

Newspaper Clips August 25, 2015

Deccan Herald ND 25/08/2015 P-02

IIMB racing against time to help IIM-Vizag open next month

It's mentoring the new premier management institute in AP

Ramzauva Chhakhuak

BENGALURU: Prof Sourav Mukherji, the Dean of Programmes at the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIMB), is a busy man these days. With the responsibility of mentoring the newly sanctioned IIM-Vizag falling on the IIMB, Mukherji, who has been appointed the nodal officer, is fighting against the clock.

The IIM-Vizag is to start functioning by September with the first batch of 55-60 students. As was the case in the past, there is some skepticism among IIM aspirants about the quality of the new IIMs. The IIM-Vizag is one of the six new

institutes announced recently by the Union government.

Mukherji has assured that “students (at IIM-Vizag) will not feel a difference”. “Interest in the institute is not a problem. We are getting a great amount of that. However, the question to ask is: Are we getting the right people?”

The plan is to start with the PGP (Post Graduate Programme) in Management in the first year. There will be six core courses per term and two classes a week for every subject. The faculty at IIMB specialising in these courses will teach them at IIM-Vizag. “As many as eight members of the IIMB faculty will teach at the new institute every term and a few others will also be there to

oversee the process. In fact, 10 per cent of the 100-member IIMB faculty will be involved in the mentoring programme,” said Mukherji. The two-year PGP course is divided into four terms as at the IIMB.

The IIMB has one of the best placement records among IIMs and business schools in the country. It plans to extend this reputation to placements at the IIM-Vizag too. The IIMB, along with its alumni, will also facilitate industry contact, projects among other things, according to Mukherji.

The IIM will come up on 300 acres of land at Gambheeram village located 25 km from Vizag (also called Visakhapatnam). The foundation stone for the institute’s permanent cam-

pus was laid on January 17. It will take at least three years for this campus to be ready. Until then, Mukherji’s concern is to make sure all the necessary facilities are provided at the institute’s temporary campus at Andhra University.

“The concerns right now are very basic. From refurbishing the building in which the classes would be conducted to making sure there are enough toilets to having proper hostel facilities. We are also in the process of identifying flats near the campus and making sure they are secured. We have spoken to a number of realtors. We also have quite an active alumni chapter at Vizag and are reaching out to them to help us,” said Mukherji.

He has already visited Vizag a couple of times.

Although the mentorship and hand-holding is only academic in nature, the IIMB may help in the recruitment of faculty too, if requested by the higher-ups. Students may get a chance to get acquainted with their peers and faculty at the IIMB.

“If the schedule permits, we will try and get them (students) here to get acquainted with various processes such as the functioning of the student body, placements, etc,” Mukherji added.

The IIMB has earlier mentored the IIM, Tiruchirapalli in Tamil Nadu, which opened in 2011.

DH News Service

Indian Express ND 25/08/2015 P-07

B'luru-based Professional Services Aggregator Qyk Raises ₹6.5 Crore

Qyk has brought together over 10,000 professionals across 100 categories

Madhav.Chanchani@timesgroup.com



ASHISH TANEJA
Managing Director, Growx Ventures

Mumbai: Qyk, which aggregates piano teachers to tax consultants, has raised ₹6.5 crore in pre-series A funding from Growx Ventures, an early stage investment firm, along with existing backers Tracxn Labs, Powai Lake Ventures and Sahil Barua.

The funding for the Bengaluru-based startup, founded by IIT Bombay and IIT Kharagpur graduates, comes at a time when several hyperlocal services startups such as Housejoy, Urbanclap, Door-mint, Taskbob and Handyhome have attracted venture capital funding.

But while most of the other companies are focusing on blue collar services such as plumbing or AC repair, Qyk says it is focused on the professional services.

Qyk has brought together over 10,000 professionals across 100 categories, some of the most popular being those

The traditional approach to finding service providers is painful and broken, and leaves both the consumer and the service provider dissatisfied. We've already seen this model see huge success in the US with Thumbtack

providing lessons for dance, piano and singing; event-related service providers such as photographers and caterers; and wellness exerts in fitness and yoga.

