

Newspaper Clips

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Hindustan Times, ND 28-Dec-10 p-11

Chandrayaan delay could hurt India

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NEW DELHI: A delay in the planned 2013 launch of the Chandrayaan-2 moon mission could set India back in an unofficial space race with rivals China and Japan, even as both are independently planning near-identical missions that year.

All three are scheduled to launch their first soft-landing moon missions — aimed at unravelling the mineral wealth of the moon surface — in 2013, and a delay could hurt India, space policy makers and scientists have said.

The concerns come in the aftermath of the spectacular failure of the Geostationary Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Christmas day that has triggered fears about India's ability to meet its 2013 timeline for

GSLV-F06'S FAILURE HAS TRIGGERED DOUBTS ABOUT INDIA'S ABILITY TO MEET ITS 2013 DEADLINE FOR THE MISSION TO MOON

the Chandrayaan-2 mission.

Though the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) officially maintains that Saturday's GSLV-F06 failure is not a setback to the plans for a 2013 Chandrayaan-2 launch, scientists and officials in private admit "anything is possible."

Only after a thorough analysis of the reasons for the failure, rectification of the problems and adequate tests can the GSLV be declared ready for the Chandrayaan-2 mission. As reported by HT yesterday, Isro

is sticking with the GSLV to propel the second leg of India's moon mission.

"We may meet the 2013 deadline, we may not. It is too early to say," an Isro scientist said.

But a delay could hurt India's strategic space ambitions, because it could allow China and Japan to steal a march in research on the Moon's minerals and other offerings, sources said. "We never officially say so, but India, Japan and China are competing in Asia for the moon's secrets and how they can be of benefit," a government source said.

China's Lunar Exploration Programme — known as the Chang'e programme — is set to launch the Chang'e-3 while Japan plans to launch the Selene-2 in 2013. Both represent the first soft-landing moon missions of their countries.



■ The GSLV-F06 that exploded 63 seconds after take-off on Saturday. FILE PHOTO

Hindustan Times, ND
28-Dec-10 p-15

CVC saw it, IIT looked other way

FAKE INSTITUTE 7 warnings
saw no action by IIT-Kharagpur

ht SPECIAL

Charu Sudan Kasturi

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NEW DELHI: Since 2007, the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) had alerted Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, no less than seven times about complaints against the institute officials, the same set of men now under the scanner in an on-campus fake institute case, among other allegations. The IIT acted against only one of the officials named in the CVC warnings.

This now raises questions as to whether prompt probes against others named in the communiqués could have saved the country's oldest IIT some embarrassment.

Details provided by the CVC — India's apex vigilance body — under the Right to Information Act to an activist (who desired anonymity) reveal that it had received seven complaints which it forwarded to the human resource development (HRD) ministry. HRD officials told HT the communiqués were sent to the IIT for action.

The officials named in the complaints include aerospace

engineering professor Amit Kumar Ghosh, prime accused in the scam involving a fake institute run by IIT staff on the institute campus. And Ghosh is the only person who was among those named by the CVC and also subsequently faced action; he was suspended after HT exposed scam on October 20.

Others named in the CVC communiqués include former IIT Kharagpur director SK Dube and current acting registrar Tapan Kumar Ghoshal. Ghosh has accused Dube of being party to the fake institute scam — cops have since established that the fraud institute was granted accommodation on the IIT campus during Dube's tenure as director. Dube, now teaching at IIT Delhi, has, however, denied Ghosh's accusation.

Ghoshal is under the scanner for two separate irregularities. Evidence obtained by police investigating the fake institute scam reveals Ghoshal issued an illegal IIT identity card to the secretary of the fraud institute. His appointment as registrar is also under CVC scanner for alleged less qualification.

Apart from Ghosh, IIT has not probed any of the others named in the CVC warnings, institute officials conceded.

How science could make your treats even tastier

IF YOU ARE still feeling full after an overindulgent Christmas, here is something that might bring your appetite back.

