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What does Sustainable development means?



This is the explanation of why you shouldn't cut down trees, and why you shouldn't spend more water, electricity, and other natural resources than you need, so as not to harm the environment.

Each of these goals and indicators must be met by 2030.

Georgia is among the states that expressed readiness nationally in 2015 and continues to work in this direction. There are consequences in nature and the world must come together to address climate change.

To achieve sustainable de-

velopment goals, it is necessary to place children at the center of the state's strategy and action plan.

I am a member of the International Global Friendship Club. Quality education is a necessary prerequisite for sustainable development.

I am involved in the project with the students and make presenta-

tions on behalf of Georgia to share practical experiences. At international meetings, we received the best evaluation from colleagues from different countries.

In international conferences, in the name of School Progress, primary school students presented presentations "Quality education" 17.11.2022, "Informal learning approaches in a formal environment" 18.11.2022, "Project teaching" 20.12.2022, "Role of school activities in student development" 26.12.2022, "Georgian New Year traditions - Chichilak", "Role of student involvement in school clubs" 28.01.2023.

I conduct conversations with students about the goals and objectives of sustainable development. During integration between subjects, I focus on global issues of the world. I create electronic learning resources in the direction of sustainable development goals and objectives.

Students are also actively involved in the preparation of electronic resources. Students know the purpose of second-



Lela Mikeladze
Educationist
Batumi - Georgia

hand items. Together we create interesting learning subjects and share them with others. In the learning environment, we create three-dimensional dioramas from second-hand items and scraps, in which episodes from the studied material are presented. Students learn to work together, cooperate, and share impressions. Higher thinking skills are developed.

I create fun activities, crosswords, quizzes, and e-cards for students in grades 1-4. Accord-

ing to the planned schedule, I hold meetings with colleagues, open lessons and share my experience with novice teachers.

At school, I teach the art of quilting to students and share it with art.

For me, the learning environment enriched with technology helps to increase students' motivation and high involvement in the lesson process.

Integration between subjects helps me prepare various electronic resources.

Students are actively involved in this process and together we create the necessary product for the resource.

I prepared a presentation "professional competencies and professional development necessary for game-based learning".

The creative product created by the students presented at the presentation is proof of how they understood the subject. This demonstrates the specific issue of teaching, early education and care through play in the learning environment.

Empowering Sustainability: The Role of Transition Finance in India's Net-Zero Vision



Examining Transition Finance's Goals, Range, and Credibility

At the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28), transition financing is a major area of concern. There are increasing requests for agreement and clarification on this crucial component of the net-zero conundrum. Among other things, representatives from the public and commercial sectors will be meeting in Dubai next week for COP28 to "endorse a roadmap for rapidly developing and implementing common definitions of the transition finance strategies needed to unlock global finance in support of net-zero commitments." Given that a lack of agreed-upon definitions and methods is frequently cited as impeding the adoption and legitimacy of transition finance, this might be a significant development in the field.

The need for transition finance is growing. In the past ten years, green financing has increased over a hundredfold, but we still need more momentum to get net zero. To facilitate their transformation, other vital sectors of the economy particularly those with high emissions and difficulty abating them will need to make large investments. Due to a lack of established guidelines and accountability systems, this type of funding is sometimes contentious and has been accused of greenwashing. The international community must quickly define, valorize, and implement transition finance to guarantee

the magnitude and speed of financial flows necessary for a fair and orderly net zero transition.

Goal of Transition Finance

Transition finance is now broadly defined as "investment, financing, insurance, and related products and services that are necessary to support an orderly, real-economy transition to net zero," according to the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ). Nonetheless, a lot of frameworks concentrate on transition finance in particular as capital that can enable high-emitting businesses and/or hard-to-abate industries to decarbonize.

We believe that this distinction is essential. Markets and taxonomies already exist for climate solutions (batteries, solar panels, etc.) that qualify for green finance; nevertheless, capital and investment are also needed to decarbonize the rest of the global economy. For example, Citigroup estimated that reaching net zero in the steel, cement, road freight, aviation, and shipping sectors might cost as much as \$1.6 trillion. Financial markets that can sustain pivotal moments, generate impetus for comprehensive economic transformation, and curtail greenhouse gas emissions at their origin are essential. Transition finance, when used responsibly, can offer transition-enabling solutions to high-emitting counterparties

and assets that might not otherwise be eligible for green financing. So how do you decide which counterparties, who emit a lot and/or are difficult to abate, should be able to receive transition finance?

