

Newspaper Clips
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Govt plays down IIT, NCERT resignations

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

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UNDER FIRE for the resignation of heads of some key educational bodies since last year, the HRD Ministry said those were "on personal reasons" and dismissed suggestions they quit because of pressure from the ministry. Since "the resignations were on personal reasons, no inquiry was called for," the ministry said in the Rajya Sabha Monday in response to a question. "Dr Anil Kakodkar (IIT Bombay) requested to be relieved of his responsibilities as chairperson but agreed to continue till end of his tenure on May 11, 2015. Prof R Shevgaonkar, director IIT Delhi, submitted his resignation due to personal reasons," the ministry said. The ministry added former NCERT director Parvin Sinclair had sought "premature repatriation" from her post on "personal grounds".

Pioneer ND 04/08/2015 P-5

Heads of educational bodies quit on personal grounds: HRD

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday clarified that the resignations of heads of some educational bodies, including IIT-Delhi, were “entirely on personal reasons” and dismissed suggestions that they stepped down because of pressure from the HRD Ministry.

In a written reply in the Rajya Sabha, HRD Minister Smriti Irani said since “the resignation were on personal reasons, no inquiry was called for”. The reply was in response to a question from the House member, Harivansh, whether the resignation of eminent persons such as Anil Kakodkar, R Shevgaonkar was due to pressure from the Ministry to appoint preferred persons.

“Dr Anil Kakodkar, chair-

person, BoG, IIT Bombay requested to be relieved from his responsibilities as chairperson but agreed to continue till end of his tenure on May 11, 2015. Prof R Shevgaonkar, Director IIT Delhi submitted his resignation due to personal reasons. The Board of Governor (BoG) of IIT Delhi desired that in the larger interest of the institute, Shevgaonkar should continue as Director. Therefore the board endorsed the resignation which was accepted on June 1, 2015,” Irani said.

The resignations of Kakodkar and Shevgaonkar had kicked off a huge controversy in academic circles amid accusations that the Ministry was interfering the academic matters of institutes of higher learning.

In regards to resignation of

former director of NCERT Parvin Sinclair, Irani said she had sought “pre-mature repatriation” from her post on “personal grounds”. She was repatriated to her parent office and relieved from NCERT on October 20, 2014.

Unconfirmed report, however, suggest a probe has been ordered against her by the Ministry. The Minister also talked about the Vice Chancellor of University of Hyderabad, saying he submitted his resignation on personal ground and demitted office on January 28, 2015.

The V-C of Assam University also submitted that he was unable to continue because of some family considerations and requested to treat the request as letter of resignation, the Minister said.

Rashtriya Sahara ND 04/08/2015 P-11

कुछ प्रख्यात शिक्षाविदों के इस्तीफे का कारण दबाव नहीं : स्मृति ईरानी

नई दिल्ली (भाषा)। शिक्षा के क्षेत्र से जुड़ी कुछ प्रख्यात हस्तियों के इस्तीफे के पीछे किसी भी तरह का दबाव होने से इनकार करते हुए मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने सोमवार को कहा कि ये त्यागपत्र पूरी तरह से निजी कारणों से दिए गए थे।

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री स्मृति ईरानी ने राज्यसभा को आईआईटी बम्बई के अध्यक्ष डॉ. अनिल काकोदकर, आईआईटी दिल्ली के निदेशक प्रो. आरके शेवगांवकर, हैदराबाद तथा असम विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपतियों और एनसीईआरटी के तत्कालीन निदेशक के इस्तीफों के बारे में पूछे गए एक प्रश्न के लिखित उत्तर में यह जानकारी दी।

प्रश्न में पूछा गया था कि क्या इन हस्तियों ने मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय के दबाव में इस्तीफा दिया है? ईरानी ने बताया कि आईआईटी बम्बई की संचालन परिषद (बीओजी) के अध्यक्ष डॉ. अनिल काकोदकर ने अपने दायित्वों से मुक्त होने का अनुरोध करते हुए अपने कार्यकाल 11 मई, 2015 तक पद पर बने रहने पर सहमति जताई थी। उन्होंने कहा कि आईआईटी दिल्ली के निदेशक प्रो.



- मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री ने कहा, अधिसंख्य ने निजी कारणों से पद छोड़ा
- त्यागपत्र पूरी तरह से निजी कारणों से दिए गए थे इसलिए किसी तरह की जांच की आवश्यकता नहीं थी
- ईरानी का इन इस्तीफों से संस्थानों की साख और स्वायत्तता पर असर पड़ने से इनकार

आरके शेवगांवकर ने निजी कारणों से इस्तीफा दिया था। हालांकि संस्थान की संचालन परिषद चाहती थी कि संस्थान के हित में प्रो शेवगांवकर पद पर बने रहें। फिर परिषद ने त्यागपत्र की पुष्टि कर दी जिसे 11 जून 2015 से स्वीकार कर लिया गया।

ईरानी ने बताया कि हैदराबाद विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति ने निजी कारणों से त्यागपत्र दिया और 28 जनवरी, 2015 को अपना पद छोड़ दिया। असम विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति ने निजी और पारिवारिक कारणों का हवाला देते हुए अपने पद पर बने रहने में असमर्थता जताई और अनुरोध किया कि उनके इस अनुरोध को

त्यागपत्र मान कर उन्हें पद मुक्त कर दिया जाए। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री ने बताया कि एनसीईआरटी के पूर्व निदेशक ने निजी कारणों की वजह से संस्थान के निदेशक के पद पर कार्यकाल पूरा होने से पहले ही मूल कार्यालय में भेजे जाने का आग्रह किया था। उन्हें 20 अक्टूबर 2014 को एनसीईआरटी से कार्यमुक्त कर उनके मूल कार्यालय में भेज दिया गया।

ईरानी ने इन इस्तीफों से संस्थानों की साख और स्वायत्तता पर असर पड़ने से इनकार करते हुए कहा कि ये त्यागपत्र पूरी तरह से निजी कारणों से दिए गए थे इसलिए किसी तरह की जांच की आवश्यकता नहीं थी।

Times of India ND 04/08/2015 P-13

IIT-R to take back all expelled students

Shivani Saxena
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Dehradun: In a turnaround that triggered massive celebrations in the IIT-Roorkee campus, the institute on Monday decided to take back all the 72 students it had expelled earlier on the grounds of poor performance. Prashant Garg, registrar at IIT-Roorkee and secretary, senate, told TOI, "All students will be re-admitted as a one-time measure, but on strict conditions."

These "conditions" entail that these students shall be put on academic probation

throughout the first year. They will have to repeat the year and maintain a minimum attendance of 75% in every subject.

"The decision by the senate has been taken in the students' favour after many deliberations," said a senior official at the institute.

Ecstatic at the reversal of the expulsion orders, Raj Maheshwari, one of the expelled students, said, "I am in Nagpur right now and I was thinking of applying to other colleges. But today's decision has brought back all of us from the lowest point of our lives."

Most of 47 boards failed to submit scores

► Continued from P1

MP Singh, coordinator of the CSAB from NIT-Patna, who was part of JoSAA 2015, said, "many of the 47 higher secondary boards in the country are not sending their scores on time to the CBSE. Keeping in mind students' interests, we will be asking the apex body to conduct admissions only on the basis of the JEE (Main) scores." The first-ever joint seat allocation process was de-

layed by a week this year as the CBSE did not get Class XII scores from all boards on time, leading to a delay in the academic session at top institutes.

