

## Newspaper Clips

August 21, 2014

**Deccan Herald ND 21/08/2014 P-8**

# Prez convenes IIT chiefs' meet

President Pranab Mukherjee has convened the first-ever meeting with chairmen, board of governors and directors of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), *DHNS* reports from New Delhi.

The conference will be held at Rashtrapati Bhavan on August 22. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Human Resource Development

Minister Smriti Irani will also participate in the conference. "This is for the first time that a Conference of Chairmen, Board of Governors and Directors of IITs is being convened by the President. Twenty-nine Chairmen, Board of Governors and Directors of IITs will participate in the conference," the President's office said in a statement.

**For first time, meeting of all IIT authorities with President Pranab Mukherjee and PM Narendra Modi**

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/pranab-mukherjee-president-narendra-modi-pm-iit-smriti-irani-hrd-ministry/1/377971.html>

For the first time ever, President of India Pranab Mukherjee will host a conference of the chairpersons, board of governors and directors of all Indian Institutes of Technology.

Prime Minister [Narendra Modi](#) and HRD Minister Smriti Irani will also take part in the event at Rashtrapati Bhavan on August 22.

President Pranab Mukherjee is Visitor of all the IITs.

The agenda of the conference are how to improve global ranking of IITs, giving push to research and innovation, use of technology in pedagogy and online learning, deepening of engagement of IITs with community and resource mobilisation as well as alumni participation.

Twenty-nine Chairmen, Board of Governors and Directors of IITs are expected to participate in the conference.

## **UGC asks IITs to toe its line on degrees and academic programmes**

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/ugc-asks-iits-to-toe-its-line-on-degrees-and-academic-programmes/1/378072.html>

Days after the University Grants Commission (UGC) sparked yet another controversy by asking the prestigious Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore to make changes in its four year undergraduate course, it has shot off a communication to the country's 16 IITs asking them to follow suit.

The apex higher education regulator- University Grants Commission- is learnt to have written to all Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) asking them to ensure that the degrees they are offering are aligned to those recognized by them.

The Commission has also sent to all IITs a copy of the 5th July 2014 Gazette notification it issued after the Delhi University Four Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUP) controversy listing out all the recognised degrees.

The IITs are far from amused at the UGC suddenly writing letters to them on its academic programmes as they are governed by their own Act of Parliament. It is learnt that some of the upset IITs have already taken up the matter with the Smriti Irani led Union Human Resource Development (HRD) ministry asking how the regulator for the university system is issuing circulars to them.

One of the IITs that could be directly affected by UGC's latest communication is IIT Kanpur. IIT Kanpur offers four year undergraduate programmes -Bachelors in Science (BS) in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Economics. UGC's list of recognized degrees only allows for a four year BSc degree; under pressure from UGC IISC was recently forced to rename its Bachelors of Science (BS) programme to a three year BSc one and BSc Research for a four year one.

IIT Kanpur's Dean Academic Affairs, Prof Dheeraj Sanghi when contacted said that the IIT has decided not to proceed ahead on the UGC communication as the Commission has no legal power to direct IITs.

"We have decided not to take cognizance of the UGC communication as of now as the Commission can hardly dictate on academic issues to IITs. We are governed by our own Act. If UGC presses ahead, we will take the issue to our Senate if necessary and decide on it. The UGC communication, however, raises other serious issues as it would also mean dual degree programmes are largely illegal. Dual degree courses are highly popular in IITs and the UGC directions could therefore upset many IITs", Prof Sanghi told India Today magazine.

IIT Roorkee Director Prof Pradipta Banerjee said that they have decided not to act on the UGC communication at all as the degrees the IIT offers are as permitted under the IIT Act. IIT Roorkee administration, however, is learnt to have taken up the matter with Secretary Higher Education, HRD ministry.

Other IITs have argued that since they do not depend on UGC for funding and nor are they governed by UGC regulations, the higher education regulator can hardly be shooting off diktats to them.

The 16 IITs are autonomous engineering institutes of national importance governed by The Institutes of Technology Act, 1961 that lays down their powers, duties, framework for governance etc.

UGC Chairman Prof Ved Prakash when contacted, however, said that IITs also have to align their degrees and their nomenclature in keeping with the gazette notification.

"A communication has been sent to IITs to align their courses and degrees with the ones recognized by UGC. This communication has been sent to IITs to ensure all degrees granted by an institute in the country is recognized and ensures employment of students. In case IITs do not adhere to the established and recognized

Mail Today ND 21/08/2014 P-10

## UGC asks IITs to mimic its academic programmes

By Anubhuti Vishnoi in New Delhi

DAYS after the University Grants Commission (UGC) sparked yet another controversy by asking the prestigious Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore to make changes in its four year undergraduate course, it has shot off a communication to the country's 16 IITs asking them to follow suit.

