

Newspaper Clips

November 7, 2013

Two Day Conference of Directors of National Institutes of Technology to begin tomorrow

Report by India Education bureau, New Delhi: President Pranab Mukherjee will host a two day Conference of Directors of National Institutes of Technology (NITs) at Rashtrapati Bhavan beginning tomorrow.

The President of India is visitor to every Institute under the NITSER Act 2007. This is for the first time that a Conference of Directors of National Institutes of Technology (NITs) is being convened by the President. 30 Directors of NITs will participate in the Conference. There are approximately 72,000 students pursuing various courses in 30 NITs.

The President, Prime Minister and Minister of Human Resource Development will address the Conference on the first day. There will also be presentations by Chairman of National Innovation Council, by Prof. S.V. Raghavan, Chairman of Technical Advisory Committee, by National Knowledge Network, by Secretary, MHRD, by Chairman of NIT Review Committee, by National Skill Development Agency and by National Innovation Foundation.

The agenda of the Conference includes steps required to improve the quality of technical education and faculty development in NITs to bring it at par with the top technical institutions of the world, steps needed to create inter-linkages of NITs with the industry, steps required to use National Knowledge Network effectively in the NITs and suggestions to improve the Visitor-NIT interface within the existing statutory framework of each NIT.

Deccan Herald

Seemandhra sops help govt to woo Pallam Raju

NEW DELHI: Nov 6, 2013 DHNS

After a month-long absence, a sulking Human Resource Development (HRD) Minister M M Pallam Raju on Wednesday appeared at an official event here, with the government planning to announce setting up of an IIT, an IIM and a central varsity in Seemandhra as sops to assuage sentiments against the creation of the separate state of Telangana.

“I am going through a very different way of working myself. In reality, I have quit being a minister. I have submitted my resignation to the Prime Minister (Manmohan Singh), which he has not accepted yet. It's been over a month. So, I have found a new way of working. I work out of home now, have flexible timings,” he said at an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) workshop.

He was accompanied by senior officials of the HRD ministry, including Higher Education Secretary Ashok Thakur.

He said though he had left the policy issues to ministry's secretary, he was taking care of important files. “I address the seminars I feel are productive for me. So I have that luxury of having resigned and not yet out of the job,” he maintained.

Although the minister attended the event, he did not go to his office. Sources said he may also attend a conference of the directors of the National Institutes of Technology (NITs), to be chaired by President Pranab Mukherjee, on Thursday.

Raju, an MP from the Kakinada constituency in Andhra Pradesh, has been keeping himself away from his office and all official meetings, as well as programmes of the ministry, ever since he tendered his resignation in protest against the Union Cabinet's decision last month to bifurcate Andhra Pradesh.

On Tuesday, the HRD ministry endorsed a proposal for setting up of an IIT, IIM and three central universities among other higher-education institutes for Seemandhra at an estimated cost of Rs6,000-7,000 crore.

Pallam Raju and Tharoor to address FICCI Education Summit

New Delhi, Wed, 06 Nov 2013 NI Wire

Education Summit 2013 is being organised on November 13-14 in New Delhi. Planning Commission and the Ministry of Human Resource Development are supporting this international convention of higher education.

Keeping in view the enhanced role of international, national, regional and local networks on research, curriculum and skills etc., the conference is enabling universities and higher education institutions to remain relevant and attain excellence. The Theme of the summit this year is 'Building Networks for Transforming Indian Higher Education- Enabling to Deliver Value'.

Pallam Raju, Union Minister of HRD and Shashi Tharoor, Minister of State, HRD are slated to address the inaugural session of the conference on November 13th. Jay Panda, Member, Lok Sabha and Shri Oscar Fernandez, Union Minister for Transport, Road and Highways are also joining to address the sessions.

Among the dignitaries from overseas, Dr Mamdouh Shoukri, President and Vice-Chancellor, York University, Prof Glyn Davis, Vice Chancellor, University of Melbourne and Dr Mary Sue Coleman, President, University of Michigan, USA shall be attending the Summit.

This year, Australia India Institute (AII) and Shastri Indo Canadian Institute (SICI) are partner organisations and large contingent of delegates from Australia and Canada are expected to participate in the Summit.

