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August 30

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HRD ministry backs whistleblower IIT prof

Brajesh Kumar

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A computer science professor at IIT Kharagpur suspended from the institute on charges of maligning the reputation of the institute four years ago has received backing from the HRD ministry which has pointed out several discrepancies in the inquiry conducted by the IIT.

Professor Rajiv Kumar, called an “unsung hero” by the Supreme Court for forcing IITs to introduce transparency in their entrance examination in recent years, had appealed to

THE HRD MINISTRY'S REVIEW OF THE APPEAL WILL SOON BE FORWARDED TO THE PRESIDENT WHO WILL TAKE THE FINAL CALL

President Pranab Mukherjee against biased inquiry and denial of natural justice.

The ministry looking into the Kumar's appeal forwarded by the President has not only pointed out procedural lapses in the conduct of the inquiry, it has also questioned the inquiry report

which it said was badly framed.

Ministry's review of the appeal will soon be forwarded to the President who will take the final call.

Kumar was suspended in May 2011 on charges of “irreparably damaging the reputation of the institute by deliberate misrepresentation of facts of irregular purchase and financial fraud regarding laptop purchase.”

Another charge levelled against Kumar included damaging the reputation of the institute by levelling charges of irregularity in the conduct of entrance examination by the IIT. A one-man inquiry committee in

its report submitted to the IIT in 2013 had proposed compulsory retirement for the professor.

Kumar however had contested the allegations and termed the inquiry biased saying he was being targeted for being a whistleblower.

Kumar's PIL had brought about systemic reforms in the IITs and his role was acknowledged by the SC which had called him “unsung hero”.

It was Kumar's PIL that forced IITs to provide carbon copies of answer scripts, release of answer keys before results, online availability of evaluated scanned scripts among others.

Tech university's vice-chancellor puts in papers

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

NEW DELHI: Delhi Technological University vice-chancellor Pradeep Kumar has resigned from the post, four years before his term comes to an end.

According to a source, Kumar submitted the resignation to Lieutenant Governor of Delhi Najeeb Jung, chancellor of the university. He said he was resigning due to personal reasons.

Kumar had taken over the office in August last year. Even after several attempts, Kumar could not be contacted by HT.

But teachers in the university feel their complaint against the vice-chancellor to the L-G might have led to the resignation. The teachers of the university had sent a written complaint of wrong misrepresentation of his own research identity.

But the L-G's office maintained that he had resigned due to personal reasons.

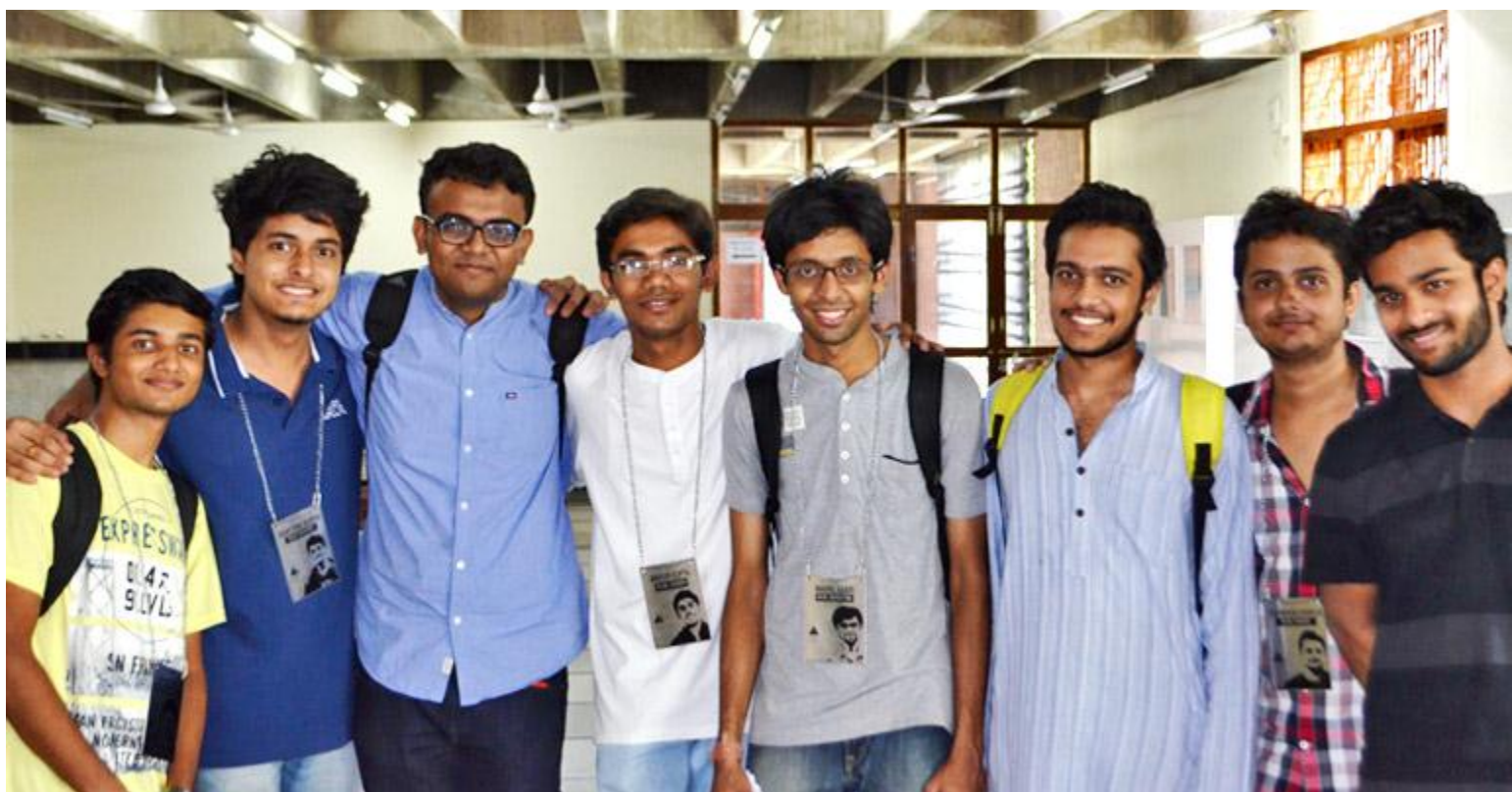
The earlier vice-chancellor of DTU, PB Sharma, was also sent on leave following an inquiry into the charges of corruption against him in 2012 . The DTU is a Delhi government run-institution, earlier known as Delhi College of Engineering.

