

Newspaper Clips

May 27, 2011

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: May 27, 2011; Section: Times Business

Ballmer talks innovation amid criticism at home

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Amid criticism, Microsoft CEO Steve A Ballmer on Thursday sought to strengthen his case by saying that the software giant was expanding its horizon to deal with the changing consumer needs.

Ballmer, who is now a regular in India, used two public meetings in the Capital to showcase the company's latest technologies be it the movement made on cloud computing or Kinect used by gamers. If, the Microsoft veteran, which is being seen to be less innovative than the likes of Google, used a meeting organized by an industry chamber in the morning to provide demos of business-related software and applications, he sold more innovation to IIT Delhi students in the afternoon. Ballmer and his India team spent nearly half-an-hour to give a glimpse of a device that reads what goes



We bought Skype to socialize in cyber space, says Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer

inside your mind and then a computer that understands your voice and actions.

The demos were interspersed with comments that seemed to address some of the concerns regarding Microsoft not being as fleet footed as its rivals.

Ballmer said Office 365 Cloud would be launched in June, which would help the Seattle-based giant meet the needs of the Indian market.

In addition, he said cloud computing would create some 5 lakh jobs in India over the next three years.

Similarly, he said that tie-up with Nokia would help Microsoft not just work closely on developing software but over a period of time the partnership would extend into the hardware space too. And, Ballmer, first business manager hired by Microsoft founder Bill Gates 31 years ago, also gave the rationale for the \$8 billion Skype acquisition saying it was aimed filling the socialization need gap. "We bought Skype to socialize in cyber space. We need to teach the next generation how to simulate the natural model of life in this cyber space," he added.

Similarly, he said Bing's partnership with Facebook, by allowing one to bring one's Facebook friends into the search experience, was again aimed at filling the socializing need.

Hindu, ND 27-May-11 P-13

Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer gives IITs thumbs up

NEW DELHI: Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer on Thursday gave the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) thumbs up, hailing the contributions of their students and wanting to see some of the "finest and brightest" Indian minds with him at his office.

On a visit to the IIT-Delhi, he closeted with the faculty of the Computer Science Department, getting to know from them the research being done on computers and other technologies. "Before coming here, I met with the faculty of the Computer Science Department. I got to know the kind of research being done... I have been hearing about the



Steve Ballmer. - PHOTO:
R.V. MOORTHY

IIT for many, many years, and we have a lot of IIT chaps at Microsoft," he told 1,000-odd budding engineers.

In his 40-minute speech,

Mr. Ballmer referred to the faculty of the IIT-Delhi twice, when he mentioned his interaction with them and the research being done by the students.

On the first day of his job at Microsoft, Mr. Ballmer said, he was asked to read some 70 letters written by a "crazy" IIT-Delhi student to Bill Gates on why he should be recruited by the company. "I read the letters...that was my first job at the Microsoft...The letters were full of passion, and the guy talked about why he should be at Microsoft. After reading that, I decided he should be the guy whom I should recruit first," he said.
- PTI

Sibal reposes trust in IITs and IIMs

“Faculties should not be blamed”

Aarti Dhar

NEW DELHI: Reposing complete trust in the creative potential of the faculty at the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), Union Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal on Thursday said that if the IITs had not gained the critical mass to change the global scientific discourse, it was because of the “ecosystem,” including lack of infrastructure and investment, and not because of the faculties.

Without naming his Cabinet colleague, Minister of State for Environment and Forests Jairam Ramesh, who had earlier this week said the IITs and the IIMs faculty was not “world class” and paid little attention to research, Mr. Sibal said: “We are in a democracy and my colleagues are entitled to give their opinion, but the opinion should be based on facts and not perception.”

Seeking to give the HRD Ministry’s opinion on Mr. Ramesh’s statement that has snowballed into a major controversy now, Mr. Sibal told journalists that the reality was that the IITs had not gained the critical mass to change the global scientific discourse as these institutes were not created for producing researchers, but engineering graduates initially. It was only in the recent past that the focus had shifted to research. “Of the 1,400 research papers produced in In-



Union Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal speaks to journalists to clarify the remarks made by Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh on IITs and IIMs, in New Delhi on Thursday. - PHOTO: V.V.KRISHNAN

- ‘Lack of investment to blame for institutes not gaining critical mass to change scientific discourse’
- ‘IITs were not created for producing researchers, but engineering graduates’

dia annually, 1,000 are produced by the IITs. And this has happened only in the past 5 to 6 years.” Some path-breaking research had been done in these institutions. Importantly, he said, 25 per cent of the faculty was from the IITs system itself.

Reforms process

Mr. Sibal said his Ministry had already embarked on the reforms process, including initiation of “enormous” changes in the administrative

structure within the IIT system, which will allow the faculty to do critical mass research and empower the scientific community.

“In 7 to 10 years, our R&D institutions would have gained global eminence,” he said, adding that most of the solutions for research were going to emerge from India, including in the management field, in the coming years.

He said the government was adding more institutions to the system.

BUSINESS STANDARD ND 27-May-11 P4

Sibal disagrees with Ramesh, praises faculties of IIT and IIM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, 26 May

HUMAN Resources and Development Minister Kapil Sibal today disagreed with his ministerial colleague Jairam Ramesh's remarks on IITs and IIMs, saying the faculties of these institutions are "world class".

He said if the IITs have not gained the critical mass to change the global scientific discourse, it is because of the "ecosystem" and not because of the faculties.

"Twenty-five per cent of the IIT faculty are students of IITs who have done B Tech. Surely, the 25 per cent students who are world class must be world class faculty," he told reporters here in reference to Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh's remarks that the faculties of IITs and IIMs were not world class.

Without taking Ramesh's name, Sibal said he was entitled to make his comments. "The comment made by him must be seen in the light of the general view within the community that the calibre of contributions by the scientific community does not really match world standards," he said.

Twenty-five per cent of the IIT faculty are students of IITs who have done B Tech. Surely, the 25 per cent students who are world-class must be world-class faculty

KAPIL SIBAL
HRD Minister

He said the premier institutes in the country rank among the top 50 in the global index, with IIT Bombay placed at No 21, IIT Delhi at 24, IIT Kanpur at 37 and IIT Madras at 39. In terms of publication, too, he said, the rate was 15 to 17 per cent in the IITs, as against the global rate of four per cent.

However, noting that IITs have not gained that critical mass to change the global scientific discourse, he said, "It has something to do with the ecosystem."

"If the US spends \$250 billion on research, India spends \$8 billion. You cannot create



that critical mass. That's not because of faculty," he said.

Sibal felt the discourses on these premier institutes should be based on "evidence and not on perceptions".

He said while IITs were meant to produce B Tech graduates initially, there was a gradual realisation that they should also go for path breaking research, produce more M Tech students.

He said the ministry was already embarking on the reforms process including initiation of "enormous" changes in the administrative structure within the IIT system which

would allow the faculty to do the kind of critical mass research and empower the scientific community.

"In 7-10 years, our R&D institutions will have gained that global eminence for which they could not have been faulted in the past," he said, adding most of solutions for research are going to emerge from India even for management in the coming years. He said the government was adding more institutions to the system and noted that "shift of research is taking place looking at Indian problems and solutions which will be global".

Hindustan Times, ND

27-May-11

P-1

SIBAL CHANGES MIND, NOW SAYS IIT, IIM FACULTY WORLD CLASS

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Human resource development minister Kapil Sibal took a U-turn on Thursday, praising the faculty of the IITs and IIMs as "worldclass".

He had earlier agreed with his cabinet colleague Jairam Ramesh, who had said on Monday that students — not faculty or quality of research — at these premier institutes were world class.

Sibal had initially said, "He (Ramesh) is himself an IITian. He might be having inside knowledge. Even otherwise, do we have world-class institutions? As education minister, I am striving towards achieving world-class standards for our institutions."

But on Thursday, Sibal changed his tune, saying, "I want to place on record the government's complete trust in the faculties of the Indian Institutes of Technology and the Indian Institutes of Management. Almost 25% of the entire IIT faculty comprises ex-students. Surely, if there are world-class students, there must be world-class faculty."

Without naming Ramesh, Sibal said any minister was entitled to his opinion, but the government wanted to place the facts before the nation.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

SIBAL CHANGES MIND, SAYS IIT, IIM FACULTY WORLD-CLASS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He said it was true that the IITs had not "gained the critical mass to change the global scientific discourse", but the faculty could not be blamed for this.

"If the United States spends \$250 billion (₹11.25 lakh crore) on research, and India spends \$8 billion (₹36,000 crore), you cannot create that critical mass. That's not because of the faculty," Sibal said.

He said discourses on these premier institutes should be based on "evidence, not perceptions".

Citing a report on the global index of professional institutions, Sibal said the IITs rank among the top 50 in the world, with IIT-Bombay placed at Number 21, IIT-Delhi at 24, IIT-Kanpur at 37 and IIT-Madras at 39.

He said the IITs were initially set up to produce B Tech graduates, but during the last five-seven years there has been a gradual realisation to engage in path-breaking research.

The HRD ministry is already embarking on the reforms process including initiation of enormous changes in the administrative structure within the IIT system, which will allow the faculty to do the kind of critical mass research and empower the scientific community, Sibal said.

Economic Times, ND 27-May-11 P-2

Comments on IITs Should be Based on Proof, Says Sibal

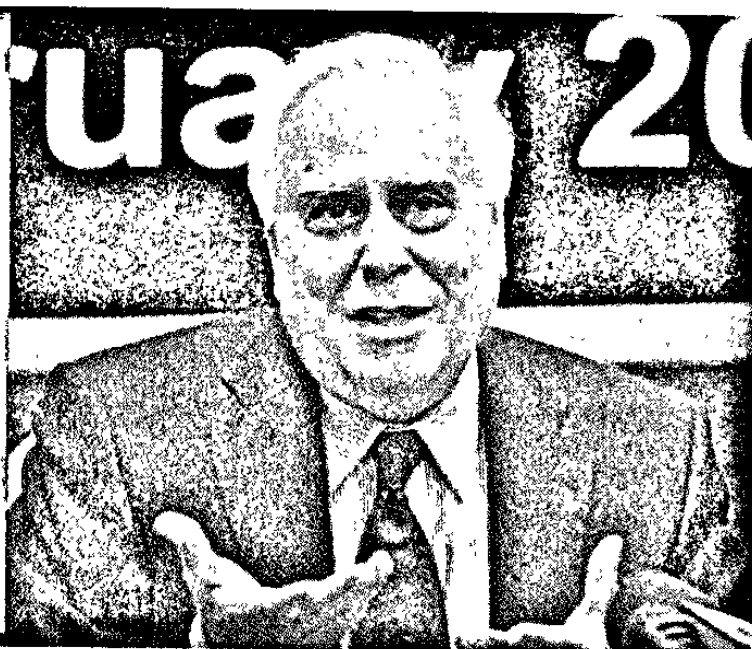
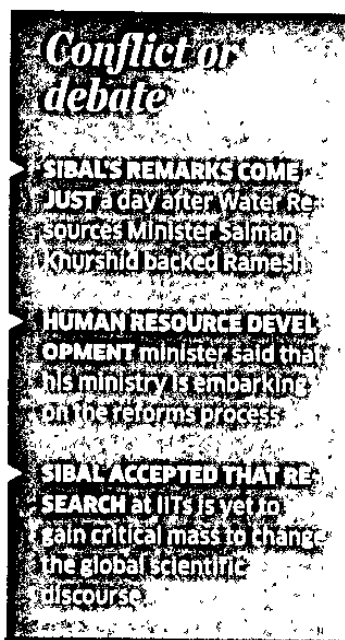
Ramesh can have his say but govt has to make stand clear, says HRD Minister

OUR POLITICAL BUREAU
NEW DELHI

Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal has dismissed Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh's remarks about the quality of faculty at IITs. Speaking on behalf of the government, Sibal said, "the minister is free to give his opinion but the Government of India has to make clear its stand."

