

Newspaper Clips September 24, 2010

Asian Age ND
24/09/2010 p-1

All Central univs plan single test & syllabus

NITIN MAHAJAN

NEW DELHI

Sept. 23: In a major attempt at introducing further reforms in India's higher education system, the government proposes to introduce a single entrance examination, common syllabus and common rules and regulations for all Central universities across the country. The human resources development ministry also wants to make it easier for students to seek transfer from one university to another to enable them to take the courses of their choice.

Government sources said a substantive decision on these key issues was likely to be taken at a meeting of the vice-chancellors of all Central universities on September 29, to be chaired by HRD minister Kapil Sibal.

The minister had last year proposed holding a common entrance test for admission to 15 newly-created Central universities; this will now be extended to the existing 25 Central universities. Students would then not have to go to different places for these tests.

The plan also covers creation of a common syllabus, with some variations for regional sensitivities.

Common rules and regulations have been proposed for all Central universities as the government wants to make it easier for students to seek a transfer from one such university to another.

No salary for DU teachers on strike: V-C

AGE CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Sept. 23: Coming down heavily on the striking teachers, the Delhi University vice-chancellor has issued a circular saying that salary of those teachers will be deducted who abstain from academics due to strike, dharna and

demonstration.

The VC has written, "It has been observed that the Delhi University Teachers' Association and Staff Association of the college call strike, dharna, demonstration etc. from time to time which adversely affect the teaching and working of the university. In the recent past, strike, dharna etc.

have been called by Duta for 16 days from August 17 to till date".

"In order to protect the interest of large number of the students enrolled in the colleges, the V-C in exercise of his powers conferred under statute 11-G of the

no work no pay

statutes of the university has decided that the teachers who abstain themselves from duty due to strike, dharna, demonstration etc. henceforth should not be paid salary and allowances for such period".

The teachers, however,

seem unfazed.

"We do not recognise him as V-C, as he does not have any authority letter from the Visitor. Only the executive council has the right to take decision about such matters. We are holding a demonstration on Friday with the students," Duta president, Aditya Narayan Misra said.

The Sentinel Guwahati 21.09.2010 p-4

IIT Eye to See Others

The idea of having each Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) to be free to pick the country of strategic importance it wants to study at its observatory has been approved by Union Human Resource Development (HRD) Minister Kapil Sibal. IIT-Madras, which mooted the proposal, is setting up a centre to follow China right from Mao Tse Tung's revolution and Deng Xioping's reforms to every step that country is taking. According to a note shared with Sibal at the meeting on the proposal, "each IIT may concentrate on a particular country. As in the US, such centres will be able to advise the government, especially in terms of strategic negotiations... Such centres will necessarily have advisory boards of former foreign secretaries and ambassadors". The idea of an IIT eye on key nations stems from the rise of India that has prompted several American and British universities to set up centres dedicated exclusively to watching the surge of the country in the 21st century. They are also keeping a watch on China, given its rapid stride. Since China is of special importance to India, and since the two have vexed border issues between them, it is imperative that the neighbour — known for its belligerence — is followed closely and correctly. "China has been and will continue to be important in geopolitical terms. China and India also compete on the world stage for the leadership of the developing world, providing competing models of economic growth and politics. The two are also in the race for securing energy resources for their expanding economies. An engaged study of policy would provide a sound basis for creating an interpretative framework within which China may be understood," states IIT-Madras.

The proposed IIT venture augurs well for the country that has come of age and is attracting international attention. It must be in its knowledge as to which key country is doing what that may have ramifications for India, to which its response must be appropriate. In fact such things should have been envisioned 10 years ago, if not before; the last decade has seen India emerge as a major economic power apart from advances in its science and technology and military, as a result of which it has invited envy too, besides praise for its growth trajectory and resilience. Had we, for instance, had a China-centric think tank as the one being mullied at IIT-Madras operating from the year 2000, by this time we would have enlightened ourselves with the China reality — its march, policy drivers and strategic road map — so crucial for us to know in detail. There is no gainsaying that being a nation on the rise means being fully introduced to the realities outside it. The IITs have a special responsibility.

Rahul meets varsity students amid protests

Sushanta Talukdar

GUWAHATI: Congress general secretary Rahul Gandhi interacted with students of Dibrugarh University, Assam University and Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, during a day's visit to the State on Thursday amid protests and slogan-shouting at Dibrugarh University.

A section of students of Dibrugarh University, led by office-bearers of the Post-Graduate Students' Union (PGSU), boycotted Mr. Gandhi's programme and shouted slogans outside the auditorium and at the main entrance.

They also demanded resignation of Vice-Chancellor K.K. Deka. The PGSU and other varsity students accused the V-C of politicising the university campus and continued with their protests even after Mr. Gandhi had left the university after a nearly hour-long interaction.

Registrar P.K. Bhuyan told *The Hindu* that Mr. Gandhi was extended an invitation by the university after his office sought to visit Dibrugarh University and interact with the students. He said the PGSU was then requested by the university authorities to organise the programme.

However, the PGSU was op-

posed to Mr. Gandhi's visit to the campus and informed the university authorities of their decision to boycott the visit. After the PGSU's refusal, the university authorities issued a circular to the students and teachers as well as to the affiliated colleges on Mr. Gandhi's programme and arranged the interaction, Mr. Bhuyan added. The PGSU maintained that since Mr. Gandhi did not hold any official rank and was not an academician, the university authorities had no reason to invite him. Mr. Gandhi's interaction with students of Assam University in Silchar and IIT, Guwahati, passed off smoothly.

Business Line ND p-5

24-Sep-10

Yale varsity keen on India ties

Boston, Sept. 23

The prestigious Yale University is keen on growing ties with India and establish itself as a "leading university in the US for teaching of India," its President, Mr Richard Levin, has said. He, however, added that Yale was not yet "ready" to start a campus in India "at present time." "We hope to establish Yale as a leading, if not the leading, university in the US for teaching of India," the *Wall Street Journal* quoted Levin as saying. He said Yale wants to "grow ties with India to at least equal its ties with China." "We were devoting pretty large resources to China," and from 2008, the Ivy League school in Connecticut "is devoting a much wider portion of intellectual activities to India." — PTI

One size fits all!

Notes are prepared either to spoon-feed students or to help them save time and labour. But many teachers try to make do with Paleolithic study materials without bothering to rewrite them ~ partly or thoroughly ~ unless the syllabus is revised, writes ardhendu chatterjee

CONTRARY to what this correspondent expected, most of the participants in a GD class favoured the traditional chalk-and-talk method of classroom teaching over the exclusively technology-backed ones that include teaching with the help of laptops, video content, digital moviemaking, power-point presentations with s, CDs, the Internet and podcasting, to name a few common technological implements. Students who could not be accommodated in the discussion because of the constraints of the GD format were told to convey their views in writing. It emerged that most of them liked their teachers to follow a method that blended tradition (chalk-and-talk) and innovation (audio-visual pleasure) in right proportion.

The perspective of these participants and their fellow classmates was a bit surprising considering that they were studying in an engineering college where they learn and practice everything mostly with technical support and imbibe a culture that soon makes them temperamentally tech-savvy. But their viewpoint rightly struck a balance between the two concepts — traditional classroom teaching and high-tech teaching, including virtual classrooms or e-learning facilities. The two are not at odds, for not a single student thought the teachers, or for that matter, the conventional method of teaching that instantly conjures up the image of a teacher explaining a topic and scribbling on the blackboard unaware of the learners playing pranks on them, redundant or obsolete.

