

Newspaper Clips

May 19, 2011

Indian Express Chandigarh 18.05.11, p-4

Fatherly love, 'faith in brand IIT' prove undoing of college aiding copying in JEE

RAJNI SHALEEN CHOPRA
CHANDIGARH, MAY 17

VIPIN Gupta, a chartered accountant in Kotkapura, had never fought the system for anything. He was used to reports of mass copying in some schools and even degree colleges in Punjab. Yet, on April 10, when his daughter Vatsa came crying out of the examination hall for the Joint Entrance Exam (JEE) for Indian Institutes of Engineering (IITs), being held at Giani Zail Singh College of Engineering and Technology, Bathinda, and told him about invigilators aiding copying there, something inside him broke.

"My initial reaction was that of a father. I told her not to cry. But a bitterness was building up in me. IIT is a brand we Indians are proud of. The kind of status associated with it, the drive that children have to make it to IIT – I felt all that must not be contaminated, or we will lose faith in it. Our children will lose one of the few institutions they truly look up to," Gupta told *The Indian Express*.

This was the first compet-

Govt to take further action

Suresh Kumar, Punjab's Principal Secretary Technical Education, has written to the Director, IIT Kanpur, asking for a copy of the report submitted by the fact-finding committee. According to his letter, the report has been sought "In order to take appropriate, necessary corrective action and initiate disciplinary action against those employees/persons who are involved in this condemnable act".

itive exam for Vatsa, a student of Class XII. "Soon after the exam started, I saw the male invigilator blatantly helping the girl sitting in front of me, and also some other students. The other invigilator, a woman, ignored all this. Tears sprang to my eyes at the sickness of it all," said Vatsa.

Vatsa wanted to protest but became apprehensive, thinking they would take

their wrath out on her. Seeing her crying bitterly as she came out during mid-break, Gupta was shocked. "She said to me, 'Papa *wahan gandi waali cheating ho rahi hai*'."

Hearing about it, Gupta went to some other parents at the centre. "They didn't show much interest at my request to lodge a protest. So I went alone and complained to the team in charge. They assured me that action would be taken. After I came out, one of the persons outside said to me the system was rotten, and nothing could be done about it."

Gupta refused to take it lying down. He looked up on the internet the mail addresses of the management teams conducting the JEE.

The very next day he e-mailed letters to them about the cheating. The examination was being conducted by IIT Kanpur, and Gupta got a prompt response from the Director of IIT Kanpur.

The Director said IIT Roorkee had been told to look into the complaint, since Bathinda was in its jurisdiction.

Thereafter, Prof Sounak

Kumar Chaudhury, faculty member of IIT Kanpur and Organising Chairman of JEE 2011, kept in touch with Gupta, and told him a fact-finding committee was investigating the matter. "When the committee came here, they conducted a very thorough investigation. My daughter and I were also questioned," said Gupta.

Based on the committee's report, the engineering college has been blacklisted from conducting any examination for the IIT system. The principal and the two invigilators have also been debarred from any future academic collaborations for aiding mass copying.

Talking to *The Indian Express*, Prof Chaudhury said that he does not recall such a complaint of cheating being received regarding any other JEE examination centre. "The complaint was received only from Punjab. Action has been taken against the Bathinda college based on the report of the fact-finding committee. Now further investigation will be conducted to look into the matter in its entirety," he said.

Hindustan Times Chandigarh 18.05.11, p-9

Engg students may live IIT dream

Charu Sudan Kasturi

charu.kasturi@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Performing well initially at engineering colleges across India may soon offer students a radical incentive — an automatic opportunity to complete their undergraduate programme and earn a PhD from the coveted IITs.

The IITs will cherry-pick 2,500 third-year students at other engineering colleges each year to complete their B.Tech and pursue a PhD at the country's top engineering schools, if a blueprint for the Institutes' future is proposed.

The HRD ministry panel under former atomic energy commission chairman Anil Kakodkar has proposed the ini-

tiative as a key component of a strategy to increase the output of PhDs from IITs.

"It is a win-win situation, we believe. Selected students get to live their dream of studying at the IITs, and IITs get a cadre of students ready to take up research studies," said a member of the panel. The report was presented to HRD minister Kapil Sibal last week.

Several faculty members, however, expressed reservations about the practicality of the plan. A senior IIT Kanpur professor who was involved in hand-holding the new IIT in Rajasthan questioned whether the IITs could absorb the additional student population.

