Smriti Irani rejects Anil Kakodkar's view on IIT directors' selection


MIDNAPORE: HRD Minister Smriti Irani today rejected the views of nuclear scientist Anil Kakodkar on the selection process of directors of the IITs.

Kakodkar, who resigned as chairman of the board of governors of IIT-Bombay in March following differences with the HRD ministry, had said that the process to select directors of these prestigious seats of learning was casual in nature.

"I strongly protest that kind of an allegation. Paper work will show that within the legal framework, everything was done as per rules," Irani told reporters at a news conference here.

Irani said, "To cast aspersions on the office of the President of the country, a Visitor of IITs, is extremely unfortunate".

Kakodkar, whose tenure was supposed to come to an end in May, this year has, however, agreed to continue till that period.
IIT-Delhi director R Shevgaonkar resigned last December with more than two years of his tenure left amid a controversy over alleged pressure by the HRD ministry on him.

The appointment of directors was relating to three IITs, IIT-Bhubaneshwar, IIT-Patna and IIT-Ropar, the selection of which was now complete.

**Ratan Tata among contenders to be next chairman of IIT Bombay Board of Directors**


Noted industrialist Ratan Tata figures among a list of three names proposed by IIT, Bombay as the next chairman of its board of governors.

The post fell vacant after the tenure of nuclear scientist Anil Kakodkar ended on May 11.

The panel of three names has been received by the Human Resource Development Ministry for consideration and placement before the President (the Visitor) for approval, ministry officials said.

The 77-year-old industrialist was a consulting professor in the management science and engineering programme at Stanford University and is also associated with IIT, Bombay, as a member of the premier institute's advisory council.

Tata Education and Development Trust, a philanthropic arm of the Tata Group, had donated $50 million to the Harvard Business School in 2010.

governments were complaining about the earlier system of funding."

Already, 35 states and union territories have committed to abide by conditions set by RUSA. More than 20 states have set up state higher education council, the first condition by RUSA, and are making considerable progress towards implementing other conditions.

**Alumni gift for IIT-Kgp students**

Somdatta Basu | May 28, 2015, 12.00 AM IST

KOLKATA: Courtesy their seniors, IIT-Kharagpur students will soon get foreign internships. From 2016, at least 200 students will be able to take up internships in foreign companies, the entire cost of which will be borne by the alumni.

"A student will either bag a training programme at a company founded by the alumni or he/she will be given an opportunity to work in the firm where the alumnus is working. The third option is that the alumni will sponsor the entire internship programme," said IIT-Kharagpur director Partha Pratim Chakraborty.

The concept was hatched when Vinod Gupta, the alumnus who set up Vinod Gupta School of Management, proposed to sponsor summer internships for his company as well as for the Rajiv Gandhi School of Intellectual Property Law. "He said he will donate few international internships to IIT students. IIT authorities then felt they should ask other former students to participate in the programme," said a faculty member.
A portal will be designed to for candidates looking for the foreign internships. The students will have to write about the purpose of their internship, firms they are looking for and which field they are keen to work in. The alumni will go through the applications on the portal and interact with students. Based on their requirements, a selection process will be initiated.

It is compulsory for the students to take up an internship before the final placement. Some students opt to do them during their second-year BTech course while others do it in their third year. In dual-degree programmes, the students go for internships even during the fourth year.

“We want students to get international exposure. There are a lot of opportunities for domestic internships. Moreover, students work on various projects, which help them build experiences about companies in the country,” Chakraborty said. The sponsored internships will be for eight weeks, he added.

The portal will be operational from July. Selected students will be offered the 2016-2017 academic session for the internships. However, if a student opts for a summer internship under an exchange programme, then the cost will be borne by the organization conducting it.
IIT-M scientists to monitor Kedarnath temple structure

Vanita Srivastava
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NEW DELHI: Researchers from IIT Madras will install a health monitoring sensor based on wireless technology at the Kedarnath temple shrine in June for keeping a track on its structural health.

