Newspaper Clips
February 4, 2016

IIT nod to surveillance system

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/noida/IIT-nod-to-surveillance-system/articleshow/50829949.cms

Noida: The multi-crore Integrated Security Surveillance System for Noida has received the green light from IIT-Delhi. Tenders for the project, which will help check crime and traffic rule violations in the city, will now be initiated for selection of an agency to put in place nearly 1,000 cameras including face readers and number plate readers. Work on the proposed project is expected to commence within two months and will be completed in a year.

The estimated budget cleared by the department of electronics, IIT-Delhi, has been set at Rs 114 crore. A request for proposal (RFP) for appointment of the agency has been approved by the department of computers. "We are likely to initiate the RFP this week for the project," said Salil Yadav, Noida's project engineer (E&M), handling the project.

"Once the tender process is complete, the project should be online by April this year and should be functional a year from then. The maintenance and operations for five years will be the responsibility of the selected agency besides the installation," he told TOI. tnn

According to officials, the Noida traffic cell has already worked out the modalities to implement the system on a pilot basis over a 25 sqkm area of the city. Once implemented, Noida will be the first township in Uttar Pradesh to have such a hi-tech surveillance system.

Besides keeping an eye on the city, the system will address traffic management issues, officials said, adding that about 800 CCTV cameras would be installed at strategic points across Noida. "We have identified 106 strategic locations across Noida," Yadav said. "Of these, 21 points are located at entry/exits and 85 locations are intra-city at main crossroads and roundabouts," he said.

According to officials, the surveillance cameras will be of three types: (i) fixed and pan tilt zoom (PTZ), (ii) automated number plate recognition (ANPR), and (iii) facial detection cameras. "As part of the system, we will install 20 public address systems and 25 LED display boards at several key crossings in the city. We will use the public address system to inform motorists about alternative traffic routes in case of gridlocks. The display boards will be used to inform motorists about road and weather conditions as well as accidents blocking roads," Yadav said.

Latest Comment

Good for Noida securityVandana Keelor

Yadav said the entire system would be monitored by a central command control centre located in Sector 94. "This four-floor control centre is under construction and is expected to be ready by mid-2016. Personnel posted here will monitor the CCTV surveillance system round-the-clock and also help in generating e-challans to violators caught via the cameras," he said. "The cameras will be able to hold recordings for up to 45 days and will be high-resolution to capture images in the day and night," he said.

The surveillance system will be augmented by five fully equipped Innovas and hand-held machines for cops to carry out spot challans. Motorists jumping traffic lights, changing lanes, encroaching across zebra crossings, not wearing seat belts or those involved in a hit-and-run will no longer be able to go scot free, officials said.

Safe travels: IIT-Bombay scientists develop satellite-based system to monitor fog

http://www.firstpost.com/living/safe-travels-iit-bombay-scientists-develop-satellite-based-system-to-monitor-fog-2609682.html?utm_source=FP_CAT_LATEST_NEWS

Bengaluru: Scientists at the Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay (IIT-B) have developed a satellite-based fog monitoring system with the ultimate goal of integrating the fog information to air, rail and vehicular transportation management to ensure safe travel.

"The Indo-Gangetic Plains covering northern India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh is subjected to dense haze/fog during winter months severely impacting on air, rail and vehicular traffic," Ritesh Gautam, assistant professor at the IIT's Centres for Resources Engineering and Climate Studies, told *IANS* in an email.

"We have developed this system for monitoring and dissemination of fog information to government agencies and also to the general public."

Formerly a research scientist at the Climate and Radiation Laboratory of Nasa's Goddard Space Flight Centre in the US, Gautam said the fog monitoring system was developed with the help of his students Reema Chourey, Dinesh Patil, Sarwar Rizvi and Manoj Singh.

According to Gautam, the system uses in-house developed software to automatically process data from the Nasa satellites (Terra and Aqua MODIS) and produces daily maps of fog and low cloud regions for the Indo-Gangetic Plains at a moderately high resolution.

He said his team was presently testing retrievals and processing of fog-related parameters from geostationary satellites, such as India's own INSAT satellites, "for near-real time continuous monitoring of fog, water vapor and aerosols over south Asia".

"This satellite monitoring system is quite complex but I am glad that we have developed the capability and are moving forward," Gautam said. "It can also be used to monitor dust storms, biomass burning events, cyclones and monsoon clouds."

In addition to datasets obtained from both polar orbiting and geostationary satellites, the IIT team is also working on integrating surface-based meteorological and pollution related measurements, he said.

According to Gautam, his team has also analyzed spatial and temporal variation and trends of fog occurrence frequency over the entire Indo-Gangetic Plains along with trends in pollution for the winter season (December-January).

"We have found a highly interesting trend where the long-term satellite data analysis suggests a statistically-significant increasing fog frequency trend over the eastern parts of the Gangetic Plains (parts of Bihar and West Bengal)," Gautam said.

"This is in sharp contrast over the western regions of the Gangetic Plains (such as Delhi), where a decreasing trend in fog frequency is found."

The upward trend in fogginess over eastern Indo-Gangetic Plains is found to be strongly coincident with upward trend in pollution, suggesting that increasing winter-time pollution over this region could be linked to increasing fogginess.

While the focus of media is mostly centered over Delhi, Gautam said the increasing fog over eastern Indo-Gangetic Plains was not usually reported.

However, long term analysis of satellite data by the IIT team has found that "most of northern India is subjected to severe and persistent fog and pollution haze events during the winter months".