In this connection, it is relevant to recall that India is conspicuous by its exclusion from the lists of the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, QS World University Rankings and Academic Ranking of World Universities, 2010. Use of latest classroom technology happens to be

students, too, might have the same perception. Notes are prepared either to spoon-feed students or to help them save their time and labour. But many teachers try to make do with their Paleolithic study materials without bothering to rewrite them partly or thoroughly unless the syllabus is restructured or revised. As to the chalk-and-talk method, many, like this correspondent, would like to

websites, message boards, blogs, streaming media, etc. ICT also helps learners analyse and interpret data, understand computer modelling, manage and prioritise tasks, engage in problem-solving and ensure security and safely.

But the success of all these depends on a country's investment in this area. There is a serious question mark whether India can ensure access

graphics, animation, 3D images, video clips, apart from most popular powerpoint presentation. The truth is, there can be no effective teaching method without a human touch.

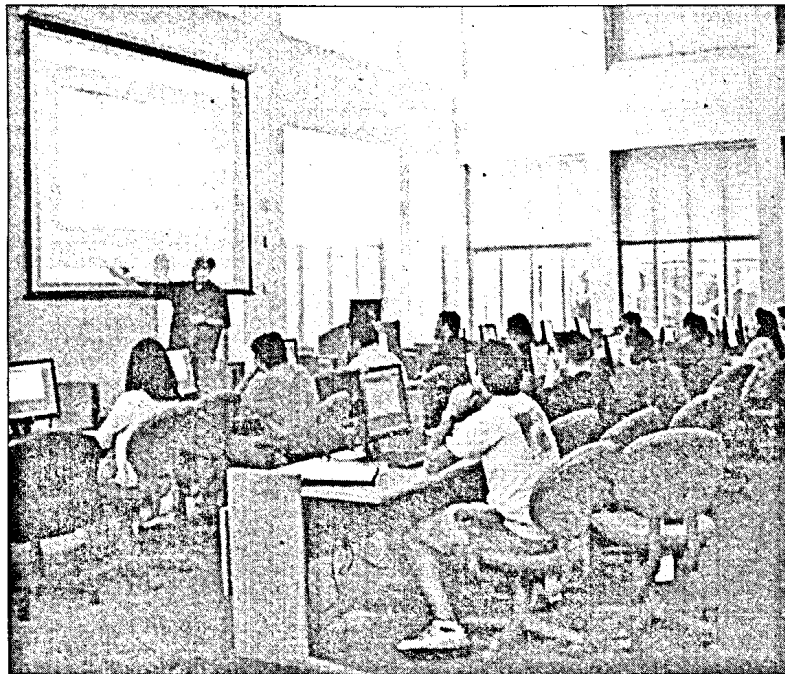
Thus, while no one should doubt the UGC directive, the ground reality is that most of the colleges, including technical colleges, can hardly afford to arrange for net-connected classrooms and Internet facilities in hostels that help learners absent from a particular class to access lectures in the comfort of their home or hostel rooms. Poor infrastructure, lack of investment by both the government and the private management concerned stand as insurmountable barriers to network supported teaching-learning facilities.

Moreover, frequent disruptions caused by power failure or other glitches with the gadgets make power-point presentations or any other kind of technological approaches tedious. At times, the Internet, too, behaves erratically forcing both teachers and the taught to wait with infinite patience for the restoration of the system. By the time things are back on track, the class often ends and another one is about to begin.

True, students can learn better from what they see than from what they hear. Naturally, visuals on the board or on screen, charts, handouts etc, definitely make a classroom more interesting. But all virtual classes or online presentations are not equally captivating. Instances of a part of the audience thinning out in the midst of an academic presentation are not rare. Many online presentations, too, fall flat on learners. Moreover, such presentations take for granted that one size fits all. Unless individual differences of learners are taken into consideration and teaching modules are prepared in that light, no visuals would be effective enough to make a classroom lively.

Having said this, it must be admitted that the human presence of a teacher has a charm of its own. A good and warm human voice has a magical effect on the audience. So eventually it all devolves on teachers to plan their teaching strategies with or without technological help. It is they who can impart lessons in the best possible manner and make learners absolutely riveted to the topic being discussed. Great teachers of the past could do it and there is no reason why teachers today would not be able to sustain students' interest. Technology cannot be a substitute for teachers.

The writer is assistant professor of English, Durgapur Institute of Advanced Technology & Management, Rajbandh



Without good teachers, state-of-the-art classrooms are no good.

one of the parameters to judge the standard of a university. It is again significant that the University Grants Commission directed college and university teachers to "abandon their outdated notes" along with the chalk-and-talk method and show their "familiarity with up-to-date teaching material" in order to be entitled to promotions sometime back. It has prepared a long list of criteria for the purpose. Under the head of teaching, a scale of 150 points has been fixed to evaluate the performances of teachers.

Well, as to the "outmoded notes",

jump the handwagon of those who advocate that notwithstanding the use of different types of technology in classroom, the traditional method is "irreplaceable" and that it would coexist with technology-dependent pedagogical innovations.

True, it is imperative for students to have digital literacy, technological literacy, and 21st century skills. But their basic requirement is Information and Communication Technology literacy which helps them communicate effectively not only through pen and paper but also audio, video, animation, e-mail,

to such technological devices for the student community at all levels.

Again, while teachers can make full use of technological potential to explain their subjects more lucidly and thereby improve student achievement, they can ill-afford to forget the section of learners who do not have the desired entry level of learning. Ideally, teachers are supposed to consider the learning behaviour of individual learners so that they can help all learners assimilate the topics being delivered in class either traditionally or with the help of technological tools such as

Four Indian-Americans make it to Forbes rich list

FOUR INDIAN-AMERICANS, including Sun Microsystems co-founder Vinod Khosla, are among Forbes 400 Richest People in US, a list topped by Microsoft's Bill Gates.

Apart from Khosla, those who made the cut include outsourcing firm Syntel's founder Bharat Desai, venture capitalist Kavitar Ram Shriram and software king Romesh Wadhvani.

While Khosla occupies the 308th spot in the list with a fortune worth \$1.3 billion, Desai ranks 252 with a networth of \$1.6 billion. Shriram occupies the 288th position with assets worth \$1.45 billion and Wadhvani is on the 290th spot in this year's list with a total valuation of \$1.4 billion.

The list is topped by Gates, who has retained his position as the richest man in the US with a networth of \$54 billion, for the 17th year in a row.

Desai earned his engineering degree from IIT Mumbai and moved to the US after landing a programming job with

The top-10 barons gained \$24.9 bn last yr

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) in 1976.

He founded outsourcing outfit Syntel in 1980 with wife Neerja Sethi, while earning his MBA from the University of Michigan. Although he stepped down as CEO last year, Desai remains the chairman.

The Florida resident launched a deep value hedge fund last year and recently established a foundation supporting entrepreneurship and education. Desai played for India in the 1994 bridge world championship and says his biggest failure is not being able to play cricket for India.

Shriram is the founding board member of Google and one of the first investors in the company. Shriram was one of the first to write a cheque to Google co-founders Sergey Brin and Larry Page in 1998. He would advise them one day a week in their Menlo Park garage, *Forbes* magazine said.

The University of Madras alumnus is still a board member and large shareholder of the search giant. The California-resident is now running his own

investment firm, Sherpalo Ventures, which has big stakes in online outsourcer 24/7 Customer.

It has also invested recently in Inking, which makes interactive textbooks for the iPad. Born in India, he joined Netscape in 1994. His next company, Jungle, was bought by Amazon in 1998.

