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AM Naik steps down as IIMA chairman

<http://www.ahmedabadmirror.com/ahmedabad/education/AM-Naik-steps-down-as-IIMA-chairman/articleshow/50399288.cms>

In an interesting development at the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA), A M Naik, chairman of the IIMA Board of Governors (BoG) and IIMA Society has offered to step down in a letter drafter to the centre. Naik, who has been holding the post for four years, is believed to have written a letter informing the Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD) about his wish to step down last week, said sources at the institute.

CENTRAL BODY STILL TO RESPOND TO NAIK'S LETTER

In the letter written to the MHRD, Naik is believed to have stated time constraint as one of the reasons for his wish to step down from the post. As per sources, news of Naik's letter created a buzz among faculty members and the two bodies late on Wednesday. Chief Administration Officer (CAO) at IIMA, Manoj Bhatt confirmed that Naik has written a letter to MHRD expressing his wish to step down. "However, we have not yet received any communication in acceptance of the letter from MHRD," he stated. This means, unless his resignation letter is accepted and a successor appointed, he will continue on the post.

NAIK EXPRESSED DESIRE TO RESIGN AT LAST BOARD MEETING

"Naik had expressed his desire to step down from the post during the last board meeting held in December. The board members did attempt to persuade him against taking this action but he seems to have gone ahead with his decision," said a BoG member requesting anonymity. Another member, who has received the letter, stated Naik has cited time constraint as the prime reason for sending the letter. "He has stated his work commitment at L&T doesn't leave time for him and it is taxing for him to dedicatedly work for the institute," the source shared. Naik is the Group Executive Chairman of Larsen & Toubro Limited. When questioned about the possibility of Naik submitting his resignation owing to the tussle with MHRD about difference in IIM Bill draft, institute officials and BoG members strictly denied the possibility.

"Many were upset when Smriti Irani called Ashish Nanda a 'foreigner' to have an opinion about IIMA. Though Naik brought Nanda from Harvard Law School to join the institute as director, it is not likely that he would express his discontent by stepping down from the post. He is someone who fights it out from the forefront," opined a source close to the development. It was Naik who managed to convince MHRD to appoint Nanda as director of IIMA as the institute was looking for a candidate who had studied from a university outside India; the idea was to take IIMA to the next level.

Naik was the first IIMA chairman appointed by MHRD after the Memorandum of Association (MoA) signed between IIMA and MHRD. Naik was serving his second term as chairman of IIMA BoG — he was first appointed to the post in 2012 and reappointed before his tenure ended in 2015. An email request to Nanda to respond about the development remained unattended.

IIT Kharagpur To Help Rejuvenate Indian Cultural Ethos In Japanese Cities

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/iit-kharagpur-to-help-rejuvenate-indian-cultural-ethos-in-japanese-cities-1261335>

Kolkata: A Japanese research institute is partnering Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur to share its ideas on how to make Indian cities 'smart' and also take back Indian cultural ethos to rejuvenate cities in Japan.

"Japanese cities are already smart and have reached a level of saturation and perfection. They will share their technology, ideas and know how on how to build Indian cities smart," Joy Sen, head of architecture and regional planning department of IIT-Kharagpur, said.

The Nikken-Sekkei Research Institute (NSRI) of Japan signed an MoU in this regard with the IIT today.

Mr Sen said the Japanese are also interested in taking back cultural ethos from India.

"Japanese cities are suffering from a deep cultural and social crisis. They need recovery and are looking at India for some inspiration," he said, adding that as part of the partnership NSRI will explore the human relationship element in Indian societies.

After signing the MoU, Shigehisa Matsumura of NSRI said it is a good starting point for collaboration.

Professor Partha Pratim Chakrabarti, Director, IIT Kharagpur, said Japan is a natural partner because of strong historical and cultural ties between the two countries.

"Sustainability is ingrained in India while Japan is about quality," he said.

With Japan the IIT has a multi-tier relationship, including with the University of Tokyo, he added. The IIT is also preparing manpower to run, design and maintain smart cities, its officials said.

Workshop on neuroscience for engineers to be held at IIT-Madras

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/Workshop-on-neuroscience-for-engineers-to-be-held-at-IIT-Madras/articleshow/50397280.cms>

CHENNAI: The first annual workshop of the Centre for Computational Brain Research (CCBR) will be held at IIT-Madras from January 4 to 8.

The workshop will be introduced by IIT-M alumnus Kris Gopalakrishnan and also include talks by the three CCBR distinguished chairs -- Prof Partha Mitra, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSHL), Prof Anand Raghunathan, Purdue University, US, and Prof Mriganka Sur, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), US.

The goal of the workshop is twofold -- pedagogy ("neuroscience for engineers"), and outreach/community building.

A number of lectures by domain experts in basic neuroscience as well as in machine learning as one interfacial domain between neuroscience and engineering are planned.

As part of the workshop, there will be a discussion on the development of a neuroscience curriculum for engineering students at IIT-Madras, other IITs and other engineering colleges in India. There will also be a brief hands-on lab component.

