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IIT-D alumni back Shevgaonkar

National Bureau

NEW DELHI: The (IIT), Delhi Alumni Association has passed a resolution against alleged government interference in IITs. News that Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi Director R.K. Shevgaonkar had resigned broke on December 28 when several former students of the institute congregated on the campus on Alumni Day.

More than 200 old students passed a resolution unanimously by voice vote.



Shevgaonkar

While the BJP accused Mr. Shevgaonkar of evading accountability for his role in setting up an institute in Mauritius, the latter had clarified on Nov. 20 that the institute entailed no financial

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cost to India.

"It also finds explicit mention in the Memorandum of Understanding that all the cost to be incurred in relation to the cooperation envisaged by this MoU shall be borne solely by the government of Mauritius," Mr. Shevgaonkar had written in his reply to Additional Secretary Amarjeet Sinha, after receiving a Demi Official letter seeking details on the International Institute of Technology Research Academy (IITRA) in Mauritius.

Mail Today ND 30/12/2014

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Alumni warn HRD not to fiddle with autonomy

By **Mail Today Bureau**
in New Delhi

THROWING their weight behind R. K. Shevgaonkar, who quit as the director of IIT-Delhi amid a controversy over alleged pressure by the HRD ministry, the IIT-Delhi Alumni Association said that Shevgaonkar should continue in the post and also cautioned the ministry against interfering in the autonomy of the IIT system.

The association adopted a resolution on its alumni day on Sunday when close to 250 alumni members were present.

"We are a strong body of close to 40,000 alumni. What we want is that the autonomy of the institute should not be compromised," said Chandra K Jain, secretary, IIT-D Alumni Association.

"We, the IIT Delhi Alumni Association (IITD AA), hereby resolve that the autonomy of IIT system, being extremely important for the development of the nation and it should not be interfered with by the MHRD, in order to have smooth functioning of IITs. It is further resolved that IIT Delhi Alumni Association is fully behind the Director of IIT Delhi, Prof R.K. Shevgaonkar and

requests him to continue leading this illustrious Institution to greater heights."

Shevgaonkar had sent his resignation letter to Chairman of IIT Board of Governors Vijay P Bhatkar on Friday evening in which he cited personal reasons.

The Ministry had on Sunday denied a media report that said Shevgaonkar resigned after he was allegedly put under pressure from the HRD Ministry to accede to demands. Shevgaonkar resigned with more than two years of his tenure left.

IIT alumni body backs Shevgaonkar

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, 29 December

The IIT Delhi Alumni Association today came out in support of Raghunath K S Shevgaonkar, who quit as director of the institute amid a controversy over alleged pressure by the HRD Ministry on him.

In a resolution that it adopted, the association asked Shevgaonkar to continue in the post and also cautioned the Ministry against interfering in the autonomy of the IIT system to enable it to function "smoothly".

"It is further resolved that IIT Delhi Alumni Association is fully behind the Director and requests him to continue leading this illustrious institution to greater heights," it said.

Shevgaonkar sent his resignation letter to the Chairman of IIT Board of Governors Vijay P Bhatkar on Friday evening in which he cited "personal reasons".

"We resolve that the autonomy of the IIT system being extreme-

ly important for the development of the nation, should not be interfered by the HRD Ministry in order to have smooth functioning of the IITs," the resolution added.

The Ministry had yesterday denied a media report that said Shevgaonkar resigned after he allegedly faced pressure from the HRD Ministry to accede to two demands - to provide the IIT ground for a cricket academy Sachin Tendulkar allegedly wants to open and to pay nearly Rs 70 lakh to Swamy, a former IIT-D faculty member, as his "salary dues" between 1972 and 1981.

"There is neither any request from Sachin Tendulkar for the ground of IIT for running a Cricket Academy nor any instruction from HRD Ministry to provide the same," it said. Tendulkar had also denied the allegation.

Mr Shevgaonkar resigned with more than two years of his tenure left. Mr Bhatkar said he was unaware of any pressure exerted upon Mr Shevgaonkar.

IIT students sign petition against Director's resignation



Raghunath K Shevgaonkar

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Students and alumnus of Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi (IIT-D) have signed petition requesting Raghunath K Shevgaonkar, Director of IIT-D not to resign under pressure and continue till his term.

The petition is being circulated through online social networking sites. It states that Shevgaonkar has dedicated his life to improv-

ing the educational system at the IITs and requests Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry to decline his resignation and ask him to continue for his entire term.

"Professor Shevgaonkar is one of the best teachers I have studied under at IIT Delhi. The amount of time and effort he has put in to change the system at IIT Delhi and to improve the facilities here is significant," said a student of IIT-D.

Since the students are currently on a vacation, they have opted for the online medium to gather support.

"After a considerable amount of people sign the petition, we will give it to director of IIT Delhi and HRD minister Smriti Irani," said Sidharth, a third year student of IIT-D.

According to reports, IIT Delhi director Shevgaonkar resigned under pressure from the HRD Ministry to release payment amounting to nearly Rs 70 lakh to former faculty member and now senior BJP leader Subramaniam Swamy as his 'salary dues' between 1972 and 1991.

The resignation of a prestigious Institute's director, came after alleged pressure from the central administration on same.

IIT-D alumni backs director, miffed at HRD min

New Delhi, Dec 29: The IIT-Delhi Alumni Association on Monday came out in support of Raghunath K S Shevgaonkar, who quit as director of the institute amid a controversy over alleged pressure by the HRD ministry on him.

In a resolution, the association asked Shevgaonkar to continue in the post and also cautioned the ministry against interfering in the autonomy of the IIT system to enable it to function "smoothly".

"It is further resolved that the IIT-Delhi Alumni Association is fully behind

the director and request him to continue to lead this illustrious institution to greater heights," it said.

Shevgaonkar sent his resignation letter to chairman of IIT board of governors Vijay P Bhatkar on Friday in which he cited "personal reasons".

"We resolve that the autonomy of the IIT system being extremely important for the development of the nation, should not be interfered with by the HRD ministry in order to have smooth functioning of the IITs," the resolution

added. The ministry had on Sunday denied a media report that said Shevgaonkar resigned after he was allegedly put under pressure from the HRD ministry to accede to two demands – to provide the IIT ground for a cricket academy Sachin Tendulkar allegedly wants to open and to pay nearly Rs 70 lakh to Swamy, a former IIT-D faculty member, as his "salary dues" between 1972 and 1981.

Shevgaonkar resigned with more than two years of his tenure left. *PTI*

Pioneer ND 30/12/2014

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IIT-D gives clean chit to its chief

RK Shevgaonkar receives full support from institute, faculty members and Alumni Associations

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Even as the HRD Ministry on Monday set up a committee to look into the details of an MoU between IIT-Delhi and Mauritius, the institute stood by its Director Raghunath K Shevgaonkar claiming that no Government rules were violated in setting up of the International Institute of Technology Research Academy (IITRA), Mauritius.

A row has erupted over the premature resignation of Shevgaonkar allegedly due to "pressure" from the HRD Ministry to accede to two demands – to provide the IIT ground for a Cricket Academy that Sachin Tendulkar allegedly wants to open and to pay nearly ₹70 lakh to BJP leader Subramanian Swamy, a former IIT-Delhi faculty, as his "salary dues" between 1972 and 1981.

While Tendulkar denied the allegations, Swamy confronted saying the Director's resignation should be seen in the perspective of faulty procedures

OFFSHORE CAMPUS ROW



□ IIT-Delhi Registrar on Monday said the resignation of Director is due to his personal reasons and not connected to the above issues or any other matter being reported in the media. Shevgaonkar's resignation is yet to be accepted though

□ Registrar of IIT-Delhi in a Press note said that the IITRA is not an extension campus of IIT-Delhi but an independent research academy named IITRA, Mauritius. IIT-Delhi's role is only of advisory in nature. There is no financial commitment on part of IIT-Delhi

□ Giving a chronological sequence of events in connection with setting up of IITRA, the note further said the final MOU was okayed by the HRD Ministry and it was signed in the presence of the then HRD Minister (MM Pallam Raju) and the top functionaries of the Ministry and Indian High Commission on November 19, 2013 in Mauritius

□ The Registrar office also clarified that the original proposal of starting IITRA was initiated on the recommendation of IIT Council in its meeting held on January 21, 2011. Later, on the advice of HRD Ministry, the proposal was amended to IITRA "International Institute of Technology Research Academy, Mauritius"

□ Meanwhile, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) too joined issue accusing HRD Minister Smriti Irani of "humiliating" Shevgaonkar and alleging that the Government was "misleading" the country over the issue

followed for the MoU between IIT-Delhi and Mauritius.

However, IIT-Delhi Registrar on Monday said the resignation of Director is due to his personal reasons and not connected to the above issues or any other matter being reported in the media. Shevgaonkar's resignation is yet to be accepted though.

Amidst the raging controversy, the Director has received full support from his institute and also the faculty members and Alumni Associations. Registrar of IIT-Delhi in a Press note said that the IITRA is not an extension campus of

IIT-Delhi but an independent research academy named IITRA, Mauritius".

"IIT-Delhi's role is only of advisory in nature. There is no financial commitment on part of IIT-Delhi," said the note.

The Registrar office also clarified that the original proposal of starting IITRA was initiated on the recommendation of IIT Council in its meeting held on January 21, 2011. Later, on the advice of HRD Ministry, the proposal was amended to IITRA "International Institute of Technology Research Academy, Mauritius".

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sequence of events in connection with setting up of IITRA, the note further said the final MoU was okayed by the HRD Ministry and it was signed in the presence of the then HRD Minister (MM Pallam Raju) and the top functionaries of the Ministry and Indian High Commission on November 19, 2013 in Mauritius.

As per the MoU, Senate approval and the approval of the Steering Committee of IITRA, IIT-Delhi will admit students for IITRA as per norms of IIT-Delhi and award all degrees on successful completion of academic programs

(research only) by all students registered at IIT-Delhi till year 2018. The maximum number of students is limited to 50.

The Ministry on its part constituted a committee headed by Secretary (Higher Education) to look into the aspects and minute details of the MoU between both the sides. Sources in the Ministry said that in August 2004 the HRD Ministry led by late Arjun Singh had issued orders that for every MoU the institutes do not need to knock the doors of the Ministry and they can go on their own.

The IIT-Delhi Alumni Association adopted a resolution in support of Shevgaonkar asking him to continue in the post even as it cautioned the Ministry against interfering in the autonomy of the IIT system to enable it to function "smoothly".

Meanwhile, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) too joined issue accusing HRD Minister Smriti Irani of "humiliating" Shevgaonkar and alleging that the Government was "misleading" the country over the issue.

"AAP challenges the HRD Minister to answer whether it is not a fact that she had recently summoned the IIT-Delhi director and impolite language was used against such a senior professor and later humiliated in that meeting," the party asked in a statement.

IIT D hits back at HRD min, says Mauritius campus legal

Slams Different Govt Takes On UGC Chief, Director

Akshaya.Mukul@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: IIT Delhi on Monday shot back at the HRD ministry, denying allegations that the International Institute of Technology Research Academy, (IITRA) Mauritius, is its extension campus.

Many faculty members also pointed out that the HRD ministry is being selective in going on an overdrive to take action against IIT Delhi director R K Shevgaonkar on the Mauritius issue whereas it has put the proposed action on UGC chairperson Ved Prakash in cold storage. Even a ministry insider said, "Shevgaonkar is paying for standing up to the ministry."

