

10 October 2007

Dear Prof Ananth,

It is a matter of grave concern to us that M/s Dow Chemicals is on this year's list of companies invited for campus placements. Not only does it have one of the worst environmental records, but also one of the most controversial histories in the corporate sector today. Dow Chemicals has been ousted from many universities in the USA after not being able to provide the student body at each institution with satisfactory answers to critical questions raised at the company's presentations on their campuses. It is common knowledge that the company is trying to simply erase a criminal chapter in its history while seeking to re-establish its presence in India.

On behalf of the student and faculty community of the institute, we the undersigned urge you to:

- a) remove Dow Chemicals from the list of companies invited for campus placements this year;
- b) explore possibilities to make the process of preparing a list of companies more transparent, e.g.:
 - (i) involve all student and faculty members of the placement committee while deciding upon the companies to be invited for campus recruitment (we have come to know from placement committee members that they too have no prior information about such critical issues);
 - (ii) allow a one to two week debate within the campus community on a provisional list of companies prior to its finalisation.

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We feel it is essential that not only should the Placement Cell extensively research and consider each company (in terms of its ethics in functioning, its orientation and agenda) prior to declaring it suitable for being part of campus placements, but also that the student body has a more participative role in this selection process and a voice in the decisions made at various steps in the procedure. We envisage this development as enabling a virtuous loop, in terms of making students aware and pro-active in decisions regarding organizations they may choose to work with or become part of in the future, as well as making clear to the companies a statement of intent on the part of the institute, as to what sort of conduct we wish to promote given our understanding of corporate social responsibility.

Several IIT alumni and students have come forward expressing their displeasure at the IITs' allowing Dow to link up with them in various ways. Berkeley, after all, turned down a grant from this same company. As an institute, while we need not follow an example (or two, or ten), we must enquire into the matter, only after which, having given both sides of any issue adequate hearing, we can be justified in arriving at an informed decision. Not only is it our duty, it also serves to make us more aware individuals. As one example of what could be done, please refer to the website "Students for Informed Career Decisions" at Stanford (<http://www.stanford.edu/group/SICD/>), and their profile of Dow Chemicals, which is enclosed with this letter.

For members of the student body, it is infinitely important that this sort of critical thinking and learning accompany educational instruction during the years at college. It would perhaps be our best insurance against sudden disillusionment and its degeneration into chronic cynicism.

10 October 2007

Yours sincerely,

STUDENTS

| FACULTY | NAME | Roll Number | SIGNATURE |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| No. | NAME | DEPARTMENT | SIGNATURE |
| 1. | MILIND BRAHME | HSS | Milind |
| 2. | (VEERARAGHARAN) | HSS | |
| 3 | N. Sreekumar | HSS | N. Sreekumar |
| 4 | John Bosco Lourdasamy | HSS | John Bosco |
| 5- | D. MACATHY | HSS | D. Macathy |
| 6 | D. Acharya | HSS | D. Acharya |
| 7. | Sury Vamghem | chemical engg | Sury |
| 8 | J. TRIPATHY | HSS | J. Tripathy |
| 9. | Shanti Bhattacharya | EE | Shanti |
| 10 | HENA A MURTHY | CSE | Hena |
| 11. | Anju chadha | BT | Anju |
| 12. | ABHINAV P DESHPANDE | CH | Abhinav |
| 13. | Chella Rajan | HSS | Chella |
| 14. | Uonakant Desh | HSS | Uonakant |
| 15. | Sonika Gupta | HSS | Sonika |
| 16 | S. MOHAN | HSS | S. Mohan |
| 17. | P.B. Sunil Kumar | Physics | P. B. Sunil |
| 18 | DHIMAN CHATTERJEE | ME | Dhiman |
| 19. | Enakshi Bhattacharya | EE | Enakshi |
| 20 | Surem Babu. M | HSS | Surem |

STUDENTS



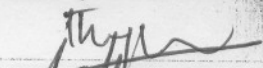
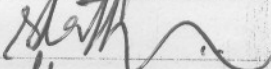

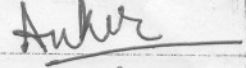
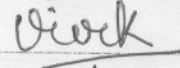