Dr Arun Menon, assistant professor, department of civil engineering who is running the project under the ambit of the national center of safety of heritage structure told HT: "We will first make a field trial and if successful then it can be commissioned. This will give us data which can help us analyse how these structures respond in case of any calamity. Our main intention would be to observe the acceleration response due to earthquake ground motion and tilt on certain walls."

The center which was set up in July 2013 has been providing technical assistance to several heritage structures of the country among which Kedarnath temple is the major one.

Giving details of the system developed in collaboration with the computer science engineering department, Menon said that it was an acceleration sensor that could pick up the structural vibrations. There is also an inbuilt temperature sensor and a tiltmeter that records the tilt of the walls.

"The main objective behind this pilot project is to see how the structure responds to an earthquake. We have computer-simulated structural models of the temple structure but the actual vibrations will help us in calibration and validation of such models. The sensor is a box, much smaller than a traditional telephone. There is an inbuilt SIM card which sends the data to BSNL mobile communications tower. The servers at IIT Madras will access the data."

"It is a reason to introspect on how such an old structure like that of Kedarnath temple could withstand the vagaries of a huge calamity while newly constructed building collapse even with a minor disturbance."
Untapped Sector: To tout India as Asia’s education hub, commerce ministry seeks to revive Foreign Educational Institutions Bill which had faced huge opposition during the UPA rule

After ‘Make in India’, Modi Govt for ‘Educate in India’

Ritika Chopra@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Narendra Modi government has dusted off its predecessor UPA’s plan to allow foreign universities to set up campuses in India, seemingly reversing the ruling BJP’s earlier stance on the Foreign Educational Institutions Bill.

The government is keen to revive this bill, which allows foreign universities to set up campuses in India.

In a strategy paper shared with the ministries of external affairs and human resource development, and NITI Aayog last month, the commerce ministry argued in favour of “internationalisation” of Indian education to earn more foreign exchange and create an ‘Educated in India’ brand.

The resurrection of the bill, which lapsed with the end of the 15th Lok Sabha, is one of the four action points cited by the ministry. When the UPA had introduced it, the legislation was bitterly opposed by the Opposition parties, including the BJP, Left and Samajwadi Party.

“The huge opportunity for foreign institutions to set up campuses in India. Foreign universities along with good quality Indian institutions will attract students and promote India as a hub in Asia for quality higher education and thus increase India’s export of education services,” says the proposal, a copy of which was seen by ET. The strategy paper was shared as a “follow-up” to a meeting held at the commerce ministry on January 12. “Global trade in higher education is a growing sector. We have a number of strengths including cost advantage and good number of English speaking professionals. Our geographical location makes India a viable destination for Asian students,” said a government official familiar with the discussions. There is at present no legal and regulatory framework to allow foreign universities to set up campuses in India.

The commerce ministry wants the department of higher education under the HRD ministry to ensure “early passage” of the bill, albeit with a few changes.

“The thrust of the present bill (UPA bill) appears to be regulation of malpractices rather than encouraging foreign universities,” the proposal says.
The Dark Horse

As a young graduate at IIT University in Bhubaneswar, Brenda White Horner studies the effect of lifestyle stress on sleep. She concluded that one of the factors contributing to this phenomenon is the lack of quality sleep.

The city, Bhubaneswar, is the state capital of Odisha and a hub for education and research. IT defeats many challenges faced by the region, including a lack of infrastructure and government support. The city's unique ecosystem of start-up companies is growing, with a focus on technology and innovation.

Catchment areas:
India's startup spread

With several institutes of higher education, the city is set to become a major center for research and development. The city's startup ecosystem isexpected to grow significantly in the coming years, with a focus on technology, healthcare, and social innovation.
राष्ट्रीय सहरा ND 28/05/2015   P-16

नया अक्षय ऊर्जा मॉडल तैयार हो रहा है

सूरज की रोशनी चीजों को भरोसा करने लगीं भारत में मिलाना जा रहीं। भूरण और और अमर नौजवान उपकरण के द्वारा भारत में अच्छे उपकरण के लिए ही जीवन और अमर नौजवान उपकरण के द्वारा भारत में मिलाना जा रहीं।

