

Newspaper Clips
December 2, 2014

Hindustan ND 02/12/2014 P-5

आईआईटी दिल्ली के छात्र को 93 लाख का पैकेज

नई दिल्ली। आईआईटी दिल्ली में कैंपस प्लेसमेंट शुरू हो गया है। कंप्यूटर साइंस एका के एक छात्र को सेमसंग कोरिया ने 93 लाख रुपये में चुना है। इसके अलावा एक अन्य छात्रों को फेसबुक कंपनी ने 71 लाख रुपये का सालाना पैकेज दिया है। संस्थान ने फिलहाल इन छात्रों के नाम सार्वजनिक नहीं किए हैं। अधिकतम 93 लाख रुपये का पैकेज मिला है।

Business Standard ND 02/12/2014 P-20

First-day gold for placement at IITs

KALPANA PATHAK

Mumbai, 1 December

On the first day of placement, action on the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) campuses began as early as 4 am.

The premier engineering institutes which began first phase of placement on Monday saw a good number of companies visit the campus making big-ticket job offers. The IITs said the number of job offers flowing in was much higher this year than what they saw in the recent past.

Many students bagged pre-placement offers which have got converted into Day One offers. Among the companies offering jobs include Samsung

Korea, Deutsche Bank, Hindustan Unilever, LinkedIn, Qualcomm, Samsung, Tata Steel, Wipro, Sony, Goldman Sachs and Reliance Industries, among others.

Typically, the highest-paying jobs make the cut for day-one placements. But at IIT-Bombay, the institute has decided to offer Day One placement slots to manufacturing companies alongside consulting and financial firms.

"Manufacturing has had a raw deal so far. In keeping with the government's policy to give it a fillip, we have invited manufacturing and engineering companies on Day One," said Avijit Chatterjee, in charge of placements at IIT-Bombay.

On Your Mark, Zuckerberg: Facebook Signs up IIT Grads for ₹1.55 Crore

Cos offer more jobs, higher salaries during first 20 hours of placement season

Sreeradha D Basu & Devina Sengupta

Mumbai: A spectacular initial burst — at least 15-20% more jobs, 10-20% higher average salaries and 30% increase in global offers — set the pace for this year's placement season at Indian Institutes of Technology which kicked off on Monday. Sources from eight campuses that ET spoke to said hiring and salaries will shoot up this year, after a relatively slow 3-4 years.

In the first 20 hours, online social

networking giant Facebook ruled the roost with a ₹1.55 crore (\$250,000) salary offer including bonus and ESOPs for a US posting. This is the probably the highest ever offer across IITs in recent years.

Facebook made the offer for software engineer profiles based out of California to three students at IIT-Kharagpur and to an unknown number at IIT-Bombay, sources at the two institutes revealed. The company did not respond to an email sent by ET.

Boom in International Offers >> 25

It's A Bounty

TOP INTERNATIONAL OFFERS

FACEBOOK	ORACLE	
\$250,000 incl. bonus & ESOPs	\$125,000 + ESOPs (₹78 lakh + ESOPs)	
VISA INC	SAMSUNG	MICROSOFT
\$140,000 (₹87 lakh)	\$150,000 (₹93 lakh)	\$129,000 (₹80 lakh)

TOP DOMESTIC OFFERS

• WORLDQUANT ₹42 lakh	Salary packages (approx in ₹) may vary from campus to campus Source: Placement cells
• SCHLUMBERGER ₹34 lakh	
• GOLDMAN SACHS ₹26 lakh	

ECCOM COS USE STOCK TO LURE HIGH-LEVEL EXECUTIVES >> 16

Boom in International Offers

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Overall, big-ticket offers were back with a bang as other top paymasters, according to campus sources, included Samsung - \$150,000 (Rs 93 lakh), Microsoft - \$129,000 (Rs 80 lakh), Oracle - \$125,000 plus Esops (Rs 78 lakh plus Esops), Google - \$125,000 (Rs 78 lakh) and Visa - \$140,000 (Rs 87 lakh).

At IIT-BHU, Varanasi, the top package from a multinational was Rs 77.5 lakh (\$100,000 base salary, \$15,000 sign-on bonus and \$10,000 relocation and stock options), an over 19% jump over the top offer last year. At IIT-Kanpur, it went up over 36% from \$110,000 last year to \$150,000 this time.

"If this momentum continues, we will place 1,200 students in the first 20 days compared to 1,000 last year," a placement team member of IIT-Kharagpur said.

Across campuses, international offers saw a boom compared to last year. Ora-

cle, for instance, said that it is hiring for 15 overseas roles this year, compared to 13 last time. Students will join the American multinational computer technology corporation in product development roles across its hardware, software or industry-specific based groups. Cisco Systems and Visa Inc offered overseas roles for the first time.

International offers will shoot up by 30%, agreed a placement source at IIT-Kanpur. More offers — from the likes of ServiceNow (\$90,000) and Epic Systems (\$90,000) — are in the offing, he said.

Other first day recruiters across the 16 IITs included the likes of Goldman Sachs, HUL, ITC, Credit Suisse, McKinsey & Co and BCG. IIT-Bombay, which on student demand, has moved up some core engineering companies to premium slots, had GE, Airbus and Qualcomm among others, vying with traditional first-day recruiters for the first time.

Tower Research with Rs 44 lakh for an

international role and WorldQuant with Rs 42 lakh for a domestic profile were among prominent recruiters at campuses such as IIT-Kanpur, placement sources revealed. Goldman Sachs offered packages of Rs 26 lakh and Credit Suisse around Rs 15-18 lakh while Samsung offered the most for its Korea posting.

