# Newspaper Clips
# October 29, 2010

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

## 'Cheap reading glasses may damage eyesight'

Cheap reading glasses may save you money but they could end up costing your eyesight in the long run, claims a new study. The so-called 'ready readers', which are available in high street shops for as little as £1 could cause eye strain, headaches or even blurred vision, according to the research by product-testing charity 'Which?' The arrival of the cheap glasses about ten years ago has been seen as a saviour for many. Millions of people are now buying cheap versions instead of spending over £100 for a pair of reading glasses from an optician, which might easily be lost or broken. But the latest research, involving 14 pairs from seven high street chains, found problems with half of them, the Daily Mail reported.

**Europe, Asia genomes mapped:** US researchers for the first time have develo ped a technique to sequence and compare the genomes of 179 people representing the continents of Africa, Europe and Asia, a study said. The new methods, analyzed in powerful computers, allow scientists to explore the human genome as well as similar, repetitive DNA sequences to shed more light on genetic variations among peoples. Subtle genetic variations contain clues to the diversity of mankind as well as human evolution and the development of the brain, says the study.

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# Tech power too? China supercomp fastest

## Tianhe-1A Is Capable Of Performing 2,507Tn Calculations Per Sec

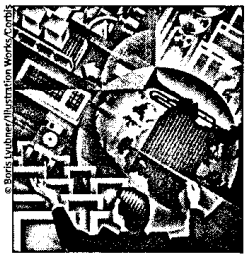
A Chinese scientific research center has built the fastest supercomputer ever made, replacing the United States as maker of the swiftest machine, and giving China bragging rights as a technology superpower.

The computer, known as Tianhe-1A, has 1.4 times the horsepower of the current top computer, which is at a national laboratory in Tennessee, as measured by the standard test used to gauge how well the systems handle mathematical calculations, said Jack Dongarra, a University of Tennessee computer scientist who maintains the official supercomputer rankings.

The Tianhe-1 machine housed at the National Center for Supercomputing in the northern port city of Tianjin is capable of sustained computing of 2.507 petaflops, the equivalent of 2,507 trillion calculations, per second.

If verified, Tianhe-1 would be significantly faster than the current title holder, the US Department of Energy's Cray XT5 Jaguar in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, which topped the list issued in June at 1.75 petaflops per second.

Officials from the Chinese research center, the National University of Defense Technology, are expected to reveal the computer's performance later on Thursday at a conference in Beijing. The center says it is "under the dual supervision of the ministry of national defense and the ministry of education."



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NUMBER CRUNCHER

The race to build the fastest supercomputer has become a source of national pride as these machines are valued for their ability to solve problems critical to national interests in areas like defense, finance and science.

Modern supercomputers are built by combining thousands of small computer servers and using software to turn them into a single entity. In that sense, any organization with enough money and expertise can buy what amount to off-the-shelf components and create a fast machine.

The Chinese system follows that model by linking thousands upon thousands of chips made by the American companies Intel and Nvidia. But the secret sauce behind the technological achievement is the interconnect, or networking technology, developed by Chinese experts that shuttles data back and forth across the smaller computers at breakneck rates. NYT & AGENCIES

# Mind control over computers a reality

**London:** In what could open up the world for people suffering from neurological disorders, scientists have developed a new machine that allows such individuals to play computer games using just the power of their thoughts.

Developed by researchers at the University of California and California Institute of Technology, the device has enabled people to move a cursor around a screen and also fade and brighten images using just their brain. The instructions are enough to play a simple computer game and could eventually allow locked-in syndrome and other brain damaged patients to communicate with the outside world.

The experts recruited 12 epilepsy patients who had sensors embedded into their brain to monitor nerve activity. They then set about training the volunteers to "exert conscious control" on individual neurons so that they could be switched on and off using just their thoughts. By picking up these "thoughts" using the sensors they could be converted into commands for a computer screen. PTI

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# Nasa mulling one-way manned Mars mission

**Washington:** It may sound like Hollywood science fiction, but Nasa is mulling a new one-way mission in which astronauts will be sent to another world such as Mars to settle there for ever.

The US space agency has confirmed that it is carrying out feasibility studies to asses whether astronauts could be sent permanently to the red planet, or its moons, to establish human colonies under the ambitious project called the "Hundred Years Starship".

The astronauts would be sent supplies from Earth on a regular basis but they would have to become self-sufficient as soon as possible. The astronauts would have to embark on the mission knowing that they would never return to earth as the cost of returning would make the project prohibitively expensive.

Speaking at a conference in San Francisco, Pete Worden, Director of Nasa's Ames Research Centre, recently said his division has received £1 funding to start work on the project. The research team has also received an additional $100,000 grant from Nasa, he said. PTI

Times of India ND
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# Pancreatic cancer grows slowly, can be detected early

**Washington:** Pancreatic cancer grows slowly, taking years and even decades to develop, a finding that offers the chance to catch it early and cure it, researchers have reported.

They said their findings confirm that one of the most lethal cancers kills not because it spreads like wildfire, but because it does not cause symptoms until it is advanced. "That provides a large window of opportunity to try to detect the presence of these cancers in the first 20 years of their existence, before they become lethal," said Bert Vogelstein of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, who helped lead the study.

"If one can do that, one can in principle cure them by surgery," Vogelstein added.

Pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest cancers, killing 95% or more of its victims within five years of diagnosis. Vogelstein's team did a kind of genetic archeological dig into pancreatic tumors.

They collected tissue samples during autopsies immediately after patients died from pancreatic cancer, as well as from three patients whose tumors were surgically removed in an attempt to save their lives.

In two papers in the journal Nature, the researchers described how they used mutations in the tumors as a "molecular clock" to time the evolution of the tumors. DNA mutates at a rate that can be calculated and the researchers already knew which mutations were caused by pancreatic cancer. REUTERS

## 'We have hundreds of flawed genes'

Humans carry up to 100 genes that are responsible for diseases such as diabetes and cancer, a new study has found. And there are about 300 genes which are so flawed that they don't work at all, according to a team of international scientists who analysed the tiny genetic differences between individuals under the "1,000 Genomes Project". PTI

Times of India ND 29-Oct-10 p-19

# For kids, texting & Facebook worse than TV?

**New York:** Let's face it: Teenagers spend hours texting, socializing on Facebook and playing videogames. And it's driving their parents nuts.

Sure, there are real dangers associated with all this screen time — everything from cyberbullying to couch-potato obesity. Not to mention driving while texting, shortened attention spans and internet porn. But many of today's parents spent hours as kids sitting in front of screens too — only they were TV screens.

## New app lets you spy on lover's text messages

Suspicious that your better half is cheating on you? You can find out for sure, provided they have an android phone. Thanks to Secret SMS Replicator, a new app released for the Android on Wednesday, suspicious daters can now spy on every text message their loved ones receive. Post installation, the app forwards all incoming text messages to whatever numbers you choose. ANI

Which raises an interesting question: Is Facebook really worse for teenagers' brains than the mindless reruns of TV programmes their parents consumed growing up?

Douglas Gentile, an associate professor at Iowa State University in Ames, who studies the effects of media on children, says texting, Facebook and videogames are not inherently bad. Nor are they inherently better or worse than watching TV. But research shows that the more time kids spend in front of screens — whether it's TV or mobiles — the worse their school performance.

Bottom line: Never mind that your kid is spending two hours on Facebook each night. As long as they do their homework without texting in between math problems, it's probably not worse than the hours you spent watching 'Star Trek'. AFP

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Hindustan Times ND 29/10/2010

# Nearing computing's holy grail

A single chip for everything is the stuff of science fiction. But a small start-up in Bangalore is working on a technology that is as good as it gets in the real world

The holy grail of computing — a single chip for everything — is the stuff of science fiction. But a small start-up incubated in the Indian Institute of Science's (IISc) Society for Innovation and Development is working on a technology that is as good as it gets in the real world.

Morphing Machines Pvt. Ltd, founded by SK Nandy, a professor at IISc's Supercomputer Education and Research Centre in Bangalore, has designed its first market-ready application in the emerging field of reconfigurable computing.

The concept of reconfigurable computing has been around since the 1960s, but efforts by countries such as Japan and the US to create applications in automobile engineering, avionics, multimedia, mobile technologies and even personal computing have not been successful.

Consider this. A firm wants to make a chip for set-top boxes. Typically, it takes eight-nine months to develop one from scratch. Say six months down the line, the firm wants to manufacture a multimedia chip for a smart phone. It would be staring at another eight-month development cycle. Enter reconfigurable computing.

"Think of it as technology that can dramatically cut down time and investment in new chip development by allowing the same hardware to be used for multiple purposes," says Ganesh Ramamoorthy, principal research analyst (semiconductor IP and design industry) at Gartner Inc.

Simply put, a new circuit can be loaded on the same chip, in effect reconfiguring it for a different purpose. With this, a chip manufacturer can simply license a reconfigurable multimedia chip design from a vendor like Morphing Machines. With some minor tweaking to the circuits, it can get both a set-top box chip and a smart phone multimedia chip to the market in four-five months.

### DECODING THE CHIP

That, then, is the technology in which firms like Intel Corp., International Business Machines (IBM), Akya Ltd, Celoxica Holdings Plc. and Panasonic Corp. have been investing for years. Success has been elusive.

When computer scientist Gerald Estrin first proposed the concept in the 1960s, implementation was tough because the idea was far ahead of the technology existing then. In the 2000s, even with better silicon technology, the heavy investments required to make reconfigurable computing work made it unviable.

So, while Morphing Machines says the worldwide market for reconfigurable computing can be pegged at about $19 billion (₹85,000 crore), Ramamoorthy says penetration is less than 1%.

Developing a reconfigurable chip is an expensive, resource-heavy exercise. A single chip requires a large number of engineers working on it. The higher the customisation or reconfigurability, the more complex the design with interoperability, power management, chip interconnections and electronic interference becoming problems.

**SIMPLY PUT, A NEW CIRCUIT CAN BE LOADED ON THE SAME CHIP, IN EFFECT RECONFIGURING IT FOR A DIFFERENT PURPOSE**

**yeswecan**

- **Morphing Machines Pvt. Ltd**
  **Started: 2007**
- **Made in India: Applications of reconfigurable computing in the field of cryptography**

**Morphing Machines is also developing applications in the field of video processing, transcoding, software defined radio, avionics and automotive using its patented platform for reconfigurable computing. REDEFINE**

This is where Morphing Machines seems to have made some headway. Any encryption program, whether in mobile phones such as the BlackBerry or email, uses a chip that can encode the information at a particular strength. A BlackBerry would use a 128-bit AES encryption key while really critical applications such as government communications would require 256-bit encryption. A single chip can only encrypt at a single strength.

With Morphing's REDEFINE platform, a single chip can be created to encrypt at any strength depending on the user's needs, without compromising on speed. This helps create highly flexible encryption solutions that are much harder to attack. The application is now in trials with clients in the government sector.

### COARSE APPROACH

REDEFINE has four patents, and research on it has been published in the peer-reviewed journal, Transactions of Embedded Computer Systems of the Association for Computing Machinery, or ACM. Additionally, the University of Tokyo and the University of Leiden, the Netherlands, have adopted it as a research vehicle for their own work.

So, how is Morphing's approach different, and is it likely to see greater success? Says Nandy, "Our approach is based on coarse-grained abstractions, as opposed to many efforts so far that have been fine-grain."

This means Morphing does not tackle the problem at the basic level of machine-language but at a higher level.

