

Newspaper Clips

November 11, 2010

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UGC has let us down, says Kachroo's father

While expressing disappointment at the quantum of sentence given to those who ragged Aman, his father Rajendra Kachroo lashed out at University Grants Commission, saying it was the "only agency that has let everybody down". Kachroo, who quit as professor after his son's death and runs an anti-ragging trust, said: "The Supreme Court had instructed the government to implement a programme...well defined and easily achievable, but it has not been done because UGC and HRD ministry cannot get their act together. I know I am making very serious allegations but it is not without reason." **P 16**

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4-yr jail for seniors who ragged Aman to death

Medicos Found Guilty In Second Such Conviction In Country

Ajay Sura | TNN

Dharamshala: In the country's second recorded ragging conviction, four medical students of a Himachal Pradesh college were on Thursday sentenced to four years of rigorous imprisonment for violently assaulting 19-year-old Aman Kachroo to the point where he died. The case brought the spotlight back on the macabre initiation rites that persist in many colleges nationwide despite the uproar triggered by Aman's killing last year.

A local court in Dharamshala pronounced the sentence on Ajay Verma, Abhinav Verma, Mukul Sharma and Naveen Verma, all students of Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College, Tanda, in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh. The conviction order came at 11.15am and the quantum of punishment at 3pm in a jam-packed courtroom. All the accused, who are in judicial custody for the past 20 months, were present in the courtroom along with their family members.

Dharamshala additional district and sessions judge Purender Vaidya held all the accused guilty of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, wrongful confinement and trespass after preparation for hurt.

The court also directed the accused to pay Rs 10,000 fine each to Aman's family. Though the accused were booked and tried for murder, the court converted the charge into culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

This was first ragging punishment since 1998 when a Cuddalore trial judge sentenced MBBS student John David for causing the death of fresher Pon Navarasu, the son of then vice-chancellor of Madras University P K Ponnusamy. David, accused of chopping up the body, was acquitted in 2001 for the 1996 crime for lack of evidence. Navarasu was allegedly killed for refusing to strip and lick footwear.

Justice Diluted?

► On March 7, 2009, **Ajay Verma, Naveen Verma, Abhinav Verma and Mukul Sharma** assaulted first-year MBBS student Aman Kachroo at Dr Rajindra Prasad Govt Medical College in Himachal's Kangra district

► Day after, **Aman (19) died of brain haemorrhage**, post mortem shows

► **All four seniors found guilty of culpable homicide** not amounting to murder (IPC 304 II). Court rejects murder charge under Sec 302 of IPC

► Maximum punishment for culpable homicide not amounting to murder is **10 years** but court reduces term to **4 years**

The verdict... conveys the correct message that ragging and crime in any guise will not be tolerated any more. That it has come in less than 2 years is an achievement in itself. (But) we are not happy with the quantum of punishment

Rajendra Kachroo | AMAN'S FATHER



► Prompted anti-ragging measures, P 16

► Edit: Justice For Kachroo, P 18

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e-paper

UGC has failed to stop ragging: Kachroo

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: In a scathing attack on the University Grants Commission (UGC) and its initiatives to curb the ragging menace, Rajendra Kachroo, father of ragging victim Aman, said that the regulatory agency has failed in its duties.



One of the four accused leaves the court in Dharamshala

Kachroo also expressed his disappointment on the quantum of punishment.

Aman Kachroo was brutally beaten up in his hostel during a ragging incident at the Dr Rajendra Prasad Tanda Medical College in Himachal Pradesh and succumbed to his injuries on March 8, 2009.

Kachroo said in a statement that the quantum of punishment had diluted the message. "We will certainly consult the public prosecutor and request him to appeal against the quan-

tum of punishment," he said.

While appreciating the role various agencies, Kachroo's statement on UGC and the ministry of human resource development read: "The Supreme Court had instructed the government to implement a programme, which is well defined and easily achievable, but it has not been done because UGC and MHRD cannot get their act together."

Kachroo added: "The only agency that has let down everybody is the UGC. I know that I am making very serious allegations against such a prestigious body, but it is not without reason." Despite repeated attempts to contact him, UGC chairman Sukhadeo Thorat could not be reached.

Meanwhile, an RTI filed by Kachroo earlier revealed that the call centre set up by the HRD ministry and UGC after a Supreme Court ruling — based on suggestions given by Kachroo himself — has proved to be a non-starter.

The RTI reply given by UGC reveals that nearly 1.5 lakh calls were made to the call centre since its inception on June 20, 2009, of which 300 calls translated into complaints. Unfortunately, no real action has been taken in a single case.

Of the 300 complaints, 180 were forwarded by University Grants Commission to college principals through ordinary post, the RTI revealed. Only 60 principals responded. No one even looked into what they have said. At the end of January 2010, the other 120 complaints were still awaiting action, months after they were registered.

CASE FILE

2009

March 6/7 | Aman Kachroo ragged

March 8 | Aman dies at Tanda

March 9 | Case registered against four seniors of Aman in the medical college

March 10 | HP home secretary orders probe

March 26 | Inquiry report submitted by ADM Kangra indicting four accused

2010

July 17 | Fast track court Dharamshala granted bail to accused

July 22 | Himachal HC takes suo motu cognizance on granting bail to the accused

July 28 | Bail cancelled, HC orders day-to-day hearing of trial

Oct 30 | Trial court completes trial and reserved verdict

Nov 11 | Verdict out



Aman Kachroo

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e-paper

Staff quarter allotted to fake institute at IIT-Kgp

Akshaya Mukul | TNN

New Delhi: The startling revelation by IIT-Kharagpur registrar T K Ghoshal that a staff quarter was allotted to the fake institute — Institution of Electrical Engineers (India) — before A K Ghosh, the suspended professor of aerospace engineering, took over as president of IEE (I) proves that others, including directors, were also involved in the scam.

Speaking to TOI, Ghosh said, "Staff quarter was allotted to IEE (I) in 2004 while I took over as honorary president of the institute in 2006." S K Dube was the director of IIT-Kharagpur when the quarter was allotted.

"In IIT, a staff quarter cannot be allotted without the knowledge of the director," a senior faculty member said. Many in IIT-Kharagpur are apprehending that former directors in-

volved with the IEE(I) might be let off by the two-member enquiry committee, which comprises S K Som, dean (academics) and Amit Basak

RAISING A STINK

dean (faculty). "Ghosh is the only one who might be implicated," a senior IIT faculty said.

Ghosh also told TOI that before him there were two senior faculty members who

were running IEE(I). He also alleged that former IIT-Kharagpur director, K L Chopra, was also involved with the fake institute.

"He might deny his association and say that all the letters linking him to IEE(I) are forged. However, an investigation will prove that he was also involved," he added. Others in the IIT-Kharagpur point out that one of the enquiry committee member, Amit Basak, was appointed

by Chopra when he was the director. In fact, Chopra had the longest stint as a director — from 1987 to 1997.

