

Newspaper Clips

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**DEVANG KHAKHAR**

IIT BOMBAY DIRECTOR

MARK WRIGHTON

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY CHANCELLOR

IIT-B, US Varsity Co-opt Industry

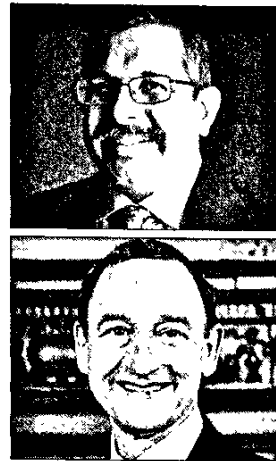
Collaborations between academic institutions – on various corporate and social mandates – can become more dynamic with inputs from industry. IIT Bombay and Washington University in St Louis, in the US, are currently engaged in as many as 25 different projects, ranging from clean and renewable energy, to strengthening the economic prosperity of a country by reaching out to its weakest communities. On Monday, for the first time, they invited both MNCs and Indian companies to have their say on their collaborative initiatives. Academic tie-ups work best when triangulated in a relationship with industry, IIT Bombay director **Devang Khakhar** and Washington University chancellor **Mark Wrighton** tell **Labonita Ghosh**.

Why do you feel the need to reach out to industry?

Each of our institutions constantly interacts with industry at various levels. Now we are trying to see if we can bring industry in as a third partner. For a collaboration like this to be successful, there are two things required. One, we should be delivering things that are relevant to industry. Second, we need financial support to execute projects. We look to industry for this. Our collaboration has two major thrusts – one, in the area of energy, and the other in the area of access, or how energy and environment issues relate to the poorest people of India.

What have been your touch points with industry so far?

We have a relationship with a number of corporations. The Indo-US clean energy project, in which both our institutions are partners, has seen over \$25 million come from both the US and Indian governments (in equal measure), and companies from both countries have pledged another \$ 25 million.



EAST MEETS WEST: Devang Khakhar & Mark Wrighton

Our meeting with Indian companies is intended to introduce the work we are doing, and see if they find any value in it for themselves.

What are the takeaways for the students from both institutions?

At Washington University, most of our students are from the US, but many of them are going to work for corporations with global interests. India is a very important country, and we believe both our students and faculty at WU would benefit from collaborative opportunities in India. We purposefully sought out a partnership with IIT Bombay because we know it is one of the premier institutions in India.

The students of IIT-B get to interact with the students and faculty of Washington University [the latter includes 17 Nobel Laureates associated with the school in various capacities]. In future, when they enter the workforce, they will be collaborating with people across borders. This is training for them on how to work in this new environment.

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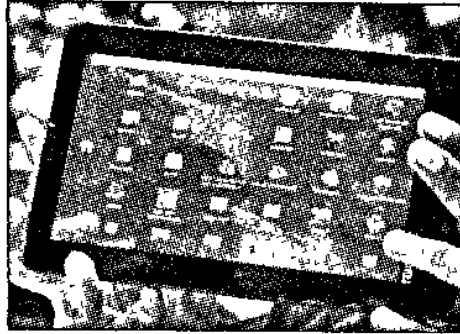
आईआईटी बांबे को मिली आकाश की दूसरी खेप

● अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय द्वारा आकाश टैबलेट की खरीद से पीछे हटने के बयान के बाद मचे हायतौबा के बीच डेटाविंड कंपनी ने आईआईटी बांबे को

सोमवार को इसकी दूसरी खेप सौंप दी। इस खेप में लगभग 25000 टैबलेट हैं। इससे पहले सिर्फ 17100 टैबलेट ही डेटाविंड ने दिया था, जबकि उसे एक लाख टैबलेट आपूर्ति का आर्डर दिया गया है।

इस बीच डेटाविंड कंपनी ने मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय तथा अखबारों को एक मेल भेजकर दावा किया है कि आईआईटी बांबे से कस्टम ड्यूटी में छूट संबंधी प्रमाण पत्र देने में देरी के चलते आकाश की आपूर्ति में देरी हो रही है। डेटाविंड के बयान में कहा गया है कि 29400 टैबलेट आईआईटी को भेजे जा रहे हैं। इसके अलावा डेटाविंड सब कंट्रैक्टर्स द्वारा 23500 टैबलेट तैयार हो चुके हैं तथा 30,000 टैबलेट तैयार करने का काम चल रहा है। कंपनी ने 31 मार्च तक पूरे एक लाख टैबलेट आईआईटी बांबे को आपूर्ति कर देने का दावा किया है। कंपनी के दावे के अनुसार