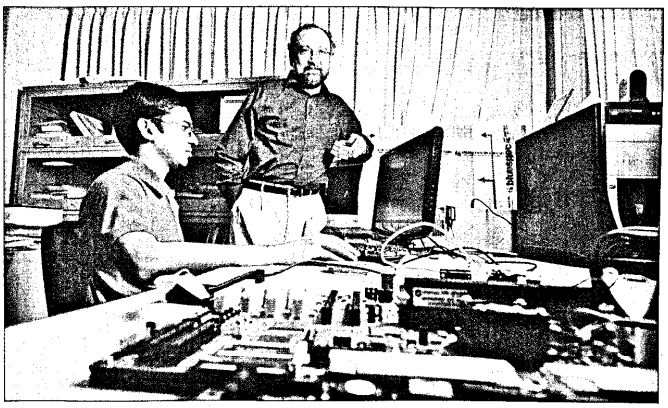
"Another common approach uses field programmable gate arrays. These are circuits that allow a client to reconfigure them the way he wants. Again, this method takes longer and is more complicated than ours," says Chandan Haldar, chief strategy officer at the three-year-old firm.

"Secondly, we have defined our problems more narrowly by focusing on a set of niche applications like cryptography and cognitive radio. The focused definition makes our solutions highly effective in each of these niches."

Morphing Machines is also developing applications in areas such as video processing, cognitive radio and transcoding. On video processing applications, Haldar says, "What we receive today in the name of hi-definition TV through our set-top boxes is often not HDTV. Real HDTV is at a resolution of 1,020 pixels but your set-top box may be incapable of rendering it, despite what the TV station transmits. Morphing Machine's chip can rest on the set-top box and reprogramme according to the resolution of the broadcast."

As of today, despite its potential, reconfigurable computing is at least three-five years away from peak adoption, says Ramamoorthy. "A lack of design tools such as embedded programmable logic blocks and the high cost of development is a cause for concern in this field," he adds. While most large chipmakers have research programmes in this area, there are few independent firms, especially in India, who are investing in the technology.

When contacted, IBM and Intel acknowledged that they had programs in the area but refused to comment further on the same.



■ S K Nandy (right), founder of Morphing Machines Pvt. Ltd, at the REDEFINE laboratory in IISc, Bangalore. HEMANT MISHRA / MINT

Every other Friday, this series chronicles technological innovation and India's rise as a global R&D hub. Read previous stories at www.hindustantimes.com/innovation

Hindustan Times ND 29/10/2010 P-10

# Yale strikes deals with IIT and IIM

**NEW DELHI:** Yale University has signed memoranda of understanding with IIT Kanpur and IIM Kozhikode to set up two centres where heads of academic institutions will be trained in modern leadership skills. The two centres will be set up at IIT Kanpur and IIM Kozhikode. The signing comes days ahead of US President Barack Obama's visit.

Hindustan Times ND
29/10/2010
P-15

# UGC CANCELS APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY

ht FOLLOW-UP

Charu Sudan Kasturi
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**NEW DELHI:** The University Grants Commission on Thursday dramatically cancelled the selection of a full-fledged secretary scheduled for Friday after stinging criticism from the HRD ministry questioning the UGC's intentions behind the proposed appointment.

The UGC sent letters of regret to all short-listed candidates who were to be interviewed on Friday for the post of secretary, in a desperate bid to firefight a controversy threatening to engulf its chairman Sukhdeo Thorat.

The turnaround came after the HRD ministry followed up its letter with an expression of unhappiness on Thursday, sources said.

The controversy surrounds the appointment of a secretary, just three months before the end of Thorat's tenure.

Two MPs and several academicians have written to the HRD ministry questioning Thorat's move.

Thorat has worked for the entirety of his five year tenure without full-fledged secretaries. The controversy reached its flashpoint when the HRD ministry on Tuesday wrote to the UGC asking why it was in a hurry to appoint a full-fledged secretary.

Hindustan Times ND
29/10/2010 P-10

# IIT alumni launch unique job scheme

Charu Sudan Kasturi
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**PUDUCHERRY:** Dusting his blue overalls, 23-year old Narendra Kumar smiled when asked what he was doing near Puducherry, 2,000 km away from his village in Jajatpur, Uttar Pradesh.

"I'm studying. I'm building my future", the class-three drop out said. Kumar and 42 other dropouts will at the end of October receive jobs as trained employees in industries that usually depend on unskilled labour.

They represent an unusual IIT success story.

Accused of not giving back to their nation enough in return for their world-class education, the umbrella organisation of alumni from all Indian Institutes of Technology has launched a unique job creation mission.

The Pan IIT Alumni Reach for India (PARFI) will form a component of the global conclave of IIT alumni starting Friday in Noida.

Pan IIT has started seven 'skills gurukuls' — where unskilled dropouts are receiving training and guaranteed jobs. It has tied up with NABARD to provide ₹6,000 loans — the fee for the one-month course — to aspirants tapped by NGOs linked with Pan IIT.

Each gurukul is started in partnership with a firm that designs the curriculum and guarantees employment. Once employed, students receive salaries starting ₹6,000 from which monthly installments are deducted from the second month for a period of six months to repay the loan.

> **We depended on contractors who brought unskilled labour. Now, we're guaranteed skilled workers without needing contractors. It's a win-win.**
> D. DEVARAJAN, URC Ltd.

The gurukuls — in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, UP and Rajasthan — cater to different skills such as construction, driving, welding and catering.

The PARFI idea emanated from a comment made by former President APJ Abdul Kalam. "He said IITians should evolve from just job seekers and become job creators. We saw this as an opportunity for the IIT alumni to give something back to India," said Hari Padmanabhan, Pan IIT president.

The nascent project is already throwing up challenges – scaling it up will not be easy, Padmanabhan conceded. At the Puducherry gurukul, four of the students enrolled in Kumar's batch dropped out, returning to their villages.

But the firms that are tying up with Pan IIT aren't complaining. "We depended on contractors who brought unskilled labour. Now, we are guaranteed skilled workers without needing contractors. It's a win-win," said D. Devarajan, joint managing director of TN-based construction major URC Ltd. which has tied up for the Puducherry school.

Hindustan Times ND 29/10/2010 P-8

# Reversing stroke damage

## BREAKTHROUGH New device helps cut brain damage up to eight hours after stroke

HT Correspondent
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**NEW DELHI:** Newer treatment techniques now make it possible for stroke patients to get treated and bounce back to health even if they reach a hospital well over the recommended three hours after having a stroke.

When Pataudi-resident Rajendra Prasad, 68, collapsed one morning, his family took him to a nearby clinic. Several tests and a large bill later, he was referred to Medanta in Gurgaon.

Prasad reached Medanta eight hours after the attack, which is considered too late to prevent permanent damage that often leads to paralysis. By then, paralysis had set in: his speech was slurred and he could not move his left side.

An MRI showed that some parts of his brain could be revived if the blood flow to his brain was restored quickly.

Since almost eight hours had passed, clot-busting drug injections, meant to be given within three hours, would not have worked. So the doctors used a device called the "penumbra" to restore blood flow to his brain.

### A PENUMBRA IS A DEVICE WITH CATHETERS THAT BREAK AND SUCK OUT THE CLOT USING SUCTION DEVICE.

"A penumbra is a device with special tubes called catheters that break and suck out the clot. We inserted the device through the leg arteries and went up to the blocked blood vessel in the brain to restore the flow," said Dr Vipul Gupta, head of neuro-intervention at Medanta, who did the intervention.

Prasad's condition improved and he started moving his left side within days. He was back to normal within two months.

"In this case, blood flow was restored eight hours after the stroke and the patient recovered completely. The penumbra can prevent disability for up to eight hours, though the sooner it is used, the lower the permanent damage," said Dr Gupta.

Treating early is vital to minimise brain damage and disability. "Awareness is low even among general physicians and people often reach specialists too late," says Dr Gupta.

# Doctors worried over rising strokes among youngsters

HT Correspondent
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**NEW DELHI:** Every six seconds one person dies of a stroke globally. Delhi, with a total population of 18 million people, has nearly 7,200 people who run the risk of having a stroke at any time.

In India, at least 4,000 people suffer a stroke every day. Of these, 1,500 die.

"On an average, 2-3 stroke patients come to AIIMS daily. At least 25 per cent of them are below 40 years old," said Dr M.V. Padma Srivastava, professor, department of neurology, AIIMS.

"We discharged a 17-year-old school boy yesterday, who was brought to us within two hours of a stroke. He could hardly speak or see, but since he was brought in time, he went home healthy," she said.

Doctors at AIIMS are worried with the incidence of rising strokes among the youngsters. "Lifestyle, environmental changes, growing pollution are the major causes for the increase. What is worrying is that people do not recognize the warning attacks," said Dr Kameshwar Prasad, professor, neurology, AIIMS.

Although the response time to stroke management has increased from 3 to 4.5 hours, the key is to reach a stroke centre quickly. "With scientific advances — energy devices that break down clots — neurologists get more time to salvage the brain," said Dr Srivasatava.

"The key word in recognising stroke symptoms is 'FAST', where the 'F' stands for 'change in facial expression', 'A' for 'weakness in the arms', 'S' for 'abnormal speech' and 'T' meaning it is 'time to rush to the hospital'," said Dr Rohit Bhatia, associate professor in the department of neurology at AIIMS.

### STROKE OF BAD HEALTH

- A stroke occurs when blood flow to the brain is blocked by clots or bleeding in the brain.
- There are two types of strokes
- Ischemic strokes are caused by a blockages in the arteries and cause 80% of attacks
- Heamorrhagic strokes occur when blood vessels in the brain rupture.

**LOWERING RISK**

- Control your blood pressure
- Don't smoke
- Drink alcohol in moderation
- Treat high cholesterol
- Control diabetes
- Exercise for an hour a day
- Visit a neurologist if you develop weakness in the face or limb, blurred vision or headaches

Indian Express ND P-6
29/10/2010

# Appointment of UGC secretary put on hold

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 28

A DAY after *The Indian Express* reported on the controversy brewing in the University Grants Commission (UGC) over the appointment process for the position of UGC secretary, the Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry has put the process on hold. The candidates who were to appear for the interview on October 29 were informed on October 28 via telegram that the interviews have been postponed indefinitely.

It is learnt that the ministry has asked that a fresh appointment process be conducted and advertisements inviting applicants be put out again. While the position of the UGC secretary has largely been vacant since 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.

With some MPs and political leaders having taken up the issue with the ministry, the latter had asked the UGC chairman to clarify the Commission's position on the issue.

Thorat refused to comment on the issue.

# IIM Lucknow to admit fewer engg students in 2011

MAULSHREE SETH
LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 28

THE Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow, has released its admission policy for 2011, resulting in some disappointment for engineers who used to comprise 85 per cent of the batch at the institute for the past few years. As per the new policy, IIM-L has introduced additional weightage of 2.5 points for candidates from non-engineering background such as medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, fine arts, journalism, commerce and law.

Himanshu Rai, chairman of admission cell, said, "We aim to bring in a diversity in our 2011 batch. Engineers should not be disappointed because they already form over 85 per cent of our batch. In order to have this diversity, we have given additional weightage to non-engineering disciplines."

This new weightage of 2.5 points for non-engineering disciplines has been given under the head "graduation profile". Over 40 non-engineering disciplines have been mentioned in the admission policy document.

Last year, graduation profile weightage was introduced only for post graduate programme in Agri-Business Management and disciplines related to agriculture. This year it has been introduced to general post graduate programme in order to reduce intake of engineers. Weightage to class 10 marks has decreased from 10 last year to 2.5 points and that of CAT has increased from 30 to 37.5 points.

An Arts student, Ankita Singh, who is one of the aspirants, said, "I am happy because students with engineering background are good with numbers, thus able to score better in CAT. Now, others will also get a chance."

