

## Newspaper Clips August 13, 2015

**Business Standard ND 13/08/2015 P-2**

# IITs to filter start-ups before placements

**VINAY UMARJI & KALPANA PATHAK**  
Ahmedabad/Mumbai, 12 August

Being a start-up backed by marquee funds will no longer be enough to seek a placement slot at the Indian Institutes of Technology. Before the IITs begin their final placements this December, start-ups will have to furnish their balance sheet and annual reports of the past three years to the premier technology institutes.

According to sources at the IITs at Kharagpur, Kanpur, Mumbai and Guwahati, the institutes have decided to introduce certain due diligence measures before allowing start-ups to participate in placements. The measures include steps like review of the balance sheet of the past three years, study of the annual report and independent feedback from industry experts, as well as alumni employed in the past by these start-ups.

While implementation of each of the steps will be at the discretion of the individual IIT, a unanimous decision to increase filtering and due diligence of start-ups was taken recently under the All IITs Placement Committee (AIPC), which meets on a number of occasions every year to discuss various aspects of conducting the placement process.

"The kind of experiences that each of the IITs have had in the past and for the welfare of our student community, it has been decided that we will enhance due diligence measures on start-ups. We will study their financial standing, the kind of industry and sector that they are in and their

annual reports. We will also speak to our alumni hired at these organisations," said a placement committee member of one of the IITs.

It is under the AIPC that the IITs are collecting and comparing information on student experience with start-ups.

Apart from alumni, the IITs say they will also reach out to independent analysts and investors to understand the longevity or credibility of a start-up. The AIPC has left it to the IITs to decide on the degree of due diligence.

"We have decided to be more cautious in our approach to inviting start-ups on campus. We have decided to contact start-ups that have a credible name and have been in existence for over three years.

Also, firms which promised and did not issue offer letters last year will not be invited this year," said an official from the IIT in Mumbai. The IITs argue that they are aware of the hiring policies of regular recruiters, but with start-ups they are not very sure.

"We think applying more due diligence will go a long way to secure the future of our students. We have received interest from over a dozen companies so far, and the interest from start-ups has increased. Some start-

## Bengaluru rising in ranking

Riding on high exit volume growth-rate and venture capital investments, Bengaluru has improved its ranking to 15 (from 19 in 2012) in the Global Startup Ecosystem Ranking by Silicon Valley-based start-up Compass. Bengaluru is the only Indian city to be featured in the list, topped by Silicon Valley, followed by New York City and Los Angeles.

**BS REPORTER**

## OneAssist raises Series-B funding

OneAssist Consumer Solutions has raised \$7.5 million in Series-B financing from Assurant, Inc, Sequoia Capital India and Lightspeed Venture Partners. Founded in 2011 by Gagan Maini and Subrat Pani, it offers solutions to individual customers to assist and help protect in the event of the loss of critical 'everyday' products such as wallets, payment cards and smartphones. **BS REPORTER**

ups, which have approached us, are a few months old with fresh funding from investors. We will take a decision shortly whether to invite young start-ups," said an official from one of the IITs on the condition of anonymity.

Citing recent reports of *Housing.com* planning to lay off some of its employees, a placement committee member of one of the older IITs said, "This is one of the reasons why we are emphasising on due diligence. Many times the start-ups themselves don't judge their requirements properly while hiring. Sometimes, down the road they change their requirements."



Pioneer ND 13/08/2015 P-2

# Report on sexual harassment cases sought

Maliwal asks 23 varsities to submit details of sexual harassment committees and status of complaints registered with them so far

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Commission for Women chief Swati Maliwal on Wednesday asked 23 universities and educational institutions in the national Capital, including Delhi University, to submit details of the number of sexual harassment committees and status of the complaints reg-

istered with them so far.

"DCW has been entrusted with the duty of monitoring the safety, security and interest of women in Delhi and has been empowered to call for records and requisition documents for this purpose. Accordingly, you are directed to provide information with regard to colleges in Delhi affiliated to your univer-

sity," Maliwal said in the letter.

In a written communication to Vice Chancellors and institutional heads, the DCW chief also asked for an account of the funds allocated to these committees and the expenditure incurred during the last financial year.