Final placements at the IITs start on December 1 and are completed in two phases. A majority of the recruiters come in the first few weeks of December while the subsequent phase starts in January. The highest-paying and most-in-demand companies are typically slotted for the first few days of placements.

At IIT-Kharagpur, Facebook has made the top offer while Google, Microsoft and Cisco also competed for the best talent. Oilfield services company Baker Hughes, ITC (Rs 18 lakh approx), Schlumberger, Cairn India, Shell were among those recruiting for domestic roles. Microsoft paid around Rs 20 lakh

for the India profiles. Xerox, the global printer manufacturer picked up students for 'budding scientist' profiles, said placement sources.

"The placements have been very good so far and from midnight to 6 am on Monday (1st day slot), 49 offers were rolled out, out of which 8 were international. Around 31 companies are expected on the first day," Natesan Srinivasan, faculty in-charge, training & placement for IIT-Guwahati said.

A statement from IIT-Madras said the highest offer was \$129,500 while the highest domestic salary was Rs 30 lakh. Microsoft, Goldman Sachs, Samsung R&D and Xerox were among the companies who visited. The institute said it received 17 offers in the graveyard session (midnight to 6am) and another 64 in the forenoon one (6am to noon).

The placement season will continue till March-April, though a bulk of offers would roll out over the next three weeks.

IIT में फेसबुक ने दिया ₹1.55 करोड़ का ऑफर

श्रीराधा डी बसु & देविना सेनगुप्ता मुंबई। आईआईटी प्लेसमेंट सीजन की सोमवार को धमाकेदार शुरुआत हुई। पिछली बार के मुकाबले कम से कम 15-20 परसेंट ज्यादा जॉब ऑफर किए गए और एवरेज सैलरी में भी 10-20 परसेंट बढ़ोतरी हुई है। वहीं प्लेसमेंट सीजन में इस बार 30 परसेंट ज्यादा ग्लोबल ऑफर्स मिले हैं।

इकनामिक टाइम्स ने प्लेसमेंट के बारे में 8 कैम्पसों के सूरों से बात की। उनका कहना है कि इस साल हायरिंग और सैलरी, दोनों में बढ़ोतरी होगी। उनके मुताबिक, 3 से 4 साल की सुल्ली के बाद इस तरह का माहौल दिख रहा है। पहले 20 घंटे में सोशल नेटवर्क कंपनी फेसबुक छाया रही। उसने बोनस और

धमाकेदार शुरुआत

सोशल नेटवर्किंग साइट फेसबुक ने बोनस और ईसोप सहित अमेरिका में पोस्टिंग के लिए दिया यह ऑफर

नए प्लेसमेंट सीजन में पिछली बार से 15-20 परसेंट ज्यादा जॉब ऑफर मिल सकते हैं

ईसोप सहित अमेरिका में पोस्टिंग के लिए 1.55 करोड़ रुपये सालाना का एक ऑफर दिया। हाल के वर्षों में शायद यह अब तक का सबसे बड़ा ऑफर है। इस साल प्लेसमेंट सीजन में बड़े ऑफर्स की वापसी हुई है।

कैम्पस सूरों ने बताया कि इनमें सेमसंग का 93 लाख, माइक्रोसॉफ्ट का 80 लाख, ऑरिंकल का 87 लाख के साथ ईसोप, गूगल का 78 लाख और वीजा इंक का 87 लाख का ऑफर शामिल है।

आईआईटी-बीएचयू में एक मल्टीनेशनल कंपनी ने 77.5 लाख का ऑफर दिया है। यह पिछले साल के सबसे बड़े ऑफर से 19 परसेंट अधिक है। आईआईटी कानपुर में यह 36 परसेंट बढ़कर पिछले साल के 1,10,000 डॉलर से 1,50,000 डॉलर हो गया। आईआईटी खड़गपुर के प्लेसमेंट टीम के एक मंबर ने बताया, 'अगर यही हाल रहा तो पहले 20 दिनों में 1,200 स्टूडेंट्स का प्लेसमेंट हो जाएगा। पिछले साल इस दौरान

1,000 स्टूडेंट्स का प्लेसमेंट हुआ था। फेसबुक ने सॉफ्टवेयर इंजीनियर प्रोफाइल के लिए आईआईटी खड़गपुर के तीन स्टूडेंट्स को ऑफर दिया गया है। आईआईटी बॉम्बे में भी कंपनी ने ऑफर्स दिए हैं, लेकिन यह पता नहीं है कि वहां के कितने स्टूडेंट्स को जॉब ऑफर को गई है। यह जानकारी दोनों इंस्टीट्यूट्स के सूरों ने दी है। कंपनी ने इस बारे में इकनामिक टाइम्स की भेजी ईमेल का जवाब नहीं दिया। आईआईटी के सभी कैम्पस में पिछले साल की तुलना में इस बार इंटरनेशनल ऑफर्स ज्यादा दिए जा रहे हैं। मिसाल के लिए, ऑरिंकल इंटरनेशनल पोस्टिंग के लिए 15 स्टूडेंट्स को इस साल हायर कर रही है।



Hindu ND 02/12/2014 P-7

81 students get offers on Day One at IIT-M

Special Correspondent

CHENNAI: As many as 81 offers were made to students participating in the first two placement sessions on Monday at the Indian Institute of Technology- Madras.

In the first session, which began a minute after midnight on Sunday, seven companies, including Service Now Software Development India, Epic, Microsoft, Oracle India, Google, Visa Inc., and Cisco Systems picked up 17 students. Last year, 29 offers were made in the first session that targeted the core computer science

engineering graduates.