Meanwhile, Ghosh expressed ignorance about an FIR being filed against him by the institute. He said, "There is already an FIR. I have been served chargesheet, which I am yet to see as I am out of town. The enquiry committee will wait for my reply to the chargesheet."

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Austrian Town Taps Forests For Clean Energy

Here, wood fuels a green alternative

Amit Bhattacharya | TNN

Güssing (Austria): While debates rage across the world over the costs of moving away from fossil fuels, a tiny enclave of a small country in Europe is showing how green innovation and initiative can transform lives and spur the economy. This is the big story of little Güssing, a town of just 4,000 residents in a backward region of Austria, which in a span of a little more than a decade has given rise to the 'Güssing model' of sustainable energy.

Twenty years ago, Güssing was a dead-end town. Barely five kilometres from the border with Hungary, it lay under the shadow of the Cold War. With no incentive for industries, Güssing had little to offer by way of jobs. There was steady migration from the region and 70% of those who chose to stay on, commuted weekly to bigger cities like Vienna for work.

The lifting of the Iron Curtain did little to improve things. Under these bleak circumstances, the town in the early 1990s drew up an energy plan for the 27,000 residents of Güssing district (of which the town is the centre). Says Peter Vadasz, town mayor since 1992 and one of

the key figures in Güssing's turnaround, "In 1995, we found the annual energy bill of the area was 6.2 million euros. All this money was going out as we were dependent on the outside world for electricity, heating and motor fuels."

The plan was to replace fossil fuels with local renewables. In 1996, the European Centre for Renewable Energy came up in Güssing to coordinate research. Various projects began but the challenge was to efficiently tap the energy of the area's 45% forest cover. Grants from the federal government and European Union funded research leading to a breakthrough in wood gassification.

Gassification is a way of converting organic matter into gas in the absence of oxygen. The gas produced can be used to generate electricity, with the by-product, heat, being utilized for district heating. It can also be converted into methane used for heating or cooking, and also for biofuel production.

Güssing's flagship innovation was the 'fluidized bed steam gassification' technology. A biomass plant using the technology started in 2001. A collaborative

effort involving private companies and public institutions, it draws energy from the region's plentiful waste wood. It can produce 2,000 kWh of electric power as well as 4,500 kWh of heat. Clean diesel production from the wood gas is at a demonstration stage.

The plant has transformed Güssing. Says Vadasz, "From an outflow of 6.2 million euros on energy, the district in 2005 was producing 15 million euros worth of energy from local renewables. Gassification is a clean technology. This and use of other renewables like solar power has helped cut our carbon emissions by 70% – the deepest reduction across Europe. People have become richer too, with municipal tax receipts rising 300%."

Güssing now has more control over its energy costs. "During the 2000s, the



GREEN SPINOFF: From a town known for its medieval Hungarian castle, Güssing now draws eco-tourists who flock to its wood gassification plant to witness the town's environmental breakthrough

more oil prices rose, the more we smiled," Vadasz adds. And jobs are here too. Around 50 companies have set up units around the town, many of them attracted by the cheap heating, creating 1,100 jobs in the region.

Güssing today is at the frontier of green tech, its research centres driving the thrust towards new technologies. It draws around 20,000 tourists keen on witnessing the town's turnaround.

But does the story have a takeaway for India, with its problems of population, poverty and under-industrialization? Says Vadasz, "At the heart of the Güssing model is the replacement of fossil fuels by locally available renewables... We found solutions that worked for us. You'll have to find yours."

(The author visited Güssing at the invitation of the European Union)

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Justice For Kachroo

Ragging has no place in colleges

Let the judgment handed down by a fast-track court against those who did Aman Kachroo to death be a turning point in the battle against ragging, just as the Jessica Lal case was against murders carried out by the politically well-connected. Nineteen-year-old Aman was ragged to death by his medical college seniors in March last year. He was repeatedly targeted and had made several complaints to the college authorities. Despite this no action was taken to put an end to the monstrosity. The Supreme Court-ordered Raghavan Committee report clearly instructs college authorities to register an FIR whenever an incident of ragging is reported. No such guideline was followed in Aman's case. It was systemic failure born out of the lackadaisical attitude of the authorities that led to the death of an innocent student. We hope that the quick conviction and sentencing of Aman's killers will send out the right signal to colleges across the country.

There is no denying that a lot more needs to be done if we are to stamp out ragging completely from our campuses. There needs to be a change in the attitude of university administrators to recognise ragging for what it really is – demonstration of power through humiliation of the helpless. In this regard, the suggestion to link University Grants Commission funds to colleges' compliance with anti-ragging measures is a good idea. Aman's father, Raj Kachroo, who has been at the forefront of the anti-ragging campaign, has suggested the creation of a website to monitor and quickly respond to incidents of ragging. This too deserves consideration. Our colleges are meant to be institutes of learning, not breeding grounds for sadism.

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'India is a promising global hotspot for higher research'

Bonn-based German Research Foundation (DFG) and the University Grants Commission recently signed an MoU to fund joint projects between Indian and German doctoral research students via IRTG, the international research training group programme. DFG president Matthias Kleiner tells Narayani Ganesh in New Delhi that high-end basic research today can not be isolated, it requires international collaboration:

■ What are the highlights of the MoU you signed recently with the UGC?

We decided to jointly fund international research training groups between Indian and German doctoral students. The focus of our international programmes is on collaborative training and exchange visits of students from the two countries.

The first IRTG programme in India, set up in 2008 between the

University of Muenster and the University of Hyderabad, is in Molecular and Cellular Glycosciences. Hyderabad was drawing from basic funding that UGC was giving the University of Hyderabad. The second IRTG project beginning this month is between the Free University of Berlin and the University of Hyderabad in Functional Molecular Infection Epidemiology. With the MoU, the UGC will henceforth set aside spe-

Q&A cific funding for IRTG projects. The DFG earmarked seven million euros for the funding of these centres from the German side. Overall, the DFG has an annual budget of three billion euros to fund fundamental research in Germany.

■ Is the DFG also funding innovative higher-risk projects?

These are projects where the outcome might not be clear at the beginning; the research might not be in mainstream subjects.



An outstanding student might have a bold idea with great potential but with little clarity to begin with. The DFG has earmarked up to 1.5 million euros for each such project over five years in Germany. Reinhart Koselleck Projects – named after the renowned historian who undertook high-risk ventures – seek to encourage original ideas with high risk but high potential.

■ What do you expect in return from researchers?

The funding for five years has no strings attached, with no restrictions except that the money would be used for the research project. There is a 15-20 per cent success rate so far. We have some exciting proposals. For instance, in humanities, one project is in social psychological research, on the tendency for violence in young males. The researcher is travelling to conflict zones in Africa, interviewing boy (child) soldiers, probing ways of verifying his thesis on the possibility of a genetic-based trend in males for violence.

Firstly, the DFG sees the Koselleck Projects as lighthouses that could influence normal projects to take high risks. Secondly, if a Koselleck Project researcher requires international collaboration we could facilitate that with funding – it could even be part of the IRTG. The idea is to encourage interdisciplinary,

inter-institutional, collaborative, international basic research for common benefit.

