

Newspaper Clips

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P-10

IIMB professor named on Mindtree board

SAMEER RANJAN BAKSHI

Bangalore

MINDTREE on Monday roped in Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB), academican professor Pankaj Chandra, as its director in board. Chandra is the latest in the series of academicians joining boards of IT firms.

Indian IT firms, aim to be world class in terms of talents and quality, are being guided by lessons from universities and academicians.

Professor Chandra is the second academican currently serving Mindtree board, top IT majors TCS, Infosys and Wipro are already enriched with the huge research experiences of academicians, with Infosys leading the pack.

sameerrbakshi
@mydigita lfc.com

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P-1 (htEducation)

Semester system for UG courses at Jamia

Jamia Millia Islamia VC Najeeb Jung talks about implementing the semester system and elaborates on other plans

Garima Upadhyay

■ garima.upadhyay@hindustantimes.com

Why has the university decided to shift to semester-based learning?

The semester system is not new to Jamia. For long, we have had a semester system at research levels – the MPhil course work stage, for instance. We have also been successfully running a semester system in the faculty of engineering and technology for several years now.

Besides, two years ago we implemented the semester system at the postgraduate level and all our postgraduate programmes run in the semester mode now.

Therefore, shifting to the semester mode has not been a recent step for our university. However, what must be added is that there are several advantages of the semester system such as continuous assessment, possibility of tweaking courses keeping the level of students in mind, in other words making it more student-centric. In any case, it is a universal practice, which is followed in all parts of the world. It is not something entirely new to us.

How will the university benefit from the new model?

We have seen the benefits of the semester system in our university. Rather than burdening the students once a year with evaluation etc, the semester system helps us spread the process of learning and evaluation evenly all through the year. There is greater engagement with the teaching-learning process in a semester system with class participation and continuous assessments being an inte-



gral part of it. It also offers flexibility as compared to the annual system and offers students the possibility of opting for courses in cognate disciplines and developing a multidisciplinary approach to their object of study. It makes the process of learning all the more intensive.

What changes has the curriculum witnessed? Which courses have been restructured?

Needless to say that with semesterisation, one needs to adopt the whole philosophy of semesterisation which entails not just restructuring the curricula but also modes of assessment, preparation of study material etc. My faculty members have been engaged in this process for the last couple of years and have deliberated over the structure of the curricula. This process has also given them a chance to rethink the objectives of their field of study. It has given them an

Semester system for UG courses at Jamia

opportunity to revisit questions such as pedagogical methods to be adopted, updating course curricula keeping in mind changing trends across the world, including several new areas of study, adopting newer techniques of evaluation, looking at newer sources of information etc. All in all, it has been a period of churning and I am sure it will bear fruits in the years to come.

Will the semesters be implemented in phases?

We are going to introduce it at the undergraduate level in July this year. We have made necessary preparations for that. My teachers have been working hard for the last couple of years to make the transition as smooth as possible from an annual mode to the semester mode for undergraduate courses. It must be added that they have experience of the semester mode at the postgraduate level, which has helped their decisions.

How has the faculty responded to the change?

The faculty has made a very smooth transition from the annual to the semester mode. They have made all the preparations required for this switch. They have learnt from each other and have adopted the best practices followed in our university

and elsewhere. It has been a period of a lot of hard work for them but this process will go on to necessarily benefit the student community.

Delhi University's experiment with the semester system is yet to bear fruits. Do you think the shift is going to benefit the student community? How?

Jamia Millia Islamia has a completely different structure. Unlike Delhi University, which offers affiliation to 80-odd colleges, Jamia does not have affiliating colleges and therefore, the numbers that one is dealing with are completely different in the two universities. All our departments and centres are independent and run their own courses. They can devise their own syllabi, their own mode of evaluation etc — it allows them the flexibility needed in a semester system. I am sure an intensive engagement with one's object of study spread all through the year will certainly benefit the students and the teaching-learning process in general.

Besides, the semester system, what are the other plans of the university for 2012?

We are going to launch new programmes in Afghanistan studies and China studies besides setting up a new centre in nanosciences and nanotechnology in the coming days.

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आईआईटी: क्विक कैलकुलेशन और स्पीड

निर्भय कुमार ॥ आईआईटी की परीक्षा में बैठने वाले हैं तो आप को खुद पर भरोसा रखना जरूरी है। कांसेप्ट को समझने और खुद सवाल हल करने पर ध्यान देना जरूरी है। आईआईटी के ज्यादातर प्रश्न न्युमेरिकल होते हैं। इसलिए स्टूडेंट्स को चाहिए कि वैसे सवाल हल करते रहें। आप जो कर सकते हैं, उसी सवाल को बार-बार हल करते रहने से सोचने की शक्ति नहीं बढ़ेगी। विद्या मंदिर क्लासेज के मोहित बंसल का मानना है कि आईआईटी में क्विक कैलकुलेशन और स्पीड की जरूरत होती है इसलिए कैलकुलेटर की आदत न डालें। दिमाग को तेज बनाएं, ताकि तेजी से कैलकुलेशन कर सकें। फिटजी के सीवीके कल्याण कुमार के मुताबिक तेजी से साथ स्टूडेंट्स को यह भी सुनिश्चित करना चाहिए कि उनसे किसी प्रकार की गलती न हो।