This year, the highest annual pay package announced for the campus recruitment was \$1,30,000.

The highest annual pay package from Indian companies, which recruited 64 students, is Rs.30 lakh for a selected candidate.

When pointed out that last year, a student was selected for \$2.2 lakh, Babu Viswanathan, adviser, Training and Placement, said that as against one job profile requiring niche skills a year ago, the same company came up with more profiles.

Amar Ujala ND 02/12/2014 P-9

आईआईटी कानपुर के तीन छात्रों को मिलेंगे एक करोड़

कानपुर (ब्यूरो)। आईआईटी कानपुर के परिसर चयन के पहले ही दिन आईआईटीयंस पर धन वर्षा हुई। आईआईटी के परिसर चयन के पहले ही दिन सोमवार को तीन विद्यार्थियों को सालाना एक करोड़ रुपये वेतन पैकेज का रोजगार मिला है। उन्हें यह पैकेज अमेरिका की सॉफ्टवेयर कंपनी ओरेकल ने दी है। इसके अलावा तीन अन्य विद्यार्थियों को भारत में सालाना वेतन पैकेज 42 लाख रुपये का पैकेज मिला है। यह वेतन पैकेज अमेरिकन सॉफ्टवेयर कंपनी टावर रिसर्च ने दिया है। इन कंपनियों ने कंप्यूटर साइंस एंड इंजीनियरिंग के अधिकतर विद्यार्थियों का कैंपस सेलेक्शन किया है। विदेशी कंपनियों से जो समझौता हुआ है, उसके मुताबिक आईआईटी ने अभी इन विद्यार्थियों के नाम का खुलासा नहीं किया है। मंगलवार को नाम सार्वजनिक किए

परिसर चयन में अमेरिकी कंपनी ओरेकल ने पहले ही दिन दिया बेहतरीन वेतन पैकेज जा सकते हैं।

जापान, अमेरिका, कोरिया सहित यूरोपीय देशों की कंपनियों ने आईआईटी के इन विद्यार्थियों को हाथों हाथ लिया। बीटेक कंप्यूटर साइंस एंड इंजीनियरिंग और बीटेक-एमटेक डुवल डिग्री प्रोग्राम के विद्यार्थियों को चयन में प्राथमिकता मिली है। सोमवार रात 11 बजे तक जो रिजल्ट आए थे, उसके मुताबिक 100 से ज्यादा विद्यार्थियों का परिसर चयन हो गया था। 50 विद्यार्थी की लिखित परीक्षा, ग्रुप डिस्कशन (जीडी) और व्यक्तिगत साक्षात्कार (पीआई) की प्रक्रिया चल रही थी। पहले दिन 30 राष्ट्रीय और बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों ने साक्षात्कार लिया है।

Mint ND 02/12/2014 P-3

PLACEMENT SEASON

Starting salaries for IIT grads touch ₹1 cr

BY PRASHANT K. NANDA
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NEW DELHI

With the Indian economy showing signs of revival, the older Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) started their final student placement on Monday with a bang, with some firms offering salaries of as much as ₹1 crore a year to students.

These IITs said they are expecting a better response this year. At IIT-Madras, they gave the graveyard session to foreign firms, and at IIT-Bombay it was manufacturing and core-engineering that got first preference.

At IIT-Kanpur, **Oracle Corp.** made four international offers—two each to B-Tech and M.Tech students—worth over ₹1 crore each, said Aditya Jain, overall placement coordinator. “On Day 1, until 8pm, we have placed 160 students as against 120-odd last year,” Jain said over phone.

He said the average salary this year has risen 12%. On Monday, as many as 37 firms were on campus to recruit students. They included technology firms Google, Microsoft, Oracle, and consumer firms such as **ITC Ltd** and **Hindustan Unilever Ltd.** Overall, more than 1,200 students in graduation and post-graduation level are in the fray this year, Jain said. At least 375 companies have registered to visit the campus this year, “much more than” last year, Jain said without giving further details.

At IIT-Bombay, 40 companies came for recruitment on Day 1, said Avijit Chatterjee, a professor in charge of placement.

Chatterjee did not provide details saying the process would continue till 2am and that he hoped to place some 150 students on the first day.

“There is a mixed bouquet of firms but we have given preference to manufacturing and core engineering companies,” said Chatterjee. At IIT-Bombay, around 16 students from different streams and levels are looking for placement this season.

At IIT-Madras, until 7pm, 81 students had got job offers. The highest international salary offered was ₹80 lakh and the highest domestic salary was ₹30 lakh per annum, the engineering and technology school said.

“The economic situation has improved and we have seen the beginning of a good season,” said Babu Viswanathan, a placement adviser at IIT-Madras.

At IIT Madras, seven international firms offered 17 postings in the graveyard session. While Microsoft made three offers, Google made four.

Investment bank Goldman Sachs made 13 offers to IIT-Madras students, followed by Samsung R&D Institute India, Bengaluru, which made eight offers.

Though, IIT-Kharagpur, Delhi and Guwahati did not give details, a professor at IIT-Delhi said the situation is much better than last year.

MICROSOFT HIRES 20 STUDENTS FROM IIT-B ON DAY 1

Hindustan Times (Mumbai)

MUMBAI: Day one of placements at the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay (IIT-B) ended on a high note with Microsoft offering jobs to 20 students. The company remained the largest recruiter in the morning slot.

Around 550 students, of the total 1,600, appeared for interviews on Monday for 37 companies across consulting, IT and software, finance and manufacturing sectors.

