Skip UG, do PG with diploma from polytechnic?

ON CARDS Sibal meets state counterparts today to discuss a proposal recommended by a ministry panel

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NEW DELHI: Chances are high that advanced diplomas from polytechnics could be treated at par with standard undergraduate degrees from universities. The process for this is set to kick start when the human resource development ministry (HRD) unveils a proposal before the states on Thursday.

Finalised by an HRD ministry panel, the National Vocational Education Qualification Framework (NVEQF) outlines a strategy that will allow students of non-formal education institutes to enter formal higher education without spending years playing catch-up.

HRD minister Kapil Sibal is expected to discuss the NVEQF blueprint on Thursday in his meeting with state education ministers.

Under the proposed NVEQF, students who did an advanced diploma from recognised polytechnics will be treated qualified at par with those holding traditional university undergraduate degrees, sources in the ministry said.

At present, the non-formal and formal systems of education work parallel to each other with no intersection, meaning that students of one system cannot shift mid-way to the other. The NVEQF will change that, a source explained.

A polytechnic student who obtains an advanced diploma after first obtaining a basic diploma at present cannot apply for jobs requiring an undergraduate degree as a qualification.

These students also need to study and obtain an undergraduate degree before they can apply for a postgraduate programme at present.

Under the proposed NVEQF, these students will no longer need to obtain UG degrees to study PG courses or to be eligible for jobs requiring UG degrees as a qualification.

The qualification framework also proposes linkages between Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and polytechnics, and between students of vocational courses in classes XI and XII, and students of formal education in high school.
Mom’s marrow to treat babies in womb

In A First, Experts Transplant Stem Cells In Fetuses To Cure Blood Diseases

London: Scientists, including an Indian-origin researcher, claim to have developed a "miracle" stem cell treatment which uses mothers' bone marrow to cure deadly blood diseases in babies who are still in the womb.

Stem cell transplants into unborn babies have long been a Holy Grail for doctors. Now, Amar Nijagal and colleagues at California University have carried out a research in which they took bone marrow cells from a pregnant mother and injected them into the developing foetus. And, the donor cells were accepted by the foetus' growing immune system without the need for any kind of drugs.

The experiment, carried out on animals, is the first time that scientists have been able to successfully transplant a mother's stem cells into her offspring before birth, the Daily Mail reported.

"This research is really exciting because it offers us a straightforward, elegant solution that makes foetal stem cell transplantation a reachable goal. We now, for the first time, have a viable strategy for treating congenital stem cell disorders before birth," Tipp MacKenzie of the University of California, who led the study, was quoted as saying.

The new research, published in the Journal of Clinical Investigation, found that a mother's immune response prevents foetuses from accepting donor blood stem cells. Up to 10% of the foetus' blood comes from the mother, it showed. When the researchers transplanted stem cells from the mother, the foetus accepted them.

"As long as the transplantated stem cells are matched to the mother, it does not seem to matter if they are matched to the fetus. Transplanting stem cells harvested from the mother makes sense because the mother and her developing fetus are prewired to tolerate each other," said Nijagal.

The scientists now plan to see if the transplanted stem cells work in babies.

Many genetic diseases can be diagnosed in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. And, according to the scientists, if the treatment is successful in humans, the implanted cells could replenish the baby's supply of blood-forming cells.

IIT undergrad course to be research-oriented?

Akshaya Mukul | TN

New Delhi: A high-powered committee under T Ramaswamy, secretary department of science and technology, has recommended that the IIT curriculum at the undergraduate level should change from uniform syllabus to system-based curriculum selection, making it research-oriented.

The IIT Council will discuss the report on Friday. The committee said course content at the undergraduate level does not inspire students to take up research in India. Its report expresses concern at the low level of IIT undergraduates opting for research and says at least 10-15% of them should be brought to do doctoral research in the next five years.

