

Newspaper Clips June 1, 2016

Deccan Herald ND 01.06.2015 P-7

'Orca', IIT Bombay's fastest car

» After successfully launching four electric cars, IIT Bombay Racing has launched their new car "Orca" at the IIT-Bombay campus at Powai, *DHNS* reports from Mumbai.

Orca, which means a killer whale, has been designed to get the maximum acceleration possible.

With a theoretical acceleration of 0 to 100 kmph in 3.47 seconds, Orca is much faster than many models of powerful cars of companies

like Porsche, Tesla and Lamborghini.

The IIT Bombay Racing is a team of 75 students from IIT Bombay, united by passion to design and fabricate electric race cars and driven to represent India at the Formula Student UK (FSUK).

These students range from 10 different engineering disciplines. The team has a vision to "revolutionise electric mobility in India—focusing on sustainable technologies and Innovation".

Tribune ND 01.06.2016 P-28

IIT aspirant ends life in Kota, 5th case this year

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE & PTI

KOTA (RAJ), MAY 31

A 17-year-old IIT aspirant studying at a coaching institute here allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself from a ceiling fan at his rented room in Mahaveer Nagar area.

It was the fifth such incident in the coaching hub since January, said Kota SP Sawai Singh Godara.

Nirmal Yogi, a Class XII student and a resident of Sakeri village in Sawai Madhopur district, hanged himself last night using a towel, the police said.

The body was sent to a hospital for post-mortem this morning, the police said, adding no suicide note was recovered. A probe has been launched in the matter to ascertain the reason behind his taking the step.

Another student had last month ended her life despite having cracked the IIT-JEE (mains). The girl

Guv for correction panel

- Rajasthan Governor Kalyan Singh has suggested the state govt to form a panel to regulate private institutes in coaching hub Kota
- The Governor says the panel should take steps to reduce pressure on students
- In her suicide note, a girl had last month asked the govt to shut coaching institutes

had, in a suicide note, said she was not able to put up with the depression and stress that she had been experiencing while taking coaching, and that the government should shut coaching institutes.

In the wake of increasing cases of suicides by students, Rajasthan Governor Kalyan Singh had recently said a panel should be formed to regulate coaching institutes. "The panel should also decide the admission procedure to these institutes and direct them to reduce the pressure on students," he had said.

Times of India ND 01.06.2016 P-15

3 IITians face 10-hr 'racial profiling' ordeal in Italy¹⁵

Hemali Chhapia
@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Three sophomore IITians — one from IIT Bombay and two from IIT Delhi — who were waiting to take a connecting train from Ventimiglia, were rounded up by local Italian security for passport verification on Monday. Though they were holding their identity papers, the three were flown 1,100km down south to Bari with several other people of varied nationalities, many of whom were not carrying their passports.

Terming this a case of "blatant racial profiling", students from the campuses have condemned the act of the Italian authorities.

The three students, all pursuing computer science, who are interning with Inria Sophia Antipolis-Méditerranée since early May, had travelled to the port city of Genoa for the weekend.

Uday Kusupati, from IIT Bombay, and Akshit Goyal and Deepak Bhatt from IIT Delhi, have now submitted a detailed letter about their experience to the Indian embassy there and are now in Rome. They will be flown down to Nice, France, on Wednesday morning. Italian consul general Ugo Ciarlatani said, "The only thing I can tell you is that



The students — one from IIT Bombay (in pic) and two from the Delhi institute — were flown 1,100km down from the Italian town of Ventimiglia to Bari despite possessing their passports and identity proofs

Italians are not racists at all as you can see with the huge numbers of Syrians coming to Italy everyday."

The panic started when the local Italian security clamped down on people at the Ventimiglia station. "While the security guards could not speak English, all these three students tried to show their passports but were taken away," said Shreerang Javadekar, editor of the on-campus Insight magazine.

The trio, along with some other Africans and Pakistanis, was flown to Bari, Italy, on a flight. "There they managed to contact their families and Indian colleagues followed by around 10 hours of no contact whatsoever. The authorities and their professor guides were contacted by the families and at 10:30pm IST, they were informed that a "passport

verification" was under way. Personnel from the Indian embassy finally intervened and defused the situation," added Javadekar.

"No reason was given for being flown to Bari. They said their IDs would be checked only in Bari. Uday contacted me and our family and their intern colleagues in France. The colleagues and professors helped out by contacting the embassy," said a family member.

A dean said that students need to carry their passports or a copy of the same at all times in Europe. Officials from the Indian embassy calmed the family members who were worried about their sons. They were taken to Rome and will be flown back to Nice at the Italian government's expense. Students are planning to file a complaint for the "uncalled for" trouble.

No increase in workload of teachers: UGC

MHRD Gets Order Rescinded

Rajesh Mehta



Teachers of central universities had been protesting against the order

Manash.Gohain
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: There wouldn't be any increase in the workload of teachers. Following the intervention of the ministry of human resource development, the University Grants Commission announced on Tuesday that the overall workload of professors, including assistant and associate professor, would remain unchanged. Teachers of central universities had been protesting over the amended policy notified by UGC earlier in May.