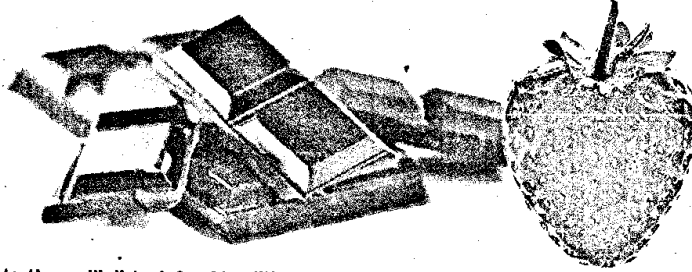
Scientists have unlocked the genetic code to some of our favourite treats in a breakthrough that could result in even tastier versions.

It brings them a step closer to creating a new generation of delicious 'super strawberries' and rich chocolate after working out the chemicals responsible for their flavour, aroma and nutritional value.

In one study, researchers decoded the complete genetic make-up of the wild strawberry in an effort to create more flavoursome fruit that is better equipped to withstand disease and soggy summers.

In a second, they unravelled the DNA code of the cacao tree, responsible for producing the world's best quality chocolate.

While the findings could lead to tastier



treats, they will disturb food traditionalists by paving the way for an increased number of genetically modified food.

The scientists found that the wild strawberry has 35,000 genes, one and a half times the number found in humans.

A team from 38 organisations across ten countries sequenced the full genome of the fruit and identified genes that might be responsible for flavour, aroma, nutri-

tional value and response to disease.

The wild strawberry is closely related to the apple, peach, pears, raspberry and the rose.

"The wild strawberry is an important genome to sequence because it is closely related to a number of important things that we eat," Dr Dan Sargent, a researcher said.

"Because farmers have been cross-

breeding and hybridising food crops for centuries to improve traits like taste and nutritional value, they tend to have large complicated genomes, but the wild strawberry's genome is relatively small so we can get access to all of these useful genes comparatively easily," Dan said.

The second study found that the Criollo tree, which produces the world's finest chocolate, has around 29,000 genes.

A team from 18 institutions identified those that influence the production of antioxidants, pigments, aromas and flavours as well as hundreds thought to be involved in disease resistance.

Many growers prefer to keep hybrid cacao trees that are tougher but produce lower quality chocolate than the Criollo tree, which was domesticated 3,000 years ago.

But altering the genes could produce robust, high quality genetically modified chocolate that tastes better and may even be healthier.

Daily Mail

Business Line ND 28/12/2010 P-4

Modi seeks IIM-A's help to ensure inclusive growth

Our Bureau

Ahmedabad, Dec. 27

The Gujarat Chief Minister, Mr Narendra Modi, on sought active cooperation from the Indian Institute of Management-Ahmedabad (IIM-A) to ensure inclusive growth and said his Government is keen to form a joint coordination committee to spearhead the development agenda for Gujarat.

He said this at an IIM-A Conclave organised here by the State Government and the Institute to celebrate the Institute's, as also Gujarat's, 50 years of establishment, as a run-up to the Fifth Vibrant Gujarat Summit, scheduled for January 12 and 13, 2011.

Addressing about 500 students, researchers, academicians and IIM-A alumni from the different parts of country, the Chief Minister said while the State has achieved 'investor-friendly' status, one of its main focuses in the next peri-

od will be to develop the education sector from primary to the professional level. The number of universities in Gujarat has increased from nine in the year 2000 to 25 now.

"The contribution of the IIM-A in putting Gujarat on the global map has been remarkable. The members of IIM-A in the recent past have actively participated in various developmental projects and we would like to foster this relationship going forward," he added.

Mr Maheshwar Sahu, Principal Secretary, Industry and Mines, Government of Gujarat, said the proposed joint coordination committee, comprising government and IIM-A officials, would aim to create expert groups to formulate developmental strategies in different sectors, in particular coastal and port-related development, medical services, urban development, finance, tourism and education.

Business Line ND 28/12/2010 P-7

For IT security researchers, 2011 may be malevolent worse

New breed of attackers; more potent threats

LN. Revathy

Coimbatore, Dec. 27

IT security researchers seem to be throwing a bombshell, when they say, "If you thought 2010 was challenging, just wait for 2011. There's worse to come."