Engineers, however, don't accept this argument. "What we study in engineering doesn't help in CAT because the subjects are different. It is wrong to say engineers have an advantage," said Vishal Rai, a B. Tech who is appearing for CAT this year.

## NUMBER GAME

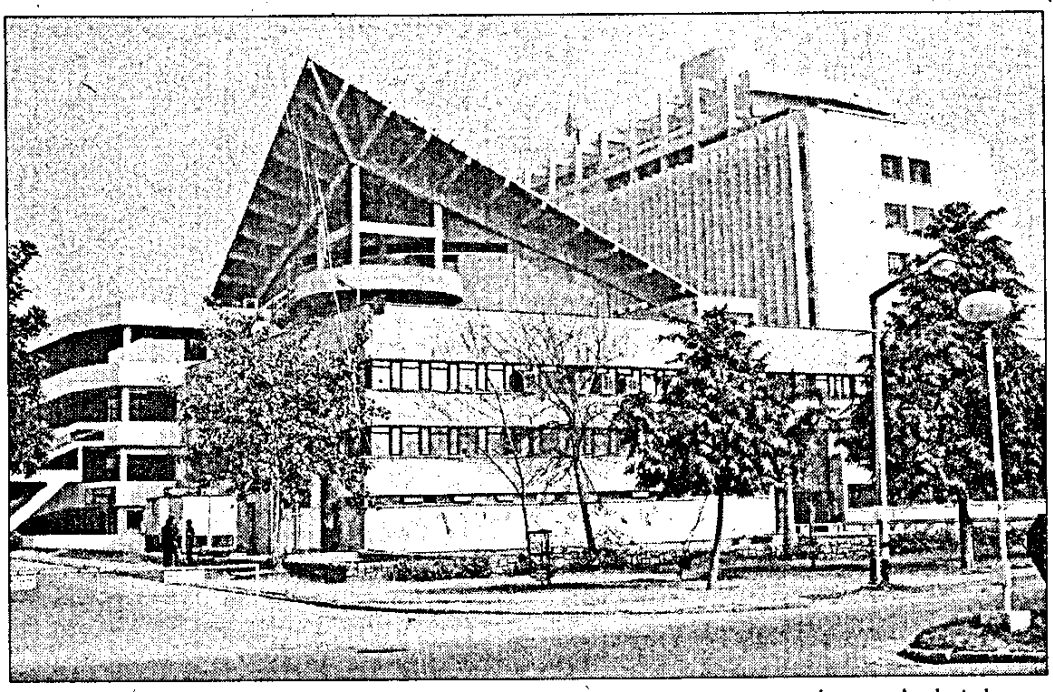
WHAT is required for admission to PG programme

- CAT aggregate: 37.5
- Class 10 marks: 2.5
- Class 12 marks: 2.5
- Graduation marks: 2.5
- Experience: 2.5 (1 point for experience between 12 to 23 months, 2 points for 24 to 35 months and 2.5 for above 36 months)
- Graduation profile: 2.5 (Architecture, Arts and Humanities, Commerce, Economics, Chartered Accountancy, Law, Medicine, Dentistry, Physical Education, Pharmacology etc)

Statesman ND 29/10/2010 P-9

# Do IITs have the capacity to expand?

**The proposed expansion will not be a step in the right direction as their brand value will get diluted, says ak ghosh**



KAPIL Sibal plans to expand the sphere of IITs by including medical education at a time when the institutions themselves are facing a severe crisis. It is feared that the proposed expansion will not be a step in right direction as their brand value will get diluted.

Nobody would dispute the fact that the educational standards of some of the reputed institutions in the country are really very high. But though as many as 15 IITs in Sibal's menu are functional, most of them do not have the required faculty and infrastructure. Many do not even have a campus. In fact, they are still trying to find their feet. Each of them was assigned a mentor institute to help in its smooth functioning.

Well, there are places like John Hopkins University, Harvard Medical School or Imperial College of London, but the fact remains that the situation does not allow IITs to follow suit right now in view of the present lack of infrastructure.

Even the ministries of health and law seem to have a lackadaisical response in regard to expansion of the activities of the IITs to include medical education. In fact, the IITs across the country are autonomous, engineering and technology-oriented institutes of higher education. With the pious aim of developing a skilled workforce, these institutions were set up to augment technological manpower. However, in the QS World University rankings, only IIT Mumbai manages to secure a place among the first 200 universities of the world. This shows the problems the IITs are facing today.

Over three decades, the IITs have been creating benchmarks in the pursuit of academic excellence in India. But the institutions today are confronted with a severe shortage of faculty. Reportedly out of 4,267 vacancies, only 2,985 have been filled. Hopefully, the Centre has come forward with two feasible measures — raise the retirement age to 70 and induct foreign academics.

A government committee set up to review the course content in higher education, in an interim report, calls for drastic changes at the PG level with stress on research to match the requirements of industry. In view of the modern technological advances, it is the duty of the government to concentrate on creating more and more technological power for our country, instead of overburdening these institutes of excellence.

Moreover, India does not face any shortage of institutes of excellence in the field of medicine. So it is desirable that the fields of medicine and technology should be kept distinct. Does it not seem to make sense to let the IITs concentrate on what they were meant to excel in? Multi-disciplinary courses might be suitable for social sciences, but the technological advancement of the nation must be brought by concentrating on engineering, technological and pure and applied sciences. The dignity of IITs must be protected against any dilution of standard.

**The author is associate professor, department of English, Gurudas College, Kolkata.**

Statesman ND 29/10/2010 P-4

## Yale pact with IIT, IIM

NEW DELHI, 28 OCT: Days before the US President, Mr Barack Obama's India visit, US university Yale signed a MoU with Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K) and the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IIT-K) to promote academic leadership in India. The flagship programme of this partnership will be a new "India-Yale University Leadership Programme," to be developed by Yale University in consultation with IIM-K and IIT-K. It will expose Indian university and academic leaders at the levels of vice-chancellor, director and deans to the best practices of academic administration and institutional management in the United States.

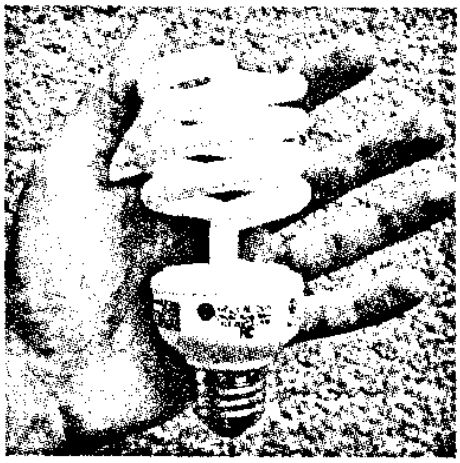
The three institutions would also engage in joint faculty research on higher education and collaborate to organise workshops and seminars on areas of academic administration and leadership. The first programmes under the agreement would take place in 2011 in New Haven, Connecticut. sns

Pioneer ND 29/10/2010 P2

# BSES, IIT-K join hands for power optimisation

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In a bid to optimise and improve the quality of power supply to the consumers, power distribution company BSES Rajdhani has joined hands with IIT-Kanpur to upgrade the existing expertise with advanced research and technology. In addition, IIT-Kanpur will also train and equip BRPL engineers. The agreement signed in Kanpur will be for a period of three years initially.



Part of the Industry-Institution Collaboration initiative, the MoU will not only facilitate cutting-edge research in the realm of power distribution, but will also enable BRPL to get expert help in resolving complex technical issues faster and more efficiently. Some of the major areas of joint-research and scope of the agreement include adaptation of new technologies, evaluation of technical loss at various existing voltage levels and suggestions for improvement. Besides, system studies and network planning, Reactive Power Optimisation and training and development of BRPL engineers will also be covered under the agreement.

"The ultimate beneficiaries of this association of BRPL with IIT-Kanpur will be the consumer. This collaboration will draw and leverage from each other's strengths and expertise. While BRPL has the domain knowledge, IIT-Kanpur has the research and development expertise," said Gopal Saxena, CEO of BRPL. The initiative will foster research that will not only benefit the BSES consumers, but the entire distribution sector as a whole, he added. The BRPL will also have the sole and exclusive rights to use the results of project studies undertaken by this association and IIT-Kanpur will use them for teaching purposes.

To achieve the desired objectives of the association, both BRPL and IIT-Kanpur will appoint one principal project investigator each for coordination of work. Assisting them will be project-specific teams. The cost of the projects will be borne by the BRPL. According to a BRPL spokesperson, the faculty members from IIT-Kanpur will guide and assist BRPL in solving its routine technical issues relating to system studies and technology upgradation. This will lead to faster resolution of complex issues.

Pioneer ND 29/10/2010 P5

# Yale, IIT, IIM team up for higher education programme

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Kozhikode; Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur and Yale University, US have entered into a partnership to advance higher education in India through academic leadership development programmes and research.

A memorandum of understanding was signed between Yale University president Richard Levin, IIM-Kozhihode director Debashis Chatterjee and IIT-Kanpur director Sanjay Dhande, in the presence of Union HRD Minister Kapil Sibal, on Thursday.

Sibal said this partnership, which will take effect from January 2011, will be sited in two new Centres of Excellence for Academic Leadership (CEAL) to be established at IIM-Kozhikode and IIT-Kanpur. The partnership will begin with a term of five years and can be renewed thereafter, he added.

A six-member committee with equal participation from the three partnering institutes will determine norms/qualifications for participating in these leadership programmes.

The flagship programme of the partnership will be a new 'India – Yale University Leadership Programme' to be developed by Yale University in consultation with IIM-Kozhikode and IIT-Kanpur. It will expose university and academic leaders in India at the levels of vice-chancellor, director and deans to the best practices of academic administration and institutional management in the US.

Yale University, IIM-Kozhikode and IIT-Kanpur would also engage in joint faculty research on higher education and collaborate to organise workshops and seminars. The first programmes would take place in 2011 in New Haven, Connecticut.

Asian Age, ND
29-Oct-10 p-5

# IIT, IIM in partnership with Yale

**AGE CORRESPONDENT**

NEW DELHI

**Oct. 28:** In a major initiative, IIT-Kanpur and IIM-Kozikhode on Thursday began a partnership with Yale University for an academic leadership programme. The initiative will provide exposure of vice-chancellors and deans to best practices of institutional management in the US.

Union human resource minister Kapil Sibal stated that the partnership was aimed at advancing the cause of higher education in the country and addressing the problem of leadership vacuum in higher education sector.

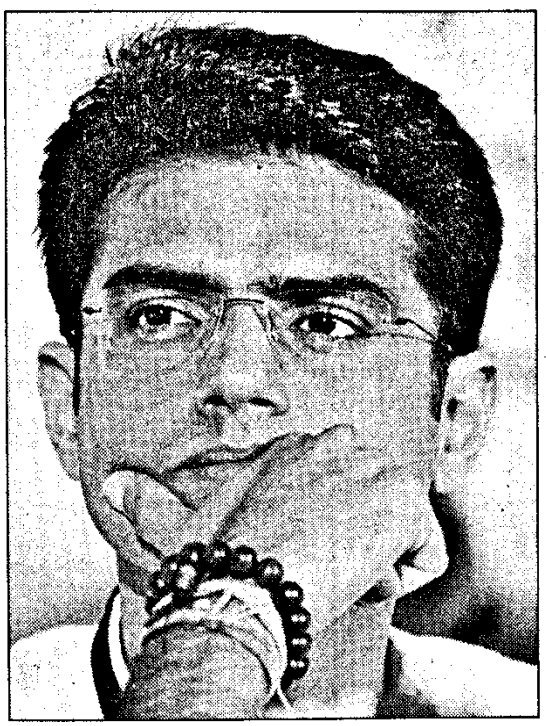
"The partnership is part of the knowledge initiative launched by Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh and President Barack Obama in 2009," the minister stated.

