

# Newspaper Clips

March 25, 2011

Mail Today ND  
25/03/2011 p-3

## Eight new IITs approved & BHU-IT also gets the nod

THE Lok Sabha on Thursday cleared the Institutes of Technology Amendment Bill, paving the way for incorporating the eight new IITs under the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961.

The Bill also gave the go-ahead for the Institute of Technology under the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) to be converted into an IIT.

The eight new IITs in Gandhinagar, Bhubaneswar, Patna, Hyderabad, Indore, Mandi, Jodhpur and Ropar were set up in 2008. Incorporating these new IITs would now

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### **Lok Sabha Bill paves way for the Institutes**

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confer legal status on these Institutes enabling them to give degrees to students. These Institutions can now be declared as those of national importance.

Even as HRD minister Kapil Sibal presented the Bill, there were protests from some BSP members that the conversion of the Institute of Technology - BHU into an IIT would diminish the character of the university.

Sibal assured the members of the House that according to the amended Bill, the BHU vice-chancellor would head the board of governors of IIT-BHU, so that there was no question of the Institute being bifurcated or diminished in importance.

*Mail Today Bureau*

Political &amp; Business Daily ND 25/03/2011 P-9

# BHU, eight other institutes get IIT status

**NEW DELHI, MARCH 24**

THE Lok Sabha today passed a Bill to provide status of IIT to eight new institutes and upgrade Banaras Hindu University's (BHU) institute of technology into IIT with Government asserting that steps were being taken to address shortage of faculty and quality of higher education.

HRD Minister Kapil Sibal, while piloting the Bill, also said the BHU would not be bifurcated in the process of the giving IIT status to its Institute of Technology.

The Bill seeks to add eight new institutes at B h u b a n e s h w a r , Gandhinagar, Hyderabad, Indore, Jodhour, Mandi, Patna and Ropar as IITs and integrate the Institute

of Technology, BHU within the ambit of the Act. All the entities will also be declared as institutions of national importance.

The Bill was approved by voice vote amidst protest by BSP members who feared that the new legislation would distort the existing structure of the BHU, which was established by freedom fighter Madan Mohan Malviya.

Leaders from SP also demanded that the present status of the BHU should be maintained. "We will not let down Madan Mohan Malviya. We have no interest in bifurcating the BHU," Sibal said, adding that the vice-chancellor of the BHU would continue to be vice-chairman of the board of governors of the IIT. The amendments to the Act, he said,

were needed to enable the new IITs to award degrees to students. Referring to the issue of shortage of faculty, the Minister said, the government proposed to introduce post-graduate courses in the IITs and connect all institutes with the National Knowledge Network to enable students to pursue courses with the help of teachers in other institutes.—PTI

# Times of India ND 25/03/2011 p-13 Security for IIT whistleblower hangs in balance

**Akshaya Mukul** | TNN

**New Delhi:** B Muthuraman, chairman of IIT-Kharagpur, has written to senior lawyer Prashant Bhushan that the institute has asked West Bengal police to provide security to whistleblower Rajeev Kumar of department of computer science & engineering. Strangely, the institute challenged the February 5 order of CIC that asked the West Midnapore superintendent of police to provide security to Kumar. Calcutta high court has even stayed the CIC order.

TK Ghosal, officiating registrar of IIT-Kharagpur, told TOI that the decision to provide security for Kumar has been due to a letter from Bhushan and not because of CIC's directive.

Despite his claims, Ghosal himself wrote to the SP on March 10, citing the CIC order while seeking security for Kumar. Ghosal, however, gave a different spin to TOI, "We have a reasonable apprehension that Kumar may engineer and attempt a self-inflicting injury to implicate IIT-Kharagpur's faculty and administration." Kumar, meanwhile, is yet to get security. Sources said, though CIC has got the stay order of Calcutta HC, it is yet to receive IIT-Kharagpur's petition against CIC's order.

Indian Express, ND 25-Mar-11 p-4

# Google mentor's family to fund entrepreneurial research at IIT

ANUBHUTI VISHNOI

NEW DELHI, MARCH 24

HE was a mentor to Sergey Brin and Larry Page and helped co-author the Google that has become an indispensable part of millions of lives around the world.

Nearly two years after Rajeev Motwani was found dead in a pool in the backyard of his Atherton home, his family has come back to his alma mater to foster values and ideas he cherished. His wife, Asha Jadeja Motwani, has pledged \$1.5 million to IIT-Kanpur on the occasion of her husband's 49th birth anniversary. The fund will go towards setting up the Motwani Building at the IIT and a centre for entrepreneurial research.

Motwani was a brilliant student who used his imagination to translate research into entrepreneurial ventures. The six-storey building to be set up in his memory will fittingly house the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, including a 200-seat classroom, 22 faculty offices and 17 laboratories, besides activities for nurturing entrepreneurship and innovation in the areas influenced by his work. That apart, the fund will mark the begin-

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ning of a collaboration between Rajeev Motwani Foundation and IIT-Kanpur to help student and faculty entrepreneurs collaborate on transforming innovative ideas and technologies into successful enterprises.

The director of IIT-Kanpur, S G Dhande, remembered the student who enrolled for his first class at the institution.

"He was in the first batch of B Tech Computer Science in 1983. I taught him two courses. The unique bit about his personality was that while he researched on the theoretical side of algorithms, he also had the imagination to turn it into entrepreneurial ventures. He was in a way the godfather of Google, a mentor to Sergey and, in fact, to scores of companies set up in the Silicon valley...IIT-Kanpur is very proud of Rajeev Motwani and his accom-

plishments and we accept the donation by his family to further our commitment to excellence in computer education," said Dhande.

Incidentally, Motwani was planning a trip to IIT-Kanpur days before his fatal accident on June 5, 2009.

Asha said that she was only following her husband's dreams. "Whenever he visited India and the IITs, he felt that the entrepreneurial spirit so characteristic of the US was missing here and this was one of the things he always wanted to work on, starting with IIT-Kanpur," she said over the telephone.

Google's Sergey Brin described Rajeev as his "friend and teacher" and said, "Today, whenever you use a piece of technology, there is a good chance a little bit of Rajeev Motwani is behind it ... If Rajeev had not been there, chances are, there would be no Google today."

Economic Times ND 25/03/2011 P-16

# Privatising the IIMs

The HRD ministry's move to change the institutional character of IIMs is ill-informed and misconceived



**PRODIP KUMAR SETTY**  
PROFESSOR, IIM-CALCUTTA

Behind the public view and without any public debate, the Union HRD minister is trying to reshape the public institutional character of IIMs. In a recent meeting with chairpersons and directors of IIMs, he took a series of inter-linked decisions which, if implemented, would effectively transfer the control of these institutions to private donors. These decisions are ostensibly aimed at 'shaping up' the IIMs to meet the competitive challenges from foreign players once the sector is opened up. They are based on the reports of three committees that the minister constituted in early 2010.