While placement officials refused to comment on the exact packages offered, global giants like Google, Facebook, Microsoft and Oracle, among others, have made international offers with packages of more than Rs60 lakh (US\$1,00,000) for international postings.

First-time recruiter, Visa Inc. has also made plum offers, at par with the dream companies.

Breaking away from tradition, this year, IIT-B had core engineering companies like General Electric, Airbus and Qualcomm offering placements on the first day, which is a coveted slot and usually reserved for global IT and software giants or consulting firms.

Till last year, manufacturing firms came in for recruitment only on the third or fourth day of placements.

However, the institute has made it a point to promote manufacturing profiles this year, in the spirit of 'Make in India'.

"Being an engineering college, our focus should be on core companies, which is what we are doing. For the first time, these core companies have come on campus on day one," said Avijit Chatterjee, professor in charge of placements at IIT-B. Sixtyfive students have confirmed the offers made by companies

This year, 100 pre-placement offers were bagged by IIT-B students, 12 more than last year. Salary packages at IIT-B has so far increased between 10% and 20%, said placement officials.

आईआईटी में 38%, एनआईटी में 28% फैकल्टी के पद खाली

<http://www.bhaskar.com/news/EDUC-EDNE-38-percent-faculty-vacancies-in-iit-4826534-NOR.html>

एजुकेशन भास्कर। देश के 16 आईआईटी संस्थानों में 38 फीसदी फैकल्टी के पद खाली हैं। केंद्रीय सहायता से चलने वाले संस्थानों के बारे में आई नई रिपोर्ट के अनुसार आईआईटीज़ में फैकल्टी के कुल 6944 पद हैं। इनमें से 4308 भरे हुए हैं जबकि 2636 पद खाली हैं।

सबसे ज्यादा कमी आईआईटी-बीएचयू में है जहां 58.1 फीसदी फैकल्टी के पद भरे जाने हैं। पुराने आईआईटी संस्थानों में दिल्ली में 43.9, बॉम्बे में 31.4, कानपुर में 37.9 और खड़गपुर में 45.8 फीसदी फैकल्टी की कमी है। रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि 16 एनआईटी संस्थानों में फैकल्टी के 6467 स्वीकृत पद हैं। इनमें से 1800 पदों को अभी भरा जाना है। इसी तरह, इलाहाबाद, जबलपुर, ग्वालियर और कांचीपुरम के चार ट्रिपल आईटी संस्थानों में फैकल्टी के 282 पद हैं। इनमें से 116 (41 फीसदी) पद खाली हैं।

आईआईटी और एनआईटी संस्थानों में शिक्षकों की कमी से निपटने के लिए अक्टूबर महीने में सरकार ने एक से दूसरे संस्थान में मोबिलिटी की अनुमति दी है। फॉरेन फैकल्टी के लिए सैलरी लिमिट भी कम की गई है।

Millenium Post ND 02/12/2014 P-5

Short on faculty, IITs, IIMs gasp for breath

There are 4,087 teachers against the approved strength of 6,653 for IITs, 598 teachers against approved strength of 766 for IIMs

DHIRENDRA KUMAR

NEW DELHI: Despite several measures to attract faculties from home and abroad, the shortage of teachers in premier technical and management institutes is likely to water down Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dreams to produce quality technocrats. The shocking revelation came to light after Union Human Resource Development Minister Smriti Zubin Irani submitted the latest report on staff shortage in the Rajya Sabha on Monday.

According to the report, there are approximately 39 per cent and 22 per cent vacancy in teaching positions in 16 Indian Institutes of Technology and 13 Indian Institutes of Management respectively. The reasons for faculty shortage are retirement, resignation, increase in students' intake and non-availability of qualified candidates for taking up teaching assignments.

There are only 4,087 teachers against the total approved strength of 6,653 for IITs, while there are only

BRIDGING THE GAP



INSTITUTE	FACULTY STRENGTH	SHORTAGE
IIT Bombay	834	217
IIT Delhi	770	349
IIT Guwahati	475	141
IIT Kanpur	617	239
IIT Kharagpur	1,020	456
IIT Madras	800	262
IIT Roorkee	814	421
IIT BHU	557	316
IIT Bhubaneswar	90	04
IIT Gandhinagar	90	11
IIT Hyderabad	136	27
IIT Indore	90	10
IIT Jodhpur	90	34
IIT Mandi	90	33
IIT Patna	90	13
IIT Ropar	90	33
IIM Ahmedabad	120	35
IIM Bangalore	120	25
IIM Calcutta	104	14
IIM Lucknow	90	05
IIM Indore	120	62
IIM Kozhikode	77	14
IIM Shillong	24	05
IIM Rohtak	25	08
IIM Ranchi	23	11
IIM Raipur	16	00
IIM Trichy	19	04
IIM Udaipur	11	00
IIM Kashiipur	17	06

598 teachers against the total approved strength of 766 for

IIMs. However, in the premier management institutes,

the student teacher ratio is far better than IITs. There is one professor for every six students, while in IITs the ratio is 17 to one.

In IITs, Banaras Hindu University has the highest number of vacancies with 316 vacant positions against the approved strength of 557, while in IIMs, Indore stands at top with 62 vacancies against the total strength of 120.

Apart from this, the faculty position of 39 central universities is also alarming as 1,244 positions of professors are lying vacant. According to HRD Ministry, which is taking all steps to ensure quality teachers, the main reason for shortage of teachers is that candidates for the post of professors are not fitting into the bill.

