

Newspaper Clips

May 14, 2011

Times of India Jaipur 13.05.2011 P-5

Panel for steep rise in IIT fees for UG students

Akshaya Mukul | TNN

New Delhi: Asked to rework its earlier report on roadmap for autonomy and future of IITs, the Anil Kakodkar panel has stood by its earlier recommendation that could result in a substantial fee hike at the undergraduate level.

The committee made a presentation of its reworked report on Thursday. HRD minister Kapil Sibal remained non-committal, and said the final decision would be taken by the IIT Council later. The report would be put in public domain on Friday.



Giving out the roadmap for research, the panel has said that PhD students should be scaled up from the current

1,000 PhD students per year to 10,000 by 2020-25. It has also said that bright undergraduate students should be enrolled for PhD at the end of their third year. Even faculty strength should be ramped up to 16,000 in the next 10 years. The present strength is 4,000.

The Kakodkar committee has said that 50 Central government funded institutions — other than IITs — be nurtured with the help of IIT faculty. These institutions could be National Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Information Technology

and other institutions.

The reworked report reiterates that IITs should “recover the full operational cost of education” through fee and not take any aid from government’s non-plan budget. Since this would result in a manifold rise in fee, the committee has suggested a “hassle-free” bank loan arrangement at the time of admission. But for students belonging to reserved category and economically weaker sections, the panel has said the ministry should pay the “full operating cost of education”.

Financial Express ND 14-May-11

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Hike IIT fees four times: Committee

Kirtika Suneja
New Delhi, May 13

STICKING to its earlier recommendation of increasing the tuition fees for the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) four times from the current ₹50,000 to ₹2-2.5 lakh per year per student, the government-appointed Anil Kakodkar committee has suggested the substantial rise in fee at the undergraduate level.

This would be reasonable considering the high demand for IIT graduates and the salary that an IIT B.Tech is expected to get and the capital investment per student is estimated at ₹20 lakh, the panel says.

Currently, around 500,000 engineering graduates come out of engineering colleges. This number would cross one million in three to four years from now and only about 1% of IIT B.Techs do PhD at the IITs, the report says.

The committee has therefore suggested that each IIT should progressively grow to have around 1,200 faculty (from around 500 today) and closer to 12,000 students with maximum growth coming from an enhanced number of PhD students.

Further, the committee has suggested setting up of five more IITs so that the number of IIT PhD graduates scales up to 10,000 per year. At present, there are 16 IITs in the country.

In another important de-

PAY MORE TO BE AN ENGINEER

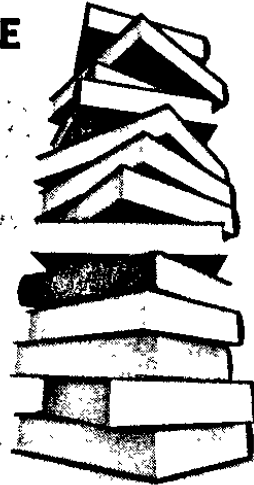
■ Increase tuition fee 4 times to Rs 2-2.5 lakh

■ Executive MTech programme for about 10,000 working professionals from industry

■ Faculty to rise to 1,200 from current 500

■ Setting up 5 more IITs

■ Board of governors to govern the institute



cision, the committee has suggested the retention of time-tested parameters like a certain faculty-student ratio of 1:10 and PG : UG ratio of 1:1 or higher.

The committee has suggested a minimum of 0.6 PhDs per faculty annually, eventually reaching 1 PhD per faculty.

On this basis, the committee is aiming at scaling the IIT system to 16,000 faculty and 160,000 total student strength (with 40,000 at the PhD level, 40,000 at the Masters level and 80,000 UG students) by around the year 2020. Each year, then, the IIT system will admit 10,000 PhDs.

The committee has also recommended an executive MTech programme for about 10,000 working professionals from industry through live video classes to enhance the knowledge base.

Towards enhancing au-

tonomy, the panel has proposed that each institute be fully governed by its board of governors including aspects like financial planning and expenditure rules, faculty remuneration, fees and number of faculty and staff.

The board should have one representative each from the ministry of human resource development and the state governments, alumni and faculty.

Significantly, the committee has suggested each institute to subject itself to a comprehensive institution review by an internationally eminent group once every five years.

"Such reviews which will be overseen by the

IIT Council, will have focus on quality, programmes, their direction and size, working of the institutions and suggestions for change, including new initiatives," the report adds.

