

# Newspaper Clips

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## *Golden Jubilee at IIT Bombay*



**Prime Minister** Manmohan Singh with industrialist and philanthropist Azim Premji at the Golden Jubilee convocation of the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay on Saturday. — PTI

## **India can go back to 9% growth: Prime Minister**

**Press Trust of India**  
*Mumbai, Aug. 18*

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today said the present slowdown was not "inevitable or irreversible". Addressing the Golden Jubilee Convocation ceremony at IIT Bombay here, the Prime Minister said after half a century of zero rate economic growth, from 1900 to 1950, India registered 3.5 per cent growth from 1950 to 1980. But from 1980 to now, the country nearly doubled that growth.

"In 2003-08, we showed that we can march forward at an even higher rate of growth of 9

per cent," he said. "I know that in the past year India's economy has slowed down. But this is not an inevitable or irreversible outcome."

"The fundamentals of our economy are sound and, with greater effort being made to mobilise all the latent physical and human resources, we can go back to the growth rate of 8-9 per cent per annum achieved from 2003 to 2008," Singh said.

"The large investments in the development of human resources that we have made in the last eight years would facilitate that outcome," he said.

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*I studied in the light of a kerosene lamp, PM tells IIT students*

**Press Trust of India**  
*Mumbai, Aug 18*

Addressing students of IIT Bombay here, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Saturday recalled his humble beginnings and struggles.

"When I look back at my own life, I feel humbled, looking at the distance my own generation has travelled," he said.

### **CONVOCATION ADDRESS**

"I studied in the light of a kerosene lamp, in a dusty village that had no power, no doctor, no school or college. I used to walk miles to go to the school," Singh said, delivering the 'Golden Jubilee Convocation' address at IIT.

In all these matters, there has been an enormous improvement in the 65 years since Independence, he said.

"The progress that has been registered has often fallen short of the expectations of our people, particularly the young people," the Prime Minister conceded.

# PM sees major role for science and technology in reviving economy

Staff Reporter

**MUMBAI:** Science and technology can help restore economic growth to the old rate of eight to nine per cent and enable India become a knowledge society, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said here on Saturday.

"I know that in the past year India's economy has slowed down, but this is not an inevitable or irreversible outcome. The fundamentals of our economy are sound and with greater effort being made to mobilise all the latent physical and human resources, we can go back to the growth rate of eight to nine per cent per annum achieved from 2003 to 2008 ... Science and technology have to play a major role in the transformation of our economy," Dr. Singh said, while delivering the golden jubilee convocation address at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)

• **"Increase in number of institutions should foster a qualitative improvement in higher learning"**

• **Knowledge base of economy has to expand so that we catch up with developed nations, he says**

Bombay.

"India today needs national leaders from the fields of science and engineering. Not just politics, sports and cinema," he said.

While the government had opened new IITs and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), one of the major challenges "is to ensure that this quantitative expansion in institutions and seats also fosters a qualitative improvement in the working of institutions of higher learning."

"India currently lags behind many other countries in term of research and development and we must work much harder to bridge this

knowledge gap."

"Every year when I see how many hundreds of thousands of students apply for admission to these institutions, and when I see how high the minimum cut-off marks for admission have become, my heart is pained by the limits we are placing on the opportunities available to our youth," Dr. Singh said.

Highlighting the need to harness our human resource, the Prime Minister said the knowledge base of the economy had to expand with economic growth so that "we can catch up with other developed nations."

Wipro Chairman Azim Premji was conferred a Doc-

tor of Science (Honoris Causa). Mr. Premji dedicated the honour to the employees of his company and drove home the importance of "making mistakes," but learning from them.

Union Communications Minister Kapil Sibal, Maharashtra Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan and Governor K. Sankaranarayanan were present,

# Need national leaders from science, engineering: PM

MUMBAI, 18 AUG: India today needs "national leaders" from the fields of science and engineering, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said here today, addressing the students of IIT Bombay.