IIT fee hike proposal for financial autonomy finds favour with India Inc

http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/education/iit-fee-hike-proposal-for-financial-autonomy-finds-favour-with-india-inc/articleshow/50831931.cms

MUMBAI: An Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) committee proposal for a three-fold fee increase, along with the creation of a 2,000-crore non-banking finance company (NBFC) to achieve greater financial autonomy for the schools, is finding favour with India Inc, startup founders and industry stalwarts.

They say that self-sufficiency is key to maintaining excellence and brand stature and fee hike are consequently the logical way forward.

Half-a-dozen IIT alumni across various industries that ET spoke to said they were keen on the proposal - despite the quantum of the hike - provided that there were enough scholarships and grants for economically-challenged students so that this didn't come in the way of pursuing a good education.

"For world-class education, you need funds. As long as it helps in improving quality, attracting better faculty and facilitating research, a fee hike is good," said Saugata Gupta, CEO of Marico and an IIT Kharagpur alumnus.

Saurabh Srivastava, former chairman of IT industry body Nasscom, and an alumnus of IIT Kanpur, said it was very important for higher institutes of learning to remain autonomous or else, they would not remain centres of excellence "It is deplorable that whenever any global rankings are made we are not there," said Srivastava, pointing out that Indian parents spend $10 billion to send students overseas to below-average institutes in Russia, Australia and elswhere.

"The best institutes in the world do not have low fees for the ones who can afford," he said. "American universities have different models to fund students who cannot afford such as full scholarship, par scholarship, assistantship, boarding and lodging waiver, etc. We could also look at such options but it is absolutely important to raise fees in keeping with the market reality and to have financial autonomy."

Rajendra S Pawar, chairman of NIIT, agreed."This will help bring intrinsic sustainability and financial independence among the IITs. The loan scheme will also help students fund their education. The first requirement before implementing this, however, is that merit-based liberal scholarships are a prerequisite - no bright child should be denied an opportunity because of the fee hike," Pawar said.

Srivasatava and Gupta agreed that subsidies and scholarships should be made available to those who can't afford higher fees.

"Education shouldn't be made inaccessible for the needy," said Gupta.

ET reported on Tuesday that a committee of IIT directors had drawn up a 'Road map to Financial Autonomy of IITs' in consultation with HRD and finance ministries that suggested, among other things, an over 200% fee hike and the creation of an NBFC. The proposals are being considered and could be among the budgetary announcements this year, the story said.

"In principle, I am fine with the quantum of increase recommended," said Arun Duggal, chairman, ICRA. "But the fee increase should be spread over the next couple of years and then should go up further indexed to inflation. To keep the IITs self-sufficient, increase in fees should be periodic."

JVs by students and faculty members on the rise at IIT-Madras

http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/small-biz/startups/jvs-by-students-and-faculty-members-on-the-rise-at-iit-madras/articleshow/50843546.cms

CHENNAI: When Tarun Mishra, an engineering student at IIT-Madras, graduated out of college, he wanted to convert his research project into a commercial product. The project, which focused on making a real time monitoring system for pipeline industry, needed support and quite a bit of money to be shaped into a business venture. Together with Krishnan Balasubramanian, dean of the IC&SR department and his guide, he approached Reliance Industries which expressed interest and gave them about Rs 65 lakh for the first phase. The project transformed into Detect Technologies, a registered company cofounded by Mishra and Balasubramanian.

JVs by students and faculty members are on the rise at IIT-Madras. Shedding the skin of mentors and guides, professors opt to become co-founders and stakeholders in companies started by graduates. "It's a wonderful fusion where energy meets experience," exclaims Mishra.

"I have been learning from professor's experience and he has been enabling me to channel my enthusiasm in the right direction."

IIT-Madras has so far incubated 7 startups that have been founded jointly by faculty and their students. Twenty eight of the 95 tech startups incubated at the Institute have faculty members as founders or minority shareholders.

"Many of them are spin-offs from research groups, but youngsters are taking the lead," said Tamaswati Ghosh, CEO of the IIT-M incubation cell. "Faculty also play a very important role as they bring in strong industry connections.Such startups would be very balanced and get a very strong start."

The institute has driven the change by forming policies that make room for faculty members who want to commercialise their research or want to be involved in student ventures. "Earlier there was ..

"Earlier there was this taboo that as an academic you were not supposed to look at anything commercial. That perspective has changed. IIT Madras has taken a lead in this aspect," Ghosh noted.

Educational institutions like IITs, though have been consistently generating new ideas and innovations through researches, have found it difficult to translate them in to products. Many feel that the joint ventures could be an answer.

"As an academic institution we don't really have the bandwidth to take a technology all the way to becoming a product..Hence we have been thinking that if we start ventures, partnering with our students, because they know technologies well, technologies have the best opportunity to find way to the market," noted Prof Prabhu Rajagopal, cofounder of Planys Technologies, which manufactures compact underwater vehicles for immersed inspection and survey.

He admits it could be a roller-coaster journey, worth making though. "As a technologist there's no greater joy than seeing your product out there in the market. As a teacher, there's no greater joy than seeing your students empowered to this extent that they become your boss."

Students too seem to be enthusiastic about the joint ventures as the involvement of faculty not only brings in strong industry connections and stability, but also reinforces trust in their venture. anuj Jhunjhunwala, CEO and cofounder of Planys, notes, "In our case, they (faculty members) already had connections with big companies in oil and gas sector as

they have done a lot of consultancy projects with companies like Shell. So getting customer feedback at that level wouldn't have been possible without them. They have confidence in the faculty and what they are doing, and that further backs our venture."

