

Newspaper Clips

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IITs among the world's best



According to QS, IIT Bombay stands at rank 46 and IIT Delhi at 52

IITs at Bombay, Delhi, Kanpur and Madras are in subject-wise rankings of the world's top 100 universities

HT Horizons Correspondent

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The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) figure among recently-released subject-wise rankings of the world's top 100 universities.

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) recently unveiled the subject-wise rankings, following the release of the 2010 World University Rankings last September. The subjects have been broadly classified into arts and humanities, engineering and technology, social sciences and management, natural sciences, and life sciences and medicine.

The first series of the four-part release of the rankings will be engineering and information technology disciplines, revealing the world's best universities for computer science, mechanical engineering, chemical engineering, electrical engineering and civil engineering. QS is going to reveal rankings for biomedicine and life sciences, natural sciences, arts and humanities and social sciences disciplines separate groups throughout 2011.

The engineering and tech-

Top three institutions for various disciplines

Arts and humanities

University of Oxford, UK
University of Cambridge, UK
Harvard University, US

Social sciences

Harvard University, US
University of Oxford, UK
University of Cambridge, UK

Natural sciences

University of Cambridge, UK
Harvard University, US

University of Oxford, UK

Life sciences and medicine

Harvard University, US
University of Cambridge, UK
University of Oxford, UK

Engineering and technology

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), US
Stanford University, US
University of California, Berkeley (UCB), US

nology rankings place IIT Bombay at the 46th position and IIT Delhi at 52nd. IIT Kanpur follows at 63rd and IIT Madras at 68th.

The arts and humanities rankings have Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University and University of Delhi listed at 128 and 133, respectively. The University of Mumbai, the University of Calcutta and the University of Pune are also found in the list.

Talking about the need for subject based rankings, Ben Sowter, head of research, said, "Students around the world are interested not only in identifying the universities that match their aspirations but also in a comparative tool

at the disciplinary level.

There is a clear demand for ways to compare the effectiveness of higher education institutions in narrower subject disciplines. After all, the majority of prospective international students know what they want to study before asking themselves where they want to study."

In compiling these rankings, QS is taking into account views of academicians, opinion of the employers and citations per paper as a measure of a key aspect of the research activity. QS World University Rankings by Subject and details of the methodology are available at www.topuniversities.com.

HINDUSTAN TIMES, NEW DELHI
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 06, 2011

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CASHING ON BRAND

HRD puts on hold ₹20-crore IIM seat sale

VIEWPOINT Though well meaning, govt feels plan could be misunderstood

ht FOLLOW-UP

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NEW DELHI: The human resource development (HRD) ministry has put on hold a proposal to make membership of managing societies of the Indian Institutes of Management conditional on the payment of "substantial" donations.

The ministry has decided against accepting the proposal of the panel appointed by minister Kapil Sibal under Maruti Udyog chairman RC Bhargava because the recommendation, "though well meaning, could be misunderstood," top government sources on Tuesday told HT.

The ministry sources said they had decided to steer clear of the proposal at a meeting with IIM directors last October itself. The minutes of that meeting reflect the ministry's decision of not accepting proposal, they argued.

But IIM teachers — who have been opposing the recommendation — countered that the government has never publicly and formally said it had "struck down" the proposal.

Faculty across the IIMs have been protesting this proposal, which they argue could lead to the privatisation of the premier B-schools — despite assurances from Sibal last Friday.

As reported by HT on Tuesday, the faculty association

PROPOSAL INVOLVES INVITING PRIVATE FIRMS TO JOIN IIM SOCIETIES IN EXCHANGE FOR A ₹20 CRORE DONATION

at IIM Calcutta — country's oldest IIM — on Monday placed on the institute a public critique of the proposal and other key recommendations of the Bhargava panel and another committee under Rediff chief Ajit Balakrishnan.

The proposal involves restructuring the IIM societies and inviting private firms to join the society in exchange for a ₹20 crore donation. Individuals can join the managing society of an IIM for a donation of ₹5 crore while alumni can become members for ₹3 crore under the Bhargava panel's proposals.

The principle behind the proposal is not completely new, ministry sources argued. The memorandum of association (MoA) between IIM Bangalore and the government allows private parties to become members of the managing society of that B-school for a donation of ₹4 lakh.

But the Bhargava panel's report suggests that membership be made conditional on donations — potentially ruling out other membership routes — faculty countered. The panel's recommendation — if accepted — would also extend to all IIMs.

Indian Express Pune 05.04.11 p-1

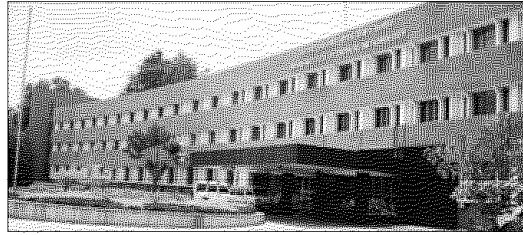
Climate science at IITM: 3,000 aspirants so far for 20 seats

NISHA NAMBIAR
APRIL 4

PUNE's Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology has been flooded with applications for their first course on Advanced Training in Earth System Sciences and Climate which will commence in August.

The first three months has seen nearly 3,000 entries after the announcement this year. The course was proposed by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) to be conducted at Pune's IITM which will take 20 graduates from across the country after screening them through interviews.

"MoES had proposed the Centre for Advanced Training in Earth System Sciences and Climate at IITM Pune in a view to urge more students to take up the course and to fill up the depleting pool of earth



sciences across the various institutes in the country," Advisor to the Ministry of Earth Sciences Swati Basu said. "It is a very important course and opportunity for students to pursue their interest after graduation."

Meanwhile, IITM director BN Goswami says they have received a very good response after the announcement. The course, which will presently be housed on the campus, will eventually be shifted to a separate campus. With 100 per

cent placement to those attending the programme, the ministry is also hoping to bank on this centre for addressing paucity of skilled manpower required for improving the quality of weather and climate forecasts in the country.

The course aims to understand the science of climate variability and change, to help build capacity of world-class weather and climate forecasts with focus on Indian monsoon. "The course will help create a large pool of trained and dedi-

cated climate and earth system modellers," said Goswami. The course will see both the best in national and international fields as faculty to train the students. The screening process will also have the best in the field conduct interviews to select the final candidates.

The master's programme will screen the students through interviews before selecting 50 best candidates and finally 20 of them. "They would get stipend as well as be placed in one of the institutions of MoES, IITM, IMD or others in the country or any leading research centres at appropriate scientific positions," said another senior MoES official.

The IITM are yet to find the location for the centre. "We have looked at a few places and are negotiating the prices. It should be finalised soon," said Goswami.

Hindustan Times ND 06/04/2011

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Conquering IIT-JEE

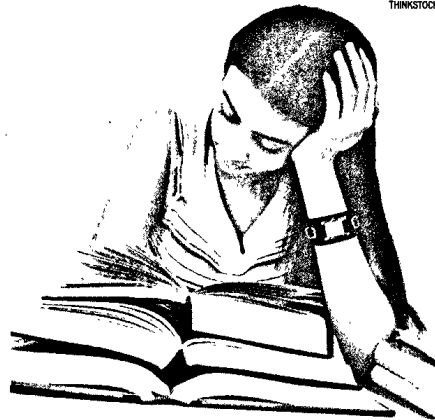
Here are some last-minute tips on acing the most sought-after entrance test in India for engineering

Garima Upadhyay

Now that the IIT-Joint Entrance Examination (IIT-JEE) is round the corner, it is time to take stock of the situation and put your best foot forward. Slated for April 10, the exam is expected to get close to 4.85 lakh candidates fighting it out for a seat in one of the 15 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). Here are some tips for the last few days of preparation that'll help you sail through the exam:

Preparation strategy

No feat was achieved without a proper plan and strategy. Ensure that you have a proper schedule in place for these last few days. Shyam Mohan Gupta, director, Vidya Mandir Classes, says, "Divide your study matter into small units based on the topics in the revision checklist or syllabus. Once the units are listed, allot proper time for each unit ensuring more time for difficult ones. Don't forget little breaks; in your time schedule include time for activities which require you to breathe in fresh air. Take a five- or 10-minute break every hour and do some stretching exercises or go for a short walk. You may find it helpful to change from one subject to another



at 'break' time, for example doing one or two sessions of maths and then alternating it with a different subject will help you study well."

Revise, revise

With barely four days left for the examination, an areawise revision is still a very good idea. Besides that, a strength, weakness, opportunity, threat (SWOT) analysis of the model test papers you have done so far will also help you check your performance. "Review the last three full

length model examinations that you have done and identify your mistakes. Reinforce those concepts and ensure that you are absolutely comfortable with the method of problem solving," advises Ajay Antony, course director, IIT JEE, TIME.

Exam strategy

"If you find the question paper easy, don't get excited, observe extra care while attempting and selecting the answers. On the other hand, if you think the paper is diffi-

AIEEE V/S IIT JEE		
Category	IIT-JEE	AIEEE
Degree of difficulty	80-90% of the paper requires out-of-the-box approach	Relatively easy, an above-average student can easily solve 50% of the paper
Preparation strategy	Previous 10 years' question papers, sample papers, Class 11 and Class 12 syllabus	Class 11 and Class 12 syllabus, last 10 years' question papers, sample papers

cult, keep calm and pay attention to solving questions efficiently. Always remember, it is equally difficult for everyone and would hardly affect your rank. When stuck on a question, change the approach and try afresh. Don't spend too much time on a particular question. Often you get the correct approach in the second attempt to such questions. Once the JEE is over, do not sit and wait for results, keep working for your forthcoming examinations which are also equally important," says Krishna Deo Pandey, director (academics), Discovering Talents, Delhi.

Last-minute advice

While the pressure to perform is immense, the trick to succeed at the exam lies in keeping your cool before and during the exam. "It is a mind game, although the time may be short, but you can still make a difference to your rank. Try to prioritise whatever you want to do. Use your revision tools (prompts, diagrams etc) to check final facts, be calm and consolidate your existing knowledge

rather than trying to learn new topics in the last minute. Don't stay up all night revising; being exhausted will not help you to give your best. Don't worry over the exam; ask your self that what's the worst thing that can happen if you don't do well in one test. Excessive stress will make you crazy and deter you from shining in the exam," says Gupta.

During the exam, pay special attention to reading the question. Often there are questions that require you to select more than one answer, but in haste many don't read the full question and lose out on marks.

Pandey says, "Read the question carefully and if it reads 'may have more than one answer', it's possible that just one answer is correct. But if it reads 'have more than one answer', you must have at least two correct answers. Remember you are using a pencil to mark your answers, so revise and change answers if necessary." Carry a quality eraser with you for this purpose.

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Converteam plans India plant, to expand sales force

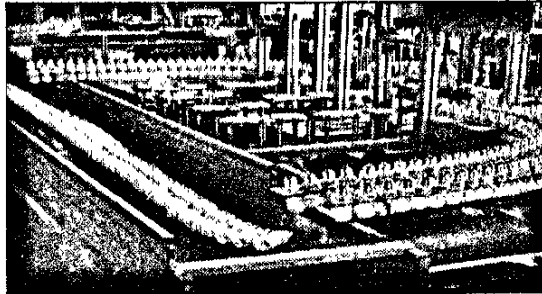
S SHYAMALA
Chennai

FRANCE-BASED electrical engineering company Converteam is bullish about the Indian market. The region is among the fastest growing for the company and it will continue to expand here by setting up a manufacturing facility and increasing sales presence, senior company official said. GE agreed to buy 90 per cent shares of the former division of Alstom for \$3.2 billion, last week.

