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HRD Turns Down PMO Idea On Accreditation

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ET ARCHIVE

LOCAL SOLUTION

PMO had proposed int'l agencies for accreditation of institutes, but HRD says top Indian institutes equally good

New Delhi: Having gone with the PMO on most contentious issues Smriti Irani had resisted, the HRD ministry has turned down its proposal on accreditation of educational institutes against quality parameters.

With questions raised over the credibility and integrity of the current accreditation regime, the Prime Minister's Office had proposed that multiple independent international agencies be introduced to ensure greater transparency and for timely and scientific accreditation of institutes. It is learnt that HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar pointed out that top notch Indian institutes were just as competent and probably better placed to do the job.

It is gathered that the HRD ministry suggested that IITs, IIMs, NITs and institutes of national importance be roped in for accreditation.

Irani had run into conflict with the PMO over the regulatory regime for world class institutes and the autonomy of IIMs but Javadekar has ended the row by agreeing to bulk of suggestions from the PMO. Accreditation is probably the only point on which his ministry is taking a line different from the PMO's.

The PMO, which has been monitoring the HRD ministry against near 45 action points, has listed finalisation of guidelines "to allow internationally reputed institutions to accredit higher education institutions" by June 2016. At a stock taking meeting called by the Niti Aayog earlier this month, the issue was taken up and the HRD ministry indicated that it was instead working on a proposal to engage the best educational institutes in the accreditation process.

The HRD ministry's proposal says that the process of inspection of institutes for accreditation — a key area which is often allegedly compromised — will be outsourced to a consortium of IITs and IIMs. Currently, it is the National Board of Accreditation and the National Assessment and Accreditation Council which inspect, evaluate and assess technical institutes and other higher education institutes respectively on certain parameters.

The Javadekar led ministry is now proposing to outsource the entire inspection regime to IITs and IIMs which will submit their reports to NAAC and NBA. Based on these reports, the two accreditation agencies will decide on whether to grant accreditation to the applicant institutes or not.

Rajasthan Patrika ND 27.10.2016 P-5

भारत ने तोड़ा टाइटेनिया उत्पादक देशों का वर्चस्व

आईआईटी जोधपुर के वैज्ञानिकों ने तापमान में बदलाव कर टाइटेनियम डाइऑक्साइड में दिए बेहतर परिणाम

पत्रिका न्यूज नेटवर्क
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जोधपुर. टाइटेनियम डाइऑक्साइड (टाइटेनिया) के सरल व सुरक्षित उपयोग की तकनीक से भारत ने विश्वभर में इस खनिज के उत्पादन व बाजार पर वर्चस्व रखने वाले देशों के बीच अपनी पहचान पुख्ता की है। भारतीय तकनीकी संस्थान जोधपुर शाखा ने इस बहुपयोगी खनिज के सरलीकरण की नई तकनीक ईजाद कर विश्व को इसके उपयोग के नए रास्ते खोले हैं। इस तकनीक से घातक माना जाने वाला यह खनिज अब सुरक्षित तरीके से उपयोग में लाया जा सकेगा। आईआईटी जोधपुर के वैज्ञानिक डॉ. राकेश शर्मा और रसायन विभाग के रिसर्च स्कॉलर किरण शिजाले ने टाइटेनियम डाइऑक्साइड को विभिन्न तापमान में शोध करने पर आश्चर्यजनक परिणाम प्राप्त किए।

वैज्ञानिकों ने बताया कि संस्थान की लैब में टाइटेनियम डाइऑक्साइड को माइनस 10 डिग्री पर संशोधित करने पर नैनो रॉड्स प्राप्त किए गए। ये नैनो रॉड्स महत्वपूर्ण औद्योगिक सामग्री के तौर पर उपयोग किए जा सकते हैं। इन्हें सौर ऊर्जा संचयन, हाईड्रोजन के उत्पादन और भंडारण, उत्प्रेरण, जल शुद्धिकरण व जैव रासायनिक अनुप्रयोगों में उपयोग किया जा सकता है। वहीं इस खनिज को माइनस 40 डिग्री पर संशोधित करने पर नैनो क्रिस्टल्स प्राप्त किए गए। ये नैनो क्रिस्टल्स पेंट बनाने, सेंसर्स बनाने और पार्थक्य तकनीक में उपयोगी पाए गए।

