Newspaper Clips  
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Times of India  ND  23-Oct-10  p-17

Foreign varsities slash grants

Launch Cost-Cutting Steps, Sell Part Of Their Campuses To Raise Funds

Hemali Chhapia | TNN

Mumbai: For those of you counting on big ticket scholarships in your favourite foreign university, here is some dark news.

Several universities across the world are still reeling from the backlash of the global economic turmoil and are desperately trying to cut costs. Most are reducing administrative expenses and aggressively raising gifts from emerging markets, but a few of them have already targeted their scholarship schemes and research funding.

The worst news has, unexpectedly, come from Greece which has been hit the worst. Just last week, its education and external affairs ministries stripped away every scholarship they offered international students from developing nations. “We will not be able to offer scholarships from the ministry of education and another 100 from the ministry of external affairs this year to any student,” said Christina Vasilatou, head of the consular section at the Greece embassy in Delhi.

Most Indian students, she added, head to polytechnic colleges in Greece to study engineering. Although the situation is not as dramatic in other countries, several other universities have seen their endowments tumble dramatically too. They have also been forced to slash scores of scholarships.

Apart from Greece, several other south-European countries have signalled introducing austerity measures as the W-shaped or a double-dip monstrous recession seems to be charging its way into their weak economies. Some foreign universities have sold parts of their campuses to raise funds as government grants have plunged, some other like Yale University have launched a slew of cost-cutting measures like installing occupancy sensors to bring down electricity bills and eliminating non-essential travel.

Till last year, when a student was accepted by a college for a PhD programme in the United Kingdom, it was a given that the fellow would be largely supported financially by the host university, thanks to the generous funding available for research.

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After 5 yrs, UGC to get secretary

Akshaya Mukul | TNN

New Delhi: Without a regular secretary, save for three months, and financial adviser for the past nearly five years, University Grants Commission chairperson S K Thorat has now initiated the process of appointing a secretary with barely four months left of his tenure.

Advertisement for secretary’s post was made nearly a year ago but the process after initial action was put on hold.

Also, Thorat’s private secretary Sanjay Negi, who did PhD only this year, has been selected as assistant registrar of Central University of Gujarat. Negi confirmed he had got the job but said he would join sometime in November.
Myths & facts about osteoarthritis

Although there is no guaranteed cure for osteoarthritis, early diagnosis and management can help control the progression of the disease, say Sitaram Bhartia Institute of Science & Research

**MYTH**: Osteoarthritis just like other kinds of arthritis is an inflammatory disease of the joints.

**FACT**: Rather, osteoarthritis causes breakdown of cartilage in joints, which leads to joint pain and stiffness. Inflammation isn't normally seen in this progressive disease, although changes within the joint space occasionally cause a localized inflammatory response, such as synovitis.

**MYTH**: Osteoarthritis is diagnosed with lab tests and joint X-rays.

**FACT**: A thorough physical examination is important for the early diagnosis of osteoarthritis. X-rays of the affected joint may not show joint-space narrowing or bony sclerosis until the disease is in its late stage.

**MYTH**: Osteoarthritis is part of the aging process.

**FACT**: Although the incidence of osteoarthritis is greater among elderly people, the disorder's specific risk factors include obesity, joint trauma, and repetitive use of joints in sports or work-related activities.

**MYTH**: Osteoarthritis cannot be avoided in old age.

**FACT**: Ageing and osteoarthritis are not related to each other as ageing is a natural process and osteoarthritis is caused due to reduction in the synovial fluid leading to the wear and tear of joints and may involve many factors.

**MYTH**: No effective topical treatment exists.

**FACT**: Regular application of capsaicin cream, a purified extract of red pepper, helps block the peripheral transmission of pain impulses before they reach the central nervous system.

**MYTH**: Pain due to osteoarthritis can't be relieved.

**FACT**: Modern medical management is not only effective but is safer than before. Moderate physical exercises, lifestyle modifications, appropriate diet and surgery at times help to reduce the pain. With these modalities, many patients are now able to lead a normal and productive life in spite of suffering from osteoarthritis.

**MYTH**: Once it sets in, osteoarthritis can't be treated.

**FACT**: Although there is no guaranteed cure for osteoarthritis, early diagnosis and management can help to control the progression and symptoms of the disease.

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Read Times wellness pullout released every alternate Saturday in South Delhi & Gurgaon markets
Jamia to go ahead with Dalai honour

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Jamia Milia Islamia is likely to be allowed to confer an honorary doctorate on Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama. Jamia is going ahead with its preparations to confer the doctorate on November 23, sources said.

Foreign secretary Nirupama Rao in her briefing said, “I would not like to comment now, but the matter is receiving our attention.” Before her interaction with reporters on Friday, Jamia Milia Islamia vice-chancellor Najeeb Jung spoke to Rao. Sources in the Jamia said, “We have been assured that the foreign ministry will take a positive look into the request.”

