

## Newspaper Clips

Oct. 11-12, 2015

Oct. 11

# Hindustan ND 11/10/2015

## P-05

# आईआईटी महोत्सव में ग्रामीण मेला लगेगा

नई दिल्ली | वरिष्ठ संवाददाता

## पहल

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) दिल्ली के वार्षिक महोत्सव 'रॉन्डिवू' में पहली बार ग्रामीण मेले की थीम पर रॉन्डिवू विलेज बनाया जा रहा है। फेस्ट का आयोजन 16 से 19 अक्टूबर तक होगा। इसमें देशभर के विभिन्न कॉलेजों के छात्र हिस्सा लेंगे।

फेस्ट के मीडिया संयोजक सचिव टंडन ने बताया कि पहली बार 'रॉन्डिवू विलेज' बनाया जा रहा है। नालंदा लॉन में बनाए जा रहे इस विलेज में गांवों के मेलों की तर्ज पर कई तरह के स्टॉल, खेल, अलाव और प्रतियोगिताओं को लाइव देखने के लिए एक बड़ी स्क्रीन लगाई जा रही है। यह हर दिन शाम 4:00

- 16 से 19 अक्टूबर तक 'रॉन्डिवू' का आयोजन
- शंकर, एहसान और लॉय की तिकड़ी धूम मचाएगी

बजे खुलेगा और रात 12:00 बजे तक यहां चहल-पहल रहेगी। यहां लोक कलाकर भी प्रदर्शन भी करेंगे।

उन्होंने बताया कि इस सांस्कृतिक महोत्सव का विषय 'मध्ययुगीन मेल' रखा गया है। इस बार 19 अक्टूबर की रात को आयोजित होने वाली प्रो-नाइट 'धूम' में संगीत क्षेत्र की महान तिकड़ी शंकर महादेवन, एहसान नूरानी और लॉय मेंडोंसा धूम मचाएंगे।

Virat Vaibhav ND 11/10/2015 P-08

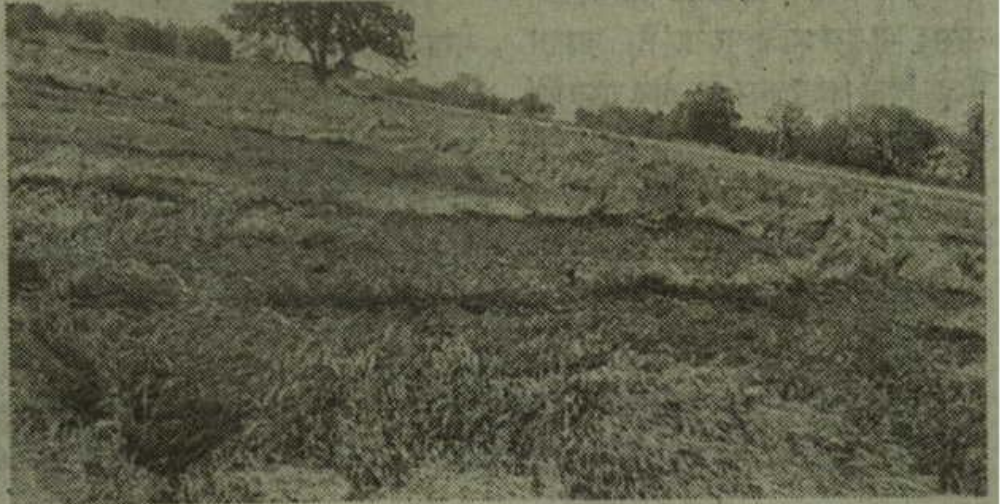
# पत्तों और सूखे कचरे से ईंधन बनाएगी मशीन

## भारतीय वन सेवा के अधिकारी ने तैयार की मशीन

देहरादून। ईंधन के तौर पर कोयला न केवल प्रदूषण बढ़ाता है बल्कि एक समय बाद इसका खत्म होना भी तय है। इसी को देखते हुए भारतीय वन सेवा के अधिकारी कपिल जोशी ने एक ऐसी ब्रिकेटिंग मशीन तैयार की है जो पत्तों, पुआल, भूसी और सूखे कचरे के वेस्ट से ईंधन बनाती है। यह कोयले का प्रदूषण रहित विकल्प है, जो फैक्ट्रियों और भट्टियों में भी काम आ सकेगा।

