Newspaper Clips February 15-16, 2015

February 15

Tribune ND 15.02.2015 P-2

A remarkable journey: From IIT to Delhi CM's cháir

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 14

It has been a remarkable journey for Arvind Kejriwal, who assumed the charge as the Delhi's eighth Chief Minister today.

Kejriwal (46), known for his sheer determination and grit, devised an "out-of-the-box" campaign strategy to enthuse the fledging party to a historic victory in the Assembly poll winning 67 of the 70 seats. It was dubbed as a David vs Goliath battle considering enormous effort put by the BJP to wrest power in the capital.

AAP's triumph is not only seen as a landslide victory but also a rallying point for the Opposition to take on the BJP government, in the process propelling Kejriwal as a major figure in the national political scene.

Kejriwal's major challenge would be to implement his poll promises, some of which critics feel, will not be easy to fulfill.

The stupendous victory was being considered significant in the political landscape as the bespectacled IITian put a brake to the string of electoral triumphs for the BJP since the May Lok Sabha elections. All major opposition parties saw AAP's victory as a signal for the Opposition forces to come together to take on the saffron challenge.

Quietly spreading his party's wings after the Lok Sabha poll debacle in which AAP failed to open its account, the activist-turned-politician achieved the feat by taking his "participative politics" model to the masses through a strong army of dedicated volunteers and his sheer perseverance.

Kejriwal, who had faced



AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal addresses supporters after taking oath as the Chief Minister at Ramlila Maidan in New Delhi on Saturday. PTI

huge criticism for resigning as the Chief Minister after remaining in power for 49 days, expanded the party's base by anchoring an unconventional approach to take AAP beyond his support base of poor and lowermiddle class families.

Known for taking up challenges, the indefatigable Kejriwal decided to take a plunge into politics and formed the "Aam Aadmi Party" on November 26, 2012, after a formal split in Team Anna.

A bright academic, Kejriwal passed out as a mechanical engineering graduate from IIT, Kharagpur.

He worked in Tata Steel for three years since 1989 and resigned in 1992 to take up the UPSC examination which he cleared to become an Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer.

Being in the government service, Kejriwal was active in taking up social cause and worked for implementation of Right to Information Act (RTI) at the grassroot level. His efforts in the enactment of the RTI Act to empower the poorest citizens of India won him the Ramon Magsaysay Award for Emergent Leadership in 2006.

In February 2006, after resigning as the Joint Commissioner in the Income Tax Department, he became a full-time activist and started an NGO, Public Cause Research Foundation, with his award money as a corpus fund.

A strict vegetarian who prefers home-made food, Kejriwal is married to Sunita, who is also an IRS officer and his batchmate from National Academy of Administration in Mussoorie.

The couple have two children, daughter Harshita and son Pulkit. He has a younger sister and brother. — PTI

Economic Times ND 15.02.2015 P-10

BFF: IITians come to cheer Kejriwal

CM's friends looked after AAP's social media strategy, mobile applications & funding

New Delhi: "How often does your friend become the PM or CM?" asked Saikat Sarkar, 50, rhetorically in response to a question as to why he travelled all the way from Kolkata to attend the oath-taking ceremony of Delhi's new chief minister on Saturday. Sarkar and Arvind Kejriwal lived in the same hostel in IIT Kharagpur.

Kejriwal's friends from the IIT circuit have been his pillar of strength over the past three years. For them, the swearingin ceremony was a proud moment in their lives.

Sarkar, who works for a multinational company in Kolkata, was accompanied by three other friends from IIT Kharagpur. Each of them had supported Kejriwal's campaign in some way or the other.

Arvind Jha, 51, who runs a software business, was a student of computer science at IIT Kharagpur and three years senior to Kejri-



(From L) Kejriwal's friends from IIT Kharagpur Saikat Sarkar, Subroto Saha, Prasenjit Pati and Arvind Jha at the swearing-in ceremony in Delhi on Saturday

