

## Newspaper Clips October 12, 2010

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: Oct 12, 2010; Section: Times Nation; Page: 9;

# More hungry in India than in Sudan

## Even Pakistan Ahead; Country 67th Among 84 Developing Nations

Rukmini Shrinivasan | *nc*

New Delhi: India dropped two ranks to 67th among 84 developing countries in the International Food Policy Research Institute's annual "Global Hunger Index" for 2010. Even Sudan, North Korea and Pakistan rank higher than India.

While the report, released on Monday, shows that the proportion of undernourished in India is decreasing, the worsening ranking indicates that other developing countries have done better in tackling hunger. India is home to 42% of the underweight children under the age of five in the world.

The policymakers in India, who are still fighting over the need to have an expansive National Food Security Act, should look at the following data more closely: in 2005-06, about 44% of Indian children — below five years — were underweight, and nearly half — 48% — were stunted.

The food insecurity is so

### RUNNING ON EMPTY



Country	Global Hunger Index 2010	Ranking
Brazil	< 5	Not ranked
China	6.0	9
S Africa	7.3	17
Pakistan	19.1	52
Sudan	20.9	58
<b>India</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>67</b>

rampant across the country that India is clubbed with minor economies like Bangladesh, Timor-Leste and Yemen, recording the highest prevalence of underweight in children under five.

At the beginning of the liberalization era in the early 90s, 24% of the population was undernourished. The situation marginally improved to 22% between 2004 and 2006. Almost 60% of children below five were recorded as underweight in 1988-92. The condition has remained dismal as the latest figure shows

43.5% between 2003-08.

The GHI ranks countries on a scale of 100, with 0 being the best score (no hunger) and 100 the worst. It is composed of three equally weighted indicators: the proportion of undernourished in the population, the prevalence of those underweight in children under five and the under-five mortality rate.

The figures for India are 22% (as of 2004-6), 43.5% (2003-8) and 6.9% as of 2008, respectively. These give India a composite GHI of 24.1, which is classified as alarm-

ing in terms of the food security situation.

The strife-torn Democratic Republic of Congo ranks at the bottom of the list of 84 countries with significant levels of hunger. The data has been compiled for 122 countries in all; the remaining 38 countries have a GHI of less than 5 and are not included in the rankings. No data has been recorded for highly developed countries.

South Asia has the highest GHI for any region in the world, at 22.9. The region has, however, made greater

progress since 1990 than sub-Saharan Africa, the report adds. India is ranked below all other major South Asian countries — Sri Lanka is ranked 39th, Pakistan 52nd and Nepal 56th.

India's hunger is not purely a product of its middle-income status. While economic progress and hunger levels tend to be inversely correlated (countries with higher gross national income typically have lower GHI scores), some countries are exceptions to the norm. China has lower hunger levels than its GNI per capita would suggest, while India has higher hunger levels than would be expected from its income per capita, calculations made by the report's authors show.

The 2010 report focuses on child malnutrition, which is the biggest component of hunger worldwide. In India, high 2010 GHI scores are driven by high levels of underweight children, resulting from the low nutritional and social status of women in the country, the report says.

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: Oct 12, 2010; Section: Times Nation; Page: 13;

# Alert India averted Stuxnet bug threat

## IT Dept Warned Energy Sector Well In Advance

Sanjay Dutta | TNN

New Delhi: Much before the world got busy making guesses about the origins of the deadly Stuxnet internet worm, the Department of Information Technology's Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) averted a disaster in India's energy sector by detecting the threat as early as July and advising state-run firms on a workaround to prevent attacks on computer systems controlling their operations, called SCADA in industry parlance.

On July 24, CERT-In director general Gulshan Rai wrote to oil ministry director (vigilance) P K Singh and power ministry saying they had detected a malware that was exploiting a recently-disclosed zero-day vulnerability in Microsoft Windows Shell that was improperly handling shortcut files.

Singh warned that Stuxnet was targeting certain components of SCADA systems. The trojan, or a computer mole, installed by the malware detects SIMATIC WinCC and PCS 7 software programmes from Siemens, devised for SCADA systems, and makes queries to any discovered databases by leveraging default passwords.

In other words, the Stuxnet trojan takes over the password



used by various components in a computer system for talking to each other. This is different from a user password for logging on. It can, thus, steal vital information from a computer system and change its functioning or even cripple it.

SCADA stands for supervisory control and data acquisition. It generally refers to computer systems that monitor and control industrial processes such as manufacturing, oil production and refining, power generation infrastructure or facility-based processes. Understandably, anyone who controls a malware that is able to bite into the system can play havoc and steal information to use it for programming attacks with more specific targets.

According to Singh, the malware spreads through USB drives and it can also attack via network shares and

## 'Worm not behind Insat-4B snags'

Isro has ruled out the possibility of the deadly Stuxnet internet worm attacking Insat-4B satellite on July 7, resulting in 12 of its 24 transponders shutting down. Speaking to TOI Isro officials said that the worm only strikes a satellite's programme logic controller (PLC). "We can confirm that Insat-4B doesn't have a PLC. So the chances of the Stuxnet worm attacking it appear remote. In PLC's place, Insat-4B had its own indigenously-designed software which controlled the logic of the spacecraft," said a source. TNN

a set of extensions that allow users to edit and manage files on remote web servers called web-based distributed authoring and versioning (WebDAV) in industry parlance.

CERT In also advised the ministries on workarounds and other counter-measures to mitigate the threat till such time that safe patches, or software upgrades, were available to block the Stuxnet malware completely. It was established in January 2004 with the mandate to respond to computer security incidents. It is now assigned the task of oversight of the Indian cyberspace for enhancing cyber protection.

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi;Date: Oct 12, 2010;Section: Times Nation;Page: 16;

# Busan meet to decide Pachauri's fate as IPCC head

Nitin Sethi | TNN

New Delhi: India will push for R K Pachauri to continue as the chairman of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) while it debates the fifth assessment report at the IPCC meeting in Busan, South Korea that started on Monday. New Delhi will also press for the immediate implementation of all the other reforms that the InterAcademy Council review has sought.

