New Delhi: Asian universities have gained significant ground at the expense of their Western counterparts, but Indian universities are not part of the success story. Data from the latest edition of the Quacquarelli Symonds university rankings reveals there are 17% more Asian universities in the top 300 of the world university rankings but nine of the top 10 Indian institutions have slipped in their rankings since last year.

The Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi has dropped from the 96th rank in 2012 to 128 this year; IIT-Bombay has come down from 94 to 228, IIT-Madras ranks 110 down four places from 194, and IIT-Kharagpur has dropped by two places to 50, and IIT-Roorkee by one notch to 66.

“The reasons for the declining performance of Indian institutions are a decrease in academic reputation, alongside long-standing issues such as high student-faculty ratios and lack of international engagement,” QS head of research Ben Swooze said.

“While several of the IITs now produce a lot of research, low citation rates suggest it is having a limited impact in global academia,” Swooze added.

QS world university rankings are based on the top 200 universities in the world with the most impact based on research, teaching, employability and internationalization. The QS World University Rankings is widely referenced by prospective and current students, university professionals and governments worldwide. However, these rankings have been disputed by the government.

In comparison to a total of 11 Indian universities that have made it to the top 300 of the world university rankings, there are 71 from Japan, China (69) and Korea (59).

Nurul Quacquarelli, managing director of QS, said, “There are already 17% more Asian universities in the top 300 of the world university rankings since the recession, and the next few decades could see leading US and European universities objectively overtaken.”

“Asian higher education is undergoing a rapid transformation, and Singapore, Hong Kong, China and Korea are at the forefront of the assault on the global academic elite,” said Swooze. “As the cost of studying rises in North America and the UK, Asia is reversing the brain drain by investing in scholarships to attract top students from the West,” Swooze explained.
IIT entrance results on June 23

NEW DELHI: The results of the Indian Institute of Technology (Advanced) examination for the prestigious technical institutes will be announced on June 23. The Joint Entrance Exam (JEE) for admissions to the undergraduate programmes at all the IITs and Indian School of Mines in Dhanbad was held on June 2.

“The results of the JEE (Advanced) 2013 will be announced on Sunday, June 23. Successful candidates need to log in and pick the course choice offered by the IITs and Indian School of Mines from June 24 till June 30,” a release from the IITs said.

“Students can view their answer sheet and marks obtained between June 14 and 17 on the JEE (Advanced) websites of zonal IITs. They can also request for review of specific questions and its marks. They will have to pay Rs.500 for each question reviewed.”

Students willing to join the architecture programme at IITs Roorkee and Kharagpur will have to clean an Architecture Aptitude Test. — PTI
IIT entrance exam result on June 23

NEW DELHI, PTI: The results for IIT (advanced) examination for the prestigious technical institutes will be announced on June 23.

The Joint Entrance Exam for admissions to the undergraduate programmes at all IITs and Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, was held on June 2. "Results of JEE (Advanced)-2013 will be announced on Sunday, June 23. Successful candidates need to log in and give their choices for courses offered by the sixteen IITs and Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, from June 24 till June 30," a release from the IITs said.

The release said the answer key for both Paper-1 and Paper-2 of this exam will be displayed on the JEE (Advanced) websites of zonal IITs on June 11. "The student can view his or her answer sheet and marks obtained between June 14 and 17 at the same website. There will also be a provision for the student to request for review of specific questions and its marks. The student will have to pay a fees of Rs 500 for each question to be reviewed," it said.
जेईई एडवांस की आंसर-की आज से

नई दिल्ली। देश भर में आईआईटी और आईएसएम धनबाद में अंडरग्रेज्युएट प्रोग्राम में दाखिले के लिए 2 जून को आयोजित हुई जेईई-एडवांस की परीक्षा की आंसर-की (उत्तर कुंजी) मंगलवार से ऑनलाइन होगी। इसके आधार पर छात्र अपने स्कोर का अनुमान लगा सकेंगे। उसके बाद गलती होने के लिए आईआईटी रोटेशन भी तैयार करती है।