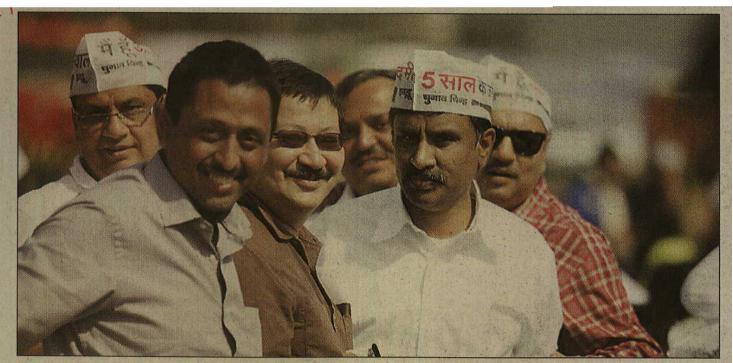
wal. He helped the party with its social media strategy and mobile applications. Prasenjit Pati, 46, who was in a batch junior to Kejriwal, and Subroto Saha, 47, who also runs a software business, helped with mobile applications and funding, respectively. "I got in touch with him at the time he started his party. I was impressed with his idea of swaraj and clean politics," Jha told ET Magazine.

The four admit they were surprised by Kejriwal's decision to enter politics. "He

was always sensitive towards the cause of society, but who knew he would enter politics," said Saha. "He was a nice straightforward guy. I had no idea either," said Sarkar.

Interestingly, neither of them criticized Kejriwal's decision to quit power. "That was his decision to make. And we all can see the result of that today," quipped Sarkar. — Our Political Bureau

Indian Express ND 15.02.2015 P-5



Fifteen of Kejriwal's batchmates from IIT Kharagpur turned up at Ramlila Maidan.

TASHI TOBGYAL

An IIT get-together at Ramlila

PRITHA CHATTERJEE & NAVEED IQBAL

NEW DELHI I FEBRUARY 14

AMONG the supporters who travelled to Delhi the second time in exactly a year to support CM Arvind Kejriwal at his swearing-in was a group of at least 15 of his batchmates from IIT Kharagpur. Many who travelled from Dubai, Kolkata and Bhubaneshwar have supported Kejriwal through his campaign in the last few months, while others flew in just to cheer their friend "Kejri".

His wing-mate in the Nehru Hall hostel of IIT Kharagpur, Subroto Saha, who travelled from Dubai, said "Kejri" had always been "very enthusiastic" about social causes. "The only real surprise I got was when Kejri joined politics. He had to explain his decision to join politics quite a bit to convince me," Saha said. Saha re-

called how Kejriwal took great interest in the Hindi dramatics society of the college. "It was called the Technology dramatics society and he became a great patron, it was a surprise because otherwise he was a very shy, reserved fellow in college.

Once he joined the society he would keep talking about plays he participated in and read scripts late into the night. I was his wing mate, so basically we were in adjacent beds in the Nehru hall, and I would hear him practicing or working on plays all the time," he said.

Prasanjit Pati from Bhubaneshwar, who had worked with Kejriwal on his social media campaign, said as wing-mates, Saha and Kejriwal had "shared everything, and you do everything for friendships like these."

Pati said he remembered the one election Kejriwal fought and won. "He became the mess secretary of our

hostel and we were after him to fight with the mess staff to get us good food," Pati joked.

Pati has been working with Kejriwal for over 6-7 months on the social media campaign for the party. Saikat Sarkar, Kejriwal's batch-mate who came from Kolkata said "10-15 of his classmates" from IIT had come to attend his last swearing-in a year ago, and now again this year. "Some have taken membership of AAP formally, others like us just came as old buddies," Sarkar said.

Suresh Reddy arrived in Delhi form Hyderabad to attend the swearing-in. Remembering him as batch mate and friend he said that he remained in touch with Kejriwal through the campaign and like Kejriwal, was confident of his victory. Besides college, the two were together during their summer training at Maruti at Gurgaon in 1988.

Indian Express ND 16/02/2015 P-5

THE FLIP-FLOP

NEARLY two months after he resigned amid controversy, the resignation of IIT-Delhi Director Raghunath K Shevgaonkar is yet to be accepted by the HRD Ministry. Even though the ministry had initially said an inquiry was going on against him regarding an allegedly "violative" MoU between Mauritius Research Council and IIT-Delhi for setting up an International Institute of Technology Research Academy in Mauritius, officials now say no such inquiry is on. Thus, the delay in taking a call on his resignation has puzzled many. An IIT Director has to serve a three-month notice period after resigning. Shevgaonkar's notice period will get over on March 22, after which he may be technically free to leave.

