New Delhi: In what could be the first real proof that reviving the Yamuna in Delhi is possible, India and Netherlands have joined hands for cleaning of the Barapullah drain, responsible for nearly one-third of the waste that is dumped into the river which courses through the capital.

Not just that. The focus will also be on generating safe water from sewage streams for use in areas like agriculture, relieving somewhat the water scarcity that dogs the city.

The idea is to make the project functional in three years. It is expected the project will reach its full capacity within five years when it will also be able to produce bio-gas and generate water for agricultural use. Under the project, a pilot sewage treatment plant (STP) will be set up and operated along the drain near Surai Kale Khan with the support of the Dutch and the Indian consortium.

Scientists from IIT, Delhi will be part of the project.

The practical expertise generated through this pilot plant will be focused on finding cost effective local solutions and adapt state-of-the-art Dutch technology to Indian conditions for the cleaning of the drain. The technologies will further be developed to generate safe water for reuse. “This is a very ambitious project and I am really hopeful that this will reap good results in a very short time”, said K Vijay Raghavan, secretary of the department of biotechnology (DBT), ministry of science and technology.

He said, “What we are experimenting with is to use a decentralised approach towards sewage treatment plants as well as implement new technologies”.

The project is part of a collaboration between the DBT and the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research and Technology Foundation. Scientists from both the countries already had a two-day workshop on the project here recently when they discussed the time-line and logistics. The estimated cost of the project is around Rs 21 crore.

Focus on the Barapullah drain through such joint venture is, however, just a component of a larger plan to clean the river Yamuna by the government. There are 21 major wastewater drains in the capital. Eighteen out of the twenty empty their waste into the Yamuna while the remaining three join the Agro-Gurgaon canal.

Najafgarh and Shahadara are the other two other big drains which open into the Yamuna in Delhi where the river traverses a distance of about 46 kilometres.

War on Filth
India, the Netherlands join hands for cleaning Barapullah drain

This 12.5km-long drain is responsible for about 30% of pollution in the Yamuna river

Mainly domestic sewage

war on filth

Newspaper Clips

December 20, 2016

India, Holland tie up to clean Barapullah drain

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Mainly domestic sewage

Times Of India ND 20.12.2016 P-1

Economic Times ND 20.12.2016 P-06

IIT Alumni will have ₹1,000 cr for Your Big Idea Soon

Top Fund

Fund to focus on social impact enterprises and startup ecosystem

It will take 18 months to create fund

Will raise the fund through alliances with financial institutions and IIT-alums

The fund will have a significant focus on entrepreneurs coming out of various IITs

Mugdha.Varyiar
@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru: Pan-IIT Alumni India, the alumni body of the Indian Institutes of Technology, is working on setting up a ₹1,000 crore venture capital fund to focus on social impact enterprises and the startup ecosystem. This will be the first such VC fund by the association.

The group will raise the fund through several avenues including alliances with financial institutions and will also tap its large network of IIT-alums, Ashok Madhukar, chairman of Pan-IIT Alumni India, told ET. He said it will take about 18 months to create the fund.

“This is a need-based intervention to support startups and sector development. The probable investor profile will take shape by end of March 2017,” Madhukar said.

“The VC fund will be part of a larger enterprise development programme that we are kicking off soon. Through this programme, we will support networking, entrepreneurship and access to finance among other things,” Madhukar said, adding that the programme is expected to kick off from April.

The fund will have a significant focus on entrepreneurs coming out of ITIs. Several other VC funds such as that of the IvyCap Ventures have placed almost exclusive focus on startups founded by alumni of premier education institutions, mainly the IITs and IIMs.

SUPPORT NEEDED

This is a need-based intervention to support startups and sector development

ASHOK MADHUKAR
Chairman, Pan-IIT Alumni India

As part of its other programmes, the IIT alumni group will also start a knowledge centre in Chennai to create a matrix database of all technology solutions available in different areas, both from the government and from the private sector, which Madhukar said will help the Pan-IIT Alumni to act as a “knowledge intelligence bridge” between technologies and needs of entrepreneurs.

The group is also working with Saurabh Chandra, former secretary of the department of industrial policy and promotion (DIPP), who is also an IIT alumnus, to create a compendium that will include all startup-related initiatives and incentives by the government.

“Startups are not taking enough advantage of all the benefits that the government is offering. It is because there is a huge gap in terms of information,” Chandra said. “The compendium will act as a clearing house for information on any startup-related policy.”

The first draft of the compendium is likely to be ready by March.

