

Newspaper Clips
August 2-3, 2015

Hindustan Times ND 2/08/2015 P-10

BHU VC's appointment questioned

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NEW DELHI: The HRD ministry has appointed GC Tripathi, presently vice chancellor (V-C) of the Banaras Hindu University (BHU), as chairman of the IIT-BHU board of governors (BoG) — an appointment that has raised eyebrows.

According to the Indian Institute of Technology (Amendment) Act 2012, the vice chancellor of BHU can be appointed as either a member of the board or its vice-chairman, but not the chairman.

As per practice, the BoG sends

a panel of names to the ministry, from which one is chosen as chairman.

The ministry cleared Tripathi's name after setting aside recommendations from the board, which includes former Nasscom president Kiran Karnik and former director of IIM-Bangalore, Pankaj Chandra.

Known for his links to the RSS, Tripathi was appointed V-C by the NDA government in December last year. His appointment, sources said, defeats the purpose of converting BHU's information technology (IT) department into an IIT and giv-

ing it autonomy.

"The executive council of the BHU can nominate the vice-chairman and also two members of the board. Now, along with the BoG chairman who is the vice chancellor, three other members of the BoG will also be from BHU. So, IIT practically will be governed by BHU. Where is IIT's autonomy?" asked an IIT faculty member.

The IT department under BHU was upgraded to a full-fledged IIT through an amendment in the IIT Act.

The ministry did not respond to HT's query for comment on this issue.

Times of India ND 2/08/2015 P-1

Women's higher edu took off between 2001 and '11: Census

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IT Industry

The level of women's education in India witnessed a dramatic rise between 2001 and 2011, with 116% more women passing out as graduates or above compared to a just 65% increase among men. There was also a spike in women completing post-graduation (151%) and those earning professional and technical degrees (196%), key findings of Census 2011, released on Friday, reveal.

In 2011, the country had over 68 million people who were graduates or more qualified. This is over 8% of 838 million people who were 15

LEAVING MEN BEHIND



years of age or older. A decade ago, this proportion was about 7%. Those with technical degrees (or equivalent) now number 12 million compared to about 5 million in 2001. However, this is a minuscule 1.4% of the total 15+

Percentage growth	Women	Men
Population above 15 yrs	27	25
Graduate and above	116	65
Graduate (non-technical)	91	48
Postgrad (non-tech)	151	87
Engineering	326	150
Medicine	157	74
Veterinary	154	56

years population of India.

The number of women with teachers' training graduate degrees went up by 122%; the rise for those with nursing/medicine degrees was 157%.

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Engineering, tech courses most popular: Census

► Continued from P 1

What is more surprising is that women engineers grew by 326% in these years. In 2001, there were only about 4.8 lakh women engineers. This has exploded to over 20 lakh now. Engineering has for long been dominated by men — there are over 52 lakh men in the profession, more than twice the number of women engineers.

Overall, engineering and related technological degrees appear to be the most popular courses because the number of such graduates has jumped up by a massive 182% in a decade. This may, of course, lead to saturation of the market, experts feel, though the IT sector is still an attractive proposition.

There appears to be a preference among women to go for technical education as it is seen to help in getting jobs. This is evident from the fact that the number of women with technical diplomas (not degrees) stands at nearly 19 million, up 146% in a decade. Compare this to non-technical diploma which is held by just 0.34 million (3.4 lakh).

Census 2011 has also released data for educational level for all the people who were seven years or above of age, that is, it includes schoolchildren. The drive for girls to be educated becomes immediately apparent: the number of girls at the mid-school level is up 64%, at matric or secondary level by 50% and at senior secondary level by a whopping 146%. Clearly, a new India is being forged in educational institutions and women are moving towards an equal share. It is now for the economy and those who run it to provide decent employment to educated women — something that has been a big failing till now.

IISER Odisha to come up at Berhampur

http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/iiser-odisha-to-come-up-at-berhampur-115080100846_1.html

IISERs are a group of premier science education and research institutes in the country

The Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER) would come up in the southern city of Berhampur.

“The state government would provide 200 acres of land for IISER. Academic session would commence from 2016-17,” said state minister for employment, technical education & training Sanjay Dasburma.

Union finance minister Arun Jaitley had announced the establishment of IISER in Odisha in the Budget for 2015-16.

"Today is a historic day for the people of Odisha since chief minister Naveen Patnaik today decided to set up IISER at the life line of southern Odisha, Berhampur in Ganjam district", Dasburma told reporters here.

"Berhampur has necessary infrastructure like road, rail and air connectivity, which is in conformity with the central guidelines. This apart, the state government is committed to provide temporary campus facility for this institute of national importance in and around Berhampur", he added.

The IISERs are a group of most premier science education and research institutes in the country. These institutions have been declared by an Act of Parliament as institutions of national importance and are intended to be the IITs of basic sciences. The institutes were created by the Government of India, through the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), under The National Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2010.

Five IISERs have already come up in the country at Kolkata, Pune, Mohali, Bhopal and Thiruvnanthapuram. In the 2015-16 Budget, two new IISERs were announced for Odisha and Nagaland.

173 students graduate from IIT-Gn

<http://www.ahmedabadmirror.com/ahmedabad/education/173-students-graduate-from-IIT-Gn/articleshow/48310957.cms>

As many as 173 students were awarded degrees and diplomas at the fourth convocation held at IIT-Gandhinagar's new campus in Palaj near Gandhinagar. The institute awarded 105 BTech, 25 MSc, 31 MTech and six PhD degrees as well as six diplomas, said IITGn Director Sudhir K Jain. The convocation address was delivered by Babasaheb Neelkanth Kalyani, chairman and managing director of Bharat Forge Limited and chairman of Kalyani Group. Director Jain and Dr Baldev Raj, chairman of board of governors, shared words of advice with graduating students.