FICCI President, Ms Naina Lal Kidwai, FICCI Higher Education Chair, Mr Mohandas Pai and Co-chairs, Dr. Rajan Saxena and Avinash Vashishtha would be leading the discussions at the Summit along with leaders from the sectors and seniors officials from the government.

The Hindu

IIT-BHU aim to make superconductors commercially viable

SURBHI KHYATI Posted online: Thu Nov 07 2013, 04:00 hrs

Lucknow : IIT-BHU has joined hands with Power Grid Corporation of India Limited to carry out research work that will make superconductors - an emerging technology which can be used for more effective power transmission - commercially viable.

The three-year Memorandum of Understanding between IIT-BHU and PGCIL was signed last week, said the varsity's Press, Publication and Publicity Cell chairman, Ravi Pratap Singh.

"It is the only one of its kind agreement as hardly any work has been done in this field in the country so far," Singh told The Indian Express.

The aim behind the collaboration, explained Prof R K Mishra of the varsity's Department of Electrical Engineering, is to explore the technology of high temperature superconductors for transmission as well as bulk storage of electricity in the country.

While any other cable transmitting electricity offers resistance leading to certain power loss, superconductors are known to offer zero resistance while conducting electricity, Mishra explained. However, superconductors are maintained at such low temperature of around zero Kelvin. Even the "high temperature superconductor" needs temperature below zero degree Celsius to work. Thus, maintenance of such low temperature makes superconductor commercially non-viable for energy transmission.

"Our aim is to research and develop superconductor technology as commercially viable," he said.

The high temperature superconductor, if successfully harnessed for commercial purpose, will not only reduce wastage of power while transmission, it will also open up the possibility of bulk storage of power. "It will prove to be a major shift in technology if we can find ways of using it for commercial purpose," said Mishra.

Apart from superconductors, the MoU also aims at application-based research in other new emerging technology and advance material such as nano particles and high-temperature diamond material for performance improvement of electric equipment and systems, said Mishra.

Solarsis turns IIT Madras rooftop solar and cool

06 Nov 2013, CIOL Bureau, CIOL



Such an initiative helps save productive land and turns a workspace into a generating station, producing clean renewable energy

HYDERABAD, INDIA: In one of its kind research and utility initiative by Hyderabad based Solarsis has installed a unique rooftop Solar PV System on the rooftop of the IIT Madras.

The solar PV system is a smartly designed project with various technologies in modules and inverters. The solar plant is installed on top of the 50 years old Electrical Sciences Block at IIT-Madras which aims to build 1MW solar on top their existing buildings.

Venkat Rajaraman, CEO, Solarsis said the structures is unique as they are non-penetrating type, elevated with a minimum clearance of 8 feet above the roof, designed to withstand high wind zone of the Chennai coastal region.

The plant also brings high degree of reliability and protection to enable to smooth interaction with the grid.

"IIT always being an early advocate of promising technologies like solar and we are doing our best to contribute to some key challenges in solar adaptability through a smart grid controller," says Dr. Ashok Jhunjhunwala, professor in the Electrical Engineering Department. "We plan to test Smart Controller for solar, which is currently being designed by IITM, with the rooftop solar plant. The elevated structures ensure that we continue to use the roof as before for our regular use."

The IIT Madras Solarsis rooftop solar plant is a mix of Mono-crystalline, Poly-crystalline, High efficiency Poly-crystalline (with >19 percent module efficiency) and CIGS thin-film modules in which both string and

central inverters of various capacities are used. The 90KW solar plant will generate 1.5 lakh units per annum and helps offset 90 tons of carbon dioxide.

Students, faculty at IIT-Madras seek solution to stop suicides

TNN | Nov 7, 2013, 02:10 AM IST

CHENNAI: "Sir, since I joined in 2009, every year there has been a suicide. As a student I have the right to know about IIT-M's actions to prevent such unfortunate incidents. And even after the introduction of MITR (a guidance and counselling system), the story is same," reads a mail sent by a student of IIT-Madras after institute dean (students) L S Ganesh posted a condolence message following the suicide of a first year student on Friday.

The suicide of 18-year-old Akshay Kumar Meena, a student of chemical engineering student, is the eighth at IIT-M in the last four years.