Inside IIT Kanpur, experience India's future

<http://yourstory.com/2015/08/iit-kanpur/>

It's a little bit of an effort to reach IIT Kanpur. There is no direct flight to the city, and after landing in Lucknow, you have to take a cab to Kanpur.

On the ride to the campus, a question comes to mind, is India really developing in the lanes and by-lanes of the country? The campaigns of 'Swacchh Bharat' and economic development are yet to be seen on this two-hour drive to the campus. But once you enter IIT Kanpur, you know you have arrived at a place which is at par with the best educational institutes worldwide. If not better.



What greeted me in the campus was a bunch of excited students from the entrepreneurship cell who had left no stone unturned to make it the best event and experience for everyone in the campus.

And yes, when I asked the students, how many of them wanted to startup, this was the response:



Let me introduce you to the promise I experienced inside the campus with a sincere hope that you will participate in encouraging the bright young talent of our country.

Meet Shivank Garg, student founder of Vegley, a startup that started selling 100 percent carbide-free mangoes. “Do you know that 95 percent of the mangoes we get in the market are **carbide-ripened**,” Shivank asks me and in the same breath goes on to add,

Calcium Carbide is the most commonly used chemical for artificial ripening. It contains arsenic and phosphorous that converts the healthy fruit **poisonous**. Also this same substance, which is used to ripen citrus fruits, is used for gas welding? Someone has to address this problem, how can we continue to let this happen to us. I had to find a solution to give everyone a healthy choice. We should not be fooled and taken for a ride by people wanting to make quick bucks. And so I started Vegley.



Vegley is located at a distance of one km from Azadpur, **Asia’s largest fruit and vegetable market**, and Shivank says, “We know what to purchase, from where to purchase and at what prices.” And the engineer in him comes out when he says, “Our technique/ method of processing our product is confidential. The success in the technique was achieved after conducting rigorous research and experiments over a long period.”

Currently, Vegley is present in Delhi NCR with a workforce of 20+ employees, five offices, and with three refrigerated delivery vans. Vegley has also managed to secure a 3600 sq. ft. warehouse equipped with controlled atmosphere chambers as well as cold storage facility.

The proud entrepreneur says, “We can easily process **five metric tonnes** of fruits and vegetables daily.” So how come you are still in the campus and are able to do all this I ask, pat comes the reply, “I am able to manage my time, this is something I love doing, it feels I am creating a real impact every day, it does not seem like hard work. Also, my father is my partner who takes care of the daily running of the business when I am here.” Shivank’s father recently recuperated from an illness and somewhere I believe that gives him the drive to ensure everyone is healthy.



Meet the six-member startup team (Nikhil Upadhye, Suhas Banshiwala, Vipul Singh, Yeshwanth Reddy, Piyush Negi, and Prashant) making **DRONES** for their venture, **AUS (Aarav Unmanned Systems)**. AUS has been in SIIC-IITK since December 2013. The team has indigenously built Unmanned Aerial Systems and has already got IP in both hardware as well as software for flight controller, architecture, and design.

Understated and driven, Co-founder **Yeshwanth Reddy** tells me, “Over the past two years we have indigenously built the base of the technology and we are able to do amazing stuff such as say 3D mapping of large areas or say volumetric analysis of mining excavation. Generally people here feel these are too fancy and attribute it only to entities such as Google or other big players in the US and Europe! I can confidently say that the technology we are building is at par with the world’s best (believe me, there are not many building such niche technology globally; let alone in India).” And yes, with orders pouring in from the world over, these young men have already chalked out the plan to be a leader in this space. (Detailed story to follow)

Meet Co-founder **Kushang** (he passed out of campus this year and had come for the summit, carrying with him an infectious enthusiasm) from **Adurcup, an automated hyperlocal advertising tool**. “Adurcup is an offline ad network reaching more than 25,000 consumers per day across Delhi NCR and more than 3,000 consumers per day on trains,” says young Kushang with great enthusiasm. “The inventory comprises of more than 200+

restaurants and cafes in Delhi/NCR, top corporate houses in Noida and Gurgaon, travellers on trains and so on. This inventory is growing at 50% month on month and by the end of the year, we would be reaching out to more than 100,000 consumers on a daily basis.”

The team says, “We have understood the problems faced by advertisers in offline advertising and overcome the same by offering targeted solution with measured ROI.”



Meet another startup, **Shabdnagari**, which promises to help you make your website in Hindi. After all, you have to have your identity in your own language. It’s a free platform where people can create their websites and pages in Hindi. Along with that, it offers complete range of social services like follower/friend management, messaging/chatting along with the tools to easily create content in Hindi. “We also have fully featured mobile applications available for this platform. Shabdanagari was launched in January 2015. We have around 18 thousand registered users on the platform so far,” says founder **Amitesh Mishra** with a smile.

Meet **Amrita Vyas**, who along with her husband **Ashutosh Vyas**, has founded Apcegen Technologies, which is incubated at SIIC IITK. Amrita says, “We focus on pathway engineering, development of proprietary expression platforms for Microbial and Mammalian systems, generation of over-expressing stable cell lines, and development of and novel, scalable processes in microbial and mammalian systems.”

Apcegen has so far developed four biologics that are at various stages of development. One of the alternate biologics being developed for the treatment of **Rheumatoid Arthritis** is shortly entering into non-clinical trials that Apcegen is planning to do in Europe.

Anand Singh Shekawat, Founder of **Tourepedia**, plans to skip the placement this year and pursue his dream of making his venture a choice for every youngster out their planning a trip. He has already found a huge audience within his campus and started clocking in revenue. Watch his story here:

Abhishek, Founder of **FoodMonk**, a popular startup in the campus, has already tied up with restaurants across Kanpur and Kota and found ready consumers. He is leveraging technology to ensure people in low connectivity areas can also place orders. Driven and sharp, Abhishek is keen to make his startup a household name. Watch his story here:

Along with the startups, there’s a new wind of change blowing which I could feel in the various choices the students are making. One of the students, **Samarth**, who is the editor for the college magazine, plans to do journalism after college. He has already bagged an offer from a leading publisher. Another student, **Mukul Joshi** is pursuing his PhD and doing a research on innovators. In fact, one area he is keenly pursuing is **autoethnography** and is keen to find out the pattern that leads to innovation and success among entrepreneurs.