The ministry further attributed the reasons for the crunch to shortage in the feeder cadre of associate professors, sanction of additional teaching posts in view of the expansion in the XI Plan period and increase in intake capacity of students, among others.

Mint ND 02/12/2014 P-6

CAG CENSURE

HRD ministry pulled up for delay in opening IITs

Apart from the delays and cost overruns, CAG rebukes ministry for the shortfall in teachers at the new IITs

By Prashant K. Nanda
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NEW DELHI

The comptroller and auditor general (CAG) of India has rebuked the human resource development (HRD) ministry for "cascading delay" and "substantial cost overrun" in setting up new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) over the last six years.

CAG also criticized the shortfall in teachers at the new IITs, most of which are functioning from makeshift campuses, and the below-target intake of students.

The government auditor in a report that can be accessed on its website said that the ministry's cost requirement for this project has escalated by more than 150% due to delays and because it ignored suggestions made by the expenditure finance committee (EFC) of the Planning Commission.

CAG said, of the eight new IITs the government decided to open since 2008, three are yet to commence construction of campus buildings and the rest are behind schedule in finishing the project.

"In three out of the eight projects, the construction of campus buildings was yet to commence, while in five cases the percentage of work completed ranged only between nine and 55 percent," CAG said in its report, a copy of which has been reviewed by *Mint*.

"Audit scrutiny disclosed that as of March 2014, all the projects lagged behind the schedule... Audit noted that no commitment had been obtained from

WORK SO FAR

The status of construction of campuses for the new IITs as of 31 March 2014.

55%	20%	Yet to start
IIT Hyderabad	IIT Bhubaneswar	IIT Indore, IIT Ropar, IIT Jodhpur
15%	9%	NA
IIT Gandhinagar	IIT Mandi	IIT Patna

Source: CAG



SUBRATA JANA/MINT

the state governments for timely allotment of land before sanctioning the project," CAG said in its report. It criticized the HRD ministry for failing to "set up the project monitoring unit as directed by the expenditure finance committee (EFC)".

Prior to the cabinet approval in July 2008 for setting up eight new IITs, the EFC had emphasized the need for setting up a project monitoring unit in the HRD ministry to ensure timely completion of the project. Six new IITs began functioning from temporary premises from the 2008-09 academic year and the rest from makeshift buildings the next year. The CAG said that delay in construction has led to significant cost overruns.

"As a result of the delay, the ministry proposed in May 2014 to revise the cost of estimates from ₹6,080 crore to ₹15,664 crore, i.e. an increase of more than 150% over the initial project cost," the auditor said.

The revised cost was, however, yet to be approved by the department of expenditure. The CAG said the ministry, while fur-

nishing the status of the projects between November 2013 and May 2014, attributed the hold-up to delays such as in getting land due to farmers' protest and problems in getting forest clearance, in preparing master plans and in appointment of architects.

The ministry, however, defended its position saying that though there was no project monitoring committee, it was monitoring the progress.

"The Twelfth Plan allocations were, accordingly, made as per requirements based on 2007-2008 cost estimates and on actual expenditure by the new Institutes in the Eleventh Plan, and hence were on lower side," HRD minister Smriti Irani had told Lok Sabha on 30 July in a written reply.

The CAG was not convinced. The auditor wrote in its report that the fact remains that both physical and financial progress in the establishment of these IITs has been extremely slow. The present status of these projects should also be viewed in the light of the fact that Plan-

ning Commission had advised completing the projects within two years, it said.

"This suggestion was based on the reasoning that operation of IITs from rented premises was likely to lead to dilution of standards," the CAG said, a point that experts have been making for the last few years.

The concerns of the Planning Commission have not been addressed, CAG said; rather the "projects faced cascading delays in the projected time schedule".

The auditor also noted that against the projected intake of 8,880 students in various streams in the new IITs during the sixth academic year (2013-14) after commencement, the actual intake was just 2,881—only 42%.

The report may push the Narendra Modi government to go slow on opening more IITs as promised by the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party in its election manifesto for the April-May general elections and later in its budget announcement in July.

A retired official from one of the older IITs, who requested not to be named, said, though some argue that setting up IITs takes time, one has to realize that India in 2014 is different from what it was in the 1960s, he said explaining that authorities cannot justify the delay in setting up these new IITs.

The auditor also criticized the delay in putting in place enough teaching staff. Against the proposed intake of 1,888 teaching faculty, the actual strength was only 659 as of March 2014, a shortfall of 65%. "The ministry may take necessary steps to ensure that projects are completed without further delay and the intended objectives are fulfilled," CAG said in its report.

An HRD ministry official said that they told the CAG that though the new IITs are operating from temporary campuses, they have adequate classroom and lab facilities. The ministry understands the need to expedite the work and has started giving more funds to the existing eight new IITs this financial year, the official said, requesting anonymity.

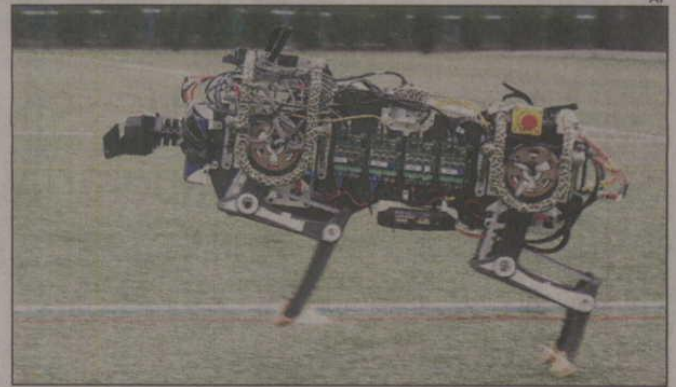
India has 16 functional IITs, including eight new ones in Hyderabad, Patna, Bhubaneswar, Gandhinagar, Ropar, Mandi, Indore and Jodhpur.