Economic Times ND 04/02/2016   P-06
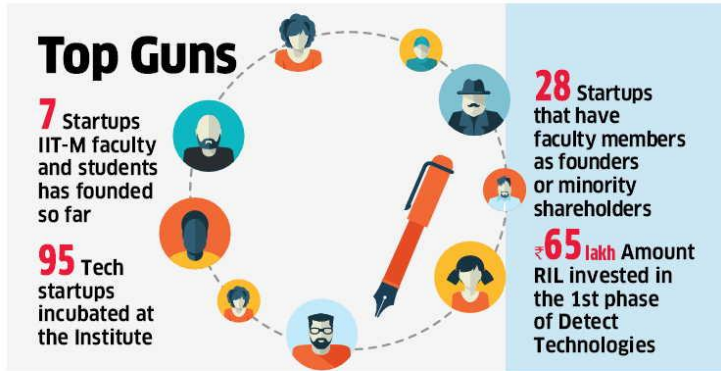
Gurus Cool Join Startup Shishyas

Joint ventures by students and the faculty members are on the rise at IIT-Madras

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Chennai: When Tarun Mishra, an engineering student at IIT-Madras, graduated out of college, he wanted to convert his research project into a commercial product. The project, which focused on making a real time monitoring system for pipeline industry, needed support and quite a bit of money to be shaped into a business venture. Together with Krishnan Balasubramanian, dean of the IC&SR department and his guide, he approached Reliance Industries which expressed interest and gave them about ₹65 lakh for the first phase. The project transformed into Detect Technologies, a registered company cofounded by Mishra and Balasubramanian.

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Top Guns

7 Startups IIT-M faculty and students has founded so far

95 Tech startups incubated at the Institute

28 Startups that have faculty members as founders or minority shareholders

₹**65** lakh Amount RIL invested in the 1st phase of Detect Technologies

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tions. Such startups would be very balanced and get a very strong start." The institute has driven the change by forming policies that make room for faculty members who want to commercialise their research or want to be involved in student ventures. "Earlier there was this taboo that as an academic you were not supposed to look at anything commercial. That perspective has changed. IIT-Madras has taken a lead in this aspect," Ghosh said.

Educational institutions like IITs have found it difficult to convert them in to products. Many feel that joint ventures could be an answer.

"As an academic institution we don't really have the bandwidth to take a technology all the way to becoming a product. Hence we have been thinking that if we start ventures, partnering with our students technologies have the best opportunity to find way to the market," said Prabhu Rajagopal, cofounder of Planys Technologies.

Economic Times Hindi ND 04.02.2016 P-08

मेडिकल और लॉ कोर्सेज के लिए भी होगा नेशनल एप्टिट्यूड टेस्ट!

IIT और NIT में NAT को प्रिलिमिनरी स्क्रीनिंग एग्जाम बनाने की योजना

प्राची वर्मा | नई दिल्ली

नेशनल एप्टिट्यूड टेस्ट (NAT) को इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी (IIT) और नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी (NIT) जैसे इंजीनियरिंग स्कूलों के लिए प्रिलिमिनरी स्क्रीनिंग एग्जाम के रूप में आजमाने की योजना बनाई जा रही है। इसके दायरे में मेडिकल और लॉ कोर्सेज को भी लिया जा सकता है। स्टूडेंट्स पर दबाव कम करने के लिए एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री इस सिस्टम पर जोर दे रही है।

मिनिस्ट्री में इस प्लान की जानकारी रखने वाले एक व्यक्ति ने बताया, 'यह टेस्टिंग बहुत हद तक नेशनल एप्टिट्यूड टेस्टिंग की तरह होगी, जो एकेडमिक्स के बजाय साइकोमेट्री, एप्टिट्यूड, लॉजिक और रीजनिंग को टेस्ट करेगी।' उन्होंने बताया, 'हम इस साल अक्टूबर-नवंबर से सबसे पहले इंजीनियरिंग स्टूडेंट्स के लिए इसे लेकर आएंगे।' उन्होंने बताया कि मिनिस्ट्री एनएटी स्कोर सब्जेक्ट को न्यूट्रल बनाने की कोशिश कर रही है ताकि एंट्रेंस एग्जाम कराने वाले

मेडिकल, फार्मास्युटिकल्स, लॉ और दूसरे हायर एजुकेशन इंस्टीट्यूट्स भी इसका इस्तेमाल कर सकें। इस कवायद के हिस्से के तौर पर सरकार एक एक्रिडेटेड टेस्टिंग बॉडी भी बना रही है। यह मौजूदा JEE मेन की जगह लेगा। 2017 का 12वीं का बैच सबसे पहले इस एग्जाम में शामिल होगा। एक प्रमुख आईआईटी के डायरेक्टर ने बताया, 'सरकार फिलहाल साइकोमेट्रिक टेस्टिंग समेत इन डोमेन में महारत रखने वाले एक्सपर्ट्स का आकलन कर रही है।'

इसके अलावा, सरकार 25 और 26 फरवरी को एक ग्लोबल वर्कशॉप आयोजित कर रही है, जिसमें साइकोमेट्रिक एक्सपर्ट्स शामिल होंगे। एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री के एक सीनियर ऑफिसर ने बताया, 'इस इवेंट से हमें अथॉरिटी बनाने के लिए बेस्ट साइकोमेट्रिक टैलेंट्स तक पहुंच बनाने के लिए शानदार मौका मिलेगा।' अगले 12 महीने में सरकार नेशनल एप्टिट्यूड टेस्ट (NAT) के कम से कम दो एग्जाम्स कराना चाहती है। स्टूडेंट्स के पास दो विषयों के बेहतर स्कोर चुनने का ऑप्शन

