

Newspaper Clips

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Business Line ND 22/11/2011

P-13

AICTE flayed for arbitrary order on online journals

Divya Trivedi

New Delhi, Nov. 21

Private institutions have flayed the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for arbitrariness and unfairness in the selection of international online journals and the rates at which they should be mandatorily subscribed. The AICTE, however, has rubbished the allegations.

The Education Promotion Society for India (EPSI), whose advisory committee consists of former Directors of IIMs, IITs and leading

chambers, according to its website, has written to the Ministry of Human Resource Development to discuss the issue.

The AICTE recently put out a list of e-journals for mandatory subscription by private technical institutions.

"It is estimated that a US-based company favoured by the AICTE officials will be able to garner an annual business of Rs 1,800 crore....It is baffling as to why only certain e-journals/databases and suppliers are selected from several equally or more

attractive credentials," says the letter addressed to Mr Kapil Sibal, HRD Minister.

Why have the stakeholders, faculty and institutions, not been consulted, the letter asks.

EPSI has suggested that since these databases are costly and put a heavy financial burden on each institute, why not constitute a consortium similar to those of IIMs, IITs and NITs that leads to a sharing of costs and greater bargaining power with the supplier.

Dr S.S. Mantha, Acting

Chairman, AICTE, told *Business Line* that the allegations were 'in very bad taste and absolutely wrong'.

"Research in this country is abysmally low. To encourage research and improve the quality of information, we have mandated some world-class journals.

The teachers should know what is happening outside and students should have access to internationally acclaimed journals. We all know that even after 60 years the country has not produced a single paper," said Dr

Mantha.

A committee had been appointed and a list was drawn from the existing journals with the best prices, he said.

"If somebody can give a lesser price, tell us, we'll take that," he said.

AICTE has mandated institutes offering management courses to purchase online journals from EBSCO for an annual subscription of \$3,500, for pharmacy courses to purchase online journals from Bentham and Elsevier for

\$5,500 per annum, engineering courses to purchase from IEEE (computer engineering) at the rate of \$4,980, ASME (mechanical engineering) at the rate of \$2,156, ASCE (civil engineering) at the rate of \$2,520, McGill (General) for \$1,969, Elsevier for \$ 6,500, ASTM Digital for \$1,100 and so on and so forth, said Dr H. Chaturvedi, Alternate President - EPSI and Director Birla Institute of Management and Technology.

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Amar Ujala ND 22-Nov-11 P-7

इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों पर बढ़ा बोझ

नए सत्र में ई-जरनल खरीदना हुआ अनिवार्य, प्रत्येक को खर्च करने होंगे 10 लाख

● अमित त्यागी

नोएडा। ऑल इंडिया काउंसिल फॉर टेक्निकल एजुकेशन (एआईसीटीई) ने इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों के लिए ई-जरनल का सब्सक्रिप्शन लेना ज़रूरी कर दिया है। नए सत्र 2012-13 से इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों को छह प्रकाशकों के लगभग 14 हजार ई-जरनल और ई-बुक अपनी लाइब्रेरी में शामिल करना अनिवार्य कर दिया है। इन्हें खरीदने के लिए हर कॉलेज पर सालाना लगभग 10 लाख रुपये का बोझ पड़ने जा रहा है, हालांकि इंटरनेशनल जरनल की छूट से मामूली राहत जरूर मिलेगी।

एआईसीटीई ने 2012-13 सत्र

पढ़ाई को अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर से जोड़ने की कवायद

की मान्यता प्रक्रिया में इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इलेक्ट्रिकल एंड इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स इंजीनियर्स (आईईईई), अमेरिकन सोसायटी ऑफ मेकेनिकल इंजीनियर्स (एएसएमई), अमेरिकन सोसायटी ऑफ सिविल इंजीनियर्स (एएससीई), मैकग्राहिल, एल्सेवियर और अमेरिकन सोसायटी फॉर टेस्टिंग एंड मेटेरीयल (एएसटीएम) के ई-जरनल खरीदने पड़ेंगे। लाइब्रेरी

के कंटेंट को मजबूत करने और इंजीनियरिंग की पढ़ाई को अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर से जोड़ने के लिए ऐसा किया गया है लेकिन इससे संस्थानों पर 10 लाख रुपये तक का बोझ पड़ जाएगा। मौजूदा सत्र 2011-12 तक कॉलेजों को ई-जरनल खरीदना ज़रूरी नहीं था, ये कॉलेजों को इच्छा और गुणवत्ता पर निर्भर था। इस नियम के लागू होने से इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों के साथ-साथ फार्मसी संस्थानों को दो प्रकाशकों के 93 ई-जरनल के लिए दो लाख 75 हजार, आर्किटेक्चर कॉलेजों को एक लाख 90 हजार और प्रबंधन संस्थानों को एक लाख 70 हजार रुपये खर्च करने पड़ेंगे।

पब्लिशर्स के ई-जरनल्स पर होने वाला खर्च

पब्लिशर	ई-जरनल	कीमत
आईईईई	150	दो लाख 49 हजार
एएसएमई	25	एक लाख 7800
एएससीई	33	एक लाख 26 हजार
मैकग्राहिल	ई-लाइब्रेरी	98 हजार 450
एल्सेवियर	750	3 लाख 25 हजार
एएसटीएम	13 हजार	55 हजार

इंटरनेशनल जरनल्स की पाबंदी हटी

ई-जरनल का सब्सक्रिप्शन ज़रूरी करने के साथ-साथ एआईसीटीई ने इंटरनेशनल जरनल को वैकल्पिक कर दिया है। अब तक कॉलेजों को हर ब्रांच के एक सेक्शन पर तीन इंटरनेशनल जरनल अपनी लाइब्रेरी में रखना अनिवार्य था। इससे संस्थानों को कुछ राहत मिलेगी।

Times of India ND 22/11/2011 P17

Research at IISc, rake in the moolah

Most Computer Science PhDs From Institute

GOING PLACES

WHERE THEY HAVE GONE:

► Of IISc's first 35 PhDs, 21 joined industrial research labs, 13 went into academia and one scholar set up own business

► In 2010, of 11 PhDs, eight joined labs and three went into academia

WHAT'S THE PAY?

► A fresh PhD graduate earns between ₹12 lakh and ₹20 lakh annually in an IT research lab. If he/she prefers to join the academy as an assistant professor, the annual payment is ₹8 to ₹10 lakh

WHY RESEARCH?

► Bangalore is among the top 10 cities in the world for its cluster of IT companies and the access an academic institution has to such a cluster. So students prefer to do research here



SUPPLY AND DEMAND

► No. of computer science PhDs produced annually in India | 150 to 200

► No. of PhDs required annually | At least 1,000

Prashanth G N | TNN

Bangalore: Research in computer science has never been as glamorous and lucrative as it is now. With companies like Google, IBM and Microsoft now preferring to have a research lab in Bangalore, there is a spurt in the number of students doing PhD in computer science at the city's flagship Indian Institute of Science.

IISc now generates the highest number of PhDs in computer science in the country. In 2011, 91 people enrolled for a PhD in computer science at the Computer Science and Automation (CSA) department in IISc, up from 35 five years

back. The number of students doing masters in computer science leading to PhD too is increasing at IISc: from 35 five years ago to an average class of 60 in 2011.

Y Narahari, chairman of CSA, points out: "IISc is No. 1 in the country in computer science PhD enrolment. IIT-Madras has 55 PhD students, while IIT-Mumbai has 25." He says IISc is particularly attractive for PhD as Bangalore is the tech hub of the country. "Name any big IT research lab and you have it in Bangalore. Most of these labs want hard-core researchers who can understand and develop algorithms for next generation computing and are willing to pay them well."

Hindu ND 22-Nov-11 P-9

Tracking buses on the web

KANPUR: IIT-Kanpur has sought approval from the Uttar Pradesh Government for installing a device developed by it, which would help passengers locate their buses on the Internet, in State-run buses.

SIMRAN

"We have sent a proposal to the Transport Department for installation of the devices,

which have been developed along the lines of Satellite Imaging for Rail Navigation (SIMRAN), in roadways buses," IIT-K Director Sanjay Govind Dhande said.

"The Government has assured us they will consider the proposal and once it is cleared, the devices will be installed in some buses on a trial basis," he said.

The Institute has already

got installation clearance from the Railways and the devices have been installed in 12 important trains as a pilot project.

"SIMRAN can show the location of trains on the Internet, enabling passengers to keep track of their train's whereabouts, including the expected time of its arrival and the reason for its delay," Mr. Dhande said. - PTI

Mail Today ND 22/11/2011 P24

CII calls for less red tape as it

UNION HRD Minister Kapil Sibal has reiterated the government's commitment to its ambitious gross enrolment ratio of 30 per cent by 2020. He was speaking at the recent University-Industry Higher Education Summit organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry.

Gross enrolment ratio signifies the percentage of students in Class XII who opt for college education. To achieve the target, Sibal said, the country will need 1,000 more universities and 50,000 colleges to accommodate the 45 million college-ready students by the targeted date.

The minister also touched upon the need for a skilled work force in the country. "The demand for skilled workers is nine million, but we have institutes for only two million. There is a gap of seven million in skills alone," Sibal said. Creating the physical infrastructure for pro-

jected future colleges and universities will take decades, so the easier way out, according to Sibal, is to ride the wave of technology. "By March 2012 we will connect all the 600-plus universities and 31,000 colleges through the national knowledge network. This is the largest such experiment in the world," the minister said, adding: "The flow of knowledge through that network will be so enormous that we will require the help of industry."

Speaking up for the industry, CII has mooted Private Public Partnership (PPP) in education to meet the national deadline. The need for the model, which is usually associated with infrastructure projects such as ports, highways, airports and railway stations, "arises from the inability of most governments to provide the massive funding required to meet the increas-

pitches for PPP in education

ing demand for higher education," says a CII paper presented to the Planning Commission.

One way of doing this is to create an enabling environment and provide incentives to the private sector to enable it to set up institutes for higher learning. The government could then supervise these institutes through regulatory bodies such as the All India Council for Technical Education.

The CII has also recommended a review of the cumbersome procedural requirements for collaborative ventures in education. Lack of transparency, procedural hurdles and inordinate delays in getting approvals are road blocks in the way of gen-

uine private initiatives.

Colleges are not vested with degree-granting powers and are subjected to rules and regulations of affiliating universities, so private players, particularly in emerging and innovative areas, often feel discouraged. Foreign universities of repute also "find our regulatory mechanism thwarting," the CII paper notes.

Its message is unambiguous. The government must realise it is impossible for it to achieve its target on its own. But to get industry on board, it has got to remove the speed breakers on the road to private initiatives.

—By Sangeeth Sebastian

45m
Number of students
who'll be college-
ready by 2020 if
India achieves the
targeted GER
of 30%



HRD Minister Kapil Sibal said 600-plus universities and 31,000 colleges will be connected via the national knowledge network by March.

Business Line ND 22/11/2011 P-19

Assam to get IIIT

Guwahati, Nov. 21

An Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) would be set up at Mirza near here in Assam on the lines of IIT, the Chief Minister, Mr Tarun Gogoi, said today. The project has been conceived in public-private mode with the Centre, the Assam government and leading industry partners as stakeholders, Mr Gogoi told reporters here. The IIIT is being set up as part of the Union HRD Ministry's decision to set up 20 new IIITs across the country in addition to the existing four institutes in Hyderabad, Bangalore, Gandhinagar and Delhi, he said. - PTI

Tribune ND 22/11/2011 P12

Indian Institute of Management, Rohtak IIM-Rohtak completes two years

STRESSING on the all-round development of infrastructure, industry stalwarts joined the IIM-Rohtak in the celebration of the institute's third foundation day recently. The chief guest, Arunabh Das Sharma, Executive President, Bennett Coleman Limited, claimed that leadership was not only about numbers such as GDP and per capita income but also about softer measures such as becoming a net donor of aid, adapting a strategic or tactical foreign policy and sustaining an inclusive growth. Sharma said there was a dramatic possibility of growth in India, which could be achieved by developing good infrastructure, investing in agriculture and fostering the existing talent pool. He remarked that MBA graduates from IIMs head most companies in India, but urged that the IIMs must upgrade their programmes by considering the emerging skill-set requirements of the industry. While the inaugural address was followed by a debate between the first-year and second-year students on the topic, "Free Market or Controlled Economy—the Way Forward", Ajay Srinivasan, Chief Executive, Financial Services, Aditya Birla Group, threw light on the role of innovation, better governance and vocational training in propelling India's growth.

