

Newspaper Clips May 2, 2012

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P-23

NO INTERNET FOR IIT-D POST MIDNIGHT

AGE CORRESPONDENT

☑ If misused the Internet could affect a student's academic performance, believes IIT-Delhi that has prohibited its students from using the Internet in their hostel premises between 1 am and 6 am. In fact, the Internet has been disconnected in the hostel during these hours.

Says Shashi Mathur, Dean, students, IIT-Delhi, "It was noticed that there was a lot of traffic during these hours. Students would watch YouTube, surf social networking sites, download movies or play games until the wee hours of the morning. Most students were late for their 8 am classes. We had to take this measure in concurrence with the student council to ensure that their academic performance did not suffer."

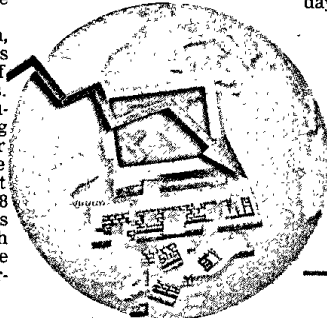
Students who need to use the Internet for their studies or project work, etc., can use it 24x7 in the libraries, labs and research rooms on campus. Mathur says that students are also not restricted from using their own wireless Internet connections in their rooms.

While some students are fine

with the restrictions, others question the logic behind the decision. "We are not convinced with the decision to ban Internet use at night. Students who were misusing the facility will continue to do so. A number of us study late and the Internet is a basic requirement. After a whole day's work, it is impractical to

expect us to visit libraries and research rooms," says a second year student of electrical engineering.

Though the decision has created some inconvenience, students are not too perturbed. A few of them have arranged their personal wireless connections and a number of them have rescheduled their Internet hours. Adds a first year student of IT, "Though, it was fun to have the facility round the clock, it is good to have one less temptation in your room. We've pooled in and got a wireless connection for anything urgent. My friends download the bigger stuff or files when the Internet is on."



The Internet is on 24x7 in the libraries, labs and research rooms for those who want to use it for their studies



campus talk

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED

Newcastle University has announced 10 India scholarships for students applying for PG taught degree programmes. Each scholarship has £2,000 payable towards the first year of tuition fees. The closing date for the receipt of applications is June 30, 2012.

HT, Mumbai

IIT-B panel not for board marks in JEE

Bhavya Dore

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MUMBAI: A screening test for all aspirants followed by another test for selected candidates; and board exam marks removed from the admission equation are some suggestions made by the Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay (IIT-B) panel for the Joint Entrance Exam (JEE).

These suggestions are still being finalised. JEE is the entrance criterion to the IITs.

The HRD ministry had proposed, among other changes, including a candidate's board exams marks based on a percentile score, as part of JEE reforms, from next year.

Following opposition from the senates of IIT-B, IIT-Delhi and

NEXT MEETING

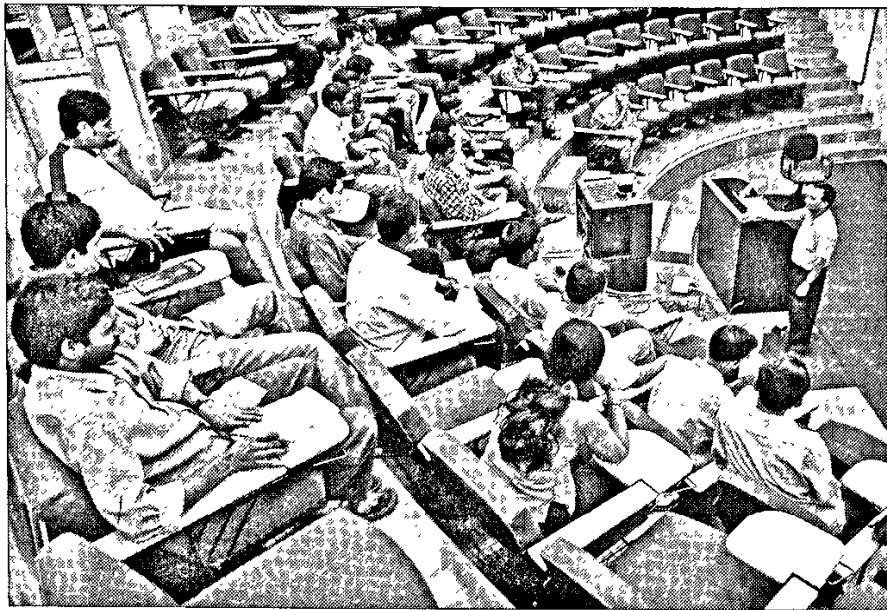
THE IIT COUNCIL, which comprises IIT directors and other officials, will meet on May 12 to deliberate on suggestions from various IITs.

