आईआईटी के वार्षिकोत्सव में गूंजेगा ‘मेड इन इंडिया’

नईदिल्ली के नई दिल्ली, नई दिल्ली।
आईआईटी दिल्ली में शुक्रवार से वार्षिकोत्सव ‘रेडेज्फूज’ की शुरुआत होगी। ‘मेड इन इंडिया’ थीम पर आयोजित इस चार दिवसीय आयोजन में कला व साहित्य जगत की कई जानीमानी हस्तियों जैसे अच्छे ड्रामाओं के बीच पहुँचेगी, इनमें चेतन भगत, अर्जित सिंह व कैफ के का नाम प्रमुख है।

आईआईटी दिल्ली का सालाना फेस्ट इस बार बीते सालों के मुकाबले कई ज्यादा बड़े स्तर पर आयोजित किया जा रहा है। पूरी तरह से देशी अंदाज में आयोजित किए जा रहे इस वार्षिकोत्सव के दूसरे दिन 18 अक्टूबर को आईआईटी के पूर्व छात्र चेतन भगत विद्यार्थियों से संवाद करेंगे। संगीत के दीवानों के लिए इस आयोजन में मनोरंजन के देरीं अवसर उपलब्ध रहेंगे। इसी तरह मिस इंडिया के आयोजकों के साथ मिलकर कैंपस प्रिंसेज नामक प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया जाएगा, जिसकी विजेता को मिस इंडिया प्रतियोगिता में सीधे एंट्री मिलेगी।
Deccan Herald ND 17/10/2014 P-2

**IITians’ drone may violate DGCA rules**

Pratik Kumar

NEW DELHI, DHNS: In a possible violation of a recent notice by the Director General Civil Aviation notification, IIT-Delhi students plan to fly a drone to videograph their annual festival Rendezvous.

Imposing a blanket ban on “unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)/unmanned aircraft systems (UAS)”, the aviation regulator had said it is in the process of formulating regulations for certification and operation of drones in Indian airspace.

“Till such regulations are issued, no non government agency, organization, or an individual will launch a UAS in Indian Civil Airspace for any purpose whatsoever,” the DGCA said in the public notice issued on October 7.

Even before the aviation regulator had issued the public notice, the organisers the festival on their Facebook page had announced their plans of using a helicam, a remote-controlled mini helicopter used to capture motion images using video, to film the festival that sees an average footfall of 60,000 people.

When contacted on Thursday, a festival organiser Sachit Sehgal said, “We are aware of the DGCA notice. But these are not drones.” But the caption of a picture on the festival Facebook page described the helicam as “flying drone”.

Sehgal insisted no rules were being violated. The remote-controlled device will fly within a 10-metre radius, he added.

“If you spot a creepy flying machine over your head, do not worry its not Uncle Sam but the Rendezvous team trying to capture your moves from the perfect angle possible. This October get ready to give your best poses and to witness some exceptional snaps as Rendezvous will be covered by helicams. Smile to the skies, we are looking at you!” the Facebook page of the IIT festival on September 27 had said.

The IIT Delhi spokesperson Rakesh Kumar said he did not know whether the use of helicams will be a violation the DGCA rules. “It is a 100 per cent student organised event,” he added.

In the wake of commercial establishments plan to use drones for delivering their products, the aviation regulator had forced a blanket ban.
Indian-born wheat scientist wins World Food Prize

ENS & PTI
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 16

SANJAYA Rajaram, an eminent Indian scientist, has been awarded the World Food Prize in recognition of his significant contribution to global wheat production.

Currently a Senior Scientific Advisor at the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas, Rajaram has developed 480 wheat varieties, released in 51 countries across an estimated 58 million hectares.

His wheat improvement research has helped secure a 1.3 per cent rise in global wheat production per annum in the last four decades, an official release said.

Rajaram is credited with developing the ‘Veery’ lines of wheat in the 1980s, which were used to breed locally adapted high-yielding varieties in various wheat-growing countries.