S. P. Gathoo, Director (Human Resources), BPCL, said India could build its brand as a spiritual and soft power and regain leadership through frugal innovation. Dr D. Subrahmanyam, Executive Director, HUDCO, discussed sustainable development and the path ahead for our country to fulfil its potential. A panel discussion on the topic "Mission India," which was moderated by Dr Subrahmanyam, brought forth many valuable ideas. The Social Development Programme at the IIM, Rohtak, received a special mention for its association with NGOs in Haryana, Uttaranchal and Delhi NCR.

FINANCIAL EXPRESS ND 22/11/2011

p-3

Aptech to conduct first CMAT

Kirtika Suneja

New Delhi, Nov 21: Education and skill training major Aptech has been roped in by the ministry of human resource development (MHRD) to conduct the first Common Management Admissions Test (CMAT) in 2012. Aptech was selected from 10 bidders including Tata Consultancy Services and Prometric, the US-based testing agency that has been conducting the Common Admission Test (CAT) for the last three years.

The All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) had fixed a minimum revenue requirement of Rs100 crore for companies willing to bid for the project. It plans to enter into an initial contract for 3-5 years, but would retain overall control over test generation and delivery mechanism.

"Aptech was selected after the technical and financial bids of all the bidders were

evaluated and before the project is rolled out, we will run pilot tests in 10 states and the testing would happen twice a day. The pilots are expected to happen on December 15-16," an AICTE official told FE.

The council had asked the bidders to state their approach for each of the tasks of test announcement, registration, application processing, dispatch of admit cards, item bank development, test construction, test delivery, score processing and dispatch of test scores, besides their operational plan for computerisation of CMAT.

CMAT-2012 will be conducted from February 20-28, 2012, and is expected to cater to about 2.5 lakh candidates across the country. "We have bid for the project as it is a big opportunity for us. Moreover, we have the same line of business in testing and assessment," said Aptech's CEO and MD, Ninad Karpe.

US market saturating, but IT spending seen growing in India

BY SURABHI AGARWAL &
JOHN SATISH KUMAR

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

Information technology (IT) spending in India is projected to rise by 9.1% to \$79.8 billion in 2012 as enterprises invest more in IT systems despite global economic challenges, research and advisory firm **Gartner Inc.** forecast on Monday.

Gartner's forecast comes in the backdrop of a report showing that spending on technology by US companies, which account for two-thirds of annual revenue earned by India's \$60 billion IT industry, may be reaching saturation point.

Gartner also predicted that worldwide IT spending will touch \$3.7 trillion in 2011, with emerging economies accounting for \$1.01 trillion.

"Businesses are increasingly looking to IT to help support the challenges of enhancing customer support, supply chain management, optimizing business processes or helping drive innovation in the business," said Peter Sondergaard, senior vice-president and global head of research at Gartner.

IT is transitioning from being viewed as a back-office support function to a frontline business-focused function with around 350 companies worldwide investing more than \$1 billion this

year in IT to drive business growth, Sondergaard said.

Gartner's forecast follows a report last month by IT consultancy firm TPI showing that technology spending by US companies is tapering off.

The addressable market for IT vendors in the case of US companies in the list of top Global 100 companies has fallen from 45% in 2004 to 29% now, said the report. And while seven years ago US companies in the list of top Global 500 companies contributed 58% to the outsourcing spending, there has been a drop of 25 percentage points since to 33%.

The TPI report raises the question: "With the US market down, and outsourcing flat globally, where will future market growth come from?"

John Keppel, president of information services and chief marketing officer at TPI, said that while the high level of penetration achieved in the US can be looked at as a negative, "this could indicate a second wave of growth potential" for the IT industry. Keppel cited the emergence of new technologies such as cloud computing, in which networks of computing resources are placed on the Internet and shared by multiple users.

"The global sourcing market is vastly different from what it was a decade ago," acknowledges

Gartner sees global IT spend touching \$3.7 trillion in 2011, with emerging markets accounting for about \$1 trillion

Rajan Kohli, chief marketing officer for the IT business at **Wipro Ltd.** "Specific to the US, the trend for last couple of years has been that large multi-billion-dollar, single-vendor deals are fewer now, and companies are looking at smaller, targeted contracts which are shorter in duration."

However, he added that this trend has been positive since it has allowed them to win market share away from traditional vendors. "Large enterprise clients are still growing and their IT spend is increasing in areas that help them differentiate, reduce risk or access new markets."