The 53-year-old was elected Stanford University trustee last December. Wadhvani is founder, chairman and chief executive officer (CEO) of Symphony Technology Group, a private equity (PE) firm investing in software and software services firms.

An IIT Mumbai alumnus, Wadhvani moved to the US in 1969 and earned a PhD in electrical engineering at Carnegie.

He founded software firm Aspect in 1991 and rode the tech bubble onto The Forbes 400 list in 1999 with the \$9.3 billion sale of Aspect Development software firm to I2 Technologies.

Silicon Valley venture capitalist Khosla co-founded Sun Microsystems in 1982. SKS, the Indian microfinance lender he backed in 2006, went public in August.

He joined Sun investor John Doerr at Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers in 1996 and started Khosla Ventures in 2004. His firm raised \$1.1 billion in 2009, the most by a venture firm in three years.

An avid skydiver and hand glider, the 55-year-old is an IIT alumnus and his Three Dog Vineyards, named after his dogs, produces a thousand bottles of Cabernet Sauvignon a year.

The list also includes the likes of Warren Buffett, CEO, Berkshire Hathaway Inc; Bill Gates, chairman, Microsoft Corp; Larry Ellison, co-founder and CEO, Oracle; Mark Zuckerberg, founder and CEO, Facebook; Steve Jobs, co-founder and CEO, Apple Inc and media mogul Oprah Winfrey.

Forbes said the networth of its rich list climbed eight per cent this year to \$1.4 trillion compared to \$1.27 trillion last year.

Wealth rose for 217 members of the list, while 85 saw a decline. It also said that 16 new members joined the list this year, courtesy inheritance, appreciation and big buyouts.

However, 34 people fell off the list in 2010, including Raj Rajaratnam, founder of the Galleon Group hedge fund.

The top-10 on the list gained \$24.9 billion. The price of admission to the list is back up to \$1 billion from 2009, when \$950 million was enough to make it to the top 400.

PTI

RICHEST INDIANS IN US



Bharat Desai & family

Founder: Syntel

Rank: 252

Networth: \$1.6 billion

Desai earned his engineering degree from IIT & moved to the US after landing a job with TCS in 1976. He founded Syntel in 1980 with wife Neerja Sethi; took firm public in 1997.



Kavitar Ram Shriram

Venture capitalist: Google

Rank: 288

Networth: \$1.45 billion

One of the first to write a cheque to Google co-founders; still a board member & shareholder and owner of Sherpalo Ventures, which has a big stake in 24/7 Customer.



Romesh T. Wadhvani

Software giant

Rank: 290

Networth: \$1.4 billion

Rode tech bubble onto The Forbes 400 in 1999 with \$9.3-billion sale of Aspect Development software firm to I2 Technologies. Acquired nine business software and IT firms.



Vinod Khosla

Co-founder: Sun Microsystems

Rank: 308

Networth: \$1.3 billion

SKS, the microfinance lender he backed in 2006, went public in August; his stake was worth \$90 mn; sold other portfolio firms since May.

Rank	Name	Networth (In \$ bn)	Company
1	Bill Gates	54	Microsoft Corp
2	Warren Buffett	45	Berkshire H'way
3	Larry Ellison	27	Oracle
4	Christy Walton	24	Walmart
5	Charles Koch	21.5	Koch Industries

TOP-5 US BARONS



IIT team to probe cracks detected in Village tower

By Ravi Bajpal in New Delhi

ENGINEERS have been called to investigate cracks in a residential tower at the Commonwealth Games Village where the New Zealand contingent is staying after team members sent photographs to its high commission in Delhi.

A team of experts from IIT Roorkee was reported to have reached Delhi late on Thursday for the checks that are expected to be completed by Friday, a senior government official said. "We

don't know the nature of the cracks yet. They could even be superficial, but we can't take any chances and have opted to get the checks done," said the official.

The New Zealand contingent has already complained of unhygienic living conditions at the residential complex. On Wednesday, team members clicked photographs of the cracks and seepage, the official disclosed.

"They sent the photographs to the New Zealand High Commission, expressing safety concerns and saying they be put up some-

where else," said the official.

New Zealand high commission officials reported the concerns to cabinet secretary K.M. Chandrashekhar along with the photographs of the cracks. Delhi chief secretary Rakesh Mehta was also called in to follow up on the complaints.

A senior DDA official said they weren't informed of any cracks. "We submitted structural safety certificates for the entire Games Village a few days ago," the official said. The DDA constructed the complex in partnership with

developer Emaar-MGF.

House managers from leading hotels are being roped in to oversee housekeeping at the Village after widespread complaints of

CM talks to hotel chains for housekeeping job

poor hygiene and facilities at the residential complex.

A troubleshooting team headed by Delhi chief minister Sheila Dikshit was talking to hotel chains

such as the ITC Maurya, the Taj and the Oberoi to hire staff for the job, a top official said.

At least 1,000 sanitation workers were rushed for cleanliness duties inside the residential towers and 600 were deputed to clear debris and dirt from the open areas, an official said. But dissatisfied with the upkeep, New Zealand is utilising the services of a specialised outfit to clean up the residential tower. Sources said the OC was contemplating seeking their help in cleaning up other towers as well.

Indian Express, ND 24/09/2010

p-13

No salary for teachers on strike, rules V-C

NEW DELHI: Delhi University Vice-Chancellor Deepak Pental on Thursday used his emergency powers to order that teachers on strike would not be paid salary for the same period. "...In order to protect the interest of the students, the Vice-Chancellor...has decided the teachers who abstain from duty due should henceforth not be paid salary and allowances for such period," said the letter from the Registrar's office. The DUTA replied that only the Executive Council has the power to decide the matter.

Indian Express, ND 24/09/2010 p-9

House panel puts off HRD Bill

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, SEPT 23

YET to recover from criticism for rejecting the Parliamentary Standing Committee's recommendations on the Educational Tribunal Bill, the HRD Ministry was again at the receiving end on Thursday with the panel deferring consideration on another legislation — the Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill.

The committee said con-

sideration on the malpractices Bill would have to be postponed since the fate of the Tribunal Bill — linked to the malpractices legislation in terms of grievance redressal mechanism — was not yet clear. The malpractices Bill aims at checking problems such as capitation fee, misleading advertisements and information by educational institutes and proposes strong penalties against those found violating rules.

Oscar Fernandes, who heads the HRD Parliamen-

tary Standing Committee, and Rahul Gandhi could not attend the meeting.

Most panel members felt the Bill should not be considered as the HRD ministry was yet to clarify if it would accept any of its recommendations on the Tribunal Bill, which had to be deferred in the Rajya Sabha last month even after being passed by the Lok Sabha after many MPs led by Congressman K Keshava Rao took strong exception to the ministry's rejection of the committee's recommendations.

P & B Daily ND 24/09/2010 p-6

Setback to Sibal as panel defers consideration on important Bill

PBD BUREAU/PH
NEW DELHI, SEPT 23

HRD Minister Kapil Sibal today received a setback with the Parliamentary Standing Committee deferring consideration of a bill on checking malpractice in educational institutes till the passage of the Education Tribunal Bill.

The members of the standing committee took the view that the consideration needed to be postponed till the fate of the original bill was clear, committee sources said.

The Prohibition of Unfair Practises in Technical, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill was one among the three key education reforms bills linked with the Tribunal Bill.

In the absence of committee chairman Oscar Fernandes, N K Singh of the JD(U) presided over today's meeting at which members insisted that the bill should not be considered as the Government is not yet clear whether it has accepted its recommendations for amendments in the Education



Tribunal Bill.