Hindustan Times ND 02/12/2014 P-8

UGC revises grant to give 55% hike in its fellowships
NEW DELHI: In what could come as a good news to students and scholars The university grant commission (UGC) has revised the grant under different fellowships and has decided to give them a 55% hike. The revised rates for 15 such schemes are applicable with effect from December 1. While the junior research fellowship has been increased from ₹16,000 to ₹25,000 per month, the senior research fellowship has been revised to ₹28,000 per month from ₹18,000. The JRF and SRF for foreign nationals has been increased to ₹18,600 (₹12,000 earlier) and ₹21,700 (₹14,000 earlier). The emeritus fellowship has been hiked from ₹20,000 to ₹31,000.

Times of India ND 02/12/2014 P-19

Unveiled: A robot that runs, jumps just like a cheetah



BIG LEAP: The cheetah prototype can help in designing revolutionary prosthetics, wearable technologies and all-terrain wheelchairs

Cambridge (Massachusetts): It's a robot unlike any other, inspired by the world's fastest land animal and controlled by video game technology. The robot, called the cheetah, can run on batteries at speeds of more than 16 kmph, jump about 16 inches (40 centimetres) high, land safely and continue running for at least 15 minutes — all while using less power than a microwave oven.

It's the creation of researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who had to design key elements from zero because of a lack of, or shortcomings in, existing technology. That includes powerful, lightweight motors, electronics that control power for its 12 motors and an algorithm that determines the amount of force a leg should exert during the split second that it spends on the ground while running. That's the key to helping the

robot maintain balance and forward momentum.

An onboard computer organizes data from various sensors and sends commands to each motor.

"This is kind of a Ferrari in the robotics world, like, we have to put all the expensive components and make it really that instinctive," said MIT professor Sangbae Kim, who heads the school's Biomimetic Robotics Lab that designed the robot.

Insight gleaned from the prototype could have real-world applications, including the design of revolutionary prosthetics, wearable technologies, all-terrain wheelchairs and vehicles that can travel efficiently in rough terrain much like animals do, Kim said. There are hopes the robot will be able to be used in search and rescue operations in hazardous or hostile environments where it's too risky to send a human rescuer. AP

Economic Times ND 02/12/2014 P-23

IISc to Focus on Startups

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Bengaluru: Bengaluru-based Indian Institute of Science is looking for ways to foster entrepreneurship, sifting through its intellectual property amassed over 105 years of academic excellence in research and tapping into its faculty and alumni to create more start-ups.

“The emphasis on science research will not change, but we are interested in making it more impactful,” said IISc director Anurag Kumar. “We will have several programmes that are translational,” he said. Translational programmes aim to take research and make it ready for use in the real world.

“For research to be beneficial to the society

you have to create more products and services. So such translational work needs to happen,” said Kris Gopalakrishnan, co-founder of India’s second largest software exporter Infosys, who recently made a ₹225-crore grant to set up the Centre for Brain Research at IISc.

The institution is also raising a micro fund of about ₹20 crore – partly backed by the government, philanthropists and alumni – to back start-ups that it selects to incubate in its campus. “It will take us about six months to give it shape,” said CS Murali, chairman of Entrepreneurship Cell and the Society for Innovation and Development at IISc.

Gopalakrishnan said: “I’d like to see more and more professors and venture funds supporting businesses coming out of research.”

Hindustan Times ND 02/12/2014 P-20

40% Indians ‘fully engaged’ at work

HT Shinejobs Correspondent

yourviews@shine.com

Indian employees are significantly more engaged than their global counterparts. As many as 46% of employees are fully engaged compared to the global average of 34%, says a study titled Employee Engagement in India 2014 by Dale Carnegie. Overall, only 9% of Indian employees are genuinely dissatisfied with their jobs, as compared to the higher percentages for APAC and global employees.

According to the report, large firms in India with over 100,000 employees tend to have

LARGE INDIAN FIRMS, WITH MORE THAN 100,000 EMPLOYEES, HAVE THE LOWEST NUMBER OF DISENGAGED EMPLOYEES

the lowest amount of disengaged employees (just 5%) while smaller companies (500-1000 employees) have 14% of their employees actively disengaged. Further, engagement levels were seen to steadily increase with

longer tenure with 76% of those working for 20 to 25 years in the same organisation being highly engaged, the report says.

A look at the employee-supervisor relationship highlights that 13% of Indian employees reported major dissatisfaction with their immediate supervisor while another 45% were neutral. Just 31% of Indian employees expressed confidence in their senior management which reflects a gap in leadership abilities at the top.

Pallavi Jha, chairperson and md, Dale Carnegie Training India, Walchand PeopleFirst, says, “Against the volatile

business environment, talent has today emerged as the most important asset of a company. As the war for talent intensifies, strategic employee engagement initiatives offer companies an effective tool to attract and retain premium talent as well as the tipping point to enhance productivity. Our study indicates a high level of engagement amongst the Indian workforce compared to the global average, however an alarming 54% of Indian employees remain somewhat dissatisfied in their jobs signaling an urgent need for companies to take proactive steps to sustain engagement.”

Asian Age ND 02/12/2014 P-4

No saffronisation of education: Irani

AGE CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, DEC. 1

Human resources development minister Smriti Irani on Monday sought to allay apprehensions about saffronisation in education and asserted in Parliament that every decision in this field will be taken as per the "spirit of the Constitution".

