

Newspaper Clips May 23, 2014

Plea against engineering entrance exams dismissed by Delhi HC

[Press Trust of India](#) | New Delhi | May 22, 2014 5:38 pm

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/plea-against-engineering-entrance-exams-dismissed-by-delhi-hc/>

The Delhi High Court has dismissed as withdrawn a PIL seeking to restrain the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) from conducting engineering entrance examinations on the basis of JEE (Main) and JEE (Advanced), 2014.

“The petition is dismissed as withdrawn,” a division bench of Chief Justice G Rohini and Justice R S Endlaw said after the counsel for the petitioner sought permission to withdraw the case.

The court granted the petitioner permission to withdraw the plea with the liberty to file the petition before appropriate forum under law.

“How are you aggrieved by the whole matter?...no student has come forward and filed any petition in this regard,” the court said while dismissing the petition.

The PIL filed by Pushpanjali Das had sought a direction to the CBSE and 16 IITs to “re-conduct JEE (Main), 2014 within a week’s time and not on multiple days.”

It had also sought a direction that the CBSE and the IITs be not allowed to go ahead with the JEE as different sets of question papers for the exams, which would be held on different dates, will not provide equal opportunities to all students. “The petition is directed against CBSE and 16 IITs for subjecting young deserving students to discrimination in the competitive examinations whereby an entrance examination in the same year is being conducted over multiple days with different set of questions.

“This results in questions of varying levels of difficulty on each day, as a result an average student may score more marks thereby denying a deserving student a chance of getting admission in prestigious premium Institutes of India,” the petition had said. According to the plea, the CBSE, since 2002, started independent engineering entrance examination known as AIEEE for admission to 30 NITs and 5 IITs.

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In the year 2012, Human Resources Development Minister Kapil Sibal proposed “One Nation, One Test” formula for the engineering entrance examination. However, later it was agreed that IITs be allowed to conduct their own examination separately but only for those first 1,50,000 students, who qualify AIEEE based on some cut-off marks, the petition had said.

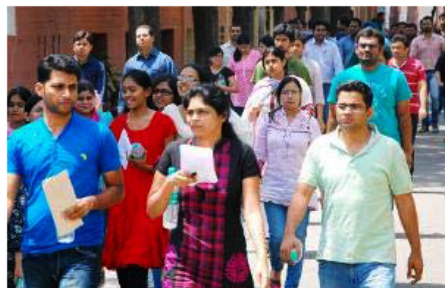
The petition had alleged that the recent JEE (Main) 2014, held on different days in April 2014, the result of which was declared on May 3, has proved how “erratically, arbitrarily and discriminatory” manner it was conducted by CBSE.”

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PTI | May 22, 2014, 06:05 PM IST



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इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश परीक्षाओं के खिलाफ याचिका खारिज

नई दिल्ली (भाषा)। दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय ने वह जनहित याचिका वापस लेने की अनुमति देते हुए खारिज कर दी है जिसमें केंद्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड (सीबीएसई) और भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) को जेईई (मेन) और जेईई (प्रारंभिक), 2014 की इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश परीक्षाएं संचालित करने से रोकने का अनुरोध किया गया था।

मुख्य न्यायाधीश जी रोहिणी और न्यायमूर्ति आरएस एंडलॉ की खंडपीठ ने कहा, 'याचिका वापस लेने की अनुमति देते हुए यह खारिज की जाती है।' पीठ ने यह टिप्पणी उस वक्त की जब याचिकाकर्ता के वकील ने याचिका वापस लेने की इजाजत मांगी। न्यायालय ने याचिकाकर्ता को इस छूट के साथ याचिका वापस लेने की अनुमति दी कि

