



News of the Week

(Inputs from PMRU and Libraries in Pilani, Goa, Hyderabad and Dubai campuses)

Volume 1

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Issue No. 18

HIGHER EDUCATION

Centre shifts focus to liberalization of higher education

Livemint

Over the past few months, the **Indian higher education** sector has been witnessing a gradual transformation from a restrictive regime to a ...

'Budget cuts hit quality of higher education'

Times of India

Ahmedabad: At a time when increasing numbers of youngsters have access to **higher education**, both state and central governments curtailing ...

Reforms are taking place in higher education but will they work?

Hindustan Times

India's higher education sector has become a busy playground over the past six months. Indeed, more seems to be happening over these past ...

On India's lack of Nobels

The Hindu

The second prong of the Foundation's outreach in **India** entails a conversation ... and development (R&D) in **higher education** in basic science.

Gross enrolment ratio in higher education has gone up: Qamar

The Statesman

India has emerged as the largest system of **higher education** found anywhere in the world, including nearly 900 universities and over 40,000 colleges and additional 12,000 stand alone institutions for higher studies, said Furqan Qamar, secretary general of the Association of **Indian** Universities.

UNSW announces 61 'Future of Change' awards for students from India

[The Hans India](#)

Hyderabad: Australia is fast emerging as the preferred **higher education** destination. As part of its **India Strategy**, the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Sydney has been focussing on its twin pillars – strong teaching and strong research – to dramatically disrupt the manner in which **higher education** is ...

India has second highest no of institutes in Times' University rankings ...

[Economic Times](#)

Forty-two **Indian** institutions have made it to the 2018 table, a significant increase from 27 in the previous year. Times **Higher Education** ranking ...

Non-Traditional Courses & Innovative Techniques Will Determine The ...

[BW Businessworld](#)

India's policies on building 'institutions of eminence', and the emergence of successful models of **higher education** like ISB Hyderabad, ISME in ...

More Indian Institutions In Times Emerging Economies University ...

[NDTV](#)

New Delhi: **Indian** universities improved their positions in the latest Times **HigherEducation** Emerging Economies University Rankings 2018.

Rethinking education and skilling in India

[Observer Research Foundation](#)

The case of **India's education** and skilling enterprise stands in stark ... with **higher** levels of **education**, those who are ideal for these jobs in that ...

Times Higher Education (THE) ranking 2018 India: IISC Bangalore No. 13, but this IIT, univ fail to ...

[Zee Business](#)

Times **Higher Education** (THE) ranking 2018 **India**: The list has been released and the country does not figure very well in it. Aside from IISC ...

[So You Think You Can Make Sense of University Rankings? - The Wire](#)

[Times Higher Education Rankings 2018: IIT-B ranks 26 in rising powers list - Daily News & Analysis](#)

[Top 20 Universities in India: Did your institute make the cut? Find out here - Financial Express Full Coverage](#)

No Probe on Javadekar's Claim That 80000 'Ghost' Teachers Detected in Higher Education

[The Wire](#)

... the Union human resource development minister, had claimed during the release of the All **India** Survey on **Higher Education** (AISHE) 2017-18, that ...

BITS IN NEWS

Students of BITS Pilani intensify agitation against fee hike move

[Times of India](#)

“Sad to see that a premier institute like **BITS Pilani** would soon be out of reach of a middle class student because he can't afford to shell out Rs ...

BITS students intensify protest by launching hunger strike

[Times of India](#)

HYDERABAD: Students of the Birla Institute of Technology Science (**BITS**) intensified their protest by launching a hunger strike at the **Pilani** ...

[Bits Pilani students intensify protest over alleged fee hike](#)

[Deccan Chronicle](#)

[View all](#)

BITS-Pilani Hyderabad campus students protest over fee hike

[Business Line](#)

“This is purely internal issue. Some students feel that fee hike is bit more. The issue has gone to the notice of our Vice Chancellor. We expect within one week the issue will be resolved,” the official said. The Birla Institute of Technology & Science (BITS) Pilani, is an all-**India** Institute for **higher education**.

