

Newspaper Clips

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IIT boy found dead in hostel

TRAGIC Roommate said the 19-yr-old student had been skipping classes for past three days

HT Correspondent

■ htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Dinesh Ahlawat (19), a first year chemical engineering student of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, allegedly committed suicide on Thursday evening.

From Rohtak in Haryana, Ahlawat was found hanging in his hostel room at the Zanskar Hostel wing of the institute. "Dinesh Ahlawat committed suicide by hanging himself from the ceiling fan," confirmed Chhaya Sharma, DCP (south).

His family arrived at the institute after they were informed about the incident. The family, however, suspects foul play.

"His hands and feet were tied. We used to speak to him every day and there was no problem. We suspect there could more

than what we are being told," said Kulvir Ahlawat, his uncle.

The boy was last seen at 1pm at a tea stall near the hostel. "He had not been attending classes for the past three days. We returned from class at 4pm and found the room's door locked from inside. We knocked on it and after receiving no response, we peered in through the ventilator and found him hanging from the ceiling fan," said one of his roommates.

His roommates immediately informed the authorities. Ahlawat was rushed to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared him dead.

IIT officials claimed the body was discovered at 4pm on Thursday. The police have been questioning his roommates and other acquaintances to establish the reason of suicide. "We

are probing all possible angles, including ragging," said a police officer. No suicide note had been recovered with the body.

The suicide has come as a shock to those who knew the boy since his arrival at IIT, 10 days ago. "He had come to me to get a doubt clarified on Wednesday. His suicide has come as a shock. We feel it could be an outcome of intense stress," said a second-year student of chemical engineering, IIT.

His friends, however, said there was no academic pressure.

"Dinesh was a very bright boy. He scored 95% in his Class XII exams and secured a rank of 1097 in his IIT entrance exam. We have no reason to believe he was under stress," said his friend, who had been with Ahlawat in school and in IIT.



■ The hostel at IIT-Delhi from where a first-year student's body was found hanging in his room on Thursday.

SONU MEHTA/HT PHOTO

INDIAN EXPRESS ND 5/08/2011

p-1(EN)

IIT student found hanging in hostel room

Dinesh Ahlawat was a 1st-year chemical engineering student, police rule out ragging

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 4

AN 18-YEAR OLD, studying chemical engineering at IIT Delhi, committed suicide on Thursday in his hostel room, police said.

After a preliminary investigation, police ruled out ragging as the reason behind the suicide and said Dinesh Ahlawat, a first year student of chemical engineering, may have taken the extreme step due to "adjustment problems and homesickness." No suicide note was found from the room, police said.

"The boy belonged to Rohtak and was found hanging in his room in Zanskar hostel at 4 pm on Thursday. His classmates said he had not been attending classes for the past three days. There seems to have been some kind of adjustment problem. We are waiting for his parents to arrive and they will tell us if the student was suffering from any other problem. So far, ragging does not seem to be the reason," said

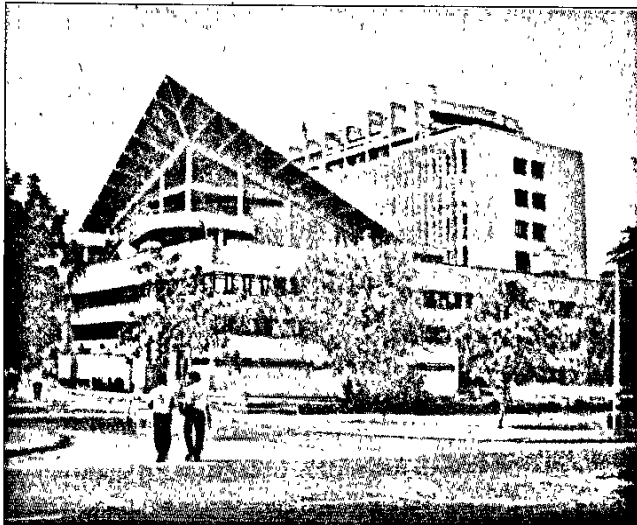
Chhaya Sharma, Deputy Commissioner of Police (South).

The IIT academic session, 2011 had started last month. Authorities at the institute said Ahlawat never showed any sign of being upset and was cheerful.