The apex higher education regulator — UGC — is learnt to have written to all Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) asking them to ensure that the degrees they are offering are aligned to those recognised by them. The Commission has also

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affected by UGC's latest communication is IIT Kanpur. IIT Kanpur offers four year undergraduate programmes — Bachelors In Science (BS) In Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Engineering Science.

### Some of the IITs have taken up matter with HRD ministry

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nomenclature and academic programmes, the government will take a call on the same."

## Indian scientist gets grant to map the brain

<http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/indian-scientist-gets-grant-to-map-the-brain/article6332594.ece>

An Indian neuroscientist in the U.S. has been awarded a prestigious grant under President Barack Obama's initiative to map the human brain.

The grant will help him to develop a "virtual neuroanatomist," an artificial-intelligence system that can identify cell types and neural structures in microscopic images of brain slices.

The two researchers at the National Science Foundation, Partha Mitra and Florin Albeanu, have been awarded Early Concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) under President Barack Obama's multi-year Brain Initiative, a statement released by the laboratory said.

The award provides \$300,000 over two years for the development of innovative conceptual and physical tools to advance neuroscience. The awards are intended to fund short-term, proof-of-concept projects with the prospect of high-payoffs.

Dr. Mitra is working to develop an integrative picture of brain function, incorporating theory and experimental work, it said. He is also the founder of the Mouse Brain Architecture Project, an experimental effort to develop a brain-wide connectivity map of the mouse brain, the statement said.

## आइआइटी के प्रोफेसर ने तैयार किया जल व दुर्गंधरहित टॉयलेट

<http://www.jagran.com/news/national-iit-professor-prepared-waterless-and-odourless-urinals-11568547.html>

नई दिल्ली। देश में सार्वजनिक टॉयलेट के लिए पानी की कमी और उसके कारण होने वाली दुर्गंध अब पुरानी बात होगी। आइआइटी दिल्ली के प्रोफेसर ने इस समस्या का हल ढूंढ निकाला है। उन्होंने एक जल और दुर्गंधरहित टॉयलेट तैयार किया है। इसमें पानी फ्लश करने की जरूरत नहीं होगी और इससे दुर्गंध भी नहीं होगा।

आइआइटी के प्रोफेसर डॉ. वी एम चेरियार ने कहा कि मेरे मन में यह सवाल उठा कि आखिर हम क्यों मूत्र और उसकी दुर्गंध को समाप्त करने के लिए कई लीटर पानी बहा देते हैं, जबकि इसकी जरूरत नहीं होनी चाहिए। अभी तक ऐसे पानी को पुनः काम में लाने का हमारे देश में कोई तकनीक विकसित नहीं हो सका है। हमने सोचा कि क्यों न जलरहित टॉयलेट का निर्माण किया जाए। प्रोफेसर चेरियार ने बताया कि मेरे द्वारा तैयार इस टॉयलेट के लिए पानी की जरूरत नहीं होती है और इसे घर, संस्थान और सार्वजनिक स्थानों पर लगाकर पानी और लोगों को होने वाली परेशानियों से बचाया जा सकता है।

चेरियार द्वारा तैयार किए गए चार हजार ऐसे टॉयलेट देशभर लगाए जा चुके हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि अभी केवल पुरुषों के इस्तेमाल वाले टॉयलेट तैयार किए गए हैं। महिलाओं के लिए ऐसे टॉयलेट इस साल नवंबर में लांच कर दिए जाएंगे।

जलरहित टॉयलेट पारंपरिक डिजाइन वाले टॉयलेट जैसा है और इसके इस्तेमाल तरीका भी एक जैसा ही है। लेकिन नया एक टॉयलेट प्रति वर्ष लगभग एक लाख 70 हजार लीटर पानी की बचत करेगा।

चेरियार ने बताया कि इस टॉयलेट के लिए महंगे प्लंबिंग सामान की जरूरत नहीं होगी। ड्राइ ऑपरेशन के कारण एक-दूसरे में फैलने वाली बीमारियों से भी बचा जा सकेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि इसमें ऐसे उपकरण लगाए गए हैं जिसके कारण दुर्गंध बिल्कुल भी नहीं होगी। चेरियार ने कहा कि देश में इस प्रकार के उपलब्ध अन्य तकनीकों की तुलना में इसकी कीमत 1/5 होगी और इसके रखरखाव पर भी ज्यादा खर्च नहीं करना होगा।

## ‘TRYST 2015’ WORKSHOP TO KICK OFF FROM SEPTEMBER 1

Hindustan Times (Indore)

INDORE: Truba College of Engineering and Technology, Indore hosting Automobile Mechanics & IC Engine Workshop ‘TRYST 2015’ in association with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi at their college campus on September 1 and 2. During the intra-college, an automobile design workshop will be held for the students, providing them an opportunity to represent their college at the grand finale of TRYST- 2015, which will be held at IIT Delhi in March 2015. The will also providing the students with an insight into the basics of vehicle dynamics, suspension geometry, IC engine design and various other automobile aspects, read a statement from organisers.

