

## Newspaper Clips

December 3, 2014

Hindustan Times ND 03/12/2014

P-3

# Delhi's air worsens in winter, says new study

**Prasun Sonwalkar**

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**LONDON:** As the chill sets in, a quantitative analysis of particulate matter (PM) in Delhi has highlighted the fact that city residents are being exposed to significantly higher levels of air pollutants during winter than in summer, researchers from US, UK and India said.

The largest public health impact from air pollution is due to exposure to particulate matter - very fine dust floating in the air.

Researchers from the University of Birmingham, the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi (IIT-Delhi), the Central Road Research Institute, and the Desert Research Institute of the USA have been collaborating to provide key scientific evidence in this area.

Air samples were collected in June 2013 (summer) and December 2013-January 2014 (winter) near the busy Mathura

Road where the already high air pollution levels are aggravated by industrial emissions from the nearby Okhla Industrial Area.

The researchers found that an average 12-hour PM 2.5 concentrations in winter were significantly higher than the 24-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard in India (60 µg/m<sup>3</sup>). PM2.5 are fine particles, less than 2.5mm in diameter.

These particles can penetrate the respiratory system and can cause irreversible damage.

Several harmful components, including lead, zinc and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, were found in high concentrations in the air during winter. Roy M. Harrison from the School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Birmingham, said, "Cost-effective abatement measures depend upon the quantitative knowledge of the contributions of different sources in the atmosphere."

# Transport min says ban unfair on owners

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**New Delhi:** The road transport ministry on Tuesday expressed its reservation on a complete ban on plying of private vehicles in Delhi, which are over 15 years old, even if they are complying with permitted pollution norms. Presenting the latest findings of a study by IIT (Delhi) for UN Environment Programme before the National Green Tribunal, the ministry suggested that having a stringent fitness test regime and pollution check is a better option rather than going for a blanket ban.

"We will give a written submission to the tribunal detailing our views and suggestions.

Our representative who was at the meeting called by NGT has suggested that the focus should be on to introduce BS-V fuel from the present BS-IV norm. Simply forcing all over 15 years old vehicles that are well maintained and less polluting will be like pushing law abiding citizens," a ministry official said.

He added the city government can introduce congestion tax on certain stretches and that revenue can be utilized to improve public transport in that locality while improving enforcement against polluting vehicles.

The study for the UN agency in June this year showed that on average, less than one

## ALTERNATIVE VIEW

**IIT-Delhi study for UNEP (June 2014) says over two-thirds of cars and motorized two-wheelers in 3 cities – Delhi, Visakhapatnam & Rajkot – are less than 5 years old**

### CAPITAL FINDINGS

Age of	Cars	Two-wheelers
15+ yrs	1%	1%
11-15 yrs	3%	3%
6-10 yrs	26%	23%
0-5 yrs	68%	73%

The findings based on vehicles reporting at fuel station and pollution checking centres

percent cars which are over 15 years old are plying on Delhi roads. The findings were same for two-wheelers. The findings were based on vehicles reporting at fuel stations and pollu-

tion checking centres. While the sample size for cars was 2,231, it was 1,570 in the case of two-wheelers. The survey found that the average age of cars on road was 4.4 years and

the average age of two-wheelers was 4.7 years.

The study also covered two other cities – Visakhapatnam and Rajkot – and the findings were not much different.

Referring to a study conducted by central roads research institute (CRRI) in 2007, the report has mentioned how the vehicle registration date in Indian cities is an over-estimation of the actual number of vehicles plying. This is because private vehicle owners pay a life time tax on the purchase of the vehicle and don't have to register their vehicle annually. "It appears that most vehicles are not taken off the official register once they are retired," the report says.

Hindu ND 03.12.14 P-11

# 40 p.c. faculty posts vacant in Central varsities

Rukmini S.

**NEW DELHI:** India is staring at a mammoth faculty vacancy in its elite higher education institutions, the latest official data has revealed.

Faculty vacancy in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) was 40 per cent as of July this year, most acute in Varanasi, Roorkee (above 50 per cent), Kharagpur and Delhi. Vacancies were highest for OBC faculty.

In the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), faculty vacancies stood at over 20 per cent, highest in Indore (52 per cent) and Ranchi (48 per cent).