Jamia sources also said, “We are dismayed with the reaction of the foreign ministry. The Dalai Lama’s presence in the campus would have made a positive impact on students.” A university official said, “The Dalai Lama has been given honorary doctorate by Banaras Hindu University, Jain Vishwa Bharati and nearly 10 more Indian universities. Why bar Jamia? At a time when one community is besieged, such a decision will send a wrong signal.”

Jamia officials are also expressing surprise that the China factor should influence such decisions. “Should we be so scared of China as to forget about our own country?” an official asked.

Sources said the final decision could still take a few weeks, the main reason being Prime Minister Manmohan Singh’s scheduled meeting with his Chinese counterpart Wen Jiabao on the sidelines of ASEAN summit later this month. Fearing a sharp response from Beijing, the government clearly does not want any awkward moment just ahead of the meeting.
Arthritis still a major concern

Problem of arthritis is said to be increasing in the city, especially in the changing season. Doctors suggest ways to deal with the problem.

The key to elimination of a disease is said to be education, expert support and raising public awareness but arthritis in the city refuses to die down. The reason behind this is frequent weather changes and lack of long-term treatments for patients in the city.

Again as this seasonal change has brought dormant orthopaedic conditions into focus, the number of patients is increasing daily. A leading orthopaedic specialist says the pain starts increasing among arthritis patients during two seasonal changes—from rainy to winter and from summer to rainy. "It affects knee, spine and joints specifically and they become stiff due to change in temperature in the surroundings."

As arthritis attacks, patients stop their regular exercises and walks. Doctors say, "They become negligent of their exercise schedule and go to the doctor when the condition gets too painful. This creates problems."

While Dr Dinesh Sharma, another orthopaedic specialist points out that he sees patients till midnight as they are increasing on a daily basis, he says it is natural in this type of seasonal alterations. "In this season, all three types of arthritis patients are coming in. Whilst gouty arthritis occurs due to uric acid in blood and rheumatoid arthritis due to deposition of a substance in blood, bony or ortho arthritis affects city people the most. It concerns the joints, knee, cervical spine, lumber spine, and hip."

The moisture content in air and alterations in city temperature are a cause of major concern for doctors. On treatment of the disease, doctors say, every arthritis patient is individual and should be treated as such. Roopa Sharma, an arthritis patient acknowledges that these days her problem has increased. She adds that exercise and walks have helped her more than medicines.
INCLUSIVE ECOSYSTEMS

Urban planning across the world needs to be participatory and sustainable. Public participation in urban planning has come to be seen as a panacea for creating inclusive societies, says DURGANAND BAI SAVAR

Improving the quality of life in a city is the primary objective of urban planning. Integration of land use policies with transport, economic, social and environmental issues and resource planning will go a long way in contributing to the overall development of infrastructure. With unprecedented growth and rural migration, several cities are grappling with congestion, pollution, lack of affordable housing, electricity and water, inadequate transport systems. While conventionally, planning of cities has been a top-down centralised approach, over the last few decades, the value of citizen participation in urban planning has been recognised. Since the voices of the most vulnerable social groups are rarely heard, public participation in urban planning has come to be seen as a panacea for creating inclusive societies.

In cities like Zurich, Municipal plans are drawn up and implemented in partnership with citizen forums. The recent United Nations Conference on Human Settlements has acknowledged that economic forces are considerably impacting rural migration to cities as well as the growth of slums. In this context, the social aspect of sustainable development include social equity, social justice and opportunities to livelihood and basic amenities of housing, health care and education. New infrastructure and urban services such as sewerage, electricity, water, supply public transport and roads may either induce indiscriminate sprawl or create an efficient density.

The WHO records that each day a city of 1 million people consumes, on average, 11,500 tonnes of fossil fuels, 3,000 tonnes of water and 2,000 tonnes of food while emitting 2,500 tonnes of Carbon dioxide. Since the Rio Summit (1992), urban planning has concerned itself with environmental protection and citizen participatory process. A case in point is the tangible results of rain water harvesting which has helped increase the water table in Chennai. Similar processes in creating conditions for affordable housing, a unified transport system and for freeing the coast of traffic to protect the fragile eco-systems can considerably transform the city.

Competent and accountable urban governance is an imperative factor in ensuring urban plans are implemented. Urban planning hence strives to balance the benefits of development against damage to the environment. The employment of a system of planning is essentially a long-term exercise, while strategies have to be developed immediately envisaging a phased growth. A citizen’s participatory process reinforces its democratic rights and responsibilities in guiding a humane urban process. The writer is the Principal Architect of Artes-Human Settlements Development Centre.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

Studies of best practices in other cities throw light on the kind of infrastructure and planning involved: the Rotterdam manual for Urban Planning and Environment provides for implementing environmental policies at the local level with land-use planning. The aspects that contribute to sustainable planning are ecological impact of development, impact on future generations, impact of noise, air pollution, soil contamination and safety. The city of Lisbon created a peripheral park - about 500 hectares of greenbelt to relieve congestion and provide social space for its citizens. Stockholm is consciously planning reduction of its carbon emissions. It is imperative however to recognise that urban and environmental planning is specific to cities and cannot be indiscriminately applied across cities. A sustainable planning process has to be openended and flexible, while being guided by ecological principles implemented through social inclusion.
Now, an inflatable collar that can replace helmet

**London:** Now, an inflatable collar which can protect bikers and cyclists who have been crying out for alternative to the helmet.

