

# Newspaper Clips

## November 25, 2010

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**VISION 2020:** Former President APJ Abdul Kalam at the IITF on Wednesday

## Graft-free society will lead to growth: Kalam

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Former President A P J Abdul Kalam has stressed on the need for a corruption-free society to achieve the dream of making India a developed nation by 2020. Kalam, while addressing a group of young students and scientists at the techno-fest organized by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) at the India International Trade Fair on Wednesday, said corruption was a problem faced by the country and righteousness is the solution to it.

“My visualisation of India in the year 2020 includes: A nation where the governance is responsive, transparent and corruption-free, where the rural and urban divide has reduced to a thin line and the agriculture, industry and service sector work together in symphony,” the former President said. He lauded the efforts of the CSIR in developing a technology for providing clean water.

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## Diabetes and pregnancy

**Every pregnant woman must get her blood sugar tested through a glucose tolerance test between 24 and 28 weeks, says Dr Anita Kaul**

**P**regnancy and new motherhood are times of great excitement, worry and change for any woman. If you have diabetes during this time, it is considered a high-risk pregnancy.

Diabetes that happens for the first time when a woman is pregnant, is known as gestational diabetes. It goes away when the child is born but increases the risk of the mother developing diabetes in later years. If a woman already has diabetes before she gets pregnant (pre-gestational diabetes), she needs to ensure the blood sugar levels are normal before falling pregnant. Either type of diabetes during pregnancy raises the risk of problems for both the child and the mother.

### **How diabetes affects pregnancy?**

- Worsen complications such as vision problems, heart diseases and kidney diseases
- Increases chances of complications in pregnancy such as premature birth, baby weighing too much or too little, low blood glucose levels at the time of birth, which may increase risk of the baby suddenly dying during last two weeks of pregnancy
- Increases risk of birth defects for the baby, miscarriage and stillbirth

### **How to detect diabetes during**

### **pregnancy?**

- Family history
- Glucose in urine sample is an indication
- History of unexplained prenatal loss and large baby
- Maternal age higher than 25 years and maternal obesity

### **How to manage it?**

- Quit smoking and drinking if you are planning a baby
- Every pregnant woman must get her sugars tested through a glucose tolerance test between 24 and 28 weeks
- Control your diet and folate supplementation
- Exercise regularly for at least 30 minutes
- Regular fetal monitoring through ultrasound scans

To prevent spontaneous abortion and malformations in infants of diabetic mothers, diabetes care and education must be given before conception. There are no contraceptive methods that are specifically advised to women with diabetes. Once patient achieves stable sugar control then contraception can be discontinued and hence, pregnancy can be planned.

*Times Wellness workshop on "Handling Diabetes" on November 26, at Apollo Hospitals, Sarita Vihar, from 3.30pm-5pm. Free basic diabetes check up for all.*

*To register call- 23782765/26825708-5604*

# FB makes people more social: Study

**New York:** Contrary to common belief social media websites such as Facebook do not weaken personal ties, they strengthen them in unique ways for different age groups, says a new study.

The rapid spread of Facebook, which has more than 500 million users worldwide, has prompted concerns about its negative effects, but researchers at the University of Texas have reached a different conclusion.

“Our findings suggest that Facebook is not supplanting face-to-face interactions between friends, family and colleagues,” said S. Craig Watkins, an associate professor of radio, TV and film who headed the research team. “In fact, we believe there is sufficient evidence that social media afford opportunities for new expressions of friendship, intimacy and community.” REUTERS

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# 'For over-45s, an aspirin a day cuts cancer risk'

**London:** People above 45 years of age should consider a daily dose of aspirin to protect themselves from heart disease and cancer, researchers say.

Evidence is building that the benefits for the healthy middle-aged and elderly "far outweigh" the side-effects, according to the academics. In particular, individuals at a higher risk from these two major killers can take the pain-killer as a preventive medicine, they added, reports the journal *The Lancet*.

The experts were addressing the Royal Society of Medicine a month after research from Oxford University showed that taking 75mg of aspirin daily for five years reduces the risk of getting bowel cancer by a quarter, and deaths from the disease by a third.

A 75mg dose is a quarter of the standard over-the-



## MAGIC PILL

counter pill, according to the *Telegraph*. Earlier studies had shown that a low daily dose could reduce the risk of developing heart diseases. Members of the panel said that the recent research was potentially of "enormous importance".