"He had enjoyed with his friends till last night and was seen studying in the morning. However, he had not been attending classes for the past few days. The family has been informed about the incident and the boy's father said Dinesh was happy with life in IIT," said IIT Director, Surendra Prasad.

No foul play is being suspected in the death. Police said Ahlawat did not attend college. Friends noticed him hanging from the fan after they broke open the ventilator of his room.

A postmortem would be conducted on Friday after the parents arrive from Rohtak. "We spoke to his friends and the security officer inside the campus. No one confirmed ragging as a reason behind the suicide. It seems he was feeling homesick," the officer said.



Ahlawat was found hanging at Zanskar hostel. EXPRESS ARCHIVE

Times of India
ND 5/08/2011 P-6

Suicide at IIT-D

New Delhi: A 20-year-old IIT-Delhi student allegedly committed suicide on Wednesday afternoon inside the institute's premises. The deceased, Dinesh Ahlawat, was a resident of Rohtak in Haryana and was a first-year chemical engineering student.

"We received a call around 5:30pm about the incident. We found the boy hanging by a rope from the fan. We then sent his body for post mortem," said a senior police officer.

The deceased had joined IIT around 20 days back, when the session commenced. Police did not find any suicide note. Cops said that they are questioning his friends and other hostel residents to find out the possible reason for the suicide.

Pioneer ND
05/08/2011 P-3

Student commits 'suicide' at IIT

New Delhi: A shocking incident at the Indian Institute of Technology in the national Capital came to light on Thursday evening. A first year student, Dinesh Ahlawat, was found hanging around 5:30 pm, police sources said. "His (Ahlawat) friends broke the ventilator to enter his room as he did not respond to their knocking on the door. They found him hanging and entered the room after which they informed the police," the sources added.

Eighteen-year-old Ahlawat was a student of chemical engineering at IIT. He had not been attending classes for the past two-three days. The reason behind Ahlawat taking the extreme step is yet to be ascertained as no suicide note has been recovered. "There is no evidence to suggest that there was foul play. It appears to be a case of suicide," they added. "He was from a small place and maybe he had problems adjusting. We are still investigating and I don't think it's a case of ragging," said DCP South, Chhaya Sharma. The body has been sent to AIIMS for post-mortem. The boy's father Yahwir Ahlawat will meet the police soon to discuss the matter. **SR**

The Hindu ND
05/08/2011 P-12

IIT student found hanging

Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: A first year Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi student allegedly hanged himself in his hostel room inside the campus in South Delhi on Thursday. The police have not come across any suicide note.

The incident came to light in the afternoon when Dinesh Ahlawat, a chemical engineering student, was found hanging from the ceiling fan. The institute authorities were alerted, who subsequently informed the police.

"He hailed from Rohtak in Haryana and had been staying in room No. ND-23 of Zanskar Hostel inside the institute campus. Preliminary investigation has not indicated ragging as a reason, but we are probing all possibilities. Statements of his hostel mates and the authorities concerned would also be recorded if necessary to ascertain why he took the extreme step," said a police officer.

The Tribune ND 05/08/2011 P-8

Education system needs overhaul

THIS refers to the article, “Coaching industry — A parallel education system” (July 27). To survive in today’s cut-throat competition, coaching has become a compulsion rather than an option. Our education system is responsible for this. The present education system does not allow us to prepare for competitive examinations. There remains a huge gap between the level of preparation for Board examinations and competitive examinations.

No doubt, coaching institutes provide relevant knowledge and expertise. But schools can also recruit such experts. Schools and colleges also can have personality development classes. If the government can introduce environment studies as a subject in schools and colleges, why can’t logical reasoning and aptitude be included?

Coaching is not bad. But it puts a heavy burden of cost on students and their parents. Therefore, the entire education system needs an overhaul.

SHIRPA NAGRATH, Ambala

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Vipul Grover’s article, “Coaching industry — A parallel education system” (July 27), and Punam Soni’s article, “Students need timely help” (July 27), are timely and thought provoking. There is no doubt that schools and colleges provide basic education, but to succeed in

today’s cut-throat competition, strategic inputs are required.