Designers in Sweden have made the ‘Hvvdng’ helmet which is an airbag ‘collar’ that springs into action within 0.1 seconds, covering the skull and neck of a rider in the event of an impact, the Daily Mail reported. Roughly translated into English as the “Chieftain” — the Hvvdng was designed over some six years by two industrial design students.

A small helium gas cylinder inflates the collar and it remains inflated for several seconds after impact. Designer Anna Haupt said the airbag will first cost around 260 pounds. She said the colour of the collar can even be changed to match whatever outfit the cyclist is wearing.

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**Moon has water good enough to drink**

‘A Tonne Of Lunar Rock Can Yield Up To 13 Gallons Of Water, Enough To Sustain Astronauts’

London: According to NASA, there are oceans of water-rich soil on Moon’s surface that could sustain astronauts.

“About a tonne of material — you’re talking 11-12 gallons of water that you could extract,” the BBC quoted Anthony Colaprete, from the US space agency’s Lunar Exploration Programme, as saying.

A lunar probe last year revealed far more water than anyone had imagined. The researchers’ analysis suggests some areas of lunar regolith, or soil, must contain as much as 6% by weight of water-ice.

“And it’s in the form of water-ice grains. That’s good news because water-ice is very much a friendly resource to work with. You don’t have to warm it very much; you just have to bring it up to room temperature to pull it out of the dirt real easy,” said Anthony Colaprete, from the US space agency’s Ames research centre.

The water-ice is not uniformly distributed across the southern pole but is held in pockets. Some of these cases are, like in Cabeus, to be found in shadows where LRO’s Diviner instrument has sensed temperatures down to -244°F. Under such conditions, ice will stay fixed for billions of years.

“This could facilitate future human and robotic explorers in their quest for understanding of the lunar ice, as well as its potential use as resource, because rather than having to brave the cold and dark conditions inside permanent shadow, they could land much more conventionally in areas where the sunlight is shining—at least for part of the year—and then dig a small distance below the surface and access the ice,” said David Paige, Diviner’s principal investigator. The study appears in Science magazine.

The Moon, at least at the bottom of a deep, dark cold crater near its south pole, seems to be wetter than the Sahara, the scientists said.

If astronomers were to visit this crater, they might be able to use eight wheelbarrows of soil to melt 10 to 13 gallons of water. The water, if purified, could be used for drinking, or broken apart into hydrogen and oxygen for rocket fuel — to get home or travel in Mars. The Sahara sands are 2 to 5% water, and the water is tightly bound to the minerals. In the lunar crater, which lies in perpetual darkness, the water is in the form of almost pure ice grains mixed in with the rest of the soil, and is easy to extract. The ice is about 6% of the mixture, and possibly as high as 8.5% of it, Colaprete said. “That is a large number, larger than I think anyone was anticipating.”

The new research results increase the water estimate to about 180 gallons, and by estimating by amount of dust excavated by the impact, calculated the concentration of water for the first time.

Several reports published in Science show some surprising findings, including a large amount of water in the form of ice, carbon monoxide, ammonia and the silvery metals.
Times of India ND 23-Oct-10 p-20

**Famous futurist says backing up brain memory to be possible soon**

**We can lead fuller lives**

As inventors and futurists go, they don't get much more reputable than Raymond Kurzweil. So when the man who holds 17 honorary doctorates and has been called the heir to Thomas Edison says that backing up an individual's entire brain and memories—through nanobot computer machines in our blood—could be feasible within the next two decades, he ought to be taken seriously. And if he is indeed correct, it would be a tremendous boon to science and medicine.

Imagine the life-changing medical benefits. Alzheimer's, for instance, affects over 26 million people worldwide in 2006 and is expected to affect as many as one in 85 people by 2050. This disease, thought to be caused by plaques and tangles in the brain, is currently irreversible, degenerative, and terminal. The potential benefits of being able to have a full backup of the patient's healthy brain would be immense in treating symptoms such as memory loss and language breakdown, as well as ultimately arresting the disease itself. And this is just one example; there would be any number of other medical applications of such technology. Diseases such as multiple sclerosis, accidents that cause neural damage, and the like would become easier to deal with. The benefits in fields such as psychology and psychiatry are obvious as well.

