

# Newspaper Clips

## May 2, 2013

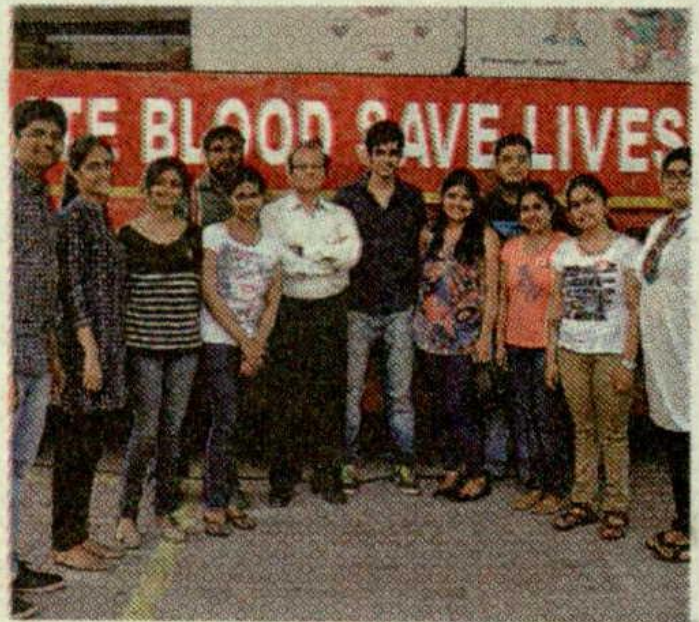
Pioneer ND 02/05/2013 P-14

# Camp for life

University School of Management Studies (USMS), Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University in collaboration with Blood Connect, a NGO started by the students of social service wing of IIT, Delhi organised a blood donation camp at Dwarka campus.

Staff of the university, students of different university schools and affiliated institutes and people from nearby areas participated in the camp.

As a result of it, around 100 units of blood was collected which was later on deposited to the blood bank of RML Hospital.



Blood Connect is basically a student's initiative towards mitigating the shortage of blood in the Delhi-NCR area, especially at the time of emergencies.

Hindustan Times ND 02/05/2013

P-6

# Soon, chug off and learn on a DU train

**HT Correspondent**

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**NEW DELHI:** In what may just be a first by any Indian varsity, Delhi University (DU) on Wednesday said it was mulling options of buying a train to facilitate out-of-classroom learning. Speaking as the chief guest at the varsity's 91st Foundation Day on Wednesday, Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit promised her support to the university in commissioning a project called 'College on Wheels', which would take students around the country on educational tours.

DU Vice Chancellor Dinesh Singh explained that there were plans to purchase a train from the Indian Railways as a way for university students to travel to different cities across the country and learn on these journeys through projects, study tours

and interactions with locals.

"It is a new experiment in education. We will run it like a college, with the train running all year and students taking turns to board it for a month or two. The idea comes from the fact that train journeys have been highly illuminating and educative for many great people like Mahatma Gandhi. It will also be a great way for students to learn about the country," Singh said.

DU has already tried a similar experiment called Gyanodaya Express last year, when it took around 1,000 female students of the NSS and NCC on an educational train journey to scientific and historical landmarks across the country such as Indian Space Research Organization and maritime museum INS Vikrant, among others.

# Soon, you may get to bell the CAT round the year

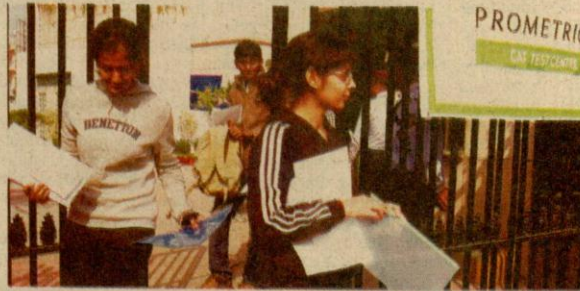
IIMs mull new-format pilot test for computer-based evaluation next year

VINAY UMARJI  
Ahmedabad, 1 May

Some 2014, the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) may conduct a pilot test to gauge the success of a round-the-year computer-based Common Admission Test (CAT). However, the CAT Committee at IIMs is waiting for the successful completion of the 20-day window computer-based CAT 2013 beginning October 16 before taking any decision.