In a press note, IIT Delhi registrar said IITRA is not "an extension campus of IIT Delhi". "It is an independent research academy," the note said. Puncturing holes into HRD's claims, it said: "The original proposal of starting IIT Delhi Research Academy was initiated on the recommendation of IIT council in its meeting held on January 21, 2011. Later, on the advice of MHRD, the proposal was amended to IITRA." IIT also said: "The final MoU was okayed by HRD and it was signed in presence of the then human resource development minister and functionaries from HRD and Indian high commission on November 19, 2012 in Mauritius." IIT also said as per the MoU: "Senate approval and the approval of the steering committee of IITRA, IIT Delhi will admit students for IITRA as per norms of IIT Delhi and award all degrees on successful completion of academic programmes (research only) by all students registered at IIT Delhi till 2018." The IIT also gave chronological sequence of events that will put the ministry on the defensive.

As for Ved Prakash, in October, the ministry had prepared a detailed note on how he went to Mauritius in January this year to sign an agreement between UGC and Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) without the ministry's permission. It was also alleged in the note that he sought then minister M M Pallam Raju's permission in the file after returning from Mauritius. However, on in-



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quiry in the ministry, it was found that the inward and outward movement of that file to the minister's office was not recorded. "This amounts to malfeasance," a ministry official said.

The ministry had also found that the UGC chief travelled on an official passport without political clearance from the foreign ministry. Even the MoU signed with TEC was not vetted by the MEA or the HRD ministry. The note also said that Manju Singh, the other member of the delegation, also did not have any clearance. As for the UGC-TEC agreement it was found that one of its clauses referred to an earlier agreement signed between TEC and the Association of Indian Universities in November 2013. The agreement was signed in the presence of then HRD minister Raju. Ved Prakash was also part of the delegation. Earlier, Prakash in a mail to TOI had denied that he had anything to do with the TEC-AIU pact but could not explain why that agreement was referred in the UGC-TEC pact. In its note, the HRD ministry had also alleged that the UGC-TEC pact ultimately helped private institutions of Indian origin in Mauritius.

A senior ministry official said, "Nature of allegation against UGC chairperson and Shevgaonkar is different. In the latter case there is a clear evidence of opening of an illegal offshore campus of IIT whereas UGC chairperson's actions were procedural lapses."

Faculty, alumni rally behind Shevgaonkar

Manash.Gohain@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Even as the HRD ministry is tightening its noose on R K Shevgaonkar, the faculty and alumni associations have extended their support to the director of IIT Delhi, who resigned last week. The alumni association on Monday passed a resolution in Shevgaonkar's support and urged him to continue.

Expressing solidarity with Shevgaonkar, the executive committee of the faculty association on Monday requested him to return. However, no resolution was passed and according to sources in the association, a general body meet is to be convened after he returns and a resolution is likely to be passed on January 10, 2015.

“We discussed the issues threadbare... Our view is that the director has done no wrong and he has followed the IIT statutes in his decisions

SENIOR FACULTY MEMBER

"We discussed the issues threadbare. The resolution was not possible as Shevgaonkar is not in Delhi and we will wait for him to return ... Our view is the director has done no wrong and he has followed the IIT statutes in his decisions," said a senior faculty member. Most of the faculty felt that the director has done no wrong and is being "victimized".

Meanwhile, the HRD ministry is all set to take action against Shevgaonkar. "The ministry thinks that so far his replies have been unsatisfactory," said an official, though admitting that there is an "undue hurry" to initiate an inquiry against him. Sources said there is an attempt to turn the limelight on the Mauritius issue so that real reasons behind his resignation are put on the backburner.

The association stated that autonomy of the IIT system is important for the "development of the nation and should not be interfered with by MHRD in order to have smooth functioning of IITs".

Shevgaonkar a ‘cautious person’: IIT-D governing body member

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/shevgaonkar-a-cautious-person-iit-d-governing-body-member/>

A member of Board of Governors of IIT-Delhi has come out in support of R K Shevgaonkar, who stepped down as the director of the prestigious institute, saying he was a “careful and cautious person” who won’t take any decision without going through proper channels.

The academician decided to resign after the HRD Ministry is said to have sought an explanation from him on an MoU between Mauritius Research Council (MRC) of Republic of Mauritius and IIT-Delhi for setting up an International Institute of Technology Research Academy (IITRA) in that country.

“Prof Shevgaonkar was my colleague and deputy director at IIT Bombay, when I was the institute’s director. He is a very careful and cautious person and is not someone who will take a decision without going through proper channels or taking appropriate permissions.

Hence, I don’t believe that he had any malafide intentions with regards to the IITRA. I am surprised with what is being written (in the media),” said Dr Ashok Misra, former IIT-Bombay director and member, Board of Governors, IIT-Delhi.

Another theory being floated in connection with Prof Shevgaonkar resignation said he had quit owing to pressure on him to release salary dues of former IIT-Delhi faculty and now BJP functionary Subramanian Swamy for the period 1972 to 1991.

Several faculty members at IIT-Bombay said that he is an “upright person” and held in “high regard” at the institute. Emails were also exchanged between many IIT-Bombay faculty members Sunday. “We are shocked. Though we are not aware of the facts yet, the sense at the institute is to rally around him. Emails were exchanged and faculty members said that if indeed Shevgaonkar faced undue pressure (to quit), we should show solidarity. There’s not a shred of doubt about his integrity,” said a faculty member.

- See more at: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/shevgaonkar-a-cautious-person-iit-d-governing-body-member/#sthash.dEENdpIX.dpuf>

IIT-Delhi's faculty, alumni associations bat for director RK Shevgaonkar

[Manash Pratim Gohain](#),TNN | Dec 30, 2014, 04.08 AM IST

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/IIT-Delhis-faculty-alumni-associations-bat-for-director-RK-Shevgaonkar/articleshow/45682932.cms>

NEW DELHI: Even as the HRD ministry is tightening its noose R K Shevgaonkar, the faculty and alumni associations have extended their support to the director of IIT-Delhi, who resigned last week. The alumni association on Monday passed a resolution in Shevgaonkar's support and urged him to continue.

Expressing solidarity with Shevgaonkar, the executive committee of the faculty association on Monday requested the director to return. However, no resolution was passed and according to sources in the faculty association, a general body meeting is to be convened after the director returns and a resolution is likely to be passed on January 10, 2015.

"We discussed the issues thread-bare. The resolution was not possible as Shevgaonkar is not in Delhi and we will wait for him to return ... Our view is the director has done no wrong and he has followed the IT statutes in his decisions," said a senior faculty member. Most of the faculty members felt that the director has done no wrong and is being "victimized."

Meanwhile, the HRD ministry is all set to take action against Shevgaonkar. "The ministry thinks that so far his replies have been unsatisfactory," said an official though admitting there is an "undue hurry" to initiate inquiry against him. Ministry sources said there is an attempt to turn the limelight on the Mauritius issue so that real reasons behind his resignation are put on the backburner.

The alumni association stated that autonomy of the IIT system is important for the "development of the nation and should not be interfered with by the MHRD, in order to have smooth functioning of IITs". "IIT Delhi Alumni Association is fully behind director of IIT-Delhi, Prof R K Shevgaonkar and requests him to continue leading this illustrious institution to greater heights," it said.

IIT-Delhi Alumni Backs Director, Says HRD Ministry Shouldn't Interfere

<http://www.outlookindia.com/news/article/IITDelhi-Alumni-Backs-Director-Says-HRD-Ministry-Shouldnt-Interfere/874909>

The IIT Delhi Alumni Association today came out in support of Raghunath K S Shevgaonkar, who quit as Director of the institute amid a controversy over alleged pressure by the HRD Ministry on him.

In a resolution adopted, the association asked Shevgaonkar to continue in the post and also cautioned the Ministry against interfering in the autonomy of the IIT system to enable it to function "smoothly".

"It is further resolved that IIT Delhi Alumni Association is fully behind the Director and request him to continue leading this illustrious institution to greater heights," it said.

Shevgaonkar sent his resignation letter to Chairman of IIT Board of Governors Vijay P Bhatkar on Friday evening in which he cited "personal reasons".

"We resolve that the autonomy of the IIT system being extremely important for the development of the nation, should not be interfered by the HRD Ministry in order to have smooth functioning of the IITs," the resolution added.

The Ministry had yesterday denied a media report that said Shevgaonkar resigned after he was allegedly put under

pressure from the HRD Ministry to accede to two demands--to provide the IIT ground for a cricket academy Sachin Tendulkar allegedly wants to open and to pay nearly Rs 70 lakh to Swamy, a former IIT-D faculty member, as his "salary dues" between 1972 and 1981.

"There is neither any request from Sachin Tendulkar for the ground of IIT for running a Cricket Academy nor any instruction from HRD Ministry to provide the same," it said.

Tendulkar had also denied the allegation.

Shevgaonkar resigned with more than two years of his tenure left.

Chairman of the institute's Board of Governors Vijay P Bhatkar said he was unaware of any pressure exerted upon Shevgaonkar.

IIT-Delhi Director's resignation: Institute defends Mauritius facility

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/education/iit-delhi-directors-resignation-institute-defends-mauritius-facility/articleshow/45682888.cms>

NEW DELHI: The HRD ministry and IIT-Delhi were on collision course on Monday after the institute and its alumni strongly backed its former director RK Shevgaonkar against allegations of wrongdoing, threatening to engulf the government in a fresh controversy, this time involving one of India's top centres of learning.

A day after ministry officials and the BJP suggested that Shevgaonkar had resigned because the government was investigating irregularities purportedly by him in the setting up of an IIT-Delhi facility in Mauritius, the institute said the resignation was because of "personal reasons".

It also put up a strong defence of its former director saying the facility in Mauritius was a research academy being mentored by IIT-Delhi and not an extension campus and had been set up after obtaining all ..

"There is nothing illegal about the Mauritius academy," Vijay Bhatkar, chairman of IIT-Delhi's board of governors, told ET, as he described Shevgaonkar as "one of the best directors any IIT could get". "He is an outstanding academician, excellent researcher and a good administrator. As a person, I know him since his vice-chancellor days in Pune. He is always smiling and a very positive person.

He is balanced, open person and not at all stubborn," said Bhatkar, who said he had tried unsuccessfully to convince Shevgaonkar to reconsider his resignation.

Shevgaonkar's resignation has become the latest controversy to haunt the ministry, which under Smriti Irani has hurtled from one row to another. Early in her term, the minister found herself defending her educational qualifications and, because of it, her suitability to head the ministry. This was followed by a high profile standoff with the Delhi University and then others, including the Sanskrit row in CBSE schools and more recently her ministry's letter to schools to observe activities round Good Governance on Christmas day.

On Sunday, the ministry tried to distance itself from media reports suggesting that Shevgaonkar was under pressure from the government to release salary dues to former faculty member and now BJP leader Subramanian Swamy. Senior government officials claimed that the director resigned because he was feeling "cornered" on the Mauritius issue as the new government had questioned the legality of the project.

Responding to these allegations, IIT Delhi said in a statement that the academy at the centre of the controversy was set up at the behest of the HRD ministry and the ministry of external affairs and only after it was approved by the IIT Council, the highest decision-making body of the premier engineering schools.

"The final MoU was okayed by MHRD and it was signed in the presence of the then Hon'ble HRM and the functionaries from MHRD and Indian High Commission, on 19-11-2013 in Mauritius," said the statement, indicating that the government was very much in the loop. Shevgaonkar also won support from the IIT Delhi Alumni Association.

"We, the IIT Delhi Alumni Association (IITD AA) hereby resolve that the autonomy of IIT system, being extremely important for the development of the nation, should not be interfered with by the MHRD, in order to have smooth functioning of IITs. It is further resolved that IIT Delhi Alumni Association is fully behind Professor RK Shevgaonkar and requests him to continue leading this illustrious Institution to greater heights," its secretary Chandra K Jain said in a statement. IIT officials, speaking to ET on condition of anonymity, said the institute had no financial commitment towards the setting up of the research academy and all expenses were being incurred by the government of Mauritius. "The ministry is very well aware of that and all allegations are baseless," said one senior IIT official. Senior HRD ministry officials, however, continued to insist that the MoU was illegal because the IIT Act, which governs each of the 13 IITs, does not empower any institute to set up an offshore campus.