जोशी की यह मशीन केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन एवं विकास मंत्रालय ने उन्नत भारत अभियान के लिए स्वीकृत भी कर ली है। संयुक्त राष्ट्र में नरेंद्र मोदी के कार्बन उत्सर्जन व जीवाश्म ईंधन का खर्च कम करने के संकल्प के तहत मंत्रालय ने इसमें खास रुचि दिखाई है।

कपिल जोशी ने यह मशीन आईआईटी रुड़की प्रयोगशाला में तैयार की, जिसके लिए उन्हें आईआईटी ने



पीएचडी भी अवार्ड की। जोशी के मुताबिक, मशीन में धान की भूसी, पत्ते और सूखे कचरे के अलावा चीड़ के पत्ते भी इस्तेमाल हो सकते हैं।

फिलहाल बिजली से चलने वाली ब्रिकेटिंग मशीन राजस्थान, जम्मू-कश्मीर, हिमाचल और उत्तराखंड में शीरे व गोबर से ईंधन का विकल्प तैयार कर रही हैं। लेकिन बिजली की कमी के कारण करोड़ों के प्रोजेक्ट बंद पड़े हैं। इन मशीनों में पत्तों को जलाकर राख बनाया जाता है, जिनसे कार्बन

डाई आक्साइड निकलती है, जबकि जोशी की इस अनूठी मशीन में पत्ते और सूखा कचरा डालकर उन्हें आंच पर गर्म किया जाता है।

गर्मी पाकर पत्तों की कोशिकाएं लिगनिन नामक तत्व छोड़ती हैं, उसी वक्त इन्हें कसकर दबा देते हैं। कप्रेस करते ही ये चौकोर और लंबी ईंटों की शक्ल में आ जाती हैं। इस मशीन का वजन भी काफी हल्का होता है और बनाने का खर्च मात्र 15 से 20 हजार रुपए आता है। ■

Times Of India ND 11/10/2015

P-23

# Nasa plans to set up Mars colonies by 2030

Andrew Griffin

Nasa has said that it plans to have humans living on Mars in the next few decades. Moving to have “Earth Independent” colonies on the Red Planet will be the end point of years of research, the agency has said, but it plans for that to be complete by the 2030s. Nasa laid out the plans in a large document: “Nasa’s Journey to Mars — Pioneering Next Steps in Space Exploration”. The document lays out the three stages of Nasa’s plan to get to Mars. The first is Earth Reliant; the second is Proving Ground, where the operations

will be tested out in deep space, but in an environment that allows humans to get back to Earth in days.

Nasa hopes that those two first stages allow it to get to the Earth Independent stage. It sees the Earth Independent colonies as being “a

global achievement that marks a transition in humanity’s expansion as we go to Mars not just to visit, but to stay”.

While there, humans will live and work within habitats that “support human life for years, with only routine maintenance”. They’ll harvest “Martian resources to create fuel, water, oxygen and building materials” and use “advanced communication systems” to send information back with only a 20-minute delay.

But before it gets to that stage, it will begin in the Earth Reliant one. This stage will include making sure that equipment works,

and learning more about the effects of spending extended periods of time in space — since the eventual Mars missions could see people living on the planet for decades, or potentially never coming back.

THE INDEPENDENT



**HOMING IN:** Nasa plans to harvest Martian resources to create fuel, water and oxygen

P-01

## Over 50% of IITians' moms are grads, but stay at home

Hemali Chhappia-Shah  
& Yogita Rao | TNN

**Mumbai:** The Class of 2019 at the IITs is largely the story of an Indian urban middle-class home where the woman spent her early years earning an education and then stayed at home to raise her family.

The tech schools have never given out information on mothers of the candidates who are picked.

But this time, they have released data that shows most mothers are at least graduates and largely homemakers.

Of the 9,974 students who have gone on to join the IITs, the mothers of around 2,250 are postgraduates; another 3,200 are graduates (in all over 50%). The literacy rate among fathers is much higher.

As many as 6,690 of women are stay-at-home moms. Most are financially dependent with an annual income of less than Rs 1 lakh.

► **'Moms help pupils', P 20**

## 'Educated mothers help students in preparation'

► **Continued from P 1**

**B**arring 1,400 fathers, everyone was educated enough to show their children the path to take, and 1,550 fathers have an annual income of over Rs 8 lakh. There is no information provided on the incomes of mothers of 5,749 candidates and fathers of 1,400.

"Educated mothers definitely help in the preparation that students have to make for IIT. The fact that a majority of mothers are graduates proves the point. However, these days, students are exposed to a lot of information and with help from various quarters — school teachers, coaching institutes — even first-generation learners do well in competitive exams," says Meenal Mohgaonkar, mother of city's second highest scorer in JEE (Advanced), Ajinkya.

Mohgaonkar, a radiologist who was working as the head of department at a private medical college in Nashik, moved to Mumbai with Ajinkya to ensure he gets the best coaching. She added that mothers also help in relieving stress as the preparation period is pretty long and the mental state is never consistent and students go through several ups and downs.

Remaining in the box of mother and homemaker was probably more of an ultimate choice than desire, given the societal conditions.

*For the full report, log on to [www.timesofindia.com](http://www.timesofindia.com)*

## **DU VC to stay in office till end of tenure**

<http://www.nyoooz.com/delhi/224899/du-vc-to-stay-in-office-till-end-of-tenure>

Summary: According to MHRD sources, Singh has been asked to convene the meeting before his term comes to an end. The office of the President of India, who is also Visitor to Delhi University, has asked it to convene the executive council meeting before October 28, 2015. The notice issued to the university on Friday asked the VC to convene the EC and finalize the university's nominee for the search committee for the new head. The VC and the ministry have been at loggerheads ever since the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme row. The controversial programme was rolled back in 2014, a year after its launch, even as clamour grew for his removal.

The office of the President of India, who is also Visitor to Delhi University, has asked it to convene the executive council meeting before October 28, 2015. Though it has not taken action on the recommendation of the ministry of human resource development to send DU vice-chancellor Dinesh Singh on forced leave till the end of his tenure which is coming to an end on this date, the office of the Visitor has asked him not to continue for a single day beyond the last day of his term. The notice issued to the university on Friday asked the VC to convene the EC and finalize the university's nominee for the search committee for the new head. According to MHRD sources, Singh has been asked to convene the meeting before his term comes to an end. He has been asked to preside over the meeting as well. The source also said that the Prime Minister's Office is monitoring the process. The VC and the ministry have been at loggerheads ever since the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme row. The controversial programme was rolled back in 2014, a year after its launch, even as clamour grew for his removal. On Thursday, following MHRD's recommendation to the Visitor to ask Singh to go on leave, the VC wrote to the President of India stating he won't stay beyond a day from the end of his term and also sought an appointment. The EC meeting will be now watched closely.

## **IIT alumni set out to organise the on-demand services market with Gapoon**

<http://yourstory.com/2015/10/gapoon/>

The on-demand phenomenon is catching on in India with various startups evangelising different niche services in the hyperlocal space. Right from grocery and handyman services to salons, everything in metros is now accessible on-the-go.

With multiple players in the market, Gapoon believes that there is still lack of a perfect solution to the problem of disorganisation. With huge variety of services, attribute mapping, upfront prices mentioned on the website/app and fully automated lead management system, Gapoon believes it has managed to remove all the hassles involved in this disorganised market and created an end-to-end support for customers and vendors.



Core team @ Gapoon

## Birth of an idea

By maintaining a balance between both the supply and demand side of the market, Gapoon is able to guarantee service quality and punctuality. Apoorva Mishra, Founder and CEO of Gapoon, says that the idea was born out of frustration. When he had moved to Bengaluru last August for a job change he couldn't find a reliable way to get the basic plumbing and electrical jobs done at his new home.

This was when he along with roommate Ankit Bindal and friend Ankita Asai decided to solve this problem of disorganised market and provide people with an easy and reliable way to get these basic jobs done. "We spent more than a quarter doing thorough market research, understanding the dynamics of such consumer services domain and ideating a best-suited solution," adds Apoorva.

## Research and eureka moment

It was during the research the team realised that not only consumers were annoyed at the lack of structure in this market but the vendors too were suffering from a similar frustration. Most of the service providers didn't have adequate online presence. Those who had were not receiving enough 'quality leads'.

They refer to a quality lead as a job which is, confirmed by the user, is forwarded to only one service provider avoiding any hassles and is coherent to the service provider's requirement and expertise. Most of such vendors were paying a lot for leads which they couldn't or wouldn't cater.

## Core team structure

Prior to founding Gapoon Apoorva worked as a business consultant with Fractal and EXL for 18 months in the fields of insurance, retail and telecom. Co-founder and CMO Ankita had worked at Schlumberger as an oil field engineer in North-East India.

Ankit, Co-founder and CTO, worked in Prointel as Senior Software Engineer. Being a tech-junkie, he handles the website, app development and back-end support for the company. All three were IIT-Kanpur graduates and good friends. Nikhil Gupta, COO, graduated from IIT Delhi in 2013 and worked in Fractal Analytics as a business consultant. He currently handles operations at Gapoon.

