Newspaper Clips
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An unlikely general in climate-change war

Pachauri was once condemned for being a favorite of fossil-fuel industry

BY JEFFREY BALL
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In 2002, when Rajendra Pachauri was elected head of the world's top climate-science body, Al Gore and other environmentalists condemned him as a favorite of the fossil-fuel industry.

Today, the 70-year-old chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is under fire for the opposite offense: being a green zealot.

On Monday, the InterAcademy Council, a consortium of national scientific academies, released its report on its investigation into the IPCC under Mr. Pachauri's leadership. Though it said the organization is "successful overall," it suggested a number of changes to the IPCC's managerial structure and to its vetting process designed to reduce errors and bias creeping into the IPCC's widely watched reports.

Mr. Pachauri said the recommendations were in line with reforms he has tried to institute already. They are "essentially an intensification, a detailing, of what I've wanted to do myself," he said in an interview Monday.

Mr. Pachauri was pressured to request the probe after mistakes were disclosed in an IPCC report that helped win the panel the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize.

Mr. Pachauri was an unlikely general in the war on global warming.

He started his career in an Indian diesel-locomotive factory. As an academic, he staunchly defended his coun-

Facing the heat: *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Chairman Rajendra Pachauri.*

WSJ ON CLIMATE

try's right to burn coal.

But over the years he underwent a transformation and became convinced of the dangers of global warming. He voiced strong convictions that later exposed him to a more intense backlash when the handful of problems with the IPCC's work came to light.

He made high-profile statements playing down uncertainties about global warming. He added new responsibilities, becoming director of an energy institute at Yale University, even as his IPCC workload increased.

And when his organization faced criticism for errors, he initially argued the IPCC could investigate itself.

After the IPCC won the Nobel, he "became a bit of a global rock star," said Daniel Esty, a Yale professor and friend of the IPCC chairman. "I think he got spread very thin and personally should have been more careful in overseeing the team below' him" managing IPCC scientific work.

Mr. Pachauri said that the IPCC "is a very decentralized organization," and that the production of its reports is overseen by highly competent scientists who "wouldn't appreciate the chairman looking over their shoulders and trying to look for errors."

Mr. Pachauri receives travel expenses but no salary as IPCC chairman. His paid job is as head of a New Delhi think tank, The Energy Research Institute, or TERI. He has advised several Indian and Western companies during his IPCC tenure, but says he has given the money he has received for that work to TERI. A KPMG audit, reviewed by The Wall Street Journal, confirms that about most of the money. It doesn't address a small amount, which he says he gave to charity.

The investigative report released Monday called for the IPCC to implement a conflict-of-interest policy for its chairman and other top officials. The IPCC needs to "maintain the integrity of, and public confidence in, its results," the report said.

Mr. Pachauri was born in 1940 in Nainital, a town in India that looks out onto the Himalayas.

Everything in his early career suggested support for fossil fuels.

In his late 20s, he managed the production of train engines at an Indian factory. In his 30s, at North Carolina State University, he wrote a doctoral dissertation on ways that some coal-dependent states could cheaply meet rising electricity demand.

In 1982, he became the head of TERI. He still holds the job nearly three decades later, earning an annual salary equivalent to about $46,000.

The IPCC was founded by the United Nations in 1988. Mr. Pachauri's involvement was hardly surprising, since he was a prominent energy expert in one of the fastest growing countries in the world.

In 1997, he successfully ran against an incumbent to become one of the IPCC's vice chairmen. In 2002, he challenged the IPCC's then-chairman and won.

The George W. Bush admin-

istration backed Mr. Pachauri, in part, as a less strident environmentalist than the IPCC's prior chairman. Mr. Pachauri "was going to be a lower-key chair," said a former Bush administration official involved in international climate negotiations at the time.

Within days of Mr. Pachauri's election as IPCC leader, Mr. Gore assailed him in a New York Times op-ed piece. The former vice president cited the Bush administration's backing of Mr. Pachauri as a reason for concern.

A spokeswoman for Mr. Gore said he wouldn't comment. Mr. Pachauri said the two are now good friends.

Mr. Gore had reason to soften on Mr. Pachauri. He became "an advocate for emissions controls that are a lot more radical than he was talking about or almost anyone was talking about 10 years ago," said David Victor, an international-energy expert at the University of California, San Diego.

Mr. Pachauri's views were on full display in his Nobel address in 2007, when he warned climate change could cause "chaos and destruction." Mr. Pachauri says such language is deliberate. "If you want people to take action, then you obviously would make the arguments that require a certain set of actions."

Monday's report found that some summaries the IPCC

Mr. Pachauri started his career in a diesel-locomotive factory. As an academic, he defended India's right to burn coal

wrote of its 2007 climate-change findings failed to adequately reflect scientific uncertainty.

One of the summaries contained claims "that are not supported sufficiently in the literature, not put into perspective, or not expressed clearly," it said.

Daniel Sperling, a professor at the University of California, Davis, who contributed to the 2007 IPCC report, said of Mr. Pachauri: "He obviously wasn't sensitive enough to some of these uncertainties."

Mr. Pachauri says neither the most recent report nor other recent climate-science probes have questioned the IPCC's overall conclusion about the dangers and causes of climate change.

The IPCC controversy was sparked in November 2009 when more than 1,000 hacked emails from a climate-research center at the University of East Anglia were posted online. The emails showed some climate scientists involved in IPCC reports trying to squelch criticism of the conclusion that humans are causing climate change.

Weeks later, IPCC officials were confronted with a factual error in their 2007 report: a projection that Himalayan glaciers would melt by 2035. Climate scientists say it is essentially impossible to project the demise of a glacier by a particular year.

Within days, Mr. Pachauri and his top IPCC lieutenants issued a statement expressing "regret" over the claim. But criticism mounted, and by mid-February the IPCC informed governments it would appoint a committee to investigate itself.

A few weeks later, Mr. Pachauri asked an outside agency, the InterAcademy Council, to conduct the probe.

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SURVEY FINDINGS

IIMs still the best, west is B-school hub

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NEW DELHI: The numero uno has kept its crown.

The Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) have collectively swept the second Hindustan Times Best B-schools in India Survey, which was carried out in collaboration with TNS India.

The top three spots were taken by IIM-A, IIM-B and IIM-C, respectively. No great surprise there. But two other IIMs — Lucknow and Indore — which have long operated under the shadow of the ABC, as the top three are called, clocked in at #5 and #7, respectively.

So, there are four IIMs among the top 5 and five among the top 10. The Indian School of Business, which has made great strides since opening shop a little over a decade ago, was ranked fourth, the only non-IIM brand in the top 5.

This perception-based survey, of 547 B-school stakeholders like faculty, current students, alumni, recruiters and MBA aspirants was carried out in July (for details of how we did it, turn to Page 2 of *HT Horizons*).

In an interesting finding, the HT survey found that western India has emerged as the hub of management education in India. As many as four of India's Top 10 and nine of the Top 20 B-schools are located in that region. And now for the really good news, at least for wannabe MBAs: In yet more evidence that India Inc has put the last year's slowdown firmly behind, the high-flying, big money jobs are back on campus.

» **DETAILS IN HT HORIZONS**

A Hindustan Times-TNS Survey

best B-schools
- Which are India's Top 10 business schools?
- Which institute has improved its ranking most since last year?

HindustanTimes
Title : Rank 1 - Aspirational B-school
Author : Mahesh Langa mahesh.langa@hindustantimes.com
Location :
Article Date : 09/01/2010

Rank **1**   Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad

Aspirational B-school

IIM-A attracts the best students and great teaching turns this raw talent into gold standard management ability

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Here's confirmation of what you probably already know: the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A) has been rated India's best B-school by the second *Hindustan Times* Best B-schools in India Survey. So, what is it that enables the institute to maintain its ranking year after year?

"It's our greater commitment to teaching and strong internal processes," said S.K. Barua, director of the institute.

"Teaching is something we have always been committed to and all our faculty members perform more than they are required to. It's a way of life here," Barua, who met *HT* immediately after taking a class, said.

Although in IIM-A, each faculty members is supposed to take around 100 teaching sessions a year of 75 minutes each, most teachers exceed their quota by 15-20 per cent.

The faculty's commitment to teaching is evident from the fact that although the director is not required to teach, Barua takes around 50 sessions a year.

"All of us take teaching very seriously and do it with passion," said Sebastien Morris, who teaches economics.

This commitment and hard work obviously has its rewards.

K.V. Kamath, non-executive chairman, ICICI Bank, an alumnus of IIM-A, admitted that the institute had shaped his career to a great extent. "It gave me outstanding exposure to the theory of leadership and management and to concepts of finance," he said.

The informal "learn-in-the-dorm" system also helps hone talent. Every dormitory is shared by seniors and juniors and the informal discussions they have in their spare time also makes for a great learning experience.

More importantly, the institute helps students develop their full potential and this helps them succeed in fields other than management as well.

Well known cricket commentator Harsha Bhogle and danseuse and social activist Mallika Sarabhai are two former students who have made it big in non-corporate fields.

"My professors allowed me to skip exams in 1984 to do commentary in a Test match for Doordarshan. Then, when I returned to campus, each of them set up a special test for me. That's the kind of encouragement IIM-A teachers give you," Bhogle, an alumnus of the Class of 1985, told *HT*. Incidentally, his wife Anita is from the same class.

But that doesn't mean the institute doesn't push students to their limits. It's common to see students skipping breakfast and tripping over each other in the corridors of the Louis Kahn-designed red brick institute in their rush to reach classes by 8:45 am. "Many teachers prefer to close the doors once classes start, so you have to be on time or miss the bus," said a student, who spoke on condition of anonymity. In the process, students learn a critical lesson — the importance of punctuality and commitment in the corporate world.

Despite the institute widely being considered the gold standard of Indian management education, a senior faculty member, admitted the gap between the IIM-A and other B-schools had reduced in recent years.

"It's true that other institutes have improved significantly, but no institute can match it in the areas such as its case study-based method of teaching, involvement of the faculty and students," said Suman Chatterjee, who passed out in 1993.

"Just check... students who gain admission into multiple institutes, including IIM-A, almost always choose Ahmedabad. This gives you a crème-de-la-crème peer group, which is both competitive and fun," said Glen D'Souza, a second-year PGP student.

"IIM-A remains hugely aspirational," added Bhogle.

factfile

MAIN COURSES OFFERED: Post Graduate Programme in Management (PGP), Post Graduate Programme in Agri-Business Management
COURSE FEES: ₹13.70 lakh for two-year PGP
CURRENT BATCH SIZE: 380
MALE-FEMALE RATIO: 333 (male): 47 (female)
FACULTY-STUDENT RATIO: 1: 9-10
PLACEMENT SEASON: 2010 - 1 week; 2009 - 3 days; 2008 - 3 days
NUMBER OF OFFERS (2010): Not declared
AVERAGE DOMESTIC SALARY (2010): ₹14.94 lakh
AVERAGE INTERNATIONAL SALARY (2010): $110,750
FOREIGN PLACEMENTS (2010): xx
FAMOUS ALUMNI: K.V. Kamath, Chairman, ICICI Bank; C.K. Prahalad, management guru; Harsha Bhogle, cricket commentator; Jerry Rao, serial entrepreneur
TOP RECRUITERS: ICICI Bank, Aditya Birla Group, Arcelor Mittal, Morgan Stanley, Citibank, UBS, Deutsche Bank, Goldman Sachs, McKinsey & Co.
FUN FACTOR: Confluence, IIM-A's annual international B-school festival

India's top 50 business schools

Institution	Composite Rank	Previous Rank	Student Rank	Faculty Rank	Alumni Rank	Recruiter Rank	Aspirant Rank	Learning Rank	Global Rank	Resource Rank	Brand Rank	Outcome Rank#
Indian Institute of Management - Ahmedabad	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
Indian Institute of Management - Bangalore	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Indian Institute of Management - Calcutta	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4
Indian School of Business, Hyderabad	4	4	6	4	4	4	5	3	3	3	3	3
Indian Institute of Management - Lucknow	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	6	5	6
Xavier Labour Relations Institute, Jamshedpur	6	6	4	6	6	10	6	6	6	5	6	5
Indian Institute of Management - Indore	7	7	8	7	7	12	7	7	7	8	8	8
Faculty of Management Studies, Delhi	8	8	7	8	8	6	10	8	8	7	7	7
S.P. Jain Institute of Management & Research, Mumbai	9	15	10	9	9	7	9	11	9	12	11	10
Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management Studies, Mumbai	10	11	11	11	10	8	24	9	10	9	9	9
Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, Delhi	11	10	9	12	15	9	16	10	11	10	10	11
Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies, Mumbai	12	19	17	10	16	11	31	12	12	11	12	12
K. J. Somaiya Institute of Management Studies & Research, Mumbai	13	17	15	15	13	14	21	15	16	17	16	15
Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar	14	16	20	14	17	16	14	14	14	14	14	14
ICFAI Business School, Hyderabad	15	13	13	24	22	13	11	16	17	15	15	16
L.N. Welingkar Institute of Management Development & Research, Mumbai	16	43	16	18	14	15	53	22	21	19	18	22
Management Development Institute, Gurgaon	17	12	14	13	11	20	43	13	13	13	13	13
Symbiosis Institute of Management Studies, Pune	18	34	22	21	12	18	20	18	15	16	17	17
Indian Institute of Planning and Management, Delhi	19	20	23	16	35	27	8	25	23	32	27	29
Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Pune	20	38	18	27	24	19	28	21	20	24	19	21
Indian Institute of Management - Kozhikode	21	27	12	23	31	25	19	17	18	28	23	25
Institute of Management Technology, Ghaziabad	22	22	19	25	18	22	32	26	27	35	34	30
Xavier's Institute of Management, Mumbai	23	36	29	19	25	23	23	24	21	29	24	24
Mudra Institute of Communication, Ahmedabad	24	18	21	32	30	17	41	19	19	18	20	18
Symbiosis Centre for Management & Human Resource Development, Pune	25	37	24	29	21	42	15	24	25	22	21	27
Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai	26	--	34	17	42	21	29	27	31	30	32	28
Amity Business School, Noida	27	24	36	26	19	34	22	28	29	26	28	26
Nirma Institute of Management, Ahmedabad	28	32	39	22	20	32	48	39	40	40	40	43
Symbiosis Centre for Information Technology, Pune	29	35	31	28	33	41	13	35	30	39	38	41
NITIE, Mumbai	30	28	38	30	23	24	38	30	34	27	25	20
Indian Institute of Management, Ranchi*	31	--	37	20	51	36	18	34	32	33	33	35
FORE School of Management, Delhi	32	26	28	39	29	28	65	40	36	43	37	42
Loyola Institute of Business Management, Chennai	33	14	27	31	41	40	34	29	26	23	22	23
T.A. Pai Management Institute, Manipal	34	23	25	36	39	30	60	38	39	42	51	39
LBS, Delhi	35	--	50	33	32	35	42	52	48	55	46	51
Department of Management Studies, IIT Delhi	36	9	44	37	26	39	25	20	22	20	24	19
International Management Institute, Delhi	37	29	35	41	28	50	26	42	46	38	43	40
Indian Institute of Management - Shillong	38	--	26	44	38	55	17	41	47	41	39	37
Xavier Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship, Bangalore	39	65	33	49	49	48	12	37	37	36	35	33
N.L. Dalmia Institute of Management Studies and Research, Mumbai	40	47	43	46	37	26	50	36	35	31	31	32
Institute of Rural Management, Anand	41	30	32	35	44	51	52	48	54	44	50	47
Institute of Management Studies, Ghaziabad	42	42	40	34	57	53	27	49	42	46	45	59
Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management, IIT Bombay	43	21	54	38	27	33	72	33	43	34	36	36
Goa Institute of Management, Goa	44	33	30	42	36	59	44	43	38	37	41	46
Institute for Technology & Management, Navi Mumbai	45	40	47	45	46	29	45	50	45	47	52	44
Sydenham, Mumbai	46	--	53	40	50	38	58	31	28	25	26	34
Christ College Institute of Management, Bangalore	47	39	42	52	45	45	36	53	49	52	54	55
SIES, Mumbai	48	62	56	50	40	37	63	32	33	29	30	31
Bharathi Vidyapeeth, New Delhi	49	57	46	56	48	54	35	57	60	49	59	57
Asia Pacific Institute of Management, Delhi	50	58	51	47	43	46	67	62	52	59	65	66