At master's and doctoral level, the report says, IITs should align the curriculum to meet industrial needs without complications. "Since master's and doctoral research activities are generally specific to the institutions and range of faculty strength, alignment to suit location specific needs may be more easily realised," it says, suggesting an interactive portal could be established between IITs and industrial chambers. The portal should have problems faced by industries and students be asked to select research problems for master's and doctoral level research programmes.

The committee has also recommended setting up of a Research Support Technical Cadre. Creation of such a cadre, the report says, will allow IITs to undertake research projects that require continuity. At present undergraduate and research students have to provide R&D support.

SHIFTING FOCUS

The committee has also said that research councils of nine members be set up for each IIT before the next academic year. The council will play an advisory role in selection of research priorities.

Ramaswamy is yet to give the report on reforms in IIT-Joint Entrance Examination. Sources said the committee is working on a percentile-based scheme to bring all state boards on par. The scheme is based on the percentile-based merit list, formed across all the state boards, for department of science and technology's Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) scholarships that go to the top 1% students (up to 99 percentile).

IIT faculty members, however, say such a scheme is good for an INSPIRE merit list, where the decision is either 'qualified' or 'not-qualified'.
Electronic devices pose definite risk to planes

Please don’t forget to switch off your mobile phone and other gadgets when the flight purser tells you to do so while on board an aircraft, for experts say that electronic devices could cause a crash. According to the experts, the operation of cellphones and other portable electronic devices could create a “perfect storm” of interference with sensitive aircraft instruments to cause a crash — and older aircraft are especially vulnerable. Most personal devices transmit a signal and all emit electromagnetic waves which, in theory, could interfere with the plane’s electronics. At the same time, older planes might not have the best protection against the latest devices.

Virus with 40% fatality rate sneaks into India, kills 3

Kounteya Sinha  |  TN

New Delhi: The deadly Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) virus, that kills around 40% of those it infects, is present in all parts of India except Jammu & Kashmir. However, the virus noted by the Union health ministry as “a bio-safety level IV agent” has been present only in animals whom it does not infect. Bio-safety level IV implies a virus being the most dangerous. According to WHO’s latest map on the geographic distribution of CCHF, “virological or serological evidence and vector presence of CCHF” is universally present across India except J&amp;K.

However, for the first time in India, infection caused by this virus has been reported in humans in Gujarat. Known to be transmitted among animals through ticks, the virus has this time killed three people in the state. Speaking to TOI, director general of the Indian Council of Medical Research Dr V M Katoch said, “Research done by National Institute of Virology, Pune, found the virus in animals in several parts of India including Rajasthan. Antibodies against the virus were clearly identified. However, humans have never got infected in India. Natural cycle of this virus is from animal to animal.”

Congo Killer

Humans get infected with CCHF from direct contact with blood or infected tissues

CCHF virus is transmitted to animals through ticks

Symptoms are fever, aching muscles, nausea, vomiting, sore throat, diarrhoea

Mortality is approximately 40%; death occurs in the second week of illness

In 75% of cases, signs of haemorrhage appear within 3-5 days of illness

Calling the human cases “accidental hosts”, Dr Katoch said, “We have to just ensure that the injections used on these infected, or their urine, hospital wards, beds and clothes are properly isolated as it can be contagious only for those in contact with such substances.” Dr Katoch, however, said that “maybe infections by CCHF have been happening and has not been picked up till now. It was just by chance that NIV was contacted by alert state doctors and CCHF was diagnosed. The expert team must find its source.” The ministry report with TOI, says, “There is serological evidence of this infection being present in India in animals who do not get the disease.”

The health ministry received a report from the NIV director on January 10 on the lab investigation of clinical samples of a nurse admitted in Shalby hospital, Ahmedabad, with high grade fever, nausea and vomiting. She was admitted in the same hospital on December 31, 2010 and died on January 3, 2011, of heavy bleeding and multiorgan failure. The attending doctor had also died with the similar sickness. NIV carried out molecular tests for a variety of haemorrhagic fever agents like Nipah, CCHF, KFD, HANTA, Ebola, Marburg and Thottapalayam.
Times of India B`lore 19.01.2011 P-2

IITians to give academic edge to air show

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bangalore: This is just the tonic IITs and Aero India needed. The 2011 edition of Aero India will have students and faculty from at least five IITs presenting their ideas on cutting-edge concepts in aerospace and aircraft development.

