

**Newspaper Clips**  
**November 25, 2015**

**Financial Chronicle ND 25/11/2015 P-10**

# Pfizer, IIT Delhi launch IP innovation programme

**ANWESH KOLEY**

*New Delhi*

PFIZER, the Foundation for Innovation and Technology (FITT) and IIT Delhi, on Tuesday launched 'The Pfizer IIT-Delhi Innovation and IP Programme', an incubation accelerator initiative for innovators seeking comprehensive support to turn their healthcare ideas into patents.

The programme will provide up to Rs 50 lakhs funding for each incubator along with mentoring support facilities from IIT Delhi, access to infrastructure, prototyping laboratories, IP search and filing services spr-

ead over a span of two years.

Pfizer's funding though this initiative will be unencumbered, as innovators who will be free to commercialise their patents, will own all rights on the innovations. The pharma company will fund up to four innovations in a year. Two rounds of proposals will be invited during 2015-16. Calls for proposals for the first round will open from November 27, 2015, till January 15, 2016.

"The objective of this project is to create awareness about innovations in the field of healthcare developed by Indians. Our efforts are in sync with the government's priority of creating a

vibrant innovation system in the country and intend to enhance the creation of intellectual property," said S Sridhar, executive director, Pfizer India.

Speaking on the occasion, "Accelerating manufacturing is a key challenge in India. In order to become the hub of design and innovation, we must ensure that project initiators find adequate funding from investors and venture capitalists. Also, sufficient incubation centres must be set up, which provide good mentoring to the young innovators."

**anwesh.koley**  
**@mydigitalfc.com**

**Amar Ujala ND 25/11/2015 P-04**

# आईआईटी में हेल्थ पर रिसर्च

नई दिल्ली। प्रधानमंत्री के स्टार्ट अप इंडिया प्रोग्राम को बढ़ावा देने के लिए भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान दिल्ली (आईआईटी) ने हेल्थ सेक्टर में शोध का मन बना लिया है। इसके लिए आईआईटी ने फाइजर के साथ मिल कर इनोवेशन एंड आईपी प्रोग्राम की शुरूआत की है, जिसमें युवाओं के आइडिया को आईआईटी के शिक्षकों की मदद से विकसित करने के साथ पेटेंट कराने का काम किया जाएगा। फाइजर ने 50 लाख की वित्तीय मदद की है।

फाइजर और आईआईटी ने इस संयुक्त प्रोग्राम के तहत साल में दो बार नए स्टार्टअप और 10 प्रोजेक्ट को पूरा करने का टारगेट बनाया है। इसकी जानकारी डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ इंडस्ट्रियल पॉलिसी एंड प्रमोशन के सचिव अभिताभ कांत ने दिल्ली में आयोजित एक प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस में दी। उन्होंने बताया कि यह योजना प्रधानमंत्री के प्रोग्राम स्किल इंडिया, डिजिटल इंडिया व मेक इन इंडिया के साथ स्टार्ट अप इंडिया पर जोर देने की है, जो कि एक अलग तरह का प्रोग्राम साबित होगा। यह प्रोग्राम स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं व व्यावसायिक उद्यमों के साथ छात्रों के लिए भी लाभप्रद होगा। फाइजर लिमिटेड के कार्यकारी निदेशक एस श्रीधर ने बताया कि न केवल युवाओं को वित्तीय मदद बल्कि शोध संबंधी अन्य सहूलियतें भी दी जाएंगी। प्रोग्राम के लिए साल में दो बार चयन प्रक्रिया आयोजित की जाएगी, जिसमें हर बार चार स्टार्ट की मदद होगी, जिन्हें आईआईटी कैंपस में रहकर अपने आइडिया को विकसित करने और पेटेंट कराने का मौका मिलेगा। साथ ही दस ऐसे प्रोजेक्ट पर काम किया जाएगा जिसमें किसी सुधार या पेटेंट की जरूरत होगी। उन्होंने बताया कि हर नए स्टार्ट के लिए फाइजर की ओर से 50 लाख की वित्तीय मदद दी जाएगी। इस प्रोग्राम के तहत आने वाले आवेदकों का चयन स्क्रीनिंग प्रक्रिया के आधार पर होगा। पहले चरण के आवेदन 27 नवंबर से 15 जनवरी 2016 तक एफआईआईटी की वेबसाइट दिए जा सकते हैं। **ब्यूरो**

