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India to explore US assistance in setting up IIT campus

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/education/india-to-explore-us-assistance-in-setting-up-iit-campus/articleshow/45180550.cms>

NEW DELHI: India and US today decided to boost cooperation in the field of higher education including exploring possible American assistance in setting up a new IIT campus.

At the third India-US Higher Education Summit held here, the two countries also decided to focus on developing vocational skills by augmenting their cooperation in the field of community colleges.

The delegation-level meeting, attended by top officials as well as representatives from the private sector, was co-chaired by Higher Education Secretary Satyanarayan Mohanty and US Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Richard Stengel.

Making a strong pitch for strengthening of vocational education, UGC Chairman Ved Prakash said, "We have instituted a large number of vocational colleges but a bigger push is required including in terms of available teaching force."

Earlier in the day, during a bilateral meet of the joint taskforce on community colleges, a decision was taken to develop a plan for implementation of the MoU signed between the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).

A report was also released during the meet which reported a six per cent increase of Indian students studying at the US, taking the number to 1,20,000.

Calling for "democratisation of knowledge", Stengel stressed on the need for more MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses).

"More MOOCs will lead to a democratisation of knowledge that will help in overriding the elitism of universities and we need to explore whether MOOCs could be shared across platforms," he said.

Recalling the close assistance between the two countries during the setting up of IIT Kanpur, Higher Education Additional Secretary Amarjeet Sinha said that more such assistance would be welcome.

"On account of the partnership between IIT Kanpur and US institutions, it stands where it does today. The government has announced plans in setting up five new IITs where more such cooperation would be welcome."

Agreeing to explore such an option, John Beed, mission director for the US Agency for International Development (USAID) said, "It would be difficult to find a silicon valley firm that has not had the contribution of an IIT Kanpur alumnus."

It was the third such dialogue in a row, after the first one held in Washington in June 2012 and the second one in New Delhi in June last year.

The Dialogue explored various forms of collaboration between the two countries, especially in the fields of development of community colleges, massive open online courses, student and faculty exchange and skill development, said an HRD Ministry statement.

The dialogue was co-chaired by Secretary Higher Education Satya N Mohanty and US Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Richard Stengel.

Number of students needing ‘academic rehab’ at IIT-B show a steady rise

<http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/number-of-students-needing-academic-rehab-at-iit-b-show-a-steady-rise/>

IIT Bombay has seen a huge rise in the number of students who are unable to cope with academic pressure and start performing poorly. Since it started the “academic rehabilitation programme (ARP)” in 2009, the number of students registering for it has gone up from two in the inception year to 34 last year.

The ARP, acting as a buffer for such students, gives them a second chance and provides them with an opportunity to stay in IIT for completion of their degree. While 15 students registered for the ARP in 2010, the figure for 2011 and 2012 were 16 and 31 respectively. Students are yet to be assessed for the current academic session.

“While students toil day and night to enter the IITs, some fail to deliver their best once they become an IITian. Some are under-prepared in terms of their scientific preparation while some others face language problems. Problem also arises when students have irregular attendance, are not attentive and also when they focus too much on extra-curricular activities at the cost of their academics.

So, when they are part of ARP, students are given personal attention. Some students have turned out to be outstanding performers after undergoing the programme,” said an IIT Bombay faculty member. According to institute officials, what is significant is that since the inception of this programme, no student has been asked to discontinue his or her studies at IIT Bombay due to poor academic performance. Students can continue to be under ARP for years.

“The ARP committee convenes a meeting to assess the performances of academically weak students and the need for putting a particular student under the programme. Thereafter, the transition from regular student to ARP has to begin with a meeting of the students and their parents or guardians, with the committee overseeing the performance of such students,” said an IIT Bombay official.

During their stay in the programme, each student works in close coordination with a faculty member. In due course of time, the ARP committee assesses individual cases in terms of the report from the faculty coordinator, the department mentor, besides evaluating the performance of the student in the semester. “A decision is taken based on these criteria. If the students perform well in his ARP time, he or she is transferred back to the normal curriculum load,” said the official.