होगा। इस स्कोर के आधार पर आईआईटी, एनआईटी और दूसरे इंजीनियरिंग इंस्टीट्यूट्स के लिए टॉप 4 लाख स्टूडेंट्स को लिया जाएगा। इसके बाद, ये स्टूडेंट्स JEE एग्जाम में शामिल हो सकेंगे। एक प्रमुख आईआईटी के सीनियर फैकल्टी मेंबर ने बताया, 'हमारा आइडिया हायर स्टडीज के लिए किसी गवर्नमेंट एकेडमिक इंस्टीट्यूशंस में एडमिशन लेने की चाह रखने वाले स्टूडेंट्स के लिए चीजें आसान बनाना है।' इस कवायद के जरिए सरकार स्टूडेंट्स पर पड़ने वाले अकादमिक दबाव को कम करना चाहती है।

सरकार के इस प्लान की जानकारी रखने वाले एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री से जुड़े एक शख्स ने बताया, 'यह टेस्टिंग नेशनल एप्टिट्यूड टेस्टिंग की तरह होगी, जो स्टूडेंट्स को साइकोमेट्री, एप्टिट्यूड, लॉजिक, रीजनिंग के मोर्चे पर परखेगी।' इस नए टेस्टिंग सिस्टम को कारगर बनाने के लिए सरकार सीबीएसई की तरह एक इंडिपेंडेंट टेस्टिंग बॉडी बना रही है, जो यह टेस्ट आयोजित करेगी।

CAMPUS RECRUITMENT

Strong start to placements at IIMs, BFSI sector leads the way

By Prashant K. Nanda
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NEW DELHI

Placements at the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) have got off to a strong start with banking and financial companies recruiting more across campuses although the average pay package on offer is expected to be limited.

The trend is visible both at the established and new IIMs where administrators are hopeful of a better placement season, compared with last year.

Higher demand from the banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI) sector and consulting companies is helping counter slower recruitment by e-commerce companies.

While most IIMs are in the middle of the placement season with lateral recruitments of experienced students, two of the B-schools—IIM-Kozhikode and IIM-Rohtak—have already placed all their students. And those at Lucknow and Indore have already placed over 50% of their outgoing batches.

IIM-Bangalore and IIM-Calcutta said BFSI companies continue to hire in big numbers, followed by consulting firms.

Similarly, IIMs at Indore and Lucknow have been observing steady demand from these sectors as well as packaged consumer goods companies. IIM-Ahmedabad placements begin in the coming week.

Leading Indian banks like ICICI Bank Ltd, HDFC Bank Ltd, Axis Bank Ltd, IDFC Bank Ltd, Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd and Yes Bank Ltd have already recruited from some of the campuses and are due to visit the remainder in the next one week. International names like Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Nomura Holdings Inc. and Citibank NA, too, have been recruiting from the elite B-schools, according to placement coordinators at various IIMs.

"Despite the largest batch size (more than 600), we are seeing good traction this year as against previous placement season. BFSI and consulting firms are the key drivers of recruitment at our campus," said Subham Goel, a placement coordinator at IIM-Indore.

Goel said more than 450 students had already been placed over last few days.

"Other than BFSI and consulting firms, manufacturing companies too have made some good offers," said Sapna Aggarwal, placement officer at IIM-Bangalore.

At IIM-Bangalore, lateral placements or recruitment of students who have at least 22 months of work experience is still underway and willl continue for next four days.

Such recruits comprise more than 60% of the nearly 400-strong batch. The placement of students with 0-22 months of work experience will start in the coming week.

A placement coordinator at IIM-Calcutta said there was an "even distribution of companies" on its campus this year and the school was hoping to complete placements in coming week.

"Investment bankers are making good recruitment, especially those having good work experience. Some international banks that did not visit the campus last year are hiring this time," the coordinator said, declining to be named.

"The placement mood in our campus is upbeat," said Rajiv Kumar, the placement-in-charge at IIM-C.

Like financial firms, consulting companies like Accenture Plc., EY, PricewaterhouseCoopers India Pvt. Ltd (PwC), KPMG India and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India Pvt. Ltd are making double digit offers, meaning they are hiring more than 10 people each, at several of the IIMs.

At IIM-Kozhikode, consulting firms made a total of 99 offers of the total 370 offers made by 119 companies.

But e-commerce companies are hiring fewer students. IIM-Bangalore, IIM-Indore and IIM-Lucknow, like some their non-IIM peers, reasoned it was a sign of a consolidation in the sector, in which investment has slowed.

"Some new e-comemrce companies have come this time but e-commerce biggies are relatively subdued. The total job offers will be much lower than last year when they hired nearly 10% of the batch size," Goel of IIM-Indore said.

The trend was witnessed in January by some leading private B-Schools like the International Management Institute (IMI) and Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (both in Delhi); Management Development Institute, Gurgaon; and Birla Institute of Management Technology, Greater Noida.

And what about average salary hike? "It's a mixed bag" said an IIM-Lucknow coordinator. "Don't expect the average salary to double or so. While some are giving good hikes, a few other companies have cut down (their budget)," said Aggarwal of IIM-Bangalore.

IIM-Indore said the average salary this year would be in the vicinity of what it was the previous year. Last year, the average salary at IIM-Indore was ₹13.9 lakh per annum.

Goel of IIM-Indore said a larger batch size was perhaps one reason why the average salary will be limited.

An administrator at an older IIM said subdued hiring by e-commerce firms too will continue to hold back a jump in the average pay package. IIMs at Kozhikode and Rohtak have seen over a 12% hike in average salary.

Suchita Dutta, general secretary of the Indian Staffing Federation, a lobby group, said the overall job scenario was better and sectors like banking and insurance will continue to hire more people—both experienced ones and freshers.

She said the situation will improve further after the budgets session as companies will get a clearer picture of the central government's economic initiatives.

