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Centre may examine medicinal properties of cow urine

JACOB KOSHY

NEW DELHI: The Science and Technology Ministry may now have to critically evaluate the role of cow urine and dung in curing diseases.

On December 18 and 19, Union Science Minister Harsh Vardhan and a slew of senior officials from the Department of Science and Technology, Department of Biotechnology and the National Environment and Engineering Research Institute participated in a workshop.

Titled 'Scientific Validation and Research on Panchgavya', it was held at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.

'Panchgavya', or the mixture of five products from the cow, is a concoction of



Harsh Vardhan

dung, urine and milk along with curd and butter. "I call for everyone's support & participation in this noble effort," Dr. Vardhan — a medical doctor — tweeted, "MoS&T is firmly with cause of panchgavya."

The Science and Techno-

logy Ministry sponsored the two-day conference which was organised by IIT-Delhi's Centre for Rural Development and Technology (CRDT).

Dr. Vardhan is the latest Minister to attest to the bovine's super-abilities.

His colleague Shripad Yesso Naik told the Lok Sabha last month that his AYUSH Ministry had undertaken several research and academic activities to promote the use of cow urine for its "anti-cancer and anti-infective properties in ayurvedic medicines."

Scientific protocol needed

While 'panchgavya' is a part of ayurvedic pharmacopoeia, its proponents claim it can cure a range of ailments,

including cancer.

"There are lots of claims but what we need is a scientific protocol to test these claims and the Minister has committed his support," Professor Vijay Virendra Kumar, the workshop convener and a professor at IIT-Delhi, told *The Hindu*.

Prof. Kumar heads CRDT and — among other things — has successfully engineered a car to run on biogas. He also lists research into 'panchgavya' as among his professional interests, on his web-page. He and Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, DST, told *The Hindu* that no money had yet been committed. "No money has been allotted. If we receive a proposal it has to pass strict scientific scrutiny," said Mr. Sharma.

Delhi students design car to fight pollution

<http://www.asianage.com/metros/delhi/221216/delhi-students-design-car-to-fight-pollution.html>

The car project would also be proposed to IIT-Delhi to be developed into a functional prototype.

New Delhi: With the air quality dipping and the national capital in perpetual pollution crisis, two Delhi students have come up with the concept of a "self-sustainable" car that runs using electromagnetic induction to help tackle the health hazard.

Nandini Sharma and Kabir Arora, Class 11 students of Amity International School, Pushp Vihar, bagged the innovation award on Wednesday after a two-month-long science competition on the topic 'Mitigating Air Pollution in Delhi'.

The "self-sustainable" car, a non-polluting, zero carbon footprint simulation concept that uses electromagnetic induction, was among several projects created by students from various schools in and around Delhi.

In the event, jointly organised by United Nations Information Centre for India and Bhutan, Sonalika Group of Companies, National Progressive Schools' Conference and Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, students from other schools also bagged prizes in different categories.

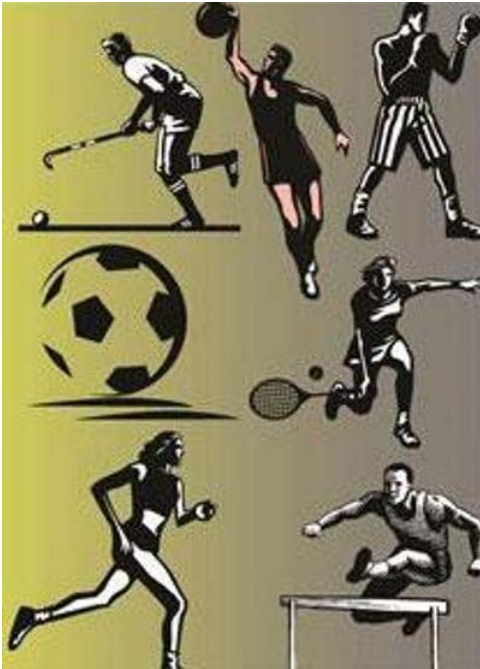
The car project would also be proposed to IIT-Delhi to be developed into a functional prototype. Speaking at the award ceremony, JNU rector Chintamani Mohapatra said that Delhi was not fighting pollution adequately.

“The focus is just on old vehicles and its emissions, but not on the number of vehicles an average family has,” he added.

“The future of Delhi residents is bleak unless there is a co-operation between government and stakeholders to fight the war against pollution,” he added.

IIT sports meet: Anjani, Neeraj win shot put in women and men event

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kanpur/IIT-sports-meet-Anjani-Neeraj-win-shot-put-in-women-and-men-event/articleshow/56109443.cms>



KANPUR: Anjani Dubey of Kanpur and Neeraj Chaudhary of Delhi won shot put women and men event in the 23rd Inter-IIT staff sports meet-2016 held at IIT Kanpur here on Wednesday.

Anjani hurled 8.89 mtrs iron ball and won the top place. The second place holder Ruchi Yadav, her team mate threw ball to 7.89 mtrs. Revanthi E of IIT-Madras got the third place with a distance of 6.32 mtrs.

Among men, Neeraj Chaudhary was adjudged as a winner when his third attempt measured the distance of iron ball as 10.44 mtrs. De Hemantha Rao of IIT-Kharagpur stood at the second place with a throw of 10.15 mtrs. Rajib Gody of IIT-Guwahati got the third place when his second attempt covered the distance of 9.84 mtrs which was his best.