The universities and institutions which have been asked to provide these details include Delhi University, Jamia Millia Islamia, Jamia Hamdard University, Delhi Technological University, IIT Delhi, IGNOU, Ambedkar University, AIIMS, National School of Drama

and Indian Institute of Mass Communication, among others.

Stating that the data will assist the commission in fulfilling its statutory mandate of giving recommendations to the Centre and State Government on the issue of women's safety in educational institutions, Maliwal has asked for, "details of the Sexual Harassment Committee (Internal Complaints Committee) in university and its colleges with name and designation of the members of the committee along with the date of its formation".

## New deadline to fill up 5,550 NIT, IIIT seats

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/New-deadline-to-fill-up-5550-NIT-IIIT-seats/articleshow/48461032.cms>

MUMBAI: In a move to fill up 5,550 vacant seats in NITs, IITs and other government-funded technical institutions (GFTIs), and to give a 'fair' chance to meritorious students, the Central Seat Allocation Board (CSAB) on Wednesday extended the deadline for an additional special round till August 17.

While earlier only students not allotted a seat in the joint allocation process were allowed to register, the CSAB is now allowing all who have JEE (Main) ranks and are without seats to apply. Many parents and students alleged that allowing students who have already been given a chance is unfair to the others.

The CSAB on August 7 announced the conduct of an additional special round to fill vacant seats in the central institutes, of the 23,919 seats. Of the 5,550 seats vacant, around 3,100 are in NITs alone; some are in sought-after institutes, such as in Surathkal, Warangal and Patna. While most seats are vacant in unpopular courses, many in popular ones, such as computer science and engineering, mechanical, electrical and civil are also empty, which is the bone of contention for many aspirants. The August 11 deadline for admissions through the additional round has been extended to August 17.

NIT-Patna director and CSAB chairman Asok De said the board had received nearly 10,000 applications in the three-day window for the special round initially. "We have been getting requests from groups of students. Some claimed that they have missed out on a seat as they were unaware of business rules in the first-time joint process," he said. Since there are requests from students, De said the centre decided to open the additional round for all. "There is no harm if admissions are done on the basis of merit and all students get a chance," he added.

But parents are up in arms against the board for allowing students who have got one chance to secure their seats. CSAB's Facebook page was flooded with students crying foul over the revised rules updated on Tuesday

night. "They cannot change rules so many times. When in the beginning they said that students who have not locked their seats will not get another chance, what is the point in opening the admission process to all now?" asked a parent. Another said, "Students who may have willingly not taken the seat before will block the seat again for students who were genuinely not allotted one in the joint admission rounds. It is unfair and unethical."

## **IIT-Kharagpur creates Facebook page for Pichai**

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/tech/tech-news/IIT-Kharagpur-creates-Facebook-page-for-Pichai/articleshow/48460401.cms>

KOLKATA: IIT-Kharagpur has started a Facebook page to congratulate its 1989-batch student Sundar Pichai, who was on Monday elevated to the post of the CEO at Google.

The page — "Congratulate KGPIan Sundar Pichai, CEO-Google" — contains a photo of a smiling Pichai while his appointment date of August 11 is displayed alongside.

Pichai is only the second person of Indian origin to lead a major global IT firm after Satya Nadella became the CEO of Microsoft in February 2014.

"Congratulations Sundar. You are an inspiration for IIT-Kgp students and the whole IIT-Kgp family is proud of you. Wish you the very best!" posted institute director P P Chakrabarti on the Facebook page on Tuesday.

On Sunday, the eve of the momentous announcement by Google, IIT-Kharagpur had announced Pichai's name for its Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Since Monday, phone lines at the institute's office of alumni affairs and international relations have not stopped ringing with congratulatory calls coming in from all over the country. Congratulatory messages flooded the Facebook page of the institute, 'IIT Kharagpur', and that of the institute director, 'Director IIT Kharagpur' as well.

"Seeing the excitement, the institute sensed the need for offering a platform to allow the people to congratulate Pichai. Hence to reach out to the huge alumni base, students and well-wishers of IIT-Kharagpur, the institute's web development team on Tuesday morning launched the page on Facebook," said Rohan Gupta, general secretary of the alumni cell and third-year geology and geophysics student at the institute.

