Newspaper Clips March 28, 2015

Times of India ND 28/03/2015 P-12

Acrimony limited to IIT Ropar

Panel Sticks To Earlier Picks For Others

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New Delhi: The acrimony over the appointment of IIT directors was limited to IIT Ropar since search-cum-selection committee that met on Sunday has persisted with the earlier choice made for IIT Patna and Bhubaneshwar. However, for Ropar, the committee is learnt to have recommended the name of Ratnam Varada Rajakumar, professor of electronics in IIT Kharagpur.

For IIT Patna, the panel has recommended Pushpak

IITs should be left alone, says Kakodkar

uclear scientist Anil Kakodkar on Friday reiterated his stand that IITs "should be left alone" to take their decisions. He was speaking to the media for the first time in a public forum after the controversy had surfaced. After inaugurating the Innovation Festival 2015, he said, "My term was

anyway over. I had just finished attending the last core meeting and wanted to move on. I had informed the ministry that I will not be available for the selection committee meeting on March 22."

When asked if he approved of the candidates selected as directors of the IITs at Patna, Ropar and Bhubaneshwar, he said there was never a problem with individuals, but the process. TNN

Bhattacharyya, professor of computer science and engineering in IIT Bombay. For IIT Bhubaneswar, it has recommended Sarit Kumar Das, professor of mechanical engineering in IIT Madras. The names have been sent to President Pranab Mukherjee, visitor to IITs, for approval.

Sources said the contro-

versy was ignited by an IIT director who alleged that some eligible candidates were being deliberately ignored by the search-cum-selection panel. He claimed that a candidate from IIT Kharagpur, who had held important posts outside the IIT system, was left out in the very first round. In case of IIT Ropar, many names like Manoj Dutta of IIT Delhi and Rajiv Sekhar of IIT Kanpur were discussed but no decision could be taken.

By then, it was decided to hold the meeting of the search-cum-selection committee again and it was decided to call all 37 candidates afresh. A peeved Anil Kakodkar, a member of the search-cum-selection committee, resigned as chairperson of IIT Bombay. Though he took back his resignation at the request of HRD minister Smriti Irani, Kakodkar did not attend the panel meeting.

Two other members of the search panel —M S Ananth, former director, IIT Madras, and Lila Poonawalla, chairperson, IIT Ropar — also did not attend the meeting which was chaired by Irani.

Indian Express ND 28/03/2015 P-11

Leave IITs alone, can't talk to 36 applicants in a day and choose (directors): Kakodkar

DIPTI SINGH

MUMBAI, MARCH 27

BREAKING his silence a fortnight after he quit as chairman of the board of governors of IIT-Bombay owing to a "disagreement" with the Human Resource Development (HRD) ministry over selection of IIT directors, nuclear scientist Anil Kakodkar on Friday said IITs "should be left alone". He also described the government's new selection process as "very casual".

"IITs are institutions

which have been established as centres of excellence. I think they should be left alone... The new selection process is very casual. The selection process of the directors of IITs has to be dealt with seriously. You cannot talk to 36 people in a day and make a selection. That is not right," Kakodkar told reporters while responding to their queries at the Nehru Science Centre innovation festival he inaugurated in Worli.

On March 18, The Indian Express first reported that



Anil Kakodkar in Mumbai on Friday.

Kakodkar had quit ahead of a meeting of a search-cum-selection committee, chaired by minister Smriti Irani, which was to interview candidates for directors of three IITs. A member of the selection committee and chairman of the Standing

EXPRESS

Committee of the IIT Council (SCIC), he resigned on March 12 after "disagreement" over the choice of an IIT director.

As many as 37 candidates for the director's job at IIT Patna, Bhubaneswar and Ropar had been shortlisted and a dozen were called for an interview by the committee on February 16.

While a consensus seemed to be emerging on the choice of directors for IIT Patna and Bhubaneswar, there was no agreement on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Kakodkar

IIT Ropar, The process involving 12 candidates was later cancelled and all 37 in the original shortlist were called for a new round of interviews starting March 22. Kakodkar gave it a misc saying he had "prior engagements".

Asked Friday whether he resigned because he was upset over the ministry interference in the selection process, he said: "I resigned because my term is about to get over and also the last meeting of the IIT-Bombay's board of governors is over. I, therefore, wanted to step down."

