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कब स्वप्न होगा इंतजार ?

जमीन मिलने में दिक्कत से नए IIT बनाने की रफ्तार सुस्त

केंद्र सरकार ने भविष्य की जरूरतों और एक्सपैंशन की संभावनाओं के मद्देनजर नए IIT के लिए 500 एकड़ के कैम्पस की शर्त तय की है



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देश का हर राज्य नए IIT या IIM अपने यहां खुलवाने को लेकर जोर आजमाइश में लगा हुआ है, लेकिन खुद को उसके कैम्पस लायक साबित करना उनके लिए बहुत बड़ी चुनौती साबित हो रही है। अगर छत्तीसगढ़ के IIT कैम्पस का मॉडल भिलाई से लेकर नया रायपुर के तीन संस्थानों के कॉम्बिनेशन पर आधारित होगा तो पर्यटकों के स्वर्ग गोवा को इसके वारंटे जगह बनाने के लिए अपने लैंड लॉ में संशोधन करना होगा।

जमीन नहीं मिलने के चलते गोवा के नए IIT प्रोजेक्ट मुहीनों से अटक रहा है। ऐसे में गोवा को नए IIT का परमानेंट कैम्पस तभी मिल पाएगा, जब राज्य मौजूदा भूमि कानून में संशोधन करेगा। गोवा को अत्याधुनिक IIT की स्थापना के लिए कम से कम 300 एकड़ जमीन मुहैया कराने के लिए कम्युनिटी लैंड होल्डिंग सिस्टम-कम्युनिटाद ऑफ गोवा में संशोधन करना होगा।

केंद्र सरकार ने भविष्य की जरूरतों और एक्सपैंशन की संभावनाओं के मद्देनजर नए IIT के लिए 500 एकड़ के कैम्पस की अनिवार्यता तय की है। इस तृतीय राज्य में जमीन की बहुत कमी है और यहां प्रोसेस पहले से ही बहुत धीमा चल रहा है। इसको देखते हुए सरकार ने गोवा में कैम्पस के लिए जमीन की जरूरत घटाकर लगभग 300 एकड़ कर दिया है। लैंड अमेंडमेंट एक्ट को आगामी असेंबली सेशन में पेश किया जा सकता है।

IIT गोवा का परमानेंट कैम्पस साउथ गोवा के कैनकोना में बन

सकता है। यह स्थायी तौर पर गोवा इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज से चलेगा और इस साल 120 स्टूडेंट्स के बीच से इलेक्ट्रिकल, मेकेनिकल और कंप्यूटर साइंस इंजीनियरिंग कोर्स की शुरुआत की जाएगी।

जहां तक IIT छत्तीसगढ़ की बात है तो वहां एक पॉलिटिकल पेच फंस गया है। यह राज्य के हायर एजुकेशन मिनिस्टर प्रेम प्रकाश पांडेय के विधानसभा क्षेत्र भिलाई में बनने जा रहा है। केंद्र सरकार छत्तीसगढ़ का IIT नया रायपुर में बनाने पर जोर देती रही है जबकि राज्य सरकार भिलाई पर अड़ी हुई है। अब जाकर यह तय हुआ है कि IIT भिलाई का 349 एकड़ वाला कैम्पस कुटेलाभाटा में बनेगा। इसके साथ ही IIT का एक सेंटर पास के सिरसा में 83 एकड़ की जमीन पर बनेगा जिसको मेन कैम्पस से उस रोड के जरिए कनेक्ट किया जाएगा, जिसे बनाने का वादा राज्य सरकार ने किया है। IIT छत्तीसगढ़ को बाकी 10 एकड़ जमीन नया रायपुर में दी गई है जहां उसका एक्सपैंशन सेंटर बनेगा।

जमीन को लेकर चल रही दिक्कत की वजह से IIT गोवा और IIT छत्तीसगढ़ दोनों के लिए फंड रिलीज नहीं किया गया है लेकिन इस साल से दोनों इंस्टीट्यूट्स चालू हो जाएंगे। इनके अलावा एक IIT चित्तूर जिले के तिरुपति में बनेगा जिसका कैम्पस 511 एकड़ का होगा और दूसरा IIT पलक्कड़ में 501 एकड़ में बनेगा। दोनों ही IIT के लिए राज्यों में अधिकांश जमीन सौंपने की प्रक्रिया शुरू हो चुकी है।

Can research really be equated with teaching?

