

Newspaper Clips

November 19, 2010

Hindustan Times, ND 19-Nov-10 P-1

IVY LEAGUE HONOUR

Two Maharashtra farmers to lecture at Harvard

Zia Haq

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NEW DELHI: After former railway minister Lalu Prasad, it is the turn of two Indian farmers to take the lectern at Harvard and give its audience yet another insight into India's rising economy.

Hemchandra Patil (40) and Rajendra H Patil (50) — who built decent farm fortunes from scratch in Maharashtra's Jalgoan dis-

trict — will tell their stories at a food security symposium at Kennedy School of Government, Harvard on November 21. Ray A Goldberg, Harvard's George M Moffet Professor Emeritus of Agriculture, will be among those listening.

Goldberg believes their stories could answer critical questions, including why some farmers succeed while others don't. For industry perspectives, Harvard has

also invited an Indian company working with small growers, the Mumbai-based Jain Irrigation Systems Limited, which has pioneered a water-saving irrigation technique.

Hemchandra grows onions, Rajendra bananas. They were once "marginal" farmers — owning just an acre or less of land. About 80% of India's farmers fall in this category. Now, each has more than 20 hectares and

robust earnings.

Here's what the Patils did differently: They got a formal education. They shifted to drip irrigation, a watering technique that's being subsidized by both the government and private sector. And they went for contract farming for assured prices.

What will they tell their Ivy League audience? "Agriculture has enough power to bring prosperity if done rightly," said Rajendra.

Hindustan Times, ND 19-Nov-10 p-8

IIT-JEE topper gets death threat in email

Prabhu Razdan

■ prabhu.razdan@hindustantimes.com

FARIDABAD: A national-level IIT JEE-2009 topper, Nitin Jain, has received a death threat on email, his family members said. Senior police officers said they were aware of the matter and a case under IT Act is being registered. Nitin is studying Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi.

The subject of the mail read 'Nitin's death on 19.11.10' and was sent from the id mtkmr637@rediffmail.com to Nitin's mother's id on November 16. The email id was traced to one Amit Kumar. Nitin's worried family informed the police.

"I am aware of the matter. A case under the IT Act has been registered," said Praveen Mehta, deputy commissioner of police, NIT, Faridabad. An FIR has been registered under sections 65, 66 of IT Act 2000 against unknown persons.

"Assistant commissioner of police (crime) will be investigating this case," said Abdul Shahid, station house officer, NIT Police station.

The email, written in poor



■ Nitin Jain is currently studying at IIT-Delhi. HT PHOTO

English, reads "you did not take my thought seriously. Only you will be able to Nitin's death".

"I informed senior police officers when we received the email," said NC Jain, Nitin's father. "The entire family is disturbed and we want the matter be thoroughly investigated and security of my son," he added. The family lives in Faridabad's Sector 21D.

He said on June 5 also a sim-

THE EMAIL SENT TO NITIN JAIN'S MOTHER STATED THAT HE WOULD BE KILLED ON FRIDAY. A CASE HAS BEEN LODGED UNDER IT ACT.

ilar type of mail was received from email id fake-email@gmail.com, asking the family to stop the sale of the book written by Nitin.

The email stated, "it is funny to read the details, not to mention/about the book-which is funniest...I do not think Nitin is in any way responsible for making this site. Please save him the embarrassment by closing this site and also stopping sale of the book".

Nitin's book *The secret of my Success* came out in March this year. He exposed some coaching institutes which allegedly misused his name for commercial interests. The book carried messages of human resource minister Kapil Sibal and Haryana chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda.

CERN scientists capture antimatter atom

The Associated Press
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

GENEVA: Scientists claimed a breakthrough on Thursday in solving one of the biggest riddles of physics, successfully trapping the first "anti-atom" that they hope will help them understand what happened to all of the antimatter created by the Big Bang.

The international team of physicist at the European Organization for Nuclear Research, or CERN, managed to create an atom of anti-hydrogen and then hold onto it for long enough to demonstrate

that it can be studied in the lab.

"For us it's a big breakthrough because it means we can take the next step, which is to try to compare matter and antimatter," the team's spokesperson, American scientist Jeffrey Hangst, said.

For decades, researchers have puzzled over why antimatter seems to have vanished from the universe. Theory posits it was created in equal amounts as matter at the moment of the Big Bang, which created the universe some 13.7 billion years ago. But while matter — defined as having mass and taking up space — went on

AN UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL OF THE ANTIMATTER CREATED BY THE BIG BANG IS SOUGHT

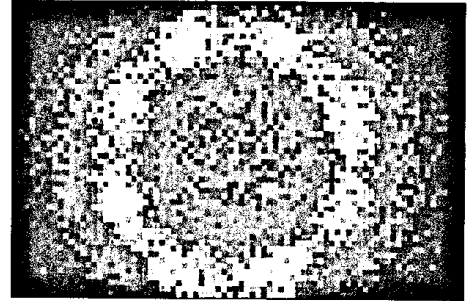
to become the building block of everything that exists, antimatter has disappeared except in the lab.

Scientists have long been able to create individual particles of antimatter such as anti-protons, anti-neutrons and positrons. Since 2002, they have also managed to lump these particles

together to form anti-atoms, but until recently none could be trapped for long enough to study them, because atoms made of antimatter and matter annihilate each on contact.

"It doesn't help if they disappear immediately upon their creation," said Hangst. "So the big goal has been to hold onto them." Two teams have been competing for that prize at CERN, the world's largest physics lab best known for the Large Hadron Collider.

Hangst's ALPHA team got there first, beating the rival ATRAP team led by Harvard physicist Gerald Gabrielse.



■ An image of untrapped antihydrogen atoms annihilating on the inner surface of the ALPHA trap is released by CERN. AP PHOTO

Tribune ND 19/11/2010 p15

IIT-Kanpur student's suicide eighth in five years

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE/ PTI

KANPUR, NOVEMBER 18

With the discovery of the body of 22-year-old final year student from her hostel room in Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, the prestigious engineering college now has the dubious distinction of being the location of eight such suicides during the last five years.

According to IIT-K registrar Sanjeev Kashalkar, Madhuri Sale, belonging to Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh, was found hanging from a fan in her hostel room yesterday.

Apart from Madhuri, seven other students of the college have taken their lives since 2005. On January 2009, a second-year MTech student G Suman (24) hanged himself, while in April 2008, first-year BTech student Prashant Kumar took his

Every time a suicide took place, an inquiry was held by the institute but the findings were never made public

life, followed by Toya Chatterjee, who was in the fourth year of the same course, the next month. J Bhardwaj killed himself in April 2007, Abhilash Pillai took his life in November 2006, Shailesh Sharma in April 2006 and Swapnil Bhaskar in November 2005. Every time a student committed suicide, an inquiry committee was set up by the institute to ascertain the cause of the extreme step, but the findings were never made public.

Kashalkar said the findings of these committees were discussed by the institute's board of directors which sent copies of the reports to the advisory committee as well as the HRD Ministry. However, the con-

tents of these reports were not disclosed to the media, he said, without giving reasons. Apart from three teachers of the college, a member of the students' union has also been included in each committee.

However, one such student told PTI on condition of anonymity that student members of the inquiry committees are neither called for any meeting nor are they informed about the findings.

Such committees are just an eyewash, he said, adding that students do not question college authorities over the issue as they fear that action could be taken against them. Kashalkar said the previous inquiry reports state

that the students committed suicide as most of them were going through stress and anxiety as a result of parental pressure and career-related worries.

On the suicide committed on the institute's premises yesterday, he said Madhuri, who hailed from Andhra Pradesh, was a good student and it was difficult to determine why she took the extreme step.

However, he said stress due to the ongoing examinations could be a reason, though nothing could be said till the committee constituted yesterday arrived at a conclusion. On being asked what steps the college had taken to reduce stress among students to prevent such incidents, the registrar said apart from yoga and counselling centres, the institute had two trained psychologists who could be approached by students to share their problems.

Indian Express ND 19/11/2010 p-9

After suicides, IIT-K to ease academic rules

ANUBHUTI VISHNOI

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 18

RATTLED by yet another suicide on campus, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur is set to amend its academic progression rules and 'rationalise' the cut-off cumulative performance index from 5 points to 4 points to ease pressure of students.

While the institute claims it is not precisely academic pressure that can be blamed for the recent spate of suicides and several other factors are responsible, they also admit their academic progression rules are one of the most stringent across IITs.

The IIT has already put before its Senate a proposal to amend the existing academic progression rules. It has suggested major changes in the way warning, probation and termination clauses are handed down to students and, most importantly,

Eight suicides in five years

NOV 17, 2010: Madhuri Sale, B.Tech

JAN 3, 2009: Gangapatnam Suman, M.Tech

MAY 30, 2008: Toya Chatterjee, B.Tech

APRIL 18, 2008: Prashant Kumar Kureel, B.Tech

APRIL 25, 2007: J Bharadwaj, B.Tech

MAY 3, 2006: Shailesh Kumar Sharma, B.Tech

NOV 30, 2005: Swapnil Chandrakant Bhaskar, B.Tech

NOV 6, 2005: Abhilash, PhD

bringing down the cut-off for getting an IIT degree to the pass percentage of CPI value 4.

The CPI is a measure of a student's performance in all courses. At IIT Kanpur, if a student passes all the courses, he gets a D, which means a minimum CPI score of 4.0.

But according to current rules at IIT-K, a student needs to get a CPI of 5.0 to

graduate. All students who attain a CPI less than 5.0 — and that is a substantial number — are unable to graduate and consequently face academic stress, get warnings, probations and are even terminated.

Now, it has been proposed that the CPI value of 4 itself be made the reference point for a more humane and less stress-free performance appraisal of students. However, provisions for warnings, probations and terminations with appeal have been retained.

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: Nov 19, 2010; Section: Times Nation; Page: 10;

Indian univs to start credit transfer system

Somdatta Basu | TNN

Kolkata: To encourage student mobility, the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) would soon chalk out modalities to introduce a credit transfer system between institutions along the lines of the varsities in the US, Canada and Europe.

The association agreed to work out the modalities after accepting Jadavpur University vice-chancellor Pradip Narayan Ghosh's proposal in this regard at a recent AIU meeting. Ghosh argued for



STUDENT MOBILITY

the system, saying the structural pattern of university education hasn't been reviewed for a long time. "As the second most populated country, the system is overburdened compared to avail-

able resources," he said.

"Across the country, there are different systems in respect of academic calendars and details of curriculum framework isn't available." He said thanks to recent technological advances, students don't need to be confined to one educational institute. "There is no existing guideline to define the criteria required for students to go to another university and study for a specified period of time and bring back the credit earned to the first university. Such a system is prevalent in Europe," Ghosh added.

He said students in various colleges affiliated to different universities in India aren't allowed to move within the country. "It debars the students from attending part of the course in another university of his choice, which could enrich the knowledge base. Indian institutes like JU and IITs have credit transfer systems with regulations with foreign universities," the VC said.

He said children of parents with transferable jobs will benefit from the system. "In its absence, the students have to lose one academic year," he said.

Times of India ND 19/11/2010 p-23

Sci-fi a reality: In a first, antimatter captured

Breakthrough To Help Unravel Post-Big Bang Mystery

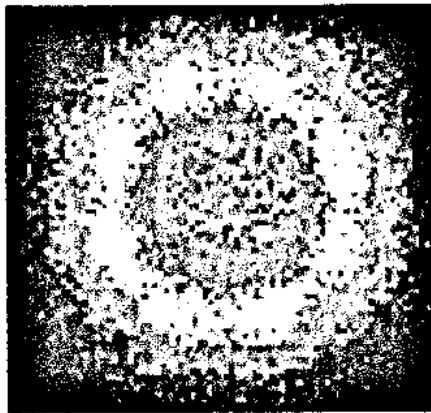
Geneva: Scientists claimed a breakthrough on Thursday in solving one of the biggest riddles of physics, successfully trapping the first "anti-atom" that they hope will help them understand what happened to all of the anti-matter created by the Big Bang.

It's a real-life version of the immortal 'Star Trek' fantasy, where antimatter is crucial to speed the Starship Enterprise through the galaxy at warp drive, faster than the speed of light.

The international team of physicist at the European Organization for Nuclear Research, or Cern, managed to create an atom of anti-hydrogen and then hold onto it for long enough to demonstrate that it can be studied in the lab.

"For us it's a big breakthrough because it means we can take the next step, which is to try to compare matter and antimatter," the team's spokesman, American scientist Jeffrey Hangst, said.

In an article in the journal *Nature*, Cern said it had produced



An image of untrapped antihydrogen atoms, which Cern scientists could capture long enough for study

anti-hydrogen atoms — the opposite of a hydrogen atom — in a vacuum and kept them viable for about a tenth of a second.

Some 38 anti-hydrogen atoms have now been trapped long enough for scientists to take a look at them in their quest to understand what happened to anti-matter after the Big Bang explosion that is said to have created the universe. AGENCIES

HOLY GRAIL OF PHYSICS

- Matter and antimatter were created at the moment of the Big Bang
- Matter became the building block of everything, antimatter all but disappeared
- Scientists created particles of antimatter and lumped them to form anti-atoms, but could not trap them for study
- Now, scientists have trapped 38 anti-hydrogen for about one tenth of a second, long enough to be studied

Times of India ND 19/11/2010

p-22

Together Into The Future

India and the US must collaborate in areas such as education and technology

Saswato R Das

On his recent visit to India, US President Barack Obama called the collaboration between the two countries the "indispensable and defining relationship of the 21st century".

It makes a lot of sense for the world's most powerful democracy and the world's most populous democracy to work together. It's not just about selling Boeing airplanes to the Indian government and American goods to India's burgeoning middle class. It's not only about balancing China's growing geopolitical clout using India's emerging status as an Asian powerhouse. The two countries have a lot of complementary strengths, and could benefit each other by collaborating closely in areas such as education and technology.

The United States has the best higher education system in the world today; one that already educates a significant number of Indians. Many of them stay on to work in leading US companies and universities; Silicon Valley is full of Indian technologists. Yet others return to India to hold influential jobs in the private and public sectors. Many have contributed to India's recent growth.

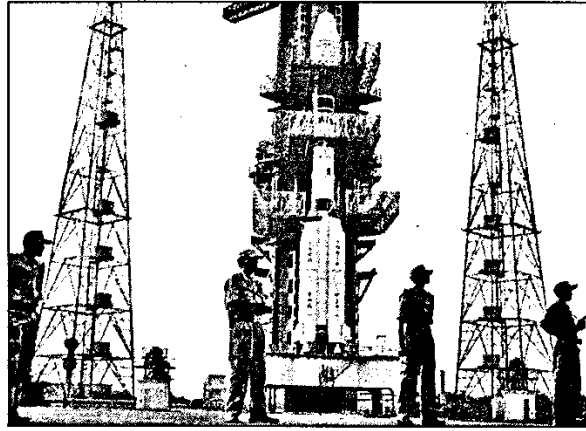
By comparison, India's higher education system is badly in need of an overhaul. Antiquated syllabi, poor laboratories, inadequate teacher training and a general lack of resources mean that most colleges and universities cannot adequately deliver

the education that India's youth will need to remain competitive. (There are a few exceptions like the rigorous, highly selective Indian Institutes of Technology.) Of the 220 million Indian children enrolled in schools, it is estimated only five million will go on to college, and fewer will then enrol in a university. Higher education in India could benefit vastly from exchange programmes with US counterparts.

It was not always this way. One of the first great universities in recorded history, Nalanda, was established in India more than a millennium before the likes of Harvard and Yale. Located in the north-eastern state of Bihar, it was primarily a

Of the 220 million Indian children enrolled in schools, only five million will go on to college. Higher education in India could benefit from exchange programmes with US counterparts

Buddhist university. At its peak, Nalanda had more than 10,000 students and 2,000 professors, engaged in the teaching and learning of astronomy, mathematics, political science, history, fine arts, medicine and war. Nalanda's library reputedly contained hundreds of thousands of volumes. Nalanda was sacked by the Islamic invader Bakhtiar Khilji in the 12th century, around the time that



Upward and onward in a new century

the universities of Oxford and Bologna were being built.

India's Parliament passed a Bill earlier this year approving plans to rebuild Nalanda. One of Nalanda's foremost champions is Amartya Sen, a Nobel Prize-winner in economics who teaches at Harvard. It seems a natural area for Indo-US collaboration; in return, legions of future Nalanda graduates will no doubt work for US companies.

Another area of collaboration is the development of low-cost technology that will benefit not only India but also the rest of the world. India has an impressive tradition of frugal innovation, which encompasses everything from providing software services at costs that cannot be matched in the West to the popular Tata Nano car. India is currently developing a \$35 hand-held computer, and

has its eyes set on ultimately lowering the price to \$10. Even so, most Indian advances are never commercialised. With its rich experience in bringing ideas to the market, this is an area where the US excels. And there is a natural link already—many venture capitalists in Silicon Valley are Indians.

And then there is space. The space agencies of the two countries already collaborate. Nasa has the experience; today Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) has the ambition. Together, they could work as a powerful team, and capture the hearts and minds of all mankind.

Isro's Chandrayaan-1, launched in 2008, carried multiple Nasa instruments. It found signs of water on the Moon, which was definitively confirmed by a Nasa space-

craft last year. The first goal for Nasa-Isro should be returning to the Moon to build a permanent lunar base.

Nasa's own plans to return to the Moon are unclear. President Obama's administration has pushed to cancel the previous administration's programme to send astronauts to the Moon again. As of today, Nasa's budget is in limbo. It is not certain what will happen when the Republicans take over the House in January. The Soviet space programme is heavily constrained for funds. On the other hand, China and India have big space aspirations, and are funding lunar efforts. Both countries have talked about landing on the Moon in the period 2020-25.

If Nasa and Isro work on a joint programme, most people would bet that they would be the first to pull off a return to the Moon. Nasa has the experience of many successful missions. Isro has talented people who have shown that India can deliver space missions at a fraction of the cost of the West. And cost is important!

By the end of President Obama's three-day visit to India, a number of diplomatic agreements had been signed on topics ranging from clean energy to monsoon forecasting to space to agriculture. In the future months, as these agreements are acted upon, we will have a chance to see what the Indo-US relationship can really achieve, and whether it will truly become indispensable.

The writer is a commentator on science and technology.

Times of India ND 19/11/2010 p-23

Hooked to FB? Brace for asthma attacks

London: Are you a Facebook addict? Beware, it may get you an asthma attack, scientists claim.

A team of Italian doctors, who looked at a young man who had reportedly suffered several asthma attacks after logging into Facebook, said social networking websites could be a new source of psychological stress for depressed people. According to their report, published in the medical journal *The Lancet*, the 18-year-old young man was depressed because his girlfriend had broken up with him.

She also deleted him from Facebook, while "friending" many new young men. With a new nickname on Facebook, the young man succeeded in becoming her friend once again and finally in seeing her picture on her Facebook profile. But the sight of her girlfriend seemed to induce shortness of breath, which happened repeatedly on the patient accessing her profile.

"This case indicates that Facebook, and social networks in general, could be a new source of psycholog-



ANTI-SOCIAL NETWORK?

ical stress, representing a triggering factor for exacerbations in depressed asthmatic individuals," the doctors of High Speciality Hospital Cardarelli in Naples said. PTI

Times of India ND 19/11/2010

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Zap nerves for just one hr, be free of high BP forever

London: Believe it or not, just an hour's operation could now "cure" your high blood pressure, claim scientists, after an international study, published in *The Lancet* journal, found it to be "safe and effective".

The treatment uses radio waves to zap nerves near the kidneys that fuel high blood pressure. It is done through a tube pushed into a blood vessel in the groin, much like the angioplasty procedures for opening clogged heart arteries.