IIT-Kanpur; the ministry asked individual IITs to draft their own proposals and debate them in their senates. The panel is also opposing the implementation of reforms from 2013. "All this will be debated in the senate," said an IIT-B official. IIT-B director, Devang Khakhar, declined to comment.

IIT-Kanpur has also come up with a similar suggestion, of using the ministry's proposed test as a screening process for candidates.

Need to revisit the IIT system

Arun Nigavekar



LESSONS LEARNED: Nobel laureate Venkatraman Ramakrishnan expressed his disappointment on really smart students, including IITians, joining finance and management and wasting their talent

ADDRESSING the students at IIT Bombay during last year's TechFest, Nobel laureate professor Venkatraman Ramakrishnan expressed his disappointment on really smart students including IITians joining finance and management and wasting their talent. Ramakrishnan said, "One needs to be sufficiently smart to get into finance or management profession. One cannot be an idiot and be successful in finance or management. I agree with that. But, one does not need to be in the top 0.1 per cent, which is what you IITians are, and you guys getting into finance or management is a total waste of your talent. Why is government spending all this money in IIT's to create engineering and science graduates? It is not for you to go and become an accountant for a multinational company." He further said, "So what you guys should do is think big! Don't settle for corporate jobs, if you aim high and say to yourself that you want to invent new technologies, new sources of energy or technologies that save lives, you will make fundamental discoveries for better tomorrow, this is what top people should aim for; and not settle for mediocre corporate lives."

On the occasion of 50th anniversary of IIT Bombay (celebrated in the year 2008), professor Kalyan Singhal, a 1967 graduate from the same IIT, now in Merrick School of Business, University of Baltimore, wrote an article in an Indian daily titled "A renaissance of the Indian Institutes of Technology". He suggested three main aspects on which IITs need to focus. First, the IITs should support themselves financially and have full autonomy in selecting directors and making financial and operational decisions. They could then control their own

destinies and play major roles in shaping India's future. Second, the IITs could focus on research and development (R&D) in three interdependent domains: sustainability, partnerships with public and private organisations, and rural areas and slums to improve the economy of the unorganised sector. Third, they could expand postgraduate education, include field training and community engagement in undergraduate education, provide leadership to other technical institutions, and collaborate with other external entities.

Infosys chairman emeritus NR Narayana Murthy feels that the quality of students entering IITs is degrading year after year due to the coaching classes. While addressing the Pan IIT Summit in New York October last year, Murthy called for an overhaul of the selection process for the coveted tech-

nology institutions. He said, "Thanks to the coaching classes today, the quality of students entering IITs is going lower and lower. Apart from the top 20 per cent of students who crack the IIT entrance examination and can stand among the best anywhere in the world, quality of the remaining 80 per cent of students leave much to be desired." He further said, "The only way IITs can become better is if 80-90 per cent of members on their governing council are alumni. Nobody is bothered about an institution more than its alumni. We must somehow persuade the government of India to let go of its control and make sure majority of the council members are the IIT alumni."

Today, there are 16 IITs and since 1958 a policy of protective discrimination is followed (a type of affirmative action): 15 per cent of the seats are re-

served for candidates belonging to the traditionally excluded indigent caste groups listed under a schedule (scheduled castes) and 7.5 per cent for those belonging to tribes that have remained outside the mainstream society listed under a schedule (scheduled tribes). Since 2008, schemes of reservation have been extended to other underprivileged classes up to 27 per cent. Thus, in all 49.5 per cent of the seats are reserved, and apart from 5 percentage advantage in qualifying examination; these students have cut-off marks for qualifying in the IIT-Joint Entrance Examination level at two-thirds of the mark of the last student admitted in the general category.