IIT-Kanpur is expected to participate, given that it has a strong aerospace department. Students may make presentations on aerfoils and delta-wing and build a model of an aircraft wing. Those of IIT Mumbai are expected to make presentations on miniature aerial vehicles, composites and propulsion related to power and engines. Propulsion is a popular field as engine development in India requires urgent intellectual input. IIT Delhi and IIT Chennai have plans to make presentations on aerospace at the event.

Defence officials confirmed that IITs had approached them to participate in the Aero India. "Many engineering students are coming to the show and we can expect exclusive sessions on aerospace," officials said.

"We want our students to get first-hand feel of the aero show. This will be the second time IIT students and faculty will attend the event," defence officials said.

Students and faculty may also be given a ride on one of the largest transport aircraft as part of a live experience. In the 2009 show, the director and officials of NAL and DRDO were flown in C-130J Hercules transport plane.

Times of India Hyderabad
19.01.11 p-5

IIT student’s suicide due to personal reasons: Report

Kanpur: IIT-Kanpur student Madhuri Sale, who belonged to Nalgonda in Andhra Pradesh, and committed suicide in the campus two months ago, took the extreme step owing to personal reasons, a three-member committee probing her death said on Tuesday. The fact-finding committee, however, did not divulge details of any specific reason for the suicide of the final-year B Tech student in civil engineering.

Madhuri Sale had committed suicide on November 17, last year because of reasons which were entirely personal, a statement released by IIT Kanpur said. Sources in the institution said that Madhuri was in love with one of her classmates and disappointment in the relationship might have led to her suicide, a claim that IIT authorities have not commented upon. The committee also suggested a slew of measures to keep in check student suicides in the campus including promoting an open space for more interaction among students and appointment of a woman counsellor for girls students.
Times of India B`lore
19.01.2011 P-17

New IITs hit by poor facilities, says Sibal

Hyderabad: The eight new IITs that were permitted to be set up in 2008 do not have the necessary infrastructure and are not up to the mark, making it difficult for these institutes to retain their faculty, Union HRD minister Kapil Sibal said on Tuesday.

“These new IITs are functioning in temporary campuses and are unable to attract new faculties. Due to the same reason we are finding it difficult to retain faculties. We need commitment from state governments for at least 500 acres of land without any liabilities attached to it,” Sibal said on the sidelines of the Geospatial World Forum.

The minister blamed the state governments for not allotting the required land for setting up permanent campuses. Each institution should have at least 90 teachers from all disciplines. According to reports, most of these IITs do not have the required number of teaching staff. Sibal said the ministry is holding talks with the state governments on the issue of land allocation.

“It is not only the IITs which are suffering. Even the new central universities announced by the Centre are finding it difficult to get land in states,” Sibal told reporters.

In 2008, the Union HRD ministry had announced setting up eight new IITs and seven IIMs along with 30 central and world class universities in the country. AGENCIES
Scientists closing in on Alzheimer's tests

Reuters
Chicago, Jan. 19
US researchers are closing in on tests that can detect biological signs of Alzheimer's disease, an advance that would improve diagnosis and help in the search for treatments for the mind-robbing disease.

A team at Eli Lilly and Co's newly acquired Avidio Radiopharmaceuticals said on Tuesday its imaging agent was highly accurate as detecting a protein linked with Alzheimer's disease in a late-stage clinical trial.

And a study led by Dr. Kristine Yaffe at the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center suggests a blood test could predict if a patient is at risk for dementia years before symptoms occur.

MAPPING OUT BIOMARKERS
Both studies, reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association, focus on biological signs of disease, or biomarkers. They are part of a broad effort by research-}

ters to detect early Alzheimer's, the most common form of dementia.

