

Newspaper Clips

January 22, 2011

Financial Express

ND 22/01/2011 p-2

HRD ministry rules out IITs fee hike

The ministry of human resource development on Friday ruled out any fee hikes in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) and rejected the proposal of the IIT Bombay chairman Anil Kakodkar headed committee which recommended a five-fold increase in fees of undergraduate courses. The committee had recommended the tuition fees in the 15 IITs to increase from Rs 50,000 a year now to nearly Rs 2.5 lakh. The council decided that the Kakodkar Committee will take into account the suggestions at the time of finalisation.

Times of India ND 22/01/2011

P-18

IIT council rejects fee-hike proposal

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Council of the Indian Institutes of Technology — the top decision-making body for the institutions — has not agreed with the recommendation of the Anil Kakodkar committee for a big fee hike from Rs 50,000 at present to more than Rs 2 lakh per year for the financial autonomy of the IITs and felt it could act as a deterrent for students.

The Council, which met on Friday, however, gave in-principle approval for setting up of one technical institute in Mauritius with the help of IITs and also decided that IIT directors should be appointed through a process of open advertisement and not through search committee alone.

Kakodkar, who was asked to suggest a roadmap for the

IITs' roadmap, was asked to examine various suggestions made during the meeting and rework the report. The meeting also could not discuss reform in the Joint Entrance Examination and curriculum as T Ramaswamy, secretary, department of science & technology, was not present. Ramaswamy had prepared a report on the two issues.

Sources said the Council spent a considerable time in discussing the Kakodkar committee report. Many directors felt Kakodkar's suggestion on financial autonomy for IITs was too simplistic and it would be difficult to sustain it through a fee hike alone. Others said the economic model should be reworked. HRD minister Kapil Sibal said charging such a high fee could act as a deterrent to students from applying.

GMAT results show Chinese better than Indians at maths

No need to ring alarm bells

First, the good news. With an average score of 42 in the quantitative section of the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) – used as selection criteria by B-schools across the world – Indian students placed seventh globally, comfortably beating the global average of 37. Now for the bad: Chinese students topped the list, beating the Indians handily. Given the obsession with China in this country, this is likely to cause dark warnings about Chinese students and corporate workforce outdoing their Indian counterparts. But this is a false alarm. Standardised test scores have very little bearing on the actual academic or professional quality of an individual.

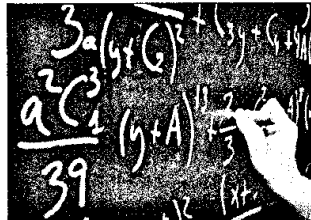
To understand what these scores really signify, one could look at *Battle Hymn Of The Tiger Mother*, a book by Chinese-American academic and author Amy Chua on how Chinese mothers raise successful kids. It is a somewhat alarming account of parental pressure. We have Chua forcing her seven-year-old daughter to practise piano for hours into the night without being allowed to get up for water or go to the bathroom. Or calling

her “garbage” for being disrespectful – or throwing a birthday card that her daughter had made for her back and demanding a better one. If this is the traditional Chinese mode of parenting as Chua says, it is too high a price to pay for a few more points on a standardised test.

Just as importantly, such fierce focus on a narrow area of student

TIMES VIEW

performance/ ignores many other skills that are equally useful in academic and professional life. Creativity, cognitive skills, the ability to understand social dynamics and work well with one's peers – these cannot be discounted. And they are picked up through social engagement and flexible academic structures. Little wonder that despite having a far lower average on such tests than either India or China, it is still the US that churns out the largest number of top-notch entrepreneurs and researchers.



Our ancestors invented the zero and that's just where we might end up if we continue to be beaten in mathematics by not only East Asians, but also peoples not traditionally thought of as numerically outstanding, such as Turks and Israelis. Nor is it any comfort that Indians do considerably better than most nationalities

From inventing the zero to zero

Despite this they are beaten by people statistically unlikely to be engineers, relatively unmotivated and most likely not hailing from the economic elite in their own countries.

This is deeply troubling because it signals a skills deficit produced almost certainly by the shortcomings of our education system and threatens our development. Without highly trained

COUNTERVIEW

Deep K Datta-Ray including Americans, because of the Indian test-taker's profile.

They belong to our elite – at least economically since they can afford to go abroad – and benefit from this country's best. They are far more focussed than, for instance Americans, for a variety of reasons. Most significantly, about 60% of Indian GMAT test-takers are engineers by training as opposed to the global average of 15%. This means that Indians have the advantage of background, focus and training.

engineers, it is unlikely that India will ever be able to build the massive infrastructure projects needed to lift the masses out of humiliating poverty. The goals might have changed from dams to nuclear power plants, but both still require people highly competent in maths. Do we want to wind up like the UK and US where engineering jobs are the hardest to fill because students flock to the humanities? Our poverty ensures we cannot afford such luxuries. Numerical skills are an essential complement to literacy. To be second rate in this area is to lose out on an essential ingredient of national competitiveness.

Rare voice box transplant helps woman speak again

Vocal Cord, Damaged Years Ago, Repaired In 10-Hr Op

Sacramento (California): A woman whose natural voice could have been silenced forever because of vocal cord damage is able to talk again after undergoing a rare voice box transplant.

Brenda Charett Jensen, 52, reunited with the team of surgeons who performed the delicate operation last October, only the second surgery of its kind performed in the United States. “It's just been amazing — simply, simply amazing. And I'm still in shock,” Jensen said in a raspy voice at a news conference with her doctors. “I never know what's going to come tomorrow, but I know it's going to be better than where I've been.”

Jensen damaged her vocal cords more than a decade ago after she repeatedly pulled out her breathing tube while under sedation in the hospital. Because the injury left her breathing passage completely closed, the Modesto woman had also been unable to smell — a sensa-



VOCAL SUPPORT: Brenda Jensen's voice box, windpipe and thyroid gland were replaced by those of a dead donor. She now speaks in her own voice

tion that she is enjoying again.

