

Newspaper Clips January 14, 2014

IIT-Madras ties up with 5 universities for PhD research

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Chennai: [IIT-Madras](#) has joined hands with five universities from across the world, including one in China, for collaboration in research.

After more than a year of negotiations, Universite de Technologie de Troyes in France, Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, University of Waterloo in Canada, University of Liverpool in UK and National Tsing Hua University in China have tied up with IIT-M to offer joint PhD programmes.

Lih J Chen, president of NTHU, called the agreement with IIT-M a watershed moment for the [Chinese varsity](#). "To carry out research of the highest quality... it can no longer merely be an 'in-house' affair," he said.

R Nagarajan, IIT-M dean of international & alumni relations, said: "We follow a simple 4-stage process," he said. "We start with faculty collaboration, move on to student exchanges, which leads to co-supervision and ultimately culminates in a joint degree programme."

Times of India, ND 14/01/2014 P-16

Male engineers are top CATs once again

Sruthy Susan Ullas | TNN

Bangalore: The Common Admission Test (CAT), India's toughest management test, continues to be a male bastion. A sneak peek into the 2013 numbers shows that the toppers for the year are all male and engineers. Some of them are from Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.

According to information provided by IIM-Indore a day before CAT results are announced, eight candidates have secured 100 percentile — all of them male engineers. While two have a master's in engineering, the others have a bachelor's degree. Three have a work experience of 12-24 months in automobile, banking services and information technology sectors.

Mumbai has the highest number of toppers (three), while New Delhi and Hyderabad have one each. The other

three are from Samalkot, Secunderabad and Vijayawada in Andhra. Of the 10 candidates who have scored 99.99 percentile, only one is a woman.

The online test, which holds the key to the best business schools in India, was conducted from October 16 to November 11 across 40 cities. A total of 1,73,738 candidates had taken the test that was coordinated by IIM-Indore. According to the IIMs, 115 seats have been added in B-schools this year taking the number to 3,335 seats.

There had been some concerns about the scores since an error had been detected in a question in the morning session of day 10 of the test. "Remedial action was taken to ensure a fair score for all candidates," said Rohit Kapoor, CAT convener.

Candidates can log on to www.cat2013.iimidr.ac.in from 9am on Tuesday to check results.

इंजीनियरिंग क्षेत्र में पिछड़ी लड़कियां

विश्लेषण

अलका आर्य

ती

ते दिनों आईआईटी-बॉम्बे के वार्षिक सांस्कृतिक समारोह के दौरान यूफोरिया बैंड के मुख्य गायक डॉ पलाश सेन ने

इंजीनियरिंग के छात्रों से हास-परिहास में पूछा-क्या आईआईटी-बी में खूबसूरत लड़कियां हैं? जवाब में छात्रों ने ना कहा तो पलाश ने चुटकी लेते हुए कहा- फिक्र करने को कोई बात नहीं है। जब आप परिसर से बाहर निकलोगे तो तुम्हें खूबसूरत लड़कियां मिलेंगी और वे तुम्हारे लिए रोटियां भी बेलेगीं।' पलाश ने हालांकि बाद में कहा कि यह सब उन्होंने मजाक में कहा था पर आईआईटी-बॉम्बे की ही एक छात्रा ने अपने ब्लॉग में इस बयान को ठेस पहुंचाने वाला बताया। अर्पिता फुकन विश्वास ने ब्लॉग में लिखा है कि मैं अकेली नहीं हूँ जिसे उनके (पलाश सेन) कमेंट से ठेस पहुंची है बल्कि कई अन्य लड़कियों को भी ऐसे कमेंट पसंद नहीं आए। अर्पिता ने सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम के आयोजकों से यूफोरिया बैंड पर आईआईटी-बॉम्बे में न सिर्फ प्रतिबंध लगाने की अपील की बल्कि अदकारों से किए जाने वाले करार में लिंग-भेद या भेदभाव संबंधी पब्लिसिटी से परेहज वाले क्लॉज जोड़ने के लिए भी कहा। उसने अन्य शिक्षण संस्थानों से भी यूफोरिया को निमंत्रण देने से बचने की अपील की। स्त्री गरिमा को चोट पहुंचाने वाली ऐसी टिप्पणियों के विरोध में उठे स्वरो से जब पलाश को अवगत कराया गया तो उन्होंने कहा कि यह मजाक में कहा गया था और अगर कोई उनकी इस टिप्पणी से आहत हुआ है या किसी को ठेस पहुंची है, तो मैं माफी मांगता हूँ।