## Most of IIT-B alumni's gifts go into infrastructure

Yogita Rao & Hemali Chhappia Shah, TNN | Aug 20, 2014, 11.58 PM IST

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/City/Mumbai/Most-of-IIT-B-alumnis-gifts-go-into-infrastructure/articleshow/40525598.cms>

MUMBAI: Over time, the Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay has received several large gifts from its old boys, most of which has gone into establishing infrastructure on the campus. Close to half the sum it has received over the last one-and-a-half decades has gone into constructing school buildings, pointing to the fact that the college has expanded largely with help from its alumni. In the last decade, every year the institute got around Rs 15 crore.

In 2008, the Powai institute was pledged one of its largest private donations from Romesh Wadhvani, founder of the Symphony Group, who gifted his alma mater \$5 million (about Rs22cr) to set up a research centre in the area of bio-sciences. In 1999, Nandan Nilekani gifted close to \$5mn for setting up hostels and the Kanwal Rekhi School of IT and a faculty chair. Victor Menezes, ex-senior vice-chairman of Citigroup, gave \$3mn for a convention centre. Raj Mashruwala, former executive VP and CEO of TIBCO Software, donated \$1.8mn for a computer centre.

But thousands of ex-students have adopted several other causes and rose to the occasion each time the IIT-B has drawn up plans or felt a fund crunch. From sponsoring the education of students, to instituting faculty chairs, from remembering even mess workers and contributing for their welfare, to building hostels, alumni have pledged funds for their alma mater. Some contributions are pledged and are being released in phases.

Institute director Devang Khakhar said though 45% funding was for infrastructure, it includes buildings for research. "Research laboratories have been set up. Some private parties have contributed only for land for labs. Though most of the funds have been directed to infrastructure in the last decade, there is a long way to go. We have doubled in numbers but not in area. There are still many faculties staying outside the campus as there are insufficient faculty houses," said Khakhar, adding that the institute has a plan to meet demand.

The Tata's gift of Rs95cr comes from outside the IIT-B family, indicating that top honchos feel that the institute holds the promise of building the nation. It is one of the largest contributions the institute has received. Tata will release the amount over five years. IIT-B has little data on donations from non-alums.

Dean (alumni relations) Ravi Sinha said, "We have corporate relations, although none as large as this (Tata's gift). But for some time now, Indian industry has started believing that IIT-B contributes to nation building."

Sinha said the Tata's funding was more than half of what the institute has received in 10 years. "Most has gone into infrastructure, which would not have been possible with government resources. The high impact research facility was possible only with donations from various contributors," said Sinha.

He added, "But this gift is for something very specific—frugal engineering for social good—for which funding is not generally available."

## Top honour for Indian woman in South Africa

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

JOHANNESBURG: Indian-origin South African academic Leila Patel has been named the African country's one of the top women researcher in the annual Women in Science Awards hosted by the Ministry of Science and Technology. These annual awards recognise the work of those women who are involved in full-time research leading to a master's or doctoral degree in areas in which the participation of women is traditionally low.

## Rush of pre-placement offers at IITs hints at good year for graduates

MUMBAI: The first flush of pre-placement offers (PPOs) now being handed out at India's leading IITs are pointing to a coming bumper placement season this year.

At IIT Bombay, job announcement forms submitted by companies are already double of what was seen at the same time last year. The number of PPOs at other IITs is also rising, offering yet another piece of evidence of a resurgent job market.

Companies make pre-placement offers based on performance of candidates who have interned with them. Many companies like Goldman Sachs and RIL now use this route more, as it helps them gauge candidates better, over longer periods of time and in real work situations.

Such internships at IITs end in August and the first PPOs are trickling in now. The flow will gather momentum by mid-September/October and will continue till December 1, when the campus placement season begins.

Facebook started its campus hiring this year by offering international posts to students of IIT Bombay and IIT Kharagpur. Although the social networking company has not disclosed salary details to the colleges, it is expected to offer at least \$120,000, which was last year's package.