Alzheimer's affects 26 million people globally and costs $604 billion to treat. It is diagnosed by symptoms, and only confirmed by examining the brain in an autopsy after death.

Avid is leading a three-way race with General Electric Co and Bayer AG to be the first to market an imaging agent that can detect Alzheimer's while people are still alive. This week an advisory panel of the US Food and Drug Administration is reviewing Avid's bid to use the compound to rule out Alzheimer's disease.

Avid's drug, known as Florbetapir F18, works with positron emission tomography, or PET scanners. The chemical sticks to and highlights deposits of beta amyloid, a protein that forms clumps in the brains of people with Alzheimer's.

The company's trial involved gravely ill patients who consented to an autopsy when they died. It aimed to prove that the same clumps of amyloid that showed up on brain scans were present at autopsy in the people who had Alzheimer's.

"It was highly successful," said Dr. Daniel Skovronsky, founder and chief executive of Avid, which was acquired by Eli Lilly in December for up to $800 million.

The PET scans matched autopsy results 96 per cent of the time in 29 people.

If approved, the team said the drug would be used to exclude Alzheimer's from other potentially treatable causes of memory loss like stroke, tumors or depression.

BLOOD TEST?
Yaffe's findings are the latest example of a potential blood test that could be used to screen for early signs of Alzheimer's disease.

Several teams have found that low levels of certain forms of beta amyloid in spinal fluid suggest it is accumulating in the brain, but that involves a spinal tap. Yaffe wanted to see if they could find a similar relationship in the blood.

They studied 997 older, healthy adults who were given blood tests and tests to assess their cognitive ability. The team found that older adults with lower levels of beta amyloid had a higher risk of mental decline over nine years.

But, people in the study who had built up a so-called cognitive reserve by being well-educated and staying mentally active were less likely to develop dementia, the team found.

Yaffe said the findings suggest it may be possible to detect people who are at risk for dementia. And, like many other studies, it suggests mental training activities might be a way to keep dementia at bay.

Can Sibal unravel JEE reform riddle?

MOUSHUMI BASU
NEW DELHI

The fourth IIT council meet , scheduled on Friday and to be chaired by HRD Minister Kapil Sibal, has fuelled speculation on the proposed IIT JEE reforms.

Whether it would be the percentile-based INSPIRE (Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research) scholarship model of the Department of Science and Technology, as proposed by the Ramaswamy committee, or the normalisation scheme based on mean and standard deviation of the XIIth standard marks along with an aptitude test, as per the Acharya committee recommendations, that would eventually be adopted as the final reform is a matter that would be known only after the meeting.

Set up in February 2009 with four IIT directors to suggest JEE reforms, the Acharya committee had submitted an interim report for admission based on the weighted sum of normalised XIIth standard marks along with the SAT (aptitude test) score. This was followed by the setting up of a single-member committee in September 2010 manned by Dr. Ramaswamy, Secretary DST and Member, Board of Governors, IIT Kharagpur to study the percentile score as a merit index in place of normalised marks.

While the experts have felt that neither of the two procedures would actually work in case of IIT JEE, they have also kept their fingers crossed on the agenda of transparency in the Joint Entrance Examinations stressing on its discussion during the meeting, especially after RTI exposures on a series of bunglings and discrepancies conducted in these examinations since 2006.

Questioning the ultimate efficacy of the percentile-based system, experts argued that it may be good for an INSPIRE merit list, where the decision is binary i.e. "qualified" or "not-qualified" and it does not make any difference if a student is at the top of the list or at the bottom.

But in case of engineering admission, the merit list competition is very tough where each and every rank matters for both choice of college as well as choice of engineering discipline.

"Going by the huge number of applicants from the various states of the country, the percentile scores would end up having ties amidst hundreds of candidates, over smallest of fractions of marks reaching up several decimal places," an expert said.

However, the Acharya committee recommendations that were already rejected by many stakeholders including certain IIT Faculties State Board Chiefs, did not go down well with the experts.

