

Newspaper Clips

October 28, 2010

Financial Express ND 28/10/2010 p-2

Must grow fast to minimise rich-poor gap: PM

P Vaidyanathan Iyer

Kuala Lumpur, Oct 27: Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today unequivocally stated that to find solutions to the problems of poor, India needs a fast growing economy and a strong stimulus to growth. "We have to walk on two legs," he said, in response to a query on how India plans to minimise the gap between the rich and the poor.

"The primary purpose of development is to get rid of chronic poverty, ignorance and disease which have affected millions of people. But for this, growth must be made truly inclusive," he said after delivering the prestigious Khazanah Global Lecture. It is important to focus on poor areas which lack in education, health and other infrastructural facilities, he added.

While it is important to empower the poor, it is also equally important to develop agriculture, which still accounts for the livelihoods for more than half of India's population, the Prime Minister said. "We are increasing our investment in agriculture. We hope to use our scientific capabilities to create a new growth momentum in agriculture through a second green revolution. This is vital for our food security and to ensure an inclusive growth process," he said.

Also, the future of the economy is going to be knowledge-based. "This can become a productive agent of so-



Prime Minister Manmohan Singh launches the Little India shopping complex in Kuala Lumpur on Wednesday PTI

MANMOHANSPEAK

- India seeks rapid economic growth to create wealth and generate surpluses to fund its ambitious social development programmes
- Growth must create employment and development that is socially and regionally balanced and inclusive
- Build a modern, knowledge and science-based economy to complement our agricultural and industrial base
- Development must be sustainable so that the wealth of the country's natural resources is conserved for future generations
- Cooperative relationship with neighbours and other partners so that India can prosper and benefit from one another's development
- Development ambitions must be realised within the framework of a plural and secular democracy, where each citizen has equal opportunity for economic, social and cultural advancement

cial change," he noted. "India has increased the expenditure on Science & Technology as a proportion of our GDP. We are investing heavily in both basic and higher education. For

the last 50 years, India had seven Indian Institutes of Technology and one Indian Institute of Science. In the last five years we have established eight more IITs and five Indi-

an Institutes of Science Education and Research," he pointed out.

Earlier, delivering the lecture, Singh said India's growth has combined greater openness with an abil-

ity to withstand external turbulence. Its economic performance has improved, with the gross national income growing at over 9.5% per annum for three consecutive years starting in 2005. "After the global crisis exploded in 2008, our growth rate slowed down but India was even then among the three or four fastest growing nations in the world. We took a number of measures to stimulate the economy and we expect 8.5 per cent growth in the current year," he said.

According to Singh, India's biggest asset is its people, but only if its educated, skilled and finds productive employment. "At a time when the industrialised world is aging rapidly, India has the advantage of a young population. The dependency burden in India is expected to keep falling for another 20 years. It is expected that, in 2020, the average age of an Indian will be 29 years, compared to 37 for China and 48 for Japan," he said.

Further, with savings and investment which separately for over 30 per cent of the gross national income, rapid economic development becomes feasible. "For a long time it used to be common wisdom that only an East Asian country could save and invest more than 30% of its national income. If that be true then, geography notwithstanding, India is today an East Asian country! India now saves and invests well over 30% of its GDP," he said.

Financial Express ND 28/10/2010 p-23

UP to hardsell itself at Pan-IIT Conclave

■ Maya's Vision will be presented to potential investors from across the globe at the event

Deepa Jainani

Lucknow, Oct 27: After three years of hard work, the Uttar Pradesh government is now ready to take off to the next level of development by presenting 'Maya's Vision' to the discerning investors, policy makers as well as the thinktank, who will gather from all across the globe at the three-day Pan IIT 2010 Conclave to be held at Greater Noida from October 29.

The conclave will act as the platform from which the UP government will hardsell itself as the 'irresistible land of opportunities' waiting to be discovered. An eight-member team of senior offi-

cial, led by the state's chief secretary Atul Kumar Gupta will leave for Greater Noida to make the presentation.

A swanky presentation, 'Transform Uttar Pradesh', highlighting the 'the vision of the bold and dynamic chief minister Mayawati,' has been prepared and would be shown at the impressive gathering of high profile dignitaries, investors as well as professionals.

Offering a plethora of openings in the infrastructure sector such as expressways, power, urban rejuvenation, public transportation, international airports, new townships, public health, professional education, etc,



Mayawati, CM, Uttar Pradesh

the presentation states that the 'vision has now been transformed into reality and a promise is a promise.'

Stating that UP, the second largest state economy in the country is 'witnessing a silent but steady transforma-

tion,' the presentation states that while the state was once known for its prolific agriculture, has now moved to the state with largest number of small scale industries and service sector enterprises, with the secondary and tertiary sectors together accounting for more than 70% of the GSDP.

Affirming that the Mayawati government has created a 'conducive investment environment—by providing attractive fiscal incentives in the form of interest free loans against VAT payments, exemptions from stamp and electricity duties, speedy online clearances through Nivesh Mitra, easy

availability of developed industrial plots, healthy labour relations and a crime and fear free atmosphere—the presentation goes on to say that UP gives immense possibilities of business to every entrepreneur. Enumerating the Rs 10,000-crore, six-lane access Yamuna Expressway as the flagship project, with the Ganga and Upper Ganga Canal Expressways, the growth trajectories, backed by adequate and efficient power supply, the Mayawati government has beckoned 'dynamic people to come forward and partner this march to development in order to achieve a prosperous and better tomorrow.'

Court notice to DU, DUTA

Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court on Wednesday issued notices to the Delhi University and the Delhi University Teachers' Association on a petition by a retired Air Force officer and an expert in the human resources development seeking a direction to the college managements to implement the semester system and DUTA to cooperate in the exercise.

The petitioner, Wing Commander (retd.) Prof. M.R. Gupta, also urged the Court to declare the on-going strike by the college teachers illegal and restrain them from going on strike in future.

He also urged the Court to

direct the teachers to forthwith start teaching the new syllabi for all the prescribed 13 under-graduate science courses according to the semester system as directed by the university and to complete it before the commencement of examinations scheduled from December 6.

The petitioner submitted that a dichotomous situation had developed in the university with several colleges adopting the semester system while several others still teaching the students under the old system.

This scenario had led a situation where students of those colleges where the semester system had not been

implemented were clueless as to whether they had to take the semester examinations or the old annual examination, the petitioner submitted.

Thus those students who were in the colleges where the semester system had not been implemented so far would suffer in comparison to their counterparts in those colleges where they were being taught a new syllabus under the semester system as the university would test the performance of all the teachers under the new system, the petitioner submitted.

Taking the petition on record, the Court issued notices to the university and the DUTA seeking their replies to the petition by November 29.

Sibal appeals for end to strike

Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: Union Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal appealed to the Delhi University Teachers' Association on Wednesday to end its strike and resume work for the benefit of the students.

Speaking to reporters here, Mr. Sibal said that strikes were not in the interest of the students and hoped that the new Vice-Chancellor would take on board all issues of the teachers' association.

"We hope that the new V-C will resolve the issues," Mr. Sibal said, adding that the

new V-C is aware of the issues and the notification for the appointment of the new V-C would happen in a week's time.

Referring to the DUTA strike, Mr. Sibal said: "Teachers should go back to the classrooms."

Meanwhile, the DUTA strike entered its third-day on Wednesday. The DUTA said in a statement that its demands included "reversal of the illegal imposition of academically disastrous semester system in 13 under-graduate science courses and not forcing students enrolled in these courses to take se-

semester examinations since they have been taught in the annual scheme."

Reacting to the threat of "no work no pay" being enforced by the university, the DUTA claimed that it would not budge. In the context of their agitation, the DUTA said it was protesting to defend the quality of education, ensure equal access to education and maintain the sanctity of the University Act, Statutes and Ordinances.

The DUTA is planning a protest march on Thursday to demand the restoration of the "lawful functioning of the university".

10 years of life aboard International Space Station

The ISS will appear as a small bright light at 6 p.m. today over India for two minutes before vanishing in the darkness

IAN SAMPLE

At 6 p.m. today (October 28), a small bright light will appear low in the night sky over India for two minutes before vanishing in the darkness. Few people will notice and even fewer will care, but for a handful of souls that speck on the horizon is a place called home.

From down here on Earth there is little more to see, but close up the spot takes on a more complex form: a shiny hulk of interconnecting tubes and metal trusses bracketed by giant wing-like panels.

Living quarters

As roomy as a five-bedroom house, these are the most extreme living quarters ever built. What looks like a wandering star in the heavens is sunlight reflecting off the International Space Station.

With more than a decade of construction now coming to an end (next week's shuttle mission leaves only two more before the fleet is mothballed), astronauts can finally look forward to stretching out and using the space station to the full.

