Newspaper Clips
June 11, 2015

Kerala Technological University moots IIT Delhi director as chairman

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/thiruvananthapuram/Kerala-Technological-University-moots-IIT-Delhi-director-as-chairman/articleshow/47610192.cms

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The newly-formed Kerala Technological University (KTU) has proposed the name of IIT Delhi director Raghunath K Shevgaonkar as its chairman. A reputed academician, Shevgaonkar had been in the news recently after he expressed his willingness to quit the IIT director post following differences of opinion with the Narendra Modi government.

The technological university, according to sources, had recommended the name of Shevgaonkar immediately after governor P Sathasivam rejected the state government recommendation to consider former SEBI chairman M Damodaran for the post a couple of months ago.

Sources said education minister P K Abdu Rabb had ratified the proposal to appoint Shevgaonkar as the chairman. The file is pending with Chandy now. It will have to be forwarded to the governor for his approval.

The governor had struck down the recommendation of Damodaran on the grounds that he was not an academician. The university authorities had sought the consent of Shevgaonkar before recommending his name.

The government has, meanwhile, softened its stand on the post of technological university chairman following criticism from both the ruling and opposition benches. Rabb informed the assembly on Monday that the government was ready to revisit the provision of chairman in the new university though it was conceived as an ornamental post, aimed at utilizing the academic and industrial exposure of the person.

The technological university had recommended the name of Shevgaonkar immediately after governor P Sathasivam rejected the state government recommendation to consider former SEBI chairman M Damodaran for the post a couple of months ago

Tribune ND 11/06/2015   P-11

India slips in Asia varsity rankings; China on top

ADITI TANDON
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

India has lost heavily in the latest Asia University Rankings of Times Higher Education, while China, with the highest number of institutions in Asia's top 100, has replaced Japan as the continent's higher education powerhouse.

China has 21 universities in the table followed by Japan with 19, South Korea 13 and India with only nine (one down from 10 last year).

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, is India's top-ranked institution at the 37th position in Asia's

Asia's top varsities

University of Tokyo (Japan), National University of Singapore, University of Hong Kong, Peking University, China, and Tsinghua University, China

IISc-B upstages PU as No. 1 in India

INSTITUTE	ASIAN RANK
IISc-Bangalore	37
≪ PU-Chandigarh	38
IIT-Roorkee	55
IIT-Bombay	57
IIT-Delhi	65
IIT-Kharagpur	69
IIT-Madras	78
Aligarh Muslim University	90
Jawaharlal Nehru University	96

top 100. Panjab University, Chandigarh, last year's leader, has slipped six ranks over 2014 to finish as India's second this year. It is ranked 38th in the Asian table. Five Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) led by IIT-Roorkee (55th) dominate India's representation in the rankings which also comprise Aligarh Muslim University (90th) and Jawaharlal Nehru University (96th).

The IIT-Kharagpur has lost 24 ranks. It slipped from the 45th rank last year to the 69th now. The IIT-Delhi is six slots down from 59th to 65th; the IIT-Madras was 76th last year and is 78th now; while AMU and JNU have slipped 10 and six positions, respectively, indicating negative trend for the country's education sector.

"It is cause for concern that India has lost ground in rankings. Three institutions that comfortably made to the top 100 list last year (IIT-Guwahati, IIT-Kanpur and Jadavpur University) have been ousted this time. With the country's massive numbers of under-25s putting further pressure on educational resources, it is more crucial than ever that India invests in research and strengthens its academic links or gets left behind," Rankings Editor Phil Baty said today.

He credited China's improvement to its "sustained investments and internationalisation". He asked other nations to follow the China

India slips in Asia varsity rankings

model. Indian institutes, meanwhile, have no place among Asia's top 10, which Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, South Korea and China hold.

Panjab University Vice-Chancellor Arun Grover said, "Majority of the top Asian institutions are research universities, whereas we in India don't care about research. Does India have even one university offering a serious graduate programme that offers an integrated Master's with a PhD in humanities, sciences or technology? Instead of promoting research, the Centre has slashed PhD scholarships. How can you then expect the system to improve?"

