead and has already sent a human to space.

The only caveat is that people in India need to understand that there will be frequent failures and you should be able to move ahead and go on in spite of them. Space -- and especially Mars, which India seems to be planning for -- is after all a risky business and everybody, including NASA have had very public failures.

## Tell us about Indians like yourself at NASA. What impact do they have?

Frankly, nobody relates to nationality when you work at a space station. It's like when the Indian cricket team plays for the World Cup, nobody cares which state you come from. We are not conscious about things like nationality or religion. It doesn't matter whether you are an India or a Russian. All that matters is your engineering prowess.

## How have your IIT and Indian background contributed to shaping of your role?

My father was a nuclear physicist and deeply interested in space. Growing up in Kolkata, we spent our Sundays doing science experiments together, then heading to Birla Planetarium, Kolkata and wrapping it up with a Chinese dinner.

As a 10-year-old, I couldn't help marvelling at the stars, the vastness of the universe and in comparison the terrible triviality of human conflict. This early appreciation of science helped frame my interest in space which eventually turned into a career at NASA.

Like at NASA, at IIT Kharagpur, you are with incredibly creative people. It's a great place to explore creativity. It's not so much the academic skills, but the survival skills that you imbibe, which I attribute to my IIT days.

# 'See if tech colleges have unapproved courses'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Delhi high court has asked the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to probe into an allegation that various engineering colleges are conducting unapproved courses.

Disposing of a plea for direction to colleges to stop unapproved courses, a bench of acting Chief Justice A K Sikri and Justice Rajiv Sahai Endlaw asked AICTE, the regu-

latory body for technical education, to carry out a thorough probe and apprise it of its findings within four months.

"We dispose of the writ petition with a direction to the AICTE to undertake thorough inquiry and investigation into the matter preferably within four months. The outcome of the said investigation in the form of status report shall be filed in this court," the bench said.

The court order came after the AICTE counsel told the bench that the statutory body would examine

the allegations by conducting an "in-depth" enquiry into the matter.

The court was hearing a public interest litigation petition, filed by Shabad Welfare Society of Allahabad, seeking directions to

## HC TELLS AICTE

various technical institutions to stop running unapproved courses and caution the public against taking admission in such courses not approved by the AICTE.

According to the petitioner, many institutions have been running the unapproved courses like BSc and MSc in various disciplines in their colleges despite notices from AICTE.

Hindu ND 13/08/2012

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# Sibal for promoting 'frugal innovation'

## Minister calls for pedagogic platform to enable students develop skills

Special Correspondent

**HYDERABAD:** Union Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal on Sunday called for providing pedagogic platform for 'frugal innovation' so that students develop skills, expertise and mindset to innovate differently from those in industrialised nations, "who are accustomed to an era of profligate excesses".

Delivering the first convocation address of Birla Institute of Technology & Sciences (BITS), Pilani's Hyderabad campus, he pointed out that a growing number of universities abroad, including those in the USA, UK and elsewhere, were taking the frugal innovation message seriously and initiating programmes/centres for it. "Will BITS pioneer this field in India?" he asked.

He said such frugal innovation ideas were now spreading worldwide as it minimises costs by creating frugal solutions to deliver improved



Union HRD Minister Kapil Sibal at the Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, Hyderabad campus, on Sunday.

PHOTO: G. RAMAKRISHNA

products, processes and even public services. Observing that frugal innovation was not new to India, he said, these innovative capabilities might

not be that abundant in the formal sector, but abundant in the informal sector and exemplified by a myriad of 'ju-gaad' alternatives,

improvisations and make-dos to overcome and solve seemingly insoluble problems.

This has been captured by the mammoth repository of the non-formal innovations documented by the National Innovation Foundation.

Stating that the pioneering examples in the formal sector of such innovations were CDAC's Super Computer, Param and low cost tablet, Aakash', Mr. Sibal said its second version would be launched soon.

Referring to the unparalleled opportunities available, he told the students, "You are graduating at a time that is most opportune for fashioning a knowledge-driven India that is a proud member of the comity of nations. I would like all of you to see yourselves as agents of change for a New India".

Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chancellor BITS, Pilani, urged the passing out students to make a difference to

the universe 'we live in'.

B.N. Jain, Vice-Chancellor, while presenting a report on BITS and its four campuses, said BITS was aspiring to be India's top three research-focused technical institutes by 2015 and be counted amongst the leading 25 technical universities in Asia by 2020. Besides a Rs.400-crore project to renovate and expand the Pilani campus, similar projects to expand capacity to cater to increased number of students in Goa and Hyderabad campuses were on the anvil.