Trying to downplay her meetings with RSS ideologues and Sangh organisations, Ms Irani said as a minister it was her responsibility to listen to all stakeholders related to education. The minister said this while replying to queries of Rajya Sabha members who had raised this issue while participating in a discussion on Indian Institutes of Information Technology Bill 2014. The bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha and provides for bringing four institutes of information technology under the ambit of a single authority and help students get degrees. The bill has already been passed by the Lok Sabha. "Whatever steps the government of India takes with regard to educational institutes and institutions, it is my commitment that these will be taken as per the spirit of the Constitution," she said.

Members, including from Left parties, voiced concerns about education being saffronised with CPI's D. Raja saying that education under the NDA government was going the "right" way. Trinamul Congress' Derek O'Brien



HRD minister Smriti Irani speaks in the Rajya Sabha in New Delhi on Monday.

— PTI

also mentioned that controversy and apprehensions had arisen after the minister met some Sangh ideologues. The minister said students passing from these institutes will now get degrees and the government would make all efforts to attract the best of faculties. She, in particular, referred to the agonies of the students of IIIT-Kancheepuram who were awaiting their degrees since 2008 due to non-passage of legislations governing IIITs.

Allaying apprehensions, she said the reservation policy will also be applicable to the IIITs in student admission and in recruitment of teaching and non-teaching staff. Replying to members' comments on the autonomy of these institutes, Ms Irani said, "The governance structure of these institutes will be like that of the IITs and NITs which were based on the Central Universities Act as passed by Parliament."

Scientists develop tech to print circuits on paper

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Washington

RESEARCHERS have developed a method to print circuits on paper, an advance that allows for a decrease in cost and an increase in portability for any number of devices.

College of Engineering assistant professor Anming Hu at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, who developed the method, said being able to design the circuit you want and then

print it out allows for more responsive designs, easier control, and lower costs.

"The ability to print out the exact circuit you need the moment you need it can revolutionise a number of things," Hu said.

One of the biggest advancements made possible by the technology could be in the world of medicine, researchers believe.

Currently, endless numbers of people suffer from a disease or affliction that requires them to frequently

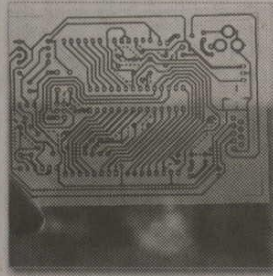


DIAGRAM OF FUTURE

check in with a doctor or conduct medical testing. Diabetics, for example, rely on daily finger pricks to test

their blood sugar levels.

With a paper circuit enclosed in a liquid-proof barrier, those patients could one day have a sensor implanted in them that could not only detect when their levels were out of kilter, but also signal itself to release insulin into their body.

Hu's system works like an inkjet printer, but the ink cartridge is replaced with one that dispenses liquid metal. Hu's team tested more than thirty different types of paper before realis-

ing that standard inkjet paper worked as well as anything, and was cheaper than most to secure.

"We use silver to make the nanowire. It's still much cheaper than making electric circuits the 'normal' way, and it holds up far better than copper, which has a tendency to oxidise too quickly," Hu said.

Hu's team at the centre was able to fold the paper-thin circuit 5,000 times with a high level of functionality still intact.

10

By 2100, polar bears to be on brink of starvation

Toronto: Polar bears may face starvation and reproductive failure by the year 2100 due to heavy loss of Arctic sea ice, a new study has warned.

Shifts in the timing and duration of Arctic ice cover, especially the possible lengthening of ice-free periods, may impact polar bear population under projected warming before the end of this century, researchers said.

Sea ice across the Arctic is declining and altering physi-



© Jenny E. Ross/Corbis

STOP WARMING, SAVE ME

cal characteristics of marine ecosystems, and polar bears are vulnerable to these chang-

es in sea ice conditions.

Researcher Stephen Hamilton from University of Alberta and colleagues used sea ice projections for the Canadian Arctic Archipelago from 2006-2100 and metrics developed from polar bear energetics modelling to gain insight into the conservation challenges for polar bears facing habitat loss. Shifts away from multi-year ice to annual ice cover throughout the region, as well as lengthening ice-free

periods, may become critical for polar bears before the end of the 21st century with projected warming. Each polar bear population in the Archipelago may undergo 2-5 months of ice-free conditions, where no such conditions exist presently, the study found.

Under business-as-usual climate projections, polar bears may face starvation and reproductive failure across the entire Archipelago by the year 2100. PTI

HT.Com ND 02.12.2014 P-14

PROJECT INTERSTELLAR? BURY DNA ON THE MOON!

CELESTIAL Next mission to moon is to place digital history of humans

Press Trust of India

While moon excavation has been a success of one kind. Leaving DNA is all together a different story. A British space consultant will charge people 50 pounds or so to place a sample of their DNA in an archive to be buried on the Moon.

Called 'Lunar Mission One', the archive is the brainchild of David Iron, who has worked on Skynet, the UK spy satellite network, and Galileo, the European Union's global positioning system.

He will offer people a chance to place a sample of their DNA, in the form of a strand of hair, in an archive to be buried on the Moon surface, alongside a digital history of the person, as much of their lives, they want to record.