Sibal's remarks come just a day after another member of the Group of Ministers authorised to speak on behalf of the government to the media, Water Resources Minister Salman Khurshid, backed Ramesh.

Sibal said that Ramesh's comments must be seen in the context of "the general impression that the caliber of contribution by the Indian scientific community doesn't match world standards. The situation in IITs may not be the same." This vigorous defence of the IIT faculty comes four days after Ramesh's comment and after an initial acknowledgement that there might be a kernel of truth in the



Environment Minister's statement. Sibal said "discussions should be based on evidence and not generality."

On Wednesday, Khurshid had said, "I support the HRD minister's views that if somebody has familiar knowledge of an institution and he expresses his views, we should be enriched by those views. I do not think this is a point for debate or conflict." Sibal had on Monday acknowledged that the none of the Indian institutions were "world class" but that his ministry was

putting things in place to help some of them make the grade, which he hoped would happen in the next two to three years.

Sibal had also argued that the focus of IITs at least for the first 50-odd years was to provide technically trained manpower for the country's needs and that research had not been top priority. Even as he reiterated this argument on Thursday, Sibal stepped up the defence arguing that IITs were involved in "discoveries in engineering".

Sibal accepted that research at

IITs was yet to "gain critical mass to change the global scientific discourse."

Even as he acknowledged that there were infirmities in the research done at these institutes, Sibal said that you can't blame the faculty for it.

Arguing that there was a gradual realisation that they should also go for path-breaking research, produce more masters and research students, HRD Minister said that his ministry was embarking on the reforms process.

Times of India ND 27/05/2011

p-8

IIT, IIM faculty row: Sibal rebuffs Jairam

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

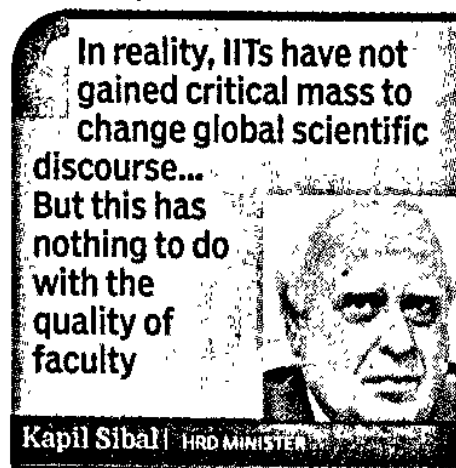
New Delhi: The quality of faculty in IITs and IIMs has divided the government, with HRD minister Kapil Sibal on Thursday politely rebuffing his Cabinet colleague Jairam Ramesh for his criticism of poor faculty in these institutions of higher learning.

In a sharp riposte to environment minister's comment that IIT was not doing quality research, the HRD minister said, "We need to base our discussion on evidence not on perception."

"There is hardly any worthwhile research from our IITs. The faculty in the IIT is not world class. It is the students in IITs who are world class. So the IITs (Indian Institute of Technology) and IIMs (Indian Institute of Management) are excellent because of the quality of students not because of quality of research or faculty," Ramesh had told reporters on the sidelines of a function in the national Capital on May 23.

Unlike Ramesh's remark that was made in his individual capacity, Sibal had the endorsement of the Group of Ministers on media briefing. The GoM — consisting of home minister P Chidambaram, I&B minister Ambika Soni, health minister Ghulam Nabi Azad, minority and corporate affairs minister Salman Khurshed and others — had decided that the record on the issue should be set straight. Many IIT/IIM directors had also protested to Sibal about Ramesh's remark.

While not joining issue with Ramesh, Sibal said the comment of environment minister should be seen in the light of general opinion within the country that the quality of faculty



in IITs does not match the world standards. "But in case of IITs, the situation might not be the same," he said.

He said if factors like availability of foreign faculty, foreign students and medical courses are excluded, IIT-Bombay would rank 20 in the global index, followed by IIT-Delhi at 24, IIT-Kanpur (37) and IIT Madras (39). "If you talk of IITs as engineering institutes they are right there," he said. Sibal also said 24.7% of teachers in IITs were IIT students. "Surely they are world class," he said.

However, the HRD minister admitted that in "reality IITs have not gained critical mass to change global scientific discourse".

He said, "But this has nothing to do with the quality of faculty. It is related to the ecosystem. In India, \$8 billion is spent on research whereas the US spends \$250 billion. The kind of research grants available abroad is absent in India. Also, there is lack of infrastructure and capital investment. The faculty cannot be blamed for this."

Sibal's spirited defence of IIT faculty after soft talk

By Kavita Chowdhury in New Delhi

IT TOOK the HRD minister Kapil Sibal three days to speak up in defence of the IITs. But when the suave lawyer presented his case against motormouth colleague Jairam Ramesh, the argument was indeed "world class".

Sibal came out of a meeting of the Group of Ministers (GoM) on media to lambast environment minister Ramesh for his disparaging remarks against the IITs and IIMs. "I would like to put on record the complete trust I have in the creative potential of the IITs and IIMs," the HRD minister said on Thursday.

In fact, Sibal went a step further to drive home his point and said it was not his alone but the Union government's "collective position" on the country's prestigious technical and management institutes. Ramesh had recently kicked up a storm by saying: "The faculty in the IITs is not world class. It is the students in IITs who are world class."

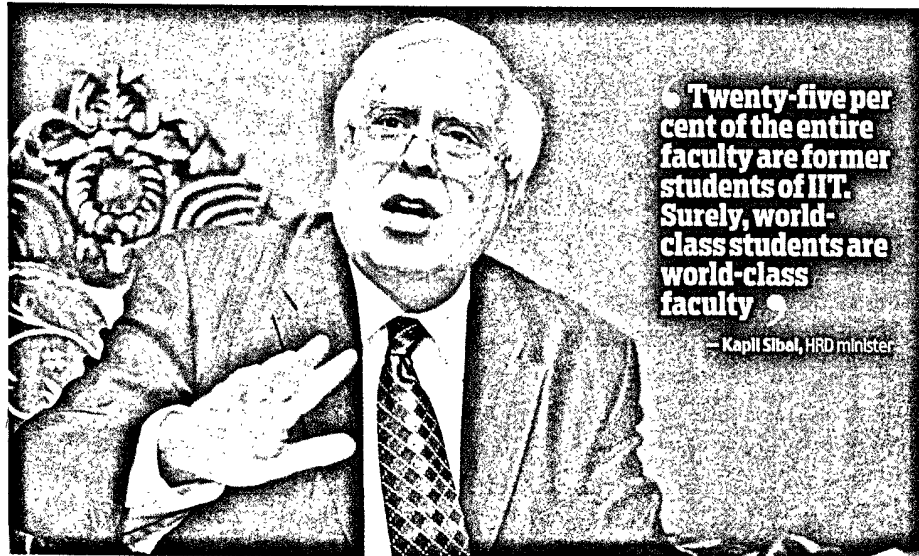
MAIL TODAY IMPACT

Rubbing Ramesh's views, Sibal said rather sarcastically: "We need to base discussion on evidence and not on perception. According to the global index, the IITs are right at the top. While IIT Bombay is placed at no. 21, IIT Delhi ranks 24th, IIT Kanpur is at 37 and IIT Madras's name figures at no. 39. They are all within the top 50."

In terms of publication in peer reviews as well, the rate is 15 to 17 per cent in case of IITs as against the global rate of 4 per cent. After citing this evidence, the minister said: "Twenty-five per cent of the entire faculty are former students of IIT. Surely, world-class students are world-class faculty."

Sibal also highlighted the "path-breaking individual contributions" of IIT faculty members such as those of IIT Kanpur professor Mininder Agarwal's seminal research on the prime number theory. So far as research was concerned, he conceded: "The reality is that there is not enough. We do not have the critical mass." Sibal, however, clarified: "You can't blame the faculty for that."

The environment minister had justified a joint venture with Reliance Industries Limited to set up a marine biodiversity centre in Gujarat, saying: "There is hardly any worthwhile research from our IITs." Sibal strove to put things in perspective pointing out that both "historically and contextually", the IITs were founded to produce B'Techs. It's only in



Twenty-five per cent of the entire faculty are former students of IIT. Surely, world-class students are world-class faculty

— Kapil Sibal, HRD minister

QUOTE THAT SPARKED THE WAR

There is hardly any worthwhile research from our IITs. The faculty in the IITs is not world class. It is the students in IITs who are world class

— Jairam Ramesh, environment minister



the last decade that the focus has shifted to boosting research at these institutes, he said.

Even the investment that goes into R&D in India is nothing in comparison to that in the US, the HRD minister stated. The US spends \$250 billion on research, while India spends \$8 billion.

"If the IITs have not gained that critical mass to change the global scientific discourse, it has something to do with the ecosystem. That's not because of faculty," he stressed.

Differing voices within the Union government such as minority affairs minister Salman Khurshid joining cause with

Ramesh possibly prompted it to clear its stand on the issue. Already, Ramesh's comments have sparked angry responses from the IIT community, which the HRD minister acknowledged saying that directors had indeed called him up.

Addressing the GoM on media, Sibal outlined the steps that the HRD ministry was taking to increase the research output and the number of M'Techs at the IITs. Several committees had proposed measures such as bringing in foreign faculty, giving the institutes more academic autonomy and allowing foreign student admissions — all of which were under consideration.

