

Newspaper Clips

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Times of India ND 01.09.2016 P-10

All citizens must have right to protest: Kerry

Hints At Amnesty, Intolerance Issues At IIT Talk

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: US secretary of state John Kerry used his speech at IIT-Delhi on Wednesday to emphasise the rights of citizens to express their views and protest without fearing reprisal — a reference significant in light of the controversy surrounding sedition charges against Amnesty International as well as the “intolerance” debate.

“The US and India will have to keep faith in our democratic values and uphold the freedom that defines our countries,” Kerry said in his

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townhall address at the prestigious institute.

The secretary of state said “one has to respect rights of all our citizens, regardless of ethnicity, language or creed”. This, he said, was important “in order to... allow them to protest in peace without fear of reprisal or retribution, without the fear of being jailed for saying something”.

The address also saw Kerry refer to the “special bond” between US president Barack Obama and PM Narendra Modi, saying the two leaders had worked hard to pursue common goals in strategic and economic spheres.

Kerry reiterated that Pakistan had to work on terror sanctuaries and push harder against “indigenous groups” operating from its soil, which are creating difficulties in India and Afghanistan. However, he added that terror groups like Daesh (a substitute name for the so-called ‘Islamic State’, al-Qaeda, LeT and JeM could not be fought by a single nation. “We are



Ajit Ninan



AP

US AND US: US secretary of state John Kerry addresses students at IIT-Delhi on Wednesday

working on it. I have been working on this issue very hard. I have had many engagements with (Pakistan PM) Nawaz Sharif. We have been talking on the sanctuaries in the western part of the country, how to deal more ef-

fectively with the Haqqani network and LeT,” he said.

Referring to the South China Sea, a joint statement issued by India and US called for “utmost respect” for global laws, maintaining that there must be “unimpeded lawful commerce” throughout the disputed region. The two countries stressed “the importance of maintaining freedom of navigation, freedom of overflight, and unimpeded lawful commerce throughout the region, including in the South China Sea”. In his speech at IIT, Kerry said, “The US continues to call on China and the Philippines to abide by the (UN) tribunal’s recent decision (recognising Beijing had violated Manila’s rights in South China Sea) which is final and legally binding on both parties.”

In a sign that the US maintains its support for India’s NSG bid, the two sides added in the statement, “In further effort to strengthen global non-proliferation and export controls, the sides committed to redouble their efforts towards India’s early entry into the NSG.”

Business Standard ND 01.09.2016 P-16

Bureaucracy should be growth partner, not expert in setting up blocks: Kerry

ARCHIS MOHAN
New Delhi, 31 August

Visiting US Secretary of State John Kerry on Wednesday said India can sustain its impressive growth trajectory if its bureaucracy becomes a facilitator and stops being "an expert in setting up roadblocks".

He also said red tape and lack of transparency were deterrents for investors wanting to do business in India.

Kerry interacted with the students of the Indian Institute of Technology here for over an hour at a Town Hall event, replying to questions ranging from terrorism to intolerance. He is on a three-day visit to attend the second India-US Strategic and Commercial Dialogue. Kerry might now leave either on Friday or Saturday for China where he will join President Barack Obama for the G-20 Summit.

Kerry and Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker met Prime Minister Narendra Modi this afternoon.

Kerry said India was one of the fastest growing economies in the world but there was "still a real question as to whether we are doing so quickly enough" as India needed to create job opportunities for the 13 million

youth who enter its labour market every year. "Your entrepreneurs ... urgently need the freedom to pursue new ideas, the ability to start up new businesses without a lot of red tape, and access to infrastructure that makes it easier to translate fresh concepts into successful companies," Kerry said. "You have to have sensible regulations and your bureaucracy needs to be streamlined and effective — a partner in making decisions, not an expert in setting up roadblocks."

In the morning, Kerry's scheduled visits to three religious sites, including a mosque and a gurudwara in Delhi's walled city, was cancelled because of heavy rain and the subsequent traffic snarl. He reached IIT-Delhi an hour late.

In what was resonant of US President Barack Obama's comments on religious intolerance during his visit to India in January 2015, Kerry said people should be allowed to protest in peace without fear of being jailed regardless of their ethnicity, language or creed. "The US and India will have to keep faith in our democratic values and uphold the freedom that defines our countries," he said.