An MoU was between Yale University president Richard Levin, IIM Kozhikode director Debashish Chatterjee and IIT Kanpur director Sanjay Dhande in the presence of Mr Sibal to finalise the initiative. The partnership will take effect from January 2011, with provision for two new centres of excellence for academic leadership at IIM-Kozhikode and at IIT-Kanpur.

HRD minister expressed confidence that the country will certainly attract top class universities if not global brands like Yale and Harvard.

Asian Age, ND 29-Oct-10 p-11

# Tech flagship IT.biz gets off to a start



Sachin Pilot

AGE CORRESPONDENT

BENGALURU

**Oct. 28:** Bengaluru's flagship technology event BangaloreIT.biz took off on Thursday, with Union minister of state for Communications & IT Sachin Pilot doing the honours, instead of Finance minister Pranab Mukherjee, who did not attend.

The young minister had, however, some sage advice for the Indian technology industry: diversify revenue sources away from the US, where there is a growing anti-offshoring sentiment putting at risk the $60 bn Indian outsourcing industry's growth at risk; look inward to the $14 bn domestic market for IT services; and, go beyond commodified IT services into creating intellectual property to ward off rising competition from other countries.

Warning against complacency brought about by success so far, Mr. Pilot said, "IT must not be limited to software services alone but should also focus on hardware manufacturing, which can create many jobs. The demand for hardware stands at $45 billion in India today and is estimated to grow to $400 billion by 2020".

"IT must help to bridge the divide between the rich and the poor. We are making available free software downloads in 22 Indian languages to make sure that the non-English and non-Hindi speaking citizens of India do not miss out on the IT revolution. And by 2012, we will connect every Panchayat in the country with high-speed broadband access." Alluding to the anti-outsourcing sentiment coming out of the developed nations, he said "We are living in a global age where free movement of goods and services is the norm. I am confident we can mitigate the challenges arising from the anti-outsourcing sentiment over the past few months."

## Rural BPOs

Some 100 new BPOs could bloom in Karnataka by the end of the year. Sanction has already been given for 32. The state government also launched a 'ePCO' programme that will see some 5,000 ePCOs come up, equi-pped with computers and broadband access to allow citizens to pay utility bills, reserve transport tickets and avail other services online.

## Tie-up

Israel has entered into a bilateral agreement with Karnataka to share the latest technologies and cooperate in R&D projects. Keonics, on behalf of Karnataka, and MATIMOP, the Israeli industry centre for R&D, will sign the agreement shortly.

Asian Age, ND 29-Oct-10
p-5

Indian universities

# SC: Govt sanction for foreign branches must

S.S. NEGI

NEW DELHI

**Oct. 28:** When there is much clamour for the extension of the branches of Indian institutions like IITs and IIMs to foreign countries, the Supreme Court in an impotent judgment has ruled that any degree by a foreign college affiliated to an Indian University will be illegal if there is no "prior" sanction for such affiliation from the Indian government.

"The [illegible] affiliated college/institution (in foreign country) where the course of study is undergone should have prior permission of the Central government," a bench of Justices R.V. Raveendran and H.L. Gokhale ruled.

The apex court further said that any degree form such a foreign institution affiliated to an Indian university, would not either be considered a degree granted by a foreign authority or institution.

The important ruling came in a case of "Mauras College of Dentistry" established by the Mauritius government as Hospital and Oral Research Institution in their country in 2003 and affiliated to Bhavnagar University in Gujarat.

But the Mauras College had not got prior sanction from the Indian government to get it affiliated to Bhavnagar University.

After the Indian students passing out from the college faced difficulty in enrolling themselves as dentists in India and were asked by the Dental Council of India (DCI) to undergo "screening" test, they challenged it in the Gujarat high court, which directed the Indian government to grant the sanction.

However, the government issued an order in 2009 confining its recognition "specifically" to the degrees of the students of 2003-04 and 2004-05 batches.

Hindu ND 29/10/2010 P3

# AIIMS faculty an anguished lot

## Concerned over "selective" assessment promotion scheme interviews

Bindu Shajan Perappadan

**NEW DELHI:** The All-India Institute of Medical Sciences' Faculty Association members met senior Union Health Ministry officials on Thursday to express concern and anguish over the "selective" assessment promotion scheme interviews that the hospital administration is proposing to hold this coming month.

Stating that the move would leave out several faculty members who are due for promotion, an Association member said: "The hospital administration is making a mockery of the Cabinet order on the Sixth Pay Commission which should have been effective from January 1, 2006. It is being distorted by an arbitrary order issued on August 13, 2010, depriving the faculty members of the full benefits of the Pay Commission."

AIIMS Faculty Association president Dr. Manoj Singh noted: "We along with the faculty association members from PGI-Chandigarh, who are facing a similar problem, participated in the meeting and we have been assured that the problem will be looked into. We are hopeful that the problem will be sorted out and that we will not have to resort to any form of agitation."

He said the assessment promotion scheme interviews which the AIIMS administration is proposing to conduct should have been done in a manner that does not adversely affect *"inter se"* seniority.

### New rules

"Interviews should be conducted as per the new rules -- those who have completed three, four and four years at the levels of assistant, associate and additional professor respectively as per the Union Government order dated January 12, 2010, should be considered for promotion," he said.

"We want that those doctors who are eligible for promotion as on July 2010 should also be called for the interviews and that the benefits of the Sixth Pay Commission be made available to us without any compromise," added Dr. Singh.

The AIIMS Faculty Associations had earlier decided to go on agitation to press for their "long pending fair and just demands". "The administration has been showing all the delaying tactics and now we hear that the promotion and recruitment interviews are going to start from 15th of next month. Once the interviews start, all our efforts will be null and void. We had met with the health officials to put forth our point of view and are hoping that we will see some positive results," said Dr. Singh.

Hindu ND 29/10/2010 P4

# BSES, IIT-Kanpur sign MoU

Staff Reporter

**NEW DELHI:** Power distribution company BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) and Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, have signed a memorandum of understanding that will help improve the quality of power delivery to consumers. IIT-Kanpur will also equip BRPL engineers with next-generation know-how and tools.

The agreement signed in Kanpur will be for three years initially. "Part of the industry-institution collaboration initiative, the MoU will not only facilitate cutting-edge research in the realm of power distribution but also enable BRPL to get expert help in resolving complex technical issues faster and more efficiently," said a company spokesperson.

Both BRPL and IIT-Kanpur will appoint one principal project investigator each to coordinate the respective scope of work.

Hindu ND 29/10/2010 P10

# UGC postpones selection committee meeting

Special Correspondent

**NEW DELHI:** The University Grants Commission (UGC) late on Wednesday night decided to postpone the selection committee meeting scheduled on October 29 for appointing a Secretary to the Commission following objections raised by two MPs over the manner in which the chairman of the Commission was filling up the post, particularly since it was the fag-end of his tenure.

The Human Resource Development Ministry (HRD) had on Tuesday asked the UGC chairman Sukhadeo Thorat for his response over the issues raised by the MPs. It was learnt late in the night that the UGC had decided to postpone the interviews of the 16 candidates shortlisted for the post.

Two Samajwadi Party MPs — Toofani Saroj and Neeraj Shekhar — had written to the Union HRD Minister Kapil Sibal saying that the UGC chairman Sukhadeo Thorat convening the selection committee meeting now defied all logic, given that applications for the post were invited over a year ago last September.

"Holding the selection committee meeting for a post that was advertised more than a year back deprives many eligible candidates as they are denied the opportunity for being considered for the position, and is thus against the principle of natural justice," Mr. Saroj said in his letter.

Agreeing with Mr. Saroj, MP Shekhar, in his letter, added that as per the policy laid down by the Human Resource Development Ministry, even the Vice-Chancellors of Central Universities were not allowed to make appointments during the last 3-4 months of their tenure. "By the same analogy, the present chairman should be restrained from appointing a secretary at the fag-end of his tenure as the UGC chairman would complete a five-year tenure in the next three months.

This act would neither be appreciated by the academia and public at large, nor be in accordance with the rules, regulations, procedure and precedents."

The post of the UGC Secretary has been lying vacant for the past four-and-half-years, the work being handled by additional secretaries. Mr. Thorat's tenure ends in February next year. The selection committee was to interview the candidates on October 29.

against principle of natural justice

Hindu ND 29/10/2010 P15

# Superbug study authors blame poor sanitation for bacteria

Aarti Dhar

- 'Pseudomonas delhiensis was named by Indian scientists'
- 'Unregulated antibiotic use presents an immense challenge'

**NEW DELHI:** After creating a huge controversy by claiming that foreign patients who were treated in India developed antibiotic resistance, authors of the superbug New Delhi metallo-B-lactamase-1 (NDM-1) bacteria study published in the United Kingdom-based medical journal *The Lancet* now say that poor sanitation and unregulated antibiotic use presented an immense challenge and should be of great concern to the Indian health authorities and the World Health Organisation.

Responding to queries in the latest edition of the journal, the authors of the controversial study (Emergence of a new antibiotic resistance mechanism in India, Pakistan, and the UK: a molecular, biological and epidemiological study) quoted a UN report saying that 650 million people in India did not have adequate sanitation, and the sewage treatment system in Delhi struggled to cater to 50 per cent of the population.

"Such facts, coupled with India's heavy and unregulated antibiotic use, doubtlessly explain why seven of eight returning Swedish tourists experienced gut colonisation with bacteria producing extended spectrum B-lactamases (ESBLs) and why India has the highest community ESBL rate in the world," they said.

## No recognition

India has failed to recognise, let alone implement, the necessary WHO antibiotic recommendations issued in 2001. "Escheriachia coli with NFM-1 have been found as gut colonists in returning travellers (to The Netherlands, Sweden) from India, and might be transmitted via the faecal-oral route, providing a reservoir of future infection," the respondents, Timothy R.Walsh, Mark A Toleman, Jayanta B.Sarma, Seema Irfan, Neil Woodford and David, have written.

At the same time, the authors have expressed 'delight' over the efforts by the Indian authorities in developing new strategies to combat the pressing issue of antibiotic resistance. "This development, plus an open and broad engagement with the worldwide scientific community to expand resistance surveillance and to better understand risk factors for NDM-1, will assist us all in combating the problem," the article said.

## Response to criticism

In response to the major criticism from correspondents, Indian officials and hospital surgeons, and those who rejected the link to India, the authors said that this was directed at the sentence: "'It is disturbing, in context, to read calls in the popular press for U.K. patients to opt for corrective surgery in India with the aim of saving the National Health Service (NHS) money. As our data show(s), such a proposal might ultimately cost the NHS substantially more than the short-term saving and we would strongly advise against such proposals.' This quote was taken, by critics of our paper, to be a general warning against medical tourism, which currently caters for 4,50,000 patients per year, generates $2 billion per year, and is expected to increase by 30 per cent per year."

## Used earlier

On the naming of the bacteria, the authors say that NDM-1 follows nomenclature for metallo-B-lactamases that started in 1999 with VIM-1 (Verona imipenemase), and includes SPM (Sao Paulo metallo) and SIM (Seoul imipenemase). "No one objected when two research papers (including an Indian study), which were published before our article, used the NDM-1 epithet. Furthermore, Pseudomonas delhiensis was named after the capital by Indian scientists," the authors said.

The Indian Network for Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance, in its reaction to the article, has recommended mandatory surveillance of drug resistance, and said regulatory policies to control abuse of antibiotics in hospitals and communities should be strictly implemented, especially in developing countries.