Hindustan Times
ND 04/02/2016   P-07

JAMIA PROF WHO SENT PLEA AGAINST QUOTA SUSPENDED

NEW DELHI: Jamia Millia Islamia has suspended a professor on account of 'misconduct', a few days after he sent a representation to President Pranab Mukherjee alleging irregularities in university's functioning.

Professor Obaid Siddiqui, who is with the Mass Communication Department, said he received his suspension order on Tuesday night. The order said disciplinary proceedings had been initiated against him.

"I have been suspended for 90 days and disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against me. I have also been restrained from travelling outside Delhi during the period without taking prior permission of the competent authority," Siddiqui said.

Jamia spokesperson Mukesh Ranjan said, "The professor has been suspended on account of allegations of misconduct as per provisions of the Jamia Act and in the best interest of the university. The circumstances under which the decision has been taken will be conveyed to the varsity's Executive Council."

The professor had sent a petition to the President, who is Visitor to the university, alleging financial and administrative irregularities in the functioning of the university. He had also objected to the introduction of 5% seats for wards of employees.

Jansatta ND 04/02/2016   P-06

दलित भेदभाव की जड़ें

■ उदित राज

जातीय भेदभाव और लिंग विभाजन राष्ट्रीय मुद्दे क्यों नहीं बनते? क्यों शोषित जातियां ही अपने भेदभाव के खिलाफ खड़ी हों, पूरा देश क्यों नहीं? क्या ये भेदभाव करने वाले दूसरे देश के हैं? लिंगभेद से कहीं बड़ा मुद्दा हमारे समाज में लिंग विभाजन का है, जिसे अभी तक पूरी मान्यता नहीं मिली है। अक्सर लिंगभेद पर चर्चा होती है, जबकि यह लिंग विभाजन का उत्पाद है। पुरुष बाहर का काम करें और औरतें घर का, ऐसी हमारे समाज की बनावट और सोच है। पुरुष बाहर की दुनिया से जूझते-जूझते मजबूत हो जाता है और आर्थिक ताकत भी उसी के हाथ होती है। यह अवसर महिलाओं को नहीं मिलता, इसलिए पुरुषों पर आश्रित रहना पड़ता है। घर का कर्ता भी पुरुष होता है।

जातीय भेदभाव और महिला उत्पीड़न की आवाज तभी तेज होती है जब कोई घटना घट जाए। रोहित वेमुला की आत्महत्या से देश में उबाल आ गया। जो विरोध कर रहे हैं, ज्यादातर दलित हैं और यह फिर से सिद्ध होता है कि वही अपनी लड़ाई लड़ें। अगर यह राष्ट्रीय मुद्दा बना होता तो क्या भारत हजारों वर्षों तक गुलाम रहा होता। लोग प्रायः अंग्रेजों को हमें गुलाम बनाने का दोष देते हैं, लेकिन क्या यह संभव होता अगर हमारे लोगों ने उनका साथ न दिया होता। अंग्रेज लाखों में नहीं, हजारों में थे, तो आखिर हुकूमत कैसे कर गए? जातीय विभाजन से राष्ट्रीयता का अभाव रहा, इसलिए लोग सुविधानुसार अपनी सेवाएं अर्पित करते थे। खासकर शोषित जातियों में अपने शासन-प्रशासन का भाव रहा ही न होगा, क्योंकि वे अपने तथाकथित सवर्ण समाज के मारे थे।

आश्चर्य है कि इसके बावजूद जो हिंदू समाज के संचालक थे, उन्होंने जातिविहीन समाज बनाने का आह्वान नहीं किया, जो अंततः किसी भी बाहरी हमले को नाकाम करता है और अब भी यह राष्ट्रीय मुद्दा नहीं बन पाया है। पढ़े-लिखे लोग कहते नहीं थकते कि जाति अतीत की बात हो गई, लेकिन जब शादी के लिए विज्ञापन देते हैं तो जाति के भीतर ही।

रोहित वेमुला की घटना के बाद हजारों भेदभाव के मामले उभरे हैं। यहां तक कि जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय में भी भेदभाव बड़े पैमाने पर दिखने लगा। दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय हो, आइआइटी या अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, भेदभाव आम है। अपवाद को छोड़ कर शायद ही कोई संस्थान ऐसा है, जो जातीय उत्पीड़न न करे। ऐसे उत्पीड़न होते हैं, जिसका संबंध दूर-दराज तक तथ्यों से भी नहीं होता। एम्स के नर्सिंग कॉलेज की शिक्षिका शशि मावर का उत्पीड़न किया गया कि उनके कारण बीएससी तृतीय वर्ष के छात्र ने आत्महत्या कर ली

थी, जबकि वे बीएससी चतुर्थ वर्ष और एमएससी के छात्रों को पढ़ाती थीं। मृतक छात्र से उनका कोई लेना-देना नहीं था, लेकिन प्रधानाचार्य ने छात्रों को शशि मावर के खिलाफ भड़काया और इसी को आधार बना कर उन्हें दंडित किया। शशि मावर का शैक्षणिक कार्य अच्छा था और उनका चयन सामान्य श्रेणी से हुआ था, यह ईर्ष्या का एक बड़ा कारण था। अधिकतर अनुसूचित जाति/जनजाति के शोधार्थियों ने उत्पीड़न की शिकायत की। महिला हों तो शारीरिक शोषण का प्रयास होता है।

आंबेडकर विश्वविद्यालय, दिल्ली सरकार की एक दलित शिक्षिका जब कक्षा में पढ़ाती हैं तो दीन आकर बैठ जाते हैं। ऐसे में विद्यार्थी उन्हें क्या सम्मान

