

Newspaper Clips Sept. 9, 2015

Hindustan ND 09.09.2015 P-02

आईआईटी ने पुरुषों के लिए गर्भनिरोधक इंजेक्शन बनाया

नई दिल्ली | मिशि माट

परिवार नियोजन में अब पुरुषों के लिए बेहतर गर्भनिरोधक विकल्प इंजेक्शन के रूप में उपलब्ध होगा। आईआईटी दिल्ली के बायोमैडिकल इंजीनियरिंग विभाग ने ऐसी दो महत्वपूर्ण तकनीक पर सफलता हासिल की है। इससे परिवार को सीमित रखने या अनचाहे गर्भ को रोकने में पुरुषों की भागीदारी बढ़ जाएगी।

अहम बात यह है कि तीन चरण के सफल प्रयोग के बाद एक तकनीक का पेटेंट अमेरिकी कंपनी को दिया गया है, जबकि दूसरी तकनीक को बाजार में लाने का जिम्मा दो भारतीय

कंपनियों को दिया गया है।

आईआईटी दिल्ली ने एक दशक लंबे शोध के बाद कोपोलिमर जेल इंजेक्शन तैयार किया है, इसका प्रयोग पुरुषों में शुक्राणुओं को नियंत्रित करने के लिए किया जाता है। इस इंजेक्शन को आरआईएसयूजी (रिवरसेबल इंसिन ऑफ स्पर्म अंडर गाइडेंस) विधि के तहत लगाया जाता है, जिसमें दस से पंद्रह मिनट का समय लगता है। देश के विभिन्न शोध केंद्रों पर 199 पुरुषों पर इस प्रक्रिया का सफल प्रयोग किया जा चुका है जबकि तीसरे चरण का प्रयोग जारी है।

शोधकर्ता आईआईटी दिल्ली के बायोमैडिकल इंजीनियरिंग के



सेवानिवृत्त प्रोफेसर डॉ. सुजाय रॉय ने बताया कि वर्ष 2002 में तकनीक का सफल प्रयोग कर भारत सरकार को सौंप दिया गया था, जिसका पेटेंट अब

दिया गया है। पुरुष गर्भनिरोधक के एक अन्य विकल्प एसएमए (स्टाइन मैलिएक एंहाइड्राइड) का भी लैबोरेटरी परिक्षण पूरा कर लिया गया

199 पुरुषों पर इस प्रक्रिया का सफल प्रयोग किया गया

2002

में तकनीक को भारत सरकार को सौंप दिया गया था

नसबंदी की अपेक्षा में अधिक सुरक्षित तकनीक

यह तकनीक नसबंदी के अपेक्षा अधिक सुरक्षित पाई गई है। इसमें स्थायी रूप से शुक्राणुओं को नियंत्रित नहीं किया जाता, जबकि इंजेक्शन के जरिए शरीर में पहुंचाया गया जेल या पॉलिमर निर्धारित समय के लिए शुक्राणुओं की संख्या को कम कर देता है। एक इंजेक्शन का असर दो से तीन महीने तक रहता है। जबकि यदि पुरुष दोबारा बच्चा चाहे तो इंजेक्शन का इस्तेमाल बंद कर सकता है। नसबंदी में नसों में कट लगाया जाता है।

महिलाएं गर्भनिरोधक अधिक अपनाती हैं

केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के अनुसार विवाहित महिलाएं गर्भनिरोधक के विकल्प को अधिक अपनाती हैं। 2014 में 37 प्रतिशत विवाहित महिलाओं ने परिवार नियोजन के विकल्पों को अपनाया जबकि यूके में यह आंकड़ा 15 प्रतिशत था।

व्यवसायीकरण के लिए यूएस पेटेंट (नंबर 5488075) और भारतीय पेटेंट (नंबर 179092 और 183196) आवंटित किया गया है।