- See more at: <http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/number-of-students-needing-academic-rehab-at-iit-b-show-a-steady-rise/#sthash.ckwcK3zL.dpuf>

आईआईटी में शराब 25 हजार रुपए की और सिगरेट 1 हजार रुपए की पड़ेगी

<http://inextlive.jagran.com/new-dicipline-rules-in-iit-46483>

KANPUR: इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन ने हॉस्टल में रहने वाले आईआईटीयंस के लिए नये नियम कायदे और कानून बना दिए हैं. इन नियमों पर अमल कराना भी शुरू कर दिया गया है. हॉस्टल कैम्पस में शराब पीकर आए या फिर कैम्पस के अंदर पी तो छात्र को खम्बे हजार रुपए की पेनाल्टी देनी पड़ेगी. यही नहीं हॉस्टल में सिगरेट पीने पर प्रतिबंध लगा दिया गया है. सभी स्टूडेंट्स को हॉस्टल के न्यू रूल एंड रेगुलेशन की जानकारी मेल के माध्यम से दे दी गई है.

फ् अक्टूबर को जारी हुआ फरमान

हॉल वन के हॉस्टल में करीब 100 स्टूडेंट्स रहते हैं. इस हॉस्टल में रहने वाले स्टूडेंट्स के लिए नियम और कायदों में जबरदस्त बदलाव किए गए हैं. हॉल वन के हॉस्टल वार्डेन डॉ. एम जमील अख्तर, हॉल प्रेसीडेंट अमन अग्रवाल, काउंसिल ऑफ वार्डेन के प्रतिनिधि मीटिंग में मौजूद थे.

अब रात में न्यूसेंस क्रिएट न करना

मीटिंग में डिजीजन लिया गया कि हॉल वन के हॉस्टल में कोई भी छात्र शराब नहीं पीएगा. इसके अलावा अगर शराब पीकर हास्टल आया तो पकड़े जाने पर उस छात्र पर खम्बे हजार रुपए की पेनाल्टी लगेगी. इसके अलावा हॉस्टल कैम्पस के अंदर कोई भी स्टूडेंट सिगरेट के छल्ले नहीं उड़ाएगा. सिगरेट पीते हुए पकड़े जाने पर छात्र से 1 हजार रुपए की पेनाल्टी वसूली जाएगी. वहीं शाम 8 बजे से सुबह 8 बजे के बीच किसी भी तरह का शोर शराबा करने पर स्टूडेंट पर 10 हजार रुपए का फाइन किया जाएगा. इसके अलावा हॉल की किसी भी प्रॉपर्टी को नुकसान पहुंचाने की स्थिति में स्टूडेंट से डैमेज प्रॉपर्टी की कीमत और उसके ही बराबर की पेनाल्टी वसूली जाएगी.

Education needs overhaul: Prez

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: President Pranab Mukherjee has emphasized the need to revamp the academic system so that bright students don't have to leave the country for further studies.

"There are 723 universities and over 37,000 colleges in our country. Yet, many of our institutes lack quality that denies students world-class education. Many bright students leave the shores to pursue studies abroad. We cannot lose our talent, and for that, we have to upgrade our educational standards," said the President while delivering the convocation address at Jamia Millia Islamia on Monday.

The physical infrastructure of classrooms and universities, he pointed out, needs to be bettered. Also, the faculty needs to be trained and chosen with care. There should also be talent that has



TIME TO CELEBRATE: President Pranab Mukherjee awarded degrees and diplomas to Jamia students

been brought in from abroad.

Adding that research is a key ingredient to the country's progress, Mukherjee said, "The Mars Mission is a testimony of our country's growing scientific interest, but research has been neglected in most of higher education in the country. The universities need to become research beds. Research should also be promoted by adopting enquiry bas-

ed subjects and project work."

HRD minister Smriti Irani, who was also present at the convocation, said, "I hope that while the engineering students engineer their own lives, they can also take time to engineer this nation. I hope the journalists have so much power in their pen that they can make the nation grow. The lawmakers should be just and help humanity. Wherever

these students go, they should carry the culture of India with them."