Research is also looking into whether aspirin could have a preventive effect on other types of cancer as well. IANS

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## **Orange juice is good for your heart, says study**

**D**rinking two glasses of orange juice daily can help lower your blood pressure and cut the risk of heart disease, a new study has claimed. Researchers at the University of Auvergne in France found that middle-aged men who regularly drank half-a-litre of juice, equivalent to about two glasses, for a month saw a significant decline in their blood pressure readings. Previous studies have suggested that orange juice may be good for the heart, but scientists have been uncertain exactly what gives it its protective powers. Now, the French study found the presence of a natural plant chemical called hesperidin that increases the fruit's protective powers, Daily Mail reported.

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# Hot fact: Lakes warming up faster than land, air

## Nasa Uses Sat Images To Study 104 Water Bodies

**Washington:** A first-of-its-kind Nasa study is finding nice cool lakes are heating up — even faster than air.

Two Nasa scientists used satellite data to look at 104 large inland lakes around the world and found that on average they have warmed 1.1° C since 1985. That's about two-and-a-half times the increase in global temperatures in the same time period. Russia's Lake Ladoga and America's Lake Tahoe are warming significantly and the most, said study co-author Simon Hook, a scientist at the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, California. Tahoe has heated up by 1.7° C since 1985, while Ladoga has been even hotter, going up by 2.2° C.

Hook and his colleague used several satellites and looked at thermal infrared images of the lakes in winter and summer. They also confirmed the numbers by comparing them to buoy data. "It fits with what we see with air temperature measurements," Hook said. "We were surprised that in some places the lakes appear to be



**HEAT IS ON:** One reason behind the uneven warming could be the way lakes warm — in a more gradual manner than land but also slower to cool, say Nasa scientist

warming more than the air temperature."

The next question to look at is that why the lakes seem to be warming faster than the air or land, Hook said. One reason could be the way lakes warm — in a more

gradual manner than land but also slower to cool. Nasa climate scientist Gavin Schmidt said the research made sense and adds another independent measuring system to show that the world is warming up. AP

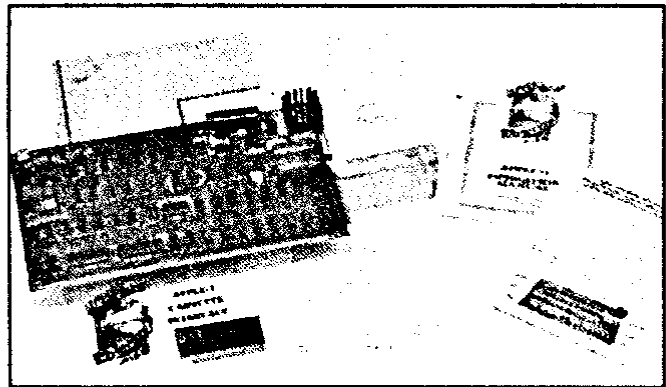
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# 34 yrs on, one of world's earliest PCs sold for \$210k

**London:** Its processor works 1,000 times slower than the Apple iPad, but the first ever Apple computer has sold for 425 times the original price.

The Apple I, one of only 200 such models ever made, was sold at Christie's auction house in central London for \$210,000. It came with its original packaging and a signed sales letter from Steve Jobs, one of Apple Computer's co-founders and the current CEO of Apple Inc. When the Apple I was introduced in 1976, it was the only personal computer to come with a fully assembled motherboard, making it ready to use straight from the box — provided the user supplied a keyboard, power supply, and display, Christie's said. It sold for \$666.66 and was available until it was discontinued in 1977.

Bidding on the Apple I came quickly, with the computer eventually going to Italian businessman and private collector Marco Boglione, who made his offer over the phone. Marco's brother Francesco Boglione, who attended the auction in person, said that Marco's purchase was a testament to his love of computers. "The first time I had heard of the idea of a personal computer, it was from Marco," Boglione said. He bought it "because he



**OLD IS GOLD:** The fully assembled motherboard of the first Apple I sold at Christie's. The auctioned computer came with its original packaging and a letter signed by Apple CEO Steve Jobs

loves computers."

Present at the technology auction, which also included manuscripts, prints, and science-themed texts, was Apple Computer co-founder Steve Wozniak, who agreed to add an autographed letter to the lot. He said the auction was a historic moment for his work, especially when sold alongside such other technological greats as an Enigma, the German code-making machine, and writings of British mathematician Alan Turing, considered one of the founders of modern computing. AP

# Business Standard ND25/11/2010

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## IIMs may take CAT global

VINAY UMARJI

Ahmedabad, 24 November

India's common admission test (CAT) for premier B-schools may soon go global. The disclosure comes as the first successful and glitch-free edition of CAT concluded today. The CAT committee — the body responsible for conducting the test — also plans to make it available throughout the year.