Narayan Jayram in his article titled, "Toward World-Class Status? The IIT System and IIT Bombay" says, that today "The functional autonomy of

IITs is seriously compromised. Their continued dependence on governmental funds is an open invitation for greater political interference. Recent governmental decisions concerning the creation of a lecturer's position in IITs, the relaxation of PhD qualification for this position, the starting of new IITs without adequate preparation, the pay packages for the faculty and other options suggest that the government has begun treating IITs as regional universities if not as its own departments." He further adds, "The challenges, both external and internal, faced by the IIT system reduce optimism about the ability of existing IITs to realise their dream of world-class status or the ability of new IITs to replicate the achievements of the original five. One fears that the fledgling IITs will hardly take off, and even if they do, it will be several decades before they reach a modicum of what the original five achieved during the quarter century of their existence."

So we have self-created problems in the IIT system and we cannot turn the wheels of events and actions back. We need to address them. It is here proactive and positive minded present and past IIT professors, alumni of five IITs and eminent industrialist should come together to suggest the ways and means to revitalise the IIT education. The best ministry of human resource and development could do is to create a conducive platform for such a discussion without interference and implement the recommendations of such a group in all letter and spirits. Otherwise, we would never be able to revitalise the IIT system.

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(The writer is a former chairman of UGC and former VC of University of Pune)

Doubling higher education enrolment to meet target will cost ₹9.5 lakh cr by 2020

Kirtika Suneja
New Delhi, May 1

INDIA'S target of doubling the gross enrolment ratio (GER) in higher education by 2020 will come at a price of ₹9.5 lakh crore and require an additional 10,510 technical institutions, 15,530 colleges and 521 universities. GER is the number of actual students as a share of all potential students.

The human resource development (HRD) ministry has set a goal of doubling GER to 30% by 2020 from the current 15%. The ratio was approximately 12% in 2008-09 — only a fourth of the average GER in developed countries (54.6%), even worse than developing countries in transition, which have 36.5%.

"The investment required in

higher education is more than ₹9 lakh crore if we want to achieve 30% GER. This includes the cost of setting up more institutes, infrastructure and salaries," said a ministry official. These are the estimates of the National University of Educational Planning and

Administration.

At present, India's higher education system has 544 universities including 42 central, 261 state, 73 private and 130 deemed ones, and close to 31,324 colleges. Currently, 14.6 million students are enrolled in higher education. An additional capacity

of about 25 million seats will be required over the next decade to meet the increased demand.

According to Ernst & Young, in the last decade, the number of universities in the country grew at a CAGR of 7.5% as against the 4.7% growth observed from 1951-2001.

The number of colleges have grown at a CAGR of 11% in 2001-2011 as against 6.1% during 1951-2001.

The GER in the 18-24 age group is about 13% and it is a summation of individual GERs in various disciplines like arts, science, commerce, engineering, polytechnics, distance education, vocational education and medicine.

The 11th Five-Year Plan had set a target of taking higher education GER to 15% by 2011-12 and the University Grants Commission (UGC) had said that to achieve this target, a significant increase in allocation to higher education, close to the targeted 1% of the GDP on higher education, would be required.

The funds requirement includes faculty costs as well.

■ Continued on Page 2

HOMEWORK



Central universities



Private universities



Deemed universities



Institutions of national importance

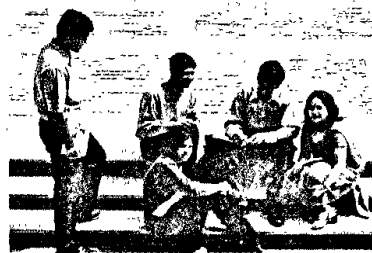
No. of Institutions



State universities



Colleges



Doubling...

A recent task force of the HRD ministry said the lecturer-to-student ratio in the country is 1:20.9, against 1:13.5 recommended by the University Grants Commission at 1:12 for postgraduate students and 1:15 for undergraduates. The shortage of faculty stands at 3 lakh at present.

Sibal softens, may end stand-off with Nitish

Himanshi Dhawan | TNN

New Delhi: The stalemate between human resource development (HRD) minister Kapil Sibal and Bihar CM Nitish Kumar on site of the proposed central university in Bihar could be heading towards a resolution with the former hinting that he was ready to visit the issue afresh.

In an apparent softening of his stand, Sibal had told Rajya Sabha on Monday that he was willing to talk to Kumar to discuss the issue. "I have rung up Nitish Kumarji, I have requested him for an appointment, I am willing to sit with him and decide as to what we should do about the Bihar central university as well. We have no problems."