BITS students pool in money to take dig at management; register protest

[Times of India](#)

HYDERABAD: Intensifying their stir against the arbitrary fee hike, students of Birla Institute of Technology and Science, **Pilani** (Hyderabad campus) camped outside the director's residence all through Monday night, demanding justice. To register their protest, the ongoing comprehensive exams ...

Sunday or Monday, this startup promises sound sleep with advanced ...

[YourStory.com](#)

Sunday was launched in 2015 by Alphonse Reddy, a graduate of **BITS, Pilani**, and INSEAD business school, France, with an initial investment of Rs 40 lakh ...

CM congratulates civil services topper

[News Today](#)

... as his optional subject. An OBC candidate, Anudeep has graduated with BE (Electronics & Instrumentation) degree from **BITS, Pilani**.

CM congratulates civil services topper, has lunch with him & [Business Standard](#)

[View all](#)

An engineer's guide for 'app'solute divinity

[The New Indian Express](#)

A graduate from **BITS Pilani** (2009), the inquisitiveness and thirst for knowledge from Ramayana to Bhagavad Gita has made him render over ...

Zoutons App Review

[DATAQUEST](#)

The coupon website was brought into existence by Mr. Sahil Chalana, a **BITS Pilani** Alumnus, in 2013 with the approximate investment of 20 ...

India needs to have more zebra startups, not just a few unicorns ...

[YourStory.com](#)

See earlier profiles of initiatives at IIT Bombay, IIM Bangalore, **BITS Pilani**, NCL, Tata Elxsi, Axilor, NID, IIIT-Bangalore, IIIT-Hyderabad, Vellore ...

Start up in Goa: 10 things you should know about the Goa startup ...

[YourStory.com](#)

Goa hosts several premier institutes including IIT, NIT, **BITS Pilani**, Goa Institute of Management and several private engineering colleges that ...

“My corporate job was urgent for me, founding my own start-up was ...

[Youth Incorporated](#)

Rastogi, a **BITS Pilani** Electronics graduate and an Economics Master's Degree holder, left the comfort of a corporate stint at Amazon, to helm ...

Five BITS Pilani Goa campus students awarded scholarships.

Gomantak Times:

Five BITS Pilani Goa campus students awarded scholarships

BY A STAFF REPORTER
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Panaji: Five students of BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa campus have been awarded prestigious scholarships to undertake summer research programmes/ projects at world renowned institutes viz. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (USA), University of Sherbrooke and Université Laval, Quebec (Canada), California Institute of Technology (USA), and Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse (France).


Heer Joisher has been awarded the prestigious Khorana Scholarship 2018 sponsored by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF) and WINStep Forward. As a part of this programme, Heer will be pursuing a two-month summer research project at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MA, USA. She will be working under the mentorship of Prof. Honey Jain and Jaychandran Padayasi have been awarded the prestigious Mitacs Globalink Research Internship 2018 sponsored by Government of Canada. The Mitacs Globalink Research Internship is a competitive initiative for students from 10 countries of Australia, Brazil, China, France, India, Germany, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, and Ukraine. From May to October of each year, top-ranked applicants participate in a fully-funded 12-week research internship under the supervision of Canadian university faculty members in a variety of academic disciplines, from science, engineering and mathematics to the humanities and social sciences.

As a part of this programme, Honey will be pursuing a 12-week summer research project at the Université Laval, Quebec under the mentorship of Prof. Christian Landry on a project based on computational biology involving protein interaction networks. While Jaychandran will be pursuing a 12-week summer research project at the University of Sherbrooke, Quebec under the guidance of Prof. André-Marie Tremblay, on the topic, Spin fluctuations in Weyl semimetals.

Nissim Gore-Datar has been awarded the prestigious Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship of the California Institute of Technology (Caltech SURF 2018). As part of this programme, Nissim will work under the guidance of Prof. Michael Hoffmann from the Department of Environmental Science and Engineering at Caltech on a project titled 'Electro-Fenton Process for Decentralized Treatment of Municipal Wastewater', which aims to design and prototype on-site electrochemical reactors to treat wastewater for reuse.