Intriguingly, all the three committees comprised existing chairpersons or directors of various IIMs who themselves were appointed by the minister. They had no representatives from the academia, industry bodies or the civil society. None of these committees held any consultation with major stakeholders: IIM faculty, the industry or the alumni. Neither did they collect any ground data, or record the views of past chairpersons/directors of IIMs or eminent educationists to substan-

tiate their findings. Yet, interestingly, the three reports converge to support the virtual privatisation of IIMs by altering the basic structure of their existing memorandum of association (MoA).

Report of the committee on new governance structure sets the stage by proposing that the society of each IIM should be reconstituted so that it can run the institute as an "enlightened owner" (equivalent to a person having an equity stake in the company) and by suggesting that "the most effective way of bringing this about is by making the payment of a substantial donation to the IIM as a condition for becoming a member of the society." The reconstituted society would exercise all powers and ratify the appointments of the chairman and members of the board of governors (BoG) as also the director of the institute. The BoG would manage the institute on behalf of the society and the director should function as the chief executive officer (CEO)." As regards the composition of the BoG, the report states: "The practice of board members representing different interests should be given up."

Obviously, implementing these changes would require some major changes in the existing MoAs of the IIMs. The committee, however, provides no justification how the recommended dispensation (payment of donations) make the reconstituted societies more 'enlightened' than the existing ones. The fallacious nature of its argument is quite obvious. The argument can be turned



ARINDAM

on its head by contending that such an "equity stake" is more likely to lead to commercialisation of IIMs and destroy their public character and role. Similarly, changing the multiple stakeholder representational character of the BoG suggested by the committee is downright objectionable as it strikes at the very root of the concept of public institution.

The second committee on faculty and research deals with a number of issues: meeting faculty shortages; use of technology to leverage faculty resources, faculty productivity, etc. Most of the recommendations are in the nature of subjective views without any cogent argument or supporting data; some are misconceived. For example, the report suggests introduction of a system of annual work plan which is to be prepared by every faculty member at the beginning of an academic year based on a set of standard yardsticks (irrespective of his/her aptitude or academic interests) and

submitted to the BoG for approval. At the end of the year, the BoG would review the plan's actual performance.

IIMs already have peer reviewed faculty performance appraisal systems. What is new in the committee's proposal is that the academic work of the faculty is to be submitted for review to the BoG, a non-academic body having no competence. Nowhere in the world non-academics sit in judgement over academic work of the faculty. However, in the committee's own words such an "external review" is necessary "as a control system".

This reflects an efficiency-oriented corporate mindset that pervades the whole report. It seeks to treat the faculty as 'employees' who need to be controlled for attaining 'optimum performance'. This is totally repugnant to the idea of academic freedom necessary for any institution of higher learning. Ill-effects of such corporatisa-

tion of higher education elsewhere in the world are well-documented; they are also very much visible among the private educational institutions in India. Such corporatisation affects not only the academic culture of the campus but also the very content of curriculum, which increasingly tends to get commoditised through efficiency seeking standardisation. Thus, the idea put forward by the committee to model the IIMs on the lines of a business firm is completely misconceived.

The third committee suggests measures for fund-raising by the IIMs on the lines of the US business schools. These recommendations are nothing wrong in themselves; but they sound ominous when read in the context of other two reports.

The shared mental model that underlies the three reports as also the decisions of the HRD minister is as follows: hand over the control of IIMs to private donors (₹20 crore for corporate and ₹5 crore or less for individuals) and allow them to run the institutes 'efficiently' as 'enlightened owners'. It suits the government, as it is relieved of the fiscal burden of running the new IIMs (older IIMs have become financially self-sufficient more than a decade back) and it also suits the 'enlightened owners' as they 'own' the prestigious IIM brand at a ridiculously low price and are granted the licence to run the IIMs in their best 'enlightened' interests. The public at large only has to stand and watch the demise of a great icon of modern India — if the HRD minister has his way.

# IIT to Iskcon: they take the road less travelled

Prashanth G N | TNN

**Bangalore:** A significant recruiter at the IIT campuses across the country, completely unheralded at that, is GOD. Scores of IITians are now finding a career in spiritualism to be a more uplifting option than i-banking or technology.

Four students from IIT Guwahati and IIT Madras recently joined Iskcon Bangalore. Many others from IIT are working with Art of Living (AoL), Ramakrishna and Sringeri Mutt, Chinmaya mission, Mata Amritanandamayi ashram, and Shirdi Sai Baba ashram. Iskcon, Bangalore, at 18, has perhaps the largest number of IITians working in one city.

Spiritual Inc is besting India Inc because it offers to these high achievers a combination of personal upliftment and social service. Dinesh Ghodke, who runs the world youth programme at AoL, packs a B Tech Metallurgy from IIT Bombay. Ghodke gave up a plush Rs 2 lakh per month job at Deloitte Touche to work full time for Art of Living.

"In my second year, I took an Art of Living course. The first day of that course was the turning point in my life. The knowledge imparted was profound. I immediately felt my friends and siblings should try it. The course, I felt was a fantastic platform for individual and social growth. I then organized courses myself. Along the way came the realisation that spirituality was a



Bangalore Iskcon perhaps has the highest number of IITians working in one city



Satya Gaura

powerful tool that was replicable, sustainable and meaningful. I immediately felt spirituality was my calling."

For Iskcon's Satya Gaura Chandra Dasa — an M Tech from IIT Madras, who had worked with American MNC, Novell Software — a lecture by a muslim, Russian professor, on the Bhagavad Gita, "was the turning point in my life. I took a step to understand life in the spiritual sense." "And then he gave me a book — *Perfect Questions, Perfect Answers* where a foreigner asked Prabhupada — 'We speak of perfect answers, but a perfect question, what's that?'

Swamiji explains a method of life that completely changed my perception of religion. I was looking for spiritual intellect. I got it there. Service to people and society with God at the centre of it was what moved me. I knew this had to be my quality too."

Spiritualism and social service prove to be a hard-to-resist combination to bright young minds fed up with the routine life and wondering 'Is this it?'

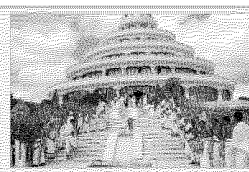
Bhakta Vikas, M Tech in Electronics from IIT Guwahati, who was working with Tejas Networks as an hardware engineer, and Bhakta Venkatesh-

## IITians Elsewhere

- Art of Living (Bangalore)
- Mata Amritanandamayi mutt and ashram (Kerala)
- Chinmayananda mutt and ashram (Kolkata)
- Many IITians work at Shirdi Sai Baba ashram (Shirdi)
- Sringeri Shankar mutt (Sringeri)
- Ramakrishna mutt (Kolkata)

## WHAT THEY DO AT ISKCON

- One year compulsory internship for IITians and others involving a range of activities from cleaning bathrooms to kitchen utensils to deity pots.
- After internship, depending on Iskcon requirement, some may be deputed in



administrative/managerial roles, the IT section. Akshaya Patra programme, youth programmes and whatever the IITians have specialized in.