"Today India needs national leaders from the fields of engineering and science. Not just politics, sports and cinema," Singh said, delivering the 'Golden Jubilee Convocation' address at IIT. "Our government has opened new IITs, new IIMs and new institutions for teaching and research in the sciences. We have increased investment in school education. We have increased scholarships for the disadvantaged sections of our society. We have set up new institutions in different parts of the country so that our children can get the best education available closer home," he said. A challenge is to ensure that the investment in higher education contributes more directly to nation building, he said. "Here, the IITs face an immediate challenge of making their curriculum more relevant to our needs. I am aware that this is a subject of much lively discussion among your faculty and alumnus. Many of our best IIT students have, over the years, migrated abroad in search of

better opportunities. I do not grudge that. Some of them have returned home to serve our motherland. Some do so from where they are, in some of the best institutions of the world," he said. A large number of IIT graduates move away from their core disciplines into management, finance, marketing and even the civil services. Without doubt, they have much to contribute in their new fields of work, he said, noting that his cabinet colleague, Jairam Ramesh, was an IITian. The students graduating today have a long list of IIT Bombay alumni to inspire them, Singh said. "Several of them have risen to top positions internationally, including Arun Netravali, former head of Bell Laboratories, and Nitin Nohria, the current Dean of Harvard Business School. "One of our brightest Cabinet Ministers, Jairam Ramesh is an alumnus of IIT Bombay, as is Nandan Nilekani who carries the enormous responsibility of implementing India's ambitious program of providing all its citizens with a Unique Identification Number," the Prime Minister said. India needs "millions of engineers" and millions more of technically qualified workers and skilled professionals, he said. **pti**

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# PM in city to attend HC, IIT events

**DNA Correspondent** 🌐 MUMBAI

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Prime minister Manmohan Singh arrived in Mumbai on Friday on a two-day visit. The PM will be the chief guest at the closing ceremony of sesquicentennial celebration of the Bombay High Court, and deliver convocation address at the Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay on Saturday. The high court function will be organised at the National Centre for Performing Arts.

Later, the PM would deliver the Golden Jubilee Convocation address at IIT-Bombay. At the Golden Jubilee Convocation, the degree of 'Doctor of Science, Honoris Causa' will be conferred upon industrialist Azim Premji.

## मैंने केरोसिन तेल की रोशनी में पढ़ाई की : प्रधानमंत्री

मुंबई। आईआईटी मुंबई के छात्रों को संबोधित करते हुए प्रधानमंत्री मनमोहन सिंह ने शनिवार को अपनी शुरुआत और संघर्ष को याद करते हुए कहा कि उन्होंने केरोसिन तेल की रोशनी में पढ़ाई की। उन्होंने कहा कि जब मैं पीछे मुड़कर देखता हूँ तब मुझे अपनी पीढ़ी के इतना लंबा सफर तय करने पर खुशी होती है। आईआईटी मुंबई के स्वर्ण जयंती समारोह के दौरान मनमोहन ने कहा, 'मैंने एक गांव में केरोसिन तेल की रोशनी में पढ़ाई की। उस गांव में कोई बिजली नहीं थी, कोई डाक्टर नहीं था, कोई स्कूल या कालेज नहीं था।' प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा, 'मैं स्कूल पहुंचने के लिए कई मील पैदल चलकर जाता था।' उन्होंने कहा कि आजादी के 65 वर्ष पूरे होने पर देश ने काफी प्रगति कही है हालांकि यह प्रगति लोगों की उम्मीदों से कई बार कम रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत को ऐसे लोगों की जरूरत है जो देश को विज्ञान एवं इंजीनियरिंग के क्षेत्र में आगे ले जा सकें। आज भारत को इंजीनियरिंग एवं विज्ञान के क्षेत्र में नेतृत्व प्रदान करने वाले लोगों की जरूरत है। यह केवल राजनीति, खेल या सिनेमा में तक ही सीमित नहीं रहना चाहिए। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत अब भी अनुसंधान एवं विकास के क्षेत्र में कई देशों से पीछे है और देश में उच्च शिक्षा प्रदान करने वाले गुणवत्तापूर्ण संस्थाओं की कमी है। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने इस अवसर पर कहा कि आईआईटी उत्कृष्टता केंद्र बन चुके हैं और भारत को इनके योगदान पर गर्व है। उन्होंने हालांकि कहा कि आईआईटी को दक्ष शिक्षकों की भारी कमी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है, और अभी जो शिक्षक हैं, उनकी उम्र काफी हो चुकी है और इनमें से अनेक सेवानिवृत्ति के करीब पहुंच चुके हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि आईआईटी की ब्रांड इक्विटी उसके स्नातक छात्रों की उत्कृष्टता है।

# New IIT entrance format may see students migrating to 'weaker' States

**Aesha Datta**

*New Delhi, Aug. 18*

The furore over the change in common entrance exam for the elite Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) has died down, but concerns over the format persist.

