

Newspaper Clips

February 17, 2012

Dainik Jagran ND 17/02/2012 p-6

दिल्ली आइआइटी का छत्र रिहा, वकील ने ली जमानत

कानपुर, जासं : दिल्ली आइआइटी के छात्र सुरेंद्र भोकाया की गुरुवार शाम जेल से रिहाई हो गई। इसके बाद उसने दिल्ली आइआइटी को जेल से निकलने की सूचना दी। आंध्रप्रदेश में वारंगल के महबूबाबाद निवासी सुरेंद्र को अदालत ने 20-20 हजार की दो जमानतों पर रिहा करने के आदेश दिए थे। एक जमानत उसके पिता जबकि दूसरी जमानत अधिवक्ता शिवाकांत दीक्षित ने दी।

Gateforum launches online training package for exams

Our Bureau

Bangalore, Feb. 16

Gateforum, an organisation started by IIT and IIM alumni that provides Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) training, has launched its online training package eGATE, to help students avail training from their respective cities, considering the increase in number of students opting to take the exam.

The faculty will conduct the lectures from Gateforum studios in Hyderabad and the student can access them via the internet or view them at a Gateforum centre, according to a press statement.

“GATE Test is not only for admission to M.Tech courses, but an entry platform for PSU jobs. We have observed over the time that many of the aspirants in Tier-II and -III cities are deprived of quality coaching and training due to inaccessibility of resources. Through eGATE we aim to fill up this huge gap and bring opportunities for candidates to apply for technical and public sector jobs,” Mr Chandan Kumar Jha, Director, Gateforum, said in the statement.

GATE is the second largest qualifying exam in the technical side, after AIEEE, with 5.5 lakh test takers in 2011 and more than 7 lakh test takers for 2012.

*sushma.un@
thehindu.co.in*

HindustanTimes

Title : HC REFUSES TO STAY SUMMONS AGAINST GOOGLE AND FACEBOOK

Author :

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HC REFUSES TO STAY SUMMONS AGAINST GOOGLE AND FACEBOOK

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Delhi high court on Thursday refused to stay the summons against social networking sites Google and Facebook issued by a trial court over a complaints relating to carrying objectionable content

However justice Suresh Kait gave relief to senior executives of the two websites exempting them from being present in the trial court on March 13.

They have been allowed to appear through a lawyer. The court deferred the hearing of the petition in which they challenged the summons to May 3.

Public prosecutor Navin Sharma told HC that websites like Facebook and Yahoo had been given sufficient warnings and opportunities by the information technology ministry to remove them before steps were taken for their prosecution.

The Centre on January 13 allowed the prosecution of 20 social networking sites, saying the content was instigating enmity between different groups. Taking note of the report, judge Sudesh Kumar ordered the accused to appear in person on the next hearing.

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Telegraph Kolkata 16.02.2012 P-4

Bhubaneswar IIT chief returns a favour

BASANT KUMAR MOHANTY

New Delhi, Feb. 15: An IIT director under the scanner has recommended that another indicted by the CBI be re-appointed head of the tech school, possibly to return an old favour.

IIT Bhubaneswar director Madhusudan Chakraborty has suggested that IIT Kharagpur director Damodar Acharya be given a second term, sources said. Acharya had recommended Chakraborty's name for IIT Bhubaneswar director.

Chakraborty's role in the illegal purchase of equipment worth Rs 2.5 crore is being

probed. Acharya has been indicted for irregularities committed during his tenure as All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) chairperson.

The HRD ministry recently put out an advertisement seeking applications for the post of IIT Kharagpur director. It also requested all IIT directors to recommend eminent persons who could fit the bill.

Acharya, who served as AICTE chairperson from May 2005 to June 2007, had overruled an expert committee report and granted extension of approval to Padmavathi Engineering College despite its lack of faculty strength.

The CBI probed the matter

and recommended regular departmental action for major penalty against Acharya. The HRD ministry has asked Acharya to show cause why action should not be initiated against him.

Regular departmental action means a chargesheet will be issued and an inquiry committee set up to suggest appropriate action against the person. Such action could either lead to suspension or removal of the person from his post.

Of late, IIT Kharagpur has been in the news for the wrong reasons. The CBI is probing the role of school officials in allowing the running of a fake institute on the Kharagpur campus. There are allegations

that in the last 20 years the school appointed many assistant registrars who did not fulfil minimum eligibility criteria.