- There are married IITians living with husband/wife and children outside Iskcon
- Bachelors get quarters at Iskcon
- All needs taken care of by Iskcon

"Nothing gave me a sense of completion till I took my first meditation course. All aspects of my life became easier. The most inspiring moment was when I listened to Sri Sri at the ashram. I felt here was a man living his ideals."

I finally chose my passion — where I would not feel compromised — it had to be spirituality. It was not a hasty decision. Perhaps my IIT background gave me the courage to do so  
— Dinesh Kashikar, IIT-MUMBAI

waralu, M Tech in digital signal processing from IIT Guwahati, who was working with Sony as a software engineer, said routinism of life caught up with them. "Going to work, coming back, eating, sleeping, back to work again, maintaining relationships, fighting now and then was all that we were doing. We felt we were wasting our lives. It was a loss of meaning. We wanted wholesomeness. That was when we

came in touch with Prabhupada's writings. It changed us completely."

The Akshaya Patra programme was a major hook. "Feeding 13 lakh children with 170 people working for it. We realised Iskcon had the training and knowledge to blend spiritual and social service. After visiting and seeing firsthand the service-oriented nature of the temple, we decided to take the plunge and did so on the same day," they said.

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# India to get diarrhoea vaccine soon

## Labs Set To Begin Final Trials Of First Indigenously Developed Oral Drops

Kounteya Sinha | TNN

**New Delhi:** India is in the final stages of developing the country's first indigenous oral vaccine against rotavirus — the major cause of diarrhoea deaths among children.

The final phase-III "confirmatory" multi-centre clinical trial on 6,800 children, who are six weeks old, started last week at Society for Applied Studies in the capital. Around 200 children were administered three drops of "Rotovac", who are aged six, 10 and 14 weeks, respectively.

The other two centres — KEM hospital (Pune) and Christian Medical College (Vellore) — will start their trials in another two weeks. All children — 1,500 each in Pune and Vellore and another



Funded by the department of biotechnology and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the infants administered the vaccine will be observed for more than two years to see its efficacy against severe diarrhoea

3,800 in Delhi — will be observed for more than two years to see the vaccine's efficacy against severe diarrhoea. The phase-II trials showed 90% protection, or "immunogenicity rate".

This live attenuated oral vaccine based on the rotavirus strain 116E, which was discovered by the present secretary of the department

of biotechnology (DBT) Dr M K Bhan in the 1980s, is being developed by Bharat Biotech International Limited, Hyderabad. Both DBT and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation are funding the project. Bill Gates told TOI, "We are funding phase-III trials of the rotavirus vaccine with around \$30 million." Dr Khan added, "DBT is funding nearly Rs 20

crore for the study. This will be a model for ethical trials in India. We have provided full insurance for family of those in the trial, and are also covering entire hospital treatment costs if need be."

Dr Nita Bhandari, chief coordinator of the trial from Society for Applied Studies, said the virus was discovered in 1982 under DBT's Indo-US Vaccine Action Programme. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Indian Institute of Sciences, Stanford University and National Institute of Immunology in New Delhi were all part of the vaccine's development over the last decade.

"The vaccine is similar to the oral polio drop. It will be given under the same regimen. There are two vac-

cines against the rotavirus in the market, but both are developed by Western companies. This will be the first vaccine developed by Indian researchers, and manufactured by an Indian vaccine firm," Dr Bhandari added.

Rotavirus infections are the leading cause of diarrhoea-associated mortality in developing countries. In India, it is the leading cause of dehydration and accounts for 150,000 deaths of children annually. World Health Organization and Global Initiative for Vaccines and Immunization have recommended the accelerated development and introduction of rotavirus vaccine as a priority. Each year, an estimated 1.8 million children die from severe diarrhoea and the most common cause is rotavirus.

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# 'Believer in power of vaccines'

Kounteya Sinha | TNN

New Delhi: "The anti-vaccine lobby in India is strong. But it is outrageous. India hasn't added a single new vaccine since 1985," billionaire philanthropist Bill Gates told TOI in an interview.

"I am a great believer in the power of vaccines. Thankfully, there is progress taking place in India now. The Union health ministry is planning to introduce the Hepatitis B vaccine, the second dose of measles vaccine and the pentavalent vaccine in two states. That for me is a glass half full," Gates said.

He sees little difference between his entrepreneurial instincts and philanthropy.

"During my Microsoft career, I used to talk about the



GROUND WORK

magic of software. Now, I spend my time talking about the magic of vaccines. Vaccines are the most effective and cost-effective health tool ever invented. Just a few doses of vaccine can protect a child from debilitating and deadly diseases for a lifetime. And most vaccines are extremely inexpensive," he explained.

When it comes to family planning programmes, what surprises Gates most is that while sterilization is controversial in most countries, it is well accepted in India. On the other hand, injectible contraceptives are a taboo in India.

So, how different is making money and giving it away in charity? "Giving and making money are a lot similar. My Microsoft experience taught me well for the Foundation work. In MS, we would get smart people and address tough problems, some of which we thought we could never solve. We would work for five-10 years to find an answer," Gates said, who is on a four-day visit to India. On Thursday, he visited LRS Institute of TB and Respiratory Diseases.

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# 'India needs an educated population, inclined to innovate'

*Poul V Jensen came here six years ago as a management consultant and switched jobs to stay on. Now, director of the European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC), he spoke about EU initiatives to further develop environmentally responsible business with Deep K Datta-Ray:*

■ What do EBTC operations say about the EU's attitude towards India?

Our operations suggest the contours and scope of EU interest. Though a pilot initiative, our funding is till 2017 because the EU wants to establish something substantial. Our remit is business and research related to climate change, an issue recognised by the EU as a global and paramount challenge. India isn't a big emitter per capita, but is on the way to becoming one, and we have the technology to help minimise pollutants as you modernise. We focus on sunrise industries:

biotechnology, environment, energy and transport. They're commercially interesting and dependent on accessing the most efficient technologies and processes. So these are the perfect fit for us: commercial viability founded on environmentalism. We enable such joint ventures, ensuring Indian requirements are serviced precisely. The net benefit is everyone's. Indians get development and the world is preserved – or we hope it is!

**Q&A** ■ In other words, you further globalisation, but isn't that best left to those most versed at it – MNCs?

The MNC globalisation model is about selling products here manufactured elsewhere. That's the traditional European view of India. We're trying to change it by helping small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) establish themselves here permanently. Not just sell, but do their R&D



here, develop products here. Another difference is that our products are profitable but tailored to safeguarding the environment. Furthermore, we help SMEs because, often, bespoke research companies can meet Indian requirements most effectively. We help them by engaging the Indian government and conveying requirements and finding the best fit. So, we do globalisation but not the humongous corporate mega-

dealtypes. We're focussed on highly specific projects tailored to localised Indian requirements. One size doesn't fit all, especially not for a country as big as India.

