

Newspaper Clips

July 31 2014

HT.COM ND 31/7/2014 P-2

Blood brothers: Let's make some noise

HT Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Rock music fans will have a reason to do some good by donating blood this early August.

BloodConnect, a student initiative to meet the shortage of blood units in the country, is setting up 'Rock & Roll Blood Booths' where people can donate blood while screaming their fears out.

Their screams will be recorded and made part of a song to be performed by a rock band at IIT Delhi on August 9.

"The hard-rock-loving youth will overcome the fear of pain by screaming to their loudest to songs whilst



donating blood. We turn these recorded screams of fear, into Screams of Joy, a new rock song," said a member of BloodConnect. Launched by two IIT Delhi students — Nitin Garg and Utkarsh Kawatra — in April 2010, it

now has chapters running in nine cities. More than 150 students from 25 colleges across the country, including IITD, Delhi University, IIM Calcutta, National Law University, Jodhpur, IIT Ropar and AIIMS, are associated with the project. BloodConnect holds theme-based donation camps, organizes mass awareness campaigns and runs a 24/7 helpline that has saved 1,000 lives.

"Many people, who want to donate blood, do not do it for the fear of pain. These rock and roll booths will encourage them to step ahead," she said. Donors will also be felicitated for their contribution to cut the shortage.

HT.COM ND 31/7/3014 P-6

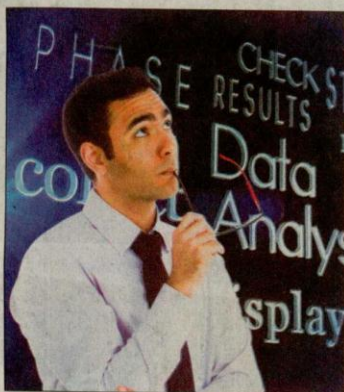
IIMs, IITs offering full-time data analytics programmes

Harini Sriram

Despite the growing popularity of data analytics as a highly lucrative career, there are not many relevant full-time courses available in India and abroad. However, there are some certificate and online courses on offer. One such is the postgraduate certificate course in business analytics by NIIT Ltd.

Amitabh Lahiri, president, career building solutions, NIIT Ltd, says, "The programme is taught by practitioners who have worked with some of the best analytics firms and for Fortune 500 clients. The programme design includes intensive assignments, case-studies, projects and uses a case-based approach to learning. Learners and professionals with a background in business management, engineering, mathematics, statistics, or economics can enrol."

The course module covers foundation of analytics, statistical inference, applications of analytics in business function, special analytical methods, information manage-



■ Learners with a background in business management, engineering can enrol FILE

ment in analytics, advanced business forecasting, advanced analytics and application of analytics in business verticals. The dura-

COURSE MODULE COVERS VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE FOUNDATION OF ANALYTICS, INCLUDING STATISTICAL INFERENCE AND VERTICALS

tion of the course is six months and the fee is ₹1.3 lakh.

The University of Glasgow is offering an MSc in data science—a full-time two year programme. Some of the core subjects covered in the programme include big data, artificial intelligence, cyber security and computer architecture, information retrieval, functional programming, enterprise computing, trends in information security, distributed algorithms and systems, to name a few.

Iadh Unis, programme director of the course at the university says, "The programme helps students seek software development positions in a range of industries, including finance, government, transport,

manufacturing, retail, education, health and engineering. Graduates can take up PhD programmes too." The course fee is ₹17,250 (₹17.5 lakh), with a ₹1,000 discount for international students. Students can visit <http://www.gla.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/datascience/> for details on applications and scholarships.

IIM Bangalore has set up a data centre and analytics lab to support interdisciplinary empirical research using data on primarily Indian and other emerging markets. The institute also offers a one-year certificate course in analytics to employees of multinational companies. IIM Ahmedabad also offers an executive programme on advanced analytics for management (www.iimahd.ernet.in/). Besides, MOOC providers such as edX (www.edx.org/) and Coursera (www.coursera.org) have a number of online certificate programmes.