In the keynote address, Kalyani said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Make In India initiative is significant from the manufacturing point of view. The chief guest concluded his speech by asking graduating students to take pride in work and do things with a sense of nationalism". "Even the best ideas and plans have little value unless implemented effectively and on time. Therefore work hard and stick to a time plan. Never forget the value of time -- there is a strong economic dimension to it. Integrity including intellectual honesty is the key to reach the top in whatever you do. Don't be lured by short-term gains. And while adopting new ideas and ways of life, which are a must, give a lot of value to our traditional value and culture.

Never forget your moorings. They are your strongest foundation for success," he said. Baldev Raj told graduating students that egos and ethos are important to understand and learn as they are set to challenge the life for the purpose. "Ego is like cholesterol. Good ego is important for achievements and successes. Bad ego can ruin and destroy your life. Ethos is ethics. Ethics is unmeasurable consciousness which connects you to the changing universe and realize paradigm changes with bliss, strength and passion without fatigue, bitterness and pains. Be a watchful guard of egos and ethos, throughout your life," he said.

DEFERRED PLACEMENT

This year, IITGn has also introduced a "deferred placement policy" which allows students to opt out of placement to explore alternative career paths. These students remain eligible to participate in placement for the next two years. Nine students from the batch are working on entrepreneurial ventures this year. Sixteen per cent of the graduating BTech students will be pursuing higher studies in foreign universities, such as Stanford University, Columbia University, Duke University, Clemson University, University of California, University of Tokyo, Georgia Institute of Technology etc.

IIT-Bombay team ready with a natural system to treat Powai lake water

<http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/iit-bombay-team-ready-with-a-natural-system-to-treat-powai-lake-water/>

BMC engineers visited the campus and were keen on creating a constructed wetland near the main gate entrance to treat water from Powai village that flows through the IIT campus into the lake

In the next six months, researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay (IIT-B) are looking at treating water from Powai lake through their natural “constructed wetland” treatment system.

The constructed wetlands use the natural processes of exchange between the root, soil and surrounding microbes to treat organic and inorganic pollutants present in sewage, in a controlled environment.

Through this technology, Canna, a flowering plant sourced from a roadside marshy pool in Panvel, has been able to reduce the biological oxygen demand (BOD) from IIT-B’s raw sewage by up to 86 per cent since 2013, according to Shyam Asolekar , professor at the Centre for Environmental Science and Engineering (CESE), IIT-B.

The 13m x 3m x 0.6m pilot ‘constructed wetland’ abuts the lake near the sewage well of the campus. At the same spot, the researchers hope to create a wetland four times the size as a test plant to show the possibility of in situ treatment of water from Powai lake. The logic is simple, says Asolekar. “We know plants absorb water and use up the nutrients in it and in the case of waste water, the pollutants are nutrients for the plant. We settled for Canna as it removes maximum pollutants in the least amount of time. In waste water treatment, bringing water to the treatment plant is the most expensive part. In our case, the system uses natural plants, pumps operated using solar energy and requires minimal construction. The plant is situated right next to the lake and can be further used in nullahs, eliminating the need to carry water to the treatment plant,” he adds.

Last week, BMC engineers visited the campus and were keen on creating a constructed wetland near the main gate entrance to treat water from Powai village that flows through the IIT campus into the lake.

Further, the BMC has identified 12 locations along the lake’s periphery where untreated waste water through runoffs and pipeline pollutes the lake. In addition to this, the BMC is also in the final stages of awarding tenders for removing water hyacinth that has invaded large portions of the lake. This is part of the Rs 2.6-crore Powai Lake Rejuvenation project that the BMC has undertaken to clean the 2.1 sq km lake.

- See more at: <http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/iit-bombay-team-ready-with-a-natural-system-to-treat-powai-lake-water/#sthash.Q3fG6dnW.dpuf>

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Technical University Should be a Centre of Excellence: Akhilesh Yadav

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/dr-api-abdul-kalam-technical-university-should-be-a-centre-of-excellence-akhilesh-yadav-1202846>

Lucknow: After renaming Uttar Pradesh Technical University (UPTU) as Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Technical University, Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav today emphasised on developing it as a centre of excellence.

"Dr Kalam was regarded the world over as a personality dedicated towards science and academics and with the technical university being named after him it becomes all the more necessary to develop it as a centre of reputed technical institute", Mr Yadav said.

He was speaking during a meeting to review works for improving the level of research, education and infrastructure of the university.

"The university should be so developed that it could make a mark as a centre of excellence in the field of education", the chief minister said, adding, his government will provide all help and cooperation in achieving this goal.

For providing guidance to students passing out of the university in getting better career options, a finishing school should be set up in the university, the chief minister said.

He also called for making arrangements for linking people having earned name at the national and global level with the activities of the university, and said, this would provide useful suggestions for education and research work in the university.

Mr Yadav yesterday had renamed UPTU as Dr APJ Abdul Kalam University and also decided to construct a grand memorial for the former President in its new campus.

Miscalculation of marks: HC asks IISER to admit Bhubaneswar girl

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bhubaneswar/Miscalculation-of-marks-HC-asks-IISER-to-admit-Bhubaneswar-girl/articleshow/48305273.cms>

BHUBANESWAR: The Orissa High Court on Friday asked the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Mohali, to reserve a seat for an applicant from Bhubaneswar whose candidature was rejected because of miscalculation of marks by the institute.

Suchi Pragyan Rout from Bhubaneswar had secured 95% marks in the Class XII examination under the CBSE based on the best-of-five rule, but while calculating her aggregate marks, IISER mistakenly added the sixth (optional) subject too. This brought down her Plus II total to 92%.

"The High Court has issued notices to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), joint admission committee (JAC) of IISER and dean-admission of IISER, Mohali, to keep a seat reserved for the petitioner," said Suchi's counsel Manoj Mohanty.

A division bench of Justices Indrajeet Mohanty and D P Chaudhury gave the order a day before Suchi was scheduled to take admission at the institute on Saturday.

