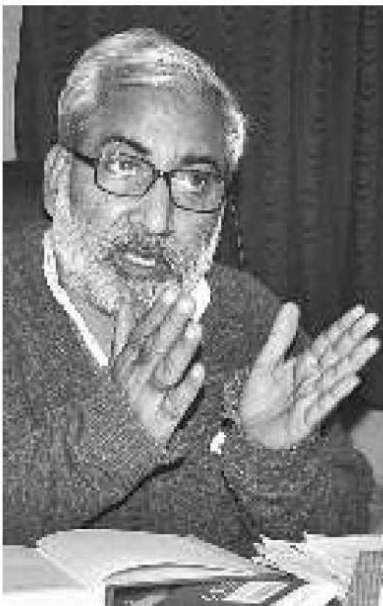


Newspaper Clips January 6, 2016

Amar Ujala ND 06/01/2016 P-09

आईआईटी बीएचयू ने मैगसायसाय विजेता विजिटिंग प्रोफेसर संदीप पांडेय को हटाया



अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

वाराणसी। अपने आंदोलनात्मक तैवरों से विवादों में रहे जानेमाने सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता और मैगसायसाय विजेता विजिटिंग प्रोफेसर डॉ. संदीप पांडेय की आईआईटी बीएचयू ने सेवा समाप्त कर दी है। सूत्रों से मिली जानकारी के अनुसार आईआईटी के बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर ने उनके खिलाफ यह कार्रवाई की है।

कुछ महीने पहले ही आईआईटी के ही छात्रों ने कुलपति प्रो. जीसी त्रिपाठी और आईआईटी के निदेशक प्रो. राजीव संगल से डॉ. पांडेय पर राष्ट्र विरोधी गतिविधि में शामिल होने का आरोप लगाते हुए इसकी लिखित शिकायत की थी। इसी शिकायत पर एक जनवरी को हुई बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर की बैठक में संदीप पांडेय को हटाने का निर्णय हुआ। डॉ. पांडेय को निदेशक की ओर से इसकी मौखिक सूचना भी दे दी गई

आईआईटी बीएचयू बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर ने राष्ट्रविरोधी गतिविधियों की शिकायत पर लिया फैसला

है। इस बारे में संस्थान प्रशासन अभी कुछ भी नहीं बोल रहा है लेकिन डॉ. पांडेय ने यह बात स्वीकारी है। उन्होंने बताया कि संस्थान की ओर से मेरी सेवा समाप्त करने की जानकारी दे दी गई है। उन्होंने बताया कि मेरी सामाजिक गतिविधियों को देखते हुए ऐसा किया गया है। बता दें कि कई महीनों से डॉ. संदीप पांडेय को लेकर विश्वविद्यालय में गुटबाजी चल रही थी लेकिन कुछ महीने पहले संदीप पांडेय ने प्रतिबंधित निर्भया रेप कांड की डाक्यूमेंट्री चलवाने की घोषणा की थी, जिसकी शिकायत के बाद निदेशक प्रो. संगल ने उस फिल्म के प्रदर्शन पर रोक लगा दी थी।

आरएसएस से जुड़े लोग कर रहे मेरा विरोध : संदीप

खुद पर लगे आरोपों के बावत डॉ. पांडेय का कहना है कि संस्थान प्रशासन ने मुझ पर राष्ट्रविरोधी कार्यों में संलिप्त रहने और नक्सली होने का आरोप लगाया है। ये सारे आरोप बेबुनियाद हैं। यदि ऐसा था तो मेरे खिलाफ मुकदमा क्यों नहीं कराया गया? मिड टर्म में मेरी सेवा समाप्त कर दी गई इसका मुझे कतई मलाल नहीं है। डॉ. पांडेय का ये भी कहना है कि बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर के सदस्यों में कुछ प्रोफेसर राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक संघ से सीधे जुड़े हुए हैं। यही लोग मेरे खिलाफ हैं। बता दें कि डॉ. संदीप संस्थान में एक साल के संविदा पर थे। 2013-14 में उन्होंने बतौर विजिटिंग प्रोफेसर आईआईटी में ज्वाइन किया था। हर साल उनका कॉन्ट्रैक्ट रिन्यू किया जा रहा था। वर्तमान सत्र में जुलाई तक का उनका करार था।