Another JoSAA official said, "There were some students whose marks were higher than what they actually scored in their Class XII. Such students managed to get a seat on the basis of the 'hiked' score in the joint seat allocation process." While the CSAB will recommend the change, the joint entrance

examination apex board has also set up a sub-committee to review the process of allotting JEE (Main) ranks. When the JoSAA met after counseling closed, it also felt the need to look back at the process and fine-tune it for the next year. "We also have to keep all the state board exams in mind. In some states, the Class XII exam runs into late April and we need to give candidates a breather before they can take the competitive tests," said a former JEE chairman.

Hindu ND 04/08/2015 P-9

IIT-Palakkad starts functioning

K.A. Shaji

KOZHIPPARA (PALAKKAD): Kerala on Monday attained a prime position in the higher education map of the country when the 18th Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) started functioning from its temporary campus close to Ahalya Group of Educational Institutions here

Union Minister for Human Resources Smrithi Irani addressed the 117 students of the

first batch and their parents through video conferencing from New Delhi.

In her address, Ms Irani exhorted the student community not to confine themselves to the four walls of the campus, but to engage in activities and services beneficial to the community. She told the students to develop a social outlook besides pursuing their higher education dreams. In her brief address, the Minister reminded the student

community about the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan floated by her ministry to uplift rural India. The programme was launched last year in collaboration with the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) and the National Institutes of Technology.

The Minister urged the students to participate in the programme, which involved engaging with communities around each institute and taking up activities aimed at their uplift.

दावणगेरे में आईआईटी की मांग

दिल्ली में धरना
देगा संगठन

तिहाड़ जेल जाने के लिए
भी तैयार संगठन के
कार्यकर्ता

बेंगलूरु, प्रदेश के दावणगेरे जिले में आईआईटी की मांग पर यहां के लोग अड़ गए हैं। अब अपनी मांग को लेकर जिले के लोग दिल्ली में धरना देंगे। बासव धर्म प्रसारक संस्था के सदस्यों का कहना है कि यदि मांग पूरी नहीं होती है तो संगठन के प्रतिनिधि दिल्ली के कर्नाट प्लेस में धरना देंगे। वहां रास्ता रोका जाएगा।

संगठन का कहना है कि लोकसभा चुनाव के समय प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने वादा किया था कि यदि दावणगेरे के लोग भाजपा उम्मीदवार को जीताते हैं तो वह क्षेत्र में सोने के पंखुड़ियों वाले कमल पुष्प की बारिश करवाएंगे। जबकि चुनाव जीतने के एक वर्ष बाद भी लोग बुनियादी विकास से वंचित हैं। आरोप है कि बजट भाषण के दौरान देश के वित्त मंत्री ने प्रदेश के लिए एक आईआईटी स्थापना के लिए मंजूरी दी थी। जबकि राज्य के मुख्यमंत्री इसे मैसूरु व दूसरे प्रभावशाली मंत्री अपने-अपने क्षेत्र में स्थापित करना चाहते हैं।

कोई भी इस संस्थान की स्थापना के लिए दावणगेरे जिले का नाम नहीं ले रहा है। संगठन का कहना है कि संस्थान की स्थापना के लिए जिले में 1200 एकड़ सरकारी जमीन व अनुकूल मौसम के अलावा दूसरी कई सुविधाएं उपलब्ध हैं। इस स्थिति में यदि जिले में संस्थान की स्थापना नहीं होती है तो संगठन दिल्ली में धरना देने को बाध्य होगा।

Hindustan ND 04/08/2015 P-5

इंजीनियरिंग के लिए यूट्यूब पर क्लास

नई दिल्ली | कार्यालय संवाददाता

सीबीएसई ने 12वीं की छात्राओं को इंजीनियरिंग की तैयारी कराने के लिए यूट्यूब पर ऑनलाइन क्लास शुरू किया है। इसके साथ ही देशभर के 59 केंद्रों पर भी ऑनलाइन कक्षा शुरू की गई है। 'उड़ान' योजना के तहत इन्हें शुरू किया गया है। इतना ही नहीं, उड़ान में आवेदन करने की अंतिम तिथि 08 अगस्त तक बढ़ गई है।

