

Newspaper Clips September 24-26, 2016

September 26

Amar Ujala ND 26.09.2016 P-06

आईआईटी दिल्ली में अब डिजाइनिंग की पढ़ाई

प्रोग्राम में अंडरग्रेजुएट कॉमन एंट्रेंस एग्जामिनेशन से होगा दाखिला

सीमा शर्मा

नई दिल्ली।

देश के प्रतिष्ठित व पुराने इंजीनियरिंग संस्थान आईआईटी दिल्ली में अब इंजीनियरिंग के साथ डिजाइनिंग भी पढ़ाई जाएगी। आईआईटी में शैक्षणिक सत्र 2017-18 में डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ डिजाइनिंग की स्थापना होगी और इसी सत्र में बैचलर ऑफ डिजाइन के पहले बैच की पढ़ाई भी शुरू हो जाएगी। जेईई की तर्ज पर इस प्रोग्राम में दाखिला अंडरग्रेजुएट कॉमन एंट्रेंस एग्जामिनेशन से होगा।

आईआईटी दिल्ली के डायरेक्टर प्रो. वी. रामागोपाल राव के मुताबिक, अगले सत्र से बैचलर ऑफ डिजाइनिंग प्रोग्राम शुरू होने जा रही है। संस्थान में डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ डिजाइन की भी स्थापना की जाएगी।

डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ डिजाइन की स्थापना के साथ बैचलर ऑफ डिजाइन प्रोग्राम भी जुड़ेगा



आईआईटी में बीटेक की पढ़ाई में तकनीक तो पढ़ाई जाती है, लेकिन डिजाइन शामिल नहीं था। आज ग्लोबल मार्केट में तकनीक के साथ डिजाइन की भी सबसे अधिक मांग है। आज तकनीक से अधिक ग्राहक डिजाइन देखते हैं। इसीलिए तकनीक के साथ-साथ छात्रों को डिजाइन कैसे होना चाहिए, इसकी

पढ़ाई भी होगी। बैचलर ऑफ डिजाइन चार वर्षीय डिग्री प्रोग्राम होगा। शुरुआत बैचलर ऑफ डिजाइन से की जा रही है, हालांकि दो साल तक माॅस्टर इन डिजाइन का प्रोग्राम भी जोड़ दिया जाएगा।

इस डिग्री प्रोग्राम में छात्रों को डिजाइन की बेसिक जानकारी, तकनीक का रिप्रजेंटेशन, एलेमेंट ऑफ डिजाइन, एप्लाइड साइंस फॉर डिजाइन, टिकरिंग स्टूडियो, विजुअल डिजाइन, विजुअलाइजेशन एंड इलस्ट्रेशन आदि के बारे में पढ़ाया जाएगा।

डिपार्टमेंट की स्थापना से पढ़ाई के साथ-साथ रिसर्च व इनोवेशन पर भी काम होगा। बता दें कि फिलहाल आईआईटी गुवाहाटी में डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ डिजाइन स्थापित हैं। जबकि आईआईटी मुंबई में सिर्फ पढ़ाई होती है।

IIT-B holds breath as Mumbai's first satellite lifts off today

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/IIT-B-holds-breath-as-Mumbais-first-satellite-lifts-off-today/articleshow/54516749.cms>



MUMBAI: With a few hours left for the launch of Mumbai's first satellite Pratham, designed and developed by IIT-B students, the mood at the institute on Sunday was a mixture of excitement and nervous apprehension. The lift-off is slated for 9.12am on Monday at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. In all, eight satellites are being flown, the main one being the indigenous ScatSat-1 which is weather-related.

The Mumbai-made, 10-kg Pratham is one of the remaining seven satellites which will be deployed in orbit. The rocket is the advanced version of fourstage Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (Pslv) called Pslv-XL.

Pratham project manager Ratnesh Mishra told TOI: "To Ratnesh Mishra told TOI: "Tomorrow, when the rocket lifts off, we will see our nine-year dream turn into a reality."