No set rules to pick the right person for the vice chancellor's job

APPOINTMENT MATTERS The acts and statutes of almost all Central and state universities in the country are silent on the eligibility criteria for selection of VCs

Jeevan Prakash Sharma
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The questions raised by academicians and women activists over the candidature of Professor Bidvut Chakrabarty for the position of Delhi University's (DU) vice chancellor (VC) because of a 2007 sexual harassment case; and questions raised over the appointment of the VC of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) and Mumbai University (MU), highlight the need for an eligibility criteria for appointment of VCs. Though the process of appointment of VCs for Central and state universities has been examined by various academic committees in the past, the issue needs to be revisited once again, say experts.

What also needs to be scrutinised by the powers that be is the accountability of the search-cum-selection committees, which shortlist names of the aspirants to VCs' positions and send it to the President for approval.

The acts and statutes of almost all the universities in the country are silent on the eligibility criteria. What most academic institutes follow are the University Grants Commission (UGC) regulations on minimum qualifications for appointment of teachers and other academic staff in universities and colleges and measures for the maintenance

of standards in higher education in 2010.

According to clause 7.3.0 of the UGC regulation, "Persons of the highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment are to be appointed as vice chancellors. The vice chancellor to be appointed should be a distinguished academician with minimum of ten years of experience as professor in a university system or ten years of experience in an equivalent position in a reputed research and/or academic administrative organisation."

Unfortunately, this regulation isn't binding on many universities, so a number of them, including DU, haven't adopted it. In many cases, a search-cum-selection committee has been given a free hand to select and shortlist candidates. Cases of violations of the regulation have also come to light in many universities.

Legal experts and academicians are of the view that these regulations should be made

THE MAIN CRITERIA OF SELECTING A VC SHOULD BE ACADEMIC STANDING OF THE PERSON IN HIS DOMAIN AND MORAL AUTHORITY

mandatory and reformulated. Members of the search-cum-selection committees should also be made accountable for their decisions.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, who argued in the Supreme Court in the matter of AMU and MU, is of the view that the UGC regulation is legally binding on all Central universities and it should be binding on state universities as well. "The situation is bad as everyone is flouting it but it should be stopped," he says.

Eminent academician, researcher and chemical scientist, Prof. Govardhan Mehta says that the present system – the way in which it has been structured and the selection process of VCs, has its fault lines. "Today, the search committees formed to select VCs have no accountability. You mess up things by appointing someone in one university and disappear and then sit in the next search committee. Why is this happening?" he asks.

Calling for a well-defined process and criteria for the selections of VCs in the country, Mehta says, "The UGC regulation says 'a professor with ten years experience.' We know how professorships have proliferated in the last few years through various programmes and career advancement schemes. So though most professors and faculty in universities might have ten years

PEOPLE AND POSITIONS UNDER THE SCANNER

- Some academicians have objected to the candidature of Professor Bidvut Chakrabarty as Delhi University vice chancellor because of an eight-year-old sexual harassment case
- Supreme Court has issued a notice to Aligarh Muslim University questioning the violation of UGC guidelines in the appointment of the present VC
- The apex court is also scrutinising the appointment of the VC of Mumbai University
- A senior professor from IGNOU withdrew his nomination from the search committee formed to shortlist candidates for JNU VC alleging lack of trust in the committee
- In March, 2015, SC upheld the appointment of Madurai Kamaraj University's VC and held that UGC regulation of 2010 was not mandatory unless the state government adopted it

ISTOCK

of experience, we don't know how they became professors in the first place."