दरअसल विरोध की इस पहल को आगे ले जाने की जरूरत है न कि मजाक का विषय मानकर माफ या नजरअंदाज करने की। जीरो टोलरेंस का माहौल बनाने के लिए देशभर से इस तरह की पहल होनी चाहिए। यह तथ्यात्मक

सच्चाई है कि अपने यहां आईआईटी जैसे प्रतिष्ठित शिक्षण संस्थानों में महिला-पुरुष अनुपात में बहुत बड़ा अंतर है। आईआईटी, निट और राज्य द्वारा संचालित शीर्ष इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों में 8 से 14 लड़कों की तुलना में एक लड़की ही दाखिला ले पाती है। 2012 में जेईई की परीक्षा में 330,000 लड़के बैठे और इनमें से आईआईटी में 6.4 प्रतिशत पहुंचे, जबकि 150,000 लड़कियों में से 1.9 प्रतिशत

दाखिला ले पाती हैं। इस अध्ययन में कारणों का पता लगाने के लिए आवेदन प्रक्रिया से लेकर चयन प्रक्रिया समझने के साथ-साथ अन्य सामाजिक वजहों की ओर भी इशारा किया गया है। तुलनात्मक अध्ययन से सामने आया कि आवेदन के स्तर पर एमआईटी और आईआईटी में पुरुष व महिला अनुपात समान था। यह अनुपात 2.27 पुरुष व एक महिला का था। दोनों संस्थानों की पुरुष चयन प्रक्रिया में भी खास अंतर



● यह तथ्यात्मक सच्चाई है कि अपने यहां आईआईटी जैसे प्रतिष्ठित शिक्षण संस्थानों में महिला-पुरुष अनुपात में बहुत बड़ा अंतर है। आईआईटी, निट और राज्य द्वारा संचालित शीर्ष इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों में 8 से 14 लड़कों की तुलना में एक लड़की ही दाखिला ले पाती है

● इंजीनियरिंग क्षेत्र में अपनी कम भागीदारी के मामले में लड़कियां उन सामाजिक कारणों को सामने रखती हैं, जो उनके विकास को निर्देशित करने में अहम भूमिका निभाते हैं। एक धारणा यह भी है कि लड़कियों में हार्ड साइंस जैसे- भौतिक विज्ञान, रसायन शास्त्र या गणित विषय पढ़ने की योग्यता का जन्मजात अभाव होता है

लड़कियां ही पहुंच पाईं।

इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज में महिलाओं की इतनी कम संख्या पर हाल में आईआईटी और अमेरिका के मैसाच्युट्स इंस्टीट्यूट्स ऑफ टेक्नोलॉज (एमआईटी) ने मिलकर एक अध्ययन किया। एमआईटी में चार लड़कों की तुलना में 1 से 1.4 लड़कियां इंजीनियरिंग में

नहीं थी। एमआईटी में यह प्रतिशत प्रत्येक 100 में 7.2 तो आईआईटी में 6.4 प्रतिशत था। लेकिन लड़कियों का जहां तक सवाल है, उसमें बहुत बड़ा अंतर देखा गया। एमआईटी में आवेदन करने वाली प्रत्येक 100 में से 15.5 लड़कियों का सलेक्शन हो गया जबकि अपने यहां यह संख्या महज 1.9 है यानी आवेदन करने वाली सौ