Till 7 pm on Wednesday, the page got a reach of 2.64 lakh with more than 5,000 posts and 5,000 "likes" in less than two days. It will be operational till August 15, 2015.

The posts on the page will be forwarded to Pichai to congratulate him on behalf of KGPIans and the people of India, said a senior official of the institute.

Atal Ashutosh Agarwal, the official representative of the students of IIT-Kharagpur for 2015-16 and a fourth-year mining engineering student, said, "I am excited that we could launch this initiative so promptly and people have taken this opportunity to congratulate Sundar Pichai from all over the country. While some of his batchmates are telling stories about how good he was in studies and what did he use to do in free time during his campus days, some congratulated their old buddy from the department of metallurgy and materials engineering and his hostel, Nehru Hall.

Siddhartha Mukhopadhyay, dean of alumni affairs and international relations at IIT-Kharagpur said that Pichai had

already made the headlines when he was promoted as the senior vice-president of Google. "The institute has stayed connected to Sundar and he has delivered the inaugural lecture at the Global Entrepreneurship Summit-2014. Being proud of him is putting it too simplistically. He has led a revolution. The Google products his team ideated and developed over the years have touched the lives of almost all Internet users. The Facebook page is a way to convey the joy we are feeling for him", he said.

## IIM-Bihar set for launch by Aug- end

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Hindustan Times (Patna)

The wait is finally about to get over. The IIM-Bihar is all set to start its academic session by month-end from a makeshift venue on the Magadh University premises at Bodh Gaya under the mentorship of IIM-Calcutta. According to sources, the launch could take place on August 25, though it is not yet final.

The session will start with 30 students for the post-graduate programme in management (PGDM). IIM, Calcutta will mentor all activities of IIM-Bihar and oversee the teaching as well.

On Wednesday, engineering and IT officials from IIM, Calcutta, along with state higher education official Shivesh Ranjan, visited the directorate of distance education (DDE) building, where the academic activities of new IIM will take place. They also reviewed the facilities at hostel No. 6, which has been earmarked for IIM, Calcutta.

"Some work is going on at the hostel as well as the place where classes will be held. For faculty members, the MU guest house will be used for the time being," said Mahesh Kumar Patnaik from the civil engineering wing of IIM, Calcutta.

On being queried about land for a permanent campus, Patnaik said it was yet to be handed over to the IIM, Calcutta. "Once that happens, work in that direction will begin," he added.

Earlier in June, IIM, Calcutta director Saibal Chattopadhyay along with chairman (admissions) Piyush Mehta and engineer Manish Parikh visited Gaya to inspect the spot. They also visited the site earmarked for the construction of a permanent campus.

Following the inspection, IIM, Calcutta decided to go ahead with the academic session from August. The admission process has been completed, Patnaik said and added that the registration of students was tentatively scheduled for August 25.



IIM, Calcutta, which was set up in 1961, accepted to mentor IIM-Bihar on the insistence of the ministry of human resource development (MHRD).

IIT ROORKEE

# 7 expelled students denied re-admission

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**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 12

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ONLY 65 of the 72 students from IIT Roorkee, who had been expelled last month, were taken back after a Senate meeting on August 3. The others, the IIT said, had not cleared all their first-year papers.

"That's a rule we have always had — they have to score minimum credits of 22. So they did not qualify under the earlier rule," said Pradipta Banerji, director of IIT Roorkee.

A preliminary report released Tuesday by a team of the National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights and National Dalit Movement for Justice has found that six of the seven who were denied readmission belong to reserved categories. Between July 30 and August 1, the members of this 'fact-finding' team had visited IIT

Roorkee and interacted with the expelled students and the administration.

Calling the IIT's decision to deny admission to the seven students "an act of extreme malevolence", the report said, "It is yet another example of arbitrary decisions taken overnight without any concern for the social and psychological cost it may incur."

Nidhin Donald of the National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights, who was part of the fact-finding team, said students often fail to identify discrimination in classrooms "because they internalise the idea of merit". Donald alleged that the expulsions were a focused attempt at keeping out the reserved categories. "Since these institutes cannot control government policy on intake, they come up with parallel policies that are aimed at keeping out SC/ST students," he told *The Indian Express*.