■ Telecommunications exemplifies India's ability to cut and paste foreign technology, but can India become an R&D hub?

The telecommunications transformation illustrates India's requirements and ability to absorb technology. To keep such revolutions happening, as India moves up the value chain – what we're encouraging by focussing on R&D – what is needed is not only an educated population, but one inclined to innovate. That's going beyond knowledge to having the confidence to think about how knowledge can be used to solve real problems or create opportunities. In terms of business this could be encouraged by a more participative management style. It requires independent

thinking. That needs fostering. Our contribution is to help India gain exposure to the specificities of how Europe created and sustains an innovation co-culture. There are annual meetings and if realised in a specific sector, that's good because even in a closed loop, a sector becomes innovative and may infect others.

■ What are the main investment concerns in your sectors?

As the router of opportunities in very high-value sectors, we deal with businesses whose only assets are knowledge, technology and highly trained people. They're concerned about Intellectual Property Rights because of bad experiences in China. We tell them that India is different, has a well-established judiciary but a case in court could take 15 years. In the meantime the person you're fighting is producing your product and selling it in your country! Thankfully, these are exceptional cases.



Times of India ND 25/03/2011 p-21

# Are we all descendants of Martians? Device to tell

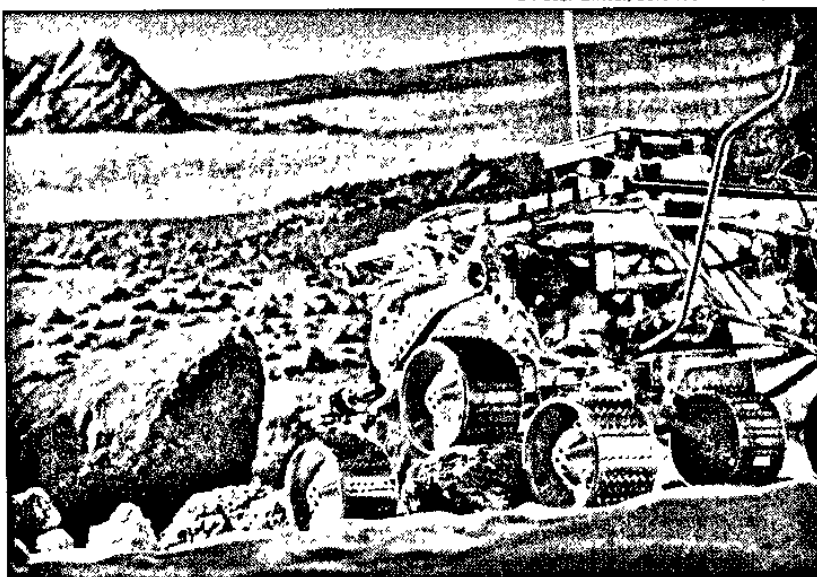
## Gadget To Look For Microbial Samples In Red Planet's Soil

© Peter Ginter/Science Faction/Corbis

**Boston:** A team of researchers at Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology are developing a device that will study whether life on Earth descended from organisms that were originated on Mars and carried to our planet aboard meteorites – a theory that would make all humans of Martian descent.

A team from MIT and Harvard University are working on the proposed instrument called the 'Search for Extra-Terrestrial Genomes' (SETG). The device, which could be carried on future missions to Mars, would take samples of Martian soil and isolate any living microbes that might be present or microbial remnants, which can be preserved for about up to a million years and still contain viable DNA.

They would separate out the genetic material in order to use biochemical techniques to analyse their genetic sequences. The team would search for DNA or RNA in the Martian soil, separating any possible organisms using the techniques used for forensic DNA testing on Earth.



**ORIGIN OF THE SPECIES:** The device being developed by experts from Harvard and MIT would take samples of Martian soil, isolate any living microbes or microbial remnants and separate the genetic material for sequencing

Biochemical markers would be used to search for signs of particular, genetic sequences that are nearly universal among all known life forms. "If we go to Mars and find life

that is related to us, we could have originated on Mars. Or if it started here, it could have been transferred to Mars," MIT researcher Christopher Carr said. ¶11



Times of India ND

25/03/2011 p-21

## Leap forward: A continuous-flow artificial heart

**Houston:** Two Houston surgeons successfully implanted the world's first continuous-flow artificial heart in a 55-year-old patient, a significant advance that promises a smaller and much more durable alternative to existing artificial hearts.

Drs Bud Frazier and Billy Cohn took out the dead heart of Craig A Lewis on March 10 at the Texas Heart Institute. After harmful proteins built up in his heart to the point it could no longer work, Lewis lived only with the aid of external breathing, dialysis and heart support machines.

The Houston man had maybe a day to live when Frazier and Cohn were given the opportunity to test their device — a pair of turbines cobbled together to mimic the function of the heart's left and right ventricles — that had been implanted only in 37 calves. So far Lewis is recovering well, doctors say. "It was time to take this leap forward," Frazier said. The leap is an evolution away from devices that push blood into the body in pulses, like the natural heart.

Frazier was one of the earliest and probably most outspoken evangelists for a new approach, that of pumps using a tiny turbine spinning thousands of times per minute to provide a continuous flow of blood. In 1988, he implanted the world's first left-ventricular assist device with a continuous-flow pump, and the next-generation HeartMate II pump he helped develop has now been put into 11,000 patients.

Continuous flow pumps are smaller and more durable. Pulsatile pumps must beat 100,000 times a day. Pumps and artificial hearts with this pumping action break down in months or a few years. ❧

## Business Line ND 25-Mar-11 p-4 France woos Indian students

**Divya Trivedi**

*New Delhi, March 24*

France is looking to double the number of Indian students going to the country for higher education in the next few years by making travel and living there easier and more accessible.

"We have nine officers in India talking to universities about studying in France. We have also simplified our visa procedures so that it is easier for students," Mr Jerome Bonnafont, Ambassador of France to India, told *Business Line*.

Around four years ago, the number of Indian students in France was 400, while at present it is 2,000. Most Indian students going to France prefer courses on business management, engineering, science, medicine and humanities, he said.

Representatives of the country are speaking to various universities in India to be able to design and provide precise and fine-tuned courses especially for Indian students.

"Currently, 100 memoranda of understanding between French universities and their Indian counterparts are in place and we are trying to activate them," said Mr Bonnafont.

France allows a graduate student to stay on for six months and look for a job. If the student is able to find a job within the stipulated period of time, then a job permit is automatically generated, he explained.

### **MEET ON ASTRONOMY**

He was speaking on the sidelines of a conference on astronomy where Dr Sylvain Bouley, Vice-President, Uranoscope de France, presented a C11 telescope to the BM Birla Science Centre in Hyderabad.