* IIM-R launched its first course in April this year, but the IIM tag allowed it to score on the basis of perception   # Opportunities for high salaries and fast career growth

Hindustan Times ND 01/09/2010   p-5

The best B-schools in each region

The west clearly scores over the other regions, followed by the north, while eastern India lags way behind the others

Top 10 B-schools (North)

IIM, Lucknow

REGIONAL RANK	INSTITUTE	ALL-INDIA RANK
1	IIM-Lucknow	5
2	FMS, Delhi	8
3	IIFT, Delhi	11
4	MDI, Gurgaon	17
5	IIPM, Delhi	19
6	IMT, Ghaziabad	22
7	Amity Business School, Noida	27
8	FORE School of Management, Delhi	32
9	LBS, Delhi	35
10	DMS, IIT Delhi	36

Top 10 B-schools (South)

IIM, Bangalore

REGIONAL RANK	INSTITUTE	ALL-INDIA RANK
1	IIM-Bangalore	2
2	ISB, Hyderabad	4
3	ICFAI, Hyderabad	15
4	IIM-Khozikode	21
5	Loyola Institute of Business Mgt, Chennai	33
6	TAPMI, Manipal	34
7	Christ College Institute of Mgt, Bangalore	47
8	Alliance Business School, Bangalore	53
9	Great Lakes Institute of Mgt, Chennai	54
10	BIM, Tiruchirapalli	58

Top 8 B-schools (East)*

IIM, Calcutta

REGIONAL RANK	INSTITUTE	ALL-INDIA RANK
1	IIM-Calcutta	3
2	XLRI, Jamshedpur	6
3	XIM, Bhubaneswar	14
4	IIM-Ranchi**	31
5	IIM-Shillong	38
6	Army Institute of Management	68
7	Department of Business Management	69
8	IISWBM	70

* The HT-TNS India survey of the top 72 B-schools (according to last year's HT survey) had only eight from eastern India
** Started operations in April 2010, but the IIM tag allowed it to score on the basis of perception

Top 10 B-schools (West)

IIM, Ahmedabad

REGIONAL RANK	INSTITUTE	ALL-INDIA RANK
1	IIM-Ahmedabad	1
2	IIM-Indore	7
3	S.P. Jain Institute of Mgt & Research, Mumbai	9
4	Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Mgt Studies, Mumbai	10
5	Narsee Monjee Institute of Mgt Studies, Mumbai	12
6	K.J. Somaiya Institute of Mgt Studies, Mumbai	13
7	L.N. Welingkar Institute of Mgt Devt & Research, Mumbai	16
8	Symbiosis (SIMS), Pune	18
9	Symbiosis (SIBM), Pune	20
10	Symbiosis (SCMHR), Pune	25
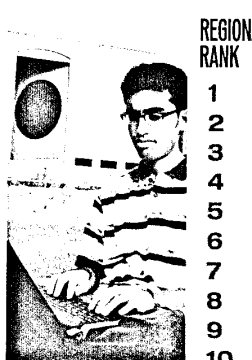
Comprehending GMAT

Useful tips on tackling the GMAT reading comprehension test

Rohit Majumdar

HT FILE PHOTO

There are some approaches that can prove to be a hindrance to your getting the correct answer. Avoid them:

- Do not get intimidated by technical terms or distracted by convoluted language. The main point of the passage is usually straightforward.
- Do not focus on the details. If a question calls for precise details, you will have ample time to return to the passage.
- Do not skim the passage. Only a thorough reading will properly prepare you for the questions.
- Do not take an undue amount of notes. You can jot down the main idea after you have finished reading the passage. You should take mental note of signal words.
- Do not rely too heavily on outside knowledge of a topic. Rely exclusively on facts drawn from the passage to answer questions.

Things you should do:

- Maintain a positive mental attitude. The test-makers have selected tedious and dry passages to challenge your ability to focus. If you are struggling with a passage, do not get discouraged! The other test-takers are probably having similar luck.
- Stay focused throughout the entire GMAT. You will waste far too much time if you have to re-read the material.
- Mentally note important signal words like "but" and "however", or phrases like "on the other hand" or "on the contrary" – such words generally signal a transition in the passage.
- Concentrate on the correlatives: In addition, likewise, similarly, therefore, thus etc
- Look for the contra-directives: But, despite, except, however, yet.

(The author is in the Verbal Faculty with CPLC)

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Sibal gives in to Cong MP & Oppn

TRIBUNAL BILL BJP does U-turn after Andhra Cong MP trashes Bill

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: Opposition parties supported by a Congress MP in the Rajya Sabha stalled a bill to set up dedicated tribunals to settle higher education-related disputes across the country.

Faced with a U-turn from the Opposition, which had supported the Education Tribunal Bill, 2010, in the Lok Sabha last week, Human Resources Development Minister Kapil Sibal deferred it to the winter session.

The government was taken by surprise because the Opposition, led by the BJP, had given unanimous support to the bill in the Lok Sabha after their concerns were met.

Curiously, the trouble for the government was initiated by Congress MP K. Keshava Rao, who charged the HRD ministry with rushing through the bill.

With support from unexpected quarters, the Opposition went on the offensive and the Centre, unsure of its numbers in the House, played safe.

Rao objected to the rejection of the parliamentary standing committee report on the bill by the ministry. "It (committee) is a mini Parliament. If its report is rejected and the House is not even told, it is unacceptable," Rao said.

"Let every minister sitting in the House first start respecting the standing committee."

Rao was supported by BSP leader Satish Chandra Mishra, who said the committee report must be respected. "This bill would rather complicate the matter, bring endless litigation and it should not be passed in a hurried manner," Mishra said.
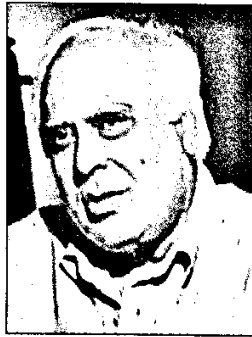
■ **Kapil Sibal**

BJP leaders Bal Apte and Rama Jois, who spoke on the bill, opposed several provisions even after the party had agreed to support the bill with some changes sought by it.

"The half-baked bill, which has been brought without any homework and vision, should be withdrawn," Apte said.

Majority of the Opposition MPs, including those from the Left parties, Telugu Desam and Biju Janata Dal, wanted changes in the bill.

In his reply, repeatedly interrupted by Opposition benches, Sibal denied the bill had been rushed through. "In fact, we are late," he said.

On the Opposition's apprehensions, he said, "We are not in any way infringing upon the rights of states. It's a significant piece of legislation and if members want a larger debate, we have no problem."

The decision to defer the bill followed uproar by the Opposition members over Sibal's remark that he was ready to "bow down" if there was any "substance" in the Opposition.

> It is not that we are in hurry. We are too late. The bill is the need of the hour.
> **KAPIL SIBAL,** HRD minister

> This kind of hasty legislation for a subject like education does not augur well.
> **K. KESHAVA RAO,** Cong MP

`Uncertainty over pact on Chinese degrees

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NEW DELHI: Concerns that China may swamp India's higher education, amid the current diplomatic uneasiness, may delay mutual recognition of academic degrees, a proposal the two countries are to discuss in September, senior government officials have said.

Officials have confirmed that mutual recognition of academic degrees is on Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal's agenda during a visit to China from September 10-16, as was reported by HT first on August 28.

But the pact may not be signed during Sibal's visit, the ministry has now cautioned.

Officially, the government is mum about the reasons why it is treading with caution over the pact — which would benefit thousands of Indian students in China. These students will not need to worry about the recognition of their degrees if the pact is signed.

But sources pointed out that the government — while sensitive to the needs of Indian students — also has to consider other consequences of a pact

PRESENT DIPLOMATIC UNEASINESS MAY DELAY THE PROPOSAL FOR RECOGNITION OF CHINESE DEGREES

mutually recognising degrees. "We have to recognise the needs of Indian students in China but also have to be prepared for the larger implications of recognising Chinese degrees," a source said.

Sections within the government are concerned that recognising Chinese degrees at this stage could allow China to possibly swamp the Indian higher education market when it is growing faster than ever. This could hurt Indian higher education institutions — public and private — irreparably, source said.

Several Chinese institutions offer the lure of better facilities than Indian counterparts, with lesser fees than universities in the west or Australia.

Recent diplomatic uneasiness hasn't helped, sources said. "Mutual suspicion and mutual recognition of degrees don't go well together," a former education secretary said.

FUNDING EDUCATION

HRD ministry seeks ₹1 trillion for 2,500 model schools

By Prashant K. Nanda
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NEW DELHI

The human resource development (HRD) ministry has sought ₹1.1 trillion over 18 years to sponsor school education for 2.5 million students every year.

After months of deliberation, the ministry last week moved the expenditure finance committee (EFC) for resources to set up 2,500 model schools across the country in partnership with private parties such as non-profit arms of corporate houses, voluntary organizations and groups that already run schools, senior HRD ministry officials said.

Education secretaries from states, HRD ministry officials and Planning Commission members met on 26 August to finalize modalities for the scheme, they added, speaking on condition of anonymity.

As per a document prepared by the apex plan body, states will decide the location of these model schools.

Each school can enrol up to 2,500 students, of whom 40% or up to 1,000 students from socially and economically backward backgrounds will be sponsored by the government. The schools can charge the other students as per prevalent market fees.

"Government support shall be provided for up to 1,000 select students, of whom 50% shall be from scheduled caste, schedule tribe, other backward classes, and the remaining may be children of non-income tax payers," underlines the document, which was reviewed by *Mint*.

The government also plans to reserve 30% of the seats in select categories for girls. "The reservation for girls amongst the select students shall be 30%. In case, the number of girl students exceeds 30%, a suitable incentive will be paid while any shortfall would attract a corresponding penalty," the document states.

The model schools will follow the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and have classes from standard VI to XII. School managements will have an option to start a separate primary section (classes I to V) but these will not be covered under the scheme.

Some of these schools are expected to begin classes from 2012.

The quality of these schools will be at par with or better than Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs)—a special group of schools run under the HRD ministry. Trained teachers, a classroom-student ratio of 1:40, and information communication technology (ICT) and sports facilities are some of the key features proposed for these schools.

India has 981 KVs catering to 1.03 million students. Overall, around 237 million students are in schools across the country.

The plan panel's document says public-private-partnership (PPP) should not be viewed as privatization of secondary education as the government will closely monitor these schools.

The government needs to enter into such partnerships as the number of quality secondary schools run by the government is limited and low-income families cannot afford to pay the fees charged by most private schools. "It should only be viewed as an initiative that would create centres of excellence in support of wider agenda for reform in school education," the plan body says.

Under the scheme, the land and infrastructure will be provided entirely by the private partners, while the government will bear the sponsorships and a part of the administrative costs.

An interested corporate house will be eligible for allocation of one school for every ₹25 crore of networth, provided it makes an interest-bearing deposit of ₹50 lakh for each school. This sum will be released in three equal annual instalments after the school is commissioned. Not-for-profit bodies, with experience of running an educational institution for at least five years, would qualify for up to three schools. Private groups and individuals already running schools where at least two batches have completed class X would also be eligible.

"Education is a huge expenditure and government cannot shoulder all the burden. It's necessary to invite private money to school education," said Narayanan Ramaswamy, executive director (education) at audit firm KPMG. "But the PPP should be structured properly to facilitate certain amount of profit for private sector without compromising quality education. Government should not develop it as a charity type of model."

The Centre also plans to open 3,500 similar schools in collaboration with the states. The government has already sanctioned 327 such schools in 11 states, including 105 for Bihar and 74 for Karnataka.

LEARNING CURVE

- Government plans 2,500 model schools with private support (PPP model)
- Schools to be modelled after 981 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs)
- Some PPP model schools to start classes from 2012
- Number of students studying in KVs: 1.03 million
- Number of students who can benefit from the 2,500 proposed schools: 6.2 million
- Centre's estimated expenditure: around ₹1.10 trillion over 18 years

HINDUSTAN TIMES

Hindustan Times ND
01/09/2010   p-9

news brief

IIM Raipur joins the IIM club

CAT aspirants have a reason to cheer. After IIM Ranchi and Rohtak, it's IIM Raipur, which has come into existence this year. The first batch will be constituted this month. It is being mentored by IIM Indore and will offer 70 seats for the two-year post graduate programme in management to start with. The tuition fee will be ₹ 3 lakh per academic year.

The institute plans to start the academic year on October 8, 2010. In order to apply, you need to have a minimum of 90 percentile in CAT 2009 if you are from the general category, 80 percentile for non-creamy-layer OBC, 70 percentile for SC and 50 percentile for ST. The list of shortlisted candidates will be announced on September 6. The interview process will take place between September 10 and 14 and the list of finalists will be released on September 25. IIM Ranchi and IIM Rohtak have already commenced their academic sessions. The fourth among the new IIMs at Trichy is yet to make any announcement concerning commencement of courses.

THE TOP 10   » PAGES 2-6

No.1 IIM-A

IIM-A attracts the best students and great teaching turns this raw talent into gold standard management ability

A WINDOW TO THE WORLD

IIM-B's massive exchange programme with 100 institutes in 26 countries prepares its students for the globalised world

NOW FOR THE WORLD

With nothing left to prove in India, IIM-Calcutta is eyeing an international accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business that will enable it to participate in global B-school rankings

WHAT THEY DON'T TEACH YOU AT ISB

Indian School of Business offers its students unparalleled peer group experience and out-of-class learning that money can't buy

A HUMANE SCHOOL

IIM-L teaches tomorrow's managers not to lose track of societal concerns. That's what differentiates it from others

COMPETITIVE AS WELL AS FRIENDLY

XLRI Jamshedpur has a tradition that emphasises academic rigour and fosters a community feeling

BREAKING MYTHS OF ELITISM

IIM-Indore sends its students deep into the Indian heartland to learn about real issues

WITHIN YOUR BUDGET

FMS offers what is probably the cheapest management degree among the top 50 B-schools in India

PROFITING FROM ETHICS

An innovative admissions process and a philosophy rooted in the Indian scriptures makes Mumbai's S.P. Jain a special B-school

TEACHING PRACTICALITY

Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management Studies believes management cannot be taught out of textbooks. So, all but five of its faculty are people who hold senior positions in industry

Hindustan Times ND 01/09/2010   p-10

Countdown to CAT

CAT 2010 is less than two months away, so make sure you write some mock tests, read a variety of books and divide preparation time judiciously

Vimal Chander Joshi
Vimal.joshi@hindustantimes.com

After completing his computer engineering from NIT Surathkal, Kunal Ahuja joined a consulting firm in Pune. He then applied for the CAT (Common Admission Test) 2009 and studied diligently for it for three hours every day after work.

Five months of toil paid off and Ahuja managed a 99.8 percentile. Currently a first-year student of IIM Lucknow, he attributes his success to a well-planned approach, regular practice of mock tests and smart ways of writing the test.

"Out of the three sections (quantitative ability, data interpretation and verbal ability), one should first attempt the questions one finds easy. The exam, which lasts for two hours and fif-teen minutes, should be divided into three slots of 45 minutes each. The difficult questions should be attempted after you've finished the easy portions," he says.

He believes the right planning and preparation helped him crack the exam.

"You should assess your strengths and accordingly plan your strategies. I was, for example, poor in the verbal part and in order to fill the deficit, did a lot of reading, which involved going through the edit pages of the *Hindustan Times*, the online edition of *The New York Times* and *The Economist*," says Ahuja.

Sandeep Goel, another student of IIM-L, who scored 99.9 percentile last year, says, "Try to read all the 'recommended' books instead of selecting study material at random."

Ahuja, however, has browsed through everything ranging from business maga-zines to books on social anthropology.

"CAT will sometimes quiz you on issues which do not link to the corporate world. So, it's advisable to pick out books on an array of subjects," says Ahuja.

Ahuja advises the students to be analytical. "They might ask whether the pas-sage is from the edit page of a newspaper or magazine. For such questions, one must learn to differentiate between various styles of writing," he advises.

