

Newspaper Clips

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P-2

लॉ स्पीड पर वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग और मैसेज एप बना जीते पुरस्कार

भास्कर न्यूज | नई दिल्ली

आईआईटी दिल्ली में आयोजित हुए टाटा आईआईटी दिल्ली पायोनियर्स मेकअराथून प्रतियोगिता में दिल्ली के छात्रों ने कमाल दिखाते हुए। दो लाख रुपए की प्रतियोगिता का पुरस्कार जीता है। छात्रों ने लॉ-बैंड स्पीड पर वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग कर यह उपलब्धि हासिल की।

टाटा संस के चीफ टेक्नोलॉजी ऑफिसर डा. गोपीचंद कटरागडास ने कहा कि इस तरह के आयोजनों से देश के युवाओं की ऊर्जा और उनकी इनोवेटिव सोच को परखने और

देखने का मौका मिलता है। साथ ही टाटा की ओर से अच्छे छात्रों को तकनीक के साथ जुड़ने का अवसर भी दिया जाता है। दिल्ली के छात्रों की पोजो टीम में इंद्रप्रस्थ इंस्टीट्यूट आफ इन्फॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी, आईआईटी दिल्ली के अंकुर सिंह, भगवान परशुराम इंस्टीट्यूट के इशान खन्ना, एनआईटी दिल्ली के मयंक शर्मा, डीटीयू के सौरव ने प्रोटोटाइप डेमोक्राइटिज वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग की, जिसका कॉन्सेप्ट इनेबल वीडियो कॉलिंग ऑन लॉ बैंड विद स्पीड पर एडवांस तकनीक पर आधारित था। जबकि एक लाख रुपए का उपविजेता पुरस्कार दिल्ली आईआईटी के छात्र चिटछात्रर्स को गया, छात्रों के ग्रुप में शामिल अनूस कोटक, ओजस्वी अलंकार, दीपक बंसल और जितेंद्र ने मैसेज भेजने का एप विकसित किया है। इसमें दो छात्रों के बीच म्यूचुअल अंडरस्टैंडिंग बेस संदेशों का आदान प्रदान होता है।

**टाटा
आईआईटी
दिल्ली
पायोनियर्स
मेकअराथून
प्रतियोगिता**

Deccan Herald ND

03.03.2016 P-5

Karzai to address IIT-Kanpur students

» Security has been stepped up in the city in view of former Afghan President Hamid Karzai's visit to address students of IIT Kanpur, reports PTI from Kanpur.

"Karzai will address students and take part in the institute's 'Techkriti' festival tomorrow," Kanpur District Magistrate Kaushal Raj Sharma said on Wednesday.

Karzai will reach Lucknow tomorrow, from where he will travel to the IIT campus by car or helicopter, he said.

IIMC student faces action for casteist posts

Suspended From Hostel For 3 Weeks

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New Delhi: A student of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) was suspended on Wednesday from its hostel for three weeks for allegedly making casteist and offensive posts on a social networking website, while another who had complained regarding the matter was barred from the residential premises for a week for using "indecent and vulgar language" against a faculty member.

The action comes a month after 17 students of IIMC complained to the information and broadcasting (I&B) ministry regarding the posts.

Hit by allegations of casteist remarks, the IIMC, run by the I&B ministry, had last month ordered a probe into the incident and had set up an inquiry committee for the same. The ministry had also ordered a probe into the case under the aegis of the ministry joint secretary Mihir Kumar Singh.

The inquiry committee of IIMC has observed that Utkarsh Singh, a student of



Hindi Journalism, had posted on Facebook issues related to reservation using "provocative and unparliamentary" words.

"The matter has been considered and it is felt that the language used by you was offensive, grossly provocative, insulting and unparliamentary. It also resulted in a great deal of dissatisfaction and unrest within the IIMC campus. You are hereby expelled from the hostel for a period of three weeks with immediate effect. You are hereby warned to be careful in the future," an order signed by deputy registrar of the institute P V K Raja said. The student has sought a reconsideration of the punishment in a letter to the authorities and the hostel warden.

The committee was set up after a group of students, including those from SC and ST community, had approached authorities alleg-

The suspension orders came a month after 17 students of IIMC complained to the I&B ministry against casteist and offensive posts on Facebook. An inquiry committee was set up last month to probe the matter

ing that "ill will" and "hatred" against them was being spread by some of their peers after they protested over Dalit scholar Rohith Vemula's suicide.