On PU's slip, Grover said he, as the head of a fine university, was struggling for funds. "Last year, we got Rs 18 crore less. This year, the UGC hasn't released a rupee of the Central grant because some ABVP people have complained to the HRD Ministry alleging misappropriation of finances by us. My energies are now engaged in telling the Central fact-finding committee that we have done nothing wrong," he said.

Some of the parameters on the basis of which PU was ranked top University of India, in 2014, were industrial outlook, research, industry income and infrstructure and learning environment.

The government recently cut education budgets with HRD Minister Smriti Irani constituting a panel to evolve Indian rankings. Educationists, however, say running away from global competition is not the answer.

The rankings rated institutions on 13 indicators, including research, teaching, knowledge transfer and international activity.

QS University Rankings: Most IITs slip in Asia, IISc emerges as top institute in country

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/QS-University-Rankings-Most-IITs-slip-in-Asia-IISc-emerges-as-top-institute-in-country/articleshow/47620086.cms

Mumbai: Almost all the established IITs in the country, including IIT-Bombay, have seen their QS rankings in Asia slip by a few notches this year. The surprise entrant in the Top 50 list of Asian universities, though, was the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, at the 34th position in Asia and the first in the country.

The institute was not featured in the QS rankings' list before. While Delhi University's rank slipped by 10 positions, Mumbai University jumped from 131 to 125 this year.

QS University Rankings for Asian Institutes/Universities were released on Wednesday.

Mumbai University stood 10th in the country and second among traditional universities after Delhi.

Although IIT-Bombay's overall score is almost consistent, its Asia rank dropped to 46 this year from 41 in 2014. With IISc's entry in the list, IIT-Bombay's rank slipped to the third position in the country, too. IIT-Bombay's overall score, though, remained almost the same at 71.6. While all IITs recorded a drop of three to seven positions in their ranks, IIT-Roorkee plunged to 92 from 70.

An institute professor said IITs need to work on three to four parameters rigorously, including efforts to increase their international students' enrolment. Their ranks in Asia are above 200 in parameters such as international faculty, international students and the faculty-students ratio. IIT-Bombay Director Devang Khakhar remained unavailable for comment. Spokesperson Rashmi Kumar, though, said, "Improvement in rankings has to be a gradual process. Any initiative taken in this regard will take a couple of years to bear results. Although there is a marginal improvement in our overall score and we are ranked highly in Asia when it comes to academic reputation (34) and employer reputation (15), there are certain areas such as citations per faculty and internationalization of campus, where we lag behind but are making concentrated efforts to improve."

Mumbai University has done well in parameters such as employer reputation and papers per faculty. It, though, slipped in terms of faculty-student ratio, the analysis released by the ranking agency has revealed. The Arts and Humanities course offered at the university is ranked 93 in Asia, whereas the Social Sciences and Management is ranked 107—higher than Life Sciences, Engineering and Natural Sciences. "For the past five years, the QS ranking of the University of Mumbai has improved consistently. The trend suggests that it is not a distant dream to rank amongst the first 100," said university vice-chancellor Rajan Welukar.

Eye on elections, Centre pushes IIT, IIM campuses

Brajesh Kumar

■ brajesh.kumar@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: With the battle for Bihar gaining momentum, the BJP government has asked the human resource development (HRD) ministry to expedite the construction of the new IIT campus in Patna, along with pushing for the inaugural session of the IIM in the state this academic year.

One of the eight IITs set up during the UPA regime in 2008, IIT-Patna has been running from a temporary campus. Sources said Prime Minister Narendra Modi may inaugurate the campus on June 30 if the work is complete.

Officials are closely monitoring the progress.

"The work of two academic blocks, two hostel blocks, lecture theatre, workshop and faculty blocks have been completed. We are working overtime to complete the work," a faculty member at IIT-Patna said.

The Centre also wants the inaugural session of IIM in the state for the academic year 2015-16.