ट्वाय बातें:

- एग्जाम में पहले 15 मिनट में पूरा प्रश्नपत्र पढ़ें। अगर आप को कुछ सरल प्रश्न दिखाई दे, तो उन्हें तुरंत हल कर डालें।
- अंत के लिए कुछ समय बचा कर रखें और बाकी समय सभी सेक्शनों में बराबर बांट दें, जैसे कि 45-45 मिनट।
- जिस सब्जेक्ट में आप सबसे अच्छे हैं, शुरूआत उसी सब्जेक्ट से करें। इससे आपका आत्मविश्वास बढ़ेगा। ज्यादातर

स्टूडेंट केमिस्ट्री से शुरू करते हैं क्योंकि ज्यादातर सवाल थ्योरी पर आधारित होते हैं जिन्हें लगभग बिना कैलकुलेशन के हल किया जा सकता है। इससे मैथ्स और फिजिक्स के लिए ज्यादा वक्त मिल जाता है।

■ आमतौर पर सवालों के तीन स्तर होते हैं: सरल, औसत और मुश्किल। सबसे पहले सरल प्रश्नों को हल कर लें, ताकि आपका आत्मविश्वास पुख्ता हो। आप जब भी कोई सेक्शन छोड़कर आगे बढ़ेंगे, तो उसमें कुछ ऐसे प्रश्न होंगे जिन्हें आपने आंशिक तौर पर हल किया होगा। आप कुछ और वक्त लगा कर उन्हें हल करने की कोशिश करें, लेकिन ज्यादा वक्त न लगाएं। इस तरह के जो सवाल बच जाएं, उन्हें आखिर के लिए नोट कर लें। इससे उन सवालों को पहचानने में वक्त बचेगा।

■ आखिरी 15 मिनट उन आंशिक रूप से हल किए गए प्रश्नों पर लगाए, जो आप हर सेक्शन में छोड़ कर बढ़े हैं। हर सेक्शन के लिए कट-ऑफ है और आप को सभी में परफॉर्म करना है। पूरा प्रश्न पत्र हल करने की कोई जरूरत नहीं है क्योंकि नेगेटिव मार्किंग भी होती है।

■ अंधाधुंध तरीके से सवालों के उत्तर कभी न लिखें। विवेक से काम लें, पहले से योजना बनाना बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है।

HindustanTimes

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60 scholarships coming from the UK

The fully-funded awards for Indian students have been launched to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

HT Education Correspondent
hteducation@hindustantimes.com

Britain is going to offer 60 new scholarships in India this year, UK prime minister David Cameron announced last week. The students will receive full funding for a one-year master's course in business,

administration, manufacturing, science or technology in the UK, beginning September.

The awards will be open to 'exceptional talent' from all across India. The 'scheme aims to include students from every Indian state among the awardees'. Authorities expect more than a thousand applications,

with several rounds of selection. The British Council- and UK Government-funded awards have been launched as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Rob Lynes, director, British Council India, said, "We're delighted that we're able to offer this opportunity for 60 Indian scholars to study in the

UK. A scholarship is a fitting way to mark the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee, as it is the creation of new opportunity — not just for the student, but for the host institution to benefit from Indian perspectives and ideas, for new friendships to be made and new links to be created and fostered between our two countries."

Varsities, institutes to share knowledge on Web

HT Correspondent

editorbhopal@hindustantimes.com

BHOPAL: Now universities, technical and medical institutions across Madhya Pradesh are going to share worldwide knowledge in their respective fields. It will become possible through bringing various institutions of the Union and State governments on a single platform by interlinking them with internet. In the series, National Knowledge Network (NKN) and Point of Presence (PoP) are being launched from

Wednesday. On the same day, a workshop will also be held so that the concerning institutions can share views in this connection.

Science and technology minister Kailash Vijayvargiya will launch the National Knowledge Network developed under the aegis of Central Government's National Information Centre (NIC) at 9 am and its Madhya Pradesh units at Vindhyachal Bhavan near Mantralaya. Soon after it, chief secretary Avani Vaish will inaugurate a one-day workshop at the Academy of

Administration at 10 am.

State government is participating in this process with the objective of getting its various technical, medical and administrative institutions updated for internet sharing under its Information Technology Policy. For this purpose, government has made 1,600 square foot space available in Vindhyachal Building and has also given NOC for Local Area Network (LAN).