Navbharat Times ND 25/11/2015 P-05

# IIT को दें आइडिया और लें 50 लाख

■ प्रमुख संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली

आईआईटी दिल्ली ने हेल्थकेयर पर इनोवेशन प्रोग्राम लॉन्च किया है। यह हर किसी के लिए खुला है। इसमें इनोवेटर्स को उनके स्टार्टअप आइडिया के लिए आईआईटी दिल्ली में रेजिडेंशल इन्क्यूबेशन और दूसरी स्कीम के तहत 50-50 लाख रुपये का फंड दिया जाएगा।

इस प्रोग्राम के दो पार्ट हैं। पहला, हेल्थकेयर में आइडिया के लिए रेजिडेंट इन्क्यूबेशन। इसके तहत आईआईटी दिल्ली में दो साल तक हर फैसिलिटी पाकर काम किया जा सकता है। हर इनोवेटर को उसके स्टार्टअप के लिए 50 लाख तक का फंड दिया जाएगा। दूसरा, अगर आप अपना कोई इनोवेशन पेटेंट करना चाहते हैं, तो यह प्रोग्राम उसका जिम्मा लेगा। आईआईटी का

फाउंडेशन फॉर इनोवेशन एंड टेक्नॉलजी (एफआईटीटी) और फाइजर ने इस प्रोग्राम को शुरू किया है।

एफआईटीटी के मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर डॉ. अनिल वाली ने बताया कि एफआईटीटी आईआईटी में 1992 में शुरू हुआ था और तब से स्टार्टअप आइडिया को लेकर यह मिशन मोड पर काम कर रहा है। इस प्रोग्राम में 2015-16 के दौरान दो राउंड में प्रोजेक्ट को इनविटेशन दिया जाएगा।

पहला राउंड 27 नवंबर से 15 जनवरी तक चलेगा, जिसमें कोई भी शख्स एफआईटीटी में अप्लाई कर सकता है। वहीं, दूसरा राउंड अप्रैल 2016 में शुरू होगा। डॉ. अनिल वाली ने बताया कि डाइग्नोसिस,

बायोमेडिकल इन्फर्मेशन, मेडिकल डिवाइस, मोबाइल हेल्थ, थेरपी सिस्टम, बायोटेक... किसी भी तरह के इनोवेशन के लिए एंट्री खुली है। एक्सपर्ट्स की टीम सिलेक्शन करेगी। इनोवेटर्स को आईआईटी

में लैब सर्विस और जरूरत पड़ने पर आईआईटी के बाहर भी सुविधाएं दी जाएंगी। आईआईटी दिल्ली फैकल्टी इन्हें गाइडेंस भी देगी। यह प्रोग्राम इनोवेटर के नाम से इस पेटेंट को आसानी से जल्द से जल्द फाइल करवाएगा।

फार्मास्यूटिकल कंपनी फाइजर इंडिया के इग्जेक्यूटिव डायरेक्टर एस. श्रीधर ने बताया कि इस प्रोग्राम के लिए एक साल में रेजिडेंट इन्क्यूबेशन के लिए 4 और 10 इनोवेटर्स नॉन रेजिडेंट पेटेंट के लिए चुने जाएंगे।

हेल्थकेयर  
इनोवेशन  
प्रोग्राम लॉन्च, पहला  
राउंड 27 नवंबर से  
15 जनवरी तक

# Anil Kakodkar tried to illegally appoint his candidate in IIT, says Smriti

**HT Correspondent**

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Breaking her silence on the controversial resignation of Anil Kakodkar from IIT-Bombay's board of governors, HRD minister Smriti Irani indicated that it followed his attempts to bend the rules during the selection of IIT directors.