"The IIT infrastructure — including the burden on faculty

— is already creaking," the professor said.

The panel has argued that IITs should raise fees from ₹50,000 a year to ₹2-2.5 lakh. This is 25-30% of the total education cost for each student estimated at 7.5-8 lakh per year, as was reported by HT on April 23.

The blueprint, however, largely focuses on the shortage of quality research as compared to countries like China.

The IITs have hiked their intake of doctoral students and increased their output of PhDs to about 1,000 a year.

But they must hike the number of PhD graduates a year from 1,000 to 10,000 by 2024-25 if India is to catch up with China or the US, about 10 times ahead at present, the panel has argued.

Indian Express Mumbai 18.05.11 p-3

IIMA prof's study finds loopholes in UID project

ADAM HALLIDAY

AHMEDABAD, MAY 17

Says need for review as concept involuntary in nature

THE ambitious Unique Identification (UID) Project has broad gaps that need review, a study by a professor at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIMA) suggests.

The study has attributed inputs from seven institutes (including IITs, IIMs, and law universities), quotes from 46 documents and lists 11 papers as references.

Titled 'Unique Identity Project in India: A divine dream or a miscalculated heroism', the paper was written in March by Professor Rajanish Dass of IIMA's Computer and Information Systems Group.

Dass illustrated the increasingly involuntary nature of UID. While the project's concept note said enrollment would not be mandated, it also says the benefits and services linked to it would ensure demand for it.

"This is like selling bottled water in a village after poisoning the well, and claiming that people are buying water voluntarily," he wrote, adding that the UID Authority of India says it is voluntary but governments can make it mandatory.

"The Planning Commission's proposal for the National Food Security Act argues for 'mandatory use of UID numbers...', which means, 'No UID, no food'," Dass noted while giving an example.

Besides, there has been no clear evidence of claim either from the government or from the UIDAI about the total cost of the project, Dass wrote, pointing out replies to five parliamentary questions have evoked inconsistent figures.

Inconsistencies apart, "there is no indication of any cost benefit analysis... The only response to a question raised in the Lok Sabha about the the same was that 'the benefits ac-

ruing out of the project should far outweigh the cost of the project'."

Dass has quoted Delhi-based "researcher on jurisprudence, poverty and rights" Usha Ramanathan as saying that the UID's self-sustainability would mean that "it is going to be a profit-making model riding piggy-back on public money and social sector schemes".

He has further written that the project is expected to create 3.5 lakh jobs and "result in a commercial opportunity of \$20 billion in the first five years, and from the sixth year onwards, \$10 billion annually".

Technology-wise, the UID would collect demographic details of each person including "biometrics of all 10 fingers, along with the iris scan of both the eyes and the photo of the face".

"Around five megabytes of data will be required to store the compressed fingerprint images (of all the 10 fingers) of each individual, requiring the size of the entire database to be at least six petabytes (6,000 terabytes, or 6,000,000 gigabytes)," he wrote.

He identified two main problems. The technology is

untested: "UIDAI's Biometrics Standards Committee has noted that retaining biometric efficiency for a database of more than one billion persons 'has not been adequately analysed' and the problem of fingerprint quality in India 'has not been studied in depth'."

"Another concern is that marketers will find ways to build profiles of people based on how they use their IDs," Dass wrote. He quoted a Professor of the National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS), Kolkata as saying, "You will basically be creating these wonderful resources for people to mine."

'BIOMETRICS Standards Committee has noted that retaining biometric efficiency for a database of over one billion persons has not been adequately analysed and the problem of fingerprint quality in India has not been studied in depth'

Hindustan ND 19 MAY 2011 P-4

आईआईटी में होगा नैनो टेक्नोलॉजी का केंद्र

नई दिल्ली | कार्यालय संवाददाता

आईआईटी दिल्ली में जल्द ही छात्र अब नैनो टेक्नोलॉजी से जुड़े प्रयोगों को कर सकेंगे। आईआईटी में नैनो फेब्रिकेशन और नैनो डिवाइस का एक केंद्र स्थापित होने जा रहा है। हालांकि आईआईटी में पहले नैनो साइंस की एक यूनिट थी पर ये सेंटर नैनो टेक्नोलॉजी के लिहाज से काफी बड़ा होगा।