Sibal had faced embarrassment on the last day of the Monsoon session of Parliament as the Government was forced to defer consideration of the Education Tribunal Bill after senior Congress leader K Keshav Rao led the attack against the Minister for hurrying up the key legislation.

Rao had taken objection to the HRD Ministry rejecting the report of the standing committee which was a "mini-Parliament". He had contended that the rejection

of the report and Parliament not being told about it was "unacceptable."

The standing committees are not attended by the Ministers and the Ministry secretary and other senior officials assist the Parliamentarians in their task.

The Prohibition of Unfair Practises in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and University Bill proposes to take a stern view against capitation fee, besides providing safeguards against failing to keep promise of quality education by such institutions.

Times of India ND 24/09/2010
p19

Cern collider on verge of revealing how it all began

Geneva: The \$10 billion Big Bang machine under the Swiss-French border may be on the verge of its first scientific breakthroughs after appearing to produce a small amount of the matter that existed in the first moments of the universe, physicists said.

Scientists said on Wednesday that they are thrilled about a series of recent experiments with simple protons at the Large Hadron Collider, and that a wealth of new physics knowledge could be unearthed soon when the machine begins to smash more complicated nuclei into each other at nearly the speed of light.

Already, researchers at the European Organization for Nuclear Research, or CERN, and outside experts are hailing the new data. They say colliding particles seem to be creating hot dense

matter that would have existed microseconds after the Big Bang and might hold the key for understanding how the liquids, gases and solids of our universe were created.

CERN says the correlations bear similarities to studies with larger particle structures conducted at the US

BANG FOR BUCK

Brookhaven National Laboratory, and that they reveal how some particles are intimately linked in a way not seen before in proton collisions.

"We are very excited," said Raju Venugopalan, a senior Brookhaven scientist who wasn't involved in CERN's experiments. He said that the data showed for the first time that protons have quantum properties that can be enhanced in collisions. AP

Times of India ND 24/09/2010 p19

Pedal-powered aircraft flaps its wings like a bird

First-Of-Its-Kind, Plane Works Up Speed Of 25kph

London: To see humans fly like birds has been dream of scientists for centuries. Now, a man-powered aircraft with flapping wings made aviation history by becoming the first of its kind to fly continuously for almost 20 seconds.

The aircraft named "Snowbird" has recently performed its record-breaking flight at the Great Lakes Gliding Club in Ontario in Canada. Its creator Todd Reichert, a doctoral student at the University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace Studies, flew the device successfully by pedalling with his legs. Pulleys and ropes attached to the wings pulled down when he pedalled forward.

During the trial, Reichert sustained both altitude and airspeed for 19.3 seconds, covering a distance of 145 metres at an average speed of 25.6 kilometres per hour,



ON A SONG: A participant rides a self-made flying craft during the Flugtag event where teams compete to build a craft capable of flying the furthest without using an engine, in Bucharest

the Daily Mail reported. "The Snowbird represents the completion of an age-old aeronautical dream," Reichert said.

The Snowbird weighs just 42.5kg and has a wing span of 105 feet. Although its wingspan is comparable to that of a Boeing 737, the Snowbird weighs less than all

of the pillows on board. The Federation Aeronautique Internationale, the world governing body for air sports and aeronautical world records, is expected to confirm the ornithopter's world record in October. PTI

Times of India ND 24/09/2010 p17 TN, Maha show gender bias in awarding PhDs

Karthika Gopalakrishnan | TNN

Chennai: Girls are often seen outperforming boys in classrooms across the board — be it in school or college. However, statistics now point out that women still have some way to go before they can catch up with men in the field of doctoral research.

Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra show the greatest gender disparity across states in the award of PhDs with only 23.8% women completing their doctoral research from 1998-2007 compared to 76.2% men, according to a recent study carried out by the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore. Across the country, the national average stood at 66.4% of PhDs being awarded to men and 33.6% to women.

Professors Anitha Kurup and Jagadish Arora, who carried out the study, analysed 45,561 PhD records from 261 institutions across the country using data primarily obtained from INFLIBNET (Information and Library Network Centre) set up by the University Grants Commission and supplemented by records from individual universities. Data from 14 universities out of 38 were used to arrive at the statistics



STILL A LONG WAY TO GO

for the two states. With TN occupying the top spot for gender disparity along with Maharashtra, researchers said the scenario raises concerns given that TN has an increased proportion of women enrolling for higher education at 41.9%.

Reacting to the findings, associate professor Prema Rajagopalan from department of humanities and social sciences, IIT-Madras, said the trend was in keeping with larger decline in research by women when compared to men.

"A culture does exist in the state of a lot of women opting for administrative work or jobs as teachers after their graduation. This is always a goal, a possibili-

ty or a window as there is a lot of requirement for manpower at these levels (that of office/project assistants). These women may not be interested in improving their qualification but to pick up experience on the job that will help them land a more secure job, sometimes even a government job" she said.

Research productions in the Sciences (which includes Natural Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Medicine, Agriculture), Humanities and Social Sciences were studied for the survey. Of 24,539 records studied in the Sciences, it was found that the gender difference in proportion of PhDs was highest in Engineering and Technology with only 20.2% women receiving the degrees compared to 79.8% men. Since women compose one half of the potential workforce, their critical absence from fields such as Engineering and Technology indicates a larger loss for the country's innovation climate and research capacity, the study states. The researchers suggested that measures like part-time PhDs, more flexibility in terms of time period for completion, and scholarships could help boost women's participation in research.

Times of India ND 24/09/2010 p17 Now, apply online for UPSC exams

Prafulla Marpakwar | TNN

Mumbai: As a part of its e-governance initiative, the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has introduced the system of online submission of application forms for all its examination.

"Last year, UPSC had introduced online system on experimental basis. In view of massive response, now it will be regular feature. We hope it will bring in a major relief for the applicants," a senior official said. Lakhs of students appear for more than a dozen exams being conducted by UPSC.

"Online system has its own advantages, since it's the most convenient system of submitting application forms," he said.

IIM-A in top 10 of B-school chart

Manash Pratim Gohain | TNN

New Delhi: The Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A) has, for the first time, been ranked number eight for its two-year Postgraduate Programme (PGP). According to the latest Financial Times (FT) Business School rankings for its Masters in Management programme 2010, the premier Indian B-school's MBA programme has been placed among the top 10 in the list of 65 B-schools. This is the first time IIM-A participated in the ranking assessment.

The Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Paris (ECSP Europe) has topped the rankings this year, improving its last year's second position, while CEMS, The Global Alliance in Management Education, has been ranked number two. The ranking is done based on 28 parameters.

Also, it's for the first time that an Indian B-school has been ranked among top 10 for its flagship PG programme. Terming it as a step forward for more meaningful global

TOP DRAWER

The methodology for Financial Times business school ranking

► The FT Masters in Management report ranks top 65 programmes in general management for students with no prior work experience

► Established in 2005, the ranking aims to give a thorough assessment of the programmes submitted by business schools worldwide. It also looks at the schools & their alumni

► Two sets of online surveys are used. The first survey is completed by the schools themselves, and the second by alumni who graduated from the respective programmes three yrs previously. Parameters include | Salaries, employment, percentage of international students, faculty with PhD, course fee, among others



ventures, IIM-A director Dr Samir Kumar Barua said the rankings would help in more international collaborations.

Barua said: "We have been ranked number eight for our two-year masters programme in management in the category where the candidates pursuing the course need not have any work experience to join the programme. This is the first time we have participat-

ed in the FT rankings. To be a part of the assessment, one has to qualify," said Barua.

