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MAYAPURI CASE: SIX DU PROFS CHARGESHEETED

NEW DELHI: Delhi police on Friday filed a chargesheet in a city court against six Delhi University professors in the 2010 Mayapuri radiation case for endangering lives by auctioning radioactive gamma irradiator without following mandatory precautions.

The chargesheet covers Delhi University teachers including the then head of Chemistry department, VS Parmar, and the then Dean of Sciences, Roop Lal. Besides, Rakesh Kumar, Ramesh Chandra Rastogi, Ashok Prasad and Rita Kakkar have also been chargesheeted under various penal provisions dealing with causing death by rash and negligent acts and causing grievous hurt.

The court is likely to take cognizance of the report on September 21.

The irradiator was sold in violation of the rules of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board which says any chemical product emitting radiations cannot be auctioned and disposed off without following regulations. PTI
UNFAIR PRACTICE

Medical students give practical classes a miss

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NEW DELHI: Most students of Delhi's medical colleges do not take evening practical lessons that are mandatory for them, raising questions about the standard of doctors that the city is producing.

MBBS undergraduate students are provided hands-on training on actual patients in these sessions, which they have to attend with senior residents.

Senior residents are young doctors who have recently completed master's degrees.

According to the rulebook of the Medical Council of India, taking practical lessons is a compulsory requirement for all MBBS students from third year onwards.

"We have been asking senior residents to ensure that the juniors attend these evening lessons, but to no avail. Without practical training, one can imagine how the next generation of doctors will be," said a senior faculty from the department of surgery at Maulana Azad Medical College (MAMC) on condition of anonymity.

The five-and-a-half year duration of an MBBS course is divided into 4.5 years of study and a year of internship.

The study period has three broad divisions called professionals. In the first professional, students learn anatomy, physiology and biochemistry.

In the second leg, students study pharmacology, microbiology and pathology. In the last leg, they study various disciplines like eye, ENT, preventive and social medicine, forensic medicine, etc.

Senior residents conduct the evening practical classes for disciplines like general medicine, surgery, obstetrics, gynaecology, paediatrics and radiology.

MAMC is not the only college struggling to make undergraduates take these evening lessons. The situation at Lady Hardinge Medical College, near Shivaji Stadium, is no different.

"Senior residents are rarely assisted by their juniors and they don't expect it either. These resident doctors have also probably not attended these evening classes while pursuing MBBS," said a doctor from the college's department of gynaecology on condition of anonymity.

While most medical colleges in Delhi face this problem, things are different at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS).

Debjyoti Karmakar, president of the Resident Doctors Association, AIIMS, said students at the country's premier medical institute regularly take these practical lessons.

"But on the flip side, the morning lecture classes taken by the faculty have very sparse attendance, ranging between 5-10%," Karmakar said.

"Last year, the dean Dr Rani Kumar took several measures like monthly assessment, computerised attendance to rein in the problem but to no avail," he said.
DU asks CBI to probe medical test ‘scam’

Move After Varsity Sniffs Foul Play

Manas Pratim Gohain & Neeraj Chauhan | TNN

New Delhi: Delhi University authorities have sought a CBI probe into this year’s entrance exam for medical and dental seats. Suspicions are that this could turn out to be another scam in the varsity.

The move to approach the premier investigating agency comes after an internal inquiry into the Delhi University Medical Entrance Test (DU-MET) 2011 found irregularities in the process but could not fix liability. In June this year, police had unearthed a racket involving the use of fake SC/ST certificates for admission into DU colleges.

“A large number of students, who normally wouldn’t be expected to clear the prestigious medical exam, have made it to the list of successful candidates,” a DU source said. The university suspects that a bunch of students who got through DU-MET were aided by a gang of racketeers on payment of huge amount of money.

The varsity is not sure how exactly the students were helped.

CBI officials have confirmed receiving a complaint from Delhi University for a probe into the matter.
New Delhi: In a hasty bid to introduce an innovation cluster, Delhi University may have landed in trouble. The proposal paper seeking clearance for DU's cluster innovation centre has sparked controversy. To be placed at the special academic council (AC) and executive council (EC) meeting on Saturday, it has no information on the committee and the curriculum developed for the four-year innovation course.

What's worse, the text for the introduction of the course seems to be a patchwork job. It has been alleged that paras have been lifted from websites of various foreign universities. The AC members are wondering why the university is calling an emergency meeting for a regular issue while EC members say DU is violating the University Act by establishing the centre in this hasty manner.

Pages 5 and 6 of the paper (Proposed syllabus for B Tech/BS Innovation with mathematics and IT) contain the introduction of the course. In the introduction, the paragraph "With a distinguished history...cutting-edge research and innovation" has been allegedly lifted from University of Manchester's website which states "With a distinguished history of academic achievement and an ambitious agenda for the future, The University of Manchester offers a learning experience rooted in a rich educational heritage and boosted by cutting-edge research and innovation..."

The text for the introduction of the course seems to be a patchwork job. It has been alleged that paras have been lifted from websites of foreign universities.

The sentence "Mathematics is central to everyday life and...business and industry" is straight out of University of Edinburgh's write-up on why choose mathematics which says, "Mathematics is central to everyday life and to the way we see the world. It is an intellectual adventure in its own right but it is also used to understand the physical world - from black holes to global warming - and to find solutions to problems in business and industry." Most of the material on pages 5 and 6 has been lifted from University College's (London) website.

AC members are questioning the manner in which the university is pushing for establishing the centre. Abha Dev Habib, AC member, said: "What is the hurry in commencing the course? There has been no consultation on the four-year course and there is no clarity on the admission plan. Moreover, the advisory committee and the governing body are the same. If this is a way to grab UGC's money, it is very unfortunate."

While academicians are criticizing DU's move, EC members are calling it a violation of the University Act. Stating that setting up a university-run institute needs prior approval of the visitor (President of India), they say the first draft before finalizing the course should have come from the AC or one of its committees. "A new institute can come up only after the statute is made and the visitor's approval received. In this case it is a violation," said elected EC member Rajib Ray.
On Customer Trail

SujiL John

In their final year at IIT-Kharagpur in 2005-06, Aneesh Reddy and Krishna Mehra founded an entrepreneurship cell, or eCell, at the institute. The government’s department of science & technology had set up a technology incubation fund, and the two thought that the eCell could draw money from that to help those interested in starting ventures. They held a contest on the campus and managed to get funding for the winner.

After completing their degrees, the two hostel mates went different ways. Reddy, a mechanical engineer, joined ITIC to manage the maintenance of the cigarette factory in Bangalore. Mehra, a computer science engineer, joined Microsoft Research in Bangalore.

Two years later, the entrepreneurship bug bit them again. “I remember it was Krishna’s birthday, we were meeting in Bangalore, and we said it was time we did something of our own,” says Reddy, 29.

They wanted to do something that combined mobile and retail. Mobile was growing rapidly in India, and retail was beginning to happen. “We were particularly keen on helping customers get better deals,” Reddy says.

They went back to the eCell in IIT-Kharagpur, took a Rs 15-lakh loan from there, and started digging deeper to understand opportunities. One message they heard from across retail segments—small to big—was: “Instead of helping us get new customers, help us figure out who our old customers are, and help us get them back to our stores.”

The two dug deeper and found that retailers’ loyalty card programmes were not working as expected. Most customers didn’t like the idea of filling forms to obtain the card. People also did not want to carry too many cards.

“So we thought of moving everything to one device, the mobile phone, and start engaging with that unique phone number the customer has and do it without filling up forms,” says Mehra, 26. Retailers liked the idea, but none was willing to pay much for it. So the two thought of having the solution on a cloud computing model, and charge on a per store, per month basis.

Thus was born Capillary Technologies in August 2006. The solution they developed works like this: A piece of software installed on the cash counter captures the customer details (the counter person keys in details like gender and age group, a process that the customer may not even see), the transaction details (the items the customer has bought). This is then automatically sent to Capillary’s servers, which does real-time analytics based on this data and all the other data that it has historically captured. And even as the customer is completing the transaction, he/she may get a SMS on the phone offering a discount on another relevant purchase from the store.

“If you have bought two shirts, I can push a coupon to your phone on trousers that go with the shirts. If you are a 25-year-old male buying two half-sleeved shirts, I may talk to you about jeans. If it’s a lady buying two formal shirts, I may talk about a gift card, so that next time she could just give a card instead of coming to the store,” says Mehra.

This obviates the need to fill forms. The counter person may only ask for your name, phone number and email ID. The solution prompts you to buy at a time when you would be in the most convenient position to buy that, that is, when you are in the store. And it directs you in a direction you may want.