Though the council had recommended that the "the term of the IPCC chair should be limited to the timeframe of one assessment", and Pachauri has already headed one such assessment report, which was released in 2007, the Indian government plans to back the head of The Energy and Resources Institute (Teri) at the meeting.

But, Indian representatives at the meeting will ask for immediate implementation of all other reforms of the committee set up after the Himalayan glacier scandal, which had dented IPCC's reputation earlier. So far, IPCC has provided four comprehensive assessment reports of which the last — referred to as AR4 — was the most high profile, and helped take the de-



R K Pachauri

bate on climate change beyond scientific community. In 2009, though IPCC was awarded the Nobel prize, it got embroiled in controversy this year, with concerns about veracity of some of its findings being challenged.

The Busan meet aims to clear the agenda for fifth assessment report, which includes reviewing recommendations of the InterAcademy Council report. The council has recommended several structural changes in IPCC as well as strengthening of the processes by which scientific facts are included in final report. The other controversial recommendation of the council to IPCC will also come up for a crucial debate as fifth assessment report promises to dwell more into its normative end than the earlier ones.

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: Oct 12, 2010; Section: Times Global; Page: 20;

# 'Nobel for Tiananmen souls'

Beijing: Chinese Nobel Peace laureate Liu Xiaobo has tearfully dedicated his award to victims of the 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown, activists said.

"This award is for the lost souls of June Fourth," the US-based group Human Rights in China quoted Liu Xiaobo as telling his wife Liu Xia, referring to the bloody June 4, 1989 crackdown on democracy protests at the vast Beijing square.

Wang Jinbo, a close friend and dissident, said Liu Xiaobo told his wife during the visit that the prize "goes first" to those who died in the June 4, 1989, military



**LEST WE FORGET:** Liu Xiaobo

crackdown on protesters in Tiananmen. "Xiaobo was in tears," he wrote.

Liu, a former university professor, helped negotiate the safe exit from Tiananmen Square of thousands of

student demonstrators before military tanks crushed the six weeks of peaceful protests in Beijing.

Liu dedicated his award to Tiananmen victims to honour their "non-violent spirit in giving their lives for peace, freedom, and democracy", Liu Xia was quoted as saying by Human Rights in China. During the one-hour meeting, Liu asked his wife to represent him at the Nobel awards ceremony in December, the Hong Kong-based Information Centre for Human Rights and Democracy said. It was not immediately clear if China would allow her to attend. **AGENCIES**

# Version 5 of web code may spell end of privacy

## HTML 5 Could Give Marketers & Advertisers Access To More Details Of Users' Online Activities

Tanzina Vega

Worries over internet privacy have spurred lawsuits, conspiracy theories and consumer anxiety as marketers and others invent new ways to track computer users on the web. But the alarmists have not seen anything yet.

In the next few years, a powerful new suite of capabilities will become available to web developers that could give marketers and advertisers access to many more details about computer users' online activities. Nearly everyone who uses the internet will face the privacy risks that come with those capa-

bilities, which are an integral part of the web language that will soon power the internet: HTML5.

The new web code, the fifth version of Hypertext Markup Language used to create web pages, is already in limited use, and it promises to usher in a new era of internet browsing within the next few years. It will make it easier for users to view multimedia content without downloading extra software; check email offline; or find a favorite restaurant or shop on a smartphone.

Most users will clearly welcome the additional features that come with the new web lan-

guage. "It's going to change everything about the internet and the way we use it today," said James Cox, 27, a freelance consultant and software developer at Smokeclouds, a New York City start-up company. "It's not just HTML5. It's the new web."

But others, while also enthusiastic about the changes, are more cautious.

Most web users are familiar with so-called cookies, which make it possible, for example, to log on to websites without having to retype user names and passwords, or to keep track of items placed in virtual shopping carts before they are bought.

The new language and its additional features present more tracking opportunities because the technology uses a process in which large amounts of data can be collected and stored on the user's hard drive while online. Because of that process, advertisers and others could see weeks or even months of personal data. That could include a user's location, time zone, photographs, text from blogs, shopping cart contents, emails and a history of the web pages visited.

The new web language "gives trackers one more bucket to put tracking information into," said Hakon Wium Lie, the chief technology officer at Op-



I KNOW WHAT YOU SURFED LAST NIGHT!

era, a browser company. Or as Pam Dixon, the executive director of the World Privacy Forum in California, said: "HTML 5 opens Pandora's box of tracking in the internet." NYNEWSERVICE

# Alert India averted Stuxnet bug threat

## IT Dept Warned Energy Sector Well In Advance

Sanjay Dutta | TNN

New Delhi: Much before the world got busy making guesses about the origins of the deadly Stuxnet internet worm, the Department of Information Technology's Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) averted a disaster in India's energy sector by detecting the threat as early as July and advising state-run firms on a workaroud to prevent attacks on computer systems controlling their operations, called SCADA in industry parlance.

On July 24, CERT-In director general Gulshan Rai wrote to oil ministry director (vigilance) P K Singh and power ministry saying they had detected a malware that was exploiting a recently-disclosed zero-day vulnerability in Microsoft Windows Shell that was improperly handling shortcut files.

Singh warned that Stuxnet was targeting certain components of SCADA systems. The trojan, or a computer mole, installed by the malware detects SIMATIC WinCC and PCS 7 software programmes from Siemens, devised for SCADA systems, and makes queries to any discovered databases by leveraging default passwords.

In other words, the Stuxnet trojan takes over the password



used by various components in a computer system for talking to each other. This is different from a user password for logging on. It can, thus, steal vital information from a computer system and change its functioning or even cripple it.