Dainik Bhaskar ND 09.09.2015 P-06

अगले साल से बदल सकती है आईआईटी, एनआईटी में एडमिशन की प्रक्रिया

आईआईटी और एनआईटी संस्थानों में एडमिशन की प्रक्रिया में अगले साल से बदलाव हो सकते हैं। एडमिशन प्रक्रिया में सुधार के लिए बनी कमेटी ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में छात्रों को एडमिशन वापस लेने का सुझाव दिया है। इसके अनुसार सेकंड राउंड की काउंसलिंग के बाद छात्रों को एडमिशन नहीं लेने का विकल्प मिलेगा। खाली बची सीटों को अगले साल सीटों की संख्या के साथ जोड़कर छात्रों को प्रवेश दिया जाना चाहिए। इन सुझावों पर अंतिम फैसला बाकी है। गौरतलब है कि शीर्ष इंजीनियरिंग संस्थानों में सीटें खाली न रहें, इसके लिए इस वर्ष से जॉइंट काउंसलिंग की शुरुआत की गई थी, लेकिन एडमिशन वापस लेने का विकल्प नहीं रहने के कारण हजारों छात्र सीट अलॉटमेंट फीस भरने को मजबूर हुए थे, जबकि उन्होंने एडमिशन नहीं लिया।

Hindustan Times ND 09.09.2015 P-18

HRD minister's statement on dual degrees has no impact

NO APPROVALS Despite the HRD minister's statement in Parliament that tie-ups between Indian and international institutes need UGC approval, there have so far been no checks on such alliances

HT FOLLOWUP

Jeevan Prakash Sharma

jeewan.sharma@hindustantimes.com

If a programme offered by a private college seems tempting because you are told it will also give you a chance to study abroad in a foreign institute, stop and do your checks first because such degrees are invalid. On July 27, 2015, the minister of human resource development Smriti Irani, in a written reply to Parliament, had said, "The University Grants Commission (UGC) has not approved any joint degree between a foreign university and private institute in India." Later, on August 12, 2015, while referring to the UGC (Promotion and Maintenance of Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Education Institutions) Regulations 2012, she again told Parliament, "At present there is no provision for awarding dual degrees under these regulations."

Ironically, on August 8, 2015, a top university in Noida announced its collaboration with a US-based university for dual degrees.

Earlier, on July 1, 2015, and on July 22, HT Education had revealed how courses were being run by top academies (some even charging fees of ₹25 lakh) in India in collaboration with international institutes, without the UGC being approached for approvals.

The two stories led to a flurry of questions in Parliament, both in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. Various parliamentarians, Wansuk Syiem, Vasanti M, KN Balagopal, Mahesh Girri, KRP Prabhakaran, S R Vijaya Kumar, Joice George, Nalin Kumar Kateel and Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, questioned the government on

WHEN PARLIAMENTARIANS SAT UP AND TOOK NOTICE

HT Education, on July 1 and July 22, 2015, had revealed how courses were being run by top academies in India with international institutes. This led to a flurry of questions in Parliament

July 1, 2015
Pay ₹25 lakh, get a degree that's not valid in India
 UGC has just one response to queries on degrees
 ANYONE WATCHING? A number of private institutes have collaborated with foreign universities to offer joint degrees not recognised by India's top educational regulatory bodies

July 22, 2015
Who's checking that foreign degree?
 Certificates not in countries abroad
 NO UGC Indian and foreign joint educational courses are being launched without UGC approval, despite a regulation to control growth of foreign institutions in India

IS UGC UNAWARE OF THESE TIE-UPS?
 Pearl Academy with Nottingham Trent University; Indian Institute of Art and Design with Kingston University (London); GD Goenka World Institute with Lancaster University; International Institute of Fashion Design with Istituto Di Moda Burgo (Milan, Italy); Mod'Art India with Mod'Art (Paris); Raffles Millennium International, New Delhi, with Raffles (Singapore); IMS Design and Innovation Academy with Pearson Education, UK; Picasso Animation College with Centennial College, Toronto, Canada; among others

the validity of the joint degree programmes, government policies and the existing laws related to foreign universities' campuses in India.