<http://paper.hindustantimes.com/epaper/viewer.aspx>

University Grants Commission says time spent by a student on a PhD degree will be counted as teaching experience. Is this a good move? The UGC notification looks like an enabling step so that young scholars can avail greater opportunities for mobility within the teaching profession MEENAKSHI GOPINATH, former member, university grants commission

Researchers have reasons to cheer. The University Grants Commission (UGC) recently announced that the time spent by a student in doing research for a PhD degree without leave will be counted as teaching experience when they apply for direct recruitment to vacant faculty positions in colleges and universities.

Experts, however, say that though the announcement will help candidates, the focus on research should not shift. B Thimme Gowda, vice chancellor, Bangalore University, says, "I concur with the UGC proposal of counting the time spent on research as teaching experience. In universities, teaching and research should go hand in hand. The research experience should not be more than 50% of the service required for higher teaching positions." GOOD MOVE, BUT CHALLENGES GALORE Calling the UGC move a welcome step, Meenakshi Gopinath, former member, UGC , says, "The artificial divide between teaching and research must be overcome and both activities must complement one another. This looks like an enabling step so that young scholars can avail greater opportunities for mobility within the teaching profession. The UGC clarification does not address the issue of years of experience requirements."

Experts say a large number of PhD holders will benefit from the announcement. Official recognition of the research period as equivalent to teaching experience will open up employment avenues for many unemployed meritorious students and also address the issue of vacant teaching posts in universities.

Research scholars feel relieved and think UGC has made their life easier. Hoshiyar Singh, who is a pursuing a PhD in physical sciences from Himachal Pradesh University, says, "Currently, junior research fellows have to devote time to teaching and the notification has made this official. However, the purpose of research should not be defeated by shifting focus on gaining teaching experience. We, as scholars, need funds to make significant contribution to research and the UGC and HRD ministry should take steps to make that happen." Most higher education institutions seek at least two years' teaching experience during faculty recruitment. However, scholars also say that the number of years of teaching experience should be clearly defined. Vikash Swarup, a humanities scholar at Allahabad University, says, "Before the notification, it was up to the university to consider the time spent by junior research fellows in taking classes as work experience. There is still confusion about how many years of research work or teaching will be considered for PhD or jobs."

MM Ansari, former member, UGC, says, "As teaching and research are closely related and have significant bearing on quality of education, the total work experience as teacher or researcher is counted for determining eligibility of an aspirant. I can't understand why the need has arisen for issuing such a clarification when the issue has been resolved in academic circles." SCENARIO ABROAD Some

Western countries require a PhD for faculty roles. As a part of the doctoral education training, some programmes in the US offer teaching assistantships, which give students a chance to gain teaching experience. Rahul Choudaha, principal researcher at Dr Education, US-based global higher education research firm, says, “However, the focus of PhD programmes continue to be research as compared to teaching. One of the critiques of PhD education is that it is not necessarily a predictor of good teaching skills. The incentive for faculty is to get more publications rather than more teaching experience. There are few examples of how parallel scenario duration of PhD programme is to be counted as teaching experience.”

Pollution illnesses: Family of four in city spends ` 1.68L a year

<http://paper.hindustantimes.com/epaper/viewer.aspx>

MUMBAI: Treating diseases caused by air pollution costs a family of four in Mumbai around Rs1.68 lakh, or Rs42,000 per person every year, said a recently released study that looked at the economic cost of polluted air on citizens.

The study by Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB) and National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Worli, found that residents of Deonar, which houses the city’s largest landfill, and Maravali (Chembur), which has two oil refineries and a fertiliser plant in the vicinity, spent more money to treat Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and other respiratory illnesses caused by exposure to high PM10 (particulate matter up to 10 microns in size that can be inhaled into the respiratory tract). Those living in Andheri had similar complaints from inhaling high levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) emitted from vehicles.

Yoga workshops to be held in colleges by PM Modi's Guru

<http://www.newsgram.com/yoga-workshops-to-be-held-in-colleges-by-pm-modis-guru/#respond>



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has brought back the influx of yoga to the country. International yoga day is back in all campuses.

All AICTE approved institutes will celebrate this day by participating in workshops specially designed by Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana (Vyasa), which is headed by PM's yoga guru, Dr HR Nagendra.

The central government is expecting 100 % attendance on yoga day from institutes that fall under AICTE, UGN and IITs, IIITs etc too.

According to a circular issued by the Council, "AICTE has drawn the action plan and decided to organise a one-day yoga workshop" for students of institutes approved by it in Bengaluru, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Hyderabad, Pune and Delhi."