Before the transplant, Jensen “talked” with the help of a hand-held

device that produces an electronic voice. The robotic-sounding device led to people hanging up on her or treating her like she was not there, so Jensen said risk of surgery was worth it. After years of putting up with humiliation, “I was game to go. I wanted to talk again,” said Jensen.

Doctors replaced her voice box, windpipe and thyroid gland with that of a donor who died in an accident. The transplant was led by the University of California-Davis Medical Center. Chief surgeon Gregory Farwell said the surgeons spent 10 hours working under a high-power microscope as they sewed the nerves back together, he said.

Two weeks after the transplant, Jensen voiced her first words to her doctors in a hoarse tone: “Good morning,” followed by “I wanna go home” and “You guys are amazing.” Jensen has since been able to speak more easily. Doctors said Jensen's voice was her own and not that of the donor. AP

**Times of
India ND P-21
22/01/2011
Liver tissue
grown in lab
cuts reliance
on donors**

Washington: Scientists have attained success in growing human liver cells on resorbable scaffolds made from material similar to surgical sutures.

This liver tissue could be used in place of donor organs during liver transplantation or during the bridge period until a suitable donor is available for patients with acute liver failure, say researchers.

In applying their tissue engineering approach, the German researchers were able to successfully create new liver tissue providing a potential solution to the obstacles challenging liver cell transplantation. The team isolated liver cells from 12 human liver specimens with a viability of 82%. After a two-day culture period, liver cells formed tightly packed cellular aggregates, called spheroids, and took on a liver-like appearance.

Human liver cells were distributed across a three-dimensional porous structure of the polymer scaffolding. From day two to four, the average number of spheroids more than doubled from 18 to 41 per visual field. ANI

Times of India ND P-21

22/01/2011

Soon, superfast quantum comps to be a reality

London: Superfast quantum computers could soon be a reality, as scientists claim to have generated 10 billion bits of quantum entanglement in silicon for the first time.

The breakthrough in silicon — the basis of the computer chip — has important implications for integration with existing technology, according to a team of international scientists. The team, which comprised scientists from Britain, Japan, Canada and Germany, believe that super-fast quantum computers, based on quantum bits, called qubits, will be able to test many possible solutions to a problem at once.

Traditional computers are based on binary switches, or bits, and can only perform one task at a time. "Creating ten billion entangled pairs in silicon with high fidelity is an important step forward for us," John Morton of Oxford University was quoted as saying by Daily Mail. "We now need to deal with the chal-

Scientists have generated 10bn bits of quantum entanglement in silicon for the first time. This will help computers to test many possible solutions to a problem at once

lenge of coupling these pairs together to build a scalable quantum computer in silicon," Morton added.

According to scientists, quantum entanglement involves the notion that particles can be connected in such a way that changing the state of one instantly affects the other, even when they are miles apart. For this research, the team used high magnetic fields and low temperatures to produce entanglement between the electron and the nucleus of an atom of phosphorous embedded in a silicon crystal. ❧

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By 2020, 15% of world's ailments will be due to mental disorders

Kounteya Sinha | TNN

New Delhi: By 2020, nearly 15% of the world's disease burden will be due to mental disorders. Calling it a matter of great concern, with such disorders still grossly overlooked in India and with its awareness low even among healthcare professionals, Union health minister Ghulam Nabi Azad said about 20% of all patients seen by primary health care doctors have one or more mental disorder. One in four families is likely to have at least one member with a behavioural or mental disorder.

"Together these disorders accounted for 10.5% of the global burden of disease in 1990 which increased to 12% in 2000, according to trends in the World Health Report-2001. By 2020, it will increase to 15% of

Union health minister Ghulam Nabi Azad said about 20% of all patients seen by primary health care doctors have one or more mental disorder

the burden," Azad said. So how bad is the situation in India?

Currently, India has just 23% of the required psychiatrists, 25% of required psychiatric nurses and only 3% of the required clinical psychologists and psychiatric social workers. This means India presently has 3,500 psychiatrists, 500 clinical psychologists, 300 psychiatric social workers and about a 1,000 psy-

chiatric nurses.

As against 30,000 beds required for the mentally ill, there are only about 200 beds at present. "Even by very conservative yardstick, there is therefore a shortage of about 8,000 psychiatrists, 17,000 clinical psychologists, 23,000 psychiatric social workers and 9,000 psychiatric nurses," Azad said.

A note prepared by the ministry says, "7% of the Indian population suffers from mental disorders. Over 90% remain untreated. There is less than one psychiatrist for every four lakh population."

That's why the ministry is now developing 11 institutions as centres of excellence in mental health which will add 44 psychiatrists, 176 clinical psychologists, 176 psychiatric social workers and 220 psychiatric nurses annually.

Times of India ND 22/01/2011 P-21

Chess grandmasters use hidden brain parts

Hong Kong: Professional chess players have long stumped fans with how they make killer moves so swiftly and intuitively, and a Japanese study published on Friday may have unlocked their secret.

Tracking blood flow into the brain to detect spikes of activity, researchers found that master players of shogi — a Japanese game similar to chess — use two regions of the brain to make critical moves. Unlike amateur players, who use the precuneus area of the parietal lobe, professionals use the caudate nucleus in the center of the brain, said Keiji Tanaka at the RIKEN Brain Science Institute's Cognitive Brain Mapping Laboratory.

"Professionals are trained extensively for a long time, over 10 years, hours every day. This extensive training (may have) shifted the activity from the cerebral cortex to the caudate nucleus," the study's lead author Tanaka said.

"Amateurs use the precuneus only a third of the time (that professionals do)," Tanaka said.



