

Newspaper Clips November 5,7, 2010

Hindustan Times ND 05.11.10

p-3

Semester system: New DU V-C and protesting teachers discuss impasse

HT Correspondent

■ htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The officer bearers of the Delhi University Teachers' Association (DUTA) and the newly appointed vice chancellor, Dinesh Singh, met on Thursday to discuss the impasse regarding implementation of semester system in the 13 undergraduate science courses.

The DUTA members said the meeting was an indication towards an early resolution.

"We presented our case before the vice chancellor and maintained our position that the science courses under the semester system were passed

We are hopeful that with meetings like these an early resolution can be reached. The V-C gave us a patient hearing.

VINAY KUMAR SINGH

illegally and therefore should not be taught. Beyond this there is nothing much to comment on," said Aditya Narayan Misra, president of DUTA.

When asked about the V-C's proposal that the university was open to suggestions from teachers about change in the course

content of the science courses as reported by Hindustan Times on Thursday, Misra said, "There has been no concrete proposal about this as yet. We can take a call only when there is one."

Vinay Kumar Singh, secretary, DUTA, said the meeting was a positive move. "We are hopeful that with meetings like these an early resolution can be reached. The V-C gave us a patient hearing."

Vice Chancellor Singh said though there might not be any substantial development to speak about at the moment, the fact that a process of dialogue between the university and the DUTA members have begun is

a positive development.

The DUTA members, too, are hopeful that the process of dialogue will continue through further meetings, so that the semester issue can be resolved soon.

Meanwhile, around 25 principals of the various DU colleges met on Thursday to discuss the 'no work, no pay' circular sent by the varsity.

"We just took a stock of the colleges that have released the salaries for October keeping in mind the notice. Around 20 colleges seemed to have released the salaries with a five-day pay cut," said SK Garg, principal of Deen Dayal Upadhaya College and president of the principals' association.

Hindustan Times ND 05.11.10

p-8

US wants summit on education

A FIRST Talks to build on gains may involve Clinton, Sibal

Charu Sudan Kasturi
 ■ charu.kasturi@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The US has proposed an education summit involving secretary of state Hillary Clinton and human resource development minister Kapil Sibal to build on gains achieved in the sector, during President Barack Obama's visit starting Saturday.

Indian and American officials are engaged in discussions over the proposal which the US wants to announce during Obama's visit, representatives from both countries said.

The officials, however, warned that the proposal may be tweaked based on the discussions, adding the final proposal may not be ready in time for announcement during the Obama trip.

"It will be discussed between the two delegations, but it could be touch-and-go as far as an announcement is concerned," a US official said.

No Indian HRD minister has been involved in summit-level discussions with an American secretary of state.

Both countries are keen on strengthening ties in education, a sector declared as a key partnership area by Obama during Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to the US last November, sources said. Over one lakh Indians travel every year to the US for higher education.

The two countries have finalised the contours of the Singh-Obama 21st century

It (proposal for education) will be discussed between the two delegations, but it could be touch-and-go as far as an announcement is concerned

US official

Knowledge Initiative announced by Obama last year.

A joint working group of US and Indian officials will pick Indian and American universities for grants.

The Indian team will consist of former Delhi University Vice-Chancellor Deepak Nayyar, HRD ministry additional secretary Sunil Kumar and ministry joint secretary Amit Khare. The US team will consist of three officials from the United States-India Educational Foundation (USIEF).

Officials of the two countries are however still undecided on the US proposal for a summit between Clinton and Sibal. The US wanted the summit announced during the Obama visit, an American government representative here confirmed.

"We believe the summit can add symbolic and tangible momentum to the educational ties..." the official said.

India has hinted it prefers a more regular and broad-based bilateral mechanism for talks in education over a summit.

**Hindustan
Times ND**
05.11.10 p-13

SIBAL UNVEILS MINORITY EDUCATION STRATEGY

Charu Sudan Kasturi

■ charu.kasturi@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Human resource development minister Kapil Sibal has asked his ministry to formulate a minority education strategy focusing on reviving dying crafts practiced by Muslim artisans, many of whom now live virtually in penury.

The strategy will focus on hamlets of traditional artisans and craftsmen. It will include training them in modern skills needed to keep their craft alive, and on taking these crafts to modern educational institutions, government sources have said.

"We want to make these traditional arts and crafts a part of mainstream education so that today's students learn about them study them, and take these crafts forward," an official said.