■ Why the renewal of German interest in Indian scientists?

Indian research is developing in areas where German researchers are also active, so there is future potential to work together more closely. The DFG and young German researchers are confident that India is a promising global hotspot for higher research in all sciences including humanities; therefore, we are setting up a 'German House' in New Delhi next year as a one-stop shop where under one roof we bring together German organisations and universities working on specific missions with common workshops and events, with scope of collaborative work. The German House could hold workshops that interlink research and science – on research methods, good practice, teamwork and reliable research.

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Increase in tuition won't hit Indian students: Minister

Tirna Ray
& Proyashi Barua | TNN

The UK government's plans to increase fees for undergraduate study is only meant for British and EU students and will not affect international students, including Indians.

At an average, home and EU students pay around £3000 for an undergraduate course, and now the government plans to treble fees. David Willetts, UK minister for universities and science, currently visiting India, told TOI the hike is not going to affect Indian students.

The hike for home students is intended to reduce the dependence of universities on the public funding system. Home and EU students

FEE STRUCTURE

- Home/EU students currently pay (undergraduate) £3000/year
- Home/EU students, after fee hike, will pay £9000/year
- International students (undergraduate) currently pay £10,500-£25,900

will now be offered a universal loan system according to which students repay his or her individual loan after

achieving an earning capacity of £21,000 per annum.

Ritu Gupta, general manager, University of Leeds South Asia Office, New Delhi, pointed out that the fee hike for home/EU students may turn out to be good news for Indian students. According to her, this will reduce the chances of Indian students being used as a major source of revenue. Instead, she says, it will be a level playing ground and Indian students will no longer have to compensate for the deficit caused by home students.

For many years, higher education in the UK has been subsidised for home/EU students. For example, in science, the subsidy has been £10,000 per year, which was being funded by the taxpayer.

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UK fears more trouble as students riot over fee hike

Ruling Party HQ Vandalized, But PM Refuses To Buckle

Ashis Ray | TNN

London: Angered by the hike in the tuition fees, students threatened more unrest after rioters stormed the headquarters of right-wing ruling Conservative party in central London not far from parliament and government buildings, breaking windows and destroying furniture. "This is just the beginning," one of them warned.

The students, perhaps hijacked by a group of hardcore left-wing activists, were protesting against a three-fold rise in tuition fees for British students from 2012 proposed by the coalition government in which the centrist Liberal Democrats are partners. More than 50 lawbreakers were arrested; 14 were taken to hospital after suffering injuries.

The incident occurred when a section of an estimated 50,000 strong demonstration turned violent. It led to a quite unprecedented episode on British soil, which has not witnessed restlessness among students of this scale since the 1960s. Waving anarchist flags, masked men lobbed placard sticks, eggs and bottles, even fire extinguishers, while also



STATE OF UNREST: Police officers clash with demonstrators at the headquarters of UK's ruling Conservative Party; (R) demonstrators hold placards during a student protest march, in central London



No welfare for unemployed

Britain unveiled plans to withhold handouts for up to three years for those who refuse a job in the biggest shake-up of the post-war welfare state, a day after violent protests rocked London. **AFP**

trading punches with guardians of the law.

There were only a few hundred policemen guarding Tory HQ. Inside, the Pakistani-origin chairperson of the party, Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, occupied her office. Initially, she is reported to have had no police protection. The badly outnumbered and unarmed police officers had no chance to resisting the rioters as they ran amuck.

It is widely believed that the students' anger was directed mainly at Nick Clegg, leader of the Liberal Democrats and now deputy prime minister, who has performed a u-

turn after signing a pledge during last spring's general election campaign not to raise university tuition fees. Police, therefore, provided security to the Lib Dem office, but under-manned the Conservative HQ. Clegg conceded: "I should have been more careful perhaps in

signing that pledge."

Meanwhile, British prime minister David Cameron, attending the G20 summit in Seoul, criticised Scotland Yard for its failure. He, however, refused to reconsider his government's decision to escalate fees, which is scheduled to be voted upon in

the House of Commons before Christmas. "We won't back down," he insisted.

The new government's obsession with cuts — to reduce budget deficit left behind by the previous Labour party administration — has meant a hacking of the university teaching budget to

Times of India ND 11/11/2010 p-17

Liquid biopsy: Blood test to detect cancer

Chicago: Researchers are closing in on highly sensitive devices that trap bits of cancer in the blood, offering a "liquid biopsy" that would give doctors and drug companies a better way to see if cancer drugs are working.

Scientists have long known that cancer cells can break off from the main tumor and circulate in the blood, but these cells are so rare and so fragile they have been hard to capture and study in a meaningful way.

Johnson & Johnson has the only approved test on the US market, but researchers say its usefulness is limited because it only traps a few of the cells. So, several teams have gone back to the drawing board and are now close to developing more sensitive tests. If they work, they could usher in a new age of personalized cancer treatment in which doctors use cancer cells from a patient's blood to guide treatment.

"Once you have these cells, you now have the very cancer you are trying to at-

Rogue gene tied to tumours identified

Early cancer diagnostic may now be possible, as researchers have identified the gene responsible for initiating human cancer. The study paves the way for developing early cancer diagnostic tests, and finding new treatments that prevent or stop the spread of cancer cells at an early stage. Muy-Tek Teh of the Institute of Dentistry at Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry researchers have shown that a gene called FOXM1 exploits the inherent self-renewal property of stem cells causing excessive cell proliferation. The abnormal growth triggered by FOXM1 resulted in a condition called hyperplasia - an early hallmark of pre-cancer. This is thought to represent the very first step of a series of abnormal molecular events leading to cancer formation. ANI

tack in the palm of your hand," said Dr. Bob McCormack of J&J's Veridex unit. "You can begin to direct therapy from a test tube."

So far, there are about 25 different technology companies vying to develop tests, ranging from small labs to very large companies. "The huge interest in this is that this is blood," said Minetta Liu of Georgetown University Hospital in Washington. "It is not sticking a needle in an organ," she said.

Most tests for cancer cells circulating in the blood look

for epithelial cells, which form the outer layer of organs. These cells do not belong in blood, but are found there in 85 to 90% of cancers.

"The supposition is these circulating cells are the very cells that kill," said Mehmet Toner, a biomedical engineer at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School. If they can be detected in the blood before they attack a new organ in the body, doctors may be able to keep cancer from spreading, turning a killer like lung cancer into a chronic disease. REUTERS

Times of India ND 11/11/2010 p-4

HC to top cop: Enforce tobacco ban

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Delhi high court on Wednesday ensured that the new commissioner of police, B K Gupta, has one task cut out — removal of shops selling tobacco products within a 100-m radius of hospitals and educational institutions.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justice Manmohan, while hearing a PIL, directed the police chief to make sure that no tobacco products are permitted to be sold within 100 metres of schools, colleges and hospitals in the city.

HC's directive came on the PIL filed by World Lung Foun-

ation, seeking the court's intervention due to failure of authorities to implement the ban on tobacco sale under the provisions of Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act 2003 (COPTA).