Not only does sharper memory lead to better cognitive functioning, there's an even more fundamental issue at stake. Memory is what holds together the self, to lose memory is to suffer a disintegration of the self. If loss of memory can be arrested, then aging will be seen as less of a curse than it is now. That would enable us to lead not only healthier but also fuller lives as we grow old. And that can only be a good thing.

**It will turn us into robots**

Technology has changed our lives in countless ways. It has enabled us to land on the moon, instantaneously communicate with people halfway across the world, and explore the building blocks of the material world. However, even though life without technology is unimaginable, there are certain red lines that must not be crossed. A Futuristic Counterview

Audrean Ghosh technology that will enable people to back up their thoughts and memories is one such avoidable invention. Not only does it raise serious ethical issues but also security concerns, as well.

With the rapid progress of technology, people have become heavily dependent on machines. This in turn has significantly shrunk the sphere of human activity. Developing nanobots that will be able to record our memories and emotions is tantamount to blurring the line between the human and the mechanical. Depending on the quality of our experiences, certain memories are naturally retained while others degenerate. This is what shapes us as individuals. Intervening in this fundamental human process would turn us into robots. The human mind is the most private of sanctuaries, which should be immune to invasion by artificial processes. Storing someone's thoughts and memory is the severest form of invasion of privacy.

From storing them it's only one step to someone else reading them, which opens up the possibility of mind control. A system that allows us to peek into people's minds can easily be reverse-engineered to implant thoughts. Declassified documents from the Cold War era reveal that various covert projects, such as the CIA's MKULTRA, were carried out to brainwash unsuspecting individuals. The scope of such human rights violations is bound to increase with the adoption of a memory-backup technology. Considering the side effects, it would be best to shelve research pertaining to such an invasive technology and adhere to the principle of precaution.

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Times of India ND 23-Oct-10 p-21

**Now, a formula so you don’t hit the wall**

Chicago: Marathon runners can train for months to condition for the big race, yet struggle to finish if they exhaust stores of carbohydrates too quickly, a phenomenon known as “hitting the wall.”

A new formula gives elite runners and marathon enthusiasts a more exact way to calculate just how many carb calories they need to take to stay in the 26.2 mile race.

"About 40% of marathon runners hit the wall," said Benjamin Rapoport, a student in the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology. That means the runner has burned up all of the carbohydrates stored in his liver and leg muscles, forcing him to slow down as the body starts to burn fat.

"People need to know three things: how much they weigh, what their target time is and their maximum oxygen intake capacity," he said. "That is a measure of a person's aerobic fitness."

Aerobic capacity, also known as VO2max, is a measure of how much oxygen the body can transport to the muscles and consume during aerobic exercise.

Measuring exact VO2max requires a treadmill stress test at maximum effort, but an informal way to estimate aerobic capacity is to divide maximum heart rate by resting heart rate and multiply by 1.5. To find your maximum heart rate, simply subtract your age in years from 220 beats per minute. The result, he said, is a number that tells runners how many excess carb calories they need to take in before a race. neuters
SC seeks govt response on single MBBS test'

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Friday asked the Centre and all states and Union territories to respond in four weeks to the Medical Council of India’s plea to start single eligibility-cum-entrance examination for MBBS and post-graduate medical courses in the country. The bench issued notices to the Centre and all state governments and Union territories after MCI filed an application seeking impleadment of all states as parties to a plea seeking a common entrance examination for admission to MBBS and post-graduate medical courses.
GOVT SEEKS DETAILS FROM IIT-KGP ON ‘TAINTED’ PROF

Charu Sudan Kasturi
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NEW DELHI: The human resource development ministry has asked the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, for an explanation over allegations that a senior professor used the IIT campus and brand to run an institute offering invalid degrees.

HT had first reported on October 19 about police investigations against IIT Kharagpur aerospace engineering professor Amit Kumar Ghosh for running the fake institute — called the Institute of Electrical Engineers — as president.

But fresh documents available with HT suggest that Ghosh also had a cover-up route ready — thanks to the post of Chief Vigilance Officer that the IIT bestowed on him.

The CVO is an institution’s chief watchdog against corruption and Ghosh was effectively in charge of stopping crimes like the running of the IEE at the time he was himself allegedly duping innocent students into joining the fake institute.

IIT Kharagpur also allowed Ghosh to jointly hold the CVO post and the post of chairman IIT Joint Entrance Examination when the test was under the scanner from late 2006 over allegations that deserving candidates were denied seats.

This conflict of interest, coupled with the shocking new revelations about Ghosh, have triggered fresh concerns among faculty, parents and independent transparency seekers about the credibility of the IIT’s internal probe into allegations of admission wrongdoing in 2006.

“The charges against Ghosh are so severe that they force one to question the credibility of the probe into the 2006 fiasco,” said a senior professor who has been campaigning for years for greater transparency in the conduct of IIT-JEE.
More water on moon than expected

When NASA blasted a hole in the moon last year in search of water, scientists figured there would be a splash. They didn’t know how big.