On July 27, replying to the questions of Wansuk Syiem on the validity of joint degrees and legal provisions related to foreign degrees, Irani admitted that joint degrees were not valid. "The UGC has informed that the UGC (Promotion and Maintenance of Standards of Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Education

Institutions) Regulations, 2012, have been notified in order to ensure the quality and standards of higher education provided by foreign educational institutions through collaborations, partnership, twinning arrangements with the Indian Higher Educational Institutions. According to these regulations, it is mandatory for any Indian Educational Institution (IEI) desirous of collaboration with Foreign Educational Institution (FEI) to seek approval of affiliating university prior to entering

ISSUE RAISED IN UGC MEETINGS, SAYS MM ANSARI

MM Ansari, member, UGC and former CIC, says collaborations between Indian and foreign universities have to be vetted by UGC. Unfortunately, neither the universities bother to come to UGC for required assessment of such proposals nor has UGC taken the trouble to monitor such tie-ups. "There is probably some degree of connivance between the partner universities and the senior officials of MHRD/UGC, who are expected to oversee such arrangements. And, lack of transparency in disclosure of quality assurance norms, fixing of fees and other charges and placement services help the institutions commercialise their programmes. The relevant issues concerning the violation of UGC's Regulations and other guidelines have been raised in almost every meeting of the commission," says Ansari

into any collaborative agreement. The Association of Indian Universities (AIU) has stated that the AIU policy for granting equivalence to such foreign degrees that have been awarded for studies undertaken in India, requires the educational institution to adhere to the UGC Regulation and/or All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) guidelines in this regard," she said.

However, when asked to take action against educational institutes violating norms, Irani

passed the buck on to the regulatory bodies, saying, "The UGC, AICTE and AIU are competent to take cognizance of educational malpractices and issue advisories to safeguard the interests of students." Replying to another question raised on August 3, 2015, by parliamentarian KN Balagopal, on foreign educational institutes working directly or indirectly in the country and advertisements of tie-ups of Indian and international institutes, Irani replied, "The Association of Indian Universities (AIU) had undertaken a study on 'Foreign Education Providers in India' and published its findings in 2012. As per the study there were 635 Foreign Education Providers (FEP) operating in India under different modes of which; (a) 440 were operating from their respective home campuses (b) 04 were operating in India with their own campuses (c) 60 were operating under programmatic collaboration (d) 54 were operating under twinning programmes and (e) 77 under arrangements other than twinning / programmatic collaboration. The study was based inter alia on advertisements on FEPs released in 18 national and regional newspapers."

What makes Irani's reply interesting is that when UGC was asked under RTI whether any institute/educational institutions had approached it for approvals to collaborate with foreign universities, the regulatory body's response was: "No information is available."

When the appellate authority, Manju Singh, joint secretary, UGC, was asked by this correspondent to furnish a proper response, she, in a written response, said, "UGC has already furnished a reply pertaining to your questions."

Times of India ND 09.09.2015 P-15

Isro to align with 170 govt projects to benefit aam aadmi

Vishwa.Mohan
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Indian Space Research Organization (Isro), which is to receive the Gandhi Peace Prize on Wednesday for its contribution in many areas to bring about socio-economic transformation in the country, is set to act as a force-multiplier in implementing as many as 170 projects where space technology can be used for a better life.

Details of these projects were discussed during a day-long meeting where PM Narendra Modi on Monday noted how these efforts of Isro would put India on its growth trajectory.

Isro will be aligning itself with as many as 60 minis-

tries\departments for 170 identified projects to improve the living conditions of the common man.

Though the space agency had been sharing its cutting-edge technology in many sectors, it had recently diversified its 'Bhuvan' (geo-spatial platform) application service which can be a key tool to implement India's smart city programme.

This service is currently being used to create database of national highways and toll plazas, develop information systems for decision-making on border management and mapping country-wide ground water among other services besides its primary roles as communication & navigation applications and

weather forecasting.

In view of the growing demand for location-based services, Isro has embarked upon developing its own satellite navigation system – Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) and GPS-Aided and Geo-Augmented Navigation (Gagan).

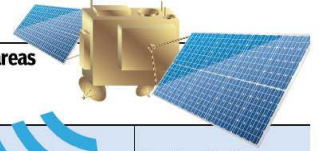
The IRNSS is being developed to provide position information services to users in the country and the region extending up to 1500 km from its boundary. Gagan is a satellite-based augmentation system, implemented jointly with the Airports Authority of India, to provide navigation services with accuracy required for civil aviation applications.

