

## Newspaper Clips November 24, 2015

Navbharat Times ND 24/11/2015 P-7

# IIT: साइंस का बिग शो

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नई दिल्ली : साइंस के कमाल, साइंस की फिल्में, साइंस पर गपशप... आईआईटी दिल्ली अपने मेगा साइंस फेस्टिवल की तैयारी में है। अगर आप साइंस के फैंस हैं, तो 4 से 8 दिसंबर टेक्नॉलजी और साइंस की दुनिया को आप भी एक्सपीरियंस कर सकते हैं। आईआईटी दिल्ली कैंपस में होने जा रहे इस फेस्टिवल का उद्घाटन पीएम नरेंद्र मोदी के करने की उम्मीद है।

**देशी साइंस मूवमेंट :**  
इस साइंस सेलिब्रेशन 'इंडिया इंटरनेशनल साइंस फेस्टिवल' का ऑर्गनाइजर है साइंस और टेक्नॉलजी और अर्थ साइंसेज मिनिस्ट्री।

इस कॉन्क्लेव का पार्टनर है विज्ञान भारती जो कि साइंस, इंजीनियरिंग और टेक्नॉलजी के बेस पर भारत के विकास के लिए एक स्वदेशी साइंस मूवमेंट है। मेगा साइंस फेस्टिवल में करीब 5000 लोगों के शामिल होने की उम्मीद है।

**कई थीम :** विज्ञान भारती के सेक्रेटरी ए. जनरल जय कुमार बताते हैं, लगभग तैयारियां हो चुकी हैं... फेस्टिवल में कई मशहूर साइंटिस्ट पहुंच रहे हैं, जिनके साथ सेशन होंगे और लोग उनसे सवाल-जवाब भी कर सकेंगे। आईआईटी दिल्ली के ऑफिशिएटिंग डायरेक्टर क्षितिज गुप्ता बताते हैं, यंग इंडिया इंटरनेशनल



**4 से 8  
दिसंबर तक चलने  
वाले इस फेस्ट में देखें  
स्टूडेंट्स के इनोवेटिव  
मॉडल**

साइंस मीट में कई यंग साइंटिस्ट और स्टूडेंट्स अपने इनोवेटिव मॉडल के साथ मौजूद होंगे। यह एक प्लेटफॉर्म होगा, जहां ये स्कॉलर्स अपनी रिसर्च को पेश कर

सकेंगे। वेस्ट टु वेल्थ टेक्नॉलजी, वॉटर रिसोर्सेज एंड मैनेजमेंट, ग्रीन एनर्जी, वेक्टर कंट्रोल एंड मिटिगेशन, इंटीग्रेटेड हेल्थकेयर, क्लाइमेट सिस्टम टेक्नॉलजी, जिओ इंफर्मेंशन सिस्टम जैसी थीम पर ये यंग साइंटिस्ट अपने कई दिलचस्प मॉडल लेकर देशभर से आ रहे हैं।

**साइंस आर्टिस्ट :** मेगा एक्सपो में साइंस और टेक्नॉलजी में देश की कामयाबियों पर भी फोकस होगा। जय कुमार बताते हैं, देशभर के स्टूडेंट्स 100 से ज्यादा मॉडल्स और स्कूल स्टूडेंट्स हजार मॉडल के साथ दिल्ली होंगे। साइंस, टेक्नॉलजी, इनोवेशन और

### इंटरनेशनल साइंस फिल्म भी

फेस्टिवल में एक साइंस फिल्म फेस्टिवल भी होगा, जिसमें साइंस एजुकेशन से जुड़ी करीब 400 फिल्मों की स्क्रीनिंग होगी। गुप्ता कहते हैं, कई शानदार इंटरनेशनल फिल्में चुनी गई हैं। कॉलेज स्टूडेंट्स के लिए साइंस फिल्म मेकिंग कॉम्पिटिशन भी है।

सोसायटी किस तरह से जुड़े हैं, इसकी जानकारी एक्सपर्ट देंगे। इस एक्सपो में कई इनोवेटर, साइंटिस्ट और आर्टिस्ट से मिलने का मौका होगा।

फेस्ट में स्टूडेंट्स के लिए वर्कशॉप और चर्चाओं का दौर भी चलेगा। चर्चाओं के सेशन में रिसर्च एरिया के तहत स्वच्छ भारत, मेक इन इंडिया जैसी कुछ सरकारी स्कीमों को भी रखा गया है।

## **Pfizer, IIT Delhi set up incubation centre for healthcare innovations**

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/Pfizer-IIT-Delhi-set-up-incubation-centre-for-healthcare-innovations/articleshow/49909777.cms>

Pharma major [Pfizer](#) and [IIT-Delhi](#) on Tuesday launched an incubation accelerator initiative co-created by Pfizer and the Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT). The programme will be open to Indian individuals and startup companies.

The accelerator will address two components. For innovators seeking comprehensive support to translate their healthcare ideas into patents, the programme will provide two years of residential incubation at IIT Delhi, funding of up to Rs 50 lakhs for each innovator, mentoring support from IIT Delhi's faculty, access to infrastructure and prototyping laboratories, IP search and filing services, guidance from Pfizer's experts, venture capitalists and other industry linkages.