As shared by Ulhas Vairagkar, director, Time Institute and faculty members, Career Launcher, Connaught Place Centre

Applying for the test

- The CAT vouchers will be available till September 27 at select branches of Axis Bank for ₹1400 (₹700 for SC/ST candidates). Visit *www.catiinm.in* for Axis Bank branches where vouchers are on sale
- After purchasing the CAT voucher, students have to register on the website *www.cati-im.in* and also watch the CAT 2010 video to get familiar with this year's exam format
- In order to avoid a repeat of last year's fiasco, the testing window has been extended to 20 days, between October 27 to November 24
- Results will be displayed on *www.catiim.in* from January 12

expert tips

- All the basics of each subject should be in place a month before the exams. If you have missed a couple of topics, don't start on them now because you can be expected to skip a few questions in the exam even if you know all the answers. Try to attempt a couple of mock tests, identify your weaknesses and work only on them in the remaining time
- Attempt mock tests and analyse your results two weeks before the exams

- How much time you devote to one subject now depends on the preparation you have done earlier. If you are well prepared in quantitative aptitude, then you can devote 60 per cent of the time to preparing for English. If we talk about last year, the verbal part was most critical in CAT scoring - and this is where humanities students traditionally score well
- Don't consider last year's paper as the yardstick for CAT's difficulty level because it was a couple of notches lower than the average level. If you want to practise mock papers, you must do it for 2008 and before. You must check out the videos uploaded by Prometric on *www.catiim.in*
- You might be an expert in quantitative aptitude or the verbal section and, can choose to start your paper from the section of your choice. But don't be disappointed because the difficulty level of the same section varies

on different examination days. Don't get bogged down. Just go with the flow of questions.
- English is very scoring. And to prepare for reasoning, one can attempt GMAT questions, as well. If you are comfortable solving GMAT questions, it will be quite easy to get through CAT
- English is based more on reasoning than on grammar. Answering questions in reading comprehension calls for a logical mind

CORP HIGH-FLIERS HEAD FOR CLASSROOM

Faculty of biz brains

Pros Make Shift To Academics; Enjoy 'Feeling Of Freedom', Giving Back To Society

Sreeradha D Basu
KOLKATA

IT'S three years since Prithwis Mukerjee quit his cushy job in the corporate sector to take up academics full-time.

Today, the former partner at PwC and director at IBM is a professor, teaching management information systems at IIT Kharagpur's Vinod Gupta School of Management (VGSOM). After 18 years of what he calls "being a footnote in the Great Indian Software Story", he couldn't be happier.

"The greatest satisfaction is the freedom to choose what I want to do," he says. "In the software industry, the greatest tragedy is that once you become a manager, or partner, or director, you are effectively a man manager. For a technically oriented person like me, this is claustrophobic. Then also, you have to follow the clients' dictates. That is where academics scores hands down. You have the luxury to focus on and work with things you really like."

For some like Mukerjee, it's the lure of the freedom. For some others, it's a calling, a way of giving back to society. Then there are those for whom it's a recipe for a more balanced life. The reasons vary. Notwithstanding that, educational institutes, mostly B-schools, are seeing an increasing number of people who have spent years in the corporate world, quitting their jobs and joining academics full time.

Take IIM Ahmedabad, for instance. The institute has over 22 full-time faculty with 2-5 years of industry experience and 21 with more than five years' experience. At IIM Calcutta, 55% faculty have prior industry experience with an average stint of 8.5 years. They represent a spectrum of areas including economics, marketing, finance, human resource, general management, management information system, operations, law and strategy. MDI Gurgaon has 18-odd faculty members with over 10 years industry experience. Other leading institutes, from the IIMs to Narsee Monjee to XLRI Jamshedpur, all have a significant number of faculty members with corporate backgrounds. HR experts say this trend has started gaining momentum as academic salaries have been on the uptrend. It's still a far cry from the UK or the US where a star professor can earn over a half-a-million dollars a year, but the differentials with the corporate sector have narrowed.

Leading HR firm, Ma Foi Randstad director and president E Balaji says, "Earlier an academic job would probably pay just about 20-30% of a corporate one, given the same qualifications. That was a huge entry barrier. Today, that has become 65-70%. So a lot of people are making the shift."

The move is happening primarily at two levels. Those who have spent the bulk of their careers in the corporate world, and now want to give back to society and work with young people. Then there are also those who are in their 30s-40s, at the peak of their career, but still want to make a change. "For the latter, with relatively lesser savings, the transition is more difficult," feels Balaji.

According to several such people who have bid the corporate world goodbye, an academic environment is intellectually more stimulating. Also, there's the fact that most leading institutes now offer plenty of scope for consultancy, more so to those with a strong corporate background. Like BB Chakraborty, professor of finance at IIM Calcutta, who spent 24 years in the manufacturing and financial services sectors, out of which five years were spent as president. After teaching in IIMC as visiting faculty for three years, he joined the institute as a permanent faculty, a job he's continued for the past nine years.

"The freedom here to pursue one's interests is enormous. What's more, you're in a community of great students and colleagues. As opposed to the corporate world where you are more delivery-oriented, here you have to be a thinker and also work for the community. My only regret is I didn't join earlier."

The transition for corporate professionals to academic life has also been helped by the fact that institutes are actively looking out for teachers with industry experience. "Management education is not just about lectures, but pedagogy that requires you to be in direct contact with the industry. Those with a corporate background are in demand," says a professor with a leading Mumbai-based B-school.

Some have benefited in other ways. For Samiksha Ojha, finance faculty at MDI Gurgaon, the decision to make a shift to academics after spending 14 years in the corporate world across India, Dubai and Abu Dhabi and even running her own management consultancy, was prompted by a desire to give more time to family. "Corporate life was very demanding and I thought it would be the right option," she says.

Overall, she says it's been a wonderful experience. "You get to interact with like-minded people, be in constant touch with your subject and being with the students, you keep going back to your own student life."

> **THE FREEDOM HERE TO PURSUE ONE'S INTERESTS IS ENORMOUS. AS OPPOSED TO THE CORPORATE WORLD WHERE YOU ARE MORE DELIVERY-ORIENTED, HERE YOU HAVE TO BE A THINKER AND ALSO WORK FOR THE COMMUNITY**
>
> **BB CHAKRABORTY** PROF, IIMC

Top left: Prithwis Mukerjee, former partner at PwC and IBM director, quit the corporate life after 18 years. He now teaches at VGSOM, IIT Kharagpur. Left: Samiksha Ojha, who spent 14 years in the corporate world, is now a faculty member of MDI Gurgaon. Above: IIMC professor BB Chakraborty spent 24 years in the manufacturing and financial services sectors

We'd love to hear from you. Reach us at cbl@timesgroup.com

Economic Times ND
01/09/2010   P-2

SLIPPING AGAIN

Govt fails to pass 3 bills

Our Political Bureau
NEW DELHI

THE concluding day of the monsoon session was another day of embarrassment for the government as it failed to pass three bills it intended to. Its singular achievement in the end was passage of the nuclear liability bill. The Educational Tribunal Bill, the Prevention of Torture Bill and the Waqf Board (Amendment) Bill were locked up for a variety of reasons. The latter two were referred to select committees in the Rajya Sabha while the Education Tribunal Bill was put in abeyance after Congress member K Keshava Rao raised a red flag.

The Opposition benches, acting on a cue, followed suit and they too put roadblocks, forcing HRD minister Kapil Sibal to defer a decision on its fate till the winter session.

A day earlier, the government had been forced to withdraw three bills listed for consideration and passing in the Lok Sabha — the Enemy Property (Amendment and Validation) Bill, the Orissa (Alteration of Name) Bill and the Constitution (113th Amendment) Bill, aimed at amending the Eighth Schedule. The developments, taken together, highlighted the poor floor management and shoddy homework on the part of the government managers during the just-concluded parliamentary session. The Opposition was quick to blame home minister P Chidambaram and the HRD minister for their failure to do proper homework for the fiasco.

SIBAL'S TROUBLE

Educational Tribunal Bill was put in abeyance after Congress member K Keshava Rao raised a red flag

The only silver lining was the government's success in getting the Civil Nuclear Liability Bill — a legislation which had evoked the hostility of the Opposition — cleared by Parliament. Minister of state for science and technology Prithviraj Chavan, who holds the independent charge of the ministry, managed, however, to break the deadlock by getting the non-Left Opposition on board after protracted negotiations with BJP and the Left parties. While the latter remained intransigent till the end, the principal Opposition party gave up its resistance after its concerns were fully addressed.

However, no such groundwork was done in the case of the other pieces of legislation. What was more discomforting for the government was the in-house troubles. In the case of the Educational Tribunal Bill, it was Mr Keshava Rao who led the revolt, while minister of state for minority affairs Salman Khursheed, who holds the independent charge of the ministry, instigated a group of Muslim MPs to launch a campaign against the Enemy Property (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance, promulgated by the government on July 2, 2010. Their protests forced the government to insert two amendments along with the bill drafted to replace the Ordinance, inviting the BJP's charge that they had altered the very character of the legislation. After the Samajawadi Party and RJD too declared their intention to oppose it, Mr Chidambaram was on Monday forced to inform the Lok Sabha that he was putting the bill on hold till the winter session.

Mint Nd 01.09.10 p-11

India to offer prize for cleanest stove

BY PADMAPARNA GHOSH
padmaparna.g@livemint.com
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NEW DELHI

In a bid to improve the health of women in rural areas, the government plans to institute a global prize for the cleanest and most efficient cooking stove in collaboration with a US-based non-profit agency and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi.

The website of XPrize Foundation, which works on education and innovation, said the partnership will help create a global competition to develop affordable and clean-burning cookstove technologies.

The move is part of the new and renewable energy ministry's national biomass cookstoves initiatives, launched in December 2009, said Gauri Singh, joint secretary at the ministry.

A clean cookstove technology can have a significant impact on reducing the emission of carbon dioxide, blamed by scientists for global warming and large-scale climate change, she said.

"We will also be able to get motivated teams on this project. Normally, in such processes, the teams can also put together financiers, which will take this project to reality. So it's not just a product in the lab but also the entire value chain which has a viable market and financiers," Singh added.

An estimated 80% of energy used for

Upgrade needed: Some 80% of energy used for cooking in India comes from biomass.

cooking in India comes from biomass; much of it is burnt in traditional stoves, or chulhas, that cause pollution and health problems.

Young girls and women collect and process the biomass used for cooking, wasting time they could have spent on education and other pursuits.

The ministry's biomass cookstoves initiative aims to provide a clean cooking energy option to 75% rural households and 22% urban households that use biomass for cooking.

Some years ago, the government had distributed 35 million cookstoves under another initiative—but it was discontinued.

Singh said the potential winner of the prize would have a good combustion chamber, be flexible enough to cook various kinds of cuisine and handle all kinds of biomass, as different regions use different sources for the fuel.

Mint could not contact the XPrize Foundation.

India has the largest number of people exposed to dirty household fuels, according to the Indian Council of Medical Research. More than a quarter of all deaths due to indoor air pollution in developing countries occur in India.

The World Health Organization puts the number of fatalities in India at 500,000 a year to indoor air pollution, of which a majority are women and children.

Ambuj Sagar, Vipula and Mahesh Chaturvedi chair and professor of policy studies at IIT-Delhi, is also involved in this initiative.

"The notion of an innovation prize is to induce it (innovation)," Sagar said. "Normally the government funds R&D (research and development), but here you are turning it around. There is a prize at the end and you only pay out when you already have achieved the objective. Plus, you have a limitless global talent pool to choose from."

**Statesman ND
01/09/2010 P4**

IAS aspirants
on fast

NEW DELHI, 31 AUG: Six civil service aspirants tonight went on an indefinite hunger strike asking the UPSC to declare the cut-off marks and the marks they secured in preliminary examinations.

The aspirants began their hunger strike near Batra Cinema in Mukherjee Nagar.

"We want justice. We want the UPSC to be transparent," said Angesh, one of the protestors.

The aspirants, who did not clear the prelims for which the results were declared earlier this month, demanded that the UPSC should come out with the cut-off marks for this year's preliminary examinations.

They also demanded that the marks secured for preliminary examinations be published. **pti**

India's Best
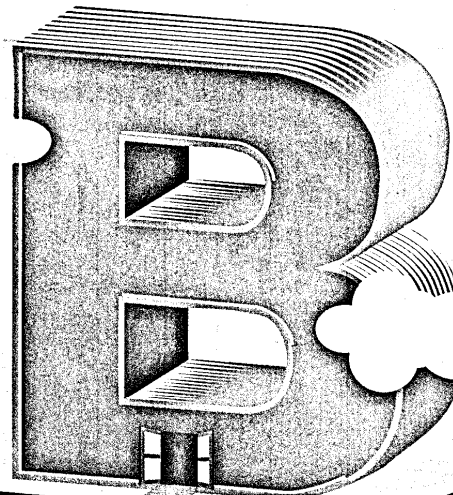
Schools
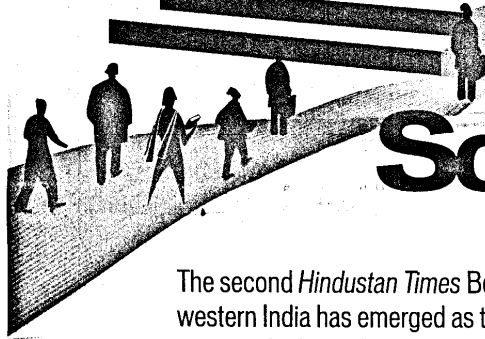
The second *Hindustan Times* Best B-schools in India Survey shows that western India has emerged as the cradle of management education in this country. And yes, the high-flying, big money jobs are returning

THINKSTOCK

Arnab Mitra
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Did you know?
Western India has four of India's Top 10 and nine of the nation's Top 20 B-schools, according to the second *Hindustan Times* Best B-schools in India Survey, which was carried out in collaboration with TNS India.

The north is next best; it has two of India's top 10 and five of its Top 20 business schools. The south and east each have two institutes in the first category and three in the second.

You can slice the data differently, but you'll still come to largely the same conclusion — that western India has emerged as the cradle of Indian management studies. Yes, the south has two of the Top five B-schools, but that's where its bragging rights end.

The 10th ranked institute south of the Vindhyas is the Tiruchirapally-based BIM. Its overall rank: 58th. By contrast, its counterpart in the west, Symbiosis SCMHR, clocks in at a highly respectable 25th rank overall.

The rest of the survey has few surprises – the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad, remains the numero uno B-school in the country, followed closely by IIM-Bangalore and IIM-Calcutta.

The only changes in the Top 10: Two Mumbai institutes, S.P. Jain Institute of Management & Research and Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management Studies clocked in at Nos 9 and 10, respectively, in place of DMS and IIFT, both of Delhi. This, in a way, confirms the conclusion about the west emerging as the cradle of management education in India.

Now for the really good news: Placement and salary figures show that the good times are back. High paying jobs have returned to the campuses, as have the blue-chip recruiters — McKinsey & Co., Booz Allen, P&G, HUL and ITC, among others.

But the most interesting findings of this survey remain the regional divide.

The east lags behind most in this regard. Once you're done with the likes of IIM-Calcutta, XLRI,

Jamshedpur and XIM, Bhubaneswar, the standard begins to fall off rather precipitously. Numbers 6, 7 and 8 in that region correspond to all-India composite ranks of 68, 69 and 70, respectively. In fact, the east is the only region for which this survey could not come up with a top 10 list. Reason: Only eight institutes from the region made it to the universe of 72 top B-schools, according to the 2009 *HT* Best B-schools in India Survey.

Rather sad for a region, which spawned India's first management school, All India Institute of Social Welfare and Management, which later became IISWBM.

Even if there wasn't much change in the composition of the Top 10 institutes, the survey found that several others, ranked slightly lower, had improved their rankings quite dramatically.

Mumbai's L.N. Welingkar Institute of Management, for example,

jumped from rank 43 in last year's *Hindustan Times* Best B-schools in India Survey to rank 16 this year, an improvement of 27 places.

We chose five such institutes at random to find out how they did it — the only caveat: they must have improved their rankings by at least five places.

These — Narsee Monjee, SIBM, XIME and IIM-Khozikode, apart from Welingkar — have been profiled in a separate section starting from Page 7. And three of these five institutes are — you guessed it — located in western India.

Incidentally, have you ever wondered why the IIMs, which are ranked so high in Indian surveys, seldom show up in global ones?

Apparently, it's because UK and US publications, which come out with the most prestigious global lists of Top B-schools, rate only those that are accredited to the Association to Advance Collegiate

Schools of Business (AACSB) — a universe comprising less than 5 per cent of the world's business schools.

Now, IIM-C is eyeing such an accreditation. "This will make our students more coveted in the international job market as well as attract more foreign students," said Sougata Ray, dean and professor in-charge of IIM-C's students exchange programme.

The institute is the first IIM to target this accreditation. Once IIM-C, and then, maybe, other IIMs get on board the AACSB, they should start showing up on global lists, adding yet more shine to the IIM brand.

THE MOST INTERESTING FINDINGS OF THIS SURVEY REMAIN THE REGIONAL DIVIDE. THE EAST LAGS BEHIND MOST IN THIS REGARD

India's Top 10 B-schools

This year's rank		Last year's rank
1	IIM-Ahmedabad	1
2	IIM-Bangalore	2
3	IIM-Calcutta	3
4	ISB, Hyderabad	4
5	IIM-Lucknow	5
6	XLRI, Jamshedpur	6
7	IIM-Indore	7
8	FMS, Delhi	8
9	S.P. Jain, Mumbai	15
10	Jamnalal Bajaj, Mumbai	11

Mint ND 01.09.10 p-11

Education tribunal Bill deferred in RS

New Delhi: The Union government on Tuesday was forced to defer the education tribunal Bill following strong oppositions from several parties including the ruling Congress in the Rajya Sabha (RS).

Members from the Congress, Bharatiya Janata Party and the Bahujan Samaj Party argued that the government should not rush the Bill.

PRASHANT K. NANDA ●

Tribune ND 01/09/2010 P-2

Cong MPs leave govt red-faced in RS

Education Bill deferred as they join Opposition protest

ASHOK TUTEJA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 31

The government today cut a sorry figure in the Rajya Sabha as Congress members joined a determined Opposition to force it to defer the consideration of a crucial education reforms Bill to the next session of Parliament.

Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal had to bow to the demand of all sections of the House on the Educational Tribunals Bill, which, among other things, provides for the establishment of educational tribunals for effective and expeditious adjudication of disputes involving teachers and other employees of higher educational institutions and other stakeholders.

The Bill has already been passed by the Lok Sabha. The government preferred not to press for division on the legislation in the Rajya Sabha since it does not have a majority in the House.

BJP members SS Ahluwalia, Ravi Shankar Prasad and Rama Jois, CPM members Sitaram Yechuri and Brinda Karat, D Raja of the CPI and others vociferously demanded that the Bill

be deferred in deference to the demand of the members. They contended that the legislation fell short of expectations of all sections of the House, including the Congress. In fact, Congress member K Kesava Rao had also pointed out certain flaws in the bill while participating

in the debate on it. The Opposition members also argued that the government had not even taken into consideration the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee of the HRD Ministry while drafting the bill.

Even as MPs from the

❝ We are not in anyway infringing upon the rights of the states. It's a significant piece of legislation and if members want a larger debate, we have no problem. **❞**
— Kapil Sibal, HRD Minister

Opposition raised a storm, Sibal was seen consulting Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pawan Kumar Bansal on what should be the government's response to the demand.

Subsequently, the HRD Minister said in view of the sentiments expressed by the members, the government would bring forward the legislation for consideration in the next session of Parliament.

He, however, disagreed with the members' apprehensions that the government would be undermining the rights of the states if the Bill were to be passed in its present shape.

MPs' salary Bill passed

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 31

The much talked about bill to hike salaries of MPs by over three times from Rs 16,000 to Rs 50,000 and doubling two of their key allowances to Rs 40,000 each was passed by Parliament today with the Rajya Sabha also giving its clearance to it.

The nod for the bill came even as a walk out protesting against the manner in which the salaries were being hiked and demanded a permanent solution to the process with an adequate mechanism in place. Replying to the debate on the Salary, Allowance and Pension of Members of Parliament

(Amendment) Bill, 2010, parliamentary affairs minister, Pawan Kumar Bansal said that the government sid that the government permanent mechanism for the revision of the MPs salaries and also gave an assurance that a committee would be set up for it.

Members during the debate had made a strong demand body to decide on their future pay. The bill proposed to raise the daily allowance of members from Rs 1,000 to Rs2,000 and the constituency and office expense allowances each from Rs 20,000 to Rs 40,000. — PTI

Statesman ND 01/09/2010   P11

Wearing thin

Over the years, the ability of bacteria to develop resistance and to pass it to other strains has progressed dramatically, says tapan kumar maitra. Which is why physicians shouldn't over-prescribe antibiotics both to humans and farm animals

ANTIBIOTICS — substances living organisms produce that are toxic to other living organisms — are significant for two basic reasons: they are extremely important in fighting diseases that afflict humans and farm animals and many of them are useful tools for analysing protein synthesis.

Some antibiotics impede the process of protein synthesis in a variety of ways, often poisoning bacteria selectively; the effectiveness of antibiotics normally derives from the metabolic differences between prokaryotes and eukaryotes. For example, an antibiotic that blocks a 70S bacterial ribosome without affecting an 80S human ribosome could be an excellent one. About 160 antibiotics have been discovered till date.

Puromycin

Puromycin resembles the 3' end of an aminoacyl-tRNA. It is bound to the A site of the bacterial ribosome where peptidyl transferase creates a bond from the nascent peptide attached to the transfer RNA in the P site to puromycin. Elongation can then no longer occur. The peptide chain is released prematurely and protein synthesis at the ribosome terminates.

Experiments with puromycin helped demonstrate the existence of the A and P sites of the ribosome. It was found that puromycin could not bind to the ribosome if translocation factor EF-G were absent. With EF-G, translocation took place and puromycin could then bind to the ribosome. Its ability to bind only after translocation indicates that a second site on the ribosome becomes available after translocation.

Hydroxypuromycin is synthesised to replace the commonly used substrate puromycin.
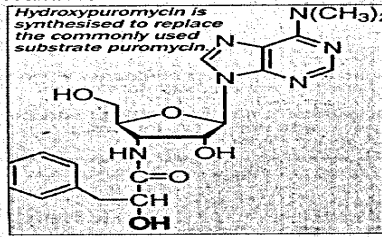
Streptomycin, tetracycline & chloramphenicol

Streptomycin, which binds to one of the proteins (protein S12) of the 30S subunit of the prokaryotic ribosome, inhibits initiation of protein synthesis. Streptomycin also causes misreading of codons if chain initiation has already begun, presumably by altering the conformation of the ribosome so that transfer RNAs are less firmly bound to it. Bacterial mutants that are streptomycin-resistant, as well as mutants that are streptomycin-dependent (they cannot survive without the antibiotic), occur. Both types of mutants have altered 30S subunits, specifically changed in protein S12.

Tetracycline blocks protein synthesis by preventing an aminoacyl-tRNA from binding to the A site on the ribosome.

Chloramphenicol blocks protein synthesis by binding to the 50S subunit of the prokaryotic ribosome where it blocks the peptidyl transfer reaction. Chloramphenicol does not affect the eukaryotic ribosome. However, chloramphenicol as well as several other antibiotics is used cautiously because the mitochondrial ribosomes within eukaryotic cells are very similar to prokaryotic ribosomes.

Some of the antibiotics that affect prokaryotic ribosomes also affect mitochondria. As recent research has substantiated, the similarity between bacteria and mitochondria implies that the latter has a prokaryotic origin. (Similarities between cyanobacteria and chloroplasts also support the idea that chloroplasts have a prokaryotic origin.)

Over the years, antibiotics have virtually eliminated certain diseases from the industrialised world. They have also made modern surgery possible by preventing serious infections that tend to follow surgery. Antibiotics have been so successful that, in the 1980s, many pharmaceutical companies drastically cut back the development of new antibiotics. However, a disaster is in the making, as physicians over-prescribe antibiotics to people and farm animals: bacteria are not prepared to take this onslaught without fighting back.

Mutation takes place all the time at a low but dependable rate. Thus, resistant bacteria are constantly arising from sensitive strains. We can select for penicillin- and streptomycin-resistant strains of bacteria in the laboratory by allowing the antibiotic to act as a selective agent, removing all but the resistant individuals. The same sort of artificial selection that we can apply in the lab applies every time a person or animal takes an antibiotic. We have surely reached that point where the ability of bacteria to develop resistance and to pass that resistance to other strains has developed dramatically and this calls for caution.

The process of evolution works amazingly fast in bacteria because of their ubiquity, large population size and the ability to transfer genetic material between individuals. We may shortly find ourselves as we were before World War II when even simple infections in hospitals turned lethal. As of now, only one antibiotic can keep the common and potentially deadly infectious bacterium staphylococcus under control — vancomycin. But several types of disease-causing bacteria have already evolved a tolerance to vancomycin.

The answer to this potentially disastrous problem is to develop new antibiotics and reduce the irresponsible use of antibiotics in people and animals. Hopefully, the warning bell has been sounded. Pharmaceutical companies are developing at least a dozen new antibiotics to counter lethal bacteria.

The writer is associate professor of botany, Ananda Mohan College, Kolkata

Statesman ND 01/09/2010   P11

On the road to creating a 'smarter planet'

The world will continue to become smaller, flatter... and smarter, writes puneet gupta. And Information Technology is vital for improving our lives and seizing the future

INFORMATION Technology does matter... and a lot at that, if only because IT is harnessed not just for technology's sake but for adding meaningful value to business, society and the planet. As technologies, markets and social conventions have evolved over years, it is critical to calibrate new approaches for stimulating innovation, enriching lives, building smarter cities and making the world a better place. How do we achieve that? How do we make our lives better? How do we make our cities smarter? What must we do to improve? We won't find the answers if we treat these as rhetorical questions and relegate them to think tanks and ivory towers.

. Let's consider cities. Homes to more than half the world's population, they can be seen as complex networks of components: citizens, businesses, transport, communications, water, energy, city services and other systems. Citizens and businesses rely on infrastructure systems for their activities and wellbeing. Improvements – or disruptions – in transportation, communications and utility systems can have a dramatic impact on the daily activities of citizens and businesses. City services integrate and coordinate the activities taking place in the other components. Understanding how cities improve and change through the lens of these elements offers cities new perspectives on the progress they are making toward achieving strategies and objectives.

Cities continue to develop and refine their economic and social goals and the strategies to achieve these. The performance of core systems of today's cities is fundamental to social and economic progress. A new generation of solutions that capitalises on instrumented, interconnected and intelligent capabilities can be applied against virtually any of a city's core systems. Faced with major challenges, these systems can be improved and optimised through the application of smart IT solutions.

Instrumentation enables cities to gather more high-quality data in a timely fashion than ever before. For example, utility meters and sensors that monitor the capacity of the power generation network can be used to continually gather data on supply and demand of electricity. The pervasiveness and low cost of existing devices and sensors, like gas, electricity and water meters, offer the ability to measure, sense and understand the exact condition of virtually anything. Add to that new sensors and devices that offer further data gathering possibilities, such as Radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags. These existing and new sensors and devices can now be embedded across key city systems as a first step in addressing and solving many of the challenges cities face, ranging from improving library services to maintaining sewerage systems.

Besides, interconnection creates links among data, systems and people in ways not previously possible. For example, billions of people will use the Internet. Soon, the world will be populated by more than a trillion connected and intelligent things, such as cars, appliances, cameras, roadways and pipelines, collectively creating an "Internet of things". These interconnections enable communication and coordination among objects, people and systems across the city framework, opening up new ways to gather and share information.

Also, intelligence in the form of new kinds of computing models and new algorithms enables cities to generate predictive insights for informed decision making and action. Combined with advanced analytics and ever-increasing storage and computing power, these new models can turn the mountains of data generated into intelligence to create insight as a basis for action. For example, statistical models with time-dependent data feeds to predict traffic flows can be used to adjust and optimise congestion pricing according to need.

A new generation of solutions that capitalises on instrumented, interconnected and intelligent capabilities is emerging and can be applied against virtually any of a city's core systems. Further, they can help illuminate the interactions among different systems, giving leaders a better understanding of what's happening in their cities
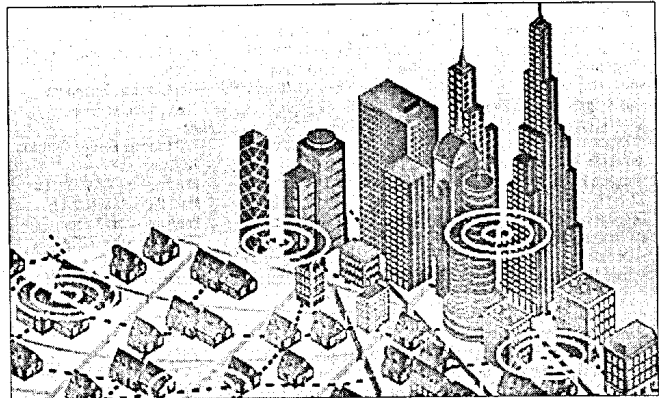
and allowing for more effective action as a result. For instance, IBM is installing a smart grid at Malta – a group of islands in the Mediterranean sea – which will integrate both water and power systems and be able to identify water leaks and electricity losses in the grid. IBM is intent on using IT to create many such "smart grids" all over the world, including India, in a bid to create a "smarter planet". The reason is simple: every minute during the next 20 years, 30 Indians will leave rural India for urban areas. India will need some 500 new cities, and if they are smarter, the better for us.

Indeed, cities around the world are becoming smarter. For example, intelligent traffic systems adjust the lights and signals in real time, controlling the speed of traffic and directing the flow to less-congested routes. Sensor technologies, GPS and satellites can provide drivers with information to help them choose the best routes during peak travel times. Stockholm has already reduced peak hour traffic by 20 per cent. The predictive traffic system in Singapore is nearly 90 per cent accurate.

To take advantage of how smarter city approaches can help advance those strategies, city authorities and stakeholders need to understand how their city is performing today and where progress is being achieved in infusing intelligence into their systems. This calls for a systematic

assessment of a city's position in relation to its peers. Such an assessment can identify and help communicate emerging strengths and weaknesses. Indeed, it can highlight where real progress is occurring and inform a plan for future improvements and help cities prioritise actions.

However, that progress can only come if successes also occur simultaneously on all of the four fronts: political, economic, social and technological, not just along one dimension. National and regional governments have a central, indeed crucial, role to play in leading their citizens and institutions through economic development. The only way to achieve this and thrive in today's increasingly challenging environment is by innovating — in technologies, in strategies and in business models.

Today, what matters most is the value that arises from a creation and not just technology for its sake. There is an intense need to "think collaboratively" and in a multifaceted manner. There is a growing hunger for fundamentally new approaches. The world will continue to become smaller, flatter... and smarter. We are moving into the age of the globally integrated and intelligent economy, society and planet. And, IT is vital for making our lives better, and seizing the future.

The writer is vice-president, Public Sector, IBM India and South Asia

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Business Line ND 01/09/2010   P-1

Education loan defaults rising

Shobha Roy
Kolkata, Aug. 31

Education loans, a segment with lowest defaults among all other retail loans so far, have seen a sudden spurt in NPAs (non-performing assets) due to the shrinking job markets following the global economic meltdown.

The defaults have been higher in loans below Rs 4 lakh, which are given without any collateral, according to senior bank officials.

Indian Bank, for instance, has bad loans worth Rs 80 crore on its books as on June 30, 2010, according to its Chairman and Managing Director, Mr T.M. Bhasin. "We have witnessed some loans in the below Rs 4 lakh category going bad recently. We are tracking the students and trying to work out the recovery methods. The rise in delinquency is due to the lack of proper placements on completion of the course," Mr Bhasin told *Business Line*.

The bank's education loan outstanding was at Rs 2,700 crore as on June 30. The bank plans to extend the tenure of loan to help the students repay the amount.

"We are planning one-year relaxation in order to give some breathing space to the

students," he said. Banks are also encouraging students to look at alternative job options such as BPOs in order to help them repay the loan on time.

"Though no cases of NPAs have been reported as yet, there is a cause for concern as in some cases it is difficult to track the students. But banks are taking a cautious approach," said Mr K.R. Kamath, Chairman and Managing Director, Punjab National Bank.

The defaults have been higher for loans given for courses in B-grade engineering or management colleges as these do not guarantee as-

sured placements, said a senior official at a public sector bank.

State Bank of India, Bengal Circle, has also witnessed a rise in NPAs from such loans. "There has been a clear rise in NPAs from such loans; so, we are stepping up the recovery methods. Students already get a one year moratorium on such loans. This can further be extended to 18-24 months depending on the case," said Mr Sureinder Kumar, Chief General Manager, SBI, Bengal Circle.
>>More on the Web:
**www.businessline.in/**
webextras

Signalling rift within, Cong MP slams Sibal, stalls Bill

ANUBHUTI VISHNOI & D K SINGH

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 31

THERE were several red faces in the government today when the Education Tribunal Bill, piloted by Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal, had to be deferred in the Rajya Sabha after his party colleague K Keshava Rao lambasted the Minister calling him a "first-class file pusher" whose "thoughts run faster than (his) deeds."

The Bill, that aims to set up a two-tier mechanism—one at the Centre and one in the state — for speedy disposal of education-related disputes had smoothly sailed through the Lok Sabha on August 26 with the full support of the Opposition.
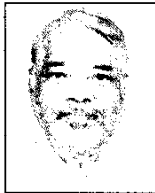
K KESHAVA RAO: Had attacked Naxal policy too

An upset Sibal called on the Prime Minister later this evening and is learnt to have complained of "mismanagement" in the House.

If the discussion on the Bill was opened by BJP's Balwant Bal Apte who recorded his "total disappointment over educational reforms," the tone was set by Rao.

A permanent invitee to the Congress Working Committee, Rao said that while the Minister was "thinking right on these reformist measures", this was "not backed up by the kind of implementation machinery that it requires".

The standing committee on HRD, headed by Oscar Fernandes, had called the Bill "hastily drafted" without proper consultation with state

Congress MP slams Sibal, stalls Bill

governments, Central University VCs and private sector stakeholders.

It had noted that most states had not approved the legislation and pointed out that "unfair practices" by educational institutions were not properly defined.

It also didn't endorse the proposed appointment of three Secretaries in the national-level tribunals saying that would lead to "over-bureaucratisation."

"None of your Bills, the Right to Education Bill or this Bill or any other Bill that has come before this House has yielded the desired results...Education Minister is nothing but a first-class file pusher...of the administrative system", Rao said.

When the House broke for lunch, Sibal's deputy,

D Purandeshwari — also from Andhra Pradesh like Rao — stopped by to speak to Rao about his outburst but the damage had been done. Most speakers echoed Rao and although the Congress MP said he didn't oppose the Bill, the chorus for a deferral grew louder with the BJP — much to the surprise of many of its own leaders — following suit.

BSP's Satish Chandra Mishra said that if the effort of the standing committee was to be treated as a "dustbin article", these committees should be abolished. CPM's K N Balagopal said the Bill impinged on the rights of state governments. And JD(U)'s N K Singh questioned the urgency of bringing the Bill barely 10

days after the standing committee's recommendations and said that "trampling" on these was contrary to the spirit in which these committees were formed.

Sibal said the Ministry would incorporate the committee's recommendations in the rules to be framed and agreed to defer the Bill to the next session. "No reform is perfect, no legislation is perfect. Legislation is always evolutional," said Sibal.

Sources in the Congress said that Rao's attack betrayed a divide within the party. It was Rao who had initiated the debate on the killing of CRPF personnel in Dantewada in the last session of Parliament and had criticised the government's anti-Naxal policy.

Rao is also said to enjoy the support of senior Congress leaders like Janardan Dwivedi who was once in the race for the HRD Ministry.

Congress sources said that Sibal's reforms in the education sector are also said to have hurt the interest of many powerful lobbies, including politicians with direct or an indirect interest in this sector.

Along with the Educational Tribunals Bill, Sibal has been pushing two other bills, the National Accreditation Regulatory Authority Bill and the Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill. The Tribunal Bill is critical to these two since it sets up the overall grievance-re-

dressal mechanism.

Rao had to quit his post as Andhra Pradesh PCC chief after his son was embroiled in allegations of murder in 2007. He has never won an election. Yet, he was later inducted as a permanent invitee to the CWC and given charge of Jharkhand and West Bengal.

"Now we have to see how the party high command reacts to this trend in the party and the government. One day, you have Janardan Dwivedi issuing a circular cautioning leaders like Digvijay Singh against speaking out of turn and the next day you have Dwivedi himself attacking the Home Minister for his saffron terror remark," said a senior Congress leader.

Political & Business Daily ND
01-Sep-10   p-1

Govt left red-faced over education Bill

PBD BUREAU/PTI

NEW DELHI, AUG 31   .

THE Government faced embarrassment in the Rajya Sabha today as it was forced to defer a key education reforms Bill following strong opposition from members cutting across party lines.

HRD Minister Kapil Sibal had to make a hasty retreat after the Education Tribunal Bill, 2010 came under all round attack including from senior Congress leader K Keshava Rao.

This is despite the fact that the bill, seeking to create a mechanism for providing speedy resolution of disputes pertaining to higher education institutions, was passed by Lok Sabha on August 26. UPA does not have a majority in the Upper House.

"Considering the sentiments of honourable members of this House, I request that the consideration of the bill be deferred to the next session," Sibal said.

The minister at the same time disagreed with the apprehensions expressed by the opposition saying, "We are not in anyway infringing upon the rights of the states. It's a significant piece of legislation and if members want a larger debate, we have no problem."

Business Line ND 01/09/2010   P-5

Advertising body drafts code for educational sector

Our Correspondent
Madurai, Aug. 31
The Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI), the apex self-regulatory body for advertising content of the Indian advertising industry, has proposed a new set of guidelines for the educational sector.

The new guidelines will apply to ads of all educational institutions, coaching classes and educational programmes. The draft of the guidelines has been put up for review, feedback and suggestions on ASCI's official website — *www.ascionline.org.*

The Council has called its members, educationists, institutions and the general public, to send in their suggestions and feedback on the proposed guidelines by September 6 to The Secretary General of ASCI. According to Prof. Dhananjay Keskar, ASCI's Chairman and Director, IBS Pune, who also heads the committee for drafting the guidelines, ASCI has been receiving several intra-industry complaints against claims being made in ads of various educational institutions and many students and parents too have complained against claims made in advertisements by educational institutions.

GUIDELINES
The proposed guidelines prohibit institutions and programmes from claiming recognition, authorisation, accreditation, or affiliations without having proper evidence. The guidelines also require that the name and place of the Affiliated Institution, which provides degrees and diplomas on behalf of the Advertiser who may not be accredited by a mandatory authority, is also prominently displayed in the ad. **>>More on the Web: www.businessline.in/ webextras**

Can we make bureaucrats human?

B.S.RAGHAVAN

OFFHAND

It is an unvarnished truth that in whatever seminar or public meeting I have attended, any reference to bureaucracy has always been in critical, and even abusive, terms. The adjectives used in conjunction with it range all the way from wooden, insensitive, unresponsive and lethargic at the milder end of the spectrum to arrogant, heartless, obstructive, even inhuman, at the more bitter end.

Whatever the description, it is the universal belief that not only are bureaucrats hand in glove with the politicians in power in the scams and rackets surfacing almost at the rate of a dozen a day, but it is they who put the politicians wise on the opportunities available for illegal gratification and lay the groundwork for the fleecing process.

Indeed, for a long time, people have been grading individual bureaucrats, belonging to even Central and All-India Services, as pro-this or that party or favourites of this or that politician or Minister.

That is why the Election Commission is hard put to it to find and post for election duty officials who can be trusted to be truly impartial; often, it is also compelled to demand transfer of particular officials to ensure free and fair elections. The number of such politically-tainted officials is rapidly on the increase.

The ugly surprise is that all bureaucrats, without exception, know all that is said about them, and yet they have shown no sign in all the 63 years after India attained Independence of changing for the better and earning the appreciation of the public. It is not just that their stock continues to be low; they seem to sink deeper and deeper into the mire of obloquy.

Of course, it would be unfair to tar all of them with the same brush. There have undoubtedly been public-spirited and incorruptible souls who have lived up to their role as public servants and reached out to people needing their help. But such persons are rare.

BRINGING DISCREDIT

All the pre-existing and deep-seated revulsion against bureaucrats erupted once again over the recent imbroglio resulting from the unconscionable delay in clearing the proposal of the Hyderabad University to confer an honorary doctorate on India's Chess legend, Vishwanath Anand. Since it was a Central University, and the President of India was its statutory Visitor, it had no go, for the sake of form, but to forward the proposal to the Ministry of Human Resources Development (HRD) for obtaining the Visitor's approval.

Whoever was the official of whatever designation in the bureaucratic dovecotes of HRD, (s)he should have realised, immediately on spotting the name of Anand, that the file has to be attended to with the utmost speed, and taken it personally to the Minister, if necessary, seeking directions on any objections or doubts (s)he might have had. Instead, (s)he handled the matter in typically sluggish fashion, unmindful of the discredit (s)he brought on the Government and the Minister. Thereby, (s)he fully justified all the abuses hurled at bureaucracy.

What is the remedy? Those who see the IAS as the epicentre of all the evils afflicting bureaucracy exclaim: "Abolish IAS!". Mr Narayana Murthy, founder of Infosys, wants it replaced with an Indian Management Service. What if the IMS follows suit over time? Will a change of name make the incumbents more human?

Unlikely, since the root cause is the feudal, authoritarian ethos of the country which, regardless of the Service or the post or the sector — private, public or corporate — in which one works, has certain inborn traits.

Let no one be under any illusion that private business enterprises are less bureaucratic than government.

So, how do we make bureaucrats, wherever they are, sensitive human beings? Upbringing, value education, training, example, punishment, or all of these?

Indian Express, ND 01/09/2010 p-16

Govt to set up food tech & management institute

NUPUR SINGH

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 31

UNION Food Processing Industries Minister Subodh Kant Sahai said on Tuesday that the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) is being set up on 100 acres of land at Kundli in Sonepat, Haryana. The institute will cater to the needs of all stakeholders such as entrepreneurs, industry, exporters, policy makers, government and research institutions.

Speaking at the 2nd edition of the *Processed Foods: Advantage India 2010* conference organized in the capital by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Sahai said, "The Ministry is also taking some early steps through policy change to integrate the rural markets with the global market chain to facilitate exports and the growth of the Food Processing industry."

The meet was attended by 43 international buyers and 80 Indian companies showcasing their products. Conference chairman Piruz Khabmatta said, "Primarily a Business to Business(B2B) forum, this meet helps both the international buyers and the Indian exporters to understand the needs and constraints of each other and will help to deliver better in all aspects of trade.

Sahai added, "The strategic importance of the Indian Processed Food Sector cannot be overstated and the export potential offered by the Indian food processing industry is huge."

According to the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MOFPI), the world food industry, which stands at $175 billion, is expected to grow up to $400 billion by 2025. The Indian food industry is slated to reach $310 billion in 2015.

Business Standard ND 01/09/2010   p-5

GOVT FORCED TO DEFER KEY EDUCATION REFORMS BILL

Government faced embarrassment in the Rajya Sabha today as it was forced to defer a key education reforms Bill, following strong opposition from members cutting across party lines. HRD Minister Kapil Sibal had to make a hasty retreat after the Education Tribunal Bill, 2010, came under all-round attack, including from senior Congress leader K Keshava Rao.

This is despite the fact that the Bill, seeking to create a mechanism for providing speedy resolution of disputes pertaining to higher education institutions, was passed by the Lok Sabha on August 26. UPA does not have a majority in the Upper House. "Considering the sentiments of honourable members of this House, I request that the consideration of the Bill be deferred to the next session," Sibal said. The minister

Union HRD Minister Kapil Sibal

at the same time disagreed with the apprehensions expressed by the opposition, saying, "We are not in any way infringing upon the rights of the states. It's a significant piece of legislation and if members want a larger debate, we have no problem."

The decision to defer the Bill followed uproar by the opposition members over Sibal's observation that he is ready to "bow down" if there was any "substance" in the opposition. Irked by the remark, BJP and BSP members were on their feet, demanding the minister to withdraw the remarks which forced Sibal to apologise if his remarks "cast any aspersion on any member". Senior Congress leader K Keshava Rao, who earlier said that "this kind of hasty legislation does not augur well", later said he was not opposed to the Bill. "I supported the Bill," he said, welcoming the "reformist approach of the minister".

Defending the Bill earlier, Sibal said the government is doing something that is required. "I believe some of the Standing Committee recommendations will be taken care of through rules," he added. He said there was "not a single note of dissent" from any state or any stakeholder to the Bill and the four non-Congress ruled states — Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Kerala — have sent formal letters of support.

Financial Express ND 01/09/2010   **P12**

UN climate panel urged to reform, stick to science

United Nations, Aug 31: The UN climate panel should make predictions only when it has solid evidence and should avoid policy advocacy, scientists said in a report on Monday that called for thorough reform of the body.

The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was widely criticised after admitting its 2007 global warming report wrongly said Himalayan glaciers would vanish by 2035 and that it overstated how much of the Netherlands is below sea level.

Such firm forecasts should be made "only when there is sufficient evidence", said a review group supported by the academies of science from the United States, Netherlands, Britain and around 100 other countries.

Critics of the idea of mandatory limits on so-called greenhouse gas emissions have said the IPCC errors show the science behind global warming is questionable.

The UN has been concerned about that focusing only on errors by the panel, which shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize with former US vice-president Al Gore for work on global warming, could undermine the broader UN message that climate change is a real phenomenon requiring urgent action.

The report said the IPCC's mandate calls for it to be "policy relevant" without advocating specific policies. But some senior IPCC officials have been criticised for remarks that appeared to support specific policy approaches.

"Straying into advocacy can only hurt IPCC's credibility," the report said.

The review said the limit of two six-year terms for the chair of the IPCC, currently Rajendra Pachauri of India, was too long and should be shortened to one term, as should the terms of other senior officials on the UN climate panel.

The report did not call for replacing Pachauri, the IPCC chairman since 2002. Asked if he would resign if requested to by the IPCC's 194 member states in October when they discuss the scientists' recommendations, Pachauri told reporters he would abide by any decision the UN climate panel made.
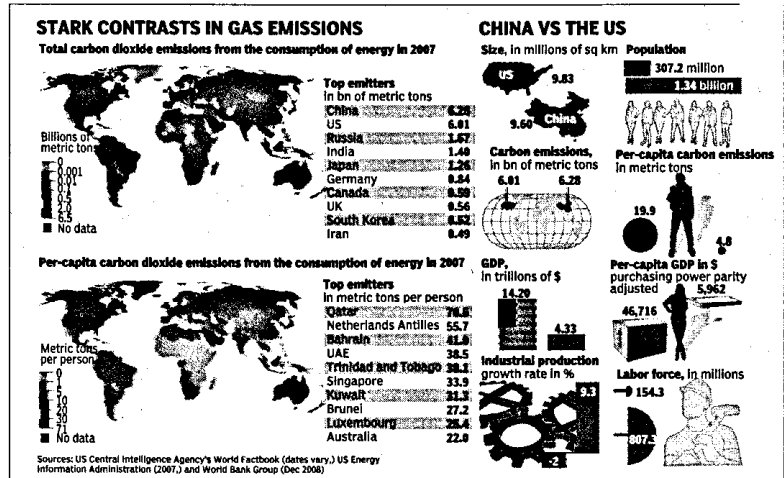
The report also called for an overhaul of the panel's management, including the creation of an executive committee that would include people from outside the IPCC.

The review touched on concerns about Pachauri's work as an adviser and board member for energy firms, as well as IPCC scientists reviewing their own work. The report noted the IPCC lacks a conflict of interest policy and recommended it adopt a "rigorous" one to avoid biases.

UN secretary-general Ban Ki-moon has acknowledged there were mistakes in what is known as the Fourth Assessment Report published in 2007, a document of more than 3,000 pages that cited more than 10,000 scientific papers. But he has insisted its fundamental conclusions were correct.

Ban's office issued a statement welcoming the review of the IPCC and reiterating he "firmly maintains that the fundamental science on climate change remains sound".

Harold Shapiro, a Princeton University professor and chair of the committee that reviewed the IPCC's work, told reporters one IPCC report "contains many statements that were assigned high confidence but for which there is little evidence".

