

Newspaper Clips

September 4, 2011

Hindu ND 4/09/2011

P-12

Do our teachers prepare students for life?

J. Eden Alexander

Teachers' Day observed on September 5 every year in India is being celebrated in about 70 countries, but on different dates. The birthday of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, second President, who started his career as a teacher, was chosen as Teachers' day in India as he preferred to be remembered as a teacher always. Teaching is known as the noblest profession because every teacher functions as a ladder for his/her pupils to go up in life while he/she stays at the same place. Teachers are the real nation builders and function as the pivot on which the entire nation revolves. They spread the light of knowledge all over as a candle does and a day to remember their contribution to society is a fitting tribute that the nation can do for them.

William A. Ward said: "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires." When our class teacher wrote something on the blackboard in English about 55 years ago, on the first day of my entry in to IV form (present IX Std) all 40 of us, who belonged to the Tamil medium, were sitting blissfully ignorant of what he wrote and what it meant. But, that famous quotation from Thomas Alva Edison, "Genius is one per cent inspiration; 99 per cent perspiration" became my motto in life later.

Explaining the quotation, he spoke for one full hour, quoting examples from the life of Edison to imprint in our minds what hard work could do for students like us. Teachers should aim at making sustained and substantive influence on the intellect of students and inspire them, encouraging creative think-

ing and positive questioning. Ancient teachers Confucius, Socrates and Aristotle followed this method. I am not sure how many of the teachers today are capable of enchanting and carrying their students with them as these great teachers did.

Involvement

A teacher is considered venerable next only to the parents. He should have a genuine interest and cent per cent involvement in the job. Pythagoras, the mathematician, and Sir Isaac Newton, the scientist, were celebrated teachers who exhibited this quality. I cannot forget my English professor who taught us Shakespeare's King Lear more than five decades ago when I was in my UG class. While teaching the famous tragedy, he would become King Lear himself, making ev-

eryone in the class shed tears so that we could forget neither Shakespeare nor our professor. The teachers become illustrious and everlasting characters in our memory because of their deep involvement in the subject. Such teachers achieve unattainable recognition and everlasting respect from the entire student community.

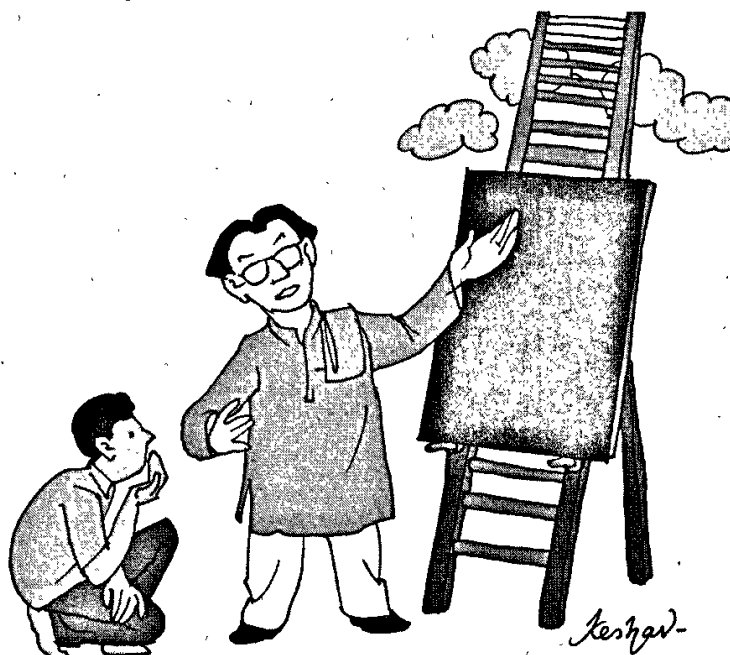
Teachers cannot enjoy unending rapport with their students just by teaching the subject given to them alone. They should also instil morals and discipline in the minds of students to help them lead a successful and happy life later. Classic examples of teachers of precepts and preachers of morals are King Solomon and the Buddha. Nowadays teachers prepare the students for the exams no doubt; but it is doubtful if they prepare them for their life too. Inci-

dentally, there used to be one full period allotted for 'Moral Instructions' in all schools those days. Now it has been conveniently removed for reasons not known.

Alexander the Great once said: "I am indebted to my father for living, but to my teacher for living well." The whole society is concerned with the future of children which is in the hands of teachers because the teacher is the one and only person capable of influencing the thoughts and deeds of the future generation.

Every eminent teacher, dead or alive, stays in the minds of the students forever and his/her degree of distinction very much depends on how efficiently the sacred job is handled.

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Tribute to students... on Teachers' Day

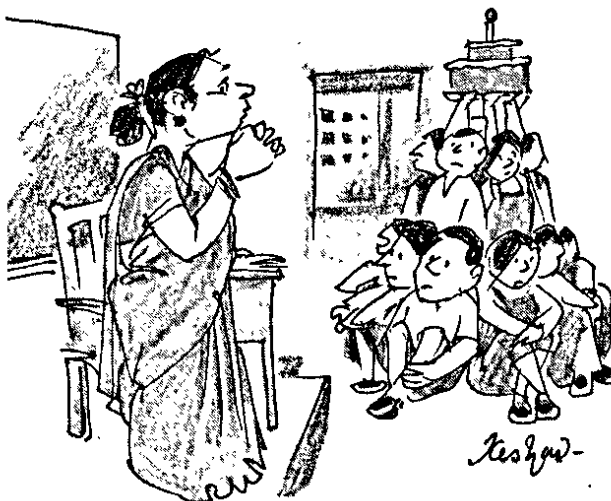
Dr. Bhanumati Mishra

Last Monday, as I entered the classroom, I was in for a pleasant surprise. The entire class of 50 erupted in cheerful clapping. On my table was a cake — complete with candles, flowers, cards, balloons and chocolates. No, the occasion was not Teachers' Day. It was actually my last day in school. While I was still contemplating how to break the news, the students somehow got wind of it (I suspect with my daughter's connivance) and arranged a farewell party.

Amid the hullabaloo and 'please don't go' requests my mind raced back to the day the Principal called me to his office and entrusted me with a specific charge. I must admit I was reluctant to become class teacher of XI Commerce — the most notorious in the whole school. Having passed their class X examination with not so flying colours, these children could not join the elite Science stream, which was traditionally reserved for the brightest. With no other subject option left, these students unwillingly landed up in Commerce.

Thus, I began with a bunch of students whose self-esteem had taken a beating and were labelled as trouble-makers and attention-seekers. Any mishap — be it a broken windowpane in class VI, some graffiti in the boys' toilet or a lost duster in the junior section — would bring the property in-charge thundering into my class threatening to fine the culprits. Many a time I was at my wits' end trying to deal with internal squabbles and the complaints from other teachers. But each time I announced in exasperation that I would give up the charge of the class if the students didn't improve, there would be a strong protest followed by a sincere promise to behave better next time.

I soon realised that each



one of these students had a specialty. The sleepy looking one was an artist, the quietest one had a beautiful handwriting, the shyest was exceptional at playing soccer, the weirdest had an excellent memory, the naughtiest was a total errands boy and the academically weakest had a tremendous sense of devotion. Why could I not see these qualities right at the beginning? How easily was I giving up on them? Gaining ground inch by inch, I finally managed to crack the toughest nut. Some tiny spark in a child would fill me with hope that these students were not incorrigible. Moreover, having achieved this without ever punishing them reassured me that I was on the right path.

Words of encouragement

Slowly, with words of encouragement and delegation of responsibilities, I could build their confidence and win their trust. There was a semblance of sanity in the classroom and we began working as a team. My task as English teacher multiplied manifold as the majority in the class were children of army personnel from the Gorkha regiment. I had to first undo Nepali and then Hindi

in order to teach English. As a corrective measure, we started collecting a paltry sum of one rupee from anyone caught not speaking English in the classroom.

Very soon, we had a handsome amount. I had planned to spend the money, taking the students on a class picnic. To my amazement, they unanimously wanted to donate it to charity. They unknowingly cleared a crucial test that day.

As I stood facing them for the one last time, I joked that I had no clue they would be so happy at my leaving. As if my words broke a surging dam, I saw tears rushing down a few faces. I was left with no words to reciprocate their feelings, only tears which I too couldn't hold any longer.

I wouldn't trade their love and adoration for anything in the world. In the course of teaching them, I got enriched. Like the proverbial 'potter' showing patience and sensitivity, I could gradually mould these children into caring individuals with self-worth. This Teachers' Day I wish to salute all my students. Farewell and God bless!

(The writer taught English at the Army Public School, Varanasi, and her email id is: bhanumish9@gmail.com)

A mess called teacher education

J.S. Rajput

Teachers' Day, 2011, shall, in certain ways, be celebrated on routine lines — high praise for the profession, repetition of the great expectations from teachers in the light of the commendable traditions, awards at the national and State levels and the like. In addition, one of the recent events shall certainly cast a special impact on all those who gather to celebrate official functions: the anti-corruption uprising in the country. Many would probably not know that one more significant event, sadly enough, took place this year and that pertains to the quality of teacher education and, hence of education in a big way.

Teacher Education Act passed in Parliament in 1993 has been superseded by the Central government. Strangely enough, no tears have been shed over the near-vanishing of the NCTE. The Council was supposed to assist teachers and their training institutions in upgrading quality and professionalism in the critical area of teacher preparation to enable a strong and dynamic system of school education.

It must be recalled that a non-statutory NCTE was created in 1973 located in the NCERT. There was a consistent demand from enlightened teacher educators, educationists and scholars for setting up a statutory body, pointing out that the quality of teacher education was deteriorating. These genuine efforts resulted in

the NCTE Act after 20 years. But the reputation the NCTE earned is just the opposite of what was expected of it. The lament of quality deterioration in the 1970s and the 1980s mostly centred on the mushrooming B.Ed correspondence courses, which were mostly regarded as poor and deficient in quality. The NCTE succeeded in regulating these courses during the first couple of years of its existence. And then, quietly, everything changed and the great mushrooming of teacher education institutions from around a mere 2,500 to over 14,000 in the next seven years came as a shocking surprise to many.

The entire country knew how teacher education institutions were approved and what was happening in the name of preparing teachers

Kapil Sibal found the 2G spectrum scam as of zero loss and hence of no consequence. How will he interpret the loss that is being inflicted upon the young generation by providing them with teachers who got practically nothing by way of education!

who would be entrusted with shaping the future generations in comprehensive development of their personalities. The brazenness reached such proportions that the Centre, generally perceived to be reluctant to act against corruption and the corrupt, had to act. Yes, corruption is under discussion throughout the country; corruption in teacher education figures prominently in it!

My worry is very naïve: How could this mushrooming growth of below par institutions continued for years together when facts were

known to all? Kapil Sibal found the 2G spectrum scam as of zero loss and hence of no consequence. How will he interpret the loss that is being inflicted upon the young generation by providing them with teachers who got practically nothing by way of education and training in their teacher preparation institutions!

Can anyone visualise the damage that could be caused by an ill-prepared teacher for about 40 years? It is crucial to examine these aspects on Teachers' Day as the maximum responsibility devolves on the teacher educators

themselves! In case the present generation avoids performing this essential duty, it would fall in its trusteeship role for the future generations. Education will have little meaning if it fails, in the words of Dr. Radhakrishnan, "to train us to apprehend the eternal values, to appreciate the supreme human virtues and the simple decencies of life. We must be educated not for cruelty and power but for love and kindness."

Elaborating on the purpose of education, the outstanding philosopher-educationist-statesman stated further: "We must develop the fresh-

ness of feeling for nature, the sensitiveness of soul to human need. We must foster the freedom of mind, the humanity of the heart, the integrity of the individual. Even from nurseries, we must train human beings by unconscious influences and conscious effort to love truth, beauty and goodness." These, if understood, are the perfect formulation for the total curriculum of teacher preparation in India.

Exceptions being there in good measure, the sharp deterioration in the quality of teacher preparation institutions must be highlighted and remedial measures put in place. Even the perpetual optimists are disappointed.

How could one expect to achieve the purpose of education by a teacher who during training passes through these

phases: admission on payment of huge unofficial fees in a college approved through illegal and corrupt means; absentee teachers and no focus on regular teaching, completion of projects through permitted fraudulent means, full permission to copy in examinations and; marks enhanced through additional monetary inputs!

This Teachers' Day will such a product of teacher education be equipped enough to pay tributes to Dr. Radhakrishnan with a sense of confidence and professional honesty? Those guilty of putting young persons in this position must introspect seriously.

(The writer is former Chairman, NCTE, and former Director, NCERT. His email id is: rajput.js@yahoo.co.in)

Business Line ND 04/09/2011

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Employers risk being sued for spying on staff via social networks

Asia News International
London, Sept. 3

A UK body has warned employers that they could end up being sued for discrimination if they use Web sites like Facebook to spy on the private lives of their workers.

Acas, the body that helps improve relationships with workers, issued a new guide that urges employers not to be "heavy-handed" by penalising staff for unprofessional comments on Web sites.

It has also warned employers about the risks of "Googling" potential

recruits and using any personal information gleaned from the Internet such as a person's religious beliefs.

The guide, which took nine months to compile, has been written in response to what Acas describes as the "growing problem" posed by social networking Web sites.

John Taylor, Acas' chief executive, advised bosses to be cautious about reprimanding employees for comments they make on social networking Web sites.

"If an employer is too tough, they need to consider

the potential impact of any negative publicity. Heavy-handed monitoring can cause bad feeling and be time consuming," the *Telegraph* quoted him as saying.

STAFF, BE CAUTIOUS

"A manager wouldn't follow an employee down the pub to check on what he or she said to friends about their day at work. Just because they can do something like this online, doesn't mean they should," he stated.

Acas has advised bosses to draft their own social media policy in order to avoid staff

confusion about what is and isn't allowed online.

Taylor also said employees needed to be cautious about the information they publish online. "Online conduct should not differ from offline conduct," he added.

Employees should assume that everything they say on the Internet could be made public, and should think whether they want their colleagues or boss to read it.

"They might not mean it, but what they post could end up being seen by billions of people worldwide," he added.

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The Vice-Chancellor who treated me like his son

P. Ramalingam

For me, it is an occasion for recollecting a grand personality standing in his immaculate long coat and dhoti worn in typical South Indian panchakatcham with medal and turban, without which he does not meet people.

I was admitted to B.Sc in Benares Hindu University in 1945. I had got admissions in all the three colleges in Madras — Loyola, Presidency and Tambaram Christian. But due to father's 'ziddi' (it appeared to me as a stupid idea at that time), I landed at the university, three days ahead of reopening.

At 16 and with no knowledge of a single word of Hindi, it was all a world lost for me. I was dispatched by train to Benares via Howrah. I had a first class railway pass as my father was a medical officer in the then M&S M Railway. I was timid by nature. My father had got my admission card from Principal Godbole from Shimla and I was told that I would be allotted a hostel room on arrival. When I landed at the imposing (to me) university gate, the security people had a hearty laugh and, in their broken English, told me that I would not find a crowd on the campus and the offices would open only after three days. It looked as if I should go back home and face my father's ire.

Then I remembered that I had a letter from a friend of my father introducing me to his father aged 80, who was living in the Hanuman Ghat area, where elders like him stay till the end of their life. He bathes in the Ganga three times a day. After Sandhyavandanam, he goes to the Viswanath Temple in wet clothes. I had and still have a lot of reverence for such people when I see them. With this letter as my only hope, I



Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, a teacher par excellence.

asked a cyclerickshaw driver to help me find this old man at the Hanuman Ghat. The rickshawwallah was a Muslim, very courteous to me. He offered to wait until I spotted the old man. He is still a model of human behaviour. On enquiry, the local people told me that I should wait at the

ghats and the old man would definitely come at 12 noon sharp for his rituals.

At the stroke of 12, an old man came running down the steps and, after a dip in the river, ran up the ghats in wet clothes. I ran after him, calling "Mama, mama, I have a letter for you."

Coming to know of my problem from my local guardian that I did not even know Hindi and had to stay with him without any facility for three days, the Vice-Chancellor called up the hostel warden on the phone and asked him to accommodate me in a room close to his residence.

He quickly read the letter and asked me to hurry up and follow him after taking a dip in the river. By the time, I paid off the rickshaw driver, who was happy to have put me in safe hands. After my first visit to the temple, we went to the old man's small accommodation. He had a very hospitable group and neighbours, unlike the present day neighbours in flats, who just do not know who is living next door.

The next morning, he came with me to the university and said he wanted to meet the Vice-Chancellor. The people at the gate did not probe why he was meeting the Vice-Chancellor, unlike as employees would do nowadays. On getting OK from the Vice-Chancellor's residence, we were ushered into the drawing room and offered coffee and asked to wait. Sir. S. always meets people only after 10 a.m. He was in the room upstairs.

When he came down, the Vice-Chancellor met my local guardian.

Coming to know of my problem from this guardian — that the boy did not even know Hindi and had to stay with him without any facility for three days — he called up hostel warden Pande on the phone and asked him to accommodate me in a room close to his residence. He advised the warden to take care of my food requirements, treating me as his guest until the hostels opened after the vacation and I was allotted a room.

Can you imagine a Vice-Chancellor going out of the way to help a newcomer student! How can I forget this rare specimen of human understanding? Today at 83, it is my privilege to recall him. To Sir, with love.

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P-7

Student, youth unions oppose private varsity Bill for lack of quota

Rahi Gaikwad

MUMBAI: Student and youth unions in Mumbai on Saturday opposed the private universities Bill recently passed by the Maharashtra legislature without discussion and amid ruckus.

Students and academics pointed to the lack of a provision for reservations, absence of fee regulation and redress mechanism, and an overall free hand given in appointing university head and other staff.

The act titled Maharashtra Self-Financed Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, envisages private investment in higher education.

It has for its objectives, the development of various streams in higher education from sciences to humanities, fostering of research and creation of centres of excellence among others.

"The government passed the Bill in a hurry. This shows that they have a lot to hide. There is no provision for participation of students, like you have in the Maharashtra Universities Act through the senate. There is no provision for reservations anywhere, neither for students, teachers

or non-teaching staff. There is only a vague mention of affirmative action. Secondly, there is no regulation on fees. The Supreme court has allowed private institutions to fix their fees, but [has] also called for a comprehensive fee regulation Act, which is pending in Maharashtra," Varadraj Bapat, vice president of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) said at a conference on the Bill, organised by the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward classes Students and Teachers' Association.

Mr. Bapat said no eligibility criteria stipulated for the appointment of presidents of such universities.

"Anyone can become the president. And this president, arbitrarily chosen, will then appoint the vice chancellor and others. We have to oppose this Bill. This is part of a process of shutting down government aided colleges and institutions and handing it all to the private sector. But when things are given to the private sector, there are regulations."

Sainath Durge of the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena's students' wing called for the need to form an Action Committee to oppose the Bill and

start an *andolan*.

Under the clause of affirmative action, the Bill states: "the Self-financed Universities shall make supportive plan for educational enhancement of the weaker section of society, i.e. women, poor, low income group and domiciled in the State, through special provision and will take affirmative action in this regard."

The Students Federation of India said it was "totally opposed" to the Bill. "The 93rd amendment to the Constitution includes private educational institutions, along with aided and unaided, for making special provisions [for SCs/STs]. If the government says we need these universities for emerging syllabi, then these provisions can be made in existing universities. Thirdly, there is no representation of students, teachers and non-teaching staff as there are no senate elections. So, if you face injustice, there is nowhere to go," Shrikant Bhosale of Students' Federation of India told *The Hindu* on the phone.

Taking a cautious stand, National Students' Union of India, affiliated to the Congress, said that if changes were not incorporated to the

existing legislation, they would oppose it.

"Our team is studying the Bill. We will meet the Chief Minister and suggest changes which would benefit the students. If they are not incorporated, we will stand opposed," Suraj Singh Thakur of NSUI told *The Hindu* over telephone.

Taking advantage of a ruckus in both the Houses, the government hastened to pass the Bill in both houses, without a single voice of dissent from the Opposition parties, pointing to a general consensus.

The lone objection was voiced by MLC Kapil Patil, who was not allowed to have his say, and the Bill was passed as he was speaking. Mr. Patil said there was a need to define "weaker sections."

Responding to the objections raised, Higher and Technical Education Minister Rajesh Tope told *The Hindu* over telephone: "Other States have not made provisions for reservations [in private universities]. We can't make it compulsory. As for fee regulation, when the government is not spending a single penny, how can we dictate them [universities]?"

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DU innovation centre cleared after protests

Manash Pratim Gohain | TNN

New Delhi: At an emergency meeting on Saturday, the Executive Council (EC) of Delhi University (DU) gave its assent to the proposed Cluster Innovation Centre (CIC) and its courses. This came after the Academic Council (AC) gave its nod to the proposal earlier in the evening in another emergency meeting. However, the meetings saw some stormy scenes when the elected members of the council termed the emergency meeting a "procedural violation" and called for a general meeting. Certain instances of plagiarism in the CIC draft were also brought to the fore in both the meetings.

DU had earlier announced that the CIC would offer BTech/ BS Innovation with mathematics and IT subjects from September 15. But all elected members of the AC resented the frequent calling of emergency meetings by the varsity administration.

"On DUTA directions, all elected members

EMERGENCY MEETING

(22 in number) expressed dissent on the procedure of calling emergency meetings and for taking up the CIC issue in such a hurried manner. The members are in no way against the innovation centre, but the way it has been introduced without any clarity is wrong. Four members also expressed dissent on the courses to be offered by the CIC," said AC member Sheo Dutt.

The AC meeting, which was scheduled to end at 1pm, stretched up to 5pm, as members brought to notice the issue of plagiarism in the draft circulated among the members.

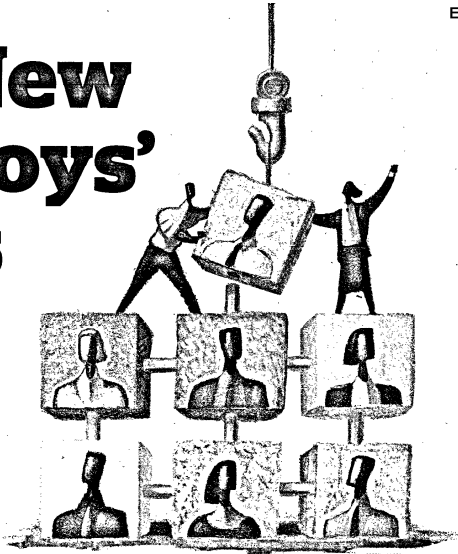
"The vice-chancellor accepted responsibility for it and assured that the portions lifted from different sources will be removed and the draft reworked," said AC member Tamal Dasgupta.

Another AC member, Rajesh Kumar Jha, said: "There was dissent on the centre or the courses; but all elected members are of the opinion that this should have been debated in a regular AC meeting."

The EC meeting, which started around 5pm and stretched up to 9.30pm, saw members highlighting more instances of plagiarism in the drafts. At least 47 such instances, where paragraphs were lifted from various websites to prepare the CIC draft, were brought to notice.

The New Old Boys' Clubs

Stephen's and Oxbridge alumni networks, please step back. IIM, IIT, Harvard, Wharton old boys, come forward. These are the new old boys' clubs with maximum influence. But even they have competition — from the super-bright *aam* engineer, for example. Here's the fascinating story of how and why the pecking order of 'connections' is changing in India



■ Kamya Jaiswal

So I am a Dooco," said Yasser Tanvir, pausing before a seat on a Delhi-Dowdahi flight. Mani Shankar Aiyar, Union minister for youth affairs and sports and fellow Dooco, smiled. The opening line had worked. Tanvir grabbed the seat next to him and the two men who had barely met, started talking. In route to a land known for lush tea plantations, they reminisced about another estate, snug in the hills of Dehradun, one they fondly called Chandbagh, the legendary Doos School.

But 22-year-old Tanvir had more to share than nostalgia. A national level shooter who had played for the Haryana and Uttar Pradesh teams, Tanvir had long fretted over the delay in acquiring good shooting equipment. Sporting Aiyar on the flight (they were headed to the 2007 National Games), he seized the chance to inform the minister about the red tape. Aiyar promised to look into the matter. The result: no more agonising wait to import equipment. The shooters get what they want, when they want it.

This is what old boys' fairy tales are made of: connections that make friends of strangers whose only link is the same school or college. This is why networks are covered, and flaunted. They offer emotional support, grease wheels, jump-start careers and revive forgotten ones.

But for some years now, this magic has been on the wane. Surprising, for Indians have always loved their 'connections'. But a new class is in town, stealing the thunder from the old boys: the marksheet elites. An exclusive club, yet not clanish. Entry is by merit only, and those who are in, are fast becoming the movers and shakers of the world.

"Technical expertise is supreme now and people from diverse experiences are in demand. There is democratisation of opportunity. Connections are no longer the rite of passage to the top," says Dipankar Gupta, re-

THE POWER SET

These networks have it all: stamp of quality, connections, money and fame. The snob value is just a by-product



Formal Structure
National core committee with city chapters

Celebrity Alumni
Anand Mahindra, Rahul Bajaj

Sectors of Maximum Impact
Business leadership roles, private equity, investment banking

Clout Count

Political Money Corporate
★★ ★★★★★★★★★★ ★★★★★

Heard on the Street
Private equity, venture capital and hedge fund sectors are in the 'HBS mafia' grip: H-bombs rise up the ranks faster

★★★★★
The number of stars for each club varies from three to seven. They are based on the qualitative nature of the club's alumni, the size of the network, the extent of alumni's involvement in general and corporate establishments.

Wharton Clubs in India

Formal Structure
Two city chapters — Delhi and Mumbai — registered with the B-school

Celebrity Alumni
Anil Ambani, Keshub Mahindra

Sectors of Maximum Impact
Business leadership roles, private equity, investment banking

Clout Count

Political Money Corporate
★★ ★★★★★★★★★★ ★★★★★

Heard on the Street
Serious competition to HBS in the financial services sector and to IIM-A for hottest jobs



Networks like the HBS Club are a vehicle by which you keep up relationships and continue to 'grow together'. I find this most meaningful, both personally and businesswise

Anand Mahindra
VC & MD, Mahindra Group

tired professor of social sciences at Jawaharlal Nehru University.

In tandem with the new power equation, the attitude towards old boys clubs has also changed. Boasting about how you leveraged a network is less likely to earn you kowtow points. From being flaunt worthy, such anecdotes have become course. Questions are raised on whether the result was well deserved, the advantage, fair.

Even Tanvir pre-empted such questions. Right after the story, he adds: "I am sure other factors helped smoothen the process. And it isn't as though the sports minister wouldn't have acted if a non-Dooco had complained. I know we shared the same school so I need to break the ice. It was easier to approach him, that's all."

Though Tanvir downplays the connection, it

benefits are clear. Even though opportunity visits the wayfarer and manor alike, exclusive old boys clubs haven't become entirely redundant. They are redefining their roles to fit in the new value system. The aim is to provide privileges to members — what's a network if it only hosts a string of abridges? — but in newer ways.

And those who have done this successfully are the ones which find a place in our list of most powerful networks. The line-up is skeletal — only eight in a country where an institute runs up at almost every corner. You may not be surprised by the names that made it — IIT schools, undergraduate colleges, legendary schools and technical institutes. But you may be shocked by those that didn't.

The absentees are likely struggling with the erosion of the grandiosity of the old boys clubs. And we must admit, we included only those we were sure retained their clout, perhaps with a shift in focus. How did we identify them? Through conversations with people within alumni associations and outside it, celebrities and unknown careerists, HR recruiters and society observers. There were no ready-made data to help, the only way to measure a network's worth is on the ground. And ET on Sunday had it

covered. Here are the new trends that define India's Old Boys Clubs.

Love, Wrapped in Money
A couple of years ago I needed about 110 lakh within 24 hours. I called a friend in London, a batchmate from IIM Ahmedabad. He transferred the money into my account within a few hours," recalls Rahul Manman, head of a company that distributes life-saving drugs to hospitals. He doesn't downplay the trust and friendship involved.

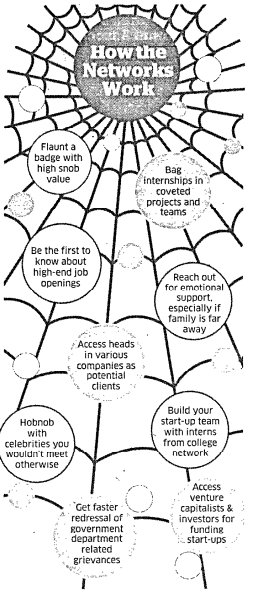
"But how many people who have the will also have the resources to help? This gives the IIM Ahmedabad network the edge. Almost everybody is a somebody," he says.

Handsome pay cheques bring their own power. And the best B-schools in India and abroad have more than enough of it. Through sceptics question the bonds wrought in competitive two- and one-year programmes, none doubts the ability to act on those that blossom.

"It is difficult to recreate the attachments you develop in school, especially if you've spent 13 odd years there. I still have fantastic friends from St Columba's, my school for many years. But the B-school bond is unique in its own way: for two years you live with batch mates 24x7. It is a mature stage of life, you share your experiences with your dormitory mates and they become family," says Deep Kalra, CEO of MakeMyTrip and an IIM A alum.

This is why a bunch of alumni fly to Paris for a peer's wedding. The flights were very expensive so many family members and other friends couldn't attend. But the price of the ticket as a function of the mouthy take homes of most Harvard, Wharton, or IIM Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Calcutta fellows. And a weekend getaway doesn't hurt them.

All for the Entrepreneur
Ex-IITian Tapshu Mehta, feels the power of his college network on a daily basis: "It is almost tangible,



IIM Ahmedabad (6mm) Bangalore and Calcutta

Formal Structure
Local chapters co-ordinated by the office of the dean (alumni & external relationships)

Celebrity Alumni
Ajay Banga, KV Kamath

Sectors of Maximum Impact
Entrepreneurship, corporate jobs

Clout Count

Political Money Corporate
★★★★★ ★★★★★★★★★★ ★★★★★

Heard on the Street
Top consultancies like McKinsey & Company and Bain & Co won't look at Indian MBAs who don't have their ABC right

Indian Institute of Technology Alumni Associations

Formal Structure
Pan India club for all IITs and separate associations for each institute

Celebrity Alumni
Jairam Ramesh, Narayana Murthy

Sectors of Maximum Impact
Consultancies, corporate jobs

Clout Count

Political Money Corporate
★★★★★ ★★★★★★★★★★ ★★★★★

Heard on the Street
Forget engineering, IITians are first choice for i-banking, business consulting and even managerial jobs

Indian Express ND 04/09/2011 p-17

Keeping count of life on Earth

Scientists have named and catalogued 1.3 million species till date. A new study says there might be about 8.7 million in all, but critics say the Earth's diversity could be far greater

CARL ZIMMER

IN the foothills of the Andes Mountains lives a bat the size of a raspberry. In Singapore, there's a nematode worm that dwells only in the lungs of the changeable lizard.