Earlier, former Olympian Ashok Kumar, who was the chief guest, inaugurated the meet in which 750 staff members of 16 IITs are taking part. Prof Indrajeet Manna, director, IIT-Kanpur, Prof. Ajit Chaturvedi, deputy director IIT-Kanpur, Sudhir Mishra in-charge administration and coordinator NR Patra were also present on the occasion.

IIT-BHU beat IIT-Kharagpur by 2-0 in volleyball match, and host IIT-Kanpur humbled IIT-Roorkee by 4-0 in the football tournament.



IIT प्लेसमेंट में बड़ा सवाल, कौन बनेगा करोड़पति !

श्रीराधा डी बसु नुबई
इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी (IIT) में फाइनल प्लेसमेंट के पहले दौर के बाद करोड़पतियों की जमात छोटी हो गई है। इस साल करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा सैलरी का ऑफर पाने वाले स्टूडेंट्स की संख्या 2014 के मुकाबले 50 परसेंट से ज्यादा घटी है। इस साल इनकी संख्या पिछले तीन साल के सबसे निचले स्तर पर आ गई है।

अलग-अलग कैम्पस के अनुमान के मुताबिक, एक करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा का (वेस सैलरी, ईसाप्स, ज्वाइनिंग बोनस और रिलोकेशन अलाउंस सहित) ऑफर पाने वाले स्टूडेंट्स की संख्या

50% से ज्यादा घटे ऑफर

करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा के ऑफर्स की संख्या 2014 के मुकाबले 50% से अधिक घटी। तीन साल के लो लेवल पर पहुंची करोड़ से ज्यादा का ऑफर पाने वालों की संख्या

पिछले साल के मुकाबले 30-40 परसेंट तक कम हुई है। मद्रास, रुड़की, BHU, गुवाहाटी और खड़गपुर के आईआईटी में करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा ऑफर पाने वाले स्टूडेंट्स की संख्या पिछले साल के 27 से

सभी IIT में 2014 में एक करोड़ से ज्यादा सैलरी पैकेज के 60 से अधिक ऑफर आए थे



का पैकेज पाने वाले स्टूडेंट्स की संख्या घटकर 2014 के बाद सबसे निचले स्तर पर आ गई है। उन्होंने बताया कि इसकी कई वजहें हैं। एक तो अमेरिकी कंपनियों की तरफ से इंटरनेशनल ऑफर्स घटे हैं। दूसरी, विदेशी कंपनियों ने स्टॉक ऑफर्स में कटौती की है। तीसरी वजह यह है कि गुगल जैसी कुछ कंपनियां ऑफ कैम्पस मॉड से हायरिंग कर रही हैं।

आईआईटी गुवाहाटी में सेंटर ऑफ करियर डिवेलपमेंट के हेड कौन्सल मोहंती ने कहा, 'जब हम कंपनियों से इस बारे में पूछते हैं तो उनका जवाब होता है कि ग्लोबल इकॉनमी की हालत ठीक नहीं है। इसलिए इंटरनेशनल

रिज्यूमेंट्स घटे हैं। सभी आईआईटी में 2014 में एक करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा सैलरी पैकेज के 60 से ज्यादा ऑफर आए थे। अब उनकी संख्या घटकर 50 परसेंट से कम रह गई है।

देशभर के आईआईटी में ऑफर किए एक करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा के पैकेज के हिसाब से 2014 सबसे अच्छा साल रहा था। वहां से टैलेंट्स हासिल करने के लिए फेसबुक, ओरेकल, गुगल और माइक्रोसॉफ्ट के बीच होड़ मची थी। 2014 में ओरेकल ने \$1,25,00,000 के कैश कंपोनेंट के साथ \$2,00,00,000 (\$1.24 करोड़) मूल्य के 4,800 स्टॉक यूनिट्स ऑफर किए थे।

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IIT-Kgp students on hunger strike over fee hike

Agencies

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KHARAGPUR (WEST BENGAL): A section of IIT-Kharagpur students are on hunger strike since Tuesday afternoon demanding the rollback of a fee hike they say is "unjustified".

They prevented the director and other officials from leaving the campus on Tuesday night. The director, registrar and other officials of the institute were gheraoed overnight in their offices by a group of students

THE DECISION TO HIKE THE FEE BY 20 PER CENT WAS TAKEN RECENTLY AND WILL BE EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY NEXT YEAR

protesting against the 20% hike in hostel fee.

The decision to hike the fee was taken recently and will be effective from January next year.

The protests, which began on

Tuesday, ended on Wednesday morning after a meeting between the students and management in which an assurance was given that their demands will be looked into.

Director Partha Pratim Chakrabarti, registrar Pradip Pyne, dean of students, and a number of other senior officials were not allowed to leave their office by the students who sat at the gate on Tuesday night.

"We wanted a discussion with the management over this fee hike. Kharagpur is a cheap place but the fees are the highest across all IITs.

So what is the logic behind the hike?" asked a protester. He said they were recently informed about the 20% hike in the hostel fees.

The protesters, mostly research scholars who get a ₹25,000 monthly stipend from the elite institution, plan to strike indefinitely until the director himself addresses them.

"If the stipend is not increased how can we pay the increased hostel fees? Within that small amount we have to manage our food and other living expenses also," said a PhD student.