MASTER OF THE GAME: Unlike amateur players who use an area at the back of the brain, professionals like Vishwanathan Anand use a central area, say experts

The findings were published in the journal *Science*. Experts believe the caudate nucleus is responsible for switching bodily movements.

"The caudate nucleus is very well developed in rats and mice, while the cerebral cortex is very developed in primates by becoming expert, shogi masters start to use all parts of the brain," Tanaka said. Tanaka hoped the study would inspire research into developing the intuitive powers of the caudate nucleus. **REUTERS**

Asian Age ND 22/01/2011

P-5

Govt reluctant to hike IIT fees

AGE CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Jan. 21: The government doesn't seem inclined to hike the fee for undergraduate studies in the IITs as suggested by an expert committee. Human resource development minister Kapil Sibal is reported to have rejected the suggestion on raising fee made by it during a meeting of the IIT Council in the capital on Friday saying that this would act as a "deterrent".

The Anil Kakodkar Committee has suggested a four to five-fold increase in fee for students undertaking undergraduate studies in the prestigious IITs saying that it be increased from ₹50,000 annually to ₹2 lakhs to ₹2.5 lakhs per annum.

Its report was presented during the council meeting on Friday. It was, however, reportedly asked to rework the fee structure. Apart from looking at the fee structure, the expert committee has also suggested a roadmap for the IITs. These suggestions were discussed at length at today's meeting and will be taken into account when the report is finalised.

During the meeting, Mr Sibal also announced the

setting up of 50 research parks at a cost of ₹200 crores during the 12th Plan period.

A decision to appoint IIT directors — the heads of the institutes — would be through a process of open advertisement so that there is a wider choice of candidates available. The council decided that a panel for visitor's nominee for a particular department would be created, which all the IITs could use for the selection of faculty. This will ensure that timely selection of professors are made.

The meeting also discussed two other reports, both presented by Prof. Sanjay Dhande, who is the director of IIT, Kanpur. While one was on "a uniform criteria for promoting students from one semester to the next in the IITS", the other is on "requirement of Infrastructure for Research".

With regard to the uniform criteria for promotion, the council agreed that the academic bodies of the various IITs should consider acquisition of credits as a criteria for movement of students and grant of degrees. As for the other Dhande panel report, the council welcomed the its suggestions and agreed to implement them over time.

Pioneer ND 22/01/2011 P-5

Doubts remain on JEE reform

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The fourth meeting of the IIT Council chaired by HRD Minister Kapil Sibal on Friday was silent on the proposed reforms in Joint Entrance Examination (JEE), scheduled in April, but it did provide relief to IIT aspirants by shooting down a proposal to hike the fees of undergraduate programmes of the premier technical institutes by about four times.

The Anil Kakodkar committee, which was set up to study the roadmap for the autonomy and future of the IITs, had recommended that the fees be raised from ₹50,000 per annum to ₹2-₹2.5 lakh per annum.

However, during discussions over the committee's report, Sibal rejected the proposal saying it will act as a "deterrent" to aspiring students, said sources in the Ministry. The committee has been asked to rework the fee structure taking into

account the aspirations of all sections.

Sibal also announced the setting up of 50 research parks at a cost of ₹200 crores during the 12th Plan Period. These could be set up on PPP mode encouraging private players to carry out research activities with Government institutions. One park is already in existence in Chennai.

The meeting also decided that the appointment of Directors should be made through a process of open advertisement so that a wider base is created for the purpose of selection.

It also decided that in-principle approval may be granted for setting up an IIT in Mauritius with the help of the IITs.

However, the much-awaited agenda on the JEE reforms and the transparency mechanism that should be adopted in the process, especially after the RTI exposure were not discussed. The Acharya and the Rangaswamy committees had been working on the various issues involved in the JEE.

Mail Today ND 22/01/2011 P-12

DU gets partial nod for radioactive experiments

By Ritika Chopra in New Delhi

SIX MONTHS after a blanket ban on radioactive experiments crippled laboratory work at Delhi University (DU), the country's nuclear watchdog has finally relented.

The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has given "clearance" to DU to use weak radioactive sources for just the taught programmes of the department of Physics and Astrophysics. This much-awaited green signal was received by the University's registrar on Thursday evening.

"The letter which came on Thursday is as good as a go-ahead. But we have to fill a few forms as formality and send it to the AERB. The final permission will come in two to three days," said a professor in the department of Physics and Astrophysics, requesting anonymity. DU vice-chancellor (VC) Dinesh Singh was unreachable for comment despite repeated attempts.

The nuclear watchdog's nod is meant exclusively for the taught programmes of the department as its students — all 332 of



A physics lab at Delhi University.

them — enrolled in the M.Tech and M.Sc. courses were the most affected because of the ban. The injunction forbidding use of radioactive sources is still in place for the rest of the science departments and even the research students of Physics and Astrophysics.

ATOMIC TIMELINE

April 8, 2010: A radiation leak reported from Mayapuri Industrial area; four persons injured

April 26, 2010: One of the victims of radiation exposure dies

April 28, 2010: Source of radioactive Cobalt-60 traced to DU's Chemistry lab

April 29, 2010: AERB suspends DU's permission to use radioactive material

September 15, 2010: AERB bans DU from using radioactive material

While the final year students of the two physics courses have managed to complete their practical curriculum for the first semester at the Inter University Accelerator Centre in Vasant Kunj, about 300 first year students haven't conducted even one experiment based on radioac-

tive sources since the new session started in July 2010. DU is among the few institutions in the country which offer programmes in nuclear science. It possibly produces the largest number of students specialising in the field.

The AERB suspended DU's permission to use radioactive sources on April 29, 2010 after an auctioned gamma cell landed in a Mayapuri scrapyard, which had led to death of one person and injuries to 10 others. The blanket ban came when DU failed to submit its final reply on the radiation incident to the AERB within the stipulated period. It took as many as 15 visits to the university by the AERB officials in 2010 and a three-day training session of faculty members in December before the nuclear watchdog finally decided to give the green signal.

