Newspaper Clips

April 7, 2016

Times Of India ND
07/04/2016 P-08

SC/STs, Dalits, disabled to get 100% fee waiver at IITs

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Surat: Union human resource development minister Smriti Irani on Wednesday promised a fee waiver for all SC/ST, Dalit and physically challenged students of the 23 branches of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT). A formal announcement to this effect will be made soon.

"Besides a complete fee waiver for these students, those with a family income of less than Rs 5 lakh will be given a 66% concession in the fees," Irani told **TOI**.

Irani said the move will benefit nearly 50% of the

> **Besides a complete fee waiver for these students, those with a family income of less than Rs 5 lakh will be given a 66% concession in the fees**
>
> **SMRITI IRANI**
> HRD minister

60,471 students enrolled in the country's premier technology institutes.

The decision follows an IIT panel clearing a proposal for a three-fold fee hike, from Rs 90,000 to Rs 3 lakh per annum from the next academic session. The final decision on this rests with the HRD minister. Irani, however, refused to comment on the hike and only said the fees had not been increased yet.

The minister was in Surat to participate in an event to mark BJP foundation day.

Currently, the IITs have a 15% reservation for SCs, 7.5% for STs and 27% for OBCs. The 66% concession in fee will benefit a much larger number of students from the middle-class and lower middle-class segments.

Times Of India ND 07/04/2016 P-04

Odd-even was of little use, says IIT study

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A study by IIT Delhi reveals that vehicle speeds had increased 11am onwards during the first phase of the odd-even scheme. The maximum increase recorded was 9%. However, the average speed of vehicles reduced marginally between 6am and 11am at some locations when the road-rationing exercise was undertaken from January 1 and 15.

The study, "Evaluation of the effects of the 15-day odd-even scheme in Delhi: A preliminary report", by researchers at Transportation Research and Injury Prevention Programme (TRIPP), IIT-D, also found a high compliance with the odd-even rule at four locations that were observed.

This apart, car-flow rates per hour on different roads decreased by 7-9%. There was almost a similar increase in the number of buses and autorickshaws and a significant rise in the number of two-wheelers during the fortnight, the study says. The air pollution benefits were not apparent because of meteorological factors and the authors of the study felt that data from six stations under the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) was not enough to analyse the benefits of the intervention.

According to the study, car occupancy increased at all locations except one. The speed data was extracted by the team using google maps distance matrix API. It provides real-time travel distance and time between a pair of locations.

Despite an overall increase in the speed of vehicles during the period, Dinesh Mohan, a former IIT professor and the lead author of the study, suggested there were no reasons why the scheme should be continued. "Since there is no improvement in air pollution and the impact on congestion is so little and in fact, it also increased at times, there is no reason to continue it other than gaining international publicity," he said.

He added that motorcycle use had gone up during the odd-even period, which could lead to fatal accidents. On why the vehicle speeds had reduced in the morning hours, Mohan said people might have started early to avoid the rule that came into force from 8am onwards. The lower speeds could also be linked to higher number of buses, autos and two-wheelers, Mohan said.

A recent study by School of Planning and Architecture (SPA) found that the vehicle speeds at most locations had increased from 15 to 26kmph. It further said that the improvement in speed was higher during the non-peak hours and that morning peak traffic volume reduced by 8-16%. It had indicated that people's exposure to air pollution had reduced during the period.

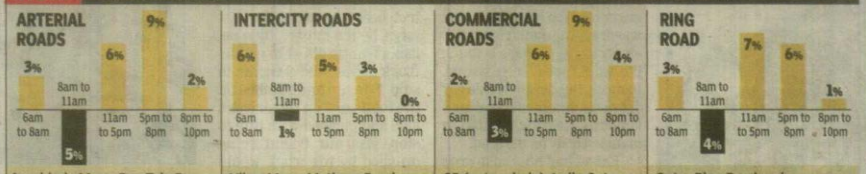
But the IIT study said that "it is possible that the decrease in emissions from cars may be offset by an increase in flow of other vehicles," adding that combined PM 2.5 emissions from buses, autos and two-wheelers was estimated to be 20% of the entire transport sector compared to cars that alone contribute 16% of emissions.

While studies by SPA and Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) as well as an evaluation by the SC-appointed Environment Pollution Control Authority (EPCA) have found reduced congestion and pollution exposure during the odd-even scheme, Mohan said such studies needed "technical, rigorous analysis" and his team had "videographed everything" because it's very easy to get cheated otherwise.

THEN & NOW: DID ODD-EVEN REALLY HELP DELHI TRAFFIC?