Sources said the finance ministry has directed the HRD ministry to start the session from a rented building.

IIM-Patna was one of the five IIMs announced by the NDA government last year.

The work on the campus was affected due to the difference of opinion between the Bihar government and the Centre over the location of the campus.

The inauguration of the new IIT campus by the Prime Minister, and launch of the new IIM will lend heft to the BJP campaign in the state that has brought former rivals JD(U) and RJD together to fight the BJP.

Deccan Herald ND 11/06/2015   P-8

Centre fast-tracks shifting of IIT-Patna

NEW DELHI: The Narendra Modi government is keen on establishing a new Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in Bihar before the state goes for Assembly polls later this year.

An Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), which has been operating from temporary campus in Bihar, will also be shifted to its new campus in Patna by the end of this month or in the first week of July, with the Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry fast-tracking the process.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi may visit Bihar to inaugurate the institute's permanent campus, sources said.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led coalition at the Centre had announced setting of the elite B-school in the state last year. Presenting his maiden

Smriti Irani

Union Budget, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley had also proposed setting up of new IIMs at Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Odissa, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

With elections in Bihar getting closer, sources said, HRD Minister Smriti Irani has asked her officials to speed up the process and roll out the proposed institute at the earliest.

The fast-tracking of process

for establishment of the proposed IIM in Bihar is driven by the BJP's political objectives in the poll-bound state.

"Efforts are on to make the institute operation soon from a temporary campus in Patna," sources said, adding that IIM-Indore will mentor the institute. The setting of the proposed B-school in Bihar has so far been stuck in the finalisation of location for the the institute. While Bihar government was for setting up of the institute in Gaya, Magadh University in the district refused to part with its land for the purpose.

The HRD Ministry was hesitant on the choice of the location for proposed institute but a site selection committee put its weight on the Bihar government's proposal to set up the institute in Gaya. The commit-

tee had also visited a possible location in Patna.

The HRD Ministry was hoping to start all the six new IIMs from this academic session. The IIMs even mentioned on its website of combined aptitude test (CAT) that academic session of the six new IIMs would start from 2015-16. But, the fate of the new institutes remained unclear due to finalisation of location for permanent campuses.

If the proposed IIM is set up in Bihar, it will be an exception as the HRD Ministry is contemplating not to start proposed new IITs in Jammu, Chhattisgarh and Goa and IIMs in Punjab and Odisha this year as the respective state governments have failed to provide suitable land for their campuses.

DH News Service

Dainik Bhaskar ND 11/06/2015
P-11

अगस्त में नए कैंपस में शिफ्ट होगा आईआईटी, हैदराबाद

इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी, हैदराबाद का नया कैंपस लगभग तैयार हो चुका है और अगस्त महीने में संस्थान नए कैंपस से काम करने लगेगा। नया कैंपस कांदी गांव में बनाया गया है। आईआईटी, हैदराबाद का संचालन फिलहाल मेढक जिले के येदुमैलारम से हो रहा है। नए कैंपस में एकेडमिक ब्लॉक, हॉस्टल, डाइनिंग हॉल आदि तैयार हो चुके हैं। निर्माण कार्य का एक छोटा हिस्सा बाकी है जिसके 2016 तक पूरा होने की उम्मीद है। संस्थान के 14 डिपार्टमेंट में करीब 1900 छात्र पढ़ते हैं और 145 फैकल्टी मौजूद हैं। नए कैंपस में शिफ्ट होने के बाद संस्थान में यूजी और पीजी कोर्सेस में छात्रों की संख्या बढ़ाने पर भी विचार किया जा रहा है। हालांकि, कैंपस शिफ्ट होने के बाद भी शुरुआत में कुछ डिपार्टमेंट पुराने कैंपस से ही काम करेंगे।