आईआईटी के यह प्रावधान किया है कि जेईई-एडवांस दें चुके उम्मीदवार किसी एक खास प्रश्न व ऊर्जा की रिव्यू करा सकते हैं। रिव्यू करने के लिए उम्मीदवार को प्रति प्रश्न 500 रुपये का भुगतान करना होगा। उसके बाद गलती में सुधार कर 23 जून को फाइनल रिजल्ट जारी किया जाएगा। पास उम्मीदवारों को कोशिष के लिए अपना विकल्प देने के लिए 16 आईआईटी और आईएसएम धनबाद की वेबसाइट पर 24 जून से 30 जून तक लागू करना होगा। वहीं जो उम्मीदवार आईआईटी रोटेशन करेंगे वह आईआईटी खड़गपुर में बी आर्क में दाखिले के इंचार्क हैं, उन्हें आर्किटेक्ट एपाईट्रूड टेस्ट पास करना होगा।
आईआईटी में दाखिला के लिए 4 जुलाई को जारी होगी पहली लिस्ट

नई दिल्ली | आईआईटी में दाखिले के लिए पहली लिस्ट 4 जुलाई को जारी होगी। इसके आधार पर ही आईआईटीज में सीटों का आवंटन किया जाएगा।
दिल्ली आईआईटी में जेईई के चेयरमैन प्रो. एचसी गुप्ता ने बताया कि 23 जून को जेईई एडवांस परीक्षा का परिणाम घोषित किया जाएगा। उन्होंने बताया कि 2 जून को ली गई जेईई एडवांस परीक्षा की आंसर की 11 जून को आईआईटी की वेबसाइट पर अपलोड कर दी जाएगी। छात्र अपनी आंसरशीट और मार्क्स 14 से 17 जून के बीच देख सकेंगे। अगर किसी छात्र को परीक्षा में गलत अंक मिलने का संदेह हो तो वह रिव्यू के लिए 500 रुपए फीस के साथ आवेदन कर सकता है। आईआईटी में दाखिले के लिए छात्र देश भर की 16 आईआईटी और धनबाद स्थित आईएसएम में ऑनलाइन 24 से 30 जून के बीच कोर्स च्वाइस भर आवेदन करेंगे। जो छात्र बी.एच. प्रोग्राम में दाखिला चाहते हैं, उन्हें आईआईटी रूडकी और आईआईटी खडगपुर में आर्किटेक्चर एप्टीट्यूड टेस्ट क्वालीफाई करना होगा।
Rail Tel’s TCOE at IIT Roorkee

Rail Tel has opened 8th Telecom Center of Excellence at IIT Roorkee to take up R&D activities in the area of 'Broadband Applications and Innovations'. The centre shall be named as Rail Tel IIT Roorkee Center of Excellence in Telecom (RICET).
दिल्ली को एक और यूनिवर्सिटी

दिल्ली। दिल्ली सरकार जल्द दूसरी टेक्नोलॉजिकल यूनिवर्सिटी बनाने जा रही है। नेताजी सुभाष इंटरनेशनल ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजिकल यूनिवर्सिटी (एनएसआईटी) की संस्थापक मंजूरी सोमवार को मुख्यमंत्री शीला दीक्षित की अध्यक्षता वाली केंद्रीय कैबिनेट की बैठक में दी गई। अभी कोई खुलासा नहीं है कि कब तक यह यूनिवर्सिटी चालू होगी।

केंद्रीय कैबिनेट की बैठक में एनएसआईटी को विश्वविद्यालय बनाने को मिली मंजूरी

एनएसआईटी को विश्वविद्यालय बनाने से इसका विरुद्ध होगा। काम की लागत की बढ़ति और शिक्षा की खर्च जरूर बढ़ेगी। राजस्थान और उत्तरप्रदेश के बीच यूनिवर्सिटी की स्थापना का आयोजन बढ़ाने के लिए राजस्थान की सरकार के बीच बैठक की गई।

शीला दीक्षित, मुख्यमंत्री

जा रही है। इस संस्थान में 6 अंडर ग्रेजुएट, 3 पोस्ट ग्रेजुएट और रिसर्च की 2000 सीटें हैं। पाठ्यक्रम इंजीनियरिंग व एप्लिकेंस की शाखाओं के हैं। इसका लाभ शिक्षा की लागत की बढ़ति और शिक्षण की खर्च में बढ़ सकता है।
Ranking of 9 top Indian institutes dips: QS study

11 Indian Schools Make It To Top 300, Japan Has 71

New Delhi: Asian universities have gained significant ground at the expense of their Western counterparts, but Indian varsities are not part of the success saga. Data from the latest edition of the Quacquarelli Symonds university rankings, Asia, reveal that there are 17 more Asian universities in the top 200 of the world university ranking but nine of the top 10 Indian institutions have slipped in their rankings since last year.

The Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi has dropped from the 36th rank in 2012 to 58 this year; IIT-Bombay has come down from 34 to 39; IIT-Madras ranks 49 — down four places from 45 — and IIT-Kharagpur is at 51 from 47. IIT-Kharagpur has dropped two places to 58, and IIT-Houdu by one notch to 60.

The reasons for the declining performance of Indian institutions are a decrease in academic reputation, alongside longstanding issues such as high student-faculty ratio and lack of international engagement,” QS head of research Ben Sowerby said.

While several of the IITs now produce a lot of research, low citation rates suggest it is having a limited impact in global academia,” Sowerby added.

QS world university rankings is one of the respected annual league table for the top 700 universities in the world with the merit list based on research, teaching, employability and internationalisation. The QS World University Rankings is widely referenced by prospective students, university professionals and governments worldwide. However, these rankings have been disputed by the government.

In comparison to a total of 11 Indian universities that have made it to the top 300 of the world university rankings, there are 71 from Japan, China (68) and Korea (53).

Nam Jin Quacquarelli, managing director of QS, said, “There are already 17 more Asian universities in the top 200 of the world university rankings since the recession, and the next two decades could see leading US and European universities objectively overtaken.”

“Asian higher education is undergoing a rapid transformation, and Singapore, Hong Kong, China and Korea are at the forefront of the assault on the global academic elite,” said Sowerby.

We found that a section of teachers have obtained PhD by fraudulent means for securing job or promotion. We have asked the VCs to initiate criminal proceedings against such teachers and simultaneously we have ordered the verification of PhDs obtained by all teachers across the state,” MAHA EDU SCAM

Sanjay Kumar, principal secretary, higher and technical education department, said. During re-verification of documents of certain teachers, it was found that they had obtained PhD from the CMJ University by fraudulent means. “We had sent our official to Shillong for verification. In several cases, it was observed that the teachers had actually purchased the PhDs and had not even done basic subject mentioned in the research paper. We are in the process of identifying all such teachers and criminal action will be taken against them,” a senior official said.

Universities have been asked to term the services of all such teachers with immediate effect.
India’s sub-standard engineering colleges

Engineering education remains IT-focused and needs a broader framework with industry participation.

G. Krishna Kumar

The world’s top 50 universities in engineering and technology in 2013 do not include any Indian institute/college. The Higher Education World Reputation Ranking 2013 of top 100 institutions, has repositioned from all the BRIC countries, except India. We can confidently blame it on bias, or simply ignore the global ranking. While the Government-run institutions have their share of challenges, the private institutes/universities, perceived to be a ray of hope, appear to be less interested in improving quality.

EMPLOYABILITY, A CHALLENGE

Now, let us juxtapose the lack of quality institutions in another dimension — unemployability. There are over 2,500 engineering colleges in the country, producing over 7 lakh graduates every year. Notwithstanding the unpredictability, the IT industry has remained the largest job provider over the past 15-20 years, absorbing about 10-15 per cent of the graduates. Hiring by public sector and non-IT companies, and students pursuing higher education constitute 25-30 per cent. But, that still leaves a significantly large pool of engineering graduates without a proper job. The Industry Readiness Index 2013 surveyed by PurpleLeap, a company that provides skill bridging support for students pursuing engineering courses, indicates that only 10 per cent of the engineers passing out of colleges from Tier 1/2 cities in the country are employable. Even with the intervention programmes, the students struggle, primarily due to poor communication and/or analytical/ problem-solving skills. Even worse, another report states that 30 per cent of the engineers do not have basic quantitative skills required for day-to-day life and entry-level engineering jobs.

India lags way behind China in terms of university research in engineering and technology. China, for example, has three times more enrolment for master’s programmes in engineering and management. India produces 1,000 PhDs annually in technology and engineering, compared to 6,000-9,000 in the US and China. It has to be noted that US and China have large well-funded universities that encourage higher education. The 2011 Kakodkar report emphasises the need for rapid improvement in research infrastructure in India, including the IITs.

So, what needs to be done to improve the situation? It is evident that active involvement and collaboration between government, engineering colleges/universities and industry is vital for improving the quality of engineers.

To fill up the vacant seats in private engineering colleges, the cut-off scores for students seeking admission is being considerably watered-down. Added to this, many private colleges lack the intellectual infrastructure — comprising libraries, broadband connectivity for accessing knowledge resources on the Internet and, most importantly, qualified and knowledgeable faculty. Strict regulatory mechanisms should be implemented to ensure that only institutions with proper infrastructure are allowed to function.

STRONG REGULATIONS

Simple things like monitoring the output from internship/project work should be strengthened. Strict measures are needed for removing the rampant “paid” project work culture that is in vogue. It is appalling to see students get away by outsourcing their work.

The next most important step is to provide a clear road-map for the students with an inclination for research to pursue their interest. This would help in retaining the research-seeking graduates from going abroad. The effectiveness of government-funded schemes to promote research among engineering students through the Modernisation and Removal of Obsolescence (MORDOBS) and the Research Promotion Scheme (RPS) is still unclear.

We need an environment that fosters active partnerships between industry and colleges/universities. In the advanced countries, research work is given high priority among the engineering colleges/universities. The teachers can lead by example and inspire students to pursue research and innovation.

The duration of the engineering course can perhaps be increased by six months or a year. This can help accommodate a sandwich/apprentice programme, which can provide hands-on work experience. For example, today, students get selected for project work/in-plant training through personal contact.

A transparent platform for monitoring and evaluating apprentice programmes should be created by involving industry — including private and public sector, and the universities. The Government’s latest initiative towards skill improvement through the National Vocational Educational Qualification Framework (NVQF) is certainly a good step. However, it may be worthwhile strengthening the existing well-funded National Skill Development Corporation, than creating new initiatives.

LOOK BEYOND IT

Although Nasscom predicts significant requirements in the IT industry over the next decade, it is vital that the Government looks at supporting alternative sectors and creating an efficient platform to manage the demand and supply of engineering graduates.

Reports indicate that manufacturing sector would grow significantly by 2025, fuelled primarily by the emerging economies. This could be an opportunity for India to take on China and emerge as a dominant player in, say, energy or semiconductor sector.

Why can’t Government policies and best practices that helped in rapid growth of the IT industry be replicated in strengthening other sectors? AICTE/universities should upgrade the syllabus to be attuned with industry needs, especially in some of the core areas such as electrical and mechanical engineering.

It is, thus, imperative for the engineering education to grow beyond IT industry. A strong push is needed for strengthening industry-academia interaction in all the major sectors/streams. This would certainly spur innovation/research and help in improving employability among our next-gen engineers.

(please note: the author is Vice-President, Symphony Telecom. The views are personal.)
बिना प्रवेश परीक्षा बीटेक में दाखिला

दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय में कंप्यूटर साइंस, इंटरनेट, इंटेलक्सुल, पैलिम्सर साइंस, इंटरनेट अध्यापकता और साइडलैंसिझक साइडलैंस में अब बीटेक की हदी की मिलती। यह बीटेक एज्यूसल के दूसरे इंजीनियरिंग कार्यालयों और विश्वविद्यालयों से अलग है क्योंकि इसमें दाखिले के लिए अंतर्गत भारतीय सर्वे पर इंजीनियरिंग की प्रवेश परीक्षा पसंद नहीं की। इसमें दाखिला बिना प्रवेश परीक्षा के होगा।

बारहवीं के अंतिम अध्याय पर कट ऑफ हिस्टरिक है। दाखिला मिलेगा।

दाखिले से पहले कमांड दिशा इन प्रामाण्य प्रमाण के अंतिम पहले रजिस्ट्रेशन कराना होगा। इसके बाद कॉलेजों के कट ऑफ का इंडीजर करना होगा।

हालांकि दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय में बारे से कोई लेख नहीं है लेकिन इंस्टीट्यूट के अंतिम चलाए जा रहे ‘बीटेक इंडोर’ और ‘बीटेक इंडोर’ है इन्हीं जीवन में दाखिले के लिए प्रवेश परीक्षा होगी। कम फॉर्म में चार साल में बीटेक करके छात्र इंजीनियरिंग की दृष्टि में अपना करीबकर बना सकते हैं।