Nasscom has created an analytics interest group (comprising about 18 to 19 companies) to help define core competencies and provide training.

HT.COM ND 31/7/2014 P-6

New education policy in offing?

Indo-Asian News Service

The government has proposed to formulate a new education policy to meet challenges posed by lack of quality, research and innovation in Indian educational institutions, parliament was told on Wednesday.

"The government proposes to formulate a new education policy aimed at meeting the challenges posed by lack of quality, research and innovation in our educational institutions," Human Resource

Development Minister Smriti Irani said in the Rajya Sabha.

She added that the National Policy on Education 1986, as amended in 1992, has been the guiding document for the policies of the central government in the education sector. The policy provides for national system of education, which envisages a common educational structure of 10+2+3, implying that up to a given level, all students, irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have access to education of a comparable quality.

Business Standard ND
31/07/2014 P-10

Govt to formulate new education policy

BS REPORTER ■ Mumbai

The government is planning to

formulate a new education policy, aimed at meeting the challenges posed by lack of quality, research and innovation in educational institutions, Minister for Human Resource Development, Smriti Irani, told the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday.

Millenium Post ND 31/07/2014 P-6

GOVT TO OPEN IIT, IIM IN ANDHRA, TRIBAL UNIVERSITY IN TELANGANA

NEW DELHI: Keeping the poll promise, the Narendra Modi-led NDA government has decided to open management as well as technical institutes in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. In a written reply in Lok Sabha, human resource development minister Smriti Irani to the House that the government will open one Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), National Institute of Technology (NIT), Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Central University (CU) and one Tribal University (TU) in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

The government has decided to establish one Tribal University Telangana in accordance with the 13th Schedule of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, the minister said.

HINDU ND 31/7/2014 P-10

Panel seeks one more week to submit report on UPSC test

Gargi Parsai

NEW DELHI: A three-member committee looking into the UPSC's Civil Services Aptitude Test (CSAT) issue has sought one more week to submit its report, the government said in Rajya Sabha on Wednesday.

The government declined to give a timeframe for resolving the matter. The issue would be resolved "as soon as possible" keeping in mind the sentiments of the candidates.

Even as Opposition members targeted the government for coming out with different statements, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Prakash Javadekar said the issue had been discussed thoroughly in the House.

"Both the Home Minister and the Minister for Department of Personnel and Training have said the issue will be resolved soon. The government is going to act keeping in mind the sentiments of the students. As soon as a deci-

sion is taken, the government will inform the House," Mr. Javadekar said.

Raising the matter during zero hour, Janata Dal (United) leader Sharad Yadav said the issue should not be allowed to snowball into an all-India agitation. Members of Opposition parties supported Mr. Yadav and asked the government to come out with a clear-cut time frame.

34% jump in job growth in 8 yrs: Census

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The number of people employed in the country rose by 34.35% to 12.77 crore in eight years to 2013, reveals the Sixth Economic Census-2013.

The employment in urban areas increased by 37.46% to 6.14 crore, while in rural India the growth was 31.59% to 6.62 crore between 2005 and 2013.

The proportion of women in total workforce increased to 25.56% in 2013 from about 20% in 2005. In urban areas, the proportion of female

MORE HANDS AT WORK

► While the employment in urban areas increased by 37.5%, rural India witnessed a growth of 31.6% between 2005 to 2013, reveals the Sixth Economic Census-2013

► Share of women in total workforce increased to 25.6% in 2013 from about 20% in 2005

► Among the states, Maharashtra topped the list with maximum number of



employed people at 1.43 crore, followed by Uttar Pradesh at 1.37 crore, West Bengal at 1.15 crore, Tamil Nadu 1.08 crore and Gujarat at 90.63 lakh

workers was 19.8% compared to 30.9% in rural areas.