Experts also feel that even though the US and the UK will continue to be a very large and crucial regions for Indian service providers, the answer (to the issue of the US market reaching saturation point) is to invest more heavily in these geogra-

phies by increasing local delivery capability with local hires.

Simultaneously, they would have to look at new delivery solutions and technical innovations like cloud computing.

"Many of the global heritage players have created truly global organizations—with localized sales and delivery teams—to address each of these markets," said Sid Pai, partner and managing director of TPI's India arm. He added that in this dimension, many of the global firms have a model that is much less dependent on any one geography.

The TPI report notes that even though the largest companies in Western Europe have high penetration rates, they have mixed maturity levels across regions and are "unlikely to fill the void left by the US".

It adds that in the top global 500 list, companies from China, Hong Kong, India and South Korea have increased from 20 seven years ago to 55 today and only 9% of these are actively outsourcing, and the size of their contracts is less than \$50 million annually, which leaves the Asia Pacific region with a lot of untapped potential.

"The US and UK markets are definitely the most mature geographies while continental Europe, Middle East and APAC (Asia-Pacific) are now in growth phase," Kohli of Wipro added.

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HindustanTimes

Title : Two new centres of higher studies

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Two new centres of higher studies

JAMIA Courses on China, Afghanistan studies to open up several avenues for students next year

Shaswati Das

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NEW DELHI: From the next academic session, students applying for higher studies at Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) will have a wider array of subjects to choose from.

The university has decided to start two new centres — Centre for Chinese Studies and Centre for Afghanistan Studies — for students applying for MPhil or PhD programmes.

The two centres will function under the aegis of the Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar (MMAJ) Academy of International Studies.

"The centres will be opera-

tional from March 2012. One major prerequisite is that the student should have a thorough knowledge of the languages spoken China and Afghanistan respectively," said Shri Prakash, professor at the MMAJ Academy of International Studies.

According to him, the courses promise to open up avenues

THE UNIVERSITY ALSO IS ALSO PLANNING A CENTRE FOR NANO SCIENCES, FOR WHICH FUNDS HAVE BEEN SANCTIONED BY UGC.

for students in print media, the civil services and as professors in universities.

Apart from these courses, there are plans to start another centre for nano sciences and nano technology.

"We will be starting a full-fledged centre in nano sciences and nano technology. Funds for the same have been sanctioned by the UGC," said Najeeb Jung, vice-chancellor, JMI.

For students pursuing chemistry at the higher level, this comes as good news since it opens up opportunities in the application of medicine, biomaterials and energy production and its environmental impacts.

HindustanTimes

Title : Problems force shift in govt's higher education plan

Author : Chetan Chauhan chetan@hindustantimes.com

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Problems force shift in govt's higher education plan

Chetan Chauhan

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NEW DELHI: The UPA government will shift its focus from quantity to quality in higher education with its efforts to launch an unprecedented expansion across the country not being matched by building of infrastructure and finding talented teachers.

The government had announced the setting up of 51 public-funded higher education institutions — including eight IITs and seven IIMs during the 11th Five Year Plan period from 2007-2012.

But all these plans have not been implemented. Most of the

proposed institutions have been plagued by deficiencies, even threatening their brand equity. They have failed to take off primarily because of delays in land acquisition and disputes between the Centre and the states on where they should be set up.

Given the setback to these new institutions, the 12th plan (2012-17) will go slow in adding more institutions. "Ensuring quality in higher education to compete with the global best would be the objective in the 12th plan and not opening a number of new institutes," said an HRD ministry official.

The 12th plan will add four new IITs but no new IIMs. Fourteen innovation universi-

THE ROADBLOCKS

■ **Faculty Shortage:** 50% shortage in universities; 30-40% shortage in IIMs and IITs

■ **Land:** Delay in acquiring land has delayed construction of new institutions. In some cases, such as Bihar, even the location has become a matter of dispute between the state and centre. The

centre wants the central university in Patna, while the state wants it in Motihari

■ **Cost Escalation:** Delay in acquiring land has resulted in cost escalation. The initial cost of setting up an IIT was ₹760 crore, which is now expected to be over ₹900 crore.

ties and 374 model colleges already announced in the 11th plan but could not be established will also go into the new plan.

Despite the union cabinet approving over ₹10,000 crore for setting up new IITs and IIMs

in 2008, construction work for only four technology and five management institutes have started and about 40% of the faculty posts are lying vacant.

