

Newspaper Clips

February 8, 2011

Times of india Chennai 07.02.11 p-10

IIT-B may set up campus in NY

Final Proposal To Be Submitted By Committee In April To NYCEDC

Hemali Chhopia | TNN

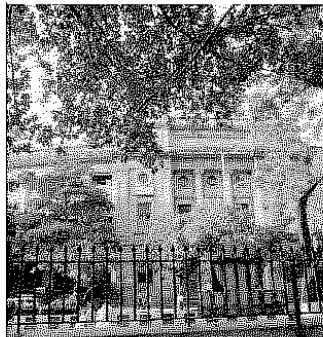
Mumbai: The Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay could soon have a second address — in New York. The New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) has invited IIT-B to submit a proposal to set up a campus in the Big Apple for applied science courses.

The Mumbai institute will fill a lacuna that the city's five boroughs have had all these years — a world-class facility for applied science teaching and research with a strong bent towards applied engineering.

A committee at IIT-B is firming up the institute's pitch, which will be sent to NYCEDC by April. The host city will make a capital contribution, in addition to possibly providing land and other considerations.

Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, director Devang Khakhar, who was invited by The New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC)

Changing Times



NYCEDC, which has received responses from top schools around the world, is likely to assess all the expressions of interest in April

► The New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) has invited IIT-B to submit a proposal to set up a campus there for applied science

► A committee at IIT-B is firming up the pitch, which will be sent to NYCEDC by April. The host city will make a capital contribution

► New York mayor Michael Bloomberg has said the city must optimize on its business strengths

to consider setting up a campus there, has said the concept is being explored. "Yes, we may start with something small there. My team is working on a feasibility plan of going to New York."

New York mayor Michael Bloomberg has said the city must optimize on its business strengths. "The city is committed to finding

the right partner and providing the support needed to establish such a facility because research in the fields of engineering, science and technology is creating the next generation of global business innovations that will propel our economy forward," Bloomberg said. "New York City has all the ingredients to complement an applied science and

engineering hub a highly educated global population, an unparalleled financial and business community to provide capital and support for new ventures and existing top-notch institutions performing cutting-edge research. We want to capitalize on those strengths."

Apart from inviting top institutes around the world to send in their offers, NYCEDC has also broadened its hunt by allowing institutes wanting a presence in NY to apply under this scheme. IIT-B's dean (international relations) Subhasis Chaudhuri, said, "The proposal is at a rather nascent stage. But we are considering it very seriously."

NYCEDC, which has received responses from a select group of top schools from around the world bidding for the same project, is likely to assess all the expressions of interest in April and later work toward setting up the school in a year. Terming this as a "once-in-a-generation opportunity", Bloomberg said, "The impact of this initiative will be extraordinary."

Cops launch probe into JNU campus porn MMS

'Professional Clip' Shot In Hostel Room Last Year

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Illustration: Neelabh

New Delhi: A pornographic MMS showing two Jawaharlal Nehru University hostellers making love has rocked the prestigious institution, prompting the administration to hastily investigate the scandal. The high resolution MMS, shot in April last year, started doing the rounds of the campus recently and came to the notice of the security office last Thursday.

The matter has not been officially reported to police but cops have launched their own probe.

The chief proctor's office said the boy and girl in the video were both students of the School of Languages. The girl has since quit the campus without completing her studies. A computer science student is also under scanner

- ▶ **Family asked girl to return from JNU, P 6**
- ▶ **Disgrace, from Chennai to Jhansi to Amritsar, P 19**
- ▶ **Rahul visits Banda rape victim, maimed Dafit, P 19**

for his alleged involvement in the making of the 1GB video which seems to have been professionally shot.

"All we can say right now is it appears the two boys made the video last April. What we are investigating is why it was circulated now, eight-nine months later? Or was it in circulation without the administration knowing of it?" said JNU's chief proctor H B Bohidar.

"We are aware of the MMS allegations and have decided to ask the Vasant Kunj police to investigate. The ACP will seek a report from JNU authorities. Depending on the report, we will pursue the case further," said DCP (south) H G S Dhaliwal.

JNU authorities said they were trying to find out if the video was made for commercial use. "The MMS is of high resolution and shot in a very professional manner which indicates use of high-end equipment and technology," said Bohidar.

VOYEURS & VICTIMS



- ▶ On Thursday, JNU's security office learns of porn MMS being circulated on campus. **Varsity launches probe the next day**
- ▶ The 'professionally shot' 1GB clip shows two JNU language students making love in a hostel room
- ▶ JNU authorities say video was shot last April and the girl left the university without completing her studies a few months later
- ▶ Role of a computer science student in making of the video also under probe

Times of India ND
08-Feb-11 p-4

Family called back girl after rumours about CD last year

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A pornographic MMS shot last year in Jawaharlal Nehru University came to the notice of the security office last Thursday. Investigation has been initiated and the episode is bound to dent the image of the 41-year-old university, which prides itself on the liberal ethos of its campus.

The last scandal to hit the varsity was in August 2009, when 19 students were penalized in an incident of ragging. Shocked members of the JNU community said the clip was an eye-opener on the erosion of values in the institution.

The administration has promised speedy action. "If found guilty by the proctoral team investigating the matter, the guilty students will be given exemplary punishment," said dean of students welfare VK Jain.

The girl in the video was

studying Arabic and stayed in the varsity's co-ed hostel. The boy is a student of Korean language. JNU authorities could not say if the girl knew she was being filmed.

Police sources said she was called back home by her parents after rumours that a two-part CD featuring her had been circulated in the student community. The girl has since got married.

After learning about the MMS, JNU's chief security officer filed a report and submitted it along with the evidence to the university on Thursday. The proctoral inquiry began the next day.

The Vasant Kunj police said a case will be registered if police are convinced that the CD was being put to commercial use. "We plan to register a case under the stringent IT Act and various sections of IPC. But we will proceed only after consulting the JNU authorities," said an officer from south district.

