

Newspaper Clips

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Hindustan Times, ND 10-Feb-11 P-4

J N U S C A N D A L

University suspends two accused students

HT Correspondent

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NEW DELHI: The two male students allegedly involved in the 'JNU sex movie scandal' were suspended by the university's administration on Wednesday.

Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) administration took the step even as the investigation is still on.

"We are yet to receive any such complaints from either the university or the girl," said HGS Dhaliwal, deputy commissioner of police (south).

The video, which was made not with a cell phone but with a handycam, has been doing

We have decided to suspend the students till the investigation is over.

HC BOHIDAR
JNU chief proctor

rounds of the campus for almost a year.

According to JNU sources, the boyfriend of the girl made a video while she visited him at one of the hostels in the campus.

"We have decided to suspend the students till the investigation is over. They will not be availing any of the benefits such as hostel accommodation and

will also be barred from attending classes," said JNU chief proctor HC Bohidar, who is the one-member committee probing the incident.

Bohidar on Tuesday had said that the students in question could face severe punishment if proven guilty.

According to university officials, the video was then circulated among the friends of the main accused in the case. They added that the girl was not aware that she was being filmed.

The accused, who made the video of his girlfriend, is a student in the School of Languages, while the student involved in recording the video is a MCA

student of the university. The accused belongs to the Tapti hostel.

The incident came to light when a department of the university submitted the clip, which was in circulation, to the Proctor's office.

The police said that the girl left soon after the accused boyfriend allegedly started blackmailing her with the video.

The girl left her studies in the middle and went back to her native place.

The police said that in their internal enquiry they have not been able to ascertain that if the accused sold the video to anyone or not.

Hindu ND 10.02.11 p-7

Panel to hear universities in danger of losing deemed status

Aarti Dhar

NEW DELHI: The Union Human Resource Development Ministry has set up a three-member committee to separately hear each of the 44 deemed-to-be-universities — found unfit to retain the deemed university status by a review committee constituted by the government — and prepare a reasoned and comprehensive report to be placed before the Supreme Court by April 25.

The committee comprises A.S. Thakur, Additional Secretary (Technical Education) as the Chairperson; Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary (Higher Education); and N.K. Sinha, Additional Secretary (Technology Enabled Learning) as its members.

It has been set up following the January 11 directive of the Supreme Court that the 44 educational institutions, set to lose the deemed university status, be heard.

The Ministry has issued notices to the universities and after receiving their response the committee shall forward the response to the review committee.

The comments of the review committee will then be communicated to the universities.

Each institution will be individually heard by the three-member committee, which will prepare a reasoned report and, thereafter prepare a

comprehensive report, which shall be submitted to the Supreme Court.

The review committee comprising P.N. Tandon, Mrinal Miri, Goverdhan Mehta and Anandkrishnan had reviewed the deemed-to-be-universities and divided them in three categories. As many as 44 such universities were found unfit to become deemed university on an aggregate assessment.

Mail Today ND 10/02/2011 P-9

IITs offer lectures & courses free for all on the Internet

**By Mail Today Bureau
In New Delhi**

INDIA'S premier technical institute, the IITs, will now make all its engineering courses and lectures available for downloads to students, even on their mobile phones.

The National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) is the country's largest technical knowledge dissemination programme.

HRD minister Kapil Sibal on Wednesday launched the national video server which will enable easy downloads of video lectures off the Internet.

Students can access the lectures of IITs, IISc and NITs from the NPTEL website www.nptel.iitm.ac.in and from YouTube www.youtube.com/ilt.

The 125 courses available include lectures both in web and in video format in electrical, mechanical, civil and computer science engineering.

Each course, during the first phase, will offer around 40 hours of lectures delivered by the country's best teachers from different IITs and the IISc.

125 courses in web and video format

"NPTEL is now the world's largest electronic repository of video courses and has also attained the status of being the world's most highly-viewed higher technical education portal accessed by users in India and other countries," Sibal said.

