

## Newspaper Clips

November 20, 2013

HT New Delhi

### HELPING HAND

# IITs giving jobs to faculty's spouses

**Vanita Srivastava**

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**NEW DELHI:** The Indian Institutes of Technology are looking at attracting and retaining good faculty by offering job opportunities to spouses in accordance with their qualifications.

IIT Kanpur has recently started a Spouse Employment Cell. "The cell has got 30 CVs so far and, depending on what kind of jobs they want and the number of hours they can give, we keep track of various job openings," Manindra Agrawal, dean (faculty affairs), IIT Kanpur, told HT.

Agrawal said the cell had

**IIT KANPUR HAS RECENTLY STARTED A SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT CELL, WHICH WILL KEEP TRACK OF VARIOUS JOB OPENINGS FOR THEM**

approached various schools and companies for job openings. "Some of the spouses have already been placed. A spouse has offered to teach Japanese. We are exploring other options like appointing spouses as tutors for honing the communication skills of students. They can also be appointed as administrators of the hostels."

IIT Roorkee director

Pradipta Banerji said: "In the last six months we have made some such appointments," he said, adding, "I am looking forward to appointing from abroad a highly qualified person whose wife is also exceptionally qualified. I can also give her a faculty post so that it helps in their relocation."

IIT Ropar director MK Surappa said the spouses were being encouraged to pick up jobs.

Anil K Bhowmick, IIT Patna director, said: "We have given offers to four couples." However, IIT Bombay director Devang Khakhar said as Mumbai was a big city, spouses did not have any problem finding jobs.

HT Mumbai

# Compulsory for engineering graduates to intern with BMC

**ONE YEAR** Govt college students will work on civic projects for a period of one year

Apoorva Puranik

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**MUMBAI:** The lack of field engineers for ambitious projects of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has prompted the chairman of the standing committee, Rahul Shewale, to propose a compulsory one-year internship with the civic body for students from government engineering colleges.

Currently, only medical graduates from BMC-run colleges have a compulsory internship period with civic hospitals. Shewale wants the same rule to be implemented for government engineering colleges as well.

"The corporation lacks on-field engineers for its projects. With such a step, students will get a good on-field exposure while we get young engineers for our projects," said Shewale.

The proposal seeks to involve engineering students, across streams, to work for a period of one year with the civic body.

Although there are only three government colleges in Mumbai, the committee will take the proposal to the municipal commissioner for approval next week. The proposal, if approved, is set to benefit over 1,500 engineering students from government colleges.

## INTERNSHIPS WITH THE CIVIC BODY

**Alarmed by the lack** of field engineers working with the BMC, the civic body has proposed that all engineering students studying in government colleges undertake a compulsory one-year internship

**This proposal, if approved,** is set to benefit over **1,500** engineering students from government colleges

**This was after the BMC** had decided to scrap the rural posting clause for students from civic medical colleges in 2011. It had proposed that they be deputed to the 16 peripheral hospitals of the BMC for their internships

**Currently, only medical graduates** from BMC-run colleges have a compulsory internship, where students work the civic hospitals

**Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI),** Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT) and Mumbai University's Department of Biotechnology are the only government engineering institutes in the city. However, the city has several other institutes that are partially-aided.



ILLUSTRATION: SIDDHANT JUMDE

THE CORPORATION LACKS ON-FIELD ENGINEERS FOR ITS PROJECTS. WITH SUCH A STEP, STUDENTS WILL GET A GOOD ON-FIELD EXPOSURE WHILE WE GET YOUNG ENGINEERS FOR BMC PROJECTS.

RAHUL SHEWALE, chairman of the standing committee

"Just because it is a municipal corporation internship does not mean that only civil engineers will find employment. Students of electronics can work on the water purification projects while computer engineers can work on the digitisation of the corporation," Shewale said.

But students are not entirely satisfied with the benefits of the move. "Having an engineering degree corresponds to getting a well-paying job in a private firm. But the compulsory internship will kill campus placements. The BMC will pay us peanuts for our work," said a student of Veermata

Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI), Matunga.

"With the current job scenario, I see no reason for this to be a bad idea, provided students are compensated adequately and get good on field experience," said GD Yadav, vice-chancellor, Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT).