LONG LIST OF MARINE CENTRES

Jairam Ramesh has justified a JV with RIL on the pretext that world-class research centres cannot be built in a government set-up. MAIL TODAY finds out how wide of the mark the minister is

KERALA
■ CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN KOCHI

■ KERALA UNIVERSITY OF FISHERIES AND OCEAN STUDIES (KUFOS)

LOCATION: Kochi

COURSES: Bachelor In Fisheries Science (BFSC), MFSc and PhD in aquaculture, biotechnology, fisheries resources management and harvesting technology, aquatic food products and technology

■ DEPARTMENTS OF MARINE BIOLOGY AND MARINE GEOLOGY

LOCATION: Kochi (these are part of the marine science wing of Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT))

COURSES: PG & PhD programmes

■ CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF FISHERIES NAUTICAL AND ENGINEERING TRAINING (CIFNET)

LOCATION: Kochi (Union government Institute has centres in Chennai and Hyderabad as well)

ORISSA
■ DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SCIENCE IN BERHAMPUR UNIVERSITY

LOCATION: Near Berhampur

COURSES: MSc degrees in oceanography and marine biology

FACULTY: Six, including three research professors

KARNATAKA
■ DEPARTMENT OF MARINE BIOLOGY, KARNATAKA UNIVERSITY

LOCATION: Karwar

COURSES: Two-year PG course in marine biology

FACULTY: Six, including three research professors

GUJARAT
■ CENTRAL MARINE AND SALT RESEARCH INSTITUTE

LOCATION: Bhavnagar

WORK: Research in salt and marine chemicals, inorganic materials and electro membrane processes. In the past eight years, the Institute has bagged around 50 US patents

WEST BENGAL
■ COLLEGE OF MARITIME STUDIES & RESEARCH IN KOLKATA

■ MARINE ENGINEERING & RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN MUMBAI

MAHARASHTRA
■ MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH STATION IN RATNAGIRI

■ TARAPOREWALA MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH STATION IN MUMBAI

■ MUMBAI UNIVERSITY COLLEGES OFFERING MARINE BIOLOGY DEGREES: M.D. College of Arts, Science & Commerce; Vikas College of Arts; J.S. Hall University; Ahuja School & College; Prakash Jr College of Commerce; Smt. Surjaba College of Education; Saint Francis D'Assisi College; Nirmala Memorial Foundation Jr College; SVET College; Jal Hind College; Ram Narain Rula College; Amity Institute of Biotechnology; Mahatma Gandhi Mission Medical College

FACULTY: Seven, including five professors and two senior readers. Head of department Prof Pratap Mohanty has been involved in the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project being executed in three states with Central help

GOA
■ NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY IN PANAJI

LOCATION: Near Panaji

COURSES: PG in marine biotechnology and marine science (separates marine science department offers courses such as marine chemistry and marine geology)

Jairam told not to speak out of turn

WHEN environment minister Jairam Ramesh painted a rather bleak picture of the IIT and IIM faculty, the counterattack was multi-pronged. Among the prominent personalities who returned fire was former IAS officer and chairman of Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management (IIITM), Gwalior, M.N. Buch.

On Wednesday, he snubbed Ramesh for "shooting from the hip" and for being "delightfully indiscreet". In a letter to the environment minister, a copy of which was sent to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Buch pointed out that IIT Bombay alumnus Ramesh — like many other students — did not go on to pursue research, which is the "real problem".

He held Ramesh guilty of the crime that the latter had been accusing others of. "You did not continue in IIT Bombay but preferred to float into politics," Buch, who has also headed the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), stated.

In his letter, a copy of which is with MAIL TODAY, the senior IAS officer wrote: "As a minister, when you remark in public it has a much greater significance than any brick that I, a free citizen, may drop... When you make a sweeping statement that the entire faculty of the IITs and IIMs is not up to scratch, it sets in motion a tidal wave of resentment."

Speaking to MAIL TODAY, Buch said: "He (Ramesh)



Former IAS officer M.N. Buch

can't demoralise the institutions of the IITs and IIMs faculty." Incidentally, Ramesh's father, the late C.K. Ramesh, was a professor of structural engineering at IIT Bombay.

In the past, Buch has written to the PM against a controversial proposal to retain IIM faculty. He had pointed out that encouraging IIMs to pay deserving faculty additional pay was "absurd".

In his current four-page letter, Buch highlighted the persistent faculty shortage plaguing the IITs. Naming IIT and IIM teachers and directors, Buch commended "the efforts they are making to keep their institutions at a level of excellence".

In the end he offered Ramesh sage advice: "You look at the time and place of expressing your opinion, then count till 10 and repeat the process before articulating your thoughts. You are one of our few thinking ministers. Why throw it all away by speaking out of turn?"

His parting shot in a lighter vein: "Please remember that you are Jairam Ramesh, not funny Shankar Aiyar!!"

Kavita Chowdhury/New Delhi

BUSINESS STANDARD ND 27-May-11 P17

Not their fault

The faculty at IITs and IIMs are victims of government policy

WITH his penchant for grabbing attention, Jairam Ramesh has set off a furious debate over the quality of teaching and faculty at the country's elite professional institutes, for technology and management. Some would say that the minister for environment has merely spoken some obvious home-truths, when he says that the students at these institutes are of a higher order than the faculty. No Indian institute or university ranks among the top 30 in Asia, and the highest rank for an Indian university (Delhi) is 77. In contrast, their alumni feature in the rankings of world leaders in the corporate, financial and associated worlds. QED, it would seem.

However, it is not open and shut. All rankings are subjective, and need to be examined closely for what exactly they are rating. Most international rankings place emphasis on research, which gets low priority on Indian campuses — logical when the staff-student ratio is already stretched and the teaching load is heavy. The US model where research-oriented professors take barely one course in a semester is not the one to copy, for it raises the cost of education to a level that is unwarranted in the Indian context (and may be inappro-

priate even in the US, considering that students are paying off educational loans into their late 30s). Nor is it reasonable to dismiss the quality of teaching out of hand. The value addition that takes place for a student who spends two years in an Indian Institute of Management (as reflected in the different salaries that an IIT engineer and an IIT engineer with an IIM diploma would get) would be impossible if there wasn't a considerable degree of quality education being imparted. Yes, students may also be working hard at mastering the curriculum — but that is what you would expect in a leading educational institution.

However, some constraints can and should be removed. Teaching has been rendered unattractive in India by low salaries, mandated by the government. The gap between university and private sector salaries has grown over the years. If one leaves aside relativities and merely looks at whether teaching pays enough to meet life's essential requirements (save enough for retirement, get a roof over one's head and educate one's children), the answer would be obvious. The fault does not lie with the faculty; it lies with ministers who make policies that render these end results.

IITs and IIMs have little to boast about

Jairam Ramesh has a point when he says the faculty in IIMs and IITs is not worth writing home about. That is the brutal truth; we should wake up to this reality rather than peddle and believe in fiction



ARINDAM CHAUDHURI

So what is wrong with India's most guarded and hyped institutions of higher education, the IITs and the IIMs? Well, if you ask me, it's difficult to find what is right, apart from the acres of land at their disposal and the good PR machinery that they have. Now, before anyone accuses me of competitive bitching, without wasting words, let me proceed systematically.

The first question we must ask is what makes a great institution? The answer to that is actually very simple. Great course content and great faculty. Course content, however, is copyable and quite standardised — at least amongst the world's finest institutions. Faculty, therefore, becomes the most important distinguishing factor. Different streams of education require different kinds of faculty expertise. Management education requires faculty members, for example, to have great communication skills, great consulting and industry interface, and of course, regular research and writing.

Similarly, engineering requires faculty to undertake research first as a key aspect apart from other things like the ability to teach and communicate. And this is where the IITs and the IIMs have a massive problem (apart from many other huge problems, for example, the lack of global exposure or the rank bad selection criteria of students at IIMs where primarily male engineers get through to their management programmes instead of commerce and arts graduates who have relatively higher EQ — a far more important criteria to become a better manager than simply having a high IQ).

So what exactly is the problem with the IIM and IIT faculty? The first and foremost problem is that there is no faculty. I mean, there is a

huge dearth of faculty. I list some research and comments to support this. The University of Pennsylvania lists a 2008 document by the journal *Science* (the number one global science research journal), which mentions "16 centrally-funded Indian universities are already facing a shortfall of nearly 2,000 teachers, and IITs have about 900 vacant faculty posts. According to the All-India Council for Technical Education, almost a third of faculty positions in academia are unfilled."

Well, last year, the Lok Sabha questioned our Minister of State for HRD, D Purandeswari, on this issue. The Minister accepted the horrible situation and gave a reply that "IIT Kharagpur is facing the maximum vacancies of 299 faculty, followed by 222 in IIT Bombay, 194 in IIT Roorkee, 138 in IIT Madras, 78 in IIT Delhi, 69 in IIT Kanpur and 65 in IIT Guwahati." The Minister also accepted that the number of vacancies increased from 877 in the seven old IITs in 2008-09 to 1,065 in 2009-10. "The Government has started eight more IITs in the last two years and in these centres, the number of vacant posts stood at 280," Ms Purandeswari said. The Minister further confirmed that there are 95 vacant posts in the seven IIMs with IIM-Bangalore having the maximum vacancies of 35 posts followed

by 29 in IIM-Ahmedabad.

So basically, we are talking of a thousand plus faculty shortage in the IITs alone. And what happens when there is a shortage of faculty is that the existing faculty are heavily burdened with taking more and more classes; worse still, doing more and more of administrative work and obviously less and less of research. As per an article in *Business Line*, in an assessment of research capabilities in business schools in India, two professors from the London Business School, Nirmalya Kumar and Phanish Puranam, found "poor representation of Indian business schools in the 40 peer-reviewed journals that the *Financial Times* uses to rank research in MBA schools worldwide." Analysing the research contributions in two decades till 2009, their study shows that just a handful of faculties from some IIMs and IITs have contributed papers to such journals.

And why go far, Mr Sudhir K Jain, Head, Department of Management Studies, IIT Delhi, has himself said, "No doubt, management education in India has evolved, but it has evolved more in terms of quantity and not the quality. Although there are a few dozen good B-schools in India, these constitute not even a few per cent of the total. There are several loopholes, but the most important loophole is the



dearth of quality faculty. With the establishment of a large number of B-schools in the country, the demand for faculty has grown tremendously whereas the supply side has remained stagnant. If you look at the output trend of PhDs in Management and Fellows of IIMs in the past 20 years, the factual position will be clear. With the bulk approvals of B-schools, the top educational planners in AICTE, UGC, MHRD, Planning Commission, and educational institutions, should have ensured higher supply of faculty with doctoral degrees in management through suitable policy interventions directed towards high quality higher education."