They pointed out that the XIIth standard marks cannot effectively be normalised and add-on-tests for IIT are likely to lead into an indiscriminate race amongst other institutes.

The normalisation procedure was thus not feasible and could bring many anomalies with each State board having its own standards for conduct of examinations that vary widely," they added.

According to them, the only solution that emerges in the present situation may be to have a single examination covering Maths, Physics and Chemistry and an aptitude test, for two sets of merit list for State and national levels, respectively.
**IIMA students set up CAT interview helpline for aspirants**

At www.askthestudents.org, students of first year PGP will answer queries on interview process, submission of documents and life at IIMA.

**Ahmedabad Mirror Bureau**

IIMA students have set up an online helpline which was conceptualised last year to help candidates shortlisted by the institute for the interview process. The basic idea is to offer guidance to those shortlisted for the premier B-school's selection process.

Last year, the online portal saw a flurry of queries since its launch, in just five days of its launch, 'Ask the Students' had received hundreds of e-mails from CAT applicants picked for interviews for admission to IIMA.

The mentorship shall be through the web portal: www.askthestudents.org.

The students shall respond to the frequently asked queries on this blog. The more personal queries will be replied to the candidates personally. While the mentorship programme for the Post Graduate Programme in Management would be co-ordinated by Paramjeet Singh Bhasin, Pratik Mukherjee, Rahul Madihavan, Rohit Gupta, Raghu Manoharan and Nishant Farajpalli, the same for PGP-Agril Business Management would be done by Abhinav Bhalla.

The co-ordinators have been chosen from diverse backgrounds to ensure a fair treatment of queries pertaining to various domains.

Paramjeet Singh Bhasin, PGP1 student said: “While the same portal was used last year, this time the students intend to come up with an FAQ document as well. It would be prepared based on the common queries received over the last few years.”

Media cell secretary Glen D'Silva, said, “We had started this system for the first time last year and the responses from the candidates were really encouraging. We are happy that the PGP1 students have taken up the initiative this year as well and we hope a lot of candidates will benefit from this.”

The usual queries leading up to the second stage of admissions include those about the essay and interview process, steps to be taken in case of clash of interview dates, submission of supporting documents such as degree certificates, caste certificates etc. or in general, about life at IIMA.

The students would also invite feedback from the aspirants to facilitate a smooth mentorship process.

The most common queries relate to logistics, travel and accommodation.

Glen said: “This is solely a student initiative programme and the replies would be based on student experiences of the process last year and are in no way indicative of the process this year.”

“When we got our interview calls, we had many apprehensions. There was no such helpline at that time,” D'Silva had said.

**Indian Express Mumbai 19.01.2011 P-7**

**CBI puts IIT-Bhubaneswar in the dock**

**Arunabh Yechury**

New Delhi, January 18

SURPRISE inspections by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) at IIT Bhubaneswar, in November last year, have established that prima facie all allegations against the institute on improper purchases of equipment are true. The CBI, it is learnt, has recommended to the Union Human Resource Development Ministry that the matter be referred to them in the light of their findings.

The institution's director and four faculty members have been alleged to have played a role in the floating of government rules while making these purchases. The Indian Express has reported how complaints made last year to the ministry claimed that the IIT had bought six types of high-tech equipment from one single Indian agent, skipping the tender system, despite the fact that there are a number of manufacturers of the same equipment. As per government norms, purchases should be tender-based bidding processes to get a fair price.

Continuous Surface Wave system meant for soil testing and Ground Penetrating Radar sensors and software were bought through the Indian agent and lab testing firm, M/s AIMIL. Shake Tables used for seismic research were also sourced on a proprietary basis, despite the fact that there are 10-12 manufacturers of this equipment. Pile Testing equipment from Holland-based Profound TNO was bought through AIMIL. Non-Destructive Testing equipment worth Rs 4.66 crore was bought from Copenhagen-based Germanium Instruments through the same agent, though there are 15 manufacturers of the equipment. Material Testing equipment was sourced on proprietary basis through AIMIL, though there are some 30-40 Indian and global manufacturers of the same.