Shapiro said the IPCC's response to errors when they were subsequently revealed was "slow and inadequate". The errors, he said, "Did dent the credibility of the process."
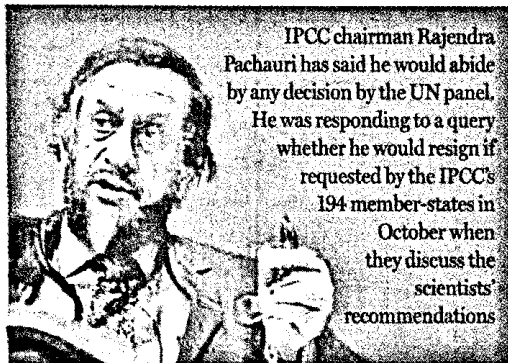
Asked about the Himalayan glaciers error, Shapiro said: "In our judgment, it came from just not paying close enough attention to what (peer) reviewers said about that example."

Pachauri said the IPCC "will be strengthened by the (scientists') review and others of its kind this year."

But Shapiro made clear the review did not assess the validity of the science behind the IPCC reports, leaving open the possibility the panel could face a new wave of attacks from its critics.

The next IPCC report on climate change will be published in 2013 and 2014.   *Reuters*

IPCC chairman Rajendra Pachauri has said he would abide by any decision by the UN panel. He was responding to a query whether he would resign if requested by the IPCC's 194 member-states in October when they discuss the scientists' recommendations

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STARK CONTRASTS IN GAS EMISSIONS

Total carbon dioxide emissions from the consumption of energy in 2007

Billions of metric tons

Top emitters
in bn of metric tons

China	6.24
US	6.01
Russia	1.67
India	1.40
Japan	1.26
Germany	0.84
Canada	0.59
UK	0.56
South Korea	0.52
Iran	0.49

■ No data

Per-capita carbon dioxide emissions from the consumption of energy in 2007

Metric tons per person

Top emitters
in metric tons per person

Qatar	79.8
Netherlands Antilles	55.7
Bahrain	41.6
UAE	38.5
Trinidad and Tobago	38.2
Singapore	33.9
Kuwait	31.3
Brunei	27.2
Luxembourg	25.4
Australia	22.8

■ No data

Sources: US Central Intelligence Agency's World Factbook (dates vary,) US Energy Information Administration (2007,) and World Bank Group (Dec 2008)

CHINA VS THE US

Size, in millions of sq km **Population**

US 9.83 ■ 307.2 million
China 9.60 ■ 1.34 billion

Carbon emissions,
in bn of metric tons
US 6.01 China 6.28

Per-capita carbon emissions
in metric tons
US 19.9 China 4.8

GDP,
in trillions of $
US 14.20 China 4.33

Industrial production growth rate in %
US -2 China 9.3

Per-capita GDP in $
purchasing power parity adjusted
US 46,716 China 5,962

Labor force, in millions
US 154.3 China 807.3

Phillipines calling Indian champs

Aditya Garg, 16, has made a robot which climbs a pillar and catches a ball and then on its own comes down and then repeats the same feat the second time over *sans* any glitches. With Raghav Kochar and Sarthak Vaish, Aditya won the High School level Robot Olympiad and the three are now going to represent India at the World Robotic Olympiad in Phillipines in November this year.

Making a robot was a long process for the trio and the work was equally distributed among them. They first started out by making the mechanism for climbing, then the mechanism of making the robot move further and finally concluded with the basic programming of the gadget. It was all a step-by-step process the youngsters followed. Now, the challenge lies at the International level where each robot has to be faster than the other to compete.

The Indian Robot Olympiad was organised at Genesis Global School, Noida on August 28, 2010. Over 50 schools participated in the competition, including Amity International School, New Delhi, Vasant Valley School, New Delhi, Saupins School, Mohali and Chandigarh, Young Scholars School, Barnala, St John's High School, Chandigarh.

The Indian Robot Olympiad was held in three categories — primary school, junior high school and senior high. There were around 100 teams across India which participated in the event and the two winning teams from each category will represent India in the World Robot Olympiad.

Vineet Joshi, CBSE Chairman, who was also the chief guest, said: "Education should be related to environment where the child is a co-learner. Textbooks are just the beginning and the child has to learn through play way methods. CBSE has started out with this 'Parent Advocate' system whereby a parent himself talks to other parents and guardians to encourage this type of practical learning." Participating students showcased their talent and demonstrated the capabilities of their robots which were created using Lego Mindstorms Education NXT kits.

These students are the part of Robotics for schools programme started out in India through Techtronics Education (India) Ltd. Displaying exceptional acumen for robotics, children aged between 9-17 years created and programmed various robots to solve complex challenges.

The Director of Genesis Global School, Pramod Sharma said: "Education is a way to stimulate a child's mind and since we are blessed by this infrastructure, I am happy that such an event is organised here. Currently the school is from nursery to eighth standard with around 210 students in total but we wish to extend it to 12 so that more children can learn and apply their education".

As the event took place in three categories namely, primary level in which the participants were aged 12 or below, junior high level where the participants were 12-15 years of age and finally senior high level with 15-17 year olds.

The difficulty level and the challenge of the tasks which the robot has to perform increased by each level for students. In the primary level, St Johns, Chandigarh came at the second position and DAV Public School, Panipat was the winner. At the Junior High level, St Johns, Chandigarh scored the second position again and Mount Carmel, Chandigarh were declared the winner. At the Senior High level, Galaxy School, Rajkot were at the second position and Amity, Noida were the winners.

The winning team of Elementary level consisted of two students, Arsh Shah Dilbagi and Prerak Sachdeva. Both the students were too excited to receive the award and Arsh candidly said: "It was very difficult to make this robot. We had got a trap as the challenge which the robot has to successfully cross. I spent 16 hours per day to make this robot and after the hard work of 10 days managed to complete it.

"At the time of the event I had to actually change the programming of the robot as it was manual and I had to turn it into automatic. I was very nervous initially but am happy that finally the hard work has paid off".

— Anubha Singh

Education should be related to environment where the child is a co-learner. Textbooks are just the beginning and students should be made to learn through play-way methods

Pioneer ND 01-Sep-10

P-14
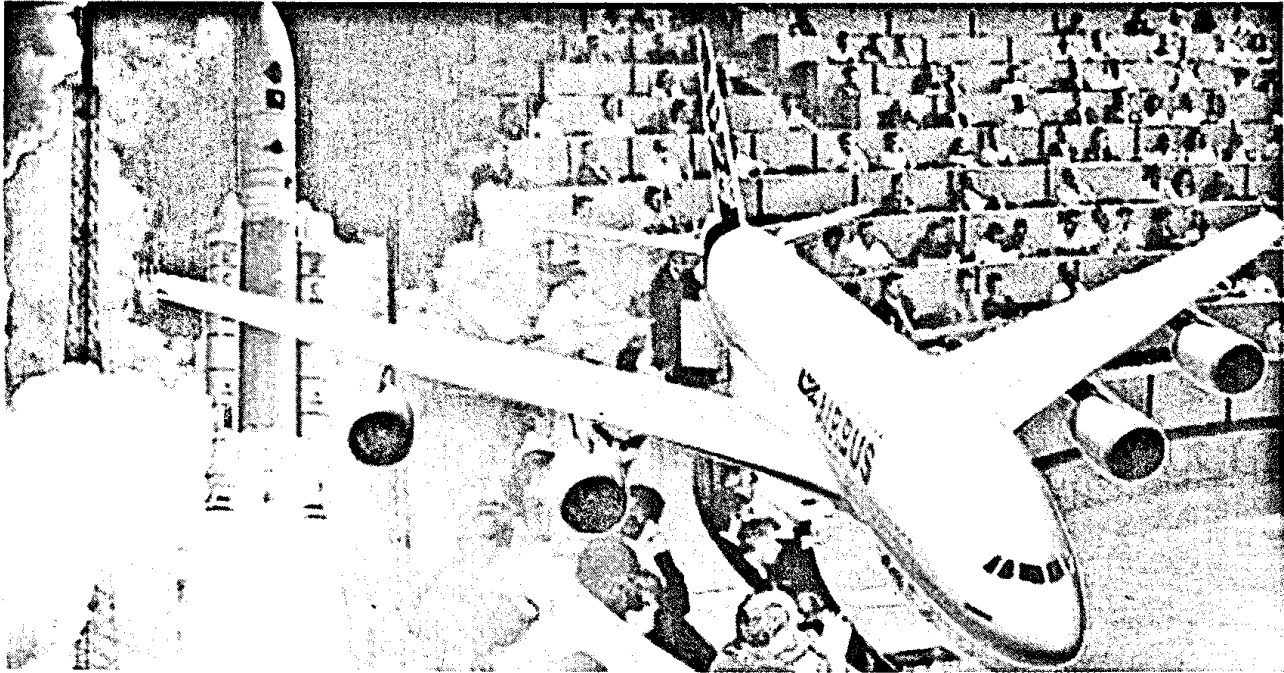
Fly high

If you have a technical bent of mind and aviation industry thrills you, then a career in Aeronautical Engineering is the one for you. ANUBHA SINGH tells you more

Once, few students of Aeronautical Engineering had an opportunity to meet former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam and during the course of interview they asked about the future opportunities of an Aeronautical Engineer in India. Kalam replied smilingly: "Well! you are talking to one who is now the president of India."

Under the Open Sky Policy one after another aviation companies are being opened and the strengths of old companies are being increased day-by-day in Indian aviation market. More aviation companies will increase the number of aircraft for whose maintenance and up-keep, the demand for Aeronautical Engineers will also grow.

The field deals with the development of new technology in the field of aviation, space exploration and defense systems. It specialises in the designing, construction, development, testing, operation and maintenance of both commercial and military aircraft, spacecraft and their components, as well as satellites and missiles.

As aerospace engineering involves design and manufacture of highly precise technology systems and the job requires manual, technical as well as mechanical aptitude. Aeronautical engineers usually work in teams under the supervision of senior engineers, bringing together their skills and technical expertise. Though highly paid, the work is very demanding. An aeronautical engineer needs to be physically fit and fully dedicated to his work. One needs to be alert, have an eye for detail and should have a high level of mathematical precision to

SIDDHARTHA ON A ROLL

Siddhartha Institute of Technology, Patna offers Bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering of four years duration.

The selection procedure is conducted on the basis of merit in the qualifying exam. There are 60 seats for the course with a 20 per cent fee relaxation for girl candidates. The objective of this course is to promote the advancement and dissemination of knowledge of aeronautical sciences and aircraft engineering.

The eligibility criteria is that the student should have passed his Higher Secondary or equivalent with minimum 50 per cent marks in Physics, Chemistry and

Mathematics. The pattern of examination is on a semester basis and the examining body is the Aeronautical Society of India in New Delhi. The course is recognised by Ministry of Education, Government of India and Ministry of HRD, Department of Secondary and Higher Education.

The scope and placement opportunities of this course are for recruitment to superior posts and services under Central and State Governments and Private Airlines as well as to compete in the Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) for admission to IIT's for MTech and higher studies in India and abroad.

be successful. Prof Sridhar who has been teaching aeronautical engineering at Madras Institute of Technology for 18 years now and is an ME in aeronautical engineering says: "The aviation industry is growing. Aviation and maintenance engineers are required in large numbers."

Eligibility

The basic degree required for becoming an aeronautical engineer is a BE or a BTech. One can also acquire a diploma in Aeronautical Engineering. Most of the reputed engineering colleges and the IITs in India offer degree and post-graduate degree courses. Students can also look for admission in the polytechnic institutes which have diploma courses on offer. In order to pursue a BE or BTech course in Aeronautical Engineering, one needs to qualify the higher sec-

ondary examination with Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics as compulsory subjects along with a good aggregate percentage. It is also mandatory to qualify in the JEE which the IITs conduct in January and May every year. Besides the IITs, there are some other institutes which also conduct entrance examinations.

Areas of specialisations

One can specialise in areas like structural design, navigational guidance and control systems, instrumentation and communication or production methods or it can be in a particular product such as military aircrafts, passenger planes, helicopters, satellites, rockets *et al.*

Skills required

"As the subject has Mathematics at it centre, students must have good analytical knowl-

edge. For subjects like computational fluid dynamics and aircraft structures, we require specialised softwares for them. So, the students should develop good skills to operate the software," Sridhar explains.

Job prospects

Aeronautical Engineering imparts multi-faceted training to students in areas like manufacturing and development of aircrafts and missiles. An aeronautical engineer can also design, test and contribute to the development of advanced technologies in the field of defense and space science.

Scope in India

"Aeronautical Engineers are mostly employed by ISRO and the Defense Ministry. One can also look for jobs available with the Civil Aviation Department, National Aeronautical Laboratory, DRDO and HAL," says Sridhar.

Scope abroad

"A lot of job opportunities for Aeronautical Engineers are also available in countries like the US, France, UK and Germany. Therefore, Aeronautical Engineers

from India as well as from all other parts of the world flock to these countries. A good percentage of Indians constitute the work force of engineers and technical professionals in Boeing (US based firm), General Electricals (GE) and Airbus (Europe based firm)," the professor tells you.

Remuneration

The student initially earns around Rs 25,000 in apprenticeship and once he is regular, the pay rises upto Rs 35,000 and more.

Where to study

- Indian Institute of Technology, Powai, Mumbai
- IIT, Kharagpur, West Bengal
- Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- Madras Institute of Technology, Chennai
- Nehru College of Aeronautical and Applied Sciences, Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)
- Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh
- IIT, Kanpur.
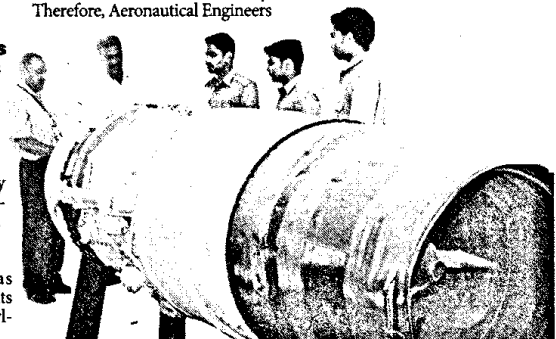
# Which is the best online dictionary?

Aida Edemariam

Sad news for those of us with fond memories of long minutes lost in the more arcane histories of English words: the third edition of the Oxford English Dictionary, which a team of 80 lexicographers has been working on since 1989, will probably never be printed. "The print dictionary market is just disappearing," Oxford University Press CEO Nigel Portwood said on August 29. It will still be available online — in fact, in December, the web version is being relaunched, including for the first time the historical thesaurus of the OED, which contains almost every word in English from Old English to the present. The problem is that it is a tad pricey: £7 plus VAT for a week's access; £205 plus VAT for a year.

Luckily, there are alternatives: This paper's preferred arbiter, in its print version, the pocket version is available free online — though, it must be said, boasting some rather confusing orthography. The second entry for the word "help", for example, reads "2. to contribute to, to help Latin America's economies" — some italics, or brackets, or bold letters would help. You can buy a 1,888-page hard copy for £70, or download it for a mere £9.99.

The competition

The Chambers 21st Century Dictionary, with its 75,000 words and phrases and 110,000 definitions, is free online. This is much more presentable, with quite satisfying lists of definitions, and examples of the word in context.

A little bit of etymology, too. Chambers is not, however, accepting new subscribers to the full shebang — 170,000 words and phrases and 270,000 definitions. The 1,871-page print version sells for £40.
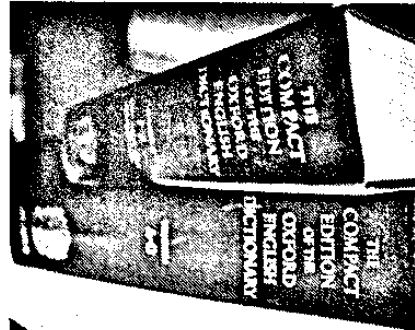
OED: *From print to online.* - PHOTO: AP

The definitions are short and to the point, with no information about sources or background (though there are sample phrases, and a direct link to a thesaurus). It also lets you submit words of your own, and gives you the option of British or American English. Macmillan's particular wheeze, useful to learners of English, is to highlight the 7,500 core, high-frequency words in the English language: three-star words are the most frequent; one-star words less so. It's free online, but you'll pay £24 for a hard copy.

