Newspaper Clips

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Absentee landlord

In India, State intervention in universities is more than what appears on the surface. This hampers academic excellence, writes NAYANJOT LAHIRI

Front-line administrators in higher education, CK Gunsalus believes, are almost always selected for qualities other than an ability to run complex organisations. Gunsalus should know. She has authored a widely respected book, aptly titled *The College Administrator's Survival Guide* (2006). In that book, Gunsalus helps guide novice administrators through the everyday dilemmas of management in, as she puts it, "not entirely manageable environments" made up of highly and variously talented people. Reading this book three years ago, when Professor Deepak Pental, the then Vice-Chancellor of the University of Delhi, drew me out of pure academics to work with him as an administrator, many of the challenges described there, I experienced in my new role — about administrivia like running meetings and dealing with drop-in visitors, organising funding, investigating sexual harassment cases, and more. At the same time, there were other 'on the scene' lessons that I learnt — of the kind that no administrator's survival guide can help you handle.

For one, as I now know, the endeavour of building high quality departments does not automatically flow out of hiring high quality faculty. In the University of Delhi, there are lots of smart people doing exciting research who, however, fail to invest in the improvement of teaching programmes.

An example of this is my parent department which has a pool of talented teachers who have not succeeded in revising the history department's Masters programme for 25 years or more. The process of revision started some three years ago, and hopefully, should soon be over. Such problems also plague 'happening' science programmes. Electronic Science was taught in colleges of the university without any change for 20 years until 2010 when it was finally updated.

Neither is the revision of courses a matter of priority for the Delhi University Teachers Association. While the association has successfully generated pressure for a host of changes, from better service conditions to ensuring a decent deal for ad-hoc teachers, I fail to recall a single recent instance when it has raised questions and agitated about outdated courses or absentee teachers. Consequently, unlike the scenario in world class universities that we constantly invoke, at the University of Delhi, it is the administration which frequently pushes and even coerces departments to make their programmes more relevant. This can only be reversed if in academia we decide to be more conscious about fulfilling our professional responsibilities.

For another, I also wonder whether the governance structures of federally funded universities in the United States, whose administrators Gunsalus writes about, are dependent upon their government in the way that Indian universities are forced to be. Take the case of the expansion in higher education from 2008 onwards, when the quota system came to include 'Other Backward Classes'. This led to a 54% jump in student numbers in the university — from 2008 till 2010. The biggest staff recruitment drive in the history of the university has since been launched in order to hire hundreds of new teachers. Non-teaching staff is also sorely needed but till December 2010, the University Grants Commission had not informed our university about, for instance, the number of laboratory and library staff that could be recruited for coping with the expanded student numbers.

Even with regard to recruiting teachers, this is easier said than done. This is because in the university, the recruit-

AT A TIME WHEN THE HRD MINISTRY IS PROPOSING AN AUTONOMOUS ARCHITECTURE OF GOVERNANCE FOR NEW UNIVERSITIES, THE SAME STRUCTURE MUST BE INTRODUCED IN THE 42 STATE-FUNDED UNIVERSITIES

■ Rekindling old ties: Vice-President Hamid Ansari presents the honorary doctorate degree to the President of Malawi Bingu wa Mutharika at Delhi University, November 4, 2010

ment system requires a government nominee (called the 'Visitor's Nominee') to sit on all selection committees. And the government has only one 'Visitor's Nominee' for each faculty of the university. If this remains the case, at least 10 years will elapse before all the required appointments can be made. At a time when the human resource development ministry is proposing an architecture of governance for new innovation universities where there will be autonomy in appointments, fee structure, and research funding, surely, the same autonomy for the existing 42 centrally funded universities should be introduced. It is only when the State stops treating the university like the Cornwallis-created absentee zamindars treated the peasants of Bengal can there be a way out of the tunnel. This is necessary so as to ensure that quality does not become the biggest casualty in this time of accelerating expansion.

That government intervention in universities is infinitely more than what appears on the surface. For example, I sat through special convocations that were 'specially' organised to confer degrees on visiting dignitaries because the government had 'arranged' that the university does so. In 2008, an honorary degree was bestowed by the university on Gordon Brown, then Britain's prime minister, because of such proactive prompting. Similarly, on November 4, 2010, Delhi agreed to confer a DLitt on Malawi's president Bingu wa Mutharika who is an alumnus of the Shri Ram College of Commerce and Delhi School of Economics in the 1960s.

The special convocation in which this African head of State was conferred an honorary degree prompted me to try and understand how the African studies department began in the university. It seems that State initiative some 55 years ago, specifically the interest of Jawaharlal Nehru, was instrumental in the creation of the department. Mohan Ram, a retired professor of botany at Delhi, in a piece that was published for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of the university in 1997, recounted why the event has a special place in university lore.