The Pratham team currently consists of 30 members who have slogged 24X7 for the last several months to ensure that their pet project, delayed for a variety of reasons over the years, becomes a reality .

The much-awaited moment will be 2 hours, 14 minutes and 42.96 seconds after lift-off when Pratham, at an altitude of about 690 km, will separate from the rocket. Its velocity will be 7520.94 metres per second.

Mishra added: "We are go ing to have a sleepless night. It is a complicated mission because, for the first time, the fourth stage of the rocket will re-ignite twice. It is also the first time the satellites will be deployed in two different orbits and it will be the longest flight of Pslv ."

Apart from a ground station at IIT to track the satellite, another one has been set up at the Atharva College of Engineering at Malad. Mishra said the University College of London will also help track the satellite.

The role of Pratham with a four-month mission span will be to take a total electron count of the ionosphere. Electron is a sub-atomic particle which plays an essential role in numerous physical phenomena like electricity and magnetism.

The students have made arrangements to provide a live telecast of the launch on Monday.

Raj Bhavan calls IIT-Bombay for bunker audit

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/mumbai-news/raj-bhavan-calls-iit-bombay-for-bunker-audit/story-osbOOC3nVVfeXwzNgFNrJL.html>



The bunker, presumed to be a war room, was discovered by state officials on August 12 after they demolished a wall blocking the entrance.

Raj Bhavan has decided to rope in IIT-Bombay to conduct a structural audit of the bunker that was discovered inside the official residence of the Maharashtra governor. The audit will be conducted to check the stability of the structure and chalk out a comprehensive plan for its conservation.

The expert committee constituted by the governor Ch Vidyasagar Rao,, has appointed a team of IIT-Bombay to conduct the audit.

The bunker, presumed to be a war room, was discovered by state officials on August 12 after they demolished a wall blocking the entrance.

The governor had constituted an expert committee in August to decide on the conservation of the bunker. The committee, in a meeting held on September 18, decided to rope in IIT-Bombay to conduct the structural audit.

Sources privy to the development confirmed the appointment. "The institute would have started work had the rains not hit the city. Work will start once the monsoon recedes," sources said.

Going by the design and its structure, officials from the public works department (PWD) believe that the bunker is a one-plus-one structure.

The structural size and shape of the bunker will be confirmed after the audit.

The 150-metre long bunker has 13 rooms that experts think were used to store arms and ammunition by the British. It also has two hand-operated lift machines to bring out cannon shells and other ammunition and two emergency exits.

The committee has also sought suggestions from other engineering institutions such as VJTI and Rizvi College for preparing conservation plans of the bunker. The institutes have been asked to visit the site and prepare a presentation, an official told HT.

Financial Express ND 26.09.2016 P-08

Let's not finish off IIMs

Faculty reservations is one way to ensure this

At the time Smriti Irani was unceremoniously removed from the education minister's job, the story doing the rounds was that she was at loggerheads with the prime minister's office on providing more autonomy to the IIMs, a critical component of the government's plan to build 10 world-class public and 10 private educational institutions. But now, it appears, the government is planning to introduce caste-based reservations in the IIMs, apparently in keeping with the reservations in the rest of the country. While the government can pretend that there can be full autonomy for the IIMs to decide on their own admission policy and their own curriculum even while there is reservation for faculty, the truth is the two are fundamentally antithetical. Once there is reservation at the level of the faculty, each institution will be forced to dilute teaching standards and curriculum to ensure the reserved positions get filled up—this is something that has been seen in once well-regarded universities, and there is no reason to believe the IIMs will be any different. The government's belief that it is all right to have quotas since these institutions were set up with public money, of course, tells its own story since it accepts that there can be different standards/restrictions for public and private organisations.