A dedicated public observatory is coming up in Hyderabad for the first time in India that will allow lay persons to walk in and explore, said Dr B.G. Sidharth, Director, International Institute of Applied and Information Sciences, Hyderabad and Udine, Italy.

An observatory outside the city limits in a rural area is on the cards for astronomical research, he added.

### **STRESS ON INNOVATION**

"We need innovation in all fields of education, health, governance, infrastructure to beat the challenges we face. India is going to invest close to \$20 billion in the next five to seven years to build new public infrastructure in communications. It is one thing to explore the skies and quite another to use that to explore opportunities here, on the ground below," said Mr Sam Pitroda, Advisor to the Prime Minister on Public Information Infrastructure and Innovations.

## Business Line ND 25-Mar-11

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# Baidu to launch anti-piracy technology for online library

**Dow Jones**

*March 24*

Chinese online search provider Baidu Inc said on Thursday it plans to start using new copyright recognition technology on its online document sharing platform in May, to prevent sharing of pirated content.

The move addresses concerns about Baidu's approach to copyright issues. The company has been at odds with the music industry for years over an MP3 search service that includes links to unlicensed copies of songs available for free download.

Late last month, a consortium of four Japanese publishing associations requested that Baidu take steps to prevent illegal uploads of copyrighted material on Baidu Library, the document platform, alleging pirated copies of Japanese manga and other content were common on the

version of the platform operated by Baidu's Japan unit.

Copyright problems "became an issue" for Baidu Library when it officially launched last year, and literary works accounted for about 8 per cent of the data on the service, Baidu spokesman, Mr Kaiser Kuo, said.

Baidu expects to launch a test run of the new technology in April before its official release on May 1, Mr Kuo said.

"The technology will not only enable Baidu Library to systematically eliminate copyright infringing content already uploaded on its platform, but will also enable automatic rejection of future problematic uploads and control the spread of copyright infringing content," Mr Kuo said. Baidu is likely to use other methods to prevent piracy on its music platform, Mr Kuo said.

# Bill Opens Gates for Indian Scientists to Team up With Foundation

Invites researchers to work on developing cheaper drugs to eradicate infectious diseases like tuberculosis

## OUR BUREAU

### NEW DELHI

Identifying India as a key source of innovations, Microsoft founder and philanthropist Bill Gates on Thursday invited Indian scientists, technical and research institutes to partner with his foundation in developing cheaper drugs to eradicate infectious diseases like tuberculosis.

Gates and wife Melinda are touring India to review programmes funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

"Heart or diabetes get over \$5 billion each a year of research money as there's a private market for these. That has not been our focus," Gates said addressing the media. "We focus on infectious diseases like TB, malaria and AIDS where there is almost no research funding coming out from the for-profit companies, simply because there is no market for these diseases large enough to justify the risks involved."

"In developing countries, these diseases are the primary cause

behind reduced life expectancy. We will stay focused on those things," he said.

The software czar said he uses the same skills in philanthropy that he did building Microsoft into one of the world's most successful companies.

**Diagnostic tests that could help eradicate TB are too expensive at present and that is where Indian scientists and the Gates Foundation could partner to find a solution**

their work for five to 10 years and understanding what works and what doesn't work."

"At the foundation, it's similar," he said. "My Microsoft experience has prepared me well for this foundation work. Running the foundation is a lot like run-

ning a software innovation company." One area where the software mogul would like to see more innovation is in diagnosing and preventing TB. He said India has made great strides in reducing TB to 300,000 cases a year, where it was once 500,000.

Gates said the key to tackling TB was low-cost vaccine. Diagnostic tests that could help eradicate the disease are also too expensive at present and that is where Indian scientists and the Gates Foundation could partner to find a solution.

"I'd like Indian scientists to take the basic idea and find a format that would be widely available," Gates said.

Union science and technology minister Pawan Kumar Bansal, who was also present at the press conference, described the government's plan to foster partnerships that aim to improve public health. India has worked closely with the Gates Foundation on nutrition and vaccination programmes, Bansal said. The two will now expand their partnership to include agriculture and maternal and child health chal-



Bill Gates addresses a press conference in New Delhi on Thursday

## Engineering, B-school campuses lap up boom-time lollies

KALPANA PATHAK & SHIVANI SHINDE  
Mumbai, 24 March

India Inc, specially start-ups, are rolling out the goodies like never before in engineering and business school campuses. Salary hike isn't enough anymore, it's time for stock options, promise of deferred entrepreneurship and much more.

When Nihar Jain of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay, took up the job offered by a start-up company, what lured him was not the salary package, but the stock option. And Jain wasn't alone. A host of graduates from India's premier institutes have opted for start-up jobs

for the same reason.

Amit Bansal, CEO of PurpleLeap, a Pearson-Educomp company specialising in entry level talent management, says start-ups can't afford to pay salaries as high as large companies do. So they are trying to compensate through stock options.

Companies are also offering candidates the option to work on their own ventures even while working with them. For instance, at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, three students have got a job profile where they can work for first two years at the firm and later build their own entrepreneurship venture, of course with the firm's help.

Salary increases have been over 20 per cent this year after a gap of over two years. "Unlike the past couple of years, most companies this year have increased entry level salaries by 15-20 per cent, though bulk recruiters like IT companies have not joined the bandwagon," said the placements chairperson of Mumbai-based Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJI).

At VJI, Microsoft has increased the salary from ₹10.34 lakh in 2010 to ₹12.5 lakh this year, an increase of 21 per cent. When contacted, a Microsoft India spokesperson said: "We continue to aim to become one of the most attractive organisations on engineering campuses, both in terms of

compensation and overall employee value proposition."

V Suresh, executive vice-president and head-sales, Naukri, says entry level salaries offered at the placements of engineering and management institutes have been raised by many sectors. The hike will depend on the type of institute (Tier I, II or III) and the profile for which the student is being hired. "These hikes also highlight the demand-supply gap. During the slowdown, many of the firms didn't hire. Now, with markets being buoyant, firms are back at campuses," he added.

Students who are hired by companies like Microsoft, Google and Yahoo, tend to draw a fatter pay pack-

age. Those who are hired for a research and development profile get a pay package in the range of ₹6.5 lakh to ₹18 lakh, according to industry experts.

Students in engineering institutes began working for start-ups when, on the back the global meltdown, big-ticket firms stopped flocking to their campuses. For instance, in 2008, IIT-Bombay's Entrepreneurship Cell joined hands with the National Entrepreneurship Network to organise a campus recruitment programme for start-ups, which saw enrolment of over 200 students.