आईआईटी के निदेशक सुरेंद्र प्रसाद ने कहा कि इस तकनीक पर काम करने वाला देश का तीसरा केंद्र होगा। आईआईटी मुंबई और आईआईएससी, बंगलुरु सिलिकॉन डिवाइस पर काम करते हैं पर इस केंद्र में नॉन-सिलिकॉन डिवाइस पर काम होगा। इस केंद्र में नैनोटेक्नोलॉजी की सभी सुविधाएं जैसे कि नैनो डिवाइस का फेब्रिकेशन, लीथोग्राफी, इलेक्ट्रॉन, बीम आदि की जानकारी उपलब्ध होगी। इस केंद्र को बनने में करीब दो वर्ष लग जाएंगे। इस

और भी जगह होंगे मौके अंबेडकर में नए कोर्स

दिल्ली टेक्नोलॉजिकल विश्वविद्यालय में अगले शैक्षिक सत्र से मैथेमेटिक्स व कंप्यूटिंग में बीटेक प्रोग्राम शुरू हो जाएगा। साठ सीटों वाले इस बीटेक प्रोग्राम को शुरू करने का उद्देश्य साइंस और इंजीनियरिंग के बीच सहयोग स्थापित करना है। इसके अलावा परास्नातक के 17 व स्नातक के 14 इनोवेटिव कोर्स को अपडेट किया जाएगा। इससे छात्रों को कोर्स चुनाव के दौरान अधिक लचीली प्रक्रिया मिलेगी। इस साल से दिल्ली टेक्नोलॉजिकल विश्वविद्यालय (डीटीयू) अपनी प्रक्रिया को ऑनलाइन कर सकता है। दाखिला प्रक्रिया आल इंडिया इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश परीक्षा (एआईआईईई) के परिणाम आने के बाद शुरू होगी। इसके परिणाम संभवतः मई अंत में आएंगे। ऑनलाइन प्रक्रिया के साथ परंपरागत प्रक्रिया को भी चालू रखा जाएगा।

इस साल से अंबेडकर विवि में बीए ऑनर्स मैथ्स, इंग्लिश, सोशियॉलजी के नए कोर्स शुरू किए जा रहे हैं। इन कोर्सों में सीटों की संख्या 40 होगी। एमए स्तर पर इकोनॉमिक्स, इतिहास, अंग्रेजी और सोशियॉलजी में भी नए कोर्स शुरू किए जाएंगे। एमए स्तर पर शुरू नए कोर्सों में प्रत्येक में 25 सीटें होगी। एमए में दाखिला प्रवेश परीक्षा के आधार पर और स्नातक में कटऑफ के आधार पर होगा।

केंद्र को बनाने का सबसे बड़ा मकसद ऐसी नैनो डिवाइस का निर्माण करना है जो समाज के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हो। इस केंद्र

मुख्यतः नैनो सेंसर, बायोलॉजिकल सेंसर, फ्यूल सेल आदि पर ध्यान दिया जाएगा।

Hari Bhumi ND 19-May-11 P-3

एआईईईई रिजल्ट घोषणा पर रोक लगाने से इनकार

भाषा

नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय ने अखिल भारतीय इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश परीक्षा (एआईईईई) का परिणाम घोषित किये जाने पर रोक लगाने से इनकार कर दिया है। इस मामले में अदालत के समक्ष दायर एक याचिका में प्रश्न पत्र लीक होने के बाद कुछ छात्रों के लिए दूसरे दिन फिर से परीक्षा लिये जाने का हवाला देते हुए परिणाम घोषित किये जाने पर रोक लगाने की मांग की गई थी। उच्च न्यायालय में मुख्य न्यायाधीश दीपक मिश्र और

न्यायमूर्ति संजीव खन्ना की पीठ ने कहा कि करीब 10 लाख छात्र परीक्षा में उपस्थित हुए। हम परिणाम घोषित किये जाने पर रोक नहीं लगा सकते। अदालत कई याचिकाओं पर सुनवाई कर रही थी जिसमें दो जनहित याचिकाएं शामिल थी। दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय ने राष्ट्रीय विधि विश्वविद्यालय

सुनवाई 30 को

सीबीएसई निदेशक ने दिया नियमों का हवाला

को नोटिस जारी कर उन आरोपों पर प्रतिक्रिया मांगी जिसमें कहा गया है कि एआईईईई परीक्षा को पुननिर्धारित किये जाने के कारण कुछ छात्र विधि प्रवेश परीक्षा में शामिल नहीं हो सके।