"People ask me, why study Africa," vice-chancellor GS Mahajani is said to have commented, in a hilarious speech at the inauguration. "My simple answer is the same which Sir Edmund Hilary gave when he was asked why he had climbed Mount Everest: because it is there." Characteristically, as Ram Guha gleefully noted, Mahajani had got his facts wrong — it was George Mallory who said "because it is there" about Everest, not Hillary!

Prime Minister Nehru who was present on that occasion in the audience, though, was not amused. His face apparently turned red in annoyance and in his own speech, he clarified that "we are not studying Africa because it is there. We are deeply concerned about the African nations which should be liberated from colonial rule."

The inauguration marked India's first foray into African studies, and the PM hoped for great things from the discipline. He would be disappointed: it has not taken off and there remain few job opportunities for Africa specialists in India.

While State initiative and strategic interests can create departments and push for honorary degrees, they can never ensure academic excellence.

Nayanjot Lahiri was Dean of Colleges, University of Delhi, from 2007 to 2010
The views expressed by the author are personal

Stress taking toll on mental health: Study

Psychiatric Illnesses On Rise In Urban India

Durgesh Nandan Jha | TNN

New Delhi: City life has its own trials. Stress at work and in social life have resulted in an increase in the number of people suffering from psychiatric illnesses and sub-syndromes of diseases like headache, tension and insomnia, says a survey conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on urban mental health.

According to the survey conducted across three cities in the country, including Delhi, 8-10% people suffer from psychiatric illnesses like depression, anxiety, and schizophrenia, among others.

Sub-syndrome mental illnesses — psychological problems that do not qualify as mental illness — were found to be more common. "Total 3,600 people in Delhi from different socio-economic strata were included in this study, which was conducted between 2004 and 2009. It was found that even in a city like Delhi, where medical facilities are available and there is greater awareness about psychiatric illnesses, only 10-20% receive treatment. There is a stigma attached to mental illness and people tend to avoid institutional health facilities available," said Dr Nimesh Desai, director of the Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences (IHBAS), who led the urban mental health survey in Delhi. He said focus group meetings conducted to analyse the results showed that many people – mostly young adults – used tranquilizers and sleeping pills.

Mind Your Illness

SURVEY CONDUCTED IN	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
Delhi, Lucknow & Chennai	10,800 (3,600 from Delhi)

KEY FINDINGS	Fig in %
People suffering from psychiatric illness	8-10
Conditions similar to mental illness	13-15
Mentally ill patients left untreated	90
Common psychiatric problems	**Depression, anxiety, schizophrenia, etc**
Common sub-syndrome mental illness	**Headache, insomnia, tension**

A large number of insomniacs surveyed pop in tranquilizers and sleeping pills

"There appeared to be an interface between one's physical medical condition and his state of mind. People suffering from diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and neurological disorders were found to have psychological problems in common," Desai added. Depression was found to be the most common mental illness in the survey. "There is rift in social life of the urban populace. People communicate barely in families. Personal dissatisfaction, disinterest in work, lack of motivation, domestic problems and marital discord were major reasons behind the mental problems," said another researcher.

It is assumed that in the next 10 years, these problems will escalate further. Lack of experts such as psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses and clinical psychologists was another big hindrance. There is a lack of beds in mental institutions, too. "There is shortage of about 8,000 psychiatrists, 17,000 clinical psychologistys and 9,000 nurses," said Desai.

Delhi health minister Kiran Walia said the government is taking measures to fill in the gap in screening and treatment of mental disorders. "We are going to introduce mental health programme under the National Rural Health Mission. Under this initiative, doctors will make door-to-door visits and provide counselling and necessary treatment. The ASHA workers will be trained on how to screen psychiatric disorders and provide basic guidance to the people," said Walia.

CAT-2011 workshop

BASED on the success of the previous CAT workshop with an attendance of over 500 aspirants, *Education Times* presents a co-branded free CAT workshop in association with Byju Raveendran. Raveendran is one of India's leading CAT trainers. The workshop will be based on his methods in mathematics and data interpretation in which 50 CAT-level questions will be discussed. Raveendran himself is a CAT 100 percentiler and a National Math Olympiad winner. The workshop will discuss several short-cut techniques and innovative strate-gies, including his copyrighted URL approach, which will help a CAT-taker solve questions at any level by using common-sense rather than the arcane formulae-based approach. Do not miss this opportunity to attend the session in your city. Venue: St Michael School, Pusa Road, Delhi; Date and Time: February 13, Sunday, 10 am. For free registration and further details call or send an SMS <CAT Name>to 98736 43487.