TIMES OF INDIA ND
14-May-11 P12

Stung, IIT-Kgp suspends whistleblower

11 Akshaya Mukul | TNN

New Delhi: Three days after it moved the Supreme Court, IIT-Kharagpur on Friday suspended whistleblower Rajeev Kumar, professor of computer science, for allegedly defaming the institute. The order, issued by the officiating registrar, said Kumar cannot enter his department or leave Kharagpur without permission. It said disciplinary action was also being contemplated against Kumar.

On Tuesday, IIT had sought the SC's permission to take disciplinary action against Kumar for causing "irreparable damage to the image and reputation of the institute and for lowering the morale of the teaching faculty as well as the students". It had also said the intended "action" against Kumar was in no way connected with the case pending in the Supreme Court on JEE reforms and other issues.

Kumar contended that when IIT wanted to buy 500 laptops for the utilization of the Cumulative Professional Development Allowance, two laptop specifications were floated for quotations. He said when he did a price comparison of laptops with the same specification, he found a laptop bought directly would have cost Rs 79,000 compared to Rs 1.07 lakh through empanelled vendors.

Tribune, ND 14-May-11

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IIT Kharagpur suspends whistleblower professor

ADITI TANDON/TNS

NEW DELHI, MAY 13

IIT Kharagpur today suspended Rajeev Kumar, professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, and initiated disciplinary proceedings against him.

The suspension of Kumar comes in the wake of cudgels he had taken up with the powerful IIT Directors, exposing irregularities in the Joint Entrance Examination system used to select candidates for the premiere technical institutions.

It was through a sustained Right to Information campaign (several of his petitions

are still pending with the Chief Information Commissioner) that Kumar brought to light the discrepancies in cut off marks in the JEE system. It was after Kumar's efforts that the IITs agreed to become transparent in the conduct of JEE and publish results of the entrance exam early - something they never did earlier, thus giving a free run to coaching institutes which would publish the results on the day of test, thereby attracting students.

The whistle blower today got a letter from IIT Kharagpur administration, putting him under suspension and barring him from leaving the campus without permission.

TIMES OF INDIA ND 14-May-11 P25

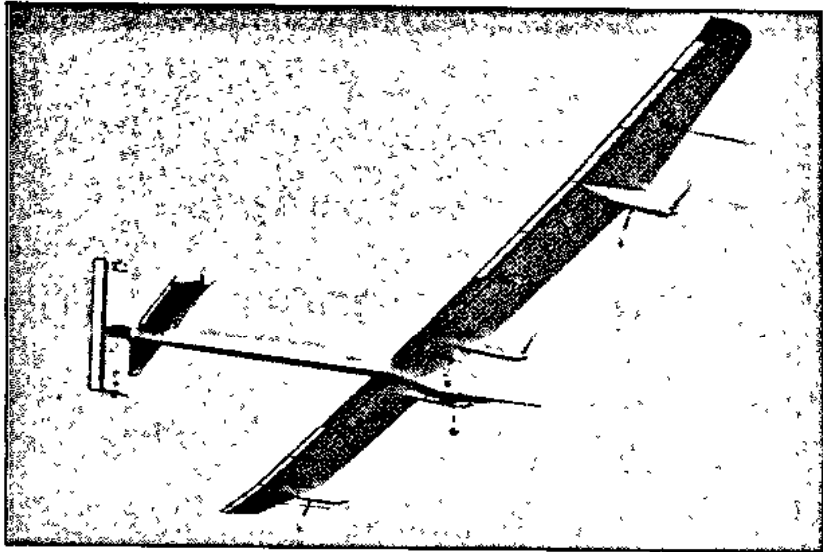
600km leap: Solar plane's maiden international flight

Geneva: A team of Swiss adventurers took their solar-powered plane on its first international flight Friday, a 600km leap from a small airfield in Switzerland to Brussels airport in Belgium.

The Solar Impulse HB-SIA single-seater prototype took off from Payerne airfield in Switzerland at 8.40am after a three-hour delay due to strong winds. It is expected to reach Brussels by nightfall.

The plane with the wingspan of a Boeing 777 made its 2009 maiden flight in Switzerland and further tests have all taken place there. Last year it completed a 26-hour non-stop flight that proved the plane can stay aloft at night from the solar energy its 12,000 solar cells soaked up during the day.

It created a record for the longest flight by a manned solar-powered aeroplane after staying aloft for 26 hours, 10 minutes and 19 seconds above Switzerland, also setting a record for altitude by flying



FROM SWITZERLAND TO BELGIUM

at 9,235 metres.

The team, led by pilot Andre Borschberg and adventurer Bertrand Piccard, said the flight across France, Luxembourg and Belgium poses a fresh challenge as it requires navigation across international air traffic networks.

They hope to fly an improved version of the plane around the world in 2012.