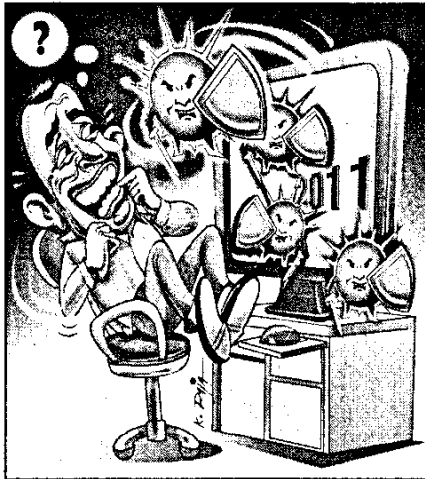
Experts foresee a big shift in the threat landscape with the emergence of a new breed of organisers with new and more potent aims for their cyber attacks.

Dubbing 2010 as the 'Year of the Vulnerability', industry insiders recalled the study of the threat landscape - the main trends seen in 2009 and the continuation of this jour-

try Manager - India and SAARC, RSA, The Security Division of EMC, foresees an increase in malicious activities as there is a lot of money to be made, a lot of information to be stolen (with resale value) and so on.

"Hacking activities would continue to innovate and evolve, to take advantage of loopholes within applications, infrastructures, even taking advantage of users' ignorance. There is a need for organisations to continue their employee awareness vigilance and evolve their security capability to ensure that they can very quickly

What to watch



- A whole new generation of more organised and more malevolent malware writers
- Malware attacks targeting information as well as for financial gain
- Information becoming the target of the new breed of cybercriminals and another source of income for those already in the game
- The emergence of Spyware 2.0, a new class of malware that steals users' personal data (identity theft) plus any other type of data it can find
- An increasing number of attacks on corporate users by traditional cybercriminals and the gradual decline in direct attacks on everyday users
- There will be new developments with regard to attacks on mobile devices and mobile operating systems

Sector outlook

ney into 2010, though at a much more sophisticated level to reach new heights.

"2011 only promises worse to come," aver IT security research experts without exception.

The Senior Manager (Security Research) at Web-sense, Mr Patrik Runald, said: "2011 will bring a series of dangerous threats that strip corporate data and immobilise infrastructure."

TRADITIONAL METHODS

According to him, most traditional security methods will not work. Companies and governance, therefore, would need to constantly evaluate those defences. "Up-to-the-minute threat protection that unifies content intelligence would be the best defence against Web attacks, messaging breaches and data loss," says Mr Runald.

Mr Kartik Shahani, Coun-

respond to such malicious activities. Compliance and governance are coming up strongly; they are not restricted to audits but includes business continuity process and corporate governance making GRC a big play in 2011," says Mr Shahani.

With the growing diversity of operating systems among companies, growing use of mobile devices, cybercriminals should have a very profitable 2011, say researchers at Trend Micro. "Their tactic will be to put a new spin on social engineering by way of "malware campaigns," by bombarding recipients with email that drop downloaders containing malware. All this will largely be made possible because of the Internet. "We have already found that over 80 per cent of the top malware use the Web to arrive on users' systems and every

second, 3.5 new threats are released by these criminals," notes Mr Amit Nath, Country Manager (India and SAARC), Trend Micro.

CLOUD COMPUTING

On secure enablement of virtualisation and cloud computing, RSA thinks that this technological innovation which promised to transform aging and inflexible IT infrastructures is today shackled by concerns about trust, security and compliance. "These are concerns that our industry is more than capable of addressing and it will be up to us to pave the way for this new and powerful model of computing. Virtualisation offers far more effective, efficient security than we have today in physical infrastructures given the ability to insert and embed security controls directly into the virtual layer itself. If ever there is an opportunity for security to enable business, this is it and we must rise to the occasion," says Mr Shahani.

To better understand what awaits us in 2011 in the field of IT threats, we first need to divide the potential trends into three distinct categories - the aim of cyber attacks, methods used to carry them out and examine who the organisers of such attacks are, say security experts.

'SCRIPT KIDDIES'

The past few years, the perpetrators have always been cybercriminals, and their aims have invariably been financial gain. However, in 2011, with a major shift in the makeup of the organisers and their aims, the changes are expected to be on par with the demise of malware written by the so-called 'script kiddies', whose aim would be to primarily show off their virus writing skills, and whose efforts herald the age of the cybercriminal.