The dean dismissed fears of any inadequacy in the suicide preventive measures taken by the administration, but a large number of students and faculty remain agitated with the response.

Besides academic stress, say some faculty members, the increasing population on the campus, from 3,000 in 1980 to 8,000 this year, and a mix of students from different social strata should be seen as trends leading to new challenges.

IIT-M director [Bhaskar Ramamurthi](#) said they had implemented recommendations of [M Anandakrishnan Report](#) on increasing suicides in centrally-funded institutions. "Professional counsellors are available 24 hours a day on the campus and the identity of those seeking help is protected. We also have a mentoring system run by senior students in which a volunteer helps at least seven students individually," he said.

Many students and professors find these measures quite ineffective. "Instead of finding the root cause and building a collective support system of students and teachers, the measures implemented here are to silence or control students. Seniors working as mentors for MITR mostly spy on students who smoke or are in relationships," said a fourth year dual degree science student.

A senior faculty member said suicides were no more a shock. "Despite an effective public announcement network, it took three days for the management to inform us about the suicide," he said. The existing mechanism to prevent suicides is formal and does not reach students.

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: Nov 7, 2013; Section: Times Nation; Page: 16;

Model degree colleges to come up in 56 districts

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: In the first meeting of the Project Approval Board (PAB) for the Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan — the ambitious higher education programme to reinvigorate state universities — 56 new model degree colleges were approved in as many districts with a total outlay of Rs 672 crore.

Uttar Pradesh has got 29 model colleges, followed by eight each in Karnataka and Odisha, Andhra Pradesh (7) and Kerala (4).

The meeting also sanctioned second instalment of funds for 31 existing model degree colleges spread across Assam, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Punjab.

Ministry officials said, "We have got enthusiastic response from states. Already, 15 states and four union territories have responded to the ministry." The meeting considered the proposals of states and UTs and approved 12 states and four UTs eligible for support under RUSA. Gujarat's proposal came late so the PAB agreed to give the

state preparatory fund. J&K submitted the proposal but since it did not give any undertaking, PAB did not consider their request. Tamil Nadu also failed to give undertaking.

Proposals of Andaman & Nicobar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Odisha, Punjab & UP were approved.

For the full report, log on to www.timesofindia.com

Publication: The Times Of India Chennai; Date: Nov 7, 2013; Section: Times Business; Page: 16;

Zomato raises \$37 million

Bangalore: Online restaurant search service Zomato has raised \$37 million (Rs 225 crore) in fresh funding from Sequoia Capital and existing investor Info Edge, taking the total fund-raise to \$53.5 million. Previously it had raised \$16.5 million from Info Edge in four rounds of funding.

Zomato was started by two IIT Delhi alumni in July 2008 for Delhi NCR. Today, it has expanded its services to 35 cities across India, UK, UAE, South Africa, New Zealand, the Philippines, Brazil, Turkey, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Qatar. The company's core content features include menus, photos and geocoded coordinates for restaurants.

"We believe that we can



Deepinder Goyal, founder & CEO, Zomato

disrupt restaurant search with our rich content-driven model. This financing will help us develop a product that will change the way people look for restaurant recommendations around them," said Deepinder Goyal, foun-

der and CEO of the company. Zomato gets over 15 million visitors across its web and mobile platforms every month.

Mohit Bhatnagar, MD of Sequoia Capital India Advisors, said Zomato is the first Indian consumer internet company to build a significant international footprint. "We have made this investment because of our strong conviction in the founders, the world-class product they've built, and their ambitious global vision," he said.

Zomato updates menu cards every three months and provides updated scanned menu cards for over 160,000 restaurants across the 11 countries.

Defence Minister asks DRDO to focus on high end research

Special Correspondent

Facing bitter criticism from Parliamentarians for long delays in the development of Main Battle Tank (MBT), Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) and the Kaveri engine, the Defence Research & Development Organisation was on Wednesday asked by the Defence Minister A. K. Antony to complete its programmes within the prescribed time-limit.

Speaking at a meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee, attached to his ministry, Mr. Antony said the DRDO should invest mainly in "critical and strategic" areas. He said the research organisation should concentrate on high-end research and utilize resources in fundamental research, lay more emphasis on major mission-mode programmes for armed force. He asked the DRDO to pool together resources and talent available in academic and other R&D institutions.

