

Newspaper Clips **December 11, 2015**

IISC bags solar panel R&D contract from US military

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/nation/iisc-bags-solar-panel-r-d-contract-from-us-military/169105.html>

In a rare instance, the prestigious Indian Institute of Science has bagged a US military contract for research and development (R&D) on a solar-powered micro-grid.

The federal contract worth \$52,900 has been awarded by the US Pacific Air Forces, Yokota Air Base in Japan to develop the solar-powered micro-grid with battery and supercapacitor energy storage system.

This is one of the rare instances that an Indian scientific institute known for its high-end cutting-edge research has been awarded a federal contract by the US military.

The announcement of the contract comes on the eve of the meeting between Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar and US Defence Secretary Ashton Carter at the Pentagon on Thursday.

Parrikar is on his maiden visit to the US to discuss ways to deepen the long term strategic partnership between the two countries. — PTI

IISER likely to begin by next year: Smriti

<http://www.nagalandpost.com/ChannelNews/State/StateNews.aspx?news=TkVXUzEwMDA5MDg4OQ%3D%3D>

Union Human Resource Development Minister Smriti Irani on Thursday said that the state governments of Nagaland and Odisha have identified land for construction of the respective permanent campuses for the two Indian Institutes of Science Education & Research (IISERs).

In a written reply to a Rajya Sabha question, HRD minister said the new institutes were expected to start functioning from temporary/transit campuses from the academic year 2016-17. Government of India earlier this year decided to establish two new IISERs in the States of Nagaland and Odisha.

HRD Ministry to come up with domestic ranking of higher education in April

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/education/story/domestic-ranking-of-higher-education/1/543579.html>

The Human Resource Development (HRD) ministry is keen that the domestic ranking of Indian institutions of higher education is available to students and parents by April next year. Meanwhile, [Smriti Irani had said](#) that international agencies do not consider research rankings taking place in regional languages.

Referring to the National Institution Ranking Framework (NIRF), V S Oberoi, Secretary, Department of Higher [Education](#) in HRD ministry, said that at the last count there are nearly 2,800 institutions, which have come on to it.

"I hope on the first Monday in April next year, parents and students will have the ranking with them," he added. The senior official said that he hoped that the new ranking will encourage domestic institutions to compete to improve and also overcome some of the issues which are there with global rankings. He said that there is diversity of languages in India, but the global frameworks often don't capture it.

Earlier, Smriti Irani has said that India does not look for ranking of educational institutions by international agencies to attract clients. Irani said that the ranking of institutions by global agencies is based on research and infusion of foreign faculty. She said that while granting a rank, they do not consider research taking place in regional languages.

1,310 posts of professors lying vacant in Central Universities

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/education/1310-posts-of-professors-lying-vacant-in-central-universities/articleshow/50125595.cms>

NEW DELHI: There are 1,310 posts of Professors which are vacant in various Central Universities, as on September 1, 2015, the Ministry of Human Resource Development said today.

HRD minister Smriti Irani shared this information in a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha adding that her ministry and University Grants Commission (UGC) have repeatedly written to Central Universities to expedite filling of vacancies of teachers and are continuously monitoring the process.

In a reply to another question, Irani said the percentage of girl candidates (out of total registered candidates) in undergraduate engineering Joint Entrance Exam (Main) has registered an increase from 26.48 per cent (in 2014) to 26.73 per cent (in 2015).

However, the percentage of girl candidates qualified for JEE (Advanced) has declined from 17.9 per cent (of the total candidates qualified for JEE (Advanced) in 2014 to 17.35 per cent in 2015, she added.

Responding to another question, the minister said there are several databases on publications from different countries in peer reviewed journals.

As per data available with one such database 'Web of Science', amongst BRICS countries, the share of India in publication in such journals in 2015, is 14.69 per cent while that of China is 64.23 per cent.

प्रदूषण : आईआईटी की रिपोर्ट का अध्ययन करेगी सरकार

नई दिल्ली, (ब्यूरो) : दिल्ली के प्रदूषण पर आईआईटी कानपुर द्वारा दिल्ली सरकार को सौंपी गई एक रिपोर्ट, दिल्ली सरकार के आंकड़ों से मेल नहीं खाते हैं। आईआईटी की रिपोर्ट बताती है कि दिल्ली में प्रदूषण का सबसे बड़ा कारण डस्ट को बताया है, जबकि ट्रक से निकलने वाला धुआं भी इसमें सबसे सहभागी है। प्रदूषण का करीब 35 फीसदी हिस्सा इसी डस्ट का है। दूसरे नम्बर पर दिल्ली में चलने वाली दो पहिया वाहनों को जिम्मेदार ठहराया गया है। रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक दोपहिया वाहन दिल्ली में 15 फीसदी के करीब प्रदूषण फैला रहे हैं।

जबकि कार से निकलने वाला प्रदूषण तीसरे नम्बर पर करीब 10 फीसदी है। यह रिपोर्ट एक अंग्रेजी अखबार में प्रकाशित होने के बाद दिल्ली सरकार ने इस पर संज्ञान लिया और पर्यावरण सचिव अश्वनी कुमार ने पत्रकारों को बताया कि इस रिपोर्ट का अध्ययन

‘प्रदूषण फॉर्मूले’ को टैक्सी कंपनियां भुनाने की तैयारी में अरविंद केजरीवाल सरकार के सम-विषम नंबर के अनुसार गाड़ियां चलाने के फैसले को कार कंपनियां भुनाने की तैयारी में है। कार और ऑनलाइन कार बेचने वाली वेबसाइट इस फैसले को कारोबारी मौके के तौर पर देख रही है। एक्सपर्ट के मुताबिक मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल सरकार के इस फैसले से यूज्ड कार (सेकंड हैंड कार) की डिमांड बढ़ेगी। फिलहाल यह कंपनियां वेट एंड वॉच की स्थिति में है, लेकिन यह माना जा रहा है कि अगर फॉर्मूले के कारण स्थितियां बदलती हैं तो आनन-फानन में पुरानी गाड़ियों को बाजार में उतारा जा सके और लाभ कमाया जा सके।

किया जा रहा है। जल्द ही सरकार अपनी रिपोर्ट जारी करेगी।

IIT Roorkee's Focus on Core Cos, PG Students Paid Off This Placement Season

Prachi.Verma@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: IIT Roorkee is adopting two strategies this placement season by sharpening its focus on core companies and post graduate students. Earlier, ET had reported that IIT Bombay had pushed core companies to Day 1, and other IITs such as Delhi are also encouraging students to join core companies. "We changed the strategy this year and it paid off. The number of offers has increased tremendously," said IIT Roorkee, Professor-in-Charge, Placement, Dr NP Padhy.

IIT Roorkee, which had been giving slots on the basis of the pay packages so far, has given early slots to core companies. "The higher the salary offer, the better had been the slot, but this year we decided to change this strategy too," Padhy said. It has received 125 core jobs so far, mostly taken by PG students. Last year, in one week, it received 50 offers from core companies.

The institute is hoping to cross the 1,000 job offers against 1,200 offers in the entire placement season last year. The international offers have also gone up for the institute this year with 27 offers, of which around 13 were from Japanese companies alone.