Microsoft has also rolled out PPOs at IITs, after offering Rs 79.5 lakh per annum pay packets for Redmond-based posts at non-IIT campuses recently. Deloitte is offering Rs 21.3 lakh for domestic profiles.

Others who have offered PPOs, include Schlumberger, Directi, Adobe, Reliance, Shell Technology, Cadbury, Qualcomm, Deutsche Bank, Credit Suisse, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, HUL, ITC, Samsung, VMware, Samsung Research, LinkedIn, VizExperts, Works Application, Goldman Sachs (Tech) Intuit, Futures First and P&G. The companies can come again for campus placements to hire more.

Companies also use PPOs to get an early advantage in the war for talent at the placement season in campuses.

"This year looks very promising. The political & economic ecosystem looks very supportive," said Mohak Mehta, placement manager at IIT Bombay. Mehta said recruiters from Japan, Singapore, SouthEast Asia & Middle-East have shown special interest this year. The college has received 30 PPOs and is not expected to take long to cross last year's total of 90 PPOs.

Monday's count of PPOs at IIT-Kharagpur shows 51 offers, said Sudhirkumar Barai, professor-in-charge, training and placement of the institute. Expecting a return of big hiring, IIT Madras and IIT Roorkee have made changes in their placement methods to fit in more companies.

IIT Roorkee will introduce parallel slot system where three slots of six companies each will hold interviews on the first day. So, 18 companies can pick their employees simultaneously compared with mere 3-4 recruiters per day hiring last year.

"This reduces hassles of managing company preferences for initial slots and more hires can take place. We did a dry run of parallel slot system during internship placements this year and it was a success," said NP Padhy, professor-in-charge, Training and Placement IIT Roorkee.

IIT Madras will start their placements in 'graveyard shifts' from 12 at night to 7 am on December 1. This will be done to navigate international time zones and have international companies recruit via calls and Skype.

## 10 करोड़ रुपए की लागत से आईआईटी खड़गपुर में बनेगा डिजिटल हॉल ऑफ फेम

<http://www.bhaskar.com/article/EDUC-EDNE-iit-kharagpur-setting-up-digital-hall-of-fame-4718715-NOR.html>

**एजुकेशन भास्कर।** देश में आईआईटी सिस्टम के विकास और इसमें योगदान देने वाले लोगों की भूमिका के बारे में बताने के लिए आईआईटी, खड़गपुर में एक डिजिटल हॉल ऑफ फेम बनाया जाएगा।

संस्थान के 63वें फाउंडेशन डे के अवसर पर मंगलवार को इसकी घोषणा की गई। इसकी लागत 10 करोड़ रुपए होगी। इसके अलावा संस्थान में एक लीडरशिप डेवलपमेंट सेंटर बनाने की भी योजना है।

विवेकानंद सेंटर फॉर ह्यूमन एक्सीलेंस, थॉट लीडरशिप एंड होलिस्टिक डेवलपमेंट को बनाने में 15 करोड़ रुपए खर्च होंगे। इनके तैयार होने में दो से तीन साल का समय लगेगा।

# What ails most Indian universities

**ROOT CAUSE** Prof R L M Patil looks deep into causes plaguing our education system at the higher levels

To look into how numerous maladies at our universities are misinterpreted, we can glance at an example from recent times: In August 2012, two representatives from the Karnataka Council of Ministers went on an inspection to the Bangalore University campus.

The root cause of the prevalent problems, they said, was the bad condition of toilets in the university. The explanation, no doubt, is bizarre and ill-inferred. Instead of visiting the hostels, they ought to have religiously read the reports by reputed academicians who have diagnosed the ills of the Universities and suggested remedies for them.

Reports of the MR Srinivasan Commission, NR Shetty and Chidananda Gowda Committees, and recommendations of the Central Government Commissions like those of Yashpal and Sam Pitroda are all there for those who care to read, to reflect and to act on. But what one has witnessed all these years is nothing but scant respect to these valuable suggestions.

This truth is simple, but difficult to grasp for those who are responsible for the downfall of our university system. The chancellor-governor, chief minister, ministers, MLAs, MLs, MPs, VC, registrars, faculty and the students are all to blame for the ills of a university.

## Interference

Even the University Grants Commission (UGC) and its various counterparts, the so called regulatory bodies, have been reckless in their interference in the functioning of our higher education system. They have all reduced through their zealous efforts a university to place where – as a cynic has put it – “non-motivated students are taught irrelevant courses by incompetent teachers to prepare them to face inconsequential examinations, all supervised by an unfit vice-chancellor.”

