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आईआईटी का टैग लगाकर पढ़ाई छोड़ रहे एमटेक छात्र

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भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) से एमटेक या पीएचडी करने वाले छात्र नौकरी मिलने पर पढ़ाई बीच में ही छोड़ रहे हैं। वर्ष 2012-13 से अब तक आईआईटी दिल्ली के कुल 548 छात्रों ने बीच में पढ़ाई छोड़ी है। इसमें से मात्र 11 बीटेक के छात्र हैं। बाकी 537 छात्र एमटेक या पीएचडी के हैं। विशेषज्ञों के मुताबिक, ये छात्र आईआईटी के टैग के लिए ही एमटेक या पीएचडी में दाखिला लेते हैं और नौकरी मिलने पर पढ़ाई छोड़ देते हैं।

जामिया मिल्लिया इस्लामिया के इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स-कम्युनिकेशन इंजीनियरिंग विभाग में प्रोफेसर मिर्जा तारिक बेग बताते हैं कि आईआईटी के बीटेक पाठ्यक्रम में कड़ी परीक्षा पास करने के बाद दाखिला मिलता है। ऐसे में बीटेक करने वाले छात्र अपनी पढ़ाई पूरी करने को तबज्जों देते हैं।

दूसरी ओर, आईआईटी के एमटेक या पीएचडी पाठ्यक्रम में प्रवेश उतना मुश्किल नहीं है। एक बार एमटेक या पीएचडी में प्रवेश होने के बाद उनके पास आईआईटी का टैग होता है और उन्हें नौकरी मिलने में आसानी हो जाती है। नौकरी मिलने पर ये छात्र पढ़ाई बीच में

जाने-माने संस्थान के नाम की आवश्यकता

प्रो. बेग के मुताबिक, आईआईटी से एमटेक या पीएचडी करने आने वाले छात्रों में से अधिकतर ने निजी कॉलेजों से बीटेक की होती है और इन्हें नौकरी के लिए आईआईटी या अन्य जाने-माने संस्थान के नाम की आवश्यकता होती है। आईआईटी के एक प्रोफेसर के मुताबिक, निजी संस्थानों से बीटेक करने वाले छात्रों की बेसिक जानकारी अधिक मजबूत नहीं होती है। आईआईटी में एमटेक में प्रवेश लेने के बाद कई छात्रों को लगता है कि वह डिग्री पूरी नहीं कर पाएंगे, कुछ इस लिए भी आईआईटी छोड़ देते हैं।

ही छोड़ देते हैं। आरटीआई के तहत मिली जानकारी के मुताबिक, दिल्ली आईआईटी में वर्ष 2012-13 में कुल 130 छात्रों ने बीच में पढ़ाई छोड़ी। इनमें से सिर्फ एक बीटेक का छात्र था।

इसी तरह वर्ष 2013-14 में 249 छात्रों ने पढ़ाई छोड़ी। इनमें से केवल चार छात्र बीटेक के थे। पिछले साल यानी वर्ष 2014-15 में 169 छात्रों ने बीच में ही पढ़ाई छोड़ी जिनमें से मात्र छह बीटेक पाठ्यक्रम के थे।

Times Of India ND

25/01/2016 P-13

IIT-BHU student who tried to sell kidney gets aid

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Agra: Two days after TOI reported the case of IIT-BHU student Mahesh Balmiki, who attempted to sell his kidney to repay an education loan, offers of financial assistance have been pouring in from across the country. A 65-year-old said that he will share his FDs with Mahesh. A single middle-class woman from Gurgaon offered to give Rs 5,000 to him every month. IIT-BHU alumni, too, contacted us to help Balmiki with scholarships.

Mahesh, a native of Alwar in Rajasthan, had a loan of Rs 2.7 lakh on his head for his studies that was compounded after he fell ill. The boy, who teachers said was "very bright", had to leave studies in the middle and opt for a sweeper's job in his village for just Rs 4,000 a month. To repay his loan, he decided to sell his kidney but couldn't get the buyer, being a dalit. He then decided to end his life. Cutting across caste and religious lines, people from across the country, individuals to alumni and NGOs, have offered to help him.

*For the full report log on to
www.timesofindia.com*

Centre eases land norms for engg colleges

New Rules Allow Vertical Growth

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Mumbai: Vertical was not the direction colleges were designed to take. They were, usually, dreary two-or-three-storied buildings spread across large campuses. But that's set to change. The government has relaxed the norms that define the size of the tract for an engineering college in a metro from 2.5 acres to a minimum of 1.5 acres now.