A real discovery, this online site trawls 18,967,499 words in 1,060 different dictionaries — all the major English ones, but also dictionaries for specific subjects (business, art, medicine) or languages. You can customise your search — only in slang, for example; compare entries in different dictionaries; do a wildcard search (asterisks, hashtags or @ symbols account for the characters you can't remember), or a reverse search (type in "being tried twice for the same crime", for "double jeopardy", for example). It doesn't, however, link to a Scrabble dictionary, which some might feel is an important omission.

Empowerment by verbal chicanery

Krishna Kumar

Competing for praise and popularity is as common between Ministries as are turf wars. When officers from different Ministries get the rare opportunity to meet and discuss matters of shared concern, they behave like alert soldiers who are expected to fight for every inch of territory. I had an exposure to this phenomenon while working for a Planning Commission sub-committee on vocational education for skill development. Vocational and technical training is a chaotic corner of our education system. Seventeen Ministries are involved in such training but the overall coverage is poor in both numbers and quality. The Ministry of Labour controls Industrial Training Institutes (ITI) where secondary level children receive technical training. A small proportion of higher secondary schools also offers vocational courses. Joint courses given by schools and ITIs are unheard of, apparently because the two institutions have separate directorates. This is a common and continuous story. When a Ministry launches a new scheme, it seldom takes into account the schemes under which other Ministries might be addressing the same problem.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) recently announced a scheme to 'empower' adolescent girls. Before looking at its salient features, let us briefly recall the entry and progress of 'empowerment' as a term in the discourse of development. In the last three decades, the term has pushed out earlier ways of addressing the welfare needs of the economically weak and culturally oppressed sections. 'Empowerment' connotes a radical change after which the weak would cease to feel weak. The term camouflages the sharply unequal distribution of power in society by promising that those without power will gain it without someone else losing it. Ini-

The term 'empowerment' camouflages the unequal distribution of power in society by promising that those without power will gain it without someone else losing it.

tially used in the context of devolution of authority, 'empowerment' soon became a footloose linguistic device. Welfare schemes — even those which offered little more than escape from hunger — were endowed with the miraculous capacity to empower.

The new scheme launched by the WCD Ministry belongs to this class. It offers free "take-home ration" and iron tablets, a smattering of life skills education and vocational training to girls in 200 underdeveloped districts. The overall food budget has been calculated at the daily rate of Rs. 5 per beneficiary, while the feasibility of cash transfer to a girl is "being explored." The Ministry intends using its anganwadis for implementing the scheme. So far, anganwadis have served as a vehicle for the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS). Long past its prime, the ICDS has failed to evolve a credible early childhood educational programme. Operated with the help of poorly paid local women, many of whom are illiterate, most ICDS centres serve mainly to feed.

There is no doubt that providing food to children is a laudable thing to do, but the 'D' in ICDS was supposed to stand for all-round development, not just survival. As a national programme, it runs parallel to the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Had the two come together, we might have seen a credible early childhood education coverage in every corner of the country. And now the WCD Ministry is starting a programme for adolescent girls, which will parallel the remarkable network of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas

(KGBVs) run under the SSA. Instead of contributing to these schools, the new scheme will use the anganwadis to distribute food supplements and so on. A fresh, quiet turf war will slowly encircle rural childhood.

KGBVs are meant to serve rural girls belonging to families whose economy is below the poverty line and others who come from Dalit and minority communities. Now they provide a full-time residential facility and regular education from classes VI to VIII. Girls who never enrolled in a primary school or who dropped out before completing Class V are eligible for enrolment in a KGBV. By any standards, it is a bold and imaginative scheme and over the recent years, it has gained both popularity and status in State after State.

There are some 2,500 functioning KGBVs in rural India today. Visit any of them, and the one demand you will hear from residents and their parents is that they want the school to go up to Class XII or at least Class X. They also want more money to expand infrastructure. Though run on the minimalist principles of SSA, the KGBVs have been a spectacular success, especially in States where the Mahila Samakhya (MS) is managing them. Although Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have treated the MS quite shabbily — setting an example of a turf war between the government and the NGOs — the scheme is blossoming in almost every State. One naturally wonders why the WCD Ministry did not choose to tie up with the HRD Ministry to strengthen the KGBV scheme instead of launching a stand-alone, minimalist pro-

gramme of food distribution and skill development. The choice of anganwadis as the dispenser of the meagre benefits the new scheme offers is astonishing.

That this scheme has been named *Sabla* also deserves attention. The coinage is supposed to convey the opposite of *abla*, which means 'the one who has no power.' In the Hindi belt, *abla* inevitably reminds people of a couplet, composed by nationalist poet Maithili Sharan Gupta, which conveys pity for a woman's fate. By playing on that helpless image and inverting it with the prefix 's,' to denote 'one who has power,' the Ministry is trying to perform a semiotic trick. Recall a similar trick in the scheme *laadli* (the pampered one) which is supposed to reverse foeticide and discourage discrimination against girls. A similar trick is performed when para-teachers are given attractive titles like *vidya mitra* (friends of knowledge). All such jugglery comprises a disdainful attitude towards the poor. It also attempts to mask the reality in which the poor live, unreached by the state's generous arms. In fact, the name *Sabla* humiliates poor adolescent girls by claiming to *empower* them with food supplements worth Rs. 5 a day.

To decode this humiliation, we need to recall how difficult the life of adolescent girls in India is, and not just on the poorer strata of society. Our culture poses formidable mental and social barriers to girls when they attain puberty. Some of these mental blocks make it extremely difficult for education to do what it is supposed to — namely, boost confidence in one's abilities by developing a positive self-concept. Right from early childhood, girls are socialised to perceive matrimony and motherhood as the ultimate goals of their life. A numbing array of rituals and customs is used to prepare girls for the inescapability of leaving their natal homes and for a life of dependence and silent compliance. Negative psychological attributes are compounded by everyday experience of discrimination — in all matters ranging from food intake and health care to education opportunities. It is no surprise that the overwhelming majority of adolescent girls in India are anaemic and sickly. This distressful scenario, in which poverty and early marriage often combine to cause permanent oppression, cannot be erased by distributing a handful of grain and iron tablets, or by imparting some so-called life skills. If the WCD Ministry means business, it should talk to the HRD Ministry and SSA experts to explore collaborative opportunities available in the KGBV scheme. And both Ministries should consider how the girls studying in KGBVs can become the nodal resource for the female literacy mission.

The institutionalisation of the KGBV scheme is not going to be easy. For now, expansion and improvement of quality are major challenges. So is the revision of norms for staff strength and training of teachers. Mainstreaming of the KGBV alumni is also a difficult task, given the aggressive ethos which characterises co-educational secondary schools. Recognition of KGBVs as institutions capable of creating a new generation of women leaders and scholars in rural India ought to become a policy goal. The NCERT has formulated a plan to reserve a few scholarships for them in the National Talent Search examination, but the proposal is still pending with the HRD Ministry. If the WCD Ministry decides to join the pool of resources available for the development of KGBVs, the outcome could well end the impasse one notices in many spheres of women's education and welfare.

(The author is professor of education at Delhi University and former Director of NCERT.)

Hindu, ND 01/09/2010 p-3

Transparency in Delhi University admissions for OBCs demanded

NSUI to fight for rehabilitation of students evicted from hostels due to Games

Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: The National Students' Union of India which released its manifesto for the Delhi University Students' Union elections here on Tuesday has demanded transparency in admissions for the Other Backward Classes and also in the internal assessment of marks.

Fellowships for students from economically deprived sections, improved transport within the campus and an effective committee against sexual harassment also figure in its manifesto.

Rehabilitation

The National Students' Union of India has said it will fight for proper rehabilitation of students evicted from college hostels due to the Commonwealth Games, regulation of rent and hostels for girl students.

Stressing the need for students to be informed, the student's organisation said that it will try to get an informa-
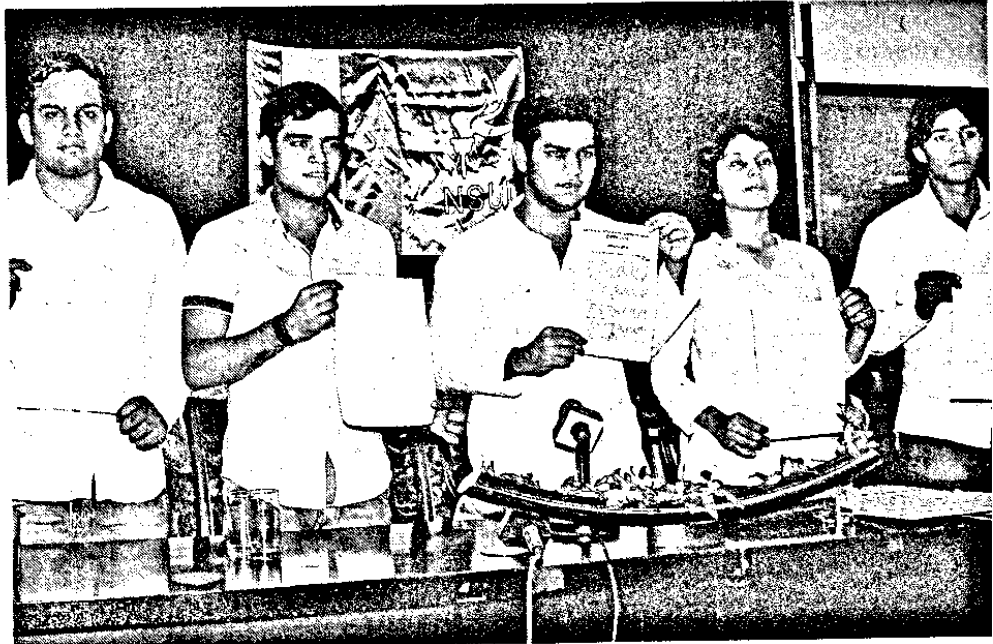
UNITED WE STAND: *National Students' Union of India candidates releasing the manifesto for the upcoming Delhi University Students' Union elections in the Capital on Tuesday.* - PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

tion cell established. This cell would make announcements related to scholarships, time-table schedules, dates for results and also give information on placements.

The activation of a DUSU website also figures in the manifesto.

Times of India ND 01/09/2010   P-22

Difficulty Of Doing Good

Take the atrophy out of philanthropy

Bachi Karkaria

Bill and Melinda Gates have aroused as much controversy as awe over their unwalled giving. Their munificence of $22.8 billion-and-still-counting from 1994 onwards is seen as an affliction way beyond the old White Man's Burden. Cynics, who as a statistical group usually match grants 2:1, have been quick to warn that Coca-colonialism is being replaced by something more sinister, a malignant benevolence overpowering global health bodies with its dollar-shaped carcinogens. The prognosis just got worse with the Gates syndrome spreading to the 40 US billionaires who pledged half their wealth to charity in August.

Is there a lesson – or at least an excuse – in all this for our own rich list reluctant to put their money where their heart still isn't? Let me explain why the Gates bogey should not become a handy deterrent. The health component of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is a good enough case study. From 2007 onwards, a variety of watchdogs have alleged that its humungous grants seriously compromise the decision-making of the world's anointed health nanny, the WHO.

Yet, grandstanding indignation apart, many like me who have tracked public health for the past 30 years, may have little practical problem with this. The dangers of donor-driven agendas are real – the blind distribution of condoms at the cost of more seminal agents of behaviour change seriously impacted the fight against AIDS. But a distinction must be made when it comes to agendas which don't merely look good or are easily quantifiable, but are those to which the donor has brought data and analysis. The base line is the real need at ground zero.

So when the WHO 'toes' the Gates line and makes malaria a priority, as it did in 2007, i find it difficult to protest. More so when even the arrogant metropolis of Mumbai has been under such siege from the anopheles mosquito that public hospitals might have to set up war-zone-like camp wards in their compounds. Incidentally and not all

> **This is a country where you can throw a bit of good anywhere with the total assurance that from it will spring the green shoots of opportunity**

that long ago, the same breed of critics had denounced the emphasis on AIDS as just a 'fashionable cause', and demanded "Why not malaria?"

So when an Indian industrialist shrugs and says, "Look, my wife and i don't want to end up like Bill and Melinda and be savaged for giving away our kids' legacy", i would ask him instead to look at, and follow, the relevant example. The

Bill and Melinda Gates have created a philanthropy model worth emulating

remarkable achievements of the admittedly opaque Gates Foundation are the result of precisely those reasons which it is accused of sabotaging. More transparency and accountability is demanded from the recipients of its funds than the procedural nitpicking of national, state or global bureaucracies masquerading as checks and balances.

There are two clear and common sense reasons for the difference in outcomes. One, the Gates Foundation is pretty much spending its own money and, therefore, has greater motivation to ensure that every cent is fully deployed for the assigned task instead of disappearing into the bottomless pit called 'administrative costs'. Two, all the managerial expertise that went into the development of Microsoft is

used in the selection, revenue models and follow up of the projects that it bankrolls. As important, both Bill and Melinda Gates physically venture into remote, pestilence-ridden areas where no brown industrialist has ever stepped, to personally ensure that the situation on the ground matches the report on their laptops.

A couple of weeks ago, these columns put forward another view: that India's rich should not be expected to give because Indian society does not 'deserve' it. Really? If you are signing cheques merely to look and feel good, maybe. But the hands-on and professional approach cited above has proved that philanthropy can not just deliver, but can also be sustainable and scalable.

Besides, how can we talk of

'deserve' in the context of such fathomless need? Unfortunately, even ordinary people have conveniently turned the fact that you can't do something for everyone into an excuse for not doing anything for anyone. Yet, this is a country where you can throw a bit of good anywhere with the total assurance that from it will spring the green shoots of opportunity (and hopefully not opportunism).

In the idealistic late 19th and early 20th century, merchant princes built public institutions as assiduously as their private empires. Can the Wadia scions ever hope to be remembered for their astuteness as real estate agents in the way their forebears are still remembered for their vision in providing community housing?

Okay, forget about being high-minded. Just be totally self-serving. Even in an age where every transaction is posited on stashable, encashable ROI, investing in social improvement is imperative for corporate well-being. India Plc has to push its formidable talents towards helping to create the food and water security without which there can be neither political nor economic security. It will have to contribute to the healthy, well-educated populace which alone can bring about the much-mouthed 'inclusive growth'. Business barons can't be Mother Teresa, but they might have to see her humanitarian plea as a strategic warning. In business, 'Give till it hurts' should be read as 'Give or it will hurt'. Real bad.

Times of India ND 01/09/2010   P-8

IGNOU'S FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The open varsity will soon set up a culinary institute that will offer degrees in regional cuisines of the country

Manash Pratim Gohain | TNN

Be it *xukoti* (a dish made of jute leaves and rice) or chicken cooked in rice powder in Assam, Bengal's *puli pithe* or Hydrabadi *jahaji korma* or *dum ke baigan* and many more, these dying cuisines from different regions of India may come back to the dining table. Lip-smacking *ilish macher paturi, puran poli, eromba, iddyappam, puttu kadala, khar* or *goan patolleo*, etc will soon be subjects of study at the Indira Gandhi National Open University's Maidan Garhi campus in New Delhi.

After getting the go-ahead by the board of management and academic council recently, Ignou will soon set up a first of its kind culinary institute
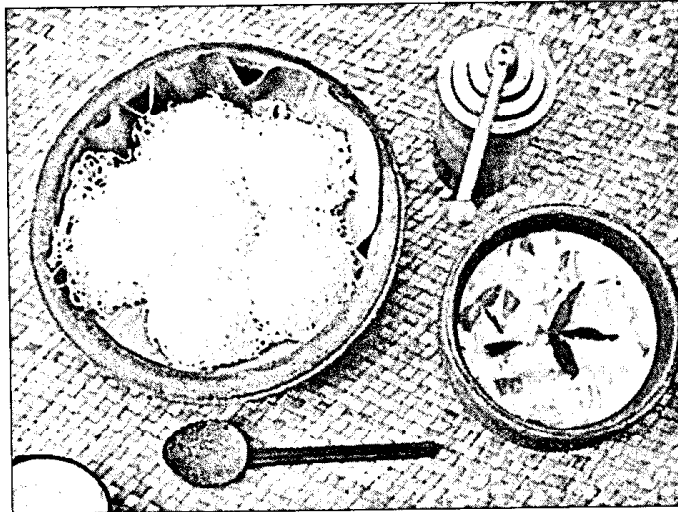
REVIVING LOST GLORY: Lip-smacking dishes will soon be subjects of serious study

in India that will offer courses in Indian gastronomy and regional cuisines.