| No. | NAME | Roll Number | SIGNATURE |
|-----|--------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1. | SIDDHARTH SAREEN | HS06H024 | <i>Siddharth</i> |
| 2. | VISHNU S. WARRIER | HS06H031 | <i>Vishnu</i> |
| 3. | Aashish Gupta | HS06H002 | <i>Aashish</i> |
| 4. | ALITHA F. S | HS06H005 | <i>alitha</i> |
| 5. | Teena Augustine | HS07D005 | <i>Teena</i> |
| 6. | Raphael Joseph | HS07D006 | <i>Raphael</i> |
| 7. | ROHIT SETIA | CS04B022 | Rohit Setia |
| 8. | Gaurav Kumar Jain | ME04B013 | <i>Gaurav</i> |
| 9. | SHOBAN PREETH C | AEO4B019 | <i>Shoban</i> |
| 10. | VEERBHADRA KARKELI | AEO4B031 | <i>Veerbhadra</i> |
| 11. | Shankar M | EE05B051 | Shankar |
| 12. | Ananth R | CS05B001 | <i>Ananth</i> |
| 13. | Abhinav S. Grama | BT04B001 | <i>Abhinav</i> |
| 14. | Janani Kannan | CH03B049 | <i>Janani</i> |
| 15. | G. KARTHIK | HE04B020 | <i>Karthik</i> |
| 16. | Yash Jain | ME04B067 | <i>Yash</i> |
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| No. | NAME | DEPARTMENT | SIGNATURE |
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| 1 | K. SIDDHARTI | Electrical | K. Siddarth |
| 2 | E. Chaitanya | Metallurgy | E. Chaitanya |
| 3 | Gauthan Kurn R | Electrical | Gauthan Kurn R |
| 4 | Amitava Guha | Ocean Engineering | Amitava Guha |
| 5 | Raghu | ME | Raghu |
| 6 | T. KIRANKUMAR | Electrical | T. Kirankumar |
| 7 | Karthik | Mechanical | Karthik |
| 8 | Saijay Singh | civil | Saijay |
| 9 | D. M. Ramprasad Gupta | civil | D. Manthri |
| 10 | Kalyan Bandi | Mechanical | Kalyan |
| 11 | Rohit P | Biotechnology | Rohit P |
| 12 | Anjali Bhude | Chemical | Anjali |
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| No. | NAME | DEPARTMENT | SIGNATURE |
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| 1 | ASHOK GURUMURTHY | MM | Ashok |
| 2 | AMIT KR. GUOSH | ME | Aghosh |
| 3 | Debanjan Mathema | EE | Debanjan |
| 4 | Avinando A. Bhattacharya | EE | Avinando A. Bhattacharya |
| 5 | ABHISHEK MITRA | BT | Abhishek Mitra |
| 6 | Aditya Shah | EE | Aditya Shah |
| 7 | Ashish Rajan Singh | EE | Ashish |
| 8 | Satish Kumar | physics | Satish Kumar |
| 9 | B. Paralee Ramu | CSE | B. Paralee |
| 10 | M. PRABHAKAR | Project officer | M. Prabhakar |
| 11 | S. DHANIKARAN | Project officer (Civil) | S. Dhanikaran |
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| | SOURAV MITRA | MECHANICAL | Sourav |
| | KULDEEP KUMAR | MECHANICAL | Kuldeep |
| | RAVI PRAKASH | Mechanical | Ravi Prakash |
| | BINNY M PAUL | Civil | Binny Paul |
| | KULPREET SINGH VIRDI | METALLURGY | Kulpreet Singh |
| | Pranay Patel | Electrical | Pranay |
| | B.R.V. Sumith kumar | Electrical | B. Sumith |
| | Kasthik J.J | Electrical | J.J. Kasthik |
| | KEDAR MAVINKURVE | ELECTRICAL | Kedar |
| | Ankur Sharma | Computer Science | Ankur |
| | AMAR NATA | ELECTRICAL | Amar |
| | Nitin Kumar. | Electrical | Nitin |
| | R. NARAYANAN | ELECTRICAL | R. Narayan |
| | RAVISHANKAR VK | OCEAN ENGG. | Ravishankar |
| | SUROJEET BASAK | CHEMICAL | Surjeet |
| | MOHINDRA KUMAR | Mechanical | Mohindra |
| | Sumit Kumar Choudhary | Mechanical | Sumit |
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STUDENTS

| No. | NAME | Roll Number | SIGNATURE |
|-----|-------------------|-------------|---|
| 1 | SSHYAM SUNDAR | AE06 SD13 |  |
| 2 | VENKATACHALAM.T | FF06 D001 |  |
| 3 | THEJAS H.K | CE06M114 |  |
| 4. | SRINATH N. | CS07M035 |  |
| 5 | Kiran Kumar S | CS07M011 |  |
| 6 | ANKUR GUPTA | BT06M001 |  |
| 7 | Vivek | BT06M014 |  |
| 8 | Alexander Matthew | MS06 D001 |  |
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10 October 2007

STUDENTS

| No. | NAME | Roll Number | SIGNATURE |
|-----|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | Elgar Kanhere SUVENDU M. | PH06M002 AE06M012 | Elgers Sunduy. |
| | S.H.S.S. Vidya Sagar | EE07B070 | S.H.S.S. Vidya Sagar |
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Petition concerning DOW Chemicals from IITM Students and Faculty

10 October 2007

| No | NAME | DEPARTMENT | SIGNATURE |
|----|----------------|------------|----------------|
| 1. | Anil Prabhakar | EE | Anil Prabhakar |
| 2. | Bijoy K. Das | EE | Bijoy K. Das |
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