Newspaper Clips
December 14-16, 2016

December 16

Amar Ujala ND 16.12.2016 P-08

आईआईटी में पीजी एजुकेशन
रिसर्च की फीस बढ़ेगी
काउंसिल ने कमेटी गठित की, जल्द आएगी रिपोर्ट

सरकारी कंपनियां भी देगी जॉब

विदेश जाने वालों की संख्या कम

चुका है। अब आर्थिक संसाधन बढ़ाने का दबाव पड़ा है। इसका
रास्ता निकालने की कोशिश चल
रही है। इसी क्रम में ही बीटेक, बीएस, एमएस, एमएस, एमबी, और
पीएससी की फीस कम हो गई है। अब बुधवार के 10 तारीख के लिए चली जा रही है। 90
पीएससी की योग्यता के लिए स्थापित विशेष आयोग बनाया गया है।

अब विदेश से आने वाले विद्यार्थी अधिक जापान बढ़ेगा है। इसका
कारण क्रम की आकर्षण बढ़ाने का प्रयास है।

IIM-A gets ₹190-cr funding for research, infra

One challenge is raising funds, the other lies in effectively deploying them. “We raised funds for Chairs but then we have to ensure the Chairs are assumed by internal or external individuals who various stakeholders feel are sufficiently qualified,” said Nanda. Finding people who are highly qualified and are willing and able to grace those Chairs is not easy at all. After almost a year-and-a-half of intense effort, we have been able to fill only four of them. We are continuing our efforts,” Nanda said.

IIM-A has also been raising money from its alumni, many of whom have excelled in corporate life. “Our alumni have contributed individually, or through their organizations, to all three initiatives of supporting research, student life, and infrastructure. I would particularly like to acknowledge our alumni’s growing contributions to the extremely challenging and important project of conservation and restoration of our heritage buildings,” said Nanda.

New IMCs opening on six new IIMs being added and its impact on the IIM brand, Nanda said, “for a country with a growing economy and young demography there is tremendous need for high quality institutions of higher learning. But, the question is whether capacity should be added exclusively by building new institutions or whether we should also look at ramping up existing institutions. Building a new institution is challenging. The easier part is getting land and erecting the buildings. Academic institutions are much more than just physical infrastructure. The challenging part is building a vibrant educational environment with good faculty, eager students, and an atmosphere of learning. You cannot compensate time beyond a point to achieve quality.”

Nanda said academic institutions require a minimum scale to be vibrant. “Even at IIMA we are sub-scale. Our student population is close to 1,000 full-time students and the faculty strength is just under 100. Take Harvard or Wharton, where full-time student strength is over 2,000 and faculty is over 300. Their greater scale brings efficiencies and benefits. Administrative fixed costs are distributed over a larger size, making our student to faculty ratio smaller. Faculty size is larger, allowing faculty members to bounce ideas off, and collaborate with, colleagues in their area of specialisation,” he said.

December 15, 2016


IIT to search for faculty from Ivy League universities

New Delhi: The Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi is going to conduct road shows in various Ivy League universities across the United States from February 2017 to get the faculty to bring world-class quality to its teaching methods.

“A delegation of deans and heads of different departments will go to Ivy League institutes in the east coast, and to institutes in other US cities, to hire graduating students as faculty members in IIT-D,” said an IIT official. The delegation also plans to interview a few PhD candidates over Skype and then travel to meet them personally: They have been coordinating with various institutions, and getting information about scholars who are finishing their academic work. Post the relaxation of norms by the Government in recruitment of the foreign faculty in IITs, they can work as contractual employees for five years in India’s IITs. The contract is renewable and though they are not offered permanent positions, they get paid at par with faculty members in India. SR
Drawing Water Out of Thin Air

Devices that capture water from the atmosphere are common, but an IIT team is developing one that would perform the task faster and at an absurdly low cost, writes Hari Pulakkat

The trick is to make the air itself a reservoir. The atmosphere has more water than all of the world's oceans and lakes combined. Water is not simply an abundant resource; it is the single most abundant substance on the planet. Yet, we still face water scarcity on a global scale.

The idea is to create a net that can suck up water vapor from the atmosphere. The net captures the water vapor in a liquid form and can then be collected and used for various purposes, such as drinking water, irrigation, or even to produce power.

The biggest challenge in creating such a net is the cost. Current technologies require expensive materials and complex designs, which makes them unaffordable for most people. However, the IIT team is working on a simpler, cheaper solution.

The proposed design is a simple, lightweight material that can be easily scaled up to capture large amounts of water. The material is made of a combination of polyurethane and a special type of polymer that can absorb water vapor.

The team has already tested the material in a laboratory setting and found that it can capture water vapor at rates comparable to the best available technologies.

The next step is to test the material in real-world conditions and see how well it performs in different environments. If the results are promising, the team plans to scale up the technology and develop a commercial product.