Times of India ND 08-Feb-11 p-13

'Tech transfer not helping forces'

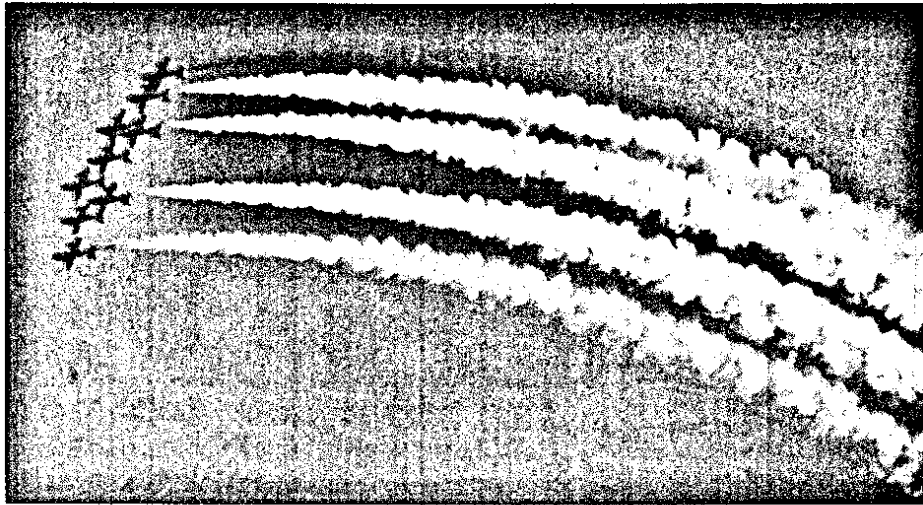
Defence Minister, Air Force Chief Poles Apart On Defence Indigenization

Prashanth G N | tnn

Bangalore: Defence minister A K Antony and air chief P V Naik spoke in strident voices with different emphasis and perceptions on defence research and development. While Antony called for enhancement of indigenization, Naik said total self-reliance may not be possible.

They spoke at the 'Aero and Space Technologies: Success Through Global Co-operation' international conference here on Monday. The technical conference is a prelude to the air show kicking off on Wednesday and is seeing more than 500 delegates from 20 countries, all aerospace experts.

Antony said: "We know that in the name of technology transfer, A, B, C products come to our country. I am not a scientist but I am very sure that in this transfer we never get A category products. Ultimately DRDO will have to



FLYING COLOURS: IAF fighter planes make a formation during a rehearsal for Aero India 2011

develop a technological base in critical technologies and until that happens we cannot say it has come of age.

"This means enhancing indigenisation. There is no substitute to having our own

experience in developing technologies."

However, air chief Naik said self-reliance may not be entirely possible. "There are lot of constraints for critical technologies — infrastructure,

expertise, funding. We must opt for indigenisation but with global co-operation. Countries have to give and take and learn from each other."

Naik expressed sentiments similar to Antony's on

products but the solution he suggested was different.

"Leaders in cutting-edge technology never share the latest. Some say the fifth generation fighter aircraft (FGFA) has been developed. But is it ethical to do so? And is it through illegal back-door entry bypassing all research and development and costs? I think friendly countries should share expertise with each other," Naik said hinting that China could be the sore spot in India's technological ties with other countries. China incidentally touted its fifth generation fighter just a fortnight ago.

V K Saraswat, scientific adviser to defence minister, said there was need to redraw attention from IT to engineering, from maintenance to design and development in India. "We need to go in for global collaboration in stealth, avionics and manufacturing."

Times of India ND 08-Feb-11 p-13

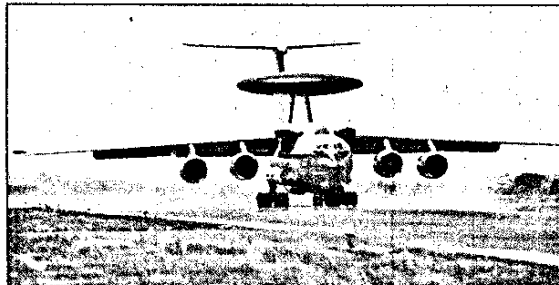
Delays hit homegrown Awacs as Pak races ahead

Rajat Pandit | TNN

New Delhi: India's indigenous Awacs (airborne warning and control systems) or "eyes in the sky" project has been hit by delays even as Pakistan is fast closing the technological gap in this arena with China's active help.

Moreover, IAF's proposal to acquire two more Israeli Phalcon Awacs, after the first three were contracted under the \$1.1-billion contract inked in March 2004, is yet to gather full steam. "There is in principle approval for two more Phalcon Awacs but negotiations are still in progress," said a top defence ministry source.

Awacs or AEW&C (airborne early warning and control) systems can detect in-



FLYING BLIND? Slated for rollout in 2011, the project completion date of Awacs has now been extended to April 2014

coming hostile cruise missiles and aircraft much before ground-based radars, as also act as potent force-multipliers by directing air defence fighters during combat operations with enemy jets. They can also track troop build-ups far away in enemy territory.

The critical requirement for Awacs had led the Cabinet Committee on Security, chaired by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, to clear the Rs 1,800-crore indigenous project in October 2004, barely six months after the Phalcon deal.

The CCS had then set a

time-frame of seven years for development of the homegrown mini-Awacs, under which AEW&C systems developed by DRDO are being mounted on three Embraer-145 jets obtained from Brazil for \$210 million.

But these AEW&C planes are nowhere near even beginning their flight trials. The project completion date has now been extended to April 2014, which itself is set to be revised. "The aircraft and mission system availability is now scheduled for this year, with the integrated system availability pushed back to 2013," said a MoD source.

Once operational, these aircraft are slated to have a normal radar range of 250 km and a 375-km extended one, with a 240-degree coverage

and five-hour endurance time.

The Phalcon Awacs, with a detection range over 400 km, too, have suffered from technical glitches. Under the complex project, the Israeli 360° Phalcon early-warning radar and communication suite has been mounted on Russian IL-76 heavy-lift military aircraft.