IIT Bhubaneswar director Chakraborty has been indicted by the CBI in a separate case of financial irregularity. The HRD ministry is likely to frame charges against him soon.

On November 10, 2010, the CBI conducted a surprise check at IIT Bhubaneswar on information that the institute had bought equipment worth Rs 2.5 crore from a single source bypassing the tender-based bidding process. It submitted a report to the HRD ministry last June.

The school purchased items like continuous surface wave system used for soil-testing, ground-penetrating radar sensor, shake tables used for seismic research, pile-testing equipment, non-destructing testing equipment, material-testing equipment and cyclic tri-axial testing machine. All these were bought from a single agent M/S AIMIL without following a tender process, the CBI said.

According to the government's general financial rules, an institute will have to advertise open tenders in newspapers to procure items worth over Rs 25 lakh. In case of a proprietary article — an item manufactured by a particular

farm — the institute can buy it from a single source without following a tender procedure. But the institute will have to get a certificate from the principal company to that effect.

After scrutiny of the documents, the CBI found that no open or limited tender was invited for purchase of the items. The school described the items as of proprietary 45454545 nature, implying that tendering was not required.

But the CBI did not find proprietary article certificates for the items. Nor was there any approval from the director to send the tender enquiry to the supplier, sources said.

Economic Times ND 17-Feb-12

P1

Consulting Cos to Save the Day for B-Schools

Focus has shifted from the high-paying finance sector to consulting in a tough year at campuses

PARAG DAVE
AHMEDABAD

More freshly-minted MBAs from top B-schools are likely to make their way into consulting this placement season. Record hiring by The Boston Consulting Group and McKinsey & Co at B-school campuses this year and fewer offers from the traditional top recruiters, investment banks, have shifted the focus from the high-paying finance sector to the all-weather consulting companies.

BCG kicked off the IIM placement season by hiring 17 at the Indian In-

stitute of Management-Ahmedabad on Monday, six more than the previous year. Last month, McKinsey picked 17 grads from the Indian School of Business, stepping up its 2012 hiring by 50% at the institute.

Apart from BCG and McKinsey, companies like Bain & Co, AT Kearney, Accenture and Oliver Wyman visited IIM-A on the first day. An IIM-A alumni says consulting companies offered packages between ₹22 lakh and ₹27 lakh for domestic roles this year.

Higher consulting offers are a bright spot in what is turning to be a tough year for B-school graduates. ET's re-

cent reports on the placement season so far suggested there will be fewer recruiters, fewer jobs and lower salaries at campuses, even though the sentiment is not as bleak as 2009, the worst in recent memory. Top B-schools have been lowering student expectations to cushion the impact of a possible tough season. Tier-II B-schools are feeling the slowdown pinch a bit more.

IIM-Calcutta, which kicks off its final placements on Monday, expects consulting to be strong. "I-banking is looking tough, and some of the i-banks are not participating. We will see more offers from consulting com-

pared with last year," says placement chairperson Amit Dhiman.

IIM-C's 355-strong batch is going into final placements with over 93 pre-placement offers and 115-plus lateral offers in hand. Some 80-plus firms have confirmed participation in the final placements. "We are expecting lesser number of offers in banking and finance compared with last year, but at the moment, it is difficult to say whether, like last year, it will generate the maximum number of jobs, or slip to second position," Dhiman adds.

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I-Banks Most Preferred Recruiters

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At IIM-Bangalore, final placements start from February 18. Among top recruiters, ICICI Bank is expected to make a similar number of offers as last year. The bank was the largest recruiter with 19 offers last year.

Booz and Company, which goes only to IIM-A, IIM-Bangalore (IIM-B) and ISB, will not go to Bangalore this year because it has already picked up around 3-4 students from their lateral placements. Lateral placements are for those with more than a couple of years of work experience. An executive at Deloitte, which had picked up 11 students last year, said there is no reason why the consulting firm should not pick up a similar number this year.