Kerry identified corruption and bad governance as reasons



US Secretary of State John Kerry speaks at an interactive programme at IIT-Delhi on Wednesday.

PHOTO PTI

TOWARDS STRONGER TIES

- US to "redouble" its efforts towards India's early entry into the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)
- US "urges" NSG members to support India's candidacy in their "common interest"
- Two sides hoped negotiations between Westinghouse and the Nuclear Power Corporation of India would lead to finalising the contractual arrangements by June 2017 to build six reactors
- No progress on climate talks
- India-US-Afghanistan Trilateral in New York later this year
- Reiterated that defence ties form the bedrock of their bilateral strategic partnership



that left youngsters frustrated. He said a society that does not give equal opportunities to its

citizens makes them a potential extremist or terrorist.

"So it also means that we

have to build bridges of tolerance and acceptance, compassion, mutual understanding among every religion and sect." He urged those involved in interfaith efforts to reach out and define tolerance and also the beauty of their religion.

On a question about Pakistan providing sanctuaries to terror outfits, Kerry said Islamabad has to do more to eliminate such havens but said Pakistan itself has also been a victim of terror. Terror groups like Daesh, Al Qaeda, LeT and JeM cannot be fought by a single nation. Kerry also said he believed that the Pakistanis have moved at a greater pace in recent months in its counter-terrorism operations.

On the South China Sea imbroglio, Kerry dismissed any possibility of a military solution. He said China might have rejected the recent ruling of an international tribunal on the dispute but has indicated its willingness to engage with its neighbours.

He said the US had no territorial claims in the region or taken a position on anybody else's claims. But it was united with other countries that freedom of navigation needed to be respected and that the US will stand with its allies with whom it has defence agreements.

Asian Age ND 01.09.2016 P-13

Did you reach in boats: Kerry to students

AGE CORRESPONDENT
with agency inputs
NEW DELHI, AUG. 31

Having been stuck in a rain-related traffic jam for the second time, US secretary of state John Kerry on Wednesday jokingly asked IIT-Delhi students if they had come to the campus on boats.

"I don't know if you came in boats or amphibious vehicles of some kind ... But I salute you," said a smiling Mr Kerry to a packed audience after his carcade was delayed in Delhi traffic snarls as heavy rains led to waterlogging on roads.

"You guys deserve an

award for being able to get here today," said Mr Kerry who had to cancel his trip to three religious sites in the old city after incessant rains in the national capital. Mr Kerry was late for the event at the IIT by 40 minutes as his carcade waded through the waterlogged roads from his hotel, otherwise a 15-minute ride. On Monday, on his way to a hotel from the airport, the US Secretary of State had been reportedly stuck for almost an hour in traffic due to waterlogged roads.

Mr Kerry was supposed to visit the historic Sisganj Gurudwara, Gaurishankar Temple and the iconic



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— John Kerry,
US secretary
of state

Jama Masjid in the national capital after his IIT event, but that programme was at first postponed and eventually cancelled apparently due to fears of massive traffic jams. According to news agency reports, the underpass near the Leela Palace Hotel — where the dignitary was staying — was heavily flooded, leading to a massive traffic jam.

Delhi Congress chief Ajay Maken blamed the AAP government and BJP-led MCDs for the waterlogging and alleged that desilting of drains were not finished by the May 15 deadline.

In some places vehicles were stuck on roads and

underpasses due to breakdown. A few buses broke down in the flooded Jakhira underpass stranding dozens of passengers who were later taken out as water starting reaching up to the vehicle's seats.

Commuters also had a tough time due to traffic spillover caused by VIP movements on certain roads. As per Safdarjung observatory reading, the city received 63.1 mm rainfall while the Palam observatory recorded 55.6 mm rains. With MeT department forecasting rains on tomorrow as well, traffic woes are feared to continue.