The second goal is to build links to academia, industry and medicine. The workshop will connect with academic research programmes elsewhere in India and internationally working in the area of computational brain research, participants from the computer industry with an interest in brain-inspired software and hardware development, and medical researchers seeking connections with engineering.

IIT Indore's Industry-Academia Conclave from Feb 18

<http://www.freepressjournal.in/iit-indores-industry-academia-conclave-from-feb-18/747750>

Indore : The Indian Institute of Technology- Indore will organise Industry-Academia Conclave (IAC)-2016 from February 18 to 20. The three-day conclave would to be attended by representatives of top-notch companies, the institute's faculty members and students.

The theme of this year's conclave is: "Emerging Technologies and Innovations".

The IAC-2016 aims at fostering improving relations between IIT Indore and the industries. It is a sui generis platform that intends to encourage an interaction between the Academia and Industry, which might further lead to work on developing efficient solutions to complex problems which plague both.

"Since its inception in 2012, IAC has evolved into a forum where experts from both Industry and Academia discuss and address important concerns, and galvanise their efforts towards forging successful partnerships that would prove mutually beneficial," the organisers said.

The conclave will bring together experts from the industry and R& D organizations to discuss some prime issues concerning the relationship between industry and academia based on current societal requirement.

The IAC 2016, as an endeavour, focuses on exploring research and consultancy avenues between IIT Indore and corporate organisations.

IAC 2016 also, for the first time, presents an 'Innovation Pavilion' where innovators from all over India are given a chance to exhibit their products on one of the most prestigious platforms for Industry-Academia interaction.

The major attributes of the ICA enthrall technical talks by key-note speakers exploring avenues of possible fusion pertaining to research and consultancy, as well as panel discussion to find plausible solutions to bridge corporate expectation with academic training.

What for academia

The IAC aims to ensure that the academia keeps updating itself with the changing industrial paradigms, and encourage the students to cultivate a more pragmatic outlook regarding the Industry and its expectations. Considering the versatile requirements of the Industry, the IAC focuses on helping the academia stay abreast with the latest industrial developments, and learn about avenues where there is scope for collaboration.

What for industry

The IAC plays a vital role as a forum for such Industry-Academia interaction, and also provides an opportunity for the Industry to present areas where they would seek research assistance from the Academia. The industry could also benefit from the knowledge of the on-going R&D projects, and could then actively participate in those that might interest them.

The exchange of perspectives between the industry personnel and the academia can provide an impetus for various research and development opportunities; it could later lead to efficient and holistic industrial processes.

Soon dogs at IIT Roorkee may find a new home

<http://www.pagalguy.com/articles/soon-dogs-at-iit-roorkee-may-find-a-new-home-38422239>

He wakes up from his slumber, and gives a wide yawn. After the usual stretch, he walks outside his hostel. He hopes to grab a bite of whatever his many friends may have left. After the free food, he decides to strut around the corridors in the academic buildings in IIT Roorkee. The rest of the day passes venturing around the canteen or on the grounds. Finally, when the sun goes down, he heads back to his usual place of sleep. If you thought this the routine of an engineering student in IIT Roorkee, you are mistaken. This is an account of Sheru's daily life- one of the many dogs that live within the campus of IIT Roorkee. This is more or less the routine of the several dogs that have made the campus their home. But, very soon, this routine may change as the college authorities have proposed to employ two dog-catchers in the campus.

IIT Roorkee doesn't just house students but is also the home to several dogs. Utkarsh, a third-year student at IITR, says, "There are close to 50 dogs all over the campus, mainly in the area close to the *bhavans* (hostels). They have become a part of the daily life of many students here. We love playing with them. We have also named them *Raja*, *Pinki*, *Sheru* and so on." Students feed them, at times play with these dogs. The dogs in IIT Roorkee have also inspired a page on facebook, called the [Dogs of Roorkee](#).

While majority of the students adore them, there is a faction which is weary of the dogs' presence in the campus. Following frequent complaints of dog menace from this segment, the Student Affairs Council (SAC) has offered to appoint two dog-catchers in the campus. The college has sanctioned funds for hiring the men for the job. It will be their responsibility to catch dogs in the campus and decide the further course of action. The dogs may be dropped at the Municipal Dog Pound where they hope that the dogs might be looked after. Suggestions to relocate the dogs at farms on Dehradun Road, around 20kms away from the campus are also being considered. The thoughtful option, though, would be to sterilise them, which is also being debated by the SAC.

This move has been welcomed by many students, but it has also sparked banter among the students that the dog-catchers may mishandle their creature buddies. The dog-catchers are likely to provide relief to the security guards at IITR, who have been struggling to perform their primary duty following the dog menace. The students or the guards don't know what to do if and when any of these dogs became violent or fell sick.

Like monkeys at IIT Madras, dogs in IIT Roorkee are a part of mutual existence in the campus. Though the other IITs have a lot of dogs around their campus, IIT Roorkee seems to have just too many than what they can handle.