The bat and the worm have something in common: They are both new to science. Each of them recently received its official scientific name: *Myotis diminutus* for the bat, *Rhabdias singaporensis* for the worm.

These are certainly not the last two species scientists will ever discover. Each year, researchers report more than 15,000 new species, and their workload shows no sign of letting up. "Ask any taxonomist in a museum, and they'll tell you they have hundreds of species waiting to be described," says Camilo Mora, a marine ecologist at the University of Hawaii.

Scientists have named and catalogued 1.3 million species. How many more species there are left to discover is a question that has hovered like a cloud over the heads of taxonomists for two centuries. "It's astounding that we don't know the most basic thing about life," said Boris Worm, a marine biologist at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia. On August 23, Worm, Mora and their colleagues presented the latest estimate of how many species there are, based on a new method they have developed. They estimate there are 8.7 million species on the planet, plus or minus 1.3 million.

The new paper, published in the journal *PLoS Biology*, is drawing strong reactions from other experts. Critics say the method in the new paper can't work, and that Earth's true diversity is far greater.

In 1833, a British entomolo-

gist named John Obadiah Westwood made the earliest known estimate of global biodiversity by guessing how many insect species there were. He estimated how many species of insects lived on each plant species in England, and then extrapolated that figure across the whole planet. "If we say 400,000, we shall, perhaps, not be very wide of the truth," he wrote. Today, scientists know the Westwood figure is far too low. They've already found more than 1 million insect species, and their discovery rate shows no signs of slowing down.

In recent decades, scientists have looked for better ways to determine

how many species are left to find. In 1988, Robert May, an evolutionary biologist at the University of Oxford, observed that the diversity of land animals increases as they get smaller. He reasoned that we probably have found most of the species of big an-

imals, like mammals and birds, so he used their diversity to calculate the diversity of smaller animals. He ended up with an estimate of 10 million to 50 million species of land animals.

Other estimates have ranged from as few as 3 million to as many as 100 million. Mora and his colleagues believed that all of these estimates were flawed in one way or another. Most seriously, there was no way to validate the methods used, to be sure they were

reliable.

For the new estimate, the scientists came up with a method of their own, based on how taxonomists classify species. Each species belongs to a larger group called a genus, which belongs to a larger group called a family, and so on. Humans, for example, belong to the class of mammals, along with about 5,500 other species.

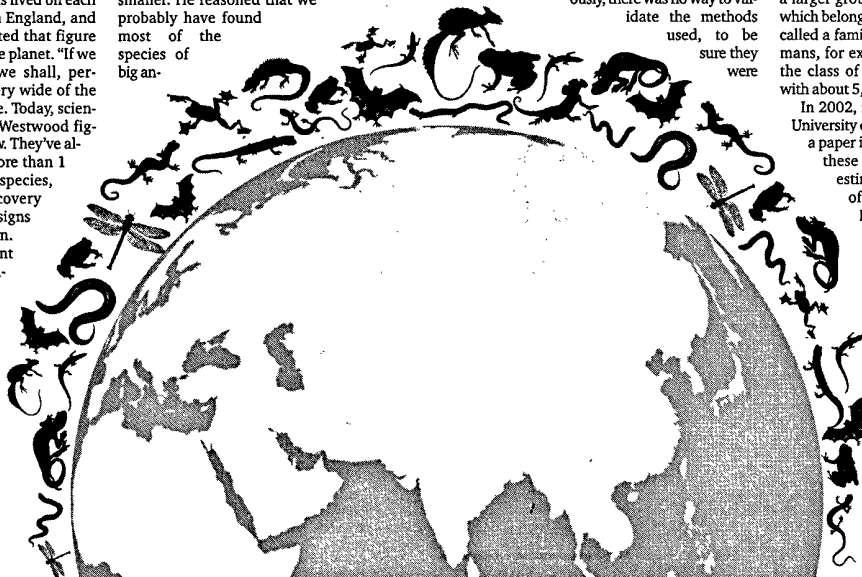
In 2002, researchers at the University of Rome published a paper in which they used these higher groups to estimate the diversity of plants around Italy. At three different sites, they noted the number of genera, families and so on. There were fewer higher-level

groups than lower ones at each site, like the layers of a pyramid. The scientists could estimate how many species there were at each site, much as it's possible to estimate how big the bottom layer of a pyramid based on the rest of it.

The paper drew little notice at the time, but Mora and his colleagues seized on it, hoping to use the method to estimate all the species on Earth. They charted the discovery of new classes of animals since 1750. The total number climbed steeply for the first 150 years and then began to crest—a sign that we're getting close to finding all the classes of animal. They found that the discovery rate of other high-level groups has also been slowing down. The scientists built a taxonomic pyramid to estimate the total number of species in well-studied groups, like mammals and birds. They then came up with estimates of 7.7 million species of animals and 298,000 species of plants. Although the land makes up 29 per cent of the Earth's surface, the scientists concluded that it is home to 86 per cent of the world's species.

The authors of the new study acknowledge that their method doesn't work well with bacteria. Scientists have only started to really dig into the biodiversity of microbes, and so they are finding high-level groups of bacteria at a brisk pace. Mora and his colleagues write that their estimate—about 10,000 species—should be considered a "lower bound". Microbiologists, on the other hand, are fairly sure the diversity of microbes will turn out to dwarf the diversity of animals. A single spoonful of soil may contain 10,000 different species of bacteria, many of which are new to science.

NYT



Country closer to its goal of 80% literacy

TRIBUNE SPECIAL

ADITI TANDON
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 3

With adults lining up to get assessed like never before, India might well realise its dream of 80 per cent literacy by 2017. The first mass-level assessment of learners under the new adult literacy mission - Sakshar Bharat - which Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had launched on September 8, 2009, today threw up heartening results.

As many as 46.33 lakh new learners — out of the targeted 60 lakh who attended classes for a year — actually came forward to take the functional literacy



SAKSHAR BHARAT MISSION

- Aims to make 70 million people (60m women) literate in 7 years in 410 districts of rural India
- Wants to raise literacy from the current 64 to 80 % by 2017; reduce gender gap from 21 to 10%

test and get rated for reading, writing and numeracy.

Of these, a whopping 70 per cent (32, 61, 844) passed with Grades A and B reflecting reasonable skills. The rest, who got Grade C, pointing to the need for improvement, also went home with grade sheets. For the first time in the history of adult literacy programmes in India, every learner received a certificate, including those

who finished last.

Most heartening is the fact that 82 per cent literacy has been reported among the women neo literates who were assessed as against 18 per cent literacy among men. A 75-year-old woman from Tamil Nadu has emerged as the oldest student of the Sakshar Bharat Mission, which will turn two this September 8 — a day the government has planned a success show

which will be presided over by the President.

The mission — a variant of the old National Adult Literacy Mission (NALM) which had started in 1988 — has produced impressive results in just two years by imparting literacy to 32 lakh first-time learners. This is a magic figure considering NLM, in 21 years of operation, educated only 12.7 million adults. Sakshar Bharat aims to make 70 million adults (of them 60 million women) literate in seven years across 410 districts of rural India. The results of the first assessment have proved that the target is achievable.