Fostering innovation

At the 98th Indian Science Congress held at SRM University, Chennai, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh talked about fostering creativity and innovation in higher education without bureaucratic restrictions. However, is innovation in education possible without bureaucratic intervention? Experts share their views with Education Times

MM CHATURVEDI
Director, Institute of Lifelong Learning (ILL)

I agree with the Prime Minister's views that in order to nurture creativity and innovation in science, it should be free from bureaucratic hurdles. But at the same time there must be accountability in scientific practices. Unlike the West, where majority of funding for scientific research comes from industry and private partnerships, in India it is mostly funded by the government, and therefore there must be accountability for public money. Since scientists are not trained as managers or administrators, the administrative (bureaucratic) steps in sanctioning and handling funds should be kept to a minimum. In most of the universities in India where no administrative help is provided for handling scientific projects, more than 40% of the creative time of a scientist goes to waste in trying to clear bureaucratic processes and hurdles. These steps should be minimised and made ICT-based.

DR RANI KUMAR
Dean, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)

I feel that in education, we don't need bureaucratic intervention. Educationists plan the syllabus and are aware of the ground realities. Policy-related matters are dealt with by technocrats.

SANJAY G DHANDE
Director, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur

I feel that there are challenges in the education system itself, which go beyond the hurdles of bureaucracy. There are three functions of education — transmission of knowledge, creation of knowledge (research) and conversion of knowledge into wealth, which may or may not be in monetary terms. The 'license and control raj' did not foster innovation. Over a period of time, two elements emerged — analysis and synthesis. The education system focused more on analysis. There is a need to redesign the curriculum and change the infrastructure and value system, while emphasising on wholesome training. We should move beyond the emphasis only on science and mathematics and encourage liberal arts. The process will also have its own hurdles but the hurdles are not just bureaucratic in nature.

— *Compiled by Aaditi Isaac*

TALKING POINT

New tech creates 'super dogs' to handle dangerous tasks

London: Trained dogs are capable of finding bombs, people and other objects with the help of a handler. Now American scientists have developed a new system which could turn canines into remotely guided "super dogs" that can take on dangerous tasks.

Researchers at the Auburn University in the US, who were behind the amazing innovation, said their technology could enhance the abilities of sniffer dogs to take on dangerous situations.

It could also change the way guide dogs are able to assist their owners by finding the scientifically safest way to negotiate journeys, the researchers said. David M Bevly, an associate professor of mechanical engineering at Auburn, led a team who sought an alternative to the electrode implants used in previous remote guidance research.

They have now developed a custom vest fitted with GPS, spatial sensors, a processor and a radio modem which can be accessed wirelessly. Through the emission of vibrations on the dog's left or right side, it can be directed through the tightest of gaps without the need for a handler nearby. The team tested the harness at the university's Canine Detection Research Institute, with a trained yellow Labrador named Major taking on a series of navigational tests.

Bevly plans to test the harness over longer distances and believes it could have implication for drug and bomb detection operations. "If I'm trying to locate drugs, I don't want the cartel know that I'm snooping around." Using the technology, Bevly said, a single handler could guide several dogs through inspecting an entire airport and the military could also employ the harness to direct medical aid to at-risk troops. PTI

REMOTE-CONTROLLED

Sticking plaster to fight cancer?

Light-Emitting Device Offers Skin Cancer Treatment At Home, Avoids Scarring

London: In what could be a relief to patients suffering from skin cancer, the disease can now be treated at home – thanks to a revolutionary light-emitting sticking plaster. The device, light-emitting Ambulight, is a form of photodynamic therapy (PDT), an established alternative to surgery for many forms of skin cancer that uses laser, or other light sources, combined with a light-sensitive drug to destroy cancer cells, the Daily Mail reported.

The PDT treatment avoids the scarring associated with surgical removal of the tumour and reduces the amount of time patients need to spend in hospital. The Am-

> The Ambulight consists of a disc-shaped pod that houses red LEDs. Photosensitising cream is rubbed on to the skin, and the pod is attached to the skin with a plaster

bulight consists of a disc-shaped pod about an inch in diameter that houses medical-grade red LED lights. The light source is attached to a controller the size of a mobile phone, the paper said.

Photosensitising cream is rubbed on to the skin, and the pod is attached to the skin with a plaster. The cream takes three hours to penetrate the skin, then the pod turns on.

Three hours later the light switches off and the device can be disposed of. Patients can move freely during treatment.

The machine costs just £100 – about half the price of the average hospital outpatient appointment. PDT treatment is used to treat non-melanoma-type skin cancers. The most common types are basal cell carcinomas and squamous cell carcinomas. These cancers do not commonly spread, but they are still considered malignant.

For non-melanoma, the most common treatment in the past has involved applying a cream to the skin for several hours before the patient undergoes intensive light treatment. But with the new device, the patient can be in and out of hospital within minutes, enabling them to continue with their normal daily routine while undergoing PDT treatment.

Ambulight developer James Ferguson, professor of dermatology at Dundee University, hopes the treatment will eventually be offered at GP surgeries. "Trials have shown it to be up to 90% as effective as hospital treatment and it's a lot gentler," says Ferguson. PTI

Breath test tells when you start burning off fat

London: British scientists have developed a breathalyser that tells how much fat you are burning off at the gym. The device is being built to pinpoint the moment when a sweaty session on the treadmill finally starts to pay off by detecting when the body has used up its supply of food energy and switches to breaking down fat instead.