The IIM-A is the only Indian business school to be accredited by the European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS) and is now eyeing the US equivalent — by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

"When we go for any meaningful collaboration, in-

ternational rankings helps," said Barua.

Interestingly, FT has also come out with a special report on management education in India. Said India online editor of the FT, James Fontanella-Khan: "This is the first time an Indian school has made it to the top 10 in FT's top management masters league table. This reflects the improving standards of teaching and student placement at Indian business schools."

On the emergence of Indian B-schools in world rankings — ISB, Hyderabad has been ranked among the top 20 by FT for its one-year executive programme couple of years ago — Fontanella-Khan said: "A growing number of IIM students end up working for companies globally. However, more has to be done. Indian schools need to attract more foreign talent and faculty. They have only recently started doing so. This also explains why Indian business schools weren't in the top ranks before. In an ever more globalised world, you need global approach to education."

Financial Express ND 24-Sep-10 p-12

INTERVIEW: NATARAJAN CHANDRASEKARAN

CEO & MD, TCS

'India has a big role to play in IT's future'

Can India produce a Bills Gates?

Innovations will happen here when problems and the ecosystem come together. The ecosystem must be there—the research capability, the funding. So far, most people have been going abroad to do research. It's a question of the right opportunity and going forward. Given the kind of opportunities that we have, more people will become entrepreneurs and will be willing to risk trying out new things, as opposed to simply taking on a job. It will happen. The US has been investing and innovating for centuries; in that sense we are a relatively young nation.

Are you able to see technology ten years on?

I can't really predict the future, but if you look back you will see that not every technology that has come in has made a big impact. There are only five technologies I can think of in the past 50 years that have had a big impact. The first is the mainframe computer because it made automation possible. The second is client server technology because it gave business users access to the technology. The third is ERP because it made the life of CFOs easier, the fourth is the Internet, which had a profound impact on the world and the

fifth, I would say, is the Microsoft Office. No one in the business community today can live without a spreadsheet or PowerPoint; it changed the way people started to do things. None of us could have predicted ten years back the extent of the impact that mobile phones, the Internet and e-mail would have. In the mid-Nineties I used to send my reports from abroad by fax because not everybody was into e-mail. Today we can't switch off! I think in the next ten years technology will have an impact that we can't comprehend today! Virtually everything will be real time. Social computing will be big.

Why do you think social computing will be so important?

I'm closely observing the trends in social computing, although I'm not part of any site myself. I think these sites will become powerful in creating opinions because like-minded people debate. Once you say there is a platform, it can be put to use for a hobby, for thought and for serious stuff. There is need to belong to the community—the club mentality—and social computing sites create virtual communities that are very powerful.

In my opinion, social computing will have a profound impact.

Will the Indian IT industry focus more on R&D and become more inventive?

Yes, certainly that will happen because we have matured, built scale and moved up the value chain. The quality of work that we do for clients today is very different from what we did ten years back. We're already creating intellectual property and will create more in the next ten years. Also, the adoption of technology in India is going to be a significant factor because wherever there is a problem there will be more innovative solutions. One of the solutions we have created for cooperative banks is an example of cloud technology and there will be many such solutions that get incubated, piloted, and scaled up in India first, because in the Western world many of the problems don't exist.

How do you read the trend in the IT industry in the next few years?

I don't believe there is a demand problem for the industry as a whole and India has a big role to play because of the scale that we have; demography also supports us big time. The age dependency ratio is improving continuously and the tech industry in particular will be polarised toward the working population.



PRADEEP KOCHAREKAR

IBM India MD to play a bigger role

■ Annaswamy may take up Asia-Pacific affairs; internal successor likely

Goutam Das

Bangalore, Sep 23: IBM India's corner rooms are a buzz with the talk that its current managing director, Shanker Annaswamy, may take up a bigger role in IBM Asia Pacific in the coming months. Annaswamy has been heading IBM India since 2004.

Sources told FE that IBM may be scouting internally for his successor. Alok Ohrie, chief of IBM India's systems & technology group (STG), Nipun Mehrotra, vice-president and general manager, global technology services (GTS), Amit Sharma, former finance director of IBM India, and current chief operations officer are strong contenders for the post.

Sources, however, did not

rule out the possibility of a foreign national being in the hunt for the highly coveted post.

FE was unable to determine why Annaswamy is moving on from the current role but a source said that as a policy, country heads in IBM are moved vertically upwards in the organisation after a few years. "Annaswamy is one of the longest serving MDs. The murmurs of him leaving the post have only grown stronger in the last one month," a source said.

When quizzed about the development, an IBM India spokesperson said the rumours of the current MD moving on were "baseless" and "We do not comment on market rumours or speculation." India has been a suc-

RACE TO TOP



Shanker Annaswamy, MD, IBM India

Likely contenders:

■ Alok Ohrie, chief of IBM India's systems & technology group

■ Nipun Mehrotra, vice-president and general manager, global technology services

■ Amit Sharma, former finance director, IBM India

cess story for IBM and under Annaswamy, the firm has

been able to establish strong offshoring capability in India as well as expand the domestic market. His six-year stint has thus far yielded many transformational deals in domestic telecom and insurance sectors.

IBM has more than 1,00,000 employees in India, which makes the firm as big an employer as any of the top tier Indian IT services firms. According to estimates from trade publication Dataquest, IBM India had revenues of Rs 12,388 crore in FY10; 48% of the pie was domestic. These estimates do not include BPO revenues.

Among the contenders, Amit Sharma has a great reputation in the marketplace, sources said. Alok, an IBM veteran, had joined

back IBM earlier this year after short stints in other companies. Ohrie was the president of EMC India & Saarc and before that, served as the vice-president and MD for AMD's India operations. Nipun Mehrotra is with IBM for 15 years. As the current vice president and general manager for Global Technology Services for India/South Asia, he leads the business management for IBM's strategic outsourcing services, integrated technology services, small-and-medium business services and maintenance services. Global Technology Services works with many coveted customers in India such as Bharti, Idea, MTNL, Vodafone, Tata Motors, DLF, CB-DT, and the Reserve Bank of India.

Hindustan Times ND 24/09/2010 P15

Another Sibal reform blocked

SETBACK House panel won't take up Bill on educational institutions till ministry clarifies stand on tribunals Bill

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Parliamentary Standing Committee on HRD has refused to take up a crucial proposed legislation aimed at punishing higher educational institutions that cheat students, in a setback to Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal's reform plans.

The House panel said it could not consider the Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Education Bill, 2010 till the HRD ministry clarified its position on recommendations the standing committee had made on another proposed legislation — the Education Tribunals Bill.

The standing committee is headed by influential Congress leader Oscar Fernandes and has Rahul Gandhi as a member.

The ministry had reintroduced the Education Tribunals Bill in Parliament without

HURDLE

■ HRD ministry had reintroduced the Education Tribunals Bill in Parliament without incorporating any of the panel's recommendations, triggering charges of ignoring the standing committee's views.

■ The House panel is headed by Congress leader Oscar Fernandes

incorporating any of the panel's recommendations, triggering charges of ignoring the standing committee's views.

Sibal was criticised by both the Opposition and Congress MP K. Keshava Rao in the Rajya Sabha and was forced to defer the Education Tribunals Bill to the next session.

Ministry officials have since been hoping that they would be able to convince Parliament to allow the passage of the Edu-

cation Tribunals Bill during the winter session.