The economic census does

not include those employed in agriculture, public administration, defense and compul-

sory social security services activities. Among the states, Maharashtra was on top of the ladder with maximum number of employees at 1.43 crore, followed by Uttar Pradesh at 1.37 crore, West Bengal at 1.15 crore, Tamil Nadu 1.08 crore and Gujarat at 90.63 lakh.

Among the Union Territories, Delhi has the maximum number of employees at 29.84 lakh followed by Chandigarh at 2.38 lakh and Puducherry at 2.17 lakh.

In terms of percentage growth in total employment during the period, number of

workers grew at higher rate of 83.29% in Manipur, followed by 78.84% in Assam, 77.14% in Sikkim, 75.26% in Uttar Pradesh and 68.81% in Himachal Pradesh.

On findings of the survey, National Statistical Commission chairman Pronab Sen said, "The growth in employment at 34% in eight years is a good rate. That means that it had grown at an annual rate of over 4% when the population is growing at 2%." The country's population was over 121 crore in 2011, according to 2011 Population Census.

Mail Today ND 31/07/2014 P-6

AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

Opening Salary

₹ 25,000- 30,000 p.m.

With more planes in the sky, more operations and maintenance will be required. So the demand for qualified and expert engineers will only grow in the years to come

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

The aerospace industry provides you with a number of career options from engineers, scientists and technicians upstream to other downstream business management roles — whereby you can pick a job role matching your area of interest. Most of the roles, however, can be grouped under some broad categories: managers, analysts, consultants, scientists, field engineers and design engineers.

EXPERT'S TAKE

"Aerospace engineering is a growing field and the current trend indicates that it is bound to grow very rapidly in the coming days. There is a huge scope for innovation and development in this field. The growth prospects appear to be quite high", says K.P. Sinhamahapatra, professor and head of the aerospace engineering department at IIT Kharagpur. Dr P. Sriram, professor and head, department of aerospace engineering, IIT Madras, shares, "With the overall



growth in the economy, air travel is experiencing a boom and this will be fed by more aviation infrastructure, including airports, aircraft and other related items. Aircraft fleet planning and maintenance will also become a major business. Aeronautical engineers will find jobs in all these sectors."

GROWTH PROSPECTS

The present offset business

(when any Indian airline buys an aircraft from Boeing, Airbus etc., the aircraft vendor is required to outsource some fraction of the purchase value from India) is expected to grow and smoothly merge into an Airbus China-type activity. With more planes in the sky, more operations and maintenance will be required. So these areas will also grow and become major employers. There is a lot of potential for innovation and

advancements in this industry.

TOP RECRUITERS

ISRO, Wipro, Ramco, Ashok Leyland, Volvo, Safran, TCS, Infosys, and many more.

FROM WHERE YOU CAN LEARN

IIT, Madras, Kanpur, Mumbai & Kharagpur; Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh; Madras

Institute of Technology; SRM University, Chennai; IIAEIT, Pune; Indian Institute of Aeronautical Engineering, Dehradun; VSM Institute of Aerospace Engineering & Technology, Bangalore, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Institute of Technology, Gujarat, Hindustan Institute of Technology & Science, Chennai and Noorul Islam University, Tamil Nadu.

Data Source: www.electronicsforu.com

Times of India ND 31/07/2014 P-8

Smriti defends FYUP move

New Delhi: One of the reasons for reverting to the three-year undergraduate programme in Delhi University was to ensure that its students are not “put to any disadvantage vis-a-vis students of other universities”, human resource development minister Smriti Irani told Parliament Wednesday.

“The reasons for reverting to the three-year undergraduate degree in Delhi University included the need to comply with National Policy on Education 1986, ensure that students of DU are not put to any disadvantage vis-a-vis students of other universities in terms of horizontal and vertical mobili-

ty and also in terms of employment opportunities,” Irani said in the Rajya Sabha.

She added that “employability criteria” was not the reason for reverting back to three year undergraduate degree.