If the experiences of those who helped build and man the station are anything to go by, they are in for an extraordin-

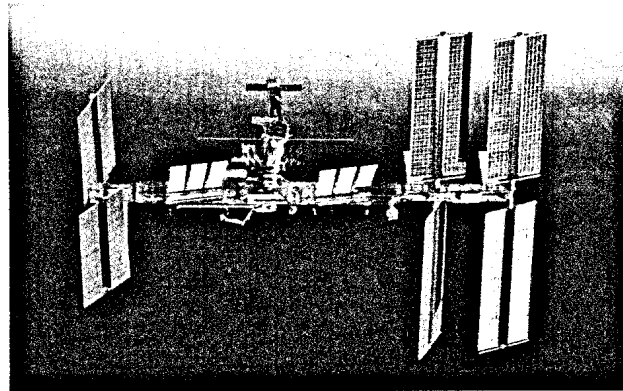
ary time. "I still can't believe what I've seen sometimes," says Piers Sellers, the Sussex-born boy-turned Nasa astronaut who took part in the most recent shuttle mission to the station in May.

Next week, Nasa will commemorate 10 years of life on the space station (the first residents arrived on 2 November 2000), but fewer than 200 people have first-hand knowledge of life on board. Only a fraction of them have stayed more than six months on the largest orbiting spacecraft ever built. The longer the stint, the closer these veterans come to perfecting the art of life in freefall.

The space station has a permanent crew of six, so the arrival of new faces is a cause for celebration. That said, even the most welcome visitors can cause havoc if they are inexperienced.

There is a subtle art to moving around without crashing into anything — or, more annoyingly, others — knocking computers, equipment and other objects off the walls to which they are attached with Velcro pads.

One serving shuttle pilot confessed to leaving a wake of laptops and other vital belongings behind him the first time he tried to fly from one room to another. People sit in mid air, tapping away at a



LIFE ON BOARD: Only fewer than 200 people have first-hand knowledge of life on board the International Space Station. — PHOTO: AFP

computer, with only a toe hooked under a wall strap to anchor themselves.

No left, no right

Then, with a flick of the hand, they'll float up to another computer and carry on typing there. Getting from one place to another is all the more difficult because up and down (and so left and right) have no absolute meaning.

The ability to form a mental map of the space station — and then rotate it in 3D to suit

your perspective — is a priceless skill for an astronaut.

In such close quarters personal hygiene is a must, but the weightless conditions make washing a delicate chore. Water droplets can cause choking if inhaled and can short-circuit equipment, so many astronauts use the music festival favourite: moist wipes.

On their first day or two in space, some astronauts feel queasy, a condition referred to in Nasa-speak as "stomach

awareness". Body fluids that are settled on Earth move up to the head, leaving astronauts with scrawny-looking chicken legs and bloated faces. On the downside, many astronauts feel congested in space and lose much of their sense of smell.

Unless there is a problem with the station's plumbing (and there has been), or someone's lunch has floated off and got lost in a nook or cranny (as has happened), there isn't much to smell on

board, because air scrubbers filter out any odours as the air is circulated. Taste is another casualty.

Tasteless food

"We get a drawer with our name on it and select all our meals before we go, but nothing tastes like it does on Earth. It all tastes like cardboard," says Sellers. "We get through gallons of Tabasco sauce." If you want to know how hard it is to swallow in space, try eating while lying on one side, he suggests.

It takes the space station one and a half hours to fly around the planet, making for 16 complete laps a day. For those on board, the visual effect is spectacular.

Open the covers over the windows and the light can be so blinding that astronauts reach for their sunglasses. But after 45 minutes of daylight, a dark line appears on the planet, dividing Earth into night and day.

For a couple of seconds, the space station is bathed in a coppery light and then complete darkness. Another 45 minutes later, and just as abruptly, the sun rises to fill the station with brilliant light again.

The onslaught of apparent days and nights would play havoc with astronauts' body clocks, so a shutters-down

and bedtime schedule is imposed by mission controllers. Each of the crew has a closet-like cabin where they can hook a sleeping bag to the wall and settle down for the night. Some strap pillows to their heads to make it feel more like lying down. The lights don't go out completely, though.

People dozing in orbit see streaks and bursts of bright colour caused by high-energy cosmic rays painlessly slamming into their retinas. Fans and air filters add to the distractions, so some astronauts wear ear plugs to block out the constant hum.

Unsurprisingly, falling asleep can take some getting used to. Just as you are nodding off, you can feel as though you've fallen off a 10-storey building.

People who look half asleep will suddenly throw their heads back with a start and fling out their arms. It gets easier with time. One Russian crew member is renowned for doing without a sleeping bag and falling asleep wherever he ends the day.

Anyone still awake after bedtime would see his snoozing form drift by, slowly bouncing off the walls, his course set by the air currents that gently pushed and pulled him. — © Guardian Newspapers Limited, 2010

Times of India ND 28/10/2010 p-5

HC notice to DUTA, VC on fund curb plea

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Delhi high court on Wednesday issued notices to Delhi University Vice-Chancellor Deepak Pental and Delhi University Teachers' Association (DUTA) on a plea seeking curbs on funding for colleges opposed to the new semester system.

The plea sought a direction to the University Grants Commission (UGC) to withdraw all funding of those colleges that did not take immediate steps to make their teachers follow the semester system. The public interest litigation (PIL) also sought direction to the university to take disciplinary action against the erring teachers opposed to the implementation of semester system at the undergraduate level in the 13 science courses in the current academic year.

Petitioner and retired defence employee M R Gupta said the university must implement its policy of 'no work no pay' against teachers who were resorting to strikes against the semester system.

The petition said that due to opposition by teachers, the system could not be implemented in various colleges, af-

fecting the career of around 8,000 students.

"These teachers have adopted an adamant attitude and continue to go by the old annual system for teaching students and follow the old syllabi while doing so," the petition alleged, saying they are doing so "deliberately and are being supported in this and even incited by the DUTA."

The first semester examinations were scheduled to be held from November 20 to December 10, but the university has now announced that these would be conducted from December 6.

"Those students who have taken admissions to colleges where the semester system has not been implemented so far would suffer in relation to their counterparts in other colleges. The young students who have just entered these colleges are thus being thrown into a state of uncertainty at the very threshold of their careers," said the petition.

The court in its direction in August 2010 directed the university to implement the semester system. The university was told to take action against those teachers who fail to teach according to the system.

NO WORK, NO PAY

Now, kidney damage can be detected early

Marker Identifies Disease 10 Yrs Before Onset

Durgesh Nandan Jha | TNN

New Delhi: A new technique for early detection of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) could save many lives in future. With the help of a multi-marker panel of proteins and hormones, individuals at a greater risk of developing the disease can be identified up to 10 years before its clinical onset. By the time CKD is usually diagnosed, it is stage III and IV and half of the kidney is already damaged.

Doctors say it will be possible to start treatment and make lifestyle changes at an early stage with the help of this finding. According to a doctor, the new biomarkers can be tested in a single blood sample. The biomarkers are homocysteine, a marker for atherosclerosis; aldosterone, a hormone that affects salt handling by the kidneys; and BNP, which is involved in maintenance of blood pressure and volume.

The biomarkers have been identified with the help of a

research carried out on more than 2,300 persons with normal kidney functions. The subjects were tested for over a period of 10 years to find the biomarkers that can identify high-risk individuals. The study has been published in the latest edition of the Journal of the American Society of Nephrology.


According to Dr S C Tewari, director of nephrology and renal transplant at the Fortis Institute for Renal Sciences, the new biomarkers can be tested in a single blood sample. "It is a revolutionary finding and can help in saving the life of many patients," said Tewari. He said serum creatinine, the primary biomarker for CKD is insensitive to early perturbations in renal function, particularly in patients without overt clinical CKD.

CKD affects 16% of the Indian population. It is associated with metabolic abnormalities and bone disease and is also an important risk factor for peripheral vascular disease, cardiovascular disease, stroke, all of which cause mortality. Hypertension and diabetes are key risk factors but do not fully help in identifying individuals at risk of developing CKD.

Said Dr Sandeep Mahajan, nephrologist, AIIMS, "All the existing diagnostic tests including eGFR and CKD-EPI are creatinine-based. The identification of the disease through this process is delayed and the new finding — if validated on Indian population — can bring a revolutionary change in treatment of CKD. We can use certain drugs and lifestyle modification such as weight control and dietary changes to prevent the disease."

He added the present results require further replication and testing in clinical trial settings as well as in cost-effectiveness settings before being brought into the clinical arena.