Coaching institutes, run by experts, are in a better position to provide proper guidance. But only children from rich families can get the benefit of coaching institutes. So, the education system needs to be reformed. However, most of these coaching institutions are doing a great job in providing quality education to their students.

ANJU D ANAND, Solan

Business Line ND 05/08/2011 P-22

India ranked 6th globally in materials science research

M. Somasekhar

Hyderabad, Aug. 4

From the Mehrauli Iron Pillar near the Qutub Minar in Delhi to the foundries of Bastar, where the tribals sculpted figurines from smelted iron and brass hundreds of years ago, metallurgy and materials sciences has had a long tradition in India.

Perhaps in keeping with this, the finding by Thomson Reuters that India occupies the sixth position in terms of research output in material sciences, and is one of the leading countries in the Asia Pacific region, comes as an encouraging development.

According to the Thomson Reuters Global Research report: Materials Science and Technology, China leads with 55,003 scientific papers followed by the US (38,189); Japan (25,473), Germany (16,832); South Korea (15,261) and India (12,693).

Materials science and technology is a core area of research for many economies

due to its potential contributions to manufacturing processes and innovative products, and Asia, including India, is leading in this area of research, the report released recently said.

The use and development of materials has constituted a major current in the history of mankind. The history of technology is replete with important examples of revolutionary change brought on by the discovery of new materials and new uses for materials. Bronze gave way to Iron, then to Steel and arguably now to Silicon.

Will graphene replace silicon in electronics? Will cars be fuelled by hydrogen stored in metal-organic frameworks (MOFs)? Will stem cells grown on nano-fibrous scaffolds make organ replacement routine? The fact that we can pose these questions says something about recent advances in materials science and technology, the study says.

MOFs are porous crystalline solids which can be shaped to

store gas like hydrogen, methane etc. Their potential for energy storage has generated lots of excitement among scientists.

IIT RANKED 20TH

Interestingly, the Indian Institute's of Technology slammed by Union Minister of Rural Development Jairam Ramesh (himself an IITian), as doing hardly any worthwhile research, is placed 20th worldwide in terms of institutions ranked by citations in materials science research.

These findings are based on a study of over 11,500 journals and tracking of the growth of materials science research outputs – substantive articles and reviews over the three decades from 1981.

Materials science now accounts for nearly 60,000 articles and reviews per year, representing about 5 per cent of all such papers in the sciences indexed in web of science. By comparison, Chemistry represents 11.5 per cent, engineering

and physics 9 per cent each.

The interesting areas of materials that are growing are around the nano-science front, which serves as the bridging area between physics and chemistry. Other major research fronts close to materials are solar cells, fuel cells and polymerisation, the study report said.

As suggested here, we may now be entering a distinctly new Age of Advanced Materials.

ASIA TO FORE, US LAGS

Who will be in the vanguard of this change? Asian nations and institutions are clearly focusing their research efforts on new materials. There does not appear to be a similar commitment to this research on the part of Europe and North America – especially on the part of the US which has seen its world share of materials sciences research papers not only fall by half in the last three decades but actually decline in output in the late 1990s and in the early years of the last decade.

E-LIBRARY 8,300 THESES SUBMITTED FROM 1980 TO 2003 ARE DIGITISED BY THE UNIVERSITY CENTRAL LIBRARY AS PART OF TWO-YEAR PROJECT

Two decades of PhD theses go digital in Delhi University



NANDINI THILAK
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 4

IN AN effort to keep up with the times and make more resources available online to students, the Delhi University Central library has digitised 8,300 PhD theses submitted by scholars from 1980 to 2003. Any DU student can now walk into the central library and access this e-database by logging into the library's internal network

The theses were digitised at the end of a two-year project undertaken by the library staff and funded by a Rs 28 lakh grant from the Delhi University. The central

library also has plans for to digitise more theses in the second and third phase of the project. The second phase will cover theses submitted to the University from 1922 to 1980, and the third phase would cover those submitted post 2003, library officials said.

The Central library has also digitised 14,388 copyright expired books from its collection, including many rare volumes and uploaded them online for public use. Anyone can access these books from the University website or at this link - <<http://library.du.ac.in/dspace>>.