PBW-343, a workhorse wheat variety grown in about 10 million hectares of India until recently, was based on the ‘Veery’ material that was bred at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) under Rajaram, said P L Gautam, a former chairperson of the Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers’ Rights Authority.

SANJAYA RAJARAM

The ‘Veery’ lines resulted from a cross between a Russian winter wheat, ‘Kavkaz’, and a Mexican spring wheat, ‘Buho’. These new lines showed improved resistance to stripe and leaf rust pathogens, which helped create a second generation of high-yielding wheat.

Originally from a small farming community in UP, Rajaram spent his early career at CIMMYT where he served as Director of the Wheat Breeding Program. He worked for many years alongside the ‘Father of the Green Revolution’ Norman E Borlaug.

The World Food Prize, presented at the 2014 Borlaug Dialogue, currently being held in Des Moines, United States, from October 15-17, is the foremost international award recognising individuals whose achievements have advanced human development by increasing the quality, quantity, or availability of food.
CHANDIGARH: The national discussion meet on 'Research Innovation and Work-plan' began at Panjab University (PU) on Thursday with All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) chairman S S Mantha delivering the inaugural address.

Vice chancellors and deans from various leading universities and research institutes of the country and heads of a few regulatory bodies are participating in the two-day meet. PU vice chancellor Arun Kumar Grover, DUI AK Bhandari, dean research Lalit K Bansal and a number of PU fellows, teachers, researchers and students also took part in the day long discussions.

Describing research and innovation as a growth vehicle, Mantha said research was the heart while innovation was the soul. "Together the growth vehicle will speed up and in the absence of either, it would sputter and backfire," he added. He said that research was a philosophy and needed to be practised like religion.

"Many students in IT and technical colleges undertake copy-paste jobs while developing their projects as part of their curriculum but it doesn't help," Mantha said. The AICTE chairperson said that with the advent of cloud, the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise should share its data with AICTE. "AICTE, in turn, could encourage colleges to occupy and script their enterprise applications on a piece of cloud that they could acquire to be used as their lab. Let each college buy a piece of the cloud that propagates millions of nurseries with a potential to raise the MSMEs and spur innovation to deliver quicker, better and more competitive products from the MSMEs," he added.

Mantha added that the shackles of regulatory systems needed to be broken and free enterprise allowed to promote research and innovation. "We need to create ecosystems that enable environments to flourish in research and innovation in our institutions. We need to define dynamic structures that bring out the best in our youth," he added.

IIT JEE Preparation Trend: More Students Ready to Drop-a-Year for IIT


More and more students are choosing to drop a year and concentrate on IIT JEE entrance exam. Shashi Mehrotra, an IIT aspirant from Delhi says, “I attempted JEE last year but failed to make it to the IITs. I can make only one more attempt and I want to make best of it. I have dropped a year so that I can concentrate on JEE preparation and clear the exams this year.”

Enrolments at coaching institutes see many repeaters. Madhur Suhaga, an IIT coaching institute owner, shares, “The trend of dropping a year to prepare for IIT JEE is more prevalent in metros like Delhi, Mumbai, Pune and Nagpur. It is worth too if students really achieve their goals and get an IIT seat.”

Some students prefer to take admissions in college and preparing for JEE exam simultaneously though. Riddhi Garg says, “If you take admission in a college, you at least have a backup plan in case you fail to clear the JEE
Swaroop Sharma who cleared JEE Main last year but failed to clear the JEE Advance exam is also taking a second dig at the exam. “This year, I want to score more and get into an IIT,” he says. There are other students too who dropped a year to try for a higher rank this year.

Director of Aakash Educational Services Aakash Chaudhary says,”Every year, around 30% to 40% of JEE exam takers are repeaters. Many of them manage to qualify the exam too. However, most of the JEE toppers are often first-timers.”

Government finds UGC ‘redundant’

— By FPJ Bureau, October 16, 2014 12:02 am

http://freepressjournal.in/government-finds-ugc-redundant/

New Delhi : A Supreme Court bench headed by chief justice H L Dattu adjourned to October 29 a case of private universities’ recognition on finding the centre taking a stand against the University Grants Commission (UGC), instead of defending it.