Cutting across party lines, the MPs were "bitterly critical of delays in the development of Arjun, LCA and the Kaveri engine," a release of the Defence Ministry said.

The DRDO is presently working on 532 projects including those relating to mission-mode, technology demonstrator and infrastructure facilities and they are in various stages of implementation. "While some projects have been completed, others are in different stages of production and induction, as well as in stages of development and trial," the release said.

Mr. Antony also complimented DRDO for developing latest technology as well as strategic and tactical defence systems. He lauded it for the recent successful launch of Agni V missile. Speaking at the meeting, DRDO chief and Scientific Advisor to Defence Minister, Avinash Chander said structural changes have been brought about from September this year in the functioning of DRDO in line with the recommendations of the Rama Rao Committee Report for greater efficiency and accountability.

Keywords: [Defence Minister A.K. Antony](#), [DRDO](#), [high end research](#), [Main Battle Tank](#)

Printable version | Nov 7, 2013 1:06:22 PM | <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/defence-minister-asks-drdo-to-focus-on-high-end-research/article5322343.ece>

© The Hindu

HT Lucknow

CHARMINAR CHALLENGE



India-born Satya Nadella in Microsoft CEO race

Yashwant Raj

■ yraj@hindustantimes.com

WASHINGTON:

India-born Satya Nadella is on the shortlist of candidates being considered to replace Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer, who is slated to retire in the next few months.

■ **Nadella: serious**

Nadella is with Microsoft, heading its cloud computing division, and is one of the two internal candidates on the search committee's shortlist. The other is Tony Bates, formerly the CEO of Skype, which the software giant acquired in May 2011.

Nadella and Bates are up against five external candidates, including Ford CEO Alan Mulally and former Nokia chief Stephen Elop, according to sources who spoke to Reuters. The remaining three external

candidates were not named.

A CEO search committee had started out with 40 names, which was pruned to 10 in October, according to the Wall Street Journal. And now seven. Nadella has been on the list from the start.

He has refused to comment on his chances. But reports said he has had meetings with Microsoft board member, indicating he remains a serious contender.

Nadella, 44, was born in Hyderabad, and studied

electrical engineering at Manipal Institute of Technology. He went on to study computer science and business administration in the US.

He joined Microsoft in 1992, where he started in the Windows Developer Relations group.

He was also a key member of several advanced technology incubation efforts inside Microsoft, including interactive television and digital rights management.

SCIENTISTS FIND BLACK HOLE IN A STAR CLUSTER

WASHINGTON: In an unexpected discovery, scientists have spotted a black hole in a collection of stars in the constellation Ophiuchus, about 22,000 light years from Earth. Last year when astronomers led by a Michigan State University professor discovered two black holes in a collection of stars known as a globular cluster, the team wasn't sure if the black holes' presence was a common occurrence or a unique stroke of luck. Researchers have now found evidence of yet

another black hole in a globular cluster known as M62. "This implies that the discovery of the other black hole, in the globular cluster called M22, was not just a fluke," said Laura Chomiuk, team member and MSU assistant professor of physics and astronomy.

"Black holes really may be common in globular clusters," said Chomiuk. Black holes are stars that have died, collapsed into themselves and now have such a strong gravitational field that not even light can escape from them. Until recently, astronomers had assumed that the black holes did not occur in globular clusters, which are some of the oldest and densest collections of stars in the universe. **PTI**

An engineer who tuned into bureaucracy

Nabeed Ataula & Anil Kumar M, TNN Nov 4, 2013, 12:56AM IST

8

9

Tweet

Recommend

Tags: [Kaushik Mukherjee](#) | [harmonica](#) | [chief secretary of karnataka](#)

Bangalore: If he hadn't been made the new chief secretary of Karnataka, Kaushik Mukherjee would have been in Germany from October 28, playing harmonica at an international event. Mukherjee was part of a musical troupe called Choir 88, but pulled out when they turned professionals. Ask why and pat comes the reply: "How can you expect a bureaucrat to be seen playing with a troupe in hotels?"