Gapoon is a one-stop platform for all users to conveniently hire professional service providers online and also provides quality leads to service providers, promoting their business and saving both time and money.

## What does it do?

Gapoon services cover the entire domain of home maintenance like plumbing, electrical work, carpentry, painting, pest control and all types of home appliance and laptop repair. Along with up-front and fair prices, fully automatic lead dispatch and follow-up system, Gapoon aims to provide a solution to disorganisation in the market. “We believe that only by proper standardisation of these services as a product, we can provide a viable solution,” says Apoorva.

## Traction and funding

From the date of inception in February 2015 till now, Gapoon has served more than 3,500 customers. It claims to be exhibiting a 100-per-cent monthly growth rate in terms of visitors, queries and completed orders. Currently, it stands at 150 orders per day across all services offered in Bengaluru.

Gapoon closed a seed round three months ago from a group of angel investors based out of Bengaluru and Mumbai. It aims to reach 1,000 orders per day in Bengaluru in a couple of months and expand to multiple cities in India in the coming quarter.

Close to 117 on-demand companies are believed to have been funded in 2013. Over the past year, on-demand services have become a rage in India and beauty space has witnessed the debut of a slew of startups like [Vyomo](#), [Stayglad](#), [GetLook](#), [Bulbul](#) and [VanityCube](#) among several others.

Interestingly, most of the startups had also raised investment this year. YouWeCan-backed Vyomo recently raised little less than USD two million last week while VanityCube secured about USD 3,50,000 from unnamed angels.

## Land identified for IIT in Jammu

**‘No IIT, IIM, IMC for Kashmir yet: Govt**

<http://www.kashmirtimes.com/newsdet.aspx?q=45709>

### KT NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, Oct 9: The state government Monday said that an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) are being established in Jammu while land has already been identified at Village Jagti in Nagrota in district Jammu for setting up permanent campus of IIT. The Government further said that the matter with regard to setting up of IIT and IIM in Kashmir pertains to Government of India.

This was stated by Higher Education Minister in a written reply in response to a question raised by independent MLA Engineer Rashid whether government intends to set IIT and IIM and IMC in Kashmir region. The Minister said that no

land has been identified in Jammu yet for the establishment of IIM there. He said that the Government of India has advised the state government to identify pieces of land measuring approximately 200 acres each both in Jammu and Srinagar and also two teams have been constituted by Government of India for visiting and finalizing the sites for establishment of AIIMS.

## Government holds talks with IIM directors over contentious bill

<http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-government-holds-talks-with-iim-directors-over-contentious-bill-2133258>

Seeking to allay concerns about the contentious IIM bill, government on Friday engaged in lengthy deliberations with the institute directors who have raised fears about the legislation undermining their autonomy.

The meeting could follow another round of consultation with the IIM directors as the HRD Ministry has earlier hinted at "reviewing" and "correcting any inconsistencies" in the controversial draft Bill. "We are working hard to arrive at a consensus," said one of the IIM directors emerging out of the meeting while a second director of a new IIM was hopeful of the revised draft being approved soon before it is taken up in the Winter Session of Parliament. Ministry officials on the other hand maintained that the meeting was called to understand the views of the directors on the contentious clauses and suggestions.

The meeting was chaired by Higher Education Secretary V S Oberoi. HRD Minister [Smriti Irani](#) had in August held an hour-long discussion with the chairperson of IIM-Bangalore's board of governors, Kiran Mazumdar Shaw and described as a "fallacy" the criticism surrounding the Bill. The government has been accused of having intentions of gaining some kind of control through the Bill in almost every decision that the institutes take.

The IIMs have also pointed to provisions that allegedly infringe on the autonomy of the business schools. "Government is trying to ensure that we have an accountable structure without affecting autonomy," Shaw had said. She had also hinted that "some kind of rephrasing" could address their concerns.

The Bill seeks to give the IIMs degree-granting powers and convert them into institutes of national importance. In a written reply in Parliament earlier, Irani had said the Bill "intends to ensure greater synergy and financial autonomy along with commensurate accountability in academic and financial matters of the IIMs".