"The collaboration also did not have the approval of the ministry of external affairs. Their board of governors had said they would request the government to amend the IIT Act to allow this collaboration, but the director did not do this and went ahead with the MoU," said a senior official, who did not wish to be identified. Shevgaonkar was unavailable for comment.

IIT-Delhi vs HRD faceoff: Govt says will probe director, institute backs him

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/iit-d-vs-hrd-faceoff-govt-says-will-probe-director-institute-backs-him/2/>

A day after a row erupted over the resignation of IIT-Delhi Director Raghunath K Shevgaonkar, the institute hit back at reports that Shevgaonkar quit after an inquiry was initiated into the IIT-Delhi's research centre in Mauritius and claimed he had left due to "personal reasons", even as sources in the Ministry of Human Resource Development said his resignation is unlikely to be accepted till an inquiry into the matter is concluded.

HRD Ministry officials claimed the MoU between the Mauritius Research Council (MRC) and IIT-Delhi for setting up an International Institute of Technology Research Academy (IITRA) in Mauritius "violates the IIT Act". Officials said an inquiry is being conducted by Higher Education Secretary S N Mohanty. They said the MoU, which has Shevgaonkar's signatures, provides for greater scope of IIT-Delhi than the Act permits.

While the ministry has said that an inquiry has been on for over a month, it has not formally stated that there has been a violation.

In a statement issued on Monday evening, IIT-Delhi sought to clarify its stand and claimed there was no violation in setting up IITRA. "IITRA is not an extension campus of IIT-Delhi. It is an independent research academy named 'International Institute of Technology Research Academy, Mauritius'... IIT-Delhi's role is only advisory in nature... There is no financial commitment on part of IIT-Delhi," said the statement.

It claimed the original proposal for starting the institute in Mauritius came on the recommendation of the IIT Council in its meeting held on January 21, 2011. "The final MoU was okayed by MHRD and it was signed in presence of the then Hon'ble HRM and the functionaries from MHRD and Indian High Commission, on 19-11-2013 in Mauritius," it said.

“As per the MoU, senate approval and the approval of the steering committee of IITRA, IIT-Delhi will admit students for IITRA as per norms of IIT-Delhi and award all degrees on successful completion of academic programs (research only) by all students registered at IIT-Delhi till year 2018. The maximum number of students is limited to 50... Resignation of Director, IIT-Delhi is due to his personal reasons and not connected to the above issue and any other matter being reported in the press,” said the IIT-Delhi statement, detailing the entire “chronological sequence of events for setting up” IITRA.

Contrary to the ministry’s claims that the MoU did not have the MEA’s sanction, the statement cited correspondence between MEA and MHRD on the issue in June 2011.

IIT-Delhi also sent a communication to the HRD Ministry, with a detailed sequence of events supported by 10 annexures on the MoU.

Meanwhile, a meeting of the executive committee of the IIT faculty forum on Monday “remained inconclusive”, with the forum demanding Shevgaonkar’s clarification. According to those present at the meeting, forum members told the administration that they could only take a decision after Shevgaonkar explains his position and gives details about the ministry’s alleged interference in the institution’s autonomy. Sources said Shevgaonkar has indicated that he would talk to the forum after 10 days, when he “returns from leave”.

The IIT-Delhi Alumni Association came out in support of Shevgaonkar on Monday. “It is further resolved that IIT-Delhi Alumni Association is fully behind the Director and requests him to continue leading this illustrious institution to greater heights... We resolve that the autonomy of the IIT system being extremely important for the development of the nation, should not be interfered in by the HRD Ministry,” said a resolution adopted by the association.

On Sunday, the ministry denied reports that Shevgaonkar had resigned following pressure from the HRD Ministry to release nearly Rs 70 lakh to former IIT-Delhi faculty Subramanian Swamy, who is now a BJP functionary, as salary dues for the period between 1972 and 1991. The ministry said it did not forward any such request to IIT-Delhi, and it only sought the views of the DoPT and Finance Ministry on the issue.

The ministry has written to the DoPT seeking to know whether Swamy’s case falls under 54(A) of General Financial Rules and Service Rules and whether he can be granted “extraordinary leave” for the period 1972-1991 for which he has sought salary dues.

Swamy, who was sacked by IIT-Delhi in 1972, was reinstated in service in 1991 by court orders. Swamy later filed a suit in court seeking recovery of salary and allowances in revised grade from the date of his termination to the date of his reinstatement, and demanded an interest of 18 per cent per year.

IIT-Delhi, however, rejected his claim since he had not furnished details of the amount earned from his employment between December 11, 1972 to March 27, 1991. In December 2013, the Delhi High Court had rejected IIT-Delhi’s plea to dismiss Swamy’s suit.

According to sources, Shevgaonkar, who resigned with more than two years of his tenure left, was not in favour of any out-of-court settlement with Swamy.

- See more at: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/iit-d-vs-hrd-faceoff-govt-says-will-probe-director-institute-backs-him/2/#sthash.5jZ13fVq.dpuf>

इस्तीफा विवाद: HRD मंत्रालय ने सहमति पत्र के कानूनी पहलुओं पर समिति गठित की

<http://aaitak.intoday.in/story/hrd-ministry-probing-legality-of-iit-delhi-pact-with-mauritius-1-793373.html>

आईआईटी दिल्ली के निदेशक के इस्तीफे के कारण शुरू हुए विवाद के बीच सरकार ने सोमवार को सफाई दी. सरकार की ओर से कहा गया कि उसने इस अधिकारी के कार्यकाल के दौरान मारिशस में एक परिसर स्थापित करने के मकसद से किए गए सहमति पत्र के कानूनी पहलुओं पर गौर करने के लिए एक समिति गठित की है. हालांकि **आईआईटी** की ओर से कहा गया कि इस करार को सरकार की मंजूरी प्राप्त थी.

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों ने कहा कि आर. शेवगांवकर पर आईआईटी दिल्ली के निदेशक पद से इस्तीफा देने के लिए कोई दबाव नहीं था और उनके त्यागपत्र को अभी तक स्वीकार नहीं किया गया है.

अधिकारियों ने कहा कि करीब डेढ़ माह पहले एक सदस्यीय समिति गठित की गई थी, जो मारिशस के साथ हुए सहमति करार के कानूनी पहलुओं को देखेगी. यह समिति तब गठित की गई जब मंत्रालय को यह पता चला कि सहमति करार आईआईटी कानून का उल्लंघन करता है.

इस बीच, दिल्ली आईआईटी ने सोमवार शाम एक बयान जारी कर कहा कि निदेशक ने व्यक्तिगत कारणों से इस्तीफा दिया था और इसका किसी अन्य मामले से लेनादेना नहीं है जैसा कि प्रेस में खबर आ रही है.

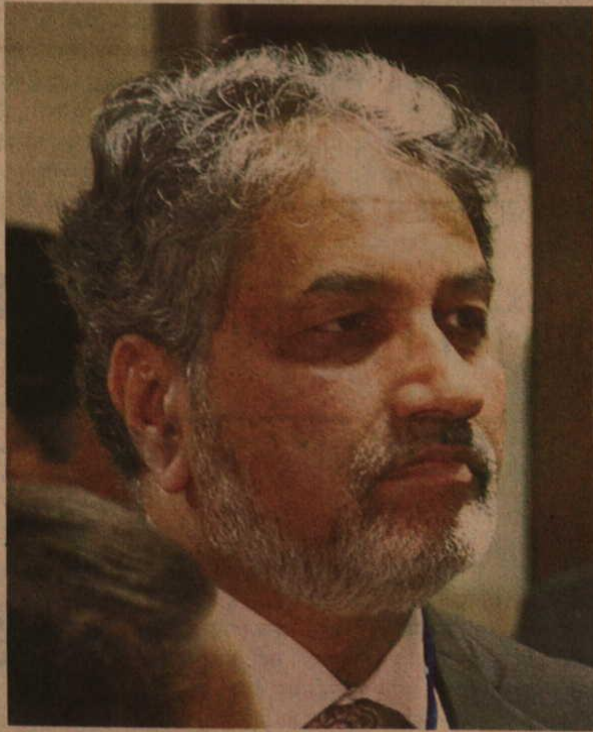
मीडिया के एक वर्ग में आयी खबरों के अनुसार शेवगांवकर पर यह दबाव था कि वह आईआईटी परिसर में क्रिकेट अकादमी के एक प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार करें और पूर्व आईआईटी प्राध्यापक व अब बीजेपी नेता सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी के 70 लाख रुपये के बकाये को दिलवाएं.

आईआईटी रजिस्ट्रार द्वारा जारी बयान के अनुसार मारिशस का परिसर आईआईटी दिल्ली का विस्तार परिसर नहीं होगा, बल्कि एक स्वतंत्र अनुसंधान अकादमी होगा जिसका नाम अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी अनुसंधान अकादमी संस्थान होगा. इसमें आईआईटी दिल्ली की भूमिका केवल परामर्शक की होगी. बयान में कहा गया कि 21 जनवरी 2011 को आईआईटी परिषद की सिफारिश पर अंतरराष्ट्रीय दिल्ली अनुसंधान अकादमी संस्थान शुरू करने का प्रस्ताव लाया गया था. लेकिन बाद में मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय की सलाह पर इसका नाम बदल कर आईआईटीआरए कर दिया गया.

इसमें कहा गया कि अंतिम सहमति पत्र को मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने मंजूरी दी थी और मारिशस में 19 नवंबर 2013 को मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री की उपस्थिति में इस पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए थे.

आरोपों को बेबुनियाद बताते हुए डायरेक्टर के पक्ष में उतरा IIT

IIT ने दिया जवाब: IIT दिल्ली के डायरेक्टर पद से आर के शिवगांवकर के इस्तीफे के बाद मॉरीशस प्रोजेक्ट पर आईआईटी ने दी सफाई



[ईटी ब्यूरो | नई दिल्ली]

आ आईआईटी दिल्ली के डायरेक्टर पद से प्रोफेसर आर के शिवगांवकर के इस्तीफे से एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री और इस प्रतिष्ठित इंजीनियरिंग संस्थान के बीच विवाद पैदा हो गया है। सोमवार को आईआईटी दिल्ली ने एक प्रेस स्टेटमेंट जारी कर उस मॉरीशस प्रोजेक्ट की वैधता को लेकर सभी आरोपों को खारिज कर दिया। इस प्रोजेक्ट की अब सरकार जांच कर रही है।

मिनिस्ट्री के सूत्रों ने शिवगांवकर के इस्तीफे का कारण मॉरीशस में अवैध तौर पर कैपस खोलने में उनकी कथित भूमिका को बताया है। दूसरी ओर, इंस्टीट्यूट का कहना है कि यह प्रोजेक्ट आईआईटी दिल्ली का एक्सटेंशन कैपस नहीं है। यह एक इंडिपेंडेंट रिसर्च एकेडमी है, जिसका नाम 'इंटरनेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी रिसर्च एकेडमी, मॉरीशस है।' इस स्टेटमेंट में सहयोग की दिशा में बढ़ने से पहले डायरेक्टर की ओर से ली गई हर कानूनी मंजूरी की भी जानकारी दी गई है।

'मॉरीशस कैपस गैर कानूनी नहीं'

इस बात को आईआईटी दिल्ली के बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स के चेयरमैन विजय भाटकर ने भी सही कहा है। उन्होंने ईटी को बताया, 'मॉरीशस कैपस के साथ कुछ भी गैरकानूनी नहीं है। मैंने सोमवार सुबह डायरेक्टर से बात की और उन्होंने भी मुझे यही कहा है। हालांकि, मैंने संबंधित दस्तावेज मंगाए हैं और मैं उन्हें देखने के बाद ही आगे कोई टिप्पणी करूंगा।' आईआईटी दिल्ली ने स्पष्ट