Referring to the clause under which students have to score within the top 20 percentile to qualify for IITs, Anand Kumar of Super 30 fame said there is a need to examine if the different boards could be brought on par.

"Do all the boards conduct examination with the same degree of fairness? Introduction of new things, like aptitude test will definitely prove to be a deterrent for students from economically backward strata, who

VAST BANDWIDTH		(in %)
Board	Required	
CBSE	77.8	
Andhra Pradesh	87.2	
Bihar	64.6	
Chhattisgarh	56.8	
Jharkhand	52.4	
Uttarakhand	55.2	
West Bengal	58.0	

study in the government schools, which lack basic infrastructure and quality teachers," he said.

"Why do coaching institutes mushroom? It is simply because students in search of quality education land up there as the

schools are unable to satisfy them," Anand said.

Students who can afford it would flock to coaching centres for both boards as well as entrance exam preparations, leaving talented students from economically backward strata behind.

Anand said, "Good students will still make it. But for students from economically weaker sections and those in rural areas, it will get more difficult."

S.V. Divvaakar, Managing Partner at Ace Global Consulting and an alumnus of IIT-Delhi, added that the new format will lead to other distortions, while opening new opportunities for coaching institutes.

"It is another distortion

whose impact we will see in the coming years. Let's say in UP if the overall quality is lower than other States, then the students in the top 20 percentile cut-off will much weaker. It is like a State-level discount for entering the IITs."

This may create a situation where students who can afford it will shift to States where the cut-offs are lower, he added.

Recently the Council of Boards of School Education in India released a list of approximate cut-offs to be eligible for IITs, highlighting the vast difference among the boards.

On their part, coaching institutes are well prepared to deal with the format change.

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**CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES**

# HRD seeks to ease fund flow

**NITIN MAHAJAN**  
NEW DELHI, AUG. 18

In a major step that could increase prompt fund flow to the higher education sector in the country, the human resources development ministry is working on a formula that will enable easier release of funds and grants to Central universities.

Sources stated that the HRD ministry has proposed that a fund utilisation certificate and expenses details be submitted by Central universities for the release of grants by the Central government. It is understood that the ministry proposes to discard current practice of visits being made by University Grants Commission committees to each individual university for assessment of fund utilisation and release of funds.

The UGC has been asked to formulate a process regarding the proposal and submit the proposal to the HRD ministry for approval.

Sources stated that the step is likely to increase fund flow into the higher education system and allow increased research and developmental activities. This will also help Central universities in focusing on their research activities in varied fields.

The easier release of funds will also enable various Central universities to increase their infrastruc-

**The ministry proposes to discard current practice of visits being made by University Grants Commission committees to each individual university for assessment of fund utilisation**

ture development and recruitment of teachers. This will in turn help in the creation of additional seats in various central universities in different streams of education.

The additional funds are expected to help the government increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education in the country. HRD ministry has repeatedly stated that by 2020 the country needs to have at least 30 per cent GER of present 12.4 per cent if it needs to become a knowledge superpower.

It has been pointed out that all developed economies of the world have over 30 per cent GER in higher education to promote higher growth in all industries and services sectors.

विकलांग कोटे के मामले में दिल्ली  
हाईकोर्ट ने दिया आदेश

## प्रमाणपत्र पर तीनों डॉक्टरों के हस्ताक्षर हों

नई दिल्ली | प्रभात कुमार

इंजीनियरिंग या मेडिकल कॉलेज में विकलांग कोटे से दाखिले के लिए विकलांगता प्रमाणपत्र पर मेडिकल बोर्ड के सभी डॉक्टरों के हस्ताक्षर जरूरी हैं। सिर्फ मेडिकल बोर्ड के चेयरमैन के हस्ताक्षर वाले प्रमाणपत्र से आवेदक आरक्षण का लाभ नहीं उठा पाएंगे। मेडिकल बोर्ड के सभी डॉक्टरों के हस्ताक्षर के अभाव में हाईकोर्ट ने बिहार के एक छात्र अमित कुमार को आईआईटी दिल्ली में आरक्षण का लाभ देने से इनकार कर दिया।