"While we have altered the total land area that colleges must have, the built-up area remains the same because engineering colleges and their labs require space," said Anil Sahasrabudhe, chairman of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). "So, we have ensured that quality does not take a hit."

The council has also decided to grant three-year approval to autonomous colleges and institutes that have at least 50% of their courses accredited by the National Board of Accreditation. Currently, all engineering, management, architecture, pharmacy and hotel management colleges have to seek approval annually. Like in busy European cities, colleges need not be on one campus; they can be spread over two plots separated from each other by not more than two kilometres. The new rules for

AICTE has also decided to grant three-year approval to autonomous colleges and institutes that have at least 50% of their courses accredited by the NBA



colleges in urban areas state that the academic, instructional and administrative set-up needs to be on one plot and the other piece of land can house students and staff and be used for sports.

In rural areas too, the mandatory area for setting up an engineering college is down from 10 to 7.5 acres. "But permission for the entire structure must be taken by the college. Because when operations start, the colleges may admit one batch of students, and when they have to expand, they may not get permission. So we want all the permissions to be in place beforehand," added Sahasrabudhe.

For the full report, log on to www.timesofindia.com

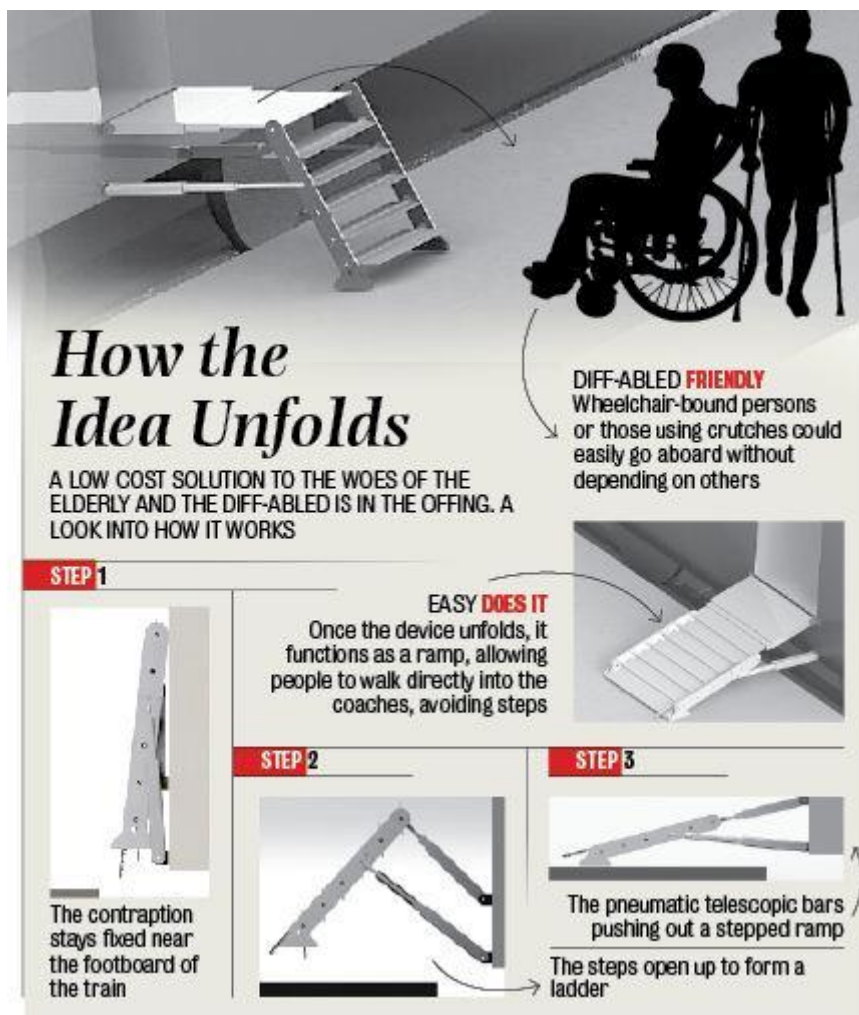
IIT-M Lads Design Foldable Rail Ramp

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/chennai/IIT-M-Lads-Design-Foldable-Rail-Ramp/2016/01/25/article3243423.ece>

CHENNAI: Ever wondered why railway coaches should have just the vertical footboard that is risky for passengers? This could soon change if the idea of a group of IIT Madras students, who have designed a semi-automatic one to be fitted to the coaches, becomes a reality.