यदि वह चाहे तो कानून के तहत उचित फोरम पर अर्जी दायर कर सकता है। याचिका खारिज करते हुए अदालत ने कहा, 'पूरे मामले से आप कैसे प्रभावित हैं? कोई भी छात्र आगे नहीं आया है और न ही इस बाबत किसी तरह की अर्जी दाखिल की है।' पुष्पांजलि दास की जनहित याचिका में सीबीएसई और 16 आईआईटी को यह निर्देश देने का अनुरोध किया गया था कि वे "लंबी अवधि के बजाय एक हफ्ते के भीतर जेईई (मेन), 2014 फिर से संचालित करें।' याचिकाकर्ता ने यह निर्देश देने की भी मांग की थी कि सीबीएसई और आईआईटी को जेईई संचालित करने की अनुमति न दी जाए क्योंकि अलग-अलग तारीखों को ली जाने वाली परीक्षाओं के प्रश्न-पत्रों के अलग-अलग सेटों से सभी छात्रों को समान अवसर नहीं मिल पाएगा।

Navbharat Times, ND 23/05/2014 P-5

जेईई एग्जाम रोकने की अर्जी खारिज

■ विस, हाई कोर्ट

दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट ने उस याचिका को वापस लेने की अनुमति देते हुए खारिज कर दिया जिसमें गुहार लगाई गई थी कि सीबीएसई और आईआईटी को जेईई मेन और जेईई एडवांस 2014 की इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश एग्जाम को कंडक्ट करने से रोका जाए।

हाईकोर्ट की चीफ जस्टिस जी. रोहिणी और जस्टिस राजीव सहाय एंडलों की बेंच ने याचिका वापस लेने की अनुमति देते हुए उसे खारिज कर

दिया। इससे पहले याचिकाकर्ता ने याचिका वापस लेने की इजाजत मांगी थी। अदालत ने याचिकाकर्ता को इस बात की इजाजत दे दी कि वह चाहे तो इस मामले में संबंधित फोरम में अर्जी दाखिल कर सकता है। अदालत ने याचिकाकर्ता की अर्जी खारिज करते हुए कहा कि वह बताए कि वह इस मामले में कैसे प्रभावित हो रहे हैं। इस मामले में कोई स्टूडेंट सामने नहीं आया और न ही इस मामले में किसी तरह की अर्जी दाखिल की है।

Scored zero in JEE? You're eligible for engineering admission

Friday, 23 May 2014 - 7:00am IST | Agency: DNA

<http://www.dnaindia.com/mumbai/report-scored-zero-in-jee-you-re-eligible-for-engineering-admission-1990597>

If you are an engineering aspirant from Maharashtra, your seat is confirmed even if you have scored zero or less in the joint entrance exam (JEE Main) 2014 for which results were declared a fortnight ago.

As per new rules specified by the Directorate of Technical Education (DTE), even candidates scoring zero or negative marks in JEE will be eligible for admission to engineering courses, provided they score at least 50% aggregate (45% for reserved category) in physics, chemistry and mathematics (PCM) in their board exams.

A high number of vacant seats in engineering institutions has prompted DTE to relax the norms.

Though over 2.45 lakh candidates appeared in JEE (Main) from Maharashtra as against the 1.5 lakh available seats in 360 engineering colleges, DTE expects a large number of seats to remain vacant at the end of the admission season considering the past record.

Over 39,000 seats remained vacant across the state in 2013-14. The trend is attributed to many factors, including flocking of students to other states and preference to some BSc subjects (computer science and IT) in good colleges over poorly equipped engineering institutes.

Till last year, the admissions were done through MHT-CET and any score above zero was enough for eligibility. It was decided to discontinue consideration of MHT-CET score from this year. This year, for the first time, state will give equal weightage to Std XII marks and JEE score for admission.

"The merit list will be based on 50% weightage to both JEE (Main) and board exam (PCM subjects) marks," technical education director Subhash Mahajan said.

Those scoring less than 50% in PCM in board exams won't be eligible. "Till last year, the eligibility criteria were 45% aggregate for open category and 40% for SC/ST in Std XII board exams. That has been changed to 50% PCM aggregate," said Mahajan.