A *Wall Street Journal Live Mint* article mentions, "In the race for numbers, quality (of faculty at IIMs) is often compromised. Some former IIM faculty members say at least half the faculty in various IIMs doesn't deserve to be there. This is also the view of Mr Vijay Shanker Pandey, a former joint secretary in the Union Ministry for Human Resource and Development... He conducted an enquiry and found IIMs had many members who neither teach properly nor do research. No wonder IIMs are always on the lookout for good faculty." The same has been admitted by Anindya Sen, Dean (programme initiatives), IIM-

Kolkata from 2005-07, who had said in 2007, "It is becoming increasingly difficult to get quality faculty for IIMs. Part of the reason is the low salaries. Talented people out there have plenty of opportunities to look for. They don't see teaching at IIMs as attractive anymore." If we talk of the new IIMs, then things get more shocking! Classes in IIM Rohtak, Ranchi and Raipur are conducted primarily by visiting faculties.

Speaking about the students' plight to *Wall Street Journal LiveMint*, P Rameshan, director of IIM-Rohtak, which is running out of a temporary campus inside Maharshi Dayanand University in Rohtak, said this year itself, "I am the only permanent faculty. All courses are being taught by visiting professors. Students have missed out the benefit of having permanent faculty and this shortage of full-time teachers is affecting the learning process as well as summer placements, which are typically handled by full-time faculty members."

But perhaps most shocking was when the presently Earl C. Daum 1924 Professor of International Business and founding director of Tuck's Center for Global Leadership, Dr. Vijay Govindarajan (known as VG), spoke to our sister magazine *The Human Factor*. When asked about Indian management education

he said, "I will be blunt and brutal because that will only help - I think it stinks! The student quality is world-class and as good as Harvard or Wharton and having taught at IIM (A), I certainly know the quality there. But the quality of faculty is abysmal because there is no research culture in India. If you don't research, you keep teaching the same things over and over again. Research is the process of discovering knowledge, without which, you are retelling someone else's ideas. When I teach 'Reverse Innovation', that is the idea I created. Therefore, I am going to teach it at a level of depth, which may not be possible for someone who reads my article and teaches from it. If you don't research, you don't read and so you teach the same thing."

According to the National Knowledge Commission, "The number of researchers in India was 112 per million inhabitants compared to 633 in China and 4,374 in the US in 2002. The growth in the number of doctorates has been only a modest 20 per cent in India during 1991-2001 compared to 85 per cent in China." It really is time for Indians to realise that Mr Jairam Ramesh has said the brutal truth. There's too much lacking in the IITs and IIMs and it's time they wake up to this reality.

(The writer is a management guru and editor, *The Sunday Indian*.)

Sibal takes U-turn, says IIT faculty world class

AGE CORRESPONDENT

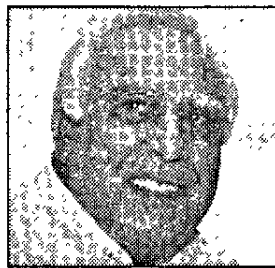
NEW DELHI

May 26: Union human resource development minister Kapil Sibal, who had earlier come out in support of environment minister Jairam Ramesh on his remarks that the faculty members at the prestigious IITs and IIMs are not world class, on Thursday disagreed with his ministerial colleague saying the faculty of these institutions are

"world class".

The government on Thursday fielded Mr Sibal who defended the faculty at the prestigious institutes in an apparent bid to put a lid on the ongoing controversy on the remarks of Mr Ramesh.

Defending the IIT faculty, Mr Sibal said, "Twenty five per cent of the IIT faculty are the students of IIT. Surely 25 per cent students who are world-class students are world-class teachers". Without naming Mr Ramesh, the



Kapil Sibal

HRD minister also added that he was entitled to his opinion as he was a former

student of the institute.

Mr Sibal said IITs rank amongst the top 50 in the global index, with IIT Bombay placed at No 21, IIT Delhi at 24, IIT Kanpur at 37 and IIT Madras at 39.

"In terms of publication of papers too the rate was 15 to 17 per cent in case of IITs as against the global rate of 4 per cent," Mr Sibal stated.

"The comment made by him must be seen in the light of the general view within the community that the cali-

bre of contributions by the scientific community does not really match world standards," he said.

However, noting that the IITs have not gained that critical mass to change the global scientific discourse, he said, "It has something to do with the ecosystem."

"If the US spends \$250 billion on research, India spends \$8 billion, you cannot create that critical mass. That is not because of faculty," he said.

In defence of the IITs: An insider's view



R. KRISHNA
KUMAR

The Environment Minister, Mr Jairam Ramesh, created a flutter with his candid statement that not IITs, but their students, are world-class. He added that experience of 60 years shows that the government set-up cannot produce world-class research institutes. Supporting his colleague at the time, the Education Minister, Mr Kapil Sibal, said IITs would be world-class, had they figured in the list of top 100 universities of the world.

As the anti-IIT decibel level rises by the day, it may be useful to take a closer look at the institution, and put certain facts in perspective.

Going by data in the Web site www.topuniversities.com, IITs are not in the top 100. The list is dominated by the US (29), followed by the UK (17); China has two entries.

The same Web site gives world rankings for Engineering and Technology. In this, all five older IITs make it to the Top 100 – IIT-B (47th rank), IIT-D (52), IIT-K (63), IIT-M (68), and IIT-KGP (90). India is close to Germany's six ranks and is on a par with Japan and China.

This vindicates the academic standing of IITs as it is engineering for which they were started and for which they are famous the world over. IITs were mandated to be engineering schools, and not universities such as Harvard or Stanford.

Mr Jairam Ramesh's other observation that private partnership will enhance research is intriguing. That the private sector in India has till date hardly produced a world-class

product through research, be it hardware or software, stands testimony to this fact.

KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

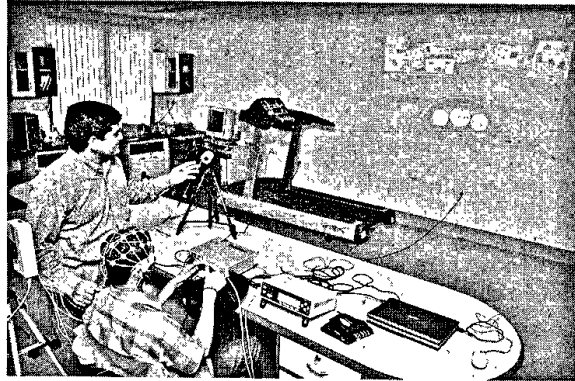
Apart from their rankings which confirm their academic standing, what are the contributions of IITs to India in the spheres of education, industry and nation-building?

Many may not be aware of the programmes of IITs to help engineering education. Several initiatives, including Quality Improvement Programmes for university teachers, winter and summer schools, and user-oriented programmes have been pursued with passion and enthusiasm by IIT faculty for the last two decades.

One such programme, NPTEL, started four years ago, has resulted in the largest collection of educational videos in the world: 4,932 lectures, of 50 minutes each, are available on YouTube. With 69,000 subscribers, the total hits for these lectures are a whopping 44.7 million! One comment posted on the Internet by a user summarises it all: "IITs not only teach Indians, but the whole world." The third largest number of hits, after India and the UK, are from Pakistan. Knowledge diplomacy, it seems, is a more powerful binding force than cricket diplomacy!

IITs have been criticised for not helping Indian industry, not developing technologies, not carrying out cutting-edge research and indulging in largely theoretical research. These criticisms must be analysed in total.

Universities in the West were started centuries ago. In Europe, Oxford University and University of Paris were established in the 12th century. They were seats of knowledge much before knowledge became commercialised. During the feverish pace of the Industrial Revolution, innovations and technology



IITs were mandated to be engineering schools, and not universities such as Harvard or Stanford.

preceded scientific explanations. Steel was made much before the thermodynamics of steel-making was understood. Even at that time, innovations did not happen at the universities. Universities were busy catching up with the science behind the technologies.

Then came a time when further progress in engineering and technology could happen only with firm scientific foundation. Industries naturally turned towards universities, mainly for manpower and, to a lesser extent, for research and development.

Wright Brothers ran a printing press, Henry Ford was not a university professor, nor did Ibuka, the father of Sony Corporation, incubate his company within a university. Many of these giants relied on research for their growth and used universities for it. After all, industry-institute collaboration can sustain only out of necessity, not compulsion.

The Indian situation was different. IITs were born along with Indian industry. Collaborative ventures

with established international companies obviated the need for industry to pursue research. Hence, IITs were never on the radar screens of industry for their research needs till the 1990s, when the economy opened up.

RESEARCH INITIATIVES

Many realised, rightly, that technologies cannot be developed at educational institutes.

Technology needs a much larger canvas, encapsulating manufacturing, testing procedures, quality standardisations, and so on.

Research is only one part of technology development and, for obvious reasons, universities can work only on this segment. Indian industry only now understands the importance of long-term research and the need to enhance the science part of technology.

IITs, once the biggest exporters of brains from India, have witnessed a steady decline in the number of their students going abroad.

Today, a mere 15 per cent of their students go abroad. Many prefer In-

dia-based industry for the opportunities it provides.

This beginning has to be taken to the next logical level, with more sponsored research from the industry. This is reflected in the research-based consultancy charts of IITs. In my Department (IIT-M's Department of Engineering Design), JK Tyres, Tivitron, Caterpillar and AutoDesk have set up Centres of Excellence, while Ashok Leyland and Bosch have sponsored the entire department building. In a globalised world, the industry is not restricted by geographical boundaries. Yet, going by past performance, IITs are sure to rise to the occasion.

NOT FULLY TAPPED

What is the contribution of the IITs to policies, nation-building, socially relevant work, and so on? Ironically, it is Mr Jairam Ramesh's own Ministry that included IITs as part of the "Clean the Ganga" project!

It is well known that IITs have been actively involved in projects of national priority in space and Defence research. IIT professors have been part of the Prime Minister's scientific advisory panel, national knowledge network and many other panels and committees, but it has never been the tradition in India to seek serious academic inputs in drafting engineering and technology policies. This needs to change. The Government has to look at IITs as a national resource, a large talent pool and use them for national growth.

It is unfair to state that IITs have not delivered. Maybe more needs to be done. But one must understand the psyche of researchers. They are like artists, though one uses the left-brain and the other the right. Give them the recognition they deserve, and see the effect!

(The author is Professor, Department of Engineering Design, IIT Madras.)

TRIBUNE ND 27/05/2011 p-1

Govt backs IITs, says they are world class

ADITI TANDON
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 26

Three days after Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh dismissed the contribution of IIT and IIM faculty to the global standing of these institutes, the government today woke up to distance itself from the remarks, and repose faith in the creative potential of teachers.

