Newspaper Clips
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INTERVIEW R K SHEVGAONKAR
‘We will double intake of PhD students’

Shaswati Das
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NEW DELHI: More than 300 students and faculty members showcased their technical know-how and craftsmanship at the Innovation Exhibition organised by IIT Delhi. The institute’s director, RK Shevgaonkar, spoke about the exhibition and research opportunities for students in India:

How is such an exhibition relevant to those outside the precincts of this institute?

This kind of an exhibition is proof of the extensive research done by students and faculty members at IIT. There are lots of science students and aspiring engineers who would be interested. The second aim is to invite young people to try their hand at research and development in India.

There is a growing belief among students that research opportunities are limited in India, which makes the West seem more lucrative. How is that ever likely to change?

That’s not true. This mindset is now changing. Earlier, in a class of 50, almost 20 students would come to us for recommendations because they were applying abroad. That number has now come down to five. India is one of the best places to carry out research work because a PhD student is given infinite opportunities to explore his field of study.

Do you think that more funds need to be pumped by the government into research in Indian universities?

Money is definitely required. But the Ministry of Human Resource Development gives funding for the basic infrastructure. The funding for research is usually provided by other agencies, such as the Department of Biotechnology and the Department of Space or Department of Atomic Energy. Students should actually take a look at the CSIR or DRDO labs to get a fair idea of the extent of research that can be undertaken in India.

So what role are the IITs playing to encourage students to take up research?

From the next academic year, we will double the intake of students in PhD courses. Currently, about 200 PhD scholars graduate every year. We are going to increase that number to 400 from next year and we hope to increase it further to 1,000.

There were complaints that there was a massive shortfall of teaching staff. How prudent is it to invite more PhD scholars when you don’t have the required number of teachers?

That complaint has come from undergraduate students. Originally, the teacher-student ratio was 1:10. Now, because of the OBC expansion, the number of students has significantly increased. We are trying to fill that gap and are going to go to the US soon to recruit some faculty members.
IITians form team to protest against JEE format change

SWATI VISHNOI
THE ASIAN AGE

The first-of-its kind online poll conducted by the IIT Bombay Alumni Association (IITBAA) had 80 per cent respondents voting against the move to change the JEE format announced by HRD minister Kapil Sibal recently. Slated to start from 2013, the new format will have CET (Common Entrance Test) for all National Institutes of Technology and IITs. IIT-Delhi students have formed a team called “Indian Yuva Manch” to protest against the proposal.

Siva Sai, a second year student of Mechanical and Computing, IIT-D, who is part of the protest group, says, “We’re planning to launch the protest through Google groups and social sites. Not only the student community, even faculty members are supporting the cause.” Students have held candlelight vigils in the campus and pledged that if the policy is passed they will go on a hunger strike till the policy is withdrawn.

Sai says, “The new format will put too much pressure on students and increase the spread of coaching centers. It’s an untested selection process. Why destroy something which is working so well already?”

Agrees Sanant, a Ph.D student of Civil Engineering department, IIT-D. “A common entrance for all will force professors to set questions suitable for all, and this will lower the standard. A JEE aspirant might have more expertise in different areas. In this new system, very few questions will be asked from advanced topics, so brilliant students will suffer.”

But few are happy with the move. Says Mridul Singh Rajput, a Ph.D student at IIT. “It’s just a psychological fear among IITians, who think brand IIT distinguishes them from other engineering aspirants. I think it’s a great move and will reduce the burden of multi-exams,” he sums up.

We will launch the protest through Google groups and social networking sites

SIVA SAI
IIT DELHI STUDENT
IIT-D students show off tremor mitigation device

INNOVATION EXHIBITION 300 projects on display at event including innovations in sustainable construction and reduction of water consumption.

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NEW DELHI: Delhi will be better prepared to brave an earthquake the next time it strikes. And this change will soon be attributed to extensive research undertaken by students at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi.

While the technology has been extensively used in Japan, which is more prone to earthquakes, it is gradually making its way in India.

Students at IIT Delhi showcased their technical prowess at an innovation exhibition on Saturday. The centre of attraction is the device that would mitigate the effect of earthquakes.

