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Harvard Joins Hands with IIT-D, Tatas to Help Startups

Project plans to mentor 25 social entrepreneurship startups

Saumya Bhattacharya & Varuni Khosla

New Delhi: Harvard University's South Asia Institute has joined hands with the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, and Tata Trusts in a first initiative of its kind to mentor 25 social entrepreneurship startups in science and technology. The project, led by the institute director Tarun Khanna, aims to create jobs by helping these startups with mentoring, workshops and providing grants to select ventures.

The institute, a research and idea generation centre at Harvard University, requested and received a grant from Tata Trusts to experiment with ways to translate knowledge that was generated in the university setting into livelihood creation.

"India needs 100 million net new jobs in the next decade to absorb the demographic dividend," said Khanna. "I don't know of any system in the world that has generated that many jobs in a short period of time without a significant dose of new enterprise creation and entrepreneurship," said Khanna, who chaired the Government of India Niti Aayog Commission on Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

Emphasising the relevance of this collaboration, R Venkataramanan, executive trustee at Tata Trusts said: "Under this collaboration with Harvard University's South Asia Institute, we will develop entrepreneurship opportunities that will help provide sustainable prosperity to the local communities. This approach combined with Tata Trusts' philanthropic vision will help narrow down the existing gap between the demand and supply of skilled labour."

The grant from Tata Trusts is for 18 months. "The challenge and plan is to demonstrate using research and knowledge assets to work with these social enterprises to point them in the right direction and create a system of peer support. This will be done through workshops, on an ongoing basis," said Khanna.

One of the glaring issues is that it is a very lonely job being an entrepreneur, said Khanna. The idea then, he said, is to use knowledge assets to bring people together, get a peer group in place without overstating the importance of the facilitator.

It's a learning experience for IIT Delhi as well. "There is an explosion in learning, including social entrepreneurship. We can take some of these experiences to our workshops. Many of these people were students about a year ago. These are young startups and not all are IITians. They are people from Delhi, Kanpur, Utkal University, small colleges in Punjab," said IIT professor Professor Ambuj Sagar, who along with Professor PVM Rao is part of this project.

The project aims to mentor and guide people after the duration of the grant, "One of the tasks that we have is to think of ways to continue with this programme, with our partners, the Trusts, IIT-D and other institutions, including the government machinery. The more people talk about it, the better," said Khanna.

Shashank Shah, project director at the South Asia Institute said: "There will be hand-holding for all the grantees from now till September across tracks in terms of Harvard, partner institutions such as IIT-D and others."

The project also plans to run a small competition among selected entrepreneurs and give them small grants. An amount of ₹50 lakh has been set aside for grant across three tracks.

PM to meet ministers today: new IITs, IIMs on agenda

RAGHVENDRA RAO

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16

PROGRESS MADE on setting up three new All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), six Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and six Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) is likely to figure prominently when Prime Minister Narendra Modi holds a review meeting with his Council of Ministers on Wednesday.

This will be the second review meeting of its kind — the first was held on January 27, at which schemes related to agriculture, rural development, consumer affairs, food and public distribution, chemicals and fertilisers, and water resources were discussed.

On Wednesday, the PM is also likely to review several issues related to the ministries of Women

and Child Development, Social Justice and Empowerment, Health and Family Welfare, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, and Labour and Employment, government sources told *The Indian Express*. As many as 26 topics have been shortlisted for the meeting.

Through a Cabinet decision in October last year, the government had cleared the setting up of three new AIIMS at Mangalagiri near Guntur in Andhra Pradesh, Nagpur in Maharashtra and Kalyani in West Bengal under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana. Union Health Minister J P Nadda will apprise the PM about the progress made on these projects. He will also dwell on the progress made under the National Health Mission.

HRD Minister Smriti Irani is set to report on the progress

made on setting up six new IITs in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jammu, Kerala and Karnataka. Irani will also apprise the PM about the progress made on establishing six new IIMs in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Punjab.

Operationalisation of the budget announcement on Atal Pension Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, the setting up of a credit guarantee fund for Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana, and the progress made in the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana will also be up for review, sources said.

Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi is slated to talk about the recent amendments to the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Bill, 2014.

विवादित बोल वाले नेताओं से किनारा करेगा आईआईटी

रुड़की (ब्यूरो)। भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) रुड़की ने भविष्य में विवादित बयान देने वाले नेताओं से किनारा करने का निर्णय लिया है। पिछले शनिवार को कांग्रेस के वरिष्ठ नेता मणिशंकर अय्यर के व्याख्यान के बाद उपजे हालात के बाद यह फैसला किया गया। गौरतलब है कि आईआईटी में आयोजित 'संकल्प कार्यक्रम' में आए मणिशंकर अय्यर ने अफजल गुरु की फांसी को लेकर पूछे गए सवाल के जवाब में कहा कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट का फैसला स्वीकारना हर किसी की मजबूरी नहीं है, कई निर्णयों पर कुछ लोगों की असहमति भी हो सकती है। इसके बाद छात्र उत्तेजित हो गए थे। इस दौरान छात्रों ने मोदी जिंदाबाद के नारे भी लगाए। बामुश्किल आईआईटी के स्टाफ ने छात्रों को शांत कराया। आईआईटी के डीन ऑफ स्टूडेंट वेलफेयर डॉ. डीके नौडियाल ने बताया कि जब भी कैम्पस में किसी राजनीतिक हस्ती को बुलाया जाता है तो उनसे अनुरोध किया जाता है कोई विवादास्पद