“If you are at home and you get a coupon, it’s very unlikely you will travel to the store to buy. The redemption rate on our coupons is as high as 15%, against 0.1% or less for the traditional coupons,” says Mehra.

In March 2009, they signed their first client—Indus League Clothing, which has brands like John Miller and Souliers. The solution is now working across 6,000 stores, including those of Raymond, Madura Garments, Benetton, Puma, Woodlands, Spice Hotpot, Univercell, as also some 500 standalone stores. It’s also being used in 300 stores in the UK and 200 in West Asia.

They decline to talk about revenues. But Capillary has received investment from Qualcomm, and has angel investors like management consultant Harminder Sahni, Google India head Rajan Anandan, and Venkat Tadanki, one of the founders of Dalsh and Secova.

Reddy and Mehra are now focusing on global markets. They have set up offices in London and Dubai. “With the slowdown in the West, our technology can help retailers grow sales,” says Mehra.
JJ Irani quits Everonn; govt mission may suffer

BY PRASHANT K. NANDA
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NEW DELHI

The shadows lengthened over troubled education firm Everonn Education Ltd on Friday after chairman Jamshed J. Irani resigned days after the arrest of co-founder and managing director (MD) P. Kishore in an alleged bribery and tax evasion case by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

These developments could impact the Chennai-based company’s operations, including its ability to execute the Union government’s mission to impart and upgrade skills. Everonn has an agreement with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), co-promoted by the government, to train 15 million people, a little over one-fourth of the entire programme so far.

In the last two years, NSDC has signed 39 agreements—with 33 corporate entities and six skill councils—to train some 57 million people in a decade to help India get enough skilled manpower in 2022.

Opting out: Jamshed J. Irani.

JJ Irani quits Everonn

FROM PAGE 1

an array of sectors currently facing a human resource crunch.

News of Kishore’s arrest and Irani’s resignation was “received with shock”, according to a government official associated with the skill development mission.

“Since Everonn is the biggest partner on skill development so far, such uncomfortable developments will have an impact on the overall target. At least 25% of the skilling arrangements till date are with this company. We are concerned,” the official said, requesting anonymity.

Though the arrangement of NSDC is with a new subsidiary of Everonn, these developments are worrying,” said another government official, who also did not want to be named.

An NSDC spokesperson said: “We are observing the situation.”

Everonn signed an agreement with NSDC on 18 April to train 15 million candidates in a deal that was projected to generate ₹14,000 crore in revenue for the company over the next 12 years. The project was to be carried out by Everonn Skill Development Ltd, a new subsidiary that will set up 217 centres across India.

In a filing to BSE, the company said: “The board took note of Dr Jamshed J. Irani’s resignation as chairman of the company and accepted the same while appreciating his valuable services and guidance.”

Irani said he wasn’t passing any judgement on the company and that his decision was a voluntary one.

“I value my name more than anything else. I associate myself with corporate governance. A smear has been created and I don’t want to associate with a company that is being investigated,” he told Mint. “I have resigned from both the board and the chairmanship.”

Everonn said the board met on Thursday “to review the extraordinary situation arising out of the managing director Mr P. Kishore having been taken into judicial custody”.

The board appointed full-time director Susha John as chief executive officer (CEO) to exercise the powers delegated to the MD.

It also appointed a business council consisting of two independent board members to advise the CEO. The company didn’t name the independent directors. “The company shall extend all cooperation to all concerned as necessary... The company reiterates that business would continue as usual and would not be impaired in any way,” the statement added.

Nikhil Gandhi, one of the stakeholders of Everonn Education, had declined to comment on Thursday because he was unwell.

The firm defines itself as operating in the area of school education, e-content, teacher training and test preparation on an ICT (information and communications technology) platform.

Everonn fell 20% on Friday to touch a 52-week low on BSE. In the past year, the stock has dropped over 50% from a high of ₹756.45 on 7 October 2010 to ₹351.45 on Friday. The benchmark Sensex rose 0.87% to 16,821.46 points on Friday.

“Stock of the company was affected by the arrest,” said a senior market analyst who didn’t want to be named as he doesn’t want to be associated with individual stocks. “The market is volatile and this news has affected the investor’s sentiment.”

According to a statement posted on the CBI website, the agency has arrested Kishore, an additional commissioner of Income tax (I-T) and a third person in an alleged case of bribery following a case of tax evasion in Chennai.

