

Newspaper Clips

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Hindustan Times ND 29-Aug-13 P-15

Govt creates 95 NIT seats after glitches

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NEW DELHI: The government has created 95 additional seats for the National Institutes of Technology (NITs) to accommodate those who were denied a place because of technical and software glitches that happened during counselling.

There are more than 20,000 seats for the 30 NITs across the country. These seats are supernumerary and temporary in nature and shall be valid only for the academic year 2013-14.

Of the 95 seats that have been created, only 50 have been filled.

“There had been glitches during counselling this year. The mistakes happened because of technical errors at some reporting centres. The software that we used this time, could not protect the errors. But because of this, 95 high rank-

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ers were bypassed by the low rankers,” chairman of Central Seat Allocation Board and NIT Rourkela director Sunil Kumar Sarangi, told HT.

Sarangi said that this was noticed after the admission process got over. “We requested the government to allocate 95 extra seats and last week we got a letter in this regard. We informed the 95 students individually and of them 50 have accepted the NIT seats. We have refunded back the money to the those who did not accept the seats.”

There are still 642 seats vacant, but they belong to different categories.

Mint ND 29-Aug-13

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HRD ministry creates 95 extra seats in NITs

New Delhi: The ministry of human resource development (HRD ministry) has added 95 seats to the existing pool of the National Institutes of Technology (NITs) for this year only to accommodate some deserving candidates who were denied admission in the B-Tech programme due to a software glitch during the counselling process.

These candidates were left out from seat allotment despite securing better places in merit list than those admitted. Officials said HRD minister M.M. Pallam Raju exercised his powers to create the additional seats. The special provision is only for this academic year (2013-14). The students were not at fault as the problem occurred because of the software programming, they said. **PTI** ●

Pioneer ND 29-Aug-13 P-5

Tech staff crunch hits IITs' academic quality

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■
NEW DELHI

An acute shortage of technical manpower in the prestigious IITs — including Delhi, Kanpur, Mumbai, Kharagpur and Chennai — has rung the alarm bells for the authorities as the students may not be 'industry-ready'.

The institutes have already been facing an academic staff shortage. But with growing engagement with research and new equipment that requires different technical skill sets, a lack of technical manpower too has emerged as a reason to worry.

"This is hampering the technical academic quality and we may not train them to be industry ready," said an IIT source.

"In view of the expansion of institutes, there is an increasing need for capable technical staff at senior levels in supervisory and management functions. In the absence of adequate support staff, the faculty members get burdened with extra administrative load, which diverts attention from



A HRD Ministry official said that the aim of the proposal for creating a technical cadre is to free the faculty from laboratory, workshops responsibilities to enable them to devote their time to teaching and research

teaching and research. Moreover, the Institutes are engaging in newer activities with international universities and interfacing with industry and alumni. To enable faculty to achieve their potential, an appropriate administrative and technical support is essential," said a HRD Ministry official.

The issue is likely to be taken in the Council of IIT

meeting early next week. An IIT official said that the crisis is due to the result of clubbing the technical non-faculty and the non-technical non-faculty together under the category of non-faculty.

"A high number of non-faculty staff, due to legacy, has further reduced the space for hiring trained Technical Staff. There is a need to consider granting greater flexibility in the recruitment of staff, particularly at senior levels," said the official.

A HRD Ministry official said that the aim of the proposal for creating a technical cadre is to free the faculty from laboratory, workshops responsibilities to enable them to devote their time to teaching and research. "As in the case of faculty, overall ratios may be fixed with flexibility as to recruit staff with the required skills, when specific new functions arise," he mentioned. The agenda for the Council of IIT meeting on September 3 has recommended for technical staff needs to be strengthened and a technical cadre can be considered.

Amar Ujala ND 29-Aug-13 P-10

जेईई एडवांस परीक्षा में बढ़ सकती है छात्रों की संख्या

● बृजेश सिंह

नई दिल्ली। जेईई एडवांस की परीक्षा में बैठने वाले छात्रों की संख्या डेढ़ लाख से बढ़ाकर ढाई लाख तक किए जाने पर आईआईटी काउंसिल विचार कर रही है। इस संबंध में पहली सितंबर को प्रस्तावित काउंसिल की बैठक में प्रस्ताव भी लाया जा सकता है।

आईआईटी के लिए पिछले साल शुरू हुई प्रवेश परीक्षा की नई व्यवस्था के मुताबिक, जेईई में परीक्षा में सम्मिलित होने वाले छात्रों में से टॉप रैंकिंग के डेढ़ लाख छात्रों को जेईई एडवांस परीक्षा में शामिल होने की

● आईआईटी काउंसिल का प्रस्ताव, ढाई लाख छात्रों को मिले परीक्षा में बैठने का मौका

अनुमति है। आईआईटी काउंसिल की कमान संभाल रहे दिल्ली आईआईटी से जुड़े सूत्रों का मानना है कि अब काउंसिल इस सीमा को बढ़ाकर में परीक्षा में ढाई लाख छात्रों को एडवांस परीक्षा में बैठने की अनुमति प्रदान करना चाहता है। मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय ने भी इस तरह के प्रस्ताव के काउंसिल की बैठक में लाए जाने की