Minister of Human Resource Development Kapil Sibal came out in defence of IITs and IIMs, saying the "distinguished minister (Ramesh) was entitled to his



“The distinguished minister (Ramesh) was entitled to his opinion but discussions should be based on evidence rather than perception.”

— Kapil Sibal

IITs: REALITY CHECK

- 1 per cent BTechs of IITs do PhDs at IITs
- Global ranking (factoring medical teaching) of IIT-Bombay, the best in India, is 187th; IIT-Delhi is 202nd
- India produces 1,200 engineering PhDs a year; of these IITs alone produce 1,000

opinion but discussions should be based on evidence rather than perception”.

“At least 25 per cent IIT faculty studied at these insti-

tutes. If they were world class students, they certainly are world class faculty,” Sibal said, seeking to tame the storm Ramesh raised.

That’s not to say the government entirely disagreed with the latter’s concerns of poor research at IITs and IIMs.

Sibal admitted that the IITs didn’t have the critical mass of students and faculty needed to change the global scientific discourse, but blamed the gaps not on faculty but on weak ecosystems. “The US spends \$ 250 billion annually on research and development while we spend \$ 8 billion. If the kind of research grants the world gives are absent in India, we can’t blame the faculty; if our institutes don’t have the

Continued on page 8

Govt backs IITs, says they are world class

From page 1

required infrastructure, we can’t blame the faculty,” Sibal said, taking swipes at Ramesh.

Continuing with his defence, the minister said the IITs were world class and IIT Bombay was 21st in global rankings if the medical index was excluded. By this standard, IIT Delhi was 24th and IIT Kanpur and Madras were 37th and 29th respectively. References here were also made to top-class research at IITs like to IIT Kanpur’s Professor Maninder Agarwal who discovered a foolproof method to determine prime numbers error-free and on a large-scale. “The world discovered this system after 2000 years,” Sibal said.

The government further argued that the IITs had not been, in the first place, conceived for research, and were meant for world-class undergraduate teaching. “Yet, the rate of growth of research at the IITs has picked up of late and is about 16 per cent as against the global annual research growth rate of 4 per cent,” Sibal maintained.

Interestingly, pained by the

dearth of research potential at the IITs, the ministry earlier constituted a committee headed by Anil Kakodkar, former Atomic Energy Commission head who has since made path-breaking recommendations, including raising the tuition fee at the IITs from Rs 50,000 per student per year to Rs 2.5 lakh; and payment of 20 per cent overheads by each Government Ministry assigning research project at an IIT (US universities charge 50 per cent overheads).

It remains to be seen whether the government accepts these recommendations, which are critical to IITs’ financial autonomy and further to its research output. At present, our IITs produce 1000 PhDs a year whereas China and US technical institutes together produce 12,000 and 8000, respectively.

Times of India ND

27/05/2011 p-21

IIT-K fails to keep marksheet promise

Akshaya Mukul | TNN

New Delhi: IIT-Kanpur had promised to release marks scored by candidates, irrespective of the fact if the student qualified or not, on the day the IIT-JEE results were to be declared.

But, all that the candidates came to know was the subject and overall cut-off, but not how much they had scored in physics, chemistry and mathematics. Those who made the grade only came to know their ranks. The unsuccessful had no clue about their marks.

Though IIT-Kanpur, which conducted this year's JEE, says marks in each subject of all candidates would be available in a few days, the Joint Admission Board (JAB) has clearly not adhered to three big reforms it had promised.



LEFT GUESSING

JAB said answer keys would be available within 48 hours of JEE, but it took more than a month for them to put it in public domain.

Aspirants have been denied the opportunity to see scanned copies of their answer sheets. IIT-Kanpur says it would be made public after May 25, but no specific date has been given. Even when the answer keys were made public it was revealed that eight questions of 30 marks had wrong, ambiguous and incomplete descriptions.

It's not rocket science

To make IITs truly world-class, the government must raise salaries of teachers and improve campus infrastructure, writes SANDIPAN DEB

When minister of environment and forests Jairam Ramesh recently said that the faculty in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) wasn't "world-class", he would have expected the furore that followed. But he, an IIT alumnus himself, would have also known that he was merely articulating Indian higher education's worst-kept secret.

In December 2000, management consultancy firm McKinsey submitted its report 'Shaping the Knowledge Economy in India: The need to set up a national mission for technology education' to then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The report concluded that attracting and retaining good faculty was the single biggest problem facing the IIT system. Research output is a critical indicator of faculty quality. Between 1993 and 1998 while the number of citations per faculty member (which attests to the quality of papers being written) for Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) was 45, and for Stanford's engineering school 52, a typical IIT professor could hope for only two or three. In 1996-97, 102 patents were granted to MIT professors and students. The number for an IIT was between three and six.

OK, this is old data, and things may have improved dramatically since then, though one doesn't see how. The hi-tech wonderland of Silicon Valley was born around a university, Stanford,

AN IIT PROFESSOR'S ANNUAL COMPENSATION PACKAGE IS PERHAPS ONE-SIXTH OF WHAT HE WOULD EARN IN INDUSTRY. AS A RESULT, THE IITs ARE DEPENDENT ON 'THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS' FOR GOOD-QUALITY FACULTY

with professors encouraging PhD students to turn their laboratory work into commercial enterprises. Thus did Hewlett-Packard get started off, as did Sun Microsystems, and Google, and scores of other companies pushing the frontiers of technology. But has the presence of an IIT in Mumbai done anything for the chemical industry in Mumbai? Has the presence of an IIT in Kanpur done anything for the engineering industry in and around Kanpur? They have been islands with no links to even their immediate geographical envi-

ronments, forget the broader industrial landscape. And it's not that Indian industry has a bias against any new technology developed in an IIT.

A few years after the McKinsey report, the government set up a high-powered committee to study the IIT system and suggest ways forward. I was invited by IIT Kharagpur as one of the alumni to interact with the committee. There was not much interaction — one committee member was repeatedly dozing off — and the same problems were discussed: faculty, faculty and faculty. Soon after, then HRD minister Murli Manohar Joshi got into the act, trying to curb whatever little autonomy the IITs had over who to hire and what to teach.

And not that the government wasn't interfering even before that. The McKinsey report clearly concluded that the selection process of IIT directors wasn't always merit-based and that directors lacked autonomy in critical areas like financial issues and personnel policies. Said an IIT director to McKinsey: "I had to drop out of a conference last year because my clearance from the ministry didn't arrive in time. Why should the ministry approve my travel?" Complained another director: "On paper, I can remove a non-performing faculty member, but in reality



■ That's for my teachers at IIT Bombay: Jairam Ramesh

it's virtually impossible."

But to go back to the root of the problem: why would a brilliant engineer want to teach in an IIT? An IIT professor's annual compensation package is perhaps one-sixth of what he would earn in industry. As a result, to borrow Tennessee Williams' immortal phrase, the IITs are dependent on "the kindness of strangers" for good-quality faculty, on bright people who are also idealistic and not too concerned about money. This is clearly a situation that is not sustainable. In the US too, professors get paid less than people in industry, but it's not one-sixth or one-seventh that of a person with similar skills in industry.

Traditionally, most IIT graduates, if they had a research bent of mind, would go to an American university, where the facilities were better and the challenges more futuristic. And typically, a non-IIT graduate would join a post-graduate programme in an IIT, go on to do his PhD there and join the faculty. So in the large majority of cases, IITs end up with the also-rans as faculty. But surely you can do something with them after that? But there are no aggressive faculty enhancement programmes. Koch University in Turkey selects high-potential students in the masters' programme for doctoral training. It pays all their expenses for the four to five years it takes for a PhD in an American university. The quid pro quo is that they will have to return to Koch to teach. In Ireland, Catholic University pays all expenses for faculty presenting papers at US conferences. The prestige associated with these conferences stimulates quality research. Singapore Management School has a deal with Wharton Business School for sending young faculty members to learn at Wharton for one year. And it pays equivalent US salaries to its faculty.

Years ago, I was sitting with legendary IIT professor and former director of IIT Madras, PV Indiresan. "Let's face it," he told me bluntly, "Most teachers in the IITs are inferior to the students." Mrs Indiresan, sitting next to him, objected. "You shouldn't say things like that!" she admonished. "The truth is the truth, so why try to hide it?" insisted Indiresan. "And the reason is simple. Every IIT student is one out of 100 people who took the entrance exams. But the professors are not one out of every 100 applicants for a post."

To be fair, the picture is not all bleak. There is cutting-edge research going on in several IITs, often in collaboration with some of the world's best technology companies. But these projects are the exceptions to the rule. The undeniable truth remains, that till IIT professors' salaries are delinked from government scales and raised to competitive levels, till these pay packages are based on their performance, till they are allowed to receive direct compensation from industry without any limits, and the quality of campus infrastructure improved to give the faculty a better personal lifestyle, these institutes that we are supposedly so proud of will have to rely on sheer luck to attract "world-class" teachers.

Sandipan Deb is an IIT alumnus, a senior journalist and author of The IITians

The views expressed by the author are personal

Economic Times, ND 27-May-11

P-12

IIT, IIM & govt to kick off training courses in N-E

BIKASH SINGH
GUWAHATI

The ministry of development of the north eastern region (DoNER), in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, and Indian Institute of Management, Shillong, will soon launch short-term management and training courses for local students.

The idea is to check the exodus of youngsters from the North-East to other parts of India, while also helping them hone their skills for better employment opportunities.

The collaboration with IIM Shillong will lead to the implementation of a range of short-term skill development programmes, from this financial year itself, encompassing subjects like management, entrepreneurship, tourism and hospitality, among others. BK Handique, minister of DoNER, will launch the six-month certificate course entitled 'Developing Managerial Skills for Entrepreneurship (DMSE)' on July 2.

Professor Keya Sengupta, of IIM Shillong, said that DMSE is a first-of-a-kind course, to be conducted by the Centre for Development of North Eastern Region (CEDNER), a wing of the IIM. This course will have accept 30 students to a batch, and train about 60 graduates over a period of 12 months.

The ministry of DoNER has sanctioned Rs 79.15 lakh for this programme, which will deal with developing managerial skills among a new generation of entrepreneurs who belong to this region. The ministry is actively pursuing the agenda of involving premier institutes from all parts of the country, including IIM Shillong IIT Guwahati and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in Mumbai, in this programme.