देंगे। इस दलित शिक्षिका के पढ़ाने के प्रति भी गंभीरता नहीं होगी। अगर दलित शिक्षिका के पढ़ाने के तौर-तरीके ठीक नहीं थे, तो उन्हें अलग से समझाना चाहिए था या छात्रों के ज्ञान के मूल्यांकन के आधार पर आकलन किया जाना चाहिए था। ये भेदभाव करने वाले क्या ईसाई, यहूदी, पारसी, चीनी, अमेरिकी या मुसलिम हैं? राजनीति में इस अहम सवाल को कभी संबोधित नहीं किया गया।

जो आरोप मार्क्सवादियों पर लगता है कि उन्होंने विदेशी मॉडल को ज्यों का त्यों भारत के परिप्रेक्ष्य में लागू किया, लगभग वही हम सब पर लगना चाहिए। जनतंत्र को हमने स्वीकार तो किया, जिसका आविर्भाव और विकास यूरोपीय देशों में हुआ था, लेकिन राज्य के कल्याणकारी चरित्र के बाहर नहीं जा सके। यूरोप में सरकारों की जिम्मेदारी रोटी, कपड़ा, शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, मकान आदि की थी। जब हमने जनतंत्र को अपनाया तो इन समस्याओं के अतिरिक्त सामाजिक भेदभाव को भी ध्यान में रखना चाहिए था। हमने आंख मूंद कर नकल की। राजनीतिक दलों और नेताओं ने जाति तोड़ने की जिम्मेदारी नहीं ली और अंततः सरकार भी इस मामले में तटस्थ रही।

जिस समाज में जातिवाद नहीं था, वहां तो राज्य का चरित्र कल्याणकारी होना ही है, लेकिन हमारे समाज भिन्न है। जातीय भेदभाव खत्म करना, राज्य के कल्याणकारी चरित्र के केंद्र में होना और सरकार को लगातार इसे संबोधित करना चाहिए था।

रोहित वेमुला से भी दर्दनाक घटनाएं हुई हैं, पर जितना मीडिया में कवरेज इसको मिला किसी और घटना को नहीं। गुस्सा, दर्द और आक्रोश जो दबे हुए थे, वे इस घटना के माध्यम से प्रकट हुए। निर्भया की घटना ने दुनिया को झकझोर दिया, लेकिन ऐसा नहीं है कि वैसे जघन्य अपराध पहले न होते रहे हों। महिलाओं पर हो रहे भेदभाव, उत्पीड़न आदि पर जो गुस्सा और दर्द दबा हुआ था वह उस समय प्रकट

> रोहित वेमुला जैसी घटना से राष्ट्र को जितनी हानि होती है, उतनी शायद किसी से नहीं। इतनी बड़ी आबादी को दबा कर और अलग करके क्या किसी देश को विकसित और खुशहाल बनाया जा सकता है? दलित अपनी मुक्ति की लड़ाई खुद क्यों लड़ें, बल्कि राष्ट्रभक्ति का भाषण देने वालों को ज्यादा लड़ना चाहिए।

हो गया था। मीडिया की बड़ी भूमिका रोहित वेमुला की घटना को राष्ट्रव्यापी बनाने में रही। यह भी समय और परिस्थिति की ही देन थी कि मीडिया ने इतनी हवा इस घटना को दे दी। क्या इससे हम मानें कि मीडिया का रिश्ता दर्द का है। जितना मीडिया भेदभाव करती है, उतना कोई और कर ही नहीं सकता। किसी भी राष्ट्रीय अखबार में दलित के बारे में खबर तभी छपती है जब कोई घटना घटित हो जाए जैसे- हत्या, बलात्कार आदि। साल भर के अखबार उठा कर देखें, तो दलित द्वारा लिखा लेख पढ़ने को नहीं मिलेगा। रोहित वेमुला पर मैंने लिखना चाहा तो लगभग सभी अखबारों ने मना कर दिया। इतने भी हम गए-गुजरे नहीं हैं कि लिख नहीं सकते।

मीडिया सबसे ज्यादा जातिवादी है। यह तथ्यों के आधार पर कहा जा रहा है। तमाम अखबार और चैनल वार्षिक सम्मेलन करते हैं, जिसमें देश-विदेश से अतिथि और वक्ता बुलाए जाते हैं, लेकिन दलित को आमंत्रित नहीं किया जाता। दलित-आदिवासी की आबादी लगभग तीस करोड़ है। क्या पूरे देश से दो-चार भी नहीं होंगे, जो इनके वार्षिक सम्मेलन में विचार न रख सकें या मान लिया गया है कि इनके

पास विचार होते ही नहीं। भेदभाव की जड़ें इतनी गहरी हैं कि जिन क्षेत्रों में दलितों और पिछड़ों की पारंगतता यानी उपलब्धि खास न हो, उन्हीं पर चर्चा और पुरस्कार आयोजित होते हैं, ताकि इन्हें बाहर रखा जा सके। चूंकि भारतीय समाज पेशे पर आधारित रहा है, इसलिए दलित-पिछड़े उन्हीं क्षेत्रों में माहिर हो सकते हैं, जो सदियों से करते आ रहे हैं।

सोशल मीडिया पर टिप्पणियों की कई सालों से उस समय भरमार हो जाती है जब छब्बीस जनवरी को पद्मश्री, पद्म भूषण, पद्म विभूषण, घोषित होते हैं। दलितों-पिछड़ों को पुरस्कार नहीं मिलते, तो सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से ही उनका गुस्सा फूटता है। सारे इंजीनियरिंग आदि विषय दूसरे देशों में क्यों विकसित हुए? इसलिए कि जो हाथ चमड़ा, बर्तन, लोहा, कपड़ा आदि में सने, लेकिन उन्हें सम्मान दिया गया। ये हाथ फिर प्रेरित हुए, आगे और अच्छा करने का सोचा और धीरे-धीरे तमाम तकनीक और नई खोजें विकसित कर लीं। उन्हीं ने आगे विषय, संस्थान और डिग्री का रूप धारण किया। उदाहरण के लिए हमारे यहां जिन्होंने चमड़े के क्षेत्र में काम किया, उन्हें सम्मानित करने के बजाय अछूत का दर्जा दिया गया तो वे कैसे प्रोत्साहित होकर आगे तकनीक विकसित या शोध करते?