He admitted there was confusion among students and parents but advised them to visit the DTE website for accurate details.

"A government resolution was issued on October 31, 2012, that clarified everything. It also made it clear that marks of JEE (Advance) would not be taken into consideration. For students hailing from other boards (CBSE, ICSE), their score will be converted into percentile as per norms of Indian Statistical Institute," Mahajan said.

Admissions to even autonomous colleges ICT and VJTI in Matunga will be done through the JEE score and there will be four rounds of centralised admission process that will begin after the HSC results are declared.

Last year, over 52,400 seats had remained vacant in Maharashtra's 365 colleges, a trend that is being seen for four to five years. They said confusion over JEE score and the new condition of 50% PCM marks may drive many away and government would have rethink its decision, just like it did for MBA, where the Common Management Admission Test had resulted in students preferring to stay away from management courses.

UGC regulation on deemed varsities unconstitutional: High Court

Special Correspondent

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday declared as “unconstitutional and invalid” the University Grants Commission (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulation 2010 pertaining to governance system, admission and fee structure and opening of campuses of deemed-to-be universities in the country.

The High Court also quashed the circular issued by the UGC in 2010-11 asking all existing deemed-to-be universities to comply with the new regulation.

Justice Anand Byrareddy delivered the verdict while allowing petitions filed by Manipal, Siddartha, KLE, BLDE, Devaraj Urs, Yenepoya and Symbiosis universities challenging the constitutionality and legality of the regulation.

The universities had contended that the regulation besides illegally intruding into the rights of the trusts and persons associated with them and who have set up these institutions, interfered with the administration and admission processes of these private unaided institutions in gross violation of a series of dicta of the Supreme Court.

However, the Union government and the UGC argued that the regulation was aimed at ushering in transparency, accountability and quality in these universities.

Accepting the contentions of the universities, the High Court said that the regulation was in violation of the Supreme Court’s verdicts in T.M.A. Pai Foundation, P.A. Inamdar and other cases as it would take away the control from the managements of private institutes over the admission process and also fixation of fee structure.

Interference either by the UGC or the Union government in these processes of private unaided and minority educational institutions through the regulation is impermissible, the High Court said.

Pointing out that it was not the UGC that authored the regulation but the Ministry concerned, the High Court said that by such an action, the UGC had abdicated its discretion to frame regulations, and hence the regulation was also in violation of Section 26 of the UGC Act.

Keywords: [University Grants Commission](#), [deemed universities](#), [UGC regulation](#), [Karnataka High Court](#)

Printable version | May 23, 2014 10:11:46 AM | <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/ugc-regulation-on-deemed-varsities-unconstitutional-high-court/article6037626.ece>

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AICTE launches job portal

R. Sujatha



Screenshot shows homepage of AICTE's job portal. Designed for educational institutions in Tier-II and Tier-III cities, the portal allows students/companies to access and upload the profiles of each other.

To ensure that students in non-metros are not left out of the race

In a bid to ensure that students in non-metros are not left out of the race to lucrative jobs, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has launched a job portal linking students and companies. Designed for educational institutions in Tier-II and Tier-III cities, the portal allows students/companies to access and upload the profiles of each other.

Depending on the vacancy and suitability of the candidates, the companies would invite them to online tests followed by personal interview. Some college placement officers say the AICTE had announced this initiative in 2012. The portal will cover over seven million candidates across the country.

S. Mohamed Tajudeen, Director of Placement in B.S. Abdur Rahman University, says the initiative by the AICTE has come when there are already several independent job portals functioning in the country.

According to him, colleges in cities, which have access to a good number of companies, recruit students through campus recruitments or off-campus programmes.

"We are trying to check if companies such as TCS and Cognizant will also join the portal. Such companies conduct online tests for more than one lakh students at one go and recruit candidates as per their requirements," Mr. Tajudeen said.