"We use a method called the base isolation technology, which is also presently being used at Bhuj Hospital in Gujarat. This method requires an isolator to be placed between the building's base and the earth so that the isolator can absorb the earthquake's vibrations, thereby reducing damage to the building," said Pravin Jagtap, a research scholar from the department of civil engineering at IIT-Delhi.

Students have been simulating earthquakes within the laboratories using a 'shake table' and, using different time histories, they have also been trying to come up with a base isolator with the maximum absorption capacity.

While the technology has proven effective for medium-rise buildings, research scholars said further extensive research needed to be done for high-rise buildings.

"This technology is being tested by close to 30 research scholars and it has proven effective for three to four storey buildings. We are still testing it in the laboratories to check its viability for some of the city's buildings. It will be fit to be used in a couple of years, even though it may still not be too effective for high rise buildings," added Jagtap.

Other innovations on display were sustainable construction and reduction of water consumption and in a completely different sphere — use of nanotechnology through development of environmentally focussed low cost nanostructured devices, among 300 other projects.

"This exhibition is an attempt by the IIT to showcase to the world the kind of projects that we undertake. Till now people have only known of the kind of work we have done, now they will be able to see it themselves," said RK Shevgaonkar, director IIT (Delhi).
IIT-D students display innovative concepts

From Eco-Friendly Mobile Charger To Winter Fan, ‘Open House’ Had 400 Projects On Show

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: If your mobile phone runs out of battery and there is no electric point around, IIT-Delhi’s green-ton charger can prove to be a lifesaver. A student at IIT-D is working on an eco-friendly charger that runs on kinetic energy.

“Simply put, it can produce an electric current when moved. So wearing it on the knee and walking ahead will be enough to charge your phone.”

“The internal mechanism of the device is ready and it can produce a current of up to 5 volts, which is enough to charge a mobile phone. I am planning to design this device in the form of a pen. It will generate a current whenever the user moves forward. Also, one can just move it in a particular way with hands to charge a phone while travelling,” said Gulmohar Khan, a first-year student pursuing a master of design.

Khan’s project was one among several innovative ideas and research works put forth by IIT-Delhi on Saturday in its eighth edition of ‘Open House’. Nearly 400 projects were on display at the event, which had about 3,000 visitors.

“The response to the projects has been good this time considering the rush of visitors,” said IIT-D director R Shyamganchar. Theresponsive camouflage textiles developed by Muktin Ahmed Chowdhury from the department of textile technology attracted many visitors. The fabric made by Chowdhury changes colours and produces heat.

He said the fabric was ideal for defence operations and can be used for making garments, tents or safety spots. The ceiling fan developed by Naveen Kumar and his team from the mechanical engineering department was a huge draw.

“This fan can be used even in winters as it will keep the room warm. We have attached heating coils to the blades of the fan, which are connected to power supply through separate connections. The fan will make the air warm when its blades rotate,” said Kumar. The cells can be detached to use the fan in summer: “It will cost only around Rs 500 more than a normal fan,” he added.

A team of five from civil engineering department is attempting to use waste paper to build bridges. The students insist that waste paper and an adhesive mix can be joined in a unique way to form a lightweight bridge.

OUT-OF-THE-BOX: This ceiling fan will warm the room in winter; (right) students have built a bridge using waste paper at an IIT-D event.

Statesman ND 22/04/2012

IIT shows technologies

NEW DELHI, 18 APRIL: Indian Institute of Technology (Delhi) celebrating Open House I2 Tech 2012, today exhibited its various technologies.

Some of the projects which the students displayed include affordable cancer treatment drugs, light weight composite hinge joint for polio patients, bamboo based structures, hydrogen powered three wheelers and many more.

Today, IIT campus changed into a fair when the projects were on display for everyone. Arinima Krishna, a student from Aligarh, was impressed with the innovation and said, “It’s great to see all these innovation. Though every project is good but I personally liked Light weight Composite Hinge Joint.”

