



MONTHLY NEWS CLIPS

1-31 October, 2019

IIT-Delhi launches Global Alumni Endowment Fund, targets \$1 billion in seven years

October 31, 2019 <https://indianexpress.com/article/education/iit-delhi-to-launch-each-one-teach-one-scheme-to-support-education-of-a-student-iitd-ac-in-6096836/>

As per the scheme, the student will receive an aid of 10,000 USD from the alumni endowment fund.

The Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT-Delhi) will soon launch the 'Each One Teach One' scheme to support education of a student per year. As per the scheme, the student will receive an aid of \$10,000 from the alumni endowment fund.

The endowment fund will be provided by the noted alumnis- Binny and Sachin Bansal of Flipkart, Sandeep Singhal and Kavita Iyer, co-founder of West Bridge Capital and Sequoia Capital India, and trustees of SIFF respectively, and others.

The institute has also launched its global alumni endowment fund of Rs 250 crore by over 10 founder alumni in presence of President of India, Ram Nath Kovind.



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Delighted to launch the endowment fund of IIT Delhi.

Confident that this will act as catalyst for other institutions across the country to launch similar initiatives.

My best wishes to [@IITDelhi](#) and its alumni for taking this pioneering initiative in the country.





Addressing the occasion, Kovind said, “Endowments globally have become integral to the financial health of educational institutions over time. While we are still far from the size and importance of endowment funds of institutions such as Harvard, Yale or Columbia, it is the right first step in this direction. By giving through endowments, alumni are not just giving to their institution but they are also supporting and nurturing future generations of learners.”

V Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT Delhi said, “We are immensely proud of the success our alumni have achieved over the years across sectors and applaud their contribution to the economy.”

The endowment will be managed by a committee whose initial members are V. Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT Delhi, Sanjeev Sanghi, Dean, Alumni Affairs and International Programmes, IIT Delhi, Arun Duggal, Chairman, ICRA and Founder, Centre of Excellence for Research on Clean Air (CERCA) at IIT Delhi, and others.

More fire counts in Haryana and Punjab this year: IIT-Delhi data

October 31, 2019 <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/more-fire-counts-in-haryana-and-punjab-this-year-iit-delhi-data/articleshow/71829810.cms?from=mdr>

Latest satellite data shared by IIT Delhi showed there were 325 fire counts on October 28, compared to 150 fire counts last year same day in Haryana. Similarly, there were 2,700 fire counts in Punjab this year a jump from 2,000 last year.

The capital’s familiar mid-October malady is back with bio-mass burning rising from last year over last few days, however a more planned and targetted response has seen that the air quality is less toxic than last year, researchers at the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) found.

Latest satellite data shared by IIT Delhi showed there were 325 fire counts on October 28 this year compared to 150 fire counts last year same day in Haryana. Similarly, there were 2700 fire counts in Punjab this year a jump from about 2000 fire counts last year.

“In the last few days, surely crop burning is more compared to last year but it is important to note that crop burning is just one source during this time,” said Sagnik Dey, associate professor at IIT Delhi.

The smog has had authorities thinking of measures like odd-even traffic days, artificial rains and curtailing construction activities like last year. Experts from IIT Kanpur who have been constantly monitoring the city’s air said latest data also reflects higher level of biomass burning compared same time last year.

“Our experts are ready to conduct cloud seeding for creating artificial rains and we are in touch with concerned authorities,” said Sachchida Nand Tripathi, a professor at IIT Kanpur. “We just require moisture laden clouds and aircraft to conduct this.”

But creating artificial rains, like allowing vehicles on alternate odd-even days, is just a temporary fix though Delhi has not tried artificial rains yet, but was among the options considered last year.

The bio-mass burning contributes 25% to the bad air leading to the gas chamber like situation while other factors like vehicular emission, fire-crackers and unfavourable meteorological conditions are to be blamed equally, experts from the IITs said.

The latest readings by IIT Kanpur show significantly high levels of acetonitrile (a chemical marker for biomass burning is a proxy for primary fire emissions). “Acetonitrile levels have gone up multi-folds

from last year,” said IIT Kanpur’s Tripathi. The reasons for this could be due stubble burning in the neighbouring states, garbage or even coal burning.

From this year, IIT Kanpur started monitoring metals in the air and has been able to detect high levels of metals including barium, bismuth and sulphur. Ideally, there should be no trace of bismuth in the air but the latest reading shows at least 1 microgram of bismuth per metre cube of air. The levels of sulphur (over 5 microgram per metre cube of air) and barium (over 10 microgram per metre cube of air) are also quite harmful, according to Tripathi. Preferably, no traces of any metal should be found in the air.

Despite efforts by various authorities, crop burning has not come down this year. The first major pollution episode for Delhi was in the third week of October to the first week of November.

“Stubble burning has a significant contribution to Delhi pollution during this time. But the second major pollution episode in end December-early January is all from local emissions,” said Dey. Dey along with other IIT Delhi researchers has been studying the pattern of stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana over the last 18 years.

Meteorology also plays a major role in modulating day-to-day variation in pollution and for this reason Delhi saw better days until last Sunday. “It is due to extended monsoons and favourable conditions that Delhi has been less impacted,” said Tripathi.

But factors including vehicular emission, local burning of coal and garbage have a larger role to play in bringing the capital to its knees.

“Long term measures need to be taken up to bring down the background level of pollution. This will ensure that the impact from stubble burning and Diwali crackers or even meteorological factors would not contribute much to the pollution,” said Tripathi.

“This year, we have focused on 13 hotspots in the capital that see high levels of air pollution. There have been timely measures taken this year to control the situation,” said Prashant Gargava, member secretary, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

Year-long planning and implementation will be more effective than knee jerk responses and the blame games that follow every year, experts said.

“As we know that the weather condition becomes unfavourable from mid October so the only solution is to reduce emissions with long term planning. We should avoid the blame game on who is polluting more,” said Dey.

IIT-Delhi’s fortnightly plan to forecast, check pollution at hot spots

October 19, 2019 <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/iit-delhi-s-bimonthly-plan-to-forecast-check-pollution-at-hot-spots/story-zsAtTFo2UdcTz3MFDqbGKK.html>

Scientists from IIT-Delhi have been working on a bimonthly action plan to help the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) identify polluting areas in the city in advance and take pre-emptive action there.



IIT has identified seven polluting areas in Delhi-NCR, which are likely to pull the city's air quality down till October 30.

Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi (IIT) has identified seven polluting areas in Delhi-NCR, which are likely to pull the city's air quality down till October 30.

Scientists from IIT-Delhi have been working on an action plan to help the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) identify polluting areas in the city in advance and take pre-emptive action there.

For the period between October 15 and October 30, IIT-D experts have identified seven pollution hotspots in Delhi and NCR towns. The areas identified are Mayapuri (southwest Delhi), Wazirpur (northwest Delhi), Okhla (south) Faridabad sector-34, DLF Industrial Area, Udyog Vihar (Gurugram), Sahibabad (Ghaziabad), and Faridabad Phase-2, Sectors-58, 64 and 50.

"We have tied up with IIT-Delhi to help us take advance action on pollution. They provide us with information on areas that are likely to be the most polluting and the sources that are causing this. We then inform local government agencies on where they can focus their monitoring and what the problem areas are," said CPCB member-secretary Prashant Gargava.

For the seven areas identified for this fortnight, experts have pointed out that agencies need to control dust from unpaved roads, check industrial emissions and also keep tab on movement of heavy commercial vehicles in these zones.

The plan has also provided details of the percentage reduction of pollution levels in the identified areas if the plan is implemented.

"An overall reduction of around 20% in all emissions sources in the identified areas, can bring down pollution in the region by at least 15.75%," the action plan reads.

Scientists from IIT-Delhi said that they have been providing these bimonthly plans to the CPCB for the last two-three months now, but its effectiveness will be seen now when the pollution levels are on a rise.

Mukesh Khare, a professor at IIT-Delhi and coordinator of Centre of Excellence for Research on Clean Air, explained that the forecast was being made with the help of an air quality forecasting system that looks into the meteorological conditions on a region. The system is integrated with AERMOD— atmospheric dispersion modelling system—that provides data on emissions inventory.

“We are taking into account the emission load of regions to forecast. Based on these forecasts, action plans are made,” Khare said.

CPCB officials said that municipal agencies as have been directed to take prompt action such as inspecting industries, sprinkling water on unpaved roads and fixing the problems of road dust immediately to control the problem.

At IIT Delhi, students are developing 5G-enabled air pollution monitors for the capital

October 18, 2019 <https://theprint.in/health/iit-delhi-students-developing-5g-enabled-air-pollution-monitors-capital/307686/>

Solar-powered pollution monitors developed by IIT Delhi students promise to make the air quality monitoring network faster and more efficient.

A team of students at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi has developed the first prototype of a solar-powered air pollution monitoring device that communicates via 5G.

The innovation could pave the way for a more efficient and larger network of stations to analyse the pollution problem in the national capital.

The new device has sensors to measure concentrations of nitrogen oxide, ozone, carbon mono-oxide and sulphur dioxide — some of the most harmful components of air pollution. It can also measure the levels of particulate matter — PM1, PM2.5 and PM10 — along with other environmental parameters such as temperature and humidity.

According to team members Payali Das and Sushmita Ghosh, both PhD students in the Department of Electrical Engineering at IIT Delhi, the prototype is also equipped with a GPS system for accurate geo-tagging.

Simply put, geo-tagging helps add a location and time stamp to the data.

“The GPS chip will give the exact location — it will give the longitude and latitude, as well as the date and time of the data when the data was collected,” Das told ThePrint.

The advantage of this system over existing air pollution monitors is that it is 5G enabled, said Das, which means that in future a lot more of these devices can be connected to a single network to generate a much more extensive database of pollutants.

“Currently, the system used to transmit information from the monitors to the computing network consumes more power and is also not efficient as it can get obstructed by tall buildings,” Das said.

“5G technology can overcome this challenge. It also allows for more data to be transmitted without overloading the network,” she said.

The 5G leap

The research is being funded by the Union government’s Department of Telecommunications under a Rs-224 crore 5G testbed project that aims to encourage Indian startups and industries to take an early lead in 5G technologies.

Various projects at IIT Madras, IIT Hyderabad, IIT Kanpur, Centre of Excellence in Wireless Technology (CEWiT), Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research (SAMEER) and Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore are being funded under this programme.

5G is considered to be the next big leap in internet and communication technologies that will allow devices to interact with each other with minimum human intervention.

While the IIT Delhi pollution device prototype is still in its nascent stage, the team — working under the guidance of professors Shouri Chatterjee and Swades De — is already in talks with government agencies to help further fine tune their product and make it ready for use.

How two 21-year-old IIT-Delhi students are solving female hygiene issues

October 17, 2019 <https://www.businesstoday.in/latest/trends/how-two-21-year-old-iit-delhi-students-are-solving-female-hygiene-issues/story/385180.html>

Sanfe, formed by a group of students from IIT Delhi, offers a range of female hygiene products, developed to suit Indian women



The heavy silence surrounding female hygiene is fading. The increased awareness and open discussions on the topic are coming from unconventional quarters - one of them is a group of IITians in their early twenties.

Archit Agarwal (21), who is pursuing a B.Tech in textile technology from IIT Delhi, first heard about urinary tract infection (UTI) from a female friend while on a trip to Himalayas with college mates. "I got shocked by the fact that most women in India have suffered UTI at least once in their lives due to dirty toilet seats. I was determined to do something about it."

After a year of research and development with the help of his professors, Agarwal launched a feminine hygiene brand, Sanfe, in May 2018. His roommate Harry Sehrawat came on board one month after the launch. Now they have a team of 14.

GATE 2020: IIT-Delhi urges students not to believe in fake mails

October 15, 2019 <https://indianexpress.com/article/education/gate-2020-iit-delhi-urges-students-not-to-believe-in-phishing-fake-mails-gate-iitd-ac-in-6070626/>

GATE 2020: Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi will be conducting the GATE on February 1, 2 and 8 and 9

GATE 2020: The Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT-Delhi), the conducting body of Graduate Aptitude Test Engineering (GATE 2020) has urged candidates not to believe in the fake emails which is being circulated by some fraudulent groups. "GATE 2020 authority is not involved with any specially designed test series for GATE aspirants. Please do not believe in the phishing/fake emails which are being circulated to the GATE aspirants by some fraudulent groups. Please note that all the relevant information about the GATE 2020 is available only at this official website," read the official notification.

There are lots of social media posts circulated claiming specially designed test series for GATE aspirants.

This year, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi will be conducting the GATE on February 1, 2 and 8 and 9. The admit card will be released on January 3, 2019. The candidates can download it through the website gate.iitd.ac.in.

GATE 2020 will be conducted on 24 subjects including Aerospace Engineering, Agricultural Engineering, Architecture and Planning, Biotechnology, Civil Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Instrumentation Engineering, Mathematics and Mechanical Engineering among other subjects. A candidate is allowed to appear in only one paper in any one session.

This year, a new exam of biomedical engineering has been added to the list of 24 papers.

The GATE 2020 will be a computer-based multiple-choice question or MCQ-based exam. Candidates will have to answer 65 questions for a total of 100 marks within three-hours' time. The exam consists of two sections. The paper will contain questions on general aptitude (15 marks), engineering mathematics (10-13 marks) and core engineering area of the candidate.

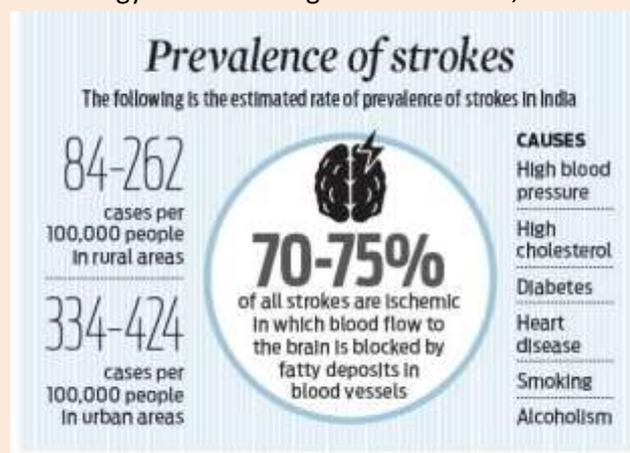
AIIMS, IIT Delhi develop low-cost tech to help paralytics

October 15, 2019 <http://www.newindianexpress.com/good-news/2019/oct/15/aiims-iit-delhi-develop-low-cost-tech-to-help-paralytics-2047649.html>

The aim is to build an an exoskeletal suit costing Rs 70 lak now within a budget of Rs 10 lakh.

AIIMS and IIT Delhi are working together to create low-cost technologies including machines assisting stroke recovery (MASR) to help patients suffering from paralysis after strokes.

“To support movement for paralysed patients, an exoskeletal suit is build to stimulate body parts. Although these are already available, they cost over Rs 70 lakh. Our aim is to bring in the same technology within a budget of Rs 10 lakh,” Dr MV Padma Srivastava, HOD, Neurology, Delhi-AIIMS.



AIIMS along with Climate wing of Department of Science and Technology is also simultaneously conducting a study to understand role played by environment and pollution to cause strokes. A team of doctors from AIIMS including Dr Padma were in Dibrugarh and Tejpur, Assam for an educating programme earlier this year where they found that life expectancy of tea garden workers are 45 years among which around 70% were BP patients.

“Genetics is always a reason but we can only modify our lifestyle and food habits. 53% of strokes in North East are due to haemorrhages or bleeding in brain,” said Dr Padma. Compared to the rest of India, the residents of northeastern states are more prone to suffering from stroke, suggested doctors from All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

According to doctors, people in the northeast consume more salt than others which leads to high blood pressure. “The risk factors such as blood pressure and hypertension are high in people from these states. Any variety of stroke whether bleeding or clot, the prime cause is always blood pressure,” said Dr Padma.

IIT Delhi, Microsoft Partner to Host Conference on Technology Solutions

October 11, 2019 <https://www.newsnation.in/education/more/iit-delhi-microsoft-partner-to-host-conference-on-technology-solutions-240545.html>

Microsoft India on Thursday said it has partnered IIT Delhi to host the second edition of Empower conference that brings together researchers, technologists and policy makers to discuss actionable steps in creating and making available technologies.

Microsoft India on Thursday said it has partnered IIT Delhi to host the second edition of Empower conference that brings together researchers, technologists and policy makers to discuss actionable steps in creating and making available assistive technologies.

The event, to be held from October 14-17 at I-TEC, IIT Delhi-Sonapat will also see participation from disabled persons' organisations and non-governmental organisations.

"At Microsoft Research India, we have developed artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) technologies that can be deployed in low-resource environments. These include embedded ML libraries which can enable the community of designers to leverage the power of AI and ML to enhance life of people with disabilities in India," Manohar Swaminathan, principal researcher at Microsoft Research (MSR) said.

The conference will provide a fertile ground for innovation by connecting such tools with designers of assistive technologies in confluence with people with disabilities who need such solutions, he added.

"We believe that integration of differently-abled people should be an important goal for any society and for that providing them equal opportunities in mobility and education is critical," M Balakrishnan, founder of ASSISTECH and professor, CSE Department at IIT Delhi, said. Assistive technologies can help empower them to be a part of the societal progress, he added.

"Through this conference, we aim to address the challenges faced by people with disabilities and bring together all researchers, industries, users and user organizations involved in the creation, production and dissemination of assistive technology solutions," he said.

IIT Delhi ranks 61st in QS World University rankings under Engineering & Technology category

October 12, 2019 <https://www.jagranjosh.com/news/iit-delhi-ranks-61st-in-qs-world-university-ranking-under-engineering-and-technology-category-151836>



Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi has been ranked 61st in the QS World University Rankings under the Engineering and Technology category for 2019. IIT Delhi has this year improved its position at the QS World University Ranking by 10 places compared to the last three years. While in 2017 the institution was placed 71st, in 2018 it was placed 64th and this year it moved ahead to 61.

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi Director V Ramagopal Rao shared the rankings on his social media account. According to the data shared, MIT, Stanford, and Harvard have been placed in the first, second and 3rd ranks. Counterparts IIT Bombay was placed 162nd in the list while the Indian Institute of Science was placed 184th in the QS World University Rankings.

QS World Ranking for Engineering and Technology in Asia Nanyang Technological University Singapore has been placed 6th followed by the National University of Singapore at 8th followed by Tsinghua University placed 10th.

To check the IIT Delhi Engineering and Technology category ranking click on the direct link provided below

Although IIT Delhi topped in the Engineering and Technology category of the QS World University Ranking, IIT Bombay has topped the QS World University Rankings 2020 surging 30 places ahead of IIT Delhi which is the second top university from India. Following closely behind IIT Delhi is the Indian Institute of Sciences Bangalore in the QS World University Ranking. IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, and IISc Bangalore are the only Indian Universities to be featured in the top 200 of QS World University Ranking 2020.

IIT Bombay has also topped in the QS World Ranking for Graduate Employability among the Indian institutions with a score range of 111-120. Other Indian institutions ranked in the QS World Ranking for Graduate Employability include IIT Delhi (191-200), IIT Madras (171-180), IIT Kharagpur (201-250) and Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani (251-200).

Close to 9 universities and institutions from India have made it to the top 500 World Rankings released by QS.

IIT Delhi compensates GATE aspirants of Jammu & Kashmir for internet outages

October 5, 2019 <https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/education/725270-iit-delhi-compensates-gate-aspirants-of-jammu-kashmir-for-internet-outages>

GATE committee has decided to re-open the application process for J&K aspirants for the prestigious post-graduate entrance examination - Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) - which was closed on October 5. The decision was taken as several aspirants could not submit their applications due to internet outage in the valley enforced to maintain law and order in the state since the announcement of the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019.

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT Delhi) has announced to reopen the application process for GATE aspirants of Jammu and Kashmir. The decision was taken by the GATE committee to compensate the GATE aspirants from the state who could not apply for the examination due to internet outage enforced to fight misinformation after abrogation of Article 370 on August 5.

IIT Delhi is the organizing institute for GATE 2020 which is a joint entrance examination for admission in post-graduation programmes in IITs, premier research institutes and engineering colleges in the country. As per the schedule the window for receiving application was open between September 03 to October 05, 2019.

According to IIT Delhi, during this period the institute has received 9,295 applications from J&K. However, as per emails and phone calls received from a few candidates regarding unavailability of internet connectivity, it seems that a few hundred aspirants of GATE 2020 in J&K might not have been able to apply.

"Keeping this in view, the GATE committee has decided to re-open the application process from 30th October to 8th November, 2019 for these left out aspirants of GATE 2020 from J&K to facilitate them another chance of registration," informed a senior official of IIT Delhi. The interested aspirants of IIT Delhi who had missed the last date can now submit their application online from October 30 to November 8, 2019.

GATE 2020 will be held on Feb 1st, 2nd, 8th and 9th Feb, 2020.