Centre over toilets data, moves alumni group takes on (

MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 15

IN June 2012 at Houston. Texas, the 1969 batch of IIT, Bombay, debated India and Indian education eventually encouraging the 30 alumni at the meet to form a group to engage with policy making in India. This past week, the IIT Graduates' Advocacy Organisation (IGAO) set the ball rolling with a PIL in the Bombay High Court on discrepancies between the Government of India's official data and the "real" number of toilets in the schools

IGAO, with former IITians as members, now has

of Akola district, Maharashtra.

a seven-member steering committee across the world. While the group's president Dr Jayant Sathaye, a member of the Nobel Prize winning team on climate change in 2008, is based in Berkeley, US, its policy expert Dr Shashi Enarth contributes from Hyderabad. The group's executive vice-president Sharad Wagle heads the India chapter from Mumbai.

The decision on IGAO's first PIL was taken after the group's committee director Dr

Yogi Agarwal, who shuttles between Seattle and his hometown Akola, found a "desperate need" to build toilets back

Agrawal, who has been working on education and water in Akola since 2000, invited a group of 21 Americans to visit Akola in 2008 to view his work. "We took the group to village Gonapur, around 20 km north of Akola, to see the site of our project. It had turned dark at the time of our return. While passing through a village, the headlights fell on two figures squatting on the side of the road... The figures were old women defecating in darkness," Dr Agarwal says. Appalled that a basic necessity were missing, he secured a grant from a rotary club and set about building 230 toilets in the

A complex set of issues form the backbone of IGAO's first PIL. Firstly, the litigation, filed through the Human Rights Law Network, accuses the government of not complying with several orders of the Supreme Court. Citing clauses in the Bureau of Indian Standards of Basic Requirements

for Water Supply, Drainage and Sanitation, the group stresses the need for one urinal for every 20 students and one drinking fountain for every 50 students.

"Data from the Zila Parishad shows one or no toilets in schools. Despite this reality, (Centre's) District Information System for Education categorises this district to have 96 per cent of schools in compliance with RTE laws. The picture would be no different in other states," says Dr Wagle.

The group pegs India's need for toilets at about 200

million, and says a mere one millionth of the total have been built so far. And Prime Minister Narendra Modi may not find enough money - around Rs 3,000 billion - for accomplishing the goal, says Dr Agarwal.

Next on the agenda is emphasising the need for high quality primary education, says Devendra Gautam, IGAO member and an IIT Kanpur alumnus based in Delhi. "Connecting with policy makers and implementers on the grass root as well as higher levels to figure out the gaps is our objective," says Gautam.

Amar Ujala ND 16/02/2015

आईआईटी-खड़गपुर में बना 'डेवलपमेंट सेंटर' आईआईटी-खड़गपुर ने अपने विद्यार्थियों के लिए करियर संबंधी सलाह उपलब्ध कराने के लिए अपनी प्लेसमेंट यूनिट 'करियर डेवलपमेंट सेंटर' में बदल दिया है। आईआईटी अधिकारियों का कहना है कि नया केंद्र एक्सपर्ट टेनिंग, करियर एडवाइस देने लिए विद्यार्थियों को करियर ऑप्शन रिक्रटमेंट के जिरए विद्यार्थियों

Deccan Herald ND 16/02/2015 P-7

IIMB slips in global MBA rankings

Ramzauva Chhakchhuak

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB), was ranked 82nd in the Global MBA Rankings-2015, released by the UKbased Financial Times. The institute fared much better last year at the 68th position.

Officials from the institute said that the rankings were based only on IIMB's one-year full-time Executive Post Graduate Programme in Management (EPGP) and not on any other programme.

A number of parameters such as salaries, alumni recommendations, faculty, among others, affected the ranking of the institute. Though IIMB saw an increase of 75 percent in salary, it faired poorly on other fronts

such as percentage of female students, international faculty, international students and women faculty. Two other Indian B-schools which made it to the list are: IIM, Ahmedabad (26th) and Indian School of Business (ISB), Hyderabad (33rd). Last year they were in 30th and 36th spot, respectively.

Speaking to Deccan Herald, Dr Sourav Mukherji, Dean, Programs, IIMB, said: "Yes, the ranking has slipped a little this year and it is a matter of concern for us because we constantly strive to deliver a world-class program. The Financial Times Global MBA ranking, like all good rankings, is an indicator of how executive post graduate programs in management are perceived and we will certainly use this as a feedback to intro-

spect and improve the program. And I am sure that for a global MBA program like ours, which is just half as old as that of IIM Ahmedabad or ISB, there can only be exciting times ahead."