Now new results from the Hollywood-esque moonshot reveal lots of water in a crater where the sun never shines — 155 litres of ice and vapour.

That may not sound like much — it’s what a typical washing machine uses for a load — but it’s almost twice as much as researchers had initially measured and more than they ever expected to find.

The estimate represents only what scientists can see from the debris plume that was kicked up from the high-speed crash near the south pole by a NASA spacecraft on October 9, 2009. Mission chief scientist Anthony Colaprete of the NASA Ames Research Centre calculates there could be nearly four billion litres of water in the crater that was hit — enough to fill 1,500 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

“Where we impacted was quite wet,” Mr. Colaprete said, adding there could be more such craters at both the moon’s poles.

Proof that the moon is dynamic and not a dry, desolate world offers hope for a possible future astronaut outpost. — AP
CET: Supreme Court issues notice to States

D.D. Medical and Educational Trust wants impleaded to back Tamil Nadu’s stand

J. Venkatesan

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Friday issued notice to all the States on an application filed by the Medical Council of India on its proposal to introduce a common nationwide eligibility-cum-entrance test for MBBS and postgraduate medical courses from 2011-12.

A Bench of Justices R.V. Ravendran and H.L. Gokhale issued notice, seeking the response of the States in four weeks, and directed the matter to be listed thereafter.

The Bench had already allowed Tamil Nadu’s application against the move.

On Friday, D.D. Medical and Educational Trust, represented by its chairman and managing trustee T.D. Naidu, filed an application for being impleaded in the case in support of Tamil Nadu’s stand against a CET both for undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

Appearing for the MCI, senior counsel Amarendra Saran said there would be a national eligibility-cum-entrance test for all medical colleges. When Justice Ra- vendran wanted to know whether it would include private medical colleges too, Mr. Saran replied: “All medical colleges, including private and minority colleges.” The move was to avoid the multiplicity of the tests – at present, students had to take 10 to 15 tests across the country – and it would benefit the students.

Justice Ravendran asked: “How can you interfere with the domicile rights of the States and the rights of private institutions to have their own CETs?” Mr. Saran said: “This will prevent private institutions from manipulating the admission [process], and malpractices and irregularities in admissions.”

Justice Ravendran said: “Your intention may be noble, but private colleges also have to be heard before we pass any order.”

Justice Gokhale took exception to students writing letters directly to Justice Ra- vendran. “This must stop,” Justice Ravendran told Mr. Saran.

Senior counsel Ashok Desai, appearing for Tamil Na- du, said the State had already enacted a law abolishing the CET, and the present proposal would affect its students.

Counsel A.D.N. Rao, appearing for the main petitioner Simran Jain and others, said 13 to 14 States had already opposed the move to have a CET. He, however, said the common test would help the students.

In its application, the DDME Trust, which runs the D.D. Medical College and D.D. Hospital near Thiruval- lur, said Tamil Nadu had abolished entrance tests for admission to professional courses in 2007, and the selection and admission were being made under the provisions of the Tamil Nadu Admission in Professional Educational Institutions Act.

The entrance test was abolished on the recommendation of an expert committee, which found that the CET was a cumbersome process. “The CET causes mental agony to students and parents, especially from rural areas and the persons hailing from the lower strata of society,”

The application said the proposed MCI regulation for conducting a single entrance test for admission to medical courses would be in contradiction of the State legislation and would affect the State government’s policy, and it was vitally interested in the matter.

Centre, states to share cost of cleaning Ganga by 2020

New Delhi, Oct 22: A com- prehensive plan under Mis- sion Clean Ganga was being prepared to ensure that the river will flow from the source to the sea without siltation, municipal sewage and industrial efflu- ents by 2020, the Centre told the Supreme Court on Friday.

The ministry of environ- ment and forests said for attaining the objective, ITIs have been roped in to prepare a comprehensive ‘River Basin Management Plan’ for Ganga and the investment required for creating the necessary infrastructure will be shared by the Centre and states.

The World Bank has also promised financial assistance for the project. It said steps have already been taken in that direction and a notification on February 26, 2006, National Ganga River Basin Authority (NEGBA) which is empowered for planning, monitoring, and formulating the comprehensive river management plan for the river Ganga, was issued.

The Prime Minis- ter is the ex-officio Chair- person of the authority with union ministers concerned as its members and chief ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal, the states through which river Ganga flows.

The first meeting of NEGBA was held on October 15 last year under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. It was decided in the meeting that under Mission Clean Ganga, it will be ensured that by 2020 no sewage, industrial effluents, and municipal sewage and industrial effluents flow into Ganga, a senior official of the ministry said.

The Centre has also been entrusted with the task of preparing the detailed design and implementation of the project. The project is expected to be completed by 2020 at a cost of Rs 73,000 crore.

The Centre is expected to share expenditure up to 50% with the States under the scheme.

