Zuckerberg to Hold Townhall at IIT-D This Month

FB’s Free Basics initiative is facing flak

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Bengaluru: Facebook founder and chief executive Mark Zuckerberg will take questions from the Facebook community and a live audience at a townhall at IIT-Delhi later this month. The townhall comes at a time when Facebook’s ‘Free Basics’ initiative is witnessing scathing criticism from opposition leaders, government committees and netizens across the country, who argue that the initiative violates the principle of net neutrality. “More than 130 million people use Facebook in India. I’m looking forward to hearing directly from one of our most active and engaged communities,” Zuckerberg said on Facebook.

Zuckerberg will also meet with developers, partners and others who are building new digital services and working on ways to connect more people to them, a Facebook spokesperson told ET. This follows a month after Zuckerberg hosted Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a similar townhall session at the company’s headquarters during Modi’s visit to Silicon Valley. During the townhall session, Modi had hailed social media as a force for democracy and good governance, reiterated his vision of India as a $20-trillion economy and also said the ‘Make in India’ plan would be a success. The session will, however, be long remembered for Modi’s emotional talk as he spoke about the hardships faced by his parents, especially his mother.

Zuckerberg also spoke of how, at a low point in Facebook’s history, he visited a temple in India on the advice of his mentor Steve Jobs to reconnect with his vision of what he wanted Facebook to be.

THIS will be one event that Indians will get connected to without even thinking twice, as Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg will be holding a question and answer session at IIT-Delhi in the national capital on October 28.

“More than 130 million people use Facebook in India. I’m looking forward to hearing directly from one of our most active and engaged communities,” Zuckerberg wrote on his Facebook post.

“If you have a question, please ask below in the comments. To vote for a question, just like it. I’ll be answering questions from across Facebook as well as from a live audience at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi,” the chairman and chief executive of Facebook said.

Incidentally, he had last month hosted Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a Townhall Question and Answer session in Palo Alto in the US.

“India is personally very important to the history of our company here. This is a story that I have not told publicly and very few people know,” he had said at the Facebook headquarters on September 27.

“Early on in our history, before things were really going well and we had hit a tough patch, and a lot of people wanted to buy Facebook and thought we should sell the company. I went and saw one of my mentors, Steve Jobs, and he told me that in order to reconnect with what I believed was the mission of the company, I should visit this temple that he had gone to in India early in his evolution of thinking about what he wanted Apple and his vision of the future to be,” he said.

“So I went and I travelled for almost a month and seeing the people, seeing how people connected, and having the opportunity to feel how much better the world could be if everyone had a stronger ability to connect, reinforced for me the importance of what we were doing. And that is something I have always remembered over the last 10 years as we built Facebook,” the net entrepreneur said.

Mail Today
ZUCKERBERG TOWN HALL AT IIT-DELHI ON OCTOBER 28

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NEW DELHI: Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg will hold a town hall at IIT-Delhi on October 28, exactly a month after he held a similar question and answer session with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the social media giant's Menlo Park headquarters in California.

“I’m heading to India and I’ll be hosting our next Townhall Q&A in Delhi on Wednesday, October 23 at 12pm IST. More than 150 million people use Facebook in India. I’m looking forward to hearing directly from one of our most active and engaged communities,” Zuckerberg said in a Facebook post on Friday, which received more than 90,000 likes and 4,000 shares.

“I’ll be answering questions from across Facebook as well as from a live audience at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi,” he said.

Sources at IIT said the event would be held at the institute’s Dogra Hall. “It is one of the biggest halls at IIT-Delhi and can accommodate 1,000 people,” a source said. The institute, however, said it was only providing the venue and was not involved in organising the event.

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Zuckerberg to hold Townhall Q&A session at IIT-Delhi on Oct 28

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
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FACEBOOK FOUNDER Mark Zuckerberg will hold the next ‘Townhall Question & Answer’ session at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi on October 28 to connect with “Indians”, who he described as “one of our most active and engaged communities”. This will be his first visit post the rebranding of Internet.org.

Zuckerberg announced his plan via a Facebook post. “I’m heading to India and I’ll be hosting our next Townhall Q&A in Delhi on Wednesday, October 28 at 12 pm IST (11:30 pm Tuesday Pacific time). More than 130 million people use Facebook in India...，“ he wrote.

Zuckerberg also said he would answer questions posted on his Facebook account. “If you have a question, please ask below in the comments. To vote for a question, just like it. I’ll be answering questions from across Facebook as well as from a live audience at IIT-Delhi...,” he wrote.

