

## Newspaper Clips

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# Students should not ignore Board exams in favour of IIT-JEE: Sibal

IIT/DV  
NAVEED IQBAL

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 24

UNION Minister for Human Resource Development Kapil Sibal on Friday said the pattern of Indian Institute of Technology Joint Entrance Exam (IIT-JEE), 2013, was being changed so that “students do not get away from school scholastic system”.

“An aberration has occurred between those who can afford to go for coaching for IIT-JEE and brilliant students who can’t afford to compete with them,” Sibal said.

According to the new scheme being finalised, 40 per cent marks will be based on the school board exam results. The move will ensure that students pay equal attention to Board exams while



preparing for JEE. Sibal said there will be two exams for IIT-JEE — the Main Exam, which will quiz students on their knowledge of Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics, and the Advanced Exam to assess the depth of learning of a candidate.

The minister was speaking at a function in IIT-Delhi to mark the end of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations

“An aberration has occurred between those who can afford to go for coaching for IIT-JEE and those who can’t afford to compete with them

KAPIL SIBAL,  
Union HRD Minister

of the institute.

Sibal also said the question papers for IIT-JEE will be set by IIT faculty so that the “brand of IIT is not diluted”.

“As requested by the IITs, we are not changing the name of the examination. We will continue to call it the Joint Entrance Exam,” he said.

He announced that the ministry was considering a new process for appointing

directors wherein “candidates will be asked to submit a vision for their tenure, and, once selected, their contribution at the end of their term will be assessed so as to increase accountability and also to make sure that the system delivers”.

“Although the MHRD wants to implement the new changes from 2013, the states have expressed reservations,” said an official. A task force headed by IIT-Kanpur Director Professor S G Dhande has been formed to look into the modalities of setting up the IIT-JEE scheme. The task force will have to ensure that states coordinate the release of Class XII exam results and also work out a system to equate the Board marks on a 40-point scale.

Hindu Kolkata 24.02.12 P-8

# 4.5% reservation for minorities in IITs from this year

R. Ravikanth Reddy

**HYDERABAD:** There is good news for IIT aspirants from the minority community. The IIT-JEE Admission Committee has decided to implement 4.5 per cent reservation for them within the 27 per cent seats meant for the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) from this year.

Those minority candidates who had submitted the application forms online and have not mentioned their status can do so on the IIT-JEE website — <http://jee.iitd.ac.in/obcminority.php> — by giving an undertaking that they have a minority status and would submit the certificate before the exam on April 8.

The undertaking has to be given to the respective zonal offices before March 20.

IIT-JEE Chairman G.B. Reddy said the application forms did not carry this information as this development was recent. He asked the students to submit the undertaking first and later submit the certificate to claim reservation.

“We are giving enough time for candidates to secure the certificate. Non-submission of certificate will result in candidates not being considered for the category as a separate list will be prepared,” he said.

“It is for the State government to decide who fits in the minority category and certificate issued by the tehsildar concerned will be valid.”

Following the reservation, around 430 minority candidates are likely to get admission in the 17 IITs across the

• **Students must give undertaking about their minority status by March 20**

• **430 minority candidates are likely to benefit**

country going by last year's figure of total 9,500 odd seats.

Professor Reddy said the final figure would be available after March 25, when the IITs have been asked to submit the list of availability of seats. Some IITs increase the seats and some others introduce new programmes. IIT-Hyderabad has written to the JEE Chairman that it will start two new programmes this year — Civil Engineering and Engineering Science, with 25 seats each.

So far 5,07,607 applications have been received by the IITs, slight increase from last year's figure. But the final number may change as some candidates have applied in two zones, while some others have failed to provide the necessary documents. “We are writing to all such candidates to choose the zone they wish, to appear in and also submit the documents immediately. The variation may not be huge,” Professor Reddy said.

Kanpur zone saw maximum applicants this year. Madras zone received about 78,000 applications. Last year, Bombay zone received the maximum applications. “We have altered the allocation of cities, where exam will be held, to different zones to ensure equal workload,” he said.

## **IIT-JEE: 4.5% sub- quota for minorities within OBC quota**

(Hindustan Times (Indore), 25 Feb 2012)

NEW DELHI: The IIT admissions will this year have a sub-quota within quota. The 27% seats reserved for the Other Backward Classes Non- Creamy Layer – OBC (NCL) — will have a subquota of 4.5% for minorities.

This was decided at a meeting of the Joint Admission Board held in Delhi on February 18. A total of 5.07 lakh candidates have filled in forms for IIT exam this year, of which 1.4 lakh have declared themselves to be of OBC status.

Confirming this, Organising Chairman of JEE 2012 GB Reddy said the website [jee.iitd.ac.in](http://jee.iitd.ac.in) has a scroll seeking attention of IIT JEE 2012 candidates belonging to OBC (NCL) minority category.

The candidate concerned is requested to submit a declaration/undertaking stating that he belongs to OBC (NCL) minority category and is entitled to 4.5% of seats reserved exclusively for this category, he said.

The declaration/undertaking should reach the respective zonal IIT before March 20, 2012. The candidate will have to finally send a certificate authenticating his declaration before April 8.

The JAB meeting had also decided to increase the number of students called for counseling for IIT-JEE 2012. The number of general category students, who will be called for IIT-JEE 2012, will be double the number of seats in that category. The number of OBC category students will also be twice the number of seats. The corresponding number for SC/ST and physically disabled categories will be three times the number of seats.

Among other issues that came up for discussion at the JAB meeting was conversion of vacant PD seats and exit policy after accepting the allotment. The exit policy is a new thing being introduced from 2012 under which a student can be refunded his payment if he decides to decline the seat and communicates about it before the third round of counselling.

Telegraph Kolkata 24.02.12 p-4

# States agree in principle to tech test

OUR SPECIAL  
CORRESPONDENT

## Bengal seeks time, Tamil Nadu opposes one-exam proposal

New Delhi, Feb. 23: The Centre's proposal for a common national entrance examination for engineering colleges was yesterday endorsed "in principle" by the majority of states.

However, Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Odisha and Puducherry sought more time to study the proposal.

Tamil Nadu, where admissions are based exclusively on state board results, strongly opposed the common test.

The Union human resource development ministry has decided to introduce the common aptitude-cum-

advanced knowledge test in 2013 in place of the IIT Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) and the All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE).

