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IIIT-Allahabad chief ‘illegally’ changes rule
Retains Post After Tenure Expires

Akshaya Mukul | TNN

New Delhi: Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT)-Allahabad, a deemed to be university, is caught in a peculiar situation.

M D Tiwari, the director of the institute since its inception in 1999, whose term ended last December and six months extension got over in June has amended the Memorandum of Association (MoA) of IIIT so that he continues till the new director is appointed. Even as the HRD ministry cries foul and the UGC says amending MoA is patently illegal, Tiwari maintains he has merely followed the law. Chancellor of IIIT-Allahabad, Goverdhan Mehta, has sent a report to the HRD ministry.

“I have taken an appropriate step. I have written in as much objective and reasonable fashion as possible,” he told the TOI.

The matter came to head when Tiwari’s six-month extension ended in June. HRD sources say instead of demitting the office he flashed the institute’s MoA that was amended in November 2011.

It was discovered that MoA stated that the director can continue in office for six months after expiry of his tenure till a new director joins, whichever is later.

The crucial change was introduction of the term ‘later’ instead of ‘earlier’. HRD ministry’s additional secretary protested against the amendment and pointed out relevant portions of UGC’s regulation that said no rules or bye law governing the functioning of any deemed university can be altered without UGC’s prior approval. Tiwari contests ministry’s claim. He asks, “Why was ministry silent for two years?” He also says amendment was endorsed by 26 members of the society. But ministry sources say amendment in the MoA is illegal, and the matter would be taken to its logical end.

IIIT faculty members also blame the HRD ministry for not fast-tracking the appointment of the new director.
As ₹ tanks, students abroad work longer, seek more loans

Samidha Sharma & Hemali Choppia | TNN

Mumbai: The Indian rupee’s free fall against the US dollar and UK pound is turning out to be a major source of concern for Indian students returning to campuses after their summer breaks. These students, faced with a currency which has depreciated more than 20% this year against the US dollar alone, are scurrying around to arrange for additional funds to complete their courses and get their dream jobs.

Unlike the fresh intakes who can possibly defer their admissions, these students are feeling the heat in a big way. Having taken loans when the rupee was at 50 to the dollar, they are seeing their overall expenditure go up by anywhere between 10-20%.

HDFC Credila, which specializes in education loans, said it is open to providing additional loans so these students can finish their courses, while PSU banks such as SBI said they will approach the Indian Banks’ Association if there are requests for enhancement of loan amounts from existing borrowers. Banks are also contemplating extending the repayment period of educational loans taken by students to pursue higher studies abroad.

Atin Rajvanshi, an MBA student from Hong Kong University of Science & Technology, who is going for an exchange programme to London Business School, said his budget for the UK stint has shot up by over Rs 2 lakh. “I am asking relatives if they can give me a loan with a lower interest rate compared to the bank. This has come as a big blow for students who have opted for exchange programmes in US and UK,” Rajvanshi said.

Sonal Parekh, who runs Edu World, a study-abroad counselling agency, said a lot of her students who have completed their first year in the US or Canada, are staying put at their universities for the next year but making other financial arrangements to shell out higher fees on account of the rupee fall. Some of them are taking additional loans, while others who have not exhausted the weekly 10-hour labour permit are working longer hours. “There are many who have shelved their holiday travel to Europe or Mexico. Many who planned to come back home for Christmas are staying put and taking up jobs as they can work 40 hours a week,” said Parekh.

Students typically get their loans sanctioned six months prior to commencement of their programmes, so a second-year MBA student picked up his/her loan amount in the beginning of last year. Banks at most times directly pay the loan amount, which is the tuition fee, to the university in a few tranches.

While MBA students do not usually work along with pursuing their courses, MS students, experts said, will be able to pick up jobs to make up for the deficit. Prashant A Bhonsle, country head, Credila, said they were looking at students who have come back for loan enhancements that on a case-to-case basis.
IITs get ready for third-party performance assessment

ANUBHUTI VISHNOI
NEW DELHI, SEPT 1

THE Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are getting ready, for the first time, to open themselves up to an independent third-party review of their performance that will judge them on the basis of indicators besides the regular performance parameters.

The review will also assess the institutes on indicators like the number of international students enrolled, the number of students opting to take up research-focused careers, and the contribution made by the institutes and their alumni to national goals and local community conditions.

IIT directors will also for the first time be appraised for their performance and each IIT has been asked to evolve a mechanism to do so, officials from the union Human Resource Development (HRD) ministry said.