अब डेढ़ साल में मिल जाएगा पेटेंट

बीएस संवाददाता
मुंबई, 16 फरवरी

पेटेंट मिलना होगा आसान

पेटेंट के लिए आवेदन दाखिल करना और मंजूरी हासिल करना अब पहले के मुकाबले काफी आसान हो जाएगा और इस प्रक्रिया में लगने वाला वक्त भी कम हो जाएगा क्योंकि अब से ये मंजूरियां 18 महीनों में मिल जाएगी। मेक इन इंडिया सप्ताह में हिस्सा ले रहे औद्योगिक नीति एवं संवर्धन विभाग (डीआईपीपी) के सचिव अमिताभ कांत ने बताया कि इस नीति को एक साल के भीतर लागू कर दिया जाएगा। कांत ने कहा, 'हम इसका कुछ काम भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों की मदद से भी करेंगे। इसके अलावा हम नए पेटेंट आवेदनों की जांच करने और उन्हें जल्दी से जल्दी मंजूरी देने के लिए कुछ अधिकारियों की भर्ती कर रहे हैं।'

डीआईपीपी, भारत सरकार द्वारा महाराष्ट्र सरकार और भारतीय उद्योग परिसंघ (सीआईआई) के सहयोग से आयोजित किए गए कार्यक्रम में इंजीनियरिंग संस्थानों के अकादमिक प्रमुखों ने भी कहा कि उद्योग और संस्थानों के बीच आपसी सहयोग जरूरी है।

आईआईटी बंबई के निदेशक देवांग खोखर ने कहा कि नवोन्मेष और शोध के लिए कई नए अवसर हैं और उन्होंने इसके लिए कई गठजोड़ किए हैं। उन्होंने कहा, 'अब सारा ध्यान विनिर्माण की



- एक साल के भीतर लागू कर दी जाएगी नई नीति
- नवोन्मेष को बढ़ावा देने के लिहाज से उठाया जाएगा कदम
- प्रौद्योगिकी की मदद से सुनिश्चित की जाएगी सुगमता
- छात्रों को महज सैद्धांतिक ज्ञान देने के बजाय व्यावहारिक ज्ञान देने पर होना चाहिए जोर

ओर है। वृद्धि की संभावनाएं काफी अधिक हैं और इसे उद्योग-शिक्षा जगत के सहयोग से मदद मिल सकती है।' चर्चा में शामिल लोगों ने उद्योगों की जरूरत के मुताबिक इंजीनियरिंग के पाठ्यक्रम में बदलाव करने की जरूरत और इसे अधिक व्यावहारिक बनाने पर जोर दिया। कांत ने कहा कि अधिक से अधिक छात्रों को सिर्फ सैद्धांतिक ज्ञान के बजाय व्यावहारिक जानकारी हासिल करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया जाना चाहिए।

उन्होंने कहा, 'हमें यह सुनिश्चित करने की जरूरत है कि हम इंजीनियरिंग केंद्रों में उचित इन्क्यूबेशन केंद्र तैयार करें और उन्हें उद्योगों से जोड़ें।' कांत ने कहा कि यहां प्रौद्योगिकी की भूमिका काफी अहम

हो जाती है। कंपनियां पहले से ही इस प्रक्रिया में लगी हुई हैं और उन्होंने सभी शैक्षणिक संस्थानों के स्तर पर शिक्षा जगत से जुड़ना शुरू कर दिया है।

बोइंग इंडिया के अध्यक्ष प्रत्युष कुमार ने कहा कि वे छात्रों की दिलचस्पी विमानन क्षेत्र में बढ़ाने के लिए हाईस्कूल छात्रों के साथ काम कर रही है। इसके अलावा इस क्षेत्र में नवोन्मेष को बढ़ावा देने के लिए वे एरोमॉडलिंग प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन भी करते हैं। भारत में कॉलेज छात्रों के लिए बोइंग नैशनल एरोमॉडलिंग प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन बोइंग आईआईटी दिल्ली, आईआईटी कानपुर, आईआईटी खड़गपुर और आईआईटी मद्रास के सहयोग से करती है।

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Academicians from 400 int'l varsities extend support to JNU

OUR CORRESPONDENT



JNU students agitating for the release of Kanhaiya Kumar in New Delhi on Tuesday PTI

NEW DELHI: Over 400 academicians from international varsities, including Columbia, Yale, Harvard and Cambridge, have come out in support of JNU students agitating against a row over an event on the campus.

A joint statement signed by 455 academicians from global universities, said: "JNU stands for a vital imagination of the space of the university an imagination that embraces critical thinking, democratic dissent, student activism, and the plurality of political beliefs. It is this critical imagination that the current establishment seeks to destroy.

And we know that this is not a problem for India alone".