I met so many more entrepreneurs with such enthusiasm, drive and positivity and I might be guilty of not remembering to put them all here. We promise to bring out all the stories shortly.

A special mention goes to a student, who absolutely won my admiration for his humility and commitment,

Ankur

Gupta, the key organiser of the entrepreneurship summit. Soft-spoken and intelligent, Ankur is contemplating to get solar solution in his campus. **If other campuses have it why can't we in IIT Kanpur leverage solar and reduce the costs, he tells me. I am sure he will make something happen there.**

Let me tell you, I entered the campus with fever but somehow the positivity, energy and drive of all the young people made me super-charged. As I headed back from Kanpur to Lucknow, I knew the future of India is going to be bright. And we have so many stories to tell.

आईआईटी में स्पेशल काउंसलिंग सेल बनेगा

नई दिल्ली(व.सं.)। तीन सालों में आईआईटी और एनआईटी संस्थानों में करीब 4400 छात्रों ने बीच में संस्थान छोड़ा। इससे बचने के लिए आईआईटी दिल्ली और आईआईटी बॉम्बे स्पेशल काउंसलिंग सेल का गठन करेंगे।

यह सेल पढ़ाई, नौकरी व अन्य परेशानियों को लेकर छात्रों की माह में दो बार काउंसलिंग करेगा। आईआईटी की संस्था फिट्ज इसका काम देखेगी। फिट्ज से जुड़े प्रो. एसके उपाध्याय ने बताया कि इसका गठन इसी सत्र में अक्टूबर में हो जाएगा। सेल में आईआईटी के वैज्ञानिक होंगे। इसके अलावा मनोचिकित्सक और विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के पेशेवर लोग भी होंगे।

Central team finds all three sites proposed for IIT excellent

To submit report to MHRD in a week: R. Subramanian

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/central-team-finds-all-three-sites-proposed-for-iit-excellent/article7592532.ece>

After visiting the three sites — Mysuru, Dharwad, and Raichur — proposed by the Karnataka government for establishing an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), a Central team feels that all the three are perfect for establishing the premier institute.

R. Subramanian, Additional Secretary (Technical Education), Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), who headed the Union government, team told presspersons that all the three sites were ideal, considering the availability of land and water resources, infrastructure, connectivity and other essential factors. “We are very much impressed by the commitment, enthusiasm and interest shown by Karnataka government, its officials, people’s representatives and general public for getting an IIT. We have seen all the three sites proposed by State government and all are excellent. I can tell you that it is going to be a very good IIT. An IIT is not an engineering college, but a knowledge hub of a very high order, not only at the national level but also at the international level. Hence, we basically require a knowledge environment. We also look at industrial environment so that what IIT produces should be useful to the industry,” Mr. Subramanian said. To a question, Mr. Subramanian said that the team would submit a report to MHRD within a week.

The other two members of the team, Sudhir L. Jain, Director of IIT Gandhinagar, and Ravikanth Soni, Chief Engineer, Central Public Works Department, and Bharat Lal Meena, Principal Secretary, Department of Higher Education, were present.

The team earlier visited Dharwad and inspected the facilities there. It visited Mysuru on Thursday.

ISRO chairman among those felicitated by IISc.

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/isro-chairman-among-those-felicitated-by-iisc/article7597970.ece>

The Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation, a senior police official of the Karnataka Lokayukta and a watchmaker were among those who received the Distinguished Alumnus Award 2015 at the Indian institute of Science (IISc) on Sunday.

A.S. Kiran Kumar, Chairman of ISRO, said his experiences at the premier science institute moulded his career in the space organisation.

Mr. Kumar had done his Masters in Physical Engineering with distinction in 1975, before heading out to ISRO where he played crucial roles in the Chandrayaan-1 and the Mars Orbiter missions.

“My exposure to interdisciplinary work (in IISc) helped me especially in my early years.

This process of innovative work helped me bring together different people from different disciplines in order to forge a team,” Mr. Kiran Kumar said.

The other four being honoured are: K.S.R. Charan Reddy, Inspector General of Police, Special Investigation Team of the Karnataka Lokayukta, who graduated with a Masters in Management Studies in 1990; Mitter Vedu,

a graduate in 1996, who was part of the team that designed the first-ever quartz watch; Sunil Kumar, from the 1992 IISc batch who is now a professor in operations management; and, Subhash C. Singhal – from the 1965 batch who then went on to become a prominent researcher in solid oxide fuel cell technology.

The award is jointly constituted by the IISc and the IISc Alumni Association.

Director of IISc Anurag Kumar hoped that the alumni would re-engage with the institute in its various activities.

Regulators need tooth to tackle menace

Sudhanshu Bhushan Aug 30, 2015,



<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/498040/regulators-need-tooth-tackle-menace.html>

Fake institutions continue to operate in India in an extralegal manner and their presence is indeed baffling. How did they carry on for so long? Is it a regulatory failure or is the malaise much deeper? A degree, as distinguished from certificate and diploma, can be awarded by the university defined under section 2(f) of the UGC Act.

Section 2(f) notes that a university can be established by an Act of Parliament or state Legislature. Under this there are three broad classifications: Central university (46) established by a Central Act; State university (329) established by a State Act and private university (223)—so far established by an Act of State Legislature.

A deemed university is defined under section 3 of the UGC Act. Degree conferring authority under the respective Acts of Parliament also rests with institutions of national importance (73). Besides, 13 Indian Institutes of Management are not universities but have the power to confer a degree. All other institutions, under whatever name, are not allowed to award degrees, rendering them “fake.”

The UGC has now listed 21 such institutions. Section 23 of the UGC Act prohibits an institution to use the word university, except as defined under the UGC Act. Under this, a maximum penalty of Rs 1,000 can be levied in case any institution uses the term university to award a degree in contravention with the law.

Obviously, this is a very mild deterrent. The UGC is a regulatory body but, in effect, it is only advisory as has no power even to derecognise a university or a degree conferred by it. It can only stop the funds if any university or college affiliated to it fails to maintain standards as per the UGC Act. The well-known educationist, the late Amrik Singh, in his book “50 years of higher education in India,” declares the UGC to be a “toothless tiger”.