Bihar CM has pitched Motihari as the site for the uni-



CHANGE IN STRATEGY?

versity on the ground that the district headquarters of East Champaran lacked quality educational infrastructure. The ministry insisted on Gaya as the headquarter for what will be the first central university in Bihar.

The duo is expected to meet in New Delhi, when the Bihar CM comes to attend the CMs' conference on NCTC on May 5 amid indications that the Congress is keen the mat-

ter is sorted out at the earliest as part of an ambitious outreach to Kumar ahead of the Presidential polls.

Sibal's accommodative tone in the RS contrasted sharply with the ministry's earlier position that the location of the proposed university at Gaya was a done deal. The ministry got around the state's reluctance in giving land by getting the defence ministry to allot an unused plot.

The switch in stand although part of Sibal's new-found conciliatory tack is being seen in the light of the Congress's efforts to reach out to potential allies for the presidential polls. With his image as someone who has tried to turn Bihar around and who comes off uneasy in the BJP's partnership, Kumar appears to fit the bill.

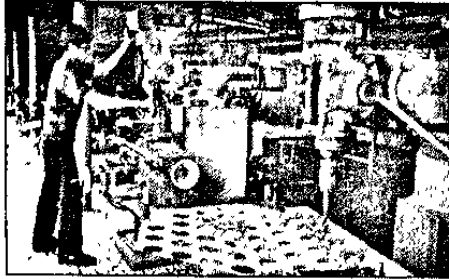
SME को इनोवेशन में मदद करेंगे IIT-IIM एक्सपर्ट

एनएमसीसी एसएमई की प्रबंधकीय क्षमता निखारने, क्वालिटी बढ़ाने में एक्सपर्ट की लेगी मदद

[अमित त्यागी नई दिल्ली]

नेशनल मैनुफैक्चरिंग कंपीटिटिवनेस काउंसिल (एनएमसीसी) ने एसएमई की प्रबंधकीय क्षमता निखारने, उत्पादों की क्वालिटी बढ़ाने और इनोवेशन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए आईआईटी और आईआईएम के विशेषज्ञों की मदद लेगी।

एमएसएमई सेक्टर की मदद करने के लिहाज से आईआईटी और आईआईएम के विशेषज्ञ काफी मददगार साबित हो सकते हैं। एनएमसीसी के सेक्रेटरी जनरल अजय शंकर ने कहा, 'हम ऐसा सिस्टम तैयार करने पर विचार कर रहे हैं जिसमें देश के शीर्ष शैक्षणिक संस्थानों के शिक्षाविदों की मदद से एमएसएमई सेक्टर की क्वालिटी और प्रोडक्टिविटी बढ़ाई जाए और इस क्षेत्र में इनोवेशन को रफतार दी जा सके।' फेडरेशन ऑफ माइक्रो, स्मॉल एंड मीडियम एंटरप्राइजेज (फिस्मे) ने दिल्ली-एनसीआर के लिए इंटेलेक्चुअल प्रॉपर्टी फैसिलिटेशन सेंटर (आईपीएफसी) की स्थापना की है। इस तरह के सेंटर बंगलुरु और हैदराबाद में पहले से काम कर रहे हैं।



फिस्मे के प्रेसिडेंट वी के अग्रवाल ने कहा, 'फिस्मे द्वारा स्थापित आईपीएफसी केंद्र सरकार के एमएसएमई मंत्रालय द्वारा निर्धारित सेवाओं के संचालन में मदद करेगा। इनमें पेटेंट और ट्रेडमार्क का पंजीकरण शामिल हैं। इसके अलावा यह आईपीएफसी आईपी ऑडिट, आईपी मैनेजमेंट सिस्टम्स और आईपी एक्सचेंज के रूप में एमएसएमई के लिए कंप्लीट बिजनेस मॉडल की तरह काम करेगा।' शंकर ने कहा कि आईपीएफसी की स्थापना के रूप में फिस्मे ने भारतीय एमएसएमई सेक्टर की तरक्की की राह में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान किया