लड़कियों में से दो ही चुनी जा सकीं। परिणामस्वरूप आईआईटी में पुरुष-महिला का यह अनुपात 14:1 से 10:1 तक व निट्स और अन्य शीर्ष संस्थानों में 8:1 है। अमेरिका ने साइंस, तकनीक, गणित व इंजीनियरिंग में लड़कियों की भागीदारी बढ़ाने के लिए खास पहल की और उसका संकारात्मक नतीजा भी देखने को मिला। 1970 में वहां इंजीनियरिंग की डिग्री लेने वाली लड़कियों की संख्या एक प्रतिशत से भी कम थी परंतु आज यह 19 प्रतिशत है। हालांकि हमारी सरकार ने आईआईटी में लड़कियों की कम संख्या के मद्देनजर कदम भी उठाए हैं। मसलन उनके लिए आवेदन शुल्क में रियायत और प्रवेश परीक्षा में ग्रेस मार्क्स आदि। परीक्षा में बैठने वाली लड़कियों की तादाद में भी उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि दर्ज की गई। 2006 में 29,291 लड़कियों ने परीक्षा दी थी और बीते साल 2012 में करीब 1.50 लाख लड़कियों ने। पर चिंता का पहलू इस परीक्षा में उत्तीर्ण होने वाली लड़कियों की कम तादाद वाला है। आखिर क्यों यह 1.07 व 1.90 के बीच है।

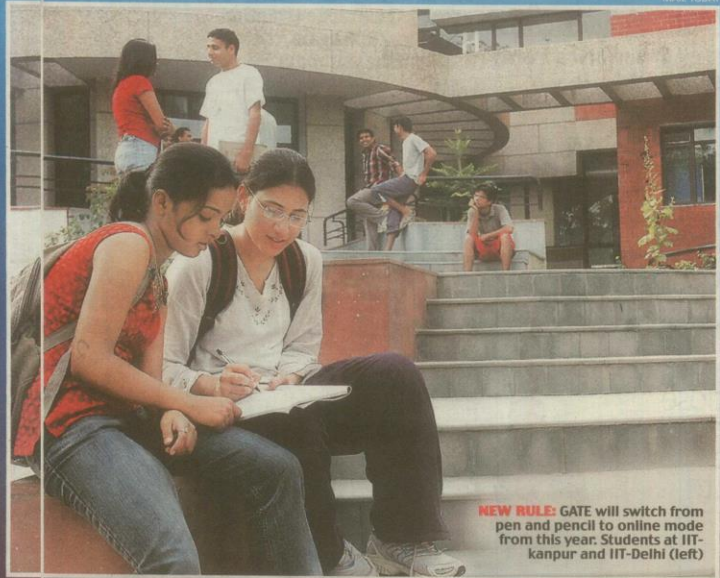
अध्ययन बताता है कि इसका एक कारण भारतीय संस्थानों का छात्रों की चयन प्रक्रिया में टेस्ट स्कोर सिस्टम पर अधिक निर्भरता भी है। एमआईटी 3/4 छात्र शीर्ष के स्कोर से लेता है जबकि आईआईटी जेईई की परीक्षा में शीर्ष के 5 प्रतिशत छात्रों को ही दाखिले की चयन प्रक्रिया में शामिल करता है यानी जो छात्र इन 5 प्रतिशत से बाहर हैं, उन्हें आईआईटी अपने यहां दाखिला देने पर विचार ही नहीं करता। यह इस तथ्य के बावजूद अपने यहां जारी है कि मानकीकरण स्कोर फॉरमेट लड़कियों के अनुकूल नहीं है। इसीलिए अमेरिका के कॉलेजों में सलेक्शन प्रक्रिया को और अधिक व्यापक बनाया गया है। सलेक्शन प्रक्रिया के अलावा सवाल है कि ऐसी महत्वपूर्ण परीक्षाओं के लिए जो कौचिंग छात्र लेते हैं, उनमें लड़कियों की संख्या कितनी होती है। किन सामाजिक व आर्थिक कारणों के चलते वहां कम लड़कियां नजर आती हैं। कई मर्तबा अभिभावक लड़की होने के कारण ही उन्हें कौचिंग सेंटर नहीं भेजते और उन पर अतिरिक्त

रकम खर्च करने के पक्ष में नहीं होते। आईआईटी की ही कुछ छात्राओं ने बताया कि कई लड़कियां जो गणित में लड़कों जितनी ही काबिल होती हैं, खुद को उन लड़कों से कमतर मानती हैं। लड़कियों से पूछा जाए तो इस मामले में वे उन सामाजिक कारणों को सामने रखती हैं, जो उसकी स्थिति अपने नियंत्रण में कर उनके विकास को निर्देशित करने में अहम भूमिका निभाते हैं। लड़कियों के पास प्री च्याइस के मौके कम होते हैं। एक धारणा यह भी है कि अपनी जैविक संरचना के कारण लड़कियों में हार्ड साइंस जैसे, भौतिक विज्ञान, रसायन शास्त्र, गणित विषय पढ़ने की योग्यता का जन्मजात अभाव होता है। कभी 'पिंक फॉर गर्ल्स', ब्लू फॉर बॉयज, आर्ट्स फॉर गर्ल्स, साइंस फॉर बॉयज' कहावत लड़कियों को साइंस, इंजीनियरिंग की पढ़ाई से दूर रखने के लिए खासी प्रचलित थी। ऐसी नकारात्मक टिप्पणियां लड़कियों की क्षमता पर प्रतिकूल असर डालती हैं।