"I got a phone call from IISER on July 27 evening saying that I was not eligible for admission because of my low percentage in board examination, which was not true. It caused severe mental trauma to me and my family. I am feeling relieved now," Suchi said after the court's order.

Suchi had qualified for admission in the Bachelor and Masters (BS-MS) dual degree programme at IISER, Mohali. She had passed Class XII under the CBSE.

Suchi, who also got through IIT and was selected for admission in several other educational institutes, did not attend the counseling as IISER was her first choice. "If I was denied admission, I would have lost a year without no fault of mine," she added.

“40% engg. seats lying vacant in country”

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/no-takers-for-40-per-cent-of-engg-seats-aicte-chief/article7487684.ece>

At least 40 per cent of seats in engineering courses across the country are likely to remain vacant this year, said Anil Sahasrabudhe, chairman, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

This situation prevails despite colleges surrendering 35,000 seats before the admission season, he told reporters on the sidelines of a global summit of Indian Engineering Deans' Council.

Dr. Sahsrabudhe agreed that though access and equity had been achieved quality and excellence remained a challenge.

The concern about lack of quality faculty was amplified as more than 90 per cent of the intake was in private institutions, Dr. Sahsrabudhe said.

“The biggest challenge is that of the 16.75 lakh intake eight lakh seats go vacant,” he said.

India will be world's most populous country in 2022: U.N.

Rukmini S.

NEW DELHI: In seven years, India will surpass China to become the world's most populous country and will have 1.7 billion residents by 2050, new projections from the United Nations show. Experts, however, caution that India might be lowering its fertility at a faster rate than what the U.N.'s projections indicate.

The 2015 revision to the U.N.'s World Population Projections was released early on Thursday. The world population reached 7.3 billion as of mid-2015, adding approximately one billion people in the past 12 years. The world population, however, is growing slower now; 10 years ago, the growth rate was 1.24 per cent a year, while today, it is growing by 1.18 per cent, or approximately, an additional 83 million people annually.

It will take 15 years to add the next billion people, taking the world population to 8.5 billion in 2030. By 2050, the world will have 9.7 billion people and 11.2 billion by 2100. As a region, Africa will have its population — propelled to a large extent by Nigeria which will be the third largest populated country in the world in 2050 overtaking the United

BURGEONING NUMBERS

Experts say though India's population is rising its fertility might be declining at a faster rate than projections indicate

37.3 years: India's median age by 2050

WORLD | 2020: 7,758,157 | 2030: 8,500,766 | 2040: 9,157,234 | 2050: 9,725,148

(figures in thousands)



WHAT'S IN STORE FOR INDIA

By 2050, the share of people in India over 60 will be twice as big

MAIN FINDINGS AND PROJECTIONS

- ➔ The world population reached **7.3 billion** as of mid- 2015, adding approximately one billion people in the last twelve years
- ➔ Population growth rate, however, has slowed down, at **1.18 per cent** per year as

against **1.24 per cent** 10 years ago

- ➔ By 2030 there will be **8.5 billion people** in the world
- ➔ **Nigeria will be the third largest country in the world in 2050**, overtaking the United States

India's population is projected to decline after 2069 when its is around 1.75 billion

GRAPHIC:KARTHICK.S.T.

States — grow the fastest. The population of 48 countries, most of them in Europe and including Japan, will in contrast shrink between

2015 and 2050. The median age of the global population — that is, the age at which half the population is older and half is

younger — is 29.6. About one-quarter (26 per cent) of the world's people are under 15 years of age, 62 per cent are aged 15 to 59, and 12 per cent

60 or above. India is younger than the world; the median age is a full three years younger and 28.8 per cent are under the age of 15, while just 8.9 per cent are 60 or over. By 2050, India will have aged significantly, and the share of people over 60 will be twice as big, while the median age will be 37.3.

China's population will start declining by the 2030s, while India's is projected to decline only after 2069 when its population is around 1.75 billion. However, demographic experts say the U.N.'s projections may not be keeping pace with the speed at which India is reducing its fertility. As of 2013, India's Sample Registration System (SRS) — the official source of fertility statistics, which come from the Registrar-General's office — said the total fertility rate (average number of children per woman) was down to 2.3. However, the U.N. projects a rate of 2.34 for 2015-20. By the SRS rates, India could reach replacement fertility levels — when every woman has just enough children to replace the parents on average — by 2020, but the U.N. projections would see this happening around a decade later.

As of mid-2015, India had 1.31 billion people. Eleven States have already achieved replacement fertility levels.

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Hindustan ND 03/08/2015 P-5

आईआईटी में जूनियर छात्रों को सीनियर पढ़ाएंगे

पहल

नई दिल्ली | रोहित पंतार

अकादमिक प्रदर्शन बेहतर करने के लिए आईआईटी दिल्ली के सीनियर छात्र जूनियरों को पढ़ाएंगे। सप्ताह में अधिकतम दस घंटे पढ़ाया जाएगा। इस योजना का नाम 'इंटर ट्यूटोरियल प्रोग्राम' है और यह इसी सत्र से लागू होगी।

आईआईटी दिल्ली के प्रो. एम राव ने बताया, 'हाल ही में आईआईटी रुड़की के 70 से अधिक छात्रों को कम अंक की वजह से निकाल दिया गया था। मामला कोर्ट भी गया। ऐसा यहां न हो, इसलिए

आईआईटी दिल्ली ने यह पहल की है।' उन्होंने बताया कि इसका मकसद सीनियरों के शैक्षणिक अनुभव से जूनियर छात्रों के प्रदर्शन को बेहतर करना और आपसी सहयोग बढ़ाना है। यह योजना स्वैच्छिक है, इसमें हर छात्र के लिए भाग लेना अनिवार्य नहीं। इसे फिलहाल बीटेक कोर्स में लागू किया जाएगा।

राव के मुताबिक, एक ही ब्रांच के छात्र भी आपस में एक-दूसरे को पढ़ा सकेंगे। एक ब्रांच में पांच समूह बनाए जा रहे हैं। अगर किसी सीनियर छात्र के समूह द्वारा पढ़ाए गए जूनियर छात्र का परिणाम पहले से सुधरता है तो सीनियर छात्रों को ग्रेड मिलेंगे।

Millenium Post ND 03/08/2015 P-7

HRD min, NITI Aayog examine Gautam panel report on UGC

MPOST BUREAU

NEW DELHI: The HRD Ministry and NITI Aayog have begun examining the report of the Hari Gautam panel, which has raised serious questions about the functioning of the University Grants Commission (UGC) and even recommended its scrapping.