# Pleasant surprise for IITs ahead of placement season

## Placement cells have recorded an increase of 10-20% in average salary levels

### Business Standard

For the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), this [placement](#) season may be much beyond their expectations. IITs say, given the economic scenario, they expected placements to be a muted affair, but the response from companies has been quite good.

There is more. Placement cells have recorded an increase of 10-20% in average [salary](#) levels. The highest salary offered has seen an increase of around 20-90 per cent as compared to last year. Final placements on IIT campuses begin on December 1.

"Given the slowdown, we wondered if the placements would be as decent as last year but a good number of companies have confirmed participation allaying our fears," said a placement official from [IIT Bombay](#).

A US-based software major has offered the highest salary (so far) of Rs 1.30 crore per annum, to an IIT Bombay student. However, an institute official said this cannot be confirmed till placements begin as the final offer has not been made yet. Last year [Samsung](#) (Korea) offered the highest salary at Rs 80 lakh per annum.

IIT Bombay will see 1,600 students sitting for placements this year and expects around 250-270 companies to participate. "Some US companies have doubled the salaries this year against what was offered last year," the placement official added.

IIT Bombay said this year there is a lot of interest from software companies. [Microsoft](#), [Oracle](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), Goldman Sachs, [Shell](#) and Samsung are a few companies which have confirmed participation so far.

Even IIT Kanpur and Kharagpur (IIT-KGP) are expecting salaries to be better than last year. The institutes said IT giants like Google, Microsoft and Yahoo will be visiting the campus during placements next month.

"There is misleading speculation that none of the US companies are coming to IITs for placements. This is not true. Some of these giants have taken care of their requirements through pre-placement offers (PPOs) which is why they are not coming. However, major IT, consulting, finance and core engineering companies like ITC, Microsoft, Google and Yahoo have confirmed their participation in the placements at IIT-KGP this year," said Sudhir Barai, head - training and placement at IIT-KGP.

For IIT KGP, feedback from recruiters has been "very good". "The number of companies participating at KGP has increased from 180 last year to 220 this year. The feedback from recruiters have been very good and salaries will be higher than last year," said Barai. The batch size at IIT KGP this year is over 2000 students.

Seconding Barai is Vimal Kumar, chairman - training and placement at IIT Kanpur who said that global firms like Google, Microsoft and Amazon will be visiting its campus.

"Some companies have dropped out after confirming but it is not alarming. This happens every year. However, salaries will be higher or at least like last year," said Kumar. IIT Kanpur will roughly see 200 firms participating in the placements process for a batch size of over 1000 students. Other firms likely to participate at IIT Kanpur placements include Oracle, Mitsubishi, Diamond Consulting, Crédit Suisse, Deutsche Bank and Goldman Sachs, among others.

IIT Madras could not be reached for comments.

# IIT-Delhi's sensors to check jumbo deaths

[Krishnendu Mukherjee](#), TNN | Nov 19, 2013, 04.07 AM IST

KOLKATA: [Science could save elephants](#) where political will has failed. IIT-Delhi has designed heat-and-motion sensors that can be fitted on railway tracks to act as an early warning system on movement of animals.

The device will be field-tested for the first time on the 165-km tracks between North Bengal's Jalpaiguri and Alipurduar, where 18 elephants have been run over by trains this year alone. Last week, an express train crushed six elephants at Jaldhaka, ramming one of them through the rail bridge where the mangled carcass hung for days as train and after train passed over it. Fifty-two elephants have died in this corridor since 2004.

An official of the ministry of environment and forests confirmed receiving the proposal from IIT-Delhi. "The institute was given the go-ahead in July and there were plans to field-test the early-warning device in Uttarakhand's Rajaji first. But keeping in mind the rising jumbo deaths on North Bengal's killer tracks, we might run the pilot test in the [Dooars forests](#)," the official told TOI.

The early warning system is being developed under the leadership of professor Subrat Kar of IIT-Delhi. It consists of a series of heat and motion sensing devices that can be placed at different points of the railway tracks. These can detect body heat or the movement of animals that come too close to the tracks and the information will be relayed from one device to another in microseconds so that the authorities can take evasive action to stop animal deaths.

"More than 100 such devices, with heat and body sensors and cameras, can be installed on a 4-km stretch of the tracks. As soon as it detects the presence of an animal, it records the message and sends through the network of devices. The information is transferred to the officials at the nearest station or signal post in real time," said Wildlife Trust of India's (WTI) Sandeep Tiwari, who has held discussions with the IIT-Delhi team on using the device at Rajaji National Park.