है। उन्होंने कहा, 'यह एमएसएमई सेक्टर के लिए लैंडमार्क है।' उन्होंने कहा कि नई निर्माण नीति के बाद देश के जीडीपी में एमएसएमई सेक्टर का हिस्सा बढ़कर 25 फीसदी तक पहुंच जाएगा और इसके लिए जरूरी है कि एमएसएमई सफलता के नए मानक स्थापित करने के लिए नई तकनीक का इस्तेमाल करें। जर्मनी का उदाहरण देते हुए शंकर ने कहा कि इनोवेशन से जर्मनी की कई एसएमई ने विश्व में अपनी दक्षता का लोहा मनवाया है। उन्होंने कहा, 'आज के दौर में इंटेलेक्चुअल प्रॉपर्टी का संरक्षण बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है और अगर इसे तकनीक की मदद मिल जाए तो देश के एमएसएमई में से भी कई एप्पल और क्वालकॉम जैसी कंपनियां सामने आ सकती हैं।'

अग्रवाल ने बताया कि फिस्मे के नई दिल्ली सेंटर में स्थित आईपीएफसी से दिल्ली-एनसीआर के ही नहीं, बल्कि हरियाणा, उत्तर प्रदेश और राजस्थान के एमएसएमई भी फायदा उठा सकते हैं। आईपीएफसी में आईपी संबंधी जरूरतों के लिए विशेषज्ञों की पूरी टीम तैनात की जाएगी।

HRD plans Patil gift: Central varsity in Amravati

ANUBHUTI VISHNOI
NEW DELHI, MAY 1

EVEN as the political scene has heated up over determining President Pratibha Patil's successor, the stage is set for her farewell. The Kapil Sibal-led Union Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry is also wrapping up a farewell gift for the President — a central university in her hometown Amravati.

Sibal confirmed to *The Indian Express* that a central university will be set up in Amravati. The HRD Ministry has already written to the Maharashtra government seeking its views on the issue. The ministry has asked the state government to also indicate what would be preferable — upgrading the existing varsity or setting up a new one. The ministry itself, it is learnt, is in favour of setting up a new varsity

that will be set up in the 12th Plan period.

While the ministry is yet to firm up plans on whether more new central varsities will be added during the 12th Plan, the Amravati plan has received the green signal, sources confirmed.

Incidentally, while President Patil had at least on two occasions written to the HRD Ministry on locating an institute in Amravati, both requests had been

THE PRESIDENT had at least on two occasions written to ministry on locating an institute in Amravati; both requests had been turned down

turned down. In 2008, the President first suggested that an IIT be set up at Amravati

exclusively for women. While the ministry and even the Prime Minister's Office granted in-principle approval for the same, the Planning Commission rejected the idea saying none of the nation's major institutes was gender specific and setting such a precedent would not only pave the way for similar demands in other institutes but also end up diluting the brand IIT.

Patil, however, did not

give up. She wrote in 2010 to the Prime Minister requesting that the existing Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University be upgraded to a central university. The HRD Ministry ended up rejecting the idea saying that its experience with upgrading existing varsities to central varsities was not very good and that this model was not found very successful. However, as Patil readies to demit her high office, the ministry has

finally agreed to a central varsity in her hometown.

The proposed central university at Amravati will be an addition to the 40 existing central varsities. While as many as 14 new central varsities were announced in 2008, most of them are still finding their feet. Land and location have also not been handed over for some of these even four years after vice-chancellors were appointed.

Singapore students prepare master plan for Nalanda University

Plan, put together by 14 Chinese students, emphasises local farming

Press Trust of India
Singapore, May 1

A group of architecture students here have drawn up a master plan for the revival of ancient Nalanda University in India which had East Asian and Chinese students during its functional period from fifth century CE to 1197 CE.

"We will present the draft plan to the Nalanda University directors later this year and hope to participate in the final competition for Nalanda campus master plan," Ms Ng Si Jia, the group leader of the architecture students from the National University of Singapore (NUS), told PTI.

Architecture students, researchers, academics and diplomats met on Monday at the Nalanda-Siriwijaya Centre at the NUS to discuss and review the plan, 'The Nalan-



Ruins of ancient Nalanda University (file photo).

da University: A Mother Plan for the 21st Century Campus.'