IIM-Lucknow (IIM-L) placements chairman Rajesh Aithal says consulting will make up for a weaker finance sector hiring. He expects sales & marketing, human resources and e-commerce companies to hire more students this year. IIM-L, which started its placement on Monday, will place 380 students this year as against 372 at Ahmedabad and 375 at

Bangalore. Investment banks are the most preferred recruiters for B-schools because of lucrative salaries and fast-track growth prospects. However, hiring by i-banks has been subdued owing to global economic conditions. IIM-A confirmed participation of Credit Suisse and HSBC in the 2012 campus recruitments, but two IIM-A students said these i-banks made only two offers. Another, JPMorgan, returned without making any offer on the first day of the final placements. "After the global crisis of 2008, the finance sector has not increased hiring. On the other hand, batch sizes have gone up and as a result, the number of students joining the finance sector in percentage terms has decreased. However, the number of students opting for consulting sector is rising continuously," IIM-A's placement chairperson, Saral Mukherjee, says. I-banks and overall finance companies have continued campus hiring, but the number of offers has come down.

ISB started its placement process on January 19 and according to one campus source, the consulting sector hired aggressively. While McKinsey

& Co hired 17 grads, Cognizant picked up 30 and Deloitte made offers to 15 students. Booz & Co hired 10 while PwC and E&Y together recruited 15 students from ISB. (Additional reporting - Mahima Puri, Devina Sengupta and Sreeradha D Basu) At IIM-Bangalore, final placements start from February 18. Among top recruiters, ICICI Bank is expected to make a similar number of offers as last year. The bank was the largest recruiter with 19 offers last year.

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Additional reporting - Mahima Puri, Devina Sengupta & Sreeradha D Basu

Pioneer Lucknow 16.02.2012, P-2

AICTE for parents' presence in board of governors

Lucknow (PNS): Henceforth, all the engineering and management colleges will have to nominate at least one parent in the board of governors. This has been made mandatory by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). Gautam Buddh Technical University (GBTU) registrar US Tomer said it was being done to ensure quality of technical education. He said instructions to that effect had been issued by AICTE. As the instructions had been approved by the academic council, it was the duty of technical university to implement it in right earnest, he added. A circular to this effect was issued on Wednesday to directors/principals of the colleges affiliated to GBTU. As per AICTE guidelines, every technical institute (private or government-run) will have to constitute a board of governors. If there are 11 members in the board, there will be one chairman nominated by the educational society running the college or the trust. The chairman must be a technical person, either entrepreneur/industrialist or educationist of repute, who can assure development of technical education and ensure its quality too. There will be one member secretary; one will be a parent of a student. The parent will be nominated by the chairman or members of the governing body. The selection will be done for a period of one year and on rotation basis. Every year, a new parent will replace the older one.

INTERVIEW: DEEPAK MALHOTRA

PROFESSOR, HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL

Negotiations matter more in uncertain times

The global economy is going through turmoil and uncertainty in the business environment is on the rise. At a time when deals and agreements need to be carefully negotiated, Deepak Malhotra of the Harvard Business School, who specialises in negotiations, tells Kirtika Suneja on the sidelines of the Nasscom India Leadership Forum in Mumbai that negotiations matter more in uncertain times because risk is high and trust is low. Excerpts:

How significant are negotiations in uncertain times like these?

Negotiations are the standard way of monetising the

value proposition and uncertainties. They are important. However, during uncertain times they are significant for adding value and monetising that value proposition. They matter more when there is a downturn in the economy because no one thinks when money is flowing freely. Companies become price sensitive when money supply is tight and then design strategies to deal with the problems.

How do companies change their strategies when there is uncertainty in the business environment?

There are six ideas which are related to trust when firms make strategies and negoti-



ate. Don't confuse mistrust with greed as both are different, avoid partial trust, sometimes giving some things away for free is a bigger motivation to get people to act in your favour; it is normal to get into lows during negotiations and mediations, respect other

parties' opinions and beware of the curse of knowledge. Uncertain situations mean greater risk and lesser guarantee of returns and hence, trust becomes more relevant while making strategies.

How do business schools react to increased uncertainties and what does industry expect from B-schools in such times?

The expectation of the industry is two-fold. They ask us two questions — why didn't you see it coming and how to get out of it? B-schools can't predict uncertainty but they only do the job of equipping people for uncertain times and constantly change their

curriculum either through case studies or greater interaction with the industry.

How popular is the subject of negotiations among students and how has its demand changed over years?

There is a steady increase in demand for negotiations by students in the US and it is the most popular elective at Harvard. It is an inherently interesting subject and is becoming increasingly popular across management schools globally. This is so because changing business environment calls for constant negotiations, conflict management, contracts, auctions and most important, trust.

They propel our space programme



M. SOMASEKHAR

► A clutch of private players has emerged as key input providers for India's missiles.

They are literally fuelling India's space ambitions. Two medium-sized, listed companies in the private sector are, in their own way, contributing critical propellant technology to launch our satellites and missiles.