Mint ND 29/10/2010 P-6

REBUILDING EFFORTS

# India to help upgrade Jaffna University

By Prashant K. Nanda & Elizabeth Roche

NEW DELHI

Sri Lanka has sought Indian assistance to upgrade the engineering department of the Jaffna University in the north of the island to speed up the specialised skill development of people—mainly Tamils—living there. The department, badly in need of a fresh injection of teaching talent and tools, due to years of civil war that raged in the island's north and east, is to be eventually be "developed into a full-fledged engineering college", Indian government officials said.

The proposal is part of a programme of the Sri Lankan government to develop the Jaffna peninsula. It was one of the main theatres of conflict at the height of the island's bloody civil war between the minority Tamils and majority Sinhalese. The second largest city after Colombo, Jaffna is regarded the cultural capital of the Tamils, before fighting escalated in the early 1980s.

India's assistance to help modernise the education facilities in the island's north and the east was discussed during the visits of Sri Lanka's minister of higher education S.B. Dissanayake and foreign minister G.L. Peiris to New Delhi recently. Among the proposals explored were getting prominent Indian professors and lecturers to teach at Sri Lankan universities, a senior government official said.

"Under the proposal, we will also help groom the engineering teachers of Jaffna University. Faculty and student exchange are also part of the plan. India will help upgrade their laboratories and most likely provide high-end equipment to the university for its engineering institute," a human resource development ministry official said, confirming the development.

As has already been announced, India is also helping Sri Lanka become a "trilingual society" with the minority Tamils learning to speak Sinhalese and the majority Sinhalese speakers learning Tamil — with both groups learning English as well. "The aim is to ensure respect for both languages so that the two ethnic groups understand each other. It will help better integration and unity in society," said the government official cited above, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "A team of officials from the human resources development ministry will be travelling to Sri Lanka soon to flesh out this idea," he said. Friction over language— especially Tamils having to learn Sinhalese to get government jobs— was one of the triggers of the civil war.

> India will help groom engineering teachers and most likely provide high-end equipment

Sri Lanka has said the rehabilitation of Tamil civilians displaced by the civil war is a priority for the government. According to foreign minister Peiris, the number of those living in relief camps at present is below 20,000, down from the almost 300,000 living there about 15 months ago.

India, whose 62 million Tamils share close cultural links with Sri Lanka's minority community, is keen to see the war-displaced resettled quickly. The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), which administers Tamil Nadu with the support of the Congress party, has been pressuring the government to lean on Sri Lanka to complete the rehabilitation of some 30,000 Tamils still living in camps and devolve more political power to them. India has already committed ₹1,000 crore for the displaced civilians and will build 50,000 houses in the war-ravaged north of the island. Foreign minister S.M. Krishna is scheduled to visit Sri Lanka in November to take stock of the rehabilitation process and the utilization of Indian funds meant for the displaced.

*prashant.n@livemint.com*

## Mint ND 29/10/2010 P-6

**KNOWLEDGE INITIATIVE**

# Yale ties up with IIT Kanpur, IIM Kozhikode

By Prashant K. Nanda
*prashant.n@livemint.com*

NEW DELHI

Days before the US President Barack Obama's India visit, Yale University on Thursday signed agreements with Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Kozhikode, and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur, to set up two centres of excellence in academic leadership to promote research and educational collaborations.

The flagship programme of the partnership will be called India-Yale University Leadership Programme, which will expose university and academic leaders in India at the levels of vice-chancellor, director, and dean to the best practices of academic administration and institutional management in the US.

The effort will be part of the Obama-Singh Knowledge Initiative launched by Obama and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh during the latter's visit to the US in November last year. "The partnership is aimed at advancing the cause of higher eduction in the country and addressing the problem of leadership vacuum in higher eduction sector," human resource development minister Kapil Sibal said. "The partnership will begin with a term of five years, and could be renewed thereafter. A six-member committee with equal participation from the three partnering institutes will determine the norms for participating in these leadership programmes."

The three institutes would also engage in joint faculty research on higher education and collaborate to organize workshops and seminars on academic administration and leadership.

Yale president Richard Levin said his institution is "pleased to undertake this important effort on higher education... We look forward to working with them to advance the cause of higher education in India".

IIM-Kozhikode director Debashis Chatterjee said the agreement will further internationalise higher education teaching and learning. "While this will globalize Indian thought leadership, it will give Indian academic leaders an edge in global usage," he added. The three institutes will also review progress in implementation of the agreements and define new areas of collaboration. They would also address issues related to fundraising by leading higher educational institutes.

An HRD ministry panel recently prepared a report that suggests IIMs should raise funds from their rich alumni the way Yale has been doing, *Mint* reported on 13 October.

The government has been sending groups of young parliamentarians to Yale University to learn leadership skills and grasp economic and political best practices for the past couple of years.

This partnership does not cover politicians.

## Economic Times, ND 29-Oct-10 p-21

# IIT Kanpur, IIM-K in pact with Yale varsity

Our Political Bureau
NEW DELHI

HUMAN resource development minister Kapil Sibal's efforts to engage top foreign universities in the country's higher education sector have finally borne fruit. Ahead of US president Barack Obama's visit to India, the Indian Institute of Technology (Kanpur), Indian Institute of Management (Kozhikode) and Yale University inked an understanding on Thursday to establish an academic leadership development programme for vice-chancellors and other members in senior positions.

The initiative was launched with the singing of an MoU between president of Yale University Richard Levin, director of IIM Kozhikode Debashish Chatterjee and director of IIT Kanpur Sanjay Dhande in the presence of the human resource development minister.

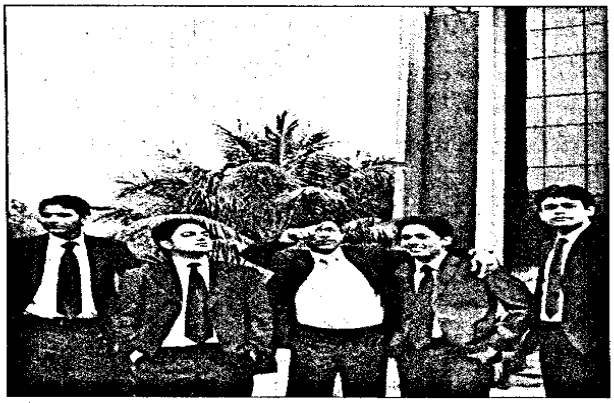
This partnership is part of the Singh Obama Knowledge Initiative launched by prime minister Manmohan Singh and president Barack Obama during Mr Singh's visit to the US in November 2009. Last December, Yale president Richard C Levin had conveyed to Mr Sibal his university's interest to partner with the Indian higher education institutes partner and "to explore ways in which we can work together that are mutually meaningful and beneficial."

Mr Sibal said that the partnership is aimed at advancing the cause of higher education in the country and "addressing the problem of leadership vacuum" in higher eduction sector.

Economic Times, ND p-12
29-Oct-10

Lucrative international offers, senior management roles among those offered to students this year

# Pre-placement offers double across IIMs



**TIME TO CHEER:** Students of IIM-C soak in the increase in pre-placement offers as the economy recovers

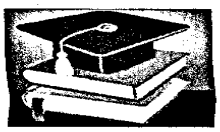
Sreeradha D Basu
KOLKATA

THE good times have returned at the country's premier management institutes as the economy gets in shape. Pre-placement offers (PPOs) for students of Indian Institutes of Management have increased by 25% to 100% over the same period last year, when the economy was in the grip of a slowdown.

Companies make PPOs to students who intern with them in summer. With corporate earnings improving and recruitments picking up, the feel-good factor has spilled over to campuses.

IIM Calcutta (IIM-C) students have received over 65 PPOs and 30 pre-placement interviews, four months before final placements. Last year, the PPO tally was 41. "A lot of firms are yet to announce PPOs, and we expect the numbers to go up. So far, the scenario looks very good," said IIM Calcutta external relations secretary Samyukktha Thirumeni.

She expects the numbers to cross the pre-slowdown days, when the PPO tally was 90-plus. Over 17% of the batch of 385 students has already received pre-placement offers.



**IT'S A FLOOD**

**Consulting firms & i-banks come calling at IIM-A. At IIM-C, students receive over 65 PPOs, four months before final placements**

The story is the same at other IIM campuses. Up to 20% of the batch at IIM Bangalore has received PPOs, says IIMB placement head Sapna Agarwal. "It shows the companies' readiness to make commitments," she adds.

Offers, which include lucrative international positions, are coming in from financial and consulting companies as well as FMCG, marketing, general management and IT firms.

Consulting firms and i-banks have predominantly offered of PPOs at IIMA. "Several marketing and general management firms such as Hindustan Unilever, Tata Administrative Services and Aditya Birla Group have also offered PPOs," says Mansi Chitalia, member, student placement committee.

While a large number of profiles remain the same, a few top management roles too have been offered to students. Dilip Krishnan of IIMC, for instance, has been offered a position of marketing head of five countries (Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand) after his internship with the Florida-based Outback Steakhouse that operates restaurant chains in 22 countries.

Winny Patro, also from IIMC, has been offered a PPO for the position of vice-president of Market Insight consultants, a market research based consultancy in India.

"Students have also received offers from firms in diverse industries such as niche consulting and media. Many companies are looking to meet a large part of their recruitment needs through the PPO route," says Chitalia.

At IIMC, consulting companies have the highest conversion ratio, with close to 90% of the interns receiving PPOs so far. "Finance and marketing firms have also offered many more PPOs compared to last year, with this change being most remarkable in the finance firms," says Thirumeni.

IIM Lucknow (IIML) students have already received over 43 PPOs, compared with 30 last year. "We expect many more in the coming months," says chairman, placements RL Raina. The companies leading the pack include McKinsey & Co, Boston Consulting Group, Hindustan Unilever, Procter & Gamble, Aditya Birla Group, Diageo and Goldman Sachs.

IIM Kozhikode students have received over eight PPOs and 26 PPIs compared with 13 PPOs and 9 PPIs last year, says students' placement committee member Chirantan Shah. Financial institutions and FMCG companies have offered most of the PPOs, he adds.

Mint ND 29/10/2010 P-12

# One chip to rule them all

HEMANT MISHRA/MINT

**Different approach:** *Morphing Machines' founder S.K. Nandy (in blue shirt) in the REDEFINE lab at IISc, Bangalore.*

**A single chip for everything is the stuff of science fiction. But a small start-up in Bangalore is working on a technology that is as good as it gets in the real world**

By Priyanka Pulla
*priyanka.p1@livemint.com*
BANGALORE

The holy grail of computing—a single chip for everything—is the stuff of science fiction. But a small start-up incubated in the Indian Institute of Science's (IISc) Society for Innovation and Development is working on a technology that is as good as it gets in the real world.

**Morphing Machines Pvt. Ltd**, founded by S.K. Nandy, a professor at IISc's Supercomputer Education and Research Centre in Bangalore, has designed its first market-ready application in the emerging field of reconfigurable computing.

The concept of reconfigurable computing has been around since the 1960s, but efforts by countries such as Japan and the US to create applications in automobile engineering, avionics, multimedia, mobile technologies and even personal computing have not been successful.

Consider this. A firm wants to make a chip for set-top boxes. Typically, it takes eight-nine months to develop one from scratch. Say six months down the line, the firm wants to manufacture a multimedia chip for a smartphone. It would be staring at another eight-month development cycle. Enter reconfigurable computing. "Think of it as technology that can dramatically cut down time and investment in new chip development by allowing the same hardware to be used for multiple purposes," says Ganesh Ramamoorthy, principal research analyst (semiconductor IP and design industry) at **Gartner Inc.**

Simply put, a new circuit can be loaded on the same chip, in effect reconfiguring it for a different purpose. With this, a chip manufacturer can simply license a reconfigurable multimedia chip design from a vendor such as Morphing Machines. With some minor tweaking to the circuits, it can get both a set-top box chip and a smart phone multimedia chip to the market in four-five months.