It is, therefore, important to understand that the method used to launch a cyber attack would not depend on who organises it or what their aims are; instead it

would be determined by the technical possibilities presented by today's operating systems, the Internet and its services, not to mention the devices people use for work and in other areas of their daily lives.

The rise in malicious exploits that seize on programming errors will not just be down to new vulnerabilities appearing in popular solutions from the likes of Microsoft, Adobe and Apple, but will also occur because of the speed at which cybercriminals react to such loopholes.

There will be new developments with regard to attacks on mobile devices and mobile operating systems, and these are likely to affect Android in particular. Attacks on users of social networks would increase.

A majority of attacks would be carried out via browsers; DDoS (distributed denial-of-service) attacks would remain one of the biggest problems plaguing the Internet.

Economic Times ND

28/12/2010 P-6

Students flock to Japan to study manga

Miki Tanikawa

TOKYO

ZACK Wood, a 25-year-old graduate of Stanford, was looking to prepare himself for a career in animation, design and computer graphics. To that end, he, like many other Americans, turned to studying manga, Japan's popular comic form.

And as Japanese universities work harder to attract students to fill their classrooms while the country's birth rate declines, more are offering degrees in manga and animation.

"I like it here because you get totally immersed in the skill training" of manga and animation, said Wood, who is studying at Kyoto Seika University. "It has turned out to be a lot of fun."

In the last 10 years, more than a dozen university departments and programs have been created to offer a degree or a cluster of courses meant as a concentration in manga, animation and video games, and a similar number of vocational schools provide training in the art. At Kyoto Seika University, which established the country's first manga program, the number of foreign students enrolled has risen to 57 out of 800 students in the program. That is up from just 19 in 2000.

Since it was founded in 2005, Digital Hollywood University, a school in Tokyo that specializes in animation and video games, has seen the number of international students increase to 84 this year, roughly 20% of its student body.

"I want to see it grow to 50% of the entire students in the very near future," said Tomoyuki Sugiyama, president of Digital Hollywood University. Digital Hollywood has campus buildings spread across the Akihabara area in Tokyo, the nation's capital for otaku, or nerds. Students from Korea, China, Malaysia, Taiwan and other Asian countries, who constitute the bulk of the international student body, mingle with Japanese students. The curriculum at the schools usually includes courses on drawing, coloring and motion picture production, as well as film directing, playwriting and copyright law.

Once armed with technical and industry knowledge, many international students are eager to gain work experience in Japan upon graduation before returning home. Li Lin Lin, 28, a student from northeastern China who attends Digital Hollywood University, said she thought that, after finishing her degree, landing a job in the animation industry in China would be easy. The real trophy, she said, was job experience in the country of manga. Li is especially interested in working for a Japanese animation studio.

"I think you can do almost anything back home once you get a degree and animation working experiences in Japan," said Li, emerging from her class on digital animation coloring one Saturday afternoon.

Hidehiko Ohyama, senior director of corporate strategy at Toei Animation, said it was possible that international students could end up at Japanese companies like his. "If they apply, take our tests and pass, they will become employees just like anyone else," he said. His company, a leading animator that has produced "Dragon Ball" and "Slam Dunk" films, has Romanian and Korean producers, among other foreign citizens, Ohyama said.

The New York Times News Service

Times of India ND 28/12/2010

P-6

HRD seeks details of Symbiosis admissions

Akshaya Mukul | TNN

New Delhi: On the advice of the Attorney-General, the HRD ministry on Monday asked the Symbiosis International University to "give full particulars of the admission process" in its Noida campus that will teach law. The ministry has asked the institute to give details, "particularly with reference to 132 students who are supposed to have been selected in May 2010 and whether these students were required to apply again".

According to the ministry, the advertisement issued for admission by the institute "does not comply with the orders of the Supreme Court as it fails to inform prospective students that the writ petition is

pending before the SC". Earlier, the AG had said, "It is disturbing that the advertisement did not directly mention that a writ petition is pending and that the admission is subject to orders in the writ petition."

The apex court while allowing admission in the off-campus at Noida had said "the fact of the pendency of the writ petition shall be brought to the notice of the students before admission".