The report, which had suggested replacing the UGC with a National Higher Education Authority, is being studied in detail with the experts from NITI Aayog, said officials in the Ministry, without giving a deadline for completion of the exercise.

The matter was raised in Parliament last week when a member wanted to know if the recommendations of the committee headed by former UGC



member Hari Gautam have been accepted.

Making a stinging attack on the style of functioning of the UGC, which governs higher education in the country, the committee had said it has not only "failed to fulfil its mandate but also has not been able to deal with emerging diverse complexities".

It had suggested setting up of a National Higher Education Authority through an Act of Parliament to replace UGC

as "any reshaping or restructuring of the UGC will be a futile exercise". It said even amending the UGC Act would make little difference.

The committee had submitted its report in March this year, recommending far-reaching reforms, including scrapping of policies under which universities are categorised.

It also suggested a national research aptitude test for doing PhD and a single term for Vice Chancellors, besides scrapping the criteria that requires a person to have 10 years experience as professor to be eligible for elevation as VC.

The report said, "It (UGC) has side-stepped its function of being a sentinel of excellence in education and embraced the relatively easier function of funding education."

IISC all set to launch supercomputing mission

Prashanth G N, August 3, 2015, Bengaluru: DHNS



<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/493018/iisc-all-set-launch-supercomputing.html>

The National Supercomputing Mission (NSM), to have supercomputers networked between academic and R&D institutions across the country has kicked off with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) ready to roll out the first project under the mega programme.

IITs, the Centres for Development of Advanced Computing (CDACs) and the Indian Institutes of Scientific Education and Research (IISERs) will be networked through supercomputers in order to conduct collaborative research.

IISc researchers will look into applications of supercomputing ranging from materials research to life sciences issues like drug discovery.

IISc officials said the team has identified research areas and is now only awaiting the first instalment of the overall budget. IISc is expecting around Rs 150-250 crore as the initial grant. “The sanction has been given, its only a matter of release of funds,” IISc officials said.

The entire project costs around Rs 4,500 crore which will be utilised to connect national academic and R&D institutions with a grid of 73 high-performance computing facilities. Of the total funds, Rs 2,800 crore will come from the Ministry of Science and Technology and the remaining Rs 1,700 crore from the IT department. As far as supercomputing is concerned, India is ranked at 74, while China holds the first place.

The mission has been conceptualised and is being evolved keeping in view the increasing computing demand of the scientific and academic community in the country, international technology trends and roadmaps, strategic importance and emergence of supercomputing as a benchmark for scientific and technological advancements. These supercomputers will also be networked on the national supercomputing grid over the National Knowledge Network (NKN), a programme of the government which connects academic institutions and R&D labs over a high speed network. The computers will be located mostly in academic institutions, universities and research organisations.

The National Supercomputing Mission was proposed in 2011 by a group of scientists and the planning commission which saw the need to supplement India’s supercomputing capabilities. “But over the years, India’s supercomputing powers have lagged behind other nations. Currently, China, United States, Japan, Switzerland and Germany figure prominently in the list of countries with most supercomputing powers.

Tianhe-2, a Chinese supercomputer, is the fastest in the world with a performance of 33.86 peta-flops per second (quadrillions of calculations per second) according to the November list of Top500, a ranking of supercomputers across the world. Bengaluru will also focus on skill development and lay the groundwork for future supercomputing initiatives,” IISc researchers said.

In the next seven years, supercomputer performance is expected to touch ExaFLOPS (1000 peta flops) level and India will not be behind. The supercomputer grid will be connected on a high speed network that will enable researchers to collaborate easily.

The supercomputing initiative is looking at geo-exploration, finding reserves of oil and gas, astrophysics, disaster management and flood forecasting among other focus areas like drug discovery. The network will comprise three large scale computers, 20 mid-sized supercomputers and 50 lower-end computers. The project is jointly being implemented by the CDAC and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

IIT-Madras team's research to help detect multiple sclerosis

http://zeenews.india.com/news/health/health-news/iit-madras-teams-research-to-help-detect-multiple-sclerosis_1640393.html

MS is a disease in which the protective sheath covering the nerves gets destroyed, disrupting the communication between the brain and the rest of the body. This leads to difficulty in speech, sight and the ability to move.

"The task of accurate delineation of regions (segmentation) of the brain affected with MS is a difficult and time-consuming affair. Owing to this, significant variability can be observed in the regions marked by different radiologists on the same image. In case of MS, only 50 percent of the marked area would match each other," Ganapathy Krishnamurthi, professor in IIT-M's department of engineering design, who led the research, told IANS.

He added that the team's research focusses on development of automated methods to perform accurate segmentation of disorders such as MS and glioma.

Explaining further, he said that these segmentations were important for doctors to obtain quantitative metrics for treatment monitoring and planning, as well as for surgical operations.

The number of multiple sclerosis patients has increased in India in recent years. It is estimated that there are between 100,000 and 200,000 MS patients in India. According to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, which carried out a study in 2013 on the patients of multiple sclerosis it treats, about 70-80 percent of patients were in the 18-35 age group.