Several papers accessible to date suggest that transition finance should be made available for issuers and/or businesses where a realistic road to 1.5°C-aligned decarbonization exists. A significant challenge, meanwhile, is what to do with entities, sectors, and assets that do not have plausible 1.5°C paths, but whose decarbonization is nonetheless necessary to meet climate targets (e.g., ending flaring and lowering methane emissions from upstream gas extraction). Furthermore, the transition trajectories of various sectoral and regional contexts vary, so any attempt to construct a universal definition must balance concerns about justice and fair share without losing the degree of ambition.

In summary, transition finance plays a crucial role in facilitating economic transitions and preventing carbon lock-in, which arises when companies, assets, or infrastructure with high carbon emissions "perpetuate, delay, or prevent the transition to low-carbon alternatives." Therefore, in addition to thorough monitoring and ex-post verification, definitional talks will also need to consider the lifetime of the activities and time horizons in credible 1.5°C climate scenarios to ensure that transition money is not being done as business as usual. Simultaneously, definitions must include appropriate transition safeguards to support impacted communities and workers while



Fueling India's Net-Zero Goals Through Transition Finance

India is currently undergoing an energy transition that is critical to the planet's health and future. In the global fight against climate change, environmental degradation, and disruptions to sustainable development, India is a leader in these complicated concerns. India's burgeoning economy and growing population are expected to cause its energy needs to triple in the next decades. The nation's particular problem is striking a balance between the rapid economic growth required to guarantee the welfare of its 1.4 billion people and its aggressive clean energy ambitions.

Significant obstacles still exist, though, such as fluctuating commodity prices, bankrupt electrical distribution corporations, an unreliable supply of electricity, and growing threats to energy security. It will be necessary to close knowledge gaps in a number of the energy transition domains to establish the ideal environment for a transition that is inclusive and pro-people. These will then guide attempts to close current regulatory and policy gaps.

A compilation that delves into the complex terrain of India's energy transformation process is called Powering India's Future: Towards a People-Positive Energy Transition. This collection of articles intends to serve as a blueprint for India's transition to a cleaner, more equitable, and sustainable energy future



Dr. M. Sumathy
Professor and Head
Bharathiar University
Coimbatore - India

through its observations, analyses, and innovative ideas.

Creating a Net Zero Future with Transition Finance

Nowadays, when the world is on the point of collapsing, business as usual isn't enough. History has consistently demonstrated that at some point, something fresh and more important will disrupt all business models. The sustainability revolution requires businesses to re-evaluate and realign their approach to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

To accomplish the SDGs by 2030, poor countries need to find \$4 trillion in fresh cash annually, according to UNCTAD's World Investment Report 2023. Of this, poor nations must find an annual budget deficit of \$2.2 trillion to make the switch to sustainable energy. This is where innovative approaches to financing the energy transition, or transition finance, might contribute to the goal of a net zero future.

Transition finance may allow for a true shift towards decarbonization for the sectors of the economy that currently contribute significantly: hydrocarbons, mining and minerals, coal-fired power plants, steel, cement, aviation, and so on. It may also make it possible for the private sector to produce adequate returns. Institutional investors and the private sec-

tor have the means to facilitate a long-term shift. According to the World Economic Forum, by 2030, shifting to an economy that values nature may produce over \$10 trillion in revenue and around 400 million new employment. Above all, it can help the public sector by way of public-private collaborations in blended financing.

India has unquestionably made great progress toward sustainability in addressing environmental issues like climate change. The National Clean Energy Fund, the Reserve Bank of India's first Sovereign Green Bond, the adoption of reporting guidelines for Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reports (BRSR), the expansion of green financing by SEBI, and, more recently, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Credit Rating Agencies) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023, which set guidelines for ESG rating providers, are just a few of the initiatives that are furthering India's commitment to the shift towards a greener world.