Chairman of Open House, Anup K Ghosh said India needs to invest more on research projects in order to get worldwide technology in the country. He also said though we are happy with the funds and infrastructure provided to us, we need more funds to draw better results.
आईआईटी ने ईजाद किया भूकंपरोधी यंत्र
आठ रिक्टर स्केल तक के कंपन को सह सकता है उपकरण

नई दिल्ली, लोसें। भूकंप के भूकंप को आज तक कोई नहीं भूला। इस भूकंप को जास्ती को रेखा कर लोगों ने यहाँ दूरा कि कभी यहाँ ऐसा भूकंप अपने शहर में न आये, यदि आता है, तो इससे बचने का कोई तरीका जल्द ही निकल जाए। लोगों की इसी तमन्ना को लगभग पूरा कर लिया गया है।

यह अविष्कार आईआईटी दिल्ली में किया गया है। देश व राजधानी में भूकंप आने पर आपके मन या शहर में बने पुल या अन्य भवन नहीं गिर सकेंगे। इस अविष्कार के तहत भूकंप के दौरान उसके कंपन को बेहद कम कब्जा जा सकेगा। टॉल के बाह्य व पेट्रोल के माध्यम से भूकंप का असर काफी हद तक खत्म कर दिया जा सकेगा, जिससे कम से कम भवन गिरेगा। यह अविष्कार अपने असर पर आपके घर या शहर में तेजी से सक्षम होगा। इस तरह का अविष्कार आईआईटी दिल्ली के सिविल इंजीनियरिंग विभाग के फैक्टरी स्टूडेंट तीम ने मिलकर किया है। बल्कि दे कि राजधानी दिल्ली भूकंप संभाषित क्षेत्र में शामिल हैं। जहां भूकंप का खतरा हमेशा है। अभी बीते 5 माह के भूकंप आया था औसत 5 रिक्टर स्केल का था। भूकंप का केंद्र दिल्ली से 55 किलोमीटर दूर तक के घाटे था। जिससे लोगों के घर में यह वात हमेशा रह रहा कि भूकंप से आखिर उनका घर केसर बचेगा। लोगों की इस मसाम्बिक निकालने हेतु आईआईटी दिल्ली के सिविल इंजीनियरिंग विभाग के फैक्टरी डिप्टी हो वर्तमान मंत्री व डॉ. आर अयोध्यलाम की टीम ने यह अविष्कार किया है।

इस अविष्कार का नाम बेस आइसोलेट्स है। जो कि भारत की दौरानगर निर्माण संस्था के अनुसार है। आईआईटी दिल्ली के सिविल इंजीनियरिंग विभाग के शॉक टेबल में इस अविष्कार को मूर्त रूप दिया गया है। इस अविष्कार के तहत किसी भी भवन के कोलम की ग्राउंड लोगों से धीरे-धीरे टीला की बाँल दूर स्टील की पेट्रोल के बीच का लगा दी जाएगा। जिससे भूकंप के दौरान आठ रिक्टर स्केल के कंपन तक की तरह बाँल एवं पेट्रोल मिलकर चल जाएगा। इस आइसोलेट्स को भारत के किसी भी शहर या राज्य के भवनों, पुलों और आदि में लगाया जा सकता है।
पत्रिका: हिंदुस्तान ND 22.04.2012 P-5

आईआइटी की खोज करेगी आयोजना दुरुस्त

कुछ दिनों से, आईआइटी (आईआईटी) के अध्यक्ष रामचंद्र शर्मा ने इन दिनों ने कई प्रतिक्रियाएं दी है। इन शर्मा ने कहा कि उन्होंने उन्हें अलग-अलग प्रकार की गतिविधियों के लिए लाभ दिनों ने।

आईआईटी के अन्दर शर्मा ने कहा कि उन्होंने इसके लिए कई प्रतिक्रियाएं दी है। इन शर्मा ने कहा कि उन्होंने कई प्रतिक्रियाएं दी है। इन शर्मा ने कहा कि उन्होंने कई प्रतिक्रियाएं दी है।

दिल्ली की आईआईटी के द्वारा उच्च शिक्षा का प्रदर्शन किया गया है। इन शर्मा ने कहा कि उन्होंने कई प्रतिक्रियाएं दी है।

हम जरूर करते हैं कि हम उसे देखते हैं जो हमें दिल्ली की आईआईटी के द्वारा उच्च शिक्षा का प्रदर्शन किया गया है।

लेखक: नेहा पंथकर | TNN

टाइम्स ऑफ इंडिया ND 22/04/2012 P-6

Say goodbye to jabs with electrical delivery device

New Delhi: If you flinch at the sight of a needle or dread the pain of an intramuscular injection, here’s an alternative method to alleviate your pain. The Centre for Biomedical Sciences at IIT Delhi has created a device which can be worn like a watch, to administer medicines using electrical current. Aftering as it may sound, the process is painless, claim researchers.

