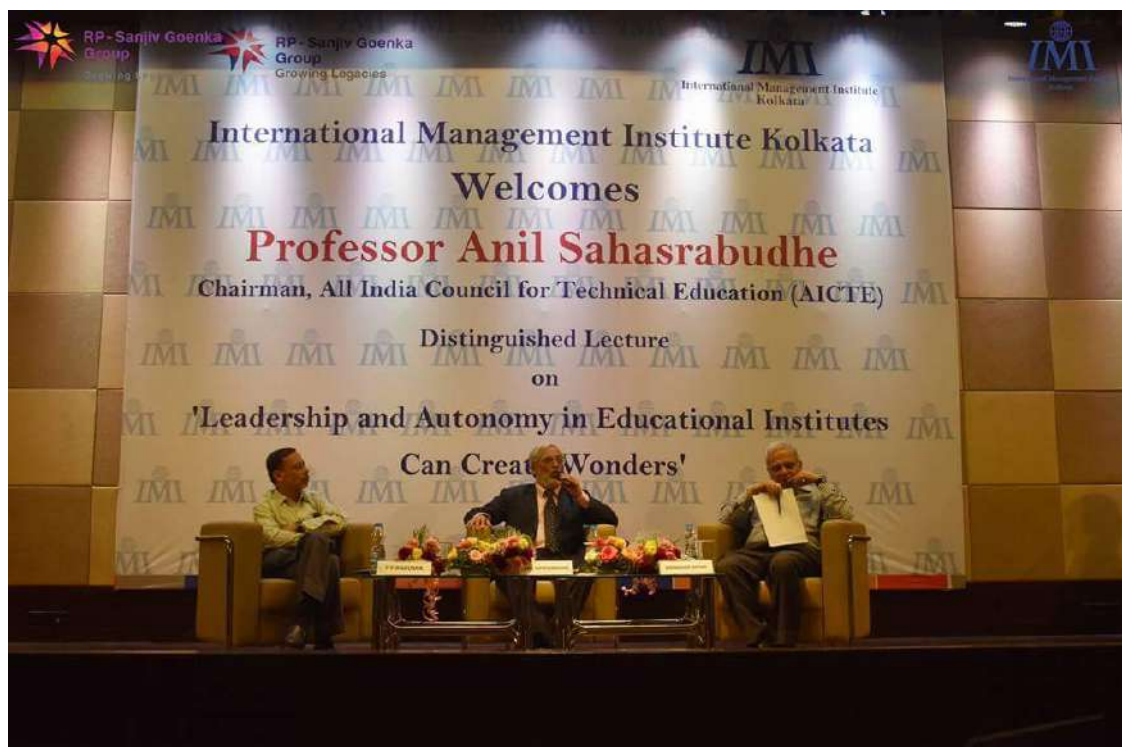


**Distinguished Lecture at IMI Kolkata on 14th July, 2018 by
Dr. Anil D Sahasrabudhe the Chairman of AICTE who enlightened and
stated the importance of "Leadership and Autonomy in Educational
Institutes can do wonders".**



Media Coverage:

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JULY 15, 2018

'Poor leadership to blame for CU decline'

VC Chosen On Political Basis, Not Merit, Says AICTE Chief

Somdatta Basu
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Kolkata: Calcutta University, along with the University of Bombay and University of Madras, the pioneer of higher education and among the oldest universities in the country, lacked leadership and direction, said chairman of All India Council For Technical Education Anil Dattatraya Sahasrabudhe on Saturday. One of the reasons for their decline was they were led by vice-chancellors selected on political considerations, rather than their academic leadership qualities, he said.

Sahasrabudhe was speaking at the Distinguished Lectures series at IMI-Kolkata. On one hand there were umpteen examples of poor leaders having ruined top institutes, while on the other, excellent leaders have turned poor institutes into excellent ones, he said.