Anil Kumar Singh, head of WTI's conflict mitigation department, believes the device needs to be tested urgently, considering the rise in elephant deaths in this corridor. He, however, cautions that it is not foolproof. "The device can't be installed on the entire stretch. So, the risk persists. The ideal move should be to try and discourage elephants from coming on the tracks," he suggested.

Most such accidents take place near curvatures, where visibility is poor, he pointed out. "If some vegetation can be removed, it will improve visibility and also discourage elephants from moving into the area. The possibility of fencing both sides of tracks can also be explored," he said, adding that the Indian government can take tips from the road animal detection (RAD) system used in countries like US and Switzerland to check animal deaths on the roads.

Ministry officials are meeting their railway counterparts in Delhi on Tuesday to discuss ways to [prevent elephant deaths](#). "Installing this device will take some time. Till then we will push the railways officials to restrict the speed limit to 25kmph through such corridors," an official said.

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## IIM-Calcutta in brand makeover mode

Jhriti Mukherjee Pandey, TNN | Nov 20, 2013, 04:35 AM IST

KOLKATA: Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta - the country's oldest IIM - is making a tactical 'retreat' to move forward and re-invent itself to prepare professionals for the changing global management scenario.

The 100-odd faculty members of the premier institute will brainstorm over a weekend in December on how to ring in changes. The 'Retreat' - as this faculty meet has been christened - will take place before the board meeting so that the decisions/proposals can be placed for discussion right away.

Sources say the focus is on tech-enabled education, restructuring of the curriculum, liaison and branding of IIM-C. This may be the most ambitious makeover in the institute's 52-year-history. Tech-enabled education involves a broad spectrum - from giving students tablets loaded with study materials, to teaching via the internet and satellite to capture the largest number of students in the shortest possible time.

"This will help us start a large number of executive programmes where professionals can sit in the comfort of their offices or homes and study from tablets and lectures that reach them via satellite," said IIM-C director [Saibal Chattopadhyay](#).

The perception that IIM-Ahmedabad and IIM-Bangalore are ranked above IIM-C will also be discussed. Though IIM-C is considered among the best in finance, IIM-A and IIM-B find greater favour with global companies in jobs and salaries. Every year, this triggers heated debates on the Joka campus. "While finance will be the mainstay of our teaching-learning, we need to identify areas where we need to improve. The last time our curriculum was revised was in 2007. It's high time that we update it," said a senior teacher. The curriculum review committee has made a list of suggestions for the Retreat.

The institute is likely to participate in global ranking initiatives to help re-brand itself. The fact that Financial Times has ranked IIM-C among the best 20 B-schools in the world, with top marks in finance, came up for discussion during the recent visit of British Prime Minister David Cameron. "I feel we should participate in more global rankings and surveys because they have a recall value that would help our brand," said Chattopadhyay. Both IIM-A and IIM-B participate in multiple rankings, which are then publicised in the media.

The faculty also feels that professional bodies need to be employed for public relations and branding of the institute. They will also network with alumni and involve them in getting projects and funds for the institute.

# Over \$208,000 Raised at 3rd IIT BHU Global Alumni Meet

By [A Staff Reporter](#)

Nov 18, 2013

Rate Th



(L-r): Vish Narayanan, president of IBGAA, Rita Kapoor, and Prof. A.K. Kapoor lighting the lamp at the BHU Global Alumni Meet.

*SOMERSET, New Jersey, United States*

The IIT BHU Global Alumni Association recently held its third Global Alumni Meet at the DoubleTree Hotel here, with over 300 attending, the theme for which was “A Journey of Excellence at IIT BHU.”

At the event, over \$208,000 was raised to support various projects at IIT BHU including student scholarships. This included a challenge grant of \$100,000 by Naresh C. Jain. Six alumni were conferred 2013 IIT BHU Distinguished Alumnus awards.

Prof. A. K. Kapoor from the IIT BHU was the chief guest while S.P. Shukla, president of the Defense Sector, Mahindra Group, Mumbai, was the invited keynote speaker. Video messages from BHU vice-chancellor Dr. Lalji Singh and IIT BHU director Dr. Rajeev Sangal were presented on the occasion.

There were panel discussions on education, research, entrepreneurship and social service. Lighter moments at the meet included “Fond Memories of BHU” and “Tribute to Teachers.” The

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# Engineering made fun for school students

Author: Express News Service

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Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-M) recently conducted its student initiative, 'Shaastra Sparsh' at the Bhavan's Rajaji Vidyashram. Started in 2012, this initiative by the students of IIT-M aims to inspire high school students in and around Chennai to truly explore the boundaries of their education. The theme for this year's event was 'Copyrights and Intellectual Property issues'.

The event received an overwhelming response from the school students, who did not think engineering could be made interesting. "We have had many programs before that were career-oriented and academic but it was never this fun. This program not only gave us the practical knowledge but also educated us about options we have in Engineering. Robotics, which was like rocket science for me earlier, was made very simple that I can now do it by myself," said an enthusiastic Samyukta of Class 11.

As part of the session, the students were educated about one of the most sensitive issues in the world – Copyrights and IPR issues. To throw more light on the subject, Aditya and his team conducted logo quizzes and quoted real time examples on copyrights that would interest school students.

"There is always a huge gap between what a student learns in school and college. We have been through it as school students. So now, we want them to get familiarised with engineering and really know beyond their textbooks. This might also give them a different perspective of how they can learn better in schools," said Aditya, a second-year EEE student of IIT-M, who along with his team of eight members conducted the program.

To give an insight into IIT-M's annual technical festival, Shaastra, they also discussed topics like robotics and mechanics.

According to Suchitra, head of the science department at Bhavan's Vidyashram, such programs encourage students to understand better because it is an interaction between students, where the gap is less and schools students are more open to learning.

Bhavan's Rajaji Vidyashram was the first school where Shaastra Sparsh program was conducted this year. The program is expected to be extended other schools in the city by the end of this year.

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HT Jaipur

# Most Indians are very satisfied with their work, says survey

## HAPPINESS IS... A JOB

**55%** Of Indians said they are satisfied with their jobs

**60%** Of those with middle incomes said they love their jobs against 52% high-earners who said the same thing about their jobs



ILLUSTRATION: ABHIMANYU

### HT Correspondent

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**NEW DELHI:** The economic slowdown and policy paralysis, it seems, have failed to dampen the job enthusiasm of young Indians.

According to a survey by Monster Worldwide and independent global market research firm Gfk, Indians are most satisfied with their jobs globally and nearly one in every five Indian is even willing to work for free. What's more, those in the medium-level pay bracket are happier than those with fat salary bags.

The survey interviewed 8,000 workers across seven countries.

With 55% of its workers showing intense love for their jobs, India has secured the third

position in international happiness ranking, just behind Canada where 64% of workers are satisfied with their jobs and the Netherlands with 57%.

In fact, only 5% of Indian workers said they actively dislike their jobs though none said he hates his job, the lowest percentage among all countries surveyed.

Moreover, 60% of those with middle incomes said they love their jobs against 52% high earners who could say the same.

"The research findings are a reflection of prevailing business scenario and employee/worker mind-set where they want to be safe and not take any risks," said Sanjay Modi, managing director, India/West Asia/South East Asia, Monster.com.



# 'INDIAN UNIVS MUST FIGURE AMONG TOP 200'

**HT Education Correspondent**

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The Higher Education in India: Vision 2030 released recently says that despite the massive higher education system with over 30 million students enrolled across 45,000 institutions, India's gross enrolment ratio (GER) lagged behind that of developed countries such as the US, Switzerland, Japan and the UK and developing countries such as China, Brazil, Malaysia and the Philippines.

According to Amitabh Jhingan, partner and national leader – education practice, EY, “In order to realise the goals we envision for 2030, adopting a transformative and innovative approach is critical across all the levers of higher education: from curricula and pedagogy to the use of technology to partnerships, governance and funding. Making rapid progress over the next two decades would require a committed and concerted effort from all stakeholders involved ie academia, industry, and government.”

A lot needs to be done, despite the government's increased spends on higher education by 37% from ₹195.1 billion in 2011 to ₹267.5 billion in 2013-14. For realising the vision, it was important to adopt a learner-centered paradigm of education, introducing multi-disciplinary, industry-oriented, entrepreneurship, and skill-based courses, and adopting new pedagogical techniques such as blended learning, flipped classroom and experiential learning. Incentivising and facilitating faculty development and exchange programmes; attracting and incentivising best-in-class faculty to conduct research would also help.

