

Newspaper Clips

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IIT-D's students are fed up of separate veg and non-veg messes debate

After veg and non-veg food in IIT's canteens was criticised in a letter that was rebuffed by the institutes, Yechury complained to the HRD minister about non-veg food being removed from IIT-D, but the institute tells us that its far from the truth

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This October, the Ministry of Human Resource Development had sought the opinion of the IITs and IIMs on the setting up of separate canteens for vegetarian and non-vegetarian students. The ministry had also forwarded a letter of a Kanti-based (Madhya Pradesh) grain-trader, SSK Jain, to the IITs that demanded the segregation of vegetarian messes, because, according to him, the students were influenced by the Western cultures through non-vegetarian food. After the issue created a buzz across the country, the HRD ministry released a statement saying, "No such direction can be given as this is an administrative matter to be decided by the respective IITs, which are autonomous." Under Secretary AK Singh of Technical Section-I wrote in a letter, "...the representations were forwarded to the institutes in a routine manner, without any view having been taken thereon."

The issue didn't seem to die down, how-

ever, because everyone in the country has their own take on what IITians should eat. A few days back, Sitaram Yechury, CPM leader in the Rajya Sabha, wrote a letter to the HRD minister Smriti Irani, asking her to intervene in IIT-Delhi, where non-vegetarian food was taken off the menu in all the hostels. He claimed that the HRD minister had no business to police the food habits of IIT students, and thus, if there is

IIT-D NEVER DIFFERENTIATES AMONG STUDENTS ON THE BASIS OF THEIR RELIGION, CASTE, KIND OF FOOD THEY EAT OR THE REGION THEY COME FROM

—SK GUPTA,
DEAN OF IIT-DELHI

a need for separate facilities for vegetarian students, which is justified, it cannot be at the expense of depriving non-vegetarians of their choice. This issue of serving vegetarian and non-vegetarian food separately has ruffled feathers across the country's IITs. We look into what IITians actually want and decode the much-hyped issue of their food choices. IIT-Delhi's dean, SK Gupta, refutes Yechury's allegation, saying, "We are already serving non-vegetarian food." He admits that for a brief period non-vegetarian food was taken off the menu, but it had nothing to do with the letters from the HRD ministry.

STUDENTS' PREFERENCES FOR CHICKEN'S PIECES ARE TO BLAME

During a faculty and students' representatives meeting held in April this year, both vegetarian and non-vegetarian students demanded that non-vegetarian food should not be served in the hostel messes. Their issue was one about the hygiene. "Humare yahan non-vegetarian food banana ke liye hygienic condition jitni honi chahiye unti nahi ho pa rahi thi aur dusra har kisi ko chicken ka leg ya breast piece chahiye tha, jo possible nahi tha,"



Picture for representational purposes only

WHO HAS THE ENERGY LEFT AFTER A HECTIC DAY OF COLLEGE TO GO TO THE OTHER END OF THE CAMPUS FOR SOME PARTICULAR TYPE OF FOOD?

— PRATEEK SINGH,
IIT-DELHI STUDENT

Gupta explained. Since non-vegetarian food is costlier than its vegetarian counterpart and all students were unsatisfied with whatever was served at the IIT-D messes. So the college administration temporarily took non-vegetarian food off the menu. "But we continued serving eggs and omelettes," says Gupta.

CHICKEN ON DEMAND

The institute was closed for the summer vacations and when it reopened, the administration decided to hire a vendor who would serve non-vegetarian food that was already cooked, every Wednesday, to students who had placed their advance order and were ready to pay extra. Three vendors, each in charge of four hostels, were hired. "At present, we are serving cooked non-vegetarian food in 12 IIT-D's hostel messes. We are yet to cover all the hostel messes and are looking for more vendors. Due to this step, the monthly food charge of vegetarian students has gone down. Only students who want to eat non-vegetarian food are supposed to pay ₹40 extra," says Gupta, and adds, "We were already dealing with this non-vegetarian food issue, but never bothered about it as we were handling it well. But when, in the last week of October, the HRD ministry's letter came, everyone started talking about our mess and had their individual point of view to share."

WE DON'T DIFFERENTIATE

"IIT-D never differentiates amongst students on the basis of their religion, caste, kind of food they eat or the region they come from. This is a college and not a student's home. We cannot serve food as per every student's demand. We have a common mess and the mess committee decides what to serve and what not to serve, hum beech mein rate nahi rate," says Gupta.

COME AND ASK YOURSELF

"We have clarified our take again and again. But every time, this issue gets raised unnecessarily Yechury or anybody else who has problem with what food we serve and don't serve, should di-

rectly ask us about it. We are here to answer and we aren't running away from confrontation. As far as our students' demands are concerned regarding the food served in hostel messes, we have so far not received even one letter of resentment from any student," says Gupta.

WHAT DO THE STUDENTS WANT?

Students at IIT-Delhi denied any grudges and called the demand for separate non-vegetarian and vegetarian messes 'nonsense and not very legitimate'. One of the mess members of the girls' hostel at IIT says, "There has never been any such complaint for separate messes for vegetarian or non-vegetarian food from any hostel. There was a demand from some hostels for a separate eating area in the same mess and it was met."

"It is nonsense to even think of separate messes for every hostel. The college is big, but, as far as I am aware, the college administration still doesn't have enough space to construct separate non-vegetarian or vegetarian messes for every hostel. And, if they construct a few separate messes somewhere within the campus, who has the energy left after a hectic day of college to go to the other end of the campus for some particular type of food? As of now, we have one mess in every hostel that serves every kind of food and it is enough," says Prateek Singh, an IIT-Delhi student.

Shweta, an IIT-Delhi student, adds, "The messes and canteens at IIT-Delhi have different concept. The messes serve non-vegetarian food once a week, while the

canteens are eateries which serve both non-vegetarian and vegetarian every day of the week. Earlier, the hostel mess used to cook and serve non-vegetarian food separately. There has never been a demand for a separate block for vegetarians and non-vegetarians. But when college reopened after the summer vacations, the non-vegetarian food was off the menu. The scene in IIT-Delhi is such that the mess committee decides what is to be served in the messes and the students hardly ever react or demand. So, when non-vegetarian food was taken off the menu, the canteen committee just told us that it was temporary and we didn't ask about it after that. However, for last few weeks, we are getting non-vegetarian food, but it is not cooked in the canteen anymore, some vendor provides cooked non-vegetarian food now."

"There have always been vegetarian students who never liked eating with non-vegetarian students. If you talk about a country like India, then out of every 100 students, 50 will be pure vegetarian and out of those 50, there will be 20 who would not want to eat with a non-vegetarian, but this number is decreasing every day. Boