Newspaper Clips
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Budget cut forces IIT-B to stop handsoap for students

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/Budget-cut-forces-IITB-to-stop-handsoap-for-students/articleshow/55192790.cms

MUMBAI: Joining IIT-Bombay? You will need to carry cartons of soap for your stay here. Budget cuts have forced the institute to stop providing for toilet handwash and reduce the frequency of cleaning hostel rooms and even toilets.

Hostel rooms would henceforth be cleaned once a month, instead of every week. Cleaning of floors, staircases, corridors, foyers, dining hall and TV rooms would be done bi-monthly, instead of every month. And toilets, bathrooms, urinals and washbasins would be scrubbed twice a day instead of thrice. The measures were introduced in October.

The institute has amended service contracts of public health officers. According to the student newspaper, Insight, not providing hand-wash to each of the two blocks will help save Rs 60,000 per month. And not cleaning the hostel room every week would save 1.57 lakh a month per block.

The PHO said cleaning takes place in two shifts: morning and evening. "Following directives from the dean and the new contract, the second shift will be shut down." The PHO office cited budget cuts although even they have limited information. Dean (student affairs) Soumyo Mukherji said, "This is only rationalization of facilities given the rising costs and in line with the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan which expects every one to keep the space around them clean." Mukherji said the reduction in the bill was marginal but when costs are rising everywhere, every step counts.

Soap is now provided from the hostel fund, a corpus together from the Rs 220 monthly contribution from students, said general secretary of hostel affairs Osama Adil. "This money used to be utilized for expenses that hostels would like to undertake like purchasing a microwave. Now a part of this goes towards buying toilet handwash," he said.

IISC team designs 'salt' to combat bacterial infections

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/IISC-team-designs-salt-to-combat-bacterial-infections/articleshow/55178413.cms

While a combination of antibacterial and antimicrobial medications are used to treat infections, these can differ in their properties, some of which may not have the desired result. A physical mixture of the two drugs may not be very effective, said experts. A team from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, have addressed this problem by designing a solid in the form of a salt, which is a combination of two known drugs.

Prof Gautam R Desiraju, a structural chemist at the solid state and structural chemistry unit of IISc, told Bangalore Mirror that laboratory tests have revealed that this 'salt' launches a quicker and stronger attack against many bacterial infections, as compared to the parent drugs. It is also a safer and more beneficial therapeutic treatment as indicated by all laboratory tests, says the research team. Even if a smaller amount of the salt is prescribed, the amount of drug entering the bacterial cells will be more than the usual dose, they added.

"Bacteria are the cause of some of the most deadly and widespread diseases in human civilisation. Bacterial infections, with complications of drug resistance from increased antibiotic use, have increased dramatically in recent years. Escherichia coli and Staphylococcus aureus are two of the most notorious bacteria that affect several body tissues and

cause a variety of diseases such as complex urinary tract infection and respiratory and skin infections," said an official release from 'Research Matters'

"Combinations of antibacterial and antimicrobial medications are generally used to treat these infections. Most of the marketed drugs are in the form of physical mixtures with their own flaws: the two medicines are different in their chemical and physical properties, resulting in different efficacies. IISc scientist Prof Desiraju, and post-docs Somnath Ganguly and Shanmukha Prasad Gopi have offered a balanced approach to tackle this problem by designing a new multicomponent solid, which is a combination of the antibacterial norfloxacin and the antimicrobial sulfathiazole in the form of a salt," it added.

Newer IITs join hands with med institute for cancer research

http://paper.hindustantimes.com/epaper/viewer.aspx

BioX consortium, launched by IITs Ropar, Mandi and PGI Chandigarh, is poised to tackle complex challenges in medicine for treatment of cancer, other diseases

Punjab has the highest rate of cancer in India and the joint initiative by the Ropar based Indian Institute of Technology with IIT Mandi and Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) for treatment of cancer and other ailments could not have come at a better time. Though young, having been set up in 2008 (Ropar) and 2009 (Mandi), both IITs have strong faculty expertise in engineering coupled with very sound research programmes in biomedical life sciences. With support from PGIMER in the form of complementary clinical expertise, the initiative, named BioX consortium, is poised to tackle complex challenges in medicine. The major areas for research are related to biomedical instrumentation, diagnostics, cancer and laser therapy, among others. A brainchild of Prof SK Das and Prof TA Gonsalves, directors, IITs Ropar and Mandi, respectively, the consortium has already identified projects and got seed funding for them. “We and IIT Mandi have contributed around Rs 1 crore for the initiative and selected around seven to eight projects,” Prof Das told HT Education recently. At the consortium’s first meeting this February at IIT Mandi the need was felt for a strong networking with clinicians to foster the research and technology development to meet goals. “The two directors offered to support the collaborative projects established under this consortium with seed funding of up to 10% of the total cost of the project, which would be submitted for further extramural funding. The faculties were advised to establish collaborative projects involving the three institutions (including PGIMER) and apply for the funding,” says Dr Tulika Srivastava of IIT Mandi. The major areas for research are related to biomedical instrumentation (diagnostic, control and monitoring equipment used for medical purposes), imaging (visual representation of organs and interiors of the body) and diagnostics, biomechanics (study of mechanical laws related to the movement or structure of organisms), lowcost MRI, biomedical nanotechnology, cancer therapy and laser therapy. Faculty from the three institutes will be involved in all projects and the same will be taken forward by postgraduate students and research scholars. Dr Deepti R Bathula from IIT Ropar, a coordinator associated with the project, says so far, seed grants of Rs 48 lakh have been given for development of a low cost low magnetic field MRI; determination of mechanical and biological osteoporotic bone for Indian patients and surface modified upconversion nanoparticles (involving use of fluorescent chemical compound that can reemit light on light excitation) for diagnostic and therapeutic applications in cancer. Dr Chirag Kamal Ahuja, assistant professor of radio diagnosis and imaging (neuroimaging and interventional radiology) working with PGIMER, says the hospital had been having some problems in medical image analysis (MRI and CT scans) which required sophisticated analytical tools to better classify diseases and increase accuracy in diagnosis. The faculty from IIT seemed to have certain methods by which they could devise techniques and protocols for improving the image analysis. Similar tools that are currently available with the industry vendors are expensive and cannot be easily acquired. Inhouse development of such techniques can help the doctors in India to improve the overall diagnostic accuracy. “We can now use the brilliance of our information technology friends from the IITs to aid us in many fields,” Ahuja adds.

Nai Duniya ND 02.11.2016 P-11

कोणार्क के सूर्य मंदिर के पास मिले पौराणिक चंद्रभागा नदी के सबूत

कोलकाता। वैज्ञानिकों को यूनेस्को के विश्व विरासत स्थलों की सूची में शामिल कोणार्क के सूर्य मंदिर के पास पौराणिक चंद्रभागा नदी की मौजूदगी के साक्ष्य मिले हैं।

यह मंदिर ओडिशा में स्थित है। आईआईटी खड़गपुर के भू-वैज्ञानिकों और समाज विज्ञान विशेषज्ञों के एक दल ने हाल ही में इस बारे में एक वैज्ञानिक अध्ययन किया था कि क्या प्राचीन नदी राजा नरसिंहदेव द्वारा निर्मित 13वीं सदी के मंदिर के पास होती थी या नहीं?

वैज्ञानिकों ने विभिन्न उपग्रहों की तस्वीरों का इस्तेमाल किया और फिर नदी की धारा की पहचान करने और उसका मार्ग पता लगाने के लिए अन्य क्षेत्रीय आंकड़ों का इस्तेमाल किया। ऐसा माना जाता है कि यह नदी विलुप्त हो चुकी है। जियोफिजिक्स के प्रोफेसर विलियम कुमार मोहंती ने कहा कि उपग्रह की तस्वीरों के जरिये क्षेत्र का हवाई परीक्षण लुप्त हो चुकी नदी का मार्ग दिखाता है। इसके बिना क्षेत्र में इसकी पहचान करना मुश्किल है।

जमीन को भेद कर जानकारी निकाल सकने वाले रडार के इस्तेमाल के लिए एक पलेओचैनल की भी पहचान की गई। पलेओचैनल एक निष्क्रिय पड़ चुकी नदी या धारा का अवशेष है, जो तलछट से भर गई है। यह पलेओचैनल कोणार्क सूर्य मंदिर के उत्तर से होकर गुजरती है और तट के लगभग समानांतर जाती है।

Hari Bhumi ND 02.11.2016 P-6

आईआईटी कानपुर का स्थापना दिवस आज

कानपुर। आईआईटी कानपुर दो नवंबर को अपना स्थापना दिवस मनाएगा। इस अवसर पर संस्थान के प्रोफेसरों, पूर्व छात्रों को सम्मानित किया जाएगा। आईआईटी प्रत्येक वर्ष अपना स्थापना दिवस मनाता है। इस अवसर पर संस्थान में उत्कृष्ट कार्य करने वाले प्रोफेसरों के अलावा संस्थान का नाम देश, दुनिया में रोशन करने वाले पूर्व छात्रों को भी सम्मानित किया जाता है। इस वर्ष संस्थान का फेलो अवार्ड प्रो. आर एन विश्वास, प्रो अशोक कुमार मलिक और प्रो डी बालासुब्रमनियन को दिया जाएगा।

Rajasthan Patrika ND 02.11.2016 P-1

स्टूडेंट के प्री-प्लेसमेंट में इस साल 32 फीसदी का इजाफा

पत्रिका न्यूज़ नेटवर्क
rajasthanpatrika.com

नई दिल्ली. देश की सभी आईआईटी के छात्रों को इस बार सबसे ज्यादा प्री-प्लेसमेंट ऑफर मिल रहे हैं। न सिर्फ निजी कंपनियां बल्कि सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनियां भी इंटर्नशिप या ट्रेनिंग कर चुके व ट्रेनिंग करने वाले छात्रों को पहले की तुलना में ज्यादा ऑफर दे रही हैं। प्री-प्लेसमेंट में करीब 32 फीसदी का इजाफा हुआ है। आईआईटी रुड़की में कंपनियों द्वारा दिए जाने वाले ऑफर में 27 फीसदी का इजाफा हुआ है।

आईआईटी बीचयू में भी इजाफा

आईआईटी बीएचयू में सबसे ज्यादा 32 फीसदी की बढ़ोतरी दर्ज की गई। आईआईटी रुड़की के प्लेसमेंट अधिकारी एनपी पाधे कहते हैं कि बाजार में अच्छ रुझान देखने को मिल रहा है।

क्या होता है प्री-प्लेसमेंट

प्री प्लेसमेंट, प्लेसमेंट से अलग प्रक्रिया होती है। इसके तहत छात्र को किसी कंपनी में बतौर इंटर्न या ट्रेनी भेजा जाता है। कुछ समय के लिए कंपनी अपने यहां काम सीखाती हैं। अगर छात्र का परफॉर्मेंस बेहतर होता है तो छात्रों को नौकरी के लिए ऑफर दिया जाता है। इस प्रक्रिया में अगर कंपनी ऑफर देती है तो उसे प्री-प्लेसमेंट कहा जाता है। उधर, एसेंचर कंपनी के एचआर (भारत) विभाग के वरिष्ठ अधिकारी बताते हैं कि कंपनी ने इस बार प्री प्लेसमेंट ऑफर करने का फैसला किया है।

Lakhs of students may not get to watch govt educational channels

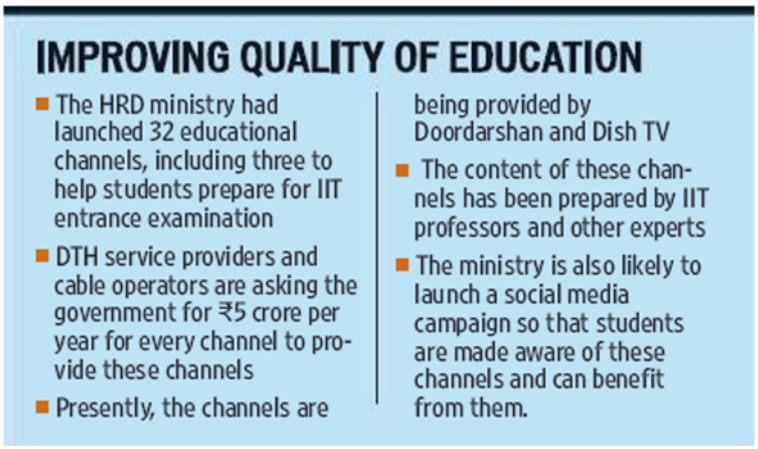
http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/lakhs-of-students-may-not-get-to-watch-govt-educational-channels/story-thaN8feJDBc3PWIAMUog0J.html

HRD ministry had launched 32 educational channels for providing high quality instruction for higher education, including three that will help students prepare for IIT entrance examination.

Lakhs of students may not be able to watch educational channels as DTH service providers have asked the government for money to air these channels.

HRD ministry had launched 32 educational channels for providing high quality instruction for higher education, including three that will help students prepare for IIT entrance examination. According to sources, these channels will only be available through Doordarshan set top box and Dish TV.

Sources said that Human Resource Development (HRD) minister held a meeting with all Direct to Home (DTH) service providers and cable operators, during which there was a good response from them. However, subsequently, they have asked for charges to telecast these channels. The content of these channels has been prepared by IIT professors and other experts.



“The channels are being provided on Doordarshan and Dish and we are still trying to negotiate with the other providers. They are asking for `5 crore per year for every channel which is not feasible,” said a senior HRD official.

In August the union HRD ministry gave its clearance to a scheme called Swayam Prabha, allowing 32 direct-to-home (DTH) television channels to broadcast programs for school and university students.

After watching the content, students can clear their doubts through a toll-free helpline number.

The ministry will appoint subject experts to provide good quality content who will be paid on an hourly basis. The content will have pictures, videos and diagrams to make studies more interactive and to help students understand the concept well.

The ministry is planning to broadcast live classroom lectures from IIT Mumbai, Delhi, Kharagpur and Kanpur. Sources said that the ministry is likely to launch a social media campaign to create more awareness about these channels so that more students are able to benefit from it.

“Although more than three crore youth are pursuing higher education, the standard of education is not uniform, raising the issue of quality access to knowledge. Youth in the backward pockets of India need a fair deal in accessing high-quality knowledge to confidently enter the job market,” a senior ministry official said.
“This scheme will help them to learn and understand key concepts while sitting at home,” the official added.