इफ्लूएंट नॉर्म्स के नए प्रस्ताव से बंद हो सकती हैं कई कपड़ा मिलें

पीटीआई | नई दिल्ली

टेक्सटाइल मिनिस्ट्री ने पर्यावरण मंत्रालय के उस प्रस्ताव पर गंभीर चिंता जताई है, जिसमें सभी टेक्सटाइल यूनिट्स के लिए अपने इफ्लूएंट डिस्चार्ज (मिलों से निकलने वाला कचरा) को घटाकर जीरो करने का प्रावधान है। टेक्सटाइल मिनिस्ट्री ने पर्यावरण मंत्रालय से इस प्रस्ताव की समीक्षा करने को कहा है। मिनिस्ट्री का कहना है कि इस वजह से कई यूनिट्स बंद हो सकती हैं।

मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ एनवायरमेंट एंड फॉरिस्ट्स को भेजे गए लेटर में टेक्सटाइल सेक्रेटरी एस के पांडा ने कहा है कि प्रस्तावित स्टैंडर्ड्स 'बेहद सख्त' हैं और यह जीरो लिक्विड डिस्चार्ज को अव्यवहारिक बना देंगे। सेक्रेटरी ने यह भी कहा है कि जीरो लिक्विड डिस्चार्ज स्टैंडर्ड्स पर जोर देने से बड़ी संख्या में यूनिट्स बंद होंगी। इसके चलते लोगों को नौकरी से हाथ धोना पड़ेगा।

प्रस्तावित स्टैंडर्ड्स में उन टेक्सटाइल प्रोसेसिंग यूनिट्स में जीरो लिक्विड डिस्चार्ज की बात कही गई है, जहां वॉटर डिस्चार्ज 25 केएलडी (किलोलीटर प्रतिदिन) से ज्यादा है। टेक्सटाइल मिनिस्ट्री का कहना है कि डोमेस्टिक प्रोसेसिंग

टेक्सटाइल मिनिस्ट्री गंभीर

टेक्सटाइल मिनिस्ट्री ने पर्यावरण मंत्रालय के उस प्रस्ताव पर गंभीर चिंता जताई है, जिसमें सभी टेक्सटाइल यूनिट्स के लिए अपने इफ्लूएंट डिस्चार्ज (मिलों से निकलने वाला कचरा) को घटाकर जीरो करने का प्रावधान है

इंडस्ट्री बड़े पैमाने पर असंगठित है और इसमें ज्यादातर स्मॉल और मीडियम यूनिट्स आती हैं। मिनिस्ट्री ने कहा है कि प्रस्तावित नॉर्म्स कैपिटल इनवेस्टमेंट के मामले में काफी सख्त हैं और इसमें रेकरिंग एक्सपेंडिचर (बार-बार होने वाला खर्च) भी ज्यादा है। घरेलू इंडस्ट्री ने इस कदम को लेकर पहले ही अपनी चिंता जताई है। इंडस्ट्री ने प्रस्तावित पर्यावरण संबंधी मानकों की समीक्षा करने का आग्रह किया है। टेक्सटाइल सेक्रेटरी एस के पांडा ने बताया कि नॉर्म्स को सिलसिलेवार ढंग से लागू किया जा सकता है। इस मुद्दे को लेकर टेक्सटाइल मिनिस्ट्री ने इंडस्ट्री रिप्रेजेंटेटिव्स, टेक्सटाइल रिसर्च ऑर्गनाइजेशंस और आईआईटी से कई दौर की मीटिंग की है।

पांडा ने बताया कि इफ्लूएंट ट्रीटमेंट की मौजूदा टेक्नोलॉजीज का अध्ययन करने के लिए एक कमेटी पहले ही बना दी गई है। उन्होंने कहा कि शॉर्ट टर्म में मौजूदा समय की सबसे बेहतर टेक्नोलॉजी को अपनाया जा सकता है और लॉन्ग टर्म के लिए कारगर और ज्यादा किफायती ऑप्शंस के लिए आरएंडडी की जाएगी। सेक्रेटरी ने कहा कि ग्लोबल अपैरल एंड गारमेंट इंडस्ट्री में भारत की हिस्सेदारी केवल 3.8 फीसदी है और इसे बढ़ाने के उपाय किए जाने चाहिए। कॉटन एक्सपोर्ट पर उन्होंने कहा कि नेचुरल फाइबर की प्रॉडक्टिविटी क्वालिटी को सुधारा जाना चाहिए और एक्सपोर्ट्स के लिए चीन के अलावा दूसरे बाजारों का भी रुख किया जाना चाहिए।

भारत के लिए चीन सबसे बड़ा एक्सपोर्ट डेस्टिनेशन है। उन्होंने बताया कि चीन का स्टॉक लेवल 800 करोड़ किलोग्राम के ऊपर पहुंच गया है और इसी कारण वह भारत से कम कॉटन इंपोर्ट कर रहा है, जिससे घरेलू कीमतों में गिरावट आई है। उन्होंने कहा कि टैक्स हॉलिडे से टेक्सटाइल पाक्स लगाने में मदद मिलेगी। पांडा ने कहा कि कपास की खेती करने वाले लोगों के हितों को देखते हुए कॉटन कॉरपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया ने 2014-15 में 87 लाख बेल्स खरीदीं।