Knowledge is passed on from generation to generation in the families of these artisans, but is

**We want to make these
traditional arts and crafts
a part of mainstream
education so that today's
students learn about
them study them...**

KAPIL SIBAL

not expanding beyond these select families. The new strategy is based on concerns that the knowledge held by them may soon expire unless taught to a broader segment of students.

Sources cited the example of Islamic architecture, which is understood and practiced only by families involved in building and maintaining structures like mosques. "There is a need to include this knowledge as a part of mainstream education in architecture schools," a source said.

The HRD ministry is keen to involve leading Muslim educationists and philanthropists in this project. "We will soon call a meeting with select Muslim educationists and philanthropists," a source said.

Hindustan Times ND 05.11.10

p-15

Exam for lawyers to decide eligibility

Nagendar Sharma

■ nagendar.sharma@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: For the first time, around 25,000 fresh law graduates will appear in a mandatory open book written exam on December 5, the result of which will determine whether they would be eligible to practice as lawyers in Indian courts.

The exam will be conducted by Bar Council of India (BCI), the regulator for legal profession and education in the country, in nine languages and in 27 centres across the country.

"The exam will be of three hours and 30 minutes duration with mainly multiple-choice questions to be answered by ticking the correct one. The candidates will be allowed to use reference books during the exam," said professor VB Coutinho, the chairman of BCI's directorate of legal education.

Candidates will have to score a minimum of 40% marks to qualify this exam, but there is no limitation on number of chances for a candidate to pass this test, which will be held twice a year from 2011 onwards.

BCI sources said the move

25,000 ASPIRING LAWYERS WILL TAKE THE TEST ON DEC 5, TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA

to hold the exam followed a direction from the Supreme Court last year, following which the law ministry included it in the blueprint for legal reforms.

"The Advocates Act, 1961, may need to be re-visited in consultation with the senior member of the Bar to consider re-introduction of mandatory apprenticeship and introduction of a qualifying exam for advocates before admission to the bar," says the ministry's blueprint approved by the union cabinet in December last year.

Asked about the reported proposal from the law ministry to postpone the exam, a BCI functionary said: "We have not been approached so far. Moreover barely four weeks before the exam for which nearly 25,000 students have paid ₹1,300 each and are preparing, it would not be possible."

Hindustan Times ND

05.11.10 p-30

ISRO to concentrate on education and health- Dr K. Radhakrishnan

“The future thrust areas for Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will be in food and water security, weather and climate , environment and ecosystem, sustainable development, support for informed decision making, education and health care, skill development and rural communications, as well as disaster management,” remarked. Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, Chairman, ISRO.

**Hindustan
Times ND
07/11/2010 p-5**

E-LEARNING TO REACH MORE DU COLLEGES

Joyeeta Ghosh

■ joyeeta.ghosh@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Delhi University's Institute of Life Long Learning (ILLL), an initiative to take the processes of teaching and learning beyond classrooms, might have a presence at several more colleges.

Speaking to Hindustan Times, vice chancellor Dinesh Singh said, "We need to have smaller ILLLs to reach out to more students and increase the level of interaction between teachers and students."

He said increasing use of technology could help overcome problems of infrastructure such as lack of classrooms.

ILLL, which was started in 2007, has been involved in developing e-content for students. An e-portal launched in June this year hosts e-quizzes, e-lectures, e-labs and e-lessons, e-classes and more recently e-helper and e-paper.

All the content is designed to help students understand classes better, interact with teachers and help students prepare for examinations.

Times of India ND
05-Nov-10 p-12

Govt OKs video link for IIM board meetings

Mathang Seshagiri | TNN

Bangalore: Welcome to the new-age board meetings at India's elite B-schools. Reliance CMD Mukesh Ambani need not snake through Bangalore's chaotic traffic to make it on time for the board meeting at the Indian Institute of Management-Bangalore (IIM-B), where he is the chairman (board of governors). Next time, he can click-start the meeting from any corner of the world.

Paving the way for e-board meetings at all Indian Institutes of Management, the HRD Ministry headed by Kapil Sibal has approved participation in board and society meetings through video-conferencing.

Several IIMs have been reporting non-participation by high-profile corporate members and officials during board of governors meetings due to the fact that they are members of several other boards simultaneously, and it becomes impossible for them to attend the meetings of IIMs which are located in different states. In fact, 50% of the members did not turn up for the IIM-B board meeting on September 7.

Some of the members and chairpersons of IIM boards include Kris Gopalkrishnan (Infosys), Jamshed J Irani (Tata Sons), A C Muthiah (SPIC), R C Bharvaga (Maruti Suzuki), Kiran Mazumdar Shaw (Biocon) and L N Jhunjhunwala (Bhilware Group).