किया है कि भारत और मॉरीशस सरकार के बीच साइन किए गए मेमोरेंडम ऑफ अंडरस्टैंडिंग पर काम आईआईटी काउंसिल की मंजूरी मिलने के बाद और एचआरडी, फॉरिन अफेयर्स मिनिस्ट्री के कहने पर शुरू किया गया था।

मंत्रालय से ली गई थी इजाजत

स्टेटमेंट के मुताबिक, 'फाइनल एमओयू को एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री ने अनुमति दी थी और इस पर एचआरडी मिनिस्टर और उनकी मिनिस्ट्री के अलावा भारतीय उच्चायोग के अधिकारियों की मौजूदगी में 19 नवंबर को मॉरीशस में साइन किए गए थे।' आईआईटी के अधिकारियों ने बताया कि इंस्टीट्यूट रिसर्च एकेडमी खोलने के लिए कोई खर्च नहीं कर रहा है और इसकी पूरी लागत मॉरीशस सरकार उठाएगी। एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने कहा, 'मिनिस्ट्री को इस बात की पूरी तरह जानकारी थी और सभी आरोप बेबुनियाद हैं।'

मिनिस्ट्री की दलील

हालांकि, मिनिस्ट्री के वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों का कहना है कि एमओयू अवैध है क्योंकि आईआईटी एक्ट में किसी भी इंस्टीट्यूट को ऑफशोर कैपस खोलने का अधिकार नहीं दिया गया है। एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने बताया, 'कोलैबरेशन के लिए फॉरिन अफेयर्स मिनिस्ट्री से अनुमति नहीं मिली थी। उनके बोर्ड ऑफ डायरेक्टर्स ने कहा था कि वे इस सहयोग पर अनुमति देने के लिए सरकार से आईआईटी एक्ट में संशोधन करने का निवेदन करेंगे, लेकिन डायरेक्टर ने ऐसा नहीं किया और उन्होंने एमओयू पर कदम आगे बढ़ा दिया।'

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समर्थन में आया आईआईटी दिल्ली का पूर्व छात्र संघ

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) का पूर्व छात्र संघ सोमवार को प्रो. रघुनाथ के एस शिवगांवकर के समर्थन में आ गया। बता दें कि केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय द्वारा शिवगांवकर पर कथित तौर पर दबाव बनाने को लेकर उन्होंने संस्थान के निदेशक पद से इस्तीफा दे दिया था। इसके बाद इस पूरे मामले पर विवाद पैदा हो गया था। स्वीकार किए गए प्रस्ताव में संघ ने प्रो. शिवगांवकर को पद पर बने रहने के लिए कहा और मंत्रालय को आगाह किया कि वह आईआईटी की स्वायत्तता में दखल न दे। प्रस्ताव के मुताबिक यह तय किया गया है कि आईआईटी दिल्ली पूर्व छात्र संघ पूरी तरह निदेशक के साथ है और उनसे अनुरोध किया जाता है कि वह इस संस्थान को और ज्यादा ऊंचाइयों तक ले जाने के लिए इसकी अगुवाई करना जारी रखें। प्रो. शिवगांवकर ने शुक्रवार की शाम आईआईटी बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स के अध्यक्ष विजय पी भाटकर को अपना त्याग-पत्र भेज दिया था।

प्रस्ताव में कहा गया कि देश के विकास के लिए आईआईटी व्यवस्था की स्वायत्तता बेहद अहम है। इसके लिए जरूरी है कि मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय इसमें दखल न दे। मंत्रालय ने कल मीडिया में आई उस रिपोर्ट को खारिज किया था जिसमें कहा गया था कि शिवगांवकर ने आईआईटी दिल्ली के निदेशक पद से तब इस्तीफा दिया जब मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने उन पर दो मांगें मानने का दबाव डाला था। मंत्रालय ने जिन दो मांगों के लिए दबाव डाला था उनमें एक सचिन तेंदुलकर द्वारा कथित तौर पर एक क्रिकेट अकादमी खोलने के लिए आईआईटी की जमीन देने और संस्थान में प्रोफेसर रह चुके भाजपा नेता सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी के बकाए वेतन के तौर पर 70 लाख रुपए का भुगतान करना शामिल था।

आइआइटी निदेशक के पक्ष में छात्र चला रहे अभियान

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय से रघुनाथ के शेवगांवकर का इस्तीफा नहीं स्वीकार करने की कर रहे अपील



राज्य ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली : भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आइआइटी) दिल्ली के निदेशक रघुनाथ के शेवगांवकर के इस्तीफे के बाद आइआइटी के छात्रों ने उनके पक्ष में ऑनलाइन अभियान शुरू किया है। इससे छात्र तेजी से जुड़ रहे हैं। छात्रों ने अपील की है कि मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय उनका इस्तीफा स्वीकार न करे।

इलेक्ट्रानिक्स से बीटेक तृतीय वर्ष के छात्र सिद्धार्थ जैन ने बताया कि शेवगांवकर देश के नामी शिक्षाविद् हैं और वह छात्रों के बीच काफी लोकप्रिय हैं। उनके इस्तीफे से हम सब चकित हैं। उनका इस्तीफा आइआइटी के चेयरमैन ने स्वीकार कर लिया है, लेकिन मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने अभी स्वीकार नहीं किया है। उन्होंने कहा कि इस अभियान के जरिए छात्रों के सुझावों से निदेशक व मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय दोनों को अवगत कराया जाएगा। छात्रा चारू मेहता ने कहा, हमारे निदेशक छात्रों के मददगार रहे हैं और सिद्धांत वाले व्यक्ति हैं। आइआइटी कठपुतली नहीं है। एक अन्य छात्र नितिन गर्ग का कहना है कि आइआइटी की स्वायत्तता को

मॉरीशस के साथ समझौते की हो रही जांच

नई दिल्ली, प्रेस : भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आइआइटी) दिल्ली के निदेशक रघुनाथ के शेवगांवकर के इस्तीफे से उठे विवादों के बीच केंद्र सरकार का कहना है कि वह उनके द्वारा मॉरीशस से किए गए एक समझौते की कानूनी जांच के लिए कमेटी का गठन कर चुकी है। इस समझौते के तहत आइआइटी को मॉरीशस में रिसर्च एकेडमी स्थापित करना था। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय की तरफ से कहा गया है कि निदेशक के ऊपर इस्तीफा देने का कोई दबाव नहीं था। अधिकारियों ने बताया कि जब पता चला कि मॉरीशस के साथ आइआइटी का समझौता नियमों के विपरीत है तो इसकी जांच के लिए डेढ़ महीने पहले ही कमेटी का गठन कर दिया गया। गौरतलब है कि मीडिया में ऐसी खबरें आई थीं कि केंद्र सरकार शेवगांवकर पर आइआइटी कैंपस में क्रिकेट एकेडमी खोलने के लिए दबाव बना रही थी। इसके अलावा वरिष्ठ भाजपा नेता व आइआइटी के पूर्व प्रोफेसर सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी के बकाया 70 लाख रुपये वेतन का भुगतान करने को भी कहा था।

बरकरार रखने की जरूरत है। निदेशक का इस्तीफा दबाव में उठाया गया कदम लगता है।

Virat Vaibhav ND 30/12/2014 p-4

शिवगांवकर के समर्थन में आया आईआईटी दिल्ली का पूर्व छात्र संघ

वैभव न्यूज

नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली स्थित भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) का पूर्व छात्र संघ सोमवार को रघुनाथ के एस शिवगांवकर के समर्थन में आ गया। केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय द्वारा शिवगांवकर पर कथित तौर पर दबाव बनाने को लेकर उन्होंने संस्थान के निदेशक पद से इस्तीफा दे दिया था और फिर इस पूरे मामले पर विवाद पैदा हो गया था।

स्वीकार किए गए प्रस्ताव में संघ ने शिवगांवकर को पद पर बने रहने के लिए कहा और मंत्रालय को आगाह किया कि वह आईआईटी की स्वायत्तता में दखल न दे और इसे सुचारू तरीके से अपना काम करने

दे।

प्रस्ताव के मुताबिक, 'यह तय किया गया है कि आईआईटी दिल्ली पूर्व छात्र संघ पूरी तरह निदेशक के साथ है और उनसे अनुरोध किया जाता है कि वह इस संस्थान को और ज्यादा उंचाइयों तक ले जाने के लिए इसकी अगुवाई करना जारी रखें।'

शिवगांवकर ने शुक्रवार की शाम आईआईटी बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स के अध्यक्ष विजय पी भाटकर को अपना त्याग-पत्र भेज दिया था। त्याग-पत्र में उन्होंने लिखा था कि वह 'व्यक्तिगत कारणों से' इस्तीफा दे रहे हैं।

प्रस्ताव में कहा गया, 'देश के विकास के लिए आईआईटी व्यवस्था की स्वायत्तता बेहद अहम है और सभी आईआईटी सचारू रूप से

अपना काम करें, इसके लिए जरूरी है कि मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय इसमें दखल न दे।'

मंत्रालय ने मीडिया में आई उस रिपोर्ट को खारिज किया था जिसमें कहा गया था कि शिवगांवकर ने आईआईटी दिल्ली के निदेशक पद से तब इस्तीफा दिया जब मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने उन पर दो मांगें मानने का दबाव डाला था। मंत्रालय ने जिन दो मांगों के लिए दबाव डाला था उनमें एक सचिन तेंदुलकर द्वारा कथित तौर पर एक क्रिकेट अकादमी खोलने के लिए आईआईटी की जमीन देने और संस्थान में प्रोफेसर रह चुके भाजपा नेता सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी के बकाए वेतन के तौर पर 70 लाख रूपए का भगतान करना शामिल था। ■

Financial Chronicle ND 30/12/2014

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IIT-D alumni backs director

The IIT Delhi Alumni Association on Monday came out in support of Raghunath K S Shevgaonkar, who quit as director of the institute amid a row over alleged pressure by the HRD ministry on him.

IIT Delhi's Sachin Tendulkar, Subramanian Swamy row: Boost for Raghunath Shevgaonkar, asso tells Smriti Irani's HRD Ministry to lay off

<http://www.financialexpress.com/article/industry/jobs/iit-delhi-sachin-tendulkar-subramanian-swamy-row-boost-for-raghunath-shevgaonkar-asso-tells-smriti-iranis-hrd-ministry-to-lay-off/24188/>

The IIT Delhi Alumni Association today came out in support of Raghunath K S Shevgaonkar, who quit as Director of the institute amid a controversy over alleged pressure by Union Minister Smriti Irani's HRD Ministry on him.

In a resolution adopted, the association asked Raghunath Shevgaonkar to continue in the post and also cautioned the Ministry against interfering in the autonomy of the IIT system to enable it to function "smoothly".

"It is further resolved that IIT Delhi Alumni Association is fully behind the Director and request him to continue leading this illustrious institution to greater heights," it said.

Check out what Sachin Tendulkar had to say on Twitter:

Shevgaonkar sent his resignation letter to Chairman of IIT Board of Governors Vijay P Bhatkar on Friday evening in which he cited "personal reasons".

"We resolve that the autonomy of the IIT system being extremely important for the development of the nation, should not be interfered by the HRD Ministry in order to have smooth functioning of the IITs," the resolution added.

The Ministry had yesterday denied a media report that said Shevgaonkar resigned after he was allegedly put under pressure from the HRD Ministry to accede to two demands—to provide the IIT ground for a cricket academy Sachin Tendulkar allegedly wants to open and to pay nearly Rs 70 lakh to Swamy, a former IIT-D faculty member, as his "salary dues" between 1972 and 1981.