While the average speed of vehicles went down between 1% and 5% during the peak hours in the odd-even fortnight compared to the period before the scheme was introduced, it was a quicker ride during the rest of the day

SPEED TIME & % CHANGE IN SPEED OF VEHICLES DURING ODD-EVEN AGAINST THE PRE-SCHEME PERIOD



COMPLIANCE

Odd days saw more odd-numbered cars than non-scheme days. The same was true on even days

ODD-NUMBERED CARS

Location	Before experiment	During odd days
Jia Sarai	49%	77%
Ring road*	48%	71%
Sai Mandir	51%	77%
ITO	52%	81%

EVEN-NUMBERED CARS

Location	Before experiment	During odd days
Jia Sarai	51%	75%
Ring road	52%	76%
Sai Mandir	49%	77%
ITO	48%	80%

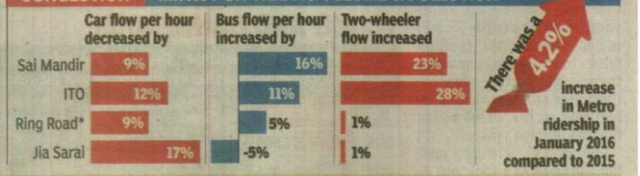
* at South-extension

WHAT HAPPENED AFTER ODD-EVEN

Surprisingly, vehicle speed after the odd-even scheme fell across all time levels except during the 6am-8am period.

During the scheme, motorcycle usage went up, which could lead to fatal accidents, says the IIT-Delhi study

CONGESTION IMPACT ON TRAFFIC VOLUME & POLLUTION



POLLUTION The study says **theoretical reduction** in PM2.5 by the odd-even experiment cannot exceed 15% of 22.5% (emissions from the transport sector), which makes it about 4% of PM2.5 emissions in the city

Business Line ND 07/04/2016 P-03

ABB to collaborate with IIT-Madras for decentralised energy solutions

OUR BUREAU

Chennai, April 6

Power and automation multinational ABB has entered into an agreement with Indian Institute of Technology Madras for R&D in microgrids, energy storage and green energy.

Microgrids – decentralised power grids that use renewable energy generation to supply power in remote locations and rural areas – are an emerging field.

Ulrich Spiesshofer, CEO, ABB, said microgrids can help provide electricity supply to over 300 million people without access to power in India.

The technology can provide reliable and affordable electricity in rural areas and remote locations.

Energy storage

The collaboration will focus on energy storage – battery technology – and control side of microgrid solutions.

Ulrich Spiesshofer, CEO, ABB, with Bhaskar Ramamurthi, Director, IIT-Madras, at the signing of MoU, in Chennai, on Tuesday BIJOY GHOSH

Bhaskar Ramamurthi, Director, IIT Madras, said the objective is to provide a pragmatic solution that will meet a household's power needs.

IIT-M is in the process of launching a battery engineering laboratory in which ABB will be a partner along with leading corporates.

The agreement with ABB provides collaboration in microgrid technology, energy storage solutions and a large number of internships for IIT students with ABB.

The agreement with ABB opens collaboration in microgrid technology, energy storage solutions and a large number of internships for IIT students

Ashok Jhunjhunwala, Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Madras, said a key objective will be to bring down cost of power.

Apart from people without access to power, nearly half of those with power supply cannot afford power at ₹5 a unit, which itself is heavily subsidised.

A couple of pilot projects will be established in rural areas as a part of the collaboration with ABB.

Economic Times Hindi ND 07.04.2016 P-08

एकेडेमिक ब्रांड बनाने के लिए विदेशी फैकल्टी हायर कर रहे नए IIT

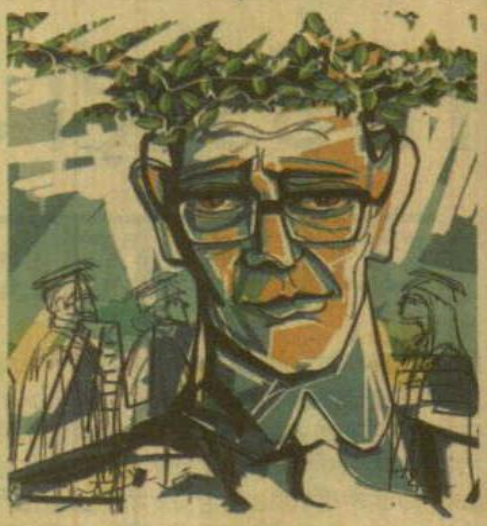
[अनुभूति विश्नोई | नई दिल्ली]