## Indian Express ND 13/08/2015 P-5

# 92% students reject CBCS: 'Referendum' by students' body

**ARANYA SHANKAR**  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 12

NEARLY 92 per cent students in 18 colleges of Delhi University have rejected the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS), according to a 'referendum' held by the Students Federation of India (SFI) on Wednesday.

"Overall, 12,679 votes were polled, of which 11,734 voted against CBCS, 1,016 voted in favour and 19 votes were declared invalid. This is a clear signal that students have rejected the CBCS. We had organised this referendum as part of our national call after intensive campaigning. On Thursday, a similar referendum will be organised at Jamia Millia Islamia," said SFI state secretary Sunand.

Most teachers' organisations and student wings, except the BJP-backed Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, have been critical of the CBCS and have been demanding its rollback.

The colleges covered by the 'referendum' included Kirori Mal College, Ramjas, Hindu, SRCC, SGTB Khalsa, Miranda House, Laxmi Bai College, Satyawati College, Satyawati College (Evening), Zakir Hussain College, Zakir Hussain College (Evening), Moti Lal Nehru College, RLA College, Aryabhata College, Dyal Singh College, Dyal Singh College (Evening), Aurobindo College and Aurobindo College (Evening).

**SFI activists claimed the results were a reflection of the students' lack of choice, a month after CBCS was implemented**

SFI activists claimed the result of the referendum was a reflection of the students' lack of choice, a month after the implementation of CBCS.

"There are many courses for which there are no syllabi or books and classes have not even begun. Students want employability but not at this cost," said SFI state president Prateek.

"Our immediate task is to organise the referendum in Jamia, but we will also think about how to concretely and consistently carry forward the momentum we have gained from this initiative" said Sunand.

In another initiative to gauge the reaction to CBCS, the All India Students Association (AISA) has started the 'Students' Feedback on CBCS', whereby students are urged to fill a form with detailed questions on CBCS. Nearly 4,000 students from 32 colleges across DU have already filled the form, the details of which will be revealed in the coming days.

In August 2013, AISA had organised a similar referendum on DU's Four Year Undergraduate Programme, in which 91 per cent students had voted against it.

Business Line ND 13/08/2015 P-5

# Higher education needs practical strategies

Top institutions need autonomy, and an eco-system is needed to ensure more such learning centres come up



RANA KAPOOR

India's Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education stood at 21.1 per cent as of 2012-13 compared with the world average of 27 per cent. This means that we not only lag developed countries such as the US (95 per cent) and the UK (98 per cent), but also developing peers such as China (26 per cent), Brazil (36 per cent), Malaysia (40 per cent), Indonesia (24 per cent) and the Philippines (30 per cent).

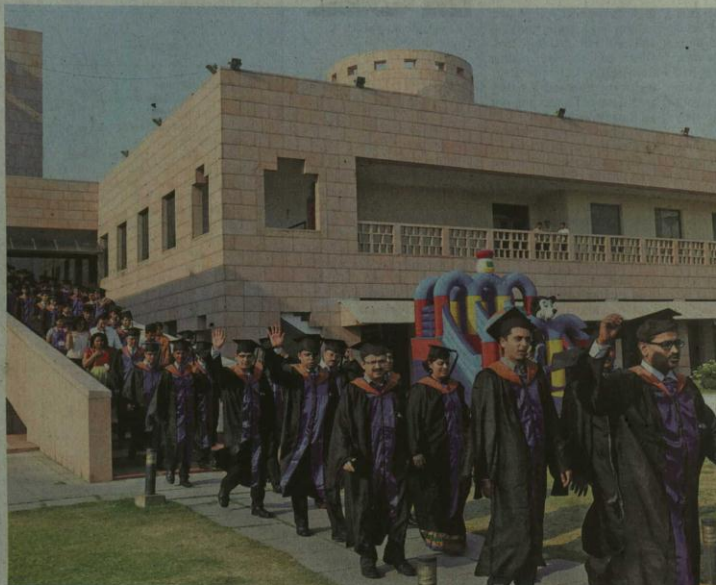
India, an aspiring knowledge economy ready to unleash its huge demographic dividend, should address this situation in earnest. To realise the dream of establishing India as the human resource capital of the world, we need to take radical steps in sync with emerging trends and technologies in education.