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# No-show by US cos at campus placements, techies worried

## Shadow Of Last Yr's Visa Issues On Talent Hunt

Hemali Chhapia | TNN

Mumbai: American recruiters at India's campus placements this year will be conspicuous by their absence. Apart from Facebook that isn't visiting any of the IITs,

### ► Going multi-lingual, P 17

most US companies that do not have operations in India have not registered for placements at the country's tech schools. There's no trace yet of Twitter, which paid big bucks in the last recruitment season. Slot Zero, the promising opening day of campus placements on December 1, has probably never looked less American.

While most students and faculty members were tight-

## JAPAN STEPS INTO THE BREACH

- Likely visa problems keep big US hirers away
- Last year, visas were taken up before students graduated, forcing those with placements abroad to go on unpaid vacation, work at India offices or fly to another country
- Facebook & Twitter haven't come yet. Microsoft, Google, Oracle

and Schlumberger to pick fewer students

- Japan closing in; Mitsubishi, Uhuru Software and Sony

Japan have bagged their recruits

- IITs releasing brochures and student profiles

in Japanese; next year will include French and German



lipped about the no-show of American companies, several job aspirants said the US visa issue last year was a great concern and many American companies that hire in large numbers — and with big pay packets — had decided to stay away from Indian engineering college campuses now. Last year, the annual quota of 65,000 H1-B work visas were snapped up by job-immi-

grants even before graduating techies had their first degree in hand, forcing many to take an unpaid vacation to work at the US companies' India offices or fly to another country for a year.

Smart IITians who fear a similar repeat occurrence this time around are filling up forms and making alternative profile plans, both local and international.

## HT Indore

# SCIENTISTS BUILD WORLD'S SMALLEST RADIO TRANSMITTER

**NEW YORK:** US researchers have used graphene to create the world's smallest FM radio transmitter - a nano-mechanical system that can create FM signals. A team of researchers from Columbia University, led by Mechanical Engineering Professor James Hone and Electrical Engineering Prof Kenneth Shepard, took advantage of graphene's special properties - its mechanical strength and electrical conduction - and developed a nano-mechanical system that can create FM signals. "This work is significant in that it demonstrates an application of graphene that cannot be achieved using conventional materials," Hone said.

**PTI**

HT Lucknow

## BREAKTHROUGH

## Phulpur scientist develops early-tumour marker

Sidhartha Dutta

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**NEW DELHI:** A scientist from a village near Phulpur in Allahabad has developed fluorescent nanoparticles to detect tumour at the initial stage.

Twenty-eight-year-old Ajay Singh, a visiting scientist at the Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST), grew up in Kanauja Kala village, did his schooling from Phulpur and college from Allahabad University before moving to Konkuk

**I HAVE MADE FLUORESCENT DYES. THEY ARE NON-TOXIC, EMIT LIGHT ON EXPOSURE AND CAN DETECT TUMOUR AT A VERY EARLY STAGE, RIGHT AFTER INJECTION.**

AJAY SINGH, scientist

University, Seoul last year for his PhD.

Throwing light on his research, Singh said, "I have made fluorescent dyes that have excitation and emission in near-infrared region (650-800 nm). They are non-toxic,

emit light on exposure and can detect tumour at a very early stage, right after injection."

"Generally, fluorescence compounds are hydrophobic and cannot dissolve in water. I have used a polymer,

which can encapsulate these fluorescent materials inside and make about 10-20 nanometer-sized nanoparticles in water," he added.

Elaborating on the process of detection, Singh said, "Since the nanoparticles are very small, they circulate through the blood vessels and enter tumours, where they stay longer than in normal tissue. Since these are fluorescent materials, they can be easily be seen in cancer tumours after excitation of light." **CONTINUED ON P 8**

## Phulpur scientist...

The process is very simple and affordable, he added.

Singh's work 'Tuning Solid-State Fluorescence to the Near Infrared: A Combinatorial Approach to Discovering Molecular Nanoprobes for Biomedical Imaging' was published in the prestigious journal of American Chemistry Society (ACS) in June 2013.