JEE decides admissions to the 15 IITs, whereas AIEEE is used by 30 National Institutes of Technology, four Indian Institutes of Information Technology and five Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research.

The AIEEE scores are also used by a number of private engineering and technical institutes. Over 10 lakh students apply for AIEEE and 5 lakh for JEE every year.

"A common test will ensure that there is a larger representation of students from all the states. Admission to IITs will not just be limited to students whose parents can afford coaching classes. And, also, since there is weightage given to the state board, students will pay attention to school studies, too," HRD minister Kapil Sibal said at the end of a day-long conference with state education ministers. Twenty-three ministers attended the conference.

During admission, 60 per cent weightage will be given to the test scores and 40 per

cent to state board marks. But if states want a different weightage for admission to their institutions they would be free to do so.

The question paper for the test will be drafted by IIT faculty and the exam will be conducted by CBSE.

The test will be held twice a year — in April/May and November/December. Sample papers will be placed in the public domain from July this year. Also, a student can repeat the exam to improve scores and the test scores will be valid for two years.

The exam will have two ele-

ments — an aptitude test to assess scholastic levels and an advanced section, which a student can choose to either continue with or skip.

After the test, a common merit list will be prepared after normalising the marks scored in different state boards.

At present, students seeking admission to engineering courses at the undergraduate level appear for multiple entrance exams. The standards of these exams vary widely, and are a burden to students in terms of time, money and the stress involved.

Also, since there is a lack of uniformity in the standards of all 42 school boards, it was impossible to rank students on an all-India basis.

A student could score higher marks in one board compared to another because of differences in course content and evaluation guidelines.

Although the proposal to have a common test has cleared the biggest roadblock by getting the approval of the states, it will be placed before the Central Advisory Board of Education for clearance. The Centre hopes the states will agree to introduce the test from 2014 in colleges that are run by them.

Dainik Bhaskar Kota 24.02.2012 P-2

# पीसीएम ही तय करेगा आईआईटी की राह!

प्रतिक्रिया

कॉमन टेस्ट 'आईसीट' के मैकेनिज्म पर आईआईटी के प्रोफेसर संशय में

भास्कर न्यूज़ | कोटा

एमएचआरडी द्वारा आईआईटी, एनआईटी, ट्रिपल आईटी व राज्य के इंजीनियरिंग संस्थानों में एडमिशन के लिए 2013 से प्रस्तावित 'इंजिनियरिंग साइंस-इंजीनियरिंग एलिजिबिलिटी टेस्ट' (आईसीट) के प्रारूप पर अलग-अलग प्रतिक्रियाएं सामने आ रही हैं।

भास्कर ने गुरुवार को देश के 5 आईआईटी संस्थानों की फैकल्टी से कॉमन टेस्ट के मैकेनिज्म पर चर्चा की। आईआईटी दिल्ली के फिजिक्स विभाग के पूर्व एचओडी डॉ. अजय घटक ने कहा कि प्रस्तावित टेस्ट से छात्रों का मल्टीलेवल टेस्ट का खर्च व मानसिक परेशानी बचेगी। वे स्कूलों में नियमित क्लास अटेंड करेंगे। आईआईटी के एक वरिष्ठ प्रोफेसर ने बताया कि प्रस्तावित प्रारूप में 5 घंटे के दो टेस्ट होंगे। पहले 2 घंटे के इंजीनियरिंग एलिजिबिलिटी टेस्ट में कॉम्प्लेक्स, लॉजिकल, रीजनिंग,

क्रिटिकल थिंकिंग व अन्य समान योग्यता वाले ऑब्जेक्टिव प्रश्न पूछे जाएंगे। 3 घंटे के दूसरे टेस्ट में फिजिक्स, केमिस्ट्री और मैथ्स के सवाल पूछे जाएंगे। आईआईटी में प्रवेश के लिए कुल 60 फीसदी अंकों में से पहले ऑब्जेक्टिव पार्ट का 24 फीसदी अनुपात हो सकता है और दूसरे सब्जेक्टिव (एडवांस) पार्ट का अनुपात 46 रखा जा सकता है। शेष 40 फीसदी 12वीं के अंकों का रहेगा। आईआईटी मुंबई से बीटेक चंद्रशेखर शर्मा ने इस बात पर चिंता जताई कि 40 साल पुराने जेईई को मर्ज करके 15 लाख से परीक्षार्थियों का एक ही दिन टेस्ट होगा। कहीं पेपर लीक हुआ तो आईआईटी की साख दांव पर लग सकती है। आईआईटी दिल्ली से बीटेक भूपेश कुमार सिंघल ने बताया कि आईसीट से आईआईटी पर खास पर फर्क नहीं पड़ेगा, क्योंकि 5 लाख में से 9 हजार यानी टॉप 2 फीसदी स्टूडेंट आईआईटी में आएंगे।

बढ़ सकता है 12वीं का वेटेज

एक आईआईटी प्रोफेसर ने बताया कि 12वीं बोर्ड के अंकों का न्यूनतम 40 वेटेज रखा गया है। आईआईटी के लिए यह वेटेज आने वाले वर्षों में इससे ज्यादा भी बढ़ाया जा सकता है।

अवसर कितने अभी तय नहीं

आईसीट का स्कोर दो साल तक वैध रहने की बात कही जा रही है। हालांकि छात्रों को अधिकतम अवसर कितने मिलेंगे, यह आईआईटी काउंसिल ही तय करेगी। फिलहाल एमएचआरडी ने अगले 2 माह में राज्यों की सहमति से विस्तृत प्रारूप जारी करने का भरोसा दिलाया है।

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# आईआईटी में इनोवेशन सेंटर शुरू

नई दिल्ली (कास)। केन्द्रीय मानव संसाधन व विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने शुक्रवार को देश के प्रतिष्ठित इंजीनियरिंग संस्थान आईआईटी में इनोवेशन सेंटर का उद्घाटन किया। संस्थान के स्वर्ण जयंती समारोह के उपलक्ष्य में आयोजित इस कार्यक्रम में सिब्बल के अलावा कई पुराने छात्र और शिक्षक मौजूद थे।