The first Phalcon Awacs was originally scheduled for delivery in December 2007, with the second and third ones following in September 2008 and March 2009. But the first arrived only in May 2009 and the second in March 2010, with the third yet to be delivered. Awacs are a crucial element in the plan underway to set up five nodes of IACCS (integrated air command and control system) across the country.

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Caught cheating, MBA students to lose job offer

Shibu Thomas | TNN

Mumbai: Bombay high court on Monday said four students who were recently caught cheating at an exam will not go scot free. They had approached the court for relief after getting caught with slips and could lose their lucrative job offers.

"If we encourage such behaviour, then students who have burnt the midnight oil to prepare for their examinations and those who do not study hard and instead carry chits will be treated on a par," a division bench of Justice P B Majumdar and Justice Amjad Sayed said. The judges said they would not allow such students to go unpunished.

The quartet (names withheld to protect identity) is from Jamnalal Bajaj Insti-

tute of Management Studies which is ranked among top Asian B-Schools. The students were doing master's in Management Studies.

All four had joined management studies after their bachelor's degree in engineering. In December 2009, during their first semester exams, they were caught with slips in their pockets. The students claimed it was unintentional and they had only used the chits for revision.

The high court had tough words for the students. "If a student, who at the inception of his career resorts to cheating, what sort of citizen is he going to become in the future?" the bench said.

The Unfair Means Committee of the college had found the students guilty and declared the results of their first semester exams null and void.

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K'taka varsity under lens over marks scam

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bangalore: The Visvesvaraya Technological University, which has over 180 affiliated colleges, has been rocked by a major scam where results of about 800 engineering students have allegedly been internally manipulated to help them pass the exam.

Under the scanner are the results of challenge valuation (third and final valuation) for III, IV, V and VI semester July 2010 BE exams where students have been awarded disproportionately high marks. Out of 3,311 students who applied for challenge valuation from third to sixth semesters, over 750 students have passed.

In one case a student who got 15 marks in first valuation was awarded 51 after the challenge valuation. In another case even though the first valuation and revaluation marks were the same (16), the stu-

Results of about 800 engineering students have allegedly been internally manipulated to help them pass the exam

dent managed to get 35 during the third round, inflating his score by 19 marks.

These discrepancies were highlighted in a letter by BJP MLC Capt Ganesh Karnic to higher education minister V S Acharya who ordered a probe into the alleged marks scam. A four-member committee headed by collegiate commissioner Tushar Girinath has been constituted to verify the answerscripts and submit a report to the government. High drama unfolded on Monday morning when the probe team visited the VTU headquarters at Belgaum to verify the documents.

Times of India ND
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New stream of stars spotted in Milky Way

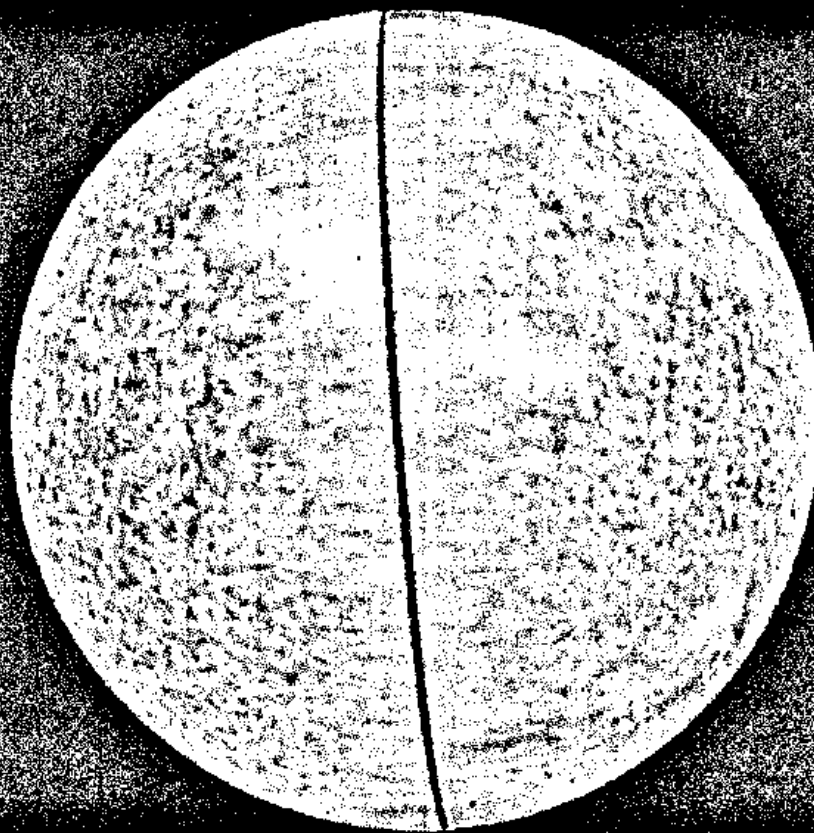
London: Planetary scientists claim to have discovered a new stream of stars in the Milky Way, the galaxy in which the Solar System is located.

The international study, led by Mary Williams of the Astrophysical Institute Potsdam, is part of the Radial Velocity Experiment (RAVE) and used data from Siding Spring Observatory to measure the velocities of 250,000 stars. The new "Aquarius Stream" is named after the constellation of Aquarius in which it resides.