A total of 4,280 degrees/diplomas were awarded to the students along with 162 gold medals to the toppers and 223 PhD degrees to research scholars.

Later, Irani inaugurated the building for Centre for Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Sciences.

Photos: Piyal Bhattacharjee



STRENGTHEN COOPERATION

EDUCATIONAL BOND UK and India enters into a two-way mobility system to tighten the bond

Indo-Asian News Service

India and Britain last week, discussed the existing bilateral cooperation initiatives in education and also agreed to further strengthen these by taking up several new initiatives, an official statement said. Both countries also decided to constitute a joint working group (JWG) consisting of officers from both sides to deliberate and work on modalities of future collaborations in education. The JWG will meet frequently and the first meeting will be held by Dec 2014.

The decisions were taken at the sixth India-UK Education Forum Meeting on November 13, which was co-chaired by Human Resource Development Minister Smriti Irani and Greg Clark, British Minister for Universities, Science and Cities.

"Both the countries discussed the existing bilateral cooperation initiatives in education and also agreed to further strengthen it by taking up several new initiatives. Both sides also acknowledged the cooperation mechanism through joint UK-India Education and Research Initiative (UKIERI)," a statement from HRD ministry said.

The two ministers also discussed the Chevening Scholarships for Indian students; two-way student mobility; Generation UK-India programme which will support up to 25,000 young people from the UK to come to India over the next 5 years and initiatives supported by Department for International Development.

Chevening Scholarships are awarded to talented professionals who are potential future leaders, decision-makers and opinion formers. The scholarships not only offer financial support to study for a Master's degree at the UK's leading universities, but the opportunity to become part of an influential and highly regarded global network.



■ Union HRD Minister Smriti Irani, UK Universities Minister Greg Clark (L) during the FICCI Higher Education Summit

PTI

The British delegation confirmed that they will put in four times more resources for the Chevening scholarships for Indian students and make it the largest Chevening Programme in the World.

"The Indian delegation emphasized that, along with students from UK, they would also like to welcome teachers and faculty members under its new programme, Global Initiative for Academics Network (GIAN), the response to which was extremely positive from the minister leading the UK delegation," the statement added.

At the meeting, a joint statement was also

signed by both the ministers highlighting the educational cooperation between India and Britain and the future areas of collaboration.

"The areas of leadership development; research, innovation, technology and knowledge transfer; skill development and entrepreneurship; enhancing people to people links and two-way mobility; quality improvement in education; use of ICT in education; development of MOOCs and e-Library and launch of UKIERI-III in 2016 have been highlighted in the joint statement," it said.

The British delegation also conveyed that most of the UK institutions recognize the

10+2 qualifications for admission of Indian students into the higher educational institutions there.

The delegation also welcomed more Indian students to British Universities and also assured of addressing the barriers in student mobility, which had earlier hindered many promising careers to grow.

The Indian delegation also appreciated the initiative of UK government to install the statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Parliament Street, London and also offered to co-sponsor the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Lecture, a moment of pride for India.

Hindustan Times ND 18/11/2014 P-8

LANGUAGE LESSONS

KVs to teach German as hobby class subject: HRD min

HT Correspondent

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NEW DELHI: Allaying the concerns of thousands of students who will be forced to take up Sanskrit instead of German as the third language in Kendriya Vidyalayas across the country, the human resource development ministry said German will be taught as an "additional subject of hobby class."

The governing board of Kendriya Vidyalaya had in its meeting on October 27 had directed that teaching of German language as an option instead of

Sanskrit be discontinued.

The decision could affect about over 70,000 students from classes 6 to 8 who will be asked to switch from German to Sanskrit.

The ministry defended its decision saying it had to be taken as it violated the national education policy.

"German can be taught to such students of class VI to VIII as an additional subject of hobby class, if they so desire, but not as a third language as it violates the three language formula," a ministry release said.

The Kendriya Vidyalaya had signed a memorandum of under-

standing (MoU) which made German a 'third language' as a subject in schools.