The man with a penchant for music feels the evergreen song from Rajesh Khanna's 1971-starrer Anand, "Zindagi kaisi hai paheli haaye, kabhi to hansaaye kabhi ye rulaaye..." has been the signature tune of his life. "Life is so temporary, the small innings one plays is what matters," he says.

Flipkart- Deal of the Day

www.Flipkart.com/Deal_of_th...

A Fresh New Deal Every Day. Don't Miss. Shop Now!

Gionee ElifeE6 Smartphone

Gionee.co.in/Camera-Mobile-...

1.5GHz quad-core processor, 13 MP Camera. Do More with Less! Book Now

Retirement Homes In India

thegoldenestate.com/Contact...

An Exclusive Lifestyle Solution for Senior Citizens in India.

An electrical engineering from [IIT Delhi](#), Mukherjee completed his MTech from New York. As big job offers started pouring in, he drew inspiration from another stanza of the same song --- "Kabhi dekho man nahi jaage, peeche peeche sapnon ke bhaage..." He wanted to change jobs, but under one employer. Thus from [New York](#), he filled up a form to appear for IASas the employer is the government, but nature of work changes

. He cleared the exam in the first attempt, securing 35th rank and opted for Karnataka cadre.

Born in Kolkata, Mukherjee was brought up in New Delhi as his father was a chief engineer with Doordarshan. A good galli cricketer, he'd win matches for his team, especially with googlies and leg-spin. "At IIT, they were strict about attendance. I would get chits from friends asking me to play for their teams. Thus I would bunk classes for cricket, and to watch movies," he reminisces fondly.

The senior civil servant says his initial postings in Karnataka helped him gain an insight into rural life. At that time, his priority was to learn Kannada, a language he's now fluent to the extent of watching and appreciating works of iconic star Rajkumar. As Mandya deputy commissioner, Mukherjee organized Rajkumar nite.

"Besides acting, Rajkumar was a great singer. It still surprises me how he could sing without formal training. I loved his movie Hulihaalina Mevu," he says.

THE FAMILY MAN

Stacks of office files and back-to-back meetings apart, Mukherjee is a total family man. Four years into his IAS career, he got married to Oli (bumblebee in Bengali), from Bihar. "It was from a matrimonial alliance in the newspaper. After the wedding, I went back to college to complete my Masters in English," says Oli. A happy homemaker, every item in their house in HSR Layout has been hand-picked by her. "Kaushik is just a guest in this house," she says on a lighter note. "Every second Sunday, we are at the PVR to watch a movie. Then with a jhola in

tow, we head to buy veggies at the local santhe," adds Mukherjee.

So does the new responsibility mean longer hours in office? "There's a beautiful world outside busy office jobs, and family is one such world," says Mukherjee. Oli is quick to add that she's never seen her husband come home carrying a file.

Though fond of Bengali delicacies, Mukherjee says he makes use of his visits abroad for varied "gastronomical experiences." In Bangalore, Oli often has her friends calling up to say her husband was spotted having high-calorie sweets at KC Das, Church Street. However, he walks 10km every day to cut the flab. The couple's sons, Kushal and Kunal, and daughters-in law are all doctorates. While Kushal is settled in Cork, [Ireland](#), Kunal lives in [Boston](#). "I never forced my children to focus in the area I wanted. They chose technology as they wanted to contribute to that sector," says Mukherjee. However, the man himself isn't comfortable with online tools like Facebook and Twitter as he feels it takes away an individual's privacy.

NBT

टॉपर्स नहीं, एवरेज स्टूडेंट्स हैं पसंद

डीयू में इस बार 55-60 पर्सेंट स्कोरर को कंपनियों का गोल्डन चांस

■ भूपेंद्र, नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली यूनिवर्सिटी में कैम्पस प्लेसमेंट का सीजन शुरू हो गया है और इस बार नया ट्रेंड भी देखने को मिल रहा है। पहले कंपनियों की पहली चॉइस टॉपर्स स्टूडेंट्स होते थे और पहले उन्हें ही जॉब ऑफर होती थी। अब कंपनियों की सोच में बदलाव आ रहा है। यूनिवर्सिटी के सेंट्रल प्लेसमेंट सेल (सीपीसी) में रजिस्ट्रेशन करवाने वाली कई कंपनियां चाहती हैं कि एवरेज पर्सेंटिज वाले स्टूडेंट्स का सिलेक्शन किया जाए। 55 से 60 पर्सेंट तक स्कोर करने वाले स्टूडेंट्स को भी इस बार कैम्पस प्लेसमेंट का गोल्डन चांस मिल सकता है। सीपीसी अधिकारियों का भी मानना है कि इस बार खुद कंपनियों ने ही एवरेज स्टूडेंट्स को प्रमोट करने की बात कही है। यूनिवर्सिटी भी कंपनियों के बदलते रुख से काफी खुश है।