The best part of the process Continued on page 8

Country closer to its goal of 80% literacy

From page 1

has been the excitement it has generated among the new learners, who have been drawn into adult literacy classes by the government's gesture of awarding pass certificates stamped jointly by the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) and the HRD Ministry. "For the first time ever, learners have been assessed and graded. Hitherto, only district and block level assessments used to happen. Adults feel encouraged when they go home with grade sheets even if they have attained the last Grade C," said SK Prasad of the NIOS, which conducted the assessment.

The assessment happened

twice — first as a pilot in 17 states, with 5,18,585 candidates (3,24,317 women) across 20,643 centres on August 20, 2010. Of these, 3,34,507 passed, with male-female literacy rates being equal at 65 per cent and 63 per cent, respectively. On March 6 this year, a national-level assessment was done with 41,14,814 learners taking the test. Among them, 34,16,845 candidates were women; 24,03,406 of them cleared the test. Of the 6,97,969 men who appeared, 5,23,931 passed. The female-male adult literacy rates, by the end of the assessment, stood at 82.10 per cent and 17.90 per cent, respectively. The assess-

ment took place in 13 states.

Tamil Nadu showed 100 per cent literacy among the candidates assessed, while Andhra Pradesh posted the lowest adult literacy percentage of 51.52. The national assessment also covered Manipur, Bihar, Karnataka, Sikkim, Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Himachal, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Gujarat and Jharkhand. Himachal reported 70.73 per cent overall literacy. Punjab and Haryana were not covered as Punjab entered the mission very recently and will be assessed later while Haryana failed to implement the same in the lone Karnal district where the project was sanctioned.

Antibiotic resistance killing thousands in India: Study

ajita singh

NEW DELHI, 3 SEPT: Pneumonia still causes an estimated 410,000 deaths in India each year, and is the number one killer of children. *Lancet* has reported an estimated 371,605 deaths in Indian children under the age of five in 2008. These figures highlight that there are still substantial barriers to antibiotic access in India.

In fact, people living in developing countries like India, South Africa and Kenya have the highest burden of bacterial infections, including antibiotic resistant infections driven by excessive and inappropriate antibiotic consumption, according to the Global Antibiotic Resistance Partnership (GARP), a project of the Centre for

Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP).

Antibiotic resistance, or a bacteria's ability to survive antibiotic treatment, is highly prevalent in developing countries of South Asia and Africa. In fact, bacterial disease burden in India is among the highest in the world, said a GARP study conducted as a situation analysis on antibiotic access and resistance in India.

While most of the deaths due to bacterial infections occur when patients do not have access to life-saving antibiotics when and where they are needed, at the other extreme, several occur due to drug-resistance that develops when antibiotics are used in situations where they cannot be expected to improve the patient's con-

dition, particularly in treatment for the common cold and uncomplicated cases of diarrhoea (which can be appropriately treated with oral rehydration therapy), said the study. Antibiotic use drives antibiotic resistance, and inappropriate use speeds its development, it added.

bacterial barriers

Pharmaceutical sales data suggests that between 2005 and 2009 antibiotic consumption in India rose by a whopping 40 per cent.

Faced with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, pneumonia and a host of other infectious diseases, antibiotic resistance has been a low priority

issue in most developing and many developed countries. The 1st Global Forum on Bacterial Infections: Balancing Treatment Access and Antibiotic Resistance, to be held from 3-5 October will, however, debate it with particular focus on India as resistance to certain antibiotics in areas of India (and around the world) is already at high levels. The issue gained significant attention after New Delhi metallo-beta-lactamase-1 (NDM-1) made headlines the world over.

NDM-1 is the most widely reported source of antibiotic resistance in India, but it really represents something new and novel — not the great preponderance of antibiotic resistance to the drugs commonly used by patients. A

2009 study from the World Health Organisation (WHO) found that 58.7 per cent of pathogenic samples of *E coli* in Delhi were resistant to the common antibiotic ciprofloxacin.

"The problem of failing antibiotics becomes even more acute when first line drugs fail and second line drugs are expensive and unaffordable to many in the country. We can address this by improving hospital infection control, effectively stopping sales of newer antibiotics over the counter and implementing education campaigns," said Dr Ramanan Laxminarayan, director of the Centre for Disease Dynamics Economics and Policy (CDDEP) and vice president for research and policy at the Public Health Foundation of India.

Hindustan Times Chandigarh 03.09.2011 P-19

PTU gets institute going despite govt's objection

DIRECTIONS DISREGARDED University to hold orientation programme for students on Sept 5 even as it has failed to appoint regular faculty, fill any MTech (mechanical) seat

Jasdeep Singh Malhotra

■ jasdeep.malhotra@hindustantimes.com

JALANDHAR: Despite the Punjab government's instructions against going ahead with the Ambika Paul Punjab Institute of Technology (APIT), Punjab Technical University (PTU) has announced to hold an orientation programme for APIT students on its campus near here on September 5.

Principal secretary (technical education and industrial training) Suresh Kumar had recently asked the university authorities not to rename the Caparo-PTU School of Manufacturing and Material Technology as APIT since the Caparo group led by UK-based steel magnate Lord Swraj Paul had failed to settle the row over the dissolution of the Caparo-PTU school.

"The university will not name its constituent college after Ambika Paul, daughter of Lord Swraj Paul. Besides, it will not be a Punjab Institute of Technology. The university will either set up a particular department to start MTech classes or start its own constituent college," Kumar had said during a review meeting at Chandigarh last week.

But the PTU authorities released its second APIT admission notice in several newspapers, asking students to apply for various MTech disciplines. The university has also failed to remove the APIT board from the main building of Caparo-PTU school.

Interestingly, PTU is yet to hand over appointment letters



■ The Ambika Paul Punjab Institute of Technology on the Punjab Technical University campus in Kapurthala.

SIKANDER SINGH CHOPRA/HT

to two assistant professors and associate professors each in the computer science and engineering, mechanical engineering and electronics and communication engineering disciplines owing to the model code of conduct for the SGPC elections.

Teachers from its affiliated colleges would take the classes till September 18. The issue of providing hostel to students on the campus or at some private accommodation is also being considered.

The much-acclaimed institute has failed to fill even a sin-

gle seat for MTech in mechanical engineering with specialisation in thermal engineering, forcing the authorities to scrap the course for the current year. Twenty-five students got admission in MTech in computer science and engineering with specialisation.

"The Caparo-PTU school land belongs to the university even as the assets belong to the Caparo-PTU school society. It is a university college, where we are introducing MTech classes from September 5," PTU dean (academics) Dr Buta Singh clarified.

The school, which was launched with much fanfare in September 2007, ran into controversy after Swraj Paul refused to pump in more money after claiming to have invested over Rs 5 crore in raising the school building and other infrastructure.

He was demanding that the university should transfer 10 acres of land to the PTU Caparo society so as to enable it to raise a loan after mortgaging the same with bankers.

But PTU refused to accept the condition to help Paul raise funds for the development of the school. Paul then declared that either PTU or the Caparo group should run the school and the collaboration should be terminated.

The PTU, on November 20, 2008, had given nod to terminate its agreement with Caparo group after deciding to run the school of excellence on its own, but the Caparo group later refused to accept the terms.



■ A file photo of Lord Swraj Paul at the launch of Caparo-PTU school of manufacturing and material technology in 2007.