The books were digitised through a project funded by Government of India's Department

DATA COUNT

Number of new volumes (books and periodicals) added to the collections of various University libraries in the last year

CENTRAL LIBRARY
7,253 VOLUMES

RATAN TATA LIBRARY
1,989 VOLUMES

CENTRAL SCIENCE LIBRARY
2,818 VOLUMES

SOUTH CAMPUS LIBRARY
2,686 VOLUMES

of Information Technology which was launched in 2008 and completed in October 2010. A range of books in all topics, including

literature, History and Science are available in this collection.

The library also has on offer more than 10,000 online journals on a wide range of subjects, all of which can be accessed free of cost by students from the University network. They can also log into from their respective colleges or from libraries in the University campus. Library officials said that a project to enable students and teachers to access these journals from their homes by logging into the University network will also be completed soon.

This facility will be made available to teachers of Delhi University and later to all students, Central library officials said.

Database can be accessed by logging into library network

Navbharat Times ND 05/08/2011 P-3

हॉस्टल में आईआईटी स्टूडेंट ने जान दी होम सिकनेस का शिकार था

वरिष्ठ संवाददाता ॥ होज खास

आईआईटी में फर्स्ट ईयर के स्टूडेंट दिनेश अहलावत (18) ने हॉस्टल में अपने रूम में पंखे से लटककर स्यूसाइड कर लिया। रूम से कोई स्यूसाइड नोट बरामद नहीं हुआ है। फिलहाल आत्महत्या के कारणों का साफ-साफ पता नहीं लग सका है। वह यहां केमिकल इंजीनियरिंग का स्टूडेंट था। पुलिस स्टूडेंट के मोबाइल फोन से भी कारणों का पता लगाने की कोशिश कर रही है। आईआईटी के प्रशासनिक अधिकारियों ने इस बात से इनकार किया है कि इस मामले में रेगिंग या सीनियर्स की वजह से परेशान होकर उसने आत्महत्या की है।

डीसीपी छाया शर्मा का कहना है कि अभी तक की शुरुआती जांच में लग रहा है कि दिनेश होम सिकनेस का शिकार था। यानी उसका मोह घर में रहने के लिए अधिक था। मगर जांच चल रही है। पुलिस के मुताबिक, गुरुवार शाम करीब 5:30 बजे वसंत विहार पुलिस को सूचना मिली कि आईआईटी में पढ़ने वाले स्टूडेंट दिनेश अहलावत ने स्यूसाइड कर लिया है। वह यहां जंस्कार हॉस्टल में दो साथी छात्रों के साथ रहता था। मौके पर पहुंची पुलिस ने पाया कि दिनेश ने अपने रूम नंबर-23

के गेट को अंदर से बंद करके पंखे से लटककर आत्महत्या की थी। इसका पता उस वक्त लगा जब उसके साथी रूम में आए और रूम का गेट अंदर से बंद पाया। उन्होंने दिनेश को आवाज दी मगर अंदर से कोई जवाब नहीं आया। शीशे की खिड़की से झांककर देखा तो पंखे से दिनेश लटक रहा था। तुरंत खिड़की को तोड़कर दिनेश को नीचे उतारा गया। पुलिस ने बताया कि दिनेश रोहतक का रहने वाला था। पुलिस ने उसके शव को एम्स की मोर्चरी में रखवा दिया गया है। उसके परिजनों को सूचना दे दी गई है। यह घटना बुधवार दोपहर 2 से 5 बजे के बीच की बताई गई है। इस मामले में

आईआईटी के डायरेक्टर और प्रोफेसर सुरेंद्र प्रसाद का कहना है कि उसके साथियों से पता लगा है कि वह बुधवार शाम और गुरुवार सुबह खुश था और अपनी पढ़ाई में लगा हुआ था। उसे देखकर नहीं कहा जा सकता था कि वह किसी तनाव में रहा होगा। आईआईटी के रजिस्ट्रार डॉ. राकेश शर्मा का कहना है कि दिनेश करीब 15 दिन पहले ही यहां आया था। वह केमिकल इंजीनियरिंग की पढ़ाई कर रहा था। डॉ. शर्मा के मुताबिक, उसके रूम में दो और फर्स्ट ईयर के स्टूडेंट रहते थे। उन्होंने भी बताया कि वह किसी तरह के तनाव में नहीं था।