The job portal will be a boon to students in Tier-II and Tier-III cities, where recruiters hardly visit, said an industry source. The portal, being the first-of-its-kind initiative, would encounter stiff competition once it got popularised.

For instance Anna University, which has a dedicated placement cell, involves all colleges affiliated to it to participate in placement programmes. In the year-long process, the university officials collaborate with the affiliated colleges and the industry on a regular basis.

P. Ananthkrishnan, placement officer at Sri Krishna Engineering College, which is one of the institutions that has access to the portal, says: "Usually we organise campus placements by coordinating with companies. Now, the AICTE will offer details of students online and the companies will directly call them...we are not sure how successful this exercise will be. We have just started."

Keywords: [AICTE job portal](#), [non-metro students](#)

HT Indore

KALAM TO BE CHIEF GUEST AT IIT-INDORE CONVOCATION

HT Correspondent

■ editorbhopal@hindustantimes.com

INDORE: The second convocation of IIT-Indore will be held on June 5 on Simrol campus. Apart from the 117 students from the B Tech batch six other students pursuing PhD will also be handed over their degrees at the function.

Former President APJ Abdul Kalam will be the chief guest on the occasion. Kalam would present medals and letters of appreciation to the students.

Also it is expected that a series of other eminent speakers would also attend the convocation and motivate the students.

“A protocol needs to be followed regarding the speakers and guests who will attend the function. So we are finalising some names, hopefully some eminent personalities will attend the convocation,” said Nirmala Menon, PRO IIT-Indore.

She said, “The number of PhD students passing out might increase with time, as submissions and a number of things are in line.”

IIT, IISc and IIMA faculties urge new Govt to set up Telecom R&Development Fund

Delay will cost dearly & time is just ripe for us to shape the contours of future telecom evolution

http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/iits-iisc-and-iima-faculties-urge-new-govt-to-set-up-telecom-research-development-fund-revised-114052201190_1.html

T E Narasimhan | Chennai

May 22, 2014 Last Updated at 18:16 IST

Faculty Members from IITs, [IISc](#) and IIMA have urged the new Government to set-up a new Telecom Research and Development Fund (TRDF) and Telecom Entrepreneurship Development Fund (TEDF). Delay in setting up such funds will cost us dearly and time is just ripe for us to shape the contours of future telecom evolution, the said.

ALSO READ: [New govt has opportunity to bring changes in telecom: PwC](#)

In a statement, signed by 35 faculty members from various IITs, [IIMs](#) and IISc, stated in National [Telecom Policy](#) (NTP) 2012 it was proposed to create funds for product development, IPR generation and manufacturing. These funds include Telecom Research and Development Fund or TRDF (to promote R&D towards IPR and promote product development), TEDF (to promote start-ups in the area) and Telecom manufacturing promotion fund or TMPF (to promote manufacturing in India).

A committee was also set up by DoT to develop the blue print of TRDF, TEDF and TMPF and a reported was submitted by the committee in early 2013.

ALSO READ: [Won't invest in telecom sector](#) again: Analjit Singh

"The government funding for telecom product development will create pull-through effect for overall electronics manufacturing eco-system thereby resulting in reduced import-bill and bridging of trade deficit. The growth of telecom manufacturing sector will also result in large scale job creation," said the statement.

"We are not asking for anything new, but that which was already there in the planning commission's document. We have submitted a representation with the Union Ministry for its consideration," said Ashok Jhunjunwala, a Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology ([IIT](#)) Madras and who was head of a committee which submitted a report on the methodology of implementing these funds.

"It is the responsibility of the government to take the initiative in investing in Research and Development. We have been importing all the equipments from overseas all these years," he added.

ALSO READ: [Small towns to see more hiring in telecom sector: Experts](#)

Apart from the economic angle, there is strategic angle as well. Imported [telecom equipment](#) can pose big security threat. Today, telecom networks are considered as strategic infrastructure. Equipment deployed in such networks could have potential malware in it, which could even be triggered from outside India. This could seriously jeopardise national security, they added.