आईआईटी जोधपुर में टाइटेनियम डाइऑक्साइड पर किए गए प्रयोगों से सामने आए बेहतर परिणाम।

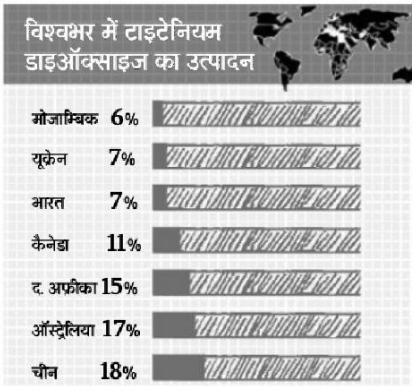
पत्रिका

एक्सक्लूसिव

बढ़ते बाजार में उपयोगी तकनीक

टाइटेनियम डाइऑक्साइड का प्रयोग सनस्क्रीन लोशन, दवाइयां बनाने, पेंट, साबुन, खाद्य पदार्थ, प्रसाधन सामग्री, अखबार और टूथपेस्ट आदि कई चीजों में किया जाता है। 2014 तक इस खनिज का बाजार 15.17 अरब डॉलर था और आने वाले समय में बढ़ने की संभावना है। वैज्ञानिकों के अनुसार सरलीकरण की इस तकनीक से न केवल खनिज का उपयोग उद्योगों व मेडिकल क्षेत्र में बढ़ेगा बल्कि तकनीक को जानने के लिए विश्वभर के बाजार की नजरें भारत की ओर आकर्षित होंगी।

विश्वभर में टाइटेनियम डाइऑक्साइज का उत्पादन



मिल चुका है पेटेंट : खदानों से निकाले जाने के बाद इस खनिज की शुद्धिकरण प्रक्रिया में खर्चा अधिक रहता है, लेकिन वैज्ञानिकों ने इस तकनीक से शुद्ध व सुरक्षित टाइटेनियम डाइऑक्साइड बनाया है। हाल ही में इस प्रयोग का पेटेंट करवाया गया है। साथ ही इसका प्रकाशन युनाइटेड किंगडम के रॉयल सोसायटी, जर्मनी के वायले और एलसेवियर जैसे अंतरराष्ट्रीय पत्रिकाओं में हो चुका है।

IIT-Kharagpur researchers enable web access for disabled

http://indianexpress.com/article/education/iit-kharagpur-researchers-enable-web-access-for-disabled/

The application converts interfaces of social media platforms such as Facebook and re-organises them in a way that can be used by those with impairments, to experience social networking via access switches

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur have designed a software that enables those with neuro-motor disorders to access the web, play games and participate in social networking with ease.

The application converts interfaces of social media platforms such as Facebook and re-organises them in a way that can be used by those with impairments, to experience social networking via access switches (assistive technology device).

“For the neuro-motor disorders, we have developed the interface by which they can access web and carry out social networking activities,” said Anupam Basu, lead researcher and Head and Chairman, Centre for Education Technology, IIT Kharagpur.

“Using the software application, Facebook interface can be changed and converted in a way, reorganised and made amenable through access switches. Facebook can be accessed and games can be played by children,” Basu said.

The application can be deployed on mobile phones and works well on 5-inch or 7-inch tablets.

Researchers have developed a whole new range of technological tools to empower children with special needs (including the visually challenged and those with speech and motor disabilities) and meet their educational requirements.

“We are now working on dyslexia and in that we have started working on how we can make intelligent software by which children can read,” added Basu.