The stream of stars is a remnant of a smaller galaxy in our cosmic neighbourhood, which was pulled apart by the gravitational pull of the Milky Way about 700 million years ago. Williams said the Aquarius Stream was particularly hard to find, located deep within the Milky Way where it was indistinguishable from the huge quantity of stars blocking our view of it. "It was right on our doorstep, but we just couldn't see it," she said. ¶¶

Times of India ND 08-Feb-11 p-21

IN A FIRST, ENTIRE SUN CAUGHT ON FILM



SUNNY SIDE UP: The first-ever 360° panoramic image of the Sun taken by Nasa's two STEREO (Solar TERrestrial RELations Observatory) spacecraft when there was still a small gap between the STEREO Ahead and Behind data. The mission is studying the Sun's great explosive events that hurl billions of tonnes of charged particles at Earth – events that can disrupt power grids and satellites

Indian Express ND 08/02/2011

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First all-India Bar exam next month

TANU SHARMA

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 7

THE first All India Bar Examination (AIBE) will be held across the country on March 6, 2011. Having postponed it from December 5 last year, the Bar Council of India (BCI) is all set to conduct the exam next month for over 22,000 applicants to whom the preparatory material has already been sent.

After it was deferred from the original date, the BCI had given two more language options to write the exam — Punjabi and Assamese. Earlier, advocates

could write the exam in any of these nine languages — Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Marathi, Bengali, Gujarati, Oriya and English.

All students graduating from academic year 2009-10 onwards need to clear the AIBE (to be held twice a year) in order to practice law in India, as it intends to set a minimum standard for admission to practice law in the country. "If your law degree was awarded prior to 2009-10, there's no need to appear for the AIBE," said a BCI official.

Being held for the first time, it aims to assess capabilities at a

basic level, according to a statement from BCI chairman Gopal Subramaniam.

The BCI chairman and Solicitor General said, "The BCI has received 22,267 applications for the AIBE and preparatory material has already been dispatched to each of these candidates. Admit cards will be dispatched by February 15."

Ever since the BCI took the decision to hold the AIBE, it met with strong protests with court cases challenging the legality of the exam. The Union Law Ministry received many representations against holding

of the exam. Representatives of various state Bar Councils were also against the decision.

Finalising the methodology, the BCI clarified that an advocate will be termed either pass or fail in the exam, which will have 100 multiple-choice questions drawn from the syllabi prescribed by the BCI for three-year and five-year LLB programmes. A candidate will have to pay Rs 1,300 as fees to appear for the first time. If need be, Rs 700 will be charged for repeat attempts, but that will not include the cost of receiving preparatory material.

Hindustan Times ND 08/02/2011 P-15

Private B-schools set to take on govt

Charu Sudan Kasturi

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NEW DELHI: Several top private B-schools are petitioning high courts and the government in a concerted battle against a controversial new rule by India's apex technical education regulator that the institutions argue could kill management education quality.

The institutions, including Xavier Labour Research Institute in Jamshedpur, SP Jain in Mumbai, Birla Institute of Management Technology and the Management Development Institute among others, met on Monday to finalise opposition strategy.

INSTITUTIONS ARE OPPOSING NOTICE THAT PREVENTS THEM FROM CONDUCTING THEIR OWN ADMISSION TESTS

The B-schools are opposing a December 28, 2010 notification by the All India Council for Technical Education which prevents them from conducting their own admission tests for the coveted post-graduate diploma in management.

The notification also bars individual institutions from conducting their own group dis-

cussions and personal interviews — instead stipulating that states are to conduct GDs and PIs, the second layer of the selection process adopted by B-schools.

The AICTE rule, reported first by HT on December 30, is aimed at reducing the number of admission tests students need to take, minimise the travel students need to undertake to multiple institutions for GDs and PIs, and to try and eliminate admissions malpractices.

But the B-schools are arguing that the notification will kill their autonomy in admissions, and destroy quality in the good private B-schools.

"This will kill the growth of

management education in India, taking us back 20 years at a time when we were poised to go global," BIMTECH director H Chaturvedi said.

The protesting institutions also won the support of former Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad director Bakul Dholakia, who challenged former human resource development minister Arjun Singh's alleged attempts at encroaching the IIM's autonomy.

"The AICTE notification may be aimed at preventing malpractices by the worst private B-schools. But instead of pulling them up, it will bring down the quality of the good private B-schools," Dholakia told HT.

Hindustan Times ND 08/02/2011 P-10

PMO works on protecting foreign students from cheats

Charu Sudan Kasturi

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NEW DELHI: Engineering aspirant Allan Lwamafa, a Ugandan national, says he learnt the hard way not to trust "agents" who lure foreign students.

A third-year student at a Bangalore college — Lwamafa requested the college identity not be disclosed — he was drawn to India in 2007 by attractive offers of scholarships peddled by agents in his country.

"The agency that advertised the scholarships appeared genuine, and they had a tie-up with another agency in India which was to help me obtain the scholarship. But together, they duped me," recalled Lwamafa, who plans to work in India to recover the costs of his education.

Not only did Lwamafa not receive scholarship, he had to pay his tuition fees twice as the agents who took his first semester fees as deposit disappeared without paying the college.

Indian students have over the the past few years repeatedly faced fraud abroad, but foreign students coming to India have



■ A protest in New Delhi against radio-tagging of Indian students of Tri-Valley University in California. Foreign students coming to India have on several occasions also been cheated by agents. FILE PHOTO

on several occasions also found themselves cheated by agents, possibly with the collusion of some institutions, complaints with the government suggest.

The PMO on Monday met top government officials to finalise on a blueprint to attract foreign students to India and to make their experience here pleasant. The blueprint, sources said, will also aim to reduce the chances of students getting duped.

"Most of the foreign students duped in India come from Africa or the smaller nations of Asia," an official said.

A Ugandan newspaper last month exposed a scam involving agents in that country and in India, who were systematically cheating Ugandan students into going to India based on false promises.

In 2010, the Royal Bhutanese Embassy sent a tersely worded note to the Indian foreign ministry, revealing how select Indian institutions were cheating Bhutanese students by charging them fees beyond what they were required to pay. Several Nepalese students were trapped in a racket last year.

Hindustan Times ND 08/02/2011

IIT-Roorkee student commits suicide

P-10

MUZAFFARNAGAR: A third year student of IIT Roorkee allegedly committed suicide by jumping from the fifth floor of his hostel, the police said. Manish Kumar, a resident of Muzaffarnagar, jumped from the balcony of the fifth floor of his hostel last evening, police said, adding he was depressed over some unknown reason.