The flight can be followed

on the team's website, where visitors can track the plane's progress live on a map and see key parameters such as altitude, ground speed, battery levels and how much energy its solar cells are generating.

The aircraft will go on show at Brussels airport until May 29 before flying on to the international air show at Le Bourget in Paris from June 20 to 26. AFP

Punjab Kesari, ND 14-May-11

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आईआईटी फीस में भारी वृद्धि की सिफारिश

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों (आईआईटी) में सुधार पर अनिल काकोड़कर समिति ने संस्थान के पाठ्यक्रमों के द्यूशन फीस को 50 हजार रुपए से बढ़ाकर दो से ढाई लाख रुपए करने का सुझाव दिया है। समिति ने कहा है कि आईआईटी द्वारा लिए जाने वाले शुल्क में शिक्षा की पूर्ण संचालन लागत शामिल होनी चाहिए। उसने कहा है कि आईआईटी स्नातकों की भारी मांग तथा आईआईटी से बीटैक करने वालों की भारी वेतन की उम्मीद को ध्यान में रखकर यह वृद्धि बिल्कुल ही तर्कसंगत होगा। हालांकि मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने इससे पहले आईआईटी परिषद की बैठक में इस वृद्धि का यह कहते हुए विरोध किया था कि यह होनहार छात्रों के लिए बाधा का काम करेगा। परमाणु ऊर्जा आयोग के पूर्व अध्यक्ष अनिल काकोड़कर ने अपनी रिपोर्ट मंत्री को सौंप दी जिस पर आईआईटी परिषद कोई निर्णय लेने से पहले उसका गहन अध्ययन करेगा।

Amar Ujala ND 14/05/2011

p-11

आईआईटी फीस एक करोड़ रुपये करने की सिफारिश

नई दिल्ली। प्रतिष्ठित भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों (आईआईटी) में सुधारों को लेकर गठित अनिल काकोडकर समिति ने इस कोर्स के लिए प्रति वर्ष शिक्षण शुल्क में भारी वृद्धि की सिफारिश की है। मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय की आपत्ति को दरकिनारा करते हुए समिति ने प्रति छात्र फीस को मौजूदा 50 हजार रुपये सालाना से बढ़ाकर 22.5 लाख रुपये सालाना करने का प्रस्ताव किया है। इस लिहाज से करीब साढ़े चार साल के कोर्स में छात्रों को कुल मिलाकर करीब एक करोड़ रुपये बतौर फीस देने होंगे।

समिति के मुताबिक, आईआईटी द्वारा शिक्षा की पूरी संचालन फीस को कवर करना चाहिए। आईआईटी स्नातकों की भारी मांग और इन्हें मिलने वाले ऊंचे वेतन के मद्देनजर यह वृद्धि उचित होगी। गौरतलब है

काकोडकर समिति ने सिफारिशें कपिल सिब्बल को सौंपी

कि मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने इससे पहले आईआईटी परिषद की बैठक में फीस वृद्धि पर ऐतराज जताते हुए इस पर पुनर्विचार की जरूरत बताई थी। उन्होंने फीस वृद्धि को इच्छुक छात्रों के लिए एक आघात निरूपित किया था। परमाणु ऊर्जा आयोग के पूर्व प्रमुख काकोडकर ने अपनी सिफारिशें बृहस्पतिवार को संबंधित मंत्री के समक्ष पेश कीं, जिन्होंने विचार के बाद इस बारे में निर्णय लेने की बात कही है। इसके साथ ही काकोडकर समिति ने उद्योगों से

जुड़े करीब 10 हजार वर्किंग प्रोफेशनल्स के लिए लाइव वीडियो क्लासेस के जरिये एकजीक्यूटिव एमटेक प्रोग्राम शुरू करने की सिफारिश की है।

समिति के मुताबिक, भारतीय उद्योग का ज्ञान बढ़ाने के लिहाज से यह प्रोग्राम उपयोगी साबित होगा। शीर्ष तकनीकी संस्थानों में रिसर्च के लिए समिति ने प्रति छात्र डेढ़ लाख रुपये सालाना राशि उपलब्ध कराने की भी पैरवी की है। आईआईटीआई छात्रों के लिए परेशानी रहित बैंक लोन योजना का प्रस्ताव भी किया गया है। समिति ने कहा है कि ऐसे छात्र जिनके अभिभावकों की आय साढ़े चार लाख रुपये सालाना से कम है, उनके लिए 100 फीसदी फीस को कवर करने वाली छात्रवृत्ति और मासिक आधार पर स्ट्राइपेंड का प्रावधान किया जाए। एजेंसी