In a study of about 100 people, the top number of the blood pressure reading fell an average of 33 points among those who had the treatment. Doctors say that is much better than the less-than-10-point drop that many drugs give. The new treatment damages certain nerves and cause key arteries to permanently relax.

"I am extremely interested in this," said Elliott Antman, a Brigham and Women's Hospital cardiologist who is vice chairman of the American Heart Association conference in Chicago. Even if the treatment doesn't wind up being a cure and is only partly successful, that's still beneficial because these people are at grave risk



PERMANENT FIX: The Symplicity Catheter System delivers low-power radio waves to deactivate the nerves near the kidneys that fuel high blood pressure

of heart attacks, strokes and death, and drugs are not helping them enough now, he said.

The fact the treatment also improves blood-sugar control makes it especially attractive for diabetics with high blood pressure. About 75 million Americans and 1 billion people worldwide have high blood pressure — readings of 140 over 90 or more. Most people need three or four drugs to treat it, and only about one-third are well-controlled on medicines. AGENCIES

Times of India
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**Soon, a pill
may extend
your life by
10 years**

Sydney: A Harvard Medical School professor believes that the day is not far when just popping a pill could make you live longer and healthier. Associate professor of Pathology David Sinclair said his work to activate the sirtuin genes, which control ageing "could expand lifespan by five to 10 healthy years."

It wouldn't stop you getting old, he said, but instead would push back the point at which you become impaired before "hopefully, (you) immediately drop dead," reports The Sydney Morning Herald. He suggested that activating the sirtuins increases memory and endurance but also slow ageing and alleviate the impact of a high-fat diet.

"If the animal studies are borne out in humans, you would have a pill for arthritis that would prevent Alzheimer's, cardiac arrest, would slow down heart disease and even protect you against cataracts," Sinclair said. ANI

Mail Today, ND
19-Nov-10 p-15

Physicists cheer as CERN traps 'antimatter'

SCIENTISTS at the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) have for the first time managed to trap dozens of hydrogen antimatter atoms long enough for them to be studied, they said on Wednesday. The technical feat will boost research in one of the greatest puzzles of particle physics.

In a paper published on Wednesday in the journal *Nature*, a CERN team explained a method of snaring the so-called 'antihydrogen' atoms.

When energy transforms into matter, it produces a particle and its mirror image — called an anti-particle — which holds the opposite electrical charge. But in reality, antimatter is rare.

The CERN, in the successful experiment, trapped 38 antimatter atoms long enough — one-tenth of a second — for them to be studied.

"It is very rewarding, and a bit overwhelming, to look at the ALPHA device and know that it contains stable, neutral atoms of antimatter," CERN physicist Jeffrey Hangst said.

AFP

Hindustan ND 19/11/2010 p12

25 फीसदी छात्र डिप्रेशन के शिकार

आईआईटी कानपुर में छात्रों पर पढ़ाई का बेहद दबाव, हर माह चार छात्र जाते हैं अस्पताल

कार्यालय संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली

आईआईटी में पढ़ाई और कैरियर का दबाव इतना अधिक है कि हर महीने औसतन चार छात्र डिप्रेशन के शिकार होते हैं और अस्पताल में भर्ती कर उनका इलाज करना पड़ता है। आधे से अधिक छात्र किसी न किसी तरह मानसिक रूप में परेशान रहते हैं, खासतौर से परीक्षा के समय। परिसर में जो अस्पताल है वहाँ विशेषज्ञ डॉक्टरों की कमी है। इस समस्या से निदेशक संजय जी धांडे को समय-समय पर अवगत भी कराया जाता है लेकिन डॉक्टरों की माने तो समस्या के निराकरण की दिशा में कोई ठोस कदम नहीं उठाया गया। गुरुवार को भी इलाज में चार छात्र अस्पताल में भरती मिले। खास बात यह कि अस्पताल में इलाज के दौरान भी ये छात्र लैपटॉप पर पढ़ाई में ही जुटे थे। डॉक्टरों ने कहा कि ऐसे छात्रों की मानसिक स्थिति समझी जा सकती है।