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ITIs to prepare a detailed ‘River Basin Management Plan’ for the river, environment ministry tells Supreme Court

ITIs to prepare a detailed ‘River Basin Management Plan’ for the river, environment ministry tells Supreme Court

CLEAN DRIVE

The World Bank has also promised financial assistance for the project.

Work has been entrusted to a consortium of seven ITIs and a memorandum of agreement has been signed in this regard.

The Union ministry said the project was expected to be completed by 2020 at a cost of Rs 73,000 crore.

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Moon has water & own water cycle

Washington, Oct 22: A year after announcing the discovery of water molecules on the moon, Nasa has said the earth’s satellite is not only rich in useful materials, it has a water cycle of its own. New studies suggest there is a lot more water on the moon than earlier thought.

The new data uncovered by Nasa's lunar crater observation and sensing satellite, or LCROSS, and lunar reconnaissance orbiter, or LRO, found evidence that the lunar soil within shadowy craters is rich in useful materials, and the moon is chemically active and has a water cycle. Scientists also confirmed the water was in the form of mostly pure ice crystals in some places. The results are featured in six papers published in the October 22 issue of Science.

"Nasa has convincingly confirmed the presence of water ice and characterised its patchy distribution in permanently shadowed regions of the moon," said Michael Wargo, chief lunar scientist at Nasa in Washington.

The twin impacts of LCROSS and a companion rocket stage in the moon's Cabeus crater on October 9, 2009, lifted a plume of material that might not have seen direct sunlight for billions of years. As the plume traveled nearly 10 miles above the rim of Cabeus, instruments aboard LCROSS and LRO made observations of the crater and debris and vapour clouds. After the impacts, grains of mostly pure water ice were lofted into the sunlight in the vacuum of space, Nasa said.

"Seeing mostly pure water ice grains in the plume means water ice was somehow delivered to the moon in the past, or chemical processes have been causing ice to accumulate in large quantities," said Anthony Colaprete, LCROSS project scientist and principal investigator at Nasa’s Ames Research Centre in Moffett Field, California. Scientists believe the water and mix of volatiles that were detected could be the remnants of a comet impact.

Anil Ambani to set up ICT University in Bhopal

Tribune, ND 23-Oct-10  p-21

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

Corporate interest in higher education today came further to the fore with the decision of Reliance Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group to set up Dhirubhai Ambani University (DAU) in Bhopal. The MP government has issued a letter of intent and provided land for purpose. Anil Ambani, Chairman, Reliance ADA Group, said, "A high-quality university at Bhopal that offers programs in the information technology is a priority for a state like MP that is on the vanguard of making great strides in economic development on the strength of its intellectual resources. The experience and the expertise which the group has acquired by establishing the Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information Technology at Gandhinagar,"
President wants a Central varsity in her hometown

PATIL Writes to HRD which may clear a new Central university only for women

ANUBHUTI VISINAI
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

RESIDENT Pratibha Patil’s proposal for an IIT exclusively for women in Amravati, her hometown and former Lok Sabha constituency, may have been rejected but now she’s pushing for a Central University there and may very well get it too.

Sources said that Patil has written to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh requesting that the existing Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, established in 1983, be upgraded to Central university status.

The PMO had forwarded this proposal to Union Human Resource Development (HRD) ministry for its views.

Highly placed sources have confirmed that the HRD Ministry, while advising against upgrading the existing University, has suggested that a new Central University for women can instead be established at Amravati but in the 12th Plan period.

Incidentally, of all the 40 odd Central Universities in the country, none is exclusively for women.

The President of India is also Visitor to all Central Universities in the country.

President Patil’s husband Devi Singh Shekhawat has also served as Amravati Mayor.

President Patil’s husband is described as an educationist and social worker on the website of the Rashtrapati Bhawan.

The HRD ministry announced 14 new Central universities in states as recently as 2008.

They are still struggling to find their feet. Of these, 12 were new varsities, and two were state universities upgraded to Central university status: Hari Singh Gaur University at Sagar, Madhya Pradesh and Hemvati NaNdan Bahuguna Garhwal University in Uttarakhand.
Notice to states on single CET

Plan to clean up Ganga by '20: Centre

New Delhi, Oct. 22: A comprehensive plan under “Mission Clean Ganga” was being prepared to ensure that the river will be free from the flow of untreated municipal sewage and industrial effluents by 2020, the Centre told the Supreme Court on Friday.

The ministry of environment and forest said that for attaining the objective, IITs have been roped in to prepare a comprehensive “River Basin Management Plan” for Ganga and the investment required for creating the necessary infrastructure will be shared by the Centre and state governments.

The World Bank has also promised financial assistance for the project.

It said steps have already been taken in that direction and by a notification on February 20, 2009, National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) which is empowered for planning, financing, monitoring and coordinating authority for river Ganga.

The Prime Minister is the ex-officio chairperson of the authority with Union ministers concerned as its members.

