

**Newspaper Clips**  
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**Indian Express ND 07/04/2015 P-9**

# Prevent 'lasting damage' to IITs: MPs to President

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

NEW DELHI, APRIL 6

FOUR MPs cutting across party lines Monday expressed "grave concern on the systematic destruction of higher education" and urged President Pranab Mukherjee to take steps to prevent "lasting damage" to "great institutions" like the IITs and other universities.

In what appears to be an attack on the Smriti Irani-led HRD Ministry, Rajya Sabha MPs Rajeev Shukla of Congress, D P Tripathi of NCP, D Raja of CPI and K C Tyagi of JD(U) have said: "The auton-

omy and self-regulatory mechanisms of institutions of higher education are being systematically eroded and damaged."

The statement made apparent references to IIT-Delhi Director R Shevgaonkar, DU V-C Dinesh Singh and scientist Anil Kakodkar and the "high-handed manner" in which they were "subjected to harassment". It further said: "The list is large.. and needless to count various instances of RSS interference in matters of education. We call upon the President to exercise his wisdom to prevent lasting damage to some great institutions."

Millennium Post ND  
07/04/2015 P-6

## HRD clears names of 3 IIT directors

**NEW DELHI:** Names of Rajeev Sekhar, Sarit Kumar Das and Pushpak Bhattacharyya are understood to have been cleared by the HRD Ministry as the new directors of IITs in Ropar, Bhubaneswar and Patna respectively.

The Ministry, which held a round of day-long selection process on March 22 and interviewed 36 IIT faculties for the three posts, zeroed on these three names, sources said. Chairman of IIT Bombay's board of governors, Anil Kakodar, had skipped the meeting days after he had stirred a controversy by resigning from his post, unhappy over the selection process. AGENCIES

Amar Ujala ND 07/04/2015 P-10

## मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने तीन आईआईटी निदेशकों के नामों को दी मंजूरी

नई दिल्ली। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के रोपड़, भुवनेश्वर और पटना आईआईटी के निदेशकों के नामों को मंजूरी दिए जाने की खबर है। ये नाम राजीव शेखर, सरित कुमार दास और पुष्पक भट्टाचार्य हैं। हालांकि अभी इसकी आधिकारिक पुष्टि नहीं की गई है।

सूत्रों का कहना है कि मंत्रालय ने इन तीनों नामों को स्वीकृति दे दी है। 22 मार्च को दिन भरि चली चयन प्रक्रिया और विभिन्न आईआईटी के 36 फैकल्टी के इंटरव्यू के बाद इन नामों को चुना गया। आईआईटी बांबे के बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स के चेयरमैन अनिल काकोदकर ने 22 मार्च को हुई चयन पैनल की बैठक में हिस्सा नहीं लिया था। उन्होंने चयन प्रक्रिया पर नाराजगी जताते हुए अपने पद से इस्तीफा दे दिया था हालांकि बाद में उन्होंने इसे वापस ले लिया था।

तीन आईआईटी के नए निदेशकों की नियुक्ति की पहले की प्रक्रिया को खारिज करते हुए मंत्रालय ने 22 मार्च को नए सिरे से इंटरव्यू कराया था। आईआईटी रोपड़ के निदेशक पद की दौड़ में आईआईटी दिल्ली के मनोज दत्ता और आईआईटी कानपुर के राजीव शेखर का नाम था लेकिन सूत्रों का कहना है कि शेखर के नाम की सिफारिश की गई है। पटना आईआईटी के लिए भट्टाचार्य के नाम को मंजूरी दी गई है। भट्टाचार्य आईआईटी बांबे में कंप्यूटर साइंस और इंजीनियरिंग के प्रोफेसर हैं। वहीं आईआईटी भुवनेश्वर के लिए चुने गए दास आईआईटी मद्रास में मैकेनिकल इंजीनियरिंग के प्रोफेसर हैं। सूत्रों का कहना है कि आईआईटी दिल्ली के निदेशक आर शैवगांवकर के मामले पर भी मंत्रालय के जल्द अपना रुख स्पष्ट किए जाने की उम्मीद है। शैवगांवकर ने पिछले साल 22 दिसंबर को अपने पद से इस्तीफा दे दिया था हालांकि इसे अभी मंजूर नहीं किया गया है। एजेंसी