Making water from thin air is not only a practical solution to water scarcity, but it also has the potential to help combat climate change. As the atmosphere warms, the oceans become more saline, and the water cycle becomes more efficient, leading to higher evaporation rates.

By capturing water from the atmosphere, we can help to reduce the demand for freshwater, which is a valuable resource in many parts of the world. The technology has the potential to be a game-changer, and the IIT team is working hard to make it a reality.

Economic Times ND 15.12.2016 P-20

Economic Times ND 15.12.2016 P-20

Making water at 14 paise a litre is a challenge that requires deep science and engineering. Engineers will have to apply knowldege from many fields and try to make the materials cheaply.
Fabled Esops no Longer Tell Fairy Tales at IITs

Stock options for overseas posts shrink by up to 75%

New Delhi: Foreign recruiters at the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) have slashed the value of stock options by up to three-fourths for overseas posts this placement season. Companies aren’t using such sweeteners to the extent of last year following the shift to an employer’s market from one in which candidates had greater clout, said experts and people at the country’s premier engineering schools.

Employee stock options on offer are down from Rs1 crore to a fourth of that figure on average at IITs in Kharagpur, Guwahati, Varanasi (Banaras Hindu University) and Roorkee. As a result, top salaries for global postings are at about Rs1.2 crore on average inclusive of base pay, stock options and bonuses compared with over Rs2.3 crore last year offered by the likes of Google and Oracle.

“The talent market has shifted from the employment of a year ago in favour of the employer,” said Anandorap Ghose, partner, talent and rewards, Aon Hewitt. “Globally, Esops are not being doled out by companies as easily as last year to attract talent and this is what we are seeing at the IIT campuses too.”

Compensation levels for international profiles have declined, said NP Padhy, IIT-Roorkee’s professor in charge of placement.

“The highest international offer is down from last year. This could be due to large component of Esops offered by companies till last year,” he said.

With Google skipping placements this year, the scramble for talent has eased, said a faculty member at IIT-Kharagpur in charge of placement who did not wish to be named.

‘Not Right Yardstick to Judge Placements’

From Page 1

“The highest international offers by Oracle this year included only about 1,000 stock units compared to over 4,000 stock units last year,” said an official at the IIT BHU (Banaras Hindu University) placement cell. Google and Oracle have in the past offered options worth about Rs1 crore to new IIT recruits.

Among top international recruiters at IITs this year are Uber, Microsoft and Oracle.

“The CTC (cost to company) this year among the international offers has just crossed Rs1.2 crore this year (inclusive of bonuses and stock options),” said Padhy. However, added that top international offers weren’t the right yardstick by which to judge how well placements were progressing.

“Struggling global economy, uncertainty over work permits visas and policy announcements around protectionism have possibly resulted in corporates being wary of offering international placements in high numbers,” said Rohin Kapoor, director at Deloitte.

While students were disappointed, the schools don’t take into account stock options while considering offers. “IIT Bombay considers only the base salary component. Valuation of ESOps, bonus etc. is considered in addition to the minimum base salary,” said a faculty member who’s part of IIT Bombay placement cell.
Nav Bharat Times ND 14.12.2016 P-15

आधार के बिना एज्जाम अब मुश्किल!

■ एमजी, नई दिल्ली: संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा (जेऐई) में आधार कार्ड की अनिवार्यता बनाने के बाद सरकार अन्य प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं में भी इस अनिवार्यता करने पर विचार कर रही है। फिर हाल आईआईटी जेईई में आधार कार्ड को जरूरी कर दिया गया है।

एनआरडी मिनिस्टर प्रकाश जावडेकर ने सोमवार को कहा कि आधार कार्ड को जल्द ही अन्य परीक्षा के लिए अनिवार्य कर दिया जाएगा। सरकार का यह कदम परीक्षा में होने वाली घोषणा को रोक देगा। इसके अलावा सरकार प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं में अन्य सूचना की योजना भी बनी रही है। जेईई योजना बना रहा है कि जिन परीक्षाओं को अब तक सीबीएसई करवाता आ रहा है अब उन सभी परीक्षाओं को विशेषता पर एक अलग संस्था 'राष्ट्रीय परीक्षण संस्थान' करवाएगा। 2017 में होने वाली आईआईटी मैन और एनआईटी परीक्षा में असम, मेघालय और जमु-जमू-कश्मीर को छोड़कर पूरे देश में जेईई की परीक्षा में आधार को अनिवार्य कर दिया गया है।
MobiKwik to power digital payments at JNU, IIT-Delhi

Digital payments platform MobiKwik said it has partnered with entities across the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT), Delhi to help college students pay for daily meals and basic amenities at the campus using its mobile wallet. "We are proud to support India's leading universities, where students from across the world come to study. Our association will facilitate digital payments for students, making their life hassle-free," MobiKwik chief operating officer Mrinal Sinha said.