The move comes at a time when it is strongly being felt that even the best of India’s educational institutes are consistently failing to top global education rankings. The draft performance appraisal framework that the union Human Resource Development (HRD) ministry has now sent out to all IITs has specifically introduced parameters that are of key consideration in global education rankings like QS, Shanghai and Times.

The ‘Institutional Grid for Assessment’ sent out to all 15 IITs outlines parameters such as the number of international students as scholars, the number of international visiting researchers who stay for at least a week and the number of courses with international participation. Education rankings place a high premium on the global character of an institute.

Other indicators are the number of publications per faculty member or student and the contribution elicited from alumni.

The performance of an IIT will also be judged through indicators like the nature of courses and curriculum being offered and their relevance to recruiters, the adequacy of teachers, the quality of teaching environment, the number of students who were motivated to opt for careers in engineering or science and technology sectors, the adequacy of infrastructure-teaching labs and equipment, and the feedback obtained from employers in science and engineering sectors.

In a bid to engage the IITs with society and with the national goals, indicators like the contribution to National Development Goals (NDGs) and national research projects in the sectors of defence, medicine, environment, energy, health, infrastructure and social responsibility are listed.

Transparent and responsive governance structures and diversity of students and faculty in terms of gender equity will also count as parameters in the assessment of the institutes.
India’s self-driven car to hit the roads soon

Vanita Srivastava
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NEW DELHI: Scientists at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur are working on developing India’s first self-driven car and a prototype is likely to be ready by next year.

“We are in the development phase and expect the first trial on a prototype around April 2014, which will be the end of this academic year. But this is dependent on various parameters, that are needed to be synchronously working in order to develop and get this commercialised,” Dr D Chakravarty, associate professor, department of mining engineering, IIT Kharagpur who is heading the project team said.

This is a highly interdisciplinary research and development project, he said where we are developing a prototype vehicle which can navigate on its own, avoiding the static and dynamic obstacles and following the GPS way points to reach a target destination given by the user.

“While the first initial prototype is ready, this needs to be upgraded in terms of capabilities and modifications of the implemented algorithms for better functioning of the same.” Highlighting the special features, he said it would not only be in a position to go for self driving, but the 3D environment mapping related data would be incorporated in the same along with pedestrian detection and intercommunication with other cars.

“The technology may also find its usage in underground spaces viz in underground mines, tunnels and metro railway workings which needs to be mapped and kept under surveillance.”
��第安न स्कूल ऑफ मेस्वर्क के बीटेक स्टूडेंट्स का दर्द

देश-विदेश
‘दाखिला IIT एंट्रेंस से, डिग्री की वैल्यू नहीं’

नरेंद्र नाथ || नई दिल्ली

आईआईटी द्वारा कंडेक्ट एक्जाम को पास करने के बाद यहां स्टूडेंट्स दाखिला पाते हैं, लेकिन आईआईटी पासआउट नहीं कहलाते। यह दर्द है इंडियन स्कूल ऑफ मेस्वर्क में कंप्यूटर साइंस, इलेक्ट्रिकॉल, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स, मैकेनिकल, सिविल और केमिकल इंजीनियरिंग जैसे स्ट्रीम की पढ़ाई करने वाले स्टूडेंट्स की। सरकार ने सालों बाद भी जब उनकी परेशानी को नहीं समझा तो अब वे आंदोलन की राह पकड़ रहे हैं। यहां के स्टूडेंट्स समस्या को पीएम से मुलाकात करके अपनी समस्या रखेंगे।

क्या है असल दिक्कत?
1926 में बने इंडियन स्कूल ऑफ माइज ने तुलना की सबसे बेहतरीन माइज इंस्ट्रूक्शं का दर्जा हासिल है। 1997 से सरकार ने इसे पूरा तथाकथित इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज में तद्विर्य कर दिया और इसमें दाखिला आईआईटी परीक्षा के माध्यम से हो जाने लगा। मलिब अब यहां स्टूडेंट्स की माइज के अलावा कंप्यूटर साइंस, इलेक्ट्रिकॉल, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स, मैकेनिकल, सिविल और केमिकल इंजीनियरिंग में भी बीटेक की डिग्री दी जा रही है। हालांकि, इस इंस्ट्रूक्षं को अभी भी आईआईटी का दर्जा नहीं मिला है। इस इंस्ट्रूक्षं के स्टूडेंट्स ने बताया कि चूंकि इसे आईआईटी का दर्जा नहीं मिला है, इसलिए इसे अभी भी इंडियन स्कूल ऑफ माइज के नाम से ही जाना जाता रहा है। इससे लोगों को यह जानकारी ही नहीं मिल पाई है कि यह दूसरे स्ट्रीम में भी बीटेक की पढ़ाई हो रही है। मलिब इन नीतियों के लिए भी आईआईटी दैग नहीं होने के कारण इन स्टूडेंट्स को तरजीह नहीं दे रहे हैं।
छात्राओं के लिए फ्री में नहीं खुलेगा ‘गेट’
आईआईटी गेट के रजिस्ट्रेशन आज से