ALL FOR PARITY

As reported by Delhi University, the total number of students completing their graduation every year is more than 40,000, excluding students of School of Open Learning.

DU has a Central Placement Cell (CPC) which gives options to the students of the

university’s different colleges/ departments get themselves registered with it.

In 2013-14, out of the 6,729 registered students 1,200 were placed based in preliminary selections carried out by various employers.

DU admits over 50,000 students under its undergraduate programme in 63 colleges.

The admission to the varsity started July 21 after a tussle between the DU and the University Grants Commission over the university’s controversial four-year undergraduate programme (FYUP) started last year. The FYUP was rolled back June 27. IANS

Times of India ND 31/07/2014 P-1

Eating chicken could make you immune to antibiotics

NCR Study Finds Drug Residues In 40% Samples

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Each time you eat chicken, you could also be consuming a cocktail of antibiotics. A lab study released by Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) found antibiotic residues in 40% of chicken samples collected from Delhi and NCR outlets.

While the amount of antibiotics found in each sample was not very high, experts said regular consumers of such meat could be in danger of developing antibiotic resistance. In other words, eating chicken with drug traces over a period of time could make you immune to impor-

DRUGGED BIRDS

➤ CSE gets 70 chicken samples from Delhi-NCR tested for presence of 3 classes of antibiotics — tetracycline, fluoroquinolone & aminoglycoside

➤ Residues found in 40% of samples. 17.1% had more than one antibiotic

WHY IS IT DANGEROUS?
Though the traces found were within safe limits prescribed in US, experts say frequent

tant antibiotics prescribed to treat common illnesses.

The study said it had evidence of large-scale and reckless use of antibiotics by poultry owners, which can also lead to antibiotic-resistant bacterial strains in the chicken itself.

CSE said it conducted the study after being alerted by



consumers could develop resistance to antibiotics

➤ Cooking doesn't remove the drugs

WHERE IS IT COMING FROM?
Poultry owners liberally feed drugs to chicken to prevent diseases and promote growth

doctors, including Bangalore-based cardiac surgeon Devi Shetty, about a rising trend of antibiotic resistance among patients.

CSE said 22.9% of the 70 samples collected contained residues of one antibiotic while 17.1% had more than one.

➤ 'To boost growth', P 4

Antibiotics used to boost growth in chicken: CSE

► Continued from P1

A chicken sample purchased from Gurgaon was found to have a cocktail of as many as three antibiotics.

The CSE report, released on Wednesday, said poultry owners routinely pumped antibiotics into chicken during their short life of about 35 to 42 days, to promote growth so that they look bigger and also to treat or prevent infections. India has no law to regulate antibiotic use in the poultry sector.

CSE's research team tested chicken samples at its Pollution Monitoring Laboratory. Three tissues in each sample were tested — muscle, kidney and liver. Residues of five of the six antibiotics were found in all three tissues of the samples in the range of 3.37 to 131.75 micrograms per kg.

According to Dr Shetty, after a researcher conducted a study on antibiotic resistance at his hospital, they found about 10% of the patients to be resistant to common antibiotics.

"These are people who probably haven't taken antibiotics before. They are villagers. We started thinking it could be caused from the food they are eating. That is why I approached CSE to do a study and now the data says it all," he said on a live video chat from Bangalore during the presentation of the findings.

Dr Shetty also said that the likelihood of becoming antibiotic resistant after eating chicken depends on how often we eat chicken. "If you are eating poultry chicken on a daily

basis then you could be at a higher risk. That is why I asked my family to get only village reared chicken not the poultry ones," he said.

Dr Randeep Guleria, head pulmonary medicine at AIIMS said he wasn't surprised that antibiotics were entering the food chain through poultry.

"The findings aren't surprising. It's a big concern and in the last few years after the NDM 1 superbug scare, the medical community has been raising concern about indiscriminate use of antibiotics in poultry and agriculture," Dr Guleria said.