UGC officials expressed surprise over the government’s stand in court instead of backing the commission, and pointed out that an earlier high court order had already reduced the commission’s powers to direct deemed universities and private institutions to maintain standards of education, infrastructure and staff.

The confusion arose when additional solicitor general (ASG) P S Patwalia told the SC that the UGC had become redundant on account of the earlier decision of the single-judge bench of the Karnataka high court that struck down as unconstitutional, the 2010 regulations to bring deemed and to-be-deemed institutions under the purview of commission. In the same breath, Patwalia said the centre has appealed in the Karnataka High Court against the judgment of the single-judge bench and it may transfer the case to the Supreme Court, once the appeal is admitted by the high court.

The apex court was hearing a set of petitions filed by Tamil Nadu-based institutions referring to the Karnataka high court order and questioning how two sets of rules could apply to colleges within Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. The ASG supporting the HC ruling prompted senior advocate K K Venugopal, who was appearing for one of the petitioners to tell the court that “it goes in my favour.”

Never held that UGC has become redundant: HRD ministry

Thursday, 16 October 2014 - 9:14pm IST | Place: New Delhi | Agency: PTI


The HRD Ministry on Thursday said that at no point of time it has held that the UGC has become redundant. In a statement, the ministry said that reports of the Centre saying in the Supreme Court on October 14 that UGC has become redundant are "absolutely incorrect, misrepresented and misleading and intended to create a negative perception of the government". "The HRD Ministry has at no point of time held that UGC is redundant either in their affidavit or in the counsel's argument," the statement added.
The apex court was hearing petitions filed by two Tamil Nadu-based institutions - SRM Deemed to be University and Manakula Vinaygar Academy of Higher Education - in a matter concerning UGC’s power to regulate deemed universities and private institutions. The Karnataka High Court had quashed the regulations.

Referring to the high court order, these two institutes had raised questions on how two sets of rules could apply to colleges within Karnataka and colleges in Tamil Nadu. In connection with the matter, Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Paramjit Singh Patwalia had submitted before the court that there have been two distinct views held by the two esteemed high courts of Madras and Karnataka respectively on the Institutions (Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010 which have given two different judgments, one upholding the regulations and the other quashing them.

"Therefore the allegation that the Centre has argued that the order of the High Court of Karnataka is applicable to the rest of the country is misleading," the statement said. It said the government has already filed its appeal in the Karnataka High Court challenging its order quashing the regulations. The ASG has also sought the permission of Supreme Court to transfer the appeals which are pending in Karnataka High Court to Supreme Court to adjudicate on the matter in the interest of maintenance of quality of higher education imparted by institutions Deemed to be Universities.

Centre opposes Karnataka HC order on UGC powers to regulate deemed

Bangalore/New Delhi: The Centre has opposed the Karnataka High Court order denuding the UGC's power to regulate deemed universities and private institutions saying that it would render the institution redundant.

Appearing before a Supreme Court bench headed by Chief Justice H L Dattu, Additional Solicitor General P S Patwalia submitted although 2010 UGC Regulations - by which the higher education regulator imposed its authority over deemed and to-be-deemed institutions - had been declared unconstitutional by the Karnataka High Court it would be applicable across the country.

"When Parliament enacts a law, it operates across the country. If the High Court has struck down a Parliament-enacted law, the order will operate pan-India," he said.

The apex court was hearing petitions filed by two Tamil Nadu-based institutions - SRM University and Manakula Vinaygar Academy of Higher Education.

Referring to the Karnataka HC order, they raised questions on how two sets of rules could apply to colleges within Karnataka and colleges in Tamil Nadu.

A single-judge bench of the Karnataka HC struck down the Regulations on the ground made out by seven private universities that the Regulations cannot apply retrospectively to structures or buildings existing prior to 2010.