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नोएडा। आईआईटी समेत देश भर के इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों में एमटीजी व पीएचडी एडमिशन और पीएचडी नौकरियों के लिए होने वाले एग्जाम इंजीनियरिंग एटीट्यूड टेस्ट इन इंजीनियरिंग (गेट) के रजिस्ट्रेशन छात्राओं के लिए फ्री नहीं होगे। सोमवार से शुरू होने वाले गेट के ऑनलाइन रजिस्ट्रेशन के लिए छात्राओं को 750 रुपये फीस भरनी होगी। जबकि पिछले साल यह प्रक्रिया निश्चित थी।

गेट ऑनलाइन एप्लिकेशन प्रोसेसिंग सिस्टम (जीआईएपीएस) के लिए वेबसाइट 2 सितंबर से शुरू हो जाएगी। इसमें रजिस्ट्रेशन 1 अक्टूबर तक और एप्लिकेशन 3 अक्टूबर तक जमा होगा।

ऑनलाइन एप्लिकेशन का प्रिंट फॉर्मेट में फॉर्म 10 अक्टूबर तक जमा होगा।

फीस नेट बैंकिंग (10 रुपये अतिरिक्त) के अलावा एसबीआई और बिंडेड बैंक चालान (25 रुपये अतिरिक्त) के आधार पर भी जमा की जा सकती है।

रजिस्ट्रेशन फीस

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रजिस्ट्रेशन का परीक्षा कार्यक्रम

ऑनलाइन रजिस्ट्रेशन 2 सितंबर से अतिम तिथि 3 अक्टूबर तक पत्र जमा होगे।

परीक्षा केंद्र में बदलाव 20 नवम्बर तक ऑनलाइन एडमिट कार्ड 18 दिसंबर से परीक्षा 1 फरवरी से 2 मार्च 2014 तक।

दूरदर्शन सेवा पर देश की लगभग 15 पब्लिक सेक्टर यूनिट (पीएचडी) भी नौकरियाँ हैं।

रजिस्ट्रेशन नोएडा समेत 200 शहरों में होगी। इसमें पहली बार सभी 22 पैपर कंप्यूटर-बेस्ड टेस्ट (सीबीटी) के रूप में ऑनलाइन होंगे।
IIT-B Techfest promotes quit smoking drive

Monday, Sep 2, 2013, 1:04 IST | Place: Pune | Agency: DNA

Rajesh Rao

ISMOKE campaign is being run at various colleges in Pune

This year’s IIT-Bombay Techfest has taken an unique social initiative ISMOKE (I support the movement to kill cancer), to spread the message of quit smoking through campus campaign, which is also running at various colleges in Pune.

The ISMOKE campaign has been a big success at city’s DY Patil College of Engineering and Technology, Padma bhushan Vasantdada Patil Institute of Technology (PVPIT). Now, it will also be carried out at Vishwakarma Institute of Technology on September 4, 5 and College of Engineering Pune on September 2, 3.

Divyam Bansal, manager, Media and Marketing, Techfest, IIT Bombay, said, “The ISMOKE campaign is launched in association with Indian Cancer Society (ICS), with a vision to spread the message among the youth to quit smoking. The campaign has the vision -- what just one needs is the right medium and the right audience to spread it.”

Bansal informed that there are co-ordinators in each college, who are assisting the execution of the campaign. They are giving out information about cancer and distributing pamphlets with necessary information.

In each college, a lecture will be delivered by doctor’s informing about the harmful effects of smoking. An android application is also built giving information of all the cancer hospitals in India and medication reminder. One can also ask queries about disease through this app, which will be answered by Indian Cancer Society.