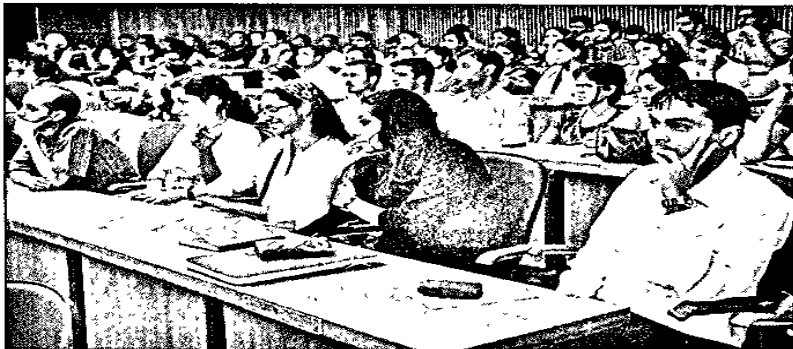
"We have a larger road map in mind to continuously train

youngsters from the region, with a focus on increasing their employability," Handique said. "Institutes like the IIM, IIT and TISS are well positioned to cater to the training needs of the area in addition to their regular courses."

Asked to elaborate, Handique added: "We have requested them to develop such courses and we have been able to make considerable headway in designing some of them. Our ministry and its affiliated organisations, like the North Eastern Council (NEC), will wholly sponsor these courses. I am hopeful that this development will bring some respite to the larger problem of unemployment in the region".

The ministry will also launch a one-and-a-half month programme, in association with IIT Guwahati, to train 30 engineers from the Assam Irrigation Department on mitigating the effects of river-bank erosion. The programme will be entirely funded by the ministry, and conducted by the Department of Civil Engineering at IIT Guwahati. River-bank erosion has turned out to be a big menace in Assam. More than 13 districts of the state, out of 27 districts, face tremendous river-bank erosion. According to official estimates, from 1954 to 2003, the state has lost four lakh hectares of land to erosion.

Thousands of students leave for Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Kolkata and other metros every year, in pursuit of study or employment options, given the absence of good institutes and quality professional courses here. For instance, around 78 students cleared the Joint Entrance Examination, the results of which were declared on Wednesday, and many of them are likely to leave the state to study elsewhere. Around 7,699 students took the test, and the number is growing every year.



Employability programmes are gaining ground in the North East

Hindu, ND 27-May-11 P-9

Meeting expectations of young population biggest challenge for India, says Pranab

University of Wolverhampton confers Doctor of Letters degrees on Pranab, Jaitley

Jiby Kattakayam

NEW DELHI: The University of Wolverhampton conferred Doctor of Letters on Union Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee and Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Arun Jaitley at a function here on Thursday.

Accepting the honour, Mr. Mukherjee said he derived happiness and contentment from his long innings in public life, having seen India progress from a poor, developing country to a position on the global stage where "nothing seems impossible to achieve."

"Throughout my public life, which extends to nearly five decades, I have always thought and weighed the likely consequences of my actions on the well-being of the poorest of the poor, before taking any decision. This consideration, I must emphasise, has served me well."

Mr. Mukherjee said public policymaking had become increasingly difficult due to growing uncertainties in a globalised world. "The challenge is to continuously track and scientifically analyse these developments keeping in mind the greatest good of the greatest number."

Emphasising that the biggest challenge for India would

- We are here to make the country stronger: Jaitley
- Public policymaking has become tough, says Pranab

be to meet the expectations of its young population and to equip them with skills, he said this was a "powerful reason" to facilitate greater contacts and exchanges in the field of higher education.

Both Mr. Jaitley and Mr. Mukherjee pointed out the uniqueness of the occasion, which was honouring the Leader of the House in the Lok Sabha and the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, praising this as a measure of the maturity the country's politics had achieved.

Challenge

Mr. Jaitley said the challenge before the country's politicians was to strengthen and restore their credibility in their efforts to undertake public service.

"There are some basic principles and values that guide us whether in the government or in the Opposition. We are here to make the country stronger. In govern-

ment, we pursue the cause of governance, while in the Opposition we support the government in the interest of the nation and counter it when there is a threat to society and the larger good," Mr. Jaitley said.

Awardees felicitated

University of Wolverhampton Chancellor and Labour peer Swraj Paul and Vice-Chancellor Caroline Gipps felicitated the awardees and lauded their contributions to the country.

Editor-in-Chief of *The Hindu* N. Ram will be awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Social Sciences by the same university at a ceremony in Chennai on May 30.

Jaitley praises Pranab

PTI reports: In a show of bonhomie, Mr. Jaitley showered praise on Mr. Mukherjee.

"In Parliament, whether he [Mr. Mukherjee] has been in Opposition or government, he is almost like a professor himself, who knows India's politics, India's Parliament, who knows the country and its governance almost like the back of his hand," Mr. Jaitley said.

Mr. Jaitley said Mr. Mukherjee "can spell out events



(From left) University of Wolverhampton Chancellor and Labour peer Swraj Paul; Union Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee; BJP leader Arun Jaitley; and Vice-Chancellor Caroline Gipps in New Delhi on Thursday after Mr. Mukherjee and Mr. Jaitley were conferred Doctor of Letters by the university. - PHOTO: S. SUBRAMANIAM

from the past from his memory and therefore for me to be clubbed with him is almost like a dual honour and privilege, which is being conferred on me."

Thanking the Wolver-

hampton University for choosing a senior Minister and an Opposition leader together from India for conferring the degrees, he said it reflected the maturity of Indian democracy.

"When I entered Parliament, he [Mr. Mukherjee] was already a tall figure for more than three decades by the time. I have always believed that the competence, calibre and eminence of our

political leaders are also determined by the longevity of the process in which they are a part. The very fact that you managed such a long innings itself is an indication of your distinction," Mr. Jaitley said.

Economic Times, ND 27-May-11 P-2

SC Dismisses AIEEE Re-Examination Plea

NEW DELHI The Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed the plea seeking direction to the Government to scrap the All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE) test and conduct re-examination for it. The court thus cleared the decks for declaration of the results of AIEEE, which was mired in controversy after its question paper was leaked before the commencement of the test. A vacation bench of Justice GS Singhvi and Justice CK Prasad on Thursday dismissed the petition filed by some students and a retired professor of NIT, Jamshedpur. The test conducted by the CBSE in two rescheduled phases. The petitioners said that many students could not appear in the test which was rescheduled and a single merit list could not be made on the basis of two separate examinations.

PIONEER ND 27-May-11 P6

No stay on AIEEE results, says SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday refused to stay the results of the All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE) after the test paper that got leaked in Uttar Pradesh was sought to be presented as part of a larger conspiracy affecting the career of lakhs of students.

Dismissing the petition filed by a former professor, AK Sinha, the Vacation Bench of Justices GS Singhvi and CK Prasad said, "Think about the impact such an order will have on the nine lakh odd students waiting for results."

The petitioner, who had earlier failed to convince the Delhi High Court with this request, attached opinions of various experts who discussed the possibility of the examination being rigged and the question paper getting leaked at a cost of ₹six lakh and above.

Advocate Praveen Aggarwal, who appeared for the petitioner, informed the Court of the discrepancy reported during the examination conducted on May 1.

The test was delayed by more than two hours. Later the students came to know about the paper being leaked in certain examination centres in Uttar Pradesh.

A day later, the CBSE authorities decided to conduct a re-test on May 11 for the affected examination centres only.

While understanding the sentiment of the petitioner, whose granddaughter had taken the examination too, the Bench said, "In every examination, those students who will not fare well will demand re-examination... Can the results be stayed on this ground?"

The CBSE, represented by senior advocate Altaf Ahmed informed the Court that close to 40,000 students alone were affected and for them a re-test was conducted. When the Bench asked why the results were delayed, he informed that the pendency of this petition was the sole reason for the delay.

The Bench clarified, "The pendency of petition cannot be a restraint on the authorities not to declare results, before dismissing the petition.

Times of India ND 27/05/2011

p-1

Cops detain IIT boy, extort money for 'porn' on phone

Facing Complaint, They Return Cash

Hemali Chhapla and Vijay V Singh | TNN

Mumbai: Piyush had not expected his vacation to end in such a nightmare. After a long journey from his home in Chhattisgarh, he got off at Mumbai's Dadar station only to be picked up by a group of railway policemen who snatched his phone and threatened to arrest him for allegedly having porno-

► Extortionist cops pulled out, P 16

graphic clips on it. They then extorted money from him after intimidating him with handcuffs and belts inside a locked-up police chowky.

The IIT-Bombay third year student (20), who returned from a summer break on Wednesday afternoon, said,

PHONEY CHARGES

► GRP cops randomly stop 3rd year IIT-Bombay student Piyush at Dadar station, snatch his cellphone

► Allege he has pornographic clips stored and could be jailed for 5 years, march him to station chowky



► Intimidating him with belts & handcuffs, take Rs 2,000 from him, get him to withdraw Rs 5,000 from ATM

"I was stopped by two policemen. One of them asked me to open my bag and rummaged through my belongings while the other took my phone and started playing with the keypad."

When they found nothing suspicious in the bag, they asked Piyush to shut it. When he asked for his phone back, they took him to the chowky on the platform. "I wondered what was wrong but they started talking roughly. They took me to a small room where another policeman was seated. He said they had found porn clips on my phone and I could go to jail for five years and be fined Rs 1 lakh," recalled Piyush.

They pulled out laminated paper clippings about people who they claimed had been nabbed for storing porn on their phone. Piyush demanded they show him what they had found on his phone. "They showed me the phone for a fleeting second. I didn't notice anything. Then, they pulled out a belt and a pair of handcuffs. I was terrified. I didn't know what was going on, or what I should do."

With IIT authorities taking up the case, the cops were later forced to return the cash and apologize.

Times of India ND 27/05/2011

p-23

Mirrors on Moon to light up Earth?

Panels Planned On Lunar Surface To Tap Solar Energy

London: Japanese scientists have unveiled plans to turn the moon into a gigantic mirrorball manned by robots to provide all the Earth's energy needs. The ambitious project would result in 13,000 terawatts of continuous solar energy being transmitted back to receiving stations on Earth, either by laser or microwave.

The plans were unveiled by Japanese construction giant Shimizu Corporation's research division, and would result in a 11,000km-long band stretching around the light side of the moon's equator.

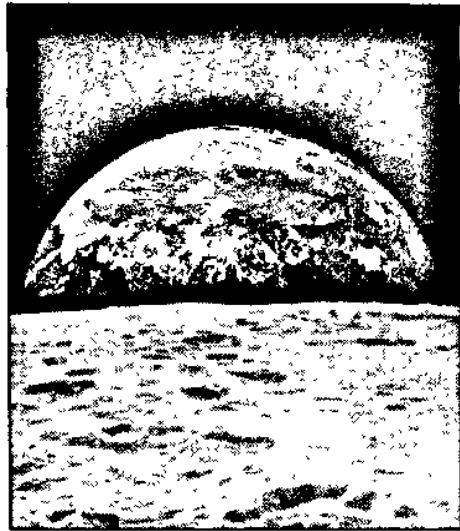
"A shift from the economical use of limited resources to the unlimited use of clean energy is the ultimate dream of all mankind," the Daily Mail quoted Shimizu Corporation as saying on its website.