## Indian Express ND 07/04/2015 P-12

### Irani discusses new education policy

**NEW DELHI:** The Ministry of Human Resource Development on Monday initiated consultations with parliamentarians on the new national education policy in a meeting of the Consultative Committee of Parliament for HRD Ministry, even as discussions took place on a host of issues, including current controversies. The meeting was chaired by HRD Minister Smriti Irani. Demanding the removal of Delhi University Vice-Chancellor Dinesh Singh, CPM leader and Rajya Sabha MP Ritabrata Banerjee said he was "dismayed" over Singh's reply to a showcause notice issued to him by the Ministry. The Ministry will examine Singh's reply on Tuesday before finalising its stand on the issue. During the Consultative Committee meeting, Banerjee along with other MPs such as Derek O'Brien (TMC), Abhishek Singh (BJP) and Sanjay Singh (Congress), put forth suggestions on involving more stakeholders from across sections of society to finalise the new national education policy. **ENS**

## 'US is top destination for B-school students'

**BS REPORTER**  
Mumbai, 6 April

The United States remains the top international study destination for two-thirds (66 per cent) of prospective students across the globe, according to the Graduate Management Admission Council's 2015 mba.com Prospective Students Survey Report.

The remaining locations among the top 10 preferred study destinations are the United Kingdom (six per cent), Canada (five per cent), France (three per cent), India (three per cent), Hong Kong (two per cent), Germany (two per cent), Singapore (two per cent), the Netherlands (two per cent) and Australia (one per cent).

With respect to Indian students, about 53 per cent Indians prefer studying in the US, 21 per cent and seven per cent showed inclination towards India and the UK, respectively. But, with regard to the US, the current figures are a decline from 73 per cent of candidates who had listed the United States as their preferred study destination in 2010.

The survey — of nearly 12,000 registrants to GMAC's mba.com website and conducted throughout 2014 — provides insight into the business school decision-making process for MBA and specialised business master's degree candidates (such as a Master in Management, Accounting or Finance).

According to the survey, when students listed their top five consideration criteria for actually selecting a programme and a study destination, rankings didn't rank. The study destination distinction is important as more than half of prospective students (52 per cent) seek to study outside their country of citizenship, up from 40 per cent in 2010 (and noticeable among the Asia-Pacific and Middle Eastern citizens).

*For full report, visit*  
[www.business-standard.com](http://www.business-standard.com)

## **Panjab University is not a central varsity: MHRD to HC**

**By Sanjeev Verma**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/chandigarh/panjab-university-is-not-a-central-varsity-mhrd-to-hc/>

The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development informed the Punjab and Haryana High Court on Monday that the Panjab University is not a central university and, thus, the retirement age of 65 years for the teaching staff as applicable for central university teachers cannot be applied to PU till rules are amended.

The reply was filed during the resumed hearing of petitions filed by PU professors and lecturers of a few Panjab colleges challenging the decision of their retirement fixed at the age of 60 years, instead of 65 years.

The union ministry informed the court that as per the earlier high court judgment in ‘Dr. AC Julka v/s Panjab University’ case, it was cleared that PU was not a central or a state university but an inter-state body corporate in terms of the Punjab Re-organisation Act, 1966. There is no provision in the Punjab Re-organisation Act which states that the Panjab University should be treated as a central educational institution for the purpose of admission, reservation and service rules, the court was apprised.

The HRD ministry also clarified that despite the fact that as of now a substantial grant for the Panjab University is given by the central government, it does not alter its character as an inter-state body corporate. It was submitted that if provisions of the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006, have to be followed by Panjab University, it would necessitate an amendment in the Act which is only for central educational institutes. In case PU wants to follow the Act, it is for the senate of the university to pass such a resolution and refer the same to the central government for approval.

The HRD ministry told the court that the central government was not in a position to give any specific direction and that PU itself was to take the decision on the points of retirement age of 60 to 65 years age, reservation policy, and service rules of teachers.

Among the petitioners, the high court had earlier put a stay on the retirement of PU professors Amar Nath Gill and Bhura Singh Ghuman last year at the age of 60. Gill is professor in the Department of Statistics and Ghuman in the Department of Public Administration. Both professors had alleged that PU had failed to implement the centre government’s composite scheme of 2008 enhancing the retirement age from 60 to 65 years despite it being funded by the central government.

Panjab University had earlier submitted to the court that it had amended the varsity regulations and sent these to the HRD ministry for approval, but not received a reply.

## **BRITISH-INDIAN BOY WINS PHYSICS PRIZE**

Hindustan Times (Gurgaon)

A 15-year-old Indian-origin schoolboy in the UK has been awarded the Institute of Physics Prize for conducting an experiment that verified an effect of Albert Einstein’s theory of special relativity. Pratap Singh, a student at The Perse School, Cambridge, has won the 500 pounds Institute of Physics