Once a customer feeds in the basic requirements, Qyk connects consumers to professionals who match their needs, said co-founder and CEO Deepak Singhal, 30. Other co-founders include Sangharsh Boudhh, Shobhit Singhal and Anubhav Sahoo. The founders have earlier worked with companies including Ola, InMobi, Practo and Deutsche Bank.

Qyk gets about 300 requests a day, of which it converts nearly 30% into transactions. The company is targeting 5,000 transactions by June 2016. Since starting operations in March 2015, Qyk has grown to a team of over 70 and expects to scale up to over 200 in a year. "The traditional approach to finding service providers via listings is painful and broken, and leaves both the consumer and the service provider dissatisfied. We've already seen this model see huge success in the USA with Thumbtack," Ashish Taneja, managing director of Growx Ventures, said.

Pondicherry University Row: MHRD asks Vice Chancellor not to join until further orders

<http://www.prepsure.com/news/pondicherry-university-row-mhrd-asks-vice-chancellor-not-to-join-until-further-orders/>

As per the orders issued to the government by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Pondicherry University Vice Chancellor Chandra Krishnamurthy has been asked not to join and is now on a mandatory hold with effect from August 22 until further orders. Prof. Krishnamurthy had proceeded on leave till August 21 on a MHRD directive after an indefinite agitation by a section of students and faculty seeking her ouster for alleged academic demeanour and plagiarism had paralysed the institution for days.

The MHRD mandated VC's joining due to her refusal to extend leave. Confirming the MHRD's order, Chief Secretary Manoj Parida informed that it has also been communicated that Prof. Anisa Basheer Khan, the senior-most Dean and acting Vice Chancellor will continue to hold charge of the post of Vice Chancellor until further orders. The MHRD order states that taking into account the ground situation as reported by the local administration, compelling circumstances, and in the interest of restoring normalcy in the University, it had been decided to place Prof. Krishnamurthy on compulsory wait.

Union HRD Ministry Ministry on August 14, 2015 asked the Vice-Chancellor of Pondicherry University Chandra Krishnamoorthy, against whom students had launched a stir about two weeks ago seeking her removal, to go on leave. Chief Secretary to Puducherry government, Manoj Parida, said that the Ministry has directed the Vice-Chancellor to go on leave pending inquiry into the allegations made against her.

The students have been on strike since July 27 to press their charter of demands, including removal of the Vice-Chancellor for alleged 'administrative chaos' and 'violation of human rights'. Against this backdrop, a two-member official team, comprising the Joint Secretary to the UGC K P Singh and Director of Higher Education in the Ministry Amit Shukla, deputed by the HRD Ministry, had held parleys with students, officials, staff and other stakeholders of the University on August 6 and 7.

IISc scientists plan fly-sized surveillance plane

Bengaluru, August 25, 2015, DHNS:

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/497144/iisc-scientists-plan-fly-sized.html>

Eye in the sky



Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) are now working on building a fly-sized aircraft that can be used for surveillance, rescue operations or army missions.

The team of scientists at IISc is deciphering insect flight to mimic the same in a mechanical process. However,

the team says that understanding insect flight is a challenging task.

Insects can not only flap and rotate their wings but also deform them momentarily. Such stunts help them perform enviable acrobatics. They can also change their speed and direction very quickly and land on a flower dancing in a gale.

Using sophisticated visualising techniques and computational tools, researchers at the Nonlinear Multi-functional Composites - Analysis and Design Laboratory (NMCAD Lab) at IISc, headed by Prof Dineshkumar Harursampath, say that insect flight is much more than what meets the unaided eye.

Earlier, the flight of a fly seemed to defy the aerodynamic principles on which aircrafts were built. However, in the last three or four decades, a better understanding of an insect's flight has emerged, enabling humans to mimic the same to some extent. The team is using state-of-the-art techniques to gain insights into how nature has engineered insects.

Using novel materials that are light and flexible, they have successfully designed an aircraft that is the size of a crow. Now, the team at IISc aims to build an aircraft that is as small as a fly. Prof Harursampath is conscious of one important aspect of design found in nature - sustainability.