"Yes, vacancies exist and aren't desirable, and we are dealing with it," Indranil Manna, Director of IIT

## SEVERE CRUNCH

THE COUNTRY'S ELITE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS ARE FACING ACUTE STAFF SHORTAGE



A class in progress at IIT Kharagpur. — Photo: Arunangsu Roy Chowdhury

University	Sanctioned posts	Vacant posts
1. Central Universities	16,114	6,023
2. University of Delhi	1,706	902
3. Central University of T.N.	151	122
4. IITs	6,653	2,566
5. IIMs	766	168



Source: HRD Ministry (as of July 2014)

Kanpur, told *The Hindu*. "It's a long process and we don't want any compromises with quality," he said. In certain disciplines, the pool of qualified persons from whom to hire was simply

not large enough, he added.

Forty per cent of the faculty positions in the 39 Central universities across the country are also vacant, the situation being more acute in the newer central univer-

sities. Over half of all faculty positions in Delhi University are vacant, and over 80 per cent of all professor, associate professor and assistant professor positions in the new Central university of Tamil Nadu are vacant.

The new numbers were submitted to the Rajya Sabha by Human Resource Development Minister Smriti Irani on Monday, in response to a question by Avinash Khanna, BJP MP from Punjab.

Contract, adjunct and visiting faculty as well as "using the online mode of teaching" were being pressed in to overcome these shortages, she said. The age of superannuation had been raised and faculty were being encouraged to undertake consultancy.

Times Of India ND 03/12/2014

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# Women rule the roost at IIT placements

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai/Delhi/Chennai/Kolkata/Guwahati:** A woman was among three students who bagged the highest package at the premier IIT-Bombay on the first day of the placement season.

In fact, two women are among the five students Facebook has hired this year from the campus. This includes those hired during the pre-placement process. At IIT-Kharagpur too, a woman was among the three, who got top deals. Most of the students, who bagged premium packages, are into coding.

Around Rs 1.42 crore was the highest package offered this year to an IIT student. IIT computer science students usually bag top offers. But the number of woman in this field is always less. "This is the main reason why lesser numbers of girls manage to get top deals. This year, we have only five girls in the batch and most of them managed to get a good deal," said Deepali Adlakha, who got a position at San Francisco.

Shree Meghana Thotakuri, who bagged an offer from Google, got a base package of Rs 65 lakh similar to that of Facebook, plus joining bonus and other benefits.

At IIT-Delhi, women have done

far better this year than 2013. "Many more got placed on day one this year. About 15-20 women got offers, about a quarter of total number of women in our batch," said a student.

More offers poured in on the first two days of placements at IITs this year, compared to last year. At IIT-Madras, the numbers went up from last year's 95 on day one to 158 this year, said placement coordinator Babu Vishwanathan.

The highest offer made at Madras was around Rs 80 lakh.

At IIT-Roorkee, four students bagged offers from Google, Oracle and Microsoft, offering competitive packages, claimed coordinator Kunal Punjabi. At IIT-Bombay, the number of day one offers went up from 182 to 215 this year, including pre-placement offers. By the end of the second day, the numbers of offers made were estimated to be around 350. Flipkart dominated the second day of placements at IIT-Madras with 19 offers to the students, after Citicorp Services (18), EXL (16) and Goldman Sachs (13).

Twenty seven companies made 163 offers on day one of placement season at IIT-Kharagpur with Rs 42 lakh being the highest offered domestic package. The highest salary offered at IIT-Guwahati was over Rs 74 lakh.

# आईआईटी छात्र को 1.55 करोड़ का पैकेज

फेसबुक के बाद सैमसंग ने दिया सबसे बड़ा पैकेज, घरेलू पोस्टिंग के लिए सबसे ज्यादा पैकेज 42 लाख का

एजेंसी | नई दिल्ली

देश में आईआईटी प्लेसमेंट सीजन की शुरुआत रिकॉर्ड पैकेज के साथ हुई है। सोशल नेटवर्किंग साइट फेसबुक ने आईआईटी खड़गपुर के एक छात्र को 1.55 करोड़ रुपए (2.5 लाख डॉलर) का पैकेज दिया है। यह ऑफर कैलिफोर्निया में पोस्टिंग के लिए है। खड़गपुर में फेसबुक के बाद सबसे बड़ा पैकेज सैमसंग ने 93 लाख का दिया है। वीजा ने 87 लाख, माइक्रोसॉफ्ट ने 80 लाख, ओरेकल ने 78 लाख (इसोप अलग) और गूगल ने 78 लाख का ऑफर दिया है। यहां अभी तक 30 से ज्यादा कंपनियां आ चुकी हैं। घरेलू पोस्टिंग के लिए सबसे ज्यादा पैकेज 42 लाख का है। संस्थान को पहले 20 दिन में 1,200 प्लेसमेंट की उम्मीद है। पिछले साल यह संख्या 1,000 थी।