Under the regulatory provision, the UGC is not bound to initiate inquiry or file civil or criminal petition though it does not prevent the UGC to do so. Obviously, it is within its jurisdiction to declare unlawful institutions only as fake university. On moral grounds - on the grounds of fraudulent practices of fake universities – any individual can file a suit or a PIL.

So the question is how to prevent fake universities? It can be addressed through a suitable amendment of the

UGC Act, by hiking the penalty to Rs 5 crore or more and empowering UGC to file a civil or criminal suit in the court. A more stringent clause may be that before the establishment of the university and its power to confer a degree, the consent of the UGC be made mandatory. But there may be opposition to it. Also, such absolute power could be the source of rent seeking as well.

AICTE approval

There are 343 institutes conducting technical programmes and 116 institutes conducting architecture programmes which are not approved by AICTE. Under the AICTE regulation, it is empowered to approve technical institution and the programme run by it. The AICTE, unlike the UGC, is empowered to not only not pull up any institution on the ground of academic deficiency but also has the power to initiate civil or criminal suit against institution which follows fraudulent practice.

It simply refuses to grant an approval and publishes such list but prefers to adopt a soft approach for filing a suit. I believe a heavy penalty clause might be a better option for AICTE to adopt for which an amendment may be needed. There may be similarly medical, legal and teacher training institutions which are fake. Further, there are many grey areas - there are institutions granting specialised degrees in sports, fashion, aviation and so on for which there may not be regulatory councils, other than the UGC. Such institutions are fake as they may not have degree granting powers under the UGC Act.

But what if the programme is run by an Indian private institution but the degree awarded is from a foreign university? Are these institutions fake? It may be difficult to say so under the present law. These grey areas need to be identified and suitable regulation made.

The point is: Why are fake universities or institutions growing fast? The reason is the high market demand for a course for which there may not be sufficient number of public institutions and therefore, the niche private institutions are mushrooming through legal or extralegal means. As there is demand in the market for such a course, students queue up in those institutions as they know the certification will help them land a job.

The government should constitute a high-powered committee to review all Acts and regulations of all regulatory councils to make them effective. Second, all regulatory councils must have strong penalty clauses. Third, all private institutions granting diploma or foreign degree should be surveyed and on the basis of the survey, a suitable action, including regulation, may be thought about.

(The writer is Professor & Head, Department of Higher & Professional Education, National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi)

Social media, email accounts repeatedly hacked: IIT Madras

Hindustan Times (Ranchi)

NEW DELHI: The Ambedkar-Periyar Study Circle (APSC) of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras, said its social media and institutional mail accounts were repeatedly hacked last week, starting the day they organised a talk by a Harvard professor on reservation in engineering education

The APSC, an independent student body recognised by IITMadras, made headlines earlier this year when it was de-recognised by the institution following an anonymous complaint that it created “hatred” against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Hindus. The decision to ban the group was subsequently revoked after sections of civil society lashed out against the decision.

Speaking to HT, research scholar and a founding member of the group, Akhil Bharathan, said: “We found out on the evening of August 24 that we could not login to our Gmail, Facebook and Smail (the student mail in the

IIT campus) accounts. By night, we recovered both Gmail and Facebook accounts by going to the ‘Forgot password’ option.”

But on August 25, the group found that both their Gmail and Facebook accounts were hacked again. However, they were unable to recover the accounts easily as the alternate email id and verification phone number that they provided to recover passwords were also changed.

“From the last account activity, we found that the IP address of the computer used to steal the password is from within the IIT-Madras campus,” a press statement issued by the group said.

“To us, it seems no coincidence that this act comes close on the heels of the ‘anonymous’ letter sent to the HRD ministry earlier this year,” the press statement said.

“As of now, we have no idea as to who might have done it. But professor Subramanian, with her data and extensive research, had made some startling revelations on the whole issue of reservation in engineering education which could disturbed some,” Abhinav Surya, an APSC member, told HT.

2015 will be hottest year on record, say scientists

Source: AFP

HOW WARMING CAN AFFECT OUR LIVELIHOOD

Let the year be 2030, when the Earth is warming up by two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, which scientists warn should not be crossed. Some scenarios:



60-Year-Old Coffee Farmer In Nicaragua

Global demand has soared and commodity prices tripled since 2015, but **scorching temperatures have decimated your output, quality of your beans is down.** A tiny consolation, your 20-million fellow coffee growers around the world are in similar dire straits

Unemployed Fisherman In Indonesia

Intensive harvesting had already caused several species to collapse, but **as oceans warmed, even other species moved to cooler waters beyond the reach of local vessels.** No other species have come to replace them

39-Year-Old Real Estate Lawyer In Florida

Sea levels have only risen 14cm in last 15 years, but Hurricane Hillary swept away your million-dollar house three years ago. **Since Washington has scrapped federal flood insurance for properties under a metre above sea level, you have more clients than you can handle.** They may get only 20 cents for every policy-insured dollar, you get your fees, and life remains sweet

A Farmer Struggles For Survival In Mali

You replaced your millet crop with genetically-modified, drought-resistant sorghum as desertification creeps up on you. But, **as the local climate gets drier by the year, you wonder how long you and your family can hold out.** You have resolved: When the goats die, you will join the other villagers in their flight to the capital Bamako

At A Ski-Resort On French Alps At 1,280m | You have had to manufacture artificial snow every two years out of three since 2020, and in 2022 and 2028, even artificial flakes couldn't keep the lifts going. Silver lining is you host more summer tourists than ever

Steve Connor

10 days to negotiate climate-rescue deal

Climate scientists are predicting that 2015 will be the hottest year on record "by a mile", with the increase in worldwide average temperatures dramatically undermining the idea that global warming has stopped — as some climate-change sceptics claim.

Even though there are still several months left in the year to gather temperature readings from around the world, climate researchers believe nothing short of a Krakatoa-sized volcanic eruption that cuts out sunlight for months on end can now stop last year's record being beaten.

It is rare for climate experts to make such a bold prediction so soon in the year, but they believe that a surge in ocean temperatures in particular now makes it almost inevitable that 2015 will turn out to be the hottest year globally

Diplomats gather in Bonn from Monday to thrash out the draft of a climate-rescue pact to be adopted at a year-end UN conference in Paris. With just 10 official negotiating days before 195 nations must seal the deal in the French capital, time is running out to bridge deep and long-standing divisions on who should do what to halt the march of global warming. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon urged countries this week to "accelerate the rhythm of negotiations" ahead of the climate conference, saying: "We don't have much time." AFP

since instruments were first used to gather readings more than 130 years ago. The average temperature increase will be so much higher than the previous record, set in 2014, that it should melt away any remaining arguments about the so-called "pause" in global warming, which many climate sceptics have promoted as an argument against action on climate change.

