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People must not throw household waste on the streets. For their convenience, and to ensure a clean and green Kanpur, we have started door-to-door garbage collection scheme. Those who want information can contact KMC officials. **R VIKRAM SINGH**, Municipal Commissioner

Industry reluctant on 'brainy' machines

BIG QUESTION If they are successful, it will mean that human labour will be phased out over time

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KANPUR: Several eminent scientists at the four-day seminar on 'Simulated Evolution and Learning' (SEAL-2010) organised at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K) on Wednesday said the funding response to the Artificial Learning Machines (ALM) programme hasn't quite been encouraging.

The machines would be installed with a chip that would work in a manner similar to the brain in humans. They would subsequently act as per the schedules programmed into them. This means no humans would be required to supervise the operation of the machines or the production process.

Several participants at the seminar said industrialists in most of countries including India have shown reluctance in patronising the Artificial Learning Machines (ALM). In the absence of a considerable number of takers, the project is not advancing as it could've if things had been otherwise.

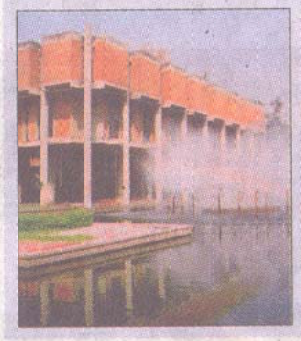
The participants said industry owners, especially in India, have historically been slow in adopting new technologies. In fact, they seem to discourage inventions in the industrial production systems. The participants alleged that most industry bigwigs just believe in "technology trading" and use copied technology instead of using original technologies.

ALM technology is expensive and complex to introduce at an industrial unit and consequently, most industry owners have been shying away from the idea of employing ALM, they said.

At the inaugural session of the seminar, an industrial panel discussion was held to ascertain the views of industrialists about the ALM. Scientists from Italy, Brazil, USA and Bangladesh interacted with representatives from top industrial houses of the country over the issue 'Is the industry ready for ALM technology?'

The representatives from the industries invariably opined that cost-effectiveness would be the major in determining the adoption of ALM technology in industry.

IIT-K PLACEMENT PROCESS TO BEGIN BY DECEMBER 2



The 18-day placement process at Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K) would start from Thursday. About 120 companies are expected to hold campus interviews from December 2-20. According to IIT -K sources, 16 prestigious companies would hold campus interview on the first day. All the interviews would be held simultaneously in about 50 rooms at the Institute.

Sources at the placement office said that 1,000 students of different disciplines have enrolled for the campus interviews. Out of these, 450 are undergraduate students, 550 are post- graduates and 500 are doctoral candidates. The highest salary package, including all perks, would be around Rs 30 lakh per annum and the lowest would be of five lakh rupees. But the average salary package would be around seven lakh rupees a year according to sources at the placement office. Already, Hindustan Unilever, Reliance, Microsoft, ITC and Deutsche Bank have given pre-placement offers to students, the sources said.

They added that several new arrangements have been made by the placement office in developing soft skills of the students and held mock interviews to create confidence among them in facing interviews. HTC