India confronts significant challenges in obtaining private sector finance for its transition to a low-carbon economy. Many barriers contribute to these challenges, including the absence of a clear definition for transition activities, which can result in the adoption of "greenwashing" tactics. Furthermore, not enough information is disclosed regarding the sustainability and environmental impact of investments. Furthermore, there are still few cutting-edge financial instruments available that are specially made to aid in decarbonization initiatives. To raise private sector funding for India's shift to a greener economy, several issues must be resolved.

The assistance of capital markets is crucial for a sustainable transformation. One option for financing this investment is through green bonds, sustainability-linked bonds, or theme bonds, which can help India reach its 2030 objective of 500 GW of renewable energy ca-

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NEET-UG paper leak: CBI makes first arrests, two persons held from Patna



■ EJ News - New Delhi

The CBI made its first arrests in the NEET-UG paper leak case, taking two people in custody in Patna while three candidates in Gujarat who had allegedly solicited help to clear the exam recorded their statements with the probe agency, officials said.

The two arrested accused Manish Kumar and Ashutosh Kumar allegedly provided safe accommodation to the medical entrance exam aspirants before the examination and gave them leaked question papers and answer keys, they said.

Both were produced before a special court in Patna which sent them to judicial custody, the officials said, adding the CBI will now seek the duo's remand to quiz them.

Ashutosh Kumar had allegedly taken 'Learn Boys Hostel and Play School' in Patna on rent from where the Economic Offence Unit of Bihar Police had recovered half-burnt question papers of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate), they said.

CBI registers FIR against over 4 lakh fake students in Haryana govt. schools



■ EJ News - Agency

The CBI has registered an FIR in connection with four lakh fake students caught in Haryana government schools in 2016.

The case was handed over to the CBI on the orders of the Punjab and Haryana High Court on November 2, 2019.

The CBI had approached the Supreme Court claiming that

The CBI has found that Ashutosh Kumar knew the premises were being used for providing question papers to NEET aspirants, officials said.

About Manish Kumar, they said that he allegedly struck deals with candidates who were ready to pay money to get the question papers in advance. He then brought these candidates to the hostel where the question papers and answer keys were provided to them, officials said, adding the aspirants stayed in the hostel and prepared for the exam held on May 5.

The federal probe agency continued its action in Gujarat as well where three aspirants, who had allegedly paid an accused to help them clear the medical entrance test, recorded their statements.

The CBI has approached a special court in Godhra, seeking the remand of five accused who were arrested by the Gujarat police in connection with the paper leak case.

The matter is likely to come up for a hearing on Friday, of-

Highlights

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» 'Ashutosh Kumar had allegedly taken 'Learn Boys Hostel and Play School' in Patna on rent from where the Economic Offence Unit of Bihar Police had recovered half-burnt question papers of NEET-UG

» About Manish Kumar, they said, that he allegedly struck deals with candidates who were ready to pay money for getting the question papers in advance

» He then brought these candidates to the hostel where the question papers and answer keys were provided to them, officials said, adding the aspirants stayed in the hostel and prepared for the exam held on May

actually found. Four lakh were fake admissions.

The court was also told that certain benefits were being given to the students belonging to backward or poor sections of society to encourage them to attend schools, including midday meal.

The high court had ordered the state Vigilance to appoint a senior officer to inquire into the suspected siphoning off of funds for four lakh "non-existent" students. The Bench ordered the fixing of responsibility and to also take action commensurate with the guilt proved as a measure of deterrence.

On the Vigilance Bureau's recommendations, seven FIRs were registered in the state.

In its 2019 order, the high court noted that after the registration of FIRs, the investigation was "very slow". It then transferred the probe to the CBI for a proper, thorough and expeditious in-

>> Contd. p.4...

NEET aspirant hangs himself in Kota, 12th suicide since Jan 2024



■ EJ - Kota

A 17-year-old medical aspirant allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself from a ceiling fan in his rented accommodation here, police said.

This is the twelfth case of suspected suicide by a coaching student in Kota since January. The number of student suicides in Kota stood at 26 in 2023. Bihar native Hrishit Kumar Agrawal, a student of Class 12, was preparing for NEET (National Eligibility cum Entrance

Test) at a coaching institute here, Dadabari ASI Shambhu Dayal said.

He lived in a rented room in a building in Chota Chaurahin Dadabari area where some other coaching students also resided, he said.

At around 1 pm on Thursday, the other students informed police after Agrawal did not open his door when they knocked, he said.