देश में नवप्रवर्तन को पनपने में मददगार वातावरण बनाने के संकल्प के साथ और लैब व किताबों में अपना बहुत सारा समय लगाने वाले आईआईटी के स्नातकों में नवाचार का जज्बा पैदा करने के लिए आईआईटी दिल्ली के 1986 बैच के पूर्व छात्रों ने एक नए विचार के तहत इनोवेशन सेंटर बनाया है। सिब्बल ऐसी शैक्षिक नीति के पक्ष में हैं जो हमारे

■ कपिल सिब्बल ने किया सेंटर का उद्घाटन

■ संस्थान में स्वर्ण जयंती समारोह का आयोजन

विद्यार्थियों को और अधिक नवप्रवर्तनशील बनाए। अनुसंधान व विकास व वैज्ञानिक संस्थान नौकरशाही का नियंत्रण कमजोर हो।

सिब्बल के विचार में हमारे युवाओं के लिए सही मायनों में एक अभिनव शिक्षा प्रणाली का निर्माण करना जरूरी है। इसमें आलोचनात्मक सोच, विश्लेषणात्मक तार्किकता, समस्या समाधान, संप्रेषण जैसे कौशलों का

विकास कर सकें और ऐसी व्यवस्था बने जिसमें महत्वाकांक्षी एवं आत्मविश्वासी नागरिक विकसित हो पाएं।

यह सेंटर इस तरह डिजाइन किया गया है कि विभिन्न विषयों के छात्र अभिनव प्रोजेक्ट पर काम कर सकें। सामाजिक व कारोबारी तौर पर उपयोगी प्रोजेक्टों पर उन्हें संरक्षण दिया जाएगा।

गौरतलब है कि नवप्रवर्तन को पहले से कहीं ज्यादा समृद्धि व प्रगति के इंजिन के तौर पर देखा जा रहा है। भारत सरकार ने 2010 से दशक 2020 के दशक को नवप्रवर्तन का दशक घोषित किया है। सरकार का मानना है कि भारत के आर्थिक व सामाजिक विकास में नवप्रवर्तन का बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण रोल है।

Rashtriya Sahara, ND 25/02/2012 P-7

## आईआईटी के पूर्व छात्रों ने दिया संस्थान को इनोवेशन सेंटर का तोहफा

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। केन्द्रीय मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने कहा कि वह एक ऐसी शैक्षिक नीति के पक्ष में हैं, जो विद्यार्थियों को अधिक नवप्रवर्तनशील बनाए। अनुसंधान, विकास व वैज्ञानिक संस्थानों में नौकरशाही का नियंत्रण कमजोर हो। युवाओं के लिए सही मायनों में एक अभिनव शिक्षा प्रणाली का निर्माण करना जरूरी है, ताकि उनमें आलोचनात्मक सोच, विश्लेषणात्मक तार्किकता, समस्या समाधान व सम्प्रेषण कौशल का विकास कर सके। सिब्बल शुक्रवार को आईआईटी में पहले इनोवेशन सेंटर के उद्घाटन समारोह को संबोधित कर रहे थे। संस्थान के स्वर्ण जयंती समारोह के उपलक्ष्य में मानव संसाधन व विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने इस केन्द्र का उद्घाटन किया है, जो 1986 बैच के पूर्व छात्रों द्वारा विकसित अवधारणा का नतीजा है।

सिब्बल ने कहा कि हम चाहते हैं कि एक ऐसी व्यवस्था बने, जिससे लोग महत्वाकांक्षी व आत्मविश्वासी बनें। उन्होंने कहा कि हमने हाल ही में भारतीय नवप्रवर्तन अधिनियम का प्रस्ताव दिया है। नवप्रवर्तन को पहले से कहीं ज्यादा समृद्धि व प्रगति के इंजन के तौर पर देखा जा रहा है। सरकार ने 2010 से 2020 के दशक को नवप्रवर्तन का दशक घोषित किया है। सिब्बल

ने कहा कि सरकार का मानना है कि भारत के आर्थिक व सामाजिक विकास में नवप्रवर्तन का बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण रोल है। इस सेंटर का उद्देश्य है आईआईटी-दिल्ली के विद्यार्थियों को नवप्रवर्तन के पथ पर अग्रसर करना और कार्यक्रम के अलावा उन्हें रचनात्मक कार्य के लिए प्रोत्साहित करना। 1986 बैच के एजाज हुदा ने कहा कि जहाँ से हमने शिक्षा पाई है, उस संस्थान को कुछ लौटा पाने का यह हमारा प्रयास है। इनोवेशन सेंटर आईआईटी दिल्ली के विद्यार्थियों में नवप्रवर्तन के जज्बे को विकसित करेगा। यह उद्यमी गतिविधियों के लिए प्रेरणा स्थल का काम भी करेगा। प्रोजेक्ट से जुड़े एक अन्य पूर्व छात्र एसके गुप्ता के अनुसार आईआईटी दिल्ली में बहुत बढ़िया अकादमिक टीम है, जो नए रास्ते बनाने और संस्थान को नई उचाइयों पर ले जाने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है। गौरतलब है कि आईआईटी-दिल्ली के स्वर्ण जयंती समारोह का उद्घाटन भारत की राष्ट्रपति ने 16 अगस्त 2010 को किया था, जिसके बाद से राष्ट्रीय व अंतरराष्ट्रीय सम्मेलनों, विशेष व्याख्यान, सम्मान व पुरस्कार समारोह नियमित रूप से जारी हैं। संस्थान के स्वर्ण जयंती समारोह के मौके पर जीएच केसवानी रिसर्च सेंटर की भी स्थापना की जा रही है। इसकी आधारशिला सिब्बल ने शुक्रवार को हुए समापन समारोह के दौरान रखी।