Researchers at IITD say this method spares the patient the need for injections and is more effective and less harmful than consuming tablets. And the intensity of the current is low (less than 0.5 milliamperes per centimeter square) — low enough to possibly go unnoticed by the user.

"Transdermal delivery of drugs using electrical current is beneficial for patients who have to take injections or painkillers regularly. It’s a better option since the drug goes directly into the bloodstream and works faster," said professor Sneh Anand, who has been working on the project with Dr. Veena Koul and other PhD scholars at IITD since 2000.

Anand explained, "When consumed orally a medicine enters the bloodstream, is broken down in the liver and then re-enters the blood stream. This affects the liver and bloodstream. Anand says she started with a device that was in the form of a computer. After much advancement, the team developed a handheld device which was further turned into a miniature gadget — with electrodes — that can be worn around the arm.

After much advancement, the team developed a handheld device which was further turned into a miniature gadget that can be worn around the arm. The device can be administered in the form of a cream.

**SHOCK THERAPY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 Device can be worn on the arm. The device delivers drug via electrical current.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Electrode on the device is fitted to apply a cream-based drug or a patch to the skin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Electronic part of the device is then placed on the skin. The device moves into a patch to past current which is less than 0.01,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Following this the drug moves into the skin and directly reaches blood stream.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Current is set to the device. This is less than 0.01,000.**

**Status**

- **Animal testing successful for painkillers**
- **Human trials by a private firm to start soon.**
- **Device is virtually fail-safe, successfully tested for inulin.**
- **Researchers plan to test device with drugs for Alzheimer’s disease.**

"We have tied up with a private company in Ahmedabad to start a human trial. All formalities for the trial have been completed and the company will market it soon," said Anand.

The device is re-usable and its cost of development is nearly Rs 1,900. The drug patches can be manufactured for anything between Rs 10 and Rs 15.

"I can’t say what the commercial cost of this product would be but it definitely won’t be expensive," Anand said.

Neha Pankhura | TIMESGROUP.com
IIT inventions hit among schoolchildren

NEW DELHI: Various technological innovations, ranging from everyday household items to gadgetry, were a hit among schoolchildren at the Open House at Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.

A mix of curious students as well as industry representatives attended the event on Saturday.

Close to 400 projects were on display, of which many have been completed and ready to enter the market. While some projects have been rolled over from last year, others are fairly new.

The face recognition attendance project attracted several teachers and students.

"Schools need to install cameras in classrooms and when a teacher wants to take the attendance, she can pan or tilt the camera on 10 students at a time which will record all names through the face recognition device," said Siddharth, a member of the team which worked on the concept.

The interactive virtual display was among the most praised projects.

Virtual table

"A static image can be displayed in a 3D format. Besides, we have a virtual table which can be used for viewing multiple things simultaneously. For example, a person sitting in a restaurant will be able to read, refer to the menu, play a game and read a book on the same virtual table. It will be market ready by next quarter," explained Chirag Gupta and his team who worked on this concept.

The team has approached DLF Mall, schools, museums, car manufacturers Maruti and Mercedes with the device.

The hydrogen three-wheeler, also showcased at the Auto Expo held in January, attracted the maximum number of visitors.

"One kilogram hydrogen lasts for 83 kilometres and with an increasing speed, the amount of hydrogen required also increases.

"Five passengers can be ferried in this vehicle. We have applied for the patents and have collaborated with Mahindra," said professor L M Das.

Other projects on display include bamboo rickshaws, miniature drug delivery device, bio-gas equipment, fabric feel tester, indoor navigator system for visually impaired named Roshini - among others.