"There were huge delays in land acquisition by the state gov-

ernments," a ministry official explained, giving the example of IIM-Rohtak, where part of the land was claimed by the Haryana Police. There has also been no decision where the central university in Bihar should come up as the state has been insisting on a campus in the educationally-backward Motihari district, which is not acceptable to the ministry.

In the next few years, the ministry plans huge investments to set up IITs, IIMs and 16 new central universities with international quality research facilities and faculties.

"IIT-Bhubaneswar should have the same level of excellence as IIT-Bombay or Delhi," a min-

istry official said.

Faculty shortage ranges from 30% to 40% in IITs and up to 30% in IIMs. It is as high as 50% of the teaching posts in the university system. "Many new universities have started from temporary campuses ... because of faculty shortage and space," a senior UGC official said.

The 12th plan would also see a higher allocation of funds to support high-quality research in educational institutions and incentives to have more PhD-holders, whose number has been falling in recent years. The proposal, agreed by the ministry, will soon be submitted for approval to the planning commission.

HindustanTimes

Title : India IT spending to reach \$79.8 bn in 2012: Gartner

Author :

Location : NEW DELHI: I

Article Date : 11/22/2011

India IT spending to reach \$79.8 bn in 2012: Gartner

NEW DELHI: Indian companies' spending on information technology will grow by 9.1% to \$79.8 billion in 2012 from \$73.1 billion in 2011, said research firm Gartner. It expects global IT spending to reach nearly \$3.7 trillion in 2011. **PTI**

Economic Times ND 22/11/2011 P-1

Brilliant Tutorials Turns a New Page with Career Launcher

Alumnus-turned-rival to run Brilliant's brick-and-mortar biz in north & east

SHREYA BISWAS & SAUMYA BHATTACHARYA
NEW DELHI

Brilliant Tutorials, the Chennai-based IIT-JEE coaching giant that was facing closure in north India a few weeks ago, has found a saviour in alumnus and new-age rival Satya Narayanan R, the founder of Career Launcher.

Career Launcher, or CL Educate, will run the brick-and-mortar business of Brilliant Tutorials in north and east India, which account for 20% of the institute's 40,000-odd students, from January.

"Brilliant is too important a brand to die," says Satya, who was a Brilliant student in 1990 while he was training for MBA entrance exams. He made it to IIM-Bangalore.

The ₹170-crore CL Educate, which offers vocational training and test preparation through some 225 centres in the country, will control Brilliant Tutorials' brand in north and east India, and will have access to its teaching material.

The Business Spread

Brilliant Tutorials

- Mainstays: IIT-JEE, Medical entrance, Civil services, GATE, Banking
- Small presence in law and MBA test preparation



CL Educate

- Mainstays: MBA, Law, Undergrad exams such as BBA, SAT, hotel management
- Small presence in IIT-JEE, engineering test preparation; Started GATE and civil services prep last year



In return, it will pay a royalty to the ₹40-crore Chennai institute. "There is no stake, no equity involved. You can look at it as a licensee arrangement," says Satya.

Brilliant Tutorials will continue to control its mainstay postal business across the country.

The coaching institute founded in 1970 by N Thanu is one of the best in the business, having helped more

than 30,000 students join IIT.

Ravi Venkatesan, independent director on the board of IT bellwether Infosys and former Microsoft India chairman, was a Brilliant Tutorials student before joining IIT-Bombay in 1980. "I found it quite valuable. More than anything else, it gives a lot of confidence," he says.

Brilliant Hit Rough Patch Last Year >> 22

Brilliant Hit Rough Patch Last Year

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Brilliant Tutorials slumped into a crisis last year when its chairman T Neelakantan, son of its founder, passed away. His wife and company MD Vasanti Neelakantan, who has been running the business, says managing diverse locations was proving a challenge.

A few weeks ago, Brilliant Tutorials centres in Delhi were on the verge of closure and classes were disrupted because of non-payment of rent and salaries. Some of its faculty members then approached CL Educate, seeking space to hold classes for students because their own centres were locked. CL Educate gave its centres, including Pitampura, Punjabi Bagh and Noida, to Brilliant in the afternoon slot.

"This was a philanthropic exercise and a goodwill gesture to students," says Satya. But this prompted him to reach out to the Brilliant management to see if there could be more to this partnership.

"Satya had respect for the brand, passion for education and the commercial perspective to nurture the brand," says Neelakantan, who has turned down similar offers earlier.