The plan was put together by the all-Chinese group of 14 architecture students and includes two students from the Nanjing University of China who are in Singapore on a student exchange pro-

gramme. The modern building concept-based plan stresses on including local farming on the 150 hectares of the 180-hectare site to make it self-sufficient in food supplies and incorporating the contribution of the community within the vicinity as

has been the case at the ancient centre when 200 villages supplied food to the campus residents.

The plan also emphasises on inculcating local cultural, environmental and ecological elements in the campus though the revived university would draw international students, including from China, according to the presentation.

Singapore's top architect and NUS Adjunct Prof Tay Kheng Soon took the students on a week-long tour of India and visited the ruins of Nalanda in Bihar as well as the site for the new university, "to get them the feel of area" before working on the plan.

While it was only a study project, the target would be to participate in the eventual design and plan, stressed Ms

Ng, who will graduate later this year from the NUS.

"But we will continue to pursue this project," she added, stressing that it was a lifetime experience of visiting India and the Nalanda site from January 30 to February 6 this year, during which they met the Vice-Chancellor, Ms Gopa Sabharwal.

Prof Tay said he believed the revival of Nalanda would help change the current faculty-based teaching to more open concepts.

International students would join the Nalanda University, which is scheduled to be functional from 2013.

Singapore, India, China and Japan are leading the main sponsors for reconstructing the University, estimated to cost \$1 billion. More donations were being sought for the university project.

A question of quality

Earlier this week, Parliament passed two amendment Bills related to education. The Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2011, and the National Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2000, were passed after Union human resources development minister Kapil Sibal reached out to opposition parties.

The Bills by themselves are no more than enabling instruments. By declaring the new

Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), the Institute of Technology at Banaras Hindu University and the new Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research as institutions of national importance, the law now enables them to grant degrees to students enrolled there.

Yet there was no substantive debate on quality issues that are likely to confront these new institutes in the years ahead.

In the more than six decades

since independence, the shortage of quality educational institutions has ensured that good education remains an elitist dream for most Indians. Since 2000, India, along with China, has been adding the most working-age youth to the global population. It has been pointed out by many that this group is likely to be short on skills useful for a growing economy unless the government takes some quick supply-side initiatives in education.

So far, both in terms of quantity and quality, these efforts have been found wanting. It is the quality issue that is especially worrisome. The reputation of the existing IITs was developed on the basis of their rigorous entrance requirements and the good training imparted by carefully chosen faculty. Generous spending on infrastructure and facilities completed the equation.

Barring a few exceptions, this cannot be said of the new institutions that were launched in a hurry (as the amendment Bills amply demonstrate). They clearly lack the faculty and in-

frastructure of the kind the original IITs have. So, from a quality perspective, the intervention by the government is unlikely to have the desired effect.

There will be future occasions for institution creation (as opposed to institution building, something this government is incapable of). It is important that the government carefully think about planning issues before embarking on such hasty ventures.

Why did the government rush to create more IITs? Tell us at views@livemint.com

Bihar Central Varsity may have 2 Campuses

Compromise may see Motihari & Gaya hosting university

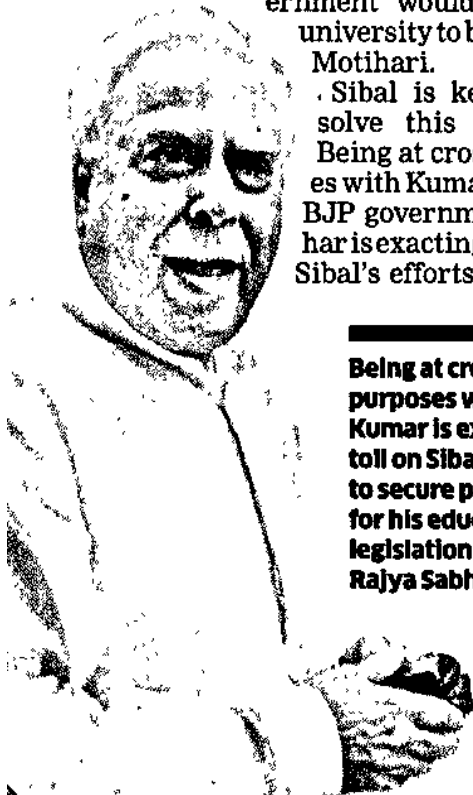
URMI A GOSWAMI
NEW DELHI

A compromise to end the standoff over the Bihar Central University could result in the establishment of a two-campus institution. A campus in Motihari, along with the main campus in Gaya, is among options being considered by the HRD ministry.