अकादमिक रैंकिंग की पायदान पर लगातार चढ़ते नए IIT अपना एकेडेमिक ब्रांड बनाने को बहुत अहमियत दे रहे हैं। उन्होंने इसके लिए जो प्लांस बनाए हैं उनमें से एक वहां वर्ल्ड क्लास फैकल्टी लाना भी शामिल है। फॉरेन फैकल्टी पर नए IIT का फोकस इतना ज्यादा है कि वे भी हायरिंग करने के लिए विदेश जा रहे हैं।

फिलहाल यहां हम 2008 में शुरू हुए नए नवेले इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी IIT रोपड़ की बात कर रहे हैं, जिसने मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ ह्यूमन रिसोर्स एंड डिवेलपमेंट (HRD) की तरफ से जारी नेशनल इंडियन रैंकिंग में टॉप 10 में जगह बनाने में कामयाबी हासिल की है। IIT रोपड़ की टीम अपने यहां नई फैकल्टी की हायरिंग के लिए अगले महीने तीन देशों में छह लोकेशंस यानी लंदन से लेकर लॉस एंजिल्स तक का दौरा कर रही है।

IIT गांधीनगर ने अपनी फैकल्टी को इंटरनेशनल बनाने के काम में दूसरों पर बढ़त बनाई है। उसके यहां असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर लेवल की ज्यादातर फैकल्टी विदेशी यूनिवर्सिटी से आ रही हैं। IIT गांधीनगर को 'जल्द ज्वाइन करने वाली' फैकल्टी की लिस्ट में ज्यादातर नाम फॉरेन यूनिवर्सिटीज के हैं। एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री की तरफ से जारी इंडिया रैंकिंग्स 2016 में IIT हैदराबाद, गांधीनगर, रोपड़ और पटना को क्रमशः सातवीं, आठवीं, नौवीं और 10वीं पोजिशन हासिल हुई हैं। रैंकिंग जिन मानकों पर तैयार की गई है उसमें उनकी व्यापक पहुंच और समग्रता शामिल हैं। इसके अलावा इंटरनेशनल एकेडेमिक रैंकिंग में वैश्विक उपस्थिति एक नियमित मानक है।

IIT रोपड़ की टीम इंस्टीट्यूट के वास्ते नई फैकल्टी की हायरिंग के लिए मई जून 2016 में कनाडा, अमेरिका और यूरोप जाएगी।



विदेशी फैकल्टी

- IIT रोपड़ की टीम अपने यहां नई फैकल्टी की हायरिंग के लिए अगले महीने तीन देशों में छह लोकेशंस यानी लंदन से लेकर लॉस एंजिल्स तक का दौरा करेगी

टीम प्रतिष्ठित इंजीनियरिंग स्कूलों में पोस्ट डॉक्टरेट की पढ़ाई कर रहे इंडियन स्टूडेंट्स को टारगेट करेगी। वह संभावित कैंडिडेट्स का इंटरव्यू करेगी और IIT के क्वॉलिटी स्टैंडर्ड पर खरा उतरने वाले कैंडिडेट्स को अप्वाइंटमेंट लेटर भी इश्यू करेगी।

सेलेक्शन बेस्ट कैंडिडेट का हो, यह पक्का करने के लिए हायरिंग टीम में IIT डायरेक्टर और डीन, IISc, IIT दिल्ली और IIT रुड़की के तीन एक्सटर्नल एक्सपर्ट्स होंगे। इनकी लिस्ट में कनाडा के यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ वॉटरलू ओंटारियो, वैंकूवर और मैक्मास्टर, अमेरिका में यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ स्टैनफोर्ड, बर्कले, यूसीएलए, इलिनोय, शिकागो, MIT, हार्वर्ड का नाम है।

Dainik Bhasker ND 07/04/2016
P-04

अगले साल से आईआईटी संस्थानों में मिल सकता है विदेशी छात्रों को एडमिशन

इंजीनियरिंग शिक्षा के लिए देश के शीर्ष संस्थान आईआईटी में अगले वर्ष से विदेशी छात्रों को भी प्रवेश दिया जा सकता है। इन संस्थानों के यूजी और पीजी कोर्सेस में उन्हें एडमिशन देने का अंतिम फैसला जल्द ही हो सकता है। पहले भी यह खबर आई थी कि आईआईटी विभिन्न देशों में एडमिशन के लिए एंट्रेंस एग्जाम्स आयोजित कर सकता है। विदेशी छात्रों के प्रवेश के लिए देशी छात्रों की सीटों में कोई बदलाव नहीं होगा। यूजी कोर्स में प्रवेश जॉइंट एंट्रेंस एग्जाम के जरिये मिलेगा, जबकि पीजी कोर्स में गेट एग्जाम के आधार पर मिलेगा। विदेशी छात्रों के लिए 100 सीटें अलग से आरक्षित करने की तैयारी है। उनके लिए हॉस्टल की व्यवस्था भी अलग से की जाएगी।