In an interview to NDTV, Irani said Kakodkar had "felt slighted" when the matter was pointed out to him.

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

The minister added that 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", Kakodkar "was visibly upset because an upstart of a minister said 'follow the law'."

Saying she had evidence of the noted nuclear scientist's attempted irregularity, Irani added, "Eminence does not give you the right to break the law."

Kakodkar had quit the IIT post in March due to differences with the ministry over the selection process of IIT directors, which he had described as "too casual" and "like running a lottery".

As his resignation had come at a time when IIT-Delhi director RK Shevgaonkar had also quit, it had raised questions about possible government pressure.

When Kakodkar resigned, Irani said she had asked him if he would complete his term, to which he agreed.

**HRD MINISTER SMRITI IRANI SAID SHE HAD EVIDENCE OF THE NOTED NUCLEAR SCIENTIST'S ATTEMPTED IRREGULARITY**



■ In a first-of-its-kind address at IIM Ahmedabad, PM Modi will make a pitch for his Make in India, Start up India campaigns. AFP FILE PHOTO

# Modi to inspire brightest minds at IITs, IIMs in Jan

**INVITE SENT** PM likely to deliver speech on innovation, entrepreneurship to uplift masses

**Brajesh Kumar**

■ brajesh.kumar@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to address the students of IITs and IIMs in January next year.

In a first of its kind address at IIM Ahmedabad, Modi will speak on innovation and entrepreneurship and make a pitch for his Make in India, Start up India campaigns, sources said.

The invitation that was sent to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), and accessed by HT, said the institute wants the Prime Minister to address the inaugural session of its annual international food agri-business and rural management summit called Amaethon.

"The students have envisaged the flagship session, in which they are keen to have you address all the IITs and IIMs of the country and inspire the brightest minds of the country take up entrepreneurship and innovation to uplift masses, especially in rural India," the invitation sent to the PMO said.

The PMO has sent the invitation letter to the human resource development (HRD) ministry for its comments. Sources said the ministry has requested the PM to deliver the inaugural address.

➤ The students have envisaged the flagship session, in which they are keen to have you address all the IITs and IIMs of the country and inspire the brightest minds of the country take up entrepreneurship and innovation...

INVITATION SENT TO THE PMO

Speaking to HT, IIM Ahmedabad director Ashish Nanda said: "Amaethon has been a students' organized event and for the 2016 edition, they were keen on inviting the PM. It would be a great opportunity for them to listen to him on his government's campaigns like Make in India, Start up India," he said.

Amaethon, a three-day event, organized by the IIM-A students, brings together students, teachers, industry and policy makers to brainstorm on issues confronting food and agri-business sector.

The institute has in the past invited former Prime Ministers Narsimha Rao and Manmohan Singh for its annual convocation.

Economic Times ND 25/11/2015 P-01

# Govt Engineers a Coup at IIT-B

## Nudges IITs to favour manufacturing recruiters, institute obliges

**Prachi.Verma**  
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Bowing to informal, but persistent requests from the government, IIT-Bombay has decided to give at least 11 out of 30 slots on the first day of placement season to core engineering companies even though they offer only half of the average ₹30 lakh salary offered by other companies with a Day 1 slot.

IIT-Bombay sources told ET that engineering companies

like Tata Steel, General Electric, Sony Japan and a few others have now been given Day 1

**IIT-Bombay to give 11 out of 30 slots on first day of placement season to core engg firms**

slots after the ministry of human resource development (MHRD) nudged IITs to do this to bolster the central government's 'Make in India' initiative.

**Only at IIT-Bombay ►► 12**

### Changing Times

**Traditionally, consulting, finance & technology firms are preferred employers**

IIT graduates also prefer new-age cos like startups and e-commerce

Core sector firms are not the best paymasters at IITs, which is a constraint in attracting top-notch talent



## Only at IIT-Bombay

►► From Page 1

Traditionally consulting, finance, technology and e-commerce companies form majority of the companies that come on Day 1. Last year, a few offered salaries as high as Rs 1 crore.