Krishnamurthi shared that while working in collaboration with Thiruvananthapuram's Sree Chitra Thirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology, the team identified that accurate labelling of disorder-affected regions in brain MRI could be a difficult affair due to its "complex shape and vague boundaries".

"Moreover, it is a tedious task since radiologists cannot visualise in 3D and the task needs to be performed slice by slice," he said.

He added that this led to research on automated methods for identification of glioma (brain tumors) affected regions from MRI images.

"However, the core algorithms developed in the process were such that they could be used in the detection of other disorders as well. Multiple Sclerosis is a chronic disease which is visible as several small lesions which can be easily missed. This being a particularly difficult task, we decided to extend the research scope and tackle this problem as well," he said.

The symptoms of MS include weakness or numbness of limbs, blurring, partial or complete loss of vision, slurred speech, dizziness, tremors, lack of coordination and tingling sensation or pain in the body.

The team, comprising Suthirth Vaidya and Abhijith Chunduru, final year integrated masters (B.Tech+M.Tech) students from the engineering design department under the guidance of Krishnamurthi and M. Ramanathan, used technology known as 'Deep Learning', which is inspired by advances in neuroscience and is loosely based on the interpretation of information processing and communication within the nervous system.

"Deep Learning are recent methods in machine learning developed based on the interpretation of how human brain and nervous systems work - neural networks. These networks consist of stacked layers consisting of several mathematical models of neurons, which is the computational equivalent of information processing in the brain. Although these methods have been around for more than a decade, recent developments in computational resources have made large and complex networks with near-human performance possible," Krishnamurthi explained.

Voice recognition on Android smartphone, Google's self-driving car and automatic photo tagging feature on Facebook are all powered by Deep Learning.

The team, which emerged victorious in the recently held Longitudinal Multiple Sclerosis Segmentation challenge at International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging (ISBI) 2015, New York, is currently in the process of building a software tool that can be used by clinicians.

"Our next steps in this endeavor would be to test extensively with more clinical data to assess the effectiveness of the software and subsequently deploy the software for use by our clinical collaborators. Based on the performance in a clinical setting (purely for evaluation) we will try to get regulatory approval for our software. Since training accurate models require large amounts of data, ethical committee approvals from various hospitals would be required. We are already in collaboration with Sree Chitra Thirunal Hospital and are confident of seeing the product put in use in a span of two to four years," he said.

So, will it make MS treatment/diagnosis cheaper?

"These methods when implemented can substantially reduce the time and cost for diagnosis of various brain diseases like MS. The algorithms for image analysis are basically a tool for diagnosis and aids clinicians to judge progression of disease and efficacy of therapy. For instance, in large clinical trials these automated algorithms can be used to analyze patient data," Krishnamurthi added.

Classes begin at first IIT in Kerala

<http://english.manoramaonline.com/news/just-in/palakkad-iit-kerala-commence-classes-from-today.html>

Palakkad: The classes for BTech courses at the first IIT in Kerala began on Monday. The courses for Civil, Mechanical, Electronics and Computer Science started at the Ahalya campus of the institute. Presently the campus has a strength of 120 students.

Union Human Resource Minister, Smriti Irani interacted with students through videoconferencing.

Prominent personalities like former Infosys chairman Kris Gopalakrishnan delivered lecture on the first day. The functioning of the institute will be supervised by IIT, Madras.

निष्कासित छात्रों को राहत की उम्मीद

<http://inextlive.jagran.com/iit-students-wiil-relefe-87258>

- संस्थान के निदेशक ने मंडे को बुलाई सीनेट की बैठक

- इसमें निष्कासित छात्रों के पक्ष में फैसला आने की संभावना

ROORKEE : आईआईटी रुड़की से निष्कासित छात्रों की उम्मीद आज हकीकत में बदल सकती है, क्योंकि संस्थान के निदेशक एवं सीनेट के चेयरमैन प्रो. प्रदीप बनर्जी ने मंडे को सीनेट की आकस्मिक बैठक बुलाई है. इसमें निष्कासित छात्रों के मामले में एक बार फिर से पुर्नविचार किया जाएगा.

अब निष्कासित छात्रों की संख्या 7क

आईआईटी रुड़की के पांच क्यूम्लेटिव ग्रेड प्वाइंट एवरेज (सीजीपीए) से कम अंक लाने वाले 7क छात्रों को नैनीताल हाईकोर्ट से झटका लगने के बाद अब संस्थान उन्हें राहत दे सकता है. मंडे को सीनेट की बैठक बुलाने का निर्णय लिया गया. आईआईटी सूत्रों के अनुसार सीनेट की बैठक में मुख्य एंजेंडा पांच सीजीपीए से कम अंक लाने वाले छात्रों को संस्थान से निकाले जाने का मामला रहेगा. पांच सीजीपीए से कम अंक लाने वाले प्रथम वर्ष के 7फ् छात्रों को निष्कासित कर दिया था, लेकिन बाद में दो छात्रों के एनएसएस के क्रेडिट जोड़ने के बाद उनका सीजीपीए पांच से अधिक हो गया था. ऐसे में निष्कासित छात्रों की संख्या अब 7क रह गई है.

Statesman ND 03/08/2015 P-5

DU permits Skype viva for PhD students, plagiarism check must

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, 2 August

Scholars pursuing PhD at Delhi University can now appear for their viva through Skype or other modes of video conferencing.

The varsity has also made it mandatory that the thesis submitted by the PhD scholars pass a "plagiarism check" and procured specialised softwares for it.

"Earlier the students had to appear in person for their viva for PhD programmes. So, the ones who had completed their thesis and were offered any opportunities abroad, they had to travel back for the process. Now this need has been done away with," a senior varsity offi-

cial told PTI.

"The students willing to appear for viva through skype or other modes of videoconferencing need to inform their respective departments in advance. Similarly, if certain expert on interview panel is unable to come in person, then the viva will be arranged through similar modes," he added. Following directives from the University Grants Commission (UGC), to discourage plagiarism in PhD thesis, DU has made it mandatory that all the theses submitted will be subjected to plagiarism check using specialised softwares.