Hervé Borensztejn, executive vice-president of human resources and communications section of Converteam, said: "India

contributed about Euro 29 million of our sales (Euro 1.1 billion) last year. We expect at least 30 per cent growth in revenue in 2011. About 500 of our employees, close to eight per cent, are based in India across our engineering development centre in Chennai (442) and sales offices in the other three metros."

The company classifies its operations into three broad areas namely, electricity into motion (conversion of electrical energy into mechanical energy by motors); motion into electricity (conversion of mechanical energy into electrical energy by generators), and electricity into



BIGGER MARKET: India contributed around Euro 29 million to Converteam from sales last year

electricity (adjusting frequency and current through converters or inverters). Their revenue is contributed by sectors such as renewable energy, industry, oil and gas, power, marine and allied services.

"Our major verticals in India are renewable energy and metal. In order to cater to the growing market, we will be setting up a drive factory (variable speed engine) at Perungudi near Chennai this year with a proposed in-

vestment of about Euro 400,000. Apart from the investments in physical infrastructure, we are investing in our people and research.

Converteam has tied up with IIT-Madras and our research team in India now works out of the institute's research park. We had globally invested over Euro 30 million in research and development last year and a part of it was spent in Chennai," Borensztejn said.

GE is expected to provide the necessary scale and wherewithal to expand market reach and also research opportunities, he said.

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It's official, long work hrs can kill

Spending Over 11 Hrs A Day In Office Ups Heart Disease Risk By 67%

London: People who regularly work long hours may be significantly increasing their risk of developing heart disease, the world's biggest killer, scientists said.

Researchers said a long-term study showed that working more than 11 hours a day increased the risk of heart disease by 67%, compared with working a standard 7 to 8 hours a day.

They said the findings suggest that information on working hours — used alongside other factors like blood pressure, diabetes and smoking habits — could help doctors work out a patient's risk of heart disease. However, they also said it was not yet clear whether long working hours themselves contribute to heart disease risk, or whether they act as a "marker" of other factors



TAXING SCHEDULE: The findings suggest information on working hours — used alongside other factors like blood pressure, diabetes & smoking habits — could help doctors work out an individual's risk of heart disease

that can harm heart health — like unhealthy eating habits, a lack of exercise or depression.

"This study might make us think twice about the old adage 'hard work won't kill you,'" said

Stephen Holgate, chair of the population and systems medicine board at Britain's Medical Research Council, which part-funded the study.

The study, published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* journal, followed nearly 7,100 British workers for 11 years. "Working long days is associated with a remarkable increase in risk of heart disease," said Mika Kivimaki of Britain's University College London, who led the research. He said it may be a "wake-up call for people who overwork themselves."

"People who work long hours should be particularly careful in following healthy diets, exercising sufficiently and keeping their blood pressure, cholesterol levels, and blood (sugar) within healthy limits," Kivimaki said. REUTERS

Business Standard ND 6/04/2011 P-16

IIM-C faculty up in arms over restructuring proposals

SWATI GARG
Kolkata, 5 April

FACULTY members at the Indian Institute of Management-Calcutta (IIM-C) have gone on the offensive and published a paper in protest against recommendations by two committee reports for restructuring at the premier B-school.

The paper, available on the institute's website, marks the discontent of the faculty on issues of governance, teaching hours, size of the IIM-C governing board and the fact that the faculty was left out of consultations in coming up with

recommendations for change.

Among the primary issues professors are opposing are the teaching hours. According to the recommendations by the Bhargava and Balakrishnan committees, the faculty members need to cut on management or executive development programmes (MDPs) and increase time allocated to classroom teaching.