छात्राएं <http://cbseacademic.in> पर आवेदन कर सकती हैं। 11वीं

और 12वीं की कुल 1000 छात्राओं को तैयारी के लिए चुना जाएगा। इसके अलावा 59 केंद्रों पर 12वीं की 429 छात्राओं ने पंजीकरण कराया है। ये कक्षाएं फरवरी 2016 तक जारी रहेंगी।

बता दें कि छात्राओं को स्कूली स्तर पर इंजीनियरिंग की तैयारी कराने के लिए सीबीएसई ने पिछले साल 'उड़ान' प्रोजेक्ट शुरू किया था। देश के बड़े इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों में छात्राओं की संख्या को बढ़ाना इसका प्रमुख मकसद है। चयनित छात्राओं की तैयारी के लिए कोई शुल्क नहीं लिया जाता है।

फीस में की जाएगी मदद

इसमें मूल्यांकन प्रणाली बनाई गई है जिसके द्वारा रिपोर्ट प्वाइंट जुड़ेंगे और आईआईटी एवं एनआईटी की फीस अदा करते वक्त उन रिपोर्ट प्वाइंट को रिडीम करके वित्तीय मदद दी जाएगी। यही नहीं, छात्राओं और उनके माता-पिता को जोड़ने के लिए बोर्ड नियमित रूप से उन्हें परामर्श देता रहेगा। अहम बात यह है कि सीबीएसई बोर्ड के अलावा अन्य राज्य बोर्ड की छात्राएं भी इस योजना में भाग ले सकती हैं।

Class XII marks may soon not count for in engineering admissions

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/Class-XII-marks-may-soon-not-count-for-in-engineering-admissions/articleshow/48335663.cms?>

MUMBAI: Students may not require their Class XII board marks for admissions to all central engineering institutes, other than IITs, from next year or by 2017, if a Central Seat Allocation Board (CSAB) recommendation is accepted by the ministry of human resource development. On the other hand, the competitive exam may be held a tad earlier next year, for authorities say that additional time is required for the admission process.

Following the delay in submission of Class XII scores by boards to the CBSE and glitches in the scores of some students during this year's admission process, the CSAB will be strongly recommending admissions only on the basis of JEE (Main) scores. It means, the 40% weightage given to Class XII scores for admissions to NITs and other GFTIs (other than IITs) may be scrapped.

The CSAB, which is part of the Joint Seat Allocation Authority (JoSAA), will be making the recommendation in this year's admission report.

M P Singh, coordinator of the Central Seat Allocation Board (CSAB) from NIT-Patna, who was part of the JoSAA 2015, said: "Many of the 47 higher secondary boards in the country are not sending their scores on time to the CBSE. Some of them are not submitting it in the pro forma given by the board, leading to discrepancies. Keeping in mind students' interests, we will be asking the apex body to conduct admissions only on the basis of the JEE (Main) scores."

The first-ever joint seat allocation process was delayed by almost a week this year as the CBSE did not get Class XII scores from all boards on time. Instead of June 25, the process began on July 1, leading to a delay in the academic session at the premier institutes.

Another JoSAA official said, "There were some students whose marks were higher than what they actually scored in their Class XII. Such students managed to get a seat on the basis of the 'hiked' score in the joint seat allocation process. This came to light only during the document-verification step, when it was too late to make changes." He added, "Though the number of such cases was not very high, some of the deserving candidates may have lost out on their merit seat due to such discrepancies."

While the CSAB, as part of their JoSAA report, will recommend the change, the Joint Entrance Examination Apex Board has also set up a sub-committee to review the process of allotting JEE (Main) ranks. Class XII scores were taken into account to calculate the JEE (Main) ranks since 2012, when the two-tier exam process (JEE Main and JEE Advanced) was introduced for the first time. After three years of implementation, the apex board will be reviewing the process introduced to control the proliferation of private coaching institutes in the country.