The Unfair Practices Bill and two other reform Bills refer to the tribunals that are to be set up through the Educational Tribunals Bill, which is therefore the pivotal legislation for Sibal's reforms.

But the standing committee today told HRD ministry officials that it would not even consider the Unfair Practices Bill till the Educational Tribunals bill is passed, or the HRD ministry clarifies what — if any — changes it plans to bring to that Bill following the opposition in Rajya Sabha.

Till the House panel clears the Unfair Practices Bill, it cannot be taken up by Parliament for discussion and passing. The two other reform Bills that refer to Educational Tribunals are also before the House panel, which is now expected to similarly refuse to take them up.

Hindustan Times ND 24/09/2010 P1

6 TOP SCIENCE BODIES' VERDICT: Bt BRINJAL SAFE

ht EXCLUSIVE

Zia Haq

■ zia.haq@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Six premier Indian science academies, given the task of evaluating Bt brinjal by Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh, have declared it safe, but their findings also say all genetically modified (GM) items pose a risk if the science behind them is flawed.

The academies, as part of their mandate, have made key recommendations, including allowing the use of GM crops to meet growing food demands.

However, they said, India's food security is "too critical an area" to be left entirely to the private sector. Therefore, public sector organisations should be the main facilitators of GM technologies.

The launch of Bt brinjal, India's first GM food crop, was aborted in February after a safety debate broke out. While putting a moratorium on the genetically-engineered eggplant, the world's first, Ramesh had said a decision to release it would have to be "responsible to both science and society".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

'Bt Brinjal safe'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ramesh had then appointed the academies to scrutinise Bt brinjal and give a rigorous opinion on GM crops.

K. Kasturirangan, Planning Commission member heading farm research, was asked to steer the project involving Bangalore-based Indian Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Medical Sciences, Indian National Academy of Engineering, Indian National Science Academy and National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, all New Delhi-based, and Allahabad-based National Academy of Sciences.

In GM crops, the genetic material (DNA) is altered to improve its qualities. Bt Brinjal, for instance, has been inserted with a bacterial protein so that it resists pests.

The academies, which have submitted their findings to the

government, found no evidence that the protein used in creating Bt brinjal, Cry1Ac, is unsafe. "The same Bt protein present in another food crop has been consumed elsewhere in the world with no evidence of any scientifically established negative effect," the report, reviewed by *HT*, states.

Some people can still be allergic to Bt brinjal, the findings say, just as some people develop allergies to common foods such as milk or nuts. So, no food can be declared 100 per cent safe for all from this viewpoint.

The findings, however, suggest the line between safe and unsafe GM products is very slim. Safety depends on how sound they are scientifically and how well they have been tested. Moreover, growers of GM crops need to comply with all mandatory guidelines for environment safety.

IIT-DELHI TO AID COLLAPSE PROBE

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police have sought the technical assistance of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) to investigate into the incident where an under-construction structure near the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium collapsed on Tuesday.

The Crime Branch of Delhi Police was handed over the case a day ago on the directions of the Delhi High Court.

The police have written a letter to the IIT, Delhi, on Thursday, asking for their help to ascertain if there was a structural fault in the collapsed bridge.

Chandigarh-based P&R Infrastructure was entrusted with the construction work of the bridge at a cost of ₹5.17 crore.

The police said they have recorded the statement of some of the labourers. **HTC**

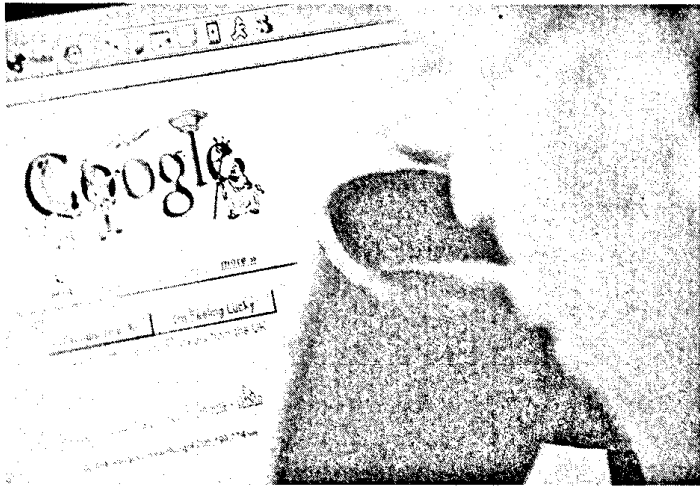
Business Standard
ND24/09/2010 p-4

NIIT, IGNOU's certificate for chess

NIIT Ltd, leading global talent development corporation and Asia's largest IT trainer, and Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), world's largest open university, have come together to launch 'Certificate Programme in Chess as Mind Booster', to enable development of young minds through chess. The programme was unveiled by world chess champion Vishwanathan Anand. **BS REPORTER**

GOOGLE AIMS FOR PREMIUM CONTENT

YouTube is increasing its library of long-form content and is eyeing Bollywood tie-ups



The search giant has a network of 10,000 partners globally that includes Indian players like ZeeTV, Sony Entertainment Television, Yash Raj Films and Turner. REUTERS

SHIVANI SHINDE

Global search giant Google will begin offering pay-per-view content for its US viewers by this year end, but Indian users might have to wait for a while. How-

ever, there is something in the offing — Google is gearing up its premium content aggregation in India.

The total view of premium content from India has increased by almost 350 per cent globally, on a year-on-year basis (Q2, 2010 compared to Q2,

2009). Active videos have grown 440 per cent and new video uploads have gone up by 300 per cent. Google does not provide the break-up for video uploaded, but maintains that the growth has been phenomenal.

For Google India, activity went up a notch after the suc-

cess of live streaming (simulcasting) of Indian Premier League (IPL) matches on YouTube. Live streaming raked in 55 million views and touched a subscriber base of 93,000. While IPL was one of the biggest success stories, Google recently tested the simulcasting segment with Cinemaa Awards on Maa TV — receiving approximately 170,000 views.

"After the sports category, Bollywood is the segment where we have been able to do such innovative stuff. Moreover, while the business models remain advertisement supported, some of the programming is really innovative," said Gautam Anand, director content partnership, Asia Pacific YouTube.

Google has a network of 10,000 partners globally that includes Indian players like ZeeTV, Sony Entertainment Television, Yash Raj Films and Turner, among others.

YouTube, a popular platform for running campaigns, trailers and short format videos, is fast becoming popular with its long-form content, celebrity channels, and simulcasting programmes.

For instance, when Studio18 produced the Bollywood flick *Striker* — the first Hindi movie to have a world premier on YouTube — it received 1,185,433 views.

"I think there is a huge opportunity in this segment as more and more low-budget films are released. They want to tap the on-line segment. This also addresses the piracy issue to some extent. I think what we are seeing in India is different business models. As we interact and talk about the paid products we will see more and

more such products," said Anand.

As part of its long-form content, Google has over 100 titles in the Bollywood category that are available for free and is ad-supported. In geographies like the UK and the US Google has started paid content, but in India, Anand believes, it will be advertisement-supported revenue for the time being.

"We have launched long-form content for the US and the UK markets but the users have to pay to access the services. In India distribution of content is a challenge. So while it is now free to use and ad-supported in future the model will change," he said.

Other than new releases in full-form content, YouTube has a classic segment that features films like *Amar Prem* and *Half Ticket*.

Anand said even the general entertainment channels (GEC) are catching on this web trend. "Other than simulcasting and long-form content, the GEC's are pulling out old content on the Internet, thus monetising their intellectual property by an ad-supported model," he said. B R Chopra's *Mahabharat* is available on YouTube.