A division bench directed the police chief to make sure tobacco products are not sold within 100m of schools, colleges and hospitals in city

Pointing out the abysmal failure of the government to implement the ban mandated by COPTA, the PIL alleged

there was large unchecked sale of tobacco products such as pan masala, cigarettes and gutkha in the prohibited areas. This not only resulted in luring youngsters to such products and wreaking their lives, but also caused widespread social and mental damage to society, the petitioners informed the court.

In order to make their point that those violating provisions of COPTA are not being prosecuted, petitioners annexed pictures in their PIL showing sale of tobacco products in these areas. The photographs showed how many areas around Delhi University and other educational hubs across the capital con-

tinue to offer unrestricted sale of tobacco products putting the health of students in jeopardy.

The PIL highlighted how a survey of 83 colleges and schools by World Lung Foundations' Delhi chapter in September 2010 showed tobacco products being sold in many outlets near educational institutions. They also informed the court that similar situation prevailed in hospitals spread across the city.

Appearing for the government, standing counsel Jatan Singh assured the bench that steps will be taken to ensure proper implementation of the ban and Delhi Police will book the violators.

Times of India ND 11/11/2010 p-17

'Taxi driver' software to help you beat jams ¹⁷

It Suggests The Route A Cabbie Would Take To Avoid Traffic, Cut Travel Time

London: Ever marvelled at a taxi-driver's knowledge of a city's short cuts? Well, you can now be happy, as soon you would be able to take advantage of that know-how in your own car.

Initial tests of a virtual cab driver have suggested that it could shave over 10% off journey times through crowded urban streets, reports New Scientist. The system, known as T-Drive, starts by monitoring the routes taken by cabbies at different times of day.

To test their idea, the researchers used three months of movement data, representing 400 million kilometres of



SAY GOODBYE TO ROAD MAPS

travel, from a fleet of 33,000 taxis in Beijing.

The taxi trajectories were merged to reveal the roads that cab drivers prefer. Given a request to navigate between any two points in the city, the system could then choose a route based on the roads that are popular with cabbies at that time of day.

For a real-world test, the Microsoft engineers asked a pair of drivers to travel between two locations in Beijing: one was given a route suggested by T-Drive, the other used Google Maps.

Averaged over 30 trials, the two systems produced

routes that were roughly the same in length. But T-Drive seemed to know how to avoid stoppages: it produced average drive times of 23 minutes, almost 4 minutes faster than Google Maps.

Yu Zheng, an engineer at Microsoft Research Asia in Beijing, said the advantage comes from the drivers' intimate knowledge of Beijing streets. The cabbies know which traffic lights are slow to change and which junctions get snarled up during rush hours. Zheng presented his work at the ACM Sigspatial International Conference on Advances in Geo-

'86% of all medical trips are made by rural Indians'

Rukmini Shrinivasan
TIMES INSIGHT GROUP

The story of India's international medical tourism industry is now well known, but the first ever figures on domestic medical tourism are simply staggering. Indians made 126 million domestic trips for medical purposes, spending over Rs 23,000 crore on such trips, over the span of one year (2008-09) alone. That, incidentally, is about 30% more than the Union health budget for the same year.

There is, however, a crucial difference. While most international medical tourists to India make the journey because it offers massive cost savings, domestic medical tourism is largely driven by poor health infrastructure in rural areas and small towns. That's clear from the fact that 86% of all trips taken for medical purposes are by rural Indians and the poorest spend much more proportionally on medical tourism than the rich.

The data is part of the Na-



The poorest are spending much more proportionally on medical tourism than the rich

tional Sample Survey Organisation's (NSSO) 65th round on tourism, which estimates the number and purpose of trips taken by persons in its representative sample of seven lakh people, as well as their expenditure on such trips. The survey defines a "trip" as the movement for a period of not more than six months by one or more household members traveling to a place outside their usual environment and return to their usual place of residence for purposes other

than migration or employment and which is outside their regular routine of life.

The data shows that trips for health and medical purposes form 7% of all overnight trips for the rural population and about 3.5% for the urban population. While "social" purposes were the main reason for travel for both rural and urban residents, "holidaying and leisure" accounted for even less than medical travel — 2% and 5% for rural and urban India respectively. Similarly, 17% of same-day trips in rural India and 8% in urban India were for health reasons.

While calculating the expenditure on a trip, the NSSO includes all goods and services bought or consumed by the traveller. The high cost of healthcare is borne out by the fact that trips for health and medical purposes were four times as expensive as the average trip for both rural and urban populations. Medical trips were much more expensive for the family than even shopping trips.

Hindustan Times ND

11/11/2010

P-8

IMPURE AIR

Delhi ranks among 230 most-polluted cities in Asia

Chetan Chauhan

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NEW DELHI: Delhi's air is among the most polluted in 230 Asian cities, a new survey has found.

An analysis of air quality by Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities has found that particulate matter (PM) of Delhi in 2008 had ranged between 201 and 250 micro grams in a cubic meter of air (ug/m³), more than double the national standard for PM 10.

High particulate matter causes breathing problems and can stir asthma attacks. The PM level in Delhi is on rise since 2006 after witnessing a fall for almost five years after introduction of Compressed Natural Gas for public transport in the Capital.

Anumita Roy Chowdhury, associate director of Centre for Science and Environment, said the rising levels of particulate matter were an area of concern.

"Despite Metro trains, the phenomenal increase in number of vehicles in Delhi leading to congestion is a reason for air quality turning bad," she said. The survey found that while air quality in most Asian cities had improved by imposing restrictions on use of personal transport and providing better public transport, the same has not

THE SCOREBOARD

- **Clean cities:** Bangkok, Hanoi, Jakarta, Jinan and Manila.
- **Polluters:** Delhi, Kanpur, Ludhiana and Agra.

happened in major Indian cities. Besides Delhi, other northern Indian cities such as Kanpur, Lucknow and Ludhiana were categorised as bad on the air pollution scoreboard, developed by Asian Development Bank.

Five cities that got the top ranking were Bangkok, Hanoi, Jakarta, Jinan and Manila. The other three cities — Colombo, Hangzhou, and Kathmandu — scored "moderate".

While none of the surveyed cities received a "minimal" score, neither did any of them score "excellent", showing there is ample room for improvement, the survey released at a conference in Singapore said.

"Rather than ranking cities based on air pollution alone, it is important to look at existing capacity, policies and measures as these are better indicators for their future levels of air pollution," said Sophie Punte, Executive Director of the CAI-Asia Centre.

UGC in fresh storm over deemed varsity

TROUBLE Unfit for deemed tag, but institute run by NCP leader got funds

Charu Sudan Kasturi

■ charu.kasturi@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The University Grants Commission is under the government's scanner for allegedly violating law to farm out public funds to a private deemed university found underserving of the tag and run by an influential UGC member.

The UGC has allocated funds for a conference of vice chancellors on November 12 being held at Pune-based Bharati Vidyapeeth, even though the institute is ineligible for the funding, senior commission sources confirmed to HT.