—PTI
The missing link

HRD MINISTER

Kapil Sibal is both smug and worried these days. He was one of the first ministers to have announced free education for all medal-winning athletes at the Commonwealth Games, much before India notched up its best medal haul. But he can't seem to have had enough of the CWG. At a function in the Capital, he praised the woman athletes who won laurels. Linking the wins to his ministry's education reforms, he said: "Key education reforms will be implemented despite obstacles as the students are with me." With several crucial education Bills stuck in Parliament, it looks like Sibal is seeking support from every quarter to kickstart the reforms process.
SC notice on single medical entrance test

THE SUPREME Court on Friday issued notice to all states and union territories over the proposed decision to hold a single eligibility-cum-entrance test for admission to undergraduate and postgraduate medical courses in all government and private medical colleges of the country.

A bench presided over by Justice R.V. Raveendran decided to hear all states and union territories before giving a go-ahead to the new regulation of the Medical Council of India (MCI), which had already been approved by the Centre.

The bench issued notice on the MCI’s application seeking to implead all state governments and union territory administrations in the matter.

Though the MCI had made the necessary amendments and the Centre had decided in principle to notify the new regulation, the decision to include private sector institutions could impede or even stall the proposed move to introduce the single-window system.

MCI counsel Amarendra Saran answered in the affirmative after the judge sought to know if the MCI proposed to fill MBBS and MD seats in private medical colleges through the test.

Saran said the MCI wanted a single test for all colleges to prevent malpractices and irregularities. The judge wondered if the decision would not interfere with the powers of state governments and the autonomy of private colleges.

Gyanant Singh/New Delhi
Mail Today ND 23/10/2010

HP unveils a $799 tablet with a complete PC feel

HEWLETT-PACKARD (HP) Co unveiled its first product for the fast-growing tablet market, a $799 device running Microsoft Windows that is aimed at business customers.

HP’s Slate 500 attempts to replicate the PC experience in a tablets form, providing a contrast to rivals who have brought more of a smartphone feel to their devices. The Slate runs the same version of Windows 7 used by many companies on their standard PCs. The tablet has a bigger price tag than competing products such as Apple’s iPad, which kick-started the tablet craze when it debuted earlier this year. HP’s offering has an 8.9-inch, multi-touch-enabled screen, weighs 1.5 pounds and comes with 64 gigabytes (GB) of storage and a digital stylus pen. It gets five hours of battery life. It comes equipped with Wi-Fi access but no built-in capability to connect to high-speed cellular networks, as rivals including the iPad, Samsung Electronics’ Galaxy Tab and Dell’s Streak have.

Carol Hess-Nickels, director, business notebook marketing, HP, expects retail, healthcare and insurance companies, among others, to build custom applications that take advantage of its portability. Reuters

Pioneer ND 23/10/2010

Moon has water, its own water cycle: NASA

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

A year after announcing the discovery of water molecules on the moon, NASA scientists have now said the earth’s satellite is not only rich in useful materials, it has a water cycle of its own. In fact, new studies suggest that there is a lot more water on the moon than earlier thought.

The new data uncovered by NASA’s Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite, or LCROSS, and Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, or LRO found evidence that the lunar soil within shadowy craters is rich in useful materials, and the moon is chemically active and has a water cycle.

Scientists also confirmed the water was in the form of mostly pure ice crystals in some places. The results are featured in six papers published in the October 22 issue of Science.

"NASA has convincingly confirmed the presence of water ice and characterised its patchy distribution in permanently shadowed regions of the moon," said Michael Wargo, chief lunar scientist at NASA Headquarters in Washington. The twin impacts of LCROSS and a companion rocket stage in the moon’s Cabeus crater on October 9, 2009, lifted a plume of material that might not have seen direct sunlight for billions of years.

As the plume travelled nearly 10 miles above the rim of Cabeus, instruments aboard LCROSS and LRO made observations of the crater and debris and vapour clouds. After the impacts, grains of mostly pure water ice were lofted into the sunlight in the vacuum of space, NASA said.

"Seeing mostly pure water ice grains in the plume means water ice was somehow delivered to the moon in the past, or chemical processes have been causing ice to accumulate in large quantities," said Anthony Colaprete, LCROSS project scientist and principal investigator at NASA’s Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, California.