The government has garnered huge funding through spectrum auctions, telecom revenue-share and licensing charges and likely to earn even more through auctions and licensing fees. It is imperative that a part of these earnings is used to strengthen Indian IPRs, telecom products and manufacturing. The government must create

and operationalise TRDF, TEDF and TMPF without any delay. The strengthening of telecom product and entrepreneurship ecosystem will have long-term fiscal benefits.

ALSO READ: [Strong volumes set to drive telcos' Q4 earnings growth](#)

They added the Fund will catalyse the manufacturing eco-system and make us self-reliant in telecom technology for commercial and national strategic use. "This will also realise our potential to become a global technology player. The delay in setting up such funds will cost us dearly. Time is just ripe for us to shape the contours of future telecom evolution," they said.

Background

The Indian Telecom sector has been growing in the last two decades. Today, the total number of cell phone subscriptions is in excess of 850 million. The total revenue due to mobile services is more than Rs 1.70 lakh crore per year.

Tele-density in the country is close to 75 per cent, making India the second largest telecom market in the world, next to China.

"However this growth story has been scripted largely with significant dependence on equipment imports," said the faculties.

Demand for telecom equipment was close to a whopping Rs 75,000 crore in 2012-13 and projected to grow to more than Rs 1.70 lakh crore by 2019-20. A majority of this demand is met by imports and the telecom trade deficit stands at 70 per cent of the total demand implying thereby that the majority of equipment being bought by telecom operators is manufactured outside India.

ALSO READ: [IT & telecom sector saw substantial growth: Nasscom](#)

To this one needs to add the import of subscriber equipment, including cell-phones, tablets and lap-tops used to access the [telecom network](#). In 2013, about 150 million cell phones were imported at a total value of nearly Rs 30,000 crore.

"There is a high outflow of foreign exchange. Our growth story has been driven more by increased consumption of imported technologies and products rather than by innovations within the country," said the faculties.

Despite India being recognised for large talent pools of system, software and chip design engineers, even in some equipment, manufactured or developed in India, the components and devices are almost always 100 per cent imported, and Indian Intellectual Property (IP) embedded in the equipment is marginal.

Hindu, ND 23/05/2014

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UGC letter causes panic among teachers

The letter conveys withdrawal of many allowances for ad-hoc teachers

Vijetha S.N

NEW DELHI: A letter sent by the UGC to many colleges and departments of Delhi University setting the maximum fixed payments and withdrawal of allowances for ad-hoc teachers has caused some concern among teachers in the university which employs around 5,000 ad-hoc teachers on an average.

"Two sections of this letter are particularly disturbing: firstly, it stated that the contract or substitute teachers who are hired in place of per-

DUTA is convening an emergency meeting on Friday to take stock of the situation

manent teachers, who are on long leaves, will be paid salaries minus allowances. Secondly, it ambiguously states that against substantive posts falling vacant due to retirement, resignation or death; the guest or part-time teachers may be employed with a maximum fixed salary of Rs 1,000 per lecture, not exceeding Rs. 25,000 per month," said Delhi University Teachers' Association (DUTA)

president Nandita Narain.

Teachers across the university were worried despite the UGC regulations which state that "the fixed emoluments paid to contract teachers should not be less than the monthly gross salary of a regularly appointed Assistant Professor."

A delegation of the DUTA met senior UGC officials to raise their concerns.

"The UGC officials have

agreed to investigate the circumstances under which such a misleading letter may have been issued to the colleges in Delhi University. The DUTA urged the UGC to withdraw the letter immediately and issue a clarification at the earliest. It also submitted a detailed representation against the letter to the UGC Deputy Secretary," added Ms. Narain.