Last month, Zuckerberg had hosted Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a Townhall Q&A at Palo Alto, California. The visit comes at a time when Facebook announced Free Basics, earlier known as the controversial Internet.org programme, which has raised doubts over net neutrality in India. During Modi’s US visit, the creation of the “I support digital India” profile picture by Facebook had also attracted suspicion by a section of Indians who saw it as an endorsement of Internet.org.
आईआईटी को मिलेगा जुकरबर्ग से सवाल करने का मौका

नई दिल्ली। भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान ‘आईआईटी’ के छात्रों और शिक्षकों को सोशल नेटवर्क साइट फेसबुक के जनक मार्क जुकरबर्ग से जुड़ने के लिए सवाल पूछने का मौका मिलेगा। श्री जुकरबर्ग ने ट्वीट किया है कि वह आगामी 28 अक्टूबर को नई दिल्ली में आईआईटी में सवाल-जवाब सत्र में भाग ले जाएगा। उन्होंने कहा कि सोशल मीडिया के सभी माध्यमों पर भारतीय अध्यात्मिक संक्रिया रहते हैं। इस समय भारत में फेसबुक का इस्तेमाल करने वालों की संख्या 13 करोड़ है। उन्होंने भारत की अपनी प्रतिक्रिया राष्ट्रीय पर खुशी जाहिर कर दी है कि फेसबुक पर सबसे ज्यादा संक्रिया रहने वाले भारतीय समुदाय से मिलने का लेकर में भेद उस्ताद है। श्री जुकरबर्ग ने सितंबर में प्रधानमंत्री की अमेरिकी यात्रा में फेसबुक के मुख्यालय में भी एक सवाल-जवाब सत्र का आयोजन किया था, जिसमें उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने माना कि फेसबुक के इतिहास में भारत का खासा महत्त्व है। वह यह लगा है, जिसका जिक्र मैंने सार्वजनिक तौर पर अभी तक कहीं नहीं किया है।

Dainik Jagran ND 17/10/2015

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जुकरबर्ग आईआईटी दिल्ली के छात्रों से होंगे मुखातिब

वाशिंगटन, प्रेट्र : फेसबुक के संस्थापक मार्क जुकरबर्ग भारत यात्रा के दौरान आईआईटी-दिल्ली के छात्रों से सवालों के लिए एक सवाल-जवाब सत्र में भाग ली। उन्होंने किया था कि उन्होंने कहा कि फेसबुक का इस्तेमाल करने वाले भारतीय समुदाय का संक्षेप मैं श्री जुकरबर्ग को आयोजित कार्यक्रम में भाग लेंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि कोई अन्य उद्योग के साथ जुड़वाने का संक्षेप मैं उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने कहा कि
IIT-Kharagpur ties-up with 3 Israel universities


Kolkata, Oct 16: The Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur has inked agreements with three universities in Israel for student exchanges, faculty visits and research collaborations in aerospace, agriculture and computer science, a statement said on Friday. IIT-Kgp director P.P. Chakrabarti led the academic delegation from India during President Pranab Mukherjee’s recent visit to the country when memorandum of understanding (MOUs) were signed with the Ben-Gurion University (BGU), Hebrew University and University of Haifa. IIT-Kgp ties-up with 3 Israel varsities These Israeli universities are traditionally strong in the areas of computer science, aerospace, agriculture and food engineering etc. which are in synergy with the areas of academics and research at IIT Kgp, said Chakrabarti in the statement. [India and Israel relations: All you need to know] "We are planning some unique student exchanges, faculty visits and research workshops and projects," he said. The current scope of cooperation with these universities range from exchange programmes for faculty, students and scholars, joint research and exchange of research materials, joint academic activities - teaching and supervision of students, joint conferences, workshops, participation of students in study-abroad programmes. IIT-Kgp already has a tie-up with Technion Israel Institute of Technology which is the oldest university in Israel.

US university, IIT-K plan dual degree course


KANPUR: IIT-Kanpur and Texas A and M University (TAMU, United States) are joining hands to start a joint dual degree course. TAMU vice-chancellor Margaret Katherine Banks, TAMU director of graduate programs Vikram Kinra and IIT-K director Indranil Manna gave green signal to the proposal during a meeting here.

The students pursuing the dual degree course would get degrees with the logos of both the institutions. The admission to the course is likely to start from next academic session. It could be initiated after the approval of IIT-Kanpur senate.

IIT-K co-ordinator of international relations Babita Lohani informed that for last three years, the institute has been running student exchange programme with TAMU. Till now, four students each from both the institutes used to take benefit of the student exchange programme. During the meeting, it was proposed to increase the number to 10 from each institute.

The selection of the students is based on their academic performance. Arrangements of airfare, fooding, lodging and accommodation are managed by the two institutes. The students do an internship for three months.

Banks and Kinra explored the avenues of internship for PG students also, starting exchange of non-degree students for 1-2 semesters. It was agreed that there is a need of starting visiting faculty program between the two institutes. Currently the scope of student exchange is more in the area of engineering. Efforts would be made to extend this to other humanities or sciences.

The two US academicians also visited different laboratories at of IIT-K and other facilities.