खुदकुशी से साथी भी हैरान

कानपुर। आईआईटी, कानपुर में बीटेक चौथे वर्ष की छात्रा माधुरी साले की मौत की वजह जो भी रही हो, लेकिन अगर हॉस्टल के माहौल पर नजर डाले तो खुद को बेहतर साबित करने में छात्राएँ एक-दूसरे से मामूली तालमेल ही रख पाती हैं। इतना कम की जब एक छात्रा मौत को गले लगाती है तो दूसरी को अगले दिन पता चलता है। इसका सीधा सा मतलब यह भी निकलता है कि आईआईटी प्रशासन ने भी माधुरी की मौत की खबर सार्वजनिक नहीं होने दी। माधुरी के हॉस्टल में रहने वाली कई छात्राओं से जब उसकी मौत के बारे में बात की गई तो ज्यादातर का जवाब था कि उन्हें तो आज ही पता चला।

34 बेड का एक 'बेसिक हेल्थकेयर अस्पताल' यहाँ है। यह अस्पताल सिर्फ सामान्य चिकित्सा के लिए है। यहाँ इमरजेंसी की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है।

उठे सवाल, क्या वाकई जांच करती है कोई कमेटी ?

कानपुर आईआईटी में आत्महत्या मामलों की जांच रिपोर्ट के बारे में कोई जानकारी नहीं

■ विराट न्यून।

कानपुर। आई आई टी कानपुर में पिछले पांच सालों में आठ छात्र छात्राओं ने आत्महत्या की है और हर आत्महत्या के बाद एक जांच कमेटी का गठन कर दिया गया लेकिन जांच कमेटियों की रिपोर्ट और उनके आधार पर कार्रवाई के बारे में कोई जानकारी इनने सालों में नहीं मिली। देश में पढ़ाई और शोध में अपना झंडा खुलंद करने वाला आई आई टी कानपुर छात्र छात्राओं के आत्महत्या करने के मामले में भी सबसे ज़ोर पहुँच गया है। सबसे बड़ी बात तो यह है कि इस संस्थान के निदेशक और अन्य अधिकारी ऐसी आत्महत्याओं के बाद जांच कमेटी गठित कर निश्चित हो जाते हैं। गौरतलब है कि कल राधामाधुरी साले नाम की बीटेक सिविल इंजीनियरिंग अंतिम वर्ष की छात्रा ने अपने हॉस्टल के कमरे में फांसी लगाकर आत्महत्या कर ली। संस्थान के रजिस्ट्रार

संजीव कशालकर ने इस बारे में बात की तो उन्होंने बताया कि इन रिपोर्ट को आई आई टी बोर्ड में रखा जाता है उसके बाद यह परामर्शदाता कमेटी में जाती है। उसकी एक प्रति मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय को भेजी जाती है, लेकिन मीडिया को उपलब्ध नहीं करवाई जाती। इन जांच कमेटियों में तीन शिक्षकों के अलावा छात्रों का एक प्रतिनिधि भी शामिल होता है। आई आई टी की छात्र युनियन जिमखाना से जुड़े एक छात्र ने नाम न छापने की शर्त पर बताया कि जांच कमेटियों केवल दिखावा होती हैं। इनमें जिमखाना का एक छात्र शामिल जरूर किया जाता है लेकिन उसे न तो किसी बैठक में बुलाया जाता है और न ही आत्महत्या का कारण बताया जाता है। कई मामलों में तो छात्रों को रिपोर्ट दिखाई तक नहीं जाती। जिमखाना के पूर्व सदस्य छात्र कहते हैं कि हम लोग इसके खिलाफ इसलिए कुछ नहीं बोल सकते हैं क्योंकि जांच कमेटी में हमारे



शिक्षक ही होते हैं और अगर उनके खिलाफ आवाज उठाएंगे तो हम अपनी पढ़ाई कैसे पूरे कर पाएंगे और कैसे डिग्री हासिल कर