The DUTA is also convening an emergency meeting on Friday to take stock of the situation that has resulted from the circulation of this letter.

Times of India, ND 23/05/2014 P-5

UGC asks DU not to appoint ad hoc teachers

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The University Grants Commission (UGC) on Wednesday dealt a severe blow to ad hoc teachers employed in Delhi University colleges by asking colleges not to appoint them as their salary is not admissible as per UGC norms/guidelines.

The letter sent by UGC has caused alarm in the teaching community as this policy will affect, as per DU Teachers' Association's estimate, over

5,000 ad hoc teachers. The association has demanded that the letter be withdrawn and a clarification issued.

UGC directions state that posts of teachers on leave (presently filled by ad hoc teachers) be given to "contract or substitute teacher" who'll be given "full salary except allowances, gratuity and increment." On posts falling vacant due to retirement, resignation or death, UGC says, "guest/part-time teacher may be appointed against the sanc-

tioned post." DUTA says that guest teachers get a "maximum fixed salary of Rs 1,000 per lecture, not exceeding Rs 25,000 per month."

"Both sections are in di-

DUTA PROTESTS

rect contravention of Clause 13.1 of the current UGC Regulations which state that teachers should be appointed on contract basis only when it is absolutely necessary and when student-teacher ratio

does not satisfy laid down norms. In any case, the number of such appointments should not exceed 10% of the total number of faculty positions in a college or University. The fixed emoluments paid to such contract teachers should not be less than the monthly gross salary of a regularly appointed assistant professor," says a statement from DUTA.

Media coordinator of Delhi University, Malay Neerav, said, "The executive council of

the university hasn't accepted or introduced appointment of college teachers on contractual basis. As regards the issue of ad hoc appointments, the university will take up the matter with UGC to protect the interest of teachers."

A group of DUTA members met UGC officials on Thursday to "apprise them of discrepancy between the letter and UGC Regulations. DUTA's executing committee will meet on May 23 to take stock of the situation.

Times of India, ND 23/05/2014

P-21

Tech to help convert waste heat into electricity

Washington: Scientists at MIT and Stanford have developed a new battery technology that captures waste heat and converts it into electricity. Vast amounts of excess heat are generated by industrial processes and by electric power plants; researchers around the world have spent decades seeking ways to harness some of this wasted energy.

Now researchers at MIT and Stanford University have found a new alternative for low-temperature waste-heat conversion into electricity — that is, in cases where temperature differences are less than 100 degrees Celsius. The new approach, based on a phenomenon called the thermogalvanic effect. Since the voltage of rechargeable batteries depends on temperature, the new system combines the charging-discharging cycles of these batteries with heating and cooling, so that the discharge voltage is higher than charge voltage. The system can efficiently harness even relatively small temperature differences, such as a 50 degrees Celsius difference. PTI

A mini kidney-dialysis machine for infants

Kounteya Sinha | TNN

London: In the world's first such breakthrough, scientists have developed a miniature kidney dialysis machine capable of treating the smallest babies and have also for the first time used it to safely treat a newborn baby with multiple organ failure.

To be announced on Friday by medical journal 'The Lancet', the new continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT) machine — named CARPEDIEM (Cardio-Renal Pediatric Dialysis Emergency Machine) — was created to overcome the problems of existing dialysis machines that are only designed for adults and have to be adapted for use in newborns.

"Such modifications make adult devices inaccurate when used in infants who weigh less than 15 kg and can result in complications with fluid management and treatment delivery," said lead author professor Claudio Ronco

Genes can help predict alcoholism risk

Researchers have found that a group of 11 genes can help predict if an individual is at increased risk of alcoholism. A research team from the United States and Germany has discovered this panel of genes which it says is highly accurate in its differentiation of alcoholics from controls at a population level. "This powerful panel of just 11 genes successfully identified who has problems with alcohol abuse and who does not in tests in three patient populations on two continents, in two ethnicities and in both genders," said Alexander B Niculescu, professor of psychiatry at the Indiana University School of Medicine. "We believe this is the strongest result to date in the field of alcoholism and offers a comprehensive window to the genetics and biology of alcoholism," Niculescu said.