कैसा कर्सः

कर्स के बाद दाखिले के अंतर सभी छात्रों को फार्जीटेक्स कार्यक्रम दिया जाता है। ये फार्जीटेक्स कर्स भारत की विश्वविद्यालय से छात्रों को स्वयं करके। इसके बाद इन विषयों के मुख्य पैर दाखिले के अंतर पड़े आएगा। आधिकारिक सार में छात्रों को रिपोर्ट कर्स और प्रोजेक्ट का काम भी करने का दिया जाएगा। छात्रों को जासूसी निकालने के लिए एंजी, हंडी और अभ्यास भाषिक भाषाओं के पैर छोड़ दिए गए हैं। छात्र पैर दिशानिर्देशित कर दिए गए हैं। इसके बाद छात्र पैर मुख्य विषय से टूटकर दूसरे उपयोगिते विषय को चुनकर पढ़े।

कार्स का समेतर में फंड नहीं है। हरार समेतर में ड्राइवर के साथ साथ प्रौद्योगिकीविद्यालयों पर जरूरियत या नियंत्रण या संचालन के पैर दिया जा सकता है। कर्स में विभिन्न सेंटर में इंट्राकार्ट वॉलिंग में दिखाया गया है। इसके इंट्राकार्टोलैंस, पैलिम्सर साइंस, इंटरनेट साइंस और साइडलैंसिझक साइडलैंस में बीटेक कार्स में दाखिले के लिए पहले कॉलेज में दाखिला लेना होगा, यदि इसके बाद एक अधिकारी बनना होगा। कर्स का समेतर में आने को कर्स में दाखिला लेना होगा।

रजिस्ट्रेशन कर्सः

दाखिले के लिए पहले ऑनलाइन या ऑफलाइन रजिस्ट्रेशन 19 जून तक वालया जाएगा। ऑफलाइन के लिए 18 वेबसाइट निर्देश रहेंगे। प्रत्येक कॉलेज के साथ किमत एम्बुलेंस पार्क में रहेंगे। कितने फॉर्म से बीटेक के सभी कॉलेज में आवेदन कर सकते हैं। आवेदन के लिए दूसरा माध्यम ऑनलाइन भी है। दूसरे ऑनलाइन एम्बुलेंस में भी आवेदन कर सकते हैं। इसके बाद, 27 जून तक छात्रों को कट ऑफ लिस्ट का इंडीजर करना होगा। पहली कट ऑफ लिस्ट से दाखिले की वीडियो की हो आगे। हालांकि कलेक्टर इंट्राकार्टोलैंस सेंटर की ओर से गिरता है एट आईटी और टॉपोलैंसिझ में बीटेक कार्स में दाखिले के लिए पहले कॉलेज में दाखिला लेना होगा, यदि इसके बाद एक अधिकारी बनना होगा। कलेक्टर इंट्राकार्टोलैंस सेंटर में आने का आग्रह दाखिले के बाद प्रवेश परीक्षा होगा और फिर ताज्जुब दिखाया जाएगा। इसमें सभी सहायता छात्रों को बीटेक कार्स में दाखिला मिलेगा।

दूसरी नजर, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के कॉलेजों में शुरू कर दिया गया। इन विषय में बीटेक में दाखिला कट ऑफ के आधार पर मिलेगा। कंप्यूटर साइंस, इंजीनियरिंग, इंटरनेट, पैलिम्सर साइंस और साइडलैंसिझक साइंस में बीटेक में दाखिले के लिए पहली कट ऑफ लिस्ट 27 जून को आयेगी। तीन दिन के अंतराल पर, दूसरी और तीनवीं लिस्ट के आयेगी।

प्लेसमेंट सेलः

ये कर्स के लिए आवेदन में चलने जा रही प्लेसमेंट की दृष्टि में होगी। छात्रों को कैसे प्लेसमेंट में शामिल होना का काम मिलेगा। इसके लिए दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के संगठन प्लेसमेंट सेल में रजिस्ट्रेशन करना होगा।

शिवंदुक सुधीर
UGC sets up panel to probe Shillong varsity

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

THE UGC has formed an expert panel to inquire into issues related to CMJ University, Shillong, that had awarded 434 PhDs in an academic year. In a public notice, the apex higher education regulator said it is informing students and general public that the Meghalaya Governor R S Mooshahary has already acted against the varsity for its “irregularities”. It also said that it has set up an expert panel to take a comprehensive look at the issue.