Singh's late father Munni Lal left his lowly paid job when he (Singh) moved to Allahabad for graduation after completing his schooling from Sita Ram Singh Inter College in Phulpur. "My father left his job and took to farming our land in order to arrange money for my studies. He was very close to me and was my teacher till Class 8," said Singh, who has an older brother and three younger sisters. He

completed his bachelors and masters in organic chemistry from Allahabad University before starting his research work there.

On the reason behind choosing Korea for higher studies, Singh said, "Korea is a leading country for research work nowadays and that is why I contacted one of the professors there and he agreed for an interview. I also secured a scholarship and am a PhD now."

Singh dedicated his doctorate thesis to his father who passed away last year and gives credit to his science teacher in school for his love for chemistry. "I developed interest in chemistry because of Mahendra K Chaurasia, who taught me in Class 9. Allahabad University, too, has great organic chemistry professors, who got me hooked to the field permanently," said Singh.

HT Kolkata

# Varsities across country to have common syllabus

**HT Correspondent**

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**KOLKATA:** Universities all over India are on course to have a common syllabus. Aliah University hosted a conference in Kolkata in this regard with the vice-chancellors of the east zone universities of the country.

“To facilitate easy student movement from one college to another, and from one university to another, it’s extremely important that all the universities in the country follow a common syllabus. We’re trying to build a consensus in this regard with all the universities,” said Sampson David, joint secretary of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), of which all the universities are members.

“The two-day conference with the universities of the east zone is a consensus-building measure in this regard. We had a conference in Kochi last week with the vice-chancellors of that region trying to bring home the point,” David added.

More than 70 universities from the eastern region of the country are members of the AIU. Although the idea has been welcomed by some, a sec-



**WHILE 80% OF THE SYLLABUS WILL BE COMMON TO ALL, THE INSTITUTIONS WILL BE FREE TO TAILOR THE REMAINING 20%**

tion of the central universities and several state universities, as well as private universities, are not quite amenable to the idea. Since the universities are autonomous institutions, according to some vice-chancellors, they can’t be dictated about the contents of their syllabuses.

“From this viewpoint, it’s been decided that, while 80% of the syllabus will be common to all universities, the institutions

will be free to tailor the remaining 20% of their syllabuses,” Sista Rama Devi Pani, editor of University News published by the AIU, in Kolkata.

In April 2014, the AIU will hold a national conference, where they will try to fix the modalities.

“We’ll also have representatives from the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the ministry of human resources development. If we can arrive at a consensus, the UGC will prepare guidelines in this regard,” Pani added.

The universities are discussing not only a common syllabus, but also the possibility of having faculty exchanges and infrastructure sharing.

“Several new universities don’t have an adequate amount of teachers and their infrastructure, too, isn’t ready. Under such a scenario, if the older universities agree to share their infrastructure, as well as faculties, with the new ones, it’ll be of great help to the students. Today, we’ve also had discussions in this regard,” said AT Khan, vice-chancellor of Aliah University, which is hosting this conference in the eastern zone.

## Rape fear keeps US students out of India: Envoy

Alok K N Mishra TNN

Ranchi: The frequent incidence of rape in India has created an adverse image of India abroad. US ambassador to India, Nancy Powell, on her first visit to Jharkhand on Tuesday highlighted the concern, saying it was possibly a factor in American students not coming to India.

She said, "The concern for personal security and perceived increased danger to women as a result of the rape cases was perhaps a factor in US students' decision regarding study in India." Powell said this in reply to a question asked in the course of a chat with students at the Xavier Institute of Social Science (XISS) in Ranchi.

The students at XISS agreed in the presence of Powell that they too faced sexual harassment on the streets. "Even we Indian girls face a lot of cat-calls and are subjected to teasing outside the college campus almost everyday," said a student who was part of the interaction session but did not want to be named.

Asked to elaborate on her observation, the US envoy said, "What I said was one of the factors for US students' decision regarding study in India."

Last year, a female student from Chicago University who was on a study trip to India said in an account posted on CNN iReport that India was full of adventures and beauty, but also relentless sexual harassment, groping and worse.