The Techfest has also taken up an initiative “Reform’n’ation” designed with a vision to sensitising the youth about the awful situation of the unprivileged of the country. This initiative is in association with NGO’s like CRY, Smile Foundation, Pratham, Muktangan, Garbage Concern Welfare Society, Indian Cancer Society and The Candle Project.

Registered teams under “Reform’n’ation” will implement and conduct various activities over a wide range of domains, with incentives being cash prizes worth Rs 2.50 lacs, internship and projects under CRY and Smile Foundation. (For registration and information log on: http://www.techfest.org/reformnation)

One of the flagship events of Techfest is IDEATE with prize money of Rs 2.25 lakh, with a motto to discover the best ideas and innovations from across the nation.
Law to regulate pvt education soon

Sanjeev Singh Brariana
Tribune News Service

Chandigarh, September 1
To frame a law to regulate higher education, particularly in view of the mushrooming technical and management institutes imparting poor quality education, a Punjab Government team will be visiting Himachal Pradesh to study the impact of the Himachal Pradesh Private Educational Institutions Regulatory Commission.

The committee that comprises the Principal Secretary, Coordination, Sanjay Kumar; Principal Secretary Technical Education, AR Talwar; Principal Secretary, Medical Education, Vinnie Mahajan; and Principal Secretary, Higher Education, Ravneet Kaur; will also be touring Karnataka.

Himachal Pradesh has put in place a mechanism to regulate private education under its Private Educational Institutions (Regulatory Commission) Act, 2010, while Karnataka has passed the Professional Educational Institutions (Regulation of Admission and Fixation Fee) (Special Provisions) Bill, 2013.

The Himachal Pradesh commission has initiated significant measures towards regulating higher education.

For example, in May this year, the commission directed the universities not to issue any advertisement specific to MPhil and PhD courses for the session till the necessary approval from the commission. In Punjab, certain private institutions have closed down or are in the process of closing down. The Punjab Technical Education Department has refused affiliation to more than 24 colleges this year.

State of affairs

- At least 35 of the more than 100 private engineering colleges affiliated to PTU want to cut down admissions.
- Not even half of the 19,800 seats have been filled in these colleges after the second counselling (till July 18).
- Newspapers were flooded with advertisements of colleges offering fee concessions in the name of scholarships.
- At least 35 colleges are learnt to have sought an NOC from the Director of Technical Education and Industrial Training in this regard.
- A number of colleges offering MBA and MCA courses have sought an NOC from the govt for discontinuing the courses.

SC ruling

The Supreme Court in the PA Inamdar and others versus the State of Maharashtra case in 2005-06 had said that a law be enacted by states to oversee the norms of admission to professional colleges/unaided institutions.

Much-needed measures

- A high-level team to visit Himachal Pradesh to study the impact of the Himachal Pradesh Private Educational Institutions Regulatory Commission.
- This committee will comprise Principal Secretary, Coordination, Sanjay Kumar, Principal Secretary Technical Education, AR Talwar, Principal Secretary, Medical Education, Vinnie Mahajan, and Principal Secretary, Higher Education, Ravneet Kaur.
- The committee will also tour Karnataka.
- Karnataka has passed the Professional Educational Institutions (Regulation of Admission and Fixation Fee) (Special Provisions) Bill, 2013.
- In Punjab, certain private institutions have closed down or are in the process of closing down.
- The Punjab Technical Education Department has refused affiliation to more than 24 colleges this year.

The Himachal Government, before enacting a law, had noted: "The quality of education is not up to the standards in private institutions in spite of the high fee structure."

The commission has already issued notices to several institutes in the state for overcharging, admissions in contravention of norms and examination malpractices.
8 Delhi engineering students get ₹70 lakh/annum job offer

NEW DELHI: The placement season may have just started but eight students at the Delhi Technological University (DTU) have already bagged packages of ₹70 lakh per annum.

The US-based software firm, EPIC, has made the offer of $105,000 per annum to the students who will graduate next year.

The same company had recruited six students last year as well at the same package (in dollars). The falling rupee has increased the value of the offer this year.

This is the highest international offer of the year so far and the firm is going to conduct more interviews during the week.

“I had worked really hard so I was confident of getting a good placement but such a high offer was beyond my wildest expectations,” said Shubham Somani, a fourth-year student at the department of information technology.

The highest domestic offer of ₹28 lakh per annum has been made by Goldman Sachs. This has been followed by an offer of ₹19 lakh by Amazon. Eight students have bagged this offer.