ऐसा नहीं है कि हमारी लड़कियां विज्ञान, गणित में अच्छे प्रदर्शन नहीं करतीं। अमेरिका में इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों में नामांकन कराने वाली 30 प्रतिशत लड़कियों में केवल 18.5 प्रतिशत ही डिग्री हासिल करती हैं। जबकि भारत में नामांकन के बाद बीच में इंजीनियरिंग की पढ़ाई छोड़ने वाली लड़कियां 5 प्रतिशत ही हैं। एक नए अध्ययन से यह भी पता चला है कि भारत में सिर्फ 10 प्रतिशत विद्यार्थियों की ही हायर शिक्षा तक पहुंच है जबकि अमेरिका में यह 28 प्रतिशत है। चीन में यह दर 22 प्रतिशत है। इस रिपोर्ट में इस पर भी जोर दिया गया है कि हायर एजुकेशन में निजी व राष्ट्रीय दोनों स्तरों पर उत्पादकता व आर्थिक मूल्यों को बढ़ाने की क्षमता है। जरूरत देश भर में पर्याप्त कम्युनिटी कॉलेज खोलने की है, जहां युवाओं को प्रोफेशनल कोर्सेज में दाखिला देकर हुनरमंद बना रोजगार मुहैया कराया जा सके। यह भी गौर करने वाली है कि हायर शिक्षा तक पहुंच रखने वाले दस प्रतिशत विद्यार्थियों में लड़कियों की संख्या कम ही होगी। पर इस कम संख्या के बावजूद वे अपना नाम उपलब्धियों की सूची में जोड़ने के लिए बेताब हैं।



THE NEW GATEWAY



NEW RULE: GATE will switch from pen and pencil to online mode from this year. Students at IIT-Kanpur and IIT-Delhi (left)

By **Abhijit Chaudhari**

WITH THE number of GATE (Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering) aspirants expected to touch 14 lakh, the IITs have decided to make the entire test (all the 22 papers) online from this year.

This year the test will be held in multiple sessions (12) spread over one month, starting from February 2 to March 2. The test will be held on alternate Saturdays and Sundays, with two sessions per day.

The test will be conducted online for all the streams. Papers with more number of applicants (most likely Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE), Computer Science (CS), Mechanical Engineering (ME) and Electrical Engineering (EE) will have multiple sessions. That means there will be separate papers of similar difficulty levels in these streams. The test will have numerical answer questions apart from multiple choice questions. The application fee has been increased to ₹1,500 for general and OBC category students while it is ₹750 for female and SC/ST students. Last year, the application fee was waived off for female applicants.

GATE test online is a good move in many ways. Firstly, at such a huge scale, an online exam is relatively easier to administer. Compared to a paper and pencil test, the chances of human errors are also reduced. In an offline test, there

are chances of paper pilferage or leaking of the question papers. With an online test administration, this is almost eliminated. An online test also leads to faster and relatively error free results processing.

Lastly, it also results in huge paper saving, and is considerably more environment friendly than a paper and pencil test.

Last year six streams (ECE, CS, ME, EE, Production and Industrial Engineering (PIE) and Instru-



For streams with multiple sessions, the score would probably be the only parameter to compare performance of students across multiple papers. The All India Rank may not be very relevant for these streams

— **ABHIJIT CHAUDHARI**, Director, GATEFORUM

A problem that can arise in GATE 2014 will be in replicating a complicated diagram on the online mode

GATE IN A GIST

WHAT IS GATE?

Conducted jointly by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, along with seven IIT's (IIT-Kanpur, IIT-Madras, IIT-Kharagpur, IIT-Roorkee, IIT-Delhi, IIT-Bombay and IIT-Guwahati), the GATE score is used for admissions to various post-graduate and Ph.D. programmes in higher education institutes in the country.