SCADA stands for supervisory control and data acquisition. It generally refers to computer systems that monitor and control industrial processes such as manufacturing, oil production and refining, power generation infrastructure or facility-based processes. Understandably, anyone who controls a malware that is able to bite into the system can play havoc and steal information to use it for programming attacks with more specific targets.

According to Singh, the malware spreads through USB drives and it can also attack via network shares and

## 'Worm not behind Insat-4B snags'

Isro has ruled out the possibility of the deadly Stuxnet internet worm attacking Insat-4B satellite on July 7, resulting in 12 of its 24 transponders shutting down. Speaking to TOI Isro officials said that the worm only strikes a satellite's programme logic controller (PLC). "We can confirm that Insat-4B doesn't have a PLC. So the chances of the Stuxnet worm attacking it appear remote. In PLC's place, Insat-4B had its own indigenously-designed software which controlled the logic of the spacecraft," said a source. TNN

a set of extensions that allow users to edit and manage files on remote web servers called web-based distributed authoring and versioning (Web-DAV) in industry parlance.

CERT-In also advised the ministries on workarounds and other counter-measures to mitigate the threat till such time that safe patches, or software upgrades, were available to block the Stuxnet malware completely. It was established in January 2004 with the mandate to respond to computer security incidents. It is now assigned the task of oversight of the Indian cyberspace for enhancing cyber protection.

Times of India ND 12-Oct-10  
p-19

# Is the universe going to end in next 3.7bn yrs?

**Washington:** The universe and everything in it could end in less than 3.7 billion years from now, claims a new study.

The universe, began in a Big Bang about 13.7 billion years ago, has been expanding at an ever accelerating rate ever since and according to standard cosmology models it is most likely to expand forever. But, a team of physicists led by Raphael Bousso from the University of California, Berkeley, claimed that their calculations showed the universe would end most probably in the next 3.7 billion years, the Discovery News reported.

According to the team, there's a "measure problem" in the cosmological theory of eternal inflation – the quantum cosmological model where inflationary bubbles can appear out of nothing.

Some of these bubbles, each being a universe, expand and go on forever while others collapse and disappear again. They pop in and out of existence like bubbles in boiling water, said the scientists.

In an eternally inflating universe, they said, every

## Mars CO<sub>2</sub> hints at ancient life

**M**ars was once rich in carbon dioxide, space scientists from Planetary Science Institute in Arizona and Nasa have claimed, hinting that the Red Planet could have harboured life some hundreds of millions of years ago. A team found that there are extensive deposits of the mineral a few miles beneath its surface. Extensive deposits of the mineral means the greenhouse gas could have helped make the planet a much wetter and warmer place hundreds of millions of years ago, they said. PTI

---

event that is possible will eventually occur – not just once, but an infinite number of times. This makes predicting when each event will occur impossible, such as the probability that a universe like ours exists. "If infinitely many observers throughout the universe win the lottery, on what grounds can one still claim that winning the lottery is unlikely?" they wrote in blog arXiv.org. PTI

Business Line ND 12/10/2010

P-1

# 3 win Economics Nobel for 'search theory'

**Our Bureau**

*Mumbai, Oct. 11*

Prof Peter A. Diamond of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Prof Dale T. Mortensen of Northwestern University and Prof Christopher A. Pissarides of the London School of Economics have been awarded the Bank of Sweden Prize or the Nobel Prize in Economics for 2010 for their work on "search theory".

An arcane branch of modern economics, search theory deals with optimal choices.

It has been applied to labour markets where people are looking for jobs and to consumer theory where people are buying things.

The point about such searches is that what a person finally decides depends on what he or she believes are the alternatives available.

So, what happens is that he or she will delay a decision until it becomes too costly to search any further.

A part of the problem is also that buyers don't know fully what is on offer and sellers don't know that there is someone who will buy. This applies to jobs as well as products.

## Economic Sciences: Nobel Trio 2010



**SEARCH THEORY:** The insight on optimal choices for labour markets is if employment benefits are too generous, people will delay accepting job offers. In the consumer arena, the insight is that the same good is sold at varying prices because same information is not available to all.

The three economists who have won the prize have created a theoretical framework for search markets.

In the case of labour markets, an important insight is that if unemployment benefits are too generous, the person receiving such benefits will keep delaying accepting job offers, thus pushing up the unemployment rate as also acting as a burden on the exchequer.

This has been known to often happen in Scandinavian countries.

Another important insight comes from the question, "why should the same goods

be sold at more than one price?"

Given perfect information, everyone will buy at the same price. But information is not perfect in that the same information is not available to everyone.

### **MATCHING THEORY**

Profs Diamond, Mortensen and Pissarides have also a theory called matching theory. One insight from this theory is that because optimal searches take time, everyone who has lost his or her job will go through a period of being unemployed while looking for the best suited job.

Mail Today ND 12/10/2010 p- 9

## Water ice on second asteroid hints at how oceans got filled



The first find was made in April.

SCIENTISTS have found water ice on an asteroid for the second time in six months.

The discovery suggests such ice is more common on asteroids in our section of the solar system than previously thought — and that such asteroids may have delivered much of the essentials for early life to Earth.

Two research teams found evidence of water and organic molecules on asteroid 65 Cybele. Six months ago, the teams made a similar discovery on a different rock — asteroid 24 Themis — for the first time.

"This discovery suggests that this region of our solar system contains more water ice than anticipated," Humberto Campins of the

University of Central Florida told reporters at the 42nd American Astronomical Society's Division for Planetary Sciences annual meeting in Pasadena, California, on Friday.

"It supports the theory that asteroids may have hit the Earth and brought our planet its water and the building blocks for life to form and evolve here."

He told the meeting that the teams had used two different NASA instruments to analyse sunlight bouncing off 65 Cybele.

Using powerful NASA telescopes, they found what they believed was a layer of ice less than one micron thick, Campins said.

The scientists are still not sure where the ice came from, he said. But it could be pri-

mordial — that is, leftover from the beginning of the solar system's formation.