Designed at one of India's premium technology institute's tech festival Shaastra, the idea has already attracted the attention of top Railway officials. Impressed by this project idea along with two other ones that won the 'Indian Railways Design Challenge', Railway officials have decided to try out these modifications in upcoming coaches. The contestants were asked to design a suitable mechanism or device that could be fitted to the bogie or moved about on the platform without major alterations to the coaches.

Taking up this task, team 'Innovators' comprising mechanical and civil engineering students from IIT, had created a foldable semi-automatic footboard. Explaining its working principle, Borde, a team member said, "On arrival at the station, the guard should press a centrally-connected switch so that the steps, with multiple pin joints and controlled by single pneumatic cylinder and micro-controllers, roll out. When the switch is pressed again, these would fold back." Borde's team had designed a standard four-bar mechanism, which will be attached to the bogie with the fixed pivots attached close to the door. This mechanism consists of a ladder, a stepped ramp and a pneumatic telescopic bar.



A student event-organiser, Surya said, "One of the team members, whose father lost a limb while getting into a train, came up with this innovative automatic footboard design for Southern Railway coaches. This could end the woes of the elderly and differently abled persons."

Speaking to Express, Narendra Borde, one of the team members said, "Every year, hundreds of passengers get either maimed or even killed while entering or exiting trains through the steep footboard. This is because of the large gap between the platform and the coach."

While Borde's team's project was selected as one of the top three projects by Southern Railway officials who were the judges, another team from IIT-M secured the first place.

Raj Dandekar, a student from the team said, "After taking the maximum and minimum gap into consideration (229-305 mm) across India, with no major modifications in the coach design, our

mechanism can help 22-24 people comfortably entrain and detrain within 180 to 250 seconds.”

The students claimed that the total cost of this device would be around Rs 8,300.

R Kuppan, Chief Mechanical Engineer, Southern Railways, who attended the event said, “We are generally skeptical when it comes to student projects, but today their projects were outstanding. The winners will be given a chance to work on their ideas with Railway engineers to develop them and we will try it on our railway coaches.”

IIT Roorkee’s car design bags award

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/IIT-Roorkees-car-design-bags-award/articleshow/50708548.cms>

TNN | Jan 24, 2016, 09.30 PM IST



IIT-Roorkee team with their award-winning electric car

DEHRADUN: An electric car designed by a team of students from IIT Roorkee has won the "CAMS Inspiring Motorsports Award 2015" in an international student motorsport competition held in Melbourne. The win has bagged the institute the 1st position in India and 66th slot internationally in the recently released Formula Student Electric-World Ranking list.

The team from IIT Roorkee Motorsports participated in Formula SAE Australasia 2015, an annual international student motorsport competition held from 10-13th December 2015. The electric car "BOLT" designed by the students won the "CAMS Inspiring Motorsports Award 2015".

Latest Comment

The IIT standards have dropped as the international ranking has proved. Our educational institutions need to improve fast
Rene Fernandez

Speaking to TOI, Pratik Asai, a 3rd year electrical engineering student from IIT Roorkee who was part of the winning team said, "A team of 20 students out of the 70 involved with the project had gone to Australia to participate in the event in December. We were in fact diligently preparing for this since January 2015 and had designed the car by November and sent it to Australia."

Asai said, "We competed with 29 different university teams from Australia, Japan, USA and New Zealand in events like design presentation, cost report, business presentation and various dynamic performance events. It feels awesome to be the number one team in India at the moment as per recently released Formula Student world-ranking."

A Pakistani's candid report after visiting India's IITs

<http://scroll.in/article/802345/a-pakistani-visitors-report-after-returning-from-india-the-enemy-country>

'Pakistan and India may be moving along divergent paths of development but their commonalities are becoming more accentuated.'

Rarely are Pakistanis allowed to cross their eastern border. We are told that's so because on the other side is the enemy. Visa restrictions ensure that only the slightest trickle of people flows in either direction. Hence ordinary academics like me rarely get to interact with their Indian counterparts. But an invitation to speak at the Hyderabad Literary Festival, and the fortuitous grant of a four-city non-police reporting visa, led to my 11-day 12-lecture marathon at Indian universities, colleges, and various public places. This unusual situation leads me here to share sundry observations.