HRD Minister Pallam Raju who was in Shillong last week had said the UGC should warn the public about the varsity in the wake of recent findings. The UGC had last month asked all state universities to furnish details of PhDs awarded by them, the process followed, details of candidates and the research they are working on.

Last month, The Indian Express had reported that the university - Meghalaya’s first private varsity - set up in 2009, had awarded 434 PhDs in 2012-13 though only ten of its faculty members have doctorate degrees.

Governor Mooshahary who is also the varsity’s Visitor had asked it to withdraw all degrees awarded so far. Terming the admission of over 3,300 students enrolled with the varsity since 2010-11 as illegal, he had directed the varsity not take fresh admissions until a new Chancellor is appointed as per UGC regulations.

The Meghalaya Police have registered a case against the university. The Governor had said that all PhDs awarded by the university were “in contravention” of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M Phil/PhD degree) Regulations, 2009.
Students stay away from admissions in BE in state

IIT ASPIRATION Only 20,000 lock choices a day ahead of deadline

Sravani Sarkar
sarkar@hindustantimes.com

Bhopal: In a situation that is likely to bring worry creases on foreheads of owners of engineering colleges, only 20,000 candidates have locked choices of institutes and branches just a day ahead of the deadline of first round of counselling for admission to the BE course.

The candidates are allowed to make selections and lock choices for branches and institutes online till 11.45 am of June 10, but just about 30 hours to the deadline, only 20,000 candidates took the final call. The number of registrations has however gone up to 40,000 and the directorate of technical education (DTE) is expecting last leg surge in the choice locking process.

However, given the fact that there are about 1.15 lakh engineering seats available in the state this year, the first round response has come as a disappointment to the engineering colleges as well as DTE.

Last year, during the first round of counselling, over 50,000 candidates had locked choices and 42,000 allotments of seats had been released. The total number of seats was 97,500.

The top officials of the DTE are attributing the slow response to the first round of the counselling to the fact that Madhya Pradesh has started the admission process well ahead of the other states. More importantly, the results of Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Advanced to admission to Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) has not been announced yet and students might be waiting to try their chance in the premier institutes before coming to the state colleges, officials said. They added that this time around, more candidates would participate in the second round of counselling compared to the first round, though normally it is the opposite.

But, the JEE-Advanced result would be out on June 23 and the scorecards would be available only on July 7, following which admissions would be conducted to IITs.

And in state, even the second round of counselling would be midway through by then. For the second round, the candidates are expected to register and lock choices between July 3 and 9. Thus the response of the students remains to be seen.

Missed opportunity

Also, like the HT reported earlier, this entire scenario is likely to see the most meritorious aspirants of engineering courses in Madhya Pradesh lose out on the opportunity to get best of seats in state. The best seats are mostly opted for in the first round when all the seats are open for the taking. The DTE would have to allot the best seats to the available candidates in the first round and even if more meritorious candidates come for counselling in the second round, they would be forced to select whatever seats are left out.

The DTE sources said that only those candidates, who are totally confident of getting a IIT or national institute of technology (NIT) seat, would miss the first round of admissions. Normally, students seek admissions to the good seats available and then get the admission cancelled if they get chance with a national level institute. But the slow response to the first round seems to belie even this theory.
Teachers, staff seek probe into NE Hill University

SAMUDRA GUPTA KASHYAP
GUWAHATI, JUNE 10

ALL is not well in North Eastern Hill University, the oldest central university of the region, in Shillong. When HRD Minister M M Pallam Raju visited Shillong last weekend, the teachers' association and non-teaching staff association of the university not only called for a judicial probe into “anomalies in faculty appointments”, but also demanded that vice-chancellor Prof A N Rai should not be allowed to take up his next appointment.

“The university as a corporate body has suffered large-scale damage due to gross irregularities and statutory violations in the conduct of administrative business leading to a series of disturbances,” a joint memorandum submitted by the two bodies to the Union minister said. They also said that there have been numerous anomalies in selection of faculty, leading to at least 50 litigations in the past few years. “Appointments made involved nepotism and favouritism at the cost of quality and academic environment. There was also large-scale corruption in construction and contract works awarded during this period,” the two associations said.