“It was alleged that on 04.08.2011, the additional commissioner organized search and survey proceedings...in the premises of Chennai-based private educational firm. The search and survey proceedings revealed that the managing director of the firm had concealed taxable income to the tune of ₹116 crore,” CBI said in its release dated 30 August.

The agency also said that after the detection of taxable income, the MD of the company contacted the additional commissioner through a chartered accountant to reduce the tax liability. After holding negotiations, he sought the suppression of ₹60 crore of taxable income out of the ₹116 crore detected, CBI said. Both parties decided to settle the issue with a bribe of ₹50 lakh to the tax official, it said. The agency arrested them while they were making the deal.

The development has come two weeks after I-T officials raided the premises of another education firm, Educomp Solutions Ltd. Mint reported on 19 August that 14 premises were searched by I-T officials over alleged tax evasion. The firm said this was routine and that it was cooperating with the I-T department.

On Friday, news agency Reuters reported that Educomp has deferred a proposal to raise up to $250 million (₹1,150 crore) through a share sale due to poor market conditions.

Reuters contributed to this story.
Instructions to examiners can be made public post exam: SC

BY NIHIL KANEKAL
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NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court (SC) on Friday ruled that instructions issued to examiners in competitive examinations by the agency conducting the exam could be disclosed under the right to information (RTI) law, once the test is held.

The court pronounced the decision in the case between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and a candidate who had failed in one of the rounds of the chartered accountancy tests.

It reasoned that question papers, model answersheets and instructions issued to those correcting exam papers, whether written or oral, could be construed as intellectual property that should not be made public before a test is administered. But this right lapses once the examination is held, said the court.

“The RTI Act does not bar or prohibit the disclosure of question papers, model answers (solutions to questions) and instructions, if any, given to the examiners and moderators after the examination and after the evaluation of answer-scripts is completed,” said a bench comprising justices R.V. Raveendran and A.K. Patnaik. But the court clarified that any instructions issued to examiners and moderators, which came under the information held in a ‘fiduciary relationship’, would be exempt from disclosure as there would be an expectation of confidentiality.

The court also held ICAI to be a public entity, under the constitutional definition of “state” and, therefore, said it could not take shelter in the exemptions under the RTI Act.

It also observed that “public authorities owe a duty to disseminate the information widely suo moto to the public so as to make it easily accessible to the public”. 
राजस्थान में इंजीनियरिंग की आधी से ज्यादा सीटों खाली।

क्षेत्र में तकनीकी प्रशिक्षण की संस्थाओं की संख्या खुदाई के आधे से कम हो गई है। इनमें से कई कॉलेज तब ही होने से कंपनियों का भरोसा आज तक पाये नहीं है। साथ ही प्रशिक्षण का स्तर भी विकास के पाहले चापवाला पर है। ऐसे में छत्र इसमें खिेंशर नहीं दे रहे हैं।

राजस्थान राज्य के कॉलेजों में स्टूडेंट्स अनुदान प्राप्त में अधिकतम का प्रभावितता का रहा है।

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लेकिन यह निश्चित नहीं है कि कॉलेज और इंजीनियरिंग शैक्षणिक प्राप्ति की स्थिति की तुलना में कम हो गई है।
दीयू में 15 सितंबर से शुरू होगा बीटेक!

8 सेमेस्टर होंगे, हर सेमेस्टर की फीस 5,000

एकेडमिक व इज्जेट्यूडिट का कार्यकलाप की गई शैक्षिक समाप्ति को फेसला

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विदेशी यूनिभर्सिटी की नकल करने का आरोप भी लगा

कैल्कुलेटर शेयर पर दूसरी अनेक्षणिक किया गया था

विदेशी यूनिभर्सिटी की पहली हुई दुर्भाग्य

कोर्स शुरू होने से पहले कई सवाल भी उठाए गए

लंच की मॉलिनि का अंतर्नित ने शरीर का अस्थिर को एसी एंड इसी शरीर में उठाने की गई और उससे पहले शुद्ध में एसी एंड इसी में है लंच का आयाम और उसके बाद भी दूसरी हड़पी से नहीं लगा गया। इसके बाद शुरू की गई शरीर में उठाने की गई और उसके बाद भी दूसरी हड़पी से नहीं लगा गया।