HT PHOTO

एप्लीकेशन प्रोग्रामिंग इंटरफेस से और आसान हो जाएगी राह, आईआईआईटी के होनहारों का नया आइडिया

यूआईडी का दायरा बढ़े तो घट जाएं मुश्किलें

नई दिल्ली | प्रमुख संवाददाता

यदि आप पासपोर्ट, राशन कार्ड व ड्राइविंग लाइसेंस आदि बनवाना चाहते हैं तो आपको अपने साथ दस्तावेज का पोथा नहीं ढोना पड़ेगा। यही नहीं अब सरकारी दफ्तरों के कर्मचारी और शिक्षक भी ड्यूटी से गायब नहीं हो सकेंगे। उनकी हाजिरी का पूरा चिट्ठा एक क्लिक पर हाजिर हो जाएगा। यह संभव हो सकेगा एप्लीकेशन प्रोग्रामिंग इंटरफेस (एपीआई) के इस्तेमाल से। यदि इसे यूआईडी के सिस्टम से जोड़ जाए तो आम आदमी का जीवन और भी सरल हो सकता है।

इंटरप्रथ इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इंफॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी (आईआईआईटी), दिल्ली के छात्र अमर प्रकाश और विवेक वर्मा ने 'आधार एपीआई' का नया आइडिया दिया है। उनका कहना है कि बेशक लोगों के यूआईडी बन गए हों, लेकिन महत्वपूर्ण कार्यों के लिए उन्हें अपने साथ सभी दस्तावेज अब भी ले जाने पड़ते हैं। 'आधार एपीआई' के इस्तेमाल से एक डाटा बेस बनाया जाएगा, जिसमें यूआईडी बनाने वाले सभी लोगों के जरूरी दस्तावेज स्टोर कर लिए जाएंगे। इस डेटाबेस को यूआईडी के सिस्टम से भी जोड़ दिया जाएगा।

जब संबंधित व्यक्ति पासपोर्ट या ड्राइविंग लाइसेंस बनाने के लिए संबंधित

कारगर है तकनीक

- कम लागत में शुरू हो सकता है सिस्टम
- फोन से भी शुरू हो सकता है
- एक लैपटॉप और उसमें इंटरनेट के साथ पूरे सिस्टम को एक्सेस किया जा सकता है
- रोजमर्रा के कार्यों को बेहतर तरीके से किया जा सकता है



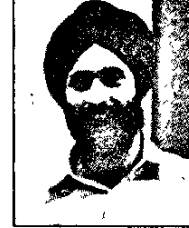
अमर प्रकाश

आईआईआईटी के चौथे वर्ष के छात्र हैं। एडवाइड मोबाइल एप्लीकेशन बना चुके हैं। सीन रिफिनेशन पर शोध किया है।



विवेक वर्मा

आईआईआईटी के चौथे वर्ष के छात्र हैं। मोबाइल एप्लीकेशन पर कई प्रोजेक्ट बना चुके हैं।



प्रो. अमरजीत सिंह

ये असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर हैं। हेल्थ केयर, बिजली की खपत कम करने जैसे कई प्रोजेक्ट से जुड़े हैं।



प्रशांत मित्तल

नेशनल इंफॉर्मेटिक्स सेंटर के टेक्निकल डायरेक्टर हैं। आरटीआई, मिड-डे-मिल जैसे प्रोजेक्ट से जुड़े रहे हैं।

कैसे काम करेगी

एपीआई के एप्लीकेशन को अपलोड किया जाएगा। इसका इस्तेमाल कर एप्लीकेशन बनाया जाएगा। इसके द्वारा डाटा को भेजा भी जा सकेगा और रिसीव भी किया जा सकेगा। साथ ही इससे डाटा को सत्यापित भी किया जा सकेगा। इसे सीधे यूआईडी सर्वर से भी कनेक्ट किया जा सकता है।

कार्यालय जाएगा तो वहां यूआईडी का इस्तेमाल करते हुए एपीआई के डेटाबेस को एक्सेस किया जा सकेगा। सर्वर से उस व्यक्ति से सभी दस्तावेज मिनटों में

यूनीक आईडी का आइडिया भी या 'यूनीक'

देश के सभी लोगों को एक पहचान देने के लिए यूआईडी भी एक आइडिया से आया था। इस आइडिया को देने वाले प्रसिद्ध नामों में से देश के बड़े बिजनेसमैन नंदन नीलेकणी हैं। उन्होंने इसका जिक्र अपनी किताब इमेजिन इंडिया: आइडिया फार द न्यू सेंचुरी में दिया था। इसके पीछे उनका मकसद था हर भारतीय को एक अलग नंबर दिया जा सके, जिससे उसकी जानकारी मिल-सके। भारतीयों को अलग-अलग पहचान पत्र, लाइसेंस, पासपोर्ट आदि के लिए अलग-अलग चीजें लोगों को नहीं जोड़ पाती। इसके लिए यूनीक आईडी सिस्टम बनाया जाए, जिससे हर आदमी का एक डाटाबेस हो। इससे सरकार को भी उसके बारे में पता करने में ज्यादा दिक्कत न हो।

मिल जाएंगे। एपीआई द्वारा बनाया गया यह एप्लीकेशन डाटा को भेजने और रिसीव करने की क्षमता रखेगा। वहीं, किसी सरकारी दफ्तर में

हाजिरी सुनिश्चित करने के लिए वहां एक फिंगर प्रिंट डिवाइस लगा दी जाएगी। उसके डाटा को एपीआई के सर्वर से कनेक्ट कर दिया जाएगा। वहां पर उनकी

बड़ा फायदा

प्रमाण पत्र जैसे वोटर आईडी, लाइसेंस, पासपोर्ट आदि में यूआईडी से ही काम चल जाएगा। मौजूदा सिस्टम में कई दस्तावेज चाहिए होते हैं। इसके अलावा कई फॉर्म भी भराए जाते हैं। उनके बैंक, पता आदि की जानकारी भी इस एक नंबर के जरिए पता चल जाएगी। देश के किसी भी सरकारी कर्मचारी चाहे वह राज्य के अंदर आता हो या भारत सरकार के सभी की जानकारी देश में कहीं से भी उपलब्ध की जा सकेगी।

जानकारियों के अलावा फिंगर प्रिंट भी होंगे, जिसके आधार उनकी उपस्थिति और उनके आने ब जाने की सटीक जानकारी मिल जाएगी।

Mahamedha ND 4/09/2011 P-14

शिक्षकों को तकनीकी में दक्ष बनाता है प्रोग्राम

विशेष संवाददाता/ग्रेटर नोएडा
एबुकेशन हब ग्रेटर नोएडा के नॉलेज पार्क तीन स्थित आईआईएमटी, कॉलेज के बीएड विभाग में इन्टेल द्वारा छह दिवसीय फैकल्टी डेवलपमेंट प्रोग्राम का आयोजन किया गया। शिक्षक प्रशिक्षकों की योग्यता के विकास के लिए इन्टेल ने इस कार्यक्रम को आरम्भ किया था। इस कार्यक्रम में तकरीबन एक दर्जन से अधिक शिक्षण संस्थानों के तकरीबन ढाई दर्जन शिक्षक-प्रशिक्षक प्रशिक्षण का लाभ लिया। यह प्रशिक्षण 29 अगस्त से 3 सितम्बर 2011 तक चला।

आईआईएमटी कॉलेज के प्रवक्ता प्रो. आशीष गोपाल वर्मा ने बताया कि इंटेल ट्रेनिंग प्रोग्राम में शिक्षकों को तकनीक का प्रयोग कक्षा शिक्षण में करके शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता में सुधार करने की प्रक्रिया

तथा अधिगम को सरल बनाने की प्रक्रिया की ट्रेनिंग दी जाती है। इंटेल करने में सहायक साबित हो सके। यह कार्यक्रम तकनीकी के शिक्षा शास्त्रीय शर्मा ने प्रशिक्षण लेने वाले शिक्षकों को प्रयोग करके शिक्षक अपने छात्रों को