## दो चरणों में प्लेसमेंट



देश के सभी आईआईटी में 1 दिसंबर से फाइनल प्लेसमेंट की शुरुआत हुई है। यह दो चरणों में पूरा होगा। पहला चरण 24 दिसंबर तक चलेगा। दूसरा चरण जनवरी में होगा। जैसे ज्यादातर प्रमुख कंपनियां दिसंबर के पहले-दूसरे हफ्ते ही आती हैं। ज्यादा पैकेज और डिमांड वाली कंपनियों को शुरुआती दिनों में स्लॉट दिया जाता है।

## आईआईटी कानपुर में सबसे बड़ा ऑफर 93 लाख का

आईआईटी कानपुर में भी अब तक सबसे बड़ा ऑफर पिछले साल से 36 फीसदी ज्यादा, 93 लाख का है। आईआईटी मद्रास में अभी तक विदेश के लिए 80 लाख और घरेलू प्लेसमेंट के लिए 30 लाख रुपए तक का पैकेज दिया गया है। पहले दिन गोल्डमैन सैक्स ने सबसे ज्यादा 13 ऑफर दिए। सैमसंग, वीजा और माइक्रोसॉफ्ट ने सात-सात छात्रों को ऑफर लेटर दिया। आईआईटी बीएचयू में सबसे बड़ा पैकेज 77.5 लाख रुपए का है। यह पिछले साल से 19 फीसदी ज्यादा है।

## जॉब मार्केट

- घरेलू जॉब के लिए पिछले साल से 20 फीसदी तक ज्यादा पैकेज
- ग्लोबल ऑफर पिछले साल के मुकाबले 30 फीसदी तक अधिक
- नौकरियों के ऑफर भी 15 से 20 फीसदी ज्यादा

## पिछला सबसे बड़ा पैकेज

- 1.54 करोड़ का पैकेज दिया था 2013 में गूगल ने आईआईटी रुड़की के चार छात्रों को।
- आईआईएम भी कम नहीं
- 1.6 करोड़ का पैकेज 2010 में आईआईएम कोलकाता के एक छात्र को मिला था।
- 1.5 करोड़ का पैकेज 2011 में आईआईएम अहमदाबाद के छात्र को दिया डॉयचे बैंक ने।

प्रतिभा का सम्मान } दुनिया की नामी कंपनियों ने सालाना पैकेज की राशि बढ़ाई

# आईआईटी छात्रों की बल्ले-बल्ले

■ दिल्ली के छात्र को 93 लाख और कानपुर के छात्र को 60 लाख के पैकेज का प्रस्ताव

कोलकाता, नई दिल्ली, खड़गपुर.

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भारतीय तकनीकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) के छात्रों पर आईआईटी कंपनियां एक बार फिर मेहरबान दिखीं। आईआईटी खड़गपुर के एक छात्र को लगभग 1.50 करोड़ रुपए वार्षिक वेतन की पेशकश की गई है। वहीं आईआईटी दिल्ली के एक छात्र को 93 लाख और आईआईटी कानपुर के एक छात्र को 60 लाख



रुपए वार्षिक पैकेज का प्रस्ताव किया गया है। खड़गपुर के छात्र को डेढ़ करोड़ रुपए की दी गई पेशकश परिसर से प्लेसमेंट में आईआईटी के छात्रों को दिए जाने वाले सबसे अधिक वेतनमानों में से एक है। इस बार आईआईटी प्लेसमेंट में 20 फीसदी का इजाफा देखा जा रहा है।

## 27 कंपनियां आई

आईआईटी खड़गपुर के अधिकारियों के अनुसार सोमवार को कैम्पस प्लेसमेंट के पहले दिन 27 कंपनियां आई और 163 छात्रों को नौकरी की पेशकश की है। घरेलू पैकेज में सबसे अधिक 42 लाख रुपए का पैकेज है और विदेशी कंपनियों में सबसे अधिक पैकेज 2.50 लाख अमेरिकी डॉलर (एक करोड़ 54 लाख रुपए) का दिया गया है। आईआईटी के अधिकारियों ने छात्र और कंपनी की पहचान जाहिर करने से मना कर दिया है।