U Dinesh Kumar, Chairperson, EPGP, highlighted how the rankings were dependent on parameters such as salary, which in turn depended a lot on the profile of the candidates. "In ISB for example, the average work experience of students entering the programme is very less compared to those who enter ours. Our students usually have an experience of seven to ten years. When someone is young, one can expect a huge jump in salary. However, for those who are already drawing say 20 lakh per annum, the jump will obviously be low," he said.

Nai Duniya ND 16.02.2015 P-14

केजरीवाल से प्रेरणा

अब छात्रों के सामने राजनीति भी कॅरिअर का एक विकल्प

आईआईटी छात्र बनाएंगे राजनीति में कॅरिअर

कोलकाता (प्रे)। दिल्ली विधानसभा चुनाव में आम आदमी पार्टी के नेता अरविंद केजरीवाल की धमाकेदार जीत आईआईटी खड़गपुर के छात्रों को प्रभावित कर रही है और वे कॅरिअर के रूप में राजनीति के विकल्प पर भी विचार कर रहे हैं। केजरीवाल ने भी इसी संस्थान से पढ़ाई की है।

आईआईटी खड़गपुर में मैकेनिकल इंजीनियरिंग के तीसरे वर्ष के छात्र अटल आशुतोष अग्रवाल ने कहा, 'आईआईटी से स्नातक करने के बाद मेरे सामने राजनीति भी विकल्पों में से एक है। केजरीवाल ने साबित कर दिया है कि आईआईटी और इंजीनियरिंग पृष्ठभूमि के लोग भी राजनीति में सफल हो सकते हैं।' दिल्ली निवासी अग्रवाल के मन में राजनीति के प्रति तब रुझान पैदा हुआ, जब उन्होंने आईआईटी के पूर्व छात्र अरविंद केजरीवाल को सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता अण्णा हजारे के साथ भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ लड़ाई लड़ते देखा। पहले ही आम आदमी पार्टी में शामिल हो चुके अग्रवाल ने कहा, 'केजरीवाल ने हमारे लिए राजनीति में प्रवेश आसान बना दिया है। उन्होंने हमें एक मार्ग दिखाया है और वह एक प्रेरणा हैं।' दिल्ली विधानसभा चुनाव में ऑनलाइन और फोन पर प्रचार अभियान में आप की मदद करने वाले जीओफिजिक्स के



दूसरे वर्ष के छात्र लोकेश देशमुख ने कहा कि शीर्ष इंजीनियरिंग संस्थान से पार्टी में स्वयंसेवी के रूप में शामिल होने वाले छात्रों की संख्या बढ़ रही है। उन्होंने कहा, 'यह सब केजरीवाल की वजह से है क्योंकि संस्थान परिसर में हर किसी के मन में उनके प्रति खास लगाव है क्योंकि वह हमारे बीच से हैं।'

आप आईआईटी खड़गपुर

फेसबुक पर सैकड़ों युवा आईआईटी छात्र राजनीतिक घटनाक्रमों और पार्टी से संबंधित मुद्दों पर चर्चा के लिए कम्युनिटी पेज 'आप आईआईटी खड़गपुर' पर एकजुट हुए हैं। पेज पर 20 हजार से ज्यादा 'लाइक' पहले ही आ चुके हैं। वैसे आईआईटी परिसर में राजनीति वर्जित है क्योंकि अंदर राजनीतिक गतिविधियों की अनुमति नहीं है।

आईआईटी खड़गपुर में पढ़े हैं केजरीवाल

केजरीवाल ने आईआईटी खड़गपुर से मैकेनिकल इंजीनियरिंग की थी। वह इसके नेहरू हॉल हॉस्टल में पांच साल रहे, जिसे सामाजिक एवं सांस्कृतिक गतिविधियों के लिए जाना जाता है। अग्रवाल ने कहा, 'वह हिन्दी डामैटिक्स सोसाइटी की बैठकों में नियमित तौर पर शामिल होते थे और जन संवाद, वादविवाद आदि से संबंधित आयोजन में सक्रिय रहते थे। इससे उन्हें अच्छी वाकपट्ता हासिल हुई जो अब राजनीतिक दुनिया में उनकी मदद कर रही है। संस्थान के पूर्व निदेशक एवं केजरीवाल को पढ़ा चुके प्रोफेसर शंकर कुमार शोम ने कहा कि संस्थान में समग्र शिक्षा उपलब्ध कराई जाती है जिससे छात्र हर क्षेत्र में सफलता के शिखर छते हैं। उन्होंने कहा, 'पास आउट होने के बाद वे जो कॅरिअर चाहें अपना सकते हैं।'