Regional cinema is another area that is doing well on the web, but is still to catch up with the rest. "The trend of consumption of content that is device agnostic also steams this adoption as more and more innovations happen in the technology segment. Apple's iPad and Google's Android is an apt instance. Besides some of the technology that we are using will help us provide content that users want," added Anand.

Where have all the jobs gone?

Despite rapid recovery the unemployment rate in India remains high



FROM THE
IVORY TOWER

N CHANDRA MOHAN

Although India's GDP growth has recovered fast from the global crisis, very little is reliably known on whether it has generated adequate employment opportunities or has remained jobless in nature. In advanced economies, a revival in output is occurring but with double-digit rates of unemployment. According to the Economist, India is not too far behind with a joblessness rate of 10.7 per cent in 2009. But this is clear-

ly only a guesstimate as the latest official number on the rate of unemployment is eight per cent on a daily status basis in 2007-08.

Unlike advanced countries where up-to-date information is available on labour market behaviour, this information is available in India only with a five-year lag. The last comprehensive survey of the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) pertains to 2004-05. The next survey for 2009-10 has just been completed and the results will be published in 2011. The ministry of labour and employment, however, has so far conducted six successive quarterly surveys on the effect of the global slowdown between October-December 2008 and January-March 2010.

These surveys indicate that there has been a net addition of 850,000 jobs in a sample of firms in industries like textiles including apparel, leather, metals, automobiles, gems and jewellery, transport and IT/BPO. The earlier quarters — October-December 2008 and April-June 2009 show a net decline in employment but there has been a turnaround since then. However, the fact that two-thirds of such employment has been generated only in IT/BPO sector while it is shrinking in labour-intensive sectors like textiles hardly indicates any broad-based upswing in overall job creation.

Given the unavailability of NSSO's latest 2009-10 data, the Annual Report to the People on Employment from the ministry of labour

perforce has had to make projections from the 2004-05 survey for making estimates of the labour force for 2009-10 and thereafter. However, researchers are unlikely to be enthused by the report's findings as the unemployment rate derived from that estimate for 2009-10 is only a lowly 2.7 per cent on a usual status basis as it includes persons who are out of work and are seeking or available for work over a year.

Longer-term unemployment rates are unlikely to capture the impact of the global crisis on GDP growth in India and the resultant spike upwards in joblessness. They remain low because in a country with pervasive poverty few can afford to remain unemployed for long stretches of time. They are forced to take

up self-employment or casual odd-jobbing in the unorganised sector than be without work. Unemployment rates on a daily status basis that capture those seeking/available for work on a typical day in the year are certainly a better indicator than the usual status one.

Like the ministry of labour's report, one can extrapolate from earlier NSSO five-year surveys to derive more recent estimates, especially after the global crisis hit India. A disturbing fact is the sharp deceleration in employment growth

to 1.8 per cent per annum from 1993-94 to 2006-07 from 2.6 per cent between 1983-1993-94 although growth accelerated to 6.3 per cent from five per cent over this period. These numbers imply a decline in employment per unit of GDP growth or employment elasticity to 0.28 from 1983-94 to 2006-07 from 0.52 over the years 1983-1993-94.

Applying this elasticity to the likely GDP growth of 7.4 per cent in 2009-10 to project the generation of employment provides an average of 8.7 million jobs generated last year. This is significantly short of the annual average 10 million opportu-

Two-thirds of employment has been generated only in IT/BPO sector while it is shrinking in labour-intensive sectors

nities generated before the global crisis struck. In other words, around 1.3 million fewer jobs were generated last fiscal despite a recovery in GDP growth. This shrinkage of employment opportunities when nine to 10 million people look for work every year will only swell the reserve army of the unemployed.

The number of unemployed in 2009-10 is substantial at 36.2 million out of a labour force of 465.3 million on a daily status basis, if one uses the projections of the Planning Commission for the Eleventh Plan (2007-2012). Disturbingly, the rate of unemployment appears stuck

at around eight per cent. This rate did not budge from this level even when the economy experienced faster growth of 9.5 per cent in 2006-06 and 9.2 per cent in 2007-08. This was the case even when the global crisis impacted the economy and GDP growth plunged to 6.7 per cent in 2008-09.

Whether employment rates have become entrenched, impervious to the revival in GDP growth, however, is a task for deeper study. Certainly, the availability of NSSO's comprehensive survey data for 2009-10 will shed light on this matter. The fact that fewer employment opportunities are being generated when nine to 10 million people join the labour force each year obviously implies that the rapid recovery of the economy from the global crisis is basically jobless in nature — notwithstanding the good news regarding hirings in the IT/BPO space.

From the Ivory Tower will make research from the academic world accessible to all our readers

The business of B-schools

India's management schools need better managements

India has over 2,000 business schools — perhaps more than any other country. They churn out hundreds of thousands of management graduates every year. Has that made much of a difference to the way things are managed? How good is the quality of the talent being created, and is there adequate demand for it? While graduates from top business schools are lapped up by companies in India and abroad, a vast majority of them struggle to find a job. It is a clear indication that the quality of education is abysmal in the lower-rung business schools. The *Business Standard* Best Business School Survey 2010, published last week along with the September issue of *Indian Management*, shows that there is a precipitous decline in quality of management training as one moves down the list of B-schools. Look at some of the numbers. In the top category, 85 per cent of the faculty members are PhDs; in the bottom category, they form just 23 per cent of the faculty. The student-faculty ratio at the top is six; at the bottom it falls to 11. While faculty at an average top-category business school had combined publications of 71 papers and articles last year, the comparable figure for a business school at the bottom of the pyramid was a lowly six. This shows up in the packages on offer. The average salary amongst the top schools was ₹11.9 lakh a year; the average at the bottom was ₹2 lakh — a sixth. The reasons for this are not hard to seek. Most of the second-rung business schools have come up in the last few years. Students now look at the private sector and not the government for jobs, hence the proliferation in business schools. An MBA degree is the closest one can get to job security these days. At the same time, there are no entry barriers in the field.

Worldwide, business schools make huge investments in their infrastructure. A bigger challenge is to get hold of a good faculty. But this does not deter Indian entrepreneurs from setting up business schools in every nook and cranny of India. The time has come for the government and the corporate sector to prescribe and implement academic and institutional norms for business schools.

Any manager of human resources in a company will tell you that recruitment from business schools is not easy. Apart from the handful at the top, there isn't much information available about others. The task is no simpler for an aspiring MBA. How does she compare and contrast two schools? There is any number of surveys in the market every year. But these are all perception surveys, not an analysis of facts and figures. They also assume that the respondents are fully aware of all the aspects of all business schools, which might not always be true. Most important, these rank only the top business schools, and leave aside the bulk at the bottom. The *Business Standard* survey, in contrast, is based on facts. Only business schools approved by the All India Council for Technical Education and that have seen two batches of students placed in jobs are surveyed. They are assessed on five parameters: intellectual capital, admissions and placements, infrastructure, industry interface and governance. The weight to each is assigned by experts. The data are collected and cross-checked by IMRB. Any business school that shows a sharp variation over the previous year is visited by an IMRB representative. As many as 255 business schools have been ranked in the latest survey. The upshot of the survey is that India's management schools need better management!

Economic Times
ND24/09/2010

p-3

HRD House panel defers scrutiny of bill for checking educational malpractices

Our Political Bureau
 NEW DELHI

THE parliamentary standing committee on HRD has decided to defer discussions on a bill meant to check malpractice in higher education till the Rajya Sabha passes the National Educational Tribunal Bill.