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Taint on Isro image unfair, say scientists

Prashanth G N | TNN

Bangalore: Has the brand value of Isro taken a hit in the wake of spectrum controversy, especially given its transparent history of 40 years? Many believe the alleged spectrum deal has come as a shock to an organization that has had an impeccable past.

“There may be ups and downs in an institution. But to stick muck to an institution that has a highly layered self-examination and review is unfair,” said a scientist.

“It takes time to re-establish an institution once its image is marred by allegations. It’s unfortunate that there’s so much talk about

Isro. Maybe, something could have been clarified a little early to avoid the controversy,” said a scientist.

Top space scientist and former Isro head U R Rao, who has seen the institution for decades, believes that the space agency earns its brand value through the quality of its technology and products. “I think the brand value of Isro has not been hit. Everything has been explained and the matter is clearer now.”

“I believe Isro should move on. It should concentrate on making a success of its GSLV rockets. The space agency’s stature will grow through the quality of its technology and the products it delivers,” Rao said.

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HRD panel to hear out 44 varsities deemed unfit

New Delhi: Human resource development (HRD) ministry has set up a committee to give a patient hearing to 44 deemed universities that were found unfit to be accorded varsity status. The ministry had sent notices to these institutions in January as per the Supreme Court order, pointing out their deficiencies.

The three-member committee will be headed by A S Thakur, additional secretary of HRD ministry. Two other additional secretaries of the ministry — Sunil Kumar and N K Sinha — are the other members of the panel. The committee will go through the response of each deemed university. Then, it will forward these responses to the review committee of experts that had found 44 deemed universities deficient in several criterion needed to be a university. **Akshaya Mukul | TNN**

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Being nice or nasty is linked to genes

London: Being nice or being nasty is in your genes — particularly if you're a woman, say researchers.

A new study of almost 1,000 pairs of identical and non-identical twins has found that genetic factors appeared to affect how likely one was to do charitable deeds or work hard in one's job, the *Biology Letters* journal reported.

However, the researchers at Edinburgh University in Scotland also said the environment in which people live still plays a part in how nice they are, meaning they cannot just blame their genes if they're feeling a bit nasty.

Twins make good research subjects because, in the case of identical twins, they have the same genetic make-up. Comparing them to non-identical twins, whose genes

vary, allows researchers to look at what impact genetics has in certain situations compared to other factors such as the environment in which they live. The twins were asked to rate on a scale of zero to ten how much obligation they felt in areas such as testifying in a court case, working longer than their normal hours and carrying out charity work.

"What we found is that identical twins were much more similar in their responses to these types of questions than were non-identical twins. These domains of prosocial obligations were quite highly associated with each other, suggesting that if you are nice in one area, you are likely to be nice in another area," *The Scotsman* quoted lead researcher Gary Lewis as saying. ❏

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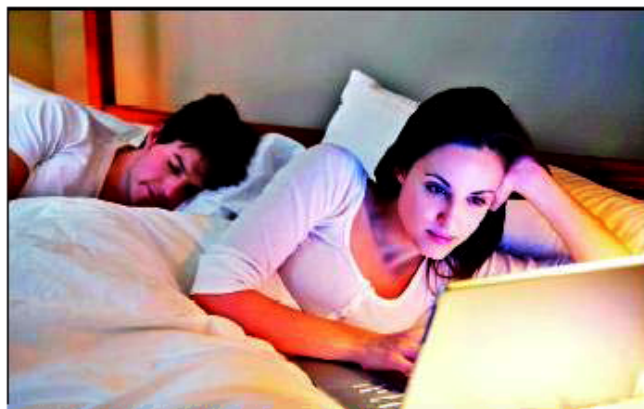
Late to bed & rising early ups heart risk

Those Who Get Less Than 6 Hrs Of Sleep A Day Face Serious Health Hazards

London: Are you among those who get up early but go to bed very late? Beware, your sleeping habit may be a "ticking time bomb" for your health and it could lead to heart attack and stroke, scientists claim.