दainik jagran ND 28/05/2015   P-17

गांव जहां कभी नहीं गुल होगी विज्ञानी

पहले : अक्षय ऊर्जा से साल भर जगमगाता रहेगा शांति निकेतन का एक गांव

जगमगान संवाददाता: कौलकाऐ - पंचायत
संवाददाता: पारसपरिक
अक्षय ऊर्जा की तेजी से पानी और गोबर गैस के द्वारा भारत अपने लिए आवश्यक ऊर्जा का 60 फीसदी तक प्राप्त कर सकता है, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से आज तक इस दिशा में प्रभावी प्रगति नहीं हुई। देश से ही ही इस दिशा में सकारात्मक प्रगति होती है जो दिखाई दे रही है।

देश से इस दिशा में सकारात्मक पहल की जा रही है।

इसकी शुरुआत परिवहन बंगाल के एक छोटे से आयात्राविक बहुल गांव से की जा रही है। यदि सब चुक ठीक या तो कैसा समय दूर धरीनेमंडिल के शारीरिक क्षेत्र के एक आयात्राविक गांव में कभी विज्ञानी गुल नहीं होगी और लोगों के साथ भी चीजों घटे भी जीवन की नई शरीर नस्लों से सकेंगे।

दरअसल, अक्षय ऊर्जा की उपलब्धि और हाउसकर्गैस के द्वारा भारत में अच्छे उपकरण के लिए ही जीवन और अमर नौजवान उपकरण के द्वारा भारत में मिलाना जा रही।

आयुंज ऊर्जा पर निर्माण के साथ समस्यायें यह है कि सूरज को रोशनी चीज के दिन और साल भर उपकरण नहीं होती। ऐसे में विज्ञानी के आर्यान संबंध होने वाले रोज से ही इस दिशा में सकारात्मक प्रगति होती है जो दिखाई दे रही है।

देश से इस दिशा में सकारात्मक पहल की जा रही है।

इंग्लिश और आईइंडी द्वारा विशेषता की एक टीम मिलकर काम कर रही है।

उन्होंने इस जोन के तात्कालिक दिन के दौरान सूरज ऊर्जा का उपयोग किया जा रहा है। विज्ञानी के विशेषता का काम लेने वाले भारत में पहले रोज से ही इस दिशा में सकारात्मक प्रगति होती है।

इस परियोजना का नेतृत्व कर रही और विभागीय चीजों के लिए इंग्लिश और आईइंडी के द्वारा भारत में मिलाना जा रहा।
Nasa toolkit ready to look for life on Jupiter’s moon

Washington: Nasa, on Tuesday, said it has chosen a trove of instruments to send to Jupiter’s ice-covered moon Europa, as it moves ahead with its search for evidence if the orb could support life.

The nine gadgets — from cameras to radars to magnetic field gauges — will be used to try to determine if Europa has an ocean beneath its glacial surface, as scientists have long suspected.

Europa, which is about the size of Earth’s moon, could have twice the amount of water as our own planet, Nasa said.

Scientists are keen to find out for sure, and the nine devices will be sent to Europa sometime in the 2020s. “We’re excited about the potential of this new mission and these instruments to unravel the mysteries of Europa in our quest to find evidence of life beyond Earth,” said John Grunsfeld, associate administrator for Nasa’s science mission directorate.

The instruments will be looking for a few key indicators to suggest if Europa can in fact support life: salt water, a rocky sea floor, and energy and chemistry created by tidal heating.

“Europa could be the best place in the solar system to look for present day life beyond our home planet,” Nasa said.

The mission to Europa could come with a $30 million price tag, which the space agency has already requested in its 2016 budget.

The fact-finding trip would entail sending a spacecraft to Jupiter’s moon, which would orbit Europa, getting as close as 16 miles from its icy surface at times.
Everest glaciers may disappear by 2100
Rising Temperatures Could Reduce Their Volume By Up To 99%, Says New Study

Kathmandu: Glaciers in Nepal’s Everest region could shrink at least 70% or even disappear entirely by the end of the century as a result of climate change, scientists warned on Wednesday.

Researchers in Nepal, the Netherlands and France came to the conclusion after studying weather patterns on the roof of the world and then created a model of conditions on Everest to determine the future impact of rising temperatures on its glaciers.