Bharati Vidyapeeth is among 44 deemed universities found unfit for the tag but given a three-year lifeline to improve by a central review panel set up by human resource develop-

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- The UGC has violated law to offer a ₹1 crore grant to a private deemed university that was deemed not deserve the tag by a central review
- The commission has allocated funds for a meet of vice chancellors to be held at Bharati Vidyapeeth, even though the insti-

tute is ineligible for the funding

- Bharati Vidyapeeth is among those varsities found unfit for the deemed tag by a central review panel

■ The institute is run by Maharashtra's Kadam family, headed by Shivajirao Kadam, who is also a member of the UGC.

ment minister Kapil Sibal. The ministry is independently also investigating allegations that the institute violated law in setting up new campuses.

The institute is run by Maharashtra's politically powerful Kadam family, headed by Shivajirao Kadam who founded Bharati Vidyapeeth and — in a clear case of conflict of interest — is also a member of the

UGC. The chancellor of the institute is Patangrao Kadam, current forests minister in Maharashtra. "The UGC appears to have put out a cocktail of illegality, conflict of interest and wasteful expenditure," a critical official complained.

Senior UGC officials argued that the meeting was being held under the aegis of the commission itself and so the funding to

the organising varsity was justified. But critics — including officials in the HRD ministry — are dismissing this argument as the UGC never conducted mandatory tendering required for a public institution to pick a private entity for a project.

The UGC holds meetings of VCs annually, but these conferences are always hosted by institutes eligible for funding under section 12 (b) of the UGC Act, sources said. The host institute is awarded funds to conduct the meet. HRD ministry officials are questioning how the UGC decided to fund the Pune meet when Bharati Vidyapeeth is not eligible for public money under the Act.

Critics are also questioning the amount of funding — no such conference has in the past cost more than ₹12 lakh.

Hindustan Times ND
11/11/2010 P-16

'NO CLIMATE TALKS IN FUTURE IF CANCUN FAILS'

Chetan Chauhan

■ chetan@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India on Wednesday said the developing countries would find it difficult to continue climate negotiations if second commitment period for Kyoto Protocol is not ratified at the next climate summit in Mexico starting this month.

India's stand emanates from deliberations at a recent meeting of Group of 77 (G-77) countries plus China in Mexico. The protocol of which India and China are the biggest beneficiaries expires in 2012. Either a new regime has to be in place before end of 2011 or the United Nations has to agree on extension of the protocol.

Either of the options appears difficult as the United States and Australia are opposed to differentiated responsibility as enshrined in the protocol.

"If there is no extension of Kyoto Protocol at Cancun (Mexico) developing countries would find it difficult to continue with the negotiations," Ramesh said after a two-day ministerial dialogue on climate change technologies in Delhi, where the ministers failed to reach any consensus.

As a result, the chair summary was released instead of a joint statement as done in 2009 after a similar meeting.

The 35 nations agreed that giving poorer countries access to technology that can reduce emissions should form part of any "comprehensive and balanced" package finalised in Cancun. The technology transfer mechanism should address both adaptation and mitigation, the summary said.

There was no mention of contentious issue of intellectual property rights (IPR), on which Ramesh said there were divergent views. Most developed countries wants to give technology but want to charge for IPR, strongly opposed by the developing world.

For India's product entrepreneurs, the Cloud is the silver lining

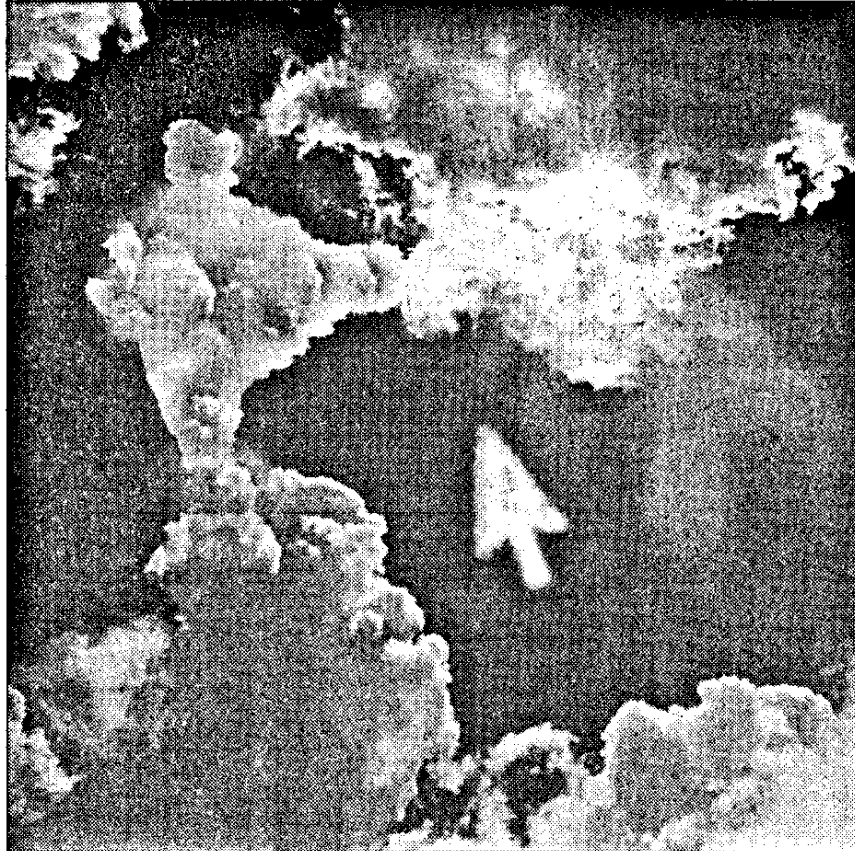
SANGEETHA CHENGAPPA

BENGALURU

Nov. 10: While India missed out on the dotcom and Web 2.0 wave because of a dearth of users, investors and experienced engineers who could build leading companies; the country is all set to ride the Cloud Computing wave, a new disruptive force that is fostering the growth of many software product startups.

"When the Internet came to us in 1997 it was a big disruption but, nobody knew how it would impact our lives. We are at the same stage today with cloud computing, the new disruptive force — organisations are spending 3 per cent of their IT budget on cloud computing today, and that percentage spend will increase to 20-30 per cent over the next three years," said M.R. Rangaswami, co-founder, SandHill Group LLC. He was speaking at the Nasscom Product Conclave 2010 which started on a note of optimism on Wednesday with 1,200 registered participants including 500 product start-ups, most of whom are rolling out software solutions hosted on the cloud to customers globally, on a pay-per-use subscription model.