Oct. 12

Economic Times Hindi ND 12.10.2015 P-8

# IIT एंट्रेस एग्जाम को आसान बनाने की तैयारी

## IIT में दाखिले के लिए स्टूडेंट्स पर प्रेशर कम करना चाहती है HRD मिनिस्ट्री



[ अनुभूति विश्वाँई | नई दिल्ली ]

ह्यूमन रिसोर्स डिवेलपमेंट (एचआरडी) मिनिस्ट्री देश के टॉप इंजीनियरिंग स्कूलों में एडमिशन के लिए केवल एक एग्जाम नहीं चाहती। मिनिस्ट्री का मकसद स्टूडेंट्स पर प्रेशर कम करना और आईआईटी में आने वाले स्टूडेंट्स की क्वालिटी को लेकर चिंताओं को दूर करना है।

इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी (आईआईटी) और नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी (एनआईटी) के साथ इन इंस्टीट्यूट्स से स्टूडेंट्स को हायर करने वाली कंपनियां भी यह शिकायत करती रही हैं कि मौजूदा सिस्टम से केवल वही स्टूडेंट्स चुन जा रहे हैं, जिन्हें एंट्रेस एग्जाम की तैयारी करने वाले स्कूलों में रट्टा लगवाया जाता है और यह जरूरी नहीं है कि ये स्टूडेंट्स सबसे अधिक टैलेंटेड हों। आईआईटी काउंसिल और एनआईटी काउंसिल की ओर से विचार-विमर्श करने के बाद इस बारे में सुझाव देने के लिए एक कमेटी बनाई गई है। कमेटी को एक सिंगल एडमिशन टेस्ट और टेस्ट को लेकर प्रेशर कम करने के साथ ही कोचिंग क्लासेज पर निर्भरता को घटाने के बारे में भी सुझाव देने के लिए कहा गया है।

कमेटी ज्वाइंट एंट्रेस एग्जाम (जेईई) और रिजल्ट की घोषणा के बीच अभी लगने वाले तीन महीने का समय कम करने के लिए सुझाव देगी। इसके अलावा यह आईआईटी, एनआईटी और इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ साइंस एंड रिसर्च (आईआईएसईआर) के लिए काउंसिलिंग के सिस्टम में बदलाव कर इसे एक वेबसाइट के जरिए करने का तरीका सुझाएगी। इससे स्टूडेंट्स की मुश्किल कम हो सकेगी। इससे पहले आईआईटी और एनआईटी के लिए एक ही फॉर्मेट में काउंसिलिंग की एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री की कोशिश का आईआईटी की ओर से कड़ा विरोध हुआ था।

आईआईटी और एनआईटी काउंसिल की हाल की एक मीटिंग में एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री ने स्टूडेंट्स

### नहीं चाहिए रट्टा सिस्टम

- IIT और NIT के साथ इन इंस्टीट्यूट्स से स्टूडेंट्स को हायर करने वाली फर्मों की शिकायत रही है कि मौजूदा सिस्टम से केवल वही स्टूडेंट्स चुने जा रहे हैं, जिन्हें एंट्रेस एग्जाम की तैयारी करने वाले स्कूलों ने रट्टा लगवाया है

की रुचि पर फोकस करने और पढ़ाई में कमजोर स्टूडेंट्स को मदद देने की बात कही थी। आईआईटी, एनआईटी और आईआईएसईआर को केंद्र सरकार से फंड मिलता है। जेईई में अभी दो हिस्से- मेन और एडवांस्ड हैं।

पूर्व एचआरडी मिनिसटर कपिल सिब्बल ने देश के प्रीमियर इंजीनियरिंग स्कूलों को क्लास 12 की परीक्षा को 40 पर्सेंट वेटेज देने के लिए कहा था जिससे कोचिंग सेंटर्स का दबदबा कम किया जा सके और छात्र स्कूल के करिकुलम पर भी ध्यान दें।

कमेटी को एक नवंबर तक अपनी रिपोर्ट देनी है। इसके अध्यक्ष आईआईटी-रुड़की के प्रमुख अशोक मिश्रा हैं। इसके सदस्यों में आईआईटी-मद्रास के पूर्व डायरेक्टर प्रोफेसर अनंत, डिफेंस रिसर्च एंड डिवेलपमेंट ऑर्गनाइजेशन (डीआरडीओ) के साइंटिस्ट टेसी थॉमस, आईआईटी-खड़गपुर के प्रमुख पवन गोयनका और इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इनफॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी गुवाहाटी के मंतर डायरेक्टर गौतम बरुआ हैं।

जेईई को सबसे कठिन एडमिशन टेस्ट में से एक माना जाता है। इसी वजह से स्टूडेंट्स इसमें सफलता हासिल करने के लिए कोचिंग इंस्टीट्यूट्स में जाते हैं। एक एक्सपर्ट के मुताबिक, 'एग्जाम का दबाव और आईआईटी एडमिशन पर कोचिंग का असर कई वर्षों से बरकरार है और इसे कम करना आसान नहीं होगा।'

## IIT Delhi's 'Rendezvous': Poets' meet, freeze mobs and more

The fest, which is expected to attract nearly 60,000 visitors, is scheduled to be held from October 16 to 19.

