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भास्कर खास

जोधपुर के मलुंगा गांव में आईआईटी दिल्ली के प्रोफेसर व इंजीनियरों ने विकसित किया परिसर

बंजर जमीन पर खारे पानी व खली से मिल रही बिजली

अनिरुद्ध शर्मा | नई दिल्ली

आईआईटी दिल्ली के प्रोफेसर व इंजीनियरों ने जोधपुर (राजस्थान) के मलुंगा गांव में एक ऐसा प्लांट लगाया है, जो बंजर जमीन पर खारे पानी व खली का इस्तेमाल कर गांव को बिजली व पीने का शुद्ध पानी उपलब्ध करा रहा है। फलों को पकाने व हफ्तों सुरक्षित रखने के लिए कोल्ड स्टोरेज भी मुहैया करा रहा है।

अगले एक महीने तक इसे लागू रखने के बाद फरवरी में इसे औपचारिक रूप से चालू कर दिया जाएगा। गांव में अरंडी के बीज से तेल निकालने की मशीन लगाई गई है। स्कूल ऑफ डेजर्ट साइंसेज नामक एनजीओ ने परिसर के लिए जमीन दी, इमारत खड़ी की। मशीन व उपकरणों के लिए विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय ने 4.5 करोड़ रुपए खर्चे हैं। केंद्रीय विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री डॉ. हर्षवर्धन ने बताया कि बेकार जमीन पर अनुपयोगी पानी व खली की मदद से रोज 150 मेगावाट बिजली पैदा करने और दो हजार लीटर पानी प्रति घंटे पाने में सफलता पा ली है। साथ ही ऐसा कोल्ड स्टोरेज भी विकसित कर लिया गया है, जिसमें 50 टन तक सब्जी व फलों को सुरक्षित रखा जा सकता है। शेष | पेज 10

ऐसे पकाते हैं फल

यहां 50 टन केले एथीलीन से पकाए गए। यह पूरी तरह इकोफ्रेंडली है। इसके लिए यहां स्वदेशी मशीनें जैसे बायलर्स, वेपर्स एब्जार्पशन मशीन, मल्टी इफैक्ट डिस्टीलेशन, बॉटलिंग प्लांट और ऑयल मिल लगाए गए हैं।

यूं हुआ गांव का चयन

विज्ञान व प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग के सचिव आशुतोष शर्मा ने कहा कि जिला मुख्यालय से 37 किमी दूर है यह गांव। यहां का वातावरण खराब है। जमीन रेतीली है, केवल अरंडी की खेती होती है। पानी खारा है, गर्मियों में तापमान 47 डिग्री तक रहता है।

बंजर जमीन...

इसका उपयोग फलों के पकाने के लिए भी हो सकता है। सरकार इस मॉडल को अन्य गांवों में दोहराना चाहती है। यह गांव के संसाधनों के जरिए गांव की जरूरतों के मुताबिक काम करने वाला मॉडल है। मॉडल द्वारा प्रतिदिन एक लाख रुपए की आमदनी संभव है। आईआईटी दिल्ली के एप्लाइड मैकेनिक्स विभाग के प्रोफेसर एसएन सिंह ने बताया कि तकनीक यह है कि ऑयल मिल से निकली खली का बॉयलर्स में ईंधन के तौर पर इस्तेमाल होता है। उससे पैदा होने वाली भाप से न केवल टर्बाइन चलाकर बिजली पैदा की जाती है, बल्कि मल्टी इफैक्ट डिस्टीलेशन (मेड) से डिस्टिल्ड वॉटर और वेपर्स एब्जार्पशन मशीन (वैम) से चार हाल को ठंडा किया जाता है।

Background Engineers Commotion on JNU's Next VC

By Samiran Sarangi

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http://www.newindianexpress.com/thesundaystandard/Background-Engineers-Commotion-on-JNUs-Next-VC/2016/01/24/article3241587.ece

NEW DELHI:The appointment of Dr M Jagadesh Kumar as the next vice-chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has not gone down well with several academicians who argue that Kumar's engineering background could hold him back from effectively discharging his role as the head of a multi-disciplinary institute.

Kumar has pipped other contenders for the job such as R N K Bamezai, who is a professor of human genetics, and Prof Virendra Singh Chauhan, a leading researcher on malaria. "JNU specialises in the areas of international relations, bio sciences, social sciences and not in the field of engineering or technical areas. In none of these areas he has his academic expertise. So, there would be questions about his academic leadership," said former UGC member M M Ansari, who has closely followed the selection process.