## 153 को नौकरी के ऑफर लेटर

आईआईटी कानपुर में प्लेसमेंट के पहले दिन ही बीटेक, बीटेक इयूरल डिग्री और एमटेक के 153 छात्र-छात्राओं को नौकरी के प्रस्ताव-पत्र मिले और अधिकतम वार्षिक वेतन 60 लाख रुपए तक गया। आईआईटी प्रशासन के अनुसार अधिकतर छात्रों का वेतन पैकेज 45 से 60 लाख रुपए वार्षिक तक का है। प्लेसमेंट के लिए 50 कंपनियां आई हैं।

## सैमसंग ने दिया 93 लाख का पैकेज

आईआईटी दिल्ली के कंप्यूटर साइंस के एक छात्र को सैमसंग कोरिया ने 93 लाख रुपए का वार्षिक वेतन पैकेज में चुना है। इसके अलावा एक अन्य छात्रों को फेसबुक कंपनी ने 71 लाख रुपए का सालाना पैकेज दिया। संस्थान ने फिलहाल इन छात्रों के नाम सार्वजनिक नहीं किए हैं। यह साफ नहीं है कि कंपनी भारत में काम कराएगी या विदेश में।

**Changing Trend** Over 10% of IIT graduates this year likely to join new-generation cos

# At IITs, Startups & Ecomm Play Pied Piper for Grads

Sreeradha D Basu & Devina Sengupta

**Mumbai:** At least one in every 9 students graduating from the 2015 batch across IITs is likely to join an ecomm firm/startup.

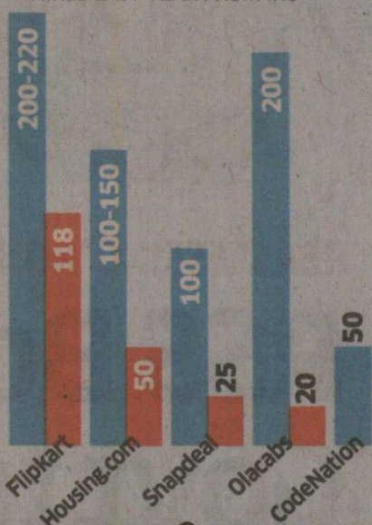
Data collated on Tuesday (day 2 of placement season) from prominent recruiters as well as campus placement cells at many IITs suggests that e-commerce firms/startups will roll out a minimum of 1,000-1,200 offers during the next 3-4 months of placements.

**Flipkart, OlaCabs, Snapdeal and Housing.com alone will make around 670 offers at IIT campuses**

About 9,000 students will graduate out of 16 IITs this year. Four big players — Flipkart (200-220), OlaCabs (200), Snapdeal (100-plus) and Housing.com (100-150) — alone will make around 670 offers at IIT campuses. These four companies hired only 213 grads last year — a 215% increase this year. A combination of the hectic startup activity — an estimated 800 ventures launched every year — and billions of dollars pumped into consumer Internet ventures from big names like Tiger Global and

## Hiring Math

● PLANNED HIRING FROM IITs THIS YEAR  
● HIRES LAST YEAR FROM IITs



**Hectic startup activity and billions of dollars pumped into consumer internet cos have led to the hiring surge**

SoftBank have contributed to this huge surge in hiring.

“Our growth plans are so aggressive that we need top talent to drive growth. Our hiring plans are a function of the pace at which we are growing,” said Saurabh Nigam, VP-HR, Snapdeal.

**Maximum Salary of ₹24 Lakh >> 14**

## Maximum Salary of ₹24 lakh

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Snapdeal has quadrupled its hiring targets from the IITs this year.

Ola is visiting the IITs at Delhi, Kanpur, Madras and Bombay and plans a 10-fold hiring increase from year last. “We are expanding aggressively into newer cities and going deeper in cities we are already present. Continuous influx of great talent can help us grow faster and smarter,” Anand Subramanian, director - marketing communication, said.