WHEN IS GATE?

GATE 2014 will run for one month starting from February 2 to March 2. The date and examination details is also provided on the website of IIT Kharagpur www.gate.iitkgp.ac.in

WHAT IS NEW?

GATE 2014 will be entirely a Computer Based Test (CBT). Candidates have to appear online for this examination. A new paper titled 'Ecology and Evolution' will be introduced from this year.

mentation Engineering (IN) were paper based while the remaining streams were online. While the advantages of GATE going online are many, there are a few glaring demerits as well. One issue with administering the exam is the lack of infrastructure in the country. As a result, the IITs are forced

to conduct the test in multiple sessions, spread over a month. This means that they have to create multiple papers for some streams like Electronics and Communication Engineering (four sessions), Mechanical Engineering (four sessions), Computer Science (three sessions), Electrical Engineering (three ses-

sions) and Civil Engineering (two sessions). Creating multiple papers containing dissimilar questions (to maintain the surprise element across sessions) and yet having similar difficulty levels will be a major challenge. For streams with multiple sessions, the score would probably be the only parameter to compare performance of students across multiple papers. The All India Rank may not be very relevant for these streams.

WITH THE exam going online, a lot of practice will be needed by the candidates to familiarise with the new format. A peculiar problem that can arise in GATE, where some questions might require candidates to work on a complicated figure/diagram (in case of a paper based test the same can be done on the question paper itself), will be in replicating the diagram on the online mode. Students have to practice on that. With the test having numerical answer questions, wherein one has to enter an answer, instead of choosing between four options, guesswork is eliminated and hence one cannot bet on luck or a solution based on elimination of wrong options.

The writer is the director GATEFORUM, an educational consultancy.

मोबाइल बताएगा त्वचा कैंसर के राज

आईआईटी खड़गपुर के छात्रों ने बनाया एप्लिकेशन

■ किसी भी स्मार्टफोन में प्रयोग किया जा सकता है 'क्लिपओकैम-डर्मा' एप

एजेंसी | कोलकाता

मोबाइल फोन की दुनिया में अब एक ऐसा मोबाइल एप्लिकेशन आ गया है जो आपको शीघ्रता से त्वचा कैंसर और इन बीमारियों से संबंधित चिकित्सकीय परामर्श दे सकता है।



इस मोबाइल एप्लिकेशन का इजाद आईआईटी खड़गपुर के छात्रों ने किया है। आईआईटी खड़गपुर में स्कूल ऑफ मेडिकल

साइंस एंड टेक्नोलॉजी में शोधार्थी देवदूत शीत के नेतृत्व में मोबाइल एप्लिकेशन 'क्लिपओकैम-डर्मा' को विकसित किया गया जिसे किसी भी स्मार्ट फोन पर प्रयोग में लाया जा सकता है। शीत ने बताया कि पोर्टेबल और सस्ता समाधान होने के नाते इसे किसी भी प्रशिक्षित स्वास्थ्य कर्मियों द्वारा प्रयोग में लाया जा सकता है जिससे वे स्वास्थ्य सुविधाएं के लिहाज से पहुंच के क्षेत्र से बाहर के इलाकों में भी बुजुर्गों और मरीजों तक अपनी पहुंच बना सकते हैं। नियामकीय स्वीकृति मिलने के बाद इस मोबाइल एप को बाजार में उतारा जाएगा जिससे फिजीशियंस (चिकित्सकों) को रोग की पहचान करने और कम समय से ज्यादा से ज्यादा मरीजों का इलाज करने में सुविधा होगी।

'सुपरहीरो जीन' की सुरक्षा करता है सनस्क्रीन

मेलबर्न | सनस्क्रीन तीन तरह के त्वचा कैंसर से 100 फीसदी सुरक्षा तो करता ही है साथ ही यह उस 'सुपरहीरो जीन' की भी सुरक्षा करता है जो कैंसर को रोकने में मदद करता है। ऐसा माना जाता है कि सनस्क्रीन सनबर्न से बचाता है। क्वींसलैंड यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी के शोधकर्ताओं के अनुसार सनस्क्रीन तीनों प्रकार के त्वचा कैंसरों बीसीसी, एससीसी और मेलानोमा से 100 फीसदी सुरक्षा देता है।