Cyclic Triaxial Testing Machine was sourced from the UK based M/S GDS instruments through AIMIL. CBI has revealed that no open tender was invited and that the equipment was bought from a single source, terming them proprietary items. The tender inquiry was directly sent by the user department to the supplier without any assigned justification for doing so. The inspections have revealed that no approval of the director is on record for sending such a tender inquiry to the supplier. No proprietary article certificate was taken from the procuring officer or price approval taken from competent authority prior to sending a tender inquiry to the supplier, which is in contravention of the single tender inquiry method as per government rule.

Set up two years ago, the IIT has come under the scrutiny of two parallel inquiries being initiated by the CBI and ministry’s vigilance wing. The IIT has claimed that these purchases were made to furnish its laboratories and it followed the same procedure as its mentor institute, IIT Kharagpur. The CBI has said that IIT Bhubaneswar, could not produce any document to corroborate the same.
IIT student's suicide due to 'personal reasons'

KANPUR, PTI: IIT-Kanpur student Madhuri Sale, who committed suicide in the campus, took the extreme step owing to personal reasons, a three-member committee probing her death said on Tuesday.

The Fact Finding Report, submitted this evening, however, did not divulge details of any specific reason for the suicide of the final year BTech student in civil engineering.

"Madhuri Sale, had committed suicide on November 17, 2010, because of reasons which were entirely personal," an IIT statement said.

Sources in the institution said Sale was in love with one of her classmates and disappointment in the relationship may have led to her suicide, a claim that IIT authorities have not commented upon.

The committee also suggested a slew of measures to keep in check student suicides in the campus, including promoting an 'open space' for more interaction among students to share their problems and appointing a woman counsellor in the counselling cell for girl students.

IIT-K Registrar Sanjeev Kashalkar said a separate woman counsellor was already there in the campus.

The 'open space' concept would be looked into, he said.

Sale's suicide came to light when her friends suspected something wrong as she did not respond to repeated knockings. When they peeped inside her room, they found her hanging.
आईआईटी की सभी कमेटियों की रिपोर्ट एक जैसी!

कानपुर: चित्तौद्गांव राजस्थान में विद्युत तेलनी उद्योगों में से एक की चालू में आईआईटी कानपुर में आईआईटी कदम के दर्शन का आयोजन। इस आयोजन के लिए विभिन्न तेलनी सहलियों को भाग लेने का आयोजन। इस आयोजन के लिए विभिन्न तेलनी सहलियों को भाग लेने का आयोजन।

विभिन्न तेलनी सहलियों को भाग लेने का आयोजन।

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Hamara Mahanagar ND 20/01/2011
p-8

आईआईटी में आत्महत्याओं का मामला
सभी कमेटियों की जांच रिपोर्ट एक जैसी
एजेंसी

कानपुर

देश के सबसे प्रमुख तकनीकी संस्थाओं में से एक माने जाने वाले आईआईटी कानपुर में पिछले पांच साल में आठ छात्र छात्राओं के आत्महत्या के मामलों में गठित सभी तथ्यांकेन्द्रित समितियों की रिपोर्ट एक समान रही और सभी में कहा गया कि छात्रों ने आत्महत्या अपने व्यक्तिगत कारणों से परेशान होकर की। आईआईटी प्रशासन से जब आत्महत्या के इन व्यक्तिगत कारणों के बावजूद पूछा गया तो संस्थान के किसी अधिकारी या इन समितियों के किसी सदस्य के पास इसका जवाब नहीं मिला। इस मामले में अधिकारियों ने यह कह कर अपना पत्ता झार लिया कि यह व्यक्तिगत कारण महिलाओं को नहीं बताए जा सकते।