When a police team broke open the door, they found Agrawal hanging from a ceiling fan inside his room, he said, adding that no suicide note was recovered from the room. The body was in a decomposing state. It is suspected that he committed suicide sometime on Wednesday, he said.

Agrawal was preparing for the medical college entrance exam and taking coaching for the same in Kota for the last two

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SC notice to NTA seeks reply on coaching center and students' plea on NEET-UG exam



■ EJ News - New Delhi

The Supreme Court asked the National Testing Agency (NTA) to apprise it whether there is any time limit for raising grievances regarding the OMR sheets provided to the candidates who appeared in NEET-UG 2024.

A vacation bench of Justices Manoj Misra and SVN Bhatti, which issued notice to the NTA on a fresh plea filed by a private coaching centre and a few NEET candidates, tagged the petition with the pending matters and listed it for hearing on July 8.

Senior advocate R Basant, appearing for the coaching institute and the candidates, submitted that a few students, who have appeared for the examination, have not got the OMR sheets. The bench at the outset pointed out to Basant how a private coach[ing] institute filed an Article 32 petition in the Supreme Court and what kind of fundamental rights of the institution are affected. Counsel appearing

for the NTA submitted that the OMR sheets have been uploaded on the website and given to the candidates.

The bench asked him whether there was any time limit for raising the grievance of OMR sheets. The NTA counsel said that he needs to take instructions and seek listing of the petition along with the pending matters. "We will file a short reply by then to the query," he said. Basant pointed out that there is no set procedure or time limit to raise the grievance and therefore as an interim relief the candidates are seeking a grant of OMR sheets. The bench then issued notice and tagged the petition with the pending matters while asking the counsel for NTA to file a short written reply to the court's query on the time limit.

On June 20, the top court sought responses from the Centre, the NTA and others on a slew of petitions, including in those seeking the scrapping of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test-Undergraduate (NEET-UG) 2024 and a court-monitored probe, amid mounting outrage over alleged irregularities in conducting the all-India medical entrance test.

While hearing separate pleas on the NEET-UG 2024, the apex court had on June 18 said that the Supreme Court asked the National Testing Agency (NTA) to apprise it whether there is any time limit for raising grievances regarding the OMR sheets provided to the candidates who appeared in NEET-UG 2024.

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Fresh date for NEET-PG to be announced within two days, says Dharmendra Pradhan



■ EJ - New Delhi

The National Board of Examinations (NBE) will announce the new schedule for the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test for Postgraduates (NEET-PG) within the next two days, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said.

Addressing reporters during the Haryana BJP's extended state executive meeting in Panchkula, Minister Pradhan stated, "The date of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test, Post Graduate, will be announced by the NBE in one or two days."

The NEET-PG was among several exams canceled last week as a pre-emptive measure in response to allegations of irregularities. These actions were taken to ensure the integrity and fairness of the examination process.

This announcement comes a day after the National Testing Agency (NTA) disclosed revised dates for three other canceled exams.

Notably, the University Grants Commission-National Eligibility Test (UGC-NET) was halted

on June 18, one day after it was conducted, following reports that the integrity of the exam was compromised. The UGC-NET will now be conducted from August 21 to September 4.

Minister Pradhan explained that the UGC-NET cancellation was due to a question paper leak on the darknet, which was then circulated on the Telegram app. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is currently investigating the breach.

The Ministry of Education's prompt actions highlight its dedication to maintaining the credibility and standards of India's competitive examination system. The upcoming announcement of the NEET-PG schedule by the NBE is highly anticipated by candidates affected by these recent cancellations.

IIT Madras launches world's first MBA in digital maritime and supply chain management

■ EJ - New Delhi

Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) made history on Friday by launching the World's First MBA in digital maritime and supply chain management. This groundbreaking 24-month program, developed by IIT Madras Departments of Management Studies and Ocean Engineering along with industry partner i-maritime Consultancy, is designed to cater to the needs of working professionals worldwide. It aims to equip global

professionals with the skills necessary to navigate the rapidly evolving digital landscape of maritime trade and supply chain management, as per a release from the institute.

Those with a Bachelor's Degree having secured at least 60 per cent marks and a minimum of two years of full-time work experience are eligible to apply. The admission process includes an online IIT Madras Admission Test followed by personal interviews for shortlisted candidates. Applications are already open

for this program with the first batch commencing in September 2024.