Amar Ujala ND 27.10.2016 P-1

यमुना पुल के निर्माण के लिए एनजीटी ने एनएचएआई की अपील पर दिया नोटिस

नई दिल्ली (एजेंसी)। भारतीय राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग प्राधिकरण (एनएचएआई) ने यमुना नदी पर पुल बनाने और दिल्ली-मेरठ एक्सप्रेसवे रोड के लिए नेशनल ग्रीन ट्रिब्यूनल से अनुमति मांगी है।

इस अपील पर अध्यक्ष न्यायाधीश स्वतंत्र कुमार की अध्यक्षता वाली एनजीटी बेंच ने पर्यावरण एवं वन और शहरी विकास मंत्रालय, यमुना कार्यकर्ता मनोज मिश्रा और अन्य से जवाब मांगा है। ट्रिब्यूनल ने जल संसाधन मंत्रालय के सचिव की अध्यक्षता वाली प्रिंसिपल समिति और विदेश मंत्रालय के विशेष सचिव, जल संसाधन मंत्रालय के संयुक्त सचिव, दिल्ली के मुख्य सचिव, डीडीए, डिल्ली जल बोर्ड, नगर निगम, आयुक्त और इसमें शामिल अन्य से भी जवाब मांगा है। इस प्रिंसिपल समिति के सदस्यों में आईआईटी रुड़की के प्रोफेसर सीआर बाबू, एके गोस्वामी, ब्रिज गोपाल और एए आजमी भी हैं। इस आवेदन पर दो हफ्तों के अंदर जवाब देना है।

एनएचएआई, एनजीटी में 2015 के उस आदेश के लिए गई है जिसमें नए पुलों, सड़कों, रेलवे, मेट्रो पुलों, तटबंधों और मेड़ों के निर्माण पर पाबंदी लगाई गई है।

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The great middle class engineering dream loses steam

SLUMP The number of students getting enrolled in engineering colleges has been dipping due to a near-stagnated job market

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NEW DELHI: Engineering appears to be losing its attraction as a top career option among Indians.

The number of students getting admitted to government and private engineering colleges and institutes — excluding IITs and NITs — is recording a steady decline, by at least 100,000 in the past two years.

Barely half of the number of seats across the country got filled last year.

The All-India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) discussed the worrying trend at a recent meeting after states such as Odisha and Madhya Pradesh asked the human resource development (HRD) ministry to conduct a demand-supply analysis before granting approval to new engineering institutes.

The trend could be attributed to a near-stagnated job market for engineers or availability of a glut of career options for students from non-engineering fields.

Jobs have dried up, with just one out of three engineering students getting campus placements.

Placements have increased from 31% in 2013-14 to about 40% last session, but as has the number of graduates from new institutes that have come up in the past few years and private colleges, which have increased their seats.

These are churning out more graduates than there are jobs. Besides, most of the students don't meet expectations of companies offering placement.

"A majority of students graduating from engineering institutes don't have the required skills and knowledge for specific jobs. Naturally, they don't get employed. Faculties at engineering institutes are a cause of worry too," said Deepak Pental, former vice-chancellor of Delhi University.

A NASSCOM survey in 2011 says only 25% graduates working in the Indian IT sector have the required skills. The situation has not changed much a decade on.

"Many new engineering colleges are coming up every year. The AICTE grants them approval if the infrastructure and faculty requirements are in place. But one needs to examine the demand and supply, an HRD ministry official said.

The AICTE's own data say more than 800,000 students were admitted to state-run and private engineering institutes in 2015-16, but only 340,000 got jobs.

"We are ending up opening teaching shops across the country. It should definitely be assessed whether there is a demand for such institutes as many seats are also lying vacant," Pental said.

The AICTE, which grants approvals to institutes, said enrolment has been down because many students are opting for tech institutes of private universities.

"Private institutes have increased their seats substantially, without seeking our approval. That means we don't have updated data on recent enrolments," a senior AICTE official said.

In Odissa, there are 221 engineering institutes with an approved intake of 97,590 students, but only 47,601 took admission in the previous academic year.

Similarly, in Madhya Pradesh, 82,048 students took admission in 299 engineering institutes, though the intake capacity is 149,796.

HALF OF THE SEATS GO VACANT

3,365	16,32,470	8,36,640	3,40,531
No. of engineering institutes in 2015-16	Total intake capacity	Enrolment	Placement

Near-stagnant job markets a reason behind waning interest