CAT 2010, which began on October 27, was held at 128 labs in 78 centres across 33 cities. A total of 204,267 candidates registered for CAT 2010 for admissions in 10 Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) and over 150 other B-schools. Results will be declared on January 12, 2011.

"We have been contacted by some B-schools from the Middle East and Sri Lanka, who want us to conduct CAT for them. While a new committee will be formed next year for CAT 2011, we will make strong recommendations to take the test offshore, as it will enhance the CAT brand," Himanshu Rai, the

### TEST DRIVE

- CAT 2010 held at 128 labs in 78 centres across 33 cities
- B-schools in West Asia & Sri Lanka have sought CAT
- Taking it offshore to help CAT meet best practices
- Making CAT available through the year expedited

convener for CAT 2010, told *Business Standard*.

According to Rai, taking CAT offshore would also mean an enhancement of best practices. "It is already been a challenging job for Prometric to conduct CAT for us, but it has been very successful this year. However, if and when we take CAT offshore, we will learn more about global best practices in conducting such tests," added Rai.

Conducted by the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) in association with Prometric and partners Everonn and MeritTrac, CAT was made computer-based for the first time

in 2009. However, the test was marred by technical glitches, resulting in thousands of candidates being unable to take the test in its controversial first edition last year.

Following this, the new committee took several steps to ensure a smooth test by, among other things, handing over labs at least a fortnight prior to the test and quarantining all computers. The IIMs and Prometric also changed the channel partner from NIIT in 2009 to Everonn and MeritTrac in 2010. Added to that, the testing window was extended from 10 days last year to 20 days this year.

Such has been the success in conducting the test this year, that the committee is expediting the process of making CAT available throughout the year. "CAT is still a computer-based test and not a computer adaptive test like GMAT, which can be conducted throughout the year. But we have expedited the process and hope to see an all-year CAT being conducted by 2012 or latest by 2013," said Rai.



Mint ND 25.11.2010 P-10

## LICENCE TO MARKET

# CSIR in ₹150 mn deal with Nostrum on clot busters

**State-funded lab took 20 years to develop injectable medicine to clear clots; drug enters animal trials next year**

BY JACOB P. KOSHY  
jacob.k@livemint.com

NEW DELHI

**T**he Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has signed a licensing deal worth nearly \$150 million (₹750 crore) with New Jersey-based Nostrum Pharmaceuticals Inc. to develop and market a new generation of clot busters.

It is the biggest-ever drug-licensing deal involving a state-funded research and development lab.

The National Institute of Immunology, a lab funded by the department of biotechnology, licensed an insulin molecule to another US-based company for ₹50 crore earlier this year.

The Chandigarh-based Institute of Microbial Technology (IMTech), a CSIR lab, developed the injectable medicine to clear clots over 20 years of research.

It has earlier licensed a slew of molecules for heart attacks and strokes to Nostrum and Indian pharma firms such as Cadilla Pharma Ltd and Lupin India Ltd in the past decade.

The new clot busters will enter animal trials later next year, IMTech director Girish Sahni said. If the preliminary trials



HT PHOTO

**Risk reliever :** *IMTech director Girish Sahni says the new drug substantially reduces the risk of reocclusion, the recurrence of a blockage in an artery after it has been treated.*

are successful, it would take at least three years for them to hit the market.

Sahni said the new clot busters substantially reduced the risk of reocclusion, the recurrence of a blockage in an artery after it has been treated, which limits the effectiveness of currently available clot busters.

The money from the deal will flow into CSIR coffers in tranches after specific milestones have been achieved, said Samir Brahmachari, director general of CSIR, India's largest scientific organization.

The deal was significant because of its size as well as the confidence it inspired in scientists to develop better drugs, he added.

"CSIR will continue to be fo-

cused on its social responsibilities," said Brahmachari. "We've spent significantly on patenting also and it's deals like these that help recover our costs and channel resources into newer drugs for India."

"Licensing of these molecules to Nostrum is a proud achievement for IMTech, especially since these are the third- and fourth-generation molecules that IMTech has licensed out to Nostrum, and should fill an acute need in the world, especially (in) developing countries, where effective but affordable treatments for circulatory disorders such as heart attacks and stroke are sorely needed over the more expensive option of surgery," Sahni said in a statement.

# Higher education: Crack the whip

**T**HE EDUCATION SECTOR IS PASSING THROUGH exciting times. The four Bills introduced by the human resources development minister in the Lok Sabha will potentially overhaul the country's higher education system and restructure the legal and regulatory environment of higher education. This represents a landmark as these Bills are the first major reform initiative in higher education in free India.