Exercise machines currently estimate when people have entered the "fat burning zone".The breathalyser works by picking up minute changes in the levels of a molecule called acetone in people's breath, which is given off when the body starts to burn fat. Gus Hancock, whose company Oxford Medical Diagnostics has developed the machine, said, "Acetone is a molecule that is produced by people who are burning fat rather than food."

"This is of great interest in sport studies and dietary studies to find out how people have worked out in the gym. That is an area we are trying to explore and we are trying to produce a monitor of how well you have burned off some body fat," the Telegraph quoted Hancock, as saying.

Hancock began working on the breathalyser technology in the hope of developing a way of screening patients for diabetes, a disease which creates elevated levels of acetone in breath. It works by using a detection method known as spectroscopy which

SMELLING SUCCESS: The device picks up changes in the levels of acetone, which is given off when the body starts burning fat

measures the wavelengths of light that are absorbed by different molecules in a gas.

By shining an infrared laser through a complex series of mirrors they can detect even tiny changes in the levels of acetone when a person breathes into the breathalyser. "We started thinking that our techniques could be applied to the detection of different chemicals in human breath and would that be useful if there was a correlation between gases in human breath and disease," Hancock said.

"We would like to set this up as a screening method for diabetes as there are so many people who suffer from it, but don't know they have it." ANI

Who's coming and why?

Lots of degree-offering programmes are expected from institutions seeking to enter India with the motive of profit. The prestige-seeking universities will limit themselves to non-degree relationships and offerings

Rahul Choudaha

WHILE the Foreign Educational Institutions Bill is still awaiting discussions in Parliament, there is continued interest and curiosity about which foreign universities will come to India and how will the Bill influence Indian higher education?

Over the last decade, Indian higher education has witnessed three primary trends—growth of private institutions, increasing demand for professional education and widening regional disparity. These three trends will become stronger with the introduction of the Bill and more foreign universities with profit/revenue motives are expected to establish campuses in India.

Motives of foreign universities

Global higher education systems are diverse and within each system there are a wide range of institutions with varying missions and quality. However, there are two primary motives for institutions seeking to enter India—prestige or profit/revenue. Between these two extremes, there are many foreign institutions with a different mix of prestige and profit motives. Building universities of excellence is a time-taking and incremental process. Once an institution has achieved a certain level of reputation, maintaining it at that level is quite a challenge. Thus, even the best universities are in constant quest to access indicators of prestige like knowledge, research and talent. This access directly translates into competitiveness for rankings, which strongly emphasise on internationalisation and research output. For example, Harvard and Yale are in the prestige-enhancing group and have categorically said that they will not offer degree programmes in India and hence their approach is to engage with knowledge creation and dissemination through non-degree partnerships and programmes.

At the other extreme, there are universities that seek profit/revenue and see India as a market with huge growth potential. Especially for public universities, this opportunity comes at a time when they are facing severe budget cuts from government and are hard-pressed to seek additional sources of revenue. Technically, not-for-profit public universities are not
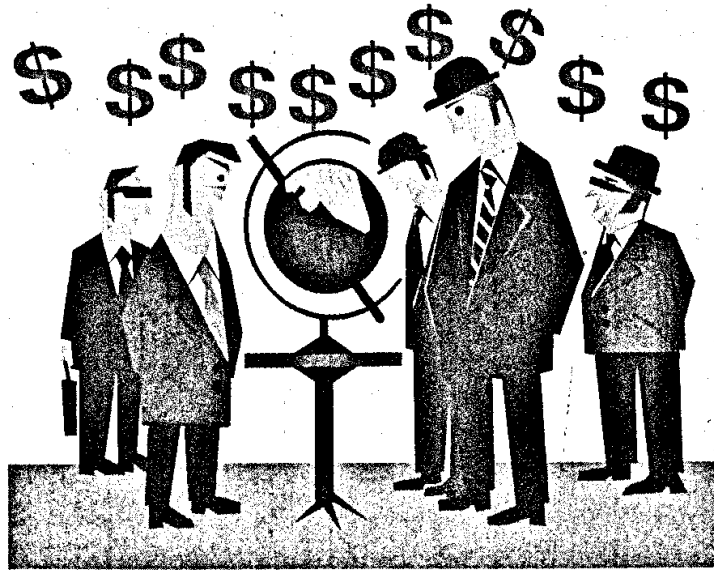
seeking profit, instead they are becoming "self-sufficient" by adding new sources of revenue. Likewise, many for-profit institutions, especially from the US, are keen to enter India; however, Indian regulatory requirements prohibit them to profit from education and hence they have to work-around the requirements. For example, Singapore's Raffles Education Corporation partnered with Educomp to establish a for-profit entity and offer education programmes for the masses, which are not recognised by local authorities.