"At present, we are doing 6,900 hours of post-graduate programme teaching, which will go up to 8,000 hours with the increased student strength, in a year, in addition to teaching of at least 1,800 hours of

doctoral-level courses, to be divided between the 90-odd faculty members. The accusation of limited time to classroom teaching is baseless," said an IIM professor.

According to the professor, apart from the fact that the faculty members were not consulted when arriving at this decision, the recommendation also disregards singular requirements for time that the faculty has to allocate for classroom teaching and comes up with a blanket must-do for all.

The Balakrishnan Committee has proposed a work norm of 160 hours of classroom

teaching, a proposal which has been accepted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development and now under fire from the faculty at IIM-C.

The fact that they were not consulted in coming up with the recommendations has not gone down well with the faculty members either, who are now complaining over a "unicameral" method of decision-making.

"There is a problem with the communication, given that the faculty was not consulted and opinions were excluded, especially in context of the fact that a majority of these recom-

mendations are to do with them," said a visiting faculty member at IIM-C on condition of anonymity.

The faculty members are also miffed at this exclusion in light of the fact that they had earlier raised concerns with respect to the previous 'Report of IIM Review Committee' published in 2008, which dealt with restructuring as well.

"In a bicameral governance, structure decision making is formally divided between the faculty... and the board... We believe that such attempts to exclude the faculty are to silence voices of dis-

agreement and violate the established norms and practices of our governance," the paper states.

Also under contention is the restructuring of the governing board and the Bhargava Committee recommendation of reducing the overall size of the board from the current 30 to 14.

"A reduction in the numbers would make it easier for a small set of individuals to gain control of our institution. A large number as suggested in our current Memorandum of Association reflects a plurality of interests in our functioning and this should be strengthened

even further," the paper states.

Under fire again is the issue of 'enlightened ownership', which IIM professors term "roundabout privatisation". According to this recommendation, board members would be selected by a nominations committee comprising government representative and corporations that made donations.

"The Indian Institute of Management-Calcutta is a property of the public and placing this kind of a power in the hands of a corporate is dangerous, inasmuch as it will lead to privatisation in a roundabout

manner," said a professor from the MIS department.

Chairman of the IIM-C board and the Balakrishnan committee, Ajit Balakrishnan, who had earlier shot down any possible chances of IIM privatisation said the recommendations took into account the fact that IIMs were in differing stages of evolution.

"Recommendations have kept in place a condition of flexibility depending on faculty talent and inclination. At IIM-C the faculty presented a set of recommendations of flexibility which are under consideration," he said.

Times of India ND 6/04/2011

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Ozone hole over Arctic is growing at record rate

Geneva: Record loss of the ozone, the atmosphere layer that shields life from the sun's harmful rays, has been observed over the Arctic in recent months, the World Meteorological Organization said.

"Depletion of the ozone...has reached an unprecedented level over the Arctic this spring because of the continuing presence of ozone-depleting substances in the atmosphere and a very cold winter in the stratosphere," the WMO said in a statement.

Observations from the ground, balloons and satellites show that the region has suffered an ozone column loss of about 40% from the beginning of the winter to late March, according to the United Nations agency. The highest ozone loss previously recorded over the Arctic, about 30%, occurred in several seasons over the past 15 years or so, according to a WMO spokeswoman.

"If the ozone depleted area moves away from the pole and towards lower latitudes one can expect increased ultraviolet (UV) radiation as compared to the normal for the season," WMO said, adding that the public should check

Observations from the ground and satellites show the region has suffered an ozone column loss of about 40% from beginning of the winter to late March, says World Meteorological Organization

their national UV forecasts. But any increase in UV radiation over lower latitudes away from the Arctic — which could affect parts of Canada, Nordic countries, Russia and Alaska in the US — would not be of the same intensity as one suffers in the tropics, it said.