एक सफल जीवन को ओर अग्रसर का प्रशिक्षण कु. सपना विष्ट के निर्देशन में दिया गया।



कार्यक्रम का केन्द्र बिन्दु आईसीटी का प्रयोग करके बीएड के छात्रों के लिए प्रभावी पाठयोजनाओं का निर्माण करना तथा प्रोजेक्ट बनाना है। इसके अलावा 21वीं सदी के शिक्षकों में विभिन्न कौशलों का विकास, समस्या समाधान, समय प्रबन्धन, सहयोग, संचार माध्यमों का प्रयोग आदि का कार्यक्रम तकनीकी के शिक्षा शास्त्रीय शर्मा ने प्रशिक्षण लेने वाले शिक्षकों को प्रयोग करके शिक्षक अपने छात्रों को

समायोजित करना है। इंटेल कार्यक्रम का प्रशिक्षण कु. सपना विष्ट के निर्देशन में दिया गया। कार्यक्रम का समापन करते हुए आईआईएमटी के प्रबन्ध निदेशक मयंक अग्रवाल ने शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में तकनीकी के प्रयोग की उपयोगिता पर बल दिया तथा शिक्षा के स्तर में सुधार के लिए इस कार्यक्रम को महत्वपूर्ण बताया। कॉलेज की प्राचार्या डॉ. सीमा शर्मा ने प्रशिक्षण लेने वाले शिक्षकों को प्रमाण पत्र प्रदान किए तथा सभी शिक्षकों

को सफल प्रशिक्षण के लिए बधाई दी। बीएड कॉलेज के शिक्षकों के लिए आईसीटी का प्रयोग को महत्वपूर्ण बताते हुए कहा कि इसका ज्ञान शिक्षकों के लिए निहायत ही जरूरी है। जिससे हम ज्ञान का सही ज्ञानोपार्जन कर उनके प्रयोग द्वारा छात्रों में विभिन्न कौशलों का विकास कर सकें।

इस कार्यक्रम के इंचार्ज डॉ. चन्द्रशेखर यादव एवं विभाग के प्रवक्ता दीपक कुमार भरद्वाज, संजीव भाटी, त्रिपुरेश वाजपेयी तथा अन्य कॉलेजों से आए प्रवक्ता, केशर भाटी, कुसुम शर्मा, भारती खत्री, इंदु जैन, आशीष शर्मा, अलोक शुक्ला, छवी मोहन, दयावती, ममता त्यागी, राम भवन, ममता शर्मा, प्रतिमा श्रीवास्तव आदि ने प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त किया। अंत में सभी प्रतिभागियों को प्रशस्ति पत्र भी दिए गए।

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आईआईटी छात्रा का शव विमान से भेजा गया हैदराबाद

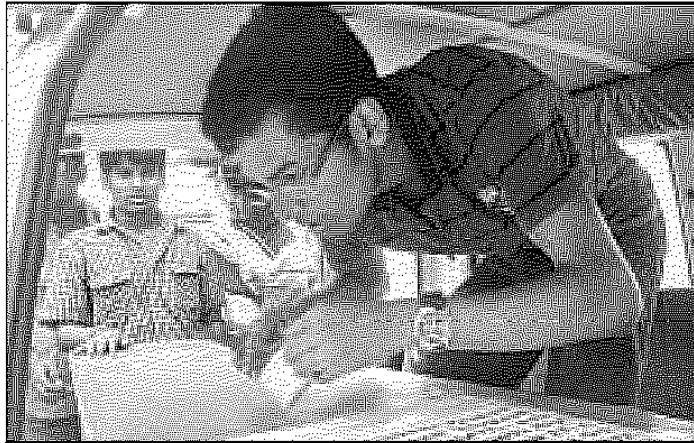
अंतिम विदाई पर नम हुई आंखें

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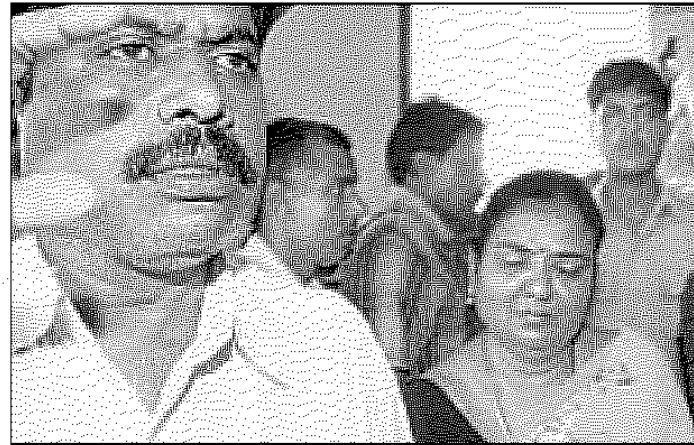
आईआईटी, पटना की छात्रा वेलारती सवीया का शव शुक्रवार को विमान से दिल्ली होते हुए हैदराबाद गया। 3.20 बजे जेट एयरवेज (एस 2-288) से शव के साथ उनके पिता निर्मल बाबू व माता सुधा रानी भी रवाना हुईं। साढ़े पांच बजे शाम में दिल्ली से कनेक्टिंग फ्लाइट से ये लोग हैदराबाद को रवाना हुए। हालांकि सुबह में ही गो एयर (जी 8 342) के विमान से शव को दिल्ली जाना था पर ठीक से पैकिंग नहीं होने की वजह से यह इस विमान से नहीं जा सका। घंटों ताबूत में बंद शव एयरपोर्ट पर ही पड़ा रहा। छात्रों ने ही बाद में शव को ठीक से पैक कर दिया।

बहरहाल प्रतिभाशाली छात्रा सवीया की अचानक मौत होने का गम दूसरे दिन भी आईआईटी के छात्रों पर छाया रहा। जब शव कुर्जी अस्पताल से एयरपोर्ट पहुंचा तो आईआईटी के शिक्षक से लेकर हॉस्टल में रहने वाली सवीया की सहेलियों व सहपाठियों की आंखें नम हो गईं। छात्र कह रहे थे कि एक ही पल में क्या से क्या हो गया। वहीं पिता व माता की हालत ठीक नहीं थी। उनके चेहरे से साफ झलक रहा था कि उन्हें इसका गहरा सदमा लगा है।

जब संवाददाताओं ने पिता निर्मल



पटना एयरपोर्ट पर आईआईटी की छात्रा सवीया के शव को ताबूत में पैक करते छात्र।



पटना एयरपोर्ट पर सवीया के माता-पिता। • फोटो : हिन्दुस्तान

हादसा

- घंटों ताबूत में बंद शव पटना एयरपोर्ट पर ही पड़ा रहा
- मौत का गम दूसरे दिन भी आईआईटी के छात्रों पर छाया रहा
- शव देख सहेलियों व सहपाठियों की आंखें हुईं नम
- माता-पिता की हालत ठीक नहीं लगा है गहरा सदमा
- पुलिस पूछताछ में माता-पिता ने किसी को नहीं ठहराया जिम्मेदार

बाबू से बात करने की कोशिश की तो उन्होंने सिर्फ इतना कहा कि हम क्या बात करें? उन्हें इस बात का अफसोस था कि अगर वे एक सप्ताह पहले पटना आ जाते तो शायद डिप्रेसन की शिकार उनकी बिटिया यह आत्मघाती कदम नहीं उठाती।

बेटी की मौत की सूचना मिलने के बाद गुरुवार की रात निर्मल बाबू व मां सुधा रानी विमान से पटना पहुंचे थे। देर रात पुलिस ने दोनों से पूछताछ भी की थी। पूछताछ के दौरान सवीया के माता-पिता ने इस स्थिति के लिए किसी को भी जिम्मेदार नहीं ठहराया था। दूसरी तरफ इस मामले को लेकर पुलिस ने अपनी तफ्तीश जारी रखी है।