There is no doubt there is a need to help those whom society has discriminated against, the under-privileged and those without access; indeed, there are societal externalities to be gained from this. But there can also be no doubt that this is being overdone since, for instance, it cannot be argued the OBCs have been discriminated against. Similarly, while it is obviously true that higher education is the ticket out of poverty and is therefore a powerful argument in favour of reservations, centuries of discrimination can only be brought to an end with serious thought going into it. Ideally, reservation is best done at the level of school since it is, in any case, the high dropout levels here that ensure there aren't enough SC/ST/OBCs making it to college on their own. Successive governments, however, have pushed reservation in colleges as well—the lack of preparation in school, including special classes for those in the reserved category, has meant that, more often than not, those graduating from colleges in the reserved category don't fare that well in the jobs market either. But, more important, if the government hopes to give those in the reserved category the best shot at the future, this can only be done with faculty chosen because it is top-class, not because it belongs to a certain caste group—if that is so, it lowers the value of the education and defeats the very purpose of the reservation. The fact that students making it into college under a reserved category need to then be assured jobs through reservation is, of course, the clearest indicator that the policy isn't working and, more than anything else, it is just another redistribution policy. At a time when India's competitors are advancing so fast—just look at the number of Chinese universities in the global rankings versus India's—and when the knowledge advantage is so critical, it is a pity India remains so focused on dumbing down its centres of excellence.

September 25

Times of India ND 25/09/2016 p-7

Think big: IIT to mentor 45 bizwomen

3-month Programme, Which Kicked Off On Saturday, Received Over 2,500 Applications

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New Delhi: Having come up with a quirky name for her enterprise, Bee Positive ++, Kanupriya Saigal plans to create a cooperative of beekeepers at Karnal to produce and sell honey. The novice entrepreneur will be chaperoned through the initiation process by Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi under its three-month programme to mentor 45 women entrepreneurs from across the country.

Presenting her business concept at the launch of the Women Entrepreneurship Empowerment (WEE) Mentorship Programme on Saturday, Saigal said she hoped to "learn the technical aspects of

my business from the mentors that would help sustain my idea".

Explaining the focus on women, V Ramgopal Rao, director, IIT-Delhi, said that "in spite of the fact that women entrepreneurs are more productive than men, there has been a decline in their presence and only 10% of all the start-ups are owned by them."

Dr Rao added that due to several social constraints, many girls did not get admission into IITs. "It is because of this that we will work with several government agencies to incubate and nurture ideas to compensate for the poor presence of women on the campus," he said. "We want to remove this exclusivity of IIT and make it more inclusive."



LET'S TALK BUSINESS: The women entrepreneurs with para-Olympian Deepa Malik at IIT-Delhi on Saturday

Sharing her personal experience of entrepreneurship, Deepa Malik, who won a silver medal at the Rio Paralympics recently, recounted

how she started a food delivery service in army cantonments, which has since become a full-fledged catering service for army clubs and priva-

te parties. "In spite of having no background in business and disabled by paralysis, I still managed to profit from my venture," she said. Malik, who believes in constantly being in 'solution mode', added, "People say that I am wheelchair-bound, but I say that I am wheelchair-liberated. I believe that wheels are a sign of progress."

The co-founders of WEE, Sarandeep Singh and Aparna Saroogi, did not expect more than 100 applicants, but were delighted to receive over 2,500. Among them was the sister duo of Diksha and Aishna Ohri. The founders of Kidzig, an online marketplace platform for children's products, said they "hope to gain experience, acquire technical know-how

to develop our idea and reach out to a wider audience."

Pointing out that women contributed only 17% to the GDP because of their absence from the workforce, Amitabh Kant, CEO of NITI Aayog, said, "If India manages gender parity, then we will see at least an increase of 1.4% in GDP."

Kant hoped that the women start-ups nurtured by IIT would bring about a discernible change in the business ecosystem, especially in north India.

WEE divides entrepreneurs into two groups: an entry-level ideas group engaged with start-up ideas, funding and mentoring from IIT and an accelerators' business model.

Deepa Malik shares her success mantra with women entrepreneurs at IIT Delhi event

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/videos/news/Deepa-Malik-shares-her-success-mantra-with-women-entrepreneurs-at-IIT-Delhi-event/videoshow/54513381.cms>

Deepa Malik shares her success mantra with women entrepreneurs at IIT Delhi event



Sunday Gurdian ND 25.09.2016 P-3

CLEANLINESS MISSION

HRD's Swachh Pakhwada gets students to act

AREEBA FALAK
NEW DELHI

In Rajasthan, over 15 lakh students have written letters to their parents requesting them to build toilets in their households. This was a chain reaction triggered by the "Swachhta Pakhwada" (fortnight) organised by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD). The Pakhwada saw mandatory participation of all Central ministries to contribute to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Swachh Bharat Mission.