The primary purpose of the Bill is "to regulate entry and operation of foreign educational institutions imparting or intending to impart higher education" leading to award of educational qualifications. Given the context and motives of foreign universities, more degree-offering programmes are expected to come from institutions seeking to enter India with the motive of profit/revenue as compared to prestige. The prestige-

seeking universities will limit themselves to non-degree relationships and offerings only. The Bill will also add to the growth of private institutions, professional education and widening regional disparity.

Growth of private institutions

Public university system in many countries, including the US, is in crisis and faces serious budget cuts. Hence, they are not ready to invest money in partnerships. Indian public universities also lack resources and entrepreneurial zeal, and are stymied by bureaucracy to engage with foreign partners. Thus, private institutions in India or corporate partners are more likely to engage in partnerships with the foreign public universities. For example, Indiana University and Georgia State University are US public universities that have partnered with private Indian institutions, OP Jindal University and National Management School, Chennai, respectively.

Rise in professional education

Indian engineering and management institutions have doubled to about 2,000 and 3,000 institutions from 2005-06 to 2009-10. This rapid growth represents the demand for professional, job-oriented degrees. As these programmes have a relatively higher employability, institutions also have a better pricing power in this segment as compared to arts, science and commerce courses. This means that foreign institutions are likely to offer more programmes in engineering and management as compared to liberal arts and sciences. For example, recent partnership between Strathclyde University and SKIL Education, Carnegie Mellon University and Shiv Nadar Foundation, and Virginia Tech and MARG are all for professional programmes in engineering or management.

Widening regional disparity

Foreign universities would concentrate on metro cities and states that have high demand, pricing power, accessibility and employment opportunities for students. This means that they are not going to start campus in regions that actually require quality institutions. However, foreign universities will be most appealing to students from tier-2 cities like Nagpur or Indore where students, especially females, aspire to go abroad but may not match up to the financial, social or academic requirements. However, foreign universities in India would not attract academically brilliant or financially well-off who would continue to go abroad in search of best international education, experience and exposure.

Foreign universities are eager to engage with Indian higher education despite the challenges. In the immediate term, foreign universities will be cautious and partner with private institutions, offer popular professional programmes and situate themselves in major cities. This means that it will take a long time before its impact is felt by the masses and the larger landscape of Indian higher education. However, foreign universities will certainly create new expectations of quality and professionalism, which will bode well for the sector and students.

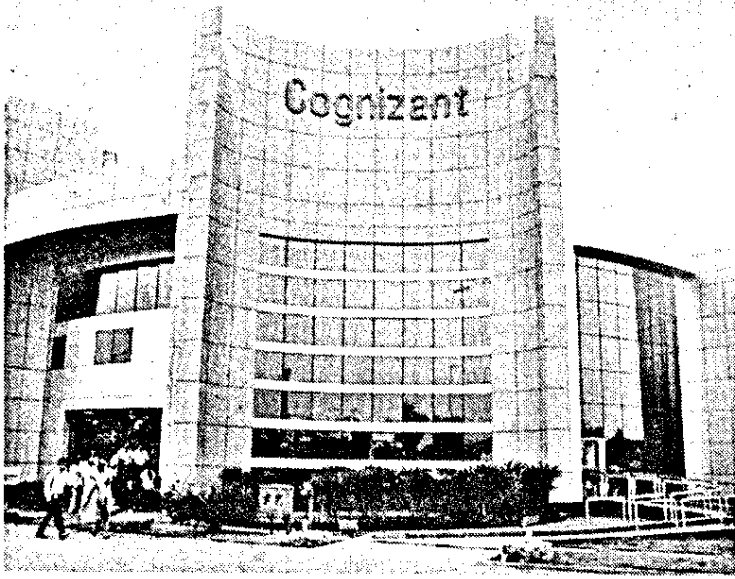*The author is a US-based higher education specialist and the founder of www.DrEducation.com*

ASIT BAGCHI

Cognizant Technologies and TCS are recruiting students who have scored over 70 per cent consistently since standard 10th

IT FIRMS SLUG IT OUT ON ENGG CAMPUSES

To get the best talent, they put stiff riders for recruitment

KALPANA PATHAK &
SHIVANI SHINDE
Mumbai

Its a war of sorts among the IT companies. In order to have the best of talent from the engineering institutions and ensure themselves the day one placement slot, IT majors — Tata Consultancy Services (TCS); Cognizant Technologies and HCL Technologies — have put in a new condition for recruitment.

These companies have told students on campus that if they have scored above 60-70 per cent consistently since their standard 10th, they can skip the written test and walk-in straight for the interviews. Engineering colleges that Business Standard spoke to, said they have placed around 70 per cent of students by this method.

Consider this: Nasdaq-listed Cognizant Technologies, for the first time, picked up a record 1,643 students this year from the Vellore Institute of Technology, University of Tamil Nadu. The company has recruited students who have secured 75 per cent consistently throughout their standard 12th sans arrears.