For Satya, this was "more than a logical decision". All his senior executives as students took the Brilliant Tutorials postal course on their way to IIT.

"It's a huge connect with many generations," he says. He says the move makes big business sense.

The overall test prep market in India is estimated to be \$4 billion and is likely to grow to \$7.5 billion by 2015, according to industry estimates.

Half-a-million students sit for IIT-JEE every year. "The number of students that Brilliant has for engineering is four times the numbers we have. By merging, it becomes one of the largest players in engineering test prep," says Satya. CL Educate's engineering test prep programme ARC will merge with Brilliant's programme in January 2012. In the summer of 2001, Satya sat in the Dadar office of GD Agrawal, founder of the Agrawal Classes, another iconic brand connected with IIT-JEE, to strike a partnership. He was denied. Early this year, Agrawal Classes shut down. The Brilliant story has ended on a different note.

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'Faster than light' particle finding comes under cloud

Geneva: An international team of scientists in Italy studying the same neutrino particles colleagues say appear to have travelled faster than light rejected the startling finding this weekend, saying their tests had shown it must be wrong. The September announcement of the finding, backed up last week after new studies, caused a furore in the scientific world as it seemed to suggest that Albert Einstein's ideas on relativity, and much of modern physics, were based on a mistaken premise.

The first team, members of the OPERA experiment at the Gran Sasso laboratory south of Rome, said they recorded neutrinos beamed to them from the CERN research centre in Switzerland as arriving 60 nanoseconds before light would have done. But ICARUS, another experiment at Gran Sasso — which is deep under mountains and run by Italy's National Institute of Nuclear Physics — now argues that their measurements of the neutrinos energy on arrival contradict that reading.

In a paper posted on Saturday on the same website as the OPERA results, the ICARUS team says their findings "refute a superluminal (faster than light) interpretation of the OPERA result." They argue, on the basis of recently published studies by two top US physicists, that the neutrinos pumped down from CERN should have lost most of their energy if they had travelled at even a tiny fraction faster than light. But in fact, the ICARUS scientists say, the neutrino beam as tested in their equipment registered an energy spectrum fully corresponding with what it should be for particles travelling at the speed of light and no more. REUTERS

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कोहरे में राह दिखाएगी 'सिमरन'

भाषा

कानपुर, 21 नवंबर

आईआईटी कानपुर की महत्वाकांक्षी जीपीएस प्रणाली सिमरन को रेलगाड़ियों में स्थापित करने की मंजूरी मिलने के बाद अब इसे सरकारी रोडवेज की बसों में स्थापित करने की योजना है ताकि जाड़ों में कोहरे के दिनों में दूर दराज से आने वाली बसों की स्थिति के बारे में सही जानकारी मिल सके और यात्रियों को घंटों बसों का इंतजार न करना पड़े।

आईआईटी प्रशासन ने सरकारी बसों में सिमरन (सैटेलाइट इमेजिंग फ़र रेल नेविगेशन) प्रणाली स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव मंजूरी के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के रोडवेज विभाग को सौंप दिया है। आईआईटी कानपुर द्वारा रेलवे के लिए तैयार की गई सिमरन (सैटेलाइट इमेजिंग फ़र रेल नेविगेशन) वह प्रणाली है जिसमें एसएमएस या इंटरनेट पर ट्रेन की सही स्थिति पता चल सकेगा। रेल मंत्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी ने 19 अक्टूबर

जीपीएस प्रणाली सिमरन की मदद से बसों या रेलगाड़ियों की सही स्थिति के बारे में जानकारी मिल पाएगी। एसएमएस या इंटरनेट के द्वारा गाड़ियों की सही स्थिति पता चल सकेगा

को आधिकारिक तौर पर इसकी शुरुआत की और प्रारंभिक रूप से देश की 12 महत्वपूर्ण रेलगाड़ियों में इसे लगाया गया है।

आईआईटी के निदेशक प्रो संजय गोविंद धांडे ने बताया कि अब आईआईटी की योजना अब उत्तर प्रदेश रोडवेज की बसों में सिमरन प्रणाली स्थापित करने की है। उन्होंने बताया कि सर्दियों में कोहरे के कारण बसों की आवाजाही प्रभावित होती है और उनकी सही स्थिति का पता नहीं लग पाता। लोगों को घंटों बसों का इंतजार करना पड़ता है। लंबी दूरी के बीच चलने वाली बसों में यह समस्या