Subhash Chandra Khuntia, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, HRD, said, "The students in Rajasthan, like in other states, participated in the Pakhwada and led cleanliness drives, among other awareness activities, on their school premises. But the idea that we were aiming for was to bring about a behavioral change. Once the students were made aware of the importance of the Swachh mission, they took it forward to their elders by writing letters requesting them to practice similar swachh habits at home as well."

The HRD ministry claimed to have provided 4,14,496 gender segregated (male and female) toilets across 261,400 government schools across the country.

To document the success of the "Swachhta Pakhwada", Indian Institute of Delhi (IIT-D) published a brochure highlighting the work done during the fortnight by IITs, NITs, IISER and other organisations under HRD. Speaking at a press conference in Delhi, Prof. V.Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT-D, proudly talked about the research and development activities carried out by students in IIT-D to revolutionise the cleanliness war in the country. Prof Rao said, "The students at IIT-D have developed a water-less toilet that is now being used across the campus. The water-less toilet uses a membrane technology that segregates the bacteria with the help of chemicals. The technology is openly being used on campus and all curious minds are welcome to visit our premises and see it for themselves."

Asian Age ND
25/09/2016 P-3

SON OF NREGA LABOURER MAKES IT TO IIT

Kota, Sept. 24: Son of a NREGA labourer, Abhishake Meena, was completely unaware about the IITs till Class 10, and yet he became the first person from his village in Kota to make it to the prestigious institution. 18-year-old Abhishake, resident of Chatrapura village in Etawa area of Kota district, is now a student of IIT-Delhi, pursuing Industrial Production in the mechanical branch after scoring 257th rank (reserved category) in the IIT-JEE exam this year. Abhishake, who did his schooling from a Hindi-medium school in the village, was completely unaware about the IITs, one of the most sought after engineering schools in India, till his Class 10 exam. "When I obtained 72 per cent in Class 10, my school teachers suggested my father to send me to Kota for coaching and to prepare for IIT," Abhishake Meena told PTI, adding it was only then he came to know about IIT. "I took coaching for only IIT and did self studies for Class 12 exams and obtained 83 per cent marks. However, my friends and coaching faculty helped me by providing notes for the higher secondary studies," he said. — PTI

Tribune ND 25/09/2016P-8

IIT researchers develop safer material for sanitary napkins

SURESH DHARUR

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

HYDERABAD, SEPTEMBER 24

A team of researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hyderabad, has developed cellulose-based nanofibre for use in sanitary napkins to make these safer than the commercially available ones.

The research team, led by Chandra Shekhar Sharma from the Department of Chemical Engineering, used nanotechnology to produce cellulose-based nanofibre for use as absorbent core in sanitary napkins. They chose cellulose acetate biopolymer and subjected it to electrospinning to synthesise fibre of nanoscale size.

The advantage of this material is that it will give sanitary napkins greater absorption capacity than the commercially available ones and can be safely disposed off because of their biodegradable nature.

Most of the commercially available napkins in the market use cellulose fibre to increase their absorption capacity. But the lower surface

To replace superabsorbent polymers

- Nanofibre napkins have higher absorption capacity due to greater surface area, besides higher porosity
- The new material will help eliminate the use of harmful, non-biodegradable superabsorbent polymers without compromising on performance and comfort

area of the fibre limits the absorption capacity. In order to enhance the absorption capacity, some brands use superabsorbent polymers (cross-linked sodium polyacrylate gels). However, there are some harmful chemicals present in the sanitary napkins like Superabsorbent Polymers (SAP) that are petroleum-based products and do not degrade readily in landfills and are also not eco-friendly.