### ‘सोशल मीडिया के लिए भी नियमन की जरूरत’

नई दिल्ली (एजेंसी)। सोशल मीडिया का विरोधी होने से इनकार करते हुए दूरसंचार मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने प्रिंट व इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया की तरह इंटरनेट के लिए भी नियमन की वकालत की है। उन्होंने कहा, कौन कहता है कि मैं नहीं समझता कि मैं शत्रु हूँ। उन्होंने ये बातें बुधवार शाम अपने नए काव्य संग्रह के विमोचन के बाद चर्चा के दौरान कहीं। उनसे कहा गया था कि मीडिया के एक घड़े ने उन्हें सोशल मीडिया का शत्रु करार दिया। उन्होंने कहा प्रिंट व इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया इस देश के कानून के अधीन है। मेरा एक ही सवाल है कि क्या सोशल मीडिया को इसके दायरे में नहीं होना चाहिए। मंत्री ने कहा आप कुछ भी प्रकाशित नहीं कर सकते या टेलीविजन पर कुछ भी नहीं देख सकते। हालांकि, सोशल मीडिया को प्रिंट या इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया से ज्यादा अधिकार है, इसलिए मैं अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता का शत्रु नहीं बन जाता। मैं हमेशा स्वतंत्रता के लिए लड़ा और इस चर्चा की कोई तार्किकता नहीं है। यदि कोई कहता है कि चूंकि हमारा सर्वर अमेरिका में है इसलिए मैं देश के कानून की परवाह नहीं करता, इस बात को स्वीकार करना उपनिवेशवाद है। सिब्बल के काव्य संग्रह के दूसरे भाग का शीर्षक ‘माई वर्ल्ड विदिन’ है। इसमें उन्होंने वाम दलों पर भी निशाना साधा है। अपनी कविता ‘द फिसाइल लेफ्ट’ में उन्होंने वामदलों से अपील की कि वे अपने से इतर चीजों को भी देखें। गौरतलब है कि अमेरिका से परमाणु करार के मुद्दे पर वाम दलों ने संग्रम एक सरकार से समर्थन वापस ले लिया था।

Times of India ND  
25/02/2012 P-24

## BSNL's tablet at ₹3250 to rival Aakash

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** BSNL on Friday announced it would bring three tablets in partnership with Pantel, a company based in Noida. Of the three, the cheapest one will be sold for Rs 3,250, a few hundred rupees more than the commercial version of Aakash tablet.

The 7-inch tablet — BSNL Penta T PAD IS 701R — is powered by 1ghz processor and comes with 256MB RAM. It has a resistive screen and runs on Android operating software. The tablet will be sold along with special data plans and 3G services from BSNL.

The two other tablets are priced at Rs 10,999 and Rs 13,500. Both have capacitive screen, which has better touch sensitivity. These two tablets are also made by Pantel. Pantel website shows that the company has started a prebooking for all three.

Hindustan Times ND 25/02/2012 P-10

# Govt in a dilemma over panel's pick for UGC chief

## UNFAIR? Selection panel by naming only two candidates – one of them facing vigilance probe – has given ministry no choice

**Pankaj Vohra**

■ pvohra@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The HRD ministry is in a dilemma on how to deal with the piquant situation that has arisen due to the 'arbitrary' recommendation of the search and selection committee for the appointment of a full time chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC).

The three-member selection group of experts — Madhav Menon, Goverdhan Mehta and K Srinath Reddy — had earlier in the week forwarded a two-member panel for the prestigious position, once held by PM

Manmohan Singh. The two panelists are former vice chancellor of Hyderabad University Seyed E Hasnain and director of Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore Pankaj Chandra.

The two were picked up from a larger panel of five.

Normally, any selection committee picks a panel of three to enable the government to make the final selection. But in this case, the search committee deliberately or inadvertently presented a fait accompli to the government and forced it to consider only a single name — that of Chandra. The ministry will

### NOT SPOILT FOR CHOICE

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■ The two panelists are former V-C of Hyderabad University Seyed E Hasnain and director of IIM Bangalore Pankaj Chandra.

■ The search committee deliber-

atedly or inadvertently presented a fait accompli to the government and has forced it to consider only a single name — that of Chandra

■ This is because there is a vigilance inquiry pending against Hasnain and he cannot be considered till he is cleared.

In other words, the panel has given no room for the government to consider anyone else for the post. If this happens, charges of manipulation are certainly going to be made especially because Chandra's name

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In other words, the panel has given no room for the government to consider anyone else for the post. If this happens, charges of manipulation are certainly going to be made especially because Chandra's name

was not among the 80 nominations received in response to the public advertisement but was added in the final stage apparently by a panel member as "prerogative" of the committee.

The other point being discussed is how the selection panel could not find a third name knowing that nominating a single name could lead to scrapping of the panel as HRD minister Kapil Sibal will be the first one to see the adverse legal implications of such a selection. Second, the PM will also want the process to be transparent. Third, Chandra's selection, which is inevitable, will also

mean that the UGC will be headed by someone who is not from the university system but from the IIMs, which only awards diplomas and not degrees.

The committee, which took an year to decide, has finally come out with a panel, making the government's task difficult.

The search for the chairman began in the light of the unpredictable status of the proposed higher education research bill towards establishing the National Commission on Higher Education Research. The ministry's view could not be ascertained as top officials were unavailable for comment.

HindustanTimes

Title : Top scientist quits over Antrix action

Author :

Location : NEW DELHI / BANGALORE:

Article Date : 02/25/2012

# Top scientist quits over **Antrix** action

**ROW DEEPENS** Narasimha backs former Isro chief Madhavan Nair, says he did no wrong

HT Correspondents

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**NEW DELHI / BANGALORE:** High-profile scientist Roddam Narasimha, who led one of the two probes into the controversial Antrix-Devas satellite deal, has quit as a member of the Space Commission, choosing to side with four top scientists banned from government jobs despite his conclusion that they committed no financial wrongdoing.

The Centre had last month barred the scientists — including former Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) chief G Madhavan Nair — from future government roles based on the findings of a second probe, which were at variance with Narasimha's.

Narasimha's resignation from India's aerospace regulatory panel is being viewed as an embarrassment for the government and a loss for the state-administered space programme.

He spent more than 25 years

**I am distressed over the humiliation heaped on people who spent their professional lives working for a valued national goal.**

**RODDAM NARASIMHA**  
Space scientist

at Isro, the country's national space agency, where he drove its aeronautics programme.

"We found no evidence of wrongdoing or fraud or personal gain (in the Antrix deal). I'm distressed over the humiliation heaped on people who spent their professional lives working for a valued national goal," Narasimha said in Bangalore on Friday.

The 2005 contract between Antrix, an Isro wing, and the privately-held Devas Multimedia to put satellites in orbit for commercial use was revoked for allegedly being inked in violation of rules.