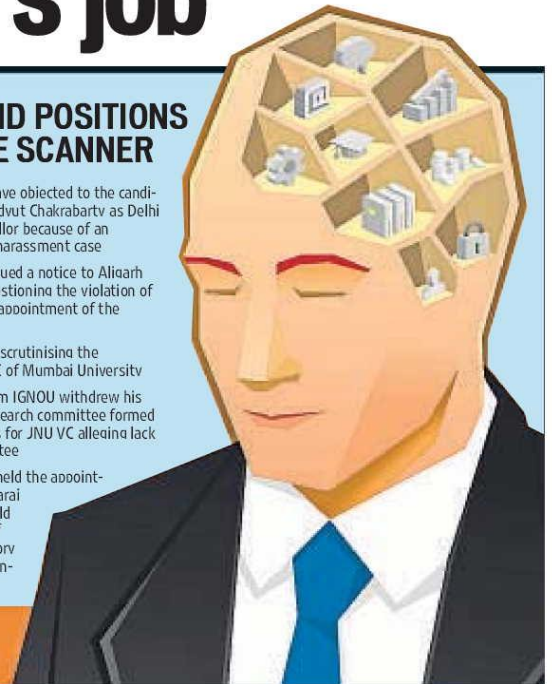
Mehta adds, "The UGC regulation doesn't deal with calibre and academic credentials of an individual. The most important criterion in selection should be the academic standing of the individual in his or her domain. Administrative acumen should also have with it the credibility and moral authority which comes from one's track record

and professional competency. We need a framework which has some element of flexibility and also an element of rigor."

MM Ansari, former UGC member, agrees, adding that "Selection of an academic leader who can promote the vision and mission of the university should be the main criteria."

Noted academician NR Madhava Menon also agrees that search committees should be made accountable for their

selections. Guidelines or parameters for the committees within which they should function, however, are not required, he says. "Search committees should function on their own, but they should know what kind of vision the aspirants to the vice chancellor's position have. The chancellor should then take a call two years into the VC's tenure as to how much of this vision has been implemented," says Menon.



Hindustan Times
ND 06/01/2016

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Dr Abdul Kalam Postgraduate Fellowship

HT Education Correspondent

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The University of South Florida is offering Dr Abdul Kalam Fellowship for Indian students to help cover their tuition fees. The fellowship is available to an Indian graduate student who wants to pursue a PhD degree at the University of South Florida in the following subjects: applied anthropology, applied physics, business PhD programmes, cell biology, microbiology and molecular biology, chemistry, computer science and engineering, engineering, criminology, integrative biology, marine science and psychology.

To apply to this scholarship, applicants must have completed a graduate degree programme. Applicants must also have academic credentials and a passion for the STEM fields of study.

The university will waive off tuition fee for four years, contribute a stipend of \$18,000 over the nine months of the fall and spring semesters (\$2,000 per month).

The Provost's Office will pay a nine month stipend for the first year with the department/college contributing a teaching/research assistantship for up to an additional three years.

The deadline is February 5, 2016. For details, visit www.usf.edu/world/resources/kalam-fellowship.aspx. For online forms, visit www.usf.edu/world/resources/kalam_fellowship_form201617.pdf.

Hindustan Times ND 06/01/2016 P-19

'My calculator never left my side when I was studying engineering'



In its all-new column, Work Shadow, HT Education shadows people pursuing interesting careers and looks at their life and work. In our first column, we look at a day in the life of Dr Simon A Hayes, a lecturer in aerospace engineering at the University of Sheffield, UK. He talks about his work, interactions with students and various facilities available at the university.

I travel to work every morning with my wife, who also works in the centre of Sheffield. The journey too is a lottery of traffic, some days it takes 15 minutes and other days it takes 50 minutes. I wish I could predict it! I park my car in a local car park and have a five-minute walk to work. The weather in Sheffield changes often. Driving in rain or snow can be a chore.