IIT-Guwahati students shine at international event

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/guwahati/IIT-Guwahati-students-shine-at-international-event/articleshow/51721888.cms

Guwahati: IIT-Guwahati students Ravi Nishant and Shubhangi Gupta have brought laurels to the institute by making it to the top three teams at the International Green Champ competition in 2016.

The duo bagged the 'Green Champ Award' by solving 50 questions in just 114 seconds. The International Green Champ Competition is an annual event held by Schneider Electric of USA.

Nishant and Shubhangi will now present a case study in Paris in September this year. As part of this presentation, the team aspires to seek support to their idea on alternative source of electricity generation in the railways. They would also put emphasis on application of clean and green technology.

"Such non-conventional power source can help reduce dependence on our current power utilities," said

Shubhangi. She added that reduced dependence on current power utilities means less consumption of fossil fuels, which are not only depleting fast but also polluting the environment.

Happy at the performance of the students at the international event, Chandan Mahanta, dean of Students' Affairs at IIT-Guwahati, said the achievement of the two IITians will encourage the students to come up with innovative ideas that can transform human lives.

UGC to probe Hyd VC plagiarism, but stern steps unlikely

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/UGC-to-probe-Hyd-VC-plagiarism-but-stern-steps-unlikely/articleshow/51721653.cms

NEW DELHI: The HRD ministry and UGC have taken note of allegations of plagiarism against Appa Rao Podile, vice-chancellor of Central University of Hyderabad.

Sources said the ministry has sought the views of UGC before asking Podile to explain the allegation. There is a likelihood of UGC sending its own team to investigate the allegation of plagiarism as was done in a similar case against Chandra Krishnamurthy, VC, Pondicherry University, last year. Even the VC's comments on the allegations might be sought.

But sources in UGC said, "In India it is highly unlikely that anyone gets punished for plagiarism. It is rampant across universities. He will apologise, withdraw his articles and move on."

Sources said, "UGC will be asked to examine if plagiarism is covered by any of its regulations, especially the one of 2010 about maintaining minimum standards." Ironically, none of the UGC regulations talk of plagiarism. UGC has an explanation for this. "Each university has its own set of regulations and statutes. How can UGC have one-size-fits-all regulation for universities? We want certain standards to be maintained," an official said.

Times Of India ND 07/04/2016 P-01

Now, a mini-GMAT for working professionals

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Bengaluru: Coming to the aid of thousands of working professionals who want that coveted MBA tag, Graduate Management Admission Council has come up with an exclusive entrance test for them.

The council regulates admissions to over 2000 B-schools, including the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and London School of Business.

The entrance test, Executive Assessment (EA), which will give professionals access to seats for an Executive MBA in B-schools, will be easier compared to the regular GMAT and it will be only for candidates who have work experience of over eight years.

GMAT is accepted by more than 2,000 institutes worldwide to provide seats for a management course and EA is accepted by many premier institutes like the London School of Business, The University of Hong Kong, Chicago Booth University and other institutes which offer Executive MBA.

EA is like a mini-GMAT and the key difference is that GMAT has four sections while EA has only three. GMAT has 37 quant questions and 41 verbal questions, whereas mini-GMAT has only 14 quant questions and 14 verbal questions.

▶EA only twice, P 21

Can sit in EA only twice in lifetime

▶Continued from P 1

GMAT can be taken numerous times . even without work experience, but ExecutiveAssessment can be taken by a candidate only twice in a lifetime.

GMAC is committed to improving graduate management admission experience for schools and candidates, including seasoned professionals seeking to attend business school, said Andy Martelli, vice-president, product development, GMAC. The EA is a product-based example of how GMAC is working to advance the art and science of admissions in its efforts to connect aspiring students to opportunities provided by graduate management education, said Martelli.

Rashmi P Gowda, director, Csquare Learnings , said such engagement is a great boon to most students aspiring for an Executive MBA programme.

Deccan Herald ND 07/04/2016 P-06

Keeping pace with changing times

TRANSFORMING
The nation's business schools need to rework their syllabus, pedagogical techniques, agenda, as well as admission criteria, to better suit the needs of the time, suggests
KJS Anand

TWO IN ONE Teaching that combines theoretical lectures with practical projects is the need of the hour.

