

## Newspaper Clips September 23, 2010

Times of India ND 23/09/2010 p-15

# Now, normal light offers an alternative to X-rays

## Experts Can Tell Opaque Objects By Scatter Pattern

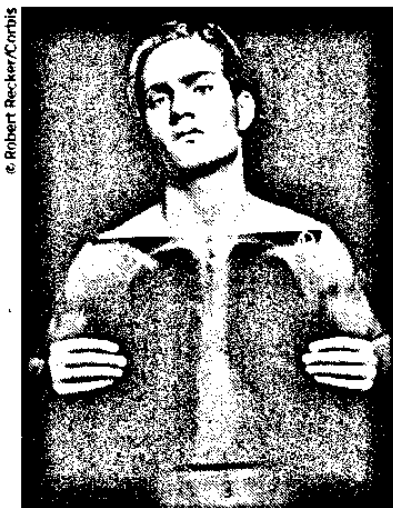
**Washington:** Doctors may soon be able to see a patient's innards in normal light without X-rays, as French scientists claim to have found a new way to decipher the little light that passes through opaque materials.

When light passes through materials that we consider opaque, such as paint, biological tissue, fabric and paper, it is scattered in such a complex way that an image does not come through.

But, now physicist Sylvain Gigan and his colleagues at the Industrial Physics and Chemistry Higher Educational Institution in Paris said they have that found they can actually reconstruct complex images from light passing through these barriers.

The key, they said, is to know precisely how the barriers interfere with this light, the LiveScience reported.

For their research, Gigan and his team first shone a green laser beam at a layer of zinc oxide — a common ingredient in white paints — that was roughly 80 mi-



**SEEING THROUGH**

crons thick, or slightly thinner than a human hair.

By analysing the pattern of light that passed through, the researchers generated a formula called a "transmission matrix" that made sense of the seemingly random way the light was scattered by the barrier. With this

knowledge, they were able to reconstruct a 32-pixel by 32-pixel image of a five-petal flower projected onto the zinc oxide.

However, the researchers said the see-through vision was not perfect as a lot of the information needed to reconstruct images gets lost when the light gets scattered, making the images look grainy.

It also won't find use in trying to look through walls, unless they are very thin indeed — looking through a 100-millimeter wall would prove a million times harder than looking through a wall 100 microns thick. Still, their method could one day be used to peer inside bodies, Gigan said.

That would require their system to be roughly 1,000 times faster than it currently is, to make up for all the scattering generated by the movements of living tissue. "A microelectromechanical array that uses tiny mirrors to divert laser beams back and forth over a surface to scan it should provide for the 1,000 times speed increase we are looking for," Gigan said. PH

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# India wary as West plots new climate moves ahead of Cancun

Nitin Sethi | TNN

New Delhi: With all key countries discounting the possibility of a complete new global deal on climate change at Cancun, Mexico, in November, US and other rich countries have begun closed-door parleys to instead discuss a brief but game-altering 'Mexico Mandate'.

There are indications that the 'Mexico Mandate' could set new ground rules for crucial negotiations leading to a final new deal by December 2011. The move has not gone down well with the Indian government which sees pitfalls in allowing decisions on issues closer to developed countries' interests at Cancun while concerns of the South are unresolved.

The mandate could be in form of a series of decisions that all countries accept instead of hammering out a comprehensive new pack-



## HEAT'S ON THE POOR

age. The Indian negotiators feel it could force negotiations to depart away from Bali mandate which was concluded after a heated debate in 2009 with developing countries managing to push in concerns of equity and development rights even as US and others fought hard to pin responsibility for mitigation on emerging economies.

Since Bali, negotiations that led up to and after Copenhagen Accord are seen by developing na-

tions, especially BASIC nations — China, India, Brazil, South Africa — as a consistent attempt to reduce differential in responsibilities between rich and poor nations.

With recession having smacked the political will out of Northern countries to take any strong mitigation action and Barack Obama unable to pull off a domestic legislation on greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, Cancun is expected to produce a set of decisions on select issues. The US is seen to push for a decision that sets up strict scrutiny regime monitoring developing nations' economies while a deal on forestry and technology sharing is seen as sops to poor nations. India so far remains wary of such decisions where key issues of strong mitigation targets by developed countries and their financial commitments under UN Convention remain unresolved.

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## First astrosat to be launched by Isro next year

Prashanth G N | TNN

**Bangalore:** Isro's Byalalu campus, 30km from Bangalore off Mysore Road, is a space powerhouse now. It has been readied to undertake India's first astronomy mission, Astrosat, under which Isro will launch the country's first dedicated astronomy satellite in 2011.