With the HRD ministry giving its green signal, board members can now participate in discussions and even cast their votes through video-conferencing.

The ministry of law and justice, which examined the issue, has held participation in e-board meetings legally valid.

Times of India ND

05.11.10 p-17

Hemophilia drug raises heart disease risk

Using high doses of Novo Nordisk's anti-clotting medicine to treat dangerous bleeding in non-haemophiliacs may raise the risk of heart attack or related complications, researchers said on Wednesday. The drug, NovoSeven, is a genetically engineered version of factor VII, a key protein missing in some people with the bleeding disease haemophilia. An analysis of 35 studies found that the overall likelihood that an artery would clog was 68% higher with NovoSeven therapy compared to a placebo.

Times of India ND 05.11.10
p-17

Pancreas-transplant breakthrough raises hopes for diabetics

Pisa (Italy): Italian doctors have carried out the world's first robotically-assisted pancreatic transplant in an operation that could help diabetes sufferers everywhere, they said.

The robotically-assisted operation "creates new prospects for the treatment of diabetics," because its "mini-invasive" nature strongly reduces post-operation complications, the team at the university hospital in Pisa said. The robotic technique allows surgeons to carry out the transplant through three small holes and a 7cm incision, the hospital said.

"This will put an end to the decades-old dilemma of whether it's possible to do pancreatic transplants because the operation is so invasive when done in the traditional way," Ugo Boggi, who heads the team, said.

The transplant was carried out on a 43-year-old mother of two who had suffered from type one diabetes since she was 24 years old and had already had a kidney transplant. The patient suffered no complications from



AFP

SWEET SUCCESS: The 'Da Vinci SHDI robot' carries out the transplant at Pisa's University Cisanello Hospital

the three-hour operation.

Pancreatic transplants have been very invasive until now because of the organ's vascular structure and the fragility of diabetic patients, who in 50% of cases develop post-operative problems. The medical team carried out the operation with the assistance of the "Da Vinci SHDI robot" — a large machine with several arms — designed in the multidisciplinary Robotic Surgery centre in Pisa. AFP

Times of India
ND 05.11.10 p-17

Now, power will flow through windows

Washington: Scientists have fabricated transparent thin films capable of absorbing light and generating electric charge over a relatively large area.

The material, scientists at the US department of energy's (DOE) Brookhaven National Laboratory and Los Alamos National Laboratory say, could be used to develop transparent solar panels or even windows that absorb solar energy to generate electricity. The material consists of a semiconducting polymer doped with carbon-rich fullerenes. Under carefully controlled conditions, the material self-assembles to form a reproducible pattern of micron-size hexagon-shaped cells over a relatively large area.

The material remains largely transparent because the polymer chains pack densely only at the edges of the hexagons, while remaining loosely packed and spread very thin across the centers. The scientists fabricated the honeycomb thin films by creating a flow of micrometer-size water droplets across a thin layer of the polymer/fullerene blend solution. These water droplets self-assembled into large arrays within the polymer solution. ANI

Times Of India ND 07/11/2010

p-11

Pariahs no more? Isro, DRDO to be off entities list

Announcement To Be Made Tomorrow

TALKING POINTS

US dual-use export control system is managed by the department of commerce

India's demands from US

- ▶ Remove all 11 Indian entities from the Entities List
- ▶ Put India in the same licensing category as the UK and Japan
- ▶ For entities remaining on the list, rework licensing policy to presumption of approval from presumption of denial
- ▶ Access to certain categories of advanced defence technology items or classified information

What US wants of us

- ▶ Tightly separate Isro's missile and commercial activities as well as between DRDO's strategic missile programmes and other defence activities where the US can participate
- ▶ Harmonize export control systems to Wassenaar Arrangement and Australia Group for the US to streamline its licensing policy to India. The US has agreed to push India's membership

Indian firms on the Entities List

- ▶ Isro subsidiaries (4 organizations)
- ▶ DAE subsidiaries in nuclear related (3 organizations)
- ▶ Unsafeguarded N-reactors (8) and facilities
- ▶ DRDO subsidiaries like Bharat Dynamics

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: "Increased commerce between the US and India can be and will be a win-win proposition for both nations," US president Barack Obama told top business executives in Mumbai on Saturday.

While the formal announcement is expected only on Monday, the US has decided to take Isro and four of its subsidiaries and DRDO and its subsidiaries off its entities list. A significant removal from the entities list is expected to be Bharat Dynamics Ltd with its four subsidiaries, hinting at future Indo-US cooperation on missile defence, because BDL is part of India's missile technology activities.