Interestingly, IIT-Bombay is the only institute to have obliged the government. Sources at IIT-Kharagpur and Delhi told ET that the institutes are not giving any such preferential treatment to any company. IIT-Madras is moving up core companies by several days in the placement schedule, but is not giving a Day 1 slot to any engineering company. IIT placements kick off on December 1.

IIT-Bombay will see a total of 110 core engineering companies this placement season, a jump of 40% from last year. The institute received about 190 job announcement forms from the core engineering space, compared to only 110 last year.

A senior MHRD official confirmed that the government is encouraging the leading IITs to take "relevant measures" to push the Make in India campaign. "This is the need of the hour for the country," the official, who did not wish to be named, said.

"I am a beneficiary of talent from the IIT-Bombay," Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, chairman of Bio-

con Limited and the current chairperson of IIM-Bangalore said. "During my days of developing bio-manufacturing, we had a large team of engineers from IIT-Bombay." Nobody can be forced to support the Make in India campaign, but all IITs would gain from it, she added. She continues to pick fresh talent from IITs even today for the company.

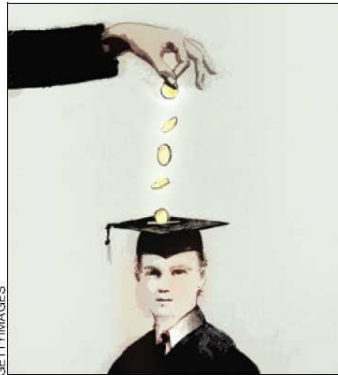
"Earlier, consulting firms used to take up most of the slots in the early days of the placement. But now as a conscious effort, we are pushing for core engineering firms, partly due to the students' preferences," an IIT-Bombay placement faculty said.

According to sources in the placement cell, the institute is not choosing Day 1 companies based on salaries offered. Going forward too, the institute intends to strengthen its focus on the core engineering companies, the source added. The institute wants to give a balanced choice to students in terms of offering equal importance to firms from consulting, finance, banking, technology and core engineering.

"This will give the students a lot of choice as there are a few students who prefer good profiles in core companies to hefty salaries in non-core companies," a student at IIT-Bombay said.

# IIT-Kgp Bags Maximum Pre-placement Offers

This season, average compensation package has ranged between ₹19 lakh and ₹30 lakh for PPOs



Prachi.Verma@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** Google Inc has offered two students of Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, pay packages worth ₹2 crore each including stock options. The two, Araknath Pathak and Abhishek Pant, top the computer science and engineering department with an above-average cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 9.3.

Last year's highest pre-placement offer (PPO) at IIT Kharagpur of ₹1.5 crore also came from Google.

Of the 340 students offered intern-

ships this year, more than 170 have already got placed compared with 88 PPOs received last year.

"This placement season, IIT Kharagpur has already grabbed the maximum PPOs with 50% conversion from internships arranged by the institute," an IIT Kharagpur faculty member said.

The average compensation package ranged between ₹19 lakh and ₹30 lakh for PPOs. Adobe has made offers to 12 students, the highest by any company at IIT Kharagpur. In the non-IT sector, Deutsche Bank is the top recruiter with nine offers.

For the first time, a third-year, dual-

degree student in electronics and electrical communication engineering, who is to be placed next year, has also received a PPO from ITC in the core engineering sector.

Students usually intern in their third year and get PPOs only in the final or fourth year.

Core sector offers have gone international this year with Toyo Engineering in Japan making one to a chemical engineering student. "This year many students from electrical engineering and maths and computing courses have also drawn attention of the companies making PPOs," said the person cited above.

Millennium Post ND 25/11/2015 P-06

## Govt to introduce IIM Bill in Winter Session

### OUR CORRESPONDENT

**NEW DELHI:** The HRD Ministry, headed by Smriti Irani, which is always in news for some reason, is planning to introduce the contentious Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Bill in the Winter Session, starting Thursday.