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EARLY DIAGNOSIS CAN SAVE LIVES

Chronic Kidney disease (CKD)
CKD is associated with metabolic abnormalities and bone disease and is also an important risk factor for peripheral vascular disease, cardiovascular disease, stroke — all of which can be fatal

16%

of Indian population suffers from CKD

Available medical test

Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR)
is based on serum creatinine measurement. Half the kidney is damaged in most cases by the time the disease is diagnosed, say doctors

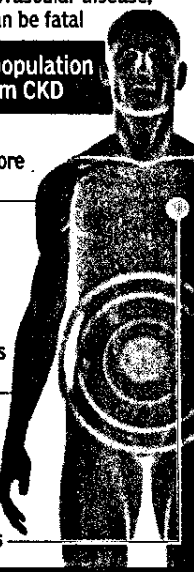
Biomarkers
Predict CKD 10 years before its clinical onset

New CKD biomarkers validated through research

Homocysteine
Protein which is the marker for atherosclerosis (thickening of arteries)


Aldosterone
Hormone that affects salt handling by kidneys

B-type natriuretic peptide | Indicates heart damage in patients



Benefits of early diagnosis

Certain medicines and lifestyle modification like **weight control and dietary changes** at an early stage can prevent the disease or delay the prognosis



These new biomarkers were developed after **prolonged research on 2,300 patients** of American origin. Doctors say replication on Indians and cost-effectiveness needs to be assessed

Times of India ND 28/10/2010 p-13

IIT-Kgp ignored CVC¹³ advice way back in '06

Didn't Tell Ministry Answer Sheets Were Destroyed

Akshaya Mukul | TNN

New Delhi: Though the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) had forwarded allegations about malpractices in JEE-2006 to Damodar Acharya, director of IIT-Kharagpur, way back in 2007, the institute did not feel the need to order a probe. Instead, IIT-Kharagpur told the HRD ministry that "as per conduct rule of the institute no employee is permitted to publish any article anonymously or in the name of any other person to any newspaper or periodical."

The then registrar D Gunasekaran was referring to the source material that was the basis of allegation about the bungling in JEE-2006. To make matters worse, IIT-Kharagpur also did not inform — as was unearthed later — the ministry that the JEE answer sheets and other materials were already destroyed in 2006.

Gunasekaran said action be taken against the author of the source material. TOI reported last week how Prof A K Ghosh, who was then the chair-



A K Ghosh was chairman of IIT-JEE in 2006

person of IIT-JEE, Kharagpur, had sought permission for shredding of JEE papers in 2006. Ghosh was also Chief Vigilance Officer of the institute. Early this year, Ghosh in a reply to an RTI query even stated, "During my tenure as CVO of IIT, Kharagpur I haven't received any queries from CVC regarding irregularities in JEE 2006."

The source material forwarded by CVC had alleged that there were many cut-off procedures submitted by IIT-Kharagpur, but none of which could calculate stated cut-off marks due to a slew of discrepancies. For instance, many high scoring candidates failed

to make the grade while many with lower scores, strangely, got selected. Irregularities came to the fore regarding manual corrections and tampering of chemistry scripts, and children of IIT administrators scoring high marks.

IIT-Kharagpur has been averse to the Right to Information Act as is evident from this entire episode. Even last month, when asked to supply all communications along with the action taken report and file notings, in deference to all communications received by IIT-Kharagpur from CVC and CVO/MHRD, A Patra, principal information officer of the institute, asked RTI applicant Rajeiv Kumar, "If you desire to have information regarding proceedings of CVC, CVO/MHRD, against individuals and the ATR thereon, would you explain why such information are required in larger public interest."

Section 6(2) of RTI Act 2005 clearly states, "An applicant making request for information shall not be required to give any reason for requesting the information".

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: Oct 28, 2010; Section: Times City; Page: 8;

Day 1 of online CAT passes without glitches

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The first day of CAT passed without any glitches across all eight centres in the city. Many candidates said that they faced no problem with the systems unlike last year when the whole set up had crashed due to a "virus attack".

However, the centres looked largely deserted as only a handful of students seemed to have appeared for the test on day one. According to Prometric, which is responsible for conducting online CAT, only 4,548 of over 2 lakh candidates were registered for the first day.

Deepti Mittal, who had come to the Punjabi Bagh centre in west Delhi from Nainital, said, "Thankfully there were no technical problems this time. Everything was smooth and even the lab assistants were really helpful. They guided us properly on the procedure of taking the test." Deepti had come down to the city early in the morning with her entire family.

Another candidate, Mayank Joshi, who is a student of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, added, "I really liked the way they had organized the test this time. We were asked to get seated 90 minutes before the test began as they had to check our documents and identity proof thoroughly."

At K R Mangalam Institute in Greater Kailash I, many candidates appearing for the test were happy about the

question paper. Aspirant Ankita Joshi, who had taken CAT last year too, said, "The question paper seemed easier this time. There were no technical glitches either. I enjoyed doing the English section and am hopeful of scoring well."

Another candidate Raman Kapoor added, "The examination hall at my centre was almost empty. Looks like few students turned up for the first day of CAT. But there was no

WAITING LONGER

According to the vice-chairperson of a coaching institute, students generally prefer to choose the later dates so that they can try and get to know the kind of questions being asked in the test

problem and teachers present were helpful. I scored 94 percentile last year and hope to better my result this time to get through the IIMs."

According to Gautam Puri, vice-chairperson, Career Launcher, students generally prefer to choose the later dates so that they can try and get to know the kind of questions being asked in the test. "However, there was no surprise in the paper today as the pattern was the same as last year. Anyone, who attempted about 45 out of total 60 questions can hope to get a call," Puri said.

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi;Date: Oct 28, 2010;Section: Times Nation;Page: 15;

Reaching CAT site a nightmare for aspirants

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

A circuitous route, a long road, a journey: these are words that have probably been appropriated for the first time for an exam. Reaching the test site to take the Common Admission Test (CAT) was a nightmare for several candidates.

For one, students taking the test from Chennai had to travel miles to an industrial town in the neighbouring district of Kancheepuram. The centre: Saveetha Engineering College in Thandalam, Sriperumbudur, is 40km from Chennai, 22km from the mofussil bus terminus in Koyembedu, 28km from Chennai's Meenambakkam airport, and 30km from the central railway station. There are no trains to the area.

A candidate said that no one goes to Sriperumbudur, not even politicians who tread dusty roads in India's hinterland. The last man spotted was former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who was assassinated by a human bomb there in May 1991.

An irate Sherin Deepak,

who had travelled from Tiruchi to take the test in Chennai, said, "I had my airbag with me, and it was only after I fought with security guard that he allowed me to leave my bag inside the campus. It was very annoying." The Indian Institute of Management's decision to overrule the directive of the HRD ministry to roll out CAT in all states and union territories became a logistical nightmare for hundreds of students belling this year's CAT.

Malathy (name changed), a post-graduate student from Thiruvananthapuram, had to travel all the way to Bangalore to appear for the online test on Wednesday, as there was no CAT centre in the Kerala capital. "Although nearly 6,000 students are taking the exam in Kerala, there are only two centres — Cochin and Kozhikode. When I logged in to register for the exam, not a single slot was available. I had no option but to take the exam in Bangalore," she told TOI.

► **Related report, P 6**

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: Oct 28, 2010; Section: Times Nation; Page: 16;

Policy soon to cut antibiotics overuse

Strict Penalties To Be Imposed On Defaulters

Shobha John | TNN

New Delhi: We all know someone who has popped antibiotic at the first hint of a sneeze or who hasn't completed his full course of these medicines. All this could be a thing of the past as India, for the first time, readies a national antibiotic policy. It'll also include the poultry industry and agriculturists. A policy statement in this regard will be finalized by November.

A 13-member expert panel was constituted by the health ministry in September to lay down the policy and ways to implement it. While antibiotics can, no doubt, tackle a severe illness speedily, their indiscriminate use can lead to microbes becoming resistant to drugs. This can be increasingly seen in tuberculosis, gonorrhoea, malaria and ear infections. According to the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the cost of antimicrobial resistance to the US health care system in 1998 was nearly \$5 billion. By 2010, this could have increased 10 times.

The need for such a policy in India was felt after the super bug controversy in March, where researchers reported a new Indian-origin bug, NDM-1, which was resistant to carbapenem, the strongest antibiotic known. Many developed countries such as Sweden and UK already have such a policy. In India, Tamil Nadu recently constituted a panel to frame an antibiotics policy.

Components of the policy,



ONLY BY PRESCRIPTION

accessed by TOI, show a well-thought-out strategy which will affect doctors, patients, pharmacists, veterinary doctors, agriculturists and the poultry industry. A task force will be set up in each state to develop and implement strategies in both the public and private sector. NGOs too will be involved.

Another component is that drugs and therapeutic committees as well as hospital infection committees will be set up in all hospitals. A national reference microbiology laboratory will be set up and will have links with a network of accredited diagnostic labs.

Further, antibiotics will be classified — for non-restricted, restricted and very restricted use. There will be a selected list of antibiotics which shouldn't be sold in pharmacies without a prescription, such as Ofloxacin which is used in fevers, says Dr Ranjit Roy Chaudhury, a member of the expert panel. "Stringent penalties will imposed if this is violated.

Normally, violators are taken to court but this is a long process; we want something more drastic," he says. Antibiotics not on the essential drugs list should not be procured, prescribed or be made available.

Shailendra, a chemist in South Delhi, welcomed this policy, saying it's a must. "Often, small-time doctors prescribe antibiotics when there's no need to. This over-prescription, increases the body's resistance and more and more expensive antibiotics are prescribed. If we refuse to sell them, patients, especially from the lower strata, threaten us. It's very important to educate this section of society," he says.