Earlier, Byalalu had helped India coast through its first Moon mission Chandrayaan-1. It also houses India's Deep Space Network (IDSN).

S K Shivakumar, director of Isro's ISTRAC centre which oversees the Byalalu campus, said, "Byalalu is ready for India's first dedicated astronomy mission. The building, technology and equipment to handle the mission are ready. Isro has installed technology for the Astrosat mission that is comparable to the best in the world. Isro developed, designed and installed all infrastructure on its own."

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## China not heeding missile control curbs: US think tank

Sachin Parashar | TNN

**New Delhi:** While China's disregard of missile control restrictions can undermine attempts to prevent proliferation of missile technology systems, Beijing is also using sale of small arms in Africa, a continent fast turning into a battle-ground between China and India, to establish itself there as a major political power and get access to oil.

These assertions are part of a fresh report by the Congressional Research Service (CRS), the official think-tank of the US Congress, on supply of conventional weapons to the developing world. Talking about China's alleged transfer of missile technology to Pakistan, Iran and North Korea, the report says that activities reported by "credible sources" raise im-



THREAT FROM NEIGHBOUR

portant questions about China's stated commitment to the restrictions on missile transfers set out in the Missile Technology Control Regime, including its pledge not to assist others in building missiles which could deliver nuclear weapons.

"Yet because China has military products — particularly missiles — that some developing countries would like to acquire, it can present

an obstacle to efforts to stem proliferation of advanced missile systems to some areas of the developing world where political and military tensions are significant, and where some nations are seeking to develop military capabilities of an asymmetric nature," states the report titled "Conventional Arms Transfers to Developing Nations 2002-2009".

The CRS is the public policy research arm of the US Congress and is known for its "non-partisanship" and in-depth analyses. The report puts India at the second place, after Saudi Arabia, in terms of arms transfer agreements with the US from 2006 to 2009.

Further observations made in the report on China emerging as the main source of light weapons and small arms to African nations are a real worry for India.

# India conveys displeasure over Ohio ban to US

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 22

DESCRIBING the state of Ohio's ban on offshore outsourcing by government departments as "ill-advised", India has "firmly" conveyed to the US its displeasure over the move and other protectionist measures, like the hike in visa fees for professionals.

"We have put it firmly in our discussions. I feel that the US has seriously registered India's viewpoint as well as concerns of the Indian IT industry. We do hope there will be timely and appropriate responses," Commerce and Industry Minister Anand Sharma told reporters here yesterday after his meeting with top US officials, including Trade Representative Ron Kirk. Sharma was here to attend the Trade Policy Forum (TPF) meet, which is the principle trade dialogue platform between the US and India.

Citing the example of the recent Airtel-IBM deal, Sharma turned the table on the US, stating, "Airtel, an Indian company, has placed orders of \$3.5 billion on IBM. Isn't that outsourcing? Where would those jobs be created? Where (would) those jobs would be supported?"

The largest orders for Boeing aircraft have also been placed by India. "How many jobs would have been sustained and how many jobs would be created?" he asked.

Referring to the ban on government offshore outsourcing, he said, "We hope that there is no other state which would follow the ill-advised and less informed path chosen by the Ohio state government."

He said that at a time when the global economy is reeling from the aftershocks of the economic crisis and is coming out of a recession, any inward-looking step of protectionism would slow down the pace of recovery.

"It is better to avoid it, particularly since the US is the world leader, is the largest economy and therefore, there are expectations (from it) in that context," he said.

Under the Border Security law, the US had in August hiked the fees for H-1B and L1 visas by at least \$2,000 for the next five years. Indian professionals, particularly in the IT sector, use these visas for short-term contracts in the US, which account for about 60 per cent of Indian software exports of \$50 billion. The two sides also Discussed the issue of a Totalisation Agreement, under which the Indians on short-term jobs would not have to pay the social security tax in the US. Since they do not stay there for long, they are not able to use the benefit of the social security in return for the taxes.

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# Indian Express, ND 23-Sep-10

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## **New York institute award for Sibal**

**NEW YORK:** HRD Minister Kapil Sibal was on Wednesday conferred with the Stephen P Duggan award for Mutual Understanding by the Institute of International Education in New York. The award is named after the institute's first president, a professor of diplomatic history, who alongwith Nobel laureates Elihu Root and Nicholas Murray Butler founded the IIE. **ENS & PTI**

Business Line ND 23-Sep-10 P-4

## AIMA to conduct online management aptitude test

### Our Bureau

Kolkata, Sept. 22

The All India Management Association (AIMA) will hold an online test to evaluate business school students on their employability, in line with current industry trends.

Referred to as the Management Aptitude and Skills Test (MAST), the test will be conducted on an annual basis, beginning February 2011.

Considering the variation in the quality of course material, faculty and other facilities at B-schools across the country, MAST will rate the students in terms of their readiness to enter the corporate world, the AIMA President, Mr Sanjiv Goenka, told newsmen at a press conference here on Tuesday.

According to him, MAST will address employers' long

standing grievance — poor employability of a large number of fresh management graduates.

### 'LEVEL PLAYING FIELD'

Mr Roopen Roy, Managing Director of Deloitte, said that such a test may offer a level-playing field to fresh management graduates from relatively lesser-known institutions in the country.

Business Standard ND23/09/2010

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## Bid for a CEO of your choice

KALPANA PATHAK  
Mumbai, 22 September

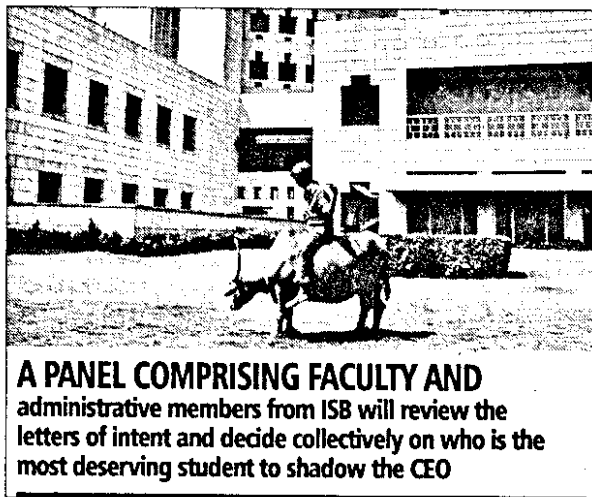
Indian School of Business (ISB) students will now have the chance to 'Shadow a CEO' for a price — bid for India Inc's Who's Who and spend a day with one to get a few management tips.

The programme that began last year has seen the list of CEOs — who will be put under the hammer — grow. Over 30 CEOs, including Adi Godrej, Anajit Singh, Chanda Kochhar, G V Sanjay Reddy and Nitin Paranjpe, are on the list. The bidding process will be conducted online.

The funds mobilised will be used for charity. The bidding will be held from September 27 to 30. Last year, 16 CEOs had participated in the process and ₹15 lakh was generated through the auction. The money was given for charity.

The top three bidders for each CEO will be short-listed and need to submit a Letter of Intent on why they are bidding for a particular CEO.

A panel comprising faculty and administrative members



**A PANEL COMPRISING FACULTY AND administrative members from ISB will review the letters of intent and decide collectively on who is the most deserving student to shadow the CEO**

from ISB will review the letters of intent and decide collectively on who is the most deserving student to shadow the CEO.

After the winners of the bidding process are announced, the CEO can match the amount raised by the students, with equal or more, and the funds raised from the auction will then go to a NGO of the CEO's choice. The bidding process is open to all students of the ISB.

Several students, however,

did not agree with the way the programme was conducted. One of them said on condition of anonymity that though he would love to "shadow a CEO" for a day, he cannot afford to participate in the auction with the bidding going into lakhs. "I do not have the money to participate. So I have decided to keep out of the programme."

ISB Dean Ajit Rangnekar said everything is done for a good cause. "The first edition

of this exercise was so successful that we decided to continue with it this year. Not only the students, but the CEOs were also very enthusiastic about the programme. I think, in India, the concept of philanthropy is limited to donating money to temples. We should teach the students to service the society as well," said Rangnekar.

The institute will organise an open auction where students will bid for a CEO of their choice. The funds raised from the auction will go to an NGO of the CEO's choice. This initiative is part of the Joy of Giving Week by the Give India Foundation.

"We are all ecstatic about working with these CEOs who dominate India's business world. The objective of this programme is twofold — engage ISB students in the act of giving and provide a lifetime opportunity of spending a day with a CEO, watch them at work and imbibe valuable leadership lessons. The bidding process begins next week and over 60 per cent of the students are expected to participate from a batch size of 575 students," said Sidharth Malhotra, an ISB student.

Pioneer ND 23/09/2010

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# India, US to resolve trade issues before Obama visit

## Anand Sharma takes up H-1B visa fee hike, outsourcing row

**S RAJAGOPALAN ■**  
WASHINGTON

India and the United States have agreed to step up efforts to resolve several bilateral trade issues of concern, including the controversial H-1B visa hike fee, before President Barack Obama's India visit in early November.