The program offers a unique blend of online learning and on-campus immersion modules, providing flexibility while ensuring a comprehensive educational experience. Over two years, the participants will engage with cutting-edge digital technologies such as IoT, AI, ML, and Blockchain, enhancing their ability to tackle modern maritime challenges and drive career advancement.

UPSC moots Aadhaar-based authentication & AI CCTV surveillance to prevent cheating



■ EJ - New Delhi

Amid ongoing controversies involving alleged irregularities in NEET and NET exams, the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has decided to implement advanced technology solutions to enhance the integrity of its examination process. The UPSC plans to use facial recognition and Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based CCTV surveillance systems to prevent cheating and impersonation during its various tests.

The UPSC, a Constitutional body responsible for conducting 14 major exams, including the prestigious civil services examination for IAS, IFS, and IPS officers, has recently issued a tender inviting bids from experienced public sector undertakings. The tender outlines two key technological solutions: "Aadhaar-based fingerprint authentication (or digital fingerprint capturing) and facial recognition of candidates, along with QR code scanning of e-admit cards," and "Live AI-based CCTV surveillance service."

According to the tender document dated June 3, 2024, the UPSC emphasizes the importance of conducting examinations in a free, fair, and impartial manner. The commission aims to utilize the latest digital technology to verify and cross-check candidates' biometric details and monitor their activities during exams to prevent cheating, fraud, and impersonation.

The implementation of Aadhaar-based fingerprint authentication and facial recognition is designed to strengthen the examination process. The selected service provider will use data provided by the UPSC to authenticate candidates' identities and conduct facial recognition during the exams. The process will involve a real-time attendance monitoring system, incorporating GPS coordinates and timestamps to ensure enrolment occurs within the stipulated timeframe.

The facial recognition will involve a stateless transaction of two images: one provided during online registration and the other captured on the exam day. The UPSC has also decided to implement a comprehensive CCTV/video surveillance system with recording and live broadcast capabilities to monitor activities at exam centers nationwide.

The service provider will be required to install an adequate number of CCTV cameras in each classroom, entry/exit gate, and control room where sensitive examination materials are handled. Specifically, there should be one CCTV camera for every 24 candidates, ensuring zero blind spots and continuous monitoring of all exam areas. The AI-based video system will generate alerts for any unusual movements, furniture arrangements, camera tampering, or inactivity of invigilators, raising red flags for potential cheating or unfair practices. The bid submission deadline is July 7, with the opening scheduled for the same day at 1:30 pm.

This development by the UPSC comes as the Central government faces scrutiny over alleged irregularities in the UGC-NET and NEET-UG exams, conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA). The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is currently investigating allegations of malpractice in both exams. The UGC-NET determines eligibility for Assistant Professors and Junior Research Fellowships, while NEET-UG is a critical medical entrance exam.

NEET aspirant...

years, Dadabari circle inspector Naresh Kumar Meena said, adding that the boy's parents have been informed. The body has been sent to MBS hospital for a post-mortem, which will be conducted after the arrival of his parents, he said. On June 16, another Bihar native, Ayush Jaiswal (17) committed suicide inside his PG room in Kota. He was preparing for the IIT-JEE competitive exam. An 18-year-old NEET aspirant, Bagisha Tiwari, died allegedly after jumping from the ninth floor of a building in the coaching hub on June 5, a day after the National Testing Agency (NTA) declared the NEET-UG results, in which she scored 320 out of 720 marks.

amination.

CBI makes..

ternational School on the Sevaliya[1] Balasinor highway in Kheda district and Jay Jalaram School in Godhra in Panchmahal district.

Jay Jalaram School's physics teacher Tushar Bhatt, principal Parshottam Sharma, Vadodara[1] based education consultant Parsuram Roy, his aide Vibhor Anand and alleged middleman Arif Vohra were arrested by the police.

The CBI has registered six FIRs in the NEET-UG paper leak case which included its own FIR on a reference from the Union Education Ministry and five from the states where it took over the investigation. The probe agency has taken over one case each in Bihar and Gujarat and three cases in Rajasthan.