"Similar attacks on critical dissent and university

spaces are being attempted and resisted across the world. An open, tolerant, and democratic society is inextricably linked to critical thought and expression cultivated by universities in India and abroad.

"As teachers, students, and scholars across the world, we are watching with extreme concern the situation unfolding at JNU and refuse to remain silent as our colleagues (students, staff, and faculty) resist the illegal detention and autocratic suspension of students," said the academicians, some of which are JNU alumni.

JNU students' union president Kanhaiya Kumar was arrested last week in connection with a case of sedition and criminal conspiracy registered over holding of the event against hanging of Parliament attack convict Afzal Guru at the varsity during which anti-

India slogans were alleged to have been raised.

His arrest has triggered widespread outrage among students and teachers and drawn severe criticism from non-BJP political parties.

The university teachers have also rallied behind its protesting students and questioned the administration's decision to allow the police crackdown on the campus even as they appealed to the public not to "brand" the institution as "anti-national".

On Monday, violence broke out in the Patiala House court complex when groups of lawyers thrashed journalists and students and teachers of JNU while the political slugfest over the arrest of Kanhaiya snowballed with BJP chief Amit Shah targeting Rahul and Sonia Gandhi on the issue. WITH AGENCY INPUTS

IISc launches Kernel capturing the spirit of gen-next research

<http://english.mathrubhumi.com/news/india/iisc-launches-kernel-capturing-the-spirit-of-gen-next-research-english-news-1.869450>

Bengaluru: Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has propelled a series of new initiatives in the last one year to spread the essence of research, innovations and teaching to a wide section of audience globally.

In a brief interaction with Mathrubhumi, Prof Anurag Kumar, Director, IISc, cited the example of a well-crafted publication Kernel that was launched in September last year

“We have very strong tools of communication in place internally and the Science Media Centre has a vibrant system to spread our work. Kernel is a new initiative from IISc and it has already captured the imagination of many across the world,” says Prof Anurag.

Expert team visits proposed IISER sites

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/expert-team-visits-proposed-iiser-sites-116021600997_1.html

A three-member expert team of the central government today visited the proposed sites for the temporary and permanent campus of Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), here.

The team visited the government-run Industrial Training Institute (ITI) and Laudigaon, near Gopalpur and discussed with the authorities about the availability of the infrastructure facilities for the temporary campus.

While the government has identified around 200 acres at Laudigaon for permanent construction of the institute, [ITI](#) Berhampur has been selected for the temporary campus.

The IISER is scheduled to start function from this year with an intake capacity of 50 students, sources said.

The expert team had on January 8, 2016 and November 17 last year visited the place to inspect the sites selected for the establishment of the prestigious institute after the state government had declared to set up the proposed IISER campus at Berhampur.

Meanwhile, a new three-storied building was constructed by the government in the ITI campus to house the IISER, Berhampur here.

The construction for two more storeys was in the new building at a cost of Rs 4.70 crore.

Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley had announced establishment of IISERs in Odisha and Nagaland.

At present there are five IISERs under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. These are located in Bhopal, Mohali, Pune, Kolkata and Thiruvananthapuram.

More than just geeks, prove IIT-B's all girl band

<http://www.iamin.in/en/mumbai-north-east/news/more-just-geeks-prove-iit-b%E2%80%99s-all-girl-band-85456>

In the leafy campus of IIT-B, where inter-hostel festival Goonj is underway at the PC Saxena auditorium, The Ghost of Purple Habibi take to the stage. Their music is as spunky as the band's name.

Soon the audience is swaying along as the seven member all-girl band switch from Jailhouse rock by Elvis to Afghani song Bibi Sanam Jaanem by Zeb and Haniya.

Boys outnumber girls in this campus by a ratio of 7:3 and the number of girls that one can spot around the campus is a clear indication of that. So how is it being a girl at IIT-B? "You get a lot of attention!" is the unanimous answer. All the members of the band are undergraduate students, except for Tanvi Prakash, who is pursuing her PhD from the Aerospace Engineering Department.

Most of the members play more than one instrument along with taking their turns to sing when the band performs.

So how do they find time for music in their busy schedule? "It is not just music but there are a lot of events that happen across the campus. There are marathons too that are organised," band member Archana says.

It's an active campus life

"Because we live inside the campus and have no family commitments or responsibilities, we have more time to spend in pursuing various activities," Arjita added. And when the schedules clash, practice sessions are planned around their tests and other academic commitments.

So is there a flipside to being a girl at IIT-B? The students say while IIT is possibly one of the safest campuses to live and study in, there is sexism, something that the campus paper *Insight* too pointed out in [one of their recent articles](#).

"Our male classmates say things such as getting internships will be easier for us because we are girls," explains Archana, a perception that they strongly disagree with. They are also looking to break the stereotypes that the campus is full of geeks who do little apart from study.

When it comes to their music, the band members like it to be diverse. Anushree says, "We enjoy rock more but would like our music to be diverse. All of us are multi-talented and we play different musical instruments."

Most them have received formal training in music and have several years of performance experience behind them.

So what's next on the agenda?

The band next wants to bring street music to IIT-B and continue to perform together.