Prashant Kanojia, a Dalit student pursuing English journalism course who had complained to the National Commission for SC and the I&B Ministry against Singh, has also been suspended from the hostel for a week for using "expletive" against a faculty member on a Whatsapp group, which was brought to the notice of the authorities on February 4.

"The inquiry officer has recommended the imposition of penalty of expulsion from the hostel of the institute for a period of one week. The matter has been considered and it is felt that the language used by you was indecent, offensive, vulgar and unparliamentary," the order said.

Deccan Herald ND 03.03.2016 P-6

Engineering Services Exam in three stages from 2017

Prakash Kumar

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Aspirants of engineering services will have to clear three successive tests from 2017, to figure in all-India merit list of candidates drawn to fill up vacancies in various government departments, with the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) bringing changes in the plan and syllabus of the examination.

According to a notification issued by the all India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) earlier this week, the commission has decided to hold the Engineering Services Examination (ESE)-2017, in three stages—preliminary, main and personality test.

At present, the test is conducted in two stages—a written examination consisting of two papers and a personality test.

To figure in the final merit list of candidates drawn to fill up vacancies of engineers in various departments, candidates will have to first qualify a preliminary examination to become eligible for taking ESE (Mains).

Only those candidates qualifying the ESE (Mains), second stage of the recruitment test, will be permitted to appear for the personality test.

The UPSC informed the

AICTE about its decision to hold the recruitment test in three stages from next year in a communication to council on February 15, asking the technical education regulator to apprise all engineering colleges affiliated to it with the new plan and syllabus finalised for the ESE-2017.

According to the details of the new plan and syllabus finalised by the commission, the preliminary test will consist of two

objective type papers. The first paper will be the test of general studies and engineering aptitude of the candidates, while the second will of engineering discipline.

The duration of the first paper in the ESE (preliminary), 2017, will be two hours with questions carrying a maximum 200 marks while the candidates will get three hours to take the second paper carrying a maximum 300 marks.

Times of India ND 03.03.2016 P-20

Let there be no partition: Universities must not wall themselves off from public consciousness

Saikat Majumdar



The recent attack on Jawaharlal Nehru University is an attack on the very spirit of India. It is anti-national not only in the most obvious sense - in that it is an assault on the very constitutional ideals of secularism, pluralism and socialism that inspired India's pioneering first prime minister whose name this university bears, but also on post-secondary education as a public and socially responsible enterprise.

Public higher education is important everywhere in the world, but its importance in India, where public primary education is essentially a failure, simply cannot be overstated. I remember my sense of shock when after graduating from St Xavier's College in Kolkata and a life flanked by its pristine chapel walls, I saw the graffiti-ridden walls of Jadavpur University where I'd enrolled for an MA. Similar feelings return as I move between Berkeley's Sproul Plaza and the Quad at Stanford.

One gets shivers standing at the steps of Sproul Hall in the

heart of the flagship campus of the University of California where 20th century history was made and unmade with the violence of love. The second wave of feminism, beat poetry, the Black Panthers - they all derived real physical energy from this very spot. Overrun with graffiti, hippies and the fragrance of marijuana, Sproul Plaza still feels frozen in the 60s.

Just across the San Francisco Bay, the Quad - the academic quadrangle of Stanford Univer-

One gets shivers standing at the steps of Sproul Hall in the heart of the flagship campus of the University of California where 20th century history was made and unmade with the violence of love

sity - combines spiritual purity with corporate polish. The adobe architecture redolent of the early Spanish Missions encases an ethereal silence over which the Hoover Tower looms large



and there's no poster or graffiti to be seen anywhere - who needs words in real time in the heart of Silicon Valley?

A whole universe divides the institutional culture of the leading state university of the United States from a private university with a \$22 billion endowment energised by Cold War politics and Silicon Valley wealth. Post-secondary education stands at its greatest moral and economic crossroads in India today, and it is up to us to see that the road does not bifurcate along social - and worse, political, lines - the way it has happened between Ivy League and state universities in the US, or between Oxbridge and the Redbrick universities in England.