However, Iron needs consent of at least 10 million people, if he is to generate the 500 million pounds the moon shot will need,



LIVE ETERNALLY IN THE LUNAR SPACE

- The mission will charge **50 pounds** to place a sample of DNA in an archive to be buried on the surface of the Moon
- A digital history will record their lives as they want to
- The project needs **consent of at least 10 million people** to generate 500 million pounds
- Commission designs for the spacecraft, will be **blasted off by 2024**
- The mission plans to land a **robotic spacecraft** on Moon's south pole

'New Scientist' reported.

Iron and his colleagues have launched a crowd funding campaign on Kickstarter to raise the initial 600,000 pounds of seed funding needed to set up the company to commission designs for the spacecraft, which it is hoped will blast off by 2024.

Iron is working with the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Harwell, UK.

Lunar Mission One plans to land a robotic spacecraft on the Moon's south pole. It will then drill at least 20 metres into the lunar crust, extracting core samples to be analysed

on the craft.

"No lunar or planetary mission of any kind has ever drilled to a significant depth below the surface. The deepest Apollo drill core was only 3 metres long," said Ian Crawford at Birkbeck College, London, Lunar Mission One's chief planetary scientist. "The drill will enable the geothermal gradient, and thus lunar heatflow, to be measured for the first time," Crawford said.

After about six months, capsules containing the DNA and digital data will be injected into the borehole, which will then be sealed.

Times of India ND 02/12/2014 P-19

This drone cleans air of pollution

Beijing: A group of designers aim to develop 'parasitic' drones that perch on neon billboards in Hong Kong and suck up pollution to produce fuel and grow plants.

During the day, the drones, which the designers call "parasitic robots" would perch on neon billboards that line Hong Kong streets with their wings spread. They would collect pollution through a carbon-absorbant polymer paint, currently undergoing lab tests at the University of California, Los Angeles. At night, when the billboards light up, the robots would attach to them, us-

ing the heat from the neon in the next step of the process, 'fastcoexist.com' reported.

Heating up the polymer to a certain temperature would release the CO₂, which could be collected and used in energy production. The CO₂ would also help boost the growth of plants on the robots' wings, so the robots can double as miniature farms. The system would collect organic waste from the plants to create biogas, while the extra CO₂ would be used to create methane. Some of the power from these fuels can run the robots themselves, making the system self-sufficient. PTI

Millenium Post ND 02/12/2014 P-4

Decisions shouldn't be taken to please V-C: HC tells DU

The observation comes while hearing petition on 'special chance' provision

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: In a recent order given by Delhi High Court in context with University of Delhi's (DU) decision to withdraw 'special chance' provision for students, it said "whatever decisions are taken must be based on arguments and counter-arguments over various viewpoints and should not be based on considerations of pleasing/not displeasing the Vice-Chancellor".

The High Court further stated they were 'disturbed' by the fact that though the decision to grant such exemption/relaxation was of the academic council of the University, which "we

Taking a strict stand on the matter, the HC directed varsity to discuss 'special chance' provision in its academic council meeting

are told comprises of 200 members and who we are sure must be having rich knowledge of academics and education, the decision to do away with the same is of one man only — the Vice-Chancellor."

By taking a strict stand on the matter, the High Court has directed DU that



it should discuss the matter 'special chance' provision thoroughly in academic council and take decision within three months.

"The Vice-Chancellor has substituted himself for the University of Delhi, flouted the provisions of the Delhi University Act, 1922 as well as the Stat-

utes, Ordinances and Regulations made under it by stamping his decisions and jettisoned the principle of basing decisions on free and fearless debate," said Nandita Narain, president of Delhi University Teachers' Association (DUTA).

She further said "The Vice-Chancellor Dinesh Singh takes decisions by using his 'emergency powers' on policy matters and routine matters alike. Often proposals are pushed through without offering any justification or answers to various objections."

The 'special chance' provision was withdrawn in a callous manner by the registrar on 10 October 2012. The 'special chance' provi-

sion allowed students who had left their studies in the middle to later appear for pending exams, but DU had scrapped the provision two years ago and said the students need to finish their degrees within the stipulated timeframe.

"By withdrawing the 'special chance' provision in an arbitrary manner, as many as 2,500 students are affected. Before filing a petition in High Court, we wrote to vice-chancellor, the registrar and other concerned authorities regarding the same. But no action was taken and no heed was paid to students' problem," said Raaid Hooda, a student of Delhi University.

53% Indians stay hooked to Net every waking hour

GURDIP SINGH

Press Trust of India

SINGAPORE: Fifty-three per cent of Indians are connected to the internet every waking hour, which is higher than the global average of 51 per cent, a new international study has found.

"The continuous online connectivity is becoming a phenomenon in India with 53 per cent of respondents in the country saying they are connected to the internet every waking hour," said the study conducted by a leading global management consulting firm, the London-based AT Kearney Global Research.

"That is higher than 51 per cent global average, 36 per cent in China and 39 per cent in Japan," said the study titled "Connected consumers are not created equal: A global perspective."

The study covered 10 countries involving 10,000 respondents in July this year. The results of the study found that continuous connectivity is having a big impact on online retail in the country with social networks becoming a major influencing factor. "Around 97 per cent of the respondents from India said they have a Facebook account with 77 per cent saying they logged in to the social network daily," said the study.

According to the study, there are three key motivations for Indian people to be continuously connected to internet. First is interpersonal connection in which 94 per cent of respondents said that connecting with other people is a key motivation for going online. This factor is the highest among Indian respondents.

Second factor, according to the study, is self-expression, which is sharing opinions with others through the internet. The study says this factor is particularly strong in emerging markets and places where offline self-expression is limited.

The third motivation is access to services or products and making purchases online. On this front, 92 per cent of the Indian respondents said they go online to access services or for shopping, the study said.