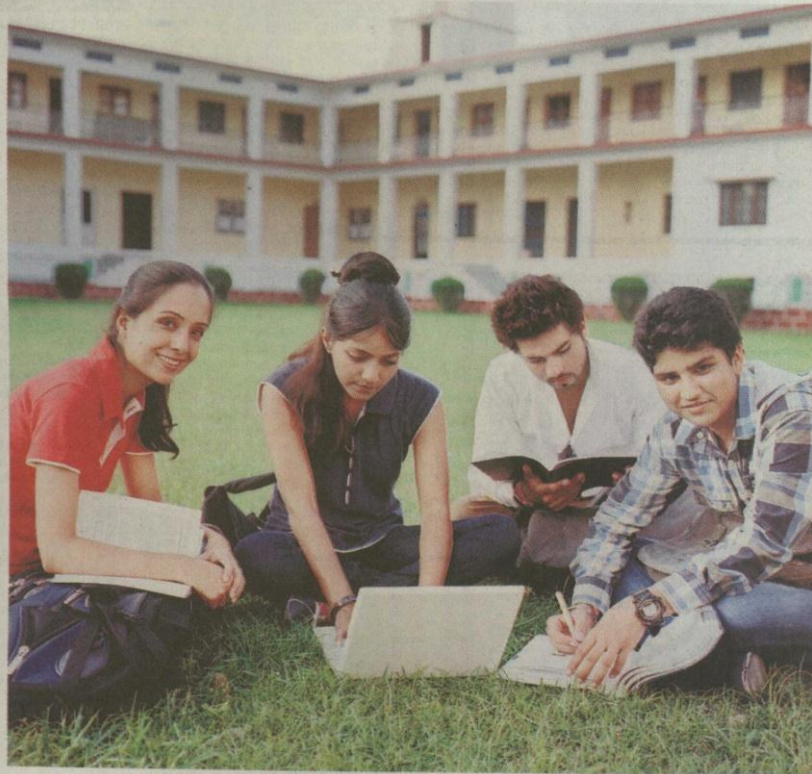
New universities have been set up one after another without planning, vice-chancellors (VC) and registrars are appointed without examining their academic merit and commitment, members of a Syndicate are usually nominated for considerations other than academics, teaching posts (30 to 40 per cent) lie vacant for years, the so called ‘guest faculty’ positions fetch a paltry salary and to cap it all, many legal battles are waged against the actions of VC and even the chancellor.

## The syndicate

A Syndicate, appointed as a support system to a university, works as a supervisory mechanism as well. It is the most critical subsystem which has of late fallen in prestige and credibility. A few government and IAS officers and legislators are also members of the Syndicate, but are hardly seen attending deliberations in the Syndicate.

In the UGC, for example, there is no one on the governing body to take care of the interests of the states. The UGC’s budget hardly benefits the federal obligations. The norms/ guidelines issued by the UGC which breathe down the neck of the state universities are hardly in consonance with local interests.

The UGC makes important decisions on various aspects of the state university’s functioning (the central universities do not attach much significance on the UGC mandate) and frequently goes back and forth on issues like NET and PhD, causing endless confusion and difficulties. The central universities obtain a generous



funding while all state universities put together can manage but a trickle.

Meetings are held once in two or six months. In the meetings, only an eminent few take deliberations seriously. It is given to understand that some VCs are handicapped by their lack of proficiency in English, which hinders their effective participation.

The council therefore becomes a redundant ornament rather than fulfilling its original mission of a think tank. Though it is agreed that the VC is the key functionary in the higher education system, not much thought has been given to a proper selection method for the head of the system.

Some VCs have caused embarrassments to the posts they hold by indulging in misdemeanors like forgery and corruption, protection to scandalous elements (marks cards and sexual harassment), favouritism and politicking. A few of them are suspected to owe allegiance to the head of the system personally.

To cite an example from Andhra Pradesh, it is said that the Rayalaseema University year awarded 2,600 PhDs in two years. The 23 universities setup by the Y S Rajashekar Reddy admitted 38,000 PhD candidates and succeeded in awarding 13,000 PhD degrees in five years!

## Solutions

An approach towards bettering the existing system needs to be sustained and innovative. It must incorporate certain strategies like:

■ Stringent norms are required to be laid

down and adhered to while forming the Syndicates/ Boards of Management. An active and mature mind is desirable for nomination to the Syndicate. Perhaps an age limit (50-65 years), is also desirable. Only such a person who is considered to be an experienced administrator, an expert in any academic field, without a clean record, or without any conflict of interest with the university system should be selected for the body, either by the chancellor or the government.

If only the IAS and senior-level officials were to attend the Syndicate/ BoM meetings the resolutions passed there would not have been questioned by under-secretaries or deputy secretaries. It is a pity they choose not to attend such meetings.