**केमिकल इंजीनियरिंग
का स्टूडेंट था**

आईआईटी हॉस्टल में छात्र ने फांसी लगाई

नई दिल्ली | अनुराग मिश्र

दबाव या साजिश

आईआईटी दिल्ली के प्रथम वर्ष के छात्र ने फांसी लगाकर आत्महत्या कर ली है। हरियाणा के दिनेश अहलावत ने 10 दिन पहले ही आईआईटी ज्वाइन किया था। दिनेश ने गुरुवार तड़के जंसकार हॉस्टल के अपने कमरे में पंखे से लटक कर जान दे दी। आईआईटी ने इस बारे में कुछ कहने से इनकार कर दिया।

संस्थान के रजिस्ट्रार राकेश कुमार ने सिर्फ इतना कहा कि 18 वर्षीय दिनेश ने कुछ दिनों पहले ही आईआईटी ज्वाइन किया था। प्रशासक वही तरीके से सामान्य

- हरियाणा का दिनेश अहलावत 10 दिन पहले ही पहुंचा था आईआईटी
- आत्महत्या के कारणों का नहीं चला पता, शव को एम्स में रखवाया गया

था और क्लास कर रहा था। दक्षिणी दिल्ली के ज्वाइंट कमिश्नर अमूल्य पटनायक ने बताया कि पुलिस सभी पहलुओं समेत इस बात की जांच कर रही है कि दिनेश पर कोई दबाव तो नहीं था। वहीं, देर रात पहुंचे माता-पिता का कहना है कि दिनेश पर कोई दबाव नहीं था।

छात्रों के विकास और पढ़ाई में आने वाली बाधा को करेगा दूर

आईआईटी में बनेगा स्ट्रेस फंड

नई दिल्ली | प्रमुख संवाददाता

माइनर कोर्स की भी होगी शुरुआत

आईआईटी दिल्ली में छात्रों की मदद के लिए स्ट्रेस फंड बनेगा। छात्रों के विकास और पढ़ाई में किसी भी प्रकार की बाधा न आए, इसके लिए यह फंड बनाया गया है। यह फंड इस वर्ष से आईआईटी के कुछ चुनिंदा छात्रों को मिलने लगेगा।

आईआईटी के डीन प्रो. शशि माथुर ने बताया कि आईआईटी इस बार से छात्रों की मदद के लिए स्टूडेंट स्ट्रेस फंड बनाएगा। यह फंड आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर वर्ग के छात्रों को मिलेगा। साथ ही इस फंड को आईआईटी में प्रिपरेटरी तैयारी कर रहे छात्रों को भी मिलेगा।

मांगी जाएगी मदद

उन्होंने कहा कि फंड जुटाने के लिए एलमुनी से भी मदद मांगी जाएगी। प्रो. माथुर ने कहा कि कई बार देखने में आता है कि छात्र आर्थिक अड़चनों की वजह से खुद को असहाय

आईआईटी ने छात्रों के लिए कुछ माइनर कोर्स भी शुरू किए हैं। ये कोर्स एटमोस्फेरिक साइंस और बायोलॉजिकल साइंस को लेकर हैं। इनको आईआईटी में पढ़ने वाला किसी भी संकाय का छात्र ले सकेगा। प्रमुख बात ये है कि उसकी डिग्री में ये लिखा होगा कि उसने ये माइनर कोर्स पढ़ाई के दौरान लिए हैं। इन कोर्स को करने का फायदा छात्रों को नौकरी के दौरान मिलेगा। मसलन कोई छात्र कंप्यूटर इंजीनियरिंग में एटमोस्फेरिक साइंस लेता है तो वह मौसम संबंधी सॉफ्टवेयर का निर्माण करने के दौरान अपनी इस पढ़ाई का फायदा उठा सकेगा।



समझने लगते हैं। ऐसे होनहार छात्रों के प्रोत्साहन के लिए यह फंड शुरू किया गया है। इसके लिए बाकायदा आईआईटी की वेबसाइट पर सूचना दी जाएगी। ऐसे में जो भी छात्र या