Most days I have either lectures or labs and the first thing I do is check my online calendar to remind myself of the schedule. Then I answer my emails, before checking lecture notes or lab scripts. All of my notes and scripts are online for the students to read, but sometimes a reminder email is needed so that they bring the right equipment to the labs. I always find



■ Professor Simon A Hayes at his workstation.

it amazing how many engineering students don't carry some form of calculator with them at all times; I know mine never left my side when I was studying.

The Diamond, our brand new teaching building is developing by the minute as new equipment is being installed. As a result, much of my time when I am not teaching is taken up with the preparation of the new facili-

ties and lab activities.

The Diamond building has specialist teaching facilities for engineering, including 19 laboratories, a chemical engineering pilot plant, a clean room, an aerospace simulation lab and a virtual reality suite and 1,000 study spaces available 24/7 for staff and students across the university. I am planning a short activity for students who are

applying to come to Sheffield to study aerospace engineering and general engineering. I will show them how we select materials for aircraft wing spars. Then they will compare wood and aluminium as viable materials for this application and the results might not be quite what they would guess!

Another facility that currently takes a lot of my time is the jet propulsion and flight simulation laboratory. Recently we were showing some students around and we used the jet engine simulator bench to show them the effects of altitude and external temperature on the performance of a jet engine. I am also in the process of writing laboratory experiences involving this simulator and the working of jet engine that is being installed. Initially these will run for the second year aerospace engineering students next semester and so I am continuously writing and editing the scripts to ensure that they are ready in time.

I also have to find time to meet my PhD students to ensure that their projects continue to progress. Soon I will be discussing damage detection in aerospace composites with one of my students, who has developed a new type of electrical damage sensor for woven composites. We believe this to be ground-breaking and are hoping to publish a paper soon, so we have to discuss what other results we need.

Duke varsity in pact with IIT-Gandhinagar

Ahmedabad, January 5:

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/education/duke-varsity-in-pact-with-iitgandhinagar/article8069448.ece>

As a step forward in realising the joint declaration of intent signed between the US and India in January 2015, Duke University will forge a partnership with IIT-Gandhinagar (IITGn) to deepen higher education collaboration.

A contingent from Duke University will visit IIT Gandhinagar (IITGN) campus for a week on partnership and capacity building events.

From January 5-8, a 15-member delegation from Duke and RTI International will work with IITGN faculty and staff to develop new research projects, improve IITGN capacity in critical areas, and discuss potential industry partnerships.

Faculty and students of IIT-Gn and Duke University would meet this week to discuss and initiate collaborative research and private sector partnership.

With funding support from the US Agency for International Development (USAID), Duke University was selected by IITGN to receive initial support as agreed under the high-level agreement between the two countries.

Common ground

The two schools immediately found common ground for collaborative research, student exchanges, and joint engagement of private sector partners, an official statement informed here.

Larry Carin, Duke's Vice Provost for Research, and delegation lead, said, "India is a special place for Duke, as seen in the number of students and alumni we have from India, the research collaborations our faculty have there, and our institutional partnerships across India. We are privileged to work with USAID and RTI International – our long standing partner in North Carolina – on this initiative with IITGN."

The events during the week have been made open to other IITs through simulcast on the IIT-wide video network.

Commenting on the engagement with Duke, Sudhir Jain, Director, IIT-Gn added, "IITGN has carefully approached strategic global partnerships, seeking out like-minded institutions who share our focus on trans-disciplinary learning, student focused pedagogy, and cutting edge research that improves our shared community. Duke is exactly that type of partner."

USAID has provided financial support. Kathryn D. Stevens, Acting Mission Director, USAID, India, said, "USAID and the IITs have a long history of partnership. After support to establish IIT-Kanpur in 1960s, the US and India are collaborating to build IIT-Gandhinagar into a centre of excellence for S&T. The power of youth, technology and innovation is defining the US-India relationship and igniting a partnership that will advance."