However, Vidya Yerawadekar, joint director of Symbiosis International University, maintains that the advertisement itself clearly mentioned that full text of the SC order is available in the campus. "We will furnish all the details to the ministry," she says.

Times of India ND 28/12/2010 P-13

Netas pick IIT, IIM brains for help

Sruthy Susan Ullas | TNN

Bangalore: All that you see of a politician is a khadi-clad individual with a smiling face and folded hands. But, who's in the backroom making things happen? Those who teach a lesson to the political stalwarts are some of the best brains in the country — graduates from top class institutes like the Indian Institutes of Management and Indian Institutes of Technology.

Management seems to have become an integral part of politics these days. Many politicians have teams who direct them on strategies, policies and implementation of programmes. And there are others who are part of the political movement trying to bring in more effi-



ciency in the system.

An IIM-B graduate working with politician Jayaprakash Narayan is currently doing a project on Vidhana Soudha. Ajit Phadnis, had earlier in the year, submitted a report on Indian Parliament. In the report, Ajith will recommend changes that can be brought in for better efficiency and discuss ways of making people more aware of the proceedings in Vidhana Soudha. For Ajith, it's an ef-

fort to encourage youth into the political movement. "There's lot of cynicism associated with politics. Youth needs to be part of the system to improve it," he said.

C S Krishna, an IIM-A graduate, heads the team of Uday Singh, an elected representative from Purnea, Bihar. Krishna had interned with CPM when he was still in college. Realizing the value that people can add on to conventional political system, he got back into the field.

Today, he and his team members help with constituency development and policy research. Various issues like welfare schemes, implementation, understanding public policy at micro level and how it can be delivered effectively are

looked into by his team.

The time of elections is a time when they turn super busy. A graduate from IIM-C, who didn't want to be named, worked with BJP leader L K Advani during the general elections last year. "It was just before I joined my corporate job. I wanted to get a feel of it," he said.

He was part of the war room helping with research, manifestos, website, content and press articles. He also was part of the field work, including campaigning, handing out leaflets and holding small gatherings at market places.

Though most of them say that these netas have their own legacy and image among the public, there are some who do brand building even for them.

Times of India ND 28/12/2010 P-17

Latest gadgets new frontier for hackers

Web-Connected Gizmos Short On Security

Ashlee Vance

Researchers at Mocana, a security technology company in San Francisco, recently discovered they could hack into a best-selling internet-ready HDTV model with unsettling ease.

They found a hole in the software that helps display websites on the TV and leveraged that flaw to control information being sent to the television. They could put up a fake screen for a site like Amazon.com and then request credit card billing details for a purchase. They could also monitor data being sent from the TV to sites.

"Consumer electronics makers as a class seem to be rushing to connect all their products to the internet," said Adrian Turner, Mocana's chief executive. "I can tell you for a fact that the design teams at these companies have not put enough thought into security."

Mocana and firms like it sell technology for protecting devices and often try to publicize potential threats. But the Mocana test also illustrates what security experts have long warned: that the arrival of internet TVs, smartphones and other popular web-ready gadgets will usher in a new era of threats by presenting easy targets for hackers.

As these devices become



TECH TROUBLE: Adrian Turner, chief executive of security technology firm Mocana, at the company office in San Francisco. As more web-ready gadgets become popular, consumers might run into new scams that play off the products' features

more popular, experts say, consumers can expect to run into familiar scams like credit card number thefts as well as new ones that play off features in the products. And because the devices are relatively new, they do not yet have as much protection as more traditional products do.

"When it comes to where the majority of computing horsepower resides, you're seeing a shift from the desktop to mobile devices and web-connected products, and inevitably, that will trigger a change in focus within the hacking community," said K Scott Morrison, the chief technology officer at Layer 7 Technologies, which helps companies manage their business software and infrastructure. "I really do believe this is the new frontier for the hacking community."

To combat the threat, security companies have been pushing to develop new protection models. They are promoting items like fingerprint scanners and face recognition on devices, and tools that can disable a device or freeze its data if an attack is reported. But so far, such security measures have largely failed to reach the mainstream.

Enrique Salem, chief executive at Symantec, which makes antivirus software frequently installed on PCs, said it was unlikely that his company would produce the same kind of software for all of the new products.