The DTU has kicked off the placement season on a high note with 33 companies visiting it for placements within a month. The companies include EPIC, Microsoft, Goldman Sachs, Samsung Electronics, Samsung Research, Google, Amazon, Adobe, Directi, Walmart, Cisco, C-Dot, Infibeam, Qualcomm, Futures First, HT Media, RBS, SanDisk, Bajaj Auto, ITC and Carrier.

According to university officials, the fact that companies are coming back to recruit more students from the same university is a testament to the quality and rigorous course work at DTU.

“DTU has a strong focus on industry relevance for its educational and research programmes. Our educational strategy focuses on education, research as well as innovation in undergraduate programmes. The phenomenal rise in campus placements reflects the faith of world-class industries in DTU,” said PB Sharma, vice-chancellor, DTU.

The companies that are hiring students from the fourth-year are also offering paid internships to students in the third year, a trend that started at the university last year. The new trend is expected to boost the number of pre-placement job offers for students.
कम मांग और मंदी से जूझ रहीं
हैं शिक्षा क्षेत्र की कंपनियाँ

एम सरस्वती और जितेंद्र कुमार मुँता

मुँता के और राज्य में कमी के साथ ही शिक्षा क्षेत्र की कंपनियाँ पर आर्थिक मंदी और कम मांग का कब्जा देखा जा रहा है। हालांकि एक और जाही अन्यकॉम सॉल्यूशन्स, कोर्स एंड ऐडवार्ड टेकनोलॉजीज और एआईआईटी लिमिटेड जैसी कंपनियों के मुनाफे और कुल आदान-प्रदान में कमी देखी गई जहाँ एक्स क्रॉम खाना मालिक अपना कर मुनाफा पाने का कसामबाजी कर रहा है। अन्यकॉम सॉल्यूशन्स, कोर्स एंड ऐडवार्ड टेकनोलॉजीज और एआईआईटी लिमिटेड के जुलू से फालों तिमाही में पिछले वित्तीय वर्ष की समान समस्याओं के शुद्ध रोपण का तुलना में शुद्ध पाया गया। एनआईआईटी का शुद्ध पाया मिलने वाले वित्त वर्ष के 22.89 करोड़ रुपये के तुलना में बढ़कर 22.94 करोड़ रुपये हो गया। इक्की कंपनियों में केवल एनआईआईटी ने ही मुनाफा दर्ज किया।

एनआईआईटी के मुनाफे 2013 में खुद को दर्ज किया। राजस्थान में 25.2 फीसदी बढ़ोतरी दर्ज की। एनआईआईटी ने 3.77 करोड़ रुपये के कुलकार्य 4.72 करोड़ रुपये का कर बढ़ाकर मुनाफा दर्ज किया। एनआईआईटी के मुनाफे 1.54 करोड़ रुपये के कम कर दर्ज की। एनआईआईटी के मुनाफे 2013 में 11.5 करोड़ रुपये का मुनाफा दर्ज किया था। एनआईआईटी ने 2013 में खुद को 23.96 करोड़ रुपये का खुद प्रभाव दर्ज किया था जो एक साल पहले की समान समस्याओं में 4.88 करोड़ रुपये था।

एनआईआईटी के मुनाफे 2013 में 11.5 करोड़ रुपये का मुनाफा दर्ज किया था। कंपनी की प्रभाव समाधान प्रोजेक्ट के लिए कांडेन सॉल्यूशन्स में बदलाव किया है और वह अप्रैल 2013 से हो प्रभावी है। सीटेकलाइट तंत्र रॉल शीर्षक संबंधी मुद्दों को नियंत्रित करेंगे और वह अप्रैल 2013 से हो प्रभावी है। सीटेकलाइट तंत्र रॉल शीर्षक संबंधी मुद्दों को नियंत्रित करेंगे और वह अप्रैल 2013 से हो प्रभावी है।

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एनआईआईटी के मुनाफे 2013 में 11.5 करोड़ रुपये का मुनाफा दर्ज किया था। कंपनी की प्रभाव समाधान प्रोजेक्ट के लिए कांडेन सॉल्यूशन्स में बदलाव किया है और वह अप्रैल 2013 से हो प्रभावी है। सीटेकलाइट तंत्र रॉल शीर्षक संबंधी मुद्दों को नियंत्रित करेंगे और वह अप्रैल 2013 से हो प्रभावी है।