MADE IN INDIA

## Decoding the chip

That, then, is the technology in which firms such as **Intel Corp.**, **International Business Machines Corp.** (IBM), **Akya Ltd**, **Celoxica Holdings Plc.** and **Panasonic Corp.**, have been investing for years. Success has been elusive.

When computer scientist Gerald Estrin first proposed the concept in the 1960s, implementation was tough because the idea was far ahead of the technology existing then. In the 2000s, even with better silicon technology, the heavy investments required to make reconfigurable computing work made it unviable.

So, while Morphing Machines says the worldwide market for reconfigurable computing can be pegged at about $19 billion (around ₹85,000 crore), Ramamoorthy says penetration is less than 1%.

Developing a reconfigurable chip is an expensive, resource-heavy exercise. A single chip requires a large number of engineers working on it. The higher the customization or reconfigurability, the more complex the design, with interoperability, power management, chip interconnections and electronic interference becoming problems.

This is where Morphing Machines seems to have made some headway. Any encryption program, whether in mobile phones such as the BlackBerry or email, uses a chip that can encode the information at a particular strength. A BlackBerry would use a 128-bit AES encryption key, while really critical applications such as government communications would require 256-bit encryption. A single chip can only encrypt at a single strength.

With Morphing's REDEFINE platform, a single chip can be created to encrypt at any strength depending on the user's needs, without compromising on speed. This helps create highly flexible encryption solutions that are much harder to attack. The application is now in trials with clients in the government sector.

## YES WE CAN

**Morphing Machines Pvt. Ltd**

**Started:** 2007

**Made in India:** Applications of reconfigurable computing in the field of cryptography. Morphing Machines is also developing applications in the field of video processing, transcoding, software defined radio, avionics and automotives using its patented platform for reconfigurable computing, REDEFINE.

## Coarse approach

REDEFINE has four patents, and research on it has been published in the peer-reviewed journal, *Transactions of Embedded Computer Systems of the Association for Computing Machinery*. Additionally, the University of Tokyo and the University of Leiden, the Netherlands, have adopted it as a research vehicle for their own work.

So, how is Morphing's approach different, and is it likely to see greater success? Says Nandy, "Our approach is based on coarse-grained abstractions, as opposed to many efforts so far that have been fine-grain." This means Morphing does not tackle the problem at the basic level of machine-language, but at a higher level.

"Another common approach uses field programmable gate arrays. These are circuits that allow a client to reconfigure them the way he wants. Again, this method takes longer and is more complicated than ours," says Chandan Haldar, chief strategy officer at the three-year-old firm.

"Secondly, we have defined our problems more narrowly by focusing on a set of niche applications like cryptography and cognitive radio. The focused definition makes our solutions highly effective in each of these niches," he says.

Morphing Machines is also developing applications in areas such as video processing, cognitive radio and transcoding. On video processing applications, Haldar says, "What we receive today in the name of hi-definition TV through our set-top boxes is often not HDTV. Real HDTV is at a resolution of 1,020 pixels, but your set-top box may be incapable of rendering it, despite what the TV station transmits. Morphing Machine's chip can rest on the set-top box and reprogramme according to the resolution of the broadcast."

As of today, despite its potential, reconfigurable computing is at least three-five years away from peak adoption, says Ramamoorthy. "A lack of design tools such as embedded programmable logic blocks and the high cost of development is a cause for concern in this field," he adds. While most large chip makers have research programmes in this area, there are few independent firms, especially in India, who are investing in the technology.

When contacted, IBM and Intel acknowledged that they had programs in the area, but refused to comment further on the same.

Mint ND 29/10/2010 P-29

# Chinese supercomputer likely to prompt unease in U.S.

*China's system can perform operations 40% higher than the mark set by the U.S.*

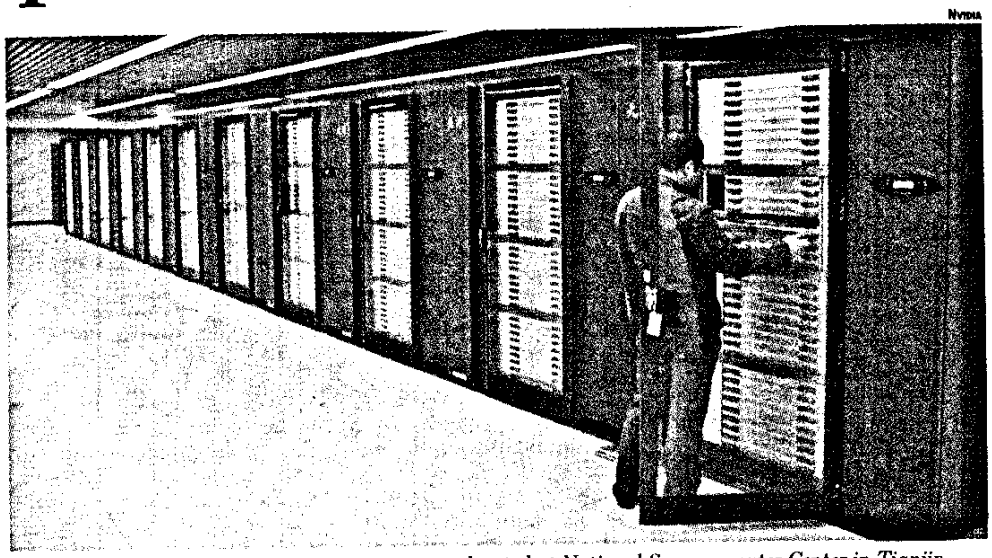
By Don Clark

A newly built supercomputer in China appears poised to take the world performance lead, another sign of the country's growing technological prowess that is likely to set off alarms about U.S. competitiveness and national security.

The system was designed by China's National University of Defense Technology and is housed at the National Supercomputing Center in the city of Tianjin. It is part of a new breed that exploits graphics chips more commonly used in playing videogames—supplied by **Nvidia Corp.**—as well as standard microprocessors from **Intel Corp.**

Supercomputers are massive machines that help tackle the toughest scientific problems, including simulating commercial products like new drugs as well as defense-related applications such as weapons design and breaking codes.

The field has long been led by U.S. technology companies and national laboratories, which operate systems that have consistently topped lists of the fastest machines in the world. But Nvidia says the new system in Tianjin—which is being formally announced Thursday at an event in China—was able to reach 2.5 petaflops. That is a measure of calculating speed ordinarily translated into a thousand trillion operations per second. It is more than 40% higher than the mark set last June by a system called Jaguar at Oak Ridge National Laboratory that previously




**Performance check:** *The Tianhe-1A Supercomputer, located at National Supercomputer Center in Tianjin, China, is one of the fastest such computers in the world.*

WSJ ON CHINA

stood at No. 1 on a twice-yearly ranking of the 500 fastest supercomputers.

"I don't know of another system that is going to be anywhere near the performance and the power of this machine" in China, said Jack Dongarra, a supercomputer expert on the Oak Ridge research staff who is a professor at the University of Tennessee and recently inspected the system in Tianjin last week. "It is quite impressive."

The development was not altogether unexpected. China placed 24 systems in the so-called Top 500 supercomputer ranking last June; a system called Nebulae, for example, took second place that also used chips from Nvidia and Intel. But Mr. Dongarra and other researchers said the machine should nevertheless serve as a wake-up call that China is threatening to take the lead in scientific computing—akin to a machine from Japan that took the No. 1 position early in the past decade and triggered increased U.S. investment in the field.

"It's definitely a game-changer in the high performance market," said Mark Seager, chief technology officer for computing at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. "This is a phase transition, representative of the shift of economic competitiveness from the West to the East."

Nearly all components of the high-profile Japanese system, called the Earth Simulator, were created in Japan. By contrast, most of the Tianjin system relies on chips from Intel and Nvidia, which are both based in Santa Clara, California. So U.S. customers could presumably construct a system with similar performance, noted Horst Simon, deputy lab director at Lawrence Berkeley Lab. But Mr. Dongarra noted that communications chips inside the machine were proprietary and designed in China, and the country is also working on its own microprocessors.

Moreover, while the Japanese system was a single machine, Tianjin is part of a multi-year strategy by China to develop a range of machines to create a dominant position in both military and commercial applications. "In that sense, I would say this is a much more important event than the Earth Simulator," Mr. Simon said.

The new supercomputer will be operated as an "open access" system, available to other countries outside of China to use for large scale scientific computation, said Ujesh Desai, an Nvidia vice president of product marketing.

It reflects a major design shift to use graphics chips to help accelerate the number-crunching functions most often carried out by so-called x86 chips, which evolved from personal computers and have long dominated supercomputing. Advanced Micro Devices, which makes both graphics chips and x86 microprocessors, is another company besides Nvidia that is promoting the technology shift.

*—wsj@livemint.com*

Business Line
ND 29/10/2010
p-23

# Delhi discom, IIT-Kanpur ink tech pact

**Our Bureau**

*New Delhi, Oct. 28*

BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd (BRPL), which operates one of the three distribution zones in Delhi, and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur, have entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU).

The primary focus of the partnership will be to further optimise and improve the quality of power delivery to the consumers leveraging next-generation research and technology, a BSES release said. In addition, IIT-Kanpur will train and equip BRPL engineers with next-generation knowledge and tools.

The agreement, signed in Kanpur, will be for a period of three years.

"The MoU will not only facilitate cutting-edge research in the realm of power distribution, but will also enable BRPL to get expert help in resolving complex technical issues faster and more efficiently," the statement said.

Dainik Bhaskar ND
29/10/2010 p-3

# आईआईटी विशेषज्ञ दिलाएंगे बिजली चोरी से निजात

**भास्कर न्यूज़. नई दिल्ली** | राजधानी के विभिन्न इलाकों में हो रही बिजली चोरी को रोकने और बिजली आपूर्ति के दौरान पारेषण घाटे को कम करने के लिए अब बीएसईएस राजधानी, आईआईटी कानपुर के विशेषज्ञों की मदद लेगा। यह विशेषज्ञ कंपनी को पारेषण के अलावा बिजली चोरी का पता लगाने में भी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएंगे और कंपनी के इंजीनियर्स को भी प्रशिक्षण देंगे। अचानक बिजली की कटौती अथवा सिस्टम की समस्या को दूर करने की तकनीकी भी बताएंगे। समझौते के तहत बिजली के क्षेत्र में नए रिसर्च किए जाएंगे। हालांकि इस रिसर्च के नतीजे पर कंपनी का अपना अधिकार होगा। दूसरी ओर, आईआईटी के छात्रों को रिसर्च के लिए कंपनी का सहयोग मिलेगा। शुरुआती दौर में यह समझौता अगले तीन सालों के लिए किया गया हैं। ज्ञात हो कि इसी तरह का समझौता बीएसईएस यमुना और आईआईटी दिल्ली के बीच पहले ही हो चुका है और कंपनी का दावा है कि समझौते से कंपनी को खासा लाभ हुआ है, हालांकि इसकी रिपोर्ट आने में अभी देर है। कंपनी के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी गोपाल सक्सेना का कहना है कि बेहतर बिजली की आपूर्ति के लिए ही आईआईटी कानपुर के साथ समझौता किया गया है। इस समझौते से दोनों संस्थाओं को फायदा होगा ही साथ-साथ एक-दूसरे की विशेषज्ञता का लाभ भी उठा पाएंगे। इस बाबत दोनों संस्थाओं ने एक-एक प्रिंसिपल प्रोजेक्टर इंवेस्टिगेटर को नियुक्त करेंगे।