The policy will also make it mandatory to test for the presence of antibiotics in food items. "Many times, antibiotics are introduced in chicken feed to make the birds plump. Once injected, they get into our system, increasing resistance. With this new policy, poultry too will get tested, says Chaudhury. Honey too has been found to have antibiotics.

Standard treatment guidelines for antibiotics will be developed. To make antibiotics prevention a long-term action plan, the MBBS syllabus will have more emphasis of the use and misuse of antibiotics. What's more, continuing Medical Education programmes, (essential for re-registration of doctors), in Rational Use of Medicines and Antibiotics will be made mandatory.

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China all set to launch manned space station by '20

Beijing: China said on Wednesday it would launch a space lab to be manned for long stretches within about 10 years, a move it believes would bring it closer to the United States and Russia as powers capable of reaching the moon.

The official Xinhua news agency, quoting an unidentified space official, said a trial space lab would be launched before 2016 to test equipment and techniques. But it was not clear if that lab would be manned for long periods.

The space station programme will use existing technology, including the Shenzhou space vehicle and Long March 2F launch rocket, Xinhua said. The agency gave no details of the size of the planned labs.

While the initiative is unlikely to rival the size of the International Space Station jointly operated by Russia, the US and other countries, it is the latest sign of China's growing space technology ability.

China launched its second moon orbiter this month and plans an unmanned moon landing in 2012. **REUTERS**

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: Oct 28, 2010; Section: Times Business; Page: 27;

e-paper

A lighter meal: Noodles may now weigh less

Shilpa Phadnis | TNN

Bangalore: Companies that have stuck their forks into the Rs 1,200-crore instant noodles market are now under pressure to raise prices due to rising input costs. But since nobody wants to abandon the Rs 10 price point, some are reducing grammage.

Nestle recently reduced the grammage of Maggi instant noodles (masala) from 80 grams to 85 grams. Company spokesperson Himanshu Manglik said noodle packs come in the 60-90 gm range, all for virtually the same price. "Despite the marginal reduction in grammage, Maggi ensures balance of high quality and nutrition," he said. Maggi is the market leader with a share of about 80%.

With new entrants like

Size Does Matter

Noodles (Masala variant, Rs 10 packs)		
Co	Brand	Weight
Nestle	Maggi	85 gm
GSK	Foodles	80 gm
ITC	Yippee	90 gm
Capital Foods	Smith & Jones (masala)	75 gm
Indo-Nissin	Top Ramen	80 gm
Big Bazaar	Tasty Treat	90 gm
Spencer's	Smart Choice	100 gm



ITC's Yippee, Glaxo Smith-kline's Foodles and HUL's Knorr soupy noodles, the market is getting crowded and established brands are facing the heat. So, ITC has come in with a 90-gm pack. Private labels are also upping the ante by offering value-for-money packs with higher grammage. Big Bazaar's private brand Tasty Treat offers a 90-gm pack. Spencer's pri-

vate brand Smart Choice offers as much as 100 gm.

Along with competition comes rising input costs, especially that of wheat (Rs 1,100/quintal in March, now Rs 1,300/quintal) and edible oil (Rs 460/10 kg in July, now Rs 510/10 kg). All these factors are hurting margins.

Nestle says it is countering rising input costs by focusing on five elements — in-

novation and renovation, new technology and processes to increase manufacturing efficiencies, balancing the portfolio mix and acceleration of what it calls the Continuous Excellence Programme and LEAN Mindset. "Price increase is the fifth element and used only when it is absolutely necessary," said Manglik.

Shirish Pardeshi, a senior analyst at Anand Rathi, agrees that increasing prices or reducing grammage is usually the last measure. "Nestle has been able to manage margins. There is some leverage within the system to manage costs. But volumes are very crucial for the company," he said.

There are others too who are looking at innovation that can eventually lead to

better margins and/or greater marketshare. Foodles has leveraged Horlicks' health and nutrition platform to offer 80-gm packs for Rs 10.

Devendra Chawla, business head (private brands) at Future Group, says the company is planning to introduce Mumbai masala and Punjabi masala variants.

However, there are differences in the industry on the issue of reducing grammage in a category like food. Some think it's tantamount to misleading customers. "Many consumers look at the price and not the weight. They purchase a meal need, but reducing grammage is like hitting a need," says M N V V Prasad, GM-sales and marketing at the Bangalore-based Indo-Nissin Foods that produces the Top Ramen brand noodles.

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: Oct 28, 2010; Section: Times Business; Page: 28;

The Power of Ideas convocation on Oct 30

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

The Power of Ideas initiative by The Economic Times is moving towards a crescendo as India's most promising 74 young and budding entrepreneurs come together at the convocation of the programme on October 30 in New Delhi. Inspiring these entrepreneurs as they begin their entrepreneurial journey will be Infosys co-founder and chief mentor N R Narayana Murthy, who will deliver the inaugural address.

This will be followed by a high-powered panel discussion on 'Entrepreneurs as Change Agents' involving Murthy, Samir Barua, director, IIM-Ahmedabad and Satish Magar, chairman



& managing director, Magarpatta Township Development & Construction Company and a successful grassroots entrepreneur himself.

The high point of the day will be the felicitation of the 35 entrepreneurs who are getting cash grants of Rs 5 lakh each and 10 entrepreneurs who are getting Rs 2 lakh each as part of the programme. Besides, the programme has

also witnessed as many as 15 entrepreneurs being given 'letters of intent' for seed funding worth Rs 20 lakh each.

The Power of Ideas 2010 was launched by The Economic Times in partnership with IIM Ahmedabad's Centre for Innovation Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE) and the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India. The programme received over 16,000 business ideas out of which 850 made Elevator Pitches with a final cut-off list comprising 74 entrepreneurs making it to the last phase of intensive mentoring at IIM-Ahmedabad. It is these 74 entrepreneurs who will be at the convocation post which they will meet investors for further funding.

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: Oct 28, 2010; Section: Delhi Times; Page: 50;



Major festivals' dates clash

What do you do when the IIT Kanpur, IIT Delhi & BITS Pilani festivals fall in the same period? While some had no option but to play favourites, some managed some *jugaad* to squeeze in two festivals



Karishma Kuenzang | TNN

Students this year had a tough time picking where to go as the college festivals kick-started in style. Reason? This year the date for the festivals of IIT Delhi, IIT Kanpur and BITS Pilani were all between October 21 and 26.

THE CHOICE AND THE COMPETITION

Says Siddharth George, 20, a DU student, "We decided to stick to IIT Delhi, even though we really wanted to go to Kanpur because the prize for the winner was better there, but then IIT Delhi is bigger." Agrees Kanika Sinha, 19, a student of North Campus, "We really wanted to go to Pilani for the fashion show, but stuck to IIT Delhi as it is better known."

Says Shruti Kalra, 20, a student from Kamala Nehru College, "Normally IIT Delhi is when we get to know which college is doing what that year, and we know who our competition is gonna be for the sub-

THIS YEAR WE DON'T KNOW WHO OUR REAL COMPETITION WILL BE AS ALL THE FESTS SEEM TO BE HAPPENING AT THE SAME TIME AND NOT EVERYONE IS AT IIT DELHI

— MITALI IYER, DU STUDENT

Says Pallavi Arora, 20, an English honours student, "This is my last year in college and I wanted to go for all three — IIT Delhi, Kanpur as well as Pilani. Sadly, I couldn't make it to all three but I did manage to make it in time for the Delhi and Kanpur festivals."

Harleen Singh, 19, a Sociology honours student in North Campus, played smart. "I went for Pilani and Kanpur. Delhi's big, but since everyone was here I thought that we would have less competition in Kanpur and Pilani."

HINDUSTAN TIMES, NEW DELHI
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2010

p-11

Thorat asked to explain job to secy

TIMING Move weeks before term ends raises brows

Charu Sudan Kasturi

■ charu.kasturi@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The human resource development ministry has questioned University Grants Commission chairman Sukhdeo Thorat's move to appoint a full-fledged secretary to the UGC three months before his term ends. The ministry had received complaints from MPs and academicians in this regard.

The HRD ministry has asked the UGC to explain the move, which has landed Thorat and the government in a controversy at a time when the Commission itself may soon be replaced by a new higher education regulator.

In the letter received by the UGC on Tuesday, the ministry has articulated several of the questions raised by MPs and academicians who have written to HRD minister Sibal, sources close to the development, said.

The biggest question that the UGC chairman faces involves why he is pushing for a full-fledged secretary at the

QUESTIONS RAISED



■ Sukhdeo Thorat. FILE PHOTO

■ Thorat is pushing for a full-fledged secretary weeks before he quits office

■ The UGC functioned with acting secretaries for almost five years under him

■ A HRD ministry convention says heads of autonomous institutions are not to make new appointments 3 months before the end of their terms

Commission just weeks before he quits office, when the UGC functioned with acting secretaries for almost five years

under him.