Financial Express ND 08/02/2011 P3

B-schools harden stand on regulation by govt

Kirtika Suneja

New Delhi, Feb 7: The turf war between business schools and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has taken a new turn with the B-schools categorically stating that they are not willing to negotiate with the government on the issues of admission, fee and curriculum of the post graduate diploma in management (PGDM) programmes.

"Our non negotiables are related to the three issues of admissions, fee and curriculum. The AICTE's regulation to conduct admissions through state common entrance tests (CET) are not acceptable because most institutes accept Common Admission

Test (CAT) and Management Aptitude Test (MAT) scores except a few like Mudra Institute of Communication but these are also globally appreciated," said H Chaturvedi, alternate president, Education Promotion Society for India (EPSI) and director of Birla Institute of Management Technology (Bimtech).

The EPSI has more than 250 management schools as its members.

"We want a central admissions authority to look after admissions in these courses while the state fee committees should be responsible for issues related to fees as is done for every other discipline be it engineering, pharmacy or architecture," Prof SS Mantha, acting chairman,

AICTE, had earlier said.

On the fee front, the government has asked the institutes not to resort to profiteering to which the latter have responded by saying that those schools which are doing so, should be regulated. On the third issue of curriculum, the council has stipulated norms to give the model curriculum to the B-schools.

"We can't allow the AICTE to decide the curriculum as we update it from time to time in line with the needs of the industry. The AICTE has always been an engineering-centric organisation and it doesn't have the expertise in this. Moreover, the AICTE's notification clearly violates landmark judgments of the Supreme

Court in TMA. Pai and PA Inamdar cases which defined the autonomy of self-finance PGDM Institutions," added Chaturvedi.

Meanwhile, the AICTE through the Directorate of Technical Education (DTE) has sent notices to the institutes in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh informing them to hold common entrance tests (CET) by the end of February to kickstart the admission process in B schools.

However, the guidelines for doing so have not been stated in the notification. "The admission process of PGDM courses will be notified before start of the Admission Process," says the notification published by the Maharashtra DTE.

Publish or perish

Boost Research At B-Schools

THOSE who can, do, those who can't, teach. And in Indian business schools at least, those who teach don't seem to do research. That's the outcome of a study on research produced in India's business schools over a 20-year period by Nirmalya Kumar and Phanish Puranam, published in this paper on Monday. From 1990 to 2009, Kumar and Puranam found that Indians had written a measly 108 research papers in 40 key academic journals, at an average of five papers a year. Compare that number to the fact that economist Paul Samuelson had written more than 25 papers by the time he was 25 years old, and would go on to write hundreds more. Not everybody can be as productive as Samuelson, but even by relatively modest standards, a five-paper annual output across an entire discipline is pathetic. The lack of academic research is worrying for at least two reasons. First, at a pedagogical level, it encourages woolly ideas and case studies to proliferate in place of rigorous theory and empirical analysis.

Second, without solid research, it will be hard to formulate strategy or business plans for a rapidly evolving country like India. A lot of theoretical and empirical work, based on American data, suggests that large mergers and acquisitions work against the interest of shareholders of the acquiring company. Should we blindly assume that the same thing holds true for India? Or should someone go out, look at the numbers and give us an answer we can rely on? Research matters. India's business schools should make publication and the number of times each paper is cited by peers one of the most important considerations while hiring faculty. In America, academics are told to 'publish or perish'. The pressure to publish creates mountains of dreary, mediocre work but also increases the chances of discovering gems. This is the model Indian business schools should adopt as well.

Business Standard ND 08/02/2011 P5

B-SCHOOLS TO TAKE AICTE TO APEX COURT

Will challenge guidelines on postgraduate courses

KEY AREAS OF DEBATE

AICTE	B-schools
All PGDM programmes shall not be less than 24 months	The period of 21 months can be spread over 24 months if required
Admissions to all PGDM courses shall be through common entrance test such as CAT/MAT or examinations by respective state governments	No necessity for state governments for conducting tests.
Admissions shall not start before March 31	The actual admission can be made on April 1
Curriculum to be issued by the council	There should be nationwide consultation before that
Admission processes to be conducted by respective states	State governments have no authority to conduct admissions to private unaided management institutions
Fees to be fixed by the government	Every institute is free to devise its own fee structure
AICTE to conduct exams	Is impermissible
Academic sessions to be from June to May	Not necessary

PIYALI MANDAL
New Delhi, 7 February

Taking the war over autonomy to the court, the Association of Indian Management Schools (AIMS) and the Education Promotion Society of India (EPSI) today decided to file writ petitions in the Supreme Court, challenging the recent guidelines on postgraduate management diploma (PGDM) courses by the technical education regulator.

AIMS and EPSI will file separate writ petitions by February 14. "We have decided to take a legal action and file petition in the Supreme Court challenging the notifications of AICTE," said H Chaturvedi, alternate president, EPSI, and director, Birla Institute of Management and Technology.

The B-schools, however, made it clear that if they did not get a stay order they would not accept students qualifying through state-level interviews

and group discussions.

Among key suggestions of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), a model curriculum for all PGDM programmes should be issued by the council, and admissions to PGDM programmes must be conducted by state governments through a competent authority, among others. Representatives from over 200 B-schools today gathered in the national capital to attend a national convention called by EPSI and AIMS.

"The convention resolved that AICTE's notification clearly violates landmark judgments of the Supreme Court in TMA Pai and P A Inamdar cases which defined the autonomy of self-finance PGDM institutes," Chaturvedi added. Bakul Dholakia, former director of Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A), added, "well-performing B-schools must stand united to solve this problem".

Two consortiums of business schools have already filed pe-

titions against AICTE notifications in Delhi and Bombay High Courts. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Ficci), which supported EPSI, also took part.