The VCs (at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay universities) were selected on political affiliations without weighing their merit. This is responsible for the institutes' downslide



Anil Sahasrabudhe
CHAIRMAN, AICTE

AICTE is a technical education regulatory body. How can Sahasrabudhe comment on universities, which offer interdisciplinary courses? He should stick to his field of knowledge instead of undermining CU's achievements



Partha Chatterjee
EDUCATION MINISTER

"I normally desist from giving examples of poor institutes, but look at the first three universities set up by the British in 1857—Calcutta, Madras and Bombay, which held pre-eminent positions till Independence. They are nowhere near the top universities of India today," he said. "The VCs were selected based on political affiliations without weighing their merit. This is responsible for the institutes' downslide. There are Punjab University, IISc and, to some extent BHU, which are over 100 years old but have maintained their excellent status."

But education minister Partha Chatterjee dismissed Sahasrabudhe's concern. "AICTE is a technical educa-

tion regulatory body. How can Sahasrabudhe comment on universities which offer interdisciplinary courses and have achieved excellence in humanities and science already? He should stick to his field of knowledge instead of undermining achievements and glories secured by Calcutta University," he said.

He said the recent IIM bill and UGC's regulation on autonomy have brought "distinct freshness to the academic circles". "AICTE plans to bring autonomy regulations to PG management institutes soon," he said, adding the status should be thrust on institutes that did not opt for autonomy out of fear, despite having the criteria.

VCs blamed for varsity fall

**JHINUK MAZUMDAR AND
SUBHANKAR
CHOWDHURY**

Alipore: Vice-chancellors selected through a process that ignored merit were responsible for the decline in the standards of Calcutta, Mumbai and Madras universities, All India Council for Technical Education chairman Anil Sahasrabudhe said on Saturday.

Union problems were among the other reasons why the three universities have lost their pole positions, Sahasrabudhe said while delivering a lecture on "Leadership & Autonomy in Educational Institutes Can Create Wonders" at International Management Institute, Calcutta.

"The selection of VCs based on political affiliations without weighing merit of the candidates has led to this scenario," Sahasrabudhe's written speech handed over to reporters said.

"I normally desist from giving examples of poor institutes, but look at the first three universities set up by the British in 1857 — Calcutta, Madras and Bombay — which held pre-eminent positions till Independence and are now-

here... today," the speech read.

"...If you look at their ranking... they stand nowhere. There are other institutions who have emerged and these institutions have slipped.... Why did they slip? Possibly because of the selection of vice-chancellors was not right.... Then there were huge number of other activities.... One thing is common — there are labour unions, faculty unions, students unions who do not want activity.... That is the kind of culture that has grown," he said.

Calcutta University has failed to make it to the short-list of eight "public institutions" drawn up by an empowered committee of the UGC for the status of the Institution of Eminence. Jadavpur University figures on the list.

CU had scored a CGPA (cumulative grade point average) of 3.2 out of 4 on an eight-point scale in 2017.

A CU official said members of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council team that had rated the university had expressed their unhappiness over the absence of modern exam system and modern teaching and learning methods in most departments.

Start courses in sync with market: AICTE

A STAFF REPORTER

Judges Court Road: Engineering colleges need to start new courses such as data analytics, cloud computing, robotics and Internet of Things to attract students and increase their employability, AICTE chairman Anil Sahasrabudhe said on Saturday.

Sahasrabudhe was speaking at a city institute on why students were averse to engineering courses despite good scores.

"The nature of jobs is continuously changing and we have to prepare our students with a new curriculum to take on those challenges... for example Internet of Things, machine learning, robotics, data analytics and cloud computing," he said. "Unless these courses are taught it will be difficult to make our students employable."

The number of jobs in large-scale industries has gone down, Sahasrabudhe said. "Infosys, TCS, Wipro, Cognizant and other big IT companies used to recruit between 30,000 and 50,000 students every year. Now, the



Anil Sahasrabudhe in the city on Saturday.

Picture by Sanat Kumar Sinha

number is between 5,000 and 10,000."

He was at the International Management Institute to give the distinguished lecture on "Leadership & Autonomy in Educational Institutes can Create Wonders".