जस्टिस जी. एस. सिस्तानी ने विकलांगता कानून के प्रावधानों और केंद्र सरकार के सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय के दिशा-निर्देशों का हवाला देते हुए कहा कि बोर्ड के तीनों डॉक्टरों के हस्ताक्षर के अभाव में प्रमाण पत्र वैध नहीं है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि विकलांगता प्रमाण पत्र पर यह भी लिखा होना चाहिए कि संबंधित व्यक्ति में विकलांगता कम होने की संभावना है या नहीं। यदि है तो कितने दिनों में दोबारा इसकी जांच होनी चाहिए।

अमित ने आईआईटी दिल्ली द्वारा दरभंगा मेडिकल कॉलेज के विकलांगता प्रमाण पत्र को स्वीकार करने के बजाए एम्स के डॉक्टरों से उसकी मेडिकल जांच कराने को हाईकोर्ट में चुनौती दी थी। अमित के वकील अशोक अग्रवाल और खगेश झा ने आईआईटी दिल्ली के निर्णय को मनमाना व असंवैधानिक बताते हुए कहा कि दरभंगा मेडिकल कॉलेज को बिहार सरकार ने विकलांगता प्रमाण पत्र जारी के लिए अधिकृत किया है; ऐसे में दोबारा जांच कराने की कोई जरूरत नहीं है।

हाईकोर्ट ने कहा है कि छात्रों को प्रवेश परीक्षा के लिए आवेदन करते समय प्रोस्पेक्टस को ध्यान से पढ़ना चाहिए।

दाखिला नहीं मिला

- बारहवीं कक्षा में 74 फीसदी अंकों से पास करने वाले अमित को आईआईटी संयुक्त प्रदेश परीक्षा में 113वां स्थान आया था।
- वर्ष 2005 में अमित को दरभंगा मेडिकल कॉलेज ने 40 फीसदी विकलांग बताया था, एम्स के डॉक्टर द्वारा जांच में उसे महज 18 फीसदी विकलांग बताया गया।
- केंद्र सरकार के नियमों के मुताबिक विकलांगता प्रमाण पत्र पर मेडिकल बोर्ड के सभी डॉक्टरों के हस्ताक्षर जरूरी हैं।
- विकलांग प्रमाणपत्र पर राज्यों में चिकित्सा अधीक्षक ही हस्ताक्षर करते हैं।

**03** फीसदी सीटें विकलांगों के लिए आरक्षित हैं।

**40** फीसदी विकलांग होना जरूरी है आरक्षण के लिए।

बिहार से हैं तो ध्यान दें

खासकर यदि आप बिहार से हैं तो यह आपके लिए बेहद जरूरी है क्योंकि वहां पर मेडिकल बोर्ड के सभी डॉक्टरों के बजाए सिर्फ चिकित्सा अधीक्षक ही विकलांगता प्रमाण पत्र पर हस्ताक्षर करते हैं।

इसमें यदि किसी शर्तों पर आपत्ति हो तो उसी समय अदालत के दरवाजा खटखटाना चाहिए। साथ ही कहा है कि आईआईटी ने अपने प्रोस्पेक्टस में पहले ही साफ कर दिया था कि वह अपने विकलांग कोटे के तहत आरक्षण का लाभ देने के लिए जरूरत पड़ने पर मेडिकल जांच करवाएगा, इसलिए अब हाईकोर्ट इसमें हस्तक्षेप नहीं कर सकता है।



**ONLINE GATE**

IIT-Bombay has announced the dates for GATE examination for both the online and offline modes. While the online papers will be held on January 20, the offline tests will be conducted on February 10. GATE is slowly tilting

towards the online mode, with 15 of the 21 papers (specialisations) in GATE exam being conducted online. Last year only six papers were online while the number was only four in 2011. Students will be able to give the exam at around 100 centres spread across the country.

IIT-Bombay is the organising IIT for the examination this year. Every year, the number of students appearing for GATE has increased so the need of online papers has also increased. This year, the number of students taking the exam is expected to increase by 15-20%.