"There is neither any request from Sachin Tendulkar for the ground of IIT for running a Cricket Academy nor any instruction from HRD Ministry to provide the same," it said.

Tendulkar had also denied the allegation.

Shevgaonkar resigned with more than two years of his tenure left.

Chairman of the institute's Board of Governors Vijay P Bhatkar said he was unaware of any pressure exerted upon Shevgaonkar.

Dahiya, not Sachin wanted centre in IIT

‘Smriti’s pressure tactics led to quitting of director’

Prakash Kumar

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Not ace cricketer Sachin Tendulkar but it was former Indian test player and Bollywood star Shahrukh Khan-owned Indian Premier League (IPL) team Kolkata Knight Riders’ assistant coach Vijay Dahiya who wanted to open a centre of excellence for cricket at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi.

IIT Director Raghunath K Shevgaonkar, who resigned last week amid allegations that Human Resource Development (HRD) Minister Smriti Irani was pressurising him to reach an out-of-court settlement with former faculty member and BJP leader Subramanian Swamy to clear the latter’s back wages and benefits with interest, came in the line of fire as Dahiya was made to wait at the institute when he went to discuss his cricket academy proposal in November.

Although a senior HRD ministry official denied it, sources said Irani summoned Shevgaonkar and took him to task about 20 days back. “The director was first asked why he made Dahiya wait for four hours, and was humiliated in front of a senior official of the ministry. The minister also raised the issue of clearance of Swamy’s dues, and

asked the director if he wanted to continue or not,” sources said.

A senior official of the HRD Ministry, however, claimed Dahiya might have gone on his own to the IIT with his proposal. The Ministry was neither aware of it nor recommended Dahiya’s case to IIT for consideration. But sources said “Instructions were given verbally to examine Dahiya’s proposal.”

Efforts to contact Dahiya were in vain. An SMS sent to his mobile phone, seeking his response, remained unanswered till the time this story was filed.

Though the IIT officials were divided on allowing a centre of excellence for cricket as it might require construction of a permanent structure on the campus, a meeting was held by the director at the institute on December 5 and it was decided that his proposal could be tried out for six months.

The institute agreed that Dahiya could use its playground only between 10 am and 4 pm, sources said. Sources said that post December 5 meeting, Dahiya was invited and taken around the campus.

While Shevgaonkar was firm on quitting, it has caused much resentment among the faculty, staff and students. At a meeting of faculty forum on Monday, teachers expressed their solidarity with the IIT director.

Swamy fighting long battle for arrears

NEW DELHI: BJP leader and former Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, faculty Subramanian Swamy has been fighting a long battle to get his arrears, including salary and other allowances, since he was terminated on December 11, 1972, by the institute.

He was appointed a visiting faculty at IIT-D by a nine-member selection committee headed by Manmohan Singh on April 22, 1970. He was later elevated to the post of professor of economics in October 1971.

The elevation put Swamy on a year's probation. He objected to this on the ground that he had already been working for 21 months with the institute. The board of governors of the institute, however, rejected his claim and asked him to complete the probation period.



Subramanian Swamy

During probation, the institute terminated Swamy all of a sudden on December 11, 1972, prompting him to move court to challenge the decision. He first filed a writ petition with Delhi High court, which was "dismissed as withdrawn".

As the institute subsequently sent him a notice of eviction from premises on February 9, 1973, Swamy filed a civil suit at a district court in Delhi, praying for a declaration that he continued in the service of the IIT, and seeking injunction from

dispossession of premises. The court, however, dismissed his petition on "preliminary issues".

Swamy filed an appeal with a Court of Additional District Judge on May 20, 1976, which too was dismissed on September 17, 1982.

Swamy, however, got relief from court later when he filed a revision petition challenging the September 17 order. Hearing his case, the Sub-Judge of a Delhi court declared his termination null and void on February 20, 1991. The court also declared that he was entitled to be treated as "continued in the service" of the IIT "without interruption as professor in economics".

Following the court's decision, Swamy joined IIT on March 27, 1991, and resigned

in the evening on the same day.

On March 18, 1992, Swamy wrote to the IIT demanding detailed accounts of amount due to him from December 11, 1972, to March 27, 1991.

Responding to a legal notice from Swamy, the IIT on January 28, 1993, informed him that proceedings had been initiated with regard to settlement of his dues.

The institute also sought details of the emoluments that he earned while working with Harvard University during the period of his suspension.

As per the Fundamental Rules of the Service, Swamy was required to furnish details of his earnings while working with Harvard University in order to enable the institute to settle his dues.

DH News Service

Director resigned due to personal reasons, says IIT-D

HT Correspondent

■ hreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Indian Institute of Delhi (IIT-Delhi) on Monday said director RK Shevgaonkar resigned due to personal reasons and not due to the research academy in Mauritius.

The staff association of the institution, meanwhile, requested the authorities to issue a public statement over the controversy triggered in the wake of Shevgaonkar's resignation.

IIT-D also said the International Institute of Technology Research Academy (IITRA), Mauritius, is an independent research academy set up after ministry of human resource development's approval

"IITRA is not an extension campus of IIT-Delhi. It's an independent research academy. IIT-Delhi's role is only advisory in nature and not financial," said a statement issued by the institution.

Outlining the timeline of the events, IIT-Delhi has said that the institution received letters from the MHRD and ministry of external affairs, seeking support for setting-up an IIT-like institution in Mauritius during the tenure

of the previous director between March 21 and August 26, 2011.

Once an agreement was signed between the MHRD and Mauritius' education ministry, the IIT Council had requested IIT-Delhi to take the initiative in establishing an IIT-like institution in Mauritius on November 3, 2012.

Then, a six-member committee was constituted by IIT-Delhi to prepare a feasibility report which was submitted to the education ministries of the two countries.

Later, when an MoU was prepared, the government requested the director to join the delegation with former HRD minister Pallam Raju between November 17-20, 2013, the institution stated. The academy was inaugurated in July 2014.

The staff association claimed that the issue is a "fight between two governments". "The MoU for setting up the academy in Mauritius was signed in the presence of minister Pallam Raju, so this is basically a fight between the two governments," said a staff association member. The IIT Delhi Alumni Association has come out in support of Shevgaonkar.

डायरेक्टर के इस्तीफे का कारण निजी : IIT-D

■ नगर संवाददाता, आईआईटी

आईआईटी दिल्ली के डायरेक्टर आर. के. शिवगांवकर के इस्तीफे से फैल रहे विवाद पर ब्रेक लगाने के लिए आईआईटी की तरफ से एक सूचना जारी की गई। इसमें साफ किया गया कि डायरेक्टर का इस्तीफा देने का कारण निजी है। मॉरीशस वाला इशू और मीडिया में आ रही खबरें इस्तीफे की वजह नहीं हैं। मॉरीशस में इंटरनैशनल इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नॉलजी रिसर्च एकेडमी (आईआईटीआरए) आईआईटी दिल्ली का एक्सटेंशन कैंपस नहीं है। वह एक इंडिपेंडेंट रिसर्च एकेडमी है। आईआईटी दिल्ली की भूमिका सिर्फ सलाहकार की है। साथ ही उसका मॉरीशस की रिसर्च एकेडमी से कोई भी फाइनेंशियल कमिटमेंट नहीं है।

आईआईटी दिल्ली के रजिस्ट्रार ऑफिस से सोमवार को सूचना जारी की गई। इसमें बताया गया है कि आईआईटी काउंसिल की 2011 में हुई मीटिंग में आईआईटी दिल्ली रिसर्च एकेडमी (आईआईटीडीआरए) को शुरू करने की सिफारिश की गई थी।

आईआईटी दिल्ली के रजिस्ट्रार ने जारी की सूचना

बाद में एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री की सलाह पर आईआईटीडीआरए के प्रपोजल को इंटरनैशनल इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नॉलजी रिसर्च एकेडमी, मॉरीशस के रूप में संशोधित कर दिया गया था। फाइनल एमओयू को मिनिस्ट्री ने अनुमति दे दी थी। 19 नवंबर 2013 को एचआरडी मिनिस्टर और इंडियन हाई कमिशन की मौजूदगी में एमओयू साइन किया गया था।

एमओयू के मुताबिक सीनेट अप्रूवल और आईआईटीआरए की स्टीयरिंग कमिटी के अप्रूवल के बाद आईआईटी दिल्ली के स्टूडेंट्स को आईआईटीआरए में एडमिट किया जाएगा। सभी स्टूडेंट्स को एकेडमिक प्रोग्राम (सिर्फ रिसर्च) के खत्म करने के बाद डिग्री दी जाएगी। आईआईटी दिल्ली के सभी रजिस्टर्ड स्टूडेंट्स को 2018 तक एडमिट किया जाएगा। स्टूडेंट्स की अधिकतम संख्या 50 रखी गई है।

IIT-D vs HRD faceoff: Govt says will probe director, institute backs him

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 29

A DAY after a row erupted over the resignation of IIT-Delhi Director Raghunath K Shevgaonkar, the institute hit back at reports that Shevgaonkar quit after an inquiry was initiated into the IIT-Delhi's research centre in Mauritius and claimed he had

left due to "personal reasons", even as sources in the Ministry of Human Resource Development said his resignation is unlikely to be accepted till an inquiry into the matter is concluded.

HRD Ministry officials claimed the MoU between the Mauritius Research Council (MRC) and IIT-Delhi for setting up an International Insti-

tute of Technology Research Academy (IITRA) in Mauritius "violates the IIT Act". Officials said an inquiry is being conducted by Higher Education Secretary S N Mohanty. They said the MoU, which has Shevgaonkar's signatures, provides for greater scope of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

» **ANOTHER REPORT, PAGE 9**

IIT-D vs HRD faceoff: Govt says will probe director

IIT-Delhi than the Act permits.

While the ministry has said that an inquiry has been on for over a month, it has not formally stated that there has been a violation.

In a statement issued on Monday evening, IIT-Delhi sought to clarify its stand and claimed there was no violation in setting up IITRA. "IITRA is not an extension campus of IIT-Delhi. It is an independent research academy named 'International Institute of Technology Research Academy, Mauritius'... IIT-Delhi's role is only advisory in nature... There is no financial commitment on part of IIT-Delhi," said the statement.

It claimed the original proposal for starting the institute in Mauritius came on the recommendation of the IIT Council in its meeting held on January 21, 2011. "The final MoU was okayed by MHRD and it was signed in presence of the then Hon'ble HRM and the functionaries from MHRD and Indian High Commission, on 19-11-2013 in Mauritius," it said.

"As per the MoU, senate approval and the approval of the steering committee of IITRA, IIT-Delhi will admit students for IITRA as per norms of IIT-Delhi and award all degrees on successful completion of academic programs (research only) by all students registered at IIT-Delhi till year 2018. The maximum number of students is limited to 50... Resignation of Director, IIT-Delhi is due to his personal reasons and not connected to the above issue and any other matter being reported in the press," said the IIT-Delhi statement, detailing the entire "chronological sequence of events for setting up" IITRA.

Contrary to the ministry's claims that the MoU did not have the MEA's sanction, the statement cited correspondence between MEA and MHRD on the issue in June 2011.

IIT-Delhi also sent a communication to the HRD Ministry, with a detailed sequence of events supported by 10 annexures

on the MoU.

Meanwhile, a meeting of the executive committee of the IIT faculty forum on Monday "remained inconclusive", with the forum demanding Shevgaonkar's clarification. According to those present at the meeting, forum members told the administration that they could only take a decision after Shevgaonkar explains his position and gives details about the ministry's alleged interference in the institution's autonomy. Sources said Shevgaonkar has indicated that he would talk to the forum after 10 days, when he "returns from leave".