"The ban has been partially lifted only after the university returned all the unused radioactive material and appointed Radiological Safety Officer," said the professor.

Tribune ND 22/01/2011 P-20

IIM-B in pact with US varsities

To launch a unique leadership programme for senior management

SHUBHADEEP CHOUDHURY/TNS

BANGALORE, JANUARY 21

The Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIM-B), the Robert H Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland (Smith) and the School of Management, Zhejiang University (Zhejiang, China), have jointly announced the launch of a global senior management program that will have business leaders travelling to each country to learn successful innovation in each market.

The program titled 'Technology and Innovation Leadership Beyond Borders' consists of a series of three international business education and professional development training at each of the three institutions, networking and group activities for participating executives, and the granting of a certificate to each successful participant. The three institutions will



jointly deliver high-quality training of international standard and will share in the effort, expenses, and revenues for the planning and delivery of the programme.

Pankaj Chandra, director, IIMB, said, the programme will feature three areas with each of the partner schools focusing on one area. IIMB will focus on services, Smith on innovation and creativity, and Zhejiang on manufacturing.

"For the participant this will translate into a comprehensive exposure to manag-

ing in a global business environment in a more effective manner," he said.

G Anand Anandalingam, dean of the Robert H. Smith School of Business, said, "as strong partner institutions, we want to offer business leaders in the US, China and India the opportunity to experience the unique strengths of each market and the best way to do that is to give managers an on-the-ground look at the way businesses operates and why they succeed."

"The joint program has inte-

grated the world's top teaching resources, which will spare no effort in cultivating senior managers with a global strategic vision and a comprehensive decision-making ability. The managers here can master the core concepts in management, improve the quality of self-management, interpret the management issues with a global vision and become outstanding leaders in business arena", executive dean, School of Management, Zhejiang University, Xiaobo Wu said

The programme, which is designed as three one-week segments, will kick-off in Maryland in June 2011, with a week focusing on managerial and creative innovation. The second phase - manufacturing innovation - will take place in Zhejiang, China in September 2011. The programme will culminate with a service innovation module in Bangalore in January 2012.

Mail Today ND
22/01/2011 P-2

Govt says no to IIT fee-hike proposal



OVERRULED: Kakodkar

THE government has rejected the Anil Kakodkar committee's proposal of a four-fold hike in fees at IITs. It has asked the committee to rework the proposal.

The Kakodkar committee, appointed by the human resource development ministry, had recommended that fees for undergraduate students of the Institutions be hiked from ₹50,000 to ₹2.5 lakh per annum. The proposal was aimed to enable IITs generate their own funds.

HRD minister Kapil Sibal, who chaired the IIT council meeting to discuss the report on Friday, said: "This fee hike would act as a deterrent to IIT aspirants."

The IIT council also left the decision on increasing hostel fees to the respective board of governors in each Institute.

'Increase in fee will discourage aspirants'

An HRD ministry official said: "The mathematical model proposed by the committee has to be reworked. The committee will now take a month to submit its report after considering the feedback and the response of the IIT council, which comprises the directors of all IITs."

Another crucial issue that was to be addressed at the meeting was the JEE admission reform. However, it could not be taken up on Friday.

Sibal also announced that 50 research parks at a cost of ₹200 crore would be set up in the 12th five-year plan. IIT Madras, which was the first IIT to come up with such a research park with industry collaboration, will serve as the model.

To increase the number of PhDs 10-fold from the existing 1,000, about 1,200 faculty members would need to be recruited. The council felt the IITs should focus on increasing the number and quality of PhDs and identify specific areas of research.

Mail Today/New Delhi

Business Standard,
ND 22-Jan-11

p-10

Govt rejects fee hike for IITs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, 21 January

Indian Institute of Technology aspirants can heave a sigh of relief as government has shot down a proposal to hike the fees of undergraduate programmes of the premier technical institutes by about four times.

The Anil Kakodkar committee, which was set up to study the roadmap for the autonomy and future of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), had recommended that the fees be raised from ₹50,000 per annum to ₹2 to ₹2.5 lakh per annum.

However, HRD Minister Kapil Sibal rejected the proposal, saying it will act as a "deterrent" to aspiring students, said sources in the Ministry. The committee has been asked to rework the fee structure taking into account the aspirations of all sections.

The committee report came up for discussion at the IIT Council meeting here today, where Sibal announced the setting up of 50 research parks at a cost of ₹200 crore during the 12th Plan Period.

These could be set up on Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode encouraging private players to carry out research activities in collaboration with government institutions. One park is already in existence in Chennai.

Taking note of the fact that credit-based practices was being followed by different IITs for promotion of students from one semester to the next, the meeting agreed that academic bodies of IITs should consider acquisition of credits as a criteria for movement of students and grant of degrees to bring uniformity, said a statement issued by the Ministry.

P&B Daily ND 22/01/2011 P-6

Govt rejects IITs fee hike

PBD BUREAU/ PTI

NEW DELHI, JAN 21

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The observation came after the Report of Dhande panel on the uniform/homogeneous criteria for promoting student from one semester to next in the IITs was discussed in detail.

The meeting also decided that the appointment of Directors should be made through a process of open advertisement.

Economic Times ND 22/01/2011

P-3

Sibal rejects proposal for four-fold hike in IIT fees

Says Move Will Deter Aspirants, Kakodkar To Give New Plan

Our Political Bureau

NEW DELHI

THE proposed four-fold fee hike for undergraduate programmes at the IITs as a way to ensure financial autonomy has been turned down by the IIT Council. HRD minister Kapil Sibal, who chairs the council, rejected the proposal and described it as a "deterrent" for large sections of students. The fee hike was proposed as part of the road map for autonomy prepared by a five-member committee headed by IIT Bombay chairman and former Atomic Energy Commission chief Anil Kakodkar.