Both asteroids — found in the asteroid belt between the orbits of Jupiter and Mars — had always been considered too close to the sun to have water. Any water they may have carried at the beginning of the solar system's formation should have long evaporated by now, the scientists argued. But the fact that water appears to still exist on the space rocks 4.6 billion years later, suggests it may have been asteroids that delivered the water to fill the Earth's oceans.

The research has been accepted for publication in *Astronomy and Astrophysics*.

Daily Mail

## Hindustan Times, ND p-10 12-Oct-10

### Scots look for educational tie-ups with India

**NEW DELHI:** India and Scotland will on Tuesday sign memoranda of understanding for greater collaboration between their universities. Scotland First Minister Alex Salmond and HRD Minister Kapil Sibal are scheduled to sign MoUs that will focus on increasing faculty and student exchange between universities. India is also keen to learn from Scotland's experience in skills education.



Hindustan Times, ND  
12-Oct-10 p-10

# 10TH IIM INAUGURATED, AT RAIPUR

**HT Correspondent**

■ [letters@hindustantimes.com](mailto:letters@hindustantimes.com)

**RAIPUR:** The tenth Indian Institute of Management (IIM-R) was opened in Raipur on Monday in the presence of Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh, academicians and management experts.

Classes will be held on the campus of Government Engineering College until IIM-R gets its own address.

Singh was the chief guest at the inaugural function, which was chaired by the chairman of the board of governors, Hari S. Bhartia.

Extending his best wishes to the students, Singh said Chhattisgarh had achieved 11.49 per cent growth in state gross domestic product only because of proper management of its various public welfare schemes. He said the new building of the institute, to come up in the New Raipur region, would reflect the culture and heritage of Chhattisgarh. To begin with, IIM Raipur, being mentored by IIM Indore, has 70 seats for the two-year post-graduate programme.

IIM-R Mentor Director N. Ravichandran, who is director, IIM Indore, said: "The faculty members will be outsourced from various IIMs, including IIM Indore, although we have received 800 applications seeking jobs at IIM-R." The process of recruiting faculty would take some time, he added.

Hindustan Times, ND p-15  
12-Oct-10

# Common PG test still on table

**Charu Sudan Kasturi**

■ charu.kasturi@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The health ministry may go ahead with a common entrance test (CET) for post-graduate medical courses across government and private institutions even while it dithers on a similar common MBBS test.

Government sources said the Centre is contemplating de-linking CET for PG programmes from the plan for a common UG test on which it backtracked after opposition from UPA allies.

"We are working on the notification for amendments to introduce a common PG test. We have also informed the Supreme Court of this plan. There appears no reason why the common PG test should be held hostage to the debate over a UG test," a government source said.

Students seeking a common PG medical test have filed a writ petition in the SC and have been campaigning. They have also launched a campaign to send postcards to the Chief Justice of India S.H. Kapadia and S.K.

**HEALTH MINISTRY IS MULLING NOTIFYING AMENDMENTS TO START A CET FOR PG MEDICINE, DESPITE BACKTRACKING ON COMMON UG TEST**

Sarin, the new head of the reconstituted Medical Council of India Board of Governors, requesting their intervention.

"Since the debate is around UG courses, at least a common PG test can be started. We are concerned that any delay could make it too late for a common test in PG courses for 2011," said Saurabh Jain, a doctor at Safdarjang Hospital, who is campaigning for a common PG test.

The MCI — first in June 2009 and then in July 2010 — wrote to the Centre proposing amendments in the regulations governing medical education. The changes are aimed at allowing the Centre to conduct a national eligibility-cum-entrance test for UG and PG courses.

Indian Express ND 12/10/2010 P-16

Science and Technology

# Making new things

THE 2010 NOBEL PRIZES

This year's prizes are awarded for two types of carbon chemistry, and IVF

**C**ARBON is the basis of more molecules than all the other elements put together. It is, though, surprisingly inert. A lump of graphite or a diamond will sit happily on a laboratory bench without bursting into flames, or even rusting, and is impervious to the action of water. Better ways of manipulating the element are therefore welcome, particularly as organic chemicals, as carbon compounds are known whether or not they have ever been part of a living creature, form the basis of much human industry.

That this year's Nobel prize for chemistry has been awarded for a better way of synthesising organic compounds is thus appropriate. The winners, Richard Heck, Eiichi Negishi and Akira Suzuki, used palladium as a catalyst.

The ball was set rolling in the 1960s by Dr Heck, of the University of Delaware. He employed palladium to promote reactions involving alkenes — molecules in which two carbon atoms are joined by what is known as a double bond (each carbon atom can form up to four bonds with other atoms, which is why there are so many types of organic compound). Dr Negishi, of Purdue University, then went on to improve the process, by involving zinc-based compounds in addition to the palladium. Dr Suzuki, of Hokkaido University, applied the finishing touches by adding boron compounds to the mix.

The result is a set of chemical processes that are used regularly to make a host of drugs, such as Taxol, an anticancer agent, and other complex chemicals, like fungicides.

The physics prize was also awarded for what is, at bottom, a piece of carbon chemistry. This was the discovery of graphene, a form of carbon one atom thick. Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov, of the University of Manchester, made graphene in 2004 using what may be the simplest experiment ever to win a Nobel prize: they peeled it off the surface of a piece of graphite using sticky tape.

Graphene is now touted as a wonder material. It is electrically and thermally conductive, is strong and is transparent. It is thus proposed for applications that range from lightweight materials for aircraft to touchscreens for computers. Its thinness, too, gives it unusual electrical properties. One of these is that if it is placed in a magnetic field it exhibits a phe-

nomenon known as the relativistic quantum Hall effect. This (put your analyst on danger money) means magnetised graphene is inhabited by quasiparticles, which have the quantum properties of real particles (electrons, protons and so on) without actually being particles. That is the sort of thing which might lead to truly unexpected applications.