With the rapidly changing nature of businesses in a technology-driven world, 'Innovate or die' is the mantra that entrepreneurs know by heart. While globalisation has made more markets easily available, improved connectivity has helped boost business processes. But it has also increased competition and challenges to new businesses manifold. The shift in on-the-ground business realities also needs to be adequately reflected in what business schools teach their students.

Today, management is a much sought after discipline of education across many countries, including India. With our nation emerging as the third largest startup ecosystem in the world, there is a growing demand for efficient and innovative management graduates, who are adept and trained at devising new strategies to resolve problems. Despite the increase in demand for the discipline and the changing paradigm of management and business, Indian management education was slow to respond to the changing trends. However, today more and more B-schools are reworking their syllabus, pedagogical techniques, agenda, as well as admission criteria to better suit the needs of the time. Here are a few mechanisms that need to be adopted or are already being adopted by new age B-schools in India:

Moving beyond classrooms

Currently, the Indian education system across the board strictly follows the culture of in-class teaching. Once considered as an ideal mode, this teaching method has lost its essence due to the need for more practical exposure and to match pace with the industry. In-class teaching method puts a burden on the faculty where they are judged by number of students turning up for the class, number of classes taken and marks scored by the students in examinations. Hence, it's only a quantitative analysis of the imparted knowledge instead of a qualitative one. This also creates a distance between the students and the faculty, which hinders the sharing of experiences and practical exposure.

Additionally, with in-class teaching, what is imparted is theoretical knowledge. While an understanding of the theories of business, economics and the history of growth of entrepreneurship is important for every management student, the real teaching comes from action and practical learning. Even employers today evaluate students not by the schools they have attended but by their practical exposure. A student who has dabbled in a business or run an entrepreneurial project will get preference over a student who might only be a high scorer.

Incubation is the key

'Out-of-class teaching' that combines theoretical lectures with practical projects is the need of the hour and is being adopted by many B-schools today. For example, while teaching retail shelf management to students , it is important to depute them in a live store, where they would be able to bear the brunt of loss and profit. In a bid to become good managers, the students should be able to realise the impact of their decisions in real time, not on paper.

One of the most essential demands of the industry today is incubation. Students should be able to incubate while studying. This is not only important to generate more enterprises but also to generate economic value. It is also imperative to help students dwell on a real life problem by themselves. Therefore, it is necessary for every management institution to introduce the concept of incubation. B schools can be valuable places where ideas can be incubated, debated and funded by successful alumni, if found viable. Ideally, first generation entrepreneurs who have not only developed enterprises but have also achieved success in international scenario should operate such centres. In this context, a combined support from the industry, institution as well as the government is required to make incubation a success in India.

Integration matters

When students spend a fortune to pursue such degrees, they are not in a position to take entrepreneurial risks, mostly due to loans or family liabilities. Thanks to high costs of education, less than 10 per cent of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) and Indian Institute of Management (IIM) students get into incubation despite the presence of state-of-the-art incubation centres within their premises. As a result, they stay away from entrepreneurship and look for guaranteed jobs. On the contrary, if students are given the opportunity to start their enterprise during their course of degree, it would give their entrepreneurial talent the right push at the right time. Hence, it is necessary for the government to support such initiatives irrespective of it being public or private. This would not only invite innovation but would also become a platform to new enterprises.

Department, by its nomenclature, defines compartmentalisation and classification. Therefore, today, where digital marketing rules the roost by being a blend of marketing and IT, building departments seems a story of past. Digital marketing sets the perfect example of impact that would be created if two different departments were brought within one application area. Digital marketing very efficiently connects two departments to offer programmes that combine to create courses and provide industry advisory protocols.

Precisely, departments can be conceived as a building or a construction that is restricted in terms of courses and opportunities. However, in case of centres, multidisciplinary teaching and research is a norm. It is an amalgamation where convergence of power takes place as it allows many industries to participate together. Creating centres of management learning that may integrate several associated aspects and sub-groups of business including ideation, incubation, fund-raising, talent acquisition, business development, marketing etc is the future. In this context, it is important for both the industry and the government to work together to provide opportunities through internships, placements and sharing data.

Widening admission criteria

Many successful professionals in different domains are today deciding to take sabbaticals from their careers to polish their skills. Many of them, including engineers and doctors, desire to study management courses. Realising this shift in the nature of students, many B-schools today are reworking their admission criteria. This provides weightage to experience and practical exposure along with test scores. This phenomenon is likely to grow further in coming years.