This year, 254 seats have gone vacant in Jadavpur University after the third round of counselling.

When Sahasrabudhe was told about seats going vacant, he said it could be because those seats were "in disciplines that are no longer in great demand".

Something modern has to be brought into the curriculum of those disciplines so that employment opportunities are

created, he said. "No one will be interested in going for the same old courses.... I told you the last time I was in Jadavpur University that you have to change your curriculum regularly and bring in the industry perspective."

Every department need not have 60 or 100 or 200 seats, he said. "Some departments can have 30 seats, some 200 depending on the branch and the type of opportunities it would offer." Data analytics is a powerful branch because so much data is available and one has to know how to make use of it, Sahasrabudhe said.

"Facebook and Twitter offer free service. They will know your activities, the food you eat, the clothes you are interested in and based on that they will push advertisements to you and make money."

Chiranjib Bhattacharjee, the engineering dean of Jadavpur University, said the first-year curriculum had been revised this year. "There is massive revision in the curriculum as well as examination in all disciplines except in architecture and pharmacy based on an AICTE directive."

Calcutta University stands nowhere among the top: AICTE head

Kolkata, Jul 14 AICTE Chairman Anil Dattatraya Sahasrabudhe today said it was a matter of regret that centuries-old institutions like the University of Calcutta "stand nowhere" among the top-ranked institutions of India.

Sahasrabudhe, while delivering a lecture at the International Management Institute (IMI) here, said, "I normally don't talk of poor examples... But among the first three universities today - the University of Calcutta, University of Bombay and University of Madras... They stand nowhere among the institutions of excellence."

He said he wanted to see these universities feature among the top 10 in the country.

"Why have they slipped? Possibly because the leadership was not right... There are some other universities in the top 10, these universities, too, need to be among the top 10," the top AICTE official said.

Sahasrabudhe said among the old institutions, Punjab University and Benares Hindu University have maintained their academic standard.

Citing examples of institutions that have "slipped and been resurrected to glory," he referred to IEST, Shibpur, which "had at one time been a great institution, then slipped and thanks to the autonomy granted to it, became BESU and then IEST. Now, it has been transformed and competing with IITs."

The AICTE chief also said it was mulling giving graded autonomy to institutions.

"We are thinking of graded autonomy on the lines of UGC's graded autonomy... Liberty to engage with any foreign university to start innovative programmes," he said.

He said the AICTE was set to give autonomy to stand-alone PG diploma institutions "who have got excellent accreditation score through NAAC."

Sahasrabudhe said many government-run institutions were uninterested in autonomy for various reasons.

"Many government institutions are not interested in autonomy because of uncalled for fears of job crisis and rise in work load. Sometimes, varsities don't want to give autonomy to colleges under fear of not getting recognition for the achievements of affiliated colleges.

"And for private institutes, many are not interested as they perhaps think why should we create their own brand when they are already tagged with a brand," he said.

In the wake of this, he said the AICTE, MHRD and the UGC were contemplating that if an institution gets an 'A' grade accreditation, "whether the college wants or not, autonomy will be thrust on it."

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AICTE Chairman Anil Dattatraya Sahasrabudhe today said it was a matter of regret that centuries-old institutions like the University of Calcutta "stand nowhere" among the top-ranked institutions of India. By: [PTI](#) | Kolkata | Published: July 14, 2018 10:17 PM

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Business Standard

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[Press Trust of India](#) | Kolkata Last Updated at July 14, 2018 22:05 IST

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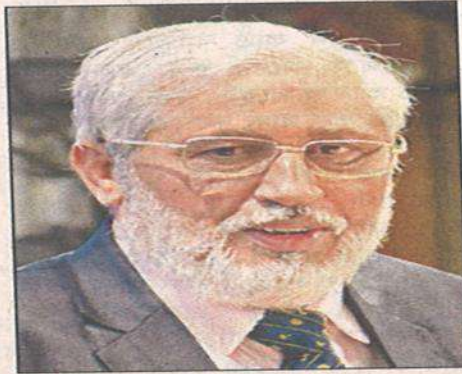
উপাচার্যের মান নিয়ে প্রশ্ন তুলে বিতর্ক