■ If one were to look for relief in this kind of a situation, a few groups of suggestions can be offered. Firstly, overhaul the state university system, and, secondly, overhaul the structure and procedure of the bodies like UGC in tune with other states without any narrow political consideration. Thirdly, make our Universities units of socio-economic changes in the society.

■ There are two views on bringing in outsiders like IAS/ KAS officers as registrars. Those in favour of this practice argue that such officers discharge their duties impartially and effectively. On the other hand, the insider professors who are appointed to these posts may cost deeper fissures in administrations as they have their own following, and have future ambitions.

This apart, it would also cause loss to the teaching faculty – in number and in

quality.

■ A common board of selection of teaching faculty at all levels for all universities in the state. The common selection body could comprise VCs, experts, representatives of states etc. A similar body can also be set up for the purpose of choosing non-teaching/ administrative staff.

■ A number of problems arise in university administration. Student admissions, examinations, migration, fees, campus facilities, teacher recruitment, promotion, salary, seniority, transfer, funding research and conference-attending, pension and disciplinary matters, appointment of non-teaching staffs, confirmations, postings, promotion, salary etc are some to be mentioned.

An academic institution cannot be expected to drive the alleged victims of injustice and unfair play to the courts for relief. One should think of setting up a Tribunal with different wings to look into the grievances of members of university community and come up with quick and fair solutions.

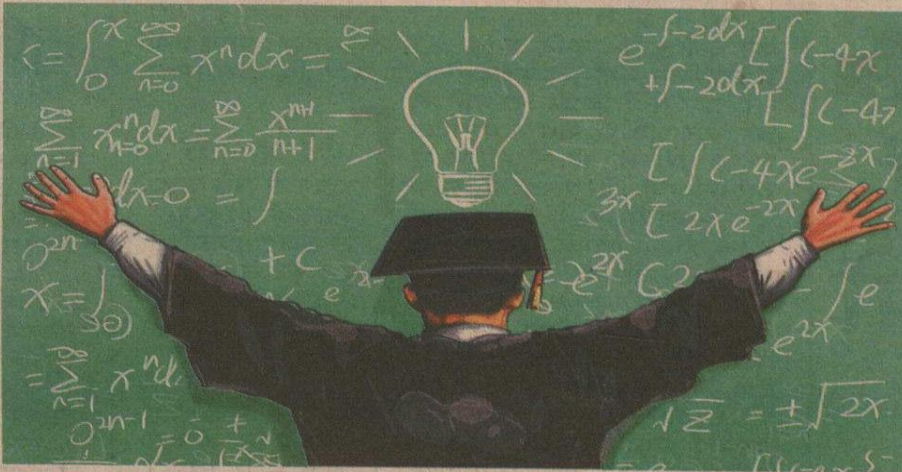
The state of higher education in Karnataka is disconcerting. A number of commissions and committees have come and gone but the quality of our educational system has remained unsatisfactory. What is required today is a strong will on the part of our statesmen both at the central and state levels. And a drastic reform of the UGC and other regulatory agencies.

(The author is a nominated member of the Karnataka State Higher Education Council)



दिसंबर में प्लेसमेंट सीजन शुरू होने से पहले  
बेहतर स्टूडेंट्स को हायर करने की होड़

# IIT में सुपर हिट रहा प्री-प्लेसमेंट ऑफर्स का फर्स्ट राउंड



देविना सेनगुप्ता | मुंबई |

देश के बड़े आईआईटी कैम्पस में प्री-प्लेसमेंट की पहली खेप से संकेत मिल रहे हैं कि इस साल प्लेसमेंट सीजन में स्टूडेंट्स के हाथ बंपर ऑफर आएंगे। आईआईटी-मुंबई में कंपनियां पिछले साल से लगभग दोगुने जॉब अनाउंसमेंट फॉर्म अभी ही जमा कर चुकी हैं। दूसरे आईआईटी में भी प्री-प्लेसमेंट ऑफर (पीपीओ) की संख्या बढ़ी है। इससे जॉब मार्केट में बहार आने की बात पक्की होती दिख रही है।

कंपनियां अपने साथ इंटरशिप कर चुके कैडिडेट्स की परफॉर्मेंस के आधार पर प्री-प्लेसमेंट ऑफर देती हैं। गोल्डमैन सैक्स और रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज जैसी कई कंपनियां ऐसा तरीका ज्यादा आजमाने लगी हैं। इससे कंपनियों को ज्यादा वक्त गंवाए बिना सही कैडिडेट चुनने में सहूलियत होती है। आईआईटी में इंटरशिप पीरियड अगस्त में खत्म होता है और कंपनियों के पीपीओ भी आने शुरू हो गए हैं। सितंबर मध्य या अक्टूबर से लेकर 1 दिसंबर तक इसमें तेजी आएगी। उसके बाद कैम्पस प्लेसमेंट का सीजन शुरू होगा।