At each of the venues, a maximum of 300 students would be accommodated. Hence, we request you to nominate five to 10 motivated students, who would, in turn, take up yoga in their respective colleges. The contents of the workshop have been designed by Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana (S-Vyasa), Bengaluru, in which the key speaker and experts will also be from S-Vyasa, who will provide theoretical or practical training, in line with the IDY common yoga protocol," states the circular signed by AICTE chairman, Prof Anil D Sahasrabudhe

International yoga day will be celebrated on June 21.

The circular emphasised on the need of yoga especially in a young person's life, who faces pressure from all directions , yoga helps you achieve peace and clear headedness.

"Practising yoga shall (help) overcome stress and contribute to memory development. As a result, they can focus and concentrate properly," it says.

The circular has also asked educational institutes to make yoga a necessary activity in campuses.

It has asked universities as well to organise 2-3 days workshops on yoga, during april and may , where the students will be made aware of the benefits of yoga. about the strengths and health benefits of yoga.

"They may also be trained in the common yoga protocol to be performed on IDY on June 21. Some of the other activities suggested for this fest could be musical and cultural programmes based on yoga and sensitisation of youth about career prospects in yoga," it says.

Yoga Experts Committee

A 15 member yoga experts committee has been formed headed by Dr Nagendra so as to plan the activities to be held on this day.

It was decided that the event will be an hour long.

The committee has also prepared a three day conference on the topic "yoga for body and beyond" from June 21 to 23.

The draft plan finalised by the committee says, "The IDY celebration programme is proposed to be organised in all the states and union territories. Leading yoga institutes would provide technical support to one or more states of their choice in organising the event. A one-hour common yoga protocol was finalised by the committee."

UGC issues circular to combat ragging

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/UGC-issues-circular-to-combat-ragging/articleshow/51515647.cms>

DEHRADUN: Ahead of a new academic session, the University Grants Commission (UGC) issued a circular urging all varsities to take strong measures to check ragging and take stringent action against those flouting rules.

In the circular dated March 18, that was made public on Monday evening, UGC secretary Jaspal S Sandhu wrote that all complaints of discrimination and harassment including those against OBC students and marginalised/disadvantaged groups of society must be recorded and dealt with promptly.

The commission clearly stated that ragging is a crime and top most priority should be accorded to stop it. It has made mandatory for all institutes to incorporate directions affirming prohibition and consequences of ragging in their prospectus.

A nationwide toll free anti-ragging helpline number (1800-180-5522) in 12 languages has been released by UGC and it can be accessed by students throughout the day.

According to official records, maximum number of ragging complaints have come from Uttar Pradesh (3417) since 2009, followed by West Bengal (418), Madhya Pradesh (355) and Odisha (308). 57 cases have been recorded from Uttarakhand. UGC issues circular to combat ragging.

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Over 69,000 research fellowships in 2015-16

There has been an increase in the number of MPhil and PhD students, who received fellowships as part of schemes by the University Grants Commission and All-India Council for Technical Education, since 2013.

The schemes include Junior Research Fellowships and Non-National Eligibility Test (Non-NET) Fellowships. In 2013-14, 41,970 students were awarded fellowships which increased to 56,024 in 2014-15. Till March this year, this figure has gone up to 69,435. The UGC's fellowship amount, under some of its prominent schemes, for students pursuing research degrees is ₹25,000 per month for the initial two years and ₹28,000 for the remaining tenure. Students are also eligible for allowances, as per the fellowship scheme. The fellowships awarded under the Non-NET schemes, through the UGC grants, are ₹8,000 per month for PhD and ₹5,000 per month for MPhil students.

There is no fixed allocation for fellowships and scholarships in UGC's fund. The Central govern-

FAST FACTS

Details of fellowship grants under schemes by the UGC

Year	No of students	Grants*
2013-14	41,970	439.40
2014-15	56,024	874.53
2015-16	69,435	1013.23

* FIGURES IN ₹/CRORES

ment releases block grants to the UGC for promotion, determination and maintenance of standards of education. In 2013-14, the fellowship amount released by the UGC and AICTE on fellowship schemes for students pursuing research degrees, was ₹439.40 crore.

This almost doubled the next year (2014-15) to ₹874.53 crore. This year, it has increased to ₹1,013.23 crore. More than 30,000 students are selected annually for the fellowship schemes.

- GAURI KOHLI