डिप्टी डीन स्टूडेंट्स वेलफेयर डॉ. गुलशन साहनी बताते हैं कि कई कंपनियां इस बार शर्त रख रही हैं कि उन्हें एवरेज पर्सेंटिज वाले स्टूडेंट्स का डाटा दिया जाए। ऐसे स्टूडेंट्स को कंपनियां ट्रेड करेंगी और ट्रेनिंग के बाद उन्हें कंपनियों में काम करने का मौका मिलेगा। डॉ. साहनी का कहना है कि कंपनियों की सोच है कि टॉपर्स का सिलेक्शन करने के बाद उन्हें कुछ महीने की ट्रेनिंग दी जाती है, लेकिन कुछ समय बाद वे जॉब छोड़ देते हैं। ऐसे में कंपनी को नए सिरे से कैंडिडेट्स को ट्रेनिंग देनी पड़ती है और कंपनी को ट्रेनिंग का फायदा नहीं मिल पाता।



कोई भी कम नहीं

- प्लेसमेंट का नया सीजन हो रहा है शुरू, इस बार टॉपर्स को तवज्जो नहीं
- टॉपर्स जल्दी बदलते हैं जॉब, इस वजह से नए सिरे से हायर करना पड़ता है
- इस बार कंपनियों ने एवरेज स्टूडेंट्स को प्रमोट करने की बात कही

आईटी के अलावा फाइनेंस सेक्टर की भी ऐसी कंपनियां हैं, जो 60 पर्सेंट तक स्कोर करने वाले स्टूडेंट्स को प्लेसमेंट में प्राथमिकता देने की बात कह रही हैं। डिप्टी डीन स्टूडेंट्स वेलफेयर डॉ. गुरप्रीत सिंह टुटेजा का कहना है कि कंपनियों की सोच में बदलाव आ रहा है। वे चाहती हैं कि जिन स्टूडेंट्स को वे ट्रेनिंग दें, वे ज्यादा से ज्यादा समय तक काम करें। इस बार ऐसी कंपनियां भी हैं, जो चाहती हैं कि स्टूडेंट्स जल्द से

जल्द जॉइन करें। कंपनियों की सोच है कि एवरेज पर्सेंटिज वाले स्टूडेंट्स ज्यादा समय तक एक कंपनी में काम कर सकते हैं। यानी इस बार कम पर्सेंटिज वाले स्टूडेंट्स के लिए भी खुशखबरी है कि उन्हें पहले के मुकाबले कैम्पस प्लेसमेंट के ज्यादा बेहतर चांस मिलेंगे।

सीपीसी का पहला राउंड 12-13 नवंबर को

सीपीसी का पहला राउंड 12 और 13 नवंबर को नॉर्थ कैम्पस के कॉन्फ्रेंस सेंटर में होगा। इस दिन बैंकिंग सेक्टर की कंपनियां भी आ रही हैं, जिनमें एचडीएफसी भी शामिल है। साइंस, आर्ट्स और कॉमर्स तीनों स्ट्रीम के स्टूडेंट्स इस राउंड में भाग ले सकते हैं। पहले राउंड में वही अपीयर हो सकते हैं, जिन्होंने 11 नवंबर को शाम 5 बजे तक ऑनलाइन रजिस्ट्रेशन किया होगा। इसके बाद फॉर्म का प्रिंट लेकर कॉलेज प्रिंसिपल से भी वेरिफाई करवाना होगा। 20 नवंबर से एग्जाम शुरू हो रहे हैं। प्लेसमेंट का सेकंड राउंड सेमेस्टर एग्जाम के बाद ही होगा।