शिक्षक योगदान देना चाहे दे सकेगा। आईआईटी के पुराने छात्रों को भी इस नई स्कीम के बारे में जानकारी दी जाएगी, ऐसे में वह भी इस कार्य में योगदान दे सकेंगे।

Hindustan ND 05/08/2011 P-5

सर्वेक्षण में 73 फीसदी ने इंजीनियरिंग और विज्ञान के लिए की पैरवी

केवल एक ही प्रवेश परीक्षा

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के एक सर्वेक्षण में 73 फीसदी लोगों ने इंजीनियरिंग और विज्ञान से जुड़े विषयों में प्रवेश के लिए देश में एक ही एंट्रेंस टेस्ट कराने की पैरवी की है। साथ ही 70 फीसदी लोगों ने कहा कि टेस्ट की पुरानी प्रक्रिया बदलनी चाहिए तथा इसमें एप्टीट्यूड टेस्ट भी शामिल होना चाहिए। सर्वेक्षण के इन नतीजों के बाद मंत्रालय के लिए साइंस और इंजीनियरिंग के लिए सिंगल एंट्रेंस टेस्ट आयोजित कराने का रास्ता साफ हो गया है।

कुछ समय पूर्व परीक्षा सुधार पर गठित विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग के सचिव टी. रामास्वामी की अध्यक्षता वाली समिति ने साइंस एवं इंजीनियरिंग से जुड़े कोर्स में एडमिशन के लिए नेशनल टेस्टिंग स्कीम का सुझाव दिया

था। इसके बाद मंत्रालय ने विभिन्न पक्षों की राय जानने के लिए जून महीने में एक ऑनलाइन सर्वे शुरू कराया। इसमें दो हजार से भी अधिक लोगों ने अपने विचार रखे।

मंत्रालय के अनुसार अपने विचार रखने वाले 98.5 फीसदी भारतीय थे तथा डेढ़ फीसदी विदेशों में बसे लोगों ने सुझाव दिए। सुझाव देने वालों में 11 फीसदी महिलाएं थीं। जवाब देने वालों में से 74 फीसदी साइंस एवं इंजीनियरिंग से जुड़े हुए थे। इनमें 59 फीसदी छात्र और 32 फीसदी कार्मिक थे जबकि 5 फीसदी अभिभावक थे।

सर्वे के दौरान 59 फीसदी लोगों ने कहा कि परीक्षा प्रणाली में बड़े पैमाने पर बदलाव की जरूरत है। जबकि 26 फीसदी ने आंशिक परिवर्तन की बात कही। इसी प्रकार ज्यादातर लोग इस पक्ष में थे कि बारहवीं के बाद एक

डीयू में भी छाया रहा साइंस

इस साल के एडमिशन के दौरान भी बच्चों में साइंस के कोर्स चुनने की होड़ मची हुई थी। पिछले साल की तुलना में इस बार साइंस के अधिकतर

कोर्स में तीसरी कटऑफ तक सभी सीटें भर गईं। वहीं पहले अधिकतर कोर्स में चौथी कटऑफ के बाद भी सीटें खाली रह जाती थीं।



मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय का सर्वे

70 फीसदी ने कहा पुरानी प्रक्रिया बदलनी चाहिए

74 फीसदी साइंस एवं इंजीनियरिंग से जुड़े

59 फीसदी लोगों ने कहा, बड़े बदलाव की जरूरत

ही टेस्ट होना चाहिए जिसकी मेरिट के आधार पर इंजीनियरिंग और साइंस से जुड़े कोर्स में एडमिशन होने चाहिए।

पूर्व में मंत्रालय इस दिशा में कदम बढ़ाते हुए राज्यों के बोर्ड में समान साइंस पाठ्यक्रम शुरू करने के लिए प्रयास आरंभ कर चुका है तथा

ज्यादातर राज्यों ने इस दिशा में पहल कर दी है। इसी प्रकार कामर्स और आर्ट्स के भी समान पाठ्यक्रम शुरू किए जा रहे हैं। मकसद यह है कि भविष्य में विवि और पेशेवर कोर्स में प्रवेश के लिए सिंगल एंट्रेंस टेस्ट आयोजित हो।