While that is certain to bring immediate cheer to the Indian strategic sector, a more long-term step by the US will have greater impact on India's technology future.

The US will announce that India would get out of its country classification — that is, it would no longer be on classified along with Pakistan and North Korea, but move into a group populated by US top allies like the UK and Japan.

In the current classification system, India cannot even ac-

cess some critical kinds of technologies that it wants.

The US will also support India's membership to global non-proliferation regimes like Wassenaar Arrangement and Australia Group and, in future, Nuclear Suppliers Group.

This means India will have to harmonise its export control regimes to these groups. But membership to these groups also help India access critical technologies, software and equipment from all countries, who currently deal with such sensitive technologies.

Ravinder Pal Singh, international security expert says, full scope membership of Wassenaar can enable India to leverage technologies needed for satellites, space launch vehicles or propulsion systems for diverse fields such as environment and natural resource management, forestry, agriculture, fisheries, weather forecasting and disaster management through remote sensing, satellite telemetry.

Indian membership to these groups are a natural conclusion of the Indo-US nuclear deal. This means Indian businesses can finally be the beneficiary of the deal.

Should you try a mind machine?

They are touted as a tonic for the brain but experts can't fully prove their effectiveness

Atul Sethi | TNN

Deborah Bennett is a college lecturer in the UK. For a decade, she has been religiously using a curious device to relax after the day's work. It's a small, hand-held unit, inset with stereo headphones and special glasses with light-emitting diodes. "The interplay of light and sound in the machine lulls my mind to a soothing state," says Bennett. "Its regular use has helped me become calm and confident and better equipped to handle tense situations."

Bennett's device — referred to as a 'mind machine' — has increasingly been used in the West and is now gaining popularity in India.

Udaipur-based Raj Bapna pioneered one of India's first mind machines in 1993. He says they stimulate various parts of the brain. "Brain waves are of four types — Alpha, Beta, Theta and Delta. Beta stage is when brain activity is at its maximum. What mind machines do is take the brain from the Beta stage to the more relaxed Alpha, Theta and Delta levels," says Bapna.

Most machines use a technique called hemispheric synchronization to achieve this level of relaxation. Developed by the US-based Monroe Institute, the technique uses synchronized sound waves known as binaural beats. Each ear hears these sounds differently, with slightly different frequencies, which leads to a change in brain perception.

Bapna's machines use a similar technique called Dual Auto Peripheral Suggestion. He says different sounds are deliberately conveyed to each ear "to confuse

the conscious mind. The moment it gives up trying to fathom these sound waves, the subconscious mind takes over and the person enters a state of relaxation."

So why use a mind machine? Many people find that it's easier to meditate with it. Vandana Upreti, who has used a mind machine for some years, says that the biggest advantage is that "it relieves the mind of thoughts in a shorter time than is possible normally." This might be good news for those just starting to meditate,

but not so much for people at an advanced level.

Newton Kondaveti, a Hyderabad-based doctor and hypnotherapist concurs. "These machines have their uses, although the best way to meditate still remains the natural way. Also, these shouldn't be used by epileptics or those seeking psychiatric treatment."

Manufacturers claim that mind machines also improve memory and increase concentration. Preliminary research indicates that external stimulus can increase the performance of the brain to some extent, but this is yet to be validated by extensive research.

Rudresh Vyas, who did a PhD on mind machines at Gujarat's Sardar Patel University, conducted hour-long sessions on a group of students using a mind machine. On comparing this group's performance with non-users, he found there was a positive effect of electromagnetic waves and rhythmic sound on learning.

However, he says that "better results can be achieved if other conventional methods such as reaffirmation are combined with the usage of mind machines."



© Images.com/Corbis

BRAIN BOOSTERS

Mind machines popular around the world

Sirius	\$99
Photosonix Nova Pro	\$419
Proteus	\$169
MindSpa	\$349
Procyon	\$269

Approximate prices Source: Amazon

Times of India ND 05.11.10
p-17

Pancreas-transplant breakthrough raises hopes for diabetics

Pisa (Italy): Italian doctors have carried out the world's first robotically-assisted pancreatic transplant in an operation that could help diabetes sufferers everywhere, they said.

The robotically-assisted operation "creates new prospects for the treatment of diabetics," because its "mini-invasive" nature strongly reduces post-operation complications, the team at the university hospital in Pisa said. The robotic technique allows surgeons to carry out the transplant through three small holes and a 7cm incision, the hospital said.