While Andhra Sugars, based in Tanuku in the agri-rich coastal Andhra district of West Godavari, has developed a range of liquid propellants that fuel the satellite launch vehicles, Premier Explosives Limited, situated close to Hyderabad, fabricates solid propellants for key missiles. Each has, during the last decade or so, attained expertise, set up sound facilities, and has trained professionals to meet the stringent demands of the Indian space and defence sectors. Interestingly, the core business strengths of both are completely different. For example, Andhra Sugar is mainly into sugar, organic and inorganic chemicals, while Premier Explosives is into providing explosives for the mining and commercial sector.

ANDHRA SUGARS' EXPERTISE

In space and rocket technology, liquid, solid and hybrid propellants are used. Liquid propellants are derived from petroleum, cryogenic (low temperature) and hypergols (instant igniters). Solid propellants are usually nitro cellulose and nitro glycerine etc., while a hybrid fuel is a mix of liquid and solid. Andhra Sugars has established such skills in its plant located in a small village called Saggonda, approximately 30 km from Kovvuru near Rajahmundry in coastal Andhra Pradesh. The plant rou-

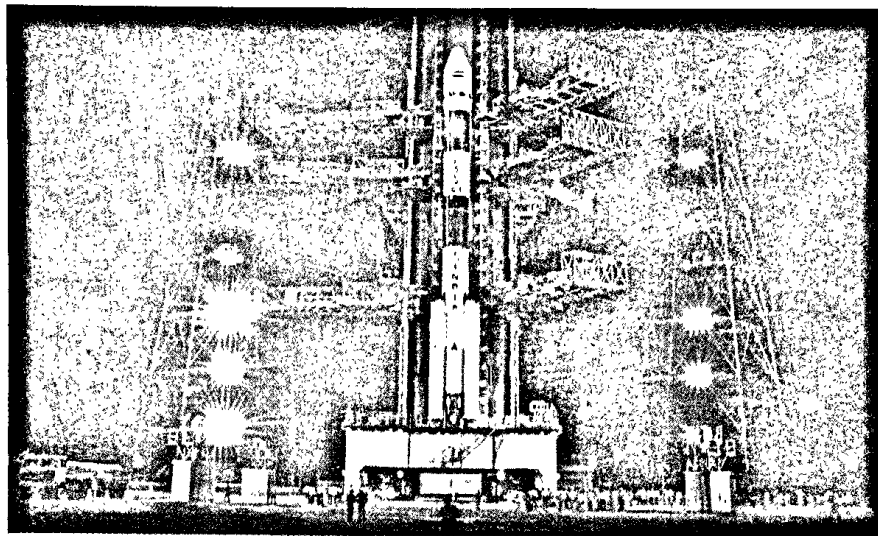
tinely produces caustic soda. Hydrogen, which is the raw material for the propellant that the company is making to meet the demands of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), is a by-product. ISRO uses liquid hydrogen as the propellant in the Geo Stationary Launch Vehicle (GSLV). The GSLV, which can place heavier satellites of the Insat class in orbit has three stages, which are sequentially ignited for the rockets to zoom into space. They are the solid propellant (first), liquid propellant (second) and cryogenic propellant (third). To the credit of this private sector enterprise, Andhra Sugars now fabricates all these propellants.

With technical support from ISRO scientists, the company has set up a facility to liquefy hydrogen gas and then get the desired purity at the plant. This follows an agreement signed in the year 1997 with ISRO. The ISRO got actively involved in cryogenic rocket technology to power the GSLV with initial help from Russia. It was in 2003 that Andhra Sugars signed a formal contract and the plant was established in 2006, says Mr G. Ramesh, a top executive at the plant.

Andhra Sugars has a 20-year contract with ISRO for the supply of propellants. It is the only fabricator of the key material in the country at present. The ISRO has a small facility at Mahendragiri, in Karnataka, where it undertakes tests for cryogenic technology development. Given the association of Andhra Sugars from the mid-1980s in the space programme, ISRO has also supported it in setting up the plant in Saggonda.

ISRO has, to its credit, developed a sound culture of involving the private sector in several of its projects, both for launching and converting the huge amount of satellite data generated towards applications for national development.