Transgenders' rights must be protected: UGC to varsities

Create friendly infrastructure, restrooms on campuses

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Days after notifying transgenders as the third gender to allow them to pursue higher education, the UGC has asked all varsities to ensure that rights of the community are protected.

Writing to university vicechancellors, the UGC has asked them to fast-track the mainstreaming of transgenders and create friendly infrastructure like restrooms in their campuses.

"Understandably, this will go a long way in acclimatising transgender students without facing any fear stigma or shame," UGC secretary Jaspal S Sandhu noted.

Faculties should be encouraged to take up ethnographic studies on the life and culture of transgender community for better understanding and dispelling myths about them in popular discourse", the UGC said, adding that a new scheme for awarding projects has been formulated for this purpose. "The Commission is not offering any fixed number of major research projects as of now," sources said. "It would depend on funds available and the number of proposals received."

The intent behind the new scheme for research projects is also to help transgenders get out of their stigma and social discrimination through policy intervention.

"The transgender is a distinct cultural identity and a unique presence on the socio-cultural map of the country. It is to be admitted that much remains to be done in order to ameliorate the discrimination and deprivation suffered by transgender community in Indian society," Sandhu said.

In July last year, the UGC notified transgender as third gender, allowing them to avail scholarship and fellowship programmes offered to students of higher educational institutions.

The UGC notification, which followed a landmark Supreme Court judgement, also asked universities and colleges to treat the community members as third gender for admission purposes.

Giving third gender status to transgenders in April last year, the apex court had directing the Centre to treat the community members as socially and economically backward. The apex court said members of the third gender should be considered Other Backward Classes and the government should extend them educational and job reservation available under that category.

Maharashtra government to conduct its own common entrance test for engineers

http://indiatoday.intoday.in/education/story/maharashtra-government-to-opt-out-of-jee/1/419050.html

Maharashtra government keen on introducing their own common entrance test and wishes to withdraw itself from the joint entrance exam held by the centre for admission in state's engineering colleges. Vinod Tawde, minister for higher and technical education ensures that the new plan for admission in the colleges will be ready for action from 2016. Till 2013 the state was conducting its own exams. Post implementation, around one lakh of the students will be relieved who wants to enrol in engineering colleges.

As quoted in a national daily, Vinod Tawde said, "Changes cannot be done this year as the forms have been filled already. But I have suggested the state to conduct its own common entrance test for engineering students." Dishing out reasons for his steps, he said, "If the state conducts its own test then it will help the students from remote areas to come up for admissions. Private coaching centres charge around Rs 2.5 lakh to coach JEE students the CBSE syllabus."

It becomes difficult for the students to focus on the scores of class XII as well as JEE as the course for clearing JEE (Main) is very vast and difficult. Parents and private engineering colleges' associations were asking for the change as it would provide ease to the students' problems.

Instead of JEE (Main), the state government give 50 per cent to CET scores and 50 per cent to the scores of class XII for admissions.

The representatives of the technical education department said that it should also have a common MHT-CET. This will help the medical and engineering entrance tests to have a combined test so students need not to appear for physics and chemistry tests twice.

Odisha: Two NIT students drown in waterfall

http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-odisha-two-nit-students-drown-in-waterfall-2061206

Two students of the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Rourkela, <u>drowned</u> while they were taking a bath in a waterfall in Mahupali area of this district, police said on Sunday.

Nishant Rawat (22) of <u>Uttarkhand</u> and Soumya Ranjan Baral (22) of Puri were among 35 students who had been to Gudguda fall for a picnic when the mishap occurred on Saturday, Sub-divisional Police Officer, Kuchinda, RP Sahu said.

All the students were of final year civil engineering department of NIT-R. The body of Nishant was fished out on Saturday, while that of Baral was retrieved on Sunday, police said.