The IIT-Delhi Alumni Association came out in support of Shevgaonkar on Monday. "It is further resolved that IIT-Delhi Alumni Association is fully behind the Director and requests him to continue leading this illustrious institution to greater heights... We resolve that the autonomy of the IIT system being extremely important for the development of the nation, should not be interfered in by the HRD Ministry," said a resolution adopted by the association.

On Sunday, the ministry denied reports that Shevgaonkar had resigned following pressure from the HRD Ministry to release nearly Rs 70 lakh to former IIT-Delhi faculty Subramanian Swamy, who is now a BJP functionary, as salary dues for the period between 1972 and 1991. The ministry said it did not forward any such request to IIT-Delhi, and it only sought the views of the DoPT and Finance Ministry on the issue.

The ministry has written to the DoPT seeking to know whether Swamy's case falls under 54(A) of General Financial Rules and Service Rules and whether he can be granted "extraordinary leave" for the period 1972-1991 for which he has sought salary dues.

Swamy, who was sacked by IIT-Delhi in 1972, was reinstated in service in 1991 by court orders. Swamy later filed a suit in court seeking recovery of salary and allowances in revised grade from the date of his termination to the date of his reinstatement, and demanded an interest of 18 per cent per year.

IIT-Delhi, however, rejected his claim since he had not furnished details of the amount earned from his employment between December 11, 1972 to March 27, 1991. In December 2013, the Delhi High Court had rejected IIT-Delhi's plea to dismiss Swamy's suit.

According to sources, Shevgaonkar, who resigned with more than two years of his tenure left, was not in favour of any out-of-court settlement with Swamy.

Panel to probe IIT-D MoU with Mauritius

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
New Delhi, 29 December

Amid the controversy over the resignation of the IIT Delhi Director, the government today said it has set up a one-member committee to look into the legality of an MoU signed with Mauritius during his tenure for setting up a campus there even as the IIT said the pact had approval from the government.

HRD Ministry officials maintained there was no pressure on R Shevgaonkar to resign as IIT Delhi Director and that his resignation has not yet been accepted. The officials said a one-man inquiry committee had been set up about one-and-a-half months ago to inquire into legality of the MoU with Mauritius as it "violated the IIT Act".

IIT Delhi tonight issued a statement saying that the Director had resigned because of "personal reasons" and it was "not connected

to any other matter being reported in the press". Certain media reports had said Shevgaonkar was under pressure to approve a proposal for a cricket academy in the IIT campus and to clear dues of Rs 70 lakh to former IIT professor and now BJP leader Subramanian Swamy.

The IIT statement issued by the acting registrar said the campus in Mauritius is not an "extension campus of IIT-D" but an independent research academy named 'International Institute of Technology Research Academy' (IITRA). "IIT-D's role is only advisory in nature," it said.

It said the original proposal to start International Institute of Technology Delhi Research Academy was initiated on the recommendation of the IIT Council on 21 January 2011, but its nomenclature was later changed to IITRA on the advice of the HRD Ministry.

"The final MoU was

okayed by HRD Ministry and it was signed in the presence of the then HRD Minister on November 19, 2013 in Mauritius," the IIT statement said.

According to the MoU, the IIT Senate approval and the approval of the steering committee of IITRA, IIT Delhi was to admit students for IITRA as per norms of IIT Delhi and award all degrees on successful completion of the academic programme (research only) by all students registered by IIT Delhi till 2018, the IIT statement said. The maximum number of students was 50.

In 2004, the HRD Ministry had given certain relaxations to the IITs and Central Universities to enter into MoUs with institutes abroad for research collaboration but it did not extend beyond that, according to ministry officials.

The IIT Council had decided to grant "in-principle" approval to set up an institute

in Mauritius with the help of IIT. Citing exchange of letters between the Ministries of HRD and External Affairs, the statement said letters of support were received from the then HRD Minister to the Minister of Tertiary Education, Science in Mauritius on March 21, 2011 and from the under secretary to the joint secretary in the HRD Ministry on June 15, 2011.

Shevgaonkar had resigned over the weekend citing "personal reasons" but media report suggested he was under pressure from the HRD Ministry.

BJP leader and former IIT-D alumnus Subramaniam Swamy, whose name has been dragged into the controversy, had yesterday alleged his resignation was not over the alleged demand by him to the Ministry to settle his dues but had to do with setting up IIT-D campus in Mauritius over which an "explanation" has been sought from him.

IIT row: HRD probes MoU legality

AGE CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, DEC. 29

After the resignation of IIT Delhi director kicked up a major row, the HRD ministry on Monday revealed that a committee has been set up to go into the legality of an MoU signed with Mauritius during his tenure for setting up a campus there.

The IIT-Delhi said the MoU had approval of the government even as HRD ministry officials maintained that there was no pressure on R. Shevgaonkar to resign as IIT Delhi director and that his resignation has

not yet been accepted.

The officials said a one-man inquiry has been set up about one-and-a-half months back to inquire into legality of the MoU with Mauritius when the ministry came across the MoU as it "violated the IIT Act".

IIT-Delhi issued a statement late on Monday maintaining that director Raghunath K.S. Shevgaonkar resigned because of "personal reasons" and it was "not connected to any other matter being reported in the press". "IIT-D's role is only advisory in nature," it said.

In 2004, the HRD min-

istry had given certain relaxations to the IITs and Central Universities to enter into MoUs with institutes abroad for research collaboration but it did not extend beyond that, according to ministry officials.

Meanwhile, the IIT-Delhi Alumni Association and current students, along with others, on Monday came out in support of Mr Shevgaonkar.

IIT-Delhi students started signing an online petition against the resignation of Mr Shevgaonkar on Sunday and more than 250 students and public signed

it till Monday evening.

In a resolution adopted, the association asked Mr Shevgaonkar to continue in the post and also cautioned the ministry against interfering in the autonomy of the IIT system to enable it to function smoothly. "It is further resolved that IIT-Delhi Alumni Association is fully behind the director and request him to continue leading this illustrious institution to greater heights," it said.

Online petitioner Avadh Singhal said political reasons should not force a dedicated person to leave his position.

Amar Ujala ND 30/12/2014
P16

इस्तीफा विवाद मामला

आईआईटी निदेशक के मॉरीशस संग एमओयू की वैधता की जांच

नई दिल्ली। आईआईटी दिल्ली के निदेशक रघुनाथ शेवगांवकर के इस्तीफे से उत्पन्न विवाद के बीच केंद्र सरकार ने कहा कि उसने निदेशक के कार्यकाल के दौरान मॉरीशस के साथ वहां पर परिसर स्थापित किए जाने को लेकर हुए समझौता ज्ञापन (एमओयू) की वैधता का पता लगाने के लिए एक सदस्यीय समिति का गठन किया है। इस समिति का गठन डेढ़ महीने पहले किया गया था। सरकार का कहना है कि इससे आईआईटी एक्ट का उल्लंघन हुआ है, जबकि आईआईटी का कहना है कि समझौते को सरकार से मंजूरी मिली हुई है। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों ने दोहराया कि शेवगांवकर पर इस्तीफे का दबाव नहीं था और अभी तक इस्तीफा स्वीकार नहीं किया गया है। एजेंसी

IIT-Delhi's Mauritius campus to start by Jan

By Heena Kausar in New Delhi

THE contentious International Institute of Technology Research Academy (IITRA) campus in Mauritius, which was established with the help from IIT-Delhi, is likely to start its first academic session from January 1, 2015, with eight professors and around 20 research students.

"We will start our academic session from January 1, 2015. Students can register till January 15, as all of them are research students and they don't necessarily have to join on the first day. We hired eight professors last week for our two departments. We have hired four professors in electrical and four in computer science department," a source from IITRA told MAIL TODAY.

Even as the HRD ministry has reportedly questioned the legality of setting up of the IITRA campus in Mauritius by IIT-D, sources from both the institutes said that relevant documents have been sent again to the HRD ministry on Monday. And in all probability, the Mauritius campus will start functioning from Thursday.

'There was no pressure on Shevgaonkar'

IIT-D director R.K. Shevgaonkar reportedly resigned after he was cornered by the HRD ministry for his alleged involvement in setting up an illegal offshore campus in Mauritius. Media reports have quoted HRD ministry sources as saying that documents, including clearance from MEA, were missing.

"I saw in newspapers that the HRD ministry has said some papers are missing. IIT-D has again sent all the documents and missing papers to the HRD. The issue will settle down after this. The names of the students, who will pursue their PhD and Masters of Science by Research will be finalized in a day. There is infrastructure to admit 30 students at present," the source said. A highly placed source from IIT-D also confirmed that documents have been sent to the Ministry. However, the same couldn't independently be confirmed from the ministry.

Meanwhile, IIT-D main-



IIT-Delhi former director R.K. Shevgaonkar.



IIT-Delhi maintained that the resignation of Shevgaonkar is due to his personal reasons and is not connected with controversies around IITRA campus.

PANEL TO PROBE MAURITIUS & IIT-D MOU

With the resignation of IIT-Delhi director R.K. Shevgaonkar snowballing into a big controversy, the HRD ministry has set up a committee to look the legality of the MoU signed with Mauritius during Shevgaonkar's tenure for setting up a campus there even as the IIT-Delhi maintained that the campus is an independent research academy and not an extension campus of IIT-D.

A highly-placed source in HRD said on Monday that the case looks like a clear-cut violation of the IIT Act and the committee will also probe involvement of a

WE ARE ANTICIPATING LOT OF THINGS TO COME OUT OF FROM THE PROBE. IT LOOKS LIKE A CLEAR-CUT VIOLATION OF THE IIT ACT. WE ARE ALSO INVESTIGATING INVOLVEMENT OF A THIRD PARTY.

— A highly-placed source

third party.

"We are anticipating lot of things to come out of from the probe. It looks like a clear cut violation of the IIT Act. We are also investigating involvement of a third party," the source said.

Meanwhile, the HRD ministry officials maintained that there was no pressure

on Shevgaonkar to resign as the IIT-D Director and also that his resignation has not yet been accepted.

The officials said an one-man inquiry committee has been set up about one-and-a-half months back to inquire into the legality of the MoU with Mauritius.

Mail Today

tained that the IITRA campus in Mauritius is not an extension campus of IIT-D, rather an independent research academy in which IIT-D is only playing the role of an advisory. "There is no financial commitment on part of our institute and we are only playing an advisory role," said M. K. Gulati, IIT-D acting registrar.

The acting registrar released a detailed sequence of events. "As per the MoU, Senate approval and the approval of the Steering Committee of IITRA, IIT-Delhi will admit students for IITRA as per the norms of IIT-Delhi and award all degrees on successful completion of academic programmes (research only) by

all students registered at IIT-Delhi till year 2018. The maximum number of students is limited to 50," Gulati said.

A release by IIT-D said that IIT Council in its 42nd meeting held on 21st January 2011 had decided to grant in principle approval to set-up an Institute in Mauritius with the help of the Indian Institute of Technology.

HRD Ministry saw several controversies under NDA government in 2014

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/hrd-ministry-saw-several-controversies-under-nda-government-in-2014/articleshow/45673389.cms>

NEW DELHI: Controversy hounded the HRD Ministry ever since the NDA government came to power be it for the rollback of FYUP of Delhi University, replacing Sanskrit with German as the third language in Kendriya Vidyalayas or asking institutes to observe events on Christmas.

As these moves led Opposition parties to accuse the Ministry of embarking on a path to saffronise education, its Minister Smriti Irani retorted saying, if she "challenges status quo," controversy is bound to take wings.

"Those who accuse me of being a RSS mascot or RSS representative possibly want to deflect the attention from the good work that we have done... this agenda will be flagged."

"I will be whipped for as long as there is a need to keep attention diverted away from the good work. I am ready for it. I have no problem," she told the media in an interview.