Thorat's move is also contrary to a convention the HRD ministry introduced in 2004 under which heads of autonomous institutions like the UGC are not supposed to make new appointments three months before the end of their term.

The timing of the proposed appointment — the UGC is holding the selection meeting on October 29 — has also raised eyebrows because the post of secretary was first advertised over a year and a half back.

The HRD ministry has, in its letter to the UGC, asked the Commission to explain why no secretary was picked over the past 18 months, sources said.

The appointment controversy comes even as the HRD ministry finalises a legislation to bring a National Commission for Higher Education and Research (NCHER) which will subsume the UGC and several other current higher education regulators.

HINDUSTAN TIMES, NEW DELHI
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2010

p-5

Migraine, poor vision could be a brain tumour

HT Correspondent

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NEW DELHI: Persistently missed menstrual periods, prolonged headaches or migraines, and frequent vision changes that are not cured even after treatment, could be an indication of a tumour in the brain.

Brain tumour accounts for 60 per cent of all brain surgeries in major hospitals.

Doctors, however, say not everyone with these symptoms has a tumour in the brain. "People with these symptoms should go for advanced tests such as CT scans and MRIs if treatment does not relieve the symptoms," said Dr Daljit Singh, professor of Neurosurgery, GB Pant Hospital.

More than one lakh cases of brain tumours are reported in India each year, with the numbers increasing because of better diagnosis and increasing longevity.

"Tumours replicate symptoms of infections but advanced tests have made diagnosis easier. International data also shows that the incidence of brain tumour has increased worldwide, with urban population at a higher risk," said Dr Singh.

SYMPTOMS

- Prolonged headache
- Nausea or vomiting
- Memory loss
- Numbness in arms or legs
- Frequent seizures

Severe symptoms

- Frequent vision changes
- Unexplained missed menstrual periods three to four times at a stretch (amenorrhoe)
- Disproportionately large head in children
- Migraine

Recent studies have shown that people belonging to the higher socio-economic group and living in a hyper-hygenic environment are at higher risk of tumours.

The Delhi Neurological Association, in collaboration with International Brain Tumour Alliance (IBTA), is organising a week-long campaign October 31 to raise spread brain tumour awareness. Seminars, lectures and presentations in 30 hospitals, including AIIMS, Sir Ganga Ram, Max and Fortis, will familiarise people with the causes, symptoms, diagnosis and new research.

Hindustan Times ND 28/10/2010

p-4

RARE PRACTISE

JNU VC selection panel to hear teachers, students

Charu Sudan Kasturi

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NEW DELHI: Students and teachers of the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) will get to share what they expect from their Vice Chancellor (VC) with the human resource development ministry's selection panel, tasked with picking a new VC for the varsity.

In a break from normal practice, the selection panel headed by former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairman K Kasturirangan has asked the human resource development ministry (HRD) to organise meetings with Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) students and teachers before it shortlists candidates.

"The idea is aimed at ensuring that the concerns of teachers and students and their expectations from their VC are taken into account, while making the selection," said a member of the panel, that also includes economist Nitin

THE PROCEDURE

- The selection panel is headed by former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairman K Kasturirangan.
- The panel is likely to meet representatives of students and teachers over the coming fortnight.
- Selection panels normally invite applications from eligible candidates, scrutinise applications and then call shortlisted candidates for interviews before finalising its selected candidates.

Desai and Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, director P Balaram.

The panel is likely to meet representatives of students and teachers over the coming fortnight.

Outgoing VC BB Bhattacharya's tenure is over but he is handling administrative matters till his successor takes over.

The selection panel, under Kasturirangan, held its first meeting today.

Though this is not the first time that a selection panel will be meeting teachers and students, before picking its nominees for the post of VC of a university, it is extremely rare, sources said.

Selection panels normally invite applications from eligible candidates, scrutinise applications and then call shortlisted candidates for interviews before finalising its selected candidates.

The entire process is usually conducted behind closed doors and away from public scrutiny.

JNU, however, has an extremely 'politicised' student and teacher fraternity and the selection panel is keen to get their views on board, before picking a VC, panel sources said.

This may help prevent later tensions between the university community and their new VC, sources said.

Hindustan Times ND 28/10/2010

p-4

Striking DU teachers: Sibal tries to bring truce

HT Correspondent

■ htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Human resource development (HRD) minister Kapil Sibal on Wednesday appealed to protesting Delhi University (DU) teachers to get back to taking classes, assuring them that their concerns over a controversial semester system will be addressed.

Outgoing vice-chancellor (VC) Deepak Pental's successor will take up the concerns that have brought teachers to the streets, Sibal told reporters, adding that the ministry would facilitate a dialogue.

"It is the students at DU who are suffering eventually. I appeal to the teachers to get back to taking classes. The new VC will look into all their concerns, which will be amicably addressed," the HRD minister said.

"We must think of the children."

DU south campus director Dinesh Singh is likely to become the new VC of India's largest university, with the HRD ministry recommending his name



■ DUTA members at a protest march some months ago. HT FILE PHOTO

to the President for her stamp of approval.

"We appreciate the intervention of the minister in the matter and welcome the decision to go back to debate and dialogue for implementation of the semester system," said Aditya Narayan Misra, president, DU Teachers Association (DUTA).

"The semester system was passed in violation of all acts and ordinances," Misra added.

DUTA will discuss Sibal's appeal at a meeting of its executive council on Thursday and

the governing body meeting on Friday, Misra said.

An HRD ministry selection panel had picked Dinesh Singh, Lady Sriram College principal Meenakshi Gopinath, VC of Hyderabad University Syed Hasnain and Jawaharlal Nehru University professor BS Chimni as final candidates for the post.

Gopinath and Singh were viewed as the two strongest contenders and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is understood to have agreed to Singh's appointment.

Tribune ND 28/10/2010 p1

Yale tie-up with IIT, IIM today

ADITI TANDON/TNS

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

The first part of the Singh-Obama 21st Century Knowledge Initiative will be operationalised tomorrow when Yale University enters into an agreement with two top Indian higher educational institutes to develop leadership modules for academics.

The initiative was announced last year during Prime Minister Manmohan

Singh's US visit. It seeks to build partnerships between Indian and American varsities.

The process of formally starting a collaboration will begin tomorrow when the visiting president of Yale University Richard Lewin signs a memorandum of understanding with the directors of IIT Kanpur and IIM Kozhikode to set up two Centres of Excellence in Academic Leadership — one each at the IIT Extension

Centre in Noida and IIM Kozhikode campus.

Under the agreement, the Indian institutes will share with Yale their research knowledge in technical, management and scientific areas. In turn, they will get academic leadership training from US experts, who will come to deliver the objective under the MoU, which will be called the Yale India Leadership Programme and

Continued on page 15

Yale tie-up with IIT, IIM today

From page 1

will have an initial financial commitment of Rs 4 crore.

The initiative was prioritised last year during the Indo-US Strategic Dialogue when education was put among the priority areas for collaboration.

Back in the Ministry of HRD, officials today told The Tribune that the initiative

would broadly have three components - faculty development, leadership development (which Yale-India initiative will help) and vocational development - through community colleges to be set up at different places. "At these colleges, we will have US experts coming in to impart training to our faculty and academics," officials said.

DUTA has become like a khap panchayat, says outgoing V-C

PRAVEEN KHANNA

DEEPU SEBASTIAN EDMOND
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

OUTGOING Delhi University Vice-Chancellor Deepak Pental on Wednesday defended his implementation of the semester system and called the Delhi University Teachers' Association a khap panchayat. "Our DUTA has become a bit like a khap panchayat. I really mean it. Because it is based on identity, it is based on tradition. It is not based on our laws, which say you should not strike work. The Supreme Court's decision on the matter is clear: if you don't work, you cannot be paid," he said, even as the DUTA continued its five-day strike. Pental was talking to *Newsline* about his five-year term at the University.

Pental's term expired on August 31, but unlike his predecessors, he stayed on, provoking a fresh spate of agitations from the DUTA. "This is as per the statutes. We took a legal opinion and the MHRD wrote that this is perfectly in order... because I think nobody should leave like that. What is the problem? I have run it for five years, why should I leave and subject others who have worked with me to this onslaught of verbal abuse? I should face the flak first, rather than exposing them," he said.

Pental spoke about the difficulty of pushing through the semester system for undergraduate courses. "Elected representatives draw their strength from the colleges, not from the postgraduates... postgraduate teachers have an advantage over undergraduate teachers: they are all researchers. For them to say 'change is wrong' would be criminal. For undergraduate, because they are no longer in the research business, they are a little stuck. This is a fact of life."

Pental admitted that he could have done more on some fronts, like the tabling of the report of the three-member inquiry committee on the sale of a Gamma Irradiator this February. The report was submitted on July 26, but was placed before the Executive Committee only on October 1. By then, the Atomic Energy Regulatory Body had revoked its permission to the University to use of radioactive material.