"There are certain softwares which are available over the internet too but

they do not yield fool proof results. We are procuring certain specialised softwares to ensure the scholars cannot do any cut-paste job," the official said.

The varsity has amended its PhD ordinance in accordance with UGC Regulation, 2009 (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of PhD degree) and UGC Regulation, 2010 (Minimum qualifications for Appointment of teachers and other academic staff in universities and colleges and measures for the maintenance of standards in Higher Education).

The amendments were approved during an Executive Council (EC) meeting of the varsity last week.

Rashtriya Sahara ND 03/08/2015 P-10

शिक्षा और शोध की गुणवत्ता पर सवाल



मुद्रा

विशेष गुप्ता

छले दिनों मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय से संबद्ध संसदीय समिति ने उच्च शिक्षा से जुड़ी एक रिपोर्ट पेश की है। रिपोर्ट में समिति ने देश में शोध और उच्च शिक्षा की स्थिति पर गंभीर चिंता व्यक्त की है। साथ ही पीएचडी धारकों की गुणवत्ता पर भी सवाल उठाए हैं। समिति ने यह भी कहा है कि आखिर उच्च शिक्षण संस्थाओं में शिक्षकों के रिक्त पदों को भरने के लिए उपयुक्त उम्मीदवार क्यों नहीं मिल पा रहे हैं? उसने शोध मूल्यांकन की पूरी व्यवस्था पर फिर से गौर करने का सुझाव दिया है। ज्ञात हो कि देश में हर साल सात हजार से अधिक छात्रों को पीएचडी की उपाधि प्रदान की जाती है। समिति ने मंत्रालय से शोध की गुणवत्ता के बारे में मूल्यांकन रिपोर्ट देने के लिए भी कहा है।

सही बात तो यह है कि उच्च शिक्षा की कुछेक संस्थाओं को छोड़कर अधिकांश संस्थाएं छात्रों के प्रवेश, परीक्षा और डिग्री बांटने तक ही सीमित होकर रह गई हैं। देश में आज 700 विश्वविद्यालय और इनसे जुड़े तकरीबन 36 हजार महाविद्यालय कार्यरत हैं। इनमें लगभग तीन करोड़ से भी अधिक छात्रों का नामांकन है। इस प्रकार यह देश की उच्च शिक्षा के सकल नामांकन अनुपात का 22 फीसद बैठता है। इस नामांकन का वर्तमान कक्षावार विभाजन बताता है कि 74 फीसद छात्र विज्ञान, वाणिज्य व कला स्नातक के तीन वर्षीय पाठ्यक्रम के लिए नामांकित किए जाते हैं। दूसरी ओर कुल नामांकित छात्रों का छठा हिस्सा इंजीनियरिंग के लिए तथा मात्र 10 फीसद शिक्षा, चिकित्सा, कृषि, कानून इत्यादि के लिए नामांकित होता है। हैरत की बात यह है कि, 12 फीसद छात्र स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री तथा मात्र दो फीसद ही पीएचडी डिग्री और डिप्लोमा के लिए प्रवेश लेते हैं। इन सबके बावजूद लाखों छात्र प्रवेश के लिए रह जाते हैं। ये सभी छात्र अध्ययन के लिए या तो स्वयंचालित पोषित संस्थाओं की ओर रुख करते हैं अथवा प्राइवेट परीक्षा के माध्यम से डिग्री प्राप्त करते हैं।

उच्च शिक्षण संस्थाओं की गुणवत्ता श्रेष्ठ शिक्षकों की नियुक्ति, उनका पठन-पाठन, शोध कार्य व शिक्षक-छात्र के उचित अनुपात पर निर्भर करती है। मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय के ताजा आंकड़ों से ज्ञात होता है कि देश के आईआईटी, आईआईएम, एनआईआईटी, आईआईएससी जैसे प्रतिष्ठित संस्थान औसतन 35 फीसद फैकल्टी कमी से जूझ

रहे हैं। तकलीफदेह बात यह है कि इस मामले में आईआईटी सबसे अक्ल है जहां 39 फीसद शिक्षकों के पद रिक्त हैं। केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालयों में 38 फीसद शिक्षकों के पद रिक्त पड़े हैं। इस मामले में राज्य विश्वविद्यालयों की हालत और भी खराब है। जहां तक शिक्षक-छात्र अनुपात का सवाल है तो यह यूजीसी के मानकों के अनुसार स्नातकोत्तर स्तर पर 12 छात्रों पर एक शिक्षक तथा स्नातक स्तर पर 15 छात्रों पर एक शिक्षक निर्धारित है। परंतु आंकड़े बताते हैं कि वर्तमान में यह अनुपात 23 छात्रों पर एक शिक्षक है। आंकड़े संकेत देते हैं कि 2030 तक उच्च शिक्षा में ग्रास एनरोलमेंट रेशियो बढ़कर 30 फीसद तक जा सकता है। ऐसे में देश को लगभग 800 विश्वविद्यालयों और 70 हजार महाविद्यालयों की जरूरत होगी। अभी से