Irani announced a slew of programmes promoting girls education, providing free access to digital content, scholarship schemes and special focus on northeast students, but the row mostly generating off-campus shrouded such initiatives.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to students on Teacher's Day in September also generated a lot of heat especially from the Opposition amid reports of compulsory attendance in classes to listen to him.

Irani's education qualification too made headlines soon after she assumed charge in May. It took a new turn when she said at a function that she also has a degree from the prestigious Yale University in the US, a statement which she later said was "misconstrued".

Under pressure from UGC to act on its directive, Delhi University on June 27 scrapped its controversial four-year undergraduate programme (FYUP) and reverted back to the previous three-year structure.

Hardening its stand, UGC days earlier asked Delhi University and its colleges to admit students only under the three-year programme and not FYUP, a move hailed by both teachers' and students' bodies who made several representations to Irani in this regard.

UGC issued fresh guidelines to all varsities and institutes about the nomenclature of the programmes to be followed, but it was resisted by IITs which challenged UGC's jurisdiction. The matter is yet to be resolved.

On November 27, Kendriya Vidyalayas decided to discontinue teaching German as an alternative to Sanskrit as third language, a decision which Irani took in line with the three-language formula and national policy on education.

The Board of Governors (BoG) of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), headed by Irani, had in its meeting on October 27 decided that "teaching of German language as an option to Sanskrit will be discontinued herewith". German was kept as an additional subject for students.

The move evidently became a diplomatic issue with German Chancellor Angela Merkel raising the matter with Prime Minister Modi when the two met at the G-20 summit in Brisbane on November 16. The Ministry, however, s ..

The Supreme Court on December 16 accepted the proposal mooted by the ministry that KV students of class VI, VII and VIII will not have to take examination for third modern Indian language Sanskrit in this academic session and they may continue to study German as an optional subject.

While the Ministry rolled out 'Udaan' scheme to improve girl enrolment rates in engineering colleges, Aligarh Muslim University VC Zameer Uddin Shah stoked a row with his sexist remark, triggering sharp cond ..

Turning down the demand of students of Women's College, AMU, for access to the varsity's Maulana Azad Library, the VC said there would be "more boys" in the library if girls were allowed in. The University has since then allowed the girls to use the main library.

Smriti Irani and controversies: Who follows whom?

<http://www.india.com/news/india/smriti-irani-and-controversies-who-follows-whom-234304/>

If the title of 2014 Most Controversial Minister in Narendra Modi cabinet be given to anyone, Human Resource and Development (HRD) Minister Smriti Irani will beat all the Sadhvi's and – easily by miles and miles. She perhaps is the only minister from the cabinet who has hogged the limelight from the beginning and as the year comes to an end she is again in news. [\(Read: 2014 Special: Top controversies of Smriti Irani's HRD Ministry\)](#)

From qualification row to the recent drama of IIT Delhi, Smriti Irani remains in news for all wrong reasons. Her moves like replacing Sanskrit with German as the third language in Kendriya Vidyalayas or asking institutes to observe BJP leader and former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee 's birthday as 'Good Governance Day on Christmas gave opposition the ammunition they were looking for.

The latest in the list is IIT Delhi Director Raghunath K S Shevgaonkar resignation to protest pressure from the Ministry officials to clear the outstanding dues BJP leader Subramanian Swamy and also give college ground to allow batting maestro Bharat Ratna Sachin Tendulkar set up his academy. The Ministry was quick to deny the charges but the damage was done.

Irani has some weird working style and there have been many instances of her scolding senior bureaucrats in full board meetings. Questioning the exit of Director Shevgaonkar, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) also alleged that Smriti Irani summoned the IIT Delhi director and humiliated him in a meeting.

Her appointment as HRD minister had raised many eyebrows as it was felt that she was not qualified enough. The problem with Smriti Irani is she proved her detractors right time and again. Will she retain her position as most controversial minister in 2015?

कैट में 16 स्टूडेंट्स को 100 पर्सेंटाइल

[श्रीराधा बसु | मुंबई]

कैट 2014 में बैठने वाले 1.7 लाख स्टूडेंट्स में से 16 ने 100 पर्सेंटाइल स्कोर किया और वे टॉपर्स रहे। रिजल्ट घोषित होने के एक दिन बाद ईटी इन स्टार परफॉर्मर्स को खोजने में कामयाब रहा। पूरे प्रोसेस को आसान बनाने के लिए इस बार कैट का रिजल्ट एक हफ्ते की देरी से आया। कैंडीडेट्स शनिवार शाम से साइट एक्सेस करने की कोशिश कर रहे थे, लेकिन उन्हें लॉग-इन सहित कई दिक्कतें झेलनी पड़ी। 100 पर्सेंटाइल हासिल करने वालों में से दो स्टूडेंट आईआईटी कानपुर के हैं। दोनों के लिए यह उनकी पहली कोशिश थी।

उत्तर प्रदेश के प्रांजुल गुप्ता इलेक्ट्रिकल इंजीनियरिंग के फाइनल ईयर के स्टूडेंट हैं। उन्होंने अपनी स्कूलिंग लखनऊ से पूरी की है और आईआईटी में एंट्री करने से पहले उन्होंने कोटा में भी पढ़ाई की है। उनके पास स्नैपडील का जॉब ऑफर है, लेकिन अब वह एमबीए करना चाहते हैं। प्रांजुल की आईआईएम-अहमदाबाद से एमबीए करने की इच्छा है। प्रांजुल के पिता मेडिकल स्टोर चलाते हैं और उनकी मां हाउसवाइफ हैं।

प्रांजुल आईआईटी कानपुर में रूबिक के क्यूब हॉबी ग्रुप के कोर्डिनेटर थे और उन्होंने अपने कई बैचमेट्स और जूनियर्स को इसकी तकनीक की जानकारी दी। प्रांजुल ने एक प्रतिस्पर्धा में रूबिक के क्यूब को 25 से कम सेकेंड्स में सॉल्व कर दिया था। सीएल एजुकेट में कोचिंग करने वाले प्रांजुल का कहना है, 'मैं एक दिन में दो-तीन घंटे पढ़ाई किया करता था, लेकिन मैंने नियमित तौर पर मॉक टेस्ट दिए।' आईआईटी कानपुर के ही



विशेष पटनी ने 100 पर्सेंटाइल हासिल किया है। वह इंस्टीट्यूट से फिजिक्स में एमएससी कर रहे हैं। पटनी के पिता प्रोफेसर और मां गृहिणी हैं। उनकी बहन पुणे में आर्किटेक्चर की पढ़ाई कर रही है। फाइनैस में अच्छी पकड़ रखने वाले पटनी की पहली पसंद आईआईएम-कलकत्ता है। उन्होंने बताया, 'एक दिन मैं फाइनैशियल सेक्टर में खुद का वेंचर शुरू करना पसंद करूंगा।'

16 टॉपर्स में से इकलौती लड़की नेहा मांगलिक हैं। नेहा बिट्स पिलानी से केमिकल इंजीनियरिंग की पढ़ाई कर रही हैं। नेहा के पिता जयंत मांगलिक रेलिगेयर सिक्वोरिटीज में प्रेसिडेंट

- 100 पर्सेंटाइल हासिल करने वालों में से दो स्टूडेंट आईआईटी कानपुर के हैं, दोनों के लिए यह उनकी पहली कोशिश थी
- नेहा 16 टॉपर्स में से इकलौती लड़की हैं, वह बिट्स पिलानी से केमिकल इंजीनियरिंग की पढ़ाई कर रही हैं
- पूरे प्रोसेस को आसान बनाने के लिए इस बार कैट का रिजल्ट पिछले साल के मुकाबले एक हफ्ते की देरी से आया है

हैं। नेहा शुरुआत से ही प्रतिभाशाली रही हैं, इस साल की शुरुआत में सीमैट में उनकी पांचवीं रैंक आई थी। कैट के लिए नेहा ने जमकर तैयारी की थी, उन्होंने टाइम की क्लासरूम कोचिंग के साथ मॉक टेस्ट दिए थे। नेहा ने कहा, 'मेरा मानना है कि लड़कियां पढ़ाई के मामले में लड़कों जितनी अच्छी होती हैं। 16 कैट टॉपर्स में आठ लड़कियां और आठ लड़के होने चाहिए थे।' कैट टॉपर्स में अनुराग रेड्डी पाडिगेपट्टि भी हैं।

आईआईटी-बॉम्बे में फाइनल ईयर के इस स्टूडेंट ने बचपन में ही अपने पिता को खो दिया था, जिसके बाद से वह अपना चाचा के साथ रहते हैं। उनकी मां तेलंगाना में इरिगेशन डिपार्टमेंट में काम करती हैं। आईआईटी-बॉम्बे के हर्षवीर जैन भी कैट 2014 के टॉपर्स में शामिल हैं। उन्होंने इस साल अप्रैल में ही ग्रेजुएशन किया है और फिलहाल रियल्टी पोर्टल हाउसिंग डॉटकॉम में काम कर रहे हैं। कोलकाता के सौम्यदीप चक्रवर्ती को भी 100 पर्सेंटाइल मिला है वह जाधवपुर यूनिवर्सिटी से इंजीनियरिंग की पढ़ाई कर रहे हैं।

More aspirants stand a chance of an IIM call

There are six new IIMs, more seats, fewer test-takers

CHETNA MEHRA

New Delhi, December 29

If you have appeared for CAT 2014, it is perhaps your best shot at getting into the IIMs so far. Each aspirant stands a 2.5 per cent chance of getting into an IIM this year. That is, of every 100 aspirants, 2.5 will get admission into the country's top business schools.

The number of seats across the 13 IIMs has increased considerably from 3,335 to more than 4,000 this year with CAT 2014 opening admissions to

the six newer IIMs. The number of test takers also fell to 1.68 lakh this year from 1.71 lakh last year.

With declining aspirants and increasing seats at the IIMs, the odds of one getting an IIM seat have improved (see table).

However, Sai Kumar Swamy, Director, CAT, of test-prep institute TIME, doesn't expect more than a 10-12 per cent jump in the number of seats.

Number of seats

"The IIMs may increase 300-400 seats this year with six new IIMs coming up next year," says Swamy.

"This definitely increases the chances of one getting an

More aspirants may get an IIM call

Admission Year	Total number of CAT applicants	Total Test Takers	Total number of seats	Chances of admission (in %)	
				based on test-takers	based on registrations
2010-12	2,41,000	1,86,000	2,650	1.40	1.10
2011-13	2,04,000	1,85,000	2,750	1.50	1.30
2012-14	2,05,000	1,92,000	2,946	1.50	1.40
2013-15	2,14,000	1,74,000	3,220	1.90	1.50
2014-16	1,95,000	1,71,000	3,335	2.00	1.70
2015-17	1,96,951	1,68,000	approx 4,100	2.50	2.00

IIM call but I doubt it will be very significant."

The IIMs may send out around 12,000 GD/PI (group discussion, personal interview) calls, according to Swami, of which around 4,000 final calls will be made. "The ratio for GD/PI selection might be 3:1 this year," he

says. Increased seats and fewer aspirants taking the test is a good sign for students but not for management education as a trend, says Keyoor Purani, Dean, Development, IIM Kozhikode.

"A decline in test takers once in a while may ease competition a bit amongst

aspirants but if it turns out to be a trend, it becomes essential to look at the underlying reasons for declining interest among aspirants."

The number of test takers may have decreased but CAT still remains one of the most competitive tests which eliminates 98 per cent of aspirants to consider a handful for the final selection process.

"A marginal shift in numbers will not affect the quality of students in IIMs but other business schools, who also take CAT scores, will have to make sure they get better students," says Purani.

About six years back, only one out of 100 aspirants

stood a chance of securing a seat out of 2,650 IIM seats. In 2011, CAT registrations fell from 2.41 lakh to 2.04 lakh, improving the odds for every 1.4 students. CAT 2012 didn't see much change with 2.05 lakh registrations and 2,946 IIM seats up for grabs.