The material developed by IIT researchers will help eliminate the use of harmful, non-biodegradable SAP without compromising on the performance and comfort.

“Nanofibers based feminine hygiene products (without SAP) provide a safe alternative to female hygiene as we know that prolonged use of commercially available prod-

ucts may even lead to toxic shock syndrome and ovarian cancer,” Prof Sharma said. The main focus of this work is to minimise the use of SAPs in feminine hygiene products considering their possible adverse health effects. “For this, we intend to fabricate cellulose-based nanofibers and suggest their use as absorbent core in feminine hygiene products,” he said.

“The menstrual hygiene is an important issue for every woman, as poor menstrual hygiene increases the vulnerability towards reproductive tract infections. Among the different types of feminine hygiene products that are commercially available, sanitary napkins are the most common and disposable absorbent hygiene product,” a statement from IIT-H said.

Tech that: Our jawans will have the last laugh

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/kolkata/tech-that-our-jawans-will-have-the-last-laugh/story-UIIhdO8snzVXu556jqbHP.html>



In these tense days for our soldiers, the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) has approached IIT- Kharagpur to put smiles back on the faces of Indian jawans.

In these tense days for our soldiers, the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) has approached IIT-Kharagpur to put smiles back on the faces of Indian jawans. DRDO will shortly tie up with IIT-Kgp to work out methods that will increase the happiness quotient of Indian soldiers.

Happiness increases productivity, and therefore, a rise of happiness levels will result in more productive and loyal soldiers for the country, both the director of IIT-Kgp and the director-general of life sciences at DRDO told HT on Friday. "As part of the comprehensive soldier fitness programme we would be tying up with IIT-Kharagpur to work on increasing the happiness quotient of the Indian army," Manas K Mandal, director-general of life sciences at DRDO.

The details of the programme will be worked out, and the process has just started.

The concept of gross national happiness (GNH) and happiness index are doing the rounds for a few decades now. The term GNH was first used by the Bhutan king in 1972. Bhutan, incidentally, is ranked first in the world happiness index

"We are looking at devising ways to build resilience among our soldiers, and it can be done by increasing the happiness quotient among them. We will be working with the Rekhi Centre of Excellence for the Science of Happiness at IIT-Kgp," Mandal added.

Speaking about the initiative, Partha Pratim Chakrabarti, director of IIT-Kgp, said, "We are in the process of tying up with DRDO to help increase the happiness levels of our army. The details of the programme will be finalised shortly. We will work out the module that will require them to visit us and we visiting them."

However, if you thought the initiative is being under taken by the DRDO to help distressed soldiers at border duties, injuries and war fatigue, you are wrong. "Unlike the US army serving in Afghanistan who require programmes to de-stress, our men on the frontlines do not need such tools. Most of our soldiers come from struggling families and continue facing hardship on the job. So they are much less vulnerable compared to the US soldiers in Afghanistan, who are used to abundance," said the DRDO official.

"But then, we have to admit that working in extreme weather conditions (in Siachen, for example) for a prolonged period does require a lot of resilience, which we can induce through this programme," said Mandal.

"This is an emerging discipline and is going to be one of the key pillars by which human development will happen," Chakrabarti said.

September 24

Hindustan Times ND 24.09.2016 P-13

IITs revoke invitation to blacklisted companies

Rozelle Laha

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NEW DELHI: The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) have withdrawn placement invitations to three companies, which it sent after blacklisting them in August.

These three companies — Medd, NowFloats and Indus Insights — were among the 30 companies blacklisted by the All IIT Placement Committee (AIPC) for disrespecting job offers.

HT had, on September 12, reported that IITs Delhi, Kanpur, Madras, Kharagpur and Guwahati sent invitations to these companies after the ban. Based on this article, on September 15, 16 IITs revoked all such invites.

In an email to HT, AIPC said: “IITs invited three different companies for campus placement. The reason is oversight by the student placement coordinators. Placements across all IITs are managed by the students’ team.”

IIT Guwahati withdrawn its invitation to Indus Insights, an official from the institute said.