Concurring with a few in the university who have expressed their concerns over his appointment, Ansari said the new VC would have to have the active support of the academicians as well as the administration to emerge as a good leader, especially in tackling the issues confronting the university.

Kumar obtained his MS (EE) and PhD (EE) degrees from the Department of Electrical Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras. A self-confessed karate and gym expert, Kumar was born in Mamidala, Nalgonda district, Telangana. He would succeed S K Sopory, who retires on January 27.

Pleading anonymity, some professors of JNU questioned the selection process and the short-listing of the candidates. “When there were candidates from the university itself, who were acclaimed in their respective fields, why did the selection panel ignore them for people from outside,” they questioned.

Even a few teachers in Delhi University expressed surprise over the choice of the candidate, saying JNU deserves VCs for the institute who understands the pulse of the campus.

“I am not discussing an individual. JNU has no engineering discipline. When ideas are thrown from faculty in forums such as the academic council, the VC has to give academic leadership. But he is not from this system,” former JNU professor C P Bhambri said.

Kumar is known to be associated with Vijnana Bharati, an organisation started in 1991 by scientists with Sangh leanings. He was actively involved with a science festival conducted by the organisation and the department of science and technology of IIT Delhi last month.

Modi may shift Jaitley to Defence, Smriti to I&B

http://english.manoramaonline.com/news/politics/modi-jaitley-smriti-defence-rss-sanjay-joshi-amit-shah-bjp-nitin-gadkari.html
New Delhi: After Amit Shah is to be given the official mandate to continue as BJP president for another term, a formal revamp of top positions in the party and the government is to be initiated.

The time for nominations has been set from 10 am to 1 pm on Sunday. Only Amit Shah is expected to file his papers for the post and the declaration of the 'winner' is also expected he same day.

Speculations are rife about an imminent revamp of the cabinet after the PM called a meeting of the council of ministers on January 27. A revamp is expected in the first week of February.

While there are rumours that Arun Jaitley could be made Defence minister, it is expected that Manohar Parikkar would be shifted to the Human Resources ministry. Smrithi Irani could be shifted out to I&B and Nitin Gadkari may be offered Civil Aviation in addition to his current duties.

There are also rumours that Modi is interested in naming a politically-neutral expert as his next finance minister. At the same time, party sources are expecting no changes to Home, External Affairs and other important portfolios.

It remains to be seen whether the PM would wield the stick against Railway minister Suresh Prabhu, who is facing the ire of MPs for not heeding to their requests.

There are also indications that minister for state for energy, Piyush Goyal, could be promoted to cabinet rank.

IIT-M team wins prize for device to help differently abled

http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/iitm-team-wins-prize-for-device-to-help-differently-abled/article8146627.ece

The add-on device can covert a wheelchair into a tricycle in two seconds.

A team from IIT-Madras has won the second place at Enable Makeathon, with an add-on device to convert a manual wheelchair into an outdoor-mobility device. The award was given on Saturday in the form of seed money to the tune of $ 15,000.

Enable Makeathon, a project initiated by the International Committee of the Red Cross, saw persons with disabilities, engineers, designers, manufacturers, entrepreneurs and others collaborate to create sustainable and affordable solutions to the problems faced by persons with disabilities in rural areas, a note about the event said. The event was held in Bengaluru, with a total of 135 teams registering for it.

Vivek Sarda and Swostik Dash, both research staff members at the R2D2 lab at IIT-Madras, along with Ashish Sharma, a final-year student, worked for two months on the device.

“Most people with disabilities here use wheelchairs with four wheels, which are bad for travelling outdoors. Tricycles can be used outdoors but are too big indoors. So we came up with an add-on device, which, in two seconds, can covert the wheelchair into a tricycle – with the front two wheels lifting up and an additional wheel getting attached,” said Vivek Sarda.

The three are now planning to conduct extensive field testing on the device and looking for collaborators. “After the testing, we are hoping to get the device to users,” said Vivek Sarda. The goal, he said, is to set up a company to develop technology that could have an impact on the lives of persons with disabilities.

Hindustan Times ND 24/01/2016 P-08

IITians devise local waste management plan

COMMUNITY GOAL Idea is to reduce the amount of garbage that ends up in landfills, use wet waste for composting, pilot project on

Ritam Halder
ritam.halder@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Six IIT-Delhi students have come up with a community-based garbage management system that they describe is a self-sustaining model to ensure that only minimal waste ends up in the landfill sites.

It involves engaging two people in every locality — one for collection and segregation, and the other for composting — to do away with improper waste management techniques used by the corporation's cleaning staff (safai karamcharis).

