

eNewspaper Clippings**Aug 17, 2010****HindustanTimes****Title : Scoring points on Sibal****Author :****Location :****Article Date : 08/17/2010****Scoring points on Sibal**

The human resource development ministry under Kapil Sibal prides itself for transparency, and officers are seen staying back in Shastri Bhawan till late answering queries under the Right to Information Act. But one recent RTI application left the ministry stumped. The applicant demanded details of how much Sibal, IIT dir-

ectors and each faculty member scored in their school-leaving examinations. The ministry has asked the IITs for information on the faculty and directors. But the Cabinet Secretariat — the nodal agency that keeps details of ministers — has no information on Sibal's performance. And no one in the ministry is keen to ask the minister himself.



■ What's in a number? Kapil Sibal

IIT-K to coordinate 2011 JEE

KANPUR: The IIT-K will be coordinating the IIT Joint Entrance Exam (IIT-JEE) for 2011. The members of the IIT Joint Admission Board (JAB) will be attending a meeting at IIT-K on August 21 to finalise the schedule. Representatives of all 15 IITs are expected to attend the meeting. The 2010 exam was coordinated by IIT-Chennai. IIT-K Director Sanjay Govind Dhande said: "Not many changes are likely to be made in the examination format. We will decide the dates for the form distribution, form submission and examination. A final decision will be taken in the meeting by the JAB members." The name of the IIT-JEE chairman will also be announced soon after the meeting. The IIT-JEE is divided into seven zones headed by prominent IITs. Each year, one of these seven IITs coordinates the exam.

KAUTILYA SINGH

Daily wagers' strike at IIT: Institute warns of action

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KANPUR, AUGUST 16

THE IIT-K authorities have warned stern action if the institute's Karamchari Sangathan does not call off its relay strike at the earliest.

For the past few months, the 62 daily wage mess workers have been holding protests to push their long-pending demands. After failure of several rounds of dialogues, the workers began an indefinite protest at the institute gates from today. They have also threatened to hold a mass fast-unto-death protest from August 23.

Their demands include membership of Employees' Provident Fund, deductions under Employees' State Insurance scheme, leave with pay, issuance of Identity Cards, leave with pay for religious holidays, casual leave and compensation in case of accidents. At a media conference on Monday, IIT-K

Director Sanjay Govind Dhande said: "They want benefits which are being given to the institute's employees, which is not possible for us to accept."

He said the IIT-K Karamchari Sangathan is not registered with the institute board, and none of the members is a regular employee. "These 62 daily wagers came as substitute workers in the mess, and in view of their performance they were permitted to continue work," he added. Holding protests within the institute premises is not permitted, Dhande said. "On several occasions, we have warned the daily wagers. If they continue with the practice, we will have to take strong action."

The president, IIT-K Karamchari Sangathan, B Prasad, said: "When the IIT-K authorities refused to accept our demands, we contacted the district officials and asked for their support."

President inaugurates Golden Jubilee Year of IIT Delhi

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NetIndian News Network
New Delhi, August 16, 2010

President Pratibha Patil today called upon students and alumni of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), some of the best brains in the country, to be important partners and contributors to the journey of India to become a leader in knowledge-based society of the 21st century.

Inaugurating the Golden Jubilee Year of IIT Delhi here, Ms Patil emphasised that the future of India would derive strength from three sources: from a value-based system based on harmony, tolerance and selflessness; from youth; and from innovations and inventions. "Educational institutions like IITs are the crucibles where all these three forces can interface with each other. Here, young students while studying science disciplines must inculcate a good value system," she said. The President recalled that the establishment of the education infrastructure in India, including the IITs, was the outcome of the vision of the country's first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. "The IIT model seeks to provide a high calibre of education to its students, so that they become scientists and engineers comparable to the best in the world, as they explore the universe of knowledge through the prism of science and technology," she said. She said IIT alumni had done the country proud, validating the rationale for the establishment of the IIT system. Tracing the co-evolution of science and society, Ms Patil said India today was seeking responses to the challenges of food, water and energy security. "This means addressing a wide spectrum of issues like foodgrain productivity and its proper distribution, water and energy conservation, cleaning of rivers and water recycling, reducing the cost of renewable sources of energy like solar and wind. We are looking at construction of energy efficient buildings and low cost housing to provide shelter to those who either have no house or are in urban areas living in slums. We are looking for ways to combat existing and new diseases. We are faced with climate change that is affecting the air we breathe and the weather patterns," she said. She said responses and solutions, to a large extent, lay in the domain of science and technology. "These challenges are neither limited nor small, and would need sustained research to find appropriate responses," she remarked. Ms Patil said India needed a second Green Revolution and novel thinking in rainfed farming for food security. "We need engineering and management capabilities as we expand our infrastructure. We need environmentally friendly technologies. We need cutting edge technologies to be a leading nation," she said. She said it was important research centres and laboratories in India focused on research and came up with innovations applicable to conditions and requirements existing in the country. "It is, of course essential that an environment that is conducive for this purpose is created. Scientific research requires dedication and commitment as well as availability of funds. Moreover, science has become increasingly interlinked and multi-disciplinary, it calls for multi-institutional and multi-country participation. Institutes like yours need to develop robust mechanisms for collaborations with other institutions," she said. Ms Patil said IIT alumni had made their mark globally and the contributions of their faculty, including their research, were widely respected. She noted that the IITs had a number of market patents awaiting registration and that IIT Delhi had filed 40 patent applications last year. "I congratulate you on this. However, we must look at the global patent scenario to get a broader perspective. According to the World Intellectual Property Organization, in 2009, over 45,000 patents constituting almost a third of global patents in the year were filed by the US. Ranking fifth, China filed over 7,900 patents. India, on the other hand had only 761 applications. We have a long distance to cover. The Government of India has declared this decade as the Decade of Innovation, I am confident that our scientists and researchers with their knowledge, capability and commitment will make it a success," she said. The President said technology diffusion was another important aspect as it ensured that fruits of innovation reached as many people as possible. Inventions that have germinated in laboratories must be transmitted into the field to become agents of transformation, she said. She said efforts should be to build collaborations with institutions in different sectors of industry, agriculture and services, which in turn, must also be forthcoming in supporting new ideas and discoveries. She said the challenge was in getting tie-ups for their marketing and commercialisation. Ms Patil urged the students and alumni of technological institutes, especially the IITs, to take interest and establish links with such individuals and mentor them. She also advised them to do their work as service to humankind, and stressed their society's welfare and their welfare were interlinked. "A scientist or an engineer who is a good human being, with values of integrity and with a social conscious, will contribute far more to society. It is in returning back to society that a human being responds to their call of duty towards others," she said. She recalled that Microsoft founder Bill Gates had said some time ago that, per capita, IITs had produced more millionaires than any other undergraduate institution. "IITians across the world, indeed, are a very powerful group. They have resources and experience which can be leveraged to generate ideas along with necessary funding for development projects in India. I am confident that IITians will always be ready to contribute to India's growth and prosperity," she added.