Said Chandra Bhushan, CSE's deputy director general, "Our study is only the tip of the

WATCH IT

iceberg. There are many more antibiotics that are rampantly used that the lab has not tested," Bhushan said.

When contacted by TOI, Union health minister Harsh Vardhan said he would react to the findings only after reading the entire lab report.

CSE also conducted a review of 13 research studies on antibiotic resistance (ABR) in India since 2002 and found that ABR levels were very high for ciprofloxacin and doxycycline, both used for illnesses such as diarrhoea, pneumonia, urinary tract infections and others. High level residues of the same antibiotics were found in chicken samples tested by CSE. The problem according to CSE is compounded by the fact that antibiotics that are essential for humans are now being used in the poultry industry.

WHY CHICKEN MAY KILL THAT PILL

ANTIBIOTICS: SUBSTANCES THAT CAN DESTROY OR INHIBIT THE GROWTH OF MICRO-ORGANISMS. THEY ARE WIDELY USED IN PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

- > Six antibiotics tested from three antibiotic classes - tetracyclines, fluoroquinolones and aminoglycosides
- > Each chicken sample analysed thrice
- > Antibiotics found in all tissues tested - muscle, liver and kidney
- > No significant difference in residues in different parts of chicken
- > More than one antibiotic found in 17% chickens

CSE lab study based on 70 chicken samples from NCR

36 DELHI

12 NOIDA

GURGAON

8 FARIDABAD

7

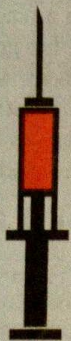
7 GHAZIABAD

Why this could be dangerous

- > Banned in certain countries for use in animals due to concerns about antibiotic resistance (Enrofloxacin and Ciprofloxacin)
- > Considered critical (ciprofloxacin) and highly important (tetracyclines) for humans
- > Among the highest prescribed in India (ciprofloxacin)



Why antibiotics are given to chicken



- > Because this cheap input has a growth promoting effect, making the chicken look fatter
- > Due to unsanitary conditions in poultry, chickens contract bacterial infections that require treatment antibiotics
- > Antibiotic for feed is freely available at a low cost in Delhi and outside
- > Raw chicken has more antibiotic residue than cooked chicken
- > Regularly exposing yourself to antibiotics through chicken will lead to resistance to some of the important and common antibiotics

Prevalence of antibiotic resistance

In US: 2 million illnesses and 23,000 deaths annually; estimated \$ 20 billion as direct annual healthcare cost

In EU: 25,000 deaths and about Euro 1.5 billion of healthcare cost & productivity losses

In India (no national level estimate): About one-third of two lakh children that die in the first four weeks are victims of antibiotic resistance; about 15% of those re-treated for TB are resistant to multiple drugs

| Antibiotic | No. of chicken with antibiotic | Overall level (microgram per kg) |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Oxytetracycline | 11.4% (8) | 8.25—15.16 |
| Chlortetracycline | 1.4% (1) | 10.20 |
| Doxycycline | 14.3% (10) | 11.94—20.6 |
| Enrofloxacin | 20% (14) | 3.37—131.75 |
| Ciprofloxacin | 14.3% (10) | 3.55—64.59 |
| Neomycin | Not detected | |

WHAT ABOUT REGULATIONS

India has no regulations or standards for antibiotics given to farm animals

- > Some **European** countries banned use of penicillin, streptomycin and tetracyclines as growth promoters in 1970s
- > In 1986, Sweden banned antibiotic growth promoters and Denmark followed it
- > EU prohibited antibiotic growth promoters in 2006
- > Between 1995 and 2008, Denmark's strong policies led to reduction in antibiotic usage by 90% in poultry and 51% in pigs



USA's voluntary approach

a failure. About 80% of antibiotics used in food-producing animals. In 2009-11, use of lincosamides, penicillins and tetracyclines grew by 64%, 44% and 22%, respectively



Antibiotics in chicken sold in Delhi-NCR: CSE

Humans consuming the meat could develop drug-resistant bacteria

B S REPORTERS

New Delhi/Mumbai/Chennai, 30 July

A new study has found antibiotic residues in almost half of the chicken samples tested across Delhi-NCR. This could have wider implications on humans, as consumption of the meat could lead to development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the body.