The order was challenged before a division bench and the matter is still pending before the HC.
IRNSS-1C successfully put in its orbit

ISRO getting ready for test flight of GSLV Mark III

TE RAJA SINGHAN
Sriharikota, October 16

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is gearing up for the first suborbital test flight of GSLV Mark III experimental mission with unmanned crew module within 45 days taking a step closer to sending astronauts into space. The Mark III will be one of the heaviest indigenous launch vehicles, said K Radhakrishnan, Chairman of ISRO, after witnessing the successful launch of PSLV C36 at 1:37 a.m. from the first launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre here. The Mark IV launch is designed to make ISRO self-reliant in launching heavier communication satellites weighing 4,500 to 5,000 kg and enhances the country’s capability to be a competitive player in the multi-billion dollar commercial launch market.

Typical parameters of GSLV Mark III are: (i) Lift off weight - 630 tonne; (ii) Payload - 4 tonne to Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit and (iii) Height - 42.4 metre.

Perfect launch

At the terrace of the media centre, there was pin drop silence as the 10-second countdown started for the launch. With a half moon in the background, the rocket took off with an orange glow brightening the dark sky near the launch pad located nearly 5 km from the media centre.

PSLV C36 has precisely placed IRNSS-1C in its orbit. In the last four days, nearly 1,000 members were involved round-the-clock in making the mission a success, said Radhakrishnan.

The PSLV C36 carried the 1,425-kg Indian Regional Navigational Satellite System (IRNSS-1C). It was the 27th straight successful launch of ISRO’s workhorse vehicle. The 67-hour countdown for the mission commenced at 0632 hours on October 13. The launch was supposed to be on October 10 but was postponed by a week due to technical issues.

The IRNSS-1C was the third satellite (of the total seven) of the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System with four more planned to be launched before 2015. Similar in composition to its predecessors IA and IB, it is an independent regional satellite system designed to provide accurate position information service to users in the country as well as the region extending up to 1,500 km from its boundary.

The IRNSS-1C carried two types of payload - navigation and ranging. The navigation will transmit navigation service signals.

Jitender Singh, Minister of State for Atomic Energy and Space, told scientists after watching the launch that India will soon have its own navigational satellite system, which is part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Make in India vision.

“We have now emerged as a world leader in the area of space technology.”
Summer placements sizzle at B-schools

Management graduates are back as the toast of the talent market and B-schools are again celebrating the summer-placement season, after a lull of three-four years. These institutions, earlier worried about placing their increased batch sizes, in many cases managed to find summer internship opportunities for all their students in flat three days.

Besides, the average of stipend offered has risen 15-20 per cent from last year. The highest stipend offered at Management Development Institute (MDI), Gurgaon, has been a record ₹4.2 lakh for two months. The average stipend for post-graduate programme in management (PGPM) was ₹1.15 lakh at MDI and between ₹1 lakh and ₹1.2 lakh at other institutes.

These offers to management students are for summer internships in May and June next year; the stipend paid will be for their stint at the companies in these two months.

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Lucknow this year achieved 100 percent summer placement for its batch of 464 students in four-and-a-half days, a day less than those taken last year.

The recruitment drive saw participation of 164 domestic and international recruiters.

"The highlight of this placement season was the presence of firms like JPMorgan, international mutual fund company Alvarenes Marsal, and four Indian private equity players," IIM-L said in a statement. The institute did not disclose details of stipend offered.

MDI placed its batch of 240 in less than four days. "This is the first time since doubling of the batch size for PGPM to 240 that all PGPM and 61 students in the post-graduate programme in human resource management (PGPHRM) got placed in less than four days," said Kanwal Kapil, chairperson of the placement cell at MDI.

The average stipend for the PGPHRM recruits stood at ₹1.07 lakh, against ₹95,900 last year. The highest figure was at ₹1.6 lakh. A total of 109 companies participated in the hiring process at MDI. Among the companies that came for here hiring for the first time were Boston Consulting Group, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Danone, Motorola, Novartis and Snapdeal.

At the XLRI-Xavier School of Management, 105 companies together made 385 offers to 368 students. All students of the batch received paid internships in less than three days. The highest stipend offered was ₹1.5 lakh a month. And the median stipend for the entire batch was ₹55,000 a month.