The country's education system has been characterised by a huge demand-supply gap, high entry barriers and over-regulation that rendered it incapable of coping with the soaring aspirations of a growing middle class and requirements of a new world order. India requires serious measures for expansion and resource mobilisation, given the formidable target of 21% gross enrolment ratio (GER) by the end of the 12th Plan (2017). Today's 12.4% GER is much lower than the world average of about 23%.

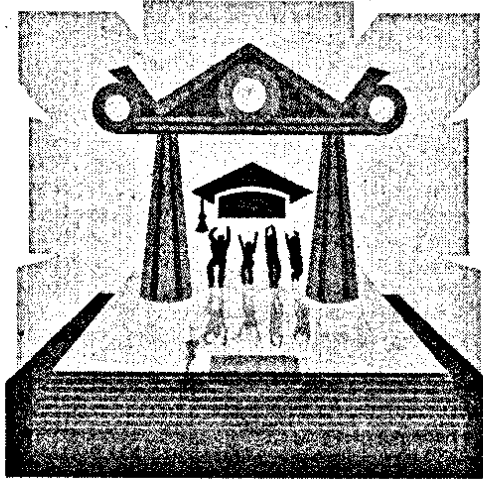
Against this backdrop, the Bills come as a breath of fresh air. We believe their impact will be to tighten regulation while improving governance and transparency, create infrastructure for benchmarking and quality rating, and lay the foundation for exposing this sector to foreign competition. Let us review these Bills:

The Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010, seeks to prohibit unfair practices in technical educational institutions, medical educational institutions and universities and introduce greater transparency through mandatory disclosures regarding faculty, fees and infrastructure, etc.

The National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Bill, 2010, seeks to make accreditation mandatory for higher educational institutions, certification of their programmes and infrastructure by independent agencies and provides for establishing an independent statutory authority for the same.

The Education Tribunals Bill, 2010, seeks to provide for a two-tier system of adjudication of disputes relating to education involving teachers and employees of higher educational institutions, students, universities, institutions and statutory regulatory authorities.

The Foreign Educational Institutions (Regulation of Entry & Operations) Bill, 2010, seeks to include within its ambit foreign education institutions (FEIs), whether existing and proposed, set up independently or in tieup with an Indian partner or education provider imparting education resulting in degree, diploma or certificate in India. Distance education has been excluded from the ambit. FEIs proposing to award degrees and diplomas are required to mandatorily seek notification from central government as a foreign education provider, subject to meeting specified eligibility criteria.



ARINDAM

**DHIRAJ MATHUR**

Leader, Education, PwC India

**If we do not address inclusion, expansion and quality, we risk our demographic dividend turning into a drag. There is work to be done — on all aspects of higher education**

The provisions of the FEI Bill reflect government's focus on quality, reliability and accountability of FEIs intending to establish in India, addressing concerns that the opening up of a tightly-regulated sector may bring up. However, there are some fundamental and implementation issues that need to be resolved as they could potentially defeat the purpose of the Bill. For instance, it is not clear what structure of entity — trust, society, etc — will be allowed to FEIs for establishing in India. A second issue is how the corpus will be funded. The only available mechanism to fund a trust or a society is to make a capital contribution under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA). But approval under the FCRA is a long and tedious process.

It appears from the legislation that FEIs would also be subject to multiple regulation by the University Grants Commission (UGC) that governs the standards of education and the state and central government,

which govern the establishment of institutions, regulators such as All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Medical Council, Nursing Council govern the provision of diplomas and degrees. Academic institutions in most countries, particularly the US and the UK, enjoy a high degree of autonomy and it is doubtful whether a reputed institution would agree to our high-handed regulation. Finally, it is unlikely that many FEIs will have the deep pockets to sink ₹50 crore into a corpus with no hope of repatriation or earning returns. This brings us to the one issue that has not been addressed: financing the expansion that we need since the resources will clearly not come from overseas.

Industry estimates of per-student capital expenditure for a private university is ₹1,25,000 (\$2,800), assuming the university is not located in an urban area. This implies that capacity for an additional 7.6 million — over the 2009 formal higher education enrolment of 13.6 million — would be required to take enrolment in formal recognised degree and diploma programmes to 21.2 million students (which would imply a GER of 15%). This would require a capital investment of ₹94,600 crore (\$21 billion). It is not clear where these resources would come from. India spends about 3.7% of national GDP on education. Of this, a meagre 0.66% is the amount spent on higher education, which is less than sub-Saharan Africa's median.