NEET-UG is conducted by the National Testing Agency for admissions to MBBS, BDS, AYUSH and other related courses in government and private institutions across the country. This year's exam was conducted on May 5 at 4,750 centres in 571 cities [1]ies, including 14 abroad. Over 23 lakh candidates appeared for the test. The first CBI FIR was registered on Sunday, a day after the ministry announced it would hand over the probe into the alleged irregularities in the conduct of the exam to the central agency.

CBI registers...

vestigation.

It had asked the state Vigilance to hand over all documents within a week of its order on November 2, 2019, and asked the CBI to file a status report within three months.

Empowering...

capacity. According to research by Fitch Ratings, as of January 2023, the Indian debt market had \$20 billion worth of Green Social, Sustainability, and Sustainability-linked (GSSS) bonds, suggesting that this sector is developing. This isn't enough. To create enough depth and support the growth of a sizable and credible bond market, institutional investors (MFs, Insurance Companies, EPFOs, etc.) must be directed by the government to allocate a specific percentage of their investments to green bonds/instruments, even though tax incentives will help boost demand from retail investors.

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Vice-Chancellor of Chandigarh University Awarded with Best Engineering Administrator by ISTE



■ EJ - Chandigarh

Prof. (Dr.) Manpreet S. Man-na, President Awardee and the Vice Chancellor of Chandigarh University, received the ISTE Best Engineering Administrator Award 2023 for Punjab State on June 22, 2024, at the 53rd Annual National Faculty Convention of the Indian Society for Technical Education (ISTE) held at KIIT University, Bhubaneswar. The award was presented by Prof. Pratap K. Desai, President of ISTE, in the esteemed presence of Prof. Achyuta Samanta, founder of KIIT

& KISS, alongside the daughter of Prof. (Dr.) Dilbagh Singh Hira. Prof. (Dr.) Manna's distinguished career is marked by his impressive 30 years of teaching, learning, and administrative excellence showcasing his exceptional leadership in higher education. His tenure as Director at the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) saw him leading transformative projects, including the AICTE-NEQIP Scheme for financial aid in the North Eastern Region of India and the development of the SWAYAM platform for MOOCs, earning him the President Award for his pioneer-

ing contributions. He is also the recipient of various International and national accolades like the Thought Leadership Award (2023), Global Excellence Award (2022), Outstanding Contribution in Education Award (2021), and the ISTE Section Best Teacher Award (2020). His global influence is affirmed by recognition from UNESCO and the World Economic Forum, and his participation in academic and policy discussions in countries including the USA, Thailand, Singapore, and Switzerland.

An accomplished researcher and innovator, Prof. (Dr.) Manna holds 66 national and international patents, has authored 3 books and 6 book chapters and his 161 publications and participation in over 500 national and international conferences, workshops, and faculty development programs has scholarly impact is far-reaching. His global exposure and comprehensive understanding of diverse educational systems have significantly contributed to his recognition as the Best Engineering Administrator by ISTE.

Student perspectives on sustainability in international education



■ EJ - Ravi Arya

Students are asked to rate the importance of various factors, including the institution's stance on environmental issues, among other decision factors such as cost of living, institutional reputation, and impact upon employability.

Student priorities on environmental issues

From 2021 to 2023, there was a noticeable increase in the importance students placed on their institution's environmental policies when choosing where to study. Importance scores rose from 79% to 84% in UK universities, and from 76% to 78% in non-UK universities.

This change is likely driven by heightened media coverage of climate events and a rising consciousness around environmental impacts, but the evidence from the ISB adds to the existing anecdotal narrative, indicating a significant shift in the importance students place on environmental issues.

Diverse perspectives based on nationality and age

The data also reveals that students from countries more di-

rectly affected by climate change, such as Pakistan and India, place greater importance on environmental policies, suggesting a correlation between personal experiences with climate impacts and environmental prioritization.

Interestingly, the data contradicts the assumption that younger students are the most environmentally conscious. Instead, older student groups (ages 30-49) showed higher concern for environmental issues. This indicates that while younger students recognize the importance of environmental issues, they might prioritize other factors more heavily in their decision-making process.

Student satisfaction with environmental efforts

Between 2020 and 2023, there was a significant increase in student satisfaction regarding their institutions' sustainability efforts. In the UK, satisfaction rose from 89% to 95%, and in non-UK universities from 90% to 92%.