मंगलवार शाम आईआईटी कानपुर ने 17 नवंबर को आत्महत्या करने वाले 11 छात्रों को छात्र वीडियो देखने के कारण की जांच के लिए तथ्यांकेन्द्रित रिपोर्ट जारी की है। इस रिपोर्ट में भी आत्महत्या का कारण व्यक्तिगत ही बताया गया। यह पूछने पर कि परिस्थितियों का कारण क्या हो सकते हैं, कोई भी अधिकारी या छात्र खोलने को तैयार नहीं है।

इस संस्थान के छात्रों के मूलभूत माधुरी ने प्रेम में असफल होने के कारण आत्महत्या की। इस बारे में जब ‘आईआईटी’ के अधिकारियों से पूछा गया तो उन्होंने न तो इसका जवाब हां में दिया और न ही ना में। आईआईटी अधिकारियों का कहना था कि अंब माधुरी की आत्महत्या के लिए गठित तथ्यांकेन्द्रित समिति को रिपोर्ट आ गई है और अब इसको पाइल बंद कर दी गई है। इसके साथ ही आईआईटी में काउंसलिंग प्रॉग्राम को और प्रमुख किया जाए तथा छात्राओं में भी काउंसलर को नियुक्त होता है कारण छात्राओं के किसी भी विधार्थी को तो परेशानीय या उलझन हो तो वह उसे उनके साथ बांट सकें। इसके अलावा संस्थान में छात्रों के लिए अलग से महिला काउंसलर हो।
आईआईटी में गरीब छात्रों का खर्च देगा केंद्र

नई दिल्ली (व्यूरो)। भारतीय प्रोफेसरों की संस्थानों (आईआईटी) में पढ़ने वाले कामजोर छात्रों का खर्च सरकार उठाएगी। मनन संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के सूचना के मुताबिक सामाजिक और आर्थिक रूप से पिछड़े बच्चे आईआईटी में प्रेजेंशन अथवा पोस्ट प्रेजेंशन स्तर की पढ़ाई जारी रख सकें यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए उन्हें स्कालरशिप और फेलोशिप देने को तैयारी है। इस आयोजन के प्रस्ताव पर 21 जनवरी को आईआईटी काउंसिल की बैठक में मुहर लगाने की संभावना है। सरकार चाहती है कि उच्च और तकनीकी शिक्षा का व्यापक प्रसार हो और समाज का हर भाग सही हासिल कर सके। इसके लिए उन्हें आर्थिक मदद देना जरूरी था लिहाजा आईआईटी में फेलोशिप और स्कालरशिप का प्रस्ताव तैयार हुआ। इसके तहत आईआईटी को दिया जाने वाला अनुमोदन अब छात्रवृत्ति के रूप में छात्रों को मिलेगा और उनके जरिए आईआईटी तक पहुंचेगा।
आईआईटी की फीस पांच गुना बढ़ जाए तो?

काकोडकर समिति ने की है सिफारिश

विनियम घाड़ें नई दिल्ली. अगर आईआईटी संस्थानों की फीस पांच गुना बढ़ जाए तो क्या होगा? यकीनी तौर पर छात्रों के अभिभावकों को मुश्किल पेश आएगी, लेकिन इसकी तैयारी कर लेनी चाहिए। सरकार ने अगर अनिल काकोडकर समिति की सिफारिश मान ली तो फीस बढ़ाने का फैसला किया जा सकता है।

आईआईटी-मूंबई के बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स के चेयरमैन काकोडकर की अध्यक्षता वाली समिति ने सरकार से अभी 50 हज़ार से छाई लाख फीस देश के 15 आईआईटी में इसके बीएटी पाठ्यक्रमों के लिए 50 हज़ार से छाई लाख तक फीस ली जाती है। जबकि आईआईएन में इसी स्तर पर तीन से छाई छह लाख फीस वसूली जाती है। समिति एमटीक के स्तर पर फीस बढ़ाने के पक्ष में वहीं है।

सब्सिडी की व्यवस्था को खत्म करने को कहा है। इसके बजाय फीस बढ़ाने से संस्थान की आय बढ़ाई जाएगी।