"During our field visits we saw that the people from various resident welfare associations and slums used improper waste management techniques. Also, the corporation wasn't playing its part in keeping the community clean," said Aniket Saha, a second-year chemical engineering student who is a part of the team.

The team decided to solve the problem with an entrepreneurial approach. "The model requires two people in every community who are willing to work. The first person is responsible for door-to-door collection of waste and segregating it into dry and wet waste. He or she will sell the dry waste and keep the money from it themselves. The wet waste will be used for composting, which is the second person's responsibility. He or she will sell the compost to the RWA residents at a nominal price," said second-year mechanical engineering student Aditya Singh.

The IIT Delhi students who are part of the team that developed a self-sustaining garbage disposal system, in New Delhi. VIPIN KUMAR/HT

The project was started as a pilot at a park in RK Puram, where a compost pit was prepared. Five more will soon be dug there. Depending on the trial's success, the students said, they will expand it to other south Delhi localities.

Other members of the team are second-year students Abhishek Aggarwal (chemical engineering), Bhaskar Kotakonda (electrical engineering), Shailendra Dhakad (engineering physics) and third-year production engineering student Manvi Bansal.

> During our field visits we saw that the people from various resident welfare associations and slums used improper waste management techniques. Also, the corporation wasn't playing its part in keeping the community clean.
>
> ANIKET SAHA, second-year chemical engineering student

The students said the local RWA was helpful. RK Puram Sector 4 RWA president Abhay Jain said, "Not only does it help manage the garbage within the locality itself, it also gives us a feeling that we doing something for the environment."

Times Of India ND 24/01/2016 P-27

Enrol and dropout, education is a one-way street for Dalits

Subodh.Varma@timesgroup.com

Most dalit and adivasi students in India would recognize Rohith Vemula's loneliness and despair. The story of the research scholar at the Hyderabad Central University who committed suicide on January 18 is depressingly common: a dalit family that seizes on what looks like the only way out of an otherwise bleak destiny — education. And then finds that the environment in the institution unforgivingly hostile — there is administrative injustice, no support system and all-round isolation for their ward. In extreme anguish, a student may take Rohith's path but in most cases, he/she simply merges into the faceless mass of India's second-class citizens.

The surge in education among India's most deprived communities, the dalits and adivasis, is remarkable: between 2001 and 2011, the share of dalits attending college zoomed up by a staggering 187% and adivasis, by 164%. The comparable increase for all other castes put together is 119%.

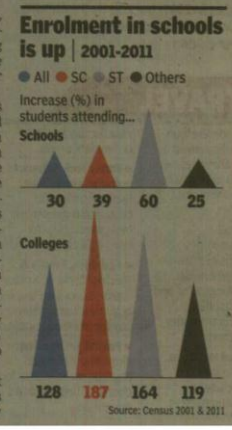
So, a large number of dalits and adivasis entered colleges and universities, many of whom would have been first-generation entrants like Rohith. This is all the more remarkable considering the difficult conditions they live in – 21% dalit families live in houses with thatch or bamboo roofs compared to 15% overall, 78% stay in one or two roomed houses compared to 69% overall, 35% have a drinking water source within their home compared to 47% overall, 41% do not have electricity compared to 33% overall, and 66% do not have toilets compared to 53% overall.

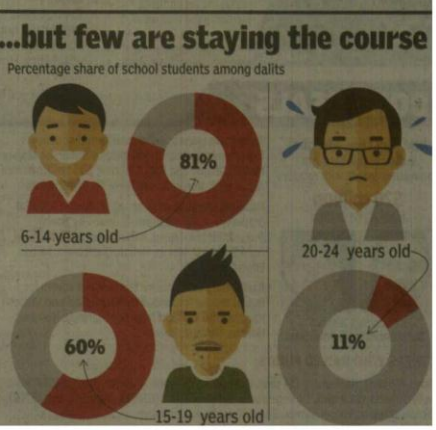
While school-level enrollment for all castes and communities is roughly the same, there are many more dropouts among dalits and adivasis. Among dalits, the share of school students drops from 81% in the 6-14 years age group to 60% in the 15-19 group. It plummets further to just 11% in the 20-24 age group in higher education. This fall is noticeable across communities and castes but it is the sharpest among dalits and adivasis.

According to an NSSO survey, nearly two-thirds of male dropouts from school and college said that they were needed to supplement the household income while nearly half the female dropouts said that they were needed for domestic chores. The same survey also showed that attendance rates in educational institutions were about 50% in the poorest 10% families but rose to nearly 70% in the richest 10 per cent. Poverty is thus the biggest barrier to pursuing education, and poverty levels are highest among dalits and adivasis.