“The worst-case scenario shows a 99% loss in glacial mass... but even if we start to slow down emissions something, we may still see a 70% reduction,” said Joseph Shea, who led the study. Shea was also part of a research team last year who used satellite imagery to show how Nepal’s glaciers had already shrunk by nearly a quarter between 1977 and 2010.

The latest study, published in The Cryosphere, paints a grim picture of the impact of climate change on the world’s highest peak by 2100. Shea, a glacier hydrologist at the Kathmandu-based International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, said melting glaciers could form deep lakes which could burst and flood mountain communities living downstream. Besides it would also affect water supplies in the Everest region, with lower volumes of snowmelt flowing into the Dudh Kosi river, which provides water for Nepal’s downstream.

Shea warned. “The decline during the pre-monsoon period will probably have an impact on any future hydropower projects due to lack of rainwater to meet power needs,” he added.

Glacial loss in Nepal raises concerns over future access to water resources, particularly in regions where groundwater is limited and monsoon rains are erratic.

Design your MBA with MOOCs

With multiple management education courses available on the internet, including Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), students can now design their own MBA. Here is the list of some online courses taught in US universities, a must for every management student.

1. Introduction to finance: At the end of this course, you will get an understanding of the stock markets, bonds, yields and will be able to make your own financial plans.
   This course is offered by the University of Michigan.
   Register for this course at: http://open.umich.edu/education/business/introduction-finance/summer2012

2. The analytic edge: This course examines real cases and demonstrates how analytics is helping organisations improve their business.

3. Principles of microeconomics: There is never a dull moment in this course. Every concept is explained through real life examples. You will learn the basics of microeconomics, the underlying assumptions and how to use economic principles in your day-to-day life.
   It is offered by the Illinois University.
   Register for this course at: https://www.coursera.org/course/microecon

4. Introduction to human resources: This course introduces you to the core human resource functions of an organisation. Through this, you will develop a broad understanding of issues such as recruitment, training and development and performance management.
   It is offered by the Open Training Institute Australia.
   You can register for this course at: https://www.open2study.com/courses/human-resources-090215

5. Design thinking action lab: In this course, you will be introduced to the basics of design and tool kits. At the end of the course, you will learn to apply the design thinking process to real life situations. It is offered by Stanford University’s Hasso Plattner Institute of Design.
   You can register for this course at: http://online.stanford.edu/course/design-thinking-action-lab

The author has designed his own international MBA by taking more than 30 MOOCs over two years.
Your phone can work during lightning

IISc has developed a device that can ensure safety of exchanges during surges


Telephone exchanges are commonly affected during heavy rainfall accompanied by lightning. For the first time, researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have come up with a technology that can help these exchanges to overcome the lightning attack.

The telephone wires that run from the exchange to homes are exposed to high voltage and high current surges because of multiple reasons like natural lightning and interaction with power transmission lines. A power surge, if transmitted to the exchange or the customer premises, can damage the low power telecom equipment.

IISc researchers have developed new equipment that can ensure better safety of the digital telecom exchanges against lightning surges. The study is carried out by the researchers from the Department of Electrical Engineering, IISc. Of course, digital telecom exchanges have a built-in system, called protection cards, to protect against voltage and current surges.

The IISc researchers have devised equipment that can thoroughly test the protection cards in service like situations. Their findings are published in the journal IEEE Transactions on Industry Applications.

The surge protection card attempts to limit the over voltage supplied to an electric device either by limiting or diverting the surge to the ground.

Protection cards are designed with different levels of protection called primary and secondary protection. When a high voltage or high current event occurs, the primary protection device absorbs the excess energy instantaneously and bypasses it to the ground. The secondary protection is needed to take care of residual energy left after the primary protection is activated. The protection cards must be tested before installation in exchanges.