This was done without taking the HRD ministry on board so the ministry directed the KVs to not renew the MoU. "The MoU was in violation of India's the national education policy and the national education framework and thus we did not sign the MoU again," HRD minister Smriti Irani told the media on Friday.

The minister also said the decision would not impact students saying the ministry will provide the facility to teach foreign language in schools.



■ HRD minister Smriti Irani had earlier said the MoU that made German a 3rd language subject didn't have ministry's nod. ARVIND YADAV/HT FILE

Head in Cloud, Feet on Ground

Early this year, Silicon Valley was buzzing with news of a company that had overtaken Palantir Technologies, an analytics startup, to become one of the most valuable private firms. The firm was Dropbox and the person who helped raise the fresh round of funding that gave it a \$10 billion valuation was 34-year-old Sujay Jaswa. Three months later he was named chief financial officer of the cloud-storage company.

Prior to becoming CFO, Jaswa managed finance, sales, operations, business development and marketing at Dropbox. "I started the business side of the company and led it for several years. As a result, I was involved in most of our important decisions," he explains. Like Whatsapp's Neera Arora, Jaswa was Dropbox's first business hire. So he did everything from hiring more people for business and managing them to negotiating the office lease, raising funds, writing board updates and flying to meet customers and partners.

Jaswa, who describes himself an investor at heart, was previously a principal at venture capital firm New Enterprise Associates. He's also worked at McKinsey as a business analyst and at Cisco in corpo-

rate development. His profile on Crunchbase, a database of startup ventures and people, says he spends most of his free time thinking about Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the iconic university for technical learning.

"This was something an early Dropbox engineer wrote as a joke," clarifies Jaswa, who went to Princeton and Harvard Business School. Still, despite being a finance and business person, Jaswa is deeply rooted in the technology and innovation culture of the Valley. His father, Rajen, an IIT-Bombay graduate who went on to do his masters in electrical engineering and MBA in the US, founded two successful tech companies, OPTi and Selectica. "My parents have been my most important role models," he says.

As a venture capitalist looking to invest in the next big thing, Jaswa believed the cloud would have one big winner. And one day, it so happened that Dropbox founder and chief executive Drew Houston posted on Facebook that

he needed somebody to drive him to a Neil Young concert. Jaswa offered to be that person. Although the two had met before, this was the first time they spoke at length. "We hit it off and I called him the next morning to say I would join him if he was interested," he says.

One of the successful bets Jaswa is credited with having pulled off is the partnership with Samsung, where Dropbox software was pre-installed on high-end Android phones. Jaswa himself says it was teamwork and many people were involved and his first business development hire leading the effort.

"Even though Samsung was an amazing company, the free space offer was going to cost us lot of money. So we were very nervous," he says. The arrangement paid off.

Then there were other worrying times, such as when Steve Jobs announced iCloud, Apple's cloud storage service. "Specifically, Jobs said he wanted to replace Dropbox. That was terrifying to us." Dropbox was only 40 employees then.

But the company survived, and when it was 60 employees, Jaswa led its first funding round—raising \$250 million at a valuation of \$4 billion. "That was crazy! But we were lucky to get it done," he says.

Jaswa describes himself an investor at heart, and believed the cloud would have one big winner

Times Of India ND 18/11/2014
P-19

This computer can do magic tricks

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London: British scientists working on artificial intelligence have for the first time taught a computer to create magic tricks. Researchers working at Queen Mary University of London gave a computer program the outline of how a magic jigsaw puzzle and a mind reading card trick work as well the results of experiments

into how humans understand magic tricks. The system then successfully created completely new variants on those tricks which can be delivered by a magician.

Co-creator of the project, Howard Williams, said, "Computer intelligence can process much larger amounts of information and run through all the possible outcomes in a way that is almost impossible for a person to do on their own.

So while, a member of the audience might have seen a variation on this trick before, the AI can now use psychological and mathematical principles to create several versions and keep audiences guessing."