चेहरे को जवां बनाए रखने में सक्षम एंटीऑक्सीडेंट टिरोन

न्यूयॉर्क | न्यूकैसल यूनिवर्सिटी के शोधकर्ताओं ने टिरोन नाम का एक ऐसा एंटीऑक्सीडेंट खोजा है जो धूप से हमारे चेहरे का पूरी तरह बचाव करता है और हमारी त्वचा को लंबे समय तक जवां बनाए रखता है। आणविक त्वचा विज्ञान के प्रवक्ता मार्क बर्च मैशिन ने बताया कि पराबैंगनी विकिरण से पूरी तरह सुरक्षा देने वाले टिरोन की खोज आशाजनक है।



Imperial College, London, known for its academic excellence has close to 14,000 students and a staff of around 6,000 on its rolls

By Education Mail Bureau

IMPERIAL COLLEGE, London, has announced two fully funded masters' scholarships as well as a Ph.D scholarship for Indian students to study at the college. The full scholarships will cover the entire tuition fee including maintenance allowance, airfare and additional costs. The scheme is open to students applying for various academic programmes at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, the Faculty of Engineering and Imperial College Business School.

The various programmes include Aeronautics, Bioengineering, Centre for Environmental Policy, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry,

London college offers full bounty

Civil and Environmental Engineering, Computing, Earth Science and Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Life Sciences, Materials, Mathematics, Mechanical Engineering, Physics and Business.

Launched last year, the Imperial College India Foundation Scholarships intends to attract talented students from India. Selected candidates will get access to

world class academic training and support throughout their studies which in turn can help them to contribute to society, industry and academia upon their return. Applicants will be assessed on both academic merit and financial need.

Priority will be given to students who have not completed a degree at a higher education institution outside India. A committee comprising foun-

dation members and academic staff will select the scholarship winners. The application deadline is March 14.

"The scholarships will go on to strengthen the flourishing relationship between Imperial College and its Indian alumni and supporters," said Keith O'Nions, president and rector, Imperial College. Imperial College, London, is a science-based institution with a reputation for excellence in teaching and research and has close to 14,000 students and 6,000 staff on its rolls.

Selected students will get access to world class training and facilities throughout their studies

Times of India, ND 14/01/2014 P-13

Govt launches indigenous glucometer costing ₹500

New Delhi: India's fight against diabetes received a major boost on Monday with government launching indigenously developed glucometer — which is used to monitor blood glucose level — and test strips. The machine has been developed by Birla Institute of Technology, Hyderabad and IIT, Mumbai. Health ministry officials said the cost of the indigenously developed glucometer is going to be less than Rs 500 while the strips will cost Rs 5.

A standard blood glucose monitoring equipment today costs anywhere between Rs 2000 — 3000 and the strips are priced at Rs 20 each. "High price of testing kits have been a major barrier in regular monitoring of blood glucose levels and treatment. The cheaper kits will help reduce the gap," said Dr Anoop Misra, member of the ICMR task force for developing indigenous kits for diabetes.

The indigenously developed diagnostic kit was launched by Union health minister Ghulam Nabi Azad. "India has more than 65 million cases of diabetes, second largest number of diabetic patients in the world after China. A vast number of people are simply unaware of their condition and progressing towards complications without any effort at control or treatment. The availability of new cheaper methods of diagnosis will help us identify and treat them," he said. TNN

Robotic hands guide surgeons in risky ops

Durgesh Nandan Jha | TNN

New Delhi: The use of robot as a surgical aid is gaining ground in India. Recently, the technology has been used to perform urological procedures in children, who otherwise needed to have an open surgery or be operated upon laparoscopically.

Apollo Hospital here claims to have performed 25 successful robotic surgeries in 10 months—March to December 2013—involving children aged four months to 10 years. The technology was most recently used on a 1-year-old boy who had a congenital kidney defect, leading to recurrent urinary infection.