**Page 7**  
International offers on the rise at IIM-A



**SALARY HIKE IS PASSE,** firms offer stock options, deferred entrepreneurship and more

# Independent directors — unplugged

Rajat Gupta has offered to be relieved of his responsibilities as the chairman of the executive board of Indian School of Business. The board will meet on April 2 and take a call on his offer. Gupta, ever since the Securities Exchange Commission charged him on March 1 of leaking market-sensitive information to Raj Rajaratnam, has resigned from the boards of Procter & Gamble, Harman, American Airlines, Genpact and New Silk Route. He has also exited the Public Health Foundation of India and Emergency Management & Research Institute.

The final word on Gupta is not yet out. It's perfectly possible that he may walk out exonerated of all charges. What the episode has done is turned the spotlight on the role of independent directors on the boards of companies. The matter has been brewing for a while. A few days ago, on March 11, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) had barred three independent directors of Pyramid Saimira from sitting on the board of any listed company for two years for giving false and misleading statements.

Rules laid down by Sebi stipulate that independent directors ought to make up one-half of a board led by an executive chairman and one-third of a board that has a non-executive chairman. The idea is that promoters shouldn't enrich themselves at the cost of the business and the company should comply with all rules and regulations. The idea

is noble. But rarely does one hear dissent from an independent director.

For the independent director, this is easy money. Each board meeting can fetch him up to ₹20,000. The law allows 1 per cent of the profit to be distributed amongst the independent directors, and there is no cap on the stock options that can be offered. Prithvi Haldea of Prime Database had found a retired bureaucrat who had made ₹2.2 crore in 2007-08 from his directorship in ten listed companies and two foreign companies. His income from four unlisted companies was on top of that. It's a cosy club. No promoter wants strangers on the board, and independent directors are only too happy to play along.

Analjit Singh has tried something new. Nine independent directors have been appointed on the boards of four of his companies: Max India, Max New York Life, Max Healthcare and Max Bupa. Singh claims that he didn't know seven or eight of them. According to him, executive-search specialist Egon Zehnder helped him zero in on the attributes required for the directors and then helped him find such people. On the Max India board, though he is the chairman, Singh does not represent the interests of the family. Instead, his family has appointed Ash-



**WHITE KNIGHT**  
BHUPESH BHANDARI

wini Windlass, one-time head of Max India, to represent its interests. If the family has an issue, it is raised by Windlass and Singh may have to answer it!

But such instances are few. Primedirectors, a website promoted by Haldea to serve as a platform for independent directors, lists no fewer than 14,797 profiles — tech-

nocrats, retired civil servants and army personnel, doctors, engineers, chartered accountants, corporate honchos and lawyers, etc — and another 5,603 profiles are being processed. This should have been mined by all listed companies because these are highly-qualified people — there are 698 IIM graduates, 260 serving and former professors of IIMs, IITs and IISc, 1,157 hold doctorates and 85 per cent have work experience of at least ten years. Yet, Haldea says that only 350 companies have searched the website extensively and some 200 independent directors have been picked from it. To put the number in perspective, there are 4,946 companies listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange that need to comply with the rules on independent directors.

Their quality too remains suspect. In a paper titled "Independent Directors, A Myth", written in May 2009, Haldea had said that 198 independent directors were non-graduates, of

which 75 per cent had not gone to college, and another 3,500 were plain graduates with no additional qualification. Of course, higher education is no guarantee of good governance but qualified people on the board can help. There was a time when Ranbaxy, India's largest drug maker, didn't have even one scientist on its board. However, several followers of the Radhasoami Satsang, of which the former promoter family happened to be followers, were appointed on the board.

Disillusioned with the whole concept of independent directors, Haldea says the work of the market regulator and auditors cannot be assigned to independent directors. Do they have the tools and expertise to detect fraud? Excessive policing hasn't helped the cause of corporate governance. Ever since the Satyam scam broke out in January 2009, Haldea says that over 2,000 high-quality independent directors have resigned. This is not a good sign.

Satyam is a good example of what independent directors can do. The independent directors on its board drew a lot of flak because they had no clue of Raju's misdemeanours carried out over seven long years. But directors appointed by the government did a wonderful job of holding the company together at a time when it appeared very close to implosion. Many of them worked overtime, personally called customers to hold on to Satyam and assured them of high-quality service delivery.

Economic Times, ND  
25-Mar-11 p-11

Hindustan ND  
25/03/2011 p-10

## आईआईटी कानपुर को दिए सात करोड़

नई दिल्ली। भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) कानपुर के पूर्व छात्र राजीव मोटवानी की पत्नी और पुत्रियों ने संस्थान को 15 लाख अमेरिका डॉलर यानी करीब सात करोड़ रुपये की राशि दान में दी है। गूगल के फाउंडर टीम में रहे राजीव मोटवानी का 47 साल की उम्र में पांच जून 2009 को निधन हो गया था। आईआईटी कानपुर में उनकी यादों को सजोने के लिए उनकी पत्नी आशा जडेजा मोटवानी ने उनके 49वें जन्मदिन पर गुरुवार को यह ऐलान किया।

आईआईटी के छात्रों द्वारा अब तक 200 करोड़ रुपये से भी अधिक की राशि अपने संस्थानों को दान में दी जा चुकी है। (वि.सं.)

## IIT गांधीनगर में डिजाइन का अनिवार्य पाठ्यक्रम

अविनाश नायर | पराग दवे

अहमदाबाद

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, गांधीनगर से पास करने वाले हर छात्र को डिजाइन की पढ़ाई अनिवार्य तौर पर करनी होगी। संस्थान पहले साल से अंडर ग्रेजुएट पाठ्यक्रम में डिजाइन का अनिवार्य कोर्स भी लागू करने पर विचार कर रहा है।

आईआईटी गांधीनगर के डायरेक्टर सुधीर कुमार जैन ने कहा, 'हमारी समझ से बहुत शुरुआत से ही इंजीनियरिंग की पढ़ाई के साथ डिजाइन को अनिवार्य विषय कर देना चाहिए। हम पहले साल से ही अंडर ग्रेजुएट पाठ्यक्रम के साथ डिजाइन को अनिवार्य विषय के तौर पर शामिल करने का मन बना रहे हैं। इससे सभी विभागों के छात्र डिजाइन को बेहतर

### अंडर ग्रेजुएट में डिजाइन

आईआईटी

गांधीनगर संभवतः

पहला ऐसा संस्थान है, जो अंडर ग्रेजुएट स्तर पर डिजाइन को अनिवार्य विषय के रूप में पढ़ाने का मन बना रहा है