**SURGE PROTECTION**

* Surge protection card will limit over voltage either by limiting or diverting the surge to the ground

* Protection cards are designed with different levels of protection called primary and secondary protection

* When a high voltage occurs, the device absorbs excess energy instantaneously and bypasses it to the ground
नियुक्ति घोटाला: पूर्व कुलपति को जमानत मिली
भारत न्यूज़ | सागर

डॉ. हरीसिंह गौर विश्वविद्यालय में हुए शिक्षक नियुक्ति घोटाले मुख्य आरोपी पूर्व कुलपति प्रो. एनएससी गजेश्वर ने मोल्लावार को जमानत मिल गई। बुधवार को वह जेल से बाहर आ सकते हैं। सीबीआई ने उन्हें 23 फरवरी को आईआईटी कानपुर परिसर से निर्माण कर दिया गया था। वह 5 मार्च से श्रीमद्द सेनियर जेल जवालपुर में न्यायिक हिरासत में थे।

6 बार उनकी जमानत अर्जी खारिज हो चुकी थी। एक बार वही कोटे ने भी उन्हें जमानत देने से इंकार कर दिया था। सामस्करिक सामस्तिक को प्रो. गजेश्वर के अधिवक्ता नम्बर के केरलवानी ने जमानत अर्जी सीबीआई कोटा में दायर की थी। कोटा ने मंगलवार तक सीबीआई से जवाब मांगा था।

Hindustan Times ND 27/05/2015  HT Education P-12
दिया जाएगा बड़ा पैकेज
आईआईटी, केंद्रीय विवि में पढ़ायेगे विदेशी शिक्षक

नयी दिल्ली, 26 मई (एजेंसी)

केन्द्र सरकार ने आईआईटी, केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालयों समेत तमाम केंद्रीय शिक्षण संस्थानों में विदेशी प्रोफेसरों की नियुक्ति प्रक्रिया शुरू की दी है। इन प्रोफेसरों को महिने में 20 घंटे बढ़ाने के करीब साठ सात लाख रुपये मिलेगे जो भारतीय प्रोफेसरों के वेतन से तीन गुना ज्यादा है।

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने कहा कि इस साल ऐसे एक हजार विदेशी शिक्षकों की नियुक्ति का लक्ष्य है लेकिन अभी विभिन्न संस्थानों के लिए 93 आवेदन मिले हैं, जिन्हें जांचा जा रहा है जिसके बाद उन्हें अंतिम रूप दिया जाएगा।

उच्च शिक्षा सचिव एस.एन. मोहती ने बताया कि ग्लोबल इनसिष्टेट साउथ एफेक्टिव नेटवर्क (ज्ञान) के तहत विदेशी शिक्षकों की नियुक्ति प्रक्रिया शुरू की जा रही है। सरकार ने भारतीय मूल के अमेरिकी गणितज्ञ मंजुल भार्गव को इसके लिए ब्रांड अमबेसडर बनाया है। भार्गव और दूतावासों की मदद से नियुक्ति प्रक्रिया पूरी की जा रही है। ऐसे शिक्षकों को 12-14 घंटे पढ़ाने के लिए आठ हजार यूएस डलर यानी करीब 5 लाख रुपये और 20-18 घंटे पढ़ाने के लिए 12 हजार यूएस डलर यानी करीब साठ सात लाख रुपये तय किया गया है।
RUSA undermining role of regulator: UGC chief

New Delhi: The meeting of Parliament’s standing committee on HRD had an awkward moment on Tuesday when UGC chairperson Ved Prakash said the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) should be reviewed as it has undermined the regulator’s role and could potentially affect research in the country.

Appearing before the house panel, Prakash said RUSA whose main function is to fund state universities and ensure systemic reforms are carried out — a job that was being done by UGC — has become an ‘obstruction’ to higher education. He said bulk of funds is now going to RUSA and it could impact UGC’s endeavour to push for research and innovation.

Prakash’s argument was disputed by HRD ministry officials but the parliamentary panel gave him a patient hearing. Panel chairperson Satyanarayan Jatiya asked UGC and HRD ministry to present their respective points of view in the next meeting. Jatiya told TOI, “It was not a complaint but discussion on an important issue. It will continue for some more time. We will take the final view later.”