तथाकथित राष्ट्रभक्तों से कहना है कि रोहित वेमुला जैसी घटना से राष्ट्र को जितनी हानि होती है, उतनी शायद किसी से नहीं। इतनी बड़ी आबादी को दबा कर और अलग करके क्या किसी देश को विकसित और खुशहाल बनाया जा सकता है? दलित अपनी मुक्ति की लड़ाई खुद क्यों लड़ें, बल्कि राष्ट्रभक्ति का भाषण देने वालों को ज्यादा लड़ना चाहिए। दलित-पिछड़े हजारों वर्षों से अभाव की जिंदगी जीने के आदी हो गए हैं, तो आगे भी बर्दाश्त करने की क्षमता रखते हैं, लेकिन क्या हमारा देश दौड़ में उन देशों के साथ भाग सकता है, जो विकसित हो गए हैं या उस लक्ष्य को प्राप्त कर रहे हैं। यह गारंटी है कि इतनी बड़ी आबादी को काट कर देश को विकसित नहीं किया जा सकता।

अतीत से हमने कुछ नहीं सीखा है। सिकंदर ने 327 ईसा पूर्व में भारत पर हमला किया और आसानी से जीत हासिल कर ली। उसके बाद हमले-दर-हमले होते रहे और हम परास्त। यह नहीं कि हमारी बाजुओं में दम नहीं था या बुद्धि की कमी था। कारण यह था कि हम जातियों में बंटे थे। अंग्रेजों ने तो हमें दो भागों में बांटा, लेकिन हमने अपने आप को जाति के आधार पर हजारों टुकड़ों में बांट रखा है। जो राष्ट्रभक्त होने का दंभ भरते हैं, उन्हें दलितों से भी आगे आकर रोहित वेमुला जैसे मामले को उठाना चाहिए, लेकिन करते हैं दिखावा, क्योंकि लेना है वोट और प्राप्त करना है अपनी प्रसिद्धि, ज्ञान और धर्मादा क्षेत्र में प्रभुत्व।

(लेखक भाजपा के सांसद हैं)

IIT Gandhinagar starts 2016 with Winter Carnations

http://www.pagalguy.com/articles/iit-gandhinagar-starts-2016-with-winter-carnations-39610790

January with its origin deep rooted in the Greek mythology reminds us of the Greek God Janus, bestowed with the ability to look at the past and the future. Janus being the God of gates, bridges and doors, symbolises our ingrained habit of learning from the past, and the endemic hankering for deciding and knowing our future.

IIT Gandhinagar (IITGn) started 2016 with Winter Carnations, a creative way to bring different cultures together. It is a festival to celebrate an evening with delicious food, irresistible beats and tempting games. It doesn't get better than this. Winter Carnations is an ingenious way to celebrate a normal festive evening. No caterer or cook can do justice to the cultural diversity in food across the country. The authentic taste of tea, soups, *biryani*, sandwich, *dosa*, *pulav*, *sabu dana vada*, *pani puri*, local desserts like *bobbatlu* and many more could never be relished at commercially available food joints. The special secret ingredient of preparing our childhood favourite dish cannot be found at restaurants. That craving of food prepared with the added spices of love and interest cannot be satisfied at any college canteen or mess. This festival of food and entertainment was designed in a way where the members of IITGn family could enjoy the home food far away from their homes. Different cuisines were made available by different members of our college community. Students, staff and

faculties from different corners of the country invested their time and energy to prepare regional dishes to convert this event into a festival for our taste buds.

And here I am, contemplating. I am pondering what I will remember January 23, 2016 for. Will it remind me of the glamorous Indian Silver Screen theme of Winter Carnations at IITGn? Will it make me gloomy with some memoirs of the unsung birth anniversary of the forgotten hero? One side I am being pulled by my friends to dance to the beats at the festival and on the other I am being drowned by the fact that I have to remind people around me of the historical significance of the day. It was hard enough to believe that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose had a mystic crash and then we have to deal with his oblivious presence in the memories of today's youth. This internal struggle made me take a 30 kilometer trip on my bicycle around the serene roads of Gandhinagar, to introspect.

I came back to my college and joined my friends in the celebrations. What met my eyes was fabulous. IITGn, like other IITs, is a mini India in itself. A place where everything blends in. The name Winter Carnations, was inspired from the beautiful flowers Carnations that blossom in a wide range of colours, and convey emotions in its shades. It is wonderful to ponder upon the fact that a flower can convey so much with so little changes in the colours of its petals. With white symbolising pure love and good luck, lilac suggesting the selfless mother's love, red implying admiration, wine red resembling deep love and others. Carnations, also resemble happiness, prosperity and celebrations.

IITGn is proud of its diversity in cultures, languages, research fields and talents. The only unexplored part was the variability in the style of cooking. Everyone was dressed Bollywood style, we enjoyed the music and regional cuisines. From pretty actresses to superheroes, and famous villains, everyone was there. There was an uproar amongst the participants as the dance beats echoed around, and the band started. The evening was filled with small games, dancing, mesmerising food, and to blend everything, there was the company of friends. Who doesn't enjoys good food? It was a treat to have a platter of food at affordable prices inside the college. The vibrant evening filled with fun and enjoyment concluded around midnight.