It will mean that the three warmest years since records began in 1880 — 2015, 2014 and 2010 — happened in the past five years, and nine out of the

10 warmest years have all occurred in the 21st century.

"It's a sure thing. If you want a number, I would say about 99% (certain)," said professor James Hansen, a veteran climate researcher at Columbia University in New York and former director of Nasa's Goddard Institute for Space Studies. "It's going to be so far ahead of the other record year that it's going to be beyond the error range," said Phil Jones, director of the Climatic Research Unit at the University of East Anglia in Norwich. THE INDEPENDENT

August 31

Economic Times (Hindi) ND 31.08.2015 P-08

IIT दिल्ली में इंटरशिप ऑप्शनल

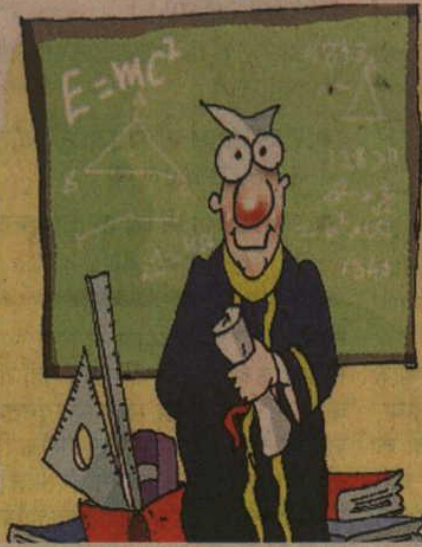
स्टूडेंट्स इंटरशिप के अलावा इस साल से रोबोटिक्स, डिजाइन बेस्ड लर्निंग में कोई लाइव प्रोजेक्ट्स चुन सकेंगे या दूसरे हॉबी प्रोजेक्ट्स पर काम कर सकेंगे

प्राची वर्मा | नई दिल्ली |

आईआईटी दिल्ली ने इस साल एक अनोखा कदम उठाया है। संस्थान ने स्टार्टअप्स की बढ़ती सफलता को देखते हुए यह पहल की है। करीब साढ़े पांच दशक के बाद पहली बार इंस्टीट्यूट ने अपने स्टूडेंट्स के लिए इंटरशिप को ऑप्शनल कर दिया है। इंजीनियरिंग की पढ़ाई करने वाले स्टूडेंट्स इंटरशिप के अलावा इस साल से रोबोटिक्स, डिजाइन बेस्ड लर्निंग में कोई लाइव प्रोजेक्ट्स चुन सकेंगे या अपने डिपार्टमेंट से सलाह-मशविरा करने के बाद किसी दूसरे हॉबी प्रोजेक्ट्स पर काम कर सकेंगे। पिछले साल तक प्रत्येक स्टूडेंट्स के लिए 10 हफ्ते की इंटरशिप जरूरी थी, जिससे आमतौर पर स्टूडेंट्स को नौकरी मिलने में आसानी होती थी।

कारोबारी दुनिया में यंगस्टर्स की सफलताओं के किस्सों और आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप को बढ़ावा देने से जुड़ी सरकार की कोशिशों ने आईआईटी दिल्ली को कुछ अलग सोचने को मजबूर किया है। संस्थान में पढ़ाई करने के दौरान ही बड़ी संख्या में स्टूडेंट्स अपनी उद्यम संबंधी महत्वाकांक्षाओं पर जोर दे रहे हैं।

आईआईटी दिल्ली के डीन (एकेडमिक्स) अनुराग शर्मा का कहना है, 'स्टूडेंट्स की महत्वाकांक्षाएं और दिलचस्पी बदल रही हैं। अब सभी स्टूडेंट्स ट्रेनिंग के लिए इंडस्ट्री में नहीं जाना चाहते हैं। कई स्टूडेंट्स उद्यम के क्षेत्र में अपने हाथ आजमाना चाहते हैं। कुछ हायर स्टडीज करना चाहते हैं।' हालांकि, कुछ आईआईटी अब भी समर इंटरशिप्स पर जोर देते हैं, जबकि आईआईटी बॉम्बे जैसे कुछ संस्थानों ने पहले ही दूसरी चीजों का चुनाव करने की इजाजत स्टूडेंट्स को दे दी थी।



आईआईटी मद्रास और आईआईटी खड़गपुर अब भी स्टूडेंट्स की इंटरशिप पर जोर रहे हैं। आईआईटी मद्रास के एक फैकल्टी ने बताया, 'हमारे यहां समर इंटरशिप कंपल्सरी है, क्योंकि हमारा मानना है कि इससे स्टूडेंट्स को जॉब संबंधी अनुभव मिलता है।'

आईआईटी कानपुर और आईआईटी रुड़की की प्राथमिकता है कि उनके स्टूडेंट्स समर इंटरशिप के लिए जाएं, लेकिन उनकी लोकेशंस के आसपास अच्छी कंपनियों की कमी के कारण इसे ऑप्शनल कर दिया गया है। आईआईटी कानपुर के एक फैकल्टी मेंबर ने बताया कि इंटरशिप कंपल्सरी करने के लिए यहां हर साल बहस होती है।

वहीं, इंटरशिप ऑफर करने से कंपनियों को फ्रेश टैलेंट को पहचानने का मौका मिलता है।

“स्टूडेंट्स की महत्वाकांक्षाएं और दिलचस्पी बदल रही हैं। अब सभी स्टूडेंट्स ट्रेनिंग के लिए इंडस्ट्री में नहीं जाना चाहते हैं। कई स्टूडेंट्स उद्यम के क्षेत्र में अपने हाथ आजमाना चाहते हैं। कुछ हायर स्टडीज करना चाहते हैं”

अनुराग शर्मा, आईआईटी दिल्ली के डीन (एकेडमिक्स)

एमेजॉन इंडिया के डायरेक्टर (ह्यूमन रिसोर्सेज) राज राघवन का कहना है कि यह काबिल लोगों को पहचानने का अहम स्रोत होता है।