<http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/delhi/iit-delhis-rendezvous-poets-meet-freeze-mobs-and-more/>

A freeze mob to raise awareness about children's rights, a kavi sammelan (poets' meet) and an expo on start-ups — these will be some of the highlights of 'Rendezvous', IIT-Delhi's annual cultural festival.

The fest, which is expected to attract nearly 60,000 visitors, is scheduled to be held from October 16 to 19. "We wanted something different this year, so we planned a variety of events," said Shrey, a member of the IIT-Delhi's dramatics club.

The organisers of Rendezvous have also launched an app — RDV IITD — for those planning to visit the four-day fest. "We have invested a lot of time and energy into making the app helpful for anyone who plans to visit the fest. For the first time, the app will feature a real-time map of the entire fest, to help visitors navigate the IIT campus easily. The app can also be used to vote in the various contests. Users can just log into the app and vote for their favorite bands or teams through the app," said Sujay Choubay, one of the organisers.

This year, Hindi language will have a special place in the fest, with a kavi sammelan which will be attended by prominent poets like Surendra Sharma, Mahendra Afnabi and Ritu Goel.

Also on the cards: a meet on poetry for children (chatra kavi sammelan), one on satire in poetry (hasya kavi sammelan), a quiz on mythology and Hindi wordgames.

Students have also organised several freeze mobs across Delhi to raise awareness on the issue of child rights, in association with the Child Adoption Resource Authority.

"Child labour is so common that the sight of children working for a living doesn't even make us to react anymore. We are all so busy that it seems impossible to even wait for a moment and think about the problem. The sheer disparity in amenities, for an underprivileged child, is bound to be magnified to worse social evils once the child grows up. We have already held a freeze mob to raise the issue of children's rights at a pre-fest event and we will also organise street plays on this theme," said Choubay.

## NAAC meet on ranking of institutions held

Bengaluru, Oct 12, 2015, DHNS:

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/505877/naac-meet-ranking-institutions-held.html>

**In an effort to gather suggestions and recommendations on ranking of higher education institutions and their accreditation, the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) recently held a national-level meeting on the topic.**

The national consultation, titled, "Ranking of Institutions and Accreditation" held on October 8, saw participation of vice-chancellors of various universities, senior officials and academicians, apart from NAAC Director D P Singh, AICTE Chairman Anil D Sahasrabudhe and NCTE Chairman Santosh Panda, among others.

## New education policy

According to an official release from NAAC, the programme is being held in the backdrop of the Ministry of Human Resource Development's (MHRD) initiative in formulating the New Education Policy (NEP).

The Ministry of Human Resource Development is holding consultations for all the themes and it had assigned NAAC to undertake consultation on ranking of institutions and accreditation, the release stated.

## CBSE without full time chairman for almost a year; search on

TNN | Oct 12, 2015, 03.12 AM IST

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/nagpur/CBSE-without-full-time-chairman-for-almost-a-year-search-on/articleshow/49315449.cms>

NAGPUR: It's a tale of two education boards. One which is still searching for a suitable candidate while the other keeps rejecting the 'only' candidate. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) is scouting for a full-time CBSE chairman as the post has been lying vacant since December last year. The search panel's recommendations had run into a roadblock with the Appointments Committee of Cabinet taking objections on the selection criteria. In the meantime Maharashtra's education ministry has not found a chairman for its Nagpur divisional board, a post vacant since August 2013, as no senior official wants to be posted in the backward Vidarbha region.

This year has already been quite eventful for CBSE as the second interim chairman, YSK Seshu Kumar, took charge a couple of months ago. The first, Satbir Bedi, took over the reigns after Vineet Joshi completed his full tenure at the helm. Joshi's shoes were anyway too big to fill as he oversaw implementation of Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) scheme along with the revolutionary open book exam concept. If rumour mills were to be believed, Bedi, a senior MHRD official, was all set to take full time charge before her candidature was questioned by the Appointment Committee. Seshu Kumar is perceived to be a stop gap arrangement and as of now there is no clarity on top candidates for the job. As per the vacancy ad, candidates applying for the post have to be officials of central/state government, semi-government and autonomous bodies. They have to be either holding analogous post on regular basis or have three years of regular service with a pay scale of Rs 37,400-67,000 and grade pay of Rs 8,700. Also, they must have three years of experience in educational administration at a senior level. It is expected that candidates will be shortlisted by either this or next month.