While the CAT committee at the IIMs and their test service provider, Prometric, have had an intention to make CAT such that it could be taken anytime during the year, no concrete step has been taken.

"I am still studying the reports of all the past computer-based CAT since 2009 to understand the kind of progress that we have made and the issues to deal with. Let's first be done with the current year's CAT in October. After that, we are thinking if we can conduct a pilot test and try out a round-the-year CAT," said Rohit Kapoor, convenor-CAT 2013 and chairperson-admissions at IIM-Indore.



**INCREASING PRESENCE** Four new testing locations, namely Surat, Udaipur, Thiruvananthapuram and Vijayawada, will be added for CAT 2013, increasing the number of such locations to 40

Earlier in 2010-11, similar talks of making CAT an online perennial test, on the lines of the GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test), were held within the CAT committee, though nothing fructified. However, according to sources within the committee, this could be a possibility in

**The CAT vouchers will be available at select Axis Bank branches from July 29 to September 24, 2013, and registration will be open from July 29 to September 26**

the near future. When CAT was first launched in 2009 in the computer-based format, against the conventional paper-pencil format, the IIMs were forced to conduct the test in two phases within a span of two-three months, due to technical glitches. Over the years, while the technical glitches have more or less

## CAT IN THE NET

- The IIMs did away with pencil and launched the 10-day computer-based CAT in 2009
- Unlike GMAT, CAT is conducted within a limited period of 20 days in October or November every year
- IIMs working on helping candidates take the computer-based CAT anytime during the year
- IIMs have also received enquiries from B-schools in Dubai, Sri Lanka and other countries for conducting CAT abroad

been decided on that front.

"That decision has to be taken by the directors of all the IIMs. It was not part of our agenda during the recent meeting, where we decided the test dates for this year," said Kapoor.

The then CAT convenor for 2010, Himanshu Rai of IIM Lucknow, had told *Business Standard* there were plans to take CAT "offshore", citing that taking CAT abroad would help the IIMs tap best global practices.

Meanwhile, for this year, Prometric will develop and deliver CAT 2013 for the IIMs. Four new testing locations, namely Surat, Udaipur, Thiruvananthapuram and Vijayawada, will be added for CAT 2013, increasing the number of such locations to 40.

"Getting to know the dates well in advance of the registration and testing window will enable candidates to prepare better for a successful future. As always, our focus remains on conducting the test in a fair and secure manner," Kapoor added.

The CAT vouchers will be available at select Axis Bank branches from July 29 to September 24. The registration window will be open from July 29 to September 26.

"Getting to know the dates well in advance of the registration and testing window will enable candidates to prepare better for a successful future. As always, our focus remains on conducting the test in a fair and secure manner," Kapoor added.

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## 'We are capable of providing good projects for commercial use'

Ramot, Israel-based Tel Aviv University (TAU)'s technology transfer company, and Tata Industries have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to fund and generate leading 'commercialisation-ready' technologies under Ramot's Technology Innovation Momentum Fund. Ramot Chief Executive Officer **SHLOMO NIMRODI**, in an interview with M Saraswathy, talks about the fund and the strategies for its expansion. Edited excerpts:

### What was the strategy behind the partnership with Tata Industries?

As a tech transfer technology company of the university, we are involved in enabling innovations to be commercialised. The Tata Group, under the chairmanship of Cyrus Mistry, has continued its focus on innovation. We have been associated with the group for a few years. The Technology Innovation Momentum Fund was constituted last year and for this, we decided to build closer ties with the Tatas.