By the time I reached my room, I was no more struggling. That long cycling trip gave me time to think. I thought of Janus and decided to try his abilities, to cherish the past and embrace the future. These events unite us. They make us know our diversity better. I know I love to celebrate with my friends but, I also know at heart, I can never let go of our beautiful cultural heritage or our valiant past. Those sacrifices should never be forgotten, not even in pleasure. Our celebrations would not have been possible without the selfless service of the dauntless sons of our nation. And in distress their selfless service should be the source of inspiration. When the comely scene of a mini India with its diversities presented itself in Winter Carnations, for me it was a feeling of oneness, of unity, of strength and of fulfilment of the dream of our freedom fighters who pined for a prosperous and united nation.

This article is part of PaGaLGuY's innovative internship certification programme for engineering students. Currently, two such programmes are on - one is an Internship in Creative Writing, and the other is a Certification in Digital Media. If you are interested in partaking and bagging a certificate, besides learning the nuances of effective writing, write to us at wordslingers@pagalguy.com.

Note: *This article about IIT Gandhinagar has **not** been written by the PaGaLGuY Editorial Team. Readers should research and verify the claims and judgements in the article before reaching a conclusion.*

IIT Ropar research scholars shine at IMTEX-2016

Hindustan Times (Chandigarh)

RUPNAGAR: A team of research scholars from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Ropar, has won first prize at International forming technology exhibition-2016 (IMTEX), an event for the Indian metal forming industry, organised by the Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association (IMTMA) in Bengaluru.

Over 475 exhibitors from 23 countries, including India, participated in the event, with over 500 live machine displays. Over 40 institutions, including IIT-Bombay (mechanical dept. and metallurgical dept.) and IITRopar participated .

IIT Bombay Students Are Taking Education Beyond The Classroom With A Wonderful Initiative

http://www.youthkiawaaz.com/2016/02/iit-bombay-abhyuday/

In a country of 1.2 billion, there would undoubtedly remain unsolved issues, and staggering limitations. But when those lurking problems pose a serious challenge to a nation's development, it really presents a grave danger. One such elephant in the room is a lack of education.

With about 39% students dropping out of schools before completing elementary education, the country faces a challenge of growing unskilled labour. The reasons are many. Poverty, poor academic performance, substandard teaching, migration and need for employment to support the family are major factors behind the higher dropout rate of the boys, say experts.

What if they get retained in the schools, and move on to complete their education? What if they resist the forces to quit studies, instead carry on to reach greater academic success?

All these "What ifs" motivated Abhyuday, the social body of IIT Bombay to reach out to the economically backward students, mainly centered around Mumbai, and assist them in their quest towards further education by leading a city-wide initiative, called 'Career Counselling Campaign (CCC)'.Abhyuday, the social body of IIT Bombay to reach out to the economically backward students, mainly centered around Mumbai, and assist them in their quest towards further education by leading a city-wide initiative, called 'Career Counselling Campaign (CCC)'.

A group of mentors, entirely pooled from the student community of IIT Bombay, visit these schools and takes sessions where the students are told more about the possibilities of continuing education, different career paths that they might take up after education, and the bright future prospects that they have with proper schooling.

The volunteers who mentor these kids have their own experiences to share. Says Surbhi Sahu, a 2nd year undergraduate at IIT Bombay, *"It feels great when you can contribute even a little in transforming the society. It has been an amazing experience and it taught me many things. I am glad that I have been given the opportunity to teach children."* When asked more why she feels this initiative is of prime importance, she replies, *"Education is the need of the hour. Every child has the right to education but everyone is not as lucky as us. Even a little step from each one of us can create a huge impact on the society and transform the life of many children."*

Launched in 2015, we are well on our course to cover the maximum possible schools in the city. Some of the areas where we have reached include Bhandup, Vikhroli and as far as Panvel.

Another such initiative by Abhyuday IIT Bombay to spread education and learning as far as possible, is called 'Lend Your Voice (LYV)'. The mission is to enable access to learning materials for visually impaired students.

The idea is to record audio-books, so that learning process will be made easy for the visually impaired students. This initiative started in 2014, and till now, we have recorded quite a few number of books. Recording books is not as easy as it may seem, and it is evident from the words of the IIT Bombay students who had volunteered for this cause.

Says Anirudh Reddy, *"We need to first study what the book is about so that we can read out our part properly and get our characters right. If we make a mistake we have to edit the recording, read conveying emotions through your voice etc. it was a daunting task in our first week. It took nearly 5 hours to totally complete a recording which was only one and half hour long."* Recalls Sai Teja, *"I thought the work was easy, which was not the case. Not even close to easy."*

So why did these young students join LYV?

Anirudh also explains, *"Have you ever wondered after going for a movie that if you didn't have eyes, would you have enjoyed the show? I always felt that I was gifted to have all my senses working. Especially my eyes. It gives me immense pleasure that I have been able to help someone."* We could not have agreed more with him.

Was it easy at the beginning? Obviously not. There are many problems with that. Inexperience is one such thing. But the greater goal kept these young students going. *"The most important treasure that we students have is knowledge. It's a treasure that increases if shared. Yes they (the visually impaired students) have special books, but there are not so many of such books and are not so cheap either,"* sums up Reddy.

So how does it feel to have recorded a book, after all the toil? Says Rohit Jenna, *"After hours of narrating and editing, I made my first audiobook by sitting in the mess after midnight."* Sai Teja has something more to add to it, *"The feeling after completing a good book, I felt that even people who are blind also should know how it feels to which I think I helped. Maybe my contribution was negligible but I contributed to it. I feel happy about it."*

Asked about what they are doing now, Rohit promptly said, *"Now I'm working on my third assignment which is a 50-page long assignment to record."*