“Rishit was diagnosed with renal deformity in an ultrasound examination during pregnancy itself. Though we decided to go ahead with the birth, we could not muster the courage to put him through a

TECH BENEFIT



One-year-old Rishit after the surgery

Most common robot-assisted surgeries in paediatric urology

Nephrectomy (to remove kidney)

Nephroureterectomy (to remove kidney and ureter)

To repair blockage between kidney and ureter

Genitourinary reconstructive surgery

Benefits over open surgery or laparoscopy

- ▶ Robotic technology helps surgeon see **inside** the body in high-definition, 3D view
- ▶ Provides up to **10 times magnification**
- ▶ **Lesser risk** of intra-operative complications, damage to arteries & veins
- ▶ **Duration of surgery is less**, reducing the need for prolonged anaesthesia
- ▶ **Less pain, faster recovery**

surgery for correction of the deformity, an obstruction in the left kidney, causing backflow of urine and puss formation, for over a year. When we got to know about robotic surgery, we decided to opt for it,” said Mohita Mathur, mother of the child.

Dr Sujit K Choudhary, paediatric surgeon at Apollo Hospital, said the youngest child they have operated upon with a robot is a four-month-old. “It requires the best of skill to operate upon kids with smaller bodies. Their inner parts—organs and tissues—are also small. The robotic technology allows magnification up to 10 times and there is less risk of intra-operative complications, and damage to the arteries and veins,” he said.

Among the most common robot-assisted surgeries in paediatric urology are those to remove kidney, repair blockage between kidney and ureter as

well as genitourinary reconstructive surgery.

According to Dr N P Gupta, chairman of the Medanta Kidney and Urology Institute, robotic surgery in urology started in 2000, mainly for radical prostatectomy for cancer prostate. Its use was later extended to reconstructive procedures in urology for congenital diseases. “The robot’s bulkiness limited its use in children as they have a small abdominal cavity. Sophisticated instruments and skill are needed to perform robotic surgery in limited space,” he said.

In Medanta Medicity, three children between the age of two and four had a successful robotic surgery for reconstruction of congenital pelviureteric junction obstruction. The children were found to have PUJ obstruction since birth; in one case, ultrasound examination during pregnancy had led to the diagnosis.

‘Deemed varsities should not conduct entrance test’

Staff Reporter

They are not adhering to transparent admission procedures, says State government

The Odisha government wants deemed universities stripped of power to conduct entrance tests, counselling and admissions at their level by pointing out that these universities are not adhering to fair and transparent admission procedures.

The State government while submitting its views on the draft regulation on technical and professional education solicited by the UGC, “not less than 50 per cent of seats of deemed universities functioning in the State should be filled up through the merit list generated for the State candidates through counselling conducted by the State government.

“The remaining seats of the deemed universities should be filled up through central counselling conducted by the CBSE at all India level,” the government suggested.

Observing that deemed universities are admitting a large number of students in different disciplines as there was no such restriction on them in this regard, the government said, they (deemed universities) should apply to the UGC for obtaining approval of the commission in respect of various disciplines and courses.”

“With the approval of the UGC they should be eligible to admit students within the intake as approved by the Commission. The UGC will intimate about the approved intake of the deemed universities to the State government,” it said.

The State government said deemed universities were not adhering to fair, transparent, merit-based and non-exploitative admission procedure.

Hardening its stance, the government further suggested that such universities should refrain from conducting entrance test as credibility of such entrance tests are doubtful and against national policy. “Such tests cannot be termed as an all-India test and hence, it violates UGC regulations.”

Fee structure

The government sought greater control over admission process. “The fee structure of the deemed universities should either regulated by the fee structure committee constituted by the UGC or by the State government,” it submitted.

The government further proposed that in the line of the provision and practice of the Medical Council of India, the UGC is also required to seek ‘No Objection Certificate’ of the State government from the deemed to be universities every year in respect of running of the higher technical programmes. “If such NOC will be called from the State Government by the UGC there will be some check and balance in their functioning and effective control of the State government to curb the erratic functioning and the whimsical steps taken by the deemed to be universities in respect of admission of students, fixation of intake in each branch, collection of fees and conduct of courses,” it says, adding that State government will be in a position to oversee overall functioning of these institutes.

With UGC’s approval they will be eligible to admit students, says government

‘Their fee structure should be regulated by the UGC or by the State government’

Printable version | Jan 14, 2014 11:35:49 PM | <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-otherstates/deemed-varsities-should-not-conduct-entrance-test/article5576113.ece>

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ISRO yet to pick up rover built by IIT-K

Last Updated: Tuesday, January 14, 2014, 22:22

Kanpur: ISRO had given a project to IIT Kanpur to develop a rover to be launched with Chandrayaan-II, which the university's scientists completed in 2010, but the space agency was yet to pick it up and make part payment to the institute, according to its professor.