After a meeting of US-India Trade Policy Forum here on Tuesday, Commerce and Industry Minister Anand Sharma expressed hope that the US will take "timely and appropriate" steps on the hefty visa fee hike issue targeting Indian IT firms.

However, a joint statement, issued after the meeting and his parleys with US Trade Representative Ron Kirk, made no overt reference to the H-1B controversy or the other trade-related issues over which the two sides remain divided.

Instead, the statement talked of instructions being issued to "our Focus Group leads and other staff to redouble their efforts, particularly in the coming weeks before President Obama's visit to India, to take concrete steps towards resolving several issues of concern".

The US's concerns were listed separately by Deputy USTR Demetrios Marantis, saying the deliberations would "focus on unjustified import restrictions maintained on US agricultural products, progress toward the opening of the Indian retail sector to foreign ownership, addressing trade-restrictive telecommunications regulations, local content requirements for solar projects, and compulsory licensing and other patent-relat-



ed issues".

During his talks with Kirk, Sharma articulated Indian concerns over both the visa fee hike and protectionist measures such as Ohio's recent ban on outsourcing of IT jobs involving public funding.

"We have put it firmly in our discussions. I feel that the US has seriously registered India's viewpoint as well concerns of the Indian IT industry. We do hope there will be timely and appropriate responses," Sharma later told the Indian media.

Terming the Ohio ban "a regressive measure", he said it has created an avoidable feeling of negativity in the service sector, adding: "We hope that no other state would follow the ill-advised and less-informed path chosen by the Ohio state government."

"When the global economy is still reeling from the aftershocks of the economic crisis and coming out of the recession, any inward looking step of protectionist measure would slow down the pace of recovery and deepen the recession," he said.

The minister pointed out that Airtel, the Indian telecom

firm, has placed massive orders with IBM. Also, it is India which has placed the largest orders for Boeing aircraft, he said, suggesting that several thousand American jobs would have been created or sustained by the Indian orders.

Sharma also urged the US to conclude a "totalisation agreement" with India at an early date to disburse social security contributions collected from Indian professionals working in the US as guest workers. Nearly \$2 billion is contributed by Indian workers to the kitty annually, without being able to get back their contribution in the present scheme of things.

The joint statement spoke of the "burgeoning US-India trade and investment relationship, which is becoming an increasingly significant factor in the economic life and prosperity of our countries, as well as in the global economy".

"At the same time, we were also able to exchange concerns on issues where we differ, recognizing that such issues are a natural part of growing trade and investment linkages between economies as dynamic as those of India and the United States," it said.

Kirk, after his meeting with Sharma, said the Obama administration has worked to build on the strong bilateral relationship by significantly increasing trade with, and investment in, India.

He said the Trade Policy Forum "serves as a setting in which both countries bolster this burgeoning economic relationship by cooperating closely on areas of shared interest and working constructively to resolve areas of difference".

# Quarantine remedy to keep out CAT virus

## A STAFF REPORTER

**Calcutta, Sept. 21:** Measures are being put in place at centres that will hold the Common Admission Test 2010 to make sure the glitches of last year are not repeated.

Prometric, the US-based testing service provider that is conducting the CAT, has decided to quarantine the test centres, distribute licensed software and run a thorough check of the system.

“Our investigation reports show that virus attacks were the main reason for the glitches that happened last year. We are doing everything possible to rule out a repeat,” said Soumitra Roy, managing director, Prometric India.

Admission to all the nine Indian Institutes of Management and several reputed B-schools is based on students’ performance in CAT. Last year was the first time students took the exam online. Glitches prevented around 7,000 candidates from writing the test in the scheduled 10-day period, and they had to take it later. Many more complained of slow downloading of questions, freezing of the test mid-way and other problems.

According to Roy, one of the reasons for the glitches was use of pirated and dated anti-virus software.

“We don’t know who was responsible for the problem but it did not come to the fore during the preparations last year. It was one of the major causes for the glitches,” he said.

To prevent a rerun, all the 247 testing labs in 78 centres across 33 cities will be sealed off from all external interface 25 days before the test window begins on October 27 and ends on November 24. This year, the test period has been doubled from 10 to 20 days.

Each computer will be formatted, networks will be isolated from the rest of the test centre and licensed software will be installed at every centre, Roy said.

“We are only selecting those sites with good physical and technical infrastructure,” he said, adding that trained and certified professionals would be on duty at the centres.

Prometric has also introduced a real-time 15-minute practice test for the candidates that will be available on the CAT website [www.catim.in](http://www.catim.in) within the first week of October. The practice test will give the students a feel of the online exam.