DH News Service
सिविल की मुद्दिकल
शिक्षा सुधारों पर मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिविल को संसद में झटके पर झटके लगे हैं। शिक्षा से जुड़े विषयक पास कराने के लिए उन्हें कहीं से समर्थन नहीं मिल रहा। अब वह एक नई मुसीबत से दो चार हो रहे हैं।
आईआईटी और इंजीनियरिंग में सिविल पर्टिस्ट स्टेट्स पर आईआईटी की फील्ड और स्टाफ ने ही उनके खिलाफ मोदी खिलाफ दिया है।
इसके चलते उन्हें एक नए केंद्रीय शिक्षा सलाहकार बोर्ड और आईआईटी का उपस्थिति किया गया है।
कांस्टेल की बैठक स्थगित करनी पड़ी। दरअसल सिविल उन सूचारों को लापरवाह करना चाहते थे जिनके लिए संसद में जाने की जरूरत नहीं है।
लेकिन यहां भी समय का टोटा पूछा गया है। बहरहाल, अब देखना यह है कि सिविल कैसे जीवन का रास्ता निकालते हैं।

The Tribune ND 22/04/2012

IIT-R rejections on Akash biased, say makers

Ananya Panda/TNS

NEW DELHI, APRIL 21
Amid controversies surrounding supplies of Aakash, the low-cost computing and multimedia device launched last October under the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology, its Canada-based entrepreneur Datawind said rejection of the deliveries by IIT Rajasthan were not based on scientific criteria.

Datawind CEO Sunil Singh Tuli said here, “There were disputes primarily relating to testing criteria. Specifications were very low and we met them as mentioned in the tender. In December, IIT-R brought in military ruggedised criteria that were plagiarised and not part of the tender. Their rejections were biased and had no scientific basis and so we reached out to the HRD ministry for resolving the issues.”

While government decided to transfer the advanced Aakash project to IIT-Mumbai from its Rajasthan counterpart, Datawind retains the project and is in waiting for the purchase order for one lakh upgraded units from IIT-M.

“Government has taken the approval for 50 lakh devices for this budget year (till December) and we are open to bid for fresh tenders,” said Tuli.
Meet the Pulse Boys

SUCCESS STORY As a project at Stanford, duo from India developed news app that has made them millionaires

sundayspecial

Yashwant Raj

Ankit Gupta and Akshay Kothari — from Mumbai and Ahmedabad respectively, ventured out of the school of design, simply called classwork. Within a few months, they were bending over a start-up citi — Apple boss Steve Jobs, and counted by media industry giants such as Rupert Murdoch.

The two Stanford graduates created a visual news reader for phones and tablets that allowed users to aggregate their favourite blogs, websites and newspapers in one place for easy browsing.

Called Pulse, the app shot to the top within days of debuting on Apple’s app store in 2010, helped on possibly by Jobs to endorse the app, leading to a pleasant surprise.

They hadn’t met Jobs until then. And no one at Apple thought of alerting the Pulse boys to the endorsement. They met the great man at a conference hosted by Murdoch to prepare him vast media empire for the digital onslaught. Gupta and Kothari were invited there as speakers.

“Rupert really gets the digital story,” says Kothari. The Wall Street Journal, which he owns, became an early believer, Pulse’s first media partner.

There is a lengthening list of content partners now: Discover Magazine, Gawker, The Huffington Post, The New Yorker, Salon.com, TIME and Vanity Fair.

And here is why: Pulse has 20 million subscribers, and adds a million and half new users every month — that’s one new user every second two seconds. All of that in just two years. It was created as a class project at school, for a course called Lauchpad, which requires students to launch a product — a real product, within 10 weeks.

They are not required to do a market analysis or find a financial model or a business model. Simply launch a product and publish. Gupta and Kothari did that in just five weeks.

“Ankit and I were both news junkies,” says Kothari, adding, “We both grew up reading the morning newspaper every day in India (and watching TV news channels such as CNBC).”

But the entire news experience was changing. They had noticed two interesting trends at Stanford. One, people rarely read news on computers. Most get it from their mobile phones and tablets. Two, newspapers and websites were no longer the only source. People got news from blogs, social networks and others.

They created an app that allowed users to create and curate different websites with different layouts or go through 10 different apps.

The number just doubled.

The two boys from India had a long way to go. Kothari came to the US for college — first Purdue and then Stanford. Gupta is from India.

They are still in their twenties — Kothari is 25 and Gupta is 24.

Are they millionaires already?

The two boys from India had a long way to go. Kothari came to the US for college — first Purdue and then Stanford. Gupta is from India.

They are still in their twenties — Kothari is 25 and Gupta is 24.

Are they millionaires already?

They don’t want to talk about money or what they do at Pulse. More precisely, they do want to talk about Pulse. Albeit, they would say, the company is making money; they prefer to talk about the app itself. They don’t want to talk about money or what they do at Pulse. More precisely, they do want to talk about Pulse. Albeit, they would say, the company is making money; they prefer to talk about the app itself.