"This will put an end to the decades-old dilemma of whether it's possible to do pancreatic transplants because the operation is so invasive when done in the traditional way," Ugo Boggi, who heads the team, said.

The transplant was carried out on a 43-year-old mother of two who had suffered from type one diabetes since she was 24 years old and had already had a kidney transplant. The patient suffered no complications from



SWEET SUCCESS: The 'Da Vinci SHDI robot' carries out the transplant at Pisa's University Cisanello Hospital

the three-hour operation.

Pancreatic transplants have been very invasive until now because of the organ's vascular structure and the fragility of diabetic patients, who in 50% of cases develop post-operative problems. The medical team carried out the operation with the assistance of the "Da Vinci SHDI robot" — a large machine with several arms — designed in the multidisciplinary Robotic Surgery centre in Pisa. AFP

Pioneer, ND 05.11.10 p-2

Education Dept's server hacked; cops fail to act

Case not filed despite L-G instructions

PURUSHARTH ARADHAK ■
NEW DELHI

Once again Delhi Police's callousness has been exposed. Even after intervention of the Lieutenant Governor in a case of hacking of the Delhi Education Department's server, the police have not taken up the issue. They have not even filed a case in this connection.

The accused, Sumeet Kumar, who impersonated as an officer of the Education Department of Delhi, hacked the server of the department and created a login as tenders@edudel.nic.in and rajesh.joshi@edudel.nic.in and cheated a Rohini-based annual maintenance entrepreneur.

Sources said the accused cheated the entrepreneur of ₹3.5 lakh as earnest money and a new laptop in the name of providing him a tender of the Education Department. The victim, Atul Kuniyal, had approached the Delhi Police seeking action against the accused.

The fraud started in June 2009 and continued for almost one-and-a-half year when the victim got in touch with the accused. Sumeet Kumar promised to provide the victim a contract of technical gadgets like printers, UPS and modem in Education Department headquarters and its five other offices in the Capital.

With the reference of the accused, the victim applied for tenders. The victim received first e-mail from tenders@edudel.nic.in on June



THE ACCUSED, SUMEET KUMAR, MASQUERADED AS AN OFFICER OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. HE

HACKED THE SERVER OF THE DEPARTMENT AND CREATED A LOGIN AS TENDERS@EDUDEL.NIC.IN AND RAJESH.JOSHI@EDUDEL.NIC.IN

15, 2009 in which it was said that his quotation had been received. The sender of the e-mail was Neeraj Buddiraja, Secretary to Additional Directorate of Education, Delhi NCT. A few days later, the victim again received another e-mail regarding acceptance letter of the rate of annual maintenance.

Meanwhile, the accused again established contact with the victim and demanded a brand new laptop for Government use and he promised to pay the money within four days. He in this regard gave the victim a HDFC bank cheque of Rs 52,000.

The account was maintained with Sonapat. The cheque bounced three times. The victim then decided to register a case against the victim. He first met the officials of the Education Department.

The Education Department passed the buck to NIC (National Informatics Centre) department by saying server is maintained by the NIC and the department could not do anything in this case. The victim then established contact with the NIC Department but no response was received in this connection. The victim then

contacted the Delhi Police. He met the officials in Narela police station. Instead of taking up the issue as it concerned national security, the police officials every time came up with excuses and did not register a case.

Meanwhile, the victim decided to produce the case before the MHA (Ministry of Home Affairs), Delhi Police and L-G (Lieutenant Governor). "I only gained response from L-G office. Some officials with L-G office contacted me and called me. I met with all the documents. After investigating the case L-G office decided to take up the case by saying case belongs to national security. L-G office wrote a letter to the Delhi Police Commissioner to register a case in this connection and investigate the case," said Atul Kuniyal, the victim.

Delhi Police callousness did not end here. He met senior officials, but again no response was received. "I then established contact with Outer district police. Delhi Police official without considering the L-G letter said it is just the cheque bounce case and nothing else," Atul added.

Pioneer ND 07/11/2010 p-7

B-School academicians world over gun for Posco

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

It is not just the green brigade and the activists — even prominent international business school professors are gunning for Posco.

A number of academicians from the Universities of Massachusetts, Alberta, Morgan State University and others based in US, Canada, Europe and Asia have written to Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh on Saturday expressing concern over the ₹51,000-crore project in Odisha. They have even offered their assistance if necessary "for a solution that takes into account issues of environmental and social justice."