ज्यादा परेशान करती है। धांडे के अनुसार इस संबंध में संस्थान ने सारी कागजी तैयारी पूरी कर ली है और विशेष प्रोजेक्ट बनाकर एक सप्ताह पहले राज्य रोडवेज विभाग को भेज दिया गया है। धांडे ने कहा कि प्रदेश शासन से मंजूरी मिलने के बाद इसे पायलट प्रोजेक्ट के तहत कुछ बसों में प्रयोग के तौर पर लगाया जाएगा और उसके बाद इसे सभी बसों में लगाने का काम शुरू कर दिया जाएगा।

उन्होंने कहा कि इससे लंबी दूरी की बसों में यात्रा करने वालों को काफी लाभ होगा। बसों में लगाए जाने वाले जीपीएस उपकरण का सीधा संबंध बस स्टेशन के कंप्यूटर से होगा और बस स्टेशन पर एक डिस्पले बोर्ड लगाया जाएगा, जहां बसों की नवीनतम स्थिति का पता चलता रहेगा। प्रो धांडे ने बताया कि रेलगाड़ियों में सिमरन को लगाने के बाद यात्रा मार्ग के हर रेलवे स्टेशन पर डिस्पले बोर्ड लगाया जाएगा, जिसके जरिए ट्रेन की ताजा स्थिति मालूम हो सकेगी।

भूल जाएं तामझाम, अब ऑनलाइन दें एजाम

राष्ट्रीय परीक्षा प्रणाली सी-डैक ने बनाया ऑनलाइन सॉफ्टवेयर, अलग-अलग शहरों में एक साथ 25 हजार छात्र दे सकते हैं परीक्षा

नेशनल ब्यूरो | नई दिल्ली

आने वाले समय में आपको किसी भी परीक्षा के लिए लंबी दूरी तय करके दूसरे शहरों या राज्यों में नहीं जाना होगा। यही नहीं, प्रश्नपत्रों के लीक होने या फिर मूल्यांकन करने वाले अध्यापक-समीक्षक की गलती की वजह से कम नंबर पाने जैसी समस्याओं से भी दो-चार नहीं होना होगा। दूरसंचार एवं सूचना-तकनीक मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत कार्य करने वाले संस्थान सी-डैक ने एक ऑनलाइन परीक्षा सॉफ्टवेयर तैयार किया है। इसके तहत अलग-अलग



शहरों में एक साथ 25 हजार लोग कंप्यूटर पर परीक्षा दे सकेंगे।

जल्द ही सी-डैक विभिन्न सरकारी विभागों-संस्थानों से इस

नए सॉफ्टवेयर के माध्यम से परीक्षा आयोजित करने का करार शुरू करेगा। सरकार इस परीक्षा को भारत में लांच किए गए दुनिया के

सबसे सस्ते टैबलेट 'आकाश' पर भी संभव बनाना चाहती है, ऐसा होने पर आम आदमी अपने घर-स्कूल-कॉलेज परिसर से भी ऑनलाइन परीक्षा में शामिल हो सकेगा। दूरसंचार मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने कहा 'आने वाले समय में 'आकाश' पर भी यह परीक्षा हो सके इसके लिए भी कार्य किया जाएगा।' सिब्बल ने उम्मीद जताई कि आने वाले समय में सरकारी व निजी विभाग तेजी से ऑनलाइन परीक्षा पद्धति की ओर बढ़ेंगे। सचिन पायलट ने इस ऑनलाइन परीक्षा को भारत की जरूरत

करार देते हुए कहा कि इसकी विश्वसनीयता कायम करने के साथ ही यह सविधान की अनुसूची में शामिल सभी 22 भारतीय भाषाओं में उपलब्ध कराया जाएगा।

सी-डैक के डायरेक्टर जनरल प्रोफेसर रजत मूना और निदेशक वीएन शुक्ला ने कहा कि इस सॉफ्टवेयर के तहत पहले किसी भी परीक्षार्थी को रजिस्ट्रेशन कराना होगा। ऑनलाइन फीस जमा करनी होगी। उसके बाद परीक्षा में सम्मिलित होने की सुविधा होगी। दोनों ने इसके पूरी तरह चूक रहित होने का भी दावा किया।