Amar Ujala ND
29/10/2010 p-4

# आईआईटी कानपुर में प्रशिक्षित होंगे इंजीनियर्स

नई दिल्ली। आईआईटी कानपुर और बीएसईएस राजधानी पावर लिमिटेड के बीच एक समझौता हुआ है। आईआईटी कानपुर बीआरपीएल इंजीनियर्स को प्रशिक्षण देगा। यही नहीं, गंभीर तकनीकी मुद्दों को सुलझाने में भी मदद करेगा। इससे बीआरपीएल इंजीनियर्स अपने काम में आधुनिक तकनीक का इस्तेमाल कर सकेंगे।

बिजली वितरण कंपनी और तकनीकी संस्थान के बीच हुआ, अपनी तरह का एक अलग समझौता है। शुरुआती चरण में यह समझौता तीन वर्ष के लिए किया गया है। कुछ महीने पहले, बीवाईपीएल और आईआईटी दिल्ली के बीच भी इसी तरह का एक समझौता हुआ था। समझौते के तहत बिजली कंपनी और आईआईटी कानपुर नई तकनीक की खोज, तकनीकी घाटे में और कमी लाने के तरीकों की खोज, सिस्टम स्टडीज और नेटवर्क प्लानिंग और बीआरपीएल इंजीनियरों को प्रशिक्षण और उनके विकास के क्षेत्र में काम करेगी। बीआरपीएल के सीईओ गोपाल सक्सेना ने बताया कि आईआईटी कानपुर के साथ समझौते से सबसे अधिक लाभ उपभोक्ताओं को होगा।

Amar Ujala ND 29/10/2010 p-7

# आईआईटी की लैब में ऑनलाइन प्रयोग

## जीएल बजाज में वर्चुअल लैब का शुभारंभ

● अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

● दस छात्र चौबीसों घंटे कर सकेंगे विभिन्न प्रैक्टिकल

ग्रेटर नोएडा। एजुकेशन हब के छात्रों को दिवाली से पहले एक और खुशी का मौका मिला है। अब छात्र आईआईटी की स्टेट ऑफ द आर्ट लैब में ऑनलाइन प्रयोग कर सकेंगे। ग्रेटर नोएडा में जीएल बजाज इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी एंड मैनेजमेंट को वर्चुअल लैबोरेटरी शुरू करने वाला पहला केंद्र और नोडल सेंटर बनाया गया है। बृहस्पतिवार को इसका शुभारंभ किया गया।

कॉलेज पार्क तीन स्थित जीएलबीआईटीएम के निदेशक डॉ. राजीव अग्रवाल ने बताया कि मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के आईसीटी द्वारा शिक्षा प्रदान करने के राष्ट्रीय मिशन का यह एक महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है। इसमें आईआईटी के सहयोग से तकनीकी संस्थानों के छात्रों को प्रायोगिक ज्ञान मुहैया कराया जा रहा है। इसके लिए दस विशेष कंप्यूटर स्थापित किए गए हैं। इनमें छात्र एडवांस में स्लॉट बुक कराकर प्रयोग कर सकेंगे। सिमुलेशन आधारित इस प्रयोगशाला में छात्रों को विशेषज्ञों से प्रयोग की अवधारणा, प्रयोगविधि, गणनाओं के ढंग, निरीक्षण, सावधानियां समेत जरूरी बातें बताई जाएंगी। इसमें संस्थान के अलावा अन्य संस्थानों के छात्र भी निर्धारित आवेदन करने के बाद प्रयोग कर सकेंगे।

वर्चुअल लैब का शुभारंभ करते हुए आईआईटी दिल्ली केयर और संचालक प्रो. अभय गांवकर ने कहा कि यह तकनीकी छात्रों में प्रायोगिक ज्ञान की बढ़ोतरी करेगा। देश के तमाम ऐसे तकनीकी संस्थान हैं, जिनमें प्रयोगशालाओं की कमी के अलावा तमाम जरूरी संसाधन नहीं होते। इसके चलते इंजीनियरिंग के छात्र किताबी रूप से तो बीटेक डिग्री पा लेते हैं लेकिन उन्हें आवश्यक प्रायोगिक ज्ञान नहीं होता।

Amar Ujala ND
29/10/2010 p-16

# आईआईटी में तैयार होंगे ऐकेडमिक लीडर

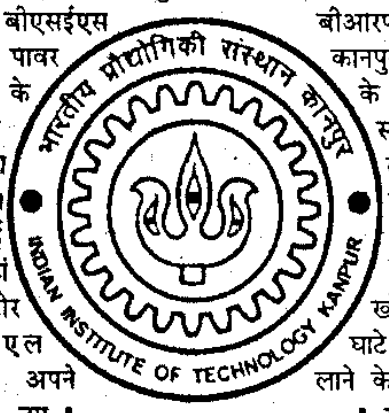
नई दिल्ली (ब्यूरो)। आईआईटी कानपुर और आईआईएम कोझीकोड अमेरिका के येल विश्वविद्यालय के साथ मिलकर भारतीय उच्च शिक्षा क्षेत्र को वैश्विक मांग के अनुरूप ढालने वाले लीडर तैयार करेंगे। इसके लिए ऐकेडमिक लीडरशिप कार्यक्रम विकसित करने के अलावा अनुसंधान पर विशेष जोर दिया जाएगा।

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल की मौजूदगी में बृहस्पतिवार को आईआईटी कानपुर के निदेशक डॉ. संजय धांडे और आईआईएम कोझीकोड के निदेशक डॉ. देबाशीष चटर्जी ने येल विश्वविद्यालय के अध्यक्ष रिचर्ड केविन के साथ इस आशय के सहमति पत्र पर हस्ताक्षर किए। सिब्बल ने बताया कि यह भागीदारी जनवरी 2011 से प्रभावी होगी और पांच साल तक रहेगी। इसके बाद जरूरत के मुताबिक समय बढ़ाया जा सकता है।

Desh Bandhu ND
29/10/2010
P-4

# आईआईटी बीआरपीएल को देगा प्रशिक्षण

नई दिल्ली, 28 अक्टूबर (देशबन्धु)। बेहतर कार्यकुशलता के लिए आईआईटी कानपुर बीआरपीएल इंजीनियर्स को प्रशिक्षण देगा। यही नहीं गंभीर तकनीकी मुद्दों को सुलझाने के लिए भी देश का यह उच्च तकनीकी शिक्षण संस्थान बीआरपीएल की मदद करेगा। इस संबंध में आईआईटी कानपुर और बीएसईएस राजधानी पावर लिमिटेड के बीच एक समझौता हुआ है। इस नई पहल से जहां एक ओर बीआरपीएल इंजीनियर्स अपने काम में नए जमाने की तकनीक व ज्ञान का बेहतर इस्तेमाल कर पाएंगें, वहीं दूसरी ओर तकनीकी समस्याओं का समाधान भी तेजी से होगा। समझौते के तहत बिजली व्यवस्था को और बेहतर बनाने की दिशा में काम किया जाएगा और नई रिसर्च पर फोकस किया जाएगा। रिसर्च और प्रोजेक्ट स्टडीज के जो नतीजे सामने आएंगे उनपर बीआरपीएल का अधिकार होगा और संस्थान इसका प्रयोग पढ़ाई के मकसद से कर सकेगा। किसी वितरण कंपनी और तकनीकी संस्थान के बीच हुआ यह अपनी तरह का अनोखा समझौता है, जिसका दायरा इतना बड़ा है। शुरुआती चरण में यह समझौता तीन वर्ष के लिए किया गया है। इससे पहले आईआईटी दिल्ली और बीआरपीएल के बीच एक समझौता हो चुका है जिसके बेहतर परिणाम सामने आ रहे हैं।




बीआरपीएल और कानपुर आईआईटी के बीच हुए समझौते के तहत नई तकनीक की खोज,तकनीकी घाटे में और कमी लाने के तरीकों की खोज, सिस्टम स्टडीज और नेटवर्क प्लानिंग व बीआरपीएल इंजीनियरों को प्रशिक्षण और उनका विकास क्षेत्रों में काम किया जाएगा। बीआरपीएल के सीईओ गोपाल सक्सेना ने बताया कि यह समझौता नई तकनीक इस्तेमाल करने की बीएसईएस की प्रतिबद्धता को एक बार फिर रेखांकित करता है। दोनों संस्थानों के एक साथ आने से उपभोक्ताओं को फायदा होगा। उन्होंने बताया कि इससे दोनों संस्थानों को भी फायदा होगा और वे एक दूसरे की विशेषज्ञता का लाभ उठा पाएंगे।

■ गंभीर तकनीकी मुद्दों को सुलझाने के लिए संस्थान बीआरपीएल की करेगा मदद

Hindustan ND 29/10/2010 P5

# बीआरपीएल के इंजीनियर को प्रशिक्षण देगा आईआईटी कानपुर

कार्यालय संवाददाता

नई दिल्ली

आईआईटी कानपुर बीआरपीएल के इंजीनियरों को प्रशिक्षण देगा। प्रशिक्षण देने के साथ-साथ गंभीर तकनीकी मुद्दों पर यह संस्थान मदद करेगा। आईआईटी कानपुर और बीएसईएस राजधानी पावर लिमिटेड के बीच एक समझौता हुआ है। इस नई पहल से जहां एक ओर बीआरपीएल इंजीनियर अपने काम में नए जमाने की तकनीक व ज्ञान का बेहतर इस्तेमाल कर पाएंगे वहीं दूसरी ओर तकनीकी समस्याओं का समाधान तेजी से होगा।

समझौते के तहत बिजली व्यवस्था को और बेहतर बनाने की दिशा में काम किया जाएगा और नई रिसर्च पर फोकस होगा। रिसर्च और प्रोजेक्ट स्टडीज के जो भी नतीजे सामने आएंगे, उस पर बीआरपीएल का एकाधिकार रहेगा लेकिन आईआईटी कानपुर पढ़ाई के उद्देश्य से उसका उपयोग कर सकता है। किसी बिजली वितरण कंपनी और तकनीकी संस्थान के बीच हुआ संभवतः यह अपनी तरह का अनोखा समझौता है जिसका दायरा काफी व्यापक है। शुरुआती चरण में यह समझौता तीन वर्षों के लिए किया गया है।

ज्ञातव्य है कि कुछ महीने पहले बीवाईपीएल और आईआईटी दिल्ली के बीच भी इसी तरह का एक समझौता हुआ था जिसके बेहतर परिणाम सामने आ रहे हैं। नवीनतम समझौते के तहत मुख्यतः नई तकनीक की खोज, तकनीकी घाटे में और कमी लाने के तरीकों की खोज, सिस्टम स्टडीज व नेटवर्क प्लानिंग, बीआरपीएल इंजीनियरों को प्रशिक्षण और उनका विकास क्षेत्र में काम किया जाएगा।

Hindustan ND 29/10/2010 P10

# पैन आईआईटी शुरू

कार्यालय संवाददाता
नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली आईआईटी में गुरूवार को पैन आईआईटी की राउंड टेबुल कांफ्रेंस का आयोजन किया गया। इस अवसर पर प्रधानमंत्री के सलाहकार सैम पित्रोदा, मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय की सचिव विभा पुरी दास, एनआईआईटी के सीईओ विजय थडानी, आईआईटी दिल्ली के निदेशक सुरेंद्र प्रसाद आदि मौजूद थे।

प्रधानमंत्री के सलाहकार डा. सैम पित्रोदा ने कहा कि सतत आर्थिक विकास के लिए आवश्यक है कि शैक्षिक सुधार लगातार किए जाए। वर्तमान शैक्षिक सिस्टम में तमाम खामियां है। ऐसे में हमें सिस्टम में लगातार सुधारने की आवश्यकता है। राउंडटेबुल में मशहूर शिक्षाविद् और बिजनेस लीडर ने अपने अनुभव बांटे।