Ditto with TCS, India's largest IT company, which is hiring students who have scored 70 per cent and above consistently — from standard 10th to the semester in which they are hired. "We analyzed over a period of four years to find that there is a co-relation between a student's score and his/her performance on job. Students who have consistently performed well academically, have performed well on the job," said a company spokesperson. TCS has started this process

from the current campus recruitment period.

Though the company did not specify how many students have been hired using this method, it has set up a target to hire 37,000 freshers for FY12. Of these, it has already given offer letters to 23,696 students.

TCS uses this hiring route only for colleges that fall in its A, A+ and B accredited colleges. The company has its own process of accrediting colleges based on the faculty and overall infrastructure."

TCS visited 370 colleges for the last fiscal. It would apply the same process for off-campus hirings.

Pandia Rajan, Chairman, MaFoi Randstad, an HR Consulting firm says companies which recruit in four or five digits from campuses are finding it challenging to equalise standards. "By introducing such

techniquies as a cut off criteria, it helps the companies reject better. Today the interviews are no longer a one-on-one exercise. The companies are introducing simulation exercises to recruit better," says Rajan.

Delhi-based HCL Technologies calls this initiative 'Topper-Shop' where it considers 60 per cent and above marks as the selection criteria. "We have done away with the test as most of the colleges we visit, have their own entrance exams. By asking students to appear for written tests, we are just duplicating the process. We however, will continue to have interviews and group discussions," said HCL Technologies in a response. The company, so far, has visited 25 colleges across the country and used this parameter for hiring. Unlike TCS, HCL Technologies has shortlisted col-

leges based on their popularity and desirability by students. "We have tried to shortlist these colleges based on their popularity and desirability among the students. Other than the curriculum they offer and the quality of students that pass-out from these institutes." The company does not select students who score below 60 per cent.

While the students are enjoying most of this competition between the IT companies, the institutes say they are having a tough time managing these companies.

"There is a lot of competition among these companies. Their 'my way or the highway attitude' is giving us a tough time dealing with them," said the Vice-chancellor of a university where these companies participated.

The race among the IT firms to recruit students on such parameters also show the need for getting the best quality students. According to industry experts, only one in every four engineering graduate is employable.

Along with the Indian IT services firm multinational firms like Intel, Google, Yahoo have also stepped up their hiring numbers. Intel hired 30 students from IIT-Madras. Whereas Oracle hired 33 engineering students from IIT-Kharagpur. Last year Oracle hired about 22 students from the same institute.

Varsity's call to widen scope of bill to check unfair practices

J. Venkatesan

NEW DELHI: Statutory bodies such as the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the Medical Council of India (MCI) and the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) should be brought within the ambit of the Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Institutions, Medical Institutions and Universities Bill, according to SASTRA University.

In a letter addressed to Oscar Fernandes, chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee examining the bill, Vice-Chancellor of the university R. Sethuraman said: "The proposed bill primarily is in regard to collection of excess fees by way of donation, capitation fee and other questionable practices for admission of students."

The letter pointed out that the issue of capitation fee was being regulated by separate Acts in almost all the States from 1993.

"Hence, the problem is not a lack of legislation, but the failure on the part of enforcing authorities and the respective governments to adhere to the existing regulatory mechanism."

It had come light how approvals were obtained from the MCI or the Dental Council of India and these were money swindling bodies. The Central government had remained a mute spectator to the alleged corrupt practices of the MCI. Similarly, the situation in the AICTE or the NCTE was no better as corruption was rampant in these regulatory bodies also, it said.

Professor Sethuraman said, "Without setting right the moral fabric of the statutory bodies and asking other educational institutions to function transparently is like addressing the symptoms and not the disease. The scope of the bill must be widened to even include malpractices committed by institutions involving various statutory authorities during the stages approval, inspection, renewal and accreditation."

He said the University of Madras, in the 1950s and 1960s, followed a transparent method for admission to the postgraduate programmes and the entire admission system was successfully done even without the help of the computer.

Rashtriya Sahara ND 24/01/2011 p-2

विज्ञापन के जरिए नियुक्त होंगे आईआईटी निदेशक

नई दिल्ली (एजेंसी)। भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) में निदेशकों की नियुक्ति को और पारदर्शी बनाने की पहल करते हुए खुली विज्ञापन प्रक्रिया अपनाने का निर्णय किया गया है। मानव संसाधान विकास मंत्रालय के सूत्रों ने बताया कि आईआईटी परिषद की बैठक में आईआईटी के निदेशकों की नियुक्ति खुली विज्ञापन प्रक्रिया के तहत किए जाने का निर्णय किया गया ताकि चयन प्रक्रिया को व्यापक बनाया जा सके।

उन्होंने कहा कि इस उद्देश्य के लिए एक चयन समिति गठित की जा सकती है जिसका सदस्य वरिष्ठ शिक्षाविदों को बनाया जा सकता है। इस समिति के समक्ष इच्छुक लोग