"Also, the diversity and abundance of certain materials called volatiles in the plume, suggest a variety of sources, like comets and asteroids, and an active water cycle within the lunar shadow," he said. Volatiles are compounds that freeze and are trapped in the cold lunar craters and vaporise when warmed by the sun."
गाजियाबाद में खुलेगा सीएसआईआर विवि

साइंस और इंजीनियरिंग में पीएचडी देने वाला देश का पहला विवि होगा

**विशेष संवाददाता**

नई दिल्ली

साइंस और इंजीनियरिंग की पीएचडी देने वाला देश का पहला विश्वविद्यालय गाजियाबाद में स्थापित होने जा रहा है।

वैज्ञानिक एवं औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद (सीएसआईआर) की एक-दमी औफ साइंटिफिक एंड इनॉवेटिव रिसर्च (एससीआईआर) अगले महीने से शुरू होगी। इस अकादमी का दम-चिन्ह निभा जिसे जून में केंद्रीय मंत्रीमंडल से मंजूरी मिल चुकी है। इसका विश्वसन विश्वसन है, लेकिन इसके पारित होने से पहले विवि को शुरू करने का निर्णय लिया गया है।

सीएसआईआर के उच्च अधिकारी के अनुसार यूनिवर्सिटी का बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर तैयार कर लिया गया है। इसमें हरि परिवार, राजेंद्र पवार जैसे विवि के अलावा सीएसआईआर की चार प्रोफेसरों के निदेशक रहे हैं।

अभी इसके संस्थाल की नियुक्ति होनी है, तब तक बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर के चेयरमैन का काम सीएसआईआर के विशेषज्ञता की खातिर

- अगले महीने से कार्य करने लगेगा विश्वविद्यालय
- बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर गठित
- सीएसआईआर की 37 प्रोफेसरशालाएँ हैं, जिनमें 4500 वैज्ञानिक हैं
- इनमें से 2500 वैज्ञानिक पीएचडी कराने में सहयोग करेंगे

महानिदेशक सभी के ब्रह्मचारी ही देखेंगे। अकादमी फिलहाल साइंस और इंजीनियरिंग के निभिम विषयों में पांच साल पीएचडी कराएगी। साइंस में एक हजार और इंजीनियरिंग में 150 पीएचडी प्रति वर्ष होगा। बाद में पीजी कोर्स भी शुरू करने की योजना है।

अधिकारी के अनुसार सीएसआईआर का गाजियाबाद में एनएच-24 के निकट अत्यधिक मानव संसाधन विकास केंद्र (एचआरडीसी) है। वह करीब 15 हजार वर्ग मीटर में फैला हुआ है तथा विवि के लायक सभी जरूरी सुविधाओं की सुविधाओं से तैयार है।

यहां उड़ते हुए लागू करेगा 50 करोड़ भी हैं। यहीं पर विवि का मुख्यालय बनाने का चारण लिया गया है, जो अगले महीने से कार्य करता आरंभ कर देगा।
निदेशकों की
खोज में मंत्रालय
आईआईएम उदयपुर
मनोज कुमारेन्द्र @ नई दिल्ली

म्यारियों पंचवर्षीय स्थनों में शुरू करने को लेकर बाकी बचे आईआईएम उदयपुर और आईआईएम काशीपुर के मिली, निदेशक के चयन की प्रक्रिया शुरू हो गई है। अगले वर्ष के शैक्षिक सप्ताह से प्रस्तावित दोनों आईआईएम के निदेशकों के लिए आवेदन भेजने की अंतिम तिथि 19 अक्टूबर के बीतने के साथ ही मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय उसकी छठनी में जुट गई है।

मंत्रालय के उच्च पदस्थ सूची ने बताया कि दोनों आईआईएम निदेशकों के लिए तय मानदंडों के आधार पर आए 50 से अधिक आवेदनों की छठनी का काम इस महीने के अंत तक पूरा कर लिया जायगा। अगले महीने के मध्य तक चयनित सभी अध्यक्षतियों का मंत्रालय में साक्षात्कार होगा।

नवम्बर के अंत तक निदेशकों के चयन की अंतिम दिन जाने के आसार है। सूची ने बताया कि दोनों निदेशकों का चयन प्रौ. व वैज्ञानिक आए मान्यता की अथवा जांच चयन एवं चयन समिति करेगी।

मान्यता के अधिकारा समिति के अन्य सदस्यों में एडकोर्ड डॉट काम के प्रमुख अजित बालाकुण्डन, मैक्स हेइल्थ केयर के प्रमुख अनलाइन सिंह और एचआरडी मंत्रालय के उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग की सचिव विभागीय दास शामिल हैं।

कैम्पस तैयारियां संतोषजनकों एक सप्ताह पहले आईआईएम उदयपुर के लिए दौड़ी सिघर एस्थाइ कैम्पस के तीर पर तैयार किए नवनिर्मित भवन मॉडर्न रेसिडेंशियल पर्दल स्कूल व सूर्य परिसर के लिए बालीया गांव के पास उदयपुर-अहमदनगर जेर लेन पर स्थित जमीन का निरीक्षण कर लौटे कैन्शिय टीम के एक सदस्य ने बताया कि कार्य यह दौर और पहले हुआ होता तो सम्भव था कि रायपुर की तरह इसी साल से पीजोपर ना सही हो कम से कम अल्पकालिक एक्सक्यूटिव प्रोग्राम से पड़ाई की शुरूआत अगस्त हो जाता।