After the introduction of the Right to Education Act, enrolment in educational institutes has reached respectable levels at the primary and secondary level. To enable these enrolled participants to compete in a dynamic world, the government needs to consider providing regulatory support, for higher education to adopt niche and futuristic institutions and curriculum encompassing design, entrepreneurship, communication, innovation studies and teaching methods.

## Wide disparity

There is a wide disparity in the quality of education available across the country. Families that can afford foreign education end up contributing to the intellectual capital and economic value of other countries.

According to a research report, an estimated 300,000 Indian students are studying abroad, spending over \$10 billion. The following recommendations, from a short- and long-term perspective,



PV SIVAKUMAR

would go a long way in addressing the challenges and making our higher education system one of the most sought after systems in the world.

## Infrastructure status

Higher education system in India should be accorded an "infrastructure" status to attract investments in regions where access to higher educational means is limited. Five states — Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat and Haryana — account for 60 per cent of the State Private Universities (SPUs) but there is a

need for upgrading the quality of education at these universities.

Investments in the education system will incentivise penetration of higher education in semi-urban/rural areas and also drive participation in urban areas that are economic hubs to tap the potential of 50 per cent of India's population under the age of 25.

## Section 8 status

Existing higher education trusts and societies should be permitted to convert to a Section 8 company while also allowing

new private institutes to be established as a Section 8 company. Setting up of state-of-the-art educational facilities that provide professional and employability based skill education is a must to train India's future human capital.

Public Private Partnerships and responsible for-profit education institutions must be considered while putting in place a robust regulatory framework in the country, to ensure that the quality of education is not compromised. This can ensure a paradigm shift in the existing state of affairs whilst achieving much

higher GER ratios. The central government must work together with state governments to facilitate private entities in setting up higher education institutions, especially in the niche and futuristic areas of design, entrepreneurship, communication and innovation studies.

The State Private Universities Act needs to bring institutional changes in order to promote self-financed universities with agile structures for course work, taking for example the Maharashtra State Private Universities regulations.

Traditional teaching methods are gradually being replaced by audio-visual contents — mostly web based, in the form of smart classes.

With the mode of teaching changing, faculty roles will change from just information sharing to problem solving. This could facilitate a customised learning experience, utilising means such as advanced tablets, cloud technologies and new devices, ensuring easier scalability.

## The MOOCs imperative

The government needs to develop a regulatory mechanism to manage the credibility of online education providers. Over 10 million students globally have enrolled in thousands of courses offered by just the top three to four providers of MOOCs (massive open online courses). With the advent of innovative digital platforms, MOOCs can help address the lack of faculty in higher education.

Currently applicable only for public institutions, the Government's faculty development initiatives and research/student funding programmes should be extended on a competitive basis to private institutions also.

Creating a policy framework for reputed foreign institutes to collaborate with Indian Universities will assist in improving the quality of higher education by bringing best practices from across the world to India. This will encourage faculty development, improve quality assurance protocols and greatly enhance student achievement.

Therefore, due consideration needs to be given to de-regulating such collaborations, which are presently non-degree granting.

Developing new and promoting existing institutional mechanisms to further align industry and academia will address the challenge of disconnect between skills and employability. Introducing 'employability modules' and 'soft skills training' should become mandatory in all educational institutions.

Industry should be encouraged to participate in curriculum framing, teaching and provision of internships and placements utilising funds available through CSR to create Centres of Excellence, Innovation Hubs as well as encouraging endowments for faculty positions, capacity development, and upkeep of infrastructure.

## Innovation universities

The Universities for Research and Innovation Bill seeks to allow the central government to set up Universities for Research and Innovation through notifications. A much needed revival of the Bill will enable private players to set up innovation universities. A new university may be established by a promoter if he/she meets certain conditions with proven expertise in innovation.