The magic tricks created were of the type that use mathematical techniques rather than sleight of hand or other theatrics. The tricks have proved popular with audiences and the magic puzzle was put on sale in

a London magic shop. The card trick is available as an app called Phoney in the Google Play Store. Peter McOwan, part of the QMUL team, said, "Using AI to create magic tricks is a great way to demonstrate the possibilities of computer intelligence and it also forms a part of our research in to the psychology of being a spectator." The trick involves assembling a jigsaw puzzle using a geometric principle.

SMART MACHINE

गैलेक्सी के ब्लैकहोल से निकल रहे न्यूट्रिनो

नासा के वैज्ञानिकों ने किया खुलासा, पहली बार मिले हैं ऐसे सबूत

एजेंसी|वाशिंगटन

रूप में देखेंगे।

नासा के वैज्ञानिकों की नई खोज के मुताबिक, आकाशगंगा के केंद्र



में मौजूद विशालकाय ब्लैकहोल से उच्च ऊर्जा वाले रहस्यमय

न्यूट्रिनो का उत्सर्जन हो रहा है। यदि यह प्रमाणित हो जाता है तो ऐसा पहली बार होगा, जब वैज्ञानिक एक ब्लैकहोल को न्यूट्रिनो की फैक्ट्री के

न्यूट्रिनो बहुत सूक्ष्म कण होते हैं। इनका भार इलेक्ट्रॉन के भार के 0.05 फीसदी से भी कम होता है। ये इलेक्ट्रॉन और प्रोटॉन से बहुत ही धीमी गति से टकराते हैं। प्रकाश या अन्य ऊर्जावान कणों से भिन्न, न्यूट्रिनो अंतरिक्ष के स्रोतों के बहुत भीतर से बाहर आ सकते और रास्ते में आने वाले कण से जुड़े बगैर ब्रह्माण्ड में कहीं भी पहुंच सकते हैं, अथवा आवेशित कणों के मामले में चुंबकीय क्षेत्र द्वारा हटा दिए जाते हैं। इनकी वैज्ञानिक स्टडी कर रहे हैं।

लगातार हो रही बमबारी

सूर्य से पृथ्वी की ओर लगातार न्यूट्रिनो की बमबारी हो रही है। इस बीच, वैज्ञानिकों ने संभावना व्यक्त की है कि सौरमंडल के बाहर के न्यूट्रिनो लाखों या करोड़ों गुना अधिक ऊर्जावान हो सकते हैं। मैडिसन में यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ विस्कॉन्सिन के यांग बे ने कहा, 'हमें पहली बार सुबूत मिले हैं कि एक खगोलीय स्रोत- द मिल्की वे का विशालकाय ब्लैक होल संभवतः बहुत ऊर्जा वाले न्यूट्रिनो का उत्सर्जन कर रहा है।'

Ananth Kumar unveils world's largest glass fibre reinforced gypsum panel

http://www.business-standard.com/content/b2b-manufacturing-industry/ananth-kumar-unveils-world-s-largest-glass-fibre-reinforced-gypsum-panel-114111701164_1.html

Ananth Kumar, Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilisers, unveiled the world's [glass fibre reinforced gypsum](#) (GFRG) panel 'Gypwall', manufactured by FACT-[RCF](#) Building Products Limited (FRBPL), at the India International Trade Fair 2014. FRBPL is a joint venture of Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT), Kochi, and Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilisers Limited (RCF), Mumbai.

FRBPL is now manufacturing the world's largest load bearing wall panels (12 X 3 mts and 124 mm thick), which are light weight with high quality finish and water proof. [Ananth Kumar](#) said all labs including those from the US have tested and approved these panels, which could revolutionise the infrastructure sector of the country.

This environment friendly prefab Gypwall, which is approved by [Building Material](#) and Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC) as an alternative building material, envisages new construction methodology for affordable housing. Considering the potential of the panels in mass housing projects, IIT Madras has come out with a design manual for [GFRG](#) panels published by BMTPC. IIT Madras has been testing and conducting various studies on GFRG wall panels for the past 10 years. Considering the advantages of GFRG panels to the environment, IIT has Constructed a two storied apartment buildings at their campus, which took only 32 days for completion.