For innovators who have a ready proof of concept and are seeking to obtain a patent, the programme will provide access to IP attorneys and services and cover the patent fee.

Pfizer's funding through this programme will be unencumbered. All rights on the innovations will be owned by the innovators and they will be free to commercialize their patents as they desire.

S Sridhar, executive director, Pfizer India, said: "Pfizer promotes a culture of innovation and encourages this creative endeavour globally. Our Innovation and IP Programme with IIT Delhi will promote, celebrate and reward innovations and advancements in healthcare that are born and brought up in India for the benefit of our people. In doing so, our effort aligns with the government's stated priority of creating a vibrant innovation ecosystem in the country and enhances the creation of intellectual property. I invite innovators in India to take advantage of this programme and bring their healthcare inventions to life."

The programme will invite two rounds of proposals during the year 2015-2016. Call for proposals for the first round will open from November 27, 2015 until January 15, 2016.

Applicants can submit their proposals on the FITT website. An independent panel of subject matter experts established by FITT will review and shortlist the potential incubatees.

The Technology Business Incubator Unit board at IIT-Delhi will make the final selection of individuals and startups that shall receive the grants and be incubated at IIT-Delhi.

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# Pune ITian bags ₹2 crore Google job

## Pant To Work With Design Solutions Cell

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**Pune:** Pune youth Abhishek Pant, a final-year computer-science student of IIT Kharagpur, has bagged a job with a Rs 2-crore annual package, including stock options, at Google. The 22-year-old, who finished a three-month internship at Google in California earlier this year, went through another rigorous round of interviews before being picked for the design solutions cell.

A city topper in CBSE Class X exams, Pant was born and brought up in the US before his family shifted to Pune in 2006. He will now return to the US to pursue his career.

When the family moved to Pune, his parents were worried about how he would adapt to the Indian education system. Their main challenge was to convince him about the need to sit through three-hour exams. Pant, a student of Delhi Public School, scored 97.6% marks in Class X.

"The journey from Pune to Kharagpur and Kharagpur to Google Mount View in California has been quite exciting," Pant said. "I had a great experience working there as an intern. A job offer is the icing on the cake."

He had to initially clear two rounds of technical interviews over the phone for the internship. "As part of the process, I had to do coding in a Google document," he said. "I was further interviewed by the project manager. I cleared the third interview as well, and my internship began in May."

At the end of the internship, Pant was offered the job, for which he had to go



**FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** Abhishek Pant, 22, says he is looking forward to the great variety of food on offer on the company's premises

through another set of interviews. He will be joining the company in September 2016.

He has not been assigned any project as yet, but will work with the design solutions team on the best way to solve problems raised by users. "I'm looking forward to working on new and interest-

ing engineering challenges, and to working with a smart and talented team," he said.

Pant is also looking forward to the great variety of food on offer on the company's premises. "Google offers employees tasty, healthy and free breakfast, lunch and dinner from a wide variety of cuisines

such as American, Mexican, South American, Japanese and Italian," he said. "They even have a dedicated Indian cafeteria. One of my activities during the internship was to try out all of these cuisines."

Shantanu Das, assistant registrar at the career development centre of IIT Kharagpur said this pre-placement offer was a great opportunity for Pant. "We've had placements from Google and Microsoft this year, besides other placements in Amazon, Deutsche Bank and AdHoc, among others," Das said. "There've been offers in the range of Rs 19 lakh to Rs 30 lakh per annum."

Sources at IIT Kharagpur said it would not be possible to say whether the package offered to Pant was among the highest offered to its students. They said the institute has stopped looking at the annual package amounts students receive, which tends to shift students' focus from education to remuneration instead.

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# India's appeal fades for foreign pupils

## No. Of Students From 7 Nations That Send Most Dropped 73% From '13 to '14

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**Bengaluru:** Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIM-B) was jubilant in August when it hosted students from 19 global schools for a course. But barring such isolated cases, the number of foreign students coming to India has seen a drastic decline.

According to data from the home ministry, the number of students from the seven countries that account for the bulk of overseas pupils — the US, Germany, France, South Korea, Australia, China and Singapore — has fallen 73% from 13,961 in 2013 to 3,737 in 2014. There was a marginal increase (12.4%) in 2013 from 2012, when these countries sent 12,424 students.

Experts say no one reason

can be given for the sudden dip, but the way forward — as pointed out by Bharat Ratna Professor CNR Rao, Infosys co-founder N R Narayana Murthy and others — is to improve the quality of institutions to attract more foreigners. Students from over 160 countries came to India in these three years. The decline is not seen just among students from countries ranked higher than India vis-a-vis education but even from those lower. The number of Afghan students fell 11%, from 6,508 (2013) to 5,738 (2014), Bangladeshis from 1,954 to 1,247 (36%), and Sri Lankans from 2,502 to 1,492 (40.36%). The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), the only Indian institute among the world's top 100, had just 25 full-time foreign students in 2014.