इस साल फेसबुक की कैम्पस हायरिंग आईआईटी-बॉम्बे और आईआईटी-खड़गपुर से शुरू हुई है। कंपनी इन स्टूडेंट्स को इंटरनेशनल पोस्ट ऑफर

कर रही है। सोशल नेटवर्किंग कंपनी ने अभी सैलरी पैकेज के पत्ते नहीं खोले हैं, लेकिन उम्मीद है कि वह कम से कम 1,20,000 डॉलर ऑफर कर सकती है, जो पिछले साल का पैकेज है।

माइक्रोसॉफ्ट भी अपने पीपीओ के साथ आईआईटी में पहुंच चुकी है। इससे पहले कंपनी नॉन-आईआईटी कैम्पस में सालाना 79.51 लाख रुपये का पैकेज ऑफर कर चुकी है। ये ऑफर कंपनी ने रेडमंड में मौजूद पोस्ट्स के लिए दिए थे। डेलॉयट अपने डोमेस्टिक प्रोफाइल के लिए आईआईटी ग्रेजुएट्स को 21.3 लाख रुपये का पैकेज ऑफर कर रही है।

पीपीओ ऑफर करने वाली दूसरी कंपनियों में श्लमबर्जर, डायरेक्ट्री, एडोबी, रिलायंस, शेल टेक्नोलॉजी, कैडबरी, क्वालकॉम, डोएचे बैंक,

क्रेडिट सुईस, मित्सुबिशी हेवी इंडस्ट्रीज, एचयूएल, आईटीसी, सैमसंग, सैमसंग रिसर्च, लिंकडइन, विजएक्सपर्ट्स, वर्क्स एप्लिकेशन, गोल्डमैन सैक्स (टेक) इन्ट्रिट, फ्यूचर फर्स्ट और पीएंडजी हैं। ये और ज्यादा हायरिंग के लिए कैम्पस सेलेक्शन के दौरान भी आ सकती हैं। कंपनियां पीपीओ का इस्तेमाल कैम्पस सेलेक्शन के दौरान बेहतर टैलेंट हासिल करने की रेस में आगे रहने के लिए भी करती हैं।

**राजनीतिक  
और आर्थिक  
माहौल सपोर्टिव  
होने से प्री-प्लेसमेंट  
ऑफर ज्यादा  
आए**

## **B-TRAC first phase not successful: IISc**

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/426503/b-trac-first-phase-not.html>

Even as the evaluation report by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) revealed that the first phase (from 2007-2012) of the Bangalore Traffic Improvement Project (B-TRAC) has not been successful, the City traffic police are gearing up to implement the second phase of B-TRAC.

Under the first phase of the five-year B-TRAC project, the traffic police had listed 500 junctions for improvement, of which, only 46 were developed, according to the report prepared by the Centre for Infrastructure Sustainable Transportation and Urban Planning (CiSTUP) at IISc.

The report also points out the discrepancy in release of the money earmarked for the project.

The government has released only Rs 124 crore against the allocated fund of Rs 350 crore. A major part of the funds was used for civil works, video walls or providing BlackBerry handsets to traffic cops for booking traffic offenders.

Prof T G Sitharam, Chairman, CiSTUP, told Deccan Herald that the project had not been successful overall.

“However, some things were successful, such as the introduction of Information Communication and Technology, which helped the traffic police nab offenders and collect penalty instantaneously,” he said.

The numbers

Prof Sitharam said that the traffic police did not monitor and maintain surveillance cameras, pelican lighting and street furniture like flexible cones, cat eyes, reflective medians and so on. Also, only five enforcement cameras had been installed as against the targeted 26 cameras.

Similarly, of the 680 surveillance cameras proposed, 179 were installed, of which, 11 were removed by civic agencies for road improvement. Of the 95 pelican signals proposed, only 16 were installed.

The report also points out that the failure of the project was primarily because the traffic police were asked to do civil engineering works, which is not their forte.

Awareness increased

Meanwhile, another series of surveys has revealed that the awareness quotient on B-TRAC and traffic management had increased among the traffic police and citizens.

On the other hand, after the IISc submitted the evaluation report, the government did not even consult the institute for preparing the project report for the second phase, an IISc professor said.

Admitting that the project was not fully implemented, Additional Commissioner of Police (Traffic) B Dayananda said that things were progressing gradually and the remaining junctions would be improved in a phased manner.