After he resigned, Irani reached out to him and he agreed to stay on. The ministry said his resignation had not been accepted, and that the government was glad he had agreed to withdraw it. His tenure ends in May.

Navbharat Times ND 28/03/2015 P-12

'IIT' निदेशकों की नियुक्ति मजाक नहीं'

एजेंसी, नई दिल्ली

आईआईटी बांबे के बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स के अध्यक्ष पद से इस्तीफा देने वाले न्यूक्लियर साइंटिस्ट अनिल काकोदकर ने चुप्पी तोड़ते हुए कहा कि इस शैक्षिक संस्थान के बोर्ड का गठन करने में गंभीरता बरतनी चाहिए। उन्होंने कहा कि केवल 36 लोगों से एक दिन में बात कर लेने से ही चयन की प्रक्रिया पूरी नहीं की जा सकती।

ऐसी चर्चा है कि काकोदकर ने एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री से चयन प्रक्रिया पर विवाद के बाद ही इस्तीफा दिया था। बताया जाता है कि कुछ आईआईटी डायरेक्टरों के चयन को लेकर काकोदकर सहमत नहीं थे। काकोदकर का कार्यकाल मई में खत्म हो रहा है। हालांकि एचआरडी मिनिस्टर स्मृति ईरानी ने उनसे फोन पर वार्ता कर उनसे अपने पद पर बने रहने की अपील की है। काकोदकर ने कहा कि वह आगे बढ़ना चाहते हैं इसलिए उन्होंने ये पद छोड़ा है। हालांकि उन्होंने चयन प्रक्रिया को लेकर उठे विवाद पर कुछ भी बोलने से मना कर दिया। काकोदकर का इस्तीफा अब तक एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री से विवाद पर काकोदकर ने तोड़ी चुप्पी



मंजूर नहीं किया गया है।

क्या है विवाद

बताया जाता है कि आईआईटी पटना और भुवनेश्वर के निदेशकों को लेकर सहमति बन गई थी लेकिन आईआईटी रोपड़ के मामले में विवाद बढ़ा। मिनिस्ट्री में इंटरव्यू के लिए 37 कैंडिडेट बुलाए गए थे। इस तरह से निदेशकों की नियुक्ति को लेकर ही काकोदकर खुश नहीं थे।

Hari Bhoomi ND 28.03.2015 P-02

आईआईटी निदेशकों की नियुक्ति को राष्ट्रपति की मंजूरी का इंतजार

कविता जोशी .नई दिल्ली

आईआईटी रोपड़, भुवनेश्वर और पटना में निदेशकों की नियुक्ति को महामहिम राष्ट्रपति प्रणब मुखर्जी की मंजूरी का इंतजार है। केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय की चयन समिति ने इस बाबत तीन नामों की सिफारिश राष्ट्रपति से कर दी है। मंत्रालय के सूत्रों ने हरिभूमि को बताया कि 22 मार्च को इस बाबत हुई बैठक में कुल 36 लोगों का साक्षात्कार किया गया जिसमें तीन लोगों के नामों को स्वीकृति दी गई है। इसमें आईआईटी कानपुर के मेटलॅर्जिकल इंजीनियरिंग विभाग के प्रोफेसर राजीव शेखर, आईआईटी मुंबई के कंप्यूटर विज्ञान विभाग के प्रोफेसर पुष्पक भट्टाचार्या और सुदीप्त दास शामिल है।

सूत्र ने कहा कि बीते दिनों तीनों आईआईटी संस्थानों में निदेशकों की नियुक्ति को लेकर जो विवाद हुआ था वो खत्म हो गया है। वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक

अनिल काकोदकर 31 मई तक अपना कार्यकाल पूरा करेंगे। जहां तक काकोड़कर का 12 मार्च को आईआईटी निदेशकों के पैनल से इस्तीफा देने का मसला है तो उसे एचआरडी मंत्रालय ने वापस ले लिया था। 22 मार्च की बैठक में निदेशकों की नियुक्ति को लेकर पैनल के कुछ सदस्य अनुपस्थित थे। लेकिन फिर भी नियुक्ति को लेकर जितने कोरम की आवश्यकता थी वो पूरा था। सूत्र ने कहा कि निदेशकों की नियुक्ति का चयन पैनल कुल 11 लोगों का होता है, जिसमें में करीब 8 लोग उस दौरान मौजूद थे। इससे साफ है कि कोरम पूरा हो गया और तीनों निदेशकों की नियुक्ति को मंजूरी दे दी गई। कोरम में रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (डीआरडीओ) के पूर्व महानिदेशक और वर्तमान में नीति आयोग के सदस्य डॉ.वी.के.सारस्वत, आईएसएम धनबाद के अध्यक्ष अशोक मिश्रा मौजूद थे।

CNR Rao says search committee should select IIT directors

India's top scientist and Bharat Ratna awardee, CNR Rao questions human resource development ministry's selection process for directors of Indian Institute of Technology and insisted on the need for an 'eminent' search committee for selecting them. Speaking at the technology fest at IIT Roorkee, the scientist expressed concern over the way science and technology sector has been neglected by the government.

http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-cnr-rao-says-search-committee-should-select-iit-directors-2072536

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Criticising the manner in which the government is going ahead with the selection process of IIT directors, Rao said, "The way the government is conducting the selection process, anybody with a PhD degree will aspire to become one. We need a search committee with people who are unblemished and can work selflessly."

Rao has been insisting on scrapping the Search and Select Process for selecting the director and insists on going back to the old system, where a search committee comprising of stakeholders from technology institutes and the ministry would nominate scholars to head the premium institute.

Without naming the HRD minister Smriti Irani, Rao went on to question her credentials. "A mediocre man will choose people better than them, but will choose more mediocre people. Bright people are not wanted," he said. Speaking to the students on the contribution of Rabindranath Tagore, Rao expressed dissatisfaction over the manner in which he has been neglected by the ministry.

Addressing the students, Rao also raised concerns over the manner in which science and technology and education has been neglected by the current government. "Both education and science and technology budgets have been cut by this government. The world is moving very fast and we will not be able to match the pace," said Rao.

In the National Education Policy 1986, it was recommended that education should get six percent from the GDP share. "But we have only got two percent of GDP share for education and 0.9 percent for science and technology," said Rao.

Speaking along the sidelines of the tech fast, the scientist said that he had great hopes from prime minister Modi said, "He pays attention, but he has a lot of things to do. I hope the government gives more importance to science and technology." The scientist also informed that he had written to the Prime Minister raising several concerns, but is yet to here from his office.

Smriti to Lay Stone for IIT Today

http://www.newindianexpress.com/states/andhra_pradesh/Smriti-to-Lay-Stone-for-IIT-Today/2015/03/28/article2734521.ece

TIRUPATI: Union HRD minister Smriti Irani will lay the foundation stone for IIT, IISER and IIIT at Pangur village in Yerpedu mandal of Chittoor district on Saturday in the presence of chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu and Union urban development minister M Venkaiah Naidu, state HRD minister Ganta Srinivasa Rao told newsmen here Friday.

Chandrababu Naidu allotted `250 crore from the funds granted by the Centre to the state for this purpose. On the occasion, debates would be organised among students to bring their aspirations to his knowledge, he said.

He stressed on the need to provide infrastructure at all the educational institutions through corporate social responsibility funds, apart from the funds released by the Centre. "We want to realise the CM's vision to turn Tirupati as an educational hub. As part of it, all lapses in the industry would be weeded out, strict AICTE norms would be implemented and performance-based incentive system would be introduced to keep a check on teachers. All the new recruits to teacher posts would be made to take oath before joining," he explained.

Collector Siddharth Jain thanked the landowners, who facilitated in pooling lands for setting up the premier institutes, and welcomed those who are willing to give away their land for such projects. "We need around 100 acres extra land for building IIT other institutes against the existing 500 acres. Land owners with constructive mindset would be encouraged and compensated for giving away land, for around `70 crore has already been allocated," he said.

Forest minister Bojjala Gopalakrishna Reddy, higher education commissioner Udayalakshmi and Tirupati MLA Suguna were present.

IIST, IIT join hands to launch virtual lab

Hindustan Times (Indore)

INDORE: Indore Institute of Science and Technology (IIST) has collaborated with Indian Institute of Technology (Delhi) to organise workshops on virtual laboratories.