टॉप इंस्टीट्यूट्स के ज्यादा से ज्यादा छात्र अपने प्रॉडक्ट्स और बिजनेस को प्राथमिकता दे रहे हैं, लेकिन कंपनियां टैलेंट की किल्लत को लेकर चिंतित नहीं हैं, क्योंकि देश में इंजीनियरिंग और टेक्निकल इंस्टीट्यूट्स की संख्या तेजी से बढ़ रही है। एक प्रमुख ऑनकैम्पस रिक्रूटर ने कहा, 'अगर कुछ आईआईटी यह फैसला करते हैं कि वह इंटरशिप को प्रोत्साहित नहीं करेंगे तो हम नॉन-आईआईटी इंस्टीट्यूट्स में जाएंगे।' आईआईटी दिल्ली ने अपने समर इंटरशिप प्रोग्राम का नाम बदलकर 'डिजाइन एंड प्रैक्टिकल एक्सपीरियंस' कर दिया है।

Hindustan Times ND 31/08/2015 P-14

Panasonic-Shine.com give 30 IIT scholarships

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: In an effort to provide financial aid to undergraduate students across 19 IITs, Panasonic India, in partnership with Shine.com, a unit of HT Media Ltd, announced the first batch of the Ratti Chattr Scholarship Programme 2015.

Thirty students were selected for the final scholarship from 687 applicants. Union minister of science and technology Harsh Vardhan appreciated the service being provided by the scholarship programme, for "improving education and livelihoods, and supporting community devel-

**THE RATTI CHATTR
SCHOLARSHIP STRIVES
TO CREATE EXPERTS BY
GIVING YOUNG TALENT
FROM ECONOMICALLY
WEAKER SECTIONS
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

opment."

Radhika Kalia, head, corporate affairs & CSR, Panasonic India said the scholarship is unique as it provides impetus for domestic higher education by giving financial aid for students' graduation programme from IITs.

US academics raise concerns over Digital India campaign

Ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Silicon Valley to promote the Digital India campaign, more than 100 prominent US-based academics have raised privacy concerns about the project.

In a statement, these academics said Digital India seems to ignore key questions raised in India by critics concerned about the collection of personal information and the near certainty that such digital systems will be used to enhance surveillance and repress the constitutionally-protected rights of citizens.

"We are concerned that the project's potential for increased transparency in bureaucratic dealings with people is threatened by its lack of safeguards about privacy of information, and thus its potential for abuse," said the statement signed by about

137 academics, a significant majority of whom are of Indian-origin.

"Those who live and work in Silicon Valley have a particular responsibility to demand that the government of India factor these critical concerns into its planning for digital futures," the statement said. "We urge those who lead Silicon Valley technology enterprises to be mindful of not violating their own codes of corporate responsibility when conducting business with a government which has, on several occasions already, demonstrated its disregard for human rights and civil liberties, as well as the autonomy of educational and cultural institutions."

Among prominent signatories to the statement are Meena Alexander, Distinguished Professor of English,

Hunter College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York; Arjun Appadurai, Paulette Goddard Professor of Media, Culture, and Communication, New York University; Shahzad Bashir, Professor of Religious Studies, Stanford University; Akeel Bilgrami, Sidney Morgenbesser Professor of Philosophy and Director, South Asian Institute, Columbia University and Partha Chatterjee, Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies, Columbia University.

The views expressed by these academicians were dismissed by Indian-origin entrepreneurs in the Silicon Valley, who hailed Digital India and said that India under Modi has finally woken up to the potential that innovation and technology can bring to the country.

PTI

Hindustan ND 31/08/2015 P-05

छात्रों की मदद से ही मेक इन इंडिया संभव



पैनासोनिक रति स्कॉलरशिप कार्यक्रम के दौरान रविवार को केंद्रीय विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री हर्षवर्धन। • हिन्दुस्तान

नई दिल्ली | कार्यालय संवाददाता

प्रतिभावान छात्रों की मदद के बिना डिजिटल इंडिया और मेक इन इंडिया संभव है। इसके लिए स्कॉलरशिप की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। यह बातें केंद्रीय विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री हर्षवर्धन ने कमजोर वर्ग के आईआईटी छात्रों के लिए पहली पैनासोनिक रति स्कॉलरशिप कार्यक्रम के दौरान कहीं। हिंदुस्तान टाइम्स समूह का जॉब पोर्टल शाइन डॉट कॉम इस कार्यक्रम में सहयोगी था।

केंद्रीय मंत्री ने कहा कि प्रतिभावान छात्रों की सहायता से ही देश में मेक इन

इंडिया का सपना साकार हो सकता है। उन्होंने इलेक्ट्रॉनिक उपभोक्ता उत्पाद बनाने वाली कंपनी जापानी कंपनी पैनासोनिक की सराहना की। हर्षवर्धन ने कहा कि भारत जैसे देश में जहां युवाओं की आबादी सबसे अधिक है वहां मानवसंसाधन को प्रशिक्षित करने के लिए बेहतर संसाधन होने चाहिए। इसके लिए पैनासोनिक की पहल सराहनी है।

इस मौके पर एचटी समूह के कार्यकारी निदेशक अमित गर्ग ने कहा कि सिर्फ सरकार के भरोसे ही युवाओं को प्रशिक्षित नहीं किया जा सकता। इसके लिए निजी क्षेत्र को आगे आना होगा।

Hindustan Times ND 31/08/2015
P-05

JNU to go paperless to increase efficiency



■ All inter-departmental communications will be conducted through the e-office system soon.

AJAY AGGARWAL/ HT FILE PHOTO

NEW DELHI: Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), in an effort to increase efficiency and accountability in the working of its administration, has decided to go paperless.

This effectively will mean that all inter-departmental communications will be conducted through the e-office system.

The university recently computerized all its operations - including inter-departmental communication, admissions and faculty registration - to make the administrative work paperless.

"We are moving towards taking work online. We have established an e-governance cell to streamline our operations. This will increase efficiency and accountability. Anyone handling a file will now know what exactly happened with the file and which official is handling it," JNU vice chancellor Sudhir Kumar Sopory said.

Any file which lands up at Sopory's desk for his approval

too is now greeted with a stamp which says "kindly send through e-office system". Sopory said in a few months, the university will go hundred percent paperless.

"There has been some resistance from some departments. So we have started using these stamps to put pressure on them," Sopory said.