Urging Indian product start-ups to embrace the Cloud, Amitabh Srivastava, senior vice-president of Microsoft's Server and Cloud division said, "Don't take the evolutionary path of investing in physical servers, virtualisation and infrastructure-as-a-service, embrace the Cloud and leapfrog straight to Platform-as-a-Service (Paas). With PaaS, startups can



US President Barack Obama's visit to India has helped to break myths and stereotypes about India "stealing jobs or

being a call centre country", said Som Mittal, Nasscom President. "It is also a learning for us of what needs to be done and how we need to work while partnering with companies", he said on the sidelines of the Product Conclave. Stating that India has become more visible



globally after Obama's visit, Mittal said "Obama has positioned India as a market and as a place that has emerged. It now remains to be seen in the months that follow, how all this will get translated into real attitude change on both sides." Although Nasscom did not directly interact with the US President, its members were well represented in the CEO forum. On whether the visit had allayed fears of the Indian IT industry, he said, "Just one visit does not mean the task is over. There is more work to be done on this."

focus on building their applications instead of wasting time and resources on capex and opex while the platform takes care of security patching, monitoring of

the operating system etc."

The participating product start-ups were treated to pearls of wisdom from stalwarts who had survived two recessions. Sharat Sharan, president & CEO of On24 Inc., a leader in the webcasting and virtual events which are delivered through a SaaS model via the Cloud pointed out, "In order to survive through recessionary times startups must constantly assess the size of the market opportunity and have a great management team in place, who can make things work.

You must be ready to fire people and hire new people at every stage of growth of the company. Start-ups must also be flexible enough to offer newer value propositions to customers when the core offerings fail to work."

While most of the speakers agreed that India's product story has well and truly begun,

Ramesh Loganathan, vice-president (products) at Progress Software, who also teaches courses in distributed computing at IIT- Hyderabad, observed: The India product story has begun, however the story will truly have gained momentum only when 20-25 per cent of graduating engineers in India decide to work for start-ups or start their own product ventures.

More important, India has to produce a product company with a market cap of \$1 billion, have huge IPOs from product companies and breakthrough innovative products such as the Adam tablet from Bengaluru-based start-up Notion Ink, before we can label the India product story as a success.

Asian Age ND 11/11/2010

P-11

Firms must be accountable for data

JASMIN MELVIN

WASHINGTON

Nov. 10: Internet companies need to be more accountable for the mass of personal data collected from users to guard against cybercrime, industry executives said on Tuesday.

"Information is the currency of growth, but it's also increasingly become the currency of crime," Peter Cullen, chief privacy strategist for Microsoft Corp, said at the Family Online Safety Institute's annual conference.

"People have very high expectations when it comes to companies in terms of how they collect, use, store and most importantly pro-

tect their information," Cullen said.

Companies must hold themselves to high standards when handling consumers' personal information and invest more in internal structures to ensure privacy, he added.

Michael Fertik, founder of the online reputation-management company ReputationDefender, called for US regulations that mandate opt-in defaults to give consumers greater control of their "digital dossier."

"It's remarkable how deep the data sets are about each of us, and it's disturbing," Fertik told Reuters, citing websites that track users' locations.

Companies such as Google

Companies such as Google, Yahoo and Facebook collect personal data that is often used in advertising or passed on to third parties.

Inc, Yahoo Inc, Facebook and Microsoft collect personal data that is often used in advertising or passed on to third parties without users' knowledge.

Fertik advocated limits on how long companies can keep personal data on consumers, warning that over

time the data could be used beyond advertising, such as assessing health care premiums based on how often a person frequents fast food restaurants.

"Companies that make the bulk of their revenue in advertising have a very terrible tension between that economic incentive and your privacy interests," said Fertik, a member of the World Economic Forum Agenda Council on Internet Security.

The Commerce Department reported earlier this week a seven-fold surge in high speed Internet subscribers between 2001 and 2009.

Mobile devices are also increasingly being used to

access the Internet; yet most Americans are unfamiliar with the privacy implications of being connected anytime and anywhere.

The US Federal Trade Commission is preparing recommendations for privacy laws, and telecommunications analysts predict bipartisan support on this issue.

Amy Mushahwar, a data privacy and security attorney at Reed Smith LLP, in a phone interview called privacy a "nonpolitical" issue that both Republicans and Democrats could agree upon in a divided Congress.

"This is a much less partisan issue that still has the potential for movement," she said.

-Reuters

Asian Age ND 11/11/2010

P-23

Check tobacco sale near DU colleges: HC

AGE CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Nov. 10: A division bench comprising Delhi high court Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justice Manmohan on Wednesday directed the Delhi police to enforce the tobacco law which prohibits selling and distribution of tobacco and related products within a

radius of 100 yards of any educational institution.

While issuing a notice to the police, the division bench sought a reply within four weeks on a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking a direction that selling of tobacco in any form in 100 yards radius of any educational institution of the Delhi University be banned and declared as ille-

gal in accordance with the Delhi Prohibition of Smoking and Non-Smokers Health Protection Act, 1996.

Directing the police to implement the Control of Tobacco Products Act, the bench said, "This is unfortunate. There are some places where you can see only smoke and smoke. Passive smoking is more

dangerous" and sought a status report from the police by February 2.

The court was hearing a PIL filed by World Lung Foundation, a registered NGO under the NCT government, alleging that the Control of Tobacco Products Act, commonly known as COTPA, came into effect in 2004. The Act covers prohibition of adver-

tisement and regulation of trade and commerce, production, supply and distribution of tobacco products, but the same was not implemented with true spirit.

The petitioner said that public health is deteriorating due to passive smoking and asked the court to direct the government to take effective steps to implement the law in true spirit.

Financial Chronicle ND 11/11/2010

P-10

Kolkata to turn confluence of management gurus as IIM-C turns 50

RITWIK MUKHERJEE
Kolkata

IT promises to be the confluence of management gurus of different streams from across the world at the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta (IIM-C), when the country's first IIM turns 50 on November 14.

And for many of these management gurus and corporate honchos, who are IIM-C alumni, it will be a journey down memory lane.

"What started as a small institution in late 1961 has today blossomed into one of the leading management schools in

South Asia and the Asia-Pacific region. It is a very important landmark in the modern history of our country. We plan to celebrate the golden jubilee of the institute and the IIM system over two years from November 14, 2010 to November 14, 2012," an IIM-C spokesman told *Financial Chronicle*.

The Calcutta chapter of the IIM Alumni Association is organising Gurus-peak2010, with marketing guru Prof Dipak C Jain, formerly dean of Kellogg School of Management, North Western University, US and dean designate of INSEAD on December 19. This will just be one of the



YOUNG AT 50: The golden jubilee of the institute and the IIM system will be celebrated over two years starting November 14

For many corporate honchos, the occasion will be a journey down memory lane

several international conferences, workshops and seminars being organised as part of the celebrations.

There will also be an international marketing conference during December 27-29, an international finance conference during January 9-12, 2011, IIMC-Strategic Management Society paper development workshop during February 26-28, 2011, to mention a few, the spokesman said.

He said many of the alumni, who are at present at the helms of various leading companies across the world and the present faculty of the institute will be actively involved in the process. IIMC professors

and alumni will also deliberate on issues and challenges facing management schools in India and the way forward.

Several publications, including a commemorative volume outlining the history of IIM-C and its contributions to management education in India, compilation of case studies, memoirs by different stakeholders, collection of speeches and a book on '50 Golden Years of IIM-C', profiling prominent/distinguished alumni will be published some time during this two-year celebration.