For the full report, log on to www.timesofindia.com

SPACIAL BOOST

Use of space technology as force multiplier in other areas

Government identifies 170 projects where space technology can be used for better result



KEY AREAS

- > **Ganga cleaning mission:** Mapping the river bed and the entire basin
- > **Crop forecasting**
- > **Identifying potential fisheries zones**
- > **Wasteland development**
- > **Preparing master plans for cities**
- > **Satellites to provide**

critical data on natural resources of the country

- > **Environment impact assessment**
- > **Forest fire alert system**
- > **Forest cover monitoring**
- > GIS-based infrastructure planning
- > **Geo-morphological mapping for mining**

- > **Mapping** of protected areas & coastal zones

> **Toll information system for National Highways**

- > **Site management plan** for tourist places under ASI, Geo-tagging and 3D

- > visualization
- > **Water bodies & ground water prospects mapping**
- > Countryside DTH coverage through expansion of private channel network served by additional satellite transponders
- > **Tele-education**
- > **Disease surveillance**

It's Official, Dharwad Wins Race for IIT

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/bengaluru/Its-Official-Dharwad-Wins-Race-for-IIT/2015/09/09/article3018096.ece>

BENGALURU: Dharwad has won the race for the Indian Institute of Technology. The Union HRD Ministry on Tuesday took this decision and a government order in this regard will be issued in two to three days, Dharwad MP and state BJP president Prahlad Joshi told Express.

Along with Dharwad, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's home district Mysuru and Raichur were in the race for the country's premier technical education institute.

The Union government had sanctioned IIT to Karnataka in its 2015 budget. The proposed IIT will come up on a 200-acre plot near Belur Industrial Area on the outskirts of Dharwad. A team from the HRD Ministry had recently visited all three cities to assess the plots offered by the respective district administrations.

"The location shown by us was better than those in the other two cities in all respects," said Dharwad MLA Aravind Bellad, and thanked Union HRD Minister Smriti Irani for choosing Dharwad.

Prahlad Joshi expressed his happiness over the Centre's decision and said he was grateful to Smriti Irani and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for choosing Dharwad. Thanking the prime minister and Smriti Irani, former chief minister Jagadish Shettar said the NDA government has given Dharwad not only the Smart City status but also the IIT.

KLE Technological University vice-chancellor Ashok Shetter said this was the best gift a government could give this region.

"Amazing. I have no words to describe it," he said, and added that an IIT in Dharwad meant that the city would get a new direction. Mayor Ashwini Majjagi said that Dharwad deserved the institution and thanked Modi, Smriti Irani, Prahlad Joshi and Jagadish Shettar for their efforts to bring the IIT to Dharwad.

"After the Smart City tag, we now have the IIT. It is a joyous moment," Majjagi added.

GE takes IISc biomass tech for power plants in the US

In India, technology that uses agro waste for power generation struggles

http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/ge-takes-iisc-biomass-tech-for-power-plants-in-the-us-115090800817_1.html

A home-grown technology to generate electricity using biomass designed by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) is being taken to the US by General Electric.

GE, which had licensed the biomass gasifier technology that generates electricity from agro-waste and wood from IISc, will help Phoenix Energy set up power plants in California. GE demonstrated a model at its Tech event in Bengaluru over the weekend. "Technology transfers typically happen from the North to the South. In gasifier technology, it flows from the South to the North," said S Dasappa, professor, Centre for Sustainable Technologies, IISc.

"GE officials had scouted across the globe and found this platform – power generation from biomass at IISc. The technology available with us is the best in the world." While the indigenous gasifier technology gets a US presence, and has installations in countries such as Zambia, the uptake in India is still very slow.

Bioresidue Energy Technology, a Bengaluru-based licensee, has seen one of its projects in Mangaluru shut and another 1.2 mega watt (Mw) power plant generating below capacity in Gadag with revenue from electricity distribution companies not matching up with the cost.

In Karnataka, it costs Rs 6 to generate one unit of electricity, while the power generator is compensated with Rs 6.40 per unit.

"It is uneconomical to run these plants at this cost," said Amar Kumar, founder of BETP.