## In Nair's support, top Space Commission scientist quits

### PM Rejects Narasimha's Resignation

#### *TIMES NEWS NETWORK*

Bangalore: Professor Roddam Narasimha, the first and longest-serving member of the Space Commission, announced his resignation on Friday, saying the punishment of top scientists of the Indian Space Research Organization (Isro) over the Devas spectrum deal had demoralized the country's scientific community. Officials said the PM had received his resignation but had rejected it.

Narasimha, who has been for over 20 years with the Space Commission — the oversight body for all space programmes and deals — said he had decided to resign also because the action against former Isro chief Madhavan Nair and three others ignored Isro's achievements, especially when there was no wrong committed in spectrum allocation in the Antrix-Devas deal, barring procedural lapses. The Isro scientists were barred from holding any government post.

#### **N-effect? 3 NGOs lose licence**

The Centre has cancelled the licences of three Tamil Nadu-based NGOs allegedly involved in protests against the Kudankulam nuclear plant. The action follows an inquiry by the Union home ministry which found foreign funding of the agitation, through NGOs, to stall work on the project. [P 14](#)

#### **PROBE HEAD PROTESTS PUNISHMENT**

Roddam Narasimha, 78, is the longest serving member of the Space Commission, with a stint of more than 20 years. Narasimha and former cabinet secy B K Chaturvedi, probed the S-band spectrum deal between Antrix & Devas. Narasimha said there was no short-charging of spectrum only procedural lapses, in the deal **Space scientists differ with govt on Antrix deal** Bangalore:

Space Commission member Roddam Narasimha's resignation indicates views of the scientific community on the Antrix-Devas deal strongly differ with that of the government.

Former Isro chief G Madhavan Nair and three other scientists were barred from holding any government post for their alleged role in the deal after a probe led by a former CVC found that bandwidth required for Devas was sold cheap by Antrix. Nair said Narasimha's departure would be a great loss. "There are very few people in the country who grasp aerospace like he does. He has been in India's aerospace development right from the beginning of Isro's first launch vehicle to heading National Aerospace Laboratories to working on the LCA and the regional jet."

MoS in the PMO V Narayanaswamy urged Narasimha to reconsider his decision. "We hold scientists of this country in high esteem," he said. Narasimha's decision came after scientists led by CNRRao, chairman of the scientific advisory council to the PM, criticized the penal action against Isro scientists as highly demoralizing, especially when the achievements of Isro and Nair, the 'Moon Man of India', had been praised worldwide.

Narasimha, who was part of the PM's panel which also probed the agreement, said: "I have requested the PM to permit me to relinquish my membership of the Space Commission." He said there were two reasons for it. "First, I considered the actions taken against certain Isro scientists in connection with the Antrix-Devas agreement could demoralize the Isro community, and adversely affect its ability to take the kind of technological initiatives — not always without risk — that are the hallmark of an innovative organization." He said the second reason was he didn't want to be part of the commission when reforms needed to ensure such lapses didn't occur again were made.

TNN



The actions...against certain Isro scientists... could demoralize the Isro scientific community, and adversely affect... technological initiatives – not always without risk – that are the hallmark of an innovative organization — **NARASIMHA**

Economic Times, ND 25/02/2012 P-10

# It's Broke, Fix It

The standard of India's technological and scientific training is falling because of warped policies



**V RAGHUNATHAN**

**W**e may boast of the world's third-largest technological workforce, but actually, for a country our size, our institutions in the field of science and technology are in a woeful state. However, the process of serious fixing of what is wrong is nowhere evident.

Our civil engineers ceased taking pride in building bridges, flyovers or structures long ago. Few of our competent mechanical engineers like working on shopfloors. Even fewer of our chemical engineers like to rough it out on, say, refineries. Mining engineers are few, and fewer of them like to toil in the mines.

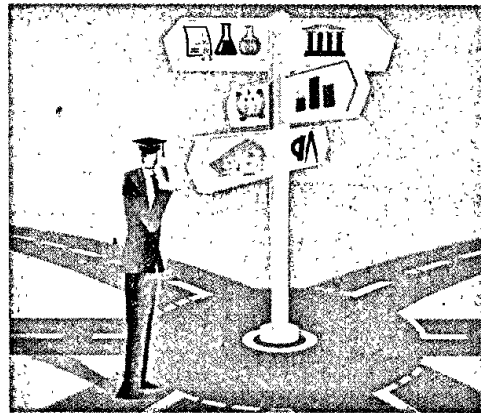
While one section of industry tells us that not more than a quarter of engineering graduates are employable, another section of industry pays so little to technologists that the latter, if they are any good at all, prefer to work in the software industry or pursue an MBA, any MBA, so that they can sell soap or financial products, where the industry pays them much more.

When it comes to science, the problem gets worse. The problem is not only of quality, but of quantity as well. For a country of one billion-plus,

institutions offering good science degrees are few and far between. Those aspiring for a career in science are even fewer. A young academic with an outstanding record and a Ph.D in biotechnology from esteemed universities in Europe and India, with several international publications, including some award-winning ones, could be paid less by Reliance-Life Sciences than what an average B.Com with an MBA from one of the second- or even third-rung business schools may be paid by, say, ICICI Bank. So why would bright students aspire for a career in technology or sciences in India?

While there is nothing wrong if competent engineers take to software industry or pursue other non-technical vocations, it is disturbing when even those engineers and scientists who otherwise may have preferred to work in their own respective fields move to financial and marketing jobs because they never get paid adequately by the industry at home for their engineering and scientific skills. Even DRDO has been losing scientists to the software and financial sectors. There is something disturbing about an economy in which shuffling wealth (finance) is valued way above creating wealth (manufacturing).

No wonder while the software industry and B-schools take away the best 25% of our engineers and science graduates, by definition, the real technical and scientific jobs are probably left to be han-



GEETANJALI

dled by those of whom a majority are not perhaps the best in their vocations.

For sure, our industry must share a large part of the responsibility for this imbalance and the resultant state of our technological and scientific fields. When the fields are themselves unremunerative, institutions providing such education cannot attract quality teachers or quality students. Little wonder that India produces less than a thousand Ph.Ds a year in engineering and technology.