Despite high overall satisfaction rates, some variability was observed across different regions and countries, with universities in European countries generally showing slightly lower satisfaction levels.

Data taken from the 2024 Global Student Experience report brought to you by Etio. As in previous years, the 2024 report is based upon the findings of the International Student Barometer, benefiting from an unrivaled sample of 192,581 student responses, including 122,975 international students, studying at 155 institutions in 24 countries.

Future directions

As environmental sustainability continues to gain prominence in international education discussions, the role of data, such as our own ISB data, and collaboration among educational institutions and organizations like CANIE and the International Education Sustainability Group becomes increasingly important. Understanding and addressing the specific sustainability concerns of diverse student populations will be crucial for universities aiming to lead in the climate change discourse.

GIMS hosts MERAKI-2024 for new PGDM students



■ EJ - Gr. Noida

GNIOT Institute of Management Studies a renowned management institute of the country located in, Gr Noida organized an Orientation Program MERAKI 2024 for the newly admitted students of the PGDM course at India Expo Mart on June 27, 2024. The program was inaugurated by the Chairman Dr. Rajesh Kumar Gupta, Vice Chairman Gaurav Gupta, ACP Pawan Kumar, ACP Ramkishan Tiwari, DCP Ashok Kumar, CEO of the organization Mr. Swadesh Kumar Singh, Director Dr. Bhupender Kumar Som, Corporate Master of the organization & TCS Company Manager Ashish Kumar etc. By lamp lighting & offering prayers to Maa Saraswati, today's historic orientation program was formally started with Ganesh Vandana.

In today's program, an eminent celebrity guest, a spiritual speaker & life coach Ms. Jaya Kishori Ji was present as the keynote speaker. Addressing the newly admitted students present in today's program, she stressed the need for patience, stability & peaceful mental state to achieve success in life & appealed to the group to follow these things. She thanked all the organization members for organizing such a great event & gave best wishes to the students for their bright future. She said that it is highly praiseworthy that GIMS organizes such events from time to time by inviting motivational speakers for the students, which has an important contribution to the lives of all the students.

Joining her on stage was Mr. Sonu Sharma, a preeminent motivational speaker known for his profound influence on the youth of India. Mr. Sharma's name is included in one of the selected voices of India. He has changed the lives of millions of people with his motivational talks & encouragement. During today's program, Sonu Sharma shared many life experiences while talking to the newly enrolled students. "He advised the youth to study along with work. He said that studying & learning is such a process which lasts a lifetime & you can do it along with work. While answering the questions of students, He said, "Youth have a lot of enthusiasm & excitement but in such a situation they often lose their senses.

Adding to the gravitas of the occasion was Major Gaurav Arya (Retd), an Indian Army veteran, defense analyst, & Consulting Editor of Strategic Affairs. He is an Indian Army veteran, author & public speaker with over twenty-nine years of experience in the Indian Army, top national companies, media, consulting & public speaking. He is also the founder of Chanakya Forum. In today's program, he discussed in detail with the students present about leadership, motivation, team building, strategic matters, national security, capacity building & many more.

Chairman of GNIOT Group of Institution, Dr. Rajesh Kumar Gupta said that orientation programs play an important role in the life of students & the institute always strives to make

this moment memorably for students. He said that GNIOT Group has been working in the field of education for the last 24 years. Recently, the engineering college of this group has been awarded an A+ grade by NAAC, a national accreditation body. Currently, students from 22 states of the country are studying in the institute.

CEO of GIMS, Swadesh Kumar Singh said that such programs have been organized for the newly admitted students for the PGDM batch 2024-26. He said that the main objective of this orientation program is to familiarize the newly admitted students with the environment of the new campus, its facilities & infrastructure. The goal of the orientation program is to familiarize students with the institution's rules & academic stands, introduce students to their classmates, & learn about other institutional members who will guide them throughout their tenure at the institution.

Ashish Kumar, Manager of TCS Company, discussed in detail the challenges of the corporate world & its solutions & talked about the full cooperation of the institute in the field of Training & Placement in the future.

Dr. Bhupendra Kumar Som, Director welcomed and congratulated the students on the first day and urged them to stay hungry for new education and aspire for more, as these two successes are the mantras of academic excellence.



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