This year, all of the 368 students in our largest-ever batch got summer placements. Last year, when a high point was the steep rise in finance internships, our batch size was 303. The year before, when FMCG majors were the top draw at XLRI, our batch strength was 240." said Rajiv Mishra, chairperson of the placement cell at XLRI.

Summer placements...

Top recruiters on the campus in terms of the number of offers made were Altisource (12), Vodafone (10), HUL (9), ITC (9), Microsoft (9), ABG (8), Samsung R&D Institute (6) and Wipro (6).

"There has been a steep rise in international internship offers this year. Companies like M.H Aishaya, ABG, Altisource, HUL, Kellogg's, Nomura, Pepsi, Godrej and a European Hedge Fund have hired for multiple international roles," XLRI said.

XLRI also saw participation from the likes of Pratham, Tata Trust, Azim Premji Foundation, Bandhan Microfinance, Ashoka Foundation and E-Vidyaloka for 'Parivartan', the institute’s parallel placement process for the social sector, completed before the conventional summer placement week.

World Bank, Citibank, HSBC, Standard Chartered, BNP Paribas, DBS hired at the institute for multiple roles, including the markets, corporate banking, retail and HR verticals. Consulting firms BCG, Capgemini, Cognizant, Deloitte, EY, KPMG and PwC made an average four offers each.

Mumbai-based NMIMS said the trend was favourable this year and a higher number of companies would be participating in its summer placement process. The institute plans to host over 150 companies this time.
खराब मौसम के कारण उड़ानों में देरी को दूर करेगा नासा

वाशिंगटन। नासा ने एक ऐसे नए सॉफ्टवेयर टूल का विकास किया है, जो मौसम के कारण उड़ानसेवाओं में होने वाली देरी को न्यूनतम करने में मदद करेगा। यह सॉफ्टवेयर वायु यातायात का संतुलित विश्लेषण करके उड़ान के समय और ईंधन दोनों की बचत करेगा।

नासा ने कहा कि मौसम के कारण पैदा हुए बाधाओं और इससे उजी निरन्तर की कम करने के लिए डिजाइन किए गए इस टूल का प्रयोग अच्छा चल रहा है। अमेरिकन एयरलाइंस और अमेरिकी संयुक्त उड़ान प्रशासन इन परीक्षणों से जुड़े हैं। भौगोलिक वैश्विक रूप से डिडल्यूआर नामक यह कंपनी सॉफ्टवेयर टूल पूरे ‘नेशनल एयरस्पेस सिस्टम’ के वायु यातायात का संतुलित विश्लेषण करने के लिए ग्राफिक किया गया है।

इसके साथ ही यह लगातार बदलने वाले मौसम में होने वाले इन बदलावों का भी विश्लेषण कर सकता है, जिनके चलते किसी विमानसेवा को गंभीर बदलना पड़ता है। जब डिडल्यूआर टूल को कोई ऐसा मौका मिलता है, जहाँ कोई विमानसेवा अपने लक्ष्य के तुरंत दक्षता के साथ, समय और ईंधन बचाते हुए और उड़ान से वर्तमान सुरक्षित दौरी से निकलकर पहुंच सकती है।

उड़ान भेजने वाले कंप्यूटर में एक अलर्ट बजने लगता है। अमेरिकन एयरलाइंस इस तकनीक का आकलन वर्ष 2012 से कर रही है। उदाहरण के लिए इस सॉफ्टवेयर की मदद से बोइंग 777 के एक विमान ने तुफानों के दौरान डाटा से व्यू हो नव तक की दूरी को तय समय से 26 मिनट कम समय में तय किया। कैलिफोर्निया स्थित नासा के एमएस रिसर्च सेंटर के डिडल्यूआर के प्रमुख इंजीनियर डेविड मैकगेली ने कहा, 'हमें अमेरिकन एयरलाइंस से काफी सकारात्मक प्रतिक्रियाएं मिली हैं।'