It has taken a few years after

the market liberalisation of 1991 and the economic vibrancy of the early 21st century, but now the Indian higher education landscape is richly dotted with an impressive array of private institutions. This is putting to practice what the Lahore Institute of Management Studies (LUMS) has been doing in Pakistan since the 1980s, creating a sustainable private alternative to the failed enterprise of state education in the failed state of Pakistan.

India is not a failed state, and its enterprise of state education is a significant success in some domains, especially when it comes to professional education. But outside the success stories of IITs and IIMs, education in the liberal arts and the fundamental

sciences carry the rusty legacy of British colonial curriculum and pedagogy. The most ambitious private, not-for-profit universities seek to provide an alternative space beyond this legacy.

The attack on JNU - and the powerful chain of protests it has inspired - is a reality check for this energetic new wave of private higher education in India. It sets off a caveat that this new vision of high-quality private education should not erect an exclusive bastion of social privilege with which elite private institutions in the West have come to be synonymous, or which, for that matter, is symbolised by the elite private secondary schools in India.

For Kanhaiya Kumar, the arrested JNUSU leader; a graduate of the RKC High School in Barauni and the Patna College of Commerce, represents the JNU conscience at its deepest moment of social inclusiveness and political responsibility. There is no reason why the elite private institutions of higher education in India must exist in a world polarised from this great Nehruvian tradition of public consciousness and social responsibility. We must make sure this partition does not happen.

The writer teaches world literature at Stanford University

IISc scientists find to make biology, genomics study safer, faster

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/science/IISc-scientists-find-to-make-biology-genomics-study-safer-faster/articleshow/51227838.cms>

BENGALURU: From crop improvement and food testing to forensic applications, carcinogenic and toxic nucleic acid stains are something biologists and genome experts have been using for long, notwithstanding concerns over the effects of exposure to these stains. Their basic use is to impart colour to tissues or cells and they also facilitate microscopic study and identification, important for researchers.

In a claim that will change the way research using these stains is done, making it completely safe, Indian Institute of Science's (IISc) J Fathima Benazir says the stain she has developed -- tinto rang -- is safe even on consumption.

Benazir, who had worked extensively on developing this new stain during her doctoral and post-doctoral research at IISc, has launched from her firm Azooka Life Sciences, which is an incubation supported by the institute's Society for Innovation and Development.

Azooka has filed a patent for tingo rang, which is yet to be granted. This stain is safe even on consumption because it is developed from edible plants found in South India. Benazir refused to give the name of the plant considering her pending patent.

"The focus of Azooka is to develop safe DNA/RNA fluorescent stains for applications in biological sciences and genomics and tinto tang is safe even on consumption as it is a food additive making it the safest option currently available in the world," she said.

"The basic requirement of stains was that the nucleic acid dye has to be fast, sensitive and selective to the nucleic acid so that it can be used in various applications to detect minute quantity of nucleic acids in a biological sample," she said.

Explaining why tingo rang is better, she said that the most commonly and widely used stain (ethidium bromide nucleic acid stain) is a potent carcinogenic, mutagenic bio hazard and scientists in a lab deal with carcinogenic and mutagenic strains all the time to run their DNA tests.

"These stains often alter the structure of the DNA because the interactions with the DNA are very strong. We always felt there was a need for an alternative to the carcinogenic and mutagenic stains available in the market" Prof H S Savithri of Department of Biochemistry of IISc.

Tinto (crimson red in Portuguese language which the colour of the strain) Rang is an Indian product from the Indian Institute of Science.

Benazir also said that ethidium bromide requires at least 10 to 40 minutes to obtain results or visualise DNA but tinto rang stains DNA within a few seconds or at best a minute. "...The fluorescent intensity is seven times greater than the market gel stains," Alex D Paul, co-founder of Azooka said.

The DNA can be recovered after visualization and can be used again for multiple tests being a nucleic acid gel stain because the DNA won't be distorted.

Latest Comment

J Fathima Benazir should be granted the patent she has applied for. mahendra kumar Nayak

Tinto rang nucleic acid gel stains is used for DNA and RNA visualization, molecular diagnosis, and in vivo imaging applications. It is not photosensitive unlike EtBr and therefore does not require incubation in dark.

The production and easy availability of a safe nucleic acid stain in India will have direct impact on the cost of molecular diagnostics, by eliminating import and excise duties.