Some of the prominent signatories include Sinéad G Ruane from University of Massachusetts Amherst, David J Cooper from University of Alberta, Canada, David Carroll Jacobs from Morgan State University, Jose Manuel Alcaraz from Barna Business School, Dominican Republic, Rahul Varman from IIT Kanpur, India, and Stewart Clegg from University of Technology, Australia amongst others.

The letter noted that the Government of Odisha intends to take over large tracts of forest land and hand it over to a



They have even offered their assistance, if necessary, for a solution that takes into account issues of environmental and social justice

global mining giant, while displacing communities that have lived there for generations and use the forest sustainably for their livelihood. "Even as India seeks to find a prominent place among the industrialised nations of the world, it must not do so at the cost of democratic norms and constitutional rights, especially those of poor and marginalised communities," they observed.

According to them, the

development projects across the world must be preceded by a rigorous socio-economic study, whose cost-benefit analysis must include the impact of this development on the lives and livelihoods of the people who inhabit the affected areas.

The professors argued that based on the recent report on NC Saxena and that of the Mining Zone People's Solidarity Group, betel vine

growers in the Posco region currently earn a modest sum of ₹40,000 per year through their sustainable practice of agriculture on a small piece of land. The Government of Odisha is offering them what appears to be an unfair compensation in the form of a one-time payment of ₹11,500 for that small part (called a decimal). "We strongly believe that while nation-states seek economic growth, they must not do so at the expense of the future of poor communities and their habitats, especially those from which they derive their livelihood," they contended.

"It is our experience and observation that multinational corporations that seek to appropriate public land for their profit-making activities often over-emphasise the benefits of their project for local communities. The MZPSG report disputes the contention of the Government of Odisha that the Posco project will create 8,70,000 jobs in the region as contrary to the study conducted by the National Council of Applied Economic Research, of which POSCO itself was a sponsor and paid NCAER for it. This constitutes a clear conflict of interest and should be enough to put the findings of the report in serious doubt," the letter said.

Mail Today ND 05.11.10 p-22

Students could have a say in selecting new JNU V-C

By **Kavita Chowdhury** in New Delhi

AFTER the appointment of a new Delhi University vice-chancellor (V-C), the spotlight is now on selecting a new head for Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU).

After the term of JNU V-C B. B. Bhattacharya ended in June, the Union human resource development ministry is keen that a successor is appointed at the earliest.

The selection committee, headed by scientist K. Kasturirangan, has been engaged in shortlisting the candidates. And for the first time, the committee is likely to meet students and teachers of the university before finalising its recommendations.

The three-member search committee also includes Indian Institute of Science director, Professor P. Balaram and economist Nitin Desai.

Hyderabad Central university V-C Professor Syed E. Hasnain is being seen as a strong contender. He was also short-listed for the post in DU, but he withdrew his candidature.

Professor B.S. Chimmil, of the Centre for International Legal Studies is also being seen as a likely candidate.

Other JNU faculty members who are in the contention include Zoya Hasan and Mridula Mukherjee — both social scientists — former Rector Rajendra Prasad and Professor Ravi Srivastava.

There is also a strong sentiment on the campus that it is time for a female V-C.

"We have not had a female V-C till date. It is time to break the male bastion," a student said.

After Meenakshi Gopinath, the principal of Lady Sri Ram College, was in the reckoning for DU's top post, it is now JNU's turn to demand a woman boss.

Gopinath, however, pulled out of the race as did other two contenders, because of the ongoing turmoil on the campus with the faculty and administration pitted against each other.

In fact, Bhattacharya had attempted to amend the university Act and ensure a second term for himself, in April last year.

He had proposed to raise the issue in the executive council (EC), but the Jawaharlal Nehru University Teachers Association

strongly opposed the move to change the JNU Act.

Students also joined in the protest and even wrote to the UGC chairperson, asking him to urgently intervene and stop the alleged illegal move.

As a senior faculty member put it, "JNU needs a dynamic doer as a V-C. The university has lost its standing in the academic world and its recent history shows politically sensitive issues such as student reservations and faculty reservations have taken centre stage. Student elections have not been held in the campus for the past three years and there is mistrust between the student body and the administration. There is a lot of ground that we need to recover to get JNU back on track."

Tribune, ND 07-Nov-10 p-20

IIT Kharagpur heads relied on 'Prez letter' to run fake institute

Letter appears fake; HRD Ministry orders probe

ADITI TANDON
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 6

Subsequent directors of the IIT Kharagpur, the premiere technical institutes of India, relied on what appears to be a fake "Presidential Secretariat" letter to run an illegal institute on their campus and award diplomas that had no legitimacy.