IITs at the bottom of Asia's innovative univ ranking, patent system to be blamed

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/education/iits-at-bottom-of-asia-s-innovative-universities-ranking-patent-system-to-be-blamed/story-gvipS0docJykDT77s5GOoO.html>

The Indian Institutes of Technology at Delhi and Mumbai are at the bottom of Asia's most innovative universities' rankings released late Tuesday and the reason is the bunching of their research work with that of smaller IITs.

The IITs rank 72 on the Reuters Top 75: Asia's Most Innovative Universities list that identifies institutions doing the most to advance science, invent new technologies and help drive the global economy. The Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, the only other Indian institute in the list, is ranked 73.

"World-class campuses like IIT Delhi and IIT Bombay may have ranked much higher on the list if they weren't grouped in with smaller and newer institutes like IIT Tirupati and IIT Palakkad," said Reuters.

Of the top 20 universities, 17 are in Japan and South Korea.

Reuters attributed underperformance by some countries to "the way they organise their university systems".

A network of 23 universities, IITs centralised their patent administration, so it was not always possible to identify which constituent university was responsible for what research, said Reuters, which ranked the entire IIT system as opposed to an individual university.

KAIST, also known as Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology, tops the ranking followed by Japan's University of Tokyo. Seoul National University has been rated third in the list that has 22 Chinese universities –more than any other country. China's highest ranked university is Beijing-based Tsinghua University, which is at number 13 on the list.

International ranking of IITs, or the absence of them, has been a matter of concern. None of the IITs figure among top 200 global schools.

Skewed teacher-student ratio and poor representation of foreign students are among the major factors for IITs dismal international standing.

Though IITs set aside 25% of the seats for overseas students, there are only 130 foreign scholars enrolled in post-graduate courses and about 100 for PhD. There are 25,000 Indian students enrolled in these programmes.

Concerned over fewer foreign students opting for India, especially from the neighbouring countries, the IIT council now plans to hold admission tests to undergraduate and post-graduate courses in all Saarc countries, barring Pakistan, and Singapore, Dubai and Ethiopia.

Reuters ranking is based on a methodology that focuses on academic papers, which indicate basic research performed at a university, and patent filings, which point to an institution's interest in protecting and commercializing its discoveries.

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70% of IIT-B students skip daily bath, 40% wish to live on with pals

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Mumbai: Six of 10 residents at the Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay (IIT-B) showered once every two or three days, finding the “task” taxing. A small 10% that took a bath just once a week and just about 30% took a bath everyday. This is one of the findings of the second edition of the senior survey at the institute, conducted by students, which received responses from 332 candidates of the passing-out class, including undergraduates, dual-degree students, MSc and MTech graduates.

The hangover of hostel life is likely to linger long after graduation, for 40% of the residents plan to live with friends, 27% wish to go back home and 19% would like to



On their marital plans, the survey found that 39.15% did not wish to dig their own grave until after five years; 31% were clueless while 21.4% wanted to marry between three and five years down the line

live alone. On the other hand, 66% maintained close relations with their folks back home while 29.8% had a lower-than-average interaction with their parents.

While in Mumbai, they had ticked off quite a few items on their bucketlist. Some 52.4% had experienced the classic dream of every college student — a road trip to Goa with friends. Then, 70% travelled ticketless on a local train and 55.7%, on being inspired by the James Bond movie ‘Casino Royale’, have

played poker or blackjack.

On their marital plans, the survey found that 39.15% did not wish to dig their own grave until after five years; 31% were clueless while 21.4% wanted to marry between three and five years down the line. On religious beliefs, 39% respondents said they were believers, 21% said they identified themselves as atheists and 39% said they were agnostic.

Almost 70.5% of the respondents graduated as bachelors of technology.

33.75% received an additional minor or an honours degree or both alongside. This year’s respondents had an average CPI of 7.87. 163 of them had a CPI greater than 8 while only 43 had CPI greater than 9. “A symmetric distribution across responses saw 35.7% wanting a decent CPI whereas 32.6% were unable to reach their potential,” said Shreerang Javadekar, chief editor of Insight, the IIT-B newspaper which conducted the survey.

In terms of attendance, 39.75% said they would have attended most classes while 32.5% said they would have preferred attending as few lectures as possible. Some 7.5% said they would have attended all classes nonetheless. Interestingly, 16.2% have never visited the institute’s central library.