देरी के लिए
आईआईटी को
बताया जिम्मेदार
31 मार्च तक
एक लाख टैबलेट
आपूर्ति का दावा

वर्तमान में आकाश-2 के निर्माण का काम दिल्ली, नोएडा, अमृतसर, रायपुर एवं बंगलूरु में किया जा रहा है। उल्लेखनीय है कि डेटाविंड को 2365 रुपये की दर से मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय ने एक लाख आकाश टैबलेट की आपूर्ति का ठेका वर्ष 2011 में दिया था। आकाश के पहले संस्करण में खामियों के चलते आकाश-2 लाना पड़ा तथा इस टैबलेट की आपूर्ति में लगातार देरी के चलते कंपनी को और मोहलत दी गई। अब 31 मार्च 2013 तक कंपनी को कुल एक लाख आकाश की आपूर्ति करनी है।

UPA puts project on fast-track

AGE CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, MARCH 25

The Union government is moving ahead with its plan of establishing a National Aviation University (NAU) at Rae Bareli, which is also the Lok Sabha constituency of UPA chairperson and Congress president Sonia Gandhi. A meeting of the Governing Council of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Academy (IGRUA) — attended by the MP from Amethi (and Congress vice-president) Rahul Gandhi — was held at the civil aviation ministry on Monday to discuss various issues pertaining to IGRUA that include establishment of the NAU in the IGRUA complex at Fursatganj in Rae Bareli in Uttar Pradesh. The meeting was also attended by the minister of state for civil aviation (and Congress MP) K.C. Venugopal. IGRUA is the flying-training academy at Rae Bareli established by the Union Government earlier.

The government is planning to lay the foundation stone for the NAU

complex in Rae Bareli in June this year and hopes to begin the academic session at the new university by July, 2014. The total project outlay for the NAU for a five-year period has been pegged at ₹202 crore. The proposed NAU will conduct certificate, diploma and degree programmes in various streams of civil aviation in order to create a strong pool of technical manpower in the civil aviation sector.

Civil aviation ministry sources said a Detailed Project Report (DPR) on the proposed NAU — that was received from consultant firm KPMG — has now been sent to the Planning Commission seeking in-principle approval. After that, the proposal will be eventually placed before the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA). After getting the CCEA approval, it is proposed that the draft NAU Bill — which has currently been sent to the law ministry for vetting — be placed as the NAU Bill before Parliament during the current Budget Session.

Nadar to put ₹2,500 cr in education

LEARNING CURVE HCL founder bats for university, college and school chain

Vivek Sinha *IT/MA/10V*
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NEW DELHI: In a steady expansion from his IT-led business empire to the emerging area of education, billionaire Shiv Nadar in his role as a philanthropist, plans to pump in about ₹2,500 crore over the next five years to ramp up his existing ventures that include an engineering college, several schools and a private university.

The fresh round of funding would be made through the Shiv Nadar Foundation, which has already put in close to ₹2,000 crore to set up several educational institutes across the country.

Nadar did not divulge specific details about investment, and said the funds would go into expansion activities in the form of more schools and an infrastructure upgrade. Nadar has committed 10% of his personal wealth for philanthropic causes such as education. The new investments are a part of this commitment.

“Over the next four-five years we plan to invest around ₹2,500 crore to expand our educational initiatives in the country,” Nadar told *HT*. He said his aspiration is to turn students into leaders and instill a cross-disciplinary learning process.

Education is not an entirely new endeavour for Nadar. The Shiv Nadar Foundation suc-



■ Nadar: schooling drive

cessfully runs two Vidya Gyan Schools in rural UP, runs management and engineering colleges and in April 2011 set up a research-led multi-disciplinary university at Greater Noida.

In 2011, the Foundation also announced two Shiv Nadar Schools at Gurgaon and Noida respectively. The plan is to open around 25 more Shiv Nadar schools across the country over the next 10 years.

Nadar, who is the chairman of HCL Corporation — the holding company for HCL Technologies and HCL Infosystems — scripted India's software services success story along with Infosys' Narayana Murthy and Wipro's Azim Premji in the eighties and the nineties. Infosys, Wipro and HCL employ around three lakh computer professionals across the globe.