As part of the project, the university's computer centre has also developed 'JNU Intranet portal' and 'JNU private cloud IT infrastructure'.

"The objective is to make workflow at JNU efficient with computerized operations and make accurate data and information available. This has helped in reducing the time taken for movement of papers and files in regular official work," Sopory said.

Sopory said the university has roped in Accel Frontline Ltd. of Chennai for software development while Wipro is serving as the technical consultant. **HTC**

INTERVIEW: CHRIS HOUGHTON

HEAD OF REGION, ERICSSON INDIA

Supporting innovation means encouraging entrepreneurship

Last year Ericsson organised the IIT Innovation Awards to spur creativity among IIT students; this month the company took it to a larger scale by inviting minds across India and rewarding them. "Ericsson Networked India is a new initiative that seeks to identify and reward young Indian minds who are using mobility, communication and technology to come up with ground-breaking and disruptive innovations," says Chris Houghton, head of Region, Ericsson India. Networked India 2015, which was held this month, provided innovators a platform to showcase their projects. A high profile jury then chose top two projects based on various parameters. In an interaction with Vikram Chaudhary of The Financial Express, Houghton talks about the two winning projects and also shares how encouraging innovation means encouraging entrepreneurship. Excerpts:



What led to the Networked India 2015 initiative?

As a company that takes pride in its culture of innovation, we're looking to promote innovation in India through initiatives like IIT Innovation Awards and Networked India. The IIT Innovation Awards that we launched last year saw a total of 67 projects submitted by IIT students. Considering this overwhelming response, we took our initiative to a much larger scale and launched Networked India 2015. We received 140 entries from students as well as entrepreneurs and startups.

Do such initiatives benefit Ericsson as a company?

The effects of digital technology are spreading far beyond the IT world, transforming other sectors and having a fundamental effect on every area of society. At Ericsson, it's important to keep pace with the disruption in the sector and understand how companies will manifest with these changes. Ericsson has long envisioned the arrival of a networked society. In fact, we see ourselves as enablers of change. Networked India is a platform wherein real change-makers can come to the fore and get recognised and rewarded for their stories.

What kind of incentives are you offering to the winning projects?

It is not only the cash reward, we are also providing an excellent platform for innovators to come to the fore, helping to connect them with VCs, right stakeholders and aiding their success. But as far as money is concerned, the two winning projects of Networked India 2015—Arterial Pulse Analyzer and ImmunizeIndia—were given ₹5 lakh each.

What are the kinds of projects you have received and what are the focus areas of these projects?

We received over 140 entries in a span of one month. Most of these projects were focused on technologies related to health-care, environment, transport and human rights. The top five projects



The unique proposition of IIT Innovation Awards was the fact that the intellectual property for the project remains with the students. Similarly, Networked India is a platform for innovators to become entrepreneurs

included innovations like a WiFi trash bin (which gives a unique passcode for users in order to access the WiFi network every time they put the trash in the bin); Constapark (an on-demand parking app); Arterial Pulse Analyser (that can help clinicians in detecting cardiovascular diseases); Helping Faceless (an app to combat child trafficking); and ImmunizeIndia (a free SMS service to get vaccination reminders for your child).

Apart from innovation, are you also stirring entrepreneurship? How?

The entire concept behind initiatives like IIT Innovation Awards and Networked India is to encourage not only innovation but also entrepreneurship. For example, the unique proposition of IIT Innovations Awards was the fact that the IP for the project will remain with the students. Thus, this initiative promoted entrepreneurship beyond mere recognition; we also supported the innovation idea right through till incubation.

Likewise, we are providing a platform through Networked India for innovators to become entrepreneurs.

What is the status of the projects that won in last year's IIT Innovation Awards?

One of the projects has already been prototyped and should go in for a commercial launch shortly.

Much to learn and it is all online

Not tethered to a classroom, web education is an option for students and professionals

India's education system — be it primary, secondary or higher levels — is fraught with quality and quantity challenges: There is a shortage of quality teachers, an enabling environment for students and infrastructure, just to point out a few. These hurdles are not going to go away soon even though there is a surge in the number of students at all levels and an increasing demand for quality education. There is also a corresponding demand from industry for skilled human resource. But this thirst and demand for quality education and trained personnel will not be easy to quench because it takes time, funds and quality human resource to set up good institutions. Then there is the rule book: Starting a school or a college in India needs magical levels of energy and perseverance. In such a scenario, online education could be a boon for those who do not have access to quality education or are keen to reskill.

The e-learning market in India is estimated to be around \$3 billion and it is growing. Take, for example, the massive open online course (MOOC) provider Coursera. With one million users, India ties with China as its biggest source of online learners after its home base, the US. That the market expectations from this business model are robust can be gauged from the fact that the firm has raised \$49.5 million, coinciding with the US-based firm's plans to tap the Indian market to increase its user base. The UTV Group is in talks with top institutions such as IIMs, IITs and even globally to start these courses. A few months ago, IIT-Bombay launched three MOOCs. The world of online learning is attractive not only because learning is no longer tethered to a classroom and timetables, but also because software programmes can "seamlessly integrate social media, making it possible to create online communities that are course specific". Along with the traditional textbooks, blogs, tweets, podcasts, webcasts, online chats, discussion boards, virtual study jams ensure that learning becomes multidimensional. Online courses can also help all those who are already in jobs to reskill and remain competitive without taking time off from their careers.