A word of caution may be in order. The 1996 chemistry prize was also awarded for a new form of carbon, buckminsterfullerene. Buckyballs, as they became known colloquially, are football-shaped molecules made of 150 carbon atoms linked by single and double bonds. Buckminsterfullerene, too, was promoted as a wonder-substance when it was discovered. Both it and its descendants, so-called buckytubes, which are cylindrical molecules

made of pure carbon, are still much admired, but they have not yet lived up to their promise.

ture to the point where they can be fertilised, but had little success getting such fertilised eggs to develop into embryos that could be implanted into women, in order that they could grow into children.

The breakthrough came when he teamed up with Patrick Steptoe, a gynaecologist who was working on the then-novel technique of laparoscopy (key-hole surgery). Dr Edwards realised that laparoscopy could be used to extract eggs from women's ovaries in reasonably large numbers (until then, he had been relying on more intrusive surgical methods to obtain them). This, combined with hormone injections to bring those eggs to the correct state of maturity before they were removed, meant that women who were infertile because their Fallopian tubes were blocked might



made of pure carbon, are still much admired, but they have not yet lived up to their promise.

In truth, graphene does look a more plausible candidate for commercialisation than buckminsterfullerene. Those electrical properties are truly exciting, and something that can be turned into a film which is both strong and thin has a lot of potential applications. But there's many a slip 'twixt cup and lip, and no important graphene products are yet on the market.

## Chemistry of a different sort

The other science prize — that for physiology or medicine — went to a technology that has already proved its worth 4m times over. That is the number of people alive today who were conceived by in vitro fertilisation (IVF). The winner, Robert Edwards, began his research on mice in the 1950s, before moving to people. He gradually discovered how human eggs ma-

have eggs extracted, fertilised outside their bodies by sperm from the man of their choice, and the embryos that resulted implanted into their wombs — thus bypassing the Fallopian blockage.

The result, in 1978, was Louise Brown, the first of those 4m — pictured above with her daughter, Dr Edwards, and his wife. Both Steptoe (who died in 1988) and Dr Edwards were accused at the time of playing God, being like Victor Frankenstein and so on. Even today, there was a similar reaction from the Vatican to Dr Edwards's award. The objection seems to be that not all embryos created by IVF are then implanted and brought to term. Some people, it seems, put more value on insentient balls of cells than on the full-grown human beings who would not have been born without Dr Edwards's insight and persistence. Maybe they should meet Miss Brown.

**Indian Express**

**ND 12/10/2010**

**P-6**

## **NEHU V-C in amid protests**

**SHILLONG:** A N Rai on Monday took charge as vice chancellor of North Eastern Hill University (NEHU) amid protests by slogan-shouting student groups who raised black flags and set a day's deadline for his resignation.

Displaying placards like 'NEHU is not a dust-bin', the students asked Rai to return referring to the 'controversy' in Mizoram University over a recruitment row when he was the VC there.

However, soon after assuming office, Rai invited the protesting students for talks.

"I have invited the students to meet me so that I can understand their point and discuss their grievance," Rai told the media.

Noting that his appointment has been made by Pratibha Patil, Rai said, "It is not for common people to decide who will become the vice chancellor." **PTI**

# Three share Nobel for labour market theory



(From left) Peter A Diamond, Dale Mortensen and Christopher Pissarides

BLOOMBERG  
Washington, 11 October

**P**eter A Diamond, Dale Mortensen and Christopher Pissarides shared the 2010 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences for research into the difficulties of matching supply and demand, particularly in the labour market.

"This year's three laureates have formulated a theoretical framework for search markets" such as ones where buyers look for sellers and applicants look for jobs, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, which selects the winner, said today in Stockholm.

Diamond, 70, is a Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor and a candidate for the Federal Reserve Board whose nomination has been held up by Senate Republicans. Pissarides, 62, teaches at the London School of Economics, and Mortensen, 71, is on the faculty at Northwestern University.

"Peter Diamond has analysed the foundations of search markets," the academy said. "Dale Mortensen and Christopher Pissarides have expanded the theory and have applied it to the labour market. The laureates' models help us understand the ways in which unemployment, job vacancies, and wages are affected by regulation and economic policy."

Search theory tries to explain such conundrums as how high unemployment can be accompanied by a large number of job openings. One conclusion is that more generous jobless ben-

efits lead to higher unemployment as those who are looking for work take longer to find it, the academy said.

Diamond, a former teacher of Fed Chairman Ben S Bernanke, was nominated by President Barack Obama for a Fed governor's seat in April, subject to confirmation by the Senate. The nomination was later returned to the White House because of objections from at least one unidentified senator. Obama resubmitted Diamond's name on September 13.

Diamond's research spans a wide range. His earliest work, published in the 1960s, focused on the long-term effects of the growing national debt on the economy.

In a paper written in 2005 with Peter Orszag, who stepped down as Obama's budget director in July, Diamond argued that Social Security's long-term financial health could be restored through modest cuts in benefits and tax increases.

They opposed then-President George W Bush's proposal to establish individual retirement accounts under social security, saying the system could be saved without radical reform.

Diamond has analysed the effects of taxation on growth and is considered a pioneer in the study of optimal taxation, which has been applied to pricing by public utilities. His work has also focused on the inter-generational impact of different policies.

Turn to Page 14

## Three share Nobel for labour market theory...

**PISSARIDES**, A native of Cyprus, made his reputation for his work on job flows and unemployment. He related job creation to the number of unemployed, the number of vacancies, and the intensity with which workers look for jobs and companies recruit applicants. The more eagerly job seekers look for work, the more jobs companies are likely to offer because it will be easier to fill them, according to Pissarides.

"I started immediately after graduating from university focusing on the problems of unemployment, which was on the rise back then in Europe continuously," Pissarides said today in an interview. "Our work can help tackle unemployment," he said. "If it becomes further known then it could influence policy makers."

His research has found that faster productivity growth increases the demand for labour and reduces, rather than increases, unemployment. Productivity growth also draws more laborers into the workforce.