"The notification is a retrograde step which takes us backward. It is likely to have an impact on the quality of the management education," Ficci Director Shobha Mishra Ghosh said. EPSI and AIMS had met Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal last week. "We will meet the Prime Minister and UPA Chairperson this week and will finalise our final course of action," Chaturvedi said.

Of the AICTE guidelines issued in December 2010, B-schools strongly oppose the norm that admission to PGDM courses must be through common entrance tests such as the Common Admission Test (CAT), Management Aptitude Test (MAT) or examinations conducted by state governments.

IIT-Bombay invited to set up campus in New York

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Mumbai, 7 February

The Indian Institute of Technology here has been invited by the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) to submit a proposal to set up a campus for Applied Science courses.

IIT-B has formed a committee to finalise a proposal which is expected to be sent to New York next month. Subhasis Chaudhuri, Dean, International

NYCEDC IS OFFERING A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO develop a premier science and research facility and campus in the City of New York, according to its website

Relations of the IIT-B told PTI that the institute received NYCEDC invitation three weeks back and if the proposal is selected, the Corporation would provide capital to set up the campus and provide land.

But later on the centre will have to

sustain on its own, he said. The proposal is at a nascent stage and it is too early to talk about and the internal discussions is on. However, IIT-B is seriously considering the proposal, Chaudhuri said.

NYCEDC has made similar pro-

posals to several top institutions around the globe bidding for the same project. NYCEDC is offering a unique opportunity to develop a premier science and research facility and campus in the City of New York, according to its website. The last date for submitting the proposal is March 16.

In a city with more than 626,000 students and 39 per cent of global market capitalisation, it is a business and academic capital, both nationally and internationally.

Mint, ND 08-Feb-11

p-4

AUTONOMY CONCERNS

Management schools seek rules rollback

BY PRASHANT K. NANDA
prashant.n@livemint.com

NEW DELHI

Some privately owned management schools have strongly protested the technical education regulator's new rules that forbid them to conduct entrance examinations and give state governments control over the fees they charge.

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in a 28 December notification has empowered state governments to conduct entrance examinations and also constitute committees to determine fees and curriculum.

"This is absurd," said V.K. Gupta, director of Management Development Institute (MDI) in Gurgaon, Haryana. "This guideline will dilute the quality of students during admission. It will reduce our autonomy in areas such as faculty selection, curricula and teaching methods."

If the notification is enforced, "we (MDI) have to get registered with the Haryana government. They will hold entrance, decide my course and fees", Gupta said. "I am

AICTE has empowered state governments to conduct entrance examinations and form panels to determine fees

looking to compete at the global level not at the state level."

The Education Promotion Society of India, an association for private education providers, may move the Supreme Court if the notification is not withdrawn, secretary-general Manohar Chellani said.

"Any policy action requires some rationale. The AICTE notification has no such thing," said Bakul Dholakia, former director at Indian Institute of Management at Ahmedabad.

"This will destroy the national character of management education in the country," Dholakia, who now heads the Adani Institute of Infrastructure Management in

Ahmedabad, said.

AICTE, overseen by the human resource development ministry, defended its move. "We are not curbing anybody's autonomy," chairman S.S. Mantha said. "What we have done is in the public interest."

H. Chaturvedi, director of Greater Noida-based Birla Institute of Management Technology, said representatives from several private management schools have met human resource development minister Kapil Sibal on 31 January to demand a rollback of the latest guidelines.

"We will wait for 10 days before deciding on a legal move," said MDI's Gupta.

At least 91% among 215 management institutes surveyed have opposed the notification, according to a report by education website MBAUniverse.

There are at least 3,700 management schools in the country, of which at least 80% are privately operated, government data show.

"Postgraduate diploma in management education has been enjoying autonomy since 1993 to create a pool of professionals who can fulfil the demands of industry," said Chellani. "But this guideline is against this autonomy."

The AICTE notification looks "hasty" and the ministry should establish a task force of academicians to suggest an alternative, said educationist Pritam Singh.

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STEVE JURVETSON/DRAPER FISHER JURVETSON

The scope of clean tech, life sciences, energy is high here

BY DEEPTI CHAUDHARY
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BANGALORE

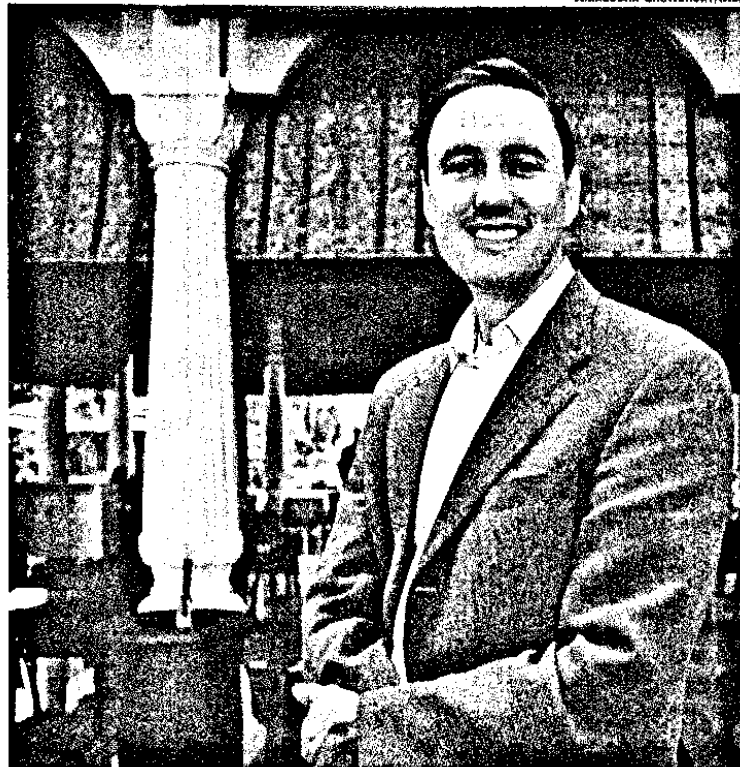
Steve Jurvetson, managing director of US-based venture capital firm Draper Fisher Jurvetson (DFJ), is known for his talent of spotting so-called disruptive technologies, or innovations that improve a product or service in unexpected ways.