In the past, we have aspired to replicate the Silicon Valley model in IT, software and biotechnology. The future could behold trends that originate from the knowledge workforce in India and spur a quantum jump in socio-economic development through breakthroughs in smart energy, automation and nanotechnology. If we can implement the collaborative model of dynamic and futuristic policies in pedagogy, policy and innovation for higher education in India, it's unlikely that we will miss the next emerging trend.

On the whole, the issue of providing quality higher education must be addressed at two levels — first, through autonomy to existing institutions with a very high focus on quality and second, creating an enabling eco-system to design new education institutions that will enhance the system for the future, as enumerated above.

The writer is Managing Director and CEO, YES Bank and Chair, YES Institute

Hindustan ND 13/08/2015 P-7

यूजीसी ने विश्वविद्यालयों को चेताया

# सूबे से बाहर खुले केंद्र बंद किए जाएं

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग (यूजीसी) ने राज्य विश्वविद्यालयों को फिर चेताया है कि वे अपने क्षेत्राधिकार से बाहर जाकर अध्ययन केंद्रों की स्थापना नहीं करें। यूजीसी ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेशों का हवाला देकर सभी कुलपतियों को कहा कि वे सूबे के बाहर कोई भी शैक्षणिक गतिविधि नहीं चला सकते हैं। यूजीसी के एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने कहा कि यदि विश्वविद्यालय कदम नहीं उठाते हैं तो उनकी मान्यता खत्म की जा सकती है।

यूजीसी के सचिव जसपाल सिंह संघू की तरफ से कुलपतियों को भेजे गए पत्र में कहा गया है कि राज्य अधिनियम के तहत बने सरकारी विश्वविद्यालय सिर्फ राज्य के भीतर ही अपने केंद्र चला सकते हैं। जबकि राज्य के निजी विश्वविद्यालयों को राज्य के भीतर केंद्र चलाने के लिए भी यूजीसी की पूर्व अनुमति लेने की जरूरत होती है। किसी भी राज्य के अधिनियम का क्षेत्राधिकार

**सख्ती**

- नियमों को ताक पर रखकर बाहर केंद्र चला रहे हैं
- राज्य की सीमा से बाहर केंद्र या कॉलेज गैर कानूनी

राज्य के भीतर ही होता है। इसलिए यदि कोई राज्य विवि राज्य से बाहर कॉलेज, अध्ययन केंद्र या कॉलेजों का एफिलिएशन करता है तो वह गैरकानूनी है। यूजीसी के अधिकारियों के अनुसार पंजाब टेक्निकल विश्वविद्यालय ने इस किस्म के केंद्र खोल रखे हैं। उसे अलग से चेतावनी जारी कर दी गई है। मनिपाल के ऐसे केंद्रों को बंद कराया जा चुका है।

**आईपी के कॉलेजों पर भी गाज :** अधिकारी के मुताबिक दिल्ली की आईपी यूनिवर्सिटी के दिल्ली के बाहर यूपी और हरियाणा के कॉलेजों को संबद्धता देना भी नियमों के विरुद्ध है। आईपी यूनिवर्सिटी दिल्ली के कानून के तहत बनी है और उसका दायरा एनसीआर नहीं हो सकता है।



## Pichai expresses gratitude for overwhelming response

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Apple CEO Tim Cook and Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella were among the scores of dignitaries who took to the micro-blogging site to congratulate the IIT Kharagpur alumnus.

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/pichai-expresses-gratitude-for-overwhelming-response/1/458227.html>

India-born Google CEO Sundar Pichai has expressed gratitude over the deluge of wishes extended to him on his [promotion to the helm of the technology giant](#). "Its been overwhelming to see such generous and warm responses from many dear friends, colleagues and strangers - heartfelt thanks," Pichai, 43, tweeted on Wednesday.

Prime Minister [Narendra Modi](#), Apple CEO Tim Cook and [Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella were among the scores of dignitaries](#) who took to the micro-blogging site to congratulate the IIT Kharagpur alumnus when he was named by Google's co-founder Larry Page as the next chief executive of the slightly slimmed down internet behemoth.

Pichai had said he [hopes to meet Modi soon](#) as he thanked the Indian leader for his wishes. Pichai received a B Tech from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur and holds an MS in Engineering and Materials Science from Stanford University and an MBA from the Wharton School.