They also alleged that a sum of about Rs 2 crore was diverted from the university’s funds towards an Indian Science Congress conference in 2009 without any sanction. A huge sum was also spent in setting up the University Scientific Instrumentation Centre, which has remained defunct for several years. The university, set up in 1973, also has no elected representatives from the teaching and non-teaching staff in its academic council, executive council and university court, the associations said.

They also held past vice-chancellor Prof P Tandon and present vice-chancellor Prof A N Rai responsible for the deteriorating environment on campus which according to them is supplied with untreated and un-purified water despite a several crore rupee investment in a water treatment plant. “The present vice-chancellor even appointed a pro-VC to act as chairman of a committee where he himself was a candidate for selection to the higher academic grade. This is a gross violation of procedure,” Pallam Raju was told.

Rai has been appointed by UGC as director of National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in Bangalore. When contacted, he dismissed the allegations. “If they have any complaint against me, then they should be able to substantiate that. Moreover, since the President is the Visitor of the university, they should go to him,” Rai said over the telephone. He said he had already sent his resignation letter to the President of India so that he could join as director NAAC.
Profs pay to be preserved, resurrected in the future

Heather Sad

The belief that death is the only certainty in life is a concept to which members of an Oxford University institute are hoping to subscribe by paying to be cryogenically preserved and brought back to life in the future. Nick Bostrom, professor of philosophy at the Future of Humanity Institute, and his co-researcher Anders Sandberg have agreed to pay a US company to detach and deep freeze their heads in the event of their deaths.

Colleague Stuart Armstrong is instead opting to have his whole body frozen. Preserving the whole body is more difficult to achieve and can cost up to £130,000, the trio are lead researchers at the FHI. When they are considered terminally ill, a cryopreservation team will wait nearby for a doctor to pronounce them dead. A machine will be used to keep blood purging whilst the body is cooled and the blood stream is infused with preservatives and anti-freeze to protect the tissue.

If only the head is being frozen it will be detached from the body before nitrogen gas is used to reduce the temperature to -244 degree Celsius. The patient is cooled to -196 degree Celsius, before being placed in a vat of liquid nitrogen for storage at a cryogenic preservation facility where the patients would be restored until technology advances far enough to revive them.

Sandberg said that life with just a head would be limited, but that he hoped by that point the process could involve downloading his personality and memories onto a computer. Bostrom and Sandberg have chosen the Alcor Life Extension Foundation based in Scottsdale, Arizona as the location for their frozen bodies to be kept. The company already has 974 members and 117 patients in cryopreservation, along with 33 pets.

Armstrong, whose wife is heavily pregnant, plans to do the same for his unborn child eventually. “If you picture the world in, say, 208 years, when reanimation is possible, it will probably be a wonderful place,” he said.
A course in the UK on mobile computing

Sheffield Hallam University, UK, has started a new course - M. Sc in mobile computing application, which would provide information on advancement and development in web technologies and software. The course would include the areas of computing, intelligent agents, virtualisation and cloud computing architecture. The course will help those pursuing B. Sc or B. Tech to practice and conduct research after graduation. It is ideal for those who want to begin a career in mobile applications.
CHOPPER JOYRIDE @ ₹1,000 PER 10 MINUTES

HT Correspondent

KANPUR: The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT-K), which recently started helicopter service between Kanpur and Lucknow on an experimental basis, is now planning to introduce a ‘copter joyride service’ soon.

IIT-K senior professor and helicopter project in charge Dr AK Mittal said, according to the proposal, the joyride of 10 minutes would cost ₹1,000 per person.

“Senior IIT-K officials would discuss the issue at a meeting with local industrialists on June 21 and work out the dates and time of the service,” he said.

IIT-K, which is operating the helicopter services in association with Pawan Hans Corporation, is also exploring the possibility of providing medical evacuation, survey and charter services. In the institute’s plan are flights between several other cities like Allahabad, Etawah, Agra, Vrindavan and Khajuraho.

Meanwhile, the IIT-K and local industrialists are studying the running cost of various helicopter flight services to fix the fares. They have also sought feedback from members of industries organisations and Merchants Chamber on the services and fares by June 15.