"A fee hike of this nature would be a deterrent to many people who want to be a part of the IIT system. The committee will rework its suggestions and submit the report," Sibal said. The committee is expected to submit a reworked proposal in a month's time.

Unlike the IIMs, the IITs are seen to draw students from across the socio-economic spectrum. Any move to hike fees is seen as adversely impacting this avenue



INCLUSIVE POLICY: Kapil Sibal

for economic mobility.

The Kakodkar committee was formed in February last year to draw up a road map for autonomy for the 15 institutes that comprise the IIT system. Financial independence is seen key to ensuring autonomy for these institutes as they depend on grants from the central government. To achieve this, the panel recommended to raise undergraduate tuition fees from the current level of ₹ 50,000 to ₹2 lakh a year.

It sought to replicate the IIM fee

model for undergraduate IIT courses. But the IIMs are post-graduate institutions. The committee was not keen to raise fees at the post graduate level as higher fees at the PG level may discourage students from pursuing higher studies and research. This, it was felt, would detract from efforts to increase research at the IITs.

Several members of the council described the "IIM model for IITs" as "too simplistic". "The mathematical model for autonomy needs to be reworked," an IIT Council member said. However, it would appear that in the short and medium run, avenues for raising revenues substantial enough to reduce the financial dependence of the IITs on the government appear to be limited.

Industry participation, thereby investment, at the research level is unlikely to be substantial, as the total number of engineering PhDs every year is about 1,000. Mr Kakodkar has suggested pushing this figure up to 10,000 a year. He also suggested that each IIT engage 1200 faculty members to guide PhDs and research at the institutes.

Indian Express ND 22/01/2011

P-6

No fee hike in IITs for now

NEW DELHI: The government has rejected the proposal for a four-fold increase in the fees of undergraduate programmes of the premier technical institutes in the country.

Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal rejected the proposal for a fee hike, suggested by the Kakodkar committee. The committee, which was set up to study the roadmap for the autonomy and future of the IITs, had recommended that the fee be raised from Rs 50,000 per annum to Rs 2 to Rs 2.5 lakh per annum.

Sibal said it will act as a "deterrent" to aspiring students, according to an official source in the ministry.

The committee has been asked to rework the fee structure, taking into account aspi-

rations of all sections.

The report was discussed at the IIT Council meeting here on Friday. After the meeting, Sibal is reported to have announced the setting up of 50 research parks at a cost of Rs 200 crore during the 12th plan period.

These could be set up on PPP mode, encouraging private players to carry out research activities in collaboration with government institutions. One such park already exists in Chennai.

Given that credit-based practices were being followed by different IITs for promotion of students, the Council agreed that academic bodies of IITs should consider acquisition of credits as criteria for movement of students and granting of degrees. **ENS**

A. K. Singh to head Allahabad University

Aarti Dhar

NEW DELHI: A.K. Singh, of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay, has been appointed as the new Vice-Chancellor (VC) of the historic Allahabad University. His name was approved by the President Pratibha Patil in her capacity as Visitor of all Central Universities. A formal notification has been issued by the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Professor Singh was one among four names shortlisted by the search committee set up to identify a new VC for the University. The term of the previous VC, R.G. Harshe, ended earlier this year. The committee – chaired by R.A. Mashelkar, the President's nominee, and the University's Executive Council's nominees Anandkrishnan and Satish Chandra – submitted its report to the Centre late last month. The other three names shortlisted were M.D. Tiwari, Director of Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Allahabad, Amitava Raychaudhuri, Director, Harish Chandra Research Institute, Allahabad; and Ravi Shankar Srivastava, Professor of Economics, Centre for the Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Having done his Ph.D from IIT-Kanpur, Prof. Singh joined IIT-Bombay in 1984, and has served as Director, Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat and as VC of Bundelkhand University. "I have got the appointment letter today and will join the Allahabad University shortly," Prof. Singh told *The Hindu* from Bombay on Friday. He is also credited with Post-Doctoral research from Florida State University, Tallahassee; University of Hawaii, Honolulu, and Columbia University, New York.

Known at one time as "The Oxford of the East", Allahabad University was designated as a Central University in 2005 by an Act of Parliament. Famous alumni of the institute include Madan Mohan Malaviya, Motilal Nehru, V.P. Singh, Chandra Shekhar, Gobind Ballabh Pant, Shankar Dayal Sharma, Mahadevi Verma and Harivansh Rai Bachchan. Prof. Tiwari, who is the president of the Association of Indian Universities, was instrumental in the opening of a separate campus of IIIT-Allahabad at Amethi.

Hindu, ND 22-Jan-11 p-11

Flight simulation nears 'landing' on Mars

It is to help real space crews cope with the stress of interplanetary travel.

Nataliya Vasilyeva

After 233 days in a locked steel capsule, six researchers on a 520-day mock flight to Mars are all feeling strong and ready to "land" on the Red Planet, the mission director said on January 21.

The all-male crew, of three Russians, a Chinese, a Frenchman and an Italian-Colombian, has been inside windowless capsules at a Moscow research centre since June 2010. Their mission aims to help real space crews in the future cope with the confinement and stress of interplanetary travel.

The researchers communicate with the outside world via e-mails and video messages, occasionally delayed to give them the feel of being farther than a few yards (meters) away from mission control. The crew members eat canned food similar to that eaten on the International Space Station and shower only once a week.

Landing on February 12

None of the men has considered abandoning the mission, although they are free to walk out at any time, mission director and former cosmonaut Boris Morukov said. "They are still motivated, but there is a certain fatigue, which is

natural," he said.