IIST, being a nodal centre for virtual labs, is attempting to revolutionise engineering education in the city.

Delhi faculties, including Tanmay Dass, Sanjeev Soni and Vipul Sharma, are a part of the project.

Joy Banerjee, IIST director, said: "The virtual labs will help students, faculties and research scholars in gaining more knowledge without any hindrance or problem. As it's a programme that completely runs on the internet with a free access to its common website for all participants, it's surely the next big thing in the engineering education in the city." DOON SCHOOL ANNOUNCES RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMME

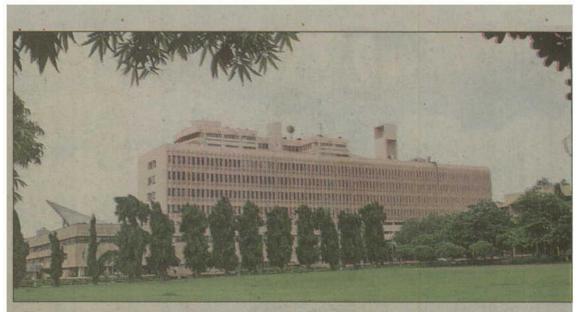
The Doon School has announced its residential Summer Doon Leadership Programme from June 1 to 15 at The Doon School's estate in Dehradun, India.

The programme is open for all aspiring boys and girls aged between 14 and 18 years studying in classes 9-12 from all over India and across the globe.

According to school official, the school has also an approach to social service and leadership within its curriculum.

Navbharat Times ND 28/03/2015 P-12

के अलावा सेंसर्स की मदद से



The analytics market is expected to double between 2011 and 2018 reaching a figure of 2.3 billion USD by 2018,

IIT, IIM, ISI offer course in business analytics

Press Trust of India

Three premier institutions of IIT Kharagpur, IIM Kolkata and Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) Kolkata, have come together for the first time to offer a joint course in business analytics.

Business analytics helps corporations understand their performance and identify areas where they can improve efficiency.

Starting from this session, the Post Graduate Diploma in Business Analytics (PGDBA) will allow students the rare opportunity to become students of all the three institutions at the same time and study one semester at each of them.

Professor Sudeshna Sarkar of Computer Science and Engineering department at IIT-KGP said the two-year full-time

residential diploma programme is aimed at creating business analytics professionals by giving students cutting-edge interdisciplinary educational experience.

The first semester at ISI will focus on mathematical foundation, statistical and

machine learning theories for analytics. The second semester at IIT Kharagpur will focus on the engineering aspects of analysing huge volumes of complex statistical data.

The third semester at IIM Kolkata will concentrate on application of analytics in functional areas while in the fourth semester the students will be required to do an internship of six months duration on an analytics project in a business organisation. The field of business analytics aims to analyse understand and interpret large data sets from a business point of view.

Technology and practices in this area are evolving rapidly and this course is expected to groom professionals with a strong foundation in statistics and machine learning, technology and business processes and applications, who will be ready for a career in the fast growing analytics industry, Sarkar said.

In India, the analytics market is expected to double between 2011 and 2018 reaching a figure of 2.3 billion USD by 2018, according to a report published by Nasscom and Blueocean Market Intelligence.

Contribute to be remembered, Kalam tells NIT students

 $\frac{http://www.hindustantimes.com/haryana/contribute-to-be-remembered-kalam-tells-nit-students/article1-1331049.aspx}{}$

Former president and celebrated scientist, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, has said India needs innovation and creative thinking to develop technologies that will help it move ahead of other countries.

"If the country's status is to improve, we need to promote excellence in technology," Kalam said, while delivering a speech during the 12th convocation of the National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra, on Thursday.

Known as the 'Missile Man' for his contribution to India's ballistic missile and launch vehicles, Kalam said India ranked 60 in the latest Global Competitiveness Report and that it needed to change.

"Excellence is not by accident. It is a process, where an individual or organisation or nation continuously strives to better oneself," he said.

He identified the technological breakthroughs in 2014 that contributed to the betterment of humanity and cited examples like the human embryonic stem cell technologies that could give mankind a cure for diabetes.

He also spoke on convergence between space sciences, traction and rocketry technologies and the 'internet of things'.