"The Luna Ring, our lunar solar power generation concept, translates this dream into reality through ingenious ideas coupled with advanced space technologies."

"Virtually inexhaustible, non-polluting solar energy is the ultimate source of green energy that brings prosperity to nature as well as to our lives."

"Shimizu Corporation proposes the Luna Ring for the infinite coexistence of mankind and the Earth," added Shimizu Corporation.

They are set to announce the move at the G8 summit in France, where green energy generation will be high on the agenda. ANI



© Bloomberg/Corbis

HARNESSING ENERGY: The Japanese project seeks to transmit 13,000 terawatts of energy to Earth

Milky Way facing a mid-life crisis

Our Milky way is suffering from a mid-life crisis and will slow down its production of stars over the next billion years, say planetary scientists. Galaxies typically fall into one of two categories – energetic blue galaxies that form new stars at an impressive rate, or lethargic red galaxies which are slowly dying. But, a team at Swinburne University of Technology has shown our own Milky Way galaxy is neither of these. Rather it is a rare "green valley" galaxy that is half way between a youthful blue galaxy and a geriatric red one. This is the first time that the scientists have compared both the colour and the star formation rate of the Milky Way to that of other galaxies in the Universe, the 'Astrophysical Journal' reported.

Jansatta ND 27/05/2011 P-7

विश्वस्तरीय हैं आईआईटी व आईआईएम शिक्षक - सिब्बल

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली, 26 मई। देश में भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों (आईआईटी) और भारतीय प्रबंध संस्थानों (आईआईएम) के शिक्षकों की योग्यता पर की गई पर्यावरण मंत्री जयराम रमेश की टिप्पणी से असहमति जताते हुए मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने कहा है कि इन संस्थानों के शिक्षक 'विश्वस्तरीय' हैं। वैश्विक सूची में आईआईटी शीर्ष 50 संस्थानों में आते हैं, जिनमें आईआईटी बंबई का 21 वां, आईआईटी दिल्ली का 24 वां, आईआईटी

कानपुर का 37 वां और आईआईटी मद्रास का 39 वां स्थान है।

सिब्बल ने कहा कि अगर आईआईटी संस्थान वैश्विक वैज्ञानिक माहौल में बदलाव में प्रमुख भूमिका नहीं निभा पा रहे हैं तो यह शिक्षकों की नहीं, पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र की कमी है। रमेश की टिप्पणी के बारे में पूछे जाने पर सिब्बल ने कहा कि आईआईटी के 25 फीसद शिक्षक आईआईटी के ही छात्र रहे हैं, जिन्होंने बीटेक किया है। निश्चित तौर पर जो 25 फीसद छात्र विश्वस्तरीय छात्र हैं, वे विश्वस्तरीय शिक्षक भी होंगे।

Navbharat Times ND

27/05/2011 P-3

आईआईटी के बचाव में उतरे सिब्बल

विशेष संवाददाता ॥ नई दिल्ली

पर्यावरण मंत्री जयराम रमेश द्वारा आईआईटी व आईआईएम संस्थानों की फैकल्टी को कटघरे में खड़ा करने के मसले पर गुरुवार को मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल देश के इन विशिष्ट संस्थानों की पैरवी में उतर आए। सिब्बल ने अपने साथी मंत्री का नाम लिए बिना उन पर चुटकी लेते हुए कहा कि देश में आम धारणा है कि अपने यहां के वैज्ञानिक जगत में वर्ल्ड क्लास रिसर्च व पीएच.डी. जैसे काम नहीं होते। ऐसे में देश के प्रीमियर संस्थानों को लेकर की गई उनकी (रमेश) टिप्पणी के पीछे भी शायद यही आम धारणा रही होगी। उन्होंने रमेश पर कटाक्ष करते हुए कहा

कहा, बहस सबूतों के आधार पर होनी चाहिए, आम धारणाओं के आधार पर नहीं

कि राजनैतिक स्तर पर जो भी बहस हो, वह सबूतों पर आधारित होनी चाहिए, न कि आम धारणाओं पर आधारित।

तथ्य बोलते हैं : आईआईटी व आईआईएम संस्थानों की फैकल्टी के वर्ल्ड क्लास न होने के आरोपों को खारिज करते हुए सिब्बल ने दलील दी

कि अपने यहां आईआईटी की मौजूदा फैकल्टी का लगभग 24.7 फीसदी हिस्सा आईआईटी के पूर्व छात्रों का है। अगर किसी संस्थान के छात्र वर्ल्ड क्लास हैं तो उनसे बनी फैकल्टी वर्ल्ड क्लास कैसे नहीं होगी। सिब्बल ने कहा कि टॉप 50 के ग्लोबल इंडेक्स में आईआईटी मुंबई की रैंकिंग 21, दिल्ली की 24, कानपुर की 37 व चेन्नई की 39 है।

Dainik Jagaran, ND 27-May-11

P-14

अब सरकार ने दिखाया जयराम को आइना

- ◆ मंत्री ने उठाया था आइआईटी व आइआईएम के विश्वस्तरीय होने पर सवाल
- ◆ बात तथ्यों पर होनी चाहिए, मान्यताओं पर नहीं : सिब्बल



कपिल सिब्बल

जयराम रमेश

नई दिल्ली, जागरण ब्यूरो : केंद्र में मंत्री बनने के बाद से ही वक्त-बेवक्त अपने बयानों को लेकर विवादों में रहने वाले जयराम रमेश अब सरकार को ज्यादा अखरने लगे हैं। इसीलिए, आइआईटी की गुणवत्ता को लेकर उनके सवाल उठाने के बाद सरकार ने उनको शालीनता से आइना दिखाया है। सरकार का पक्ष रखने के लिए बने मंत्रियों के समूह की ओर से कपिल सिब्बल ने बिना उनका नाम लिए आइआईटी की बात कही, 'बात तथ्यों पर होनी चाहिए, मान्यताओं पर नहीं।'

आइआईटी और आइआईएम के विश्वस्तरीय न होने और वहां हो रहे शोध पर जयराम रमेश (पर्यावरण एवं वन राज्यमंत्री-स्वतंत्र प्रभार) के सवाल उठाने के बाद कपिल सिब्बल गुरुवार को यहां पत्रकारों से रूबरू थे। सिब्बल ने जयराम रमेश का नाम लिए बिना ही कहा कि मंत्री ने आइआईटी (भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान) व आइआईएम (भारतीय प्रबंधन

संस्थान) की योग्यता व गुणवत्ता पर सवाल उठाए हैं, लेकिन वह उससे सहमत नहीं हैं। वहां के शिक्षक विश्वस्तरीय हैं। सिब्बल ने कहा 'यह सच है कि हमारे पास पोस्ट ग्रेजुएट स्तर पर उतने शोध करने वाले नहीं हैं, जिससे हम दुनिया में इस क्षेत्र में भारत की प्रभावी उपस्थिति दर्ज करा सके, लेकिन इसका मतलब यह नहीं कि हमारी फैकल्टी विश्वस्तरीय नहीं है।' उन्होंने जोड़ा कि 'आइआईटी के 25 प्रतिशत शिक्षक आइआईटी के ही छात्र रहे हैं। स्पष्ट है कि यदि वे 25 प्रतिशत छात्र विश्वस्तरीय रहे हैं तो शिक्षक भी वे विश्वस्तरीय ही होंगे। सिब्बल ने कहा कि भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान दुनिया के वैज्ञानिक जगत में हो रहे बदलावों में अहम नहीं साबित हो पा रहे हैं तो ऐसा उनकी नहीं, बल्कि हमारी अपनी परिस्थितियों की वजह से है।'

Hindustan ND 27/05/2011

P-11

आईआईआईटी और आईआईएम फैकल्टी पर जताया भरोसा जीओएम के सहारे सिब्बल ने साधा रमेश पर निशाना

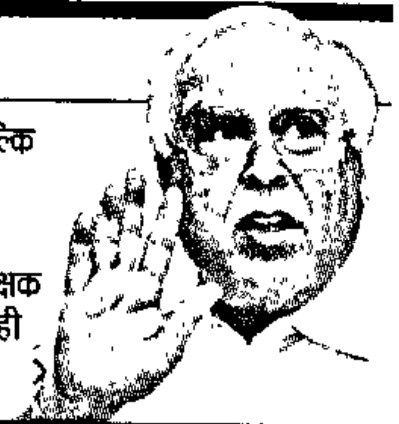
नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्री जयराम रमेश के विचारों से असहमति जताते हुए कहा कि आईआईटी और आईआईएम संस्थान विश्वस्तरीय हैं। अगर इन संस्थानों में उच्चस्तरीय वैज्ञानिक शोध नहीं हुए हैं तो इसके लिए पूरा वातावरण जिम्मेदार है न कि शिक्षक। दरसअल, जयराम के बयान पर हुई तीखी प्रतिक्रिया के बाद सरकार असहज महसूस कर रही थी। इसके बाद गुरुवार को मंत्रियों के समूह की बैठक में इस पर सरकार की तरफ से सफाई पेश करने का निर्णय लिया गया।

जयराम ने कहा था कि इन संस्थानों में शिक्षक विश्वस्तरीय नहीं हैं बल्कि अच्छे छात्रों की वजह से उनकी उत्कृष्टता बनी हुई है। समूह के सदस्य सिब्बल ने प्रेस काफ्रिस करके कहा कि मंत्री अपने निजी विचार व्यक्त करने के लिए स्वतंत्र हैं और उन्हें आम लोगों की विचारों की तरह लिया जाना चाहिए। सिब्बल ने यह भी सलाह दी कि जो बात कही जाए सुबूत के आधार पर होनी

खरी-खरी

- जयराम का नाम लिए बिना, धारणा से नहीं सुबूत के आधार पर करें मंत्री बात
- शोध नहीं होने के लिए आईआईटी के शिक्षक नहीं बल्कि वातावरण ही जिम्मेदार
- 24 फीसदी शिक्षक आईआईटी से ही इंजीनियर बने



चाहिए न कि बनी-बनाई धारणा पर। रमेश को परोक्ष रूप से आड़े हाथों लेते हुए सिब्बल ने कहा कि आईआईटी में 24 फीसदी शिक्षक ऐसे हैं जो आईआईटी से पढ़कर इंजीनियर बने हैं। यानी उन्हें साफ बता दिया गया कि जब एक चौथाई फैकल्टी इन्हीं आईआईटी से तैयार हुई तो वह बेकार कैसे हो सकती है।