Dr Syam Nair, chairman, students’ placement office IIT Kanpur said that it is adhering to AIPC’s decision and has already instructed the placement committee to revoke the invitation.

“Sending an invite is not equivalent to getting these companies on campus. That was just a registration request sent to just one company by mistake. We have

already revoked it,” said Anishya O Madan of IIT Delhi’s training and placement cell.

Prof Debasis Deb, chairman of the career development centre of IIT Kharagpur also confirmed that no blacklisted companies will be invited for placements.

Meanwhile, Medd received an invitation from IIT Madras on September 21. HT has a copy of the letter.

Prof Manu Santhanam, placement advisor, IIT Madras said: “The mail was not sent out by the placement office. Any invite with the signature of a student coordinator is not a legitimate invite.”

Medd and NowFloats claim that they are yet to receive the letters revoking the invites.

Bhaskar Ramamurthi reappointed as IIT-Madras director

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/Bhaskar-Ramamurthi-reappointed-as-IIT-Madras-director/articleshow/54479191.cms>



CHENNAI: Prof Bhaskar Ramamurthi, the incumbent director of the Indian Institute of Technology - Madras (IIT-Madras), has been reappointed as the head of the institute for a second term of five years.

An alumnus of IIT-Madras and University of California, Santa Barbara, Ramamurthi joined the institute as a faculty member

in the electrical engineering department in 1986 and served at various key positions, including as dean (planning), before taking over as the director of the institute for the first time in September 2011.

The 'IIT Madras Strategic Plan 2020,' devised and adopted by him during the initial part of his tenure, has chalked out quantified targets for all key pillars of the Institute. These include a flexible curriculum suited to the aspirations of today's youth, high quality faculty, thriving research environment with a critical mass of research scholars and laboratories, a strong industry-academia connect, epitomised by the country's first university-based Research Park, a startup ecosystem with over a hundred companies incubated, and a rapidly expanding programme of collaborations and student exchanges with leading international institutions. The institute has also emerged as the number one engineering institute in the country, as per the NIRF Rankings 2016.

Speaking about his future plans, Ramamurthi said, "In addition to meeting or exceeding our Strategic Plan targets, we will strive to build an institute that is the go-to place for students and faculty members who wish to work together to address national and global technological challenges, an institute whose badge every alumnus and staff member is proud to wear."

Scientists at IIT- Roorkee develops Smart Inverter Controller Device

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/Scientists-at-IIT-Roorkee-develops-Smart-Inverter-Controller-Device/articleshow/54463309.cms>



Roorkee: Scientists at the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IIT-R) on Wednesday claimed to have developed a Smart Inverter Controller Device (SICD) which they said will help in efficient and economical use of solar energy as well as conventional energy.

Professor Kamal Jain of the institute's civil engineering department said the smart device has been devised "to increase the optimal utilization of solar energy in those residential or commercial buildings where solar photovoltaic panels and conventional electricity panels are being used simultaneously by consumers."

He added that such a device was till now not available in India but was needed to make use of solar energy economical and widespread.

The solar energy is stored in batteries and an inverter converts this (DC) energy to be an AC energy for general electricity supply to household requirements. And in conventional grid power, the AC energy is taken first to inverter to charge up the batteries.

According to the scientists involved in this project, the main requirement of a consumer is that his inverter battery should remain fully charged all the time.

"When battery would be charged from solar energy, the device would automatically disconnect grid electricity of the house," scientist Sushil Sharma said.

The SICD first monitors the discharge patterns of the battery as per the consumption of power by the user and then adjusts itself. This device also records weather conditions.

"The device is like a set-top box of any TV. The cost of this device is Rs 5,000," the professor said.

"Our device can be used to adjust the charge/discharge cycle; and we have noticed this device makes the normal life of batter to double too," added the professor.

IIT-Roorkee hikes fee for outsiders attending yoga sessions

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/IIT-Roorkee-hikes-fee-for-outsiders-attending-yoga-sessions/articleshow/54501375.cms>

ROORKEE: A number of residents are enraged at officials of Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IIT-R) for "posing unnecessary restrictions" on people from outside the campus attending yoga sessions which were held in the Yoga Bhawan inside the campus for many years.