According to Ignou vice-chancellor, V N Rajasekharan Pillai, the introduction of the new courses will help in documenting, preserving, developing and promoting India's regional cuisines. "Every region or state has a cuisine that is unique. With the passage of

time, some of the most authentic recipes are already lost or dying. They need to be documented. That apart, the institute will offer professional programmes starting from certificate courses to PhD. It will also offer MBA with specialization in Indian culinary art."

According to Ignou officials, the institute will be a part of the School of Tourism and

Hospitality Services Management. The courses will begin from 2011-12 academic session.
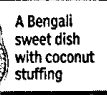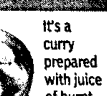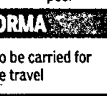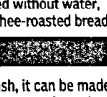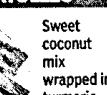
"Dedicated to the study of Indian culinary art, this institute will carry out large scale documentation and research programmes in social and cultural anthropology and other related sciences and publish scientific papers and books concerning regional

cuisines in India. The courses will also include comparative studies of other cuisines. The programmes will also include aspects on restaurant management, hospitality sector and tourism," said Pillai.

The university at present is in dialogue with various Swedish universities and institutes — like University of Gothenburg, Chalmers University of Technology, Swedish Institute for Food and Biotechnology, among others — for collaboration. The programmes to be offered by this institute

> **The institute aims at documenting, preserving, developing and promoting dying regional cuisines. Ignou will recruit experts in regional cuisines as faculty**

will be full-time classroom courses, and Ignou is going to recruit experts in regional cuisines as faculty. Chefs, hotel and restaurant managers, will also be involved. "We hope the institute will contribute to make Indian cuisine a well-known part of international gastronomy and also help India's hospitality and tourism sector," said Pillai.

Side dishes

PUTTU KADALA
Kerala's favourite breakfast is now a dying treat

PULI PITHE
A Bengali sweet dish with coconut stuffing

ILISH MACHER PATURI
A hilsa and mustard delicacy to be had with rice

PURAN POLI
Maharashtrian dish cooked on auspicuous occasions like Ganesh Chaturthi

KHAR
It's a curry prepared with juice of burnt banana peel

JAHAJI KORMA
Was meant to be carried for long-distance travel

DUM KE BAIGAN
Brinjals cooked without water, served with ghee-roasted bread

EROMBA
A Manipuri dish, it can be made from an assortment of veggies

GOAN PATOLLEO
Sweet coconut mix wrapped in turmeric leaves and steamed

GASTRONOMICAL DELIGHT

The institute will come up in Ignou's New Delhi campus. It will initially be under Ignou's School of Tourism & Hospitality Services Management

ON THE PLATTER — THE CULINARY INSTITUTE
- Courses to be launched from 2011-2012 academic session
- The aim is to document, preserve & promote regional cuisines of India & conduct comparative studies of other cuisines like Chinese, Continental, French & Swedish

- Another aim is to develop these cuisines so that they can be more widely offered in restaurants and make Indian cuisine a well-known part of international gastronomy
- Dialogues are on with culinary institutes in Sweden for international collaboration

COURSES ON OFFER
- Initially, there will be certificate and diploma programmes and later PhD and MBA programmes will be offered
- After completing the courses, students will get certificates of 'Diploma In Indian Culinary Arts', 'Bachelor In Indian Culinary Arts', 'MBA With Specialization In Culinary Arts, among others
- All programmes will be full-time courses

FACULTY
- Skilled chefs, hotel and restaurant managers, experts in cross-culture communication and tourism will be involved as consultants and guest faculty
- Experts on regional cuisine will be recruited as teachers
- International guest faculty will also be there

Mail Today ND 01/09/2010
p-10

Don't blame the students

THE dismal academic performance of the students at Delhi University's Department of Physics reveals a deep disconnect between teachers and students. That as many as 70 of the 268 students failed the final examinations this year should compel the department to introspect.

But rather than look at their own failings, the teachers at the department are blaming the "poor quality" of the students, many of whom are products of Delhi University with good grades at the undergraduate level.

The root of the problem lies not in the students, but in the classroom. That none of the students cleared the first semester examinations last year is a clear indictment of the teaching methods and the admission policy of the department. There is no way that effective teaching can take place in a class of 268. The department shouldn't be admitting such a huge number, especially as many of the students aren't found up to the mark.

Vice-Chancellor Deepak Pental would be better off focusing his energies on the basics of proper teaching and class administration, rather than tilting at the windmills to promote the semester system.

Sibal's educational tribunal Bill fails to clear RS hurdle

By Mail Today Bureau
In New Delhi

THE CENTRE was forced to defer the passage of the Educational Tribunals Bill in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday though the Lok Sabha had cleared it last week.

Soon after human resources development minister Kapil Sibal introduced the proposed legislation for discussion, the Elders, cutting across party lines, raised serious objections. Most of them said the Bill had been brought about in haste, ignoring the recommendations of a standing committee that had examined it.

An embarrassed Sibal had to make a retreat, not only because the government doesn't command a majority in the Upper House but also since some Congress members, criticised the Bill's provisions while "supporting" it.
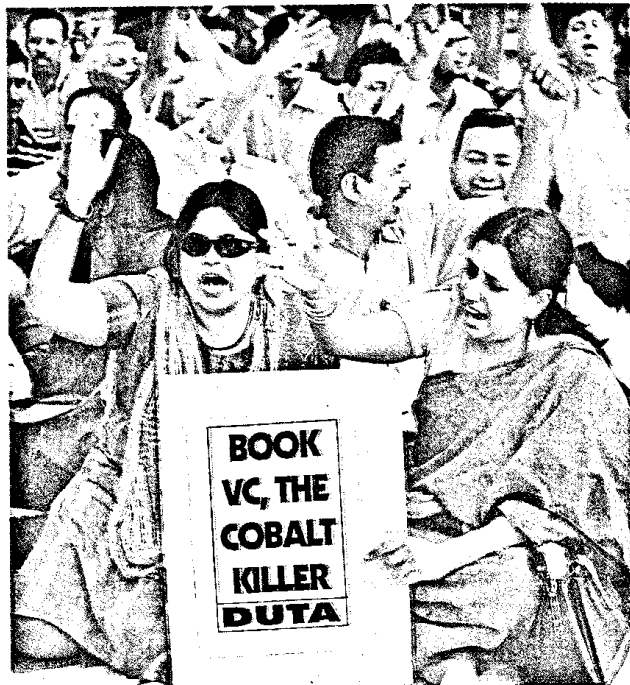
The Bill provides for establishing national and state tribunals for settling disputes involving teachers, employees and students of higher educational institutions, including over 500 universities. All higher educational institutions run by the government or private people, including over 26,000 colleges across the country, will come under its purview.

The members' misgivings were on multiple counts. A prominent objection related to not earmarking the positions of the members on the tribunals for persons from the scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and other backward classes categories. The national tribunal is proposed to have nine members and the state versions three members each.

Parliamentarians said only four states had consented to the proposal. Sibal replied that the rest had not objected either.

The BJP strongly objected to minority institutions not being covered under the Bill's general provisions, with a section specifying as much. The mood of the House was clearly for deferring it.

Sibal said it was an important legislation that was a precursor for taking up other Bills related to higher education. "When we start on the course of reforms, such opinions are bound to come. No reform or legislation is perfect," he said. The standing committee's recommendations were to be incorporated in the rules for the proposed legislation, he added.

DU teachers protest against V-C Deepak Paintal. The new Bill provides for establishing tribunals for settling disputes involving teachers, employees and students of higher educational institutions.

> **❝ When we start on the course of reforms, such opinions are bound to come ❞**
> — **Kapil Sibal**

But Sibal's assurance didn't cut much ice and matters took a worse turn when he said the objections raised were not "substantive". The BJP members took strong objection. "We are not in a hurry. We are already too late. We are not taking away the jurisdiction of the states through this Bill. It is for the future of our children. It is consistent with our requirements. It covers all institutions of higher education," Sibal said.

But as MPs were unrelenting, he had to give up. "In view of the sentiments of the House, I am deferring it till the next session of Parliament," he said. It was not clear what made the BJP suddenly change its mind on the Bill as the party had supported it in the Lok Sabha with Sushma Swaraj in the lead.

Evidently, the private players in higher education are not in favour of the proposed law as it would subject them to the tribunals for adjudication of all kinds of disputes relating to them. These private institutions include some high-profile deemed universities and the present government has objected to the manner in which they were granted clearance by its predecessor when Arjun Singh was the minister.

The Bill also covers hundreds of private colleges and other institutes which have been under attack for adopting unfair practices. BJP sources pointed out that the "rethink" could be a result of the differences between two sections of the party led by two senior MPs.

e-paper

Sibal's edu bill falls to friendly fire

Cong MP Leads Opposition, Forcing Govt To Defer Draft

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: In a classic case of hit wicket, Congress MP Keshava Rao's scathing criticism of his own government's National Educational Tribunals Bill and HRD minister Kapil Sibal in Rajya Sabha on Tuesday forced the government to defer the bill.

The bill was deferred despite the Opposition promising to pass it in the morning. In fact, BJP and other Opposition parties, except Left, had wholeheartedly supported and passed the bill in Lok Sabha. But in Rajya Sabha, the BJP said the bill was brought in a hurry.

Strangely, when the BJP and other Opposition parties were demanding deferment, not a single Congress MP came to Sibal's defence when he rose to speak after the debate to allay apprehensions of members.

Kapil Sibal

Rao's explanation that he was not opposed to the bill was too late as the House forced Sibal to seek passage in the winter session. An upset Sibal later said, "There will be another day."

When the discussion started on the bill, there were barely 50 members in the House and it looked set to be passed. The first speaker, Bal Apte (BJP), criticised the bill stating that it was not necessary at this stage and a holistic approach was needed. He even called it "useless" and asked Sibal to withdraw the "half-baked" bill.

While Sibal would have been prepared for criticism by Apte, the next speaker completely changed the scene in the House. It was an angry Keshava Rao taking on the HRD ministry and Sibal for not accepting even a single recommendation of the standing committee of Parliament. Talking about Sibal, he said, "His thoughts run faster than the deeds of his ministry."

Amid cheering from Oppositing benches, Rao called standing committees "mini-Parliament" and said if the report of such a panel was rejected and the House not even told, it was unacceptable. "Standing committee did talk about 20 to 22 subjects, which you said you do not agree," Rao said, adding that the committee was "not

to indulge in fashion dialogue or talks for talks sake". "Let every minister sitting in the House first start respecting the standing committee. This kind of hasty legislation for a subject like education does not augur well," he said.

Immediately, BJP, BSP and Left members were seen walking to each other's seat and exchanging notes. When the House was adjourned for lunch, minister of state for HRD D Purandeshwari could be heard telling Rao that the issues he raised were not related to tribunals. Sibal joined her later and told Rao, "Now Opposition members are saying even your own party is critical of the bill and are demanding deferrment."

Post-lunch, most speakers demanded deferment of the bill on the grounds that it was drafted hurriedly without much consultation.

Global warming meet from Sept 9

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Thiruvananthapuram: Delegates from 20 countries would participate in the three-day international conference on global warming, climate change, sustainable development and secular spirituality organized by the Santhigiri Research Foundation (SRF) at Santhigiri Ashram from September 9-11 in collaboration with Unesco, the American Center and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi.

The meet, to be attended by more than 400 delegates, will be inaugurated by the President of East Timor and 1996 Nobel Peace laureate, Jose Ramos Manuel-Horta, on September 9.

Being held as part of the

THE BALANCING ACT

parnasala dedication celebrations at Santhigiri Ashram, the conference will underscore the vital role of spirituality in promoting a life vision and lifestyle compatible with both nature and development. It will facilitate administrators, policy makers, scientists, social scientists and activists to gather and devise programmes to promote a sustainable way of life and development.

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi;Date: Sep 1, 2010;Section: International;Page: 23;

Tech barrier goes, PC chips to shrink further

John Markoff

Scientists at Rice University and Hewlett-Packard say that they can overcome a fundamental barrier to the continued rapid miniaturization of computer memory that has been the basis for the consumer electronics revolution.

In recent years the limits of physics and finance faced by chip makers had loomed so large that experts feared a slowdown in the pace of miniaturization that would act like a brake on the ability to pack ever more power into ever smaller devices like laptops, smartphones and digital cameras.

But the new announcements, along with competing technologies being pursued by companies like IBM and Intel, offer hope that the brake will not be applied any time soon.

> Experts have succeeded in building reliable small digital switches — an essential part of computer memory — that could shrink to a significantly smaller scale than is possible using conventional methods

In one of the two new developments, Rice researchers are reporting in Nano Letters, a journal of the American Chemical Society, that they have succeeded in building reliable small digital switches — an essential part of computer memory — that could shrink to a significantly smaller scale than is possible using conventional methods.

More important, the advance is based on silicon oxide, one of the basic building blocks of today's chip industry, thus easing a move toward commercialization. The scientists said that PrivaTran, a Texas startup company, has made experimental chips using the technique that can store and retrieve information.

Separately, HP researchers are set to announce later on Tuesday that it will enter into a commercial partnership with a major semiconductor company to produce a related technology that also has the potential of pushing computer data storage to astronomical densities in the next decade.

HP and the Rice researchers are making what are called memristors, or memory resistors, switches that retain information without a source of power. NYT NEWS SERVICE

Times of India ND 01/09/2010   P-20

3-yr 'hands-on' syllabus for rural medicos ready

Shobha John &
Rema Nagarajan | TNN

New Delhi: The syllabus for the three-year course for rural medical practitioners is ready. It promises to do away with what's "unnecessary" in the four-and-a-half-year MBBS course and prepare "hands-on" doctors at the primary level.

The course, called the Bachelor of Rural Health Care (BRHC), is expected to change the landscape of medical education and delivery of health care and hopefully, solve the shortage of doctors in rural areas, home to 70% of India's population.

The Medical Council of India (MCI), which has prepared the syllabus, has differentiated between BRHC and MBBS doctors by not allowing the former to use the prefix 'Dr' to their name. Instead, they will have BRHC suffixed to their name.

This, according to Dr Ranjit Roy Chaudhury, member, board of governors of MCI, will assuage the fears of the Indian Medical Association which has been up in arms, fearing this move will trample on the toes of MBBS doctors. "This new category will

TWO INDIAS
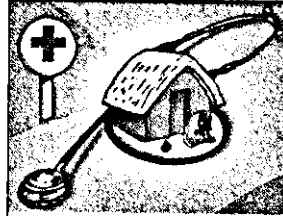
▶ **Doctors per 10,000 population** | Rural: **3**; Urban: **13**

▶ **Health workers in urban areas** | **60%**

▶ **Density of health workers in India (doctors, nurses and midwives)** | **8 per 10,000**; suggested WHO norm: **25 per 10,000**

▶ **Total number of medical colleges** | **300**

▶ **Total number of medical graduates annually** | **Over 30,000**

be drawn from 10+2 students from rural areas/districts and 25 will be chosen district-wise after an exam. They will be trained at community colleges by practicing or retired doctors from nearby district

hospitals. Their practice will be confined to that area and registration will be for one year only," he said.

The course will include 10 things: Community medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, surgery, orthopedics, obstetrics and gynecology, ophthalmology, ENT, radio-diagnosis and dentistry. It will be divided into three phases, said Roy Chaudhury. In the first, students will study the health problems of the community, basic principles of diagnosis and prevention of common rural aliments such as malaria, anemia, hookworm, kala-azar, TB and diarrhoea. Phase II will involve taking patient history, basic clinical examination and management of diseases. They will be tied up with national health programmes. Phase III will deal with training to prevent basic health problems.

The curriculum will do away with many unnecessary aspects in the MBBS course such as in pharmacy and anatomy, said Roy Chaudhury. "Often, an MBBS student has no real skills; he can't do a tracheotomy, dialysis, etc. We don't want to repeat that mistake here. We want hands-on doctors," he said.