Kanhaiya Kumar's Bail 'Good News' For University, Says JNU Administration

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/kanhaiya-kumars-bail-good-news-for-university-says-jnu-administration-1283365>

Kanhaiya was arrested on February 12 in a sedition case in connection with an event on campus against hanging of Parliament attack convict Afzal Guru.

New Delhi: The administration of the Jawaharlal Nehru University or JNU today welcomed the Delhi High Court's decision to grant [bail to students' union president Kanhaiya Kumar](#) and said it was "good news" for the university.

"We are delighted to hear the news. Let the law of land prevail. It is a good news for the students as well as for the university. We hope normalcy will return on campus soon," JNU Registrar Bhupinder Zutshi told PTI.

Kanhaiya was arrested on February 12 in a sedition case in connection with an event on campus against hanging of Parliament attack convict Afzal Guru during which anti-national slogans were allegedly raised.

He was today granted interim bail for six months by the Delhi High Court which said that he has to cooperate in the ongoing investigation and has to present himself before the investigators as and when required.

The students have been agitating demanding Kanhaiya's release alleging he has been "framed" for raising his voice and being "branded" as a terrorist.

Kanhaiya, is also among the eight students who were academically debarred by the university on the basis of a preliminary enquiry report from the university's high-level committee.

"The decision about further course of Kanhaiya in the university will be taken once the probe committee comes up with its report. But we are happy at least he will be free from jail," Mr Zutshi said.

Five others - Umar Khalid, Anirban Bhattacharya, Rama Naga, Anant Prakash and Anirban Bhattacharya had gone in hiding since Kanhaiya's arrest fearing "mob-lynching".

They resurfaced back on campus 10 days later. While Umar and Anirban surrendered before the police, the remaining

three refused to do so but maintained that they are open to questioning by police as and when needed.

The five-member probe committee of the university is scheduled to submit its report tomorrow.

JNU row: IIT Madras professors explain why they wrote to President Mukherjee

<http://www.firstpost.com/india/jnu-row-iit-madras-professors-explain-why-they-wrote-to-president-mukherjee-2652476.html>

A university is a place of universal knowledge related to the world inside and outside human beings. For practical purposes, this universal knowledge is divided into a variety of disciplines, namely – humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, formal sciences and applied sciences. The goal of universities across the world has been to absorb, store, generate and disseminate this universal knowledge, and transmit it from one generation to the next. This is the reason for funding a university from tax payers' money.

India has a huge young population. Young minds are impressionable. Hence, educating them and ensuring social justice without them falling prey to the language of abuse and hate is a major challenge. This challenge can be met not by agitations, but by dialogue and debate among various perspectives in a calm atmosphere. If instead of the above lofty ideals, [“debate and dissent based on unfettered freedom speech” becomes the foremost goal](#) of a university, dialogue and debate may slip into hate and abuse as has happened in some Indian universities. These universities would then cease to attract talent or be crucial national assets in addressing problems; they would nurture despair rather than hope. This is what we alerted in our petition to the president.

The Presidents of India notably [Pranab Mukherjee](#) and Late Abdul Kalam are patrons of knowledge and have been calling for Indian universities to reach landmark successes and to be renowned in the world. For this purpose, universities ought to have a metric of success. This metric could be different for different universities and disciplines. For example, IITs are trying to promote a metric based on the contributions of IIT graduates to the national or global economy. A Pan IIT study conducted in 2008 came out with a figure of Rs 20 lakh crore as the [total wealth generated by IITians](#). Eventually, the tax payer will judge the performance of a university by such metrics and not by agitations and protests.

At IIT-Bombay, it's chai that keeps mood high

[Yogita Rao](#) | Mar 3, 2016, 12.00 AM IST

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/At-IIT-Bombay-its-chai-that-keeps-mood-high/articleshow/51231212.cms>



Representative picture. (TOI photo by Aditya Waikul)

Mumbai: Except for three hours in the morning (from 5 to 8 am), IIT-Bombay students, scholars and professors can grab their cuppa at all times. A study by the institute's student media body has focussed on how the campus life revolves around "chai"-their favourite beverage. The campus has around 45 tea-stalls but the activity around them-and the business they see-varies according to time-and-space coordinates, shows the study. The institute is, in fact, planning to increase the number of joints serving tea in their academic area.