POSITIVES

INFRASTRUCTURE: Stadium, renovated hostels, Utility Centre

ADMINISTRATIVE: More funds from Centre under different heads

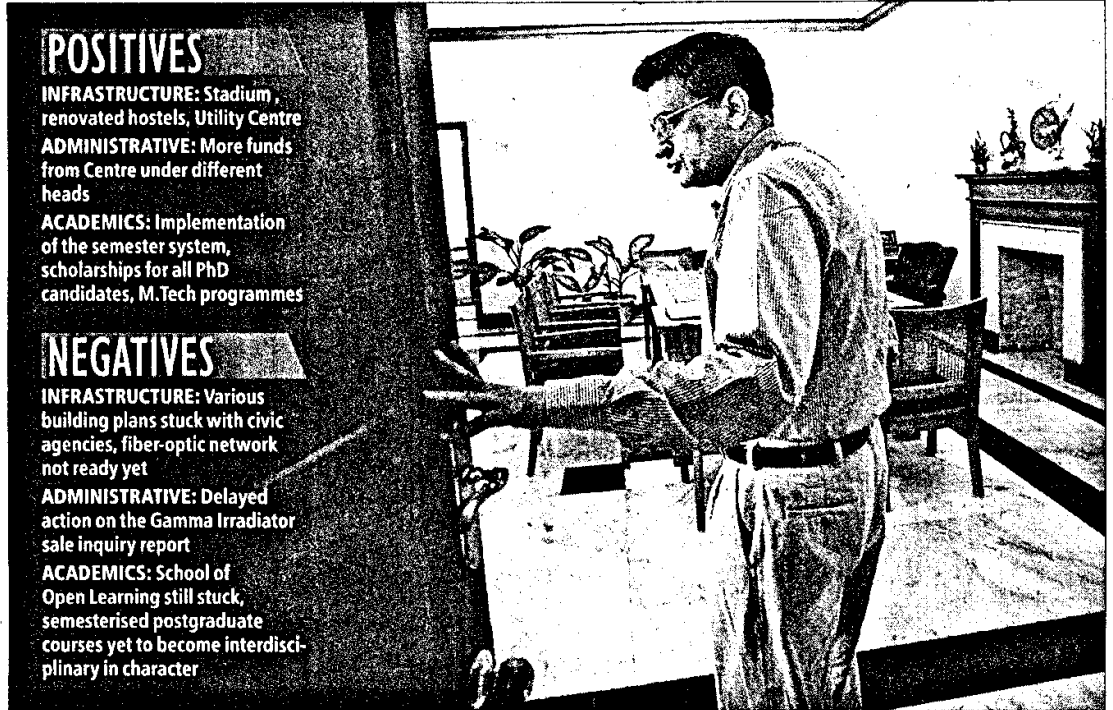
ACADEMICS: Implementation of the semester system, scholarships for all PhD candidates, M.Tech programmes

NEGATIVES

INFRASTRUCTURE: Various building plans stuck with civic agencies, fiber-optic network not ready yet

ADMINISTRATIVE: Delayed action on the Gamma Irradiator sale inquiry report

ACADEMICS: School of Open Learning still stuck, semesterised postgraduate courses yet to become interdisciplinary in character



LAST WEEK? Delhi University Vice-Chancellor Deepak Pental in his office

"Yes, we were a little slow... in fact, a lot of my time has been spent dealing with DUTA. We could have done it one month earlier, because the committee gave it one month before we took it in the EC. Maybe a lapse on my part. I wanted the next Vice-Chancellor to take that report... I wanted someone to look at it independently. Because in their interest to subvert, too many accusations have been made," said Pental.

The Vice-Chancellor conceded that the School of Open Learning (SOL) was ignored during his term. "We couldn't do anything about Open Learning. We failed, in fact. I think if we were to do something for three lakh students, we have to have their exams online and we have to have courses which are a mix of skill and knowledge."

Pental said SOL could perform better if separated from the University. However,

he said there was hope, as long as his successor is willing to spend time on the project. "It is too much for us to handle... It would do very well if it is independent. Whatever it may be, there should be a full-time Director for Open Learning. We have got this wonderful piece of land at Karkardooma, where we will build a new School of Open Learning for on-site training."

"If I were to redo this job, I would do it with even more vigour. I will go out more to get younger scientists to get established, try to bring more money, try to get results to move faster, knock at the door of MCD so that the buildings get completed. All those who do not have the stomach for this should not become V-Cs," he said.

"I have cleared my table. I have put in 12 hours in the office every day. I don't think I want to look at files anymore."

'Not officially informed'



NEW DELHI: When faced with a barrage of congratulatory messages on Wednesday, officiating Pro Vice-Chancellor of the Delhi University Dinesh

Singh had only one stock answer which went something like: "Thanks, but I have not been officially informed of any such development. If something happens, you will be the first to know." Some media reports had anointed him the front-runner in the race to be the V-C. Lady Shri Ram College Principal Meenakshi Gopinath, those in the know said, had pulled out for personal reasons. While Singh said he hasn't got a call from the MHRD, he refused to comment on whether the search committee had approached him.

Indian Express ND
28/10/2010 p-9

Clarify delay in naming secy: HRD to UGC

ANUBHUTI VISHNOI
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

THE Union Human Resource Development Ministry is learnt to have asked the Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC) to clarify the Commission's position on the ongoing appointment process for the post of UGC Secretary, following complaints about it.

While the position of the UGC Secretary has largely been vacant for the past five years, the Commission advertised the vacancy in August last year. That the selection panel was set up only on October 10 this year has sparked a controversy as the UGC Chairman S K Thorat is due to complete his tenure in February 2011.

The Ministry is learnt to have got a representation from UGC staffers complaining that the timing of the appointment process was highly suspect and against ethical norms with the Chairman's tenure at its fag end. Still others have questioned why the selection panel has been constituted as late as a year after the vacancy was first advertised and applications from candidates first invited in August 2009. The interviews for the post are to be held later this week.

With some MPs and political leaders also having taken up the issue with the Ministry, the latter has asked the

Chairman to clarify UGC's position.

It has been pointed out that within the span of a year, several other candidates could also have qualified for the position but have missed the opportunity to do so since applications were closed last year itself. It must be noted that as per a direction issued by the HRD to heads of all autonomous organisations under it, they should "not conduct selections/promotions" of any candidates at all 2-3 months before they conclude their terms. The letter by the Ministry dated July 19, 2004 advised heads of autonomous organisations under it to "adhere to these guidelines strictly".

Sources at UGC confirmed that a communication had been received from the Ministry. Chairman S K Thorat did not wish to comment on the issue.

UGC officials, however, pointed out the post of Secretary UGC cannot be considered vacant for five years as after IAS officer Raju Sharma was repatriated just two months into the job, T Kem, R K Chauhan and now Nilofer Kazmi have all served as officiating Secretary to UGC. Kazmi, Pro VC of Pondicherry University Prof Balasubramaniam, UGC Director (Administration) K Gunasekaran and Prof Kapil Kumar from IGNOU are among the 16 candidates vying for the job.

Financial Chronicle p-8
ND28/10/2010

PM seeks Malaysia help in higher education

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kuala Lumpur

SEEKING Malaysian cooperation in higher education and IT sector, prime minister Manmohan Singh on Wednesday said India would have to educate its young population and develop their skills to achieve 10 per cent economic growth rate on sustained basis. While delivering the Khazanah Global Lecture in Kuala Lumpur, Singh also invited Malaysian corporate to participate in the development of Indian infrastructure, which would need investment of about \$1 trillion during the 12th Plan period (2012-17).

"A young population is an asset only if it is educated, skilled and finds productive employment. If this were to happen, our objective of realising India's potential to grow at 10 per cent or more per annum for substantial period of time can become a reality," he said.

The average age of an

Indian by 2020 would be 29 years as compared to 29 years in case of China and 48 for Japan. Having grown by over 9 per cent for three consecutive years, the economic growth rate slipped to 6.7 per cent during 2008-09, mainly on account of the impact of the global financial crisis. The growth rate, however, picked up during 2009-10 to 7.4 per cent.

Regarding the present financial year, Singh said, "we expect 8.5 per cent growth."

Recalling steps taken by India to set up more IITs and other institutes, he said, "both higher education and the IT sectors are promising areas for India-Malaysia cooperation."

Pointing out that Indian financial sector, including banking and capital markets, are strong, the prime minister said, "this had helped support a boom in domestic investment. Domestic investment is complemented by strong FDI flows which are welcome."

Business Line ND 28-Oct-10 p-10

HRD Ministry in pact with Unique ID Authority



Tracking students: The Minister of Human Resource Development, Mr Kapil Sibal, with the Unique Identification Authority of India Chairman, Mr Nandan Nilekani, during the signing of an MoU in the Capital on Wednesday. — Ramesh Sharma

Our Bureau

New Delhi, Oct 27

The Ministry of Human Resource Development and the Unique Identification Authority of India inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) here on Wednesday. The MoU would be helpful in tracking student's mobility by creating an electronic registry of all students, right from primary and elementary level to secondary and higher education, an official release said.