The Prohibition of Unfair Practises in Technical, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill is one of the three bills meant for education reforms. The proposed legislation intends to check capitation fee and act on institutions that fail to adhere to quality norms on education. When the parliamentary standing committee met on Thursday to take up discussion on the bill, members were of the view that it should not be taken up for discussion as the government had not clarified its position on the amendments proposed by the standing committee to the National Education Tribunal Bill. The meeting was presided over by Mr N K Singh of the JD(U), as the committee's chairman Oscar Fernandes was not present.



The educational tribunal bill was deferred on the last day of the monsoon session of Parliament after opposition from even Congress MPs.

During the discussion in the Rajya Sabha, members questioned the ministry's decision to 'disregard' the panel's recommendation.

Congress MP Keshav Rao had taken great objection to the ministry's decision to reject the standing committee report. Mr Rao had questioned the rationale behind the standing committee deliberating on a bill if the government was unwilling to consider its views. The Congress MP had said that rejection of the report on the bill and not telling Parliament about it to the House was "unacceptable".

FILTERING OUT: Proposed bill intends to check capitation fee

Navbharat Times ND24/09/2010 p-20

2 देश के लिए नई मुहिम 'अवर न्यू इंडिया'

विशेष संवाददाता ॥ नई दिल्ली

दुनिया भर में अपनी प्रतिभा और मेधा का लोहा मनवा चुकी हिंदुस्तान की आईआईटी ब्रिगेड अब राष्ट्र निर्माण की जिस नई मुहिम के लिए कمر कस चुकी है, उसे नाम दिया गया है 'अवर न्यू इंडिया'। आईआईटी के लगभग दो लाख से ज्यादा पूर्व छात्रों इस मुहिम में अपना योगदान देने के लिए शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, वोकेशनल ट्रेनिंग, नए उद्यम व रोजगार की संभावनाओं की तलाश, ग्रामीण विकास, समाजसेवा जैसे क्षेत्रों को चुना है।

इस मुहिम का खुलासा किया पैन

आईआईटी 2010 कॉन्क्लेव के चेयरपर्सन व एनआईआईटी के सीईओ विजय थडानी ने। गौरतलब है पूर्व छात्रों के संगठन के रूप में उभरा के पैन आईआईटी के पूर्व छात्रों की अनाखी पहल। आईआईटी एक ऐसा मंच बन चुका है, जो आपस में संपर्क बनाने के साथ-साथ भारत को नॉलेज हब के रूप में विकसित करने की दिशा में भी काम कर रहा है। पैन आईआईटी 2010 कॉन्क्लेव अगले महीने ग्रेटर नोएडा में होने जा रहा है, जिसमें पांच हजार पूर्व आईआईटी छात्र हिस्सा लेंगे। थडानी का कहना है कि हम रीच फॉर इंडिया, सीड, गुरुकुल, पंचरत्न जैसी योजनाओं के ज़रिए काम कर रहे हैं।

Rajasthan Patrika
ND 24/09/2010 P-1

अब यूपीएससी फॉर्म ऑनलाइन

एजेसी @ नई दिल्ली

संघ लोक सेवा आयोग (यूपीएससी) ने प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं के लिए आवेदनों को ऑनलाइन जमा करने की प्रणाली शुरू की है। यह सुविधा पहले से उपलब्ध आवेदनों को भरने के विकल्प के अतिरिक्त है। अब सम्भावित उम्मीदवार (www.upsconline.nic.in) वेबसाइट से आयोग की परीक्षाओं के लिए ऑनलाइन आवेदन कर सकते हैं। इसे भरने के लिए आवेदक के स्कैन किए गए फोटो और स्कैन किए गए हस्ताक्षर की आवश्यकता होती है, जो पीएनजी फॉर्मेट में होनी चाहिए।

फोर्ब्स सूची में चार भारतीय-अमेरिकी

फोर्ब्स ने लिखा है कि अमीरों की सूची में शामिल लोगों की सम्पत्ति में आठ प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी हुई और यह 1400 अरब डॉलर हो गई।

भाषा, बोस्टन

सन माइक्रोसिस्टम के सह संस्थापक विनोद खोसला समेत चार भारतीय-अमेरिकियों को अमेरिका के पहले 400 अमीर लोगों की फोर्ब्स सूची में स्थान मिला है।

सूची में खोसला के अलावा आउटसोर्सिंग कंपनी सिंटेला के संस्थापक भारत देसाई, वेचर कैपिटल कारोबारी, कवितक राम श्रीराम और

सॉफ्टवेयर उद्यमी रमेश वाधवानी के भी नाम हैं। खोसला की हैसियत 1.3 अरब डॉलर है और सूची में 308वें स्थान पर है। देसाई को 252वां स्थान दिया गया है। उनकी संपत्ति 1.6 अरब डॉलर आंकी गई है। सूची में 288वें स्थान पर रखे गए श्रीराम की सम्पत्ति 1.45 अरब डॉलर और वाधवानी (290 वां स्थान) की हैसियत 1.4 अरब डॉलर है। सूची में 54 अरब डॉलर की परिसंपत्ति के साथ माइक्रोसॉफ्ट कारपोरेशन के बिल गेट्स लगातार 17वें वर्ष पहले स्थान पर बने हुए हैं।

देसाई भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) मुंबई के छात्र रहे हैं। वे 1976 में टाटा कंसल्टेंसी सर्विसेज (टीसीएस) की नौकरी छोड़कर अमेरिका चले आए थे। यहां

देसाई ने 1980 में अपनी पत्नी नीरजा सेठी के साथ मिलकर सिंटेला की स्थापना की। सेठी ने मिशीगन विश्वविद्यालय से प्रबंधन में स्नातकोत्तर किया है। सेठी ने गत वर्ष कंपनी के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी के पद से इस्तीफा दे दिया जबकि देसाई कंपनी के अध्यक्ष पद पर आसीन हैं।

देसाई ने भारत के लिए 1994 में विश्व ब्रिज चैम्पियंसशिप में भाग लिया था। उन्होंने कहा कि उनकी 'सबसे बड़ी असफलता' भारत के लिए क्रिकेट न खेल पाना है। श्रीराम इंटरनेट सर्च कंपनी गूगल के संस्थापक बोर्ड सदस्यों में से एक हैं और कंपनी में निवेश करने वाले प्रथम निवेशक भी हैं। मद्रास विश्वविद्यालय में पढ़े श्रीराम अभी भी सर्च कंपनी गूगल बोर्ड में

सदस्य और महत्वपूर्ण शेयरधारक हैं। श्रीराम के पास शेरपालो वेंचर नामक निवेशक कंपनी भी है। आईआईटी मुंबई में छात्र रहे वाधवानी 1969 में अमेरिका आए थे और कारेजी मेलन से विद्युत प्रौद्योगिकी में पीएचडी किया। फोर्ब्स ने लिखा है कि अमीरों की सूची में शामिल लोगों की सम्पत्ति में वर्ष के आठ प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी हुई और यह 1400 अरब डॉलर हो गई। गत वर्ष यह आंकड़ा 1270 अरब डॉलर था। पत्रिका के मुताबिक सूची के 217 सदस्यों के धन में बढ़ोतरी हुई जबकि 85 सदस्यों की बाजार में हैसियत घटी। सूची में इस बार 16 नए सदस्यों को शामिल किया गया है। हालांकि 2010 की इस सूची में राज रजारलम् समेत 34 व्यक्तियों को इस बार सूची में स्थान नहीं मिल पाया।