Such software can require a fair amount of computing muscle, which would put too much burden on devices that lack the oomph and battery life of traditional computers. NYT NEWS SERVICE

Times of India ND 28/12/2010 P-17

Facebook feature in brain 'rules your social network'

London: Strange it may appear, but a Facebook-like feature in your brain rules your social network, say experts.

A new study has found that amygdala, a small almond-shaped structure, deep in the temporal lobe governs the number of friends one is likely to make — the larger the amygdala, the wider and more complex is its owner's network of pals.

For the study, the researchers asked volunteers aged between 19 to 83 to complete questionnaires which measured how many regular social

contacts they had and in how many groups. Magnetic resonance imaging scans found a positive link between big amygdalas and richest social lives, the Daily Mail reported.

Lead researcher Lisa Barrett, of Northeastern University in Boston, said the findings were consistent with "social brain" theory, which suggests human amygdala evolved to deal with an increasingly complex social world. Other studies of primates have shown that those living in larger groups tend to have larger amygdalas. PTI

आर्सेलरमित्तल की लक्ष्मी आईटी में

तमाम नामी आईटी कंपनियां हैं इस्पात
दिग्गज के करोड़ी ठेके की होड़ में

शिवानी शिंदे
मुंबई, 27 दिसंबर

सौदा कमाल

देश और विदेश में सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी (आईटी) क्षेत्र की तमाम दिग्गज कंपनियों की नजर भी आर्सेलर मित्तल पर टिक गई है। दरअसल दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी इस्पात कंपनी आर्सेलर मित्तल अपने आईटी इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर का विलय करने की योजना बना रही है। विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि इसका ठेका 1,770 करोड़ रुपये से लेकर 2,360 करोड़ रुपये मूल्य का हो सकता है।

इसके तहत आर्सेलर मित्तल समूचे यूरोप में फैले अपने आईटी इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर का एकीकरण करेगी। सूत्रों के अनुसार ब्रसेल्स की वैश्विक सोर्सिंग सलाहकार कंपनी क्वांटम स्टेप इस बारे में इस्पात कंपनी को सलाह

दे रही है। हालांकि क्वांटम के प्रवक्ता ने इस बारे में कोई भी विस्तृत जानकारी देने से इनकार कर दिया। आर्सेलर मित्तल इंडिया ने इस बारे में मेल का जवाब नहीं दिया और उनके लंदन कार्यालय में भी किसी ने फोन का जवाब नहीं दिया।

नाम नहीं छापने की शर्त पर एक विश्लेषक ने बताया, 'अब तक आर्सेलर मित्तल ने अपनी आईटी परियोजनाओं की आउटसोर्सिंग नहीं की है। इस साल की शुरुआत में ही विप्रो ने पहली बार कंपनी के मैसेजिंग सिस्टम के एकीकरण के लिए पांच साल का ठेका जीता था। इससे पता चलता है कि यूरोपीय बाजारों में आईटी कंपनियों के लिए कितनी संभावनाएं हैं।'

इस सौदे के लिए कोई भी कंपनी अपनी ओर से कोई कसर नहीं छोड़ रही है। इस वजह से देसी और यूरोपीय आईटी कंपनियों के बीच कड़ा मुकाबला हो रहा है लेकिन भारतीय दिग्गज विप्रो का पलड़ा थोड़ा भारी दिख रहा है।

अगर यह ठेका किसी देसी कंपनी को मिलता है, तो यह यूरोप महाद्वीप से मिलने वाला सबसे बड़ा ठेका होगा। एवरेस्ट समूह द्वारा कराए गए एक सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार यूरोप का वैश्विक आउटसोर्सिंग कारोबार 26 अरब डॉलर से लेकर 30 अरब डॉलर का है। देसी आईटी कंपनियों की कुल कमाई में इस समय यूरोप की हिस्सेदारी तकरीबन 25 से 30 फीसदी है।

इस्पात कंपनी आर्सेलर मित्तल अपने आईटी इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर का विलय करने की योजना बना रही है। विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि इसका ठेका 1,770 करोड़ रुपये से लेकर 360 करोड़ रुपये मूल्य का हो सकता है।



लक्ष्मी निवास मित्तल
चेयरमैन, मित्तल समूह