Besides this, these groups also face social discrimination and sometimes, abuse. At a public hearing organized by the People's Trust and CRY in Salem, Tamil Nadu, a young dalit girl, who dropped out of school, said students like her were often taunted and abused by teachers as well as students. She had started working in brick kilns or fields. Shockingly, the same atmosphere prevails in centres of higher education as incidents from various universities and the IITs show.

So, on an average, very few —about one in 10 — students at the higher levels of education are from dalit or adivasi communities. This heightens the sense of isolation among disadvantaged students. And then you have the discrimination, the high costs, the pressure to perform, and perhaps — as in the case of Rohith's alma mater — even official hounding.





BUSINESS STANDARD BEST B-SCHOOL PROJECT AWARD, 2015

Champion among winning ideas chosen

IIT-Madras student wins first prize for discovery of artificial intelligence start-ups at Wipro

BS REPORTERS
Mumbai, 23 January

Projects in technology investments, retail supply chain and implementation of Six Sigma in manufacturing were the winners at the *Business Standard* Best B-School Project Award, 2015.

A project on discovery of artificial intelligence (AI) start-ups for automating business processes relevant to information technology services industry by Balaji Venkatesh, a final year student at the Department of Management Studies, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras won the first prize. The project was done at Wipro Technologies and, as part of it, Venkatesh recommended 10 start-ups. These start-ups use AI to automate various business processes and have high applicability to Wipro.

Sourav Kumar of National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai who looked at the supply chain of ITC Lifestyle retailing business division on product development phase lead time, and suggested ways to reduce it, bagged the second prize.

Pranav Bora of the Indira Institute of Management, Pune came in at the third position for implementing the Six Sigma approach to save money due to cost of rework and scrapping of damaged parts for auto component maker Bosch.

From left: Rediff.com founder and CEO Ajit Balakrishnan (Chairman of the Jury), McKinsey & Company Director Rajat Gupta, IIMP's Pranav Bora (third prize winner), IIT-Madras' Balaji Venkatesh (first prize winner), NITIE Mumbai's Sourav Kumar (second prize winner), Deloitte Support Services Director Sandeep Chandola, and Crompton Greaves India Head-Human Resources Shashi Ranjan Kumar, at the *Business Standard* Best B-School Project Award, 2015 in Mumbai on Saturday

The eighth edition of the awards saw a power-packed jury shortlist six candidates. The jury included Rediff.com founder and CEO Ajit Balakrishnan (Chairman of the Jury); McKinsey director and lead, energy and materials practice in Asia Rajat Gupta, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation CMD Nishi Vasudeva, Deloitte Support Services director Sandeep Chandola, Crompton Greaves executive vice-president and global head - human resources Sanjay Singh, Axis Bank group executive Rajesh Dahiya and Larsen & Toubro head (corporate centre) Hasit Joshipura.

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Champion...

"All the projects tackled a variety of problems. We had some outstanding projects to judge and it was difficult to choose between them," said Balakrishnan.

McKinsey's Rajat Gupta said: "All projects were practical and trying to solve day to day issues; many projects were being implemented at the organisations they were undertaken at, which is excellent. These awards take me back 25 years ago when I did my summer project when I was at the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta."

Venkatesh's project at Wipro assessed 99 start-ups before he could shortlist the top ten which were relevant for the company and recommended it to them. "The software industry has to look out for emerging start-ups, some of which I have been able to evaluate during my project. If it makes business sense, they should look at acquisition opportunities for such start-ups that will complement their needs," he said.

Sourav Kumar's project looked at Wills Lifestyle and John Players brands, part of ITC lifestyle retailing business to look at their supply chain and assess the product development lead time and also suggest ways to reduce it.

"While I am happy about my win, I am also impressed with the jury. The questions they asked me are similar to the ones I was asked at the CEO round of interview that I went through recently," said Kumar.

Pranav Bora, through his project at Bosch, was not only able to cut re-work quantity, but also reduce scrap quantity, which he said led to savings of ₹20 lakh a year for the organisation.

Business Standard received 193 projects for evaluation in 2015, from which six were selected for the final round. The consolation prizes included a viewpoint on construction industry for Tata International in Yangon, Burma by Pallav Angrulla and Karan Sharma of the Department of Management Studies, IIT Roorkee; XLRI student Vasudevan L's project on blueprint for career management platform for Mahindra & Mahindra and School of Management, and Gautam Buddha University student Sagar Juneja's project to study sales returns and fulfilment at Jabong.com.