Specifically, three big works of UGC have moved to RUSA. First, the funding of model degree colleges 60 of which have been set up though the plan is to have one in each of 374 educationally backward districts. RUSA now also undertakes the funding of upgradation of colleges to universities and disburses infrastructure grant. A ministry source said, “RUSA is the only specific plan for higher education. It was conceived as state governments were complaining about the earlier system of funding.”

Already, 35 states and union territories have committed to abide by conditions set by RUSA.
Road to IITs, NITs tougher for city students


Entry to the coveted Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and National Institutes of Technology (NITs) will become difficult for city aspirants from the CBSE board this year, as they may not be able to match the board’s top 20 percentile. With the national toppers scoring over 99%, city students are lagging behind.

The reason: Tough English (functional), mathematics and physics papers. Students scored low in these three papers, which they complained were unusually difficult. Several students are planning to submit their marks for revaluation.

“I found all the papers tough,” said Mallika Fonseca, a science student from RN Podar School, Khar, who secured 97.4%. She secured 94 in English functional.

Avnita Bir, principal of the school, said low scores in the three subjects would affect the chances of engineering aspirants. “English is a mandatory subject and its marks are taken into account for admissions into most colleges,” said Bir. “Even institutes such as BITS Pilani look at the English score.”

The subject’s syllabus was revised this year and students were given no guidelines to prepare for the exam, experts said.

Students had complained about mathematics and physics papers, saying the High Order Thinking Skills (HOTS) questions were very difficult. “The poor show will affect IIT admissions, and hit NIT admissions as a cascading effect,” said Pravin Tyagi, head of the PACE Junior Colleges.

According to K Narsimhan, professor from IIT Bombay, while getting a seat in the more sought-after IITs will be difficult, those scoring above 75% – the eligibility criterion – can hope for a berth in the newer institutes. However, the normalisation process for JEE Main ranks, which is used for NIT admissions, depends largely on board marks, he said.

With English a common subject across streams, students from every stream have been hit by the low marks. “I am extremely disappointed with my English score. I plan to go for revaluation,” said A Sreegurupriya, 96.2%, commerce stream.
Learn to live life here

IIM Bangalore is a home away from home, where students get to learn the values of hard work, discipline and the art of chilling out.

SQUARES AND ADDAS ON CAMPUS

Hot spot on campus
L. Square - the quadrangle between the hostel, parties, events and even basketball matches are hosted here.

The best thing on the canteen menu?
Paranthas at breakfast, fruit custard and chocolate pastries for lunch, masala dosa for dinner and a glass of Bourbon at midnight to top it up!

When do classes begin?
The first one is held at 8 am and the last one at 10:30 pm. On an average, 10 am to 4 pm with gaps in between.

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Do you have curfew hours on campus?
The only curfews imposed are by students when there’s a match going on!

What are your rooms in hostels like?
Beautiful. In terms of both the view they offer and the location and facilities.

What are some of the facilities in the institute?
We have common hangout spaces, a mess to watch television, some cafes and the EPGP lounge with meeting rooms. There are facilities for a variety of games.

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Padminavathi Krishnamurthy

There is no typical day in the life of a student at IIM Bangalore. Each day brings its own set of experiences and fresh learnings, says Padminavathi Krishnamurthy, a student.

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D...
Phenomenal growth in demand for MBAs

Projected requirement for graduate management talent touches an unprecedented high

Hindustan Times ND 27/05/2015

HT Education P-2

However, today companies are not shy ing away from hiring in fresh, competitive hiring to grow their businesses. Businesses are hiring MBA graduates. This is in line with the recent survey conducted in the last year by the Indian Management Development Institute (IMDI) and the MBA Career Services Administration Alliance (MBA-CEMA) in North America. The survey found that in the United States, plans to hire MBA graduates in 2015 - up from 88% that hired MBAs in 2014. The proportion of US companies with plans to hire MBAs in 2015 is 95%. The proportion of US companies with plans to hire MBAs in 2015 is 95%. This is an increase of 7% compared to last year.

According to the survey, companies are more likely to hire MBA graduates because of their strong analytical skills and problem-solving abilities. MBA graduates are seen as a valuable asset to any business, as they have developed a strong foundation in business management, finance, and strategy. Employers are aware of the fact that MBA graduates have a strong understanding of the business world, and are more likely to be successful in the competitive job market.