নিজস্ব সংবাদদাতা

মেধা যাচাই না-করে উপাচার্য নিয়োগের কারণেই একদা ঐতিহ্যশালী কলকাতা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় ক্রমশ পিছিয়ে পড়ছে বলে মন্তব্য করলেন অল ইন্ডিয়া কাউন্সিল ফর টেকনিক্যাল এডুকেশনের চেয়ারম্যান অনিল সহস্রবুদ্ধে। শনিবার কলকাতায় ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ম্যানেজমেন্ট ইনস্টিটিউটের এক অনুষ্ঠানে স্বাধিকার ও নেতৃত্ব সংক্রান্ত বিষয়ে বক্তব্য রাখতে গিয়ে তিনি বলেন, স্বাধীনতার আগে কলকাতা, মুম্বই, মাদ্রাজ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় প্রথম সারিতে ছিল। কিন্তু নেতৃত্বদানের অক্ষমতার ফলে তাদের মান নিম্নমুখী। তাঁর লিখিত বক্তৃতায় এর কারণ হিসেবে মেধার বদলে রাজনৈতিক অনুমোদনের ভিত্তিতে উপাচার্য নিয়োগকে দায়ী করেছেন সহস্রবুদ্ধে।

তাঁর এই বক্তব্যের পরেই রাজ্যের শিক্ষামহলে বিতর্ক শুরু হয়েছে। তৃণমূলের পক্ষ থেকে সহস্রবুদ্ধের রাজনৈতিক যোগসূত্র নিয়ে প্রশ্ন তুলে বলা হয়েছে, কেন্দ্রের শাসক দলের অঙ্গুলিহেলনেই এ সব কথা বলছেন তিনি। দলের সাংসদ সৌগত রায় বলেন, “সহস্রবুদ্ধে কে? এ সব কথা যাঁরা বলেন, তাঁদের বুদ্ধি নিয়েই প্রশ্ন ওঠে। কেন্দ্রীয় সরকার শিক্ষার দায়িত্ব সম্ভব পরিবারের হাতে তুলে দিয়েছে। অস্থানীয় প্রতিষ্ঠান নিয়ে কী চলছে, তা তো সবাই দেখছি। এ সব কথার গুরুত্ব দেওয়ার মানে হয় না।”

তৃণমূলের আর এক সাংসদ সুগত বসুর বক্তব্য, “সময়ের সঙ্গে সঙ্গে কিছু বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের মানের একটু অবনমন যে হয়েছে, সে কথা স্বীকার করতেই হবে। কিন্তু বিজেপি-ঘনিষ্ঠদের মুখ থেকে এ ব্যাপারে কোনও সমালোচনা শুনতে আমরা রাজি নই। ওঁরা নিজেরা দেশ জুড়ে শিক্ষাক্ষেত্রে কী করছেন, সেটা আগে ভেবে দেখুন। অস্তিত্বহীন একটি প্রতিষ্ঠানকে সেরার তকমা দিতেও তো ওঁদের বাধেনি!”



■ অনিল সহস্রবুদ্ধে

বিজেপির দিকে আঙুল তুলে বিরোধীদের প্রশ্ন, এর আগে পুণে ফিল্ম ইনস্টিটিউট বা ইন্ডিয়ান কাউন্সিল ফর হিস্টোরিক্যাল রিসার্চের প্রধান পদে নিয়োগ কীসের ভিত্তিতে হয়েছিল? সেই সব নিয়োগ নিয়ে তোলাপাড় হয়েছিল সারা দেশ। শিক্ষক সংগঠন ওয়েবকুটার সাধারণ সম্পাদক ঋতিনাথ প্রহরাজ বলেন, “নিজেদের দায়িত্ব এড়িয়ে অন্যের ঘাড়ে দোষ চাপানোর এই পদ্ধতির কোনও যুক্তি আছে বলে মনে হয় না। কলকাতা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় তার পঠনপাঠনের সামগ্রিক ব্যবস্থায় অতীতের গরিমায় না হলেও মানের ব্যাপক অধঃপতন হয়েছে বলে মনে করি না।”