The former president also urged students to strive to be remembered for creating societal changes by removing poverty through new technologies. He gave them an eight-point oath and called upon them to be enlightened citizens towards building the future society with innovation.

INDRA NOOYI TO GRACE IIM-C CONVOCATION

Hindustan Times (Kolkata)

KOLKATA: PepsiCo chairman and CEO Indra Nooyi would visit IIM Calcutta to attend its 50th annual convocation in April. Nooyi, an alumnus of 1974-76 batch at IIM Calcutta, would be visiting the campus for the first time since taking charge of PepsiCo in 2006. The last time she visited IIM-C was in 2001.

This is quite a big moment for the IIM-C alumni, and especially the present students, because Nooyi has been constantly featured in the Forbes magazine's list of the world 100 most powerful women since 2008. She will address the IIM-C convocation as the chief guest.

KYOTO UNIV-BHU TO STUDY CLIMATE RESILIENCE OF KASHI

Hindustan Times (Lucknow)

As part of the Kyoto-Kashi pact, the Kyoto University on Friday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) to undertake a joint study on 'climate and disaster resilience of Varanasi: city, zone and ward profile'. It is the first time that the Kyoto University has inked an MoU with any Indian university.

The Kyoto University on Friday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) to undertake a joint study on climate and disaster resilience of Varanasi. The study would examine the disaster resilience of the ward, zone and city profile.

It is the first time that Kyoto University has inked an MoU with an Indian university. Shigeo Fujii, dean Kyoto University, and BHU registrar KK Upadhyay signed the MoU.

Rajib Shaw of the Kyoto University and AK Raghubanshi, director, Institute of environment and sustainable development (IESD), BHU, were also present.

As part of the agreement, Neha Sahoo, town planner and sanitation expert of Kyoto University and Pramit Varma of the BHU would carry out a research (PhD) on climate and disaster resilience of Varanasi. The study would be based on a questionnaire covering the five resilience-based dimensions- natural, physical, social, economic, and institutional — in which every dimension has five linked parameters.

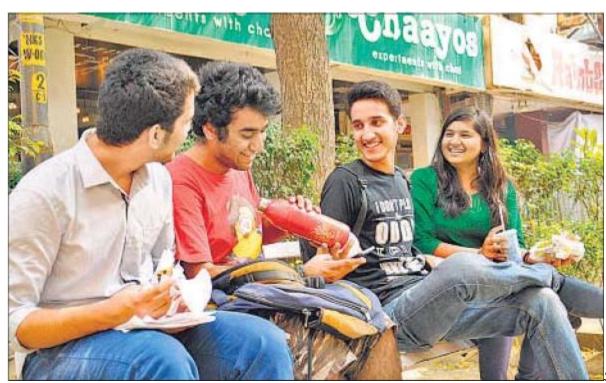
"Varanasi has its strength in social capital, household assets, education and awareness, water supply system and institutional collaboration. These collectively can enhance city's physical, social, economic and institutional resilience," Shaw said.

Busy SDA market holds a quiet charm for the young and old

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

The market is popular because of its easy access and ability to cater to every generation

NEW DELHI: Popular among the young and old alike, SDA (Safdarjung Development Area) market has stood the test of time. Even after 40 years, it's still a favoured place among the 'cool' hang out zones in south Delhi. Located opposite to IIT- main gate, the market houses a number of food joints, bookshops, bank branches, gift shops, a repair shop, and even a small printing unit. Over the last six to seven years, SDA market has become a hub for food joints including coffee shops, bars and lounges. However, unlike other busy markets, it stands out for having maintained its fuss-free character in all these years. The place, though busy, has a quiet charm about it.



S BURMAULA / HT

PHOTO Students from nearby IIT, JNU and South Delhi campuses prefer the market for its easy vibes.

SDA market is thronged by students of IIT, nearby JNU campus and Delhi University's south campus along with working professionals and residents of neighbouring areas throughout the day. A series of quirky restaurants, such as Chayos, What A Comic Show, Cafe Qahwa, and others dominate the market.