Ashok Misra, chairperson of the JEE Apex Board, confirmed that the sub-committee will assess the process of calculating the JEE (Main) ranks — the 60-40 weightage given to the Main and Class XII scores — and submit its report soon.

When the JoSAA met after counselling closed, it also felt the need to look back at the process and finetune it for the next year. While the online filling of institute and course choices started on July 1 this year, the committee felt that the process required an additional 15 days at least.

"For the process to be smooth, we have recommended that it be started at least 15 days before we started it this year," said JoSAA co-chairman Devang Khakhar. The entire admission process takes about a month and officials felt that if the schedule were to be spread out to 1.5 months, admissions would be smoother.

"That will mean advancing the exam by half a month. For, after the two tests (JEE Main and JEE Advanced), we also allow candidates to view their answer sheets and get their feedback, before we finally declare the results. That entire process is also spread out by a month," said another IIT director.

If the next committee advances the entire process, both JEE (Main) and JEE (Advanced) will have to be pushed back. "We also have to keep all the state board exams in mind. In some states, the Class XII exam runs into late April and we need to give candidates a breather before they can take the competitive tests," said a former JEE chairman.

JoSAA admission 2015 concludes; No Spot Round this time

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/education/story/iit-nit-admissions-end/1/455903.html>

The Joint Seat Allocation Authority 2015 (JoSAA 2015) joint admission process for 87 premier institutes including 18 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), the Indian School of Mines Dhanbad (ISM Dhanbad), 31 National Institutes of Technology (NITs), 18 Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) and 18 other Government Funded Technical Institutes (GFTIs), has now ended.

The Joint Seat Allocation Authority (JoSAA) has extended the date for the seat acceptance for the fourth round of seat allotment through Joint Engineering Examination (JEE).

The results of the fourth round of seat allotment for admissions to IITs, NITs and other technical institutes was to be declared on July 22, initially and the selected candidates had been allowed to accept or reject the seats allotted to them by July 26.

However, the authorities have decided to extend this date up till July 28.

For the academic year 2015, JoSAA will have a no spot round, according to which the seat acceptance fee for candidates who have been allotted a seat and reported in any Reporting Center (RC) will not be refunded.

The Central Seat Allocation Board (CSAB) will be taking a decision on August 5 regarding the vacant seats in the NIT system. The aspirants must visit the JoSAA website josaa.nic.in or the CSAB website csab.nic.in after August 5 for information regarding the seats.

Follow Your Dreams to Attain Success: IISc Director To Students

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/bengaluru/Follow-Your-Dreams-to-Attain-Success-IISc-Director-To-Students/2015/08/03/article2954685.ece>

BENGALURU: Students should follow their dreams to attain success in life, Indian Institute of Science director Anurag Kumar said here on Sunday.

Delivering the inaugural address to the second batch of B Tech students of PES University, Prof Kumar said, "Most successful persons have followed their own convictions which had an important role to play in their success. It is important for the students to follow their dreams." "Being a professional today, especially in the field of science and technology, requires the exploration of a huge amount of knowledge and its assimilation by personal practice and experience. In the modern competitive world, the top echelons of any profession are only for the dedicated and the hard working few," he told the students.

He said while the students' dreams or convictions might suggest one course, the advice from well-wishers might dictate an alternative course. "Though the dream road is full of thorns, one should not forget that your hard work will yield good results," he said.

Speaking about the proposed IIT for the state, PES University president M R Doreswamy and former MLC said, "As the state government is still thinking about a place to establish the IIT, I appeal to the state to establish it in a place near Bengaluru. It may be Chikkaballapura or Mysuru."

IISc team wins Google award for innovation

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/493227/iisc-team-wins-google-award.html>

A team of researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) won the Google Pitch Fest in Zurich for their innovation – a waste-water filtration technique.

The system can transform highly contaminated water into clean water with zero wastage of water. It is especially of use to people with limited access to resources such as in remote areas, those stuck in disaster hit areas and armies that usually operate in such conditions.