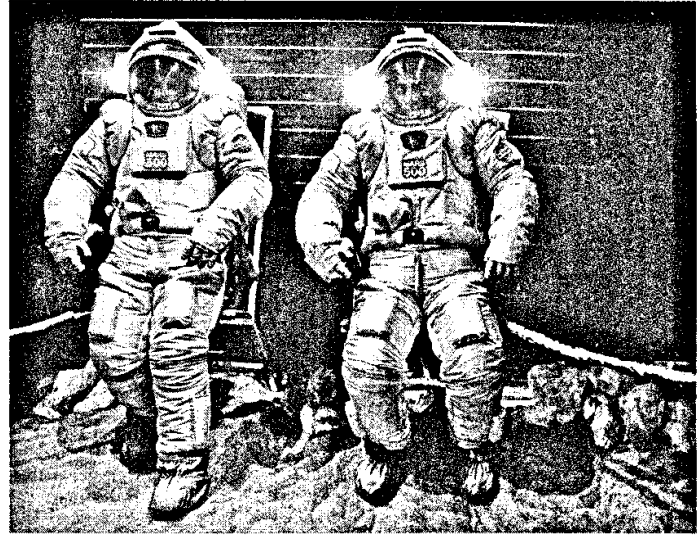
The six men are due to "land" on Mars on February 12, 2011 and spend two days researching the planet. They then begin the months-long return flight to Earth, expected to be the most challenging part of the mission. (The end of the 520-day study, with the crew landing on Earth is on November 5, 2011.)

"It will be very tough on the boys because of the monotony," Morukov said. "The fatigue and the thought that the mission is over can be fraught with negative consequences."

The Mars500 experiment is being conducted by the Moscow-based Russian Institute for Biomedical Problems (IBMP), the European Space Agency and China's space training centre.

In an effort to reproduce the conditions of space travel, with exception of weightlessness, the crew has living quarters the size of a bus connected with several other modules for experiments and exercise. A separate built-in imitator of the Red Planet's surface is attached for the mock landing.

A real Mars mission is decades away — there are huge costs, major technological challenges and the task of creating a compact shield to protect crew from deadly space radiation. — AP



MARS500: During the isolation period, the crew will be simulating all elements of the mission — travelling to Mars, orbiting the planet, landing and returning to Earth. A 2010 file photograph released by the Russian Institute for Biomedical Problems shows spacesuits being tested on a simulated Mars surface.— PHOTO: AP

Hindu, ND 22-Jan-11

p-12

Government says 'no' to fee hike in IITs

Aarti Dhar

NEW DELHI: The Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) on Friday asked the Kakodkar Committee to "re-work" its proposal seeking a four-fold increase in fees for undergraduate courses at the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).

At a meeting of the Joint Council of IITs held here, HRD Minister Kapil Sibal said the proposal to increase fee from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 2.5 lakh a year would act as a deterrent to aspiring students. He asked the committee to re-work the "mathematical model" and present its report to the Board of Governors of the IITs before forwarding it to the Ministry for a final call.

The five-member Committee, set up to suggest a road map for IIT's autonomy and growth, had recommended the hike to make IITs more self-sufficient, reduce dependence on grants, and enable the institutes to create faculty and non-faculty posts on their own without having to seek government clearance. The Committee, which presented the report before the Council, also suggested that the 15 IITs should raise

the money to run undergraduate courses entirely through tuition fees and not depend on grants.

The Kakodkar Committee was set up in October 2009. Its other members are: T.V. Mohandas Pai, Director (Human Resource), Infosys; K. Mohandas, Vice-Chancellor of the Kerala University of Health and Allied Sciences; Professor Ashok Jhunjhunwala, IIT Madras; and Hari Bhartia, Chairman of the Confederation of Indian Industry. IIT Guwahati Director Gautam Barua, IIT Mandi Director T. Gonsalves and IIT Kanpur Chairman M. Anandkrishnan were special invitees. The committee had a series of meetings with the IIT directors, faculty and industry representatives.

Its members visited five universities in China last November to familiarise themselves with the best practices in science education and research. The committee will come up with fresh recommendations within a month.

The Joint Council could not take up the Ramasami committee report on the format of the IIT Joint Entrance due to Mr. Ramasami's absence from the meeting.

आइआइटी फीस नहीं बढ़ेगी

शिक्षा शुल्क

- ♦ काकोदकर समिति फिर से तैयार करेगी स्वायत्तता व आइआइटी के बेहतर भविष्य के लिए रिपोर्ट
- ♦ 50 शोध पार्कों को बनाने पर सरकार की मंजूरी, 200 करोड़ खर्च होंगे

नई दिल्ली, जागरण ब्यूरो : सरकार भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों (आइआइटी) को और बेहतर बनाने के पक्ष में तो है, लेकिन इसके लिए फीस वृद्धि पर वह तैयार नहीं है। सरकार ने इस बाबत की गई सिफारिश को नकार दिया है। उसने 200 करोड़ की लागत से 50 शोध पार्कों को बनाने की मंजूरी दे दी है। इतना ही नहीं, उसने फैकल्टी की कमी को पूरा करने के लिए एक पैनल बनाने पर भी अपनी रजामंदी दे दी है।

आइआइटी कौंसिल की शुक्रवार को यहां हुई बैठक में आइआइटी की स्वायत्तता और भविष्य में बेहतर नतीजों की बाबत काकोदकर कमेटी की रिपोर्ट पर चर्चा तो हुई, लेकिन उस पर सहमति नहीं बन सकी। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल की अध्यक्षता में हुई इस बैठक में कौंसिल के सदस्यों को समिति की वह सिफारिश भी गले नहीं उतरी, जिसमें उन्होंने लगभग पांच गुना फीस वृद्धि का सुझाव