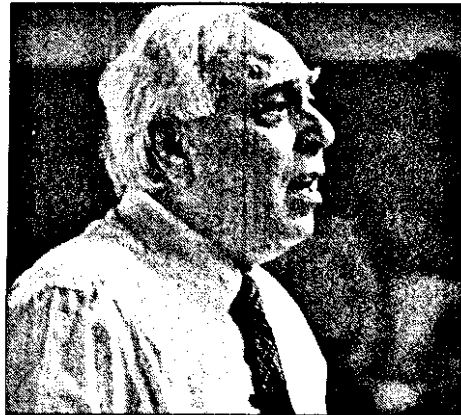
Imprinting of UID number on performance record of individual students (including marksheets, merit certificates,

migration certificates) will also be helpful to prospective employers and educational institutions, and would help in tracking problems of fake degrees, it said.

The move would also be useful in the implementation of mid-day meal scheme, it added.

The HRD Ministry will collaborate with the UIDAI in conducting proof of concept studies, pilots to test the working of the technology and process of enrolment into the UID database, and identify Registrars for the implementation of the UID project.

Economic Times ND 28/10/2010 P2 India, China must collaborate: Sibal



STATING THAT INDIA and China will be the "epicentre of global economic activity", human resource development minister Kapil Sibal said that collaboration between the two can help economic growth in the region. "The epicentre of the global economic activity will be India and China. Therefore, it is important for us to understand that when the two great economies collaborate with each other, we shall lead the world, and we know we shall," Mr Sibal said, addressing an Indo-China business meeting here. "We are trying to resolve all the issues with China, collaboration will bring people and economies together," he said. Stating that technical collaborations will lead to great achievements, he said the two neighbours can replace G7 in the next 30 years as their contribution will be 51% of the world's gross domestic product. "In next 40 years, we will be able to sell the technology to the rest of the world," Mr Sibal said. The comments have come after PM Manmohan Singh on Wednesday said that there was "enormous" possibility of India and China working together.

Asian Age ND 28/10/2010 P-11

Cisco bets big on IT services sector

SANGEETHA CHENGAPPA

BENGALURU

Oct. 27: Cisco India is betting big on the Indian IT services (ITS) sector to drive the next phase of growth in the country as the sector has traditionally been a significant adopter of leading edge networking, communications and computing technology. After pursuing a geographic sales model which targetted the North, South, East and Western markets for the last three years, the company has restructured its strategy to adopt a vertical sales model since August 2010, the beginning of Cisco's financial year.

"While the geographic sales model brought us closer to our key customers, the vertical sales model will help us be more relevant to

specific verticals, such as, Public Sector, BFSI, Enterprise, Telecom, Automotive etc. The ITS sector needs entirely new business models which will be largely driven by managed services. And the delivery of these business models will be driven by process driven engagement models. ITS companies will therefore have to adopt collaboration architecture, virtualised environment and secure infrastructure, all of which we can help out with" said Jagdish Mahapatra, VP, ITS Sales, Cisco India & SAARC. The company will work with the top ITS companies not just as consumers of its technology, but, also as partners with whom it will jointly develop solutions and go-to-market strategies.

Over the last few months,



Cisco has announced a host of new technologies specifically targetted to meet the changing needs of the ITS sector from the technology adoption and services delivery perspectives. For instance, its virtual technologies, such as the recently launched Virtualisation Experience Infrastructure, enable organizations to free employees to work remotely, cutting real estate and energy costs alike. Cisco

also has unified communications offerings that include IP telephony calling and management, unified messaging etc. Cisco has announced several partnerships with TCS, Wipro, HCL, Bharti, Servion and UST Global in the last few months.

"We are partnering with TCS to take virtualised data-centres to all its SMB customers and have tied up with Wipro to offer remote infrastructure management services. Our partnership with HCL will take secure infrastructure solutions to global markets and our recently announced hosted contact centre services in partnership with Bharti and Servion is doing very well" said Jagdish. More recently, Cisco transformed UST Global's Thiruvanthapura campus into a smart and

connected campus and is partnering with the company to offer the solution to ITS sectors most of which are investing heavily in new campuses. "Besides all this, we are providing thought leadership on transformational business models to the ITS sector, which is being demanded by their global customers" added Jagdish.

He said, some of the areas that ITS companies will invest heavily in, going forward are, borderless networks for green IT, connected real estate and secure mobility; virtualization including private and public cloud offerings as well as virtual desktop integration; and lastly, collaborative technologies such as, business video, unified communications, integration of web 2.0 capabilities in contact centre solutions.

Hindustan ND 28/10/2010 P1

शिक्षकों को हड़ताल का हक नहीं : कोर्ट

कार्यालय संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली

पिछले तीन दिनों से दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय (डीयू) में जारी शिक्षकों की हड़ताल पर हाईकोर्ट ने कड़ा रुख अपनाते हुए दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय शिक्षक संघ (डूटा) के साथ डीयू व इसके अधीनस्थ कॉलेजों को नोटिस जारी किया है।

मुख्य न्यायाधीश न्यायमूर्ति दीपक मिश्रा व न्यायमूर्ति मनमोहन की पीठ ने सभी पक्षों को शुक्रवार को जवाब देने को कहा है। पीठ ने कहा कि शिक्षकों का काम सिर्फ छात्रों को पढ़ाना है न कि विश्वविद्यालय के फैसले के खिलाफ हड़ताल करना।

पीठ ने कहा कि शिक्षकों को हड़ताल पर जाने का कोई अधिकार नहीं है। इसके लिए हाईकोर्ट ने मध्य प्रदेश व केरल हाईकोर्ट के दो फैसलों का हवाला दिया जिसमें शिक्षकों की हड़ताल को अवैध ठहराया गया। कोर्ट ने यह टिप्पणी डीयू के शैक्षणिक व



सख्त अदालत

- डूटा सहित डीयू व कॉलेजों को नोटिस
- तीन दिन से जारी हड़ताल पर कड़ा रुख
- कहा, शिक्षकों का काम सिर्फ छात्रों को पढ़ाना है

वित्त परिषद के सदस्य रहे प्रो. एम.आर. गुप्ता की जनहित याचिका पर की। याचिका में हड़ताली शिक्षकों पर कार्रवाई के अलावा उन कॉलेजों की मान्यता समाप्त करने की मांग की गई है जो सेमेस्टर सिस्टम नहीं पढ़ाने वाले शिक्षकों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई नहीं कर

क्या है झगड़ा

डीयू चाहता है सेमेस्टर सिस्टम लागू करना। शिक्षक संघ सेमेस्टर से पढ़ाने को तैयार नहीं है।

कब शुरू हुआ

सेमेस्टर सिस्टम लागू (मई-जून) करने की घोषणा के साथ।

कहां लागू

डीयू के 30 कॉलेजों में 13 विज्ञान विषयों में सेमेस्टर सिस्टम लागू है।

नुकसान

- हड़ताल से अभी तक पढ़ाई के 20 दिन बर्बाद हो चुके हैं।
- बर्बाद हुए दिनों की वजह से परीक्षाएं 20 नवंबर से 6 दिसंबर की गईं।
- दाखिला प्रक्रिया में भी नहीं शामिल हुआ था शिक्षक संघ।

रहे हैं। डीयू ने कॉलेजों को ऐसे शिक्षकों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई का आदेश दिया था। याचिका में डीयू व कुलपति को हड़ताल पर जाने वाले शिक्षकों को 'काम नहीं तो वेतन नहीं' की तर्ज पर वेतन नहीं देने का आदेश देने की मांग की है।

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प्राथमिक शिक्षा को बेहतर करने की जरूरत: आनंद

नई दिल्ली। देश को विकसित बनाने के लिए ज्यादा से ज्यादा शिक्षित लोगों की जरूरत है और यह तब तक संभव नहीं है कि जब तक कि निचले तबके की शिक्षा पर पूरा ध्यान केंद्रित न किया जाए। ये बात सुपर-30 के नाम से प्रख्यात आनंद कुमार ने बुधवार को आईआईटी-दिल्ली के डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ मैनेजमेंट स्टडीज के दूसरे अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कांफ्रेंस 'एक्सीलेंस इन स्कूल एजुकेशन' में कही। आनंद ने कहा कि सबसे बड़ी जरूरत है प्राथमिक शिक्षा पर ध्यान देने की। अगर प्राथमिक शिक्षा बेहतर होगी और अधिक से अधिक लोगों तक पहुंचेगी तो उच्च शिक्षा में भी भागीदारी का प्रतिशत बढ़ेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि पंचायत स्तर पर अंग्रेजी सीखने के लिए राज्य तथा केंद्र सरकार के सामूहिक प्रयास से एक केंद्र स्थापित करना होगा ताकि कोई भी बच्चा निःशुल्क अंग्रेजी सीख सकें।

आनंद कुमार ने कहा कि विदेशी विश्वविद्यालयों के केंद्र भारत में खोलने का कदम अच्छा है ऐसा होने से शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता में सुधार तो आएगा ही, एक लाख साठ हजार छात्र-छात्राएं जो विदेश पढ़ने चले जाते हैं और इसकी वजह से 7.5 बिलियन डॉलर धन भी देश में ही रह जाएगा।



उन्होंने कहा कि भारत में अगर शिक्षा सबके लिए उपलब्ध हो जाए तो विकसित देशों की फेहरिस्त में भारत जल्द ही शामिल हो जाएगा।

उन्होंने बताया कि नेशनल एसोसिएशन ऑफ सॉफ्टवेयर एंड सर्विसेज के अनुसार देश में 20 से 25 प्रतिशत स्नातक ऐसे हैं जो किसी कंपनी के लिए काम कर सकें और यह संख्या देश की जरूरत के हिसाब से कम है। अभी भी गरीबी के चलते सौ में से 88 बच्चों की पढ़ाई छूट जाती है। ऐसे में पहले हम इस खाई को पाटना होगा और इसके लिए प्राथमिक शिक्षा को बेहतर करने की आवश्यकता है।

■ इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश परीक्षा में हो रहे बदलावों के बारे में आपका क्या कहना है?

- इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश में मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय द्वारा किए जा रहे परिवर्तन की बात पूछने पर आनंद ने कहा कि अगर ऐसा होता है तो फिर से अंग्रेजी की दीवार खड़ी हो जाएगी और गरीब तबके के लिए बेहतर कर पाने के रास्ते में रोड़े आ जाएंगे।

■ देश में शिक्षा की स्थिति को कैसे सुधारा जा सकता है?

- शिक्षा की स्थिति सुधारने के लिए जरूरी है कि सभी को शिक्षा सुलभ हो। हमारे देश में 22, 480 कॉलेज तथा विश्वविद्यालय हैं जिनसे प्रति वर्ष पांच लाख स्नातक तैयार होते हैं लेकिन इनमें से बीस से पच्चीस प्रतिशत स्नातक ही किसी कंपनी में काम करने में सक्षम होते हैं और यह संख्या हमारे देश की जरूरत के अनुपात में काफी कम है। प्राथमिक शिक्षा को बेहतर कर शिक्षा से जुड़ी समस्याओं का हल निकाला जा सकता है।

■ आपके पढ़ाने का तरीका क्या है?

- एक उदाहरण से बताता हूं। मैंने मल्टीमीडिया में दो पात्र बनाए हैं एक रिककी और दूसरा भोलू। रिककी अमीर घर के बच्चे का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है और भोलू गरीब। मल्टीमीडिया प्रोजेक्टर पर जब कोई समस्या आती है तो रिककी उसे आम मैथड से बना देता है और भोलू उसे तरह तरह से सोचता है और समस्या को जनरलाइज भी करता है।

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अब केंद्रीय विवि में भी विदेशी गुरु

आईआईटी, आईआईएम की
तर्ज पर कांट्रेक्ट पर नियुक्ति को
मंत्रालय की मंजूरी मिली

मदन जड़ा

नई दिल्ली

शिक्षकों की कमी से जूझ रहे केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालयों, आईआईटी और आईआईएम में विदेशी प्रोफेसरो की कांट्रेक्ट पर नियुक्ति के रास्ते अब खुलने लगे हैं। मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय ने आईआईटी में विदेशी शिक्षकों की नियुक्ति पर सैद्धान्तिक समहति दी है। जबकि केंद्रीय विवि के मामले में फैसला इन्हीं पर छोड़ दिया गया है।

कुछ केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय इस दिशा में पहल कर भी चुके हैं। जेएनयू में करीब एक दर्जन विदेशी शिक्षक हैं। हालांकि अभी ज्यादातर शिक्षक विदेशी भाषा से जुड़े विभागों में हैं। लेकिन आने वाले समय में साइंस और अन्य तकनीकी विषयों के प्रोफेसरो की संख्या विश्वविद्यालयों में बढ़ने के आसार हैं। बता दें कि देश के कई निजी विवि में विदेशी प्रोफेसर पढ़ा रहे हैं और उन्हें खूब पसंद किया जा रहा है।

देश में अभी 40 केंद्रीय विवि हैं जिनमें शिक्षकों के करीब 36 फीसदी पद खाली हैं। नए खुलने जा रहे 14 विश्व स्तरीय इनोवेशन विवि के



प्रोफेसर के खाली पद

आईआईटी में	34.2 फीसदी
केंद्रीय विवि	36.5 फीसदी
आईआईएम	25 फीसदी
एनआईटी	33.3 फीसदी
अन्य केंद्रीय संस्थान	35.1 फीसदी

लिए भी भारी संख्या में शिक्षकों की कमी के मद्देनजर इनोवेशन विवि के विधेयक में ही स्थाई विदेशी प्रोफेसरो की नियुक्ति का प्रावधान किया जा रहा है। हाल में नार्थ ईस्टर्न हिल यूनिवर्सिटी के तत्कालीन कुलपति प्रमोद टंडन की अध्यक्षता वाली विशेषज्ञ समिति ने विवि में शिक्षकों की कमी दूर करने के लिए विदेशी प्रोफेसरो को कांट्रेक्ट पर नियुक्ति का सुझाव दिया था जिस पर मंत्रालय सहमत है।

मंत्रालय में एक उच्च अधिकारी के अनुसार, 'टंडन कमेटी की रिपोर्ट पर मंत्रालय ने सहमति प्रकट की है। वैसे कांट्रेक्ट पर अभी भी विदेशी शिक्षकों की नियुक्ति पर कोई रोक नहीं है। लेकिन असल दिक्कत उनके पैकेज को लेकर आती है क्योंकि वे ज्यादा पैकेज चाहते हैं। इसलिए विवि उन्हें

नियुक्त नहीं करते

हैं। अब स्वायत्त

संस्थानों को यह

अनुमति दी जा रही है

कि वे अपने संसाधनों

से अतिरिक्त पैकेज की

राशि चुकाकर ऐसी नियुक्तियां

कर सकते हैं।'

विज्ञान वर्ग में भी पढ़ाया जा रहा 15-20 वर्ष पुराना पाठ्यक्रम

बाइस साल से नहीं बदला इलेक्ट्रानिक्स का पाठ्यक्रम



दिनेश मणि पाठक, नई दिल्ली

बीएससी इलेक्ट्रानिक्स के पाठ्यक्रम में पिछले 22 सालों से बदलाव नहीं हुए हैं। इसी तरह

विज्ञान वर्ग के कुछ अन्य

पाठ्यक्रमों में 15 से लेकर

बीस साल तक पुराना

पाठ्यक्रम पढ़ाया जा

रहा है। इस दौरान

विज्ञान में चीजें बहुत

बदल गई हैं। कई नई

खोजें हुई हैं। छात्रों का

उनके बारे में जानना

जरूरी है। लेकिन डीयू में

ऐसे सुधारों का विरोध हो रहा

है। उन्होंने कहा कि हिंदी, इतिहास,

राजनीतिशास्त्र जैसे विषयों में पाठ्यक्रम में बदलाव भले ही देर से किया जाए लेकिन विज्ञान के पाठ्यक्रम में यह बदलाव बहुत जरूरी होता है। स्नातक स्तर पर सेमेस्टर प्रणाली लागू करना शिक्षा व्यवस्था में सुधार का ही हिस्सा है।

पाठ्यक्रमों को नए सिरे से तैयार किया जा रहा है। लेकिन यहां ऐसे शिक्षकों की डीयू में कमी नहीं है जो नया नहीं करना चाहते हैं। नया पाठ्यक्रम लागू होने पर उन्हें भी नए विषयों को पढ़ना पड़ेगा और नए नोट्स बनाने होंगे। ये शिक्षक इन्हीं जिम्मेदारियों और दायित्वों से बचना चाह रहे हैं। प्रो. पेंटल ने कहा शिक्षा को आधुनिक बनाने की जरूरत हमेशा रही है।

दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति प्रो. दीपक

पेंटल ने कहा कि शिक्षा में सुधार जरूरी

होता है। नए विषयों को यदि पाठ्यक्रम

में शामिल नहीं किया जाएगा और

छात्रों को पढ़ाया नहीं जाएगा तो हम

दुनिया में किस दम पर प्रतिस्पर्धा

करेंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि खासतौर पर

विज्ञान पाठ्यक्रमों में एक निश्चित

समय पर बदलाव किया जाना बहुत

जरूरी होता है लेकिन डीयू में कुछ

शिक्षक पाठ्यक्रम में बदलाव नहीं चाहते।

एक बातचीत में पेंटल ने कहा कि

है। उन्होंने कहा कि हिंदी, इतिहास,



वीसी का कहना है कि स्नातक स्तर पर सेमेस्टर प्रणाली लागू करना शिक्षा व्यवस्था में सुधार का ही हिस्सा है।