दूसरे, इंजीनियरिंग में देश में प्रतिवर्ष 1,400 पीएचडी हो रही हैं जिनमें से एक हजार अकेले सात आईआईटी कर रहे हैं। जयराम का नाम लिए बिना उन्होंने कहा कि अमेरिका में शोध के लिए 250 अरब डॉलर खर्च किए जा रहे हैं जबकि हमारा यहां सिर्फ आठ

अरब डॉलर। सिब्बल ने कहा कि यदि मेडिकल स्कूलों की शर्त हटा दी जाए तो वैश्विक रैंकिंग में चार आईआईटी टॉप 50 में हैं। इनमें आईआईटी मुंबई 21वीं, दिल्ली 24वीं, कानपुर 37वीं तथा मद्रास 39वीं रैंक पर हैं।

दूसरे केंद्रीय मंत्री सलमान खुरशीद द्वारा रमेश का समर्थन किए जाने पर सिब्बल ने कहा, 'मैं कहां उनका विरोध कर रहा हूँ। किसी विषय पर स्वस्थ बहस होना अच्छी बात है।' मंत्रियों का समूह एक अन्य मंत्री के बयान पर सफाई देने में बकत खराब कर रहा है, इस पर सिब्बल ने कहा, 'हम लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था में रह रहे हैं और सरकार अपना पक्ष रख रही है।'

खामी गिना रहे पर्यावरण मंत्री पर मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री ने किया पलटवार, कहा- विश्वस्तरीय हैं सारे आईआईटी

नाराज सिब्लल बोले- आईआईटी टॉप, जयराम फ्लॉप

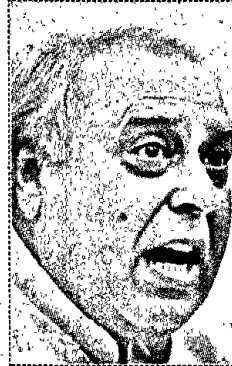
1) अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्लल ने आईआईटी की गुणवत्ता पर सवालिया निशान लगाने वाले केंद्रीय पर्यावरण मंत्री जयराम रमेश की जमकर आलोचना की है। उन्होंने बुधस्तिवार को आईआईटी को टॉप बताते हुए जयराम को फ्लॉप करार दिया। सिब्लल ने कहा कि दिल्ली, कानपुर, चेन्नई और मुंबई के आईआईटी विश्व के 50 सर्वोत्कृष्ट इंजीनियरिंग संस्थानों में शुमार हैं। साथ ही उन्होंने कहा कि

अगर देश के आईआईटी के संसाधन और बुनियादी ढांचे दुनिया के दूसरे संस्थानों के मुकाबले कम हैं तो इसके लिए फैकल्टी दोषी नहीं है।

देश के आईआईटी संस्थानों में फैकल्टी के विश्वस्तरीय नहीं होने के रमेश के बयान पर अपने जवाब को प्रजातांत्रिक देश में स्वस्थ बहस की शुरुआत बताते हुए सिब्लल ने कहा, आईआईटी की फैकल्टी विश्वस्तरीय है और उसे उन दिक्कतों के लिए कोई दोष नहीं दिया जा सकता जो संसाधन या बुनियादी ढांचे में कमी की वजह से आ रही हैं। उन्होंने अपने तर्क को और धार देते हुए कहा कि आईआईटी बॉम्बे (मुंबई) दुनिया में 21वें नंबर

पर है तो आईआईटी दिल्ली 24वें नंबर पर। इसी तरह आईआईटी, कानपुर का स्थान दुनिया में 37वां है तो आईआईटी मद्रास (चेन्नई) 39वें नंबर पर है। सिब्लल ने कानपुर आईआईटी के प्रोफेसर मनिंदर अग्रवाल के एक खोज की मिसाल भी दी। यह आईआईटी की फैकल्टी की प्रतिभा का प्रमाण है कि अग्रवाल ने प्राइम नंबर का निर्धारण करने की विधि दुनिया के सामने सबसे पहले ला दी। यह चार साल पहले हुआ। दुनिया ने इसे किस तरह से देखा इसका प्रमाण न्यूयार्क टाइम्स और न्यू साइंटिस्ट पत्र पत्रिकाओं में मिलता है।



सिब्लल ने दिया जवाब

इस हकीकत पर आंखें नहीं मूंदी जाएं कि आज आईआईटी की मौजूदा फैकल्टी में 25 फीसदी शिक्षक देश और विदेश को उत्कृष्ट इंजीनियर देने वाले इन संस्थानों के ही छात्र रहे हैं और अगर छात्र विश्वस्तरीय माने जा रहे हैं तो फिर फैकल्टी की गुणवत्ता पर सवाल क्यों। आईआईटी से निकले इंजीनियर दुनिया में नाम कमा रहे हैं। - कपिल सिब्लल

क्या बोले थे जयराम

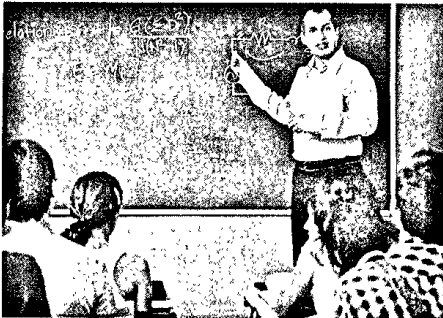
जयराम रमेश ने कहा था कि आईआईटी और आईआईएम तो उत्कृष्ट हैं लेकिन इनकी फैकल्टी विश्वस्तरीय नहीं है।



Economic Times, ND 27/05/2011 P-11

पूर्वोत्तर के युवाओं को ट्रेनिंग देंगे IIT, IIM

आईआईटी गुवाहाटी और आईआईएम शिलांग के साथ मिलकर कई कोर्स चलाएगा पूर्वोत्तर विकास मंत्रालय



विकास सिंह
गुवाहाटी

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) गुवाहाटी, और भारतीय प्रबंध संस्थान (आईआईएम) शिलांग के साथ मिलकर पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय जल्द ही स्थानीय छात्रों के लिए शॉर्ट टर्म मैनेजमेंट और ट्रेनिंग कोर्स शुरू करेगा। इसका मकसद पूर्वोत्तर के छात्रों के देश के दूसरे इलाके में होने वाले पलायन को रोकना है। इसका मकसद इन युवाओं को स्किल को बढ़ाकर नौकरी के अच्छे मौके इन्हें देना भी है।

आईआईएम शिलांग के साथ गठजोड़ के जरिए कई शॉर्ट टर्म स्किल डेवलपमेंट प्रोग्राम चलाए जाएंगे। इनमें से कई इसी वित्त वर्ष से शुरू हो जाएंगे। इन कोर्स में मैनेजमेंट, आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप, दूरिज्म और हॉस्पिटैलिटी समेत दूसरे विषय शामिल होंगे। पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र विकास मंत्री बी के हांडिक 2 जुलाई को छह महीने की अवधि वाले सर्टिफिकेट कोर्स डेवलपमेंट मैनेजेरियल स्किल्स फॉर

आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप (डीएमएसई) को लॉन्च करेंगे। आईआईएम शिलांग के प्रोफेसर केया सेनगुप्ता के मुताबिक, डीएमएसई इस तरह का पहला कोर्स है जो कि सेंटर ऑफ डेवलपमेंट ऑफ नॉर्थ ईस्टर्न रीजन (सीईडीएनईआर) चलाएगा। सीईडीएनईआर आईआईएम की ही एक शाखा है। इस कोर्स के हर बैच में 30 छात्र होंगे। 12 महीने के वक्त में इस कोर्स के जरिए करीब 60 छात्रों को प्रशिक्षण दिया जाएगा। पूर्वोत्तर विकास मंत्रालय ने इस प्रोग्राम के लिए 79.11 लाख रुपए मंजूर किए हैं। इस प्रोग्राम के जरिए पूर्वोत्तर में रहने वाली नई पीढ़ी के आंत्रप्रेन्योर्स में मैनेजेरियल स्किल को विकसित किया जाएगा। मंत्रालय आक्रामक रूप से देश के सब हिस्सों में मौजूद प्रमुख संस्थानों को इस कार्यक्रम में अपने साथ शामिल कर रहे हैं। इनमें आईआईएम शिलांग, आईआईटी गुवाहाटी और मुंबई का टाटा इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ सोशल साइंसेज (टीआईएसएस) शामिल है। हांडिक ने कहा, 'हमारे दिमाग में एक बड़ी योजना है ताकि लगातार इस इलाके के युवाओं को प्रशिक्षित किया जा सके। इन कार्यक्रमों में नौकरी

की योग्यता को बढ़ाने पर जोर होगा। आईआईएम, आईआईटी और टीआईएसएस जैसे संस्थान इस इलाके के युवाओं को ट्रेनिंग देने में पूरी कबिलियत रखते हैं। हमने इनसे अनुरोध किया है कि वे इस तरह के कोर्स विकसित करें। हमारा मंत्रालय और नॉर्थ ईस्टर्न कार्डिनल (एनईसी) जैसे इससे जुड़े हुए संस्थान पूरी तरह से इन कोर्स को फंडिंग देंगे। मुझे भरोसा है कि ये कोर्स इस इलाके में बेरोजगारी की समस्या को कम करने में बड़ी मदद देंगे।'

मंत्रालय इसके अलावा एक डेढ़ महीने का प्रोग्राम भी लॉन्च करेगा जो कि आईआईटी गुवाहाटी के सहयोग से चलाया जाएगा। इसमें असम सिंचाई विभाग के 30 इंजीनियरों को नदी के किनारों के कटने की समस्या को कम करने के लिए ट्रेनिंग दी जाएगी। इस पूरे कार्यक्रम को मंत्रालय से फंडिंग हासिल होगी और यह प्रोग्राम आईआईटी गुवाहाटी का डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ सिविल इंजीनियरिंग चलाएगा। असम में नदी के किनारों का टूटना एक बड़ी समस्या है। 27 जिलों में से 13 से ज्यादा जिलों में नदी के किनारे टूटने की काफी दिक्कत आ रही है।

पलायन रोकना है मकसद

ट्रेनिंग कोर्स शुरू करने का मकसद पूर्वोत्तर के छात्रों का देश के दूसरे इलाके में होने वाले पलायन रोकना है। साथ ही इसका लक्ष्य इन युवाओं की योग्यता बढ़ाकर नौकरी के अच्छे मौके देना भी है