Hindustan ND 11/06/2015 P-1

आईआईएम में अगले साल से एमबीए

नई दिल्ली | मदन जैड़ा

भारतीय प्रबंधन संस्थानों (आईआईएम) में अगले साल से ज्यादा लोगों को पढ़ने का मौका मिलेगा, क्योंकि ये संस्थान एमबीए का डिग्री कोर्स भी शुरू कर पाएंगे। अभी तक इनके पास डिग्री कोर्स चलाने की कानूनी शक्ति नहीं थी और वे छात्रों को डिप्लोमा देते थे। नए कानून से उन्हें डिग्री देने का अधिकार मिलेगा।

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने आईआईएम विधेयक तैयार कर लिया है और इसे जनता की प्रतिक्रिया के लिए जारी किया है। यह विधेयक आईआईएम को कानूनी स्वरूप प्रदान करेगा, जिससे वे डिग्री दे सकेंगे। इन संस्थानों की स्थापना किसी कानून के तहत नहीं हुई है। वही संस्थान डिग्री दे सकता है जो किसी केंद्रीय या राज्य कानून के जरिये स्थापित किया

13 आईआईएम चल रहे हैं फिलहाल | **06** के करीब संस्थान स्थापित होने की प्रक्रिया में

आईआईटी की तर्ज पर काम करेंगे

विधेयक में आईआईएम का संचालन आईआईटी की तर्ज पर करने का प्रावधान भी किया गया है। आईआईएम काउंसिल का चेयरमैन मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री को बनाया जाएगा। आईआईटी काउंसिल भी इसी प्रकार कार्य करती है लेकिन आईआईटी, आईआईएम में सरकार का सीधा दखल नहीं होता है।

गया हो। इसलिए आईआईएम अभी पोस्ट ग्रेजुएट डिप्लोमा देता है।

मंत्रालय के एक शीर्ष अधिकारी ने बताया कि विधेयक को इसी साल पारित कराए जाने की तैयारी है ताकि अगले सत्र से आईआईएम में एमबीए कोर्स शुरू किया जा सके। अधिकारी के मुताबिक पीजीडीएम कोर्स को भी जारी रखा

जाएगा। आईआईएम के पोस्ट ग्रेजुएट डिप्लोमा की मान्यता काफी है लेकिन डिग्री का दर्जा नहीं होने के कारण दूसरे देशों से आने वाले छात्रों को कई बार दिक्कतों का सामना करना पड़ता है। इसलिए लंबे समय से आईआईएम को कानून के जरिये संचालित करने की मांग की जा रही थी।

Indian Express ND 11/06/2015

P-7

UGC wants 'action taken' report from universities, colleges

MIHIKA BASU
MUMBAI, JUNE 10

IN A first, the University Grants Commission has asked colleges and universities to send an 'action taken' report on 'preparations' being done by them to observe International Yoga Day on June 21. The UGC, in the past instances, had asked universities and colleges to submit such 'action taken' reports only after the event was over, like in the case of 'good governance day' observed in December.

"This is in continuation of my earlier letters regarding observance of International Day of Yoga on June 21 in a befitting manner... Accordingly, you are requested to kindly observe the day by adopting the above mentioned activities in your esteemed university and affiliated colleges and send action taken of the preparation for holding this event to UGC by email," says a letter signed by UGC secretary Jaspal Sandhu.

The letter, which lists a series of activities that can be undertaken, says that in the morning "a demo by yoga practitioners" can be organised on yoga day. "The willing students and faculties of the universities will practice yoga as shown by the practitioners. The other students or faculties will, however, observe the same. The best participants of the yoga session will be awarded prizes and certificates in a function to be organised on that day. Yoga exhibition on yogic postures shall be organised in a big hall. The banners in this regard will be displayed for awareness in the campus," says the guidelines.

The notice, which has been circulated by Mumbai University to its affiliated colleges, also says an online essay competition can be organised and the best students shall be awarded with prizes and certificates.

According to a Mumbai University official, yoga day will be observed in various stages at the university. Prior to the actual day on June 21, 250 NSS volunteers, who are students from affiliated colleges of the university, are being trained as yoga practitioners.

Towards retaining scholars

Though our higher education sector has rapidly expanded, globally significant contributions from this sector are yet to emerge.