He had joined Google in 2004 as its vice president of product management, where he led the team working on Google's Chrome browser and operating system. His alma mater Wharton had also tweeted on his promotion. Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister [Shivraj Singh Chouhan](#) posted on Twitter, "Remarkable success of @sundarpichai will?inspire youth across the country to work towards their chosen goals with more dedication and zeal."

Pichai thanked Nadella, Cook and others who congratulated him on his promotion. Pichai becomes only the third chief executive of the company after Schmidt and cofounder Larry Page. Bret Taylor, co-creator of Google Maps, ex-CTO of Facebook and Co-Founder of technology Quip also congratulated Pichai, the first non-white CEO, on Twitter.

## Premji, Nadar among world's 20 richest in infotech: Forbes

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/premji-nadar-among-world-s-20-richest-in-infotech-forbes-115081300008\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/premji-nadar-among-world-s-20-richest-in-infotech-forbes-115081300008_1.html)

[Wipro](#) chairman [Azim Premji](#) and [HCL](#) founder Shiv Nadar were the only Indians on the inaugural list of 20 [richest people](#) in the world of technology put out by Forbes. [Microsoft](#) co-founder Bill Gates, the world's richest man, ranked number one, with a net worth of \$79.6 billion, while Premji ranked 13th and Nadar 14th.

Number two on the list was Larry Ellison, with a net worth estimated at \$50 billion even as revenues for Oracle in the year that ended in May, were down slightly from the previous year to \$38.2 billion, [Forbes](#) said. Ellison ceded the CEO spot at Oracle last year to two co-CEOs, Safra Catz and Mark Hurd, but still serves as chairman and chief technology officer.

The third-richest on the list is Jeff Bezos, whose net worth shot up dramatically in July after Amazon.com reported a rare profit for its second quarter.

The list has Facebook co-founder Mark Zuckerberg, ranked fourth, followed by Google co-founder Larry Page, Alibaba chief Jack Ma, ranked seventh, Google's executive chairman Eric Schmidt (20), Uber CEO Travis Kalanick (35) and Square CEO Jack Dorsey (92). In total, the world's 100 richest tech billionaires are worth \$842.9 billion.

Two Indian-origin tech czars, Romesh Wadhvani and Bharat Desai, were also on the list.

Forbes said Premji, 70, who has a net worth of \$17.4 billion, was among Asia's most generous tycoons, having given away more than \$4 billion of his fortune.

**TECH RICH**

**1** **BILL GATES**  
Microsoft co-founder

**2** **LARRY ELLISON**  
Oracle founder

**3** **JEFF BEZOS**  
Amazon founder

**4** **MARK ZUCKERBERG**  
Facebook co-founder

**5** **LARRY PAGE**  
Google co-founder

**13** **AZIM PREMJI**  
Wipro Chairman

**14** **SHIV NADAR**  
HCL founder

Source: Forbes list of 20 richest people in the world of technology

Nadar, with a net worth of \$14.4 billion, gets the bulk of his wealth from software services outfit, HCL Technologies.

Wadhvani is ranked 73rd on the list with a \$2.8 billion net worth. The 67-year-old IIT-alumnus is chief executive officer and chairman of Symphony Technology Group, a collection of 20 companies spanning big data, analytics and software, with combined annual revenues of \$3 billion. In July 2015, he announced plans to commit \$1 billion to the Wadhvani Foundations to fund entrepreneurship in India; he did not provide a timetable for the funding.

Desai and family were ranked 82nd with a net worth of \$2.5 billion. The 62-year-old and wife Neerja founded information technology consulting and outsourcing company Syntel in 1980, out of their apartment in Michigan.

American billionaires occupied 51 slots. Thirty-three tech barons from Asia were featured on the list. Eight people from Europe made the cut - a minimum net worth of \$2 billion - as did two from West Asia and one from Latin America. Forty of the 100 live in California.

The list has only seven women, the wealthiest of whom is Laurene Powell Jobs, widow of Apple's late chief, Steve Jobs, with an estimated net worth of \$21.4 billion.

The average age of the group is 53, a decade younger than the average age of all billionaires; 15 of the 100 are under the age of 40.