The same bias is evident when we compare, even within the government sector, the difference in fee levels between, say, IITs and IIMs. While an IIM may be permitted to charge an annual fee upwards of ₹6 lakh (or even ₹20 lakh for a one-year programme), an IIT may not

charge more than ₹50,000-60,000, give or take. While this difference does not hurt IITs since they are in any case supported by government, when the same principle is applied to engineering colleges and business schools in the private sector, the problem becomes acute.

**F**or instance, private business schools are allowed to charge fees way disproportionate to the quality of education they provide. However, a private engineering college, that needs much higher investments than a business school, is not allowed to charge a weighted average annual fee beyond ₹48,000, which is not even adequate to cover the salaries, if salaries were to be paid as per regulatory norms.

Part of this state of affairs is because a great majority of

engineering education is cornered by politicians, who make money on the real estate that they often corner from their respective governments at a pittance for 'educational purposes'. As long as the colleges operate, they make money through capitation fees, without providing commensurate facilities. And once their colleges fold up for lack of admissions, the land is ripe for other uses.

Since they are smart enough to know that any increase in fees, given the pathetic quality of education their institutions deliver, will only come back to haunt them in the form of public fury, they prefer to lie low and do not actively seek higher fees. They also fear that any persistent demand for a hike in fees could disturb their cosy game of real estate and capitation fees. And since this category of colleges is in a majority, they even manage to convince the government that the prevailing level of fees is more or less adequate.

This leaves the handful of high-quality private engineering colleges at the receiving end. Little wonder that some good private institutions have favoured differently graded or accredited institutions being allowed to charge differential fees.

This understandably has been opposed by the mediocre ones of the political category. The reality is quality technical education cannot come at a price less than that charged by private nursery schools in our cities.

Hindustan ND25/02/2012 P-1

# ‘आकाश’ पर छाने को तैयार पेंटा टीपैड

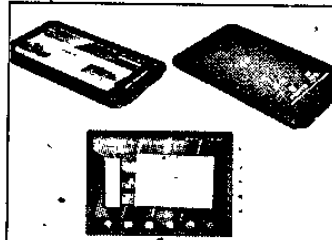
नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल का सबसे सस्ता टैबलेट आकाश का अभी बाजार में आना बाकी है। लेकिन उन्हीं के महकमे बीएसएनएल ने आकाश को टक्कर देने के लिए पेंटा टीपैड बाजार में उतार दिया है।

बीएसएनएल और पेंटल टेक्नोलॉजी ने साझेदारी में पेंटा टीपैड सीरीज के तीन टैबलेट शुरुवार को बाजार में उतारे हैं। इनमें सबसे सस्ते पेंटा टीपैड आईएस 701 की कीमत महज 3250 रुपये है। बीएसएनएल के डाटा प्लान में इसकी कीमत सिर्फ 3499 रुपये होगी।

बीएसएनएल के प्रबंध निदेशक आर. के. उपाध्याय और पेंटल टेक्नोलॉजी के एमडी विजेन्द्र सिंह ने एक कार्यक्रम में नए पेंटा टीपैड को लांच किया। सस्ता पेंटा टीपैड टैबलेट आकाश से कहीं बेहतर टैबलेट है लेकिन संशोधित आकाश-2 में कुछ मामलों में इससे बेहतर है। उसकी टच स्क्रीन को बेहतर बनाकर कैपेसिटिव बनाया जा चुका है। जबकि पेंटा टीपैड में रिसेस्टिव टच स्क्रीन है। लेकिन पेंटा टीपैड में कैमरा है जबकि आकाश-2 में ऐसी कोई सुविधा नहीं है।

दरअसल आकाश को मिली ख्याति के बाद बाजार में एकाएक सस्ते टैबलेट की मांग बढ़ने लगी है। कई कंपनियां छोटे टैबलेट के कारोबार में कूद पड़ी हैं। इसी कड़ी में बीएसएनएल और पेंटल टेक्नोलॉजी ने शुरुआत की है। बीएसएनएल के अन्य टैबलेट पेंटा टीपैड डब्ल्यूएस 704सी की कीमत 10999 है। जबकि टीपैड डब्ल्यूएस 802सी का आकार आठ इंच का है जिसमें रैम और स्टोरेज क्षमता कहीं ज्यादा है।



**3250** रुपए की है शुरुआती कीमत

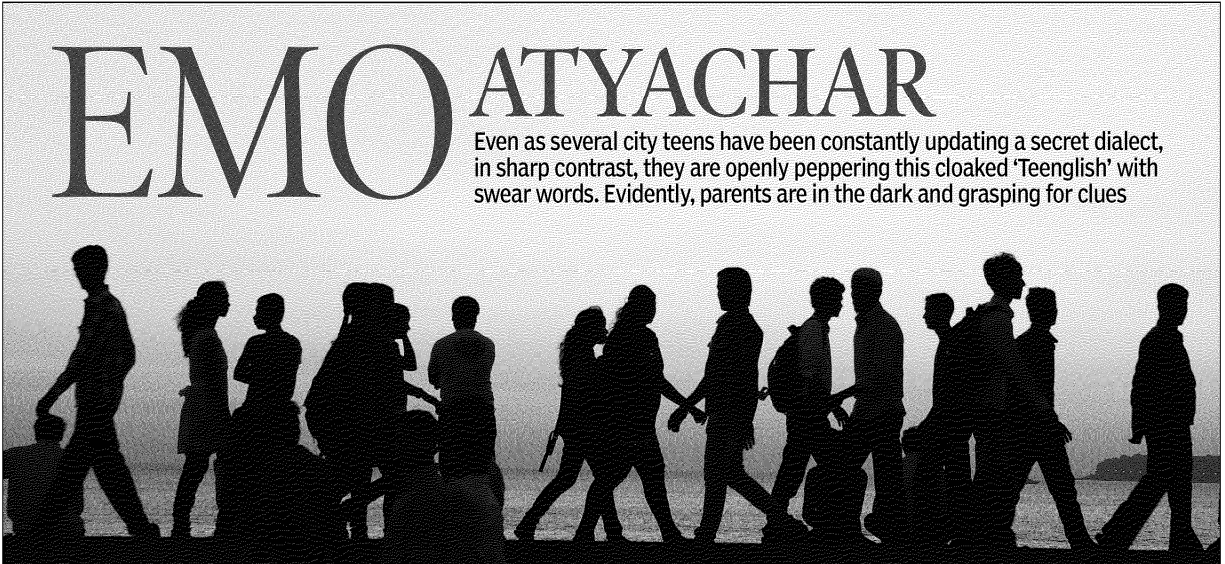
- तीन मॉडलों में मौजूद है
- बीएसएनएल के साथ किया गया है अनुबंध
- नोएडा की कंपनी ने तैयार किया है टैबलेट