Kothari remembers that day well. 2010.

It was November 15, 2010.

The traffic doubled that day. They added in one day as many new users as they had picked up over six months.

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For the Pulse boys, it’s about leaving a mark on the world.

LIVING THE INDO-AMERICAN DREAM, AND STILL ONLY IN THEIR TWENTIES

App developed by Ankit & Akshay shot to the top within days of debuting on Apple’s app store in 2010

24-yr-old MIT dropout creates tablet waiter

Rajat Suri, a 24-year-old MIT dropout, has created a tablet waiter that lets diners take control of their restaurant experience. The table, the called Presto, allows customers to browse restaurant menus, look at pictures of the fare on offer and order without having to wave down a waiter. Suri’s company, E la carte — has 300 restaurants on its list of clients now, including Callel Cafe, a restaurant in Palo Alto in California owned by Charlie Ayers, chef- Owner, time to the Greatful Dead. Apple co-founder Steve Jobs was a frequent his restaurant. HTC, WASHINGTON

FROM LAUNCHPAD TO MURDOCH: THE STORY BEHIND THE PULSE

In their last quarter at Stanford, Ankit and Akshay decided to do a course at the school of design. The course was called Launchpad, which requires students to launch a product within 10 weeks.

They were both interested in creating a product that would serve as a visual news reader for phones and tablets. They decided to work on Pulse, an app that allows users to aggregate their favourite blogs, websites and newspapers in one place for easy browsing.

But when they made it free, they added in one day as many new users as they had picked up over six months. Pulse picked up first round of investments in 2010, $50 million, from some leading media industry investors.

They were even invited by Rupert Murdock to speak at a conference he was hosting.

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We are both news junkies.

We grew up reading the newspaper every day.

Ankit Gupta — Pulse developer

Kothari remembers that day well. 2010.

It was November 15, 2010.

The traffic doubled that day. They added in one day as many new users as they had picked up over six months.

The number just doubled.

The two boys from India had a long way to go. Kothari came to the US for college — first Purdue and then Stanford. Gupta is from India.

They are still in their twenties — Kothari is 25 and Gupta is 24.

Are they millionaires already?

They don’t want to talk about money or what they do at Pulse. More precisely, they do want to talk about Pulse. Albeit, they would say, the company is making money; they prefer to talk about the app itself. They don’t want to talk about money or what they do at Pulse. More precisely, they do want to talk about Pulse. Albeit, they would say, the company is making money; they prefer to talk about the app itself.
Sheer number reason for more Andhra victims

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Of the 1.1 lakh Indian students chasing the education-in-US dream, an estimated 45% are from Andhra Pradesh, followed by Gujarat and Punjab. Those observing the ‘chalo America’ trend, picking up over the last three decades, say that Telugu students figuring invariably as victims in many accidents or murders has less to do with hatred and more with sheer numbers.

K Seshadri Rao, the MBA student shot dead in Boston, hailed from Odisha, but his Telugu name had many in Hyderabad noting that their community’s resolve to ensure that at least one child from the family makes it to the US has added to student numbers hailing from the state. That one in every four households has a son or a daughter studying in the US is so often repeated that it has almost become a proverbial reality. Education consultants say it’s not just an estimate. “Almost half of the total number of students studying in the US is from Andhra Pradesh. Obviously if there is crime involving an Indian national, the probability of a Telugu student getting targeted is much higher,” says a consultant.

V Venkatramanna, dean, school of management studies, University of Hyderabad, points out how these are crimes rooted in numbers and not hatred. Not referring to the Seshadri Rao case but speaking of the massive numbers landing in the US year after year for higher education or jobs, he said, “AP produces a lot of IIT graduates and it is only a natural progression that these graduates get into IT companies and often settle in the Bay Area. The rise (in numbers) has been phenomenal post-eighties. Add to that the great middle class aspiration (of doing well). We became an abundant supplier of talent.”

Ramana Reddy, special secretary and in-charge for NRI affairs, says that the attacks are not region specific. During the last two to three years, Reddy says that around 10 students/professionals from AP have been shot dead abroad. She says the number of students going abroad for higher studies are increasing and especially to the US ever since the US Consulate was set up in Hyderabad.