Mortensen, 71, received a bachelor's degree in econom-

ics from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, in 1961 and a doctorate in economics from Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh in 1967.

A member of the faculty at Evanston, Illinois-based Northwestern since 1965, Mortensen has also served as visiting professor at the University of Essex in the United Kingdom, Hebrew University in Jerusalem and Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

In his research, he found that labour-market rigidities can cause unemployment, as job-seekers look for the best work at the highest pay. The intensity of that job search determines how long workers stay unemployed and in turn can be affected by changes in the level and duration of jobless benefits.

He is a past president of the Society of Economic Dynamics and one of the founding editors of the Review of Economic Dynamics.

Pioneer ND 12/10/2010

p-7

# Google trends



ROHIT BANSAL

Google has driven head first into more controversy after revealing it has been testing hands-free car technology on California's roads. The company wasn't talking about keeping hands off the phone or the GPS - alarmingly, it was testing cars driven with hands off the steering wheel! Road safety experts have questioned about the robot-driven cars after Google revealed it has logged over 140,000 miles almost all of them on auto-pilot. (The specially adapted Toyota Prius automated cars drove from Google's HQ in Mountain View, Northern California, down the famously scenic Pacific Coast Highway to Santa Monica!)

For someone with so much handle on our lives, it's hard to imagine it'll ever slam the brakes. But what if Google really ceases to exist this very moment? The question actually came up before Madhav Chinappa, Google's new head of business partnerships, at the World Editors Forum (WEF) in Hamburg last week. Chinappa, whose Google career was just 42 days old, could duck this with a joke. But Marcus Warren, Editor, telegraph.co.uk, sitting next to him, confessed that the consequent evaporation of data, IDs, documents and business tools, would be a catastrophe, at least for the time being. Warren could speak for millions of us, a feeling WEF's Bertrand Pecquerie, Christian Science Monitor's John Yemma, and Phillippe Hertzberg of the New York Times, present at the forum, endorse.

Not that Google (the word is derived from the mathematical term 'googol' which stands for 1 followed by a hundred zeroes) plans to go away. Revenues exceed \$ 26 billion and market cap is hovering around \$ 175 billion. More importantly, as Christoph Riess, CEO, WAN-IFRA estimates, the Stanford start up still controls over 65 per cent of the world's internet advertising. That's despite Microsoft's Bing and losing

mainland China from its arsenal to Baidu.

The company continues to prove financial analysts wrong on where next its market cap is headed. My take on the question of market cap is 'when' rather than 'whether' it will cross \$200 billion.

So, when Philipp Schindler, a leading Google strategist, listed out the big trends to look out for, it seemed worthwhile to pay attention.

First, "search centrivity". There's massive amounts of information that are currently being generated: roughly the same amount every two days that was generated in the entire history of humanity until 2003. Consumption echoes this trend - about four billion searches are conducted every day, and about two billion videos are streamed on YouTube. So, search centrivity, visualization and recommendation-based navigation seem like big trends, as is a movement towards richer media.

The second trend is related. We'll become "viewers" of what we read just now.

Third is "mobile-isation". Besides more powerful mobile devices, the really interesting developments may be in terms of productivity and the potential of cloud computing getting linked to these devices. More and more information "hosted elsewhere" will be accessed on mobile devices, with sensors becoming stronger by the day. So, don't bet against mobile in any way, they are going to be bigger and faster than we imagine. Google's developers are building richer and more engaging products linked to their search engines under the android platform.

Four, market research will emanate more and more from search products such as Google Insights.

Five, there's a market in "solving the world's translation problem." It's a world where a person could read every website automatically translated, and even speak on the phone with automatic translation.

And who can spoil Google's party? When asked about his number one competitor, Schindler confessed it wasn't Apple or Facebook, but the next start up, "the next group of talented young people who come up with a great idea in our area." Now, that's a trend buster. Any takers!

*(Writer is CEO and Co-Founder of India Strategy Group, Hammurabi & Solomon Consulting. Email: rohitbansal@post.harvard.edu)*

The Tribune ND 12/10/2010 p-12

# Clear up the unwanted mess

**RAJESH GILL**

**A**LL of a sudden, we seem to be too much worried about the existing state of higher education in the country. There have been serious concerns expressed at various fora regarding the declining standards of higher education. Today, our colleges and universities are hardly equipping students with marketable skills. Only a small proportion among the students, from affluent urban background, is capable of making a choice for institutions offering quality education.

The latest revelation of a highly organised and extremely corrupt mafia selling off seats in the most prestigious and professional institutions in the fields of medicine and management sends shivers in the spine. That these are just the tip of the iceberg goes without saying. Given such a frail system, haunted by scandals every now and then, ruled by hooligans rather than regulations, where flaunting of rules fetches more fame than following them, how can we expect to counter the immense competition posed by foreign universities making abode right in front of us?

Institutions of higher learning in the country have now started feeling the heat of privatisation. In the relatively unprotected economy, institutions are being instructed to fend for themselves and face the market, both domestic and global. The most pertinent question is: Having been aptly sensitised about this tightrope walking, do we feel actually concerned about the ill-equipped system of higher education, of which we are part either as teachers or students? And if we do, are we trying to equip ourselves so that we are able to ride the tide?

All our efforts shall be futile unless the state of higher education becomes the concern not only of those making policies but a concern shared by the two major players, the teachers and students. Governments can rule societies by using means within the law, but they can't extract quality work from the people by the use of force. In this scenario, when orders come from above, these are usually received with disdain,

disapproval and are often handled by fraudulent means. The numerous causes for the sorry state of affairs notwithstanding, it is meaningful to look at the role being played by teachers and students in this context.

As teachers in the institutions of higher learning, how concerned are we about the pathetic state of affairs as far as the quality of higher education is concerned? While we tend to be overzealous towards advancement in our own careers, are we equally bothered about what happens to the institution or the students? While it is ideal to strike a balance between teaching and research because knowledge can't advance in absence of either of the two, it is the extension work, publications, networking and conferences that consume most of the time and energy of the faculty because teaching hardly fetches any promotional rewards.