According to research by Delhi-based think-tank, Centre for Science & Environment (CSE), 40 per cent of the chicken samples tested contained antibiotics. It said chickens are fed antibiotics to ensure faster growth.

"Antibiotics are no more restricted to humans, nor limited to treating diseases. The poultry sector, for instance, uses antibiotics as a growth promoter. Birds are fed antibiotics so that they gain weight and grow faster," said Sunita Narain, director general at CSE.

However, poultry farmers use antibiotics on the pretext of preventing diseases and it is hard to differentiate between prevention of diseases and growth promotion, the CSE report said.

"It would be difficult to comment on the finding without knowing the exact details about the sample. However,

about 94 per cent of the industry is in the unorganised sector, where quality control is an issue," said Arabind Das, chief operating officer at Godrej Tyson Foods.

The company processes 100,000 birds a day at its plant in Bangalore and Navi Mumbai. "We follow the best global practices to stop any misuse of antibiotics and ensure that every bird goes through a quarantine process so that there is no residual," Das said.

Bangalore-based Suguna Poultry was not available for comment immediately.

In fact, one-third of the chicken samples tested contained antibiotics generally used for treating serious bacte-

rial infections and the side-effects include diarrhoea, insomnia and mild skin rash.

CSE's Pollution Monitoring Laboratory (PML) tested 70 samples of chicken in Delhi and NCR. Of these, half the samples were picked from Delhi, 12 from Noida, eight from Gurgaon and seven each from Faridabad and Ghaziabad.

The study showed of the 40 per cent samples found contaminated with antibiotic residues, 17.1 per cent samples had residues of more than one antibiotic. All the tissues tested - muscles, kidney and liver - had presence of antibiotics.

"Repeated and prolonged exposure to antibiotics lead, by natural selection, to the emergence of resistant strains of bacteria," Neil Schluger, chief scientific officer at World Lung Foundation, New York, was quoted as saying in the study report.

The presence of antibiotics not only harms poultry but also poses a threat to humans consuming the meat as the antibiotic can invade the human body and cause diseases that are difficult to treat, the report stated.

Chandra Bhushan, CSE's deputy director-general and head of the lab, said the study can substantiate the growing antibiotic resistance among Indians. "Public health experts have long suspected that rampant use of antibiotics in animals could be a reason for increasing antibiotic resistance in India. But the government has no data on the use of antibi-

otics in the country, let alone on the prevalence of antibiotic resistance. Our study proves the rampant use and also shows this can be strongly linked to the growing antibiotic resistance in humans in India," according to Bhushan.

As a consequence, drugs consumed by humans lose effectiveness and, in turn, newer antibiotics would have to be discovered. However, no new class of antibiotic has come to market since the 1980s.

Certain antibiotics detected even had fatal consequences. For instance, an antibiotic named fluoroquinolone were found in 28.6 per cent of the chicken samples tested.

"Resistance to a class of antibiotics, for instance fluoroquinolone, has fatal consequences. Fluoroquinolone antibiotics are prominently used to combat infections in intensive care units. Treating fatal diseases like sepsis, pneumonia and tuberculosis (TB) are becoming tough because microbes that cause these diseases are increasingly becoming resistant to fluoroquinolones," the survey said.

In value terms, the overall poultry market is estimated at about ₹58,000 crore at the wholesale price level, and is growing at around 8 per cent per annum, according to a report released by rating agency ICRA in 2014. According to Planning Commission documents, the per capita chicken consumption in India was around three kg in 2010, compared to 0.16 kg in 1961.