Another proposal for implementing the second phase of B-TRAC for improving 25 junctions is before the government for approval.

## HRD writes to AMU, seeks clarification on Pro V-C appointment

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/hrd-writes-to-amu-seeks-clarification-on-pro-v-c-appointment/>

The appointment of former Army personnel at the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) has been called into question again. The Ministry of Human Resource Development, in a confidential letter, has asked the university to explain its position regarding complaints of irregularities in the appointment of its Pro Vice-Chancellor Brig (Retd) Syed Ahmed Ali.

Last week, the university sent an explanation to the ministry maintaining that the appointments are “justified”. AMU Registrar, Group Captain (Retd) Shah Rukh Shamshad told The Indian Express, “We replied to the MHRD approximately a week back. Our stand is the same as before, that the appointment of the PVC is justified.”

However, according to the registrar, the university has “not really elucidated” the violations of UGC’s regulations.

On July 11 this year, professors from the institution had written to President Pranab Mukherjee stating that the appointment was “illegal” as the UGC’s regulations state that a PVC should be “a distinguished academician, with a minimum of 10 years of experience as a professor in a university system or 10 years of experience in an equivalent position.” One of the complainants Dr Hassan Mateenul Islam said, “Brig Ali has never been a professor. Moreover, as per military pay scale also, he is below the grade of a professor, and therefore unqualified for the post.”

The President’s secretariat forwarded the letter to the MHRD after which, the ministry began investigating. V-C Zameer Uddin Shah had defended the appointments saying he wanted people he could “trust implicitly”.

## Biologist to document leopard movement at IIT-B campus

Hindustan Times (Mumbai)

MUMBAI: Starting next week, wildlife biologist Kadambari Devarajan, who lives in the Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay (IIT-B) campus, will document leopard movement on the site.

She will use camera traps and campus security for the process.

Worried by frequent leopard sightings on campus, IIT-B security had approached Devarajan for a solution. The researcher will also train campus security on leopards and their behaviour.

Another wildlife biologist, Dipti Humraskar, will help Devarajan. In the past, Humraskar has worked on leopard-human conflict awareness programmes under Mumbaikars for Sanjay Gandhi National Park project.

“IIT-B’s campus is vast and conducive for leopard movement with its green cover and several inhabited spots. I will install around 8- 10 camera traps at spots where security guards often spot leopards,” said Devarajan.

The Mumbaikars for SGNP project, carried out by forest department, used camera traps to estimate the leopard population in the 108-square kilometre park.

Humraskar said as the IIT-B campus is home to several stray dogs, leopards frequent the college to feed on them.

“The security and campus residents need to understand that trapping leopards every time they are spotted is not an option, as they often come back to where they are trapped. Letting the animal follow its own path is the best option for campus security,” said Humraskar.

## **Fake research at PGI: Journal starts its own investigation**

Hindustan Times (Chandigarh)

**F FOUND THAT THE ARTICLE WAS FAKE THEN IT WILL BE RETRACTED AND THE AUTHOR BLACKLISTED** Dr HEMANT JAIN, chief editor, Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research

CHANDIGARH: In the fake research case at the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Reserach (PGIMER), Chandigarh, which was reported by HT last month, the journal that published the study has started its own investigation.

In response to HT reports, Dr Hemant Jain, the chief editor of Delhi-based Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research, said that it was a very serious matter, so as per the procedure, a team of three editors would sit and evaluate the claim and counter claim. “If found that the article was fake then it will be retracted and the author will be blacklisted,” he said.

He said that in this case, the copyright was presented and properly signed by all the authors. “One of the authors was HOD and professor of the same department. Whenever we have any doubt with regard to originality of the work, we write and confirm from the HoD. If the HoD agrees to the data, only then we proceed,” he said.

The HT on July 28 and July 30 had highlighted how the drug information unit (DIU) at the PGIMER, received just one call in three years from 2011 to 2013. But, a research paper published by three doctors of the department of pharmacology, which runs the unit, claimed having received 56 calls in one month. Quite contrary to this, the DIU received only 53 calls since its inception in 2003. The unit addresses queries of doctors over phone related to various drugs and their adverse reactions. The study was published in the Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research last year.

Two resident doctors — Dr Pugazhenthana Thangaraju and Dr Hararmanjit Singh — and professor and head Dr Amitava Chakravarty, published a study titled “Short Communication: Drug Information Unit as an Effective Tool for Promoting Rational Drug Use”.

The study, supposedly conducted in 2013, was based on the calls received at the DIU that too at a time when the unit was actually lying defunct.

Interestingly, the years during which the study was claimed to have been conducted, even the dedicated telephone line of the DIU was lying defunct.