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# National leaders needed from science, engineering fields, says prime minister

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**

Mumbai, 19 August

India today needs "national leaders" from the fields of science and engineering, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said in Mumbai on Saturday.

Singh delivered the 'Golden Jubilee Convocation' address at Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay. "Today India needs national leaders from the fields of engineering and science. Not just politics, sports

and cinema," the Prime Minister said.

India still lags behind many other countries in terms of research and development, and there is also dearth of quality institutes of higher education, he said.

"This is precisely why our government has taken initiative to expand the opportunities for higher and technical education in India."

He also stressed that the investments made in higher education must contribute directly to nation building. IITs face an

immediate challenge of making their curriculum more relevant to the country's needs, he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister for HRD Kapil Sibal said IITs have been centres of excellence, and India is proud of their contribution. However, he said, the IITs are facing a critical shortage of quality faculty, and most of the current faculty is ageing and nearing superannuation, which is affecting academic productivity.

# PM pained by high cut-offs in admissions of higher learning



**PBD BUREAU/PTI**

**MUMBAI, AUG 19**

**PRIME** Minister Manmohan Singh has expressed dissatisfaction over the high cut-offs in admissions to centers of higher learning like the IITs, saying he is "pained" by such limits imposed on opportunities. "Every year when I see how many hundreds of thousands of students apply for admission to these institutions, and

when I see how high have become the minimum cut-off marks for admission, my heart is pained by the limits we are placing on the opportunities available to our youth," he said.

Singh made these remarks in his address at the Golden Jubilee convocation of the IIT-Bombay here yesterday. "As we celebrate the Golden Jubilee of IIT Bombay, we feel a sense of pride. But that pride must be tempered by the concern that we still do not have the required number of such institutions to offer adequate developmental opportunities to all our bright young women and men," he said. "That is precisely why our government took the initiative to expand the opportunities for higher and technical education in India," he said. During the last eight years, Indian higher education as well as secondary and technical education, have experienced a quantum jump in terms of investment being made and the number of seats being created for students, he said.

# Make curriculum more relevant to country's needs: PM tells IITs

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ MUMBAI**

**P**hime Minister Manmohan Singh on Saturday called upon the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) to make their curriculum more relevant to the country's needs, so as to ensure that whatever investments being made on higher education contributed more directly to nation-building.

Coming out with some home truths during his address at the golden jubilee convocation of the IIT-Bombay, Singh said: "India currently lags behind many other countries in terms of research and development and we must work much harder to bridge this knowledge gap".

"As India's economy becomes bigger and more developed, so too must our knowledge base. A developing country like ours has to catch up with other more developed nations and this 'catch-up' process depends vitally on our ability to harness human resources for development," the Prime Minister said.

"Another challenge is to ensure that the investment we make in higher education in fact contributes more directly to nation building. Here the IITs face an immediate challenge of making their curriculum more relevant to our needs. I am aware that this is a subject of much lively discussion among your faculty and alumnus," Singh said.

# आईआईटी में एडमिशन पर सस्पेंस कायम

● अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

कानपुर। आईआईटी में एडमिशन के लिए सिंगल एंट्रेंस एग्जाम और एडवांस टेस्ट कराने का ऐलान भले ही कर दिया गया हो लेकिन तैयारियां अब तक अधूरी हैं। नए फार्मूले पर फार्म भरवाने और एग्जाम कराने की अंतिम रणनीति अब तक नहीं बन सकी है। इससे सितंबर और अक्टूबर में फार्मों की बिक्री पर संशय बना हुआ है। उधर, आईआईटी के टीचर्स और स्टूडेंट्स का कहना है कि यह फार्मूला आईआईटी के लिए नुकसानदायक साबित होगा। समय से एंट्रेंस एग्जाम, रिजल्ट, काउंसिलिंग और एडमिशन का संकट बना रहेगा और सेशन पिछड़ने का खतरा भी रहेगा। वर्ष 2013 से आईआईटी, एनआईटी, ट्रिपल आईटी में दाखिले के लिए सिंगल एंट्रेंस टेस्ट होना है, जिसमें देश के सभी 44 बोर्ड से 15-16 लाख स्टूडेंट शामिल होंगे। इसमें सफल होने वाले 1.50 लाख स्टूडेंट्स को एडवांस जेईई में बैठने का मौका मिलेगा। एडवांस जेईई का आयोजन आईआईटी करेगा। आईआईटी की देखरेख में पेपर सेट होंगे और एग्जाम कराके रिजल्ट जारी होगा। हालांकि, सिंगल एंट्रेंस टेस्ट कौन कराएगा यह अब तक तय नहीं हो सका है। आईआईटी, एनआईटी, ट्रिपल आईआईटी के बोर्ड आफ गवर्नर, काउंसिल ने अब तक फार्म बिक्री और एग्जाम का निश्चित शेड्यूल नहीं जारी किया है। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय भी चुप्पी साधे है। आईआईटी कानपुर के फैकल्टी फोरम के टीचर्स ने बताया कि नए फार्मूले से आईआईटी का एडमिशन प्रक्रिया प्रभावित होगी। नई व्यवस्था के हिसाब से एग्जाम दो चरण में होगा। इसलिए