Going to bed late but waking up early because of hectic work schedule has become a trend for many, but scientist said having such a habit means inviting serious health hazards. Researchers at the University of Warwick Medical School in the UK found those who could not afford to sleep for at least six hours a day are more likely to die from a heart attack or stroke.

"The trend for late nights and early mornings is actually a ticking time bomb for our health so you need to act now to reduce your risk



WAKE-UP CALL

of developing these life-threatening conditions," said Francesco Cappuccio who led the study.

"There is an expectation in today's society to fit more into our lives. But in doing so, we are sig-

nificantly increasing the risk of suffering a stroke or developing cardiovascular disease resulting in, for example, heart attacks," Cappuccio was quoted as saying by the *Daily Mail*.

For their study, Cappuccio and colleagues looked at the sleeping habits of 475,000 participants from 15 previous studies across eight countries. It was found that those who slept for less than six hours were 48% more likely to develop or die from heart disease and 15% more likely to develop or die from a stroke. According to them, not having enough sleep decreases the levels of leptin in our blood, which means we do not feel as satisfied after eating.

Experts recommend adults get at least six or seven hours' shut-eye a night to stay healthy. ❏

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Transform society with IT, says IBM chief

Sujit John | TNN

Bangalore: The disjunction between India's phenomenal success in software and the sorry state of the country's social parameters is becoming a recurring theme. A day after Kapil Sibal, the Union minister for communications and IT, raised the issue at the Nasscom India Leadership Forum at Mumbai, Sam Palmisano, the chairman & CEO of IBM, brought up the subject at an interaction at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore.

Reacting to a question from a member of the audience on what he thought of India's software industry, Palmisano said Indian IT firms

were "very, very good" at what they do, "but how about using that talent to transform education, healthcare, providing clean water, solve a lot of the society's problems." He said India had a tremendous amount of intellectual capital, and then, turning back to the questioner, he asked: "How much of it is prioritized according to society's requirements." When that provoked no answer from anybody in the hall that was packed to capacity and more, he said, "I rest my case."

Palmisano, 59, was in Bangalore to deliver the IISc Centenary Lecture. IISc started this lecture series two years ago when it celebrated its centenary year-



Indian IT firms are very good at what they do, says Palmisano

This year, the \$100-billion IBM, the world's second largest IT company, is marking its centenary.

Earlier in his interaction

and his lecture, Palmisano -- a history graduate who joined IBM in 1973 as a salesman and became CEO in 2002 -- said all of society's problems could be addressed and that the only limiting factor was human ingenuity. He particularly noted the power of information technology, which he said was "pervading every aspect of the way our world works. IT today isn't just a back-office engine or a never-ending flow of consumer gadgets. Technology is the way we now see the world -- including those dimensions invisible to the human eye. It's how we map and understand the dynamics of the world's complex systems. And it is increasingly how we

decide on the best course of action -- and put it into effect," he said.

He said forward-thinking leaders were mastering these new capabilities. New York police commissioner Ray Kelly, he said, is using data to fight crime, Stockholm transit head Gunnar Soderholm is deploying smarter traffic solutions for Sweden's capital, and Alameda County (California) social services director Don Edwards is applying analytics to improve services for citizens. "You miss this if you see technology merely as a succession of gadgets, websites and 'next big things'. It's much more. It's the way our world works," he said.

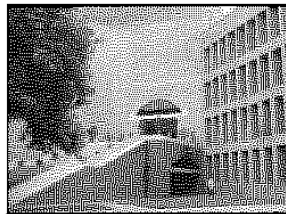
Queries from MBA aspirants keep IIMA students busy

MBA candidates shortlisted by the IIMs for the interview process have been posting a volley of 'unique' and 'interesting' questions on askthestudents.org, an online helpline started by IIMA students

TANUSHREE BHATIA

An online helpline by the students of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, is proving to be a huge hit with the site registering 15,000 views in less than three weeks. The aim of www.askthestudents.org is to guide MBA candidates shortlisted by the IIMs for the interview process.

The aspirants can enter their queries and take part in the online discussions. The students religiously log on to the site and answer the queries, some of them "quite unique and interesting". One student posted a query: "I have been doing farming for the last three years. I am apprehensive about the panelists asking me for an experience certificate."