चिंता यह है कि इतना बड़ा लक्ष्य पूरा कैसे होगा।

संसदीय समिति ने ऐसे समय में उच्च शिक्षा की दशा पर सवाल उठाए हैं जब दुनिया के शीर्ष 200 विश्वविद्यालयों की सूची में भारत का कहीं नाम नहीं है। गौरतलब है कि दुनिया में कैंब्रिज, आक्सफोर्ड व हार्वर्ड जैसे संस्थान अपने शिक्षण व शोध की गुणवत्ता के कारण ही विव में अपना शीर्ष स्थान बनाए हुए हैं। भारत की स्थिति यह है कि यह विकसित देशों से अभी बहुत पीछे है। आज दुनिया के विकसित देश अपनी उच्च शिक्षा पर अपने कुल बजट का नौ से दस फीसद तक खर्च कर रहे हैं। परंतु भारत में राष्ट्रीय आय का एक फीसद से भी कम उच्च शिक्षा पर खर्च किया जा रहा है। 1964 में शिक्षा में सुधारों के लिए बने कोटारी कमीशन ने शिक्षा पर राष्ट्रीय आय का छह फीसद खर्च करने का सुझाव दिया था। भारतीय ज्ञान आयोग ने भी अपने सुझाव में उच्च शिक्षा पर राष्ट्रीय आय का 1.5 फीसद खर्च करने की बात कही थी। परंतु हम उच्च शिक्षा पर खर्च को एक फीसद तक भी पहुंचा नहीं पाए हैं। यह अनुमान

स्वतः लगाया जा सकता है कि उच्च शिक्षा के इतने सीमित बजट में कैसे शिक्षण और शोध की गुणवत्ता को बढ़ाया जा सकता है।

गौरतलब है कि आज दुनिया के ताकतवर व समृद्ध देशों की सफलता का कारण उनकी विश्वस्तरीय उच्च शिक्षा ही है। अमेरिका, फ्रांस, जर्मनी, सिंगापुर, ब्रिटेन व ऑस्ट्रेलिया जैसे देशों की आर्थिक प्रगति को वहां की विश्वस्तरीय उच्च शिक्षा से जोड़कर ही देखा व समझा जा सकता है। विशेषता यह है कि इन देशों के संस्थान कक्षा के शिक्षण की तुलना में शोध और अनुसंधान पर अधिक ध्यान देते हैं। भारत में इसका ठीक उल्टा है। यहां शोध व अध्ययन की गुणवत्ता की तुलना में सारी कवायद वर्ष भर छात्रों के प्रवेश, परीक्षा व डिग्री तक ही सीमित रह जाती है। शोध से जुड़े आंकड़े बताते हैं कि ब्रिक्स देशों में केवल भारत ही ऐसा है जहां शोध पर कुल जीडीपी का मात्र 0.9 फीसद खर्च किया जाता है। चीन में इस पर 1.9 फीसद, रूस में 1.5 फीसद, ब्राजील में 1.3 फीसद तथा दक्षिण अफ्रीका में 1.0 फीसद धन खर्च होता है। इन्हीं वजहों से राष्ट्रीय उच्च शिक्षा मूल्यांकन परिषद ने भी अपनी सर्वेक्षण रिपोर्ट में साफ किया है कि भारत में 68 फीसद विश्वविद्यालयों और 90 फीसद कॉलेजों में उच्च शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता या तो मध्यम दर्जे की है या दोषपूर्ण है। इन संस्थानों के 75 फीसद डिग्रीधारी छात्र बेरोजगार हैं। पिछले दिनों कई रपटों ने खुलासा किया है कि देश के 60 फीसद विश्वविद्यालयों और 80 फीसद कॉलेजों से निकले छात्रों के पास न तो तकनीकी कौशल है और न ही भाषा की दक्षता। यही कारण है कि ऐसे छात्र उचित रोजगार के लायक नहीं पाए गए हैं।

उच्च शिक्षा केवल पठन-पाठन और शिक्षण का ही माध्यम नहीं है, बल्कि इसका सीधा संबंध शोध की दिशा व उसकी गुणवत्ता से है। पिछले दो दशकों में देश में शिक्षा का जैसा व्यावसायीकरण हुआ है उसने तमाम उद्योगपतियों को रातों-रात शिक्षाविदों में रूपांतरित कर दिया। परिणामतः उच्च शिक्षा का काफी बड़ा हिस्सा पूंजीगत उद्योग में बदलता चला गया और मुनाफा इस कारोबार का बड़ा हिस्सा बनकर उभरा। कुछेक उच्च शैक्षणिक संस्थानों को छोड़ दे तो बाकी संस्थानों की छवि लगातार धूमिल ही हो रही है। वहां पढ़ाई-लिखाई की बात तो दूर ये संस्थान राजनीति के बहुत बड़े अड्डे बन गए हैं। इन्हीं वजहों से यूजीसी की उपादेयता पर भी प्रश्नचिह्न लगने शुरू हो गए हैं। निश्चित ही देश की उच्च शिक्षा के मूल्यांकन का यह उचित समय है। हमें आज राष्ट्रीय जरूरतों के अनुरूप उच्च शिक्षा के ढांचे को वैश्विक रूप प्रदान करने की महती आवश्यकता है। साथ ही अपनी संस्थाओं को बेहतर बनाने के लिए ढांचागत, शोध श्रेष्ठता, शिक्षक-छात्र अनुपात व मानकों के अनुरूप शिक्षकों की अविर्लंब नियुक्ति जैसे मुद्दों पर गंभीरता व त्वरित गति से काम करके उच्च शिक्षा की दशा को सुधारा जा सकता है।

Times of India ND 03/08/2015 P-12

More time to bell CAT from this year

Somdatta.Basu@timesgroup.com

Kolkata: The Common Admission Test (CAT) — one of the most popular MBA entrance examinations of the country — will undergo several changes from this year.

“The changes are part of our continuous efforts to set a better standard of testing for aspirants,” said a senior member of the CAT admissions committee.

Among various changes, the duration of the examination has been increased from 170 to 180 minutes.

“The reason behind increasing the duration by 10 minutes is to allot equal time (60 minutes) to each of the three



TIMING RELAXED

sections. This year, the students will be given exactly an hour to complete each section. The test will automatically move to the next section once a candidate spends an hour on one segment. Also, a candidate cannot switch from one section to another while answering questions in a particular portion. This is another change

from the last year’s test,” said CAT 2015 convener Tathagata Bandopadhyay, who is a professor at the Indian Institute of Management-Ahmedabad.