Maharashtra government's problem in getting a 'suitable' candidate is more political as the only officer, Mahesh Karajgaonkar, who is ready to take the up job is being stonewalled. Sources say an MLC from city, who is also a RSS member, has opposed Karajgaonkar's posting to Nagpur citing multiple allegations of corruption and high-handedness. Karajgaonkar had been posted in Nagpur for over a decade at various levels before being transferred to Mumbai due to promotion. Just last month, he was handed over charge of divisional board chairman of adjoining Amravati region. Other officials from western Maharashtra do not wish to be posted in Vidarbha as they perceive it as backward and consider transfer here as 'punishment posting'.

Academicians say this delay in finalizing names for candidates at both places does not bode well. A school owner who has both a CBSE and state affiliated school, said, "It's true that actual functioning does not stop because the system is like a well oiled machine. But having a chief who will guide or implement government policies keeping the ground realities in mind is of utmost importance."

# Management schools 'must get operational autonomy'

XIME President: Average number of graduates should rise from 85 to 120 per B-school a year

**OUR BUREAU**  
Bengaluru, October 11

The working of private, autonomous PGDM (Post Graduate Diploma in Management) schools will not in any way get affected if the government allows degree-granting rights to the Indian Institute of Managements (IIMs).

"PGDM schools, which have served the nation so eminently and eloquently all these years, must be given autonomy to operate, for having given a lot to Indian management education, quality, respectability and innovativeness.

"They are, in a way, at the vanguard of Indian management

At present, there are over 3,600 B-schools operating in India, which will come down to about 2,500 through mergers, acquisitions as well as closures

education," said J Philip, Vice-Chairman and President of Xavier Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship (XIME), Kochi, at the B-school summit held here over the weekend under the aegis of the Indian Association of Autonomous Business Schools (IAABS).

The employability of PGDM graduates will at least be twice as much as that of MBA graduates from the university system. This distinctive contribution of the PGDM schools must be recognised, he added.

### Era of liberalisation

"At present, there are over 3,600 B-Schools operating in India which will come down to about 2,500 through mergers, acquisitions as well as closures," Philip said.

"This way, the remaining ones will emerge stronger, faster and sharper. Today, the average production of a B-School is only 85 graduates. This must increase to

at least 120 per B-School by 2020," he explained.

According to him, in the prevailing scenario of liberalisation, the Centre should not have gone in for a notification like the one issued by AICTE on December 28, 2010, which consisted of a heavy dose of restrictions on the PGDM system despite having served the country, all these years. "The PGDM system was saved from almost certain ruin only because of the intervention of the Supreme Court, based on a set of writ petitions, which 'stayed' the notification from being implemented.

### Restrictions

B Muthuraman, former MD of Tata Steel, who was the chief guest, highlighted the issue concerning autonomy.

"The subject of how much to control, how much to let go, and how much not to control, is a subject that is a very widely debated in every field of activity, including the activity of governance.

"We all have seen what too much of regulation can do. You



B Muthuraman, Former MD of Tata Steel (left), with J Alexander, Chairman of XIME, Kochi, at the B-School Summit in Bengaluru. GRN SOMASHEKAR

know the break-up of the Soviet Union or the State of the India between 1947 and 1991. India did not move forward simply because of the fact that we had just too much regulations in every sector."

He said that India started moving forward only post 1991,

that is, post liberalisation. I always call India as a country with a history of 5,000 years but with an experience of may be 25 years. This is because India, as a competitive country, is only about 25 years old. That is the only thing of relevance," he added.

"So you have a situation in India today where there is a debate that needs to take place where the Centre always will want to control more, want to put more regulations, while institutes or educational institutes would want as much autonomy and as little control as possible," he pointed out.

Father E Abraham, Director, XIRI and President IAABS, said the primary mission of IAABS is to contribute towards the development of management education in all its facets and take steps in positively influencing nation-wide management education policies.

### IAABS objective

"We also aim to promote and collaborate with regional and international management networks with an avowed intent to advance management education and its eco-system worldwide. We are guided by the principle that self-regulation is the best form of regulation, and this philosophy must guide the Association and its members," he added.