The concern for personal security and perceived increased danger to women as a result of the rape cases was perhaps a factor in US students' decision regarding study in India — **NANCY POWELL US ENVOY IN INDIA**

# देश में साइंस का सवाल, हैं मुश्किल हालात

■ सुरेश उपाध्याय, नई दिल्ली

भारत में साइंस के मौजूदा हालात और इस क्षेत्र के लिए पैसे की कमी के मसले पर भारत रत्न के लिए चुने गए सीएनआर राव की टिप्पणियों से जहां बहुत से साइंटिस्ट्स सहमत हैं, वहीं कड़ियों का मानना है कि हालात इतने खराब भी नहीं हैं। गौरतलब है कि राव ने कहा था कि साइंस के लिए पैसा नहीं दिया जाता। इसके अलावा उन्होंने नेताओं को इडियट तक कह डाला था। हालांकि बाद में उन्होंने इससे इनकार कर दिया।

**संसाधन की कमी, पर तरक्की:** कई साइंटिस्ट्स का कहना है कि भारत ने संसाधनों की कमी के बावजूद साइंस के कई क्षेत्रों में काफी तरक्की की है। प्रमुख शिक्षाविद् और साइंटिस्ट्स

प्रो. यशपाल कहते हैं कि हम साइंस के मामले में अमेरिका, ब्रिटेन, चीन और जापान आदि से तुलना करते हैं, लेकिन यह नहीं देखते हैं कि हमारे देश में अब भी निरक्षरता कितनी है। वह कहते हैं कि जिन देशों से हम तुलना करते हैं, वह आर्थिक रूप से तो हमसे काफी आगे हैं ही, निरक्षरता से भी उन्होंने अरसा पहले छुटकारा पा लिया है। यशपाल के मुताबिक, भारत ने स्पेस, एटमी और मिसाइल साइंस के मामले में जो तरक्की की है, वह शानदार है।

**राजनीति ने किया बड़ा गर्क:** जेएनयू के युनिवर्सिटी साइंस इंस्ट्रूमेंटेशन सेंटर के अध्यक्ष डॉ. शतेन्द्र शर्मा कहते हैं कि साइंस के मामले में संसाधनों की कमी तो है ही, इस क्षेत्र में होने वाली राजनीति ने भी बड़ा गर्क कर दिया

तमाम दिक्कतों के बावजूद भारत ने साइंस के क्षेत्र में काफी तरक्की है। संसाधनों की कमी जरूर रहती है, बावजूद इसके, आने वाला वक़्त अच्छा है।

- प्रो. यशपाल, मराहूर शिक्षाविद् और साइंटिस्ट



भारत में अब भी साइंस के मामले में मौलिक काम के बजाय नकल ज्यादा हो रही है और लोग पद

पाने के लिए हर तरह की जोड़तोड़ कर रहे हैं।

- डॉ. शतेन्द्र शर्मा, साइंटिस्ट



देश में साइंस की हालत पर जहां कई साइंटिस्ट्स नाखुश वहीं कई हैं पॉजिटिव

में नहीं के बराबर बढ़ोतरी की है। इसमें साल 2000 से 2013 के बीच करीब 0.04 प्रतिशत की ही बढ़ोतरी हुई है। साइंस एंड टेक्नॉलजी डिपार्टमेंट को जहां 2013-14 के बजट में 2777 करोड़ रुपये दिए गए, वहीं डिफेंस बजट 203672 करोड़ का था। हालांकि, रिसर्च से जुड़े कुछ विभागों को पहले की तुलना में ज्यादा पैसा दिया गया है। एटमी रिसर्च इस मामले में पहले नंबर पर है। इसके

बाद स्पेस का नंबर आता है।

**वादा नहीं निभाया:** 3 जनवरी 2000 को तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी ने कहा था कि साइंस रिसर्च के बजट को अगले पांच साल में जीडीपी का दो प्रतिशत कर दिया जाएगा, मगर यह काम अब तक नहीं हो पाया है। इस साल प्रधानमंत्री मनमोहन सिंह ने भी ठीक यही ऐलान किया था, मगर इसके लिए उन्होंने 2017 तक की समय सीमा रखी है। साइंस रिसर्च के मामले में अभी जीडीपी का एक प्रतिशत भी खर्च नहीं किया जा रहा है।

**साइंटिस्ट क्यों नहीं मंत्री:** आज तक किसी भी पार्टी ने भारत का साइंस एंड टेक्नॉलजी मिनिस्टर किसी साइंटिस्ट को बनाए जाने की जरूरत महसूस नहीं की है।