The CAT admissions committee has also decided to add a new section to the test on data interpretation and logical reasoning (DILR), apart from quantitative aptitude (QA) and verbal and reading comprehension (VRC) sections. “Last year, data interpretation (DI) was a part of QA and logical reasoning was part of VRC. However, the number of questions from each section will remain the same as last year,” he added.

Another major change in the examination process would be the introduction of

written answers. Some questions in each section may not be of multiple-choice (MCQ) type. Instead, direct answers are to be typed on the screen..

“We have decided to introduce a few questions which will require candidates to solve the problems and key-in the correct answer(s) instead of just selecting the right options among the given choices. This year, we are planning to introduce this to reduce the scope for guess work,” Bandopadhyay said.

Candidates will also be able to use basic on-screen calculator for computation this year.

Scheduled for November 29, the examination will be held over two sessions on the same day.

Hindustan ND 03/08/2015 P-5

दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के मौजूदा सत्र से लागू हुए सीबीसीएस के तहत बनी नई व्यवस्था

ऑनर्स में 26, प्रोग्राम में 22 पेपर पढ़ने होंगे



सीबीसीएस-1
प्राप्ति

नई दिल्ली | अचलेन्द्र कटियाह

दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के मौजूदा सत्र से लागू हुए क्रेडिट बेस्ड च्वाइस सिस्टम (सीबीसीएस) में छात्रों का कोर्स तीन भागों में बंटा होगा। इसमें कोर, इलेक्टिव और एबिलिटी इन्हेंसमेंट कोर्स शामिल हैं। छात्रों को ऑनर्स में 26 और प्रोग्राम कोर्स में 22 पेपर पढ़ने होंगे। कोर कोर्स में छात्र के द्वारा लिए गए विषय होंगे और इलेक्टिव में कॉलेज में मौजूद कोर्स के पूल में से अपनी रुचि के हिसाब से चुनाव की आजादी दी गई है।

इलेक्टिव कोर्स को तीन अलग-अलग खंडों में बांटा गया है। इनमें डिप्लोमा से जुड़े कोर्स,

ऐसे तय किया जाएगा एसजीपीए

सेमेस्टर ग्रेड प्वाइंट एवरेज (एसजीपीए) की गणना क्रेडिट प्वाइंट में क्रेडिट का भाग देकर की जाएगी। उदाहरण के तौर पर बीए प्रोग्राम कोर्स के छात्र को पहले सेमेस्टर में कुल चार पेपर पढ़ने होंगे। पहला पेपर अंग्रेजी का होगा। इसे 6 क्रेडिट का रखा गया। पेपर के ग्रेड प्वाइंट 8 तय किए गए हैं। ऐसे में क्रेडिट प्वाइंट (6*8) 48 हो जाएंगे। दो पेपर डिप्लोमा विषय के होंगे। अगर छात्र ने इकोनॉमिक्स और राजनीति विज्ञान को चुना है तो दोनों का एक-एक पेपर पढ़ना होगा। दोनों

के क्रेडिट 6-6 होंगे जबकि ग्रेड प्वाइंट क्रमशः 6 और 8 होंगे। ऐसे में ग्रेड प्वाइंट 36 और 48 हो जाएंगे। चौथा पेपर एईसीसी का होगा। इसमें छात्र को पर्यावरण विज्ञान का पेपर पढ़ना होगा। इसे 4 क्रेडिट का रखा गया जो 7 ग्रेड प्वाइंट से 28 क्रेडिट प्वाइंट को हो जाएगा। सभी छह सेमेस्टर के एसजीपीए के कुल योग में पेपर के कुल क्रेडिट का भाग देकर सीजीपीए निकाला जाएगा। बीए और बीकॉम का प्रत्येक सेमेस्टर 22 क्रेडिट का होगा। बीए पास का कोर्स कुल 132 क्रेडिट का होगा।

डिजिटेशन/प्रोजेक्ट और जेनेरिक इलेक्टिव शामिल हैं। एबिलिटी इन्हेंसमेंट कोर्स को दो प्रकार का रखा गया है। इसमें एबिलिटी इन्हेंसमेंट कम्प्लेक्सरी कोर्स (एईसीसी) और स्किल इन्हेंसमेंट

कोर्स (एसईसी) शामिल हैं। एईसीसी में पर्यावरण विज्ञान और अंग्रेजी/हिन्दी/एमआईएल (आधुनिक भारतीय भाषाएं) को रखा गया है। इनको पढ़ना सभी डिप्लोमा के लिए

कोर्स	कोर	इलेक्टिव	एईसी	पेपर	क्रेडिट
बीएससी (ऑनर्स)	14	8	4	26	148
बीए/बीकॉम (ऑनर्स)	14	8	4	26	148
बीएससी	12	6	6	22	132
बीए/बीकॉम	12	6	6	22	132

ऑनर्स में एक और पास कोर्स में पढ़नी होंगी दो भाषाएं

सीबीसीएस में ऑनर्स कोर्स के छात्रों को हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी में से एक भाषा पढ़नी होगी तो वहीं पास कोर्स में उसे दोनों को पढ़ना होगा। अगर वह हिन्दी

नहीं समझता तो उसे दूसरी भारतीय भाषा चुनने की छूट दी गई है। तीन साल के पाठ्यक्रम में हिन्दी भाषा पढ़ना ऑनर्स के छात्रों को अनिवार्य था।

अनिवार्य रखा गया है।

एसईसी कोर्स में प्रशिक्षण/कौशल वाले कोर्स को रखा गया है। ऑनर्स कोर्स के छात्रों को एसईसी में न्यूनतम दो कोर्स और प्रोग्राम कोर्स के छात्रों को 4 पेपर

पढ़ने होंगे। दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय ने सीबीसीएस के तहत स्तानक के 87 और सप्लीमेंटरी के 18 कोर्स रखे हैं। इस व्यवस्था को लेकर छात्र काफी पसोपेश में हैं।