UV-B rays have been linked to skin cancer, cataracts and damage to the human immune system. "Some crops and forms of marine life can also suffer adverse effects," the agency said. Unlike over Antarctica, large ozone loss is not an annually recurring phenomenon in the Arctic stratosphere, where meteorological conditions vary much more each year. REUTERS

Veer Arjun ND 06/04/2011 p-2

आईआईटी के नैनो सैटेलाइट 'जुगनू' का प्रक्षेपण जून में !

कानपुर, (भाषा)। इतजार की घड़िया अब सम्पन्न हुई और अगर सब कुछ ठीक रहा तो आई आई टी कानपुर द्वारा स्वदेशी पद्धति से निर्मित नैनो सैटेलाइट जुगनू का प्रक्षेपण इसी वर्ष जून के अंत तक श्रीहरिकोटा से हो जायेगा।

इस संध में भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान सगठन (इसरो) के वैज्ञानिक करीब एक माह पहले आई आई टी कानपुर आये थे और उन्होंने इसके इंजीनियरिंग माडल को हरी झंडी दे दी थी। अब इसके फ्लाइंग माडल के कल पुर्जों को बेगलूर में जोड़ा जा रहा है और जून तक इसे श्रीहरिकोटा से प्रक्षेपित किये जाने की उम्मीद है। आई आई टी के डिरेक्टर प्रो सजय गोविंद धांडे ने आज बताया कि संस्थान के 62 छात्र, छात्राओं और फैकल्टी की मेहनत का नतीजा है स्वदेशी तकनीक से विकसित तीन किलोग्राम वजन का नैनो सैटेलाइट जुगनू, जिसे इसरो के वैज्ञानिकों को सौंपा गया है।

उनभ पूछा गया कि जब पिछले वर्ष मार्च में संस्थान के स्वर्ण जयंती समारोह में राष्ट्रपति प्रतिभा पाटिल आई थी तो यह वायदा किया गया था

कि दो तीन माह में यह प्रक्षेपित कर दिया जायेगा फिर एक साल से अधिक का समय कैसे लग गया। इस पर निदेशक धांडे ने जवाब दिया कि चूकि जुगनू एक स्वदेशी तकनीक पर आधारित नैनो सैटेलाइट है और इसका हर एक हिस्सा आई आई टी के ही छात्रों और फैकल्टी ने कड़ी मेहनत और कम खर्च में बनाया है इसलिये इसमें थोड़ी देर लग गयी।

प्रो धांडे ने बताया कि इस नैनो सैटेलाइट के निर्माण के लिये दो करोड रूपये की धनराशि स्वीकृत हुई थी लेकिन संस्थान के छात्रों और फैकल्टी ने इसे पूरी तरह से स्वदेशी तकनीक के आधार पर काम करके एक करोड से भी कम रूपयों में तैयार कर लिया है। उन्होंने कहा कि यहा तक कि इसमें लगने वाला हाई

रेज्यूलेशन कैमरा भी आई आई टी की ही फैकल्टी और छात्रों ने तैयार किया है और कोई भी वस्तु विदेशी नहीं लगायी गयी है।

उनसे जब पूछा गया कि कई अन्य तकनीकी संस्थानों द्वारा उनके बाद शुरू किये गये सैटेलाइट को इसरो द्वारा पहले ही प्रक्षेपित किया जा चुका है जबकि आई आई टी हर तीन माह में इसके प्रक्षेपण की समय सीमा बढ़ा देती है, इस पर उन्होंने कहा कि चूकि हमने इसमें सारा सामान स्वदेशी तकनीक से संस्थान में निर्मित लगाया है इसलिये इसके प्रक्षेपण में थोड़ी देरी हुई है।

उन्होंने बताया कि इसी वर्ष जून में इसरो के वैज्ञानिक कई अन्य सैटेलाइट के साथ जुगनू को भी अंतरिक्ष में प्रक्षेपित करेंगे और इसकी निगरानी प्रणाली आई आई टी कानपुर में ही होगी जो इससे मिलने वाले डाटा और फोटो को सुरक्षित रखेगी तथा उनका अध्ययन करेगी।