By P M Mathew

Recently, speaking at the 10th convocation of Mizoram University, President Pranab Mukherjee stated that our higher education system, though capable of producing world-class scholars, loses them to foreign universities. According to him, a serious scrutiny is necessary to counter this avoidable trend.

Though our higher education sector has rapidly expanded over the last few years, globally significant contributions from this sector are yet to emerge from India. According to the 2015 Times Higher Education (THE) rankings released recently, not a single Indian university has made it to the prestigious world reputation rankings. The ranking of the top 100 world universities published by the Times Higher Education Supplement (THES) in 2014 also included none from India.

The survey finds 15 Asian universities from China, South Korea, Japan and Hong Kong occupying respectable places.

On India's poor performance, THES (Times Higher Education Supplement) editor Phil Baty commented last year, "We believe research is the key to building reputation. India seems to be more focused on teaching, building capacity and bringing in more students." This year, he said "It is really a matter of concern that a country of India's great intellectual history does not have a single university that is regarded by academics globally as being among the world's most prestigious."

According to him, strong universities are crucial for the success of developing nations – helping to retain top talent in the country and prevent brain drain, attract investment, develop highly skilled future leaders and create new knowledge and drive the knowledge economy.

Scholars across the world are attracted to an institution only if they recognise it as an excellent teaching and research institution that is capable of providing conducive working environment. Emigration of scholars could be reduced if they are provided better financial and non-financial incentives. It is quite natural that resources will be moving to places where they are better rewarded.

Indian talent is more recognised overseas and where there is a chance to prove and succeed, talent moves there. Celebrated Nobel laureate economist Amartya Sen is a case in point. But we should not turn out to be a nation using its scarce resources to supply high profile scholars to the rest of the world jeopardising our own research and development priorities. Recent researches have pointed out that it is mainly the labour market and the wage premium on education that are key to attracting highly skilled talents. The substantial research and development spending in the universities in developed countries also induces greater inflow of highly skilled migrants to those countries.

India loses most highly skilled scholars and workers to foreign markets. In 2000, 9.9 per cent of the total number of physicians trained in the country was going abroad. The emigration of health professionals has negative effects on India, especially in rural areas where there is scarcity of skilled doctors. One of the most affected sectors is genetic engineering and biotechnology as 90 per cent of post graduates in this field go to the US after the completion of their studies in India. The US remains the most important host country of highly skilled Indian migrants with more than 80 per cent of Indian skilled migration to all developed countries. In the host countries, Indian migrants are among the best educated and highest earning group.

For shortage of good academic institutions, thousands of meritorious students prefer foreign varsities. According to a recent report, Indians are spending nearly $1 billion on higher education abroad. This drain on scarce national resources could be reduced considerably if we are capable of providing world-class educational opportunities in India.

Since top universities are essential in retaining talent in the country and prevent brain drain, it should be the endeavour of developing nations like India to strive for world-class universities. Only world-class institutions can attract and retain world-class scholars.

Top-notch varsities

As Philip G Altbach of Boston University says top-notch varsities feature highly qualified faculty, excellence in research, quality teaching, high levels of government and non-government funding sources, international and highly talented students, academic freedom, well-defined autonomous governance structures, and well-equipped facilities for teaching, research, administration, and student life.

The setting up of 14 world-class varsities of excellence under the Ministry of Human Resource Development's "brain gain" policy in the 11th plan (2007-2012) has not shown much improvement. It should also be recognised that outstanding teachers who can make substantive contributions to teaching and research create world-class universities.

Brain drain can create shortages of skills and it represents a loss of investment. To reap the full benefits of initial investments in skills, countries where brain drain is a major concern should retain their skilled workers by improving labour-market conditions locally. The best way to prevent brain drain is to provide incentives to stay, rather than by imposing coercive measures to prevent emigration.

In many research institutions, caste-based appointments and promotions are road blocks to sincere efforts and innovations. Nepotism is a major demotivator for genuinely talented people who simply migrate to places where they are valued and respected. Bureaucratic hassles in government and university departments act as major impediments in carrying out independent serious research.