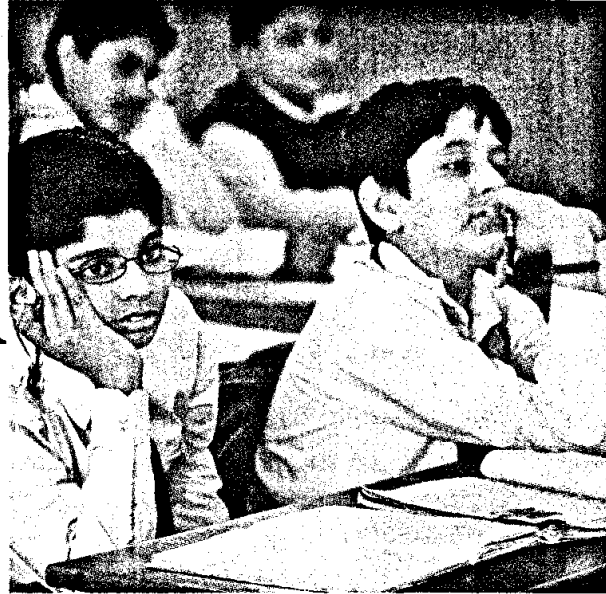
Although the 11th Plan had raised the allocation for higher education by over nine times to ₹85,000 crore, Press reports indicate that the number has been cut to half in the recent mid-term review. Clearly, private capital will have to be mobilised. However, given the restrictions on for-profit entities entering the sector, this may not happen. The government, therefore, needs to take a pragmatic approach on the issue of a for-profit model to mobilise private capital.

The education sector is poised at a critical juncture. If we do not address issues of inclusion, expansion and quality, we risk our demographic dividend turning into a drag. The relationship between education, productivity and development is well documented. There is much work to be done — on all aspects of higher education. Unfortunately, there is also much opposition to these reforms from strong vested interests. Transparency demands that those opposing them must declare they have no conflict of interest.

These Bills will lay the foundation of a modern framework to improve quality and check malpractices in the higher education in the country and create an enabling environment wherein multiple providers of education can operate and compete to provide access to quality education. Reform must prevail over vested interests and all stakeholders must support them.

Mail Today ND 25/11/2010 P10

# RTE rules out all tests for children in school admission



The RTE act aims to ensure that the admission procedure followed in schools is non-discriminatory, rational and transparent.

THE UNION human resource development ministry has issued new guidelines clarifying the various concerns of schools regarding the prohibition of 'screening' (admission tests and interviews) as per section 13 (1) of the Right To Education (RTE) Act.

The guidelines state that private and unaided schools will have to formulate a policy, for admission, which they have to make public, such as by including it in the prospectus.

The point system — being followed by Delhi schools as per the Delhi government's admission policy — will no longer be valid.

Most Delhi schools follow the point system during admissions such as allotting

By Mail Today Bureau  
In New Delhi

points for neighbourhood area and girl child. They had been against the lottery selection terming it as a chaotic process.

But, now the admission policy will clearly stipulate the criteria which are 'rational, reasonable and just' in terms of the objectives of the schools.

An HRD ministry official clarified: "It now depends on the state governments as to how they define a 'rational, reasonable and just' policy. The Centre has stipulated the broad guidelines."

Schools will have to set aside seats for the admission of students in both the reserved categories. Every school will have to set aside 25 per cent of its seats for children from economically weaker sections of society. The general category selection will, however, be conducted through a random process such as draw of lots.

According to the RTE Act, schools will not be permitted to conduct interviews and hold tests for either the child or parents.

However, the existing admission criteria which give preference to a lot of children — the alumni, siblings of students or those living within the neighbourhood — will still be effective.

The ministry issued the guidelines for the new admission procedure after a lot of effort from private and unaided schools. According to an HRD ministry official, a separate admission policy will be announced later for residential schools, as well.

However, the Madrasas and the Vedic Pathshalas — serving the religious and linguistic minorities — will not be com-

## NEW HRD NORMS BASED ON RTE

- Private and unaided schools will have to formulate a policy for admission
- Point system followed in Delhi schools will no longer be valid
- Schools have to set aside seats for both the reserved category students
- 25 per cent seats will have to be reserved for the economically weaker sections of society
- General category students will be selected by a draw of lots
- The Madrasas and the Vedic Pathshalas will not be forced to follow the guidelines

pelled to follow these guidelines.

The objective of the RTE act is to ensure that the admission procedure followed in schools is non-discriminatory, rational and transparent. It also intends to provide equal educational opportunities to all children. It urges schools to have a composite classroom with children from diverse backgrounds.

While schools will not be allowed to 'screen' or profile students, private schools can still formulate 'reasonable' admission criteria based on the 'objectives of the school'.