Jurvetson, who has invested in companies such as Hotmail (acquired by Microsoft Corp.), which offered the first free Web-based email, is now looking at opportunities in life sciences, clean technology and energy. He is visiting India for the first time to scout for companies that could help DFJ's portfolio start-ups.

DFJ, which recently raised \$350 million (₹1,596 crore) for the Draper Fisher Jurvetson Fund X, may invest 15% of the corpus in the country, Jurvetson says in an interview. Edited excerpts:

How important is India in DFJ's investment plans, particularly as emerging markets are becoming increasingly competitive in terms of attracting investments?

I am here for our portfolio, which is ever-growing. There is nothing like visiting a facility to get a sense of how companies work. We are meeting companies that we have been having conversations with but haven't invested in. There are



ANIRUDDHA CHOWDHURY/MINT

Catching them young: Jurvetson says he's in India to scout for companies that could help DFJ's portfolio start-ups.

MINT INTERVIEW

many companies in the US and China who want to work with start-ups here. Corporate houses and big companies can be meaningful distribution channels for start-ups.

Has the Indian market panned out as well as it was visualized by you?

While we cannot tell the future, what we do have is a general sense of how things work. In India, we have a wonderful

entrepreneurial network, age demographics and domestic market, pointing to a burgeoning opportunity that entrepreneurs can leverage.

While there are huge opportunities in India, start-ups here are actively looking at going global. The rate at which Internet, consumer Internet, payment systems, e-commerce is developing, we are a bit behind. The scope of technology opportunity is high. Five or six years ago, there would be de-

bates if life sciences, energy, clean tech would be happening in a big way in India. It's all here. It's a new perspective. There's an interesting diversity.

Considering India is not big on exits for venture capital firms as yet, how do you see exits shaping up?

Seriously, if a company is growing and is doing well, it does not matter when an IPO (initial public offering) happens. Exits is something I never had to worry about in the past and will not worry (about) in the future as well. You have to build businesses for longer term. An exit for the company is a non-important event. Investors may care about it but companies should not. I have never sold a share of a DFJ company. Personally, I do not look at IPOs for an exit.

What are your India plans? Any plans for an India dedicated fund?

There is no remarkable change in our strategy. A bit of diversification that we may do may include some late-stage investments like iYogi but by no means would we change our strategy. A country-specific fund is not interesting. Honestly, it could happen if you think forward on a long-term basis. There could be multiple funds in India and China. We have something on mind about a corpus for India from our \$350 million fund and it's very opportunistic. So the way we manage it is that 15% could go to India.

Taken for a ride

Now that California's Tri-Valley University has earned a bad name, a majority of Indian students who dream of getting into a 'top' US university should think twice before applying to graduate schools without secured credentials, writes ardhendu chatterjee

EVER thought that a university could operate from a single room with only "13 laptops and five desktops" and that, too, in a country like the USA? Is it not singularly incredible, baffling and shocking? But then truth is stranger than fiction. It's now official, too.

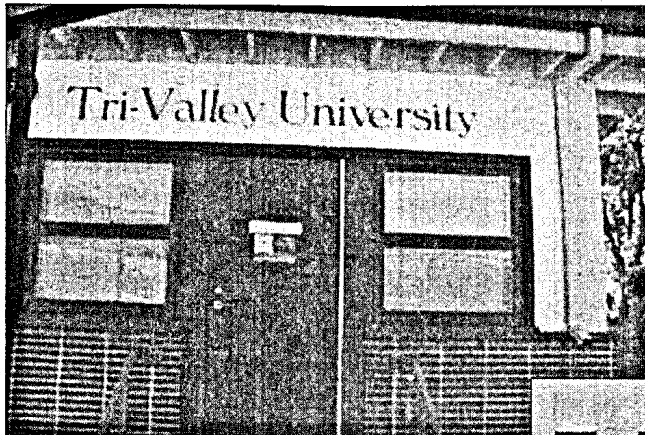
California's Tri-Valley University has been recently found to be one such bogus institution. Set up in 2009, it has been conducting only virtual classes with the promise of a full-fledged campus for its 1,500-odd students, mostly from Andhra Pradesh. It did not occur to students that had the university been a bonafide higher education institute, its official website would not have been replete with misspellings and myriad mistakes in grammar.

Still more intriguing is the fact that the US consulate, too, issued student visas in September last on the basis of admission without verifying the credentials of the university that came under official glare in May 2010.

Following a complaint filed on 19 January in the US District Court in San Francisco by the US Attorney's Office for aiding and abetting an illegal immigration racket that has hit the country on a massive scale, the university was first raided and, subsequently, shut down. Undercover officials, too, carried out a sting operation: by posing as foreign students with no interest in attending courses, they got head of the university, Susan Xiao-Ping Su's offer of F-1 — student visas. After the exposure, Immigration and Customs Enforcement authorities have reportedly served a notice of forfeiture of Susan's properties.

The victims — now undergoing a harrowing experience — did not doubt the legitimacy of the university for quite a number of reasons. First, they could collect all the relevant information about the university from the Internet. Second, the unsuspecting students got admission through some consultancy. Third, California, which has a huge Indian population, attracts a large number of Indian students simply because they do not feel homesick there. Fourth, they did not receive any adverse report about the university from any source whatsoever. On reaching California, the gullible students found streams of people visiting it, many from other US universities.

To chase their US dreams these students had shelled out a hefty sum to the tune of Rs 600,000 by raising loans from various financial institutions for admission alone: it is not known how much they had actually paid to the sham university to obtain student visas for a prolonged stay along with their spouses. The "flexibility" in respect of attendance and "work permits" in the



The university in California operated from a single room with only "13 laptops and five desktops".

guise of "study visas" were too tempting to ignore. They were, however, blissfully ignorant of the fact that under US laws a student had to attend the institution and could work on the campus for 20 hours a week. Moreover, diplomatic sources allege that most of these gullible students "ignored several red flags".