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**Asian Age ND
11/11/2010 P-4**

IIT files FIR against its professor

AGE CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Nov. 10: IIT-Kharagpur has filed an FIR against a professor after an internal inquiry indicted him for associating with a fake institute that had allegedly falsely claimed to be an affiliate of the institute.

Sources said an FIR has been lodged against office bearers of the Institution of Electrical Engineering accusing them of fraud. The criminal complaint also names AK Ghosh, a professor at IIT-Kharagpur who has been placed under suspension since last month. The IIT had conducted an internal investigation after students of the IEE lodged a complaint with the director Damodar Acharya against the professor.

Business Line ND p-4

11-Nov-10

Govt not to dissolve IIM boards

New Delhi, Nov.10

The Government said on Wednesday that there were no plans to dissolve the existing boards of the IIMs across the country following suggestions by a committee to revamp their functioning. The Bhargava committee set up by the Government had made recommendations such as restructuring the society of IIMs and board of governors and providing further powers to the board to select and appoint chairman and director. "There are no plans to dissolve the existing IIMs boards," said the HRD Minister, Mr Kapil Sibal, in a written reply in the Lok Sabha but added the report submitted by the Bhargava committee is under examination. — **PTI**

Pioneer ND 11/11/2010 p-6

Special award for Super-30 Kumar

AMARNATH TEWARY ■ PATNA

Recognition and awards have come in droves for the Super-30 founder but this one is special, as it comes from his home State, Bihar.

Anand Kumar received the State Government's Maulana Abul Kalam Shiksha Puraskar for 2010, for his pioneering contributing in the field of education. "It is a special one which will hold a very special space among the medallions," said Kumar, founder of the institute that trains 30 poor IIT aspirants free of charge. Super-30 has been getting 100 per cent results for several years now.

The prestigious Shiksha Puraskar — constituted in 2008 to observe the birth anniversary of the country's first Education Minister, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, as Education Day — is the highest award given by the State Government to recognise achievement in the field of education. It carries a citation paper and ₹2 lakh as award money.

Mathematician Anand Kumar received the award from Bihar Governor Devanand Konwar at a glittering ceremony on Shiksha Diwas.

Rukmini Bannerjee of Pratham, an NGO working in the area of education, had won the award for 2008 for her exceptional work in the field of education for the underprivileged and street children. In 2009, Prema Sah, a social worker who has been spreading education among the Tharu tribe children, received the award.

The selection of persons for this award is by a committee of three, headed by the principal

secretary of the Human Resources Department. The other two members of the committee comprise director of the Bihar Education Project and secretary of Art & Culture Department.

"This time, the committee members unanimously decided on the name of Anand Kumar," said State HRD principal secretary Anjani Kumar Singh.

Due to the model code of conduct that is currently in force in the State, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar could not attend the ceremony.

Earlier, Anand had received the "Real Hero Award" by Dhirubhai Ambani Foundation for his unparallel feat. He has also been featured in national and international publications, including *BBC*, *New York Times*, *Newsweek* and *Time*.



Hindu ND 11-Nov-10 p-18

Break stereotypes, IT companies told

Special Correspondent

BANGALORE: The IT industry needs to "break the stereotypes characterising Indian industry as merely a bunch of call centres or of stealing jobs in developed markets," National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) President Som Mittal said here on Wednesday.

He was speaking at the opening event of the seventh edition of the Product Conclave and Expo here.

Mr. Mittal urged Indian companies to "talk more often" about the successes achieved by companies in the software products space. Indian companies were developing applications for the global solutions industry, he added. "This will break the stereotypes," he remarked.

Of late, Indian companies

have begun to focus on opportunities in the domestic market — in e-governance projects, developing solutions and applications for small and medium enterprises and in rural markets.

Mr. Mittal cited the applications developed for micro-finance as an example of the new opportunities in rural and smaller town markets. "It is absolutely essential that the industry goes into Tier III towns if India is to grow at nine per cent," Mr. Mittal remarked.

Referring to the "promise" of cloud computing, Mr. Mittal said it had the potential to provide opportunities for smaller companies by reducing their cost of operations.

NASSCOM Product Conclave Chairperson Sharad Sharma characterised cloud computing as "a major generational disruption."



EXPLORE NEW AREAS: Nasscom Product Forum Chairperson Sharad Sharma (left) and Nasscom President Som Mittal at the conclave in Bangalore on Wednesday.

— PHOTO: G. R. N. SOMASHEKAR

Hindu ND 11-Nov-10 p-4

IIT Kharagpur files case against Professor

NEW DELHI: IIT Kharagpur has filed a criminal case against one of its professors for associating himself with an education centre that allegedly had falsely claimed to be an affiliate of the Institute.

An FIR has been lodged against office-bearers of the Institution of Electrical Engineering (IEE), the centre running adjacent to the IIT campus, which also includes Prof. Amit Kumar Ghosh, accusing them of fraud, IIT sources said.

IIT Kharagpur had suspended Prof. Ghosh last month and conducted an internal investigation after IEE students lodged a complaint with the IIT Director Damodar Acharya alleging that Prof. Ghosh was charging exorbitant fees for admission to IEE.

Prof. Ghosh had violated the code of conduct as a faculty member cannot associate with any institute without the permission of IIT, they said.

Prof. Ghosh was also charged

with holding IEE examinations inside the IIT campus, sources said.

IIT Kharagpur in a statement released on Tuesday had said it has not affiliated IEE and documents supporting its recognition were "forged". It said "the sequence of events makes one believe a section of the people associated with so-called IEE (India) have deliberately tried to involve the name of IIT Kharagpur to cash in on its goodwill." - PTI

Financial Express ND 11/11/2010 P21

Finance biggies at IIM-C on Day 1 of summer recruitments

fe Bureau

Kolkata, Nov 10: The summer placement process for the 2010-12 batch began at IIM Calcutta on Wednesday with over 100 offers on day one, and the Joka campus hosting global consulting firms, investment banks, private equi-

ty firms and for the first time even a hedge fund.

With IIM Calcutta set to begin its Golden Jubilee celebrations from Sunday, the offers cheered the campus. The most sought after consulting firms McKinsey & Co., Bain & Co., AT Kearney and Boston Consulting Group were back

on campus and recruited more than 20 students between them. Investment banks were a big draw led by Morgan Stanley, UBS, RBS, Barclays Capital, JP Morgan, Goldman Sachs, Nomura, BoA Merrill Lynch and Credit Suisse. Offers were made for offices located across the

globe including New York, Kong, Dubai and even Africa, London, Singapore, Hong an IIM release said.

Business Standard
ND11/11/2010 P-8

Setting up of 14 world-class universities gets approval

BS REPORTER
New Delhi, 10 November

The National Development Council has approved setting up of 14 world-class universities for innovation across the 11th and 12th plan periods on the public private partnership model.

The innovation universities are part of the ministry of human resource development's (MHRD) "brain gain" policy to attract global talent and will be set up under the eleventh plan (2007-12).