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Dainik Bhaskar ND 20.12.2016 P-14

जेईए मेन 2017 का आयोजन पहली बार बांग्लादेश की राजधानी ढाका में भी होगा  
मॉक टेस्ट भी जारी किया

फाइल फोटो: सुशील सिंह  / राजस्थान

सीबीएसी की ओर से इंटरनेशनल संस्थाओं में प्रवेश के लिए आयोजित की जाने वाली जेईए मेन 2017 का आयोजन पहली बार बांग्लादेश की राजधानी ढाका में भी किया जाएगा। अब देश के बाहर परीक्षा आयोजन ढाका में भी होगा।

सीबीएसी की ओर से इस परीक्षा के लिए तैयारी जारी है। 2 जनवरी को बांग्लादेश आजस्थान किया गया था। इसके बाद सीबीएसी ने इस परीक्षा के लिए बांग्लादेश की सेवाएं बढ़ाकर 2018 में इस प्रकार के परीक्षाओं को आयोजित किया जाएगा।

Business Standard( हिंदी ) 20.12.2016 P-05
Hindustan Times ND 20.12.2016 P-08

Engg colleges taking old notes under scanner

HRD MINISTRY IS PROMOTING CASHLESS TRANSACTIONS IN ALL INSTITUTES, INCLUDING IITs AND NITs, IN LINE WITH DEMONETISATION MOVE

the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the regulator that grants approvals to engineering institutes, to investigate.

The income tax department will be alerted too.

The AICTE rules don’t allow institutes to collect advance fee.

The regulator decided at a meeting recently that action would be taken against any institute, including penal action such as derecognition, if found guilty.

There are close to 3,000 private engineering institutes in the country offering diploma, BTech, MTech and allied courses. Fee in such colleges ranges between ₹1 and ₹2 lakh a year.

A source said income tax authorities will step in to initiate action against violators.

“It is a clear case of collusion between the person offering to give advance fee and the institute accepting the money. Income tax officials will check their accounts.”

The regulator is planning to open a complaint cell page on its website for people to report such cases.

The Narendra Modi government’s shock decision in November to recall the two high-value notes has prompted tax dodgers to look for channels in which the old bills could be given legal validity.

Tax sleuths and law-enforcement agencies were conducting regular checks to prevent such activities.

The HRD ministry is promoting cashless transactions in all institutes, including IITs and NITs, in line with the government’s demonetisation move.

Rajasthan Patrika ND 20.12.2016 P-12

शेरों के हमले सोकने को आईआईटी आया आगे

आहमदाबाद, विद्यापीठ में एशियाई शेरों की एकमात्र सरासरी गृहस्थ के साथ हाथ खाते में पकड़े गए और शेरों के तीनों नक्सली नक्सली को हमला करने की बढ़ती चलनामों को देखने के लिए भारतीय प्रदेश में संस्थान गांधीनगर (आईआईटी-गांधीनगर)

आया आगे है। आईआईटी-गांधीनगर के वैज्ञानिक ऑफिस टेक्नोलॉजियों (बैकट) के अधिक खर्च (फाइनल ईंग) के बीच एक शेर देसडला ने पकड़ा जन निपटना और गिर अधिकार प्रशासन के साथ मिलकर इसकी योजना बनानी शुरू की है। गृहस्थ का कहना है कि शेर न शेरियां ने हमलों की घटनाएं ज्यादातर गांवों में सामने आयी है। इसका मुख्य वजह है इसका देश बाहर है इस का गिर अधिकार व एशियाई शेरों के पाये जाने वाले हानि में पानी की खाल. पानी को तन्तु होने के बजाय ही शेर शेरियां गांवों की बांस की ओर रूढ़ि लेने लगे हैं। ऐसा नहीं है कि गिर अधिकार व एशियाई शेरों के पाये जाने वाले हानि में पानी के लिए वजह नहीं की रही है।

कूर्तिब बांच सी स्थलों पर पानी की उपलब्धता को सुनिश्चित किया है।
After one month of radio silence, the ground station at the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, received a signal from Pratham satellite on the morning of December 17, suggesting that it was still alive and kicking. Pratham is the first satellite to be sent into space by an IIT.

The satellite had received signals in the first few weeks after its launch on September 26, this year, but had gone quiet in November, due to technical difficulties, causing team members to worry if it was still operational.

"The fact that we received a signal on Saturday suggests that the satellite has now stabilized and is back to collecting data," said Ratnesh Mishra, project manager of Pratham. While Mishra says that the incoming signal means that the satellite is functional, data transfer is yet to take place.

The signal was also received by Ham communities across the world including in the Netherlands, Chicago, Brazil, and Indonesia.

What is Pratham?

The satellite, the brainchild of two former aerospace engineering students, Saptarsi Bandyopadhyay and Shashank Tamaskar, was conceived in 2008 and since its inception, has had seven batches handle its project team. It was launched on an Indian Space Research Organization's (ISRO) launch vehicle from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, on September 26, 2016.

Eight members of the project team's 30 handle the ground station, which was built inside the Department of Aerospace Engineering building. The team of eight is responsible for monitoring the movement of the satellite roundthe-clock. The satellite passes over the ground station at least twice a day (usually in the morning) and this is when data will get uploaded. All the data will be made available to the scientific community on their official website: http://www.aero.iitb.ac.in/pratham

The scientific objective of the payload of the 10-kg satellite is to measure the TEC (Total Electron Count) of the ionosphere, which in turn, will help give more accurate predictions of GPS (Global Positioning System) data. As electrons interfere with the GPS system, obtaining their count will help improve the accuracy of the system.