▶ आईआईटी परिषद की बैठक में इस बारे में लिया जाएगा फैसला

आवेदन करेंगे और योग्य लोगों के नाम की सिफारिश की जाएगी। निदेशकों के पद के लिए विज्ञापन निकाला जाएगा। आईआईटी अधिनियम, 1961 की धारा 17 (1) के तहत प्रत्येक आईआईटी के निदेशक का चयन परिषद करती है जिसके लिए विजिटर (राष्ट्रपति) से अनुमति प्राप्त करनी होती है।

सूत्रों ने बताया कि प्रक्रिया पूर्ववत रहेगी। केवल इसे और अधिक पारदर्शी बनाया जा रहा है। नियम के तहत, निदेशक की नियुक्ति के लिए मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय आवेदन आमंत्रित करता है और आईआईटी परिषद की मंजूरी के बाद नियुक्ति होती है। सूत्रों ने बताया कि नयी चयन प्रक्रिया के तहत चयन समिति का काम योग्य उम्मीदवारों की तलाश के साथ

चयन को अंतिम रूप देना है। इससे चयन का दायरा बढ़ जाएगा। आईआईटी परिषद की अध्यक्षता मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री करते हैं जबकि इसके सदस्यों में आईआईटी के अध्यक्ष, निदेशक, यूजीसी के अध्यक्ष, एआईसीटीई, आईआईएससी के अध्यक्ष, सीएसआईआर के महानिदेशक, कुछ सांसद आदि होते हैं। नई चयन प्रक्रिया के तहत आईआईटी के निदेशक पद के लिए विदेशों के वरिष्ठ शिक्षाविद् भी आवेदन कर सकेंगे, क्योंकि विदेशों में रहने वाले भारतीय मूल के काफी लोग देश वापस लौटना चाहते हैं लेकिन उन्हें इस बात की जानकारी नहीं है कि यहां रोजगार की क्या संभावनाएं हैं। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने कुछ समय पहले अप्रवासी भारतीय नागरिकों को शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में प्रोफेसर एवं अन्य वरिष्ठ पदों पर रोजगार के अवसर की जानकारी उपलब्ध कराने के मद्देनजर एक वेबसाइट की शुरुआत की थी।

इस बीच, आईआईटी के छात्रों को उस समय एक बड़ी राहत मिली जब मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय ने देश की प्रतिष्ठित संस्थाओं के स्नातक पाठ्यक्रम में ट्यूशन फीस में करीब पांच गुणा वृद्धि करने की काकोदकर समिति की सिफारिशों को खारिज कर दिया। समिति ने ट्यूशन फीस को वर्तमान 50 हजार रुपए प्रतिवर्ष से बढ़ाकर दो से ढाई लाख रुपए प्रति वर्ष करने की सिफारिश की थी।

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आईआईआईटी खोले ८ जाने की योजना से खुशी

ग्रेटरनोएडा, 23 जनवरी (देशबन्धु)। प्रदेश में आईआईआईटी (इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ इन्फर्मेशन टेक्नोलजी) खोलने की योजना ने वेस्टर्न यूपी के लोगों में उत्साह भर दिया है। एमटीयू कैंपस में शनिवार को आयोजित अहम बैठक में शिक्षाविदों ने इसे यूपी के लिए अहम अवसर करार देते हुए इंस्टिट्यूट के लिए उचित लोकेशन खोजने पर चर्चा की।

करीब 2 घंटे चली बैठक में प्राइवेट सेक्टर से जुड़े कॉलेज प्रबंधक भी इस योजना के फायदे के बारे में पूछताछ करते रहे। बैठक में गौतमबुद्धनगर जिले के डीआईओएस दीपक अग्रवाल, हापुड़ पिलखुवा विकास प्राधिकरण के वाइस चेयरमैन श्री पाल सिंह, यूपीटीयू और यूपी योगी प्रागरूप प्रिवल्ड और करीब यूपी के करीब एक दर्जन कॉलेजों के प्रबंधक शामिल हुए। बैठक का संचालन कर

रहे एमटीयू के वीमन प्रफेसर शिबन काक ने उपस्थित लोगों को केंद्र सरकार की आईआईआईटी खोलने की योजना से अवगत कराया। उन्होंने बताया कि पब्लिक प्राइवेट पार्टनरशिप में बनने वाला यह संस्थान करीब 100 एकड़ भूमि में बनाया जाएगा।

इसके निर्माण में 50 परसेंट राशि केंद्र सरकार देगी। बाकी 35 परसेंट हिस्सा यूपी सरकार और 15 परसेंट हिस्सा संबंधित प्राइवेट सेक्टर को वहन करना होगा। बैठक में लोगों ने कहा कि इस संस्थान को यूपी के एनसीआर वाले इलाके में ही स्थापित किया जाना चाहिए। यहां से पास आउट होने वाले स्टूडेंट के लिए प्लेसमेंट के बेहतर चांस होंगे और संस्थान को भी फायदा मिलेगा। प्रोफेसर शिबन काक ने बताया कि मीटिंग के सभी विभागों को नोट कर लिया गया है।