**आईएस 701 आर**

- एंडरॉइड बेस्ड ऑपरेटिंग सिस्टम के इस शुरुआती मॉडल में 7 इंच की टच स्क्रीन लगी हुई है।
- 256 एमबी की रैम और एक गीगा हर्ट्ज का प्रोसेसर लगा हुआ है।
- इंटरनेट के इस्तेमाल के लिए भी सभी जरूरी ऑप्शन मौजूद हैं।
- 2 जीबी की इनबिल्ट मेमोरी को 32 जीबी तक बढ़ाया जा सकता है।
- बाजार में यह 3250 रुपए में लोगों को मिलेगा।

**डब्ल्यूएस 704 सी**

- 7 इंच की स्क्रीन के साथ ही इसमें 512 एमबी रैम और एक गीगा हर्ट्ज का प्रोसेसर लगा हुआ है।
- 3जी स्पीड के साथ लोगों को इंटरनेट का नया आनंद मिलेगा।
- फिल्म देखने के शौकीन इसे अपनी टीवी के साथ भी कनेक्ट कर सकते हैं।



Sharmila Ganesan Ram & Mansi Choksi | TWN

Not everything that begins with an 'F' must be a sleek white gadget. Ask 15-year-old schoolboy Namith Bopanna who likes to call his index finger an "Finger". He projects it devoutly from the crease of his palms, the cream of squishy pastries and the salty residue of wafers. After all, he belongs to a generation of crotch voices and seedy moustaches that feel the need to wield such a finger: For the sole purpose of using touch

and now encompasses such words as ATM (at the moment), crunk (erazy drunk), frage (Facebook rape for mailing), e-dump (electronic heart burn), DTR (define the relationship), emo (emotional) and overchicked (a boy who dates a very pretty girl). The cryptic lingo of 'Teenglish' even inspired a book called 'Pimp Up Your Vocab' to help parents and teachers negotiate the mystic of this language. While Teenglish draws heavily from American television shows like *How I Met Your Mother* (which immortalized the idea of a 'wingman') and *The Big Bang Theory* (credit-

Where do children learn corrupt language? They only pick up what they hear. So naturally, it is parents, servants or other adults who are to blame. I would advise adults to start learning the language they wish their young ones to speak

Writers and poets are worried about youngsters' language, which seems to be purely transactional and lacks charm or romance. All they are doing is finding abbreviations, which doesn't call for too much creativity. I think soon their exchanges will lead to a hybrid language limited to SMSes, Twitter and Facebook alone.



Levin Papp

**Teenglish | A crash course**

- FINGER (NOUN): A finger kept clean for the purpose of managing touch-screen devices
- FACEBOOK (NOUN): Dumb
- BUSTED (ADJ): Ugly
- ATM (PHRASE): At the moment
- CRUNK (NOUN): Crazy drunk
- CHUDAK, DUGH, MUNS (NOUN): Money
- EMO (ADJ): Emotional
- FITY (NOUN): Fifty
- OFF THE CHAIN (ADJ): Cool
- OVERCHICKED (ADVERB): When

a guy dates a girl more attractive than him  
SWEETS (NOUN): Cigarette  
THAT'S THE SHIT (PHRASE): This is amazing  
TEENNY: Transvestite  
WIRED (ADJ): A person who has too much energy  
BROMANCE (ADJ): Affection shared by two straight males  
E-DUMP (NOUN): Electronic heartbreak  
ASHHOLE (NOUN): Someone who asks too many silly questions

screen devices. So these fingers now have a name. 'Finger' is one of the many neologisms being invented, popularized and trashed every day by the fountainheads of a religion called 'Teenglish'. The perpetrators of this language could be hiding in school uniforms, donning torn jeans or sitting at a mall near you. 'Teenglish has evolved substantially from the days of 'PAW' (parents are watching)

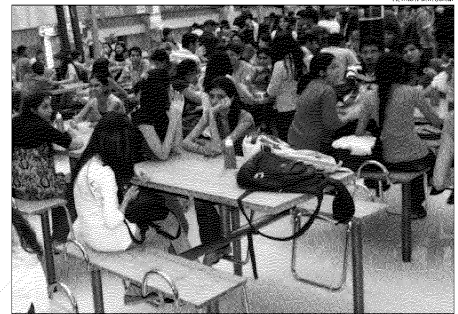
ed with 'bazzinga'), Indian-English slang on shows like *Rockies* and *The Sluts* sparks an impressive following. Shriisha Abhatwale, a 17-year-old from Prabhadevi, says that with more students pursuing studies abroad, a wave of new words is hitting Indian shores. "I didn't know words like 'crunk' and 'chudak' till my friend studying in the US started using them. Sometimes we just use these as code to keep our parents away," she confesses.

For Rhea Gupta, a 18-year-old first-year college student, social networking sites are fertile breeding ground for Teenglish. "Someone will tweet a new word and it will spread like a virus among my friends. It's entertaining to keep up with them," she says. But parents such as Suchita Shetty, who have spent the better part of their parenthood trying to decode their offspring, have started incorporating Teenglish words to communicate with their children.

Computers and SMS have carved out a whole new dictionary of acronyms. I would wonder what is 'lol' (laugh out loud) as it meant 'lots of love' in my time. My daughter laughed when I pronounced 'lol' as one word

We all behave differently with our buddies. It is only when children use cuss words at home, or worse, when they internalize this language in their framework of thinking, that it is time to worry

Dr Hensal Shah | ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, PSYCHIATRY, NAR HOSPITAL



**Expletives making noisy entry into kids' lexicon**

Mansi Choksi & Sharmila Ganesan Ram | TWN

Indian television is the fountainhead of popular at-a-titudes, then the expletive-speaking five-year-old Chinky of television show *Mom Ki Aaza Pratiya* could be one indication of why Indian children lo-lo focus. In the show, the pig-tailed schoolgirl goes around indiscriminately disgorging the finest Awadhi curses, sometimes preempting chastigation but mostly inspiring dotting affection.