The proposed universities will be set up in Bhubaneswar in Orissa, Kochi in Kerala, Amritsar in Punjab, Greater Noida in Uttar Pradesh, Patna in Bihar, Guwahati in Assam, Kolkata in West Bengal, Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh,

THE INNOVATION UNIVERSITIES

are part of the 'brain gain' policy of the human resource development ministry (MHRD) to attract global talent

Gandhinagar in Gujarat, Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu, Mysore in Karnataka, Pune in Maharashtra, Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh and Jaipur in Rajasthan.

According to ministry, three distinct approaches are possible in establishing these Innovation Universities. First, new Innovation Universities focused on distinct issues of national importance to India and building various disciplines and fields of research around such issues. The second approach is to identify a few among existing universities and other institutions of repute, and help these attain world class standards through innovation in chosen areas of knowledge with marginal top-up investment. The third approach is to identify a few educational hubs (cities) in the country where institutions and universities of excellence by national standards are located, and creating the architecture of an Innovation University by building synergies for inter-disciplinarity and strong research and teaching within these institutions.

Business Standard P-8
 ND11/11/2010

With over 100 pre-placement offers, it rains jobs at IIM-C

BS REPORTER
 Mumbai, 10 November

Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta (IIM-C) students received over a 100 pre-placement offers for summer internships on the first day.

Most offers were for jobs in consulting, investment banking, private-equity and hedge fund. Consulting firms McKinsey & Co., Bain & Co., AT Kearney and Boston Consulting Group recruited more than 20 students between them.

"A major turnaround was the rise in the number of finance offers compared to last year. Investment banks recruiting from the campus include Morgan Stanley, UBS, RBS, Barclays Capital, JPMorgan, Goldman Sachs, Nomura, BoA Merrill Lynch and Credit Suisse. Offers were made for offices across the globe, including New York, London, Singapore, Hong Kong, Dubai and Africa. Citigroup and Standard Chartered also recruited for international offices," the institute said in a press statement.

The biggest recruiters this year were UBS and RBS, with ten placements each. Across most banks, the hiring saw an increase compared to last year and this could be a strong indicator that things are heading back to the pre-crisis days as far as recruitments from the Indian management schools are concerned.

Professor Amit Dhiman, the placement chairperson at IIM-C, said: "We have exceeded our expectations with the day's outcome. This is reaffirmation of quality of IIM-C students from global recruiters, and we are confident of strong showing over the next few days as well."

Indian Express, ND
11-Nov-10

p-7

Probes into purchases by IIT Bhubaneswar

ANUBHUTI VISHNOI

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 10

FOLLOWING reports of a fake institute being run in the prestigious IIT Kharagpur by its own senior faculty members, it is now the IIT in Bhubaneswar which has come under the CBI scanner.

Set up two years ago, the IIT in Bhubaneswar has come under the scrutiny of two parallel inquiries — by CBI and Union HRD Ministry's vigilance wing. A CBI team on Wednesday stepped up action by conducting an inspection on the campus. A case could soon be registered against the institute officials, sources said.

Complaints to the HRD Ministry say the IIT bought a range of equipment from one single Indian agent, skipping the tender system. As per norms, all purchases should be on tender-based bidding process to get a fair price. *The Indian Express* had first reported on September 3 that the HRD's Vigilance Department had asked the IIT to submit a report on the issue following complaints.

Sources confirmed the CBI inspections at the IIT as part of a parallel inquiry on alleged corruption. IIT Bhubaneswar Director Prof Madhusudan Chakraborty was unavailable for comment.

Business Standard ND 11/11/2010 p-6

कई आईआईटी में अनियमितता

सरकार ने स्वीकार किया कि देश के कई भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) में वित्तीय एवं नियुक्ति संबंधी अनियमितता के मामले आए हैं और इस पर कार्रवाई की गई है। लोकसभा में रमा देवी और डॉ. महेन्द्र पी. चौहान के प्रश्न के लिखित उत्तर में मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने यह जानकारी दी।

भाषा

Hamara Mahanagar ND 11/11/2010 p-7

आईआईटी खड़गपुर के प्रोफेसर के खिलाफ प्राथमिकी

फर्जी संस्थान चलाता था प्रोफेसर

एजेंसी

नई दिल्ली
भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) खड़गपुर के एक प्रोफेसर के कथित तौर पर गैर मान्यता प्राप्त संस्थान चलाने और छात्रों को ठगने के मामले में संस्थान ने प्रोफेसर के खिलाफ एफआईआर दर्ज कराने का निर्णय किया है।

आईआईटी खड़गपुर के सूत्रों ने बताया कि संस्थान की आंतरिक जांच में आरोपी प्रोफेसर एके घोष को फर्जी संस्थान से जुड़ा पाया गया जो बिना अनुमति के संचालित था। उन्होंने कहा कि आईआईटी की आचार संहिता के तहत कोई भी प्रोफेसर आईआईटी से बिना अनुमति प्राप्त किए किसी संस्थान से नहीं जुड़ सकता है। आरोप लगने के बाद प्रो. अमित कुमार घोष को एयरोनाटिकल इंजीनियरिंग विभाग

से बर्खास्त कर दिया गया और जांच के आदेश दिए गए थे। गौरतलब है कि आईआईटी खड़गपुर के एयरोनाटिकल इंजीनियरिंग विभाग के प्रमुख अमित कुमार घोष पर आरोप लगाया गया है कि वह खड़गपुर में कथित तौर पर इंस्टीट्यूट आफ इलेक्ट्रिकल इंजीनियरिंग (आईईई) चलाने के साथ और अखिल भारतीय तकनीकी शिक्षा परिषद (एआईसीटीई) से मान्यता प्राप्त किए बिना छात्रों के लिए डिप्लोमा कोर्स पेश कर रहे थे।

आईआईटी खड़गपुर के निदेशक दामोदर आचार्य ने इस विषय पर मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल से मुलाक़ात की और सिब्बल के समक्ष इस विषय पर ब्यौर दिया था। मंत्रालय इस बात से स्तब्ध है कि आईआईटी जैसे इतने प्रतिष्ठित

संस्थान का वरिष्ठ प्रोफेसर इस तरह की धोखाधड़ी में शामिल है। आईईई का संचालन खड़गपुर में एक अस्थाई परिसर में किया जा रहा था और वहां से इलेक्ट्रिकल इंजीनियरिंग में डिप्लोमा जैसे कोर्स संचालित किए जा रहे थे।

अमित कुमार घोष पर कथित तौर पर इस संस्थान में अध्यक्ष की हैसियत में काम करने का आरोप लगाया गया है जबकि वह आईआईटी खड़गपुर में प्रोफेसर के पद पर कार्यरत थे। ऐसे आरोप लगाए गए हैं कि आईईई को आईआईटी खड़गपुर की शाखा बता कर पिछले एक दो वर्षों से छात्रों को दाखिला दिया जा रहा था। समस्या उस समय उत्पन्न हो गई जब छात्रों को पता लग गया कि इस संस्थान का आईआईटी खड़गपुर से कोई संबंध नहीं है।