Developed by Dr Sanjiv Sambandan of the Flexible Electronics Lab, Department of Instrumentation and Applied Physics and his team, the technology is membrane-less, chemical-free and scalable from a hand-held water bottle to a large community-based system.

The mechanism

An electric field is used to polarise tiny impurities and cluster them into larger chunks. These can then be removed by low cost meshes which can be cleaned and re-used. With just 100 MW of power needed for purifying one litre of very poor quality water, the system is highly efficient. This implies that the hand-held bottle purifier can be powered by a hand crank, battery or solar cell.

“The motivation was that clean water be available to people in the remotest areas and that the solution be inexpensive and almost maintenance free,” said Sanjiv.

His team had earlier won the Gandhian Young Innovator Award in 2013 for building a blueprint of the filtration system on a printed circuit board that could purify 1 microliter of water in a minute.

Although far from a usable product, a proof of concept was established.

Until now, the project was funded by various centres at IISc – Division of Physical and Mathematical Sciences, Robert Bosch Centre for Cyber Physical Systems, Centre for Infrastructure, Sustainable Transport and Urban Planning. The team is however looking at finding more sources of funding and manufacturing partners so that it can be made into a commercial product.

IIM-A director meets Gadkari, tender apology

<http://www.nagpurtoday.in/iim-a-director-meets-gadkari-tender-apology/08030630>

Nagpur: IIM-A director meets Gadkari After the IIM-Nagpur inauguration invitation fiasco, director of IIM-Ahmadabad Prof Ashish Nanda met union minister Nitin Gadkari personally at his residence and tendered apology, said sources. Prof Nanda had earlier sent a letter of apology to the minister on the issue.

Gadkari had played a major role in bringing the first IIM in Nagpur. However, during the inauguration of the programme, the invitation of the programme was not properly prepared as per the protocols and sent to the minister. Gadkari had not attended the inauguration programme.

Following this, the director of IIM-A Prof Nanda personally met Gadkari and tendered an apology for the incident. During the meeting, he also briefed Gadkari about the IIM-N and requested him to visit the IIM-N campus.

IISC announces GATE 2016 exam dates: Check out other important details

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/education/story/gate-2016/1/455882.html>

IISC has announced the exam dates for GATE (Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering) 2016. The exam is expected to take place on January 30 till February 7 next year. IISC, Bangalore conducts the exam to provide admission to students in Master of Engineering degree programs. The score obtained in GATE 2016 will be valid for a period of three years only from the date of announcement of results.

GATE 2016 will be jointly administered by the IISc and seven IIT's namely Mumbai, Delhi, Kanpur, Roorkee, Madras, Kharagpur, Guwahati.

From September 1, the online registration for GATE will commence and the last date for online filling of forms is October 1.

The syllabi for GATE 2016 papers have been revised and differs from those of GATE 2015. Earlier there were total 22 papers, but now after the introduction of a new stream namely, Petroleum Engineering (PE) the total number of papers is 23. The duration of the examination will be 3 hours. There will be 65 questions and maximum marks will be 100. The examination will be an online computer based test (CBT), which will contain multiple choice questions (MCQ).

One change that has been introduced this year is that now an online virtual calculator will be provided to all examinees during the examination, whereas earlier students used to get their own calculators.

The candidates can download their admit cards from the official website of GATE 2016.

Eligibility criteria

The candidates should have passed B.E./B.Tech/B.Arch/B.Pharma and M.Sc/M.A./MCA and Int M.E./M.Tech or dual degree and Int M.E./M.Tech (Post B.Sc) and professional society examinations (equivalent to B.E/B.Tech/B.Arch) with good marks from any recognized university.

Application process

The candidates can apply online by visiting to the official website of GATE Exam.

Important dates

The registration for GATE 2016 will commence from September 1

The last date for submission of online application is October 1