A nominal fee of Rs 200 was earlier charged for the yoga sessions but it has now suddenly been increased to Rs 3,000 per month.

Locals, especially ladies, who regularly attended the session say that at a time when practice of yoga is picking up across the country and the Modi government is also promoting it, the attitude of IIT officials in increasing the fees of the sessions was totally unjustified.

In a circular issued on June 30, the institute instructed its sports staff to collect revised fee from outsiders for using the facilities.

"I used to go to Saraswati Mandir for a yoga session. Now, they are demanding Rs 3,000 per month. I can't pay this much. When I expressed my inability to pay this much amount, the authorities simply shut doors on me," said 45-year-old Anju Saini.

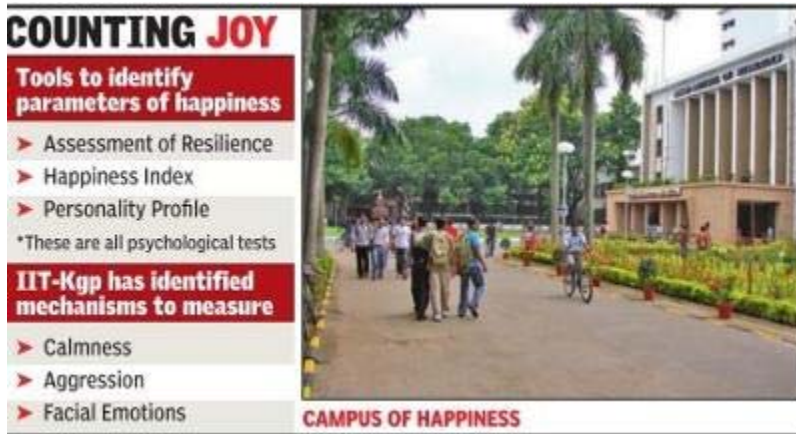
On the other hand, the authorities believe that the infrastructure of the institute should only be used by institute's students, faculty and staff.

But, the town's civil administration does not have the same opinion about the outsiders. "The institute is a part of local municipal system and a municipal councilor is elected from the ward of institute then how can authorities address us as an outsider?" Municipal councilor Sushil Yadav said.

When TOI told the authorities about the situation of outsiders they said they'll reconsider the proposed changes. "We will surely reconsider and solve the problem of outsiders in feasible manner soon," said Professor D K Nauriyal, dean of students' welfare.

This November, happiness can win points for IIT-Kgp students

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/This-November-happiness-can-win-points-for-IIT-Kgp-students/articleshow/54491517.cms>



KOLKATA: At IIT-Kharagpur, you may soon earn credit for learning the science of happiness. The institute, which plans to introduce a class on happiness from next month, wants to turn it into a microcredit course that will fetch students cracking the happiness code a credit point. The proposal will soon be tabled before the institute's highest decision-making body for ratification.

As a first step, the institute held the first ever international workshop on the 'science of happiness' on Friday. The two-day event is an initiative under the Rekhi Centre of Excellence for Science of Happiness, Kharagpur.

"The course will have to be ratified by the members and only then can we begin it," said course coordinator Priyadarshi Patnaik. "Usually such courses are 15 hours long, distributed over a month, and are mostly interactive. Only undergraduate and postgraduate students from IIT-Kharagpur will be allowed to enrol for the course in the first year. Based on their feedback, we hope to learn too," Patnaik added.

The pilot course is likely to begin by the end of October. "Usually such courses are 15-hours-long, distributed over a month, and are mostly interactive. Only undergraduate and postgraduate students from IITKharagpur will be allowed to enrol for the course in the first year. Based on their feedback, we hope to learn too," Patnaik added.

The foundation course will follow, which will offer three credit points. "It means that an elective course will be offered on the subject of happiness, which the students graduating in any other subject can opt to study for one semester," he said. The 'science of happiness' programme may be thrown open to interested candidates from outside from the next academic session.