Times of India ND 31/07/2014 P-19

Driverless cars on UK roads in '15

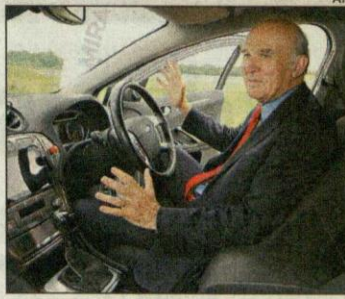
Govt Announces £10m Fund For Researchers Working On Project

Kounteya.Sinha@timesgroup.com

London: The UK government on Wednesday gave the green light for driverless cars to roll out on public roads for testing from next year. Business secretary Vince Cable announced a £10 million fund for driverless car researchers.

"The excellence of our scientists and engineers has established the UK as a pioneer in the development of driverless vehicles through pilot projects," he said. "Today's announcement will see driverless cars take to our streets in less than six months, putting us at the forefront of this transformational technology."

Three cities will be selected to host driverless car trials, with each test to last between 18 and 36 months starting in January 2015.



ON FAST TRACK: UK's business secretary Vince Cable test rides a driverless car on Wednesday

Ministers have also launched a review to look at current road regulations to establish how the UK can remain at the forefront of driverless car technology and ensure there is an appropriate regime for testing such cars in the country.

Two areas of driverless technology will be covered in the review: cars with a qualified driver who can take over control of the driverless vehicle and fully autonomous vehicles where there is no driver. "Driverless cars have huge potential to transform the UK's transport network — they could improve safety, reduce congestion and lower emissions, particularly CO2," said transport minister Claire Perry. "We are determined to ensure driverless cars can fulfil this potential." Science minister Greg Clark said UK was brilliantly placed to lead the world in driverless technology. "It combines our strengths in cars, satellites, big data and urban design," said Clark.

Currently, autonomous vehicles are only allowed on private roads, with the change in laws

bringing UK in line with countries such as Japan, Singapore and Germany. In America, driverless cars have been tested on public roads for months, with Google's driverless cars racking up more than 300,000 miles in California alone.

Scientists from Oxford University are in advanced stages of testing the first driverless car on UK roads. The vehicle, a modified BAE Wildcat military jeep, will be programmed with a three-dimensional map of routes around Oxford. The robotic car uses a series of sensors, including cameras and lasers, to calculate its exact location. It can sense the presence of other vehicles on the road and take avoiding action if necessary, something that driverless cars equipped with GPS-based technology have been unable to do.

Times of India ND 31/07/2014

P-19

First malaria vaccine may be ready next year

Kounteya.Sinha@timesgroup.com

London: The world's first malaria vaccine will be available in the market by next year. Pharma company GSK has submitted a regulatory application to the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for its malaria vaccine candidate, RTS,S.

It will be exclusively for use against the *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria parasite, which is most prevalent in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Around 90% of estimated deaths from malaria occur in SSA, and 77% of these are children under the age of 5.

Data from the phase III vaccine trial programme conducted at 13 African research centres in eight African countries (Burkina Faso, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Tanzania) including over 16,000 infants and young children have also been included to support the filing.

Results from a large-scale Phase III trial showed that over 18 months of follow-up, children aged 5-17 months at first vaccination with RTS,S experienced 46% fewer cases of clinical malaria, compared to children immunized with a control vaccine.

An average of 941 cases of clinical malaria were prevented over 18 months of follow-up for every 1,000 children vaccinated in this age group. Severe malaria cases were reduced by 36%; 21 cases of severe malaria were prevented over 18 months of follow-up for every 1,000 children vaccinated. Malaria hospitalizations were reduced by 42%.