According to HRD ministry officials, Irani has addressed almost all concerns of various IIMs and the Bill will be introduced in this Session of Parliament.

The government had on

October 9 ironed out almost all differences with the IIMs over the Bill. The legislation titled, Indian Institute of Management Bill 2015, will "enable the IIMs to grant degrees", said a government notification, dated November 23.

The Human Resource Development Ministry reached the final consensus after several rounds of meeting with stakeholders, including the IIMs, following an outcry that the previous version of the Bill would undermine the autonomy of the elite institutions and

give more power to the HRD Ministry on all key issues governing the institutes.

*Millennium Post* was the first to report that despite premier business schools objecting to some clauses in the contentious IIM Bill, the ministry was 'ready' to table the draft in the Monsoon session, but failed to do so as the session was stalled by the Opposition parties over the resignation of External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje on the Lalit Modi issue.

# Ready for changes in engineering and medical entrance tests?

**GETTING BETTER** Reforms are aimed at improving student intake quality and easing exam pressures

Gauri Kohli

gauri.kohli@hindustantimes.com

Engineering and medicine aspirants will have to prepare themselves for some major changes likely in the national-level entrance tests for engineering and medicine in the next couple of years. Before taking the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) for engineering, aspirants will have to appear for an online aptitude test which will determine whether they are fit to take the JEE. From 2016, the top two lakh students will be eligible for the JEE (Advanced) instead of the top 1.5 lakh. Joint counselling will continue to be done for NITs and IITs.

"In future, Class 12 Board exam marks may not be considered. But students should not neglect Board exams. The changes are aimed to bring down the number of vacant seats which will have a positive impact on aspirants," says PV Balaji, former chairman, JEE.

There are changes in store in the medical entrance too. Those aiming to pursue medicine may get only one chance to prove themselves as there are plans to have a common entrance test for undergraduate and postgraduate medical courses across the country. The Medical Council of India (MCI) has given its nod to a proposal that supports the idea of a common medical test. Experts say the expected changes will have a lot of impact on the student intake quality and will also reduce burden on students.

## CHANGES EXPECTED

The Committee of Eminent Persons (CEP), constituted by the IIT Council, has recommended major changes in the JEE structure with effect from 2017. While the exam will continue to be held in two stages, online aptitude tests to check the scientific aptitude of candidates will be held several times a year.

In a report submitted to the Centre on November 5, 2015, the CEP has proposed setting up a

## KEY CHANGES LIKELY TO HAPPEN

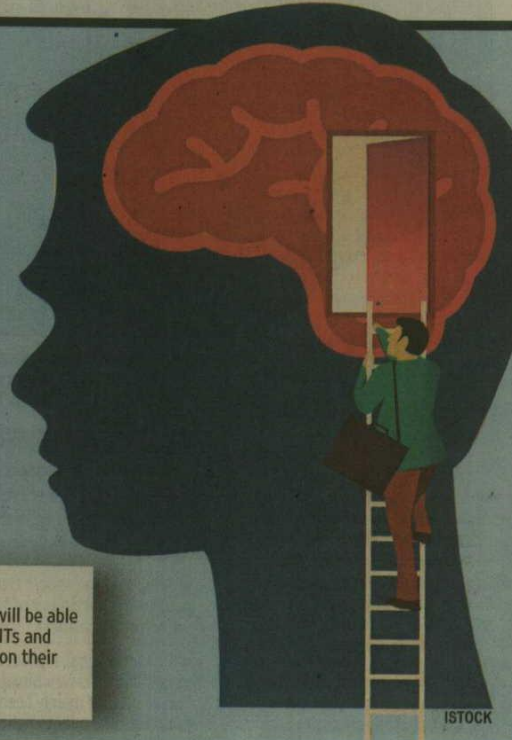
- From next year, the top two lakh students from JEE (Main) will be allowed to appear in JEE (Advanced)
- An online aptitude test will be held several times a year to check the scientific aptitude of candidates from 2016
- Board marks will not be counted for giving rankings (likely from 2016) for NITs and Centrally-funded technical institutions
- Weightage for Board marks would be given in JEE (Main) in 2016
- A common entrance test for undergraduate and postgraduate medical courses in colleges and deemed universities across India soon