Under National Knowledge Network, institutions of science, technology, higher education,

healthcare, agriculture and administration are being brought on a single platform for sharing worldwide knowledge. At present, a total of 700 institutions including 33 of Madhya Pradesh have been linked with the network. The institutions of MP initially linked with the network include Barkatullah University, Bhoj Open University, DAV, Indore, SPS University, Rewa, Jiwaji University, Gwalior, Vikram University, Ujjain, Maharishi Mahesh Yogi Vaidik Vishwavidyalaya, Chitrakoot

University, Agriculture University, Jabalpur and Gwalior etc. In MP, virtual classrooms have been set up at IIT, Indore and Gandhi Medical College, Bhopal under the network. This facility will also be made available soon to MANIT and IISER.

Besides, national-level institutions of the state including IIT, IIM, MANIT, NJA, DAE, DRDE, SPA, IISER & NLIU have also been linked with this network. All the medical and ayurvedic colleges of the state will also be linked with the network in future.

com - Crystal park to come up in Indore, IIT in Bho... <http://library.pressdisplay.com/pressdisplay/services/>

IN THE ASSEMBLY

Crystal park to come up in Indore, IIT in Bhopal

HT Correspondent

■ editor@bhopal@hindustantimes.com

BHOPAL: Industries minister Kailash Vijayvargiya on Tuesday announced setting up of Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) in Bhopal and a crystal park in Indore. He was replying to a debate on demand of grants of his department in the assembly.

Vijayvargiya said that the IIIT would cost Rs 128 crore to the state exchequer and 50 acre for the purpose has already been allotted by the government. The IIIT will also have a computer training centre. An IT crystal park will also take shape in Indore soon, he added.

He said that IT crystal park would come into existence in April and some 5,000 people will get jobs there. He said that additional 50,000 jobs would be generated by the industries which come into existence in next five years and 15 to 20 IT companies operating from Indore would have a substantial share in it.

Vijayvargiya further said that a bio-technology park would also be developed in Indore with public participation. He said that the government would avail loan itself to accelerate the development of Delhi-Mumbai industrial corridor and Ratlam would also be involved in the project as Indore. A gems-jewellery park would also come into existence in Indore soon.

He said functioning of MP Laghu Udyog Nigam (MPLUN) was being overhauled and a more transparent process was being introduced under which a company would be able to start supply of its goods after registration with MPLUN.

Vijayvargiya said that a recent Centre for Monitoring of Indian Economy (CMIE) report has placed Madhya Pradesh on fifth position in terms of investment in industrial sector. An amount of Rs 5,040 crore would be spent more on industrial development of the state in next five years, he said.



■ MLAs Pachilal Meda and Kalpana Parulekar showing the copy of FIR against Hypercity on assembly premises on Tuesday

PRAVEEN BAJPA/HT

'GOVT WILL GET BACK SUGAR MILL LAND'

BHOPAL: Industries minister Kailash Vijayvargiya assured the House that the government would leave no stone unturned in retrieving the land of a sugar mill at Daloda in Mandsaur that was auctioned years ago.

In reply to Congress ML Mahendra Singh Kalukheda question, Vijayvargiya said the government would also go ahead and engage a private lawyer, necessary, to get back the said land. During a discussion on the issue, Kalukheda alleged that the said land was worth nearly Rs 500 crore, but had been auctioned for merely Rs five crore. The minister said a high-power committee had been formed and based on its report, the government would take further action. **HT**

No compensation for damage to crops in Surkhi: Minister

HT Correspondent

■ editor@bhopal@hindustantimes.com

BHOPAL: Expressing dissatisfaction over the reply given by the state government in the matter of crop damage because of cold, Congress MLAs staged a walkout from the assembly.

Raising the matter through a call attention motion, Govind Singh Rajput of the Congress said that Rabi crops during the ongoing season had been damaged because of extreme cold in Surkhi Vidhan Sabha segment. He said that the farmers are already under pressure since they have taken loans for buying seed and fertilisers and have also been facing shortage

of electricity. He said that the state government should announce compensation for damage to crops as this would reduce some of the burden on farmers.

Replying to the motion, revenue minister Karan Singh Verma said that after reports that extreme cold had damaged crops, surveys were undertaken in Sagar district of which Surkhi is a part. He said that crops have been damaged but not destroyed.

During surveys, it was found that dew had damaged crops to the extent of 10-20% and in Rahatgarh tehsil, crops were damaged to the extent of 10-15%.

He said that as per the Revenue Book Circular, compensation is payable only when damage is 25% or more. He added that electricity is being provided as per the schedule worked out by the energy department and there are reports of fake fertiliser or seeds being sold.

He said that after harvest of crops is over, the extent of damage to crops can be assessed and if eligible farmers can be paid insurance amount for damage. Govind Singh said that no officials visited the villages to carry out a survey.

Congress MLAs then staged a walkout expressing dissatisfaction with the reply.