The Institute of Electrical Engineers (IEE) was set up on the IIT Kharagpur campus in 1987 and kept functioning for all these years claiming legitimacy of courses on the basis of a letter dated January 28, 1987, written by the then private secretary to the President.

The letter, which appears fudged, states, "The Associate Membership Examination of the IEE (India) is recognised at par with Baccalaureate (Bachelor/Graduate) degree in the Electrical Engineering of India and foreign universities aid is equivalent to the Associate Membership Examination of the IEE (London), which is recognised by India for the purpose of recruitment to superior posts under the Centre." A copy of the letter - accessed by The Tribune - was submitted recently to the Ministry of HRD by IIT Kharagpur director Damodar Acharya, who met HRD Minister Kapil Sibal to explain and distance himself from the issue. Senior aerospace professor of IIT Kharagpur Amit Kumar Ghosh (hitherto president of

WHO WERE SILENT

- **AK Ghosh:** Former head, aerospace; IIT Kharagpur CVO and past JEE Chairman
- **KL Chopra (1987- 97):** Former IIT Kharagpur director
- **SK Dube (2002 - 07) :** Former director
- **SK Lahiri:** Retired deputy director
- **YP Singh:** Retired professor and head of Electrical engineering, IIT
- **JC Biswas :** Retired Professor of Electronics Engineering at IIT

the IEE) is now under suspension. Ghosh is claiming the involvement of top IIT brass in the scandal.

Acharya told The Tribune, "I have nothing to do with the IEE. I have given to the ministry this letter claimed to have been written by the then private secretary to the President, awarding legitimacy to the said institute. This letter is being cited as the basis of the institute."

The ministry has begun inquiries from the President's Secretariat about the veracity of the said letter. On close look, the letter appears fake, for example, it uses odd expressions like: "This institute will be more independent"; at another point it says the institute can "fix its policy based on its needs, without much thinking about policy of the govern-

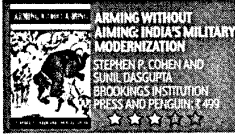
ment." It also suggests names for the institute - something that is not the President's job. Even the suggested name keeps changing throughout the letter's text.

The question now arises why the subsequent IIT directors did not get this fake letter investigated by the police earlier. It was only last week after students of the IEE complained to the present institute director about the poor-ness of its courses that he ordered an internal inquiry. Eventually, a criminal complaint was filed and the police stepped in, questioning Ghosh, who is alleged to have been misusing his IIT professor tag to lure students to join the IEE.

He even held admissions for the IEE at his IIT office, charging each student Rs 27,000 as fee for the course. He might ultimately be dismissed from professorship.

Ironically, from 2006 onwards, when Ghosh became the IEE president, he also assumed charge of the IIT's chief vigilance officer. But he claims he is not alone in the scam. The Tribune has accessed another letter dated December 24, 1996, where former IIT director KL Chopra (now chairman of the Board of Governors of NIT Bhopal) endorsed the IEE courses as being equivalent to the IIT's Electrical Engineering degree -- this when the IITs have no power to order equivalence of degrees or recognise courses expect their own degrees.

Two US analysts conclude India will never accept a subordinate status to America



By Manoj Joshi

ARMS and military equipment transfer from the United States to India is a major backdrop of President Barack Obama's ongoing visit. It is not that the president himself will sign agreements relating to such acquisitions, but that his visit will lubricate a process that has already begun with India beginning to acquire big-ticket items such as weapons location radars, maritime patrol aircraft and specially configured transport aircraft for the Special Forces.

Waiting on the wings are contracts for ten C-17 heavy lift transports and 145 ultra-light howitzers, and a little further down the assembly line is the deal for 126 medium multi-role combat aircraft (MMRCA).

The thrust of this book is how America can help India to help itself. In other words, how America's participation in India's military modernisation needs to be accompanied by the emergence of a shared strategic vision between the two countries. The basic thesis of the book is accurate — India is undertaking military modernisation, but in seems to have a hazy focus as to the purpose and goals of that process.

The writers have diagnosed the problem as India's historic strategic restraint, though there are some areas where we may quibble with their analyses. It is not clear, for example, whether India's posture in the 1965 war and in the western sector in 1971 was born out of restraint or the incompetence of its generals. It is true that in 2008 (after the 26/11 terror attacks on Mumbai) "the government did not even ask the army to mobilise against Pakistan,"

but the reason was that it did ask and while the Air Force and the Navy were prepared for action, the Army said it would be several weeks before it could be ready for operations.