Several other startups, including CodeNation, TaxiForSure, Indus Insights, LimeRoad, Knowlarity Communications, Fuzzy Logix, Vizury and BrowserStack among others, are planning to hire anywhere between 10 and 50 students each across IITs. “Students are excited by these companies, for their work culture, the independence and even the compensation structure,” says Parth Vaswani, overall placement coordinator, IIT-Kanpur. “For many, they probably rank right behind the software sector in terms of the pecking order,” he says.

Several of these companies also recruit for IT-software roles. Vaswani expects at least 150 such offers this year compared to 60-odd last year.

At IIT-Bombay, around 60-70 companies — almost 20% of the total that have signed up so far — fall in the ecommerce/startup bracket.

Students rate these companies highly, which is why several of them get slotted in the first few days of campus placement, Mohak Mehta, B.Tech student representative for IIT-Bombay said.

Across IITs, these ecommerce/startup companies are hiring across a variety of roles for salaries that range between Rs 10-18 lakh, going up to a maximum of ₹24 lakh from the likes of CodeNation.

# Flipkart recruits 19 from IIT-Madras

**BS REPORTER**

Chennai, 2 December

The second day of the placement season at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) - Madras on Tuesday saw e-commerce major Flipkart Internet Pvt Ltd recruiting 19 students — the highest offer so far this season. Citigroup firm Citicorp Services came in second with 18 job offers.

A total of 77 students were placed on Tuesday during the forenoon session. In all, as many as 235 IIT-Madras students were selected by various companies.

Eaton Technologies offered jobs to 14 students, while Intel Technology picked nine students. Inasra Technologies (Stayzilla.com) offered jobs to three students during the day. Students who

received offer letters from one company were not eligible to attend another interview.

On Monday, a total of 158 job offers had been made between the forenoon, afternoon and the graveyard sessions. Sixty-four students were selected by multinational companies, both foreign and Indian. Investment banker Goldman Sachs hired 13 students on Monday, becoming the top recruiter on Day-1.

Day-1's afternoon session on Monday witnessed 77 job offers being issued, while the graveyard session, conducted from midnight to 6 am, saw 17 job offers being handed over.

The number of companies registered to attend the campus recruitment at IIT-Madras this year has doubled, while the number of students opting for placement has come down from last year, according to an

announcement by the IIT.

Samsung R&D Institute India, Bengaluru, came in second on Day-1 in issuing offer letters. It offered eight jobs, while Visa Inc and Microsoft offered seven jobs each and Shell India Markets recruited six students. ITC offered jobs to five students, The Boston Consulting Group to four, McKinsey & Company, Xerox Research Centre India and IBM Research India to three each and Auctus Advisors and Hindustan Unilever to two each. Works Applications Japan recruited one student.

During Day-1's graveyard session, which is in tune with the day time in the US, Google offered jobs to four students and Microsoft to three; Services Now Software Development India, Visa Inc and Cisco systems recruited one student each.

## *IIT-Kharagpur student gets Rs 1.5-cr offer*

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
KOLKATA, DECEMBER 2

IN ONE of the fattest pay packages offered to an IITian ever in campus placements, a student of IIT-Kharagpur has been offered a whopping annual salary of over Rs 1.5 crore.

IIT-Kharagpur officials said the salary package was among the 163 offers made by 27 visiting companies Monday on the first day of campus placements. The highest domestic package was of Rs 42 lakh and highest offer from abroad was of US\$ 250,000 (Rs 1.54 crore), the officials said.

The IIT authorities have refused to disclose details about the student or the company which made the offer, saying "this brings unnecessary attention to the student".

IIT sources claimed that the 1.54 crore offer is the highest ever package received by the Kharagpur unit and among the largest ever in all IITs.

The highest number of offers (24) was made by niche analytics consulting company EXL Service Pvt Ltd due to growth induced demand, followed by international brands like VISA, Goldman Sachs, Credit Suisse, Cisco, Microsoft IDC. Analytics, IT and Finance are leading so far. The first time visitors — Parthenon, TSMC, BMGI, VISA, Baker Hughes and Auctus Advisors — also gave an encouraging response.

# Housing.com hires 120 IITians to build tech platform

**KV KURMANATH**

Hyderabad, December 2

Property portal Housing.com, launched in 2012 by a group of IIT-Bombay graduates, was in the thick of things on Day One of the placements at India's premier engineering institutes, adding another 120 IITians to its rolls.

With this, the total number of IITians working in the firm will rise to 300 or a fifth of its total headcount.