Another interesting question, over which the candidate has been losing sleep, is: "Will mentioning business quizzing an interest be a disadvantage? Isn't it a risk because I will be grilled by the experts in the panel?" To this the students have replied he should mention it only if he has been pursuing it passionately.

Parampreet Singh Bhasin, General Secretary, Students Affairs council said, "We believe that the best part of this student run initiative is the fact that the entire batch is involved in answering queries. This is particularly useful as compared to the traditional mentorship programmes of other institutes."

While the mentorship programme for the Post Graduate Programme in Management is co-ordinated by Parampreet Singh Bhasin, Pratik Mukherjee, Rahul Madhavan, Rohit Gupta, Raghul Manoharan and Nishanth Parlapalli, the same for PGP-Agri Business Management would be done by Abhinav Bhalla.

THE QUERIES

Q: Just wanted to know whether I stand a chance of converting my IIMA call because I feel that the faculty might not be interested in taking a student like me who is already pursuing MBA.

A: There is absolutely nothing to worry because one of my batchmates has left MDI Gurgaon last year to join IIMA. Just be honest with your answer. I don't think IIMA would want to lose good candidates for such reasons. All the best!

Q: Will mentioning business quizzing an interest be a disadvantage? I ask because I've not been very much in touch with it for the past year or so. Saying something in which the panelists are good at is deemed a risk if you aren't ready to be grilled from head to toe.

A: No one can be expected to know it all even in his/her field of interest. However, drawing a blank when probed after having stated a hobby is not a situation you would like to find yourself in. Hence, if you have pursued it with passion in the past then you should put it.

Q: I did my engineering and worked for Infosys for seven months for which I have a relieving letter. Since then I have been engaged in farming for 2.5 years. For the past 1 year I am into contract farming for which I have the contract given by the company. What can I show as the proof of my work experience.

A: For that one year in which you have been selling agriculture produce, try if you can get a certificate from mandal/district authorities stating you were doing farming during that one year. It will be more than enough for your cause.

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Smartphone app new confession tool? Not quite, says Vatican

London: Have you sinned? Don't worry, you can now download a new application on your iPhone and make a confession.

The new snappily-titled 'Confession: A Roman Catholic App' is believed to be a hit among religious iPhone or iPad owners with a guilty conscience. Hailed as the "perfect aid for every penitent", the app measures the user's age, sex, occupation and how much time has elapsed since their last confession.

The app's "examination of conscience" then decides what penance to impose — it even comes with seven acts of contrition to choose from, the Daily Mail reported. Its developers, Little iApps, a three-man team based in Indianapolis, described the app as "a step-by-step guide to the sacrament, inviting Catholics to prayerfully prepare for and participate in the Rite of Penance".

Its developer, Patrick Leinen, said the app was designed to be used in the confessional and was intended "for those who frequent the sacrament and those who wish to return."

But the Vatican put its foot down over the idea of "con-



MEA CULPA: The app takes into account the user's age & sex and how much time has elapsed since the last confession before deciding what penance to impose

fessing" by iPhone. "It is essential to understand that the rites of penance require a personal dialogue between penitents and their confessor... It cannot be replaced by a computer application," Vatican spokesman Federico Lombardi told journalists.

"I must stress to avoid all ambiguity, under no circumstance is it possible to 'confess by iPhone'," he said. PTI

Ahmedabad Mirror 09.02.11 P-12

'Casteist remarks led to IIT student's suicide'

MUZAFFARNAGAR: The family of a Dalit student of IIT-Roorkee, who had allegedly committed suicide by jumping from the fifth floor of his hostel, has alleged that some other students had made "casteist" remarks against him.

Manish Kumar, a resident of Muzaffarnagar, had died on Saturday and was cremated on Monday evening after his body was brought to his hometown following post-mortem in Roorkee.