**4 lakh**

candidates to be shortlisted for JEE which will be on the lines of the current JEE (Advanced)

**40,000**

candidates will be able to apply to IITs and NITs, based on their ranks



ISTOCK

National Testing Service (NTS) by 2016 to conduct the aptitude test.

About four lakh candidates will be shortlisted for the JEE which will be on the lines of the current JEE (Advanced) by the IITs and will test the candidates in physics, chemistry and math. On the basis of their ranks more than 40,000 students will be able to apply to the IITs and NITs after common counselling.

Another recommendation by the CEP is that the IITs should set up a system for developing mock JEEs to better prepare candidates for the exam. "The objectives of the proposed changes include conducting a single entrance test for all Centrally-funded technical institutions and reducing financial and mental burden on the candidates and their parents," says Professor KV Krishna, member, Joint Admissions Board of IITs.

The two-tier JEE will continue in 2016 and 2017. From next year, the top two lakh students from JEE (Main) will be allowed to appear in JEE (Advanced). Joint counselling for IITs and NITs will continue (as was done last year). Board marks will not be counted when determining the rankings (likely from 2016) for NITs and Centrally-funded technical institutions. Weightage for Board marks would be given in JEE (Main) in 2016. Medical aspirants can expect a common entrance test in the next two years.

"In the October general body meeting of the MCI, the Council has backed the proposal for holding a common entrance test for undergraduate and postgraduate medical courses in colleges and deemed universities across the country and has sent its recommendations to the health min-

istry," says Dr Jayshree Mehta, president, MCI.

State governments currently conduct their own entrance tests. Also, candidates wanting admissions to private medical colleges and deemed universities have to take their tests, besides the AIPMT.

## IMPACT OF EXAM REFORMS

Elaborating on the impact of other changes in the engineering entrance exam, Professor Krishna says, "I do not find much use of introducing a two-stage exam for admission to the IITs. The common counselling, however, is one of the very good things that ever happened for the institutes and candidates. This has reduced the number of vacant seats in the participating institutes. However, there should be more number of

## expertspeak

I do not find much use of introducing a two-stage exam for admission to the IITs. The common counselling, however, is one of the good things happening to institutes and candidates

PROFESSOR KV KRISHNA, member, Joint Admissions Board

A single entrance examination will reduce the harassment caused to aspirants who have to travel from one city to the other and spend money to appear for multiple entrances

DR ARUN AGARWAL, professor of excellence, ENT, Maulana Azad Medical College

rounds of allotment so that the candidates can get better seat preferences among their choices."

A National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) for admission to medical colleges has also been scrapped. After several petitions that challenged MCI's notification on NEET, the Supreme Court quashed the notification for holding common entrance tests for MBBS, BDS and postgraduate medical courses.

"NEET was a great way to screen aspiring doctors. A single entrance examination will reduce the harassment caused to aspirants who have to travel from one city to the other and spend money to appear for multiple entrance examinations all over India," says Dr Arun Agarwal, professor of excellence, ENT, Maulana Azad Medical College.

Dainik Jagran ND 25/11/2015 P-6

# अब स्वास्थ्य के क्षेत्र में स्टार्टअप इंडिया पर जोर

राज्य ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली : स्वास्थ्य के क्षेत्र में स्टार्टअप इंडिया को बढ़ावा देने के उद्देश्य से अब भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आइआइटी) दिल्ली और स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र में अग्रणी संस्थान फाइजर ने कदम बढ़ाया है। देश के प्रतिभाशाली युवाओं के उपयोगी आइडिया को विकसित करने से लेकर उसके पेटेंट कराने तक का काम इस प्रयास के तहत किया जाएगा। खास बात ये है कि इस साझा प्रयास के माध्यम से साल में दो बार चार नए स्टार्टअप व 10 प्रोजेक्ट्स को पूरा करने की कोशिश की जाएगी। इसके तहत आइआइटी दिल्ली में रिसर्च होगी और आर्थिक मदद फाइजर देगा।