डंग से समझ सकेंगे।' यह संस्थान उन नए आईआईटी में शामिल है, जो अकादमिक सत्र 2008-09 में शुरू हुए हैं। इन संस्थानों में मैकेनिकल, इलेक्ट्रिकल और केमिकल इंजीनियरिंग पाठ्यक्रम पढ़ाए जा रहे हैं। आईआईटी गांधीनगर संभवतः पहला ऐसा संस्थान है, जो अंडर ग्रेजुएट स्तर पर डिजाइन को अनिवार्य विषय के रूप में पढ़ाने का मन बना रहा है। जैन ने कहा, 'हम यहां से ऐसे सीईओ देना चाहते हैं, जो न सिर्फ तकनीकी क्षेत्र में पारंगत हों, बल्कि सभी मुद्दों पर अपनी समझ रखते हों। डिजाइन विषय को शामिल करने से मैकेनिकल और इलेक्ट्रिकल इंजीनियरों को फायदा होगा। इस विषय में डिजाइन की बेसिक बातें पढ़ाई जाएंगी। एनआईडी के प्रोफेसर प्रद्युम्न व्यास ने कहा कि आज की इंडस्ट्री में डिजाइन बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हो गया है।

# आइआइटी संशोधन विधेयक लोकसभा से पारित

## तकनीकी शिक्षा

- ♦ बिहार और उग्र के सांसदों ने किया बीएचयू में नए आइआइटी खुलने का विरोध

नई दिल्ली, जागरण ब्यूरो : उच्च शिक्षण संस्थानों की देश में भारी कमी है। दूसरे राज्य आइआइटी और आइआइएम जैसे हाई प्रोफाइल संस्थानों के लिए केंद्र की ओर निहारा करते हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार के सांसदों ने बीएचयू में नया आइआइटी बनाने का खुलकर विरोध किया है। सपा, बसपा और राजद के सदस्यों ने गुरुवार को संसद में केंद्र सरकार की इस पहल के लिए उसे आड़े हाथों भी लिया। इतना ही नहीं सपा के कई सदस्यों ने लोकसभा में इसके विरोध में बहिर्गमन भी किया। उनके विरोध के बावजूद लोकसभा ने आइआइटी संशोधन विधेयक को पारित कर दिया। बसपा के धनंजय सिंह और डा. बलीराम की आपत्ति इस बात को लेकर थी कि विधेयक में आइटी बीएचयू को ही अलग से आइआइटी बनाने का प्रावधान किया जा रहा है। इससे बीएचयू का मौजूदा स्वरूप प्रभावित होगा। धनंजय सिंह का कहना था कि आज बीएचयू से आइटी को अलग कर आइआइटी बनाया जा रहा है तो कल मेडिकल और फिर एग्रीकल्चर की बात आयेगी। उन्होंने कहा कि राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर सर्वेक्षण कराके पता लगाना चाहिए कि देश में कहां कहां ऐसे संस्थानों की जरूरत है और उस आधार पर और भी अधिक आइआइटी खोले जाने चाहिए। बसपा सदस्यों का कहना था कि बनारस में आइआइटी बनाना है तो यह बीएचयू से अलग बनाया जाए। राजद के रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह ने कहा कि बीएचयू का पहले से ऐतिहासिक महत्व रहा है। सरकार के इस कदम का अर्थ समझ से परे है। उन्होंने प्रश्न किया कि सरकार को नया आइआइटी बनाने से रोकता कौन है।

# आईआईटी से बीएचयू की सांस्कृतिक विरासत को नहीं पहुंचेगी चोट: सिब्बल

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली, 24 मार्च। लोकसभा ने गुरुवार को सदन में हुई लंबी चर्चा के बाद प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (संशोधन) विधेयक 2010 को मंजूरी दे दी। सदस्यों की तरफ से चर्चा को दौरान आईटी बीएचयू को आईआईटी बीएचयू का दर्जा दिए जाने से संस्थान की सांस्कृतिक विरासत को चोट पहुंचने की संभावना को ले कर मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने यह भरोसा दिया कि सरकार ऐसा कोई काम नहीं करेगी जा रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि मैं बनारस हिंदू विश्वविद्यालय के सांस्कृतिक और ऐतिहासिक महत्त्व को समझता हूँ। मैंने इसे स्वयं अनुभव किया है। हम ऐसा कोई काम नहीं करने जा रहे हैं जिससे इस संस्थान और पंडित मदन मोहन मालवीय की भावना को ठेस पहुंचे। चर्चा का जबाब देते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए ऐसा प्रावधान किया गया है कि आईआईटी बीएचयू के संचालक मंडल के अध्यक्ष के रूप में पहले तीन साल तक बीएचयू के कुलपति होंगे जबकि इस अवधि के बाद बीएचयू कुलपति मंडल के उपाध्यक्ष होंगे।

प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (संशोधन) विधेयक 2010 के तहत आठ नए आईआईटी की स्थापना और आईटी बीएचयू को आईआईटी बीएचयू का दर्जा दिए जाने का प्रावधान है। चर्चा में हिस्सा लेते हुए सपा, बसपा, राजद समेत कई दलों के सदस्यों ने आईटी बीएचयू को आईआईटी बीएचयू के रूप में बदले जाने पर जाहिर किया और कहा कि इससे संस्थान

का मान कम होगा। सरकार बीएचयू परिसर की बजाए आईआईटी बनारस में कहीं और स्थापित कर सकती है।

कपिल सिब्बल ने आईआईटी में प्रोफेसर्स की कमी की बात स्वीकार करते हुए कहा कि सरकार ने इस दिशा में महत्त्वपूर्ण कोशिश की जा रही है जिसमें उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त आईआईटी छात्रों को शिक्षक के रूप में तैयार करना शामिल है। शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में आईआईटी के महत्त्व को रेखांकित करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि देश में 22 करोड़ बच्चे स्कूली शिक्षा के दायरे में हैं लेकिन इनमें से महज 1.3 करोड़ बच्चे विश्वविद्यालय स्तर तक पहुंच पाते हैं। अब शेष करीब 20 करोड़ बच्चों को विश्वविद्यालय में पहुंचाना बड़ी चुनौती है। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार ने सकल नामांकन दर को वर्तमान 12 फीसद से बढ़कर 2020 तक 30 फीसद करने का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है। इसके लिए 13 से 14 हजार नए कालेजों की जरूरत होगी। 13 या 14 आईआईटी से कुछ नहीं होगा। इस उद्देश्य के लिए सार्वजनिक-निजी साझेदारी के तहत गुणवत्तापूर्ण शिक्षा प्रदान करने वाले उत्कृष्ट उच्च शैक्षणिक संस्थान स्थापित करने की जरूरत है। छात्रों के आईआईटी से शिक्षा पाने के बाद विदेश में एमबीए करके वहीं बस जाने पर चिंता जताई।

इससे पहले चर्चा में हिस्सा लेते हुए सपा के शैलेंद्र कुमार ने भी योग्य शिक्षकों की कमी का मामला उठाते हुए कहा कि शिक्षकों के लिए अलग से प्रशिक्षण की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। उन्होंने देश के पिछड़े राज्यों में भी ऐसे