MHRD had said on Sunday that a meeting of stakeholders would be convened for discussing the issue. The meeting would now happen on June 6 where the issue of Academic Performance Indicators score for promotion of university teachers would also be taken up.

The UGC statement read, "The overall workload of assistant professors and associate professors/professors in full employment will remain un-

changed and the direct teaching-learning hours per week to be devoted by assistant professors (16 hours) and associate professors/professors (14 hours) too would remain."

Reacting to the development, J Khuntiya, chairman, Academics of Action and Development (Rathi) of Delhi University, said, "Time for MHRD to come out with a clean education policy without creating further uncertainty after this welcome rollback. Higher education cannot afford ill-conceived experimentation that attacks the very existence of teachers."

He added, "Now the priority should be completing the appointment process and scrapping the highly irrational API which has been created to deny promotion. Is the point system applicable to the civil services? If not, then why for teachers? There cannot be differential treatment for teachers with respect to distribution of resources. Agitation will continue till API is also rolled back."

Business Line ND 01.06.2016 P-1

Seshasayee, Parekh, Munjal fail Smriti Irani's 'test' for IIM-A head

Seen as assault on B-school autonomy

CHETNA MEHRA
NAVADHA PANDEY

New Delhi, May 31

The reported rejection by the Smriti Irani-headed Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry of three corporate stalwarts shortlisted by a panel for appointment as Chairperson of IIM-Ahmedabad is being seen as a threat to the autonomy of India's premier business school.

According to reports, a three-member search committee, headed by former IIM-A Chairman and L&T CMD AM Naik, had suggested three names for the top post: Chairman of the Board of Directors of Infosys R. Seshasayee, Chairman of HDFC Deepak Parekh, and Hero MotoCorp CMD Pawan Munjal.

"The file notings gave no reason for the rejection of the three names," a Ministry source told *BusinessLine*. "A new search panel will be constituted by the IIM-A board for nominating more names," the source added.

Another source said the decision had been made at the topmost level in the Ministry.



Smriti Irani, Union HRD Minister

Government officials and previous IIM-A Directors refused to comment on the issue, but top educationists, speaking on condition of anonymity, expressed their concern that the effort was to appoint a chairperson who is ideologically aligned with the NDA government. This, they fear, may jeopardise the autonomy of the B-school.

"By rejecting IIM-A's recommendations, the government appears to be trying to control the B-school's functioning at the macro level," said a well-known educationist and an IIM-A alumnus, speaking on condition of anonymity. "MHRD may want to put its own people at the helm of affairs by directing the move."

Pattern of behaviour

Such fears are amplified by the government's earlier ef-

forts — to appoint an IIM Council with oversight powers; the drafting of an IIM Bill, 2015, which sought to "regulate" B-schools; and the effort to intervene in the fee structure of IIMs — which were seen as intended to erode the IIMs' autonomy.

Some experts, however, seem inclined to give the government the benefit of the doubt. "While IIM-A has the flexibility to suggest the names, it is up to MHRD to select or reject those names," said Kamal Singh, Director-General, National Human Resource Development Network. "At the same time, the move won't affect the institute's autonomy as the new recommendations will also come from within."

The government should have considered at least one of the candidates, Singh added.

The position of IIM-A Chairman has been vacant since January, when AM Naik stepped down. Cadila Healthcare CMD Pankaj Patel is currently Interim Chairman, appointed by the IIM-A's governing board.

E-mails sent to Smriti Irani's office and to the Department of Higher Education went unanswered.

Hindustan Times ND 01.06.2016 P-12

SC pulls up AICTE for delaying approval to UP technical colleges

Bhadra Sinha

• bhadra.sinha@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Tuesday pulled up the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for delaying grant of approval to technical colleges and violating the schedule fixed by it for the purpose.

"We can exhibit exemplary ruthlessness...Don't tinker with our verdict. We are not sitting here for nothing," a vacation bench of justices PC Ghose and Amitava Roy said after counsel for Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Technical University - a nodal university of technical colleges in UP - referred to the violation by AICTE of schedule fixed by

the TOP court in 2012.

The delay in approval has forced the UP university to postpone the counselling session for students because it has not completed verification process of the colleges. Verification is must before the university gives affiliation to the colleges once AICTE gives its approval.

In this case when the university started verifying the colleges it learnt there were about 20,000 fake teachers in 612 colleges. The university said it could not give affiliation to such colleges and had moved the SC for more time to complete the verification process.

AICTE was to give the list of approved colleges to the university by April 10 which was ulti-

mately done on May 7. According to a SC 2012 verdict, universities had to compete the verification by May 15 for grant of affiliation.

The bench extended the time till June 10 for granting or denying approvals to 612 engineering and polytechnic colleges across Uttar Pradesh after the university's counsel Amitesh Kumar told the bench it was not in a position to follow the SC calendar because of the lapse on the part of AICTE. However, the SC clarified that it was a "one time exception" and can't be treated as precedent.

"We are final as far as law is concerned. We will issue contempt to you. Let it be clear to all concerned. We know how to enforce our order," the bench said.