Hindustan Times ND 12/10/2015 P-12

# Neglecting science could kill it one day

The deterioration of science education in India should be of greater concern to us than not winning a Nobel Prize

Sumit Bhaduri

October is that month when institutions in Sweden and Norway, including the Swedish Academy of Sciences, announce the winners of the Nobel Prize in physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, economics and peace. The awards in physics, chemistry and medicine have a long history and it is probably this long tradition, rather than their monetary value, that gives the Nobel Prize the extraordinary power to influence public perceptions of the scientific profession.

A question sometimes asked, though perhaps less often than it should be by Indian politicians and the intelligentsia, is why, despite our much-touted scientific acumen, no Nobel Prize in science has been won by an Indian for work done in India for more than 80 years — as Sir CV Raman won the physics Nobel in 1930. This question is an important one since the teaching and doing of science require substantial resources that come from the tax payer. An obvious answer is that for Indian science to reach such prize-winning calibre we require not just 'outstanding' discoveries in science but also what it takes to come up with them and that these requirements have undergone changes beyond recognition since the Raman era. The question we should rather be asking today is what kind of science allows individual excellence to thrive, bring glory to the nation, and deliver tangible benefits to society.

It is important to realise that many Nobel Prize-winning discoveries both in the past and also in more recent times have been innovation-focused. Contrary to common wisdom, top quality curiosity-driven research and that which assumes a broader application often go hand in hand. Excellence in applied and basic research synergises each other over long periods of time. Established innovations can often throw up questions whose answers in turn lead to outstanding discoveries.

The discovery of the ammonia synthesis catalyst in the early 20th century is a particularly instructive case in point. It is essential in the manufacture of the most common fertiliser, globally made in billions of tonnes today, and its discoverer Fritz Haber was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1918. However, while his work revealed how ammonia was made, the question as to why the catalyst works remained unanswered for about 70 years. It was Gerhard Ertl, using modern experimental techniques, who provided the answer and won the Nobel



■ Productive, high-quality science requires good infrastructural facilities, good students, expensive instruments and industry-academia linkages. Such facilities are extremely rare in developing countries

REUTERS

Prize in 2007.

Another relevant example is the Nobel awarded to John Robert Vane in 1982 for providing an answer to why aspirin is an effective pain killer. Although aspirin had been patented in 1900 by the company Bayer, and its medicinal benefits as a pain killer were well established, its mechanism of action was not known. Vane's answer paved the pathway for the introduction of a new generation of heart drugs.

This year's Nobel Prize for medicine to Tu Youyou of China for the discovery of artemisinin, an antimalarial drug isolated from Chinese wormwood, is a clear example of how innovation continues to be driven by good science. In China the national project against malaria to discover new therapies was started in 1967, and artemisinin (the active ingredient) isolated by 1972. In other words, it took four decades for the scientific community as a whole to collectively establish and accept the enormous scope and utility of Tu's work.

Much of Nobel Prize-winning science has been interdisciplinary in character. Many prize-winning discoveries had engineers working with scientists. Carl Bosch and Giulio Natta (one of the Nobel Prize winners for plastic) were chemical engineers who collaborated and shared their Nobels with chemists. In recent times the border lines between physics and chemistry or chemistry and biology are so blurred that chemists often complain that the prizes given for chemistry have little to do with chemistry. In this century four out of the

16 Nobel prizes in chemistry, have been awarded for work related to catalysis, an interdisciplinary area of much industrial relevance.

Productive, high-quality science requires good infrastructural facilities, good students, expensive instruments and industry-academia linkages. Such facilities are extremely rare in developing countries. No wonder many talented scientists from the developing world have looked for professional fulfilment in the West. Aziz Sancar, one of the Nobel Prize winners in chemistry this year, is one more addition to the long list of Nobel laureates in the United States whose primary training in science was in the developing world. Hargobind Khorana and V Ramakrishnan, both Indian-origin scientists and Nobel laureates, also worked in well-funded science laboratories elsewhere.

The future of Indian science as a whole is uncertain and the overall deterioration in science education and research are matters of far greater concern than not winning a Nobel Prize. Science education and research must not be thought of as water falling from a tap that can be closed and opened at will. Neglecting science beyond a point can kill it permanently. In India with less than 1% of GDP allocation to science and the private sector's complete indifference to long-term industry-academia linkages we are fast approaching that point.

Sumit Bhaduri taught at Northwestern University and IIT Bombay  
The views expressed are personal