However, one area of concern for MBA graduates is the demand for MBAs in their chosen field. While there is a high demand for MBAs in certain industries, such as finance and consulting, there is a lower demand in other industries, such as healthcare and retail. This can make it challenging for MBA graduates to find jobs in their desired fields. To address this issue, employers are increasingly offering MBA graduates opportunities to work in a variety of industries, as well as providing training and development programs to prepare them for different roles.

Companies are increasingly recognizing the value of MBA graduates, and are offering competitive salaries and benefits to attract them. Employers are also offering flexible work arrangements and opportunities for advancement, which can help attract and retain MBA graduates. In conclusion, MBA graduates are in high demand, and companies are taking steps to ensure they have a strong pipeline of MBA talent to fill their needs.

Companies are increasingly recognizing the value of MBA graduates, and are offering competitive salaries and benefits to attract them. Employers are also offering flexible work arrangements and opportunities for advancement, which can help attract and retain MBA graduates. In conclusion, MBA graduates are in high demand, and companies are taking steps to ensure they have a strong pipeline of MBA talent to fill their needs.
We may become cyborgs within 200 years: Expert

London: Humans may “upgrade” themselves to become cyborgs within the next 200 years, merging man and machine to potentially live forever, according to a Hebrew University professor Yuval Noah Harari, a professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem believes the wealthy will transform into a new type of divine, immortal human with complete power over life and death. Human dissatisfaction will drive mankind to “upgrade themselves” — and that cyborg technology will allow them to do this, according to Harari.

“I think it is likely in the next 200 years or so Homo sapiens will upgrade themselves into some idea of a divine being, either through biological manipulation or genetic engineering or by the creation of cyborgs, part organic part non-organic,” the Telegraph quoted Harari as saying. “It will be the greatest evolution in biology since the appearance of life. Nothing really has changed in four billion years biologically speaking. But we will be as different from today’s humans as chimps are now from us,” said Harari.

Harari argues that the departure from belief in religion will spur on change to the human race. He said Silicon Valley is now the most interesting place in the world from a religious perspective because they believe all problems can be solved with technology. Many technology companies have announced plans to fuse machines and humans. However, Harari warned that the main crux of this investment in technology is that only the rich will be able to afford it. PTI
NOTA makes impact in IISc polls

The Indian Institute of Science's (IISc) student council created history on Monday as it became the first student body elections in the country to empower voters with None of the Above (NOTA) option.

And a significant number of voters opted for NOTA in the elections held for the five posts -- chairman, general secretary, secretary (academic affairs, hostels-amenities and women affairs).

That's not all; due to NOTA, around 300 more voters participated in the election, according to IISc sources.

The total polled votes for the chairman's post were 1,582 with two candidates in fray and the NOTA option bagged 93 votes.

Similarly for general secretary, there were 1,580 votes polled for three candidates with 95 NOTAs. For the academic affairs secretary's post, 114 NOTA votes were cast as against the total votes of 1,580 (two contestants). In the case of hostel and amenities' secretary, a whopping 148 NOTA votes were cast out of a total 1,576 votes.

The least number of NOTA votes were for the women's secretary, where only eight NOTAs were registered.

The students feel that introduction of the NOTA option has increased the voter percentage marginally.

"We believe in a democratic set-up and NOTA is one of the tools to achieve it. I think we have set an example for the country in how this option can be utilised instead of blindly making it a dummy button," said Mahesh Kumar Singh, a PhD student from IISc.

The newly elected chairman of the council, Amiya Banerjee, too said that NOTA is the best thing to have happened to student council election in recent years.

"NOTA gave an extra option for the students who didn't want to vote for me or for my opposite candidate. It gave a tool for expression of their view. This has actually increased the student participation in democratic elections," said Amiya, who is a fourth year PhD candidate from Centre for Nano Science and Engineering department.

Mayur Birla, a Masters student from Mechanical department, said NOTA was a good change which showed that democracy existed in one of the premier science institutes in the country.