Mahender Kumar, the uncle of the

deceased student, alleged that "casteist" remarks were made by some senior students against his nephew and he complained about it to the authorities of IIT-Roorkee. However, no action was taken against the students, he claimed and demanded an independent inquiry into the incident.

Manish was a student of B Tech third year at the institute. The authorities of the IIT-Roorkee could not be immediately reached for reaction to the allegations. PTI

Amar Ujala ND 10-Feb-11 p-13

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने तैयारियां शुरू की, वर्ष 2012 में लांच करने की है योजना

देश में जल्द खुलेगी साइबर यूनिवर्सिटी

● अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। वह दिन दूर नहीं, जब इंजीनियरिंग की पढ़ाई के लिए देश में साइबर यूनिवर्सिटी मौजूद होगी। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने अपनी तरह की इस बिल्कुल नई अवधारणा पर काम तेज कर दिया है। उसकी योजना साल 2012 में इसे लांच करने की है। साइबर (वर्चुअल) यूनिवर्सिटी का प्रबंधन भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) करेंगे। इन संस्थानों ने वीडियो और वेब कोर्स तैयार कर लिया है। इसका सर्वर फिलहाल चेन्नई आईआईटी में लगाया गया है जबकि बाकी छह पुरानी आईआईटी में भी जल्द सर्वर लग जाएंगे। अगले तीन माह में डेढ़ सौ प्रयोगशालाएं खोलने का लक्ष्य है। इसके बाद परीक्षा की प्रक्रिया तय करने पर काम शुरू होगा।

साइबर यूनिवर्सिटी के लिए जरूरी वीडियो और वेब कोर्स, अपने सर्वर, लैब और परीक्षा प्रणाली में से दो पूरी

कर ली गई हैं। तीसरी यानी लैब पर सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी के मार्फत शिक्षा के राष्ट्रीय मिशन (एनएमई आईसीटी) के तहत दो साल पहले काम शुरू हो गया है यानी परियोजना उम्मीद के मुताबिक रफ्तार से आगे बढ़ रही है। साइबर यूनिवर्सिटी की तुलना कुछ हद तक दूरस्थ शिक्षा दे रहे इंदिरा गांधी मुक्त विश्वविद्यालय (इग्नू) से की जा सकती है लेकिन तकनीकी क्षेत्र में यह अभिनव प्रयोग होगा।

सूत्रों के अनुसार, अभी तक इंजीनियरिंग जैसे तकनीकी विषय के विशेषज्ञ और फैकल्टी अपनी जानकारी को खुलकर बांटने पर सहमत नहीं थे लेकिन इधर बीच उनकी सोच बदली है। कई लोगों ने गुणवत्तापरक शिक्षा को समय की मांग बताते हुए साइबर विधि की अवधारणा का न सिर्फ समर्थन किया है बल्कि योगदान की भी हामी भरी। इससे मंत्रालय का हौसला बढ़ा जिसका नतीजा वीडियो, वेब कोर्स और अपने सर्वर के रूप में सामने है।



- आईआईटी के जिम्मे होगा प्रबंधन
- वेब-वीडियो कोर्स और सर्वर तैयार
- तीन माह में डेढ़ सौ लैब का लक्ष्य

आईआईटी जैसी शिक्षा सबके लिए

देश में अच्छे फैकल्टी की कमी और इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज में पढ़ाई के खराब स्तर की समस्या से निपटने के लिए सातों आईआईटी ने 260 वीडियो-वेब कोर्स (पीजी) और सर्वर बनाया है। हर कोर्स में आईआईटी फैकल्टी के 40-40 लेक्चर शामिल हैं। एनपीटीईएल के तहत जारी परियोजना का अगला लक्ष्य एक हजार कोर्स तैयार करना है। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने बुधवार को सर्वर लांच कर देश-दुनिया के सभी छात्रों, फैकल्टी, प्रोफेशनल लोगों, संस्थानों, विश्वविद्यालयों के लिए आईआईटी जैसी शिक्षा पाना आसान कर दिया। कोई भी आसानी से इसे इंटरनेट और मोबाइल पर भी डाउनलोड कर सकता है।