At first blush, it seemed I hadn't travelled far at all. My first public colloquium was delivered in Urdu at the Maulana Azad National Urdu University in Hyderabad. With most females in burqa, and most young men bearing beards, MANUU is more conservative in appearance than any Urdu university (there are several) on the Pakistani side. Established in 1998, it seeks to "promote and develop the Urdu language and to impart education and training in vocational and technical subjects". Relative to its Pakistani counterparts, it is better endowed in terms of land, infrastructure and resources.

But there's a still bigger difference: this university's students are largely graduates of Indian madrasahs while almost all university students in Pakistan come from secular schools. Thus, MANUU's development of video "bridge courses" in Urdu must be considered as a significant effort to teach English and certain marketable skills to those with only religious training. I am not aware of any comparable programme in Pakistan. Shouldn't we over here be asking how the surging output of Pakistani madrasahs is to be handled? Why have we abandoned efforts to help those for whom secular schooling was never a choice?

To my embarrassment, I was unable to fulfil my host's request to recommend good introductory textbooks in Urdu from Pakistan. But how could I? Such books don't exist and probably never will. Although I give science lectures as often in Urdu as English, the books I use are only in English. Somehow Pakistan never summoned the necessary vigour for transplanting modern ideas into Urdu. The impetus for this has been lost forever. Urdu, as the language of Islam in undivided India, once had enormous political significance. Education in Urdu was demanded by the Muslim League as a reason for wanting Pakistan!

Modern face

A little down the road lies a different world. At the Indian Institute of Information Technology, the best and brightest of India's young, selected after cut-throat competition, are engaged in a furious race to the top. IIT-H boasts that its fresh graduates have recently been snapped up with fantastic Rs 1.5 crore (Indian) salaries by corporate entities such as Google and Facebook.

This face of modern India is equally visible at the various Indian Institutes of Technology, whose numbers have exploded from four to 18. They are the showpieces of Indian higher education. I spoke at three – Bombay, Gandhinagar, and Delhi – and was not disappointed. But some Indian academics feel otherwise.

Engineering education at the IITs, says Prof Raghbir Sahran of IIT-GN, has remained “mainly mimetic of foreign models (like MIT) and captive to the demands of the market and corporate agendas”. My physicist friend, Prof Deshdeep Sahdev, agrees. He left IIT-K to start his own company that now competes with Hewlett Packard in making tunnelling electron microscopes and says IIT students are strongly drill-oriented, not innovative.

Still, even if the IITs are not top class, they are certainly good. Why has Pakistan failed in making its own version of the IITs? One essential condition is openness to the world of ideas. This mandates the physical presence of foreign visitors. Indeed, on Indian campuses one sees a large number of foreigners – American, European, Japanese, and Chinese. They come for short visits as well as long stays, enriching universities and research centres.

Not so in Pakistan where foreigners are a rarity, to be regarded with suspicion. For example, at the National Centre for Physics, which is nominally a part of Quaid-i-Azam University but is actually ‘owned’ by the Strategic Plans Division (the custodian of Pakistan's nuclear weapons), academic visitors are so tightly restricted that they seek to flee their jails soon after arrival. Those who came from Canada, Turkey and Iran to a recent conference at the NCP protested in writing and privately told us that they would never want to come back.

Tensions apparent

Tensions between secular and religious forces appear high in Modi's India. Although an outsider cannot accurately judge the extent, I saw sparks fly when Nayantara Sahgal, the celebrated novelist who was the first of 35 Indian intellectuals to hand back their government awards, shared the stage with the governor of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. After she spoke on the threats to writers, the murder of three Indian rationalists, and the lynching of a Muslim man falsely accused of possessing beef, the enraged governor threw aside his prepared speech and excoriated her for siding with terrorists.

Hindutva ideology has put the ‘scientific temper’ of Nehruvian times under visible stress. My presentations on science and rationality sometimes resulted in a number of polite, but obviously unfriendly, comments from the audience. Legitimate cultural pride over path-breaking achievements of ancient Hindu scholars is being seamlessly mixed with pseudoscience. Shockingly, an invited paper at the recent Indian Science Congress claimed that Lord Shiva was the world's greatest environmentalist. Another delegate blew on a ‘conch’ shell for a full two minutes because it would exercise the rectal muscles of Congress delegates!

Pakistan and India may be moving along divergent paths of development but their commonalities are becoming more accentuated as well. Engaging with the other is vital – and certainly possible. Although I sometimes took unpopular political positions at no point did I, as a Pakistani, experience hostility. The mature response of both governments to the Pathankot attack gives hope that Pakistan and India might yet learn to live with each other as normal neighbours. This in spite of the awful reality that terrorism is here to stay.