When contacted, an Indian Space Research Organisation official said in Bangalore that they will take some time to respond.

"In 2009, ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre in Thiruvananthapuram had given a project to IIT Kanpur's mechanical engineering and electrical engineering departments to build a rover that would be launched along with Chandrayaan-II," Prof K S Venkatesh of IIT Kanpur's electrical engineering department said.

"ISRO had promised to give us Rs 7.5 lakh for the project, of which Rs 3.75 lakh was paid up front," he said.

The IIT-K professor said scientists at the institute had completed building the rover, weighing 100 kgs, in October 2010, after which it was "gathering dust" in a lab in the institute.

"Repeated phone calls and letters to ISRO failed to yield any result. Every time, ISRO scientists would assure us that they are coming soon to collect the rover, but till now no one has come," he said.

The professor said building the rover had cost much more than Rs 7.5 lakh, which the institute had paid, and that ISRO should at least pay the remaining amount due to IIT-K.

When asked about the possible reasons for ISRO not accepting the rover, Venkatesh said Chandrayaan-II was set to be launched in 2017, which could be why ISRO was not showing any haste in acquiring it.

The professor said his colleagues at the institute had realised that the project to build the rover, which would pick up samples from the Moon's surface and bring them back to Earth, would cost much more than Rs 7.5 lakh and had initially refused to take it up.

"However, the then IIT-K Director Sanjay Govind Dhande had insisted that the project would get the institute international fame and that IIT-K would pitch in with the money," he said.

According to him, IIT-K spent Rs 29 lakh on the project.

He said on completion of the project in October 2010, the team had contacted ISRO scientists by phone and letters, informing them that the rover was ready and they could come to inspect it.

However, no one has come to claim the rover yet, he said.

http://zeenews.india.com/news/space/isro-yet-to-pick-up-rover-built-by-iit-k_904085.html#

PM felicitates Prof.C N R Rao, calls him leading luminary of Indian science

New Delhi , Tue, 14 Jan 2014 ANI

New Delhi, Jan.14 (ANI): Describing Bharat Ratna Professor C.N.R. Rao as a leading luminary of Indian science and a world leader in many areas of scientific exploration, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Tuesday said that Rao epitomises triumph of will over constraints, of genius over circumstances.

"For over five decades, he has pursued and achieved excellence in both research and teaching. His achievements are powerful and lasting in their impact on global science. And, what makes them so inspiring to younger generations in our country is that he made them possible in an India that was synonymous with constraints of resources, constraints of infrastructure, constraints of opportunity and remuneration," Dr.Singh said.

He further said that Professor Rao has demonstrated that world-class research can be accomplished on Indian soil, despite all constraints.

"He has relentlessly guided the growth of science academies and all major science institutes in India. He built and nurtured a world-class chemistry department at IIT Kanpur that put India on the world map in modern chemistry. He rejuvenated and nurtured India's premier research institute, the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore. Even now, he continues to devote himself to creating state-of-the-art facilities and nurturing a vibrant group of scientists at the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research in Bangalore. In spite of his very busy life in research and administration, he has been actively mixing with and inspiring younger Indians with his lectures and books," the Prime Minister said.

Dr.Singh said that as the chairman of the Science Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, Professor Rao has played a pivotal role in guiding the science and technology policies of the Government of India.

"I, for one, have benefited immensely from his wise counsel. I thank him for sharing my vision to orient science towards development and prosperity of India founded on the basis of inclusion and equity," he said.

He said that it is a matter of national pride that Professor Rao is an elected member of over 25 science academies around the world, and has been decorated with some of the world's most prestigious medals and prizes, besides honorary doctorates by more than 60 universities in India and the world.

He said that by conferring the Bharat Ratna on Professor Rao, "we are recognizing his larger and towering presence in our overall national life, and also the role and impact of science on India's march to progress."
(ANI)

<http://www.newstrackindia.com/newsdetails/2014/01/14/313-PM-felicitates-Prof-C-N-R-Rao-calls-him-leading-luminary-of-Indian-science.html>