Kounteya Sinha

from San Bortolo Hospital in Vicenza, Italy. "A major problem is the potential for errors in ultrafiltration volumes — adult dialysis equipment has a tendency to either withdraw too much fluid from a child, leading to dehydration and loss of blood pressure, or too little fluid, leading to high blood pressure and edema."

It is estimated that 18% of low-birth weight infants are affected by acute kidney injury and it is increasingly common in children admitted to

hospital with an incidence of almost 20% in children admitted to intensive care.

Ronco therefore developed a miniature device for kidney support in newborns and infants weighing between 2 kg and 10 kg. It has the capacity to accurately handle very low blood and ultrafiltration flows compared with existing machines, allowing the use of a much smaller sized catheter than is typically used in children, which could prevent damage to blood vessels.

Times of India, ND 23/05/2014 P-21

Worms can form part of astronauts' diet

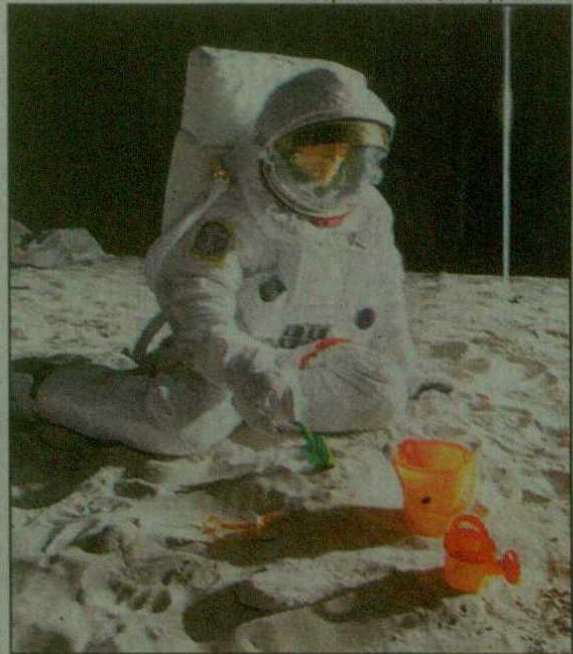
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Beijing: Three volunteers participated in a Chinese space programme experiment of surviving on a worm diet for more than three months in order to prove that humans can endure long space journeys with this type of diet.

The three volunteers were enclosed in the Moon Palace One, a man-made biosphere simulating the space journey. The worm diet to sustain astronauts was first proposed by Chinese scientists in 2009, as a solution to the complicated issue of diet crisis on longer space journeys.

Tests were carried out at the Moon Palace One, a closed, man-made biosphere at the Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, which is China's largest and most sophisticated facility developing self-sustaining life support systems in space. Volunteers spent 105 days on a diet of insects, including larvae of a beetle known as *Tenebrio* as the main source of protein and showed little physical or mental discomfort.

None of the volunteers had previously eaten worms, though in China worms constitute a part of the diet in several regions. The food regime was not completely based on the insects as 45% of the meals comprised vegetables grown in the same controlled atmosphere. With positive outcomes, scientists are now planning to conduct the next experiment based on 100% larvae diet.



CHEW ON THIS: China conducted an experiment in which three volunteers were made to live on a worm diet for more than three months in a man-made biosphere simulating the space journey

“Worms may look disgusting at first glance, but they are actually the cleanest and healthiest food source,” Hu Dawei, a researcher involved in the project, told reporters. According to Hu, other countries have considered sending livestock to the space mission on long journeys, but this poses difficulties like their slaughter in closed atmosphere with zero gravity. Besides, on such long trips, astronauts may create an emotional bond with the cattle meant to be eaten, Hu added. IANS