শাসক দলের শিক্ষক সংগঠন ওয়েবকুপার কলকাতা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় শাখার সাধারণ সম্পাদক সুজয় ঘোষ বলেন, “আমি এই বক্তব্যের তীব্র প্রতিবাদ করছি। এটা উপাচার্য এবং রাজ্য সরকারকে অপমান করার জন্য বলা হচ্ছে। যে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় ভূমিষ্ঠই হয়নি, তাকে উৎকর্ষ কেন্দ্র হিসেবে ঘোষণা করে কেন্দ্রীয় অনুদান দিচ্ছে। কিন্তু এই বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় সেই সাহায্য পাচ্ছে না।” কলকাতা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের উপাচার্য সোনালি চক্রবর্তী বন্দ্যোপাধ্যায়কে ফোন করা হলে তিনি ফোন তোলেননি।

এই সময় কলকাতা রবিবার ১৫ জুলাই ২০১৮

ভিসি নিয়োগ নিয়ে খোঁচা

এই সময়: উপাচার্য নিয়োগে মেধার থেকেও বেশি রাজনৈতিক ঘনিষ্ঠতায় জোর দেওয়া হচ্ছে বলে মনে করছেন দেশে প্রযুক্তি শিক্ষার নিয়ামক সংস্থা এআইসিটিই-র চেয়ারম্যান অনিল সহস্রবুদ্ধে। শনিবার শহরে একটি অনুষ্ঠানে হাজির ছিলেন অনিল। সেখানেই তাঁর বক্তব্যে তুলে আনেন কলকাতা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের প্রসঙ্গ। বলেন, ‘কলকাতা-সহ আরও কয়েকটি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় এক সময় দেশের মধ্যে প্রথম সারিতে ছিল। কিন্তু একাধিক সংগঠন ও নেতৃত্বের অক্ষমতার ফলে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়গুলির মান এখন নিম্নমুখী।’ আয়োজক সংস্থার পক্ষে পাঠানো একটি লিখিত বিবৃতিতে সহস্রবুদ্ধের বক্তব্যে আরও স্লেষ ধরা পড়েছে। সেখানে বলা হয়েছে, চেয়ারম্যান বলেছেন, ‘ব্রিটিশ শাসনকালে প্রতিষ্ঠিত দেশের প্রথম তিনটি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কলকাতা, মাদ্রাজ ও বোম্বে স্বর্ণযুগ ছিল স্বাধীনতার আগে। এখন দেখুন, কেউ সেটা নয়। কারণ মেধাকে গুরুত্ব না দিয়ে রাজনৈতিক সংস্রবের মাধ্যমে উপাচার্য নিয়োগ হচ্ছে।’

পাশাপাশি তিনি জানান, পাঞ্জাব, বেনারস হিন্দু বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, ইন্ডিয়ান ইনস্টিটিউট অফ সায়েন্সের মতো প্রতিষ্ঠান একশো বছর পেরোলেও মান বজায় রাখতে পেরেছে। সেই সঙ্গেই শিবপুরের আইআইইএসটি, পুনে কলেজ অফ ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিংয়ের অবস্থা নিয়ে উদ্বেগ প্রকাশ করেন অনিল। যোগ্য নেতৃত্বের হাতে শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানের দায়িত্ব দেওয়ার পক্ষেও সওয়াল করেছেন তিনি। যদিও প্রশ্ন উঠেছে, কলকাতা বা বেনারস হিন্দু বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের মান তো এআইসিটিই-র দেখার কথা নয়। সেটি প্রযুক্তি শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিয়ামক সংস্থা। তাই অনিলের মন্তব্য অনধিকার চর্চা বলেই মনে করছেন শিক্ষা মহলের অনেকে।