यहां से बाहर जा सकेंगे। कशालकर ने कहा कि पिछली आत्महत्याओं के मामलों में तो यह निकर्ष निकला कि मां बाप की अपेक्षाएँ

और पढ़ाई का बोझ, आर्थिक मंदी के कारण नौकरों न मिलने, जबर्दस्त प्रतिस्पर्धा के कारण उल्टन मानसिक तनाव यह सब कारण छात्रों को मानसिक रोगों और डिप्रेशन की ओर ले जाते हैं। वह कहते हैं कि लेकिन कल जिस छात्रा माधुरी ने आत्महत्या की है उसके साथ तो ऐसा कुछ भी नहीं था, उस छात्रा का शैक्षणिक रिकार्ड बहुत अच्छा था। लेकिन अभी उसकी परिश्राप चल रही थी जिसकी वजह से वह कुछ मानसिक तनाव में हो सकती है। आई आई टी स्थित सूत्रों के मुताबिक माधुरी पढ़ने में बहुत अच्छी थी लेकिन इस समय जो परिश्राप चल रही थी उसमें शायद उसके एक दो पंचे कुछ गड़बड़ हो गए थे जिसके कारण वह पिछले कुछ दिनों से तनाव में थी। रजिस्ट्रार कहते हैं कि अभी प्रारंभिक जांच में तो ऐसा कुछ नहीं लगाता है कि उसने मानसिक तनाव में आकर आत्महत्या की है। और न ही उसके कमरे से कोई सुसाइड नोट बचपद हुआ अब

तीन शिक्षकों तथा एक छात्र की जांच कमेटी गठित कर दी गई है जो एक सप्ताह में अपनी रिपोर्ट देगी उसके बाद ही पता चल सकेगा कि आत्महत्या के क्या कारण थे। इससे पहले तीन जनवरी 2009 को आत्महत्या करने वाले आंध्र प्रदेश के रहने वाले और संस्थान के एस टेक दूसरे वर्ष के इलेक्ट्रिकल इंजीनियरिंग छात्र जी सुमन (24) ने बीटेक की परीक्षा प्रथम श्रेणी में पास की थी लेकिन कैम्पस सेलेक्शन में चयन न होने के फांसी लगा कर आत्महत्या कर ली। इसी तरह वर्ष 2008 में तो दो छात्रों ने आत्महत्या की। इनमें ट्रेया चटर्जी बीटेक चतुर्थ वर्ष की छात्रा ने आई आई टी के दीक्षांत समारोह के एक दिन पहले 30 मई 2008 को फांसी लगा ली थी। वर्ष 2008 में ही 18 अप्रैल को वी टेक प्रथम वर्ष के छात्र प्रशांत कुमार ने पढ़ाई का बोझ सहन न कर पाने के कारण आत्महत्या की थी। वर्ष 2007 अप्रैल में जे भाद्राज, नवंबर 2006 में अंधिलाल

पिल्लई, अप्रैल 2006 में शैलेष शर्मा तथा नवंबर 2005 में स्वप्निल भास्कर नामक छात्रों ने आत्महत्या की थी। अगर इन सभी छात्र छात्राओं की आत्महत्या का कारण मानसिक तनाव है तो इस दिशा में आई आई टी प्रशासन क्या करेगा, इस सवाल के जवाब में आई आई टी के रजिस्ट्रार कशालकर कहते हैं कि संस्थान में दो मानसिक रोग चिकित्सक तैनात हैं, योग केन्द्र स्थापित किया गया है तथा काउंसलिंग सेंटर चलता है जो छात्र भी तनाव में होता है उसकी नियमित काउंसलिंग होती है साथ ही उसके हॉस्टल के सहयोगी छात्र भी उस पर कड़ी नजर रखते हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि इतना सब कुछ किए जाने के बावजूद छात्र मानसिक तनाव और परेशानियों से लड़ने की बजाय अगर आत्महत्या का रास्ता ही चुनते हैं या आत्महत्या का प्रयास करने की कोशिश करते हैं, तो इसमें संस्थान प्रशासन क्या कर सकता है। ■