“Nothing in nature eventually goes waste. It has a built-in recycling system. Even its occasional short-term destruction is aimed at long-term reconstruction,” he said. His lab also focuses on employing environment-friendly materials for various applications.

Award ceremony

IISc will facilitate five of its distinguished alumni at an award ceremony that will be held on August 30. The alumni are: A S Kiran Kumar, chairman, ISRO, Professor Sunil Kumar, dean and professor, University of Chicago's Booth School of Business, KSR Charan Reddy, IGP and SIT chief, Prof Mitter Vedu, former faculty at PES University, Dr Subhash C Singhal, Battelle Fellow Emeritus at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Washington, USA.

This Sunday, IISc Felicitates Five Distinguished Alumni

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/bengaluru/This-Sunday-IISc-Felicitates-Five-Distinguished-Alumni/2015/08/25/article2992057.ece>

BENGALURU: The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) will confer the prestigious Distinguished Alumnus Awards on five alumni who have made a mark in their respective fields on Sunday.

The awardees are A S Kiran Kumar, Prof Sunil Kumar, K S R Charan Reddy, Dr Subhash C Singhal and Prof Mitter Vedu.

IISc director Prof Anurag Kumar said, “This award recognises the achievements of our alumni in many walks of life, and by doing so, also achieves the objective of re-establishing their connections with us.”

Kiran Kumar is chairman of the Space Commission; secretary, Department of Space, and chairman, ISRO. He received MTech in Physical Engineering with distinction from IISc in 1975.

Known for his immense contributions to India's space programme, he was responsible for the design and development of at least 50 electro-optical imaging sensors flown in space-borne platforms. He has been

instrumental in evolving the earth observation strategy of ISRO encompassing land, ocean and atmosphere. Kumar also played crucial roles for the success of Chandrayaan-1 and Mars Orbiter Mission.

Sunil Kumar is Dean and George Pratt Shultz Professor of Operations Management at the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business. He was an outstanding Master of Engineering student in the Department of Computer Science and Automation at IISc during 1990-92, where he was awarded the N R Khambati Medal.

Prof Kumar studies the performance and control of manufacturing systems and service operations through mathematical models. He says, "My years at IISc proved transformative for me. I owe much of what I have achieved to the Institute. To be recognized by such an alma mater is a humbling honour. I will cherish the award and strive to live up to it."

Charan Reddy has distinguished himself in the Indian Police Service where he is Inspector General of Police, Special Investigation Team of the Karnataka Lokayukta. After completing MTech in Management Studies from IISc in 1990, he joined the service in 1993. In field assignments, Reddy has shown finesse in handling tough and demanding law and order situations.

Subhash Singhal is Battelle Fellow Emeritus at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Washington. He got BE in Metallurgy from the IISc in 1965, and has authored 100 scientific publications with 13 patents to his name. Dr Singhal is internationally recognised for his research on solid oxide fuel cell technology. "It was my education at IISc, particularly in materials thermodynamics, that helped me develop solid oxide fuel cells for power generation," he said.

Prof Mitter Vedu is another alumnus from the '60s, having completed BE and ME in Electrical Communication Engineering in 1966. A retired professor of management, PES University, and principal consultant at Changeman, Prof Vedu was part of a joint development team on making the world's first quartz watch -based on sophisticated printed circuits.

He also pioneered the manufacture of professional grade printed circuits and electronic watches with chip-on-board technology in India.

India, Australia ink MoU to deepen education ties

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/india-australia-ink-mou-to-deepen-education-ties/>

The MoU would intensify existing partnerships in higher education and research, including technical and professional education, schools, vocational education and training.

Deepening cooperation in the field of education, India and Australia Monday agreed on a joint financial commitment of up to AUS\$ one million and signed an MoU to strengthen existing partnerships.

The MoU would intensify existing partnerships in higher education and research, including technical and professional education, schools, vocational education and training.

The agreement, which will also open up new and innovative areas of cooperation, was signed between HRD Minister [Smriti Irani](#) and the Australian Minister for Education and Training Christopher Pyne.

The MoU was approved by Union Cabinet last week.