Speaking to *BusinessLine*, Founder Advitiya Sharma, said that Housing.com was the only start-up to get a day one hiring slot at the five IITs.

So, why do they need so many IITians? "We are build-

ing a technology platform that will make life easier for people when they buy homes," Sharma told *BusinessLine*.

Flush with funds and on the verge of tying up more, the Mumbai-based firm is aiming to change the way people buy homes, by wooing them online.

Housing.com, which has the rights for an exclusive pre-launch offer of Tata Value Homes, sees huge potential for online home sales as they reduce hassles for buyers.

The start-up, which has raised \$25 million in funding so far, is in the process of closing a deal with Soft Bank for a multi-million dollar in-



vestment. The company will utilise the funds to expand its presence to 300 cities in the next 12 months, from 45 cities now. It will also diversify into different areas within

the housing sector. Housing.com recently launched a home-loan optimisation plan that helps in reducing the interest burden on home buyers while increasing the

loan disbursements of banks.

"The home loan disbursement market is valued at ₹20,000 crore a month in India. We have talked to about 20 banks that take a majority of these loans and 12 of them have liked the idea," he said.

"We will help tweak the loan amount for customers who would otherwise have postponed their buying decision. As for banks, if they tweak things they can increase their loan portfolio," he said.

The firm, which also offers online rental search services, has launched a rental agreement tool that helps users complete the lease process quickly.



## Self-publishing flips a new page via social media

New breed of writers capitalising on digital boom and e-books

DEEPA NAIR

Mumbai, December 2

IITians Saransh Garg and Sankalp Kelshikar wanted to capture their learnings on landing plush consulting jobs in a book, which they decided to self-publish.

And the decision is paying off. Their book, *Case Interviews Cracked*, launched on Facebook received 50 downloads in the first two hours. They have since got about 900 unique downloads and many more readers have shared the book on social networking sites. This, then, is the world of self-publishing that does away with the need to deal with the traditional, sceptical, and mighty publishers.

Increasingly, a new breed of writers is taking the self-

publishing route, capitalising on the digital boom and spread of e-books.

**Amazon's platform**  
E-commerce giant Amazon is very excited by the response that the company is seeing from authors based in India. For instance, in 2013, Amazon's self-publishing platform, Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) had over 20 KDP titles in the top 100 Kindle list.

Rasana Atreya, one of those who published on KDP, decided to decline a traditional publishing contract when her manuscript *Tell A*



DANIILANTIQ/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

*Thousand Lies* was short-listed for the 2012 Tibor Jones South Asia prize.

Explaining her decision, Atreya said, "Self-publishing enables you to take charge of your own marketing and promotion. Since I control the price of my own books, I

was able to quickly reduce the price and take part in the promotion."

She has since published many books on this platform. Incidentally, self-publishers can make up to 70 per cent from royalties as opposed to 5-20 per cent from traditional publishing.

### Global reader base

Garg and Kelshikar feel the Amazon KDP platform has helped them in getting a potentially global reader base. Their book has been downloaded by students from the IIMs, NITs, VIT and also those studying in Ivy League schools in the US.

Sandeep Sengupta, Co-founder of eBooksutra.com which plans to launch next

year, said the company has been getting at least 15 books a month from budding writers just through its social media presence.

### Catching up in India

Sengupta feels that while in China some of the best-selling authors are found in self-publishing sites, India is bound to catch up in the next five years with more people buying smartphones and tablets.

Naheed Hassan, Founder of Indireads.com, digital-first publisher of South Asian books feels that the biggest challenge to self-publishing is quality with a large number of books flooding the market.

Hassan feels that if self-publishing is to continue to play a role in publishing, the quality of books being self-published will have to go up considerably.

## Do B-schools prefer engineering grads?

**Q.** I am a student of BSc final year and science has been my favourite subject. But when I think about my career course I get very attracted to master's in business management as MBA graduates draw fancy salaries in MNCs. This is the reason that I am preparing for CAT and would like to join a B-school after graduation. But many of my friends have told me that good B-schools as well as IIMs prefer engineering graduates and even the recruiters prefer them, so my chances of getting into a top B-school are very little. How far is this true? — AMOL KUMAR

**A.** Let me tell you that the admission committees at IIMs or good private B-schools do not have a bias for engineering students

While it is true, that an overwhelming majority of those selected to MBA and PGDM programmes at leading B-schools are engineers, this does not reflect a selection bias on part of the admission committees. In fact, IIMs and other leading B-schools actually want to increase the percentage of non-engineering students in their classes. Short-listing for the Group Discussion and Personal interview is done solely on the basis of your management entrance test score (CAT, XAT, CMAT) and marks in Class XII and graduation.