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

IIT Bombay Orders 1,000 Low Cost Netbook Computers to Conduct a Pilot Study

MUMBAI, July 30, 2014 /PRNewswire/ --

<http://www.prnewswire.co.in/news-releases/iit-bombay-orders-1000-low-cost-netbook-computers-to-conduct-a-pilot-study-269162951.html>

Computing resources are no more a luxury but are a necessity in education. Lack of adequate computing resources hamper quality of education and hinder technological innovation. While low cost tablet computers, such as Aakash, are sufficient for most students to access educational material, for the creators, a larger screen and a keyboard become indispensable. Taking cognisance of this, many state governments have gone on to issue laptops and netbooks to their students. To make such efforts financially sustainable, it is required to keep the cost of these systems low. Availability of a computer system does not imply effective use of it. If our creators or makers have to make effective use of computers, we also have to come up with suitable methodologies to train them and give aftersales support, especially on the use of software.

Indian Institute of Technology Bombay will be conducting a pilot study on low cost netbook computers to address both the issues mentioned above. One of the objectives of this study is whether a low cost netbook computer is sufficient for the needs of our student programmers. The other objective of this study is to explore ways of establishing an ecosystem that will create, train and support the student programmers. To this end, 1,000 low cost netbook computers are proposed to be acquired in the first instance, as a pilot study.

Professor Kannan, IIT Bombay, and one of the investigators of Aakash Project, says, "The pilot project is targeted at makers - those who write computer programs. For us to become a developed nation, it is imperative

to [invest](#) in students who can create technology." IIT Bombay has already issued a tender to purchase netbook computers. Details of the tender are available at this IIT Bombay website: <http://www1.iitb.ac.in/stores/tender/>

This initiative is funded by the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India.

About NMEICT

The National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) seeks to meet learning needs of 500+ million Indians through technology. Visit: www.sakshat.ac.in

About IIT Bombay

Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, the second IIT to be set up in 1958, is recognised worldwide as a leader in the field of engineering education and research. It is reputed for the quality of its faculty and the outstanding calibre of students graduating from its undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. The institute has a total of 15 academic departments, ten centres, one school and four interdisciplinary programmes. Over the last five decades, more than 46,000 engineers and scientists have graduated from the institute. It is served by more than 600 faculty members considered not only amongst the best within the country, but are also highly recognised in the world for achievements in the field of education and research. Today the institute is recognized as one of the centres of academic excellence in the country. Over the years, there has been dynamic progress at IIT Bombay in both academic and research activities, including a parallel improvement in facilities and infrastructure to keep it on par with the best institutions in the world. Visit: www.iitb.ac.in

Media Contact: Prabhakar Deshpande, prabhakar@akashlabs.org, +91-9821089074, Consultant, Akash Labs

Indo-US group to work very closely on climate change: Prakash Javadekar

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/indo-us-group-to-work-very-closely-on-climate-change-prakash-javadekar/articleshow/39313678.cms>

NEW DELHI: Terming the Indo-US Joint Working Group as an "important platform" for addressing environment and sustainable development concerns, Environment minister Prakash Javadekar today said the group needs to work "very closely" and develop common understanding and balanced package for post 2020 period.

UGC asked not to fund animal experiments

[Vijay Singh](#), TNN | Jul 31, 2014, 01.26 AM IST

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/UGC-asked-not-to-fund-animal-experiments/articleshow/39318507.cms>

MUMBAI: A city activist recently wrote to the University Grants Commission that its grants and [funds](#) are used on repetitive, outdated and cruel animal experiments.

Dharmesh Solanki urged the UGC to stop giving grants and [funds](#) to applicants for unimportant animal tests. He said millions of animals are killed every year despite technological alternatives.

"Using computer models and other modern alternatives will help students learn better and faster and will save the lives of countless animals," he said.

He said universities and colleges kept animal houses in a pathetic condition, at the mercy of students. "There are no full-time paid attendants employed for the day-to-day maintenance of the animal houses," he said, adding that no one visits the houses on holidays to ensure there is adequate water and food.

He urged the National Assessment and Accreditation Council not to look at institutions with an animal house