दिया था। मिली जानकारी के मुताबिक सिब्बल ने कहा कि इससे कमजोर वर्गों के उन छात्रों के लिए दिक्कत बढ़ जाएगी, जिनमें प्रतिभा है और वे आइआइटी से पढ़कर आगे जाना चाहते हैं। इतना ही नहीं, बल्कि इससे सामान्य छात्र भी प्रभावित होंगे। वे कर्ज लेकर पढ़ने को भी आसान रास्ता नहीं मानते। बताते हैं कि सिब्बल ने सभी जरूरी पहलुओं को ध्यान में रखकर काकोदकर कमेटी से नए वित्तीय मॉडल पर फिर से रिपोर्ट तैयार करने को कहा है। कमेटी ने हॉस्टल फीस वृद्धि का भी सुझाव दिया था। कौंसिल ने इसे आइआइटी के बोर्ड आफ गवर्नर के फैसले पर छोड़ दिया है। बैठक में सिब्बल ने बताया कि 12वीं योजना में 50 शोध पार्क बनाए जाएंगे, जिस पर 200 करोड़ का खर्च आएगा। इसके साथ ही अभी औसतन सालाना एक हजार शोध को बढ़ाकर दस हजार करने का भी फैसला किया गया है। इस पर अमल से और ज्यादा फैकल्टी की जरूरत होगी। आइआइटी में फैकल्टी की कमी को पूरा करने और जरूरत पर समय से उनकी नियुक्ति की बाबत विजिटर की ओर से नियुक्त (नामिनी) किए जाने वाली फैकल्टी का पहले से ही एक पैनल बनाकर रखने पर भी सहमति बनी है। आइआइटी निदेशकों की नियुक्ति के लिए विज्ञापन जारी कर चयन पर भी कौंसिल ने सहमति जता दी है। बैठक में दिए गए एक प्रजेंटेशन के बाद आइआइटी पाठ्यक्रम में साइबर सिक्योरिटी को भी कैरीकुलम में शामिल करने पर सहमति बनी है।

पूरे देश में खुलेंगे III लेवल के 20 इंस्टिट्यूट

PTI

देवेंद्र कुमार ॥ नोएडा

दुनिया भर में इंडियन आईटी प्रफेशनल की बढ़ती डिमांड को पूरा करने के लिए मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय (एमएचआरडी) ने देश में सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों की सीरीज खोलने की योजना बनाई है। जिसके तहत आईआईटी और आईआईएम की तर्ज पर देश के 20 राज्यों में इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ इन्फर्मेशन टेक्नॉलजी (आईआईआईटी) खोले जाएंगे। पब्लिक प्राइवेट पार्टनरशिप में खुलने वाले इन संस्थानों में केंद्र सरकार 20 करोड़ रुपये का योगदान देगी। इस राशि का 15 पैसेट यानी 3 करोड़ रुपये का योगदान इंस्टिट्यूट खोलने की इच्छुक निजी संस्थाएं करेंगी।

महामाया टेक्निकल यूनिवर्सिटी के वीसी प्रोफेसर शिवन काक ने बताया कि ये आईआईआईटी 50 से 100 एकड़ के क्षेत्रफल में फैले होंगे। केंद्र सरकार इन संस्थानों को आर्थिक सहायता देने के साथ-साथ रियायती दरों पर जमीन उपलब्ध करवाने में भी मदद करेगी। इन संस्थानों का मालिकाना हक सरकार के पास होगा। संस्थानों का संचालन प्राइवेट सेक्टर करेगा। उन संस्थानों में इन्फर्मेशन टेक्नॉलजी से जुड़े डिप्लोमा और पीजी डिप्लोमा लेवल के कोर्स करवाए जाएंगे।



स्टूडेंट्स को आईआईआईटी में दाखिला लेने के लिए नैशनल लेवल के एंटेंस एग्जाम से गुजरना होगा। संस्थानों में स्टूडेंट्स से मिलने वाली फीस आनुपातिक तरीके से सरकार और प्राइवेट सेक्टरों के बीच बांटी जाएगी। स्टूडेंट्स को हॉस्टल की फैसिलिटी भी मिलेगी।

उन्होंने बताया कि एमएचआरडी की इस महत्वाकांक्षी योजना के तहत उत्तर प्रदेश में भी एक आईआईआईटी बनेगा। यूपी में यह संस्थान कहां पर खोले जाएंगे और कौन सा प्राइवेट सेक्टर

इसमें अपनी हिस्सेदारी निभाएगा, इसे तय करने के लिए 22 जनवरी को एमटीयू कैंपस में वेस्टर्न यूपी के नामी

**इन संस्थानों को केंद्र
सरकार 20 करोड़ रुपये
का अनुदान देगी**

कॉलेज प्रबंधकों के साथ बैठक होगी। इसी प्रकार की एक बैठक अगले कुछ दिनों में जीबीटीयू

के लखनऊ कैंपस में भी आयोजित की जाएगी। जिसमें आईआईआईटी खोलने के लिए प्रस्तावित स्थल और प्राइवेट इनवेस्टर तय किए जाएंगे। दोनों यूनिवर्सिटियों से प्रपोजल तैयार होने पर उन्हें अंतिम मंजूरी के लिए मिनिस्ट्री को भेजा जाएगा।

Hindustan, ND 22-Jan-11 p-16

महंगाई से टली आईआईटी में फीस वृद्धि

मारीशस में आईआईटी की शाखा खोलने के प्रस्ताव को मिली मंजूरी

विशेष संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली

महंगाई से घिरी सरकार ने भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों (आईआईटी) में फीस में बढ़ाने का फैसला फिलहाल टाल दिया है। आईआईटी काउंसिल की शुक्रवार को हुई बैठक में इस मुद्दे पर अनिल काकोडकर समिति की रिपोर्ट पर चर्चा हुई, लेकिन सहमति नहीं बनी। जबकि मारीशस में आईआईटी की शाखा खोलने को मंजूरी प्रदान कर दी गई है।