The environment in many university departments is not conducive for scholarly work. Plagiarism, facilitated by the cut and paste technology results in below average research outputs. Growing commercialisation of research cuts at the very root of quality research. It is also important to ensure an environment of industriousness, conducive to entrepreneurship, research, innovation and transparent administration.

(The writer is a Bengaluru-based professor, researcher and consultant in economics)

Academia should focus on fundamental research: IIT experts

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/academia-should-focus-on-fundamental-research-iit-experts-115060900439_1.html

The academia should focus on fundamental research to bring disruptive technology innovations rather than just becoming an extended arm of the industry, believe experts at IIT.

"Disruptive technology refers to any enhanced or completely new technology that replaces and disrupts an existing technology, rendering it obsolete. It is designed to succeed similar technology that is already in use," said Arun Kumar Singh, Assistant Professor, IIT-Jodhpur.

Singh was moderating a discussion on "How to improve engagements of the IITs in the National Technology Mission" at the Ninth National Frontiers of Engineering Symposium here.

It is the need of the hour that we go beyond existing technologies keeping future in mind and pave way for accelerated development of the country in all walks by finding the innovative tech solutions to meet the expectations from the National Technology Mission, he said.

The panelists, however, while emphasising the intense researches, pointed that the academic researches should focus on fundamental aspects of science and technology whereas the industrial researches should focus more on industrial innovations with short terms goals targeted at the market gains.

"There is a greater need to build an eco-system where industry and academia can work together on collaborative projects with long term research objectives of new technology developments along with some short term goals that address the issues faced by the industry," said the Director of IIT Jodhpur CVR Murti.

The panelists also observed that the academic research must also focus on prototyping to increase the chances of taking the laboratory research to the product level.

"One possible option for the prototyping will be use of 3D printing, potentially new material enhancements can improve usability of such prototypes," said Singh.

The symposium concluded on a consensus that there should be regular interactions between academia and industry with the Indian National Academy of Engineers playing an important role in development of the framework for the same.

Ranjan Banerjee appointed dean of SP Jain Institute of Management

http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/education/ranjan-banerjee-appointed-dean-of-sp-jain-institute-of-management/articleshow/47612506.cms

MUMBAI: Premier business school SP Jain Institute of Management & Research (SPJIMR) has appointed Ranjan Banerjee as its new dean, the institute announced in a press release on Wednesday.

Banerjee took office on June 6, and moved quickly to announce a series of steps that would make him approachable, enable a two-way communications process, create an environment of mutual trust and build a culture of working together with the faculty, staff, alumni, students and other stakeholders to chart the way forward, the release said. "Each day so far has been enjoyable, challenging and full of promise. There is much to do, and so much strength to build upon," Banerjee said. One of the first formal functions of Banerjee was a welcome address to batch 2015-2017 of PGDM, which is SPJIMR's oldest programme.

In a message to the batch, which was inaugurated Tuesday, Banerjee said: "I would urge you to pay as much attention to the values component that underlines our curriculum, as you do to the more conventional academic input."
Banerjee holds a BTech from IIT Bombay, an MBA from IIM Calcutta and a PhD in Management from the Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota, US. He has worked for leading FMCG companies like Asian Paints, Vadilal and Hindustan UnileverBSE 1.06 %. He was Group COO of Insta Worldwide.
Banerjee consults with leading Indian and multinational companies like BASF, Legrand, Vodafone, AXA, Philips, Madura Garments, etc. His last assignment was as Founder and CEO of Renaissance Strategic Consultants.

For the past 19 years he has been teaching courses on marketing, strategy, behavioural economics, innovation, at leading Indian and international institutes like IIM Calcutta, Great Lakes, Symbiosis, IIT-SOM, Singapore Management University and Carlson School of Management, US.
He has published articles in Harvard Business Review online.
Banerjee brings with him a combination of extensive business, corporate training, academic and consulting experience and insight.