- अब तक तय नहीं कौन कराएगा सिंगल एंट्रेंस एग्जाम
- फार्म बिक्री व टेस्ट का शेड्यूल जारी नहीं किया गया

## पहले ऐसा था जेईई का शेड्यूल

- प्रवेश फार्मों की बिक्री अक्टूबर, नवंबर में
- दिसंबर तक जमा करा दिए जाते थे फार्म
- जनवरी से मार्च के बीच पेपर सेटिंग, सेंटर अलाटमेंट और एडमिट कार्ड भेजने का काम
- अप्रैल में टेस्ट, मई में रिजल्ट और जून में काउंसिलिंग
- 21,22 जुलाई तक शुरू होती थी क्लासेज

इस बार की प्रवेश परीक्षा कॉमन होनी है। यह परीक्षा कौन कराएगा, इसका फैसला मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय को लेना है। वहीं से प्रक्रिया चल रही होगी। इसकी जानकारी आईआईटी प्रशासन को नहीं है।

—प्रो. संजय गोविंद धांडे  
निदेशक आईआईटी कानपुर

पूरी प्रक्रिया सितंबर 2012 से शुरू करनी पड़ेगी, तभी जुलाई 2013 तक नए सत्र की कक्षाएं संचालित की जा सकेंगी। इस मामले में आईआईटी काउंसिल और मंत्रालय की तैयारियां काफी धीमी हैं।

# आईआईटी दाखिले में उच्च कट-ऑफ से प्रधानमंत्री दुखी

मुंबई (एजेन्सी)। प्रधानमंत्री मनमोहन सिंह ने आईआईटी जैसे प्रतिष्ठित शिक्षण संस्थानों में दाखिले में उच्च 'कट-ऑफ' पर यह कहते हुए असंतोष जताया कि अवसरों पर ऐसी सीमाओं से वह दुखी हैं।

सिंह ने कहा कि 'हर साल मैं देखता हूँ कि कैसे हजारों छात्र इन संस्थानों दाखिले के लिए आवेदन करते हैं, लेकिन न्यूनतम कट-ऑफ काफी ऊंचा चला जाता है, ऐसे में अपने युवकों के लिए उपलब्ध अवसर सीमित होने से मेरा हृदय दुखी हो जाता है।' उन्होंने शनिवार को यहां आईआईटी बंबई के स्वर्णजयंती समारोह में यह बात कही। प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि

'हम आईआईटी बंबई की स्वर्ण जयंती मना रहे हैं, जिस पर हमें गर्व है। लेकिन इस गर्व के साथ हमें यह भी चिंता होनी चाहिए कि अब भी हमारे

▶ सभी मेधावी युवकों और युवतियों को पर्याप्त विकास अवसर उपलब्ध कराने के लिए ऐसे संस्थानों की पर्याप्त संख्या नहीं

पास अपने सभी मेधावी युवक और युवतियों को पर्याप्त विकास अवसर उपलब्ध कराने के लिए ऐसे संस्थानों की पर्याप्त संख्या नहीं है।' उन्होंने कहा कि यही वजह है कि हमारी सरकार भारत में उच्च एवं तकनीकी शिक्षा के विस्तार के लिए पहल कर रही है। सिंह ने कहा कि