Actually engineers by virtue of their comfort with numbers do tend to do well on the mathematical and logical part of these entrance tests. Though, they also struggle with the Reading Comprehension. As far as recruitment is concerned, it is true that some companies do tend to prefer engineers. This is especially true when it comes to recruiting students in areas of operations and finance, as the numerical and analytical skills possessed by engineering students make them ideally suited.

Companies want to recruit the best talent that they think will deliver results for them. Several companies do not distinguish between engineers and non-engineers and instead look at academic performance before and during the MBA programme and also conduct their own assessments tailored to their needs.

So, if you have your heart set on a top-notch MBA put aside all these "excuses" and half-truths and get cracking on your preparation in earnest. Remember; the harder you work the luckier you get!

## Hindustan Times ND 03/12/2014 P-10

### IIT-Kanpur student in finals of Mars One Univ challenge

**NEW DELHI:** A project proposal by a student of IIT Kanpur has made it among ten Mars One University Competition finalists eligible to send their payload to Mars. One of these 10 payloads will receive the opportunity to fly on Mars One's first unmanned Lander mission to Mars in 2018. Kartikay Tehlan of IIT Kanpur had submitted a proposal called photo electro chemical reduction of carbon dioxide. The process, Kartikay said, is beneficial in converting the usable carbon dioxide of Mars to provide different fuel sources.

## Veer Arjun ND 03/12/2014 P-2

# क्षितिज, आईआईटी खड़गपुर का वार्षिक प्रबंधन उत्सव 30 जनवरी से

**वीर अर्जुन संवाददाता**

नई दिल्ली। क्षितिज, आईआईटी खड़गपुर का वार्षिक प्रौद्योगिक प्रबंधन उत्सव, अपनी अद्वितीय महिमा, बेजोड़ प्रतिभा और सर्वश्रेष्ठ ज्ञान से पूर्ण प्रतियोगिताओं के लिए लोकप्रिय है। इस साल यह 30 जनवरी से 2 फरवरी तक होगा। 2004 में स्थापित होने के बाद से ही क्षितिज निरंतर उंचाइयों को छूता रहा है और अभी एशिया का सबसे बड़ा प्रौद्योगिक प्रबंधन उत्सव है। क्षितिज का प्रभुत्व इसके यूनेस्को से प्राप्त संरक्षण से ही साबित होता है। क्षितिज सतत ही क्षेत्रों को एक अच्छा अनुभव प्रदान करने एवं ऐसी प्रतियोगिताएं, अतिथि व्याख्यान कराने में प्रयासरत है जहां से छात्र बहुत कुछ सीख कर जाएं।

इस उत्सव में संक्षेप में कहें तो प्रतियोगिताएं, अतिथि व्याख्यान, कार्यशालाएं और प्रदर्शनियां होती हैं। क्षितिज के पिछले संस्करणों पर नजर

डालें तो यह पता पड़ता है कि इसकी प्रतियोगिताएं प्रतिष्ठित संस्थानों द्वारा प्रमाणित होती हैं। साथ ही कई ऑनलाइन प्रतियोगिताएं भी होती हैं जो क्षितिज से काफी पहले ही शुरू हो जाती हैं।

इनके साथ ही क्षितिज हर साल कई नामी हस्तियों को आमंत्रित करता है जो कि छात्रों के साथ अपनी उपलब्धियों और अनुभवों के बारे में बात करते हैं। पिछले सालों की ऐसी ही कुछ हस्तियां हैं श्री नवाजुद्दीन सिद्दीकी, श्री नसीरुद्दीन शाह, श्री अजय भट्ट, श्री जिमी वेल्स, श्री प्रभु चावला, श्री राकेश शर्मा आदि। इसके अलावा मुफ्त कार्यशालाएं भी होती हैं जो कि बड़ी-बड़ी कंपनियों द्वारा आयोजित कराई जाती हैं और प्रमाणित भी होती हैं। इन सब के साथ ही प्रदर्शनियां भी होती हैं जो छात्रों की दुनिया के नए खोजों और आविष्कारों से परिचित करती है।

## Curtains down on IIM-Indore Dubai campus

[Ashish Gaur](#),TNN | Dec 2, 2014, 04.28 PM IST

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/indore/Curtains-down-on-IIM-Indore-Dubai-campus/articleshow/45348233.cms>

Indore: The only Indian Institute of Management, IIM-Indore, to have an international campus at Dubai has decided to shut its operations due to regulatory issues with the counterpart government.