The course will combine theory and practical, with experiments undertaken through psychological tests and signals. "The capacity of the first batch is likely to be around 60 to 70," said IIT-Kharagpur director Partha Pratim Chakrabarti.

Friday's workshop was opened by R Gopalakrishnan, director of Tata Sons Ltd, chairman of Tata Autocomp System, Honeywell and Rallis India, and vice-chairman of Tata Chemicals. He spoke on maximizing the work-life balance through the 'six lenses'. Sonja Lyubomirsky, author of 'The How of Happiness', spoke on bringing happiness to organizations.

Speaking on the planned course, director general of life sciences, DRDO, Manas K Mandal said: "This course will create the future leaders that the society needs." The other speakers at the event were Ajeet Saxena, chief commercial

manager, Southern Railways and Sasi B Misra, EDI of India, Ahmedabad. A panel discussion was organized on 'Making Better Organizations and Better Leaders'. "The workshop is the first step on our journey to bring happiness to people and their organizations," said Satinder Singh Rekhi, the founding donor after whom the centre is named.

A 'Science of Happiness Challenge' has also been organized on September 24 on the IIT-Kharagpur campus.

Nai Duniya ND 24.09.2016 P-13

आईआईटी से पढ़ चुके दो भारतवंशी वैज्ञानिकों को मैकआर्थर फेलोशिप

वॉशिंगटन। प्रे

अमेरिका में भारतीय मूल के दो वैज्ञानिकों समेत 23 लोगों ने इस साल की प्रतिष्ठित मैकआर्थर फेलोशिप जीती है। इन्हें अपने-अपने क्षेत्रों में असाधारण रचनात्मकता के लिए चुना गया है। फेलोशिप के लिए चुने गए मनु प्रकाश और सुभाष खोट ने क्रमशः आईआईटी कानपुर और आईआईटी बॉम्बे से पढ़ाई की है। मनु प्रकाश स्टैनफोर्ड यूनिवर्सिटी के बायोइंजीनियरिंग विभाग में असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर हैं, जबकि सुभाष न्यूयॉर्क यूनिवर्सिटी में थ्योरिटिकल कंप्यूटर वैज्ञानिक हैं। मैकआर्थर फेलोशिप से उन लोगों को नवाजा जाता है जो अपने क्षेत्रों में उत्कृष्ट रचनात्मकता प्रदर्शित करते हैं और उनके कार्य की भविष्य में भरपूर संभावना रहती है। प्रत्येक विजेता को आर्थिक अनुदान के तौर पर



सवा छह लाख डॉलर (करीब 4.17 करोड़ रुपए) पांच साल के दौरान दिया जाता है। मैकआर्थर फाउंडेशन ने मनु प्रकाश को धरती पर विविध प्रकार के जीवन से जुड़े उनके शोध कार्यों के लिए सम्मानित किया है। जबकि सुभाष ने कंप्यूटर जटिलताओं की अनसुलझी समस्याओं पर महत्वपूर्ण काम किया है। इस प्रतिष्ठित सम्मान के लिए तीसरे एशियाई के तौर पर श्रीलंकाई मूल के अहिलन अरुलनथम को भी चुना गया है।

वर्गीज को ओबामा से मिला मेडल : राष्ट्रपति बराक ओबामा ने

भारतीय मूल के चिकित्सक अब्राहम वर्गीज को प्रतिष्ठित नेशनल ह्यूमेनिटिज मेडल प्रदान किया है। ह्वाइट हाउस में गुरुवार को वर्गीज समेत 12 लोगों को यह पुरस्कार दिया गया। 61 वर्षीय वर्गीज स्टैनफोर्ड स्कूल ऑफ मेडिसिन में प्रोफेसर हैं।

सिंगापुर में पूर्व राजनयिक सम्मानित : भारतीय मूल के पूर्व राजनयिक के केसवापानी को सिंगापुर में अप्रवासियों की मदद करने के लिए सम्मानित किया गया है। उन्हें सिंगापुर की पत्रिका 'तबला' का कम्यूनिटी चैंपियन अवॉर्ड प्रदान किया गया है।