At 8am, the busiest tea-vending places are the hostel messes. But, by 10am, when the ones in hostels shut, there are more stalls/vendors in the academic area which are open. Hostel canteens take over around noon again. Around the same time, the stalls near the academic area also serve students who are unable to take the much-required lunch break. At 5pm, the hostel messes become the much-in-demand haunt for tea lovers. While the number of tea vending stalls starts going down post 1 am, at 4 am, the only one serving tea is the 'tapri' right outside the campus gate. A majority of students prefer walking for one to two minutes to get their cup of tea, according to a rough estimate made by the students.

"Chai is the one thing that's ubiquitous in the institute. You will always find people in IIT-B desperately in want of a cup of tea. I wanted to visually show everyone how life on the IIT-B campus pretty much revolves around this one seemingly unimportant beverage, and how it has become such an integral part of every student's lifestyle," said Eeshan Malhotra, the editorial board member from Insight (campus magazine) behind the project.

Soumyo Mukherji, dean of student affairs, said that any self-respecting campus cannot function without tea stalls.

"Professors and students go regularly to the tea stalls around the academic area and discuss problems, projects over a cup of tea. The institute is planning to open a bunch of more tea stalls in the academic area, and is in talks with a leading restaurant chain for the same," said Mukherji.

IIT-Madras planning a centre of excellence for graphene, a carbon derivative pursued by IBM, Samsung

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/education/iit-madras-planning-a-centre-of-excellence-for-graphene-a-carbon-derivative-pursued-by-ibm-samsung/articleshow/51232024.cms>

CHENNAI: Close on the heels of establishing a brain research unit to advance computing, IIT-Madras is planning a centre of excellence for graphene, a carbon derivative pursued by multinationals like IBM and Samsung in race for the next electronic gadget building block.

Graphene is a new-age material developed by isolating graphite flakes over a decade back in Manchester, which went on to become a Nobel-winning discovery six years after. It is dubbed as "wonder material" for its amazing conductive and optical properties.

Just one-atom thick, incredibly strong, highly conductive and bendable, it has been touted to replace silicon in the electronics of gadgets, triggering an investment war in the large corporate league.

Now, IIT-Madras targets to take this global research forward. "To set up a centre of excellence for quality research and development, it would require about Rs 100 crore over a 10-year period, and academic collaborations here and abroad," said a senior-level professor at IIT-Madras in direct know of the development, who added that the budgeting for the centre is being currently worked out.

Work in Progress

IIT-M is holding discussions with a large industrial house to be roped in as the anchor investor

₹100 crore Amount it takes to set up R&D centre over a 10-year period

Universities IIT-M is eyeing

- The Manchester University
- University of Cambridge
- University of Warwick

Centre of Excellence
Will work on multiple aspects on graphene tech

Aspects: Producing, functionalising and finding apps

IIT-M is roping internationally well known universities in the UK like The Manchester University, University of Cambridge and University of Warwick. Besides, IIT-M is holding discussions with a large industrial house to be roped in as the anchor investor.

"The Centre of Excellence will work on multiple aspects on graphene technology, including producing, functionalising and finding applications for the material," he said. IIT-Madras is expected to make a formal announcement on the centre in about 45 days.

The Centre for Excellence, slated to be set up in the main campus of IITMadras or, possibly, at the IIT-Madras Research

Park, is a natural progression with The National University of Singapore, besides working on memory devices hard drives.

Besides IIT-Madras, the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru has done over half a decade of research in graphene, focussing on developing a mechanism for supply of the thinnest sheets of graphene for researchers and industries looking to work graphene into electronic items.

Researchers believe the frontier to scale in graphene is not the science itself, but the process that follows initial discovery.

"The challenge, so far, has been to grow monolayer graphene on a large scale for usage in electronics," said Srinivasan Raghavan, an Associate Professor at the Centre for Nano Science and Engineering at IISc.

Significant headway has been achieved in supply of pure graphene through a reactor developed at IISc with startup KAS Technologies, but Raghavan sees few commercialised applications in the near-term. "Yes, Graphene could soon be used for transparent conducting electrodes in solar cells, but as of now I would be hard-pressed to point to a single commercial technology involving graphene."

Manjunath Jyothinagar, CEO of KAS Technologies, says his reactors will be in demand among scientists trying out graphene in a wide variety of industries besides electronics, like in medicine, automotive fuels, for conducting strips, and so on.