India has a vast amount of biomass waste – wood chips from trees such as eucalyptus, coconut shell, sawdust, sugar cane trash and coffee husk - that can be converted into energy. The scientists at IISc estimate India can generate 15,000 Mw of electricity using agro and crop waste of 120-140 million tonnes using a distributed model of having 1-6 Mw power plants across the country.

"There is little parity with biomass and solar and other renewable energies. If it happens – this can provide grid quality 24/7 power giving direct and indirect employment," said Dasappa. "We are looking at a level-playing field."

Karnataka offers as much as Rs 12 a unit of power generated by solar, but pays less to biomass-based gasifier projects.

Aakash tablet given silent burial

ABHIJEET ANAND

anandabhijeet@statesman.net

New Delhi, 8 September

Aakash tablet, the brain child of former HRD Minister Kapil Sibal during the UPA government, has been given a silent burial by HRD ministry. About Rs 50 crore was spent on making an affordable tablet but the "aam aadmi" tablet has probably failed to clear the stringent industrial tests of Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC).

The Aakash II tablet meant for researchers and students was supposed to be made available by Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D) at affordable rates through various Ministries after specifications were provided by IIT Bombay.

Investigations show that there could have been deficiencies in the specifications that were prepared by IIT Bombay which ultimately resulted in its rejection by CDAC.

The technical bids of vendors who applied for tenders for supplying these tablets last year got rejected by DGS&D. Sources said the vendors manufactured tablets on the basis of the specifications provided by IIT Bombay. But, sources said, these failed tests carried out by CDAC.



After that DGS&D found the technical bids unfit for further processing and thus, the tender was scrapped.

According to sources in HRD Ministry, the decision on the fourth version of Aakash was about to be taken but it was dropped as Aakash II itself could not pass the industrial standard test of CDAC. In the meantime, expenditure was incurred on the testing process of Aakash II for which IIT Bombay procured one lakh tablets from a company, DataWind.

HRD ministry sources said the amount that was initially given to IIT Jodhpur for development of the Aakash tablet was transferred to IIT Bombay as disputes had arisen between IIT Jodhpur and the supplier of tablets. The amount given was an nominal Rs 3 crore but huge expenditure was incurred on procuring one lakh tablets from the supplier.

IISc develops trip planner to ease commuter woes

<http://www.livemint.com/Consumer/B9tBc3TQZc3sVbiOPJLfIJ/IISc-develops-trip-planner-to-ease-commuter-woes.html>

Maargamitra will help Bengaluru commuters to figure out which public transport will take the least possible time and fare on a particular route

Hyderabad: While Google Maps can help you find the shortest possible route to a particular destination, a new trip planner for Bengaluru helps you find the public transport that will ferry you in the shortest possible time and charge you the minimum possible fare for a destination.

The Indian Institute of Science's (IISc) transportation lab has developed a web portal, named Maargamitra, which will help commuters to figure out which public transport will take the least possible time and fare on a particular route.

"People do use services like Google transit, but our database is much more exhaustive with a generalized cost method to give best path, for and without luggage, for, say, senior citizens and considers various other such factors," said Ashish Verma, who set up the transportation lab and is an assistant professor at the Department of Civil Engineering and Centre for Infrastructure, Sustainable Transport and Urban Planning at IISc.

"The algorithm is designed to choose an optimized route having the least amount of generalized cost or travel time," said Verma.

Maargamitra went online in 2013, but the project was shelved due to paucity of funds and in view of the advent of new metro lines and changes in bus routes in Bengaluru. "With the help of financial aid from existing students and other resources of our own, we have revived the project and it will be online again with all the improvisations in 6-12 months," Verma said.

Maargamitra has been developed based on several studies done by scientists at the transportation lab on the travel decisions of commuters, like choosing the mode and route. The scientists also studied the physiological and psychological profiles of drivers to map risk-seeking behaviour and accident history.

The lab has also developed various models to analyze factors influencing travel behaviour and decision-making along with traffic prediction tools like pedestrian thoroughfare and hawker movement.

"The models we develop essentially aim to understand the choice behaviour of commuters which can lead to better policy and infrastructure planning. For instance, an alteration of the parking policy in a congestion zone or an increase in the fares in government buses, or introduction of congestion charging in central area," says Verma.