डा. पित्रोदा ने कहा कि राष्ट्रीय ज्ञान आयोग ने वर्तमान एजुकेशन सिस्टम को फिर से संरचनागत करने की बात कही थी। 2 बिलियन डॉलर का राष्ट्रीय ज्ञान नेटवर्क सभी संस्थानों को जोड़ता है और विश्वविद्यालय विभिन्न रिसर्च संस्थानों को बेहतर जानकारी प्रदान करने के बारे में आश्वस्त करता है। पैन आईआईटी में पंचरत्ना को रिलीज किया है। यह एक व्हाइट पेपर था जो कि शोध, सहयोग और बेहतर गर्वनेस के द्वारा उच्च शिक्षा को प्रमोट करता है। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय की सचिव विभा पुरी दास ने कहा कि कारपोरेट और सरकार को साथ मिलकर काम करने की आवश्यकता है ताकि रोजगार की बेहतर संभावनाएं बनाई जा सकें।

आईआईटी निदेशक सुरेंद्र प्रसाद ने कहा कि आईआईटी लगातार शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में बेहतर काम कर रहे हैं। पर हमें अपने ज्ञान को और लोगों तक अधिक से अधिक पहुंचाने की आवश्यकता है। गौरतलब है कि आईआईटी दिल्ली इस वर्ष अपनी स्वर्ण जयंती बना रहा है।

Hari Bhumi ND 29/10/2010 p-3

# सुपर-30 का आईआईटी में एक और कदम!

नई दिल्ली (ओ.पी.पाल)। आईआईटी में गरीब परिवारों के मेधावी छात्रों को मुफ्त प्रशिक्षण देकर उन्हें सफलता की मंजिल हासिल कराने वाली शैक्षणिक संस्था सुपर-30 ने दुनियाभर में प्रसिद्धि हासिल करने के बाद एक और कदम बढ़ाने का निर्णय लिया है, जिसमें यह संस्था अब एक ऐसा स्कूल आरंभ करने की योजना बना रही है, जिसमें पांचवीं कक्षा से ही बच्चों को आईआईटी के लिए प्रशिक्षित किया जा सके।

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिक संस्थानों यानि आईआईटी में गरीब परिवारों के मेधावी छात्रों का दाखिला दिलाने के लिए निशुल्क प्रशिक्षित करती आ रही शैक्षणिक संस्था सुपर-30 प्रत्येक वर्ष गरीब परिवारों के 30 मेधावी छात्रों का प्रशिक्षण के लिए चयन करती है, जिसमें अब उसे बढ़ती संख्या को देखते हुए इस चयन में परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। इस संस्था के संस्थापक आनंद कुमार ने इसके लिए एक नया तरीका निकाला है। इस कदम को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए उन्होंने एक योजना तैयार की है जिसमें एक ऐसी शिक्षण संस्थ आरंभ की जाएगी, जिसमें पांचवीं कक्षा से ही बच्चों को आईआईटी के लिए प्रशिक्षित किया जा सके। पटना स्थित इस संस्था सुपर-30 के संस्थापक आनंद कुमार का कहना है कि गरीबी के कारण अधिकांश बच्चों निचली कक्षाओं में ही स्कूल छोड़ देते हैं। इसकी वजह से देश न जाने कितने प्रतिभाओं को खो देता उसकी कोई गिनती नहीं है। आनंद मानते हैं कि आज हमें 30 बच्चों को खोजने में कठिनाई आ रही है। यदि हम पांचवीं कक्षा से ही बच्चों को प्रशिक्षित करने लगे तो हमारे पास प्रतिभावान छात्रों की कोई कमी नहीं रहेगी और उन्हें हम स्कूली जीवन से ही आईआईटी के लिए प्रशिक्षित कर सकेंगे। इस लिहाज से हमारी योजना 'स्कूल फॉर फ्यूचर प्लानिंग' खोलने की है, जिसमें गरीब परिवारों के मेधावी छात्रों की पहचान कर उन्हें पांचवीं कक्षा से ही आईआईटी के लिए तराश जा सके। इसके कई फायदे होंगे, जिसमें उन छात्रों को प्लेटफार्म मिल जाएगा जो निचली कक्षाओं में ही स्कूल छोड़ने को मजबूर हो जाते है, वहीं दूसरा यह कि कुछ सालों बाद हमें मेधावी छात्रों को खोजने में कठिनाई नहीं होगी, क्योंकि जब बच्चों को पांचवीं कक्षा से ही प्रशिक्षित किया जाएगा तो वे निश्चित तौर पर आगे का अपना रास्ता आसान कर लेंगे।

आनंद कुमार आईआईटी को बढ़ावा देने के लिए एक किताब भी लिखने जा रहे हैं, जिसके लिए एक विदेशी प्रकाशक से बातचीत जारी है। इस संस्था का मकसद है कि गरीब परिवारों के बच्चे उच्च तकनीकी शिक्षा हासिल करें और उनके इस प्रयास से इस क्षेत्र में बच्चों में जागरूकता देखने को मिल रही है।

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# IIT कानपुर, IIM कोझीकोड का येल से करार

## समझौते के तहत भारत के दोनों संस्थानों में एकेडमिक लीडरशिप सेंटर स्थापित किए जाएंगे, जनवरी से लागू पार्टनरशिप करार 5 साल के लिए

ईटी ब्यूरो
नई दिल्ली

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल की लोकप्रिय विदेशी विश्वविद्यालयों को देश में लाने की कोशिशों ने आखिरकार रंग दिखाना शुरू कर दिया है। अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति बराक ओबामा के भारत दौरे से पहले भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, कानपुर (आईआईटी), भारतीय प्रबंधन संस्थान, कोझीकोड और येल यूनिवर्सिटी ने गुरुवार को एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए। इसका मकसद कुलपतियों और उच्च शिक्षा जगत के बाकी सदस्यों के लिए लीडरशिप डेवलपमेंट प्रोग्राम तैयार करना है।

केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन मंत्री की मौजूदगी में येल यूनिवर्सिटी के रिचर्ड लेविन, आईआईएम कोझीकोड के देवाशीष चटर्जी और आईआईटी कानपुर के डायरेक्टर संजय धांडे ने इस संबंध में सहमति पत्र (एमओयू) पर हस्ताक्षर किए। यह पार्टनरशिप सिंह ओबामा नॉलेज संबंधी कार्यक्रम के तहत की गई है, जिसे नवंबर 2009 में प्रधानमंत्री मनमोहन सिंह की अमेरिकी यात्रा के दौरान भारतीय प्रधानमंत्री और अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति ने मिलकर लॉन्च किया था। पिछले साल दिसंबर में येल यूनिवर्सिटी के प्रेसिडेंट रिचर्ड सी लेविन ने सिब्बल को यह संदेश दिया था कि उनकी यूनिवर्सिटी भारतीय उच्च संस्थानों के साथ मिलकर कुछ ऐसा काम करना चाहती है, जो दोनों पक्षों के लिए लाभदायक और सार्थक हो। सिब्बल ने कहा कि इस पार्टनरशिप के जरिए देश में उच्च शिक्षा को बढ़ावा देना और इस सेक्टर में नेतृत्व में खालीपन की समस्या को भरने में मददगार साबित होगा। इस मौके पर लेविन ने कहा, 'आईआईएम कोझीकोड और आईआईटी कानपुर के साथ इस समझौते से येल को काफी प्रसन्नता महसूस हो रही है। हमें उम्मीद है कि इस समझौते के जरिए भारत में उच्च शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में प्रगति का मार्ग प्रशस्त होगा और इसके अलावा हमें भी सीखने को मौका मिल सकेगा।'

> **रिचर्ड लेविन,**
> आईआईएम कोझीकोड और आईआईटी कानपुर के साथ इस समझौते से येल को काफी प्रसन्नता महसूस हो रही है। हमें उम्मीद है कि इस समझौते के जरिए भारत में उच्च शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में प्रगति का मार्ग प्रशस्त होगा और इसके अलावा हमें भी सीखने को मौका मिल सकेगा

यह पार्टनरशिप जनवरी 2011 से लागू होगी। इसका कार्यकाल 5 साल का होगा और इसे फिर से रिन्यू भी किया जा सकता है। इसके तहत आईआईएम कोझीकोड और आईआईटी कानुपर में एकेडमिक लीडरशिप सेंटर स्थापित किए जाएंगे। सिब्बल ने कहा कि तीनों संस्थानों से मिलकर बनाए गए 6 सदस्यों की कमेटी इन लीडरशिप कार्यक्रमों में शामिल होने के लिए दिशानिर्देश/योग्यता तय करेगी। लेविन ने बताया कि शुरुआती दौर में इस कार्यक्रम को बड़े पैमाने पर लागू किया जाएगा और इसके जरिए 30 से 40 कुलपतियों को ट्रेनिंग दी जाएगी। येल यूनिवर्सिटी के प्रेसिडेंट ने फॉरेन यूनिवर्सिटीज बिल पेश करने के लिए भी भारत सरकार की काफी तारीफ की। हालांकि उन्होंने साफ किया कि येल का भारत में कैंपस स्थापित करने का कोई इरादा नहीं है। उन्होंने कहा, भारत में विदेशी विश्वविद्यालयों की स्थापना, उच्च शिक्षा में सुधार और इनोवेटिव संस्थानों जैसे कदमों के मेलजोल से यहां उच्च शिक्षा को बढ़ावा देने में मदद मिलेगी। मैं कपिल सिब्बल की योजनाओं का पुरजोर समर्थन करता हूं और मुझे उम्मीद है कि वह अपने एजेंडा में कामयाब होंगे।

Rashtriya Sahara
ND 29/10/2010
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# आईआईटी कानपुर में प्रशिक्षित होंगे बीएसईएस के इंजीनियर

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। राजधानीवासियों को बेहतर बिजली आपूर्ति की व्यवस्था कराने के लिए बीएसईएस अपने इंजीनियरों को आईआईटी कानपुर में प्रशिक्षण दिलाएगी। इससे इंजीनियर बिजली समस्याओं का जल्द समाधान कर सकें और उपभोक्ताओं को परेशानी से मुक्ति मिल सके।

आईआईटी कानपुर और बीएसईएस राजधानी के मध्य यह समझौता तीन वर्ष के लिए हुआ है। इसके तहत बीएसईएस इंजीनियरों को नई तकनीक की खोज, घाटे में कमी लाने के तरीकों की खोज, सिस्टम स्टडीज और नेटवर्क प्लानिंग का प्रशिक्षण दिया जाएगा। बीएसईएस के सीईओ गोपाल सक्सेना ने बताया कि आईआईटी कानपुर के साथ हुए समझौते के तहत इंजीनियरों को प्रशिक्षण दिया जाएगा। इसका लाभ उपभोक्ताओं को होगा। आईआईटी कानपुर रिसर्च डेवलपमेंट क्षेत्र में विशेषज्ञ है।

सक्सेना ने बताया कि समझौते से वितरण क्षेत्र में आमूलचूल परिवर्तन आएगा। समझौते के बेहतर परिणाम सामने आएं, इसके लिए बीआरपीएल और आईआईटी कानपुर दोनों एक-एक प्रिंसिपल प्रोजेक्ट इंवेस्टीगेटर को नियुक्त करेंगे और विभिन्न प्रोजेक्ट के लिए अलग-अलग टीमें बनाई जाएंगी। यह टीमें प्रोजेक्ट इंवेस्टिगेटर्स की मदद करेगी।