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खुली विज्ञापन प्रक्रिया से होगी आईआईटी निदेशकों की नियुक्ति

नई दिल्ली। भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान में निदेशकों की नियुक्ति को और पारदर्शी बनाने की पहल करते हुए खुली विज्ञापन प्रक्रिया अपनाने का निर्णय किया गया है। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के सूत्रों ने बताया कि आईआईटी परिषद की बैठक में आईआईटी के निदेशकों की नियुक्ति खुली विज्ञापन प्रक्रिया के तहत किए जाने का निर्णय किया गया ताकि चयन प्रक्रिया को व्यापक बनाया जा सके। उन्होंने कहा कि इस उद्देश्य के लिए एक चयन समिति गठित की जा

> निदेशकों के पद के लिए विज्ञापन निकाला जाएगा

सकती है जिसका सदस्य वरिष्ठ शिक्षाविदों को बनाया जा सकता है। इस समिति के समक्ष इच्छुक लोग आवेदन करेंगे और योग्य लोगों के नाम की सिफारिश की जाएगी। निदेशकों के पद के लिए विज्ञापन निकाला जाएगा। आईआईटी अधिनियम, 1961 की धारा 17 :।: के तहत प्रत्येक आईआईटी के निदेशक का चयन परिषद करती है जिसके लिए विजिटर (भारत के राष्ट्रपति) से अनुमति प्राप्त करनी होती है। सूत्रों ने बताया कि प्रक्रिया पूर्ववत रहेगी। केवल इसे और अधिक पारदर्शी बनाया जा रहा है। सूत्रों ने बताया कि नई चयन प्रक्रिया के तहत चयन समिति का काम योग्य उम्मीदवारों की तलाश के साथ चयन को अंतिम रूप देना है। इससे चयन का दायरा बढ़ जाएगा। आईआईटी परिषद की अध्यक्षता मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री करते हैं जबकि इसके सदस्यों में आईआईटी के अध्यक्ष, निदेशक, यूजीसी के अध्यक्ष, एआईसीटीई, आईआईएससी के अध्यक्ष, सीएसआईआर के महानिदेशक, कुछ सांसद आदि होते हैं। नई चयन प्रक्रिया के तहत आईआईटी के निदेशक पद के लिए विदेशों के वरिष्ठ शिक्षाविद भी आवेदन कर सकेंगे, क्योंकि विदेशों में रहने वाले भारतीय मूल के काफी लोग देश वापस लौटना चाहते हैं लेकिन उन्हें इस बात की जानकारी नहीं है कि यहां रोजगार की क्या संभावनाएं हैं।■

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अब क्रेडिट पर मिलेगी आईआईटी की डिग्री

☙ अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

● अंकों के आधार पर सीपीआई और ग्रेड

● सीनेट करेगी कोर्स के क्रेडिट का निर्धारण

कानपुर। आईआईटी की डिग्री अब क्रेडिट (अंक) पर मिलेगी। बीटेक, बीटेक-एमटेक दोहरी डिग्री, एमटेक, एमएससी और एमबीए के सेमेस्टर वार अंक निर्धारित किए जाएंगे। अंक हासिल करने वाले विद्यार्थी पास माने जाएंगे। अंकों के आधार पर ही क्युमलेटिव परफारमेंस इंडेक्स (सीपीआई) और ग्रेड मिलेगा। आईआईटी की सीनेट ही सभी कोर्स के क्रेडिट का निर्धारण करेगी।

नई दिल्ली में 21 जनवरी को आईआईटी काउंसिल की बैठक में भाग लेकर लौटे आईआईटी निदेशक प्रोफेसर संजय गोविंद धांडे ने रविवार को यहां बताया कि आईआईटी में अभी कोर्स बेस्ड पढ़ाई कराई जा रही है। बीटेक में दाखिला लेने वाले हर विद्यार्थी को चार साल में आठ सेमेस्टर में 40 कोर्स पास करना अनिवार्य है। वर्तमान में मानक ग्रेड (ए,

बी, सी, डी), है, जिसके आधार पर सीपीआई निकाली जाती है। बीटेक पासआउट करने के लिए सीपीआई न्यूनतम पांच होनी चाहिए। इससे कम में फेल माना जाता है और फिर से संबंधित सेमेस्टर बैक करना पड़ता है। यह प्रक्रिया काफी कड़ी है। इसे देखते हुए समान क्रेडिट सिस्टम लागू करने का प्रस्ताव दिया गया था, जिसे आईआईटी काउंसिल ने स्वीकार कर लिया। प्रोफेसर धांडे ने बताया कि देश के 15 आईआईटी के चेयरमैन और निदेशकों के बीच क्रेडिट से डिग्री देने पर सहमति भी बन गई है।