पिछले आठ सालों में भारतीय उच्चतर शिक्षा के साथ साथ माध्यमिक एवं तकनीकी शिक्षा में निवेश और सीटों की संख्या में प्रगति हुई है।

# आईआईटी की उच्च कट ऑफ से मनमोहन दुखी

**मुंबई** ■ नया इंडिया ब्यूरो  
महाराष्ट्र की राजधानी मुंबई के दो दिन के दौरे पर गए प्रधानमंत्री मनमोहन सिंह ने कहा है कि आईआईटी जैसे प्रतिष्ठित संस्थानों में दाखिले के लिए जिस तरह की होड़ है और जैसे हर साल दाखिले का कट ऑफ ऊंचा हो जाता है, उससे वे काफी दुखी होते हैं। उन्होंने इस बात पर भी दुख जताया कि भारत में काफी प्रतिभाशाली छात्रों के लिए बेहतर संस्थानों में दाखिले के अवसर काफी सीमित हैं।



मनमोहन सिंह ने आईआईटी जैसे प्रतिष्ठित शिक्षण संस्थानों में दाखिले में उच्च कट-ऑफ पर यह कहते हुए असंतोष जताया कि अवसरों पर ऐसी सीमाओं से वे दुखी हैं। मनमोहन सिंह ने कहा- हर साल मैं देखता हूँ कि कैसे हजारों छात्र इन संस्थानों दाखिले के लिए आवेदन करते हैं लेकिन न्यूनतम कट-ऑफ काफी ऊंचा चला जाता है, ऐसे में अपने युवकों के लिए उपलब्ध अवसर सीमित होने से मेरा हृदय दुखी हो जाता है।

# HRD Ministry Amending More Bills for Consensus

**Bills on IIT and CBSE  
may be tabled in the  
current session of  
Parliament**

**OUR POLITICAL BUREAU  
NEW DELHI**

The government is likely to move education reform bills following continued resistance by allies and the Opposition. The government has already made amendments to Prohibition of Unfair Practices Bill and Educational Tribunal Bill. It is now expected to make changes to the National Accreditation Regulatory Authority Bill to address concerns raised by members.

There are seven education-related legislations pending in Parliament. The government proposes to introduce the Indian Institutes of Information Technology Bill and the Central Board of Secondary Education in the current session of Parliament.

Human resources development minister Kapil Sibal had a brief respite in the budget session, when he was able to ensure the passage of six education bills, including the contentious Copyright Amendment Act. However, despite pre-session consultations with leaders of the United Progressive Alliance and the Opposition, the National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill ran into trouble when it was taken up in the Lok Sabha.

To smoothen out issues and address concerns, Sibal met with BJP leader Sushma Swaraj, Trinamool Congress' Kalyan Banerjee and AIADMK leader P Thambidurai on Thursday. The meeting, which lasted for more than an hour, was expected to address lingering concerns about the legislations. Sources indicated that there is likely to be at least

another round of deliberations.

Concerns broadly relate to whether the Centre can legislate on higher education institutions, since universities are included in Entry 32 of the State List. The HRD ministry has consistently made the case that Entry 66 of the Union list makes it the Centre's responsibility to co-ordinate and determine "standards in institutions for higher education or research and scientific and technical institutions." This is a sticking point for both BJP and UPA constituent Trinamool Congress. Trinamool chief whip Kalyan Banerjee said his party had apprehensions about the 'intrusion of the Centre in matters relating to the state'. Nonetheless, he said, the matter is under discussion.

During the discussion on the bill in the Lok Sabha, BJP raised objections on the

composition of the accreditation board. It also ques-

tioned the decision to allow for an exemption clause.

The bill's Clause 49 gives the government the right to issue notifications to exempt institutions from manda-

tory accreditation. The principal opposition party views this clause as the government's way of ensuring that foreign education institutions are not required to seek accreditation when setting up campuses in India. "What does this clause 49 mean? After all this compulsory accreditation, you will get the foreign universities through the back door, free from this mandatory requirement," BJP MP Ananth Hegde said in his intervention. Some of the objections raised are indicative of a trust deficit that the government is experiencing. The ministry agreed to two minor amendments in the education tribunal bill. The first was to amplify the clause and making it clear that students could register complaints.



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