Declining registrations

More than 1.5 per cent aspirants stood the chance on the other hand.

CAT 2013 witnessed a considerable decline in the registrations and number of seats at the coveted institutes increased to 3,220. The change in trend allowed about 1.7 per cent of the aspirants to become part of the IIMs.

Some genetic mutations could help save lives

Experts Working To Identify 'Protective DNAs' And Develop Drugs To Mimic Their Properties

Gina Kolata

© Tetra Images/Corbis

Doug Whitney should have died years ago. The 65-year-old resident of Port Orchard, Washington, has a devastating gene mutation that causes early onset of Alzheimer's disease. The mutation killed Whitney's mother and nine of her 13 siblings, and it killed his older brother. Every one of them began showing symptoms in their 40s. Most died by their mid-50s. In the next generation, six cousins died of early onset Alzheimer's, and two others are in the final stages of the disease. One of his cousin's children also has Alzheimer's.

But Doug Whitney has somehow escaped that fate. His memory is intact, and he has no signs of Alzheimer's disease. Researchers want to find out why. They



GAME-CHANGER

suspect he has another gene mutation that somehow protects him from the horrific Alzheimer's gene mutation, or that at least substantially delays the disease's onset. So Whitney has become Exhibit A in a new direction in genetics research. After years of looking for mutations that cause diseases, investigators are now searching for those that prevent them. By understanding how protective mutations work, they hope to develop drugs that mimic them and protect everyone.

The new approach is turning genetics research on its head, said Eric E Schadt, director of Icahn Institute, a research institute at Mount Sinai in NY. "Instead of trying to fix things that are broken let's look at people where things are broken but nature finds way around it," he explained. Researchers are now

searching for mutations that provide complete protection. With fast and inexpensive methods of sequencing DNA and with massive and ever-growing databases of study subjects whose genomes have been sequenced, that it has become possible to seriously contemplate a search for rarer good genes. The unprecedented effort has barely begun.

One attempt is being led by Dr Schadt and Dr Stephen H Friend, director of Sage Bionetworks, a research organization in Seattle. Dr Friend had worked in academia then founded a biotechnology company, Rosetta Inpharmatics, and later helped run the cancer drug discovery effort at Merck. He began each new position feeling optimistic. More and more was being discovered about disease-causing genes. "I thought we should be able to

develop drugs," he said. But all too often disease-causing mutations destroy genes, and drugs would have to restore what was lost, which can be difficult.

So Dr Friend and Dr Schadt decided to flip it around and search for a good gene mutation that counteracts the bad and mimic that with a drug. They gave their plan a name, The Resilience Project, and decided to search databases that held genetic and clinical information, looking for healthy people with mutations for fatal diseases that strike early in life. If the people had lived far past the age when the disease should have appeared, they assumed they might have a lucky good gene mutation. Now, a year later, "we are in this interesting place between excited and frustrated," Dr Friend says. NYT NEWS SERVICE

Giving electric scooters a positive charge

Chennai-based Ather Energy wants to make cost-effective e-bikes for the Indian market

AMRIT RAMAKRISHNAN

Housed at IIT Madras Research Park, Ather Energy wants to change the negative image associated with the current crop of battery-operated scooters.

Founded by IIT-M alumni Tarun Mehta and Swapnil Jain, the venture was started in October 2013. They had been toying with the concept of manufacturing an electric vehicle even earlier. "After we graduated in 2012, Swapnil and I were interested in a start-up venture. We explored the electric vehicle market in India and, after six months of research, discovered there is a tremendous opportunity for battery-operated scooters, if we build it right," says Tarun. A survey showed there was a consensus that battery life and charging time were the main deterrents to people buying such vehicles.

Premium offering

"We spoke to a wide range of people, including dealers who had shut shop and a few e-bike owners. They said the vehicles fall way short of expectations on performance, reliability, range of battery and charging time. Our vision is a scooter that does not compromise on any of these parameters," Tarun adds.

Expected to cost in the vicinity of a Vespa (around ₹70,000), the scooter clearly falls in the premium segment. "People who buy e-scooters aren't necessarily look-

ing at a low-cost alternative to the petrol scooter. They are looking for a green alternative, something that would make them stand out in a crowd," he says.

Fund-raising

Ather Energy raised one round of capital in February from V Srinivasan, Founder, Aerospire, and the Technology Development Board.

The big break came in end-November, when Flipkart founders Sachin Bansal and Binny Bansal invested around \$1 million in the start-up. The funding round also included investment from Raju Venkatraman, serial entrepreneur and CEO of Medall.

Sachin Bansal and Binny Bansal said: "We believe that the world is moving towards a smarter, more energy-efficient and environment-friendly approach. Indian start-ups like Ather are using technology successfully to make a mark in this field." It wasn't all smooth sailing for Ather. "We had people who would not even look at our product or even discuss the technology. They questioned us whether we got our balance sheet and cash flow projections worked out, which was irrelevant as we still haven't gone into production," says Tarun. Tarun says the Bansals were really helpful during the funding process. "At our first meeting with them in August, we explained the com-



Eco-friendly drive Tarun Mehta (second from left), co-founder, Ather Energy, at his work place BIJOY GHOSH

pany's vision and they were completely aligned with it. So we kept them in the loop about our developments."

Ather's co-founders met the Bansals again in October for help with structuring the entire funding process as they have experience in this field. "That's when we asked if they would be interested in investing and they were very excited and replied in the affirmative. We decided to close the round with them and Raju Venkatraman, and to have them on board as advisers," Mehta says. The Ather Energy team will relocate to Bengaluru in mid-January. The company has come a long way in a short time. The

founders owe their journey largely to R Krishna Kumar, Professor, Department of Engineering Design at IIT-M, their mentor throughout the project.

"He was our first adviser and mentor and supported us in all ways in our seed stage. His support opened up all sorts of possibilities for us," Tarun says.

Talent assembly

In an e-mail statement, Krishna Kumar says: "India lacks the skill for product development and we do not have a product recognised internationally. Today, the easiest way to build a product is to get sub-assemblies from China and assemble them here. This

is an especially easy route for an electric scooter. Instead of assembling the product, Tarun and Swapnil assembled a talented young team. The result is a very different product from what is available in the market. Their drives are unique, battery management system is home-grown, and the controls are novel."

The government's 'Make in India' initiative is slowly seeing results; more than 50 per cent of Tarun's classmates have begun start-ups, many of them pure engineering plays. "'Make in India' does not mean 'assembled in India'. More importantly, it should be 'Designed and Manufactured in India'. We should also get FDI

"People who buy e-scooters aren't necessarily looking at a low-cost alternative to the petrol scooter. They are looking for a green alternative, something that would make them stand out in a crowd."

TARUN MEHTA,
Co-founder, Ather Energy

for Indian products. This will encourage talented youngsters into venturing into niche product markets, as shown by Tarun and Swapnil," Krishna Kumar adds.

Inspiration

On the organisational front, Tarun says they were inspired by Tesla for showing people that electric vehicles can be mainstream. "We also look up to the US-based Mission Motorcycles purely because of the high quality technologies they incorporate into their bikes. More than anything, we are a product-based company, so companies such as Apple and Germany-based Braun really inspire us by their sheer innovation," he says.

"We plan to launch the e-bike in 2016. In five years, we would like to see ourselves as the biggest manufacturer of electric scooters in the country.

"And in 10 years, a situation should prevail where electric scooters become the first choice for customers and petrol scooters aren't logical any more; and we should be instrumental in such a change," he says.

TURN YOUR SKIN INTO SMARTPHONE DISPLAY

LIKE AN IPAD

Cicret bracelet to project your phone's screen on the wrist

Agencies

A wearable device that projects the image of a Android tablet on your skin will be a reality soon. Once worn on your wrist, a small light beam on the device, known as the Cicret Bracelet, would project your Android homepage right on your forearm.

Basically, your arm essentially becomes a fully interactive display — swipeable, touch-sensitive and full-colour — that allows you to make or receive phone calls and read and send emails, the Entrepreneur reported.

The promo video explains that the device uses an embedded system that includes a microprocessor, a memory card, a micro USB port, a small battery, a Bluetooth chip, a wi-fi chip as well as a LED light.

Inside there would be a Pico projector to display the smartphone screen to which the Cicret is synced. There would also be a

FUTURE IS NOW

- Using a projector, the Cicret bracelet could project a screen onto the forearm
- An array of **eight sensors** will allow a wearer to manipulate the 'screen'
- Bracelet could be used to **watch films, write emails and make phone calls**
- Prototype's due to be unveiled and bracelet could hit **shop shelves in June**
- It's likely to **cost £300**, come in two sizes and a choice of 10 colours

processor, a memory card, a micro USB port, a small battery, a Bluetooth chip, a WiFi chip and even an LED light.

All these devices and any Bluetooth connected device would work together to replicate the Android experience one would normally get on a tablet or smartphone. Only this time that experience would be replicated on the wrist or wherever the bracelet is attached.

The memory card comes in either 16 GB or 32 GB format and with 10 different colours. A beta version of the free app is available on Google Play.

The Cicret development team is currently seeking to raise \$1 million to get its project off the ground. As a result, there is no established release date for Cicret. However, a working prototype and public unveiling is in the works.



We are in a mess, I can't spell it out: Manohar Parrikar

Tuesday, 30 December 2014 - 7:30am IST | Place: Mumbai | Agency: dna

<http://www.dnaindia.com/mumbai/report-we-re-in-a-mess-i-can-t-spell-it-out-manohar-parrikar-2047967>

The [defence](#) sector is set to do [business](#) in a way that is subtle and pronounced. Giving a spin to the Make-in-India pitch of the Narendra Modi government, defence minister [Manohar Parrikar](#) has made a strong case for getting Indian institutes like IITs on board.

This, he said, will reduce the country's dependence on imports and will do away with the system of blacklisting firms.

The policy of blacklisting companies had been used to "create a situation of single tender." That is, rivals were blacklisted to suit certain companies and this had left the ministry with hardly any option in many areas, Parrikar said.

In a free-wheeling interaction with the faculty and alumni at [IIT Bombay](#) campus, where he was felicitated as a distinguished alumnus, on Sunday, Parrikar said, "We are in a mess that I can't spell out".

Parrikar said he was keen to strengthen defence research base through tie-ups with institutes like IITs for two key: to reduce costs and dependence on imports and to ensure self-reliability in case of emergencies.

"None of the systems – be it American, Russian or Israeli – are free from trouble at all times. Our import bill in defence last year was \$6 billion. Most countries do not rely so much on imports," he said.

While pointing out that there was no concrete decision on any of these ideas, he said policies giving shape to his ideas would be in place soon.

"By May-June next year, there will be a lot of synergy; the direction will be clear." A platform for interaction with senior defence personnel, for seamless applicability of research projects, would be created even earlier than that, he said.

Indicating his dissatisfaction with DRDO, Parrikar said that while the defence research organisation gels well with the navy, it is not working as well in most other programmes. The involvement of IITs will "put defence acquisitions in a different orbit," he said.

Parrikar said he would work out an alternative way of penalising errant contractors and companies, so that it doesn't affect future purchases. Secondly, middlemen would be weeded out. "You won't find any kickbacks in my regime," he said.

Prof S P Sukhatme, former chairman of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, said the two primary areas of cooperation with academic institutes like IITs would be the [Light Combat Aircraft](#) (LCA) and the Main Battle Tank (MBT).

The Arjun MBT was a good idea, but its execution and management were not that good, he said. Tejas, an LCA, was finally into production after decades. Cold weather protection rooms, night vision and bullet-proof equipment are some of the other areas for collaboration.

Modi's 'Make-in-India' mission, in one shot, sought to create employment, technology enhancement, and strengthening the country's capabilities on all fronts, Parrikar said.