There is evidence that a majority of those registering for these courses have an undergraduate degree or higher and the courses are not being accessed by those who could benefit from education — women, the less educated and the poor. India's challenge, say experts, will be to make these facilities reach these social groups. India truly cannot afford to miss this bus.

ourtake

स्वीडन के वैज्ञानिकों ने समुद्र की लहरों से ऊर्जा प्राप्त करने वाला कन्वर्टर बनाया

धड़कन की तरज पर बिजली बनेगी

तकनीक

स्टॉकहोम | एजेसी

दिल के काम करने के तरीके से अब बिजली बनाई जा सकेगी। स्वीडन के वैज्ञानिकों ने मनुष्य के दिल के काम करने के सिद्धांत पर आधारित तकनीक विकसित की है। इस तकनीक से समुद्र की लहरों से बिजली बनाई जा सकती है।

रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, हृदय रोग चिकित्सक डॉ. एल स्टिंग ने 1984 में डायनेमिक एडेप्टिव पिस्टन पंप तकनीक (डीएपीपीटी) का विकास किया था। अब उन्होंने उसी सिद्धांत के आधार पर समुद्र की लहरों से ऊर्जा प्राप्त करने के लिए एक के कन्वर्टर का विकास किया है।

डॉ. स्टिंग ने वेव एनर्जी कन्वर्टर (डब्ल्यूईसी) के विकास के लिए 2009 में कोरपोवर ओसियन नाम

से एक कंपनी बनाई थी। कोरपोवर के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी पैट्रिक मूलर ने दावा किया कि डब्ल्यूईसी का बेजोड़ डिजाइन समुद्र की लहरों से ऊर्जा पैदा करने की दिशा में बड़ी उपलब्धि है।

कोरपावर ने 2011 में अपने दो पहले प्रोटोटाइप का विकास किया था। फिलहाल कंपनी इस परियोजना की शुरुआत पुर्तगाल, फ्रांस और ब्रिटेन से करना चाहती है। इसके अलावा अमेरिका, कनाडा, दक्षिण अमेरिका, कोरिया और जापान में भी समुद्र की लहरों से ऊर्जा हासिल करने की पर्याप्त संभावनाएं हैं। इन देशों के आसपास समुद्र की अथाह जलराशि है।

भारत भी तीन तरफ से समुद्र से घिरा है और अगर यह प्रयोग सफल हो जाता है तो यह तकनीक भारत के लिए वरदान साबित हो सकती है। इसकी मदद से दुनिया की कुल ऊर्जा क्षमता का 10 से 20 प्रतिशत हिस्सा बनाया जा सकता है।

इसकी बिजली सस्ती होगी

मूलर ने बताया कि एक गीगावाट क्षमता स्थापित होने के बाद इस कन्वर्टर से लागत को दस यूरो प्रति किलोवॉट से कम पर लाया जा सकता है। उन्होंने कहा कि लहरों से प्राप्त ऊर्जा स्वच्छ ऊर्जा है और इससे दुनिया की कुल ऊर्जा क्षमता का 10 से 20 प्रतिशत हिस्सा यानी करीब चार अरब मेगावाट तक बिजली प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

पूर्वानुमान लगा सकते हैं

लहरों से मिलने वाली बिजली सौर ऊर्जा और पवन ऊर्जा से इस मायने में अलग है कि इसका एक या दो दिन पहले पूर्वानुमान लगाया जा सकता है। यह शत प्रतिशत स्वच्छ ऊर्जा है और इससे कार्बन डाई ऑक्साइड का उत्सर्जन नहीं होता है। मूलर ने बताया कि 2017 से इसका व्यावसायिक संचालन शुरू होने की उम्मीद है।



पांच गुना ऊर्जा मिलेगी

परंपरागत कन्वर्टर की तुलना में डब्ल्यूईसी के जरिए लहरों से पांच गुना ज्यादा ऊर्जा प्राप्त की जा सकती है। इसमें आठ मीटर व्यास का एक हीविंग बोय सतह पर लहरों के उतार चढ़ाव से ऊर्जा हासिल करता है। डब्ल्यूईसी मूरिंग लाइन से समुद्र की तलहटी से जुड़ा होता है। दोनों के बीच न्यूमैटिक प्री टेंशन मॉड्यूल होता है जो इसे हल्का बनाता है और लहरों के साथ तालमेल बैठाता है।

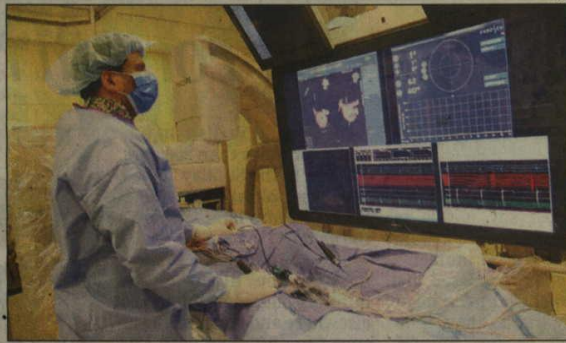
Now, a wireless pacemaker sans surgery

Device Is Attached To Right Side Of Heart Using Catheter Inserted Through Leg

London: A tiny, wireless pacemaker could offer some heart patients a surgery-free alternative to the traditional devices, a new study says. Some doctors, however, say there are lingering safety questions and warned patients not to rush to get the new technology.

Unlike traditional pacemakers — which need a generator and wires and are implanted via surgery — the new pacemaker is a wireless tiny tube that can be attached to the right side of the heart using a catheter inserted through the leg.

"This is another landmark in the development of pacemakers," said Dr Christopher Granger of the American Heart Association and added that doctors need time to learn how to use any new technology to avoid potential problems.



A doctor checks the screen while performing a surgery to implant the new tiny wireless pacemaker at the Mount Sinai hospital in New York

In the new research, doctors in Australia, Canada and the US implanted the mini-pacemaker into more than 500 people. After six months, nearly 7% of patients reported side effects including

the device poking holes in their heart. In comparison, about 10% of patients who get regular pacemakers suffer complications.

The study was published on Sunday in the New England

Journal of Medicine and is being presented at a meeting of the European Society of Cardiology in London. The research was paid for by the pacemaker's manufacturer, St Jude Medical.

The miniature pacemaker is already approved in Europe and the new study will likely be submitted to the US Food and Drug Administration. A study of the device in Europe, however, was twice stopped last year and in May when a worrying number of complications were reported, including one case where the device got dislodged and stuck in the artery leading to the patient's lungs. A similar pacemaker made by Medtronic is also licensed in Europe.

While most pacemakers have wires connecting the device to the right and left sides of the heart, the new device sits in

the right ventricle and doesn't coordinate the two sides. Experts estimated the tiny new pacemaker might work for up to 30% of patients.

Many doctors in Europe are still wary of the new device, which is at least double the price of a regular one. Dr Jose Ramon, president of the Spanish Society of Cardiology, said his hospital only implanted the new pacemaker in about a dozen patients last year, compared to approximately 500 patients who got a traditional device.

The tiny pacemaker also lacks some functions that are standard for normal devices, like tracking irregular heart rhythms. "It can't monitor patients remotely, so they have to go to the hospital for checks," said Dr Jagmeet Singh, a spokesman for the American College of Cardiology. AP