राजधानी में मंगलवार को आयोजित प्रेसवार्ता में डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ इंडस्ट्रीयल पॉलिसी एंड प्रमोशन के सचिव अमिताभ कांत ने बताया कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी लगातार मेक इन इंडिया, डिजिटल इंडिया, स्किल इंडिया की बात कर रहे हैं और अब वे चाहते हैं कि स्टार्टअप इंडिया पर जोर दिया जाए।

आइआइटी दिल्ली के डिप्टी डायरेक्टर (स्ट्रेटजी एंड प्लानिंग) प्रो.एसके कौल ने कहा कि इस प्रयास के माध्यम से नई प्रतिभा को अपनी सोच को अमलीजामा पहनाने में विशेषज्ञों का साथ मिलेगा और यकीनन इसका लाभ देश के स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र को होगा। इस मौके पर आइआइटी दिल्ली के फाउंडेशन ऑफ इनोवेशन एंड टेक्नोलॉजी ट्रांसफर (एफआइटीटी) के प्रमुख प्रो. अनिल वाली ने कहा कि इस प्रयास के तहत हम विद्यार्थियों व प्रोफेशनल के आइडिया को विकसित करने में मदद करेंगे। इसके अलावा 10 ऐसे प्रोजेक्ट पर भी हम काम करेंगे, जिनमें पूर्व में हुए काम में संशोधन, सुधार पर पेटेंट संबंधी अनिवार्यताओं की जरूरत शेष होगी। हर नए स्टार्टअप पर अधिकतम 50 लाख रुपये तक खर्च किए जाएंगे।



## Indian-origin Jayathi scales heights in US academia

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/education/indian-origin-jayathi-scales-heights-in-us-academia/article7912291.ece>

To take charge as Dean of UCLA's Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science in California

Hyderabad, Nov. 24:

Come January 1, 2016, Jayathi Y Murthy, an Indian-origin technologist will take charge as the Dean of the prestigious UCLA's Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science in California, US.

If Indra Nooyi of PepsiCo, Padmasree Warrier, ex Chief Technology Officer of Cisco Systems & Uma Choudhury, former global Chief of R&D at DuPont are top climbers in the US corporate sector among women of Indian origin, Jayathi Murthy would surely be the latest in the engineering technology world.

Jayathi hails from Hyderabad, India and did her schooling in Saint Anns Convent school. She graduated in B Tech from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, at a time when very few girls opted for engineering. She went on to obtain her doctorate in mechanical engineering from the University of Minnesota and an M S from Washington State University.

“She has always been a focussed person right from her school days and IIT. With the strong backing from parents and dint of hardwork, Jayathi is able to realise her potential”, recalled Mahathi Singh her sister who lives in Hyderabad.

Their father, a civil engineer who worked on important infrastructure projects in tough and sometimes remote regions, had an important influence on Jayathi taking to the engineering field, she told *BusinessLine* here.

In January 2012, she became the first woman dean at the Mechanical Engineering department, University of Texas, holding the Ernst Cockrell Jr. Department Chair and Professor of Mechanical Engineering. Prior to that, she held faculty positions at both Purdue University and Carnegie Mellon University along with some industry positions.

Interestingly, she will be succeeding Vijay K Dhir, another person of Indian-origin, who has been leading the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) school since 2002. Jayathi is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the author of more than 280 technical publications.

“The early third of my career was spent in a startup called Fluent Inc., today a world leader in commercial fluid dynamics software. I was one of the earliest employees of Fluent, and my algorithmic work undergirds many of their software products today. My work is used the world over, and this is a source of great pride and satisfaction for me”, she told the UCLA Engineer magazine in an interview.