Consequently, teaching merely remains a formality, taking a back seat. In this scenario, do the teachers bother about the quality of knowledge being imparted by them to GenNext? While we keep asking for more and more autonomy for ourselves, we join together to oppose any kind of accountability demanded from us. How open are we either to our colleagues or to students as far as teaching is concerned? The truth is that we lie in our self-insulated shells, having negotiated among ourselves a policy of non-interference.

I am extremely conscious of the teachers who do an excellent job, as a matter of habit, driven by social conscience. But the question is: How many of these sensitive teachers play a constructive role in the process of decision making, with the objective of saving the system? As a group, how often do we condemn teachers who are dishonest and callous towards their work and how often do we reward our colleagues who take their profession religiously? The quality of higher education has declined right in front of our eyes and we have just let it happen, silently watching it, often pretending as if we are out of all this.

Generally, it is assumed that the main



**The quality of higher education has declined right in front of our eyes and we have just let it happen**

aim of higher education is to equip the young boys and girls with certain skills or qualification or training so as to enable them to pursue a career in life and settle down. But, how many students enroll themselves in colleges and universities with this objective? Most of them do not meet the expenses of their education out of their own pockets, and hence its cost does not pinch them.

As a result, when classes are not held regularly or are bunked by them, it suits them; when somebody tries to use them politically, they offer themselves readily. How many of them really feel agitated at the irresponsible behaviour of their fellow students? How many of them compel their teachers to be on their toes with their inquisitive queries? The quality in higher education can be maintained only by striking a balance between quality students and teachers.

Both teachers and students must realise the fact that they just cannot afford to be so apathetic towards the whole issue. Today's teachers have already lost the age-old reverence that had always come with the profession and now they have to justify their indispensability in the market like everybody else. For students, their world today

consists not merely of immediate surroundings but it extends infinitely, with a cut-throat competition for which they need to be equipped rigorously. The sooner we realise, the better it would be—both for us and society. The question no longer concerns quality of higher education, more importantly, what is in danger is its indispensability. And this at least must concern all of us.

*The writer is Professor and Chairperson, Department of Sociology, Panjab University, Chandigarh*

## ADMISSION DEADLINE

From now, more information on Admission Deadline will be available online. Please visit *The Tribune* website at: [www.tribuneindia.com](http://www.tribuneindia.com) and click on "Education" in the "Weekly Specials" section to get details.

— Pervin Malhotra,

[www.careerguidanceindia.com](http://www.careerguidanceindia.com)

# अब दो वर्ष में मिलेगी स्नातक की डिग्री

## उत्तर प्रदेश सहित देशभर के सामुदायिक केंद्रों पर यह सुविधा उपलब्ध रहेगी

■ विराट न्यूज़।

**इलाहाबाद।** अब छात्रों को स्नातक उपाधि के लिए तीन वर्ष का समय नहीं देना होगा। इग्नू के कम्प्यूनिटी कालेज अब छात्रों को दो वर्ष में ही ग्रेजुएट की उपाधि प्रदान कर देंगे। बीए, बीएससी एवं बीकाम सहित व्यावसायिक पाठ्यक्रमों के छात्रों के पास यह विकल्प होगा कि वे चाहें तो तीसरे वर्ष की पढ़ाई न करें। कम्प्यूनिटी कालेज ही स्नातक, डिप्लोमा एवं प्रमाणपत्र सम्पूर्ण परीक्षा का खाका तैयार करेंगे। सेंटर इग्नू द्वारा निर्धारित दिशा निर्देशों के अनुसार परीक्षाएं एवं परीक्षा परिणाम उपलब्ध कराएंगे। उत्तर प्रदेश सहित

देशभर के सामुदायिक केंद्रों पर यह सुविधा उपलब्ध रहेगी। अगर आपके पास परीक्षा के लिए आवश्यक विषयविद्यालयों से स्नातक उपाधि के लिए तीन वर्ष का समय नहीं है तो कोई बात नहीं। दूरस्थ शिक्षा में जुड़ने वाला यह नवीनतम आयाम विद्यार्थियों विद्यार्थियों के राहत भरा है। कम्प्यूनिटी सेंटर में प्रस्तावित पाठ्यक्रमों की जानकारी देते हुए इग्नू में इंटर यूनिवर्सिटी कंसल्टेंट की डायरेक्टर इंचार्ज प्रो. मधु परिहार ने बताया कि विश्वविद्यालय छात्रों को दो वर्ष में ही इटीग्रेटेड

स्नातक उपाधि प्रदान करेगा। इसे स्नातक की सम्पूर्ण डिग्री माना जाएगा। यदि छात्र तीन वर्ष पूरा करना चाहता है तो वह इग्नू या किसी भी विश्वविद्यालय से डिग्री का बचा हिस्सा पूरा कर सकता है। परीक्षा का परिणाम क्रेडिट प्रणाली के तहत घोषित किया जाएगा। इलाहाबाद में रूचीज इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ क्रिएटिव आर्ट्स में आई प्रो. परहार ने स्पष्ट किया कि समस्त कम्प्यूनिटी कालेज में परीक्षाएं

कम्प्यूनिटी सेंटर कराएंगे। सेंटर ऐसे छात्रों को विशेष रूप से प्रोत्साहित करेगा जो तीन वर्ष का व्यवसायिक अथवा स्नातक पाठ्यक्रम व्यक्तिगत रूप से पूरा करने में समर्थ नहीं है। इसमें एसोसिएट सर्टिफिकेट, एसोसिएट डिप्लोमा एवं एसोसिएट डिग्री प्रदान की जाएगी। छह माह के अतिरिक्त एक एवं दो वर्षों के पाठ्यक्रम उपलब्ध होंगे। वर्तमान में लगभग दो सौ कम्प्यूनिटी सेंटर काम कर रहे हैं। इतने ही मान्यता की कतार में हैं। वर्तमान में इलाहाबाद में कम्प्यूनिटी सेंटरों की संख्या 6 है। इग्नू की वेबसाइट पर कम्प्यूनिटी सेंटरों के पाठ्यक्रम एवं अवधि की सम्पूर्ण जानकारी उपलब्ध है।