The book provides a set of prescriptions as to how India can be pushed in a manner that it is better aligned to American interests — which, of course, the authors argue, is also in the Indian interest — but its basic conclusion is pessimistic. "We believe that this state of arming without aiming will continue into the future," the authors say because there seems to be a "collective wisdom" among the politicians that while military modernisation needs to be supported, there was no need to also provide the institutional mechanisms that will aid India to be more strategically assertive.

The authors do not go deep enough in examining why the country's politicians have a collective dis-

trust of the armed forces. This is manifested by the reluctance of the National Democratic Alliance and the United Progressive Alliance governments to appoint a Chief of Defence Staff who could trigger a significant reform in the management and procurement practices of the armed forces.

Paradoxically, all reports of the parliamentary committees dealing with the armed forces are strongly supportive of their acquisitions and goals. But when it comes to government action, the approach becomes pusillanimous.

The chapter titled 'The Reluctant Nuclear Power' has an important discussion on India's nuclearisation process. Given the peculiarities of the civil-military relations in India, the authors point to the major issues that India confronts in adopting a credible deterrent posture vis-à-vis Pakistan and China. While you can

arm without aiming, the process of the development of the nuclear arsenal underway could lead to some rethinking in the political class. This is because once India deploys its nuclear-propelled submarine fitted with ballistic missiles, the government will have to think hard about pre-delegating nuclear weapons launch authority, and mull the issue of keeping the warheads and missiles separately.

Despite the overall thrust of the book, which is on how India can serve American interests — a legitimate theme from the American point of view — the authors have come up with good suggestions. Their recommendation that the US work with India on an initiative to create a nuclear restraint regime in Asia, involving China, Russia, India and Pakistan, is well taken. The unrestrained growth of the Pakistani arsenal points to the need for this.

But it is likely to pose a dilemma for any Indian deterrent towards China because we do not have an adequately tested thermonuclear weapon. As *Mail Today* revealed last year, there are serious doubts about the efficacy of the thermonuclear weapon test in Pokhran in 1998.

The authors have useful suggestions on the manner in which Indian deployments and doctrines can be tweaked to assist Pakistan to "re-

train and redirect" the bulk of its forces away from the Indian obsession. The key insight in the book is its assessment that India will never accept a relationship where it is placed in a subordinate position, and that an American partnership with India, would be akin to its relationship with France which "pursues a ruggedly independent foreign policy with the larger strategic objective of reducing America to 'normal' proportions".



Though the authors offer prescriptions to push India in a manner that is better aligned to American interests, they draw a pessimistic conclusion — that the Indian political class doesn't want to set up institutional mechanisms to make the country strategically assertive

HELPING INDIA HELP ITSELF

Pioneer Lucknow 02.11.10 , P-2

Yale University signs MoU with IIT-K, IIM-K

NEW DELHI: Indian Institute of Management (IIM)-Kozhikode, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Kanpur and Yale University, USA have entered into a partnership to advance higher education in India through academic leadership development programmes for higher education leaders in India and through research on Indian higher education.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in this regard was signed between Dr Richard Levin, President of Yale University, Dr. Debashis Chatterjee, Director of IIM - Kozhikode, and Dr Sanjay Dhande, Director of IIT - Kanpur in the presence of Union Minister for Human Resource Development (HRD) Kapil Sibal and Minister of State for HRD D. Purandeswari, here.

Speaking on the occasion, Kapil Sibal said that this partnership, which will take effect from January 2011, will be sited in two new Centers of Excellence for Academic Leadership (CEAL) to be established at IIM - Kozhikode and IIT - Kanpur.

"The partnership will begin with a term of five years, and could be renewed thereafter," he added. He

also said that a six member committee with equal participation from the three partnering institutes will determine the norms/qualifications for participating in these leadership programmes.

The flagship programme of the partnership will be a new "India - Yale University Leadership Programme," to be developed by Yale University in consultation with IIM - Kozhikode and IIT - Kanpur, that will expose university and academic leaders in India at the levels of vice-chancellor, director, and deans to the best practices of academic administration and institutional management in the United States.

Yale University, IIM - Kozhikode, and IIT - Kanpur would also engage in joint faculty research on higher education and collaborate to

organise workshops and seminars on relevant areas of academic administration and leadership. The first programmes under the agreement would take place in 2011 in New Haven, Connecticut.

Yale President Richard Levin stated, "Yale is pleased to undertake this important and much needed effort on higher education with IIM - Kozhikode and IIT - Kanpur. We look forward to working with them to advance the cause of higher education in India by sharing what we have learned over three centuries as an institution and we similarly look forward to learning from our partners in India in this age of global education."