Of screen too, in playgrounds, classrooms and living rooms across India, cuss words from underzested bandits hiding in school uniforms and sucking on lollipop are increasingly throwing off parents. For children who idolize the likes of Chinky and the obnoxious Japanese cartoon child, Shin Chan, mouthing bad words is the best way to seek attention. Recently, seven-year-old Pritham Chaudhary who goes to a Santa Cruz IB school, used a crude Hindi slang for male genitalia while referring to his tuition teacher. A first-standard teacher at a south Mumbai school found herself turning several shades of pink

when a student showed her the finger when asked to spell a word. For another teacher who works in the area of brain development of children across the ages of four and nine, the innocent game of word association has forever turned macabre. One child linked the letter B with a cuss Hindi term suggesting incestuous sexual ties. "Usually they don't know the meaning of the cuss word and don't even want to figure it out," says child psychologist Seema Hingorany who is used to a steady stream of such cases. "It could come from parents who use cuss words in front of their kids, role models like older kids, domestic help, TV cartoon series or even movies. These have prompted certain kids to freely say *santa* and *karnawa* as evidenced by their Facebook wall posts," she says. Recently, Hingorany came across an 11-year-old boy who used a cuss word in front of his teacher. When probed, the boy confessed that he could not "control himself" and that he had picked it up from the driver who could be found spouting the invectives when negotiating heavy traffic. While children have always

engaged in shocking their parents with the occasional unmentionable, the difference now is that the child's cuss vocabulary is more expansive and aggressive. Ironically, the new generation of Indian parents who are inclined to view parenting as a professional exercise, is floundering over how to cope with the cuss offensive. A former software professional and now full-time mother Sangita Malawade says she has tried several ways to curb the menace. Punishing, excommunication and not reacting to the cuss word, she had found her own ways around the problem. "Raising your voice or responding aggressively will only reinforce the attention-seeking behaviour and talking down will make them curious. I think the best way is to be stoic and make it clear that bad language is not okay," she says. Vile Parle housewife Sarita Khaura demands that her nine-year-old son "wash his mouth with soap" every time he utters a cuss word. "If not out of respect, he will stop cursing for fear of the ordeal," she says.

**MUMBAI FOR KIDS**

Children are constantly drumming up new code words to keep their thoughts and actions from prying parents. Elders, on their part, are even more worried about the bad words that their kids spout. How can this verbal

communication gulf be filled?  
**Q1. Should parents try and decode the 'alien' language used by children?**  
**Q2. Should parents control the use of bad words?**

**JOIN THE DISCUSSION**  
You can also share your views in the 'Mumbai' or the 'Specials' sections of [timesofindia.indiatimes.com](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com). Or log on to 'The Times Of India' daily on Facebook

The phenomenon of providing children their own individual space is a relatively recent one. We asked readers how essential it is to make separate room for kids. Here are some responses: Individual development comes through teaching and improving ideas. It is essential for parents to spend quality time with them and encourage them to be independent in their daily living and not necessarily give them a separate room. In today's micro nuclear families, what is the need for a separate room? — Namita Sheela Slums and shawis account for 68% and 20% of the population, respectively. Of the remaining 20%, the majority live in one room/bedroom flats. Less than 2% of the citizens have the

**Is the IIT-B 'slanguage' mainstream?**

Sarika Ravindran | TWN

Some of them write complex computer code, others delve into the lesser-known, near-reclusive world of algorithms and variable calculus. But other than the many contributions students of IIT Powai, may have made to the world of scientific engineering is the quirky IIT lingo or 'slanguage'—or so the current batch of students claims. It has succeeded in weaving its thread into Mumbai's conversation, the students insist. They put forth the list. Consider 'funda'. There are IITi fundas, fashion fundas and even traffic fundas. For IIT-Bians from several decades ago, fundamental was way too cumbersome to say and more than half as un-cool. Then there's "bass": A very recent way to refer to 'general' people who don't matter. 'General', which probably evolved from a 'general store'—a place where you get 'random' and 'not-so-random' things. 'Random', a term to describe stuff that crops up when you're least expecting it to; but then 'random' can be quite 'general' too.

Also, there's inside-fraternity terminology that general Mumbaiians (as opposed to the IIT-Bians) are not privy to. Like referring to an MITech as 'matka'. For today's IIT'ian, there is also 'daya', there are 'daya' students, who need to catch up, as are there 'daya profs', bereft of teaching ability. The Powai campus has a corridor so long, it's seemingly infinite. A student of civil engineering says, "What we have is an 'infy corridor'." Pushing the concept a notch above is 'infy max' for whatever is over

the top, too difficult to handle and seemingly unending. IIT'ians also have in their midst 'nabads' aka those students who have experienced a nervous breakdown. That, definitely is a dire situation, one might add. Also consider the concept of 'topo karu' or 'topo maaru', which might emerge as the student invention of the sixties to beat all others, says a student. The term 'glass topo' was IIT' speak confined to the lonely, far-flung Powai campus of those years. The underlying funda: An invented wheel needs no re-inventing. So to 'topo maaru' a de-

**“The campus corridor is so long, it's seemingly infinite or 'infy'”**

sign sheet or flowchart, one needed two chair frames, a square piece of glass that fit between the two, a lamp lit at the bottom of the chair, one finished product on top and the unfinished product placed above it. An easy trace-over followed for a new wheel to be generated. The idea may or may not have been original, but 'glass topo', the name, sure was. 'Topo maaru' was a quick fix done the night before submission. But make no mistake, fundas were duly mastered, only later. For there's no escaping fundas at an IIT. No matter how 'maxed' out you are.

**'Encourage children to be independent'**

'lucru' to answer the question. — Robert Castello By providing a room of their own, individual space is created for children after a certain age. This does facilitate individual development, which is absolutely necessary for their all-round development. Yes, parents must cap the amount they spend on catering to their kids' wishes as overall financial strategy is more important. — Vijay Mullaji How can poor families possibly allocate separate rooms for kids? A parent should spend money on education as per the income and the child's merit. No use throwing hard-earned money if the child does not deserve it. — Mahavir Tewari

Someone will tweet a new word and it will spread like a virus among my friends

Type SO <space> Q1/Q2 <space> YES or NO <space> your views and name. SMS to 58888

Speakout@timesgroup.com with link to the subject line