Imperial college wishes IIT Delhi a 'truly golden future'

(ukinindia.fco.gov.uk/en/news/?view=PressR&id=22703319)

16 August 2010

As IIT Delhi celebrated the start of its Golden Jubilee Year today, its links with the UK were highlighted at the inaugural function in New Delhi.



As IIT Delhi celebrated the start of its Golden Jubilee Year today (16 August 2010), its links with the UK - past, present and future - were highlighted at the inaugural function in New Delhi.

Professor Mary Ritter, Pro Rector of Imperial College, London shared the platform with The President of India, Smt. Pratibha Patil, Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Kapil Sibal and the Director and Chairman of the Board of IIT Delhi to inaugurate the Golden Jubilee Year.

Professor Ritter and other speakers, including Kapil Sibal, noted the pivotal role played by Imperial College and other UK institutions in establishing IIT Delhi after the foundation stone was laid by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in 1959. At the same time, those present reaffirmed the importance both of the link between the two institutions and of global collaboration as a general trend to address the challenges facing the world. Professor Ritter announced the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding between Imperial College and IIT Delhi to take the relationship to an even higher level.

Professor Mary Ritter said:

“I am delighted to be here in India to celebrate IIT Delhi’s Golden Jubilee and to set in train the next phase of the strong relationship between Imperial College and IIT Delhi. That relationship is one of continuity and of mutual benefit. We take great pride in our initial contribution to the establishment of this beacon of excellence in India. Equally, we recognise the benefits accrued to Imperial of our very extensive links with IIT Delhi today.

I am also delighted that Imperial College and IIT Delhi have today signed a new Memorandum of Understanding which I hope will set the scene for our relationship in the next fifty years. We plan to broaden and deepen our research relationship and to increase the numbers of our students spending time in each of the partner institutions. In particular, I hope that more British students will have the opportunity to enjoy Indian hospitality and to benefit from the IIT Delhi experience”.

THE HINDU

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IIT students asked to help in country's development

Staff Reporter

President opens Golden Jubilee celebrations of IIT-Delhi

- Photo: Rajeev Bhatt



A landmark: President Pratibha Patil flanked by Union Minister for Human Resource and Development Kapil Sibal (right) and IIT-Delhi Director Surendra Prasad at the Golden Jubilee celebrations on Monday.

NEW DELHI: Indian Institute of Technology students who constitute some of the best brains in the country should be active partners and contributors in India's quest to become a knowledge-based society, President Pratibha Patil said here on Monday. Inaugurating the Golden Jubilee celebrations of IIT-Delhi, Ms. Patil said: "IIT graduates all over the world are a powerful group. They have resources and experience which can be leveraged to generate ideas along with necessary funding for development projects in India." The future of India depends on three sources -- a value system based on harmony, tolerance and selflessness, the youth, and innovations and inventions. "Educational institutions like IITs are crucibles where all three forces can be developed," she added. Ms. Patil emphasised the role of science and technology in providing responses and solutions to the issues of food grain productivity and its proper distribution, water and energy conservation and reducing the cost of renewable sources of energy such as solar and wind. Science and technology could also assist in constructing energy-efficient buildings and low-cost housing, combating disease and climate change issues. Institutions such as the IITs need to develop robust mechanisms for collaboration with other institutions, she said. With regard to patents, India was lagging behind in comparison to the US and China and hence would have to make more efforts to improve its performance. IIT-Delhi Director Dr. Surendra Prasad said: "The Institute completing 50 years is a time to reflect on renewal, rebuilding and planning for future growth." Efforts are being made to strengthen the nanotechnology programme of the Institute which had received a grant of Rs.50 crore for the same. Measures are also being contemplated to encourage increased enrolment of girls in the Institute's B.Tech. programmes, he added.