Mr Ramesh said separation of hydrogen from caustic soda is easy. However, the difficult part is to liquefy and then purify hydrogen gas to meet the stringent standards demanded by ISRO, especially for the GSLV flight. The company has imported the necessary plant equipment to fulfil the task. It has taken a couple of years, but



ISRO has, to its credit, developed a sound culture of involving the private sector in several of its projects.

now it has trained people and gained technical expertise to do it, says Mr Ramesh.

On January 28, 2012, the first batch of liquid hydrogen was dispatched in a special tanker to make sure that the liquid hydrogen is maintained at 20 degrees Kelvin or minus 253 degrees C (cryogenic temperature). To transport the material, a tanker, which is thermally insulated has been specially imported from Europe, he explained. It takes five days to reach the material to Mahendragiri.

Liquid hydrogen is known as rocket fuel because of its wide applications in space technology. It is also used as the fuel storage in an internal combustion engine or fuel cell. Interestingly, hydrogen gas as fuel to power transport vehicles is gaining momentum. Cars and buses running on hydrogen gas have been demonstrated.

MISSILE PROPPELLANTS

Premier Explosives Limited, essentially a company involved in the manufacture and marketing of explosives and accessories, got associated with the strategic sector more than a decade ago. It is producing solid propellants for the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to power its missiles and also to meet some of the needs of the space

programme.

Building on its strengths and trust imposed in it by the DRDO, it has recently expanded facilities at Peddakandukuru in Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh. With an investment of Rs 10 crore, this new project will focus on solid propellants for tactical missiles, like Nag (anti-tank), Astra (air-to-air), Akash (surface-to-air) and Pinaka (multiple-rocket launcher).

Mr A. N. Gupta, Chairman and Managing Director of Premier Explosives, said the company has been producing solid propellants since 2003 for the DRDO. The present facility for tactical missiles is an attempt to help the country reach self-reliance in defence supplies. In the successful November, 2011, launch of Agni-IV (beyond 3,500-km range intermediate range ballistic missile), the company was given the job of making the second of the two-stage rocket motors, along with the two igniters.

In the last few years, the Secunderabad-based company, with a turnover of around Rs 103 crore during the fiscal 2010-11, has already supplied critical components like the 'smokeless' composition (which helps an aircraft avoid detection after the launch of the missile) and missile motors for the Astra missile and com-

ponents for the short-range Pinaka missile.

Recognising its capabilities, ISRO has vested it with the responsibility of operation and maintenance of its second propellant plant at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, SHAR, Sriharikota. Premier Explosives signed an agreement in 2007 for Rs 70 crore for a 10-year period to handle this important task.

PRIVATE SECTOR ROLE

The interesting aspect of the contributions of several small and medium enterprises to the defence programmes is that they aren't just providing products, but building engineering expertise, design and industry capability that will stand the country's needs in good stead, said Mr Avinash Chander, Chief Controller (Missiles and strategic sectors) of the DRDO.

There are several companies like Premier, MTAR, RAP, to name a few, which have been started by first-generation entrepreneur engineers. They take pride in their work, do engineering for satisfaction, and support the country's efforts towards self-reliance. They are the backbone of several of the DRDO's projects.

The multi-billion-dollar defence projects on the anvil open up huge opportunities for the Indian private sector.

Now, college attendance at the click of mouse

Neha Pushkarna TNN (TOI, New Delhi)

New Delhi: Delhi **University** students can now track their attendance on a monthly basis. The **university** has asked all colleges to maintain a monthly record of students' attendance and put it up on their websites. This will help students know if they are falling short of the required number of classes supposed to be attended. The new rule will be applicable to students studying in the semester as well as the annual mode. However, teachers are a little wary of this decision as DU has also asked them to keep daily attendance of students with them so that they can access it on a regular basis. Currently, teachers submit the records of attendance at the end of the year in the annual mode or before the exams in semesters.

"Many teachers feel DU is indirectly arm-twisting them. It's known that teachers, who are not regular, mark the attendance of students randomly at the end of the term. Since their own attendance is never marked, they often get away with it. The new rule will make sure they are regular," said an ad hoc teacher from a North Campus college. The DU circular stated, "This will also facilitate teachers to calculate the final attendance records, help in avoiding the delay in submitting them to the office and also decrease any complaints from students." Students can in fact report any discrepancies in their attendance record within a week of the college displaying it online.