पुष्टि की है। आईआईटी संस्थानों में इस समय अंडर ग्रेजुएट कोर्स में प्रवेश के लिए हर साल लगभग 10 हजार सीटें होती हैं। वर्तमान में जेईई एडवांस परीक्षा में एक सीट के लिए 15 छात्रों को शामिल होने की अनुमति है। भविष्य में यह औसत बढ़कर 25 छात्र प्रति सीट हो जाएगा। इतनी अधिक संख्या में छात्रों को जेईई एडवांस परीक्षा में बैठाने से सिंगल प्रवेश परीक्षा का मकसद पूरी तरह खत्म हो जाएगा। पहले भी जब आईआईटी तथा एनआईटी के लिए अलग अलग परीक्षाएं होती थीं तब भी जेईई में कुल तीन लाख छात्र ही हिस्सा लेते थे।

Millennium Post ND 29 August 2013 P-7
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IIT Roorkee professor found dead

DEHRADUN: Uttarakhand police on Wednesday stepped up security in IIT Roorkee after the body of a professor was found with his throat slit in his flat on campus.

Haridwar SSP Rajiv Swaroop said the body of senior professor in Electrical Computer Science department Ajay Kumar (60) was recovered on Wednesday.

Swaroop said police have yet to find out whether Kumar who was living alone in his official flat at the IIT campus committed suicide

or was murdered.

‘Till now, it is a mysterious case as circumstantial evidence gathered from the spot was not enough to ascertain the exact circumstances leading to Kumar’s death,’ he said.

SP (rural) Ajay Singh said, ‘Police investigation is on. The possibility of murder can not be ruled out.’

A senior professor in IIT said Kumar was often depressed due to his loneliness and had made an unsuccessful attempt to commit suicide two years ago. AGENCIES

Amar Ujala ND 29-Aug-13 P-10

आईआईटी प्रोफेसर की संदिग्ध हालात में मौत

● अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

रुड़की। आईआईटी रुड़की के इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स कंप्यूटर डिपार्टमेंट के प्रोफेसर अरुण कुमार की संदिग्ध हालत में मौत हो गई। आईआईटी परिसर स्थित उनके आवास सरस्वती कुंज में मंगलवार रात को उनका लहलुहान शव मिला। उनके गले और दाएं हाथ की नस कटी हुई थी। पीठ का हिस्सा भी जला हुआ था। परिजनों ने उनकी हत्या की आशंका जताई है। प्रोफेसर की पुत्री की ओर से हत्या की तहरीर दी गई है।

रुड़की में जन्मे प्रोफेसर अरुण आईआईटी परिसर के सरस्वती कुंज स्थित आवास में अकेले रहते थे। मंगलवार रात करीब पौने आठ



मिली, पीठ का हिस्सा जला था

● आईआईटी रुड़की में इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स कंप्यूटर विभाग में थे, गला-हाथ की नस कटी।

बजे उनके घर पहुंची नौकरानी घर के अंदर से धुआं निकलता देखा। अंदर जाने पर देखा तो प्रोफेसर के बिस्तर में आग लगी थी। उसने पानी डालकर आग बुझाई। इसी बीच उसकी नजर खून पर गई तो वह घबरा गई और शोर मचा दिया। आसपास के लोग घटनास्थल पर पहुंचे। पुलिस को सूचना दी गई। करीब साढ़े आठ बजे पुलिस मौके पर पहुंची।

**दूसरी पत्नी ने की
थी खुदकुशी**

प्रोफेसर अपने आवास पर अकेले रहते थे। पहली पत्नी की मौत के बाद उन्होंने दूसरी शादी की थी। दूसरी पत्नी ने खुदकुशी कर ली थी। पुलिस ने बताया कि मृतक प्रोफेसर की पहले पत्नी से उत्पन्न पुत्री गीतिका ने अज्ञात व्यक्ति के खिलाफ हत्या की तहरीर दी है।

आत्महत्या या कुछ और

बुधवार सुबह तक पुलिस इसे आत्महत्या ही मान रही थी। लेकिन सर्जिकल ब्लेड से नस काटने, गला रेतने और बिस्तर में आग लगने की घटना कुछ और ही कहानी बयां कर रही है।

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P-7

Saudi firm ties up with IITB-Monash Academy

BS REPORTER

Mumbai, 28 August

SABIC Research & Technology Private Limited (SRTPL), a division of Saudi Arabia's largest company, Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) has signed a multi-year strategic partnership agreement with the Indian-Australian IITB-Monash Research Academy.

SABIC is a Fortune 500 listed company and Saudi Arabia's second largest diversified chemical company.

"This partnership will allow both organisations to develop advanced technologies that meet global needs and demands. The scope of collaboration will extend to all of SABIC's technology and innovation centres worldwide," said a press statement.

Early this week, SABIC and IITB-Monash Research Academy joined hands to produce graduates with highly specialised knowledge required by the advanced chemicals and polymers industry.

The agreement with SABIC will fund 12 PhD students over the next four years. It builds on partnerships the academy has already established with entities including Infosys, Reliance Industries, Jindal Steel Works, P&G, Intel, Thermax, Piramal Life Sciences and Tata Consultancy Services in India, and the CSIRO, BHPB and Orica Mining Services in Australia.

Based in Mumbai, the academy was established in 2008 by Monash University and the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay. Partnerships with and exposure to industry is a key component of the innovative, transnational PhD programme. Candidates study in both India and Australia, and graduate with a jointly badged degree.