Chaayos, a cosy shop, specializes in varieties of tea and cakes, and offers free wi-fi. It is a common sight to spot many with their laptops and tablets, happily sipping tea here. We spotted a bunch of college students having tea and playing good old ludo in tea shop's open seating space. "We come here every day. It is a nice place to hang out unlike other markets that are too crowded and cramped for space," said Anisha Shekhar, a final year student at Maitreyi College, and lives in Gurgaon. "Since Hauz Khas metro station is just 10 minutes away with a direct line to Gurgaon, I can afford to spend my evenings here," she said, striking at her turn at ludo.

Sahil Arora, another DU student, who lives in Vasant Kunj, said this place is home to him. "I just feel so comfortable here."

While Riddhi Sharma, also a south campus student, who lives in west Delhi, said, "It is our ritual to come here. Plus, they have a decent menu and wi-fi. Their Desi Chai is a hit."

What a Comic Show, Spice Aangan and Beeryani are other popular haunts here. "A lot of us just hop down here any time of the day for food or a drink or just to read a book. There is a subway connecting IIT to SDA. Beeryani has a lot of special offers for us and of course cheap beer," said Ashish Mathur, pursuing chemical engineering at IIT-Delhi. While students flock Spice Aangan for their filling Shewarma rolls, What a Comic show is know for its quirky walls stacked with comic books and its experimental food menu.

"Here, you can find covers of comics dating back to the 1950s and 60s. It cuts through all genres. You can find Archies, Diamond Comics, Superhero, TinTin and many others. Their shabalay (flattened fried momos) is a favorite among students," said Zenab Mirza, who is doing her Masters in Spanish language from JNU.

Besides these eateries, SDA market also has some familyrun food joints doing well like Little Punjab and Rainbow bakery. SDA market comes alive in the evenings. Many youngsters as well as elderly people can be

seen spending quiet time playing chess or carrom board. Kartar Singh Kochhar, whose shop is the oldest in the market, says while people earlier came here for errands, they now come here to spend good time.

"You can often see people, both young and old, just sitting, engaged in conversations," he said. Kochhar owns C-18, Satkar, a catering and tent business which is now expanded to design and event management.

"We maintain the place and the surroundings. We make sure nobody meddles with the youngsters and that they feel safe sitting here at any hour of the day," said Kocchar, who is also the president of the market association.

Former prof slams 'penalty regime' at IIT's design centre

http://www.mumbaimirror.com/mumbai/others/Former-prof-slams-penalty-regime-at-IITs-design-centre/articleshow/46719555.cms

Writes to former High Court Justice CS Dharmadhikari, claims many students were systematically targeted and forced to leave without completing the course.

A former IIT-Bombay professor has sent a representation to former High Court Justice CS Dharmadhikari, alleging victimisation of students of the Industrial Design Centre (IDC). The centre was in news for refusing to enrol a student with learning disability under the physically disabled category in December 2013.

In his representation, ex-professor Kirti Trivedi said several students have been harassed by the authorities in the last three years, and mentioned case studies of two such students. He said the students were "systematically targeted" and "forced to leave IDC without completing the course".

In the letter, Trivedi said he served at the centre from 1975-2014, and that there have been several similar cases in the Product Design programme of IDC. He also attached mails elaborating on his correspondence with these students and faculty members, including the associate dean.

The first case study is of a second-year student with a degree in architecture who was allegedly so de-motivated by the IDC professors that she cancelled her registration without completing the course. One of her emails to Trivedi in May 2012 read, "I was made to believe by some of the faculties that I do not deserve to be here." She went on to add that she had lost faith in her capability of becoming a designer.

Trivedi highlighted another case of a student who was allegedly targeted by the faculty with the intention of not allowing him to pass with a master's degree. The second-year student was given a fail-andrepeat (FR) grade in his project submitted in the first year and not allowed to register for the next project.

At the time, Trivedi took up the case with the head of the department and even wrote to Anil Kakodkar, the then chairman of the board of governors at IIT-B.

Trivedi called the student "an outstandingly talented one, with some skills better than many faculty members in IDC". In his emails, he said the student deserved a better grade. After a series of such mails sent out to various faculty members, the student's project was reviewed and he was given a provisional certificate. He was then allowed to register for the next project.

Trivedi said the faculty's top priority was "to put a penalty regime in place for smooth academic functioning of the department". He appealed to Dharmadhikari to review the current academic environment impartially and independently, and improve the situation of the students. Dharmadhikari said he was planning to take the issue forward.