HRD minister Kapil Sibal has been locked in an impasse with chief minister Nitish Kumar over the location of the Bihar Central University. While Sibal and the HRD ministry favour Gaya, on account of factors like accessibility, facilities and other practical and logistical consideration, the state government would like the university to be set up in Motihari.

Sibal is keen to resolve this situation. Being at cross purposes with Kumar's JD(U)-BJP government in Bihar is exacting its toll on Sibal's efforts to secure

Being at cross purposes with Nitish Kumar is exacting its toll on Sibal's efforts to secure passage for his education legislation in the Rajya Sabha



passage for his education bills in the Rajya Sabha. Without the support of BJP, Sibal will find it difficult to pass the bills.

The human resource development minister has been charged with attempting to politicise the issue, and using the Bihar Central University to create a rift in the state. BJP has charged Sibal with raking up a controversy over the site of the university to deny Bihar its legitimate demand. A situation that BJP says is unfortunate as Sibal's first term in Parliament was as a Rajya Sabha MP from Bihar. BJP spokesman Shahnawaz Hussain said, "higher education in Bihar is in bad shape. Sibal is creating unnecessary controversy over the location of the university. He is instead trying to deny this institution to Bihar."

An earlier effort to resolve the situation failed. Since Kumar had made a public commitment to set up a university in Motihari, Sibal had offered central assistance to set up a state university in the area. This offer was not acceptable to the Bihar chief minister, who had made it clear that he was committed to setting up a Bihar Central University in Motihari. Kumar also has the backing of the state assembly, which passed a resolution backing up the demand for setting up the Bihar Central University in Motihari.

The HRD minister is keen to make it clear that he is not playing politics over the university's location. Sibal told MPs that he "rung up Nitish Kumarji, I have requested him for an appointment, I am willing to sit with him and decide what we should do about the Bihar Central University. We have no problems. I think in terms of what the future of the children of Bihar as to what they need, what they require...I certainly have no problem in talking with Nitish Kumarji."

The two campus offer will be discussed when Kumar and Sibal meet. However no firm date has been fixed for the meeting.

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DU teachers, students excited about funds for research programme

Vijetha S.N

NEW DELHI: Delhi University's under-graduate students with research on their minds have never had it this good. The university's recently introduced "innovation projects from colleges" that seek to encourage research at the under-graduate level by providing the necessary funding, prompted around 150 proposals with topics varying from reasons for stress among students to projects like "green approach for extraction of hazardous heavy metal ions and dye from synthetic and natural waste".

"We have in all chosen 113 projects, with each of them slated to receive funding up to Rs.5 lakh," said Vice-Chancellor Dinesh Singh on Tuesday, adding that several colleges had received funding for six to seven projects with some really interesting topics. "The boys from Keshav Mahavidyalaya want to

improve on an apparatus invented by eminent Physicist and Nobel laureate C. V. Raman," he said.

Teachers in the university, however, say it was long coming, since the "luxury" of research had until now been restricted to those teaching at the post-graduate level.

"This thing has a world of possibilities for us," said Hindu College acting Principal Praduman Kumar, who received Rs.20 lakh on Monday for the many projects proposed by his faculty. He felt that besides inculcating scientific temper among mostly disinterested stu-

dents, the obvious advantages for teachers too were uncountable.

"The UGC guidelines have the point system for promotion of teachers which considers publications, seminars and research projects. Under-graduate teachers were at a disadvantage till now, they would either apply at the university department or to the UGC. Very few teachers actually got any funding to carry out any research," he added.

According to Dr. Kumar, the approval letter from the university also defines the break-up of the amount, with specific amounts allotted for specific things like equipment and logistics for conducting seminars. "After the project, the machines would obviously stay in the college; I don't think the university will want them back. So, in the end the entire college and future students stand to benefit," he said.

Celebration of Founder's Day today

Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: Delhi University will for the first time in its history be celebrating "Founder's Day" on the lawns of the Viceregal Lodge here on Wednesday. The event will also see the unfurling of the university flag, another first.

"This university was founded exactly 90 years ago," said Vice-Chancellor Dinesh Singh, who dug into several of the university archives to find out the exact date. Rajya Sabha member Dr. Karan Singh, an alumnus of the university, will be the chief guest.