Rajasthan Patrika ND 12/10/2010 p-12

प्रदेश पिछड़ा

आईआईटी खोलने में गुजरात बना मॉडल, वर्षों का काम महीनों में

# दो महीने में तय हो गई थी जमीन

सिटी रिपोर्टर @ इंबौर

इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी (आईआईटी) खोलने में गुजरात सरकार ने वर्षों का काम महीनों में कर खुद को मॉडल के रूप में स्थापित किया।

मध्यप्रदेश सरकार जहां पौने तीन वर्षों में जमीन ही फाइनेल नहीं कर पाई, वहीं गुजरात सरकार ने यह काम महज दो महीनों में कर दिया था। अस्थायी रूप से आईआईटी की क्लास शुरू करने को लेकर भी यही स्थिति थी। गुजरात में अस्थायी भवन का चयन कर घोषणा के महज छह

महीने के भीतर क्लास शुरू कर दी गई थी, वहीं मध्यप्रदेश में इसके लिए 17 महीनों का समय लगा। नए आईआईटी संस्थान खुलने वाले राज्यों में गुजरात एकमात्र राज्य है, जहां इस दिशा में तेजी से काम हुआ।

28 मार्च 2008 को तत्कालीन मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री अर्जुनसिंह ने देश में आठ नई आईआईटी खोलने की घोषणा की थी, जिनमें एक-एक आईआईटी मध्यप्रदेश और गुजरात में खुलना थे। दोनों राज्यों में इस दिशा में जो भी कदम उठाए, उसमें जमीन-आसमान का अंतर है। मार्च में

घोषणा के साथ ही गुजरात सरकार ने गजब की सक्रियता दिखाई। आला अधिकारियों के साथ खुद मुख्यमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने मैदान संभाला और गांधीनगर में जमीन देने का प्रस्ताव भेजा। इतना ही नहीं उन्होंने मई 2008 में ही मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय की तकनीकी कमेटी का दौरा दिया। महज दो महीने में आईआईटी के लिए जमीन फाइनेल हो गई थी। साथ ही गांधीनगर के विश्वकर्मा इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज में अस्थायी क्लास शुरू करने का निर्णय लिया, जो अगस्त में शुरू हो गई। मंत्रालय के हर स्तर

मुख्यमंत्री ही नहीं ले रहे रुचि

केंद्र की घोषणा के बाद राज्य सरकार की नींद ही नहीं खुली। एमएचआरडी के पत्र पर अधिकारियों ने रुचि नहीं दिखाई। दबाव के बाद मुख्यमंत्री शिवराजसिंह को हस्तक्षेप करना पड़ा। इस पर जिला प्रशासन ने सिमरोल के पास 500 एकड़ से अधिक जमीन खोजी। करीब 100 एकड़ निजी कब्जे को प्रशासन ने मुक्त कराने में ढिलाई बरती। ये विवाद चल ही रहा था कि वन विभाग ने करीब 200 एकड़ जमीन पर अपनी दावेदारी जता दी। घोषणा के करीब पौने तीन सालों बाद प्रदेश में यह तय नहीं हो पाया कि सिमरोल की जमीन आईआईटी के लिए पूरी तरह से विवादों से मुक्त है।

पर खुद मुख्यमंत्री ने रुचि ली और अधिकारियों को निर्देश दिए। परिणाम यह हुआ कि गांधीनगर के पास

चंद्रखेड़ा में आईआईटी के स्थायी भवन बनने का काम तेजी से चल रहा है।



Aaj Samaj ND 12/10/2010 p-1 (Sec-I)

# दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय को नैक से मान्यता नहीं

आज समाज, नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय जैसे विश्वविद्यालय ने अब तक यूनिवर्सिटी ग्रांट कमिशन (यूजीसी) की स्वायत्त इकाई नेशनल असेसमेंट एंड एक्रेडिटेशन काउंसिल (नैक) से मान्यता नहीं ली है। लेकिन आने वाले समय में न सिर्फ विवि को बल्कि वहां पढ़ाए जाने वाले कोर्सों को भी नैक से मान्यता लेनी होगी।

यूजीसी के अनुसार, इससे छात्रों को कोर्स चयन के दौरान ही पता चल जाएगा की यह कोर्स उनके लिए कितना उपयोगी होगा। माना जा रहा है कि यूजीसी की यह पहल छात्रहित में है। लेकिन छात्र हित की बात करने वाले शिक्षक विवि को ही नैक से मान्यता लेने की जरूरत नहीं समझते। जब भी



डीयू एक्जिक्यूटिव काउंसिल में नैक से मान्यता लेने का प्रस्ताव विवि प्रशासन की ओर से लाया गया, सदस्यों ने इसका विरोध किया। पिछले कई वर्षों से डीयू को नैक से एक्रेडिटेशन लेने की बात कही जा रही है। लेकिन शिक्षकों के विरोध के कारण इसे अमलीजामा पहनाया नहीं जा सका।

शिक्षक यह कहकर इसका विरोध कर रहे हैं कि नैक से मान्यता लेने के बाद कालेजों के बीच भेदभाव की स्थिति उत्पन्न हो जाएगी। जिन कॉलेजों को ऊपर की ग्रेडिंग मिलेगी, छात्रों के बीच उन्हीं कॉलेजों में दाखिले की होड़ लग जाएगी। ज्यादातर छात्र सिर्फ उन्हीं कॉलेजों में दाखिले के लिए आवेदन करेंगे, जबकि डीयू से संबद्ध सभी कॉलेज एक समान हैं व उनकी डिग्री का महत्व भी बराबर है।