For Bengaluru, the institute has used data from case studies, surveys, the Bangalore Development Authority and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, and the Directorate of Urban Land Transport, Bengaluru.

With an aim to address the micro-level issues of traffic, the lab is working on projects to develop models on traffic flow and driving behaviour.

"The implementation remains a convoluted path depending on the functioning of many civic bodies, but on our part, we not only leverage scientific analysis to solve India-specific transport problems, but also regularly communicate the results so that they are made available for future use," Verma said.

Supreme Court asks NAAC to decide on pleas of deemed universities

<http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-supreme-court-asks-naac-to-decide-on-pleas-of-deemed-universities-2123178>

The [Supreme Court](#) on Tuesday asked all deemed [universities](#) to file their "self-appraisal report" within ten days with the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) for affirmation of their grades.

A bench comprising Justices Dipak Misra and Prafulla C Pant gave three months time to the NAAC to decide on the issue of accreditation and grades of 121 deemed universities.

"The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) shall not insist for the compliance of the 2010 regulations. The Universities are directed to submit the self appraisal report within ten days," it said while making it clear that any decision of the NAAC would be subject to the outcome of a PIL questioning the procedure of grant of recognition to such universities.

During the hearing, Additional Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, said the government has received inputs from various stakeholders and was "going to come out with the regulations" on the issue. He also said the Human Resource Development Ministry had consulted statutory bodies like All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), National Board of Accreditation (NBA), NAAC and the UGC and received their inputs.

Earlier, the court had asked Mehta to obtain instructions as to whether the 34 universities, which have been conferred the status of deemed universities, suffer "any deficiencies and, if so, how much time can be granted for rectification of the deficiencies."

The court had also rapped UGC on physical verification of infrastructure and faculty strength of deemed universities, which were black-listed by a government-appointed committee. The remarks were made when the UGC counsel was trying to explain the circumstances for the delay by submitting that there was a need to modify the apex court order as the commission cannot go the way P N Tandon Committee categorised the deemed universities.

IIT study on merging arts, heritage with science

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/IIT-study-on-merging-arts-heritage-with-science/articleshow/48878423.cms>

KOLKATA: In a bid to merge science with heritage, IIT Kharagpur has started a new project in which various themes of fine arts, meditation and social work had been merged with science to find out that the analytical mind and intuitive mind are complimentary to each other. The focus is to develop interface between science and heritage and how the economic regeneration can take place through 16 themes.

MHRD is sponsoring the project as it is an inter-institutional and people centric approach, said Prof Joy Sen of IIT Kharagpur's architecture department, a key official of this project who aims to explore the possibility of how to improve the right brain for a person whose left brain is more developed. "As left brain development means better aptitude for science, so with right brain development he can lead a more balanced life." Moreover, the areas of researches in this project include meditation and how the brain is affected with it and how it helps in the healing.

Prof Sen said that the left brain development means one is more analytical and logical while those with right brain developed are more creative and has holistic thinking and can visualise better. So, the study aims to bring the brain development more towards the middle path, so that one can go for meditation. He added that all psycho-somatic diseases along with life style diseases are interlinked with brain development and all these are parts of the research.

"IIT Kharagpur's director Partha P Chakraborti is heading this project as it is a scientific approach to network and designing of heritage interfaces aiming to recognize our heritage through science," Prof Sen said. This project was started a year ago and it will take over year to be completed. "In the meanwhile to create awareness about the on going developments a pictorial exhibition is going to be held at ICCR from September 11, to make the students aware," said Prof Sen.

Particularly the project is going to focus on music and science through algorithms - as modern and ancient music of India has much links with algorithms. "Indian classical music is traditionally taught by Guru-Shishya parampara and student imbibes the finer nuances of a raga by hearing the renditions of the teacher, but is not feasible in the modern context. This project brings together researchers from diverse fields -- signal engineers extracting melodies and notations from recorded music, computer scientists studying formal language theoretic interpretations of ragas and how they are rendered, machine learning experts who are looking for hidden features that characterize the stylistic aspects of rendering a raga, communication researchers and psychologists who are exploring the relation between language, music and cognition."