डीयू का ऑनलाइन जॉब पोर्टल



■ विस, नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली यूनिवर्सिटी ने अलग-अलग डिपार्टमेंट और सेंटर्स के लिए टीचिंग पोस्ट जारी कर दी है। डीयू ने इस बार ऑनलाइन जॉब पोर्टल के माध्यम से ऐप्लीकेशन मांगी है। यूनिवर्सिटी के मुताबिक डिपार्टमेंट में असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर की 360, असोसिएट प्रोफेसर की 206 और प्रोफेसर की 99 पोस्ट हैं। जॉब पोर्टल work.du.ac.in के जरिए अप्लाई किया जा सकता है। ऑनलाइन ऐप्लीकेशन की लास्ट डेट 6 दिसंबर है। यूनिवर्सिटी ने इन पोस्ट के लिए योग्यता शर्तों की जानकारी भी वेबसाइट पर जारी कर दी है। अब कैंडिडेट्स को डॉक्यूमेंट जमा करवाने के चक्कर में नहीं पड़ना पड़ेगा।

हम मंगल पर क्या खोजने निकले हैं

सबसे बढ़कर इस वैज्ञानिक-दार्शनिक सवाल का जवाब कि क्या हम ब्रह्मांड में अकेले हैं



बलदेव राज दावर

5 नवंबर को इसरो ने एक खोजी अंतरिक्षयान मंगल की ओर रवाना किया है। आशा है कि 300 दिनों के लंबे सफर के बाद यह अगले साल सितंबर तक मंगल के आंगन में पहुंच जाएगा। वह मंगल के आसमान में एक चांद बन कर उसकी परिक्रमा करने लगेगा और महीनों उस दुनिया में ताक-झांक करेगा। मंगल की खोज-खबर के लिये मानव जाति ने पिछले चार दशकों में 51 मिशन भेजे हैं। भारत का यह अभियान इस सिलसिले की 52वीं कड़ी है। आज की तारीख में यूरोपीय स्पेस एजेंसी का एक और नासा के दो अंतरिक्षयान मंगल के आकाश में विचरते हुए खोजबीन कर



चंबल का बीहड़ नहीं, मंगल की घाटी है

क्या हमारे सौर मंडल के किसी अन्य पिंड पर या अन्य किसी तारे के ग्रह पर हमारे जैसे जीवधारी विकसित हुए हैं?

रहे हैं। नासा के छह पहियों वाले दो रोवर-आपूरचुनिटी और क्यूरोसिटी- मंगल की धरती पर चल-फिर कर वहां के मिट्टी-पत्थर की रासायनिक जांच कर रहे हैं। सवाल है, हम मंगल पर क्या खोज रहे हैं? क्या यह भगीरथ प्रयास इसलिए कि अगले बीस-तीस सालों में मंगल पर मनुष्यों को भेजने का हमारा इरादा है? ठीक, लेकिन हमें कुछ गहरे सवालों के जवाब भी चाहिए।

▶ अरब-खरब पृथिव्यां

हमारे सूरज जैसे खरबों तारे हमारी आकाशगंगा में मौजूद हैं और आकाशगंगा जैसी खरबों

गैलेक्सियां हमारी सृष्टि (युनिवर्स) में विचर रही हैं। सृष्टि के खरबों-खरब तारों के गिर्द हमारी पृथ्वी जैसी अनगिनत धरतियां भी जरूर चक्कर लगा रही होंगी। एक सवाल है- क्या इनमें से किसी धरती पर पृथ्वी के जीवजगत जैसा कोई और जगत भी है या हम अकेले हैं? क्या हमारे सौर मंडल के किसी अन्य पिंड पर या अन्य किसी तारे के किसी ग्रह पर हमारे जैसे जीवधारी विकसित हुए हैं? हां या ना, इस सवाल का स्पष्ट जवाब बीसवीं सदी के अंत तक नहीं मिल पाया। तलाश जारी है। लेकिन हम एक और दार्शनिक सवाल का जवाब भी खोज रहे हैं। सवाल है- आज से तीन-चार अरब साल पहले हमारी पृथ्वी पर जो जीव प्रकट हुआ था, क्या वह एक प्राकृतिक घटना थी, या वह प्रकृति के नियमों के प्रतिकूल एक नितांत अनहोनी घटना थी जो केवल एक बार, एक अद्भुत संयोगवश, घट गई और उसके कहीं और घटने का सवाल ही नहीं पैदा होता? वैज्ञानिकों के एक ग्रुप का मानना है कि जीव