After suspending admissions of 2014-16 post-graduate programme (PGP) batch at Dubai campus, IIM-Indore has now cancelled admissions for 2015-17 batch, signalling the institute will no longer have its international campus at Dubai.

IIM-I was the only institute in its league to have a foreign campus so far. Reasons for closing its international branch are unforeseen as institute administration is skeptical in stating the reason behind the move.

Public relation officer, IIM-Indore, Akhtar Parvez told TOI, "Admissions to 2015-17 batch in Dubai campus has been cancelled due to unforeseen reasons. Reasons to run campus in Dubai are beyond control of IIM-Indore after which the decision has been taken."

Though institute has cited unforeseen reason behind suspension of the courses, sources attributed it to poor batch strength and technical problems including license and accreditation to run the course in Dubai.

The institute administration in September 2014 had sent e-mails to candidates shortlisted for personal interview session informing them about the decision to suspend admissions of 2014-16 batch. Interviews for final selection for PGP 2014-16 batch were scheduled in August-mid but were cancelled and now IIM-I has officially announced to cancel admission for the programme for the next session as well. Institute administration in September said that 2014-16 batch has been suspended for a couple of months, however, interviews were later cancelled.

The institute had invited application for admission to the 2014-16 batch in July with application fees of Rs 1,000 for CAT qualifiers and \$250 for GMAT qualifiers.

The institute ran PGP course for three successful years in Dubai. PGP, Dubai was started in 2011 from Ras Al Khaimah, UAE with a low batch strength. Last year the administration shifted its campus in Dubai due to better industrial and job atmosphere.

## IIM-Visakhapatnam deal to be sealed on December 6?

[Venkatesh Bayya](#),TNN | Dec 2, 2014, 12.21 PM IST

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/visakhapatnam/IIM-Visakhapatnam-deal-to-be-sealed-on-December-6/articleshow/45345246.cms>

VISAKHAPATNAM: The Port City's dreams of housing an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) seem to be inching closer to reality with an IIM Bangalore bigwig expected to arrive in the city on December 6 to tie up things with Andhra University (AU) that will play host to IIM-Visakhapatnam till 2016.

According to sources, IIM-B will be taking the responsibility of running IIM-Visakhapatnam at least for the first two years

and faculty members will be brought in from there initially to get the institute started. In fact, AU sources, who have been in touch with the staff and management of IIM-Bangalore, said that when IIM aspirants appear for the CAT (common admission test) later this month, they would have an extra option to choose IIM-Visakhapatnam. Highly placed sources in the district collectorate also made it clear that the team to identify a viable location for IIM-Visakhapatnam that visited the Port City barely a month ago, was quite happy with the 410-acre site shown to them at Gambhiram.

"The committee appointed by the Union government asked for 250 acres of plain land. However, we showed them a 290-acre hillock land and another 120 acres close to the Gambhiram reservoir," confirmed district collector Dr N Yuvaraj. Stating that the members of the committee have more or less acquiesced to the Gambhiram site, the collector said the director of IIM-Bangalore would be coming down to Visakhapatnam on December 6 to finalise things with the AU top brass as far as the temporary accommodation was concerned.

Confirming that the top IIM-B official was indeed arriving in Visakhapatnam on December 6, AU registrar Professor K Rama Mohan Rao said: "The IIM Bangalore professor is coming on December 6 to finalise the deal with AU, which will house the IIM till 2016. They plan to set up the institute initially in the Andhra Bank School of Business premises, which is a 20,000 sq ft building." According to the AU registrar, the move would be beneficial to both AU as well as IIM because AU would not just play host but also be a direct beneficiary. "Our students and staff would be exposed to the IIM style of functioning and most importantly, they would help bring the industry closer to academic bodies such as AU." However, sources in IIM Bangalore, while refusing to confirm if the deal was done, said they had zeroed in on the Gambhiram site but were still talking to the AP government.