Rachith Aiyappa has been awarded the prestigious Charpak Research Internship Scholarship 2018 sponsored by the French government. As part of this programme, Rachith will be pursuing a summer internship at the Centre de Recherches sur la Cognition Animale at Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France. He will be working under the guidance of Dr. Guy Theraulaz in the field of collective behaviour.

File photo



B Rachith Aiyappa from BITS Goa selected for summer internship in France.

Navhind times

B Rachith Aiyappa from BITS Goa selected for summer internship in France

■ RAMANDEEP KAUR | NT KURIOCIETY

B Rachith Aiyappa, a fourth year undergraduate student at BITS, Goa has been selected for the Charpak Research Internship Scholarship 2018 for a summer internship from May 16 to July 31 in France. He is enrolled in the dual degree programme at BITS (2014-2019), the two degrees are MSc (Hons) Physics



+ BE (Hons) Mechanical Engineering. Only 13 students from India have been selected this year for this scholarship as opposed to 25 students last year.

Aiyappa's seniors had told him about the scholarship and had asked him to apply for them same if a the opportunity came about. He says: "I was in touch with Dr Guy Theraulaz (Research director at Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) who will be supervising my internship at Centre de Recherches sur la Cognition Animale, University of Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France. He too suggested that I apply for the Charpak scholarship. My mother, being as supportive as ever, played her part too."

During his internship he will be working on the Collective Behavior of Fish Schools. It is a subset of Complex Systems and Non Linear Dynamics and Chaos. "To highlight how cool this is, it is related to studying patterns in the natural world. As an example, the V shape pattern formed by birds flying in the sky (which is a regular sighting in Goa) can be stated. Questioning why and how they do so falls in the study of Collective Behaviour," says Aiyappa.

When asked why he chose BITS Goa, Aiyappa who is originally from Coorg, Karnataka replied saying that it's hard to formally enumerate this. He says: "To begin with, the zero per cent reservation policy was a major factor as it spoke highly of the value the institute attests to merit. Apart from that, factors like the academic freedom and flexibility offered, the dual degree programme and a chance to continue playing and compete in sports on a regular basis are few among the many."

Aiyappa who is amongst the 13 students from India to get this internship says: "Hearing that I had been awarded this scholarship didn't bring in the greatest of joys as such. What means more to me is knowing the things I did right and the amount I learnt in the process of finding this internship and then applying for the scholarship." He adds that a week away from flying to France to start his internship, he has learnt so many new things (both academic and non academic) over the past three months which would not have happened had he not decided to apply for the scholarship.

Besides academics he is also good at tennis and has won the Men's Doubles Event and finished runner-up in the Men's Singles Event of the All Goa Ranking Lawn Tennis Tournament, Gadre Gaspar Dias Open 2018 conducted by Clube Tennis de Gaspar Dias in association with the Goa State Tennis Association. It has always been something he really wanted to take up as more than just a hobby but opportunities have been rare. "I do hope to give tennis a more serious shot after BITS," adds Aiyappa.

As far as academic plans are concerned he has not decided his step after BITS as he says he hates choosing. "I do not plan to enrol myself in another degree immediately after graduating from BITS unless I find a need for it. I do have my thoughts on a PhD but I do not want to treat it as 'just another degree'. For this, I first need to find a problem/question which genuinely intrigues me and hopefully the coming year will bring in a lot of learning and awareness on this front," he concludes.

UGC, NAAC

Several universities fail to furnish online data

Times of India

Under the new Acts and regulations based on the **UGC** guidelines, it is ... they would not be eligible for the **NAAC** accreditation also, he said.

UGC makes NAAC must for open and distance learning courses

Times of India

NAGPUR: The University Grants Commission (**UGC**) has now made **NAAC** accreditation a must for institutes offering distance learning courses ...

UGC to specify to-do list for institutes by the end of this month

Economic Times

The **higher education** regulator, University Grants Commission (UGC), will later this month list out these instructions, including key quality parameters, ... The instructions will be similar to those issued by the All **India** Council for Technical Education (AICTE) last year for technical institutes, the sources said.