Delhi **University** Teachers' Association (DUTA) has written to DU insisting that the rule contradicts earlier decisions of the academic and the executive council. The association also mentioned in the letter dated February 14, "The periodicity of display of attendance, if shortened arbitrarily, only increases administrative load on teachers." But DU officials assured that students will only benefit from this rule. "Often students do not get to know that they are falling short of the required attendance. By the time they are told about it, it's time for exams to begin. There were a lot of cases this time where students were stopped from taking exams due to short attendance in the last exams. But now they will have time and scope to improve," said a senior DU official who did not wish to be named as he was not authorized to speak to the media.

IIM prof turns candidate, stays manager

(Indian Express)

FROM teaching business policy at IIM Ahmedabad, Abhishek Mishra is now using his knowledge of strategy and innovation to address issues such as sadak-nali-pani and to connect with voters of Lucknow.

The management guru, 34, is the Samajwadi Party candidate — some say an unusual one — for Lucknow North, a new seat.

Mishra has a PHD in strategy and marketing from Cambridge. He has served the Home and Defence ministries as their consultant for the Sixth Pay Commission and trained batches of IAS and IPS officers, apart from working with various multinationals.

Now that he has quit his IIM job and finds himself facing challenges entirely new, he still banks on management principles already tried. He began with a signature campaign to list the ten most serious issues in each locality. “For example, we found that over a thousand signatories wanted an overbridge over Daliganj railway crossing, which frequently faces jams.” The issue now tops the list of promises he has prepared.

“As of now, these data are only on paper. But soon, we will digitise these data and use that as a readymade database to chalk out local development strategies once the party comes to power,” he says.

That is when, he believes, his experience in management will come into play in the real sense. “My management skills lie in optimising the available resources and matching the right man for the right job — there I am far superior to others,” says Mishra.

Contesting for the first time, Mishra is pitted against Ashutosh Tandon aka Gopalji — son of the BJP’S Lucknow MLA Lalji Tandon — besides businessman-turned-Bsp-politician Arun Dwivedi and Congress candidate Neeraj Bora.

Mishra’s “quiet, meditative life” has become a “hectic, active public life” overnight. He starts his day at 7.30am, briefly flips through the newspapers instead of “leisurely reading at least four English news dailies” as he used to, then jumps into the car to campaign from door to door. The day invariably goes past midnight but Mishra is “enjoying the experience”.

Even before venturing into active politics, Mishra had been advising Akhilesh Yadav, with whom he is close, on various strategic issues. His father Jai Shankar Mishra, an IAS officer, is known to have been close with Akhilesh’s father Mulayam.

Party says Akhilesh Mishra has played a key role in some of the recent strategic moves the party has undertaken, from selecting the right survey agency for feedback from the ground to English advertisements on Mulayam’s birthday.

“I have known Akhilesh bhaiya for a couple of years,” says Mishra, “He had been brainwashing me to join politics for one year.” Mishra believes it is time Indian politics saw a change in its structure and “young, educated professionals joined politics to serve the society better”.

“I have always been a niche product, interacting with a smaller section of people as an academician. I wanted to reach out and empower a larger section of people and give back to the society, because of which I decided to switch careers and join politics,” says Mishra.

Mishra says the Samajwadi Party is the “only party in the state that does not have a crisis of leadership”, with “a clear cut line of youth leadership in Akhilesh bhaiya and an experienced leader in Netaji.”



Helping Mishra is his team of friends, some from the IIM, others from various professional backgrounds, who have either left their jobs or taken a long leave to campaign. “With all this support, if I can’t risk a change of career and venture into politics, who can,” says Mishra. Whatever the outcome of the poll, “I am in politics to stay”.

ISTE student chapter launched at IET Bhaddal

(Hindustan Times (Chandigarh))

RUPNAGAR: Indian Society for Technical Education (ISTE) student chapter was launched at IET Bhaddal Technical Campus near here on Thursday. National Institute of Technical Teachers’ Training and Research (NITTTR) Chandigarh director Dr KM Rastogi was the chief guest of the function. While addressing the gathering he suggested the teachers to become mentors instead of monitors, as per the demand of the time. Teachers should motivate the students to learn and not to force the students to learn. Teachers should be facilitators. He also advised the students to develop their personality, generic skills, learn international etiquettes and mannerism.

He said the beginning of ISTE chapter would help the institute’s growth. The guest of honour NIT Jalandhar Professor Dr MK Jha highlighted the role of ISTE in the field of education and industry. IET Bhaddal technical campus director Dr R Jha, ISTE in charge of the institute Rajesh Kumar Chaudhary also spoke on the occasion.