Apart from the colossal loss of their parents' hard-earned and borrowed money, a bleak future stares these soft targets in the face. With their dreams having been turned into nightmares and the spectre of deportation hanging over them like the sword of Damocles, these shell-shocked students find to their horror that there is none they can turn to for help.

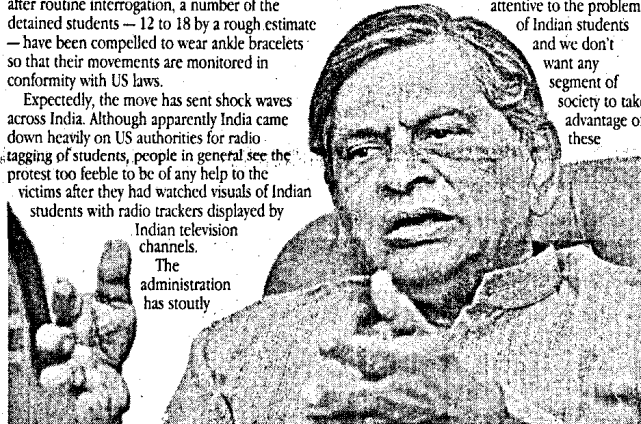
To add to their woes, the students who approached Immigration and Customs Enforcement for redress of their grievances following the closure of the university have been placed under the Intense Supervision and Appearance Programme and "put in removal proceedings". While most of the students interviewed by ICE agents have been released after routine interrogation, a number of the detained students — 12 to 18 by a rough estimate — have been compelled to wear ankle bracelets so that their movements are monitored in conformity with US laws.

Expectedly, the move has sent shock waves across India. Although apparently India came down heavily on US authorities for radio-tagging of students, people in general see the protest too feeble to be of any help to the victims after they had watched visuals of Indian students with radio trackers displayed by Indian television channels.

The administration has stoutly

defended the step. "Use of ankle monitors," said the US embassy, "is widespread across the United States and a standard procedure for a variety of investigations, and does not necessarily imply guilt or suspicion of criminal activity." The logic is untenable and the embassy official was trying to defend the indefensible since these students went to the USA with valid travel documents and "followed due procedures in changing their visa status in transfer to the university".

While rejecting the demand for removal of ankle bracelets, US ambassador to India Timothy J Roemer has, however, said his country "is very sensitive" to the matter for "we want more students to come to America. We want our doors to be open for education. We will be attentive to the problems of Indian students and we don't want any segment of society to take advantage of these



External Affairs Minister SM Krishna seems to be blowing hot and cold in the same breath. While he assures India would project the plight of its detained students before US authorities, the seasoned politician advocates caution for the sake of the 1,80,000 Indian students in US colleges and universities.

students."

The Director of US Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency has had a talk with the Indian Ambassador Meera Shankar in this regard. Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao, scheduled to visit the USA this month, may also raise the issue with senior officials of the Obama administration, but no immediate solution to the problem is in sight.

Sensing the outrage triggered in India over radio tagging of students in America, Indian External Affairs Minister SM Krishna said, "India has taken it up with the USA at the highest level. Our ambassador and consul-general in San Francisco are in touch with the Indian students." He also said that the USA "must realise the tremendous stakes involved in higher education, in interaction between our two countries in higher education" and demanded that the USA "initiate severe action against officials responsible for this inhuman act".

But Krishna seemed to be blowing hot and cold in the same breath. While asserting that India "will be taking it up with the educational authorities in the USA, as how it allowed the university to function, how it was allowed to dupe gullible Indian students", he advised caution to his countrymen for there "are about



While most Tri-Valley students interviewed by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents have been released after routine interrogation, some of them still have to wear ankle bracelets for their movements to be monitored in conformity with US laws.

1,80,000 lakh Indian students in the USA. And we are only talking about these 12 or 18 students who have been subjected to this treatment."

The minister also wanted the media to look at the issue in a larger perspective. The truth is that India is unwilling to annoy its global boss. One wonders what has prevented Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh from taking up the matter with President Obama to save the future of the stranded students.

True, a "legitimate student who is a fraud victim should have little trouble re-applying and enrolling in a different, fully-accredited educational organisation", but the treatment having been meted out to him is not only "unwarranted" and "unacceptable", but also unjust and barbaric. Despite all assurances of help in the immigration imbroglio, the appeal of the affected students would not come up for hearing in any US court before September. By what logic, then, harassing the students duped by a dubious university can be a "standard procedure"? Are our students criminals?

Washington often speaks of human rights violation in other countries, but when its turn arrives, it prefers to employ a pre-conceived yardstick. A country perceived to be a "dream destination" of young students from across the globe has only blotted its own copybook by allowing its convoluted laws to dehumanise students from other countries.

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Nai Duniya ND 08/02/2011 P12

कैंपस बनाने के लिए आईआईटी-बी को आमंत्रण

मुंबई । न्यूयॉर्क सिटी इकोनॉमिक डवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन (एनवायसीईडीसी) ने इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी को न्यूयॉर्क में एप्लाइड साइंस के पाठ्यक्रमों के लिए नए कैंपस की स्थापना करने के लिए प्रस्ताव भेजने को कहा है। आईआईटी-बी ने प्रस्ताव को अंतिम रूप देने के लिए एक समिति का गठन किया है। संभवतः समिति अगले महीने प्रस्ताव को न्यूयॉर्क भेजेगा। आईआईटी-बी के इंटरनेशनल रिलेशन के डीन प्रोफेसर सुभाषिस चौधरी ने कहा कि संस्थान को एनवायसीईडीसी का आमंत्रण मिला है, अगर प्रस्ताव स्वीकार कर लिया जाता है तो कारपोरेशन परिसर स्थापित करने के लिए धन और भूमि मुहैया कराएगा।