संस्थान खोलने की मांग की। जद(एकी) के कौशलेन्द्र कुमार ने कहा कि नालंदा विश्वविद्यालय के साथ वहां एक भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान खोला जाना चाहिए। उन्होंने इन संस्थानों में अध्यापन के लिए बाहर से शिक्षक बुलाने के बजाय स्थायी रूप से संकाय सदस्यों की नियुक्ति करने का सुझाव दिया। माकपा के सईदुल हक ने भी आईआईटी संस्थानों में शिक्षकों के खाली पड़े पदों को भरने और गुणवत्ता परक शिक्षा सुनिश्चित करने की मांग की। उन्होंने पश्चिम बंगाल में खड़गपुर के अलावा एक और संस्थान खोलने की मांग की।

बसपा के धनंजय सिंह ने कहा कि विधेयक में आईआईटी-बीएचयू को अलग से आईआईटी संस्थान बनाने का प्रावधान है लेकिन सरकार को विश्वविद्यालयों के स्वरूप को प्रभावित नहीं करना चाहिए। उन्होंने कहा कि राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर सर्वेक्षण कराके पता लगाना चाहिए कि देश में कहां कहां ऐसे संस्थानों की जरूरत है और उस आधार पर और भी ज्यादा आईआईटी खोले जाने चाहिए।

भाजपा के जनार्दन स्वामी ने कहा कि बुनियादी स्तर पर ही देश में गुणवत्ता परक शिक्षा पर ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए। कांग्रेस के भक्तचरण दास ने नक्सली प्रभावित इलाकों में भी इस तरह के तकनीकी प्रशिक्षण केंद्र खोलने की मांग की। कांग्रेस के थोकचोम मीनया ने कहा कि सभी नए आईआईटी संस्थानों में पढ़ाई जल्द शीघ्र शुरू होनी चाहिए। कांग्रेस के केएस राव ने भी शिक्षकों की कमी का मुद्दा उठाया।

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## आईआईटी संस्थानों का होगा बेहतर विकास

आईआईटी संस्थानों को अगले दो साल में राष्ट्रीय ज्ञान नेटवर्क से जोड़ा जाएगा : कपिल सिब्बल

नई दिल्ली (ए।)। भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों (आईआईटी) में विशेषज्ञ शिक्षकों की कमी को ध्यान में रखते हुए इन संस्थानों को अगले दो साल में राष्ट्रीय ज्ञान नेटवर्क से जोड़ा जाएगा। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने लोकसभा में गुरुवार को प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (संशोधन) विधेयक 2010 पर चर्चा के जवाब में यह जानकारी दी। श्री सिब्बल ने माना कि देश के आईआईटी संस्थानों में विशेषज्ञ शिक्षकों की कमी है, जिसके कारण विद्यार्थियों की पढ़ाई प्रभावित होती है। उन्होंने कहा कि इस समस्या के तात्कालिक निपटारे के लिए सरकार राष्ट्रीय ज्ञान नेटवर्क से सभी आईआईटी संस्थानों को जोड़ रही है, ताकि दूसरे आईआईटी संस्थानों के विद्यार्थी इस माध्यम से पाठ्यक्रम संबंधी समस्याओं से उबर सकें। श्री सिब्बल ने बताया कि सरकार आईआईटी संस्थानों के विशेषज्ञ प्रोफेसर्स को सहायता से विभिन्न पाठ्यक्रमों के

लिए ऐसे पाठ्य सामग्रीयार तैयार करा रही है, जो सरकारी संस्थानों के अलावा निजी प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों के विद्यार्थियों की पुष्टि के लिए भी उपलब्ध होंगी। उनके जवाब के बाद सदन ने विधेयक ध्वनिमत से पारित कर दिया। श्री सिब्बल ने कहा कि सरकार कुछ वर्षों में आईआईटी संस्थानों में एम. टेक पाठ्यक्रमों को बढ़ावा देगी, ताकि इनकी पढ़ाई के लिए विद्यार्थियों को देश से बाहर न जाना पड़े। इससे न केवल प्रतिभा पलायन रुकेगा, बल्कि धीरे-धीरे विशेषज्ञ शिक्षकों की भी बचत खड़ी हो जाएगी। उन्होंने कहा कि आईआईटी कालेजों में आरक्षण के मद्देनजर 54 प्रतिशत सीटें बर्बाद गई हैं, लेकिन बड़े पैमाने पर शिक्षकों के पद रिक्त हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि पुराने

आईआईटी कालेजों में शिक्षकों के कुल 1266 पद रिक्त हैं, जबकि नए कालेजों में यह संख्या 515 है। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार हर राज्य में आईआईटी कालेज खोलने की दिशा में प्रयासरत है, लेकिन इसके लिए बुनियादी ढांचे का अभाव

है। सरकार इस बारे में गम्भीरता से विचार कर रही है। उन्होंने राज्य सरकारों से भी इसमें सहयोग करने की अपील की। श्री सिब्बल ने देश में बेहतर गुणवत्ता वाली शिक्षा उपलब्ध करने की सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता दोहराई। इससे पूर्व विधेयक पर चर्चा में भाग लेते हुए सदस्यों ने भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों में शिक्षकों की कमी पर गहरी चिंता जताते हुए सरकार से इस समस्या से निपटने के लिए उचित उपाय करने की मांग की। उन्होंने कहा कि इन संस्थानों में अनुसंधान का काम भी कम हो गया है। भारतीय जनता पार्टी के अर्जुन राम मेघवाल ने इन संस्थानों से पढ़कर बड़ी संख्या में छात्रों के नौकरी के लिए विदेश चले जाने की

प्रवृत्ति की ओर सरकार का ध्यान दिलाया, उन्होंने पूछा कि क्या छात्रों से पढ़ाई के समय यह वादा नहीं लिया जा सकता कि संस्थान से निकलने के पांच वर्ष तक वे देश में रहकर काम करेंगे। कांग्रेस के धनंजय मीनया का कहना था कि इन संस्थानों में शिक्षकों के सैकड़ों पद रिक्त पड़े हुए हैं। दूसरी ओर जो आठ नए संस्थान खोले गए हैं उनमें से भी कुछ में ही सत्र शुरू हो पाया है। समाजवादी पार्टी के शैलेंद्र कुमार ने भी योग्य शिक्षकों की कमी की ओर ध्यान दिलाया। उन्होंने अन्य पिछड़े राज्यों में भी प्रौद्योगिकी तथा अन्य ऐसे संस्थान खोलने का अनुरोध किया। जनता दल यू के शैलेंद्र कुमार ने विहार के नालंदा में एक भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान खोलने तथा झारखंड के सिदौर में बिरला प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान की भी भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान का दर्जा देने की मांग की।



■ देश के आईआईटी संस्थानों में विशेषज्ञ शिक्षकों की कमी है - सिब्बल

■ अन्य पिछड़े राज्यों में भी प्रौद्योगिकी तथा अन्य ऐसे संस्थान खोले जाएं : शैलेंद्र कुमार