### How would Tata Industries benefit from this?

Tata Industries, through its wholly-owned foreign subsidiary, would be the lead investor in Ramot's \$20-million

Technology Innovation Momentum Fund. It has committed up to \$5 million. Apart from getting access to new innovations and research, Tata Industries would have the exclusive right to use the technology. The business model is cash flow-based, not equity-based. Tata Industries would be involved with the fund for the next few years and would have representatives in the scientific committees to choose the best innovations for funding. It is not just limited to investment; it also involves collaboration between the company and the university. This includes a wide range of

fields, including engineering and exact sciences, environment and clean technology and pharmaceuticals and healthcare.

### What role does Ramot play, in terms of helping innovators?

Ramot is involved in scouting new technology, bringing funds for innovators and helping them commercialise. In the future, we would also appoint project managers. We also identify multinational corporations and venture capital funds for the innovations. We have about 1,800 projects in the research and development space every year and about \$150 million of grants for these. Every year, the university has 120-140 requests for patents.

### On what basis are the innovations shortlisted?

Before the MoU was signed, an



**Q&A**

**SHLOMO NIMRODI**  
CEO, Ramot

looked at about 70 promising innovations and interacted with leading scientists at TAU. Each innovation is being judged on a scale of one to five. The categories of grading include the level of the scientist, the level of innovation, the relevance to India and the relevance to the Tatas' present and future businesses. For the different categories, the scores were very high—in the range of four to five.

### How do you plan to expand this fund in the next few years?

We are capable of providing good projects for commercial use; 1,100 faculty members of the university are involved in research. To expand the size of the fund based on the response we receive, we are talking to angel investors in India, North America, Latin America and the UK. Overall, we are looking to have a global presence for these innovations.

extensive due-diligence process was conducted by chief technology officers from major Tata companies. They were encouraged by the technological leadership, the passion and the commitment demonstrated by TAU. During this process, the Tata team, which had 13 executives,

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: May 2, 2013; Section: Times City; Page: 5;

# DU teachers surprised by Tharoor's view

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi University teachers are having a hard time stomaching minister of state, HRD, Shashi Tharoor's stand on the four-year undergraduate programme.

Tharoor's unequivocal support to the drastic changes being implemented with minimum preparation has been especially surprising as two separate delegations met HRD minister M Pallam Raju recently to request his intervention in the matter. The way the dissenting teachers see it — Tharoor can't have been given all the facts. "Either he doesn't know what he's saying or he hasn't gone into the issues," says Vijaya Venkataraman of the

## **FOUR-YR PROGRAMME**

department of Germanic and Romance Studies. Raju heard both the groups out — one of teachers and another led by Udit Raj, national chairman of All India Confederation of SC/ST Organizations and Indian Justice Party — "patiently" and even promised to "look into it", adds Venkataraman.

Sanjay Bohidar, who teaches economics at SRCC, says Tharoor's statements are a result of "misreporting by the university, specifically on the issue of vacant posts. The university has given figures about vacancy in departments alone and not the 4,000 vacancies in the colleges".

Bohidar adds that the minister's endorsement of a university's autonomy is laudible. But "the very foundation of autonomy in DU is being crushed. That's where Shashi Tharoor is off the mark. Policy-makers must intervene when the rules and processes that make an institution autonomous are being flouted."

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi;Date: May 2, 2013;Section: Times Nation;Page: 15;

# UGC tightens rules on MPhil, PhDs

**M Ramya | TNN**

**Chennai:** In an attempt to standardize the process of awarding MPhil and PhD degrees and to bring about a qualitative improvement in the research output, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has devised a way to crack down on universities that award degrees in a haphazard manner.

All universities, including central, state, private and deemed-to-be universities, have been asked to submit information regarding the number of PhDs and MPhils given and the manner in which they are awarded.

“The UGC has decided to elicit information from the universities or institutions to understand their pursuit of research vis-à-vis the impact in generating new knowledge and applications of its outcomes. The data so collected will be analysed and made useful for the promotion of research besides applying mid-course corrections, wherever required,” said UGC chairman Ved Prakash in a letter to vice-chancellors of over 430 universities.