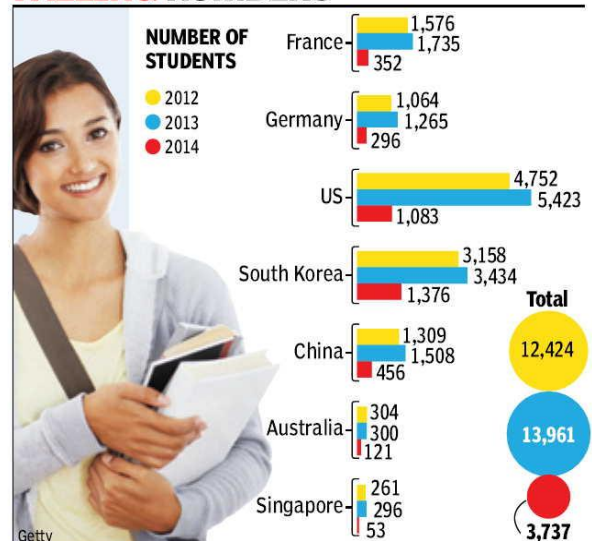
The decline, some experts

say, is a reflection of where Indian institutions stand globally. "The government has not understood the soft power of higher education. But we will have ambassadors for life. (Former PM) Manmohan Singh passed out of Cambridge 55 years ago, but still has a soft corner for it," said IIT-B founder-director S.Sadagopan.

Pointing out that there needs to be an institutional change in the way foreign students are treated, he added: "One reason for the decline could be all the bad publicity India is getting."

Some students here, however, are not bothered by the negative image. Jose Antonio Borrero, a student at IIM-B, said, "I just love India. I interned at Mumbai, and have asked my parents to join me after my course."

## FALLING NUMBERS



## **Anil Kakodkar Tried to Illegally Appoint His Nominee in IIT: Smriti Irani to NDTV**

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/anil-kakodkar-tried-to-illegally-appoint-his-nominee-in-iit-smriti-irani-to-ndtv-1246998>

**New Delhi:** Union minister Smriti Irani today broke her silence on the controversial resignation of Anil Kakodkar from the IIT-Bombay's board of governors, indicating that it followed his attempt to bend the rules during the selection of IIT directors. Mr Kakodkar, she said, had "felt slighted" when it was pointed out.

Mr Kakodkar, Ms Irani said, had tried to push his own candidate for the post of a director of the premier tech institutes, even though the person had not applied for the post.

When called out on the issue on the eve of a crucial meeting of the selection panel and told what he was doing was "illegal", Mr Kakodkar, she said, "was visibly upset because an upstart of a minister said 'follow the law'."

Claiming she had evidence of the noted nuclear scientist's attempted irregularity, Mr Irani said, "eminence does not give you the right to break the law".

**Mr Kakodkar, who quit the IIM post in March, had said he had differences with the Ministry over the selection process of IIT directors, which he had described as "too casual" and "like running a lottery". He said he resigned as he did not wish to be a part of that process.**

**Coming on the heels of the resignation on IIT-Delhi director RK Shevgaonkar, it had raised doubts that they had resigned due to government pressure.**

**At the time, Ms Irani had said the directors had resigned due to personal reasons and denied reports of a rift with Mr Kakodkar.**

**When Mr Kakodkar resigned, Ms Irani said she had asked whether he would complete his term, and he had agreed.**

**"An attempt was made to deviate from the due process was stopped by me but I was pragmatic enough to say that you are in a leadership role, would you like to fulfil his obligation to the institution and he said yes," she said.**

## **Free Agricultural Course to be launched by ICRISAT and IIT Bombay**

<http://www.jagranjosh.com/articles/free-agricultural-course-to-be-launched-by-icrisat-and-iit-bombay-1448357940-1>

In collaboration with International Crops Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Hyderabad and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay, the National Virtual Academy for Indian Agriculture would soon launch an online course. The online course would deal with diseases of horticulture crops and their management.

The course duration would be two months which would begin on 30 November and would be offered free to the candidates who roll in for the same. There is team of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) working behind this course who deal with agriculture. Educators and researchers from the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and its partners along with Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay is also taking part in offering the course online.

The Director General of ICRISAT said, “Complementing Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s dream of Digital India where- Quality Education reaches the most inaccessible corners driven by Digital Learning, we are excited to see the launch of MOOCs (Part II) in India, which offers high quality learning opportunities for students across the country.”

According to ICT for Development Scientist of ICRISAT, Dr. Sumanthkumar, “The course materials have been methodically planned and prepared by highly experienced team of educators and professors in the agricultural field, who have devoted their time and effort to educate the Indian masses on sustainable agriculture practices.”

The course under scanner would let the students understand the distribution, symptoms, causes, disease cycles and management of diseases in important horticultural crops along with their importance in the market. This course could also get used as supplementary study material at the universities which are already offering courses on Disease of Horticultural Crops and their Management. One such online course through Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) module has been conducted earlier by the NVAIA in the agriculture sector.

The Part I of this free online course, which was flagged by the father of India’s Green Revolution MS Swaminathan, was announced on February 2 this year. Over 900 students took part in the course and enrolled themselves for the course around the country.