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल की अध्यक्षता में हुई काउंसिल की बैठक में देश के 15 आईआईटी की फीस में भारी वृद्धि के काकोडकर समिति के प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार नहीं किया गया। समिति ने चार-पांच गुना तक फीस बढ़ाने की सिफारिश की थी। समिति को इस प्रस्ताव पर नए सिरे से कार्य करने को कहा गया है। अलबत्ता हास्टल फीस बढ़ोत्तरी को मंजूरी दे दी गई। छात्रों से वास्तविक मूल्य पर हास्टल फीस वसूली जाएगी। लेकिन माना जा रहा है कि इससे छात्रों पर बहुत ज्यादा बोझ नहीं पड़ेगा।

बैठक में मारीशस में इंटरनेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी खोलने के प्रस्ताव को भी सैद्धान्तिक मंजूरी प्रदान

मार गई महंगाई

- लेकिन आईआईटी में छात्रों की हास्टल फीस में होगी थोड़ी वृद्धि
- 200 करोड़ की लागत से आईआईटी खोलेंगे 50 रिसर्च पार्क

की गई। आईआईटी काउंसिल स्थानीय संस्था से सहयोग करके भविष्य में अपनी एक शाखा वहां स्थापित कर सकेगी। बैठक में आईआईटी में साइबर सिक्योरिटी पर नया कोर्स शुरू करने पर भी सहमति बन गई। बैठक में सिब्बल ने ऐलान किया कि 12वीं योजना में आईआईटी 200 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से 50 रिसर्च पार्क खोलेंगे।

MINT ND 22/01/2011

P-11

Govt rejects fee hike at IITs, okays Mauritius plan

BY PRASHANT K. NANDA

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NEW DELHI

The Union government on Friday rejected a proposed fivefold increase in the fee for B-tech courses at the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).

A committee set up by the human resource development (HRD) ministry under IIT-Bombay chairman Anil Kakodkar had advised increasing the fee from ₹2 lakh to ₹10 lakh through the four years of the course. The panel was set up to suggest a road map for the autonomy and future of the IITs.

HRD minister Kapil Sibal, who headed a meeting of 15 IITs and their board of governors, did not approve the proposal. He has asked the five-member Kakodkar committee to re-draft its report.

IIT officials said a final decision was not taken. "The committee was asked to fine-tune the proposal and present a final report," said R.P. Agrawal, chairman, board of governors, IIT-Delhi.

A top government official, requesting anonymity, said a fee hike at a time of rising prices would have created more problems for the government. "The fee hike may not be more than 20% in the near future. It can increase, but not now," the official said.

The HRD ministry and the IIT council approved some other proposals, though: The setting up of 50 science parks across the country and to help the Mauritius government set up a technology institute modelled after the IITs.

The Mauritius government had last year urged India to help it set up such an institute. "It will not be an Indian Institute of Technology or a branch of it," said Agrawal.

The IIT will help Mauritius in establishing such an institute and with content, he said.

As for the science parks, a ministry spokesperson said Sibal wants them set up to help industry and students conduct research and innovate. "These parks would be modelled after one already in existence at IIT-Madras."

A decision on reforms in the IIT-JEE (joint entrance examination) was deferred as science secretary T. Ramasami could not attend the meeting. Ramasami is heading a committee on admission reforms in the IITs.

Veer Arjun ND 22/01/2011 P-7

नहीं बढ़ेगी आईआईटी की ट्यूशन फीस

विशेष प्रतिनिधि

नई दिल्ली। आईआईटी के छात्रों को उस समय एक बड़ी राहत मिली जब मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय ने देश के प्रतिष्ठित संस्थाओं के स्नातक पाठ्यक्रमों में ट्यूशन फीस में करीब पांच गुणा वृद्धि करने की काकोदकर समिति की सिफारिशों को खारिज कर दिया।

कपिल सिब्बल की अध्यक्षता में आईआईटी परिषद की आज बैठक में आईआईटी को स्वायत्तता प्रदान करने से संबंधित अनिल काकोदकर समिति की रिपोर्ट पेश की गई। इस रिपोर्ट में आईआईटी के स्नातक पाठ्यक्रमों की ट्यूशन फीस को वर्तमान 50 हजार रूपये प्रतिवर्ष से बढ़ाकर दो से ढाई लाख रूपये प्रति वर्ष करने की

सिफारिश की गई थी। मंत्रालय के सूत्रों ने हालांकि बताया कि सिब्बल ने इस सिफारिश को खारिज करते हुए कहा, इससे इच्छुक मेधावी छात्रों की राह में बाधा उत्पन्न होगी। भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान को स्वायत्तता और संस्थान के विकास का खाका तैयार करने के लिए अनिल काकोदकर के नेतृत्व में पांच सदस्यीय समिति का गठन किया गया था। आईआईटी परिषद की बैठक में सिब्बल ने 12वीं योजना अवधि के दौरान 200 करोड़ रूपये की लागत से 50 शोध पार्क स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव किया। इन शोध पार्क की स्थापना सर्वजनिक निजी भागीदारी के तहत की जा सकती है ताकि शोध कार्यों में निजी क्षेत्र को भागीदारी

सुनिश्चित किया जा सके। इस प्रकार का एक पार्क चेन्नई में है। फरवरी 2010 में आईआईटी कानपुर ने ट्यूशन फीस में वृद्धि का प्रस्ताव किया था और सुझाव दिया था कि ट्यूशन फीस में धीरे धीरे 10 वर्षों तक वृद्धि की जाए। इस प्रस्ताव को अस्वीकार कर दिया गया था। विभिन्न आईआईटी में एक सेमेस्टर से दूसरे सेमेस्टर में छात्रों को प्रोन्नत करने में क्रेडिट आधारित व्यवस्था अपनाये जाने के चलन के बीच परिषद की बैठक में इस बात पर सहमति बनी कि आईआईटी के अकादमिक निकायों को छात्रों की पढ़ाई और डिग्री प्रदान करने की दिशा में क्रेडिट प्राप्त करने को मापदंड बनाने पर विचार किया जाए।