की शुरुआत अणुओं-परमाणुओं की बहुत महीन और बहुत सिंपल लड़ियों से अकस्मात हुई थी। यह शुरुआत, किसी विधाता की सोची-समझी स्कीम के अनुसार नहीं, प्रकृति के नियमों की मजबूरी के कारण भी नहीं, बल्कि स्वतः और संयोगवश घटी थी। और एक दफा जीवन की शुरुआत हो गई तो फिर उसका विकास पिछले तीन-चार अरब सालों में पृथ्वी की प्रकृति, उसकी जलवायु और उसके इतिहास के अनगिनत हादसों का परिणाम था। सृष्टि बेशक बहुत विशाल है और अनगिनत उसमें ग्रह-नक्षत्र हैं, लेकिन उसमें ठीक हमारी पृथ्वी जैसी एक और धरती मिल जाए, जिसपर ठीक वैसे ही हादसे घटे हों, और ये हादसे उसी अनुपात और उसी क्रम में घटे हों, यह संभव नहीं। इसलिए पृथ्वी से परे हम जैसे जीवधारियों की उत्पत्ति और विकास की संभावना न के बराबर है।

विज्ञान की दुनिया में इसके विपरीत एक और सोच भी लोकप्रिय है। उसके अनुसार पृथ्वी पर द्रव्य (मैटर) के जो मूल तत्व मिलते

हैं ठीक वही तत्व पूरी सृष्टि में पाए जाते हैं। कार्बन का एक परमाणु जैसा पृथ्वी पर है, वैसे ही वह हमारे पड़ोसी ग्रह मंगल, पड़ोसी तारे रोहिणी और पड़ोसी गैलेक्सी एंड्रोमेडा में भी पाया जाता है। पृथ्वी के जीवधारियों के शरीर मुख्यतः कार्बन, हाइड्रोजन, आक्सीजन, नाइट्रोजन और फॉस्फोरस से गठित हुए हैं। ये तत्व बाकी सृष्टि में भी लगभग सब जगह और पर्याप्त मात्रा में मिलते हैं। तत्वों का पदार्थों योगिकों में गठित होना भी स्वाभाविक है। उदाहरण के लिए हाइड्रोजन और आक्सीजन के मिलने से बनने वाले पानी की उपस्थिति ब्रह्मांड में दूर-दूर तक दर्ज की गई है। कार्बन मूल के आर्गेनिक मॉलिक्यूल जीवधारियों के शरीर के आधारभूत अणु माने जाते हैं। वे भी न केवल दूसरे ग्रहों और पिंडों पर बल्कि स्पेस के खुले आंगन तक में पाए गए हैं।

▶ क्या कोई संदेश आया

इसलिए कई वैज्ञानिकों का मत है कि अनुकूल परिस्थितियां मिलने पर सृष्टि में कहीं भी और कभी भी जीवन की शुरुआत हो सकती है, और एक बार जीव प्रकट हो गया तो अपनी मृत्यु को टालने की इच्छाशक्ति उसमें स्वतः जग जाती है। वह अपनी कॉपियां बनाने लगता है और अपने विकास की बागडोर भी संभाल लेता है। उसमें चेतना और विवेक विकसित होना भी अप्राकृतिक नहीं है। इसलिए इन वैज्ञानिकों का मानना है कि हमारी सृष्टि में जो अनगिनत धरतियां हैं उनपर अवश्य ही अनगिनत जीवजगत फल-फूल रहे होंगे, और संभव है कि वे हमसे संपर्क करने की कोशिश भी कर रहे हों। उपरोक्त दो तरह की सोचों में कौन-सी सत्य निकलेगी और कौन-सी असत्य, इस मुकदमे का फैसला, एक हद तक इस बात पर निर्भर करेगा कि मंगल पर जीवन का कोई चिह्न मिलता है या नहीं।

(लेखक वैज्ञानिक विषयों के टिप्पणीकार हैं)