## Toppers

Chandralekha Motati of B.E. Computer Science was awarded the gold medal, Varikuti Sainath of Mechanical Engineering (silver medal) and Sheetal Jagdish Saraogi of Computer Science (bronze medal).

V. S. Rao, Director, Hyderabad Campus, presented a report.

# Zakaria loses media jobs over plagiarism

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**F**areed Zakaria, high-profile columnist, TV host and public intellectual was suspended from his job at Time magazine and CNN after he conceded an accusation of plagiarism was valid.

"Media reporters have pointed out that paragraphs in my Time column this week bear close similarities to paragraphs in Jill Lepore's essay in the April 22nd issue of The New Yorker," he said in a statement. "They are right. I made a terrible mistake. It is a serious lapse and one that is entirely my fault. I apologize unreservedly to her, to my editors at Time, and to my readers."

Zakaria, honoured with a Padma



Fareed Zakaria

► **Bit off more than he could chew? P 18**

Bhushan in 2010 for his contribution to journalism, is the second prominent US-based Indian to be disgraced in recent weeks. Rajat Gupta, former director of Goldman Sachs and Procter and Gamble, was convicted for securities fraud by a New York court and his sentencing is scheduled for October 18.

Zakaria's column, written in the wake of the killings at a gurdwara in Wisconsin last week, made a case for gun control. It was a conservative media blog, Newsbusters that exposed the uncanny resemblance between paragraphs in Zakaria's column and a long essay on the same subject written by a historian, Jill Lepore, for The New Yorker in April 2012.

# Using work without attribution is plagiarism

**Has the Internet made plagiarism widespread?**

Although most notable acts of plagiarism might have occurred in recent times, or have been brought to public notice recently, there is no disagreement among scholars and experts that since antiquity people have been lifting academic and literary works and ideas and presenting them as their own. People were, however, not always as critical of this as they are today. On the contrary, artists and writers were encouraged to copy the style and plots of the masters. In bygone days when there were no copyright laws, the brilliance of an artist or writer was established by similarity with an already reputed work of literature or art.

**When did the concept of copyright or intellectual property come into being?**

The concepts of copyright and intellectual property are often attached with the rise of capitalism, but they also have links with Romanticism, a literary movement considered a cultural revolt against the industrial revolution. These concepts are linked to the idea of originality, which was highly regarded by the Romantic Movement. Poets like Coleridge and Shelly advocated novelty, freshness, purity, unique expression, pure invention and so on.

**Is plagiarism the same as copyright infringement?**

Copyright infringement is an offence defined by the laws of various countries. It is the vi-



Indian-American journalist and author Fareed Zakaria suspended from CNN and 'Time' after he admitted to plagiarising portions of an article from 'The New Yorker'

olation of the rights of the original copyright holder, which may be the writer or any other individual or company that owns it. Many elements of copyright law vary from country to country. The infringement typically includes stealing a significant portion of an artistic work and claiming it as one's original



or making and distributing unauthorised copies of books, videos or music for commercial gain. Public performance of another's copyrighted work with citation but without permission is also an infringement of copyright. In the literary context, facts and ideas are not protected by copyright. However, lifting exact expressions is considered an infringement. Plagiarism, on the other hand, is using another's work without attribution and it is an ethical rather than a legal issue. Plagiarism can be copyright infringement if the writer has repub-

lished copyrighted material and the amount of copy-paste has exceeded the fair usages limit. However, if a writer is reproducing extensively from a book which is in the public domain and claiming it as his own work, then it's simply plagiarism. Also, lifting from copyrighted material without exceeding the fair usages limit, using the same expression and claiming it as original is plagiarism.

**How does plagiarism-detecting software work?**

The Internet might have made it easy to plagiarise, but the same medium is used to catch the wrongdoer. Writers or students can copy-paste from a website but they can't destroy the source which can later be used to prove plagiarism. The plagiarism-detecting software also works like search engines. Many companies offer internet based plagiarism-detection services. Some of them are used by universities and schools. The student's papers are uploaded and the software checks the database — papers submitted by other students, as well as matter available in the public domain in the Internet. Its main job is to find the extent of similarity. There are many software used to check originality in professional writing. There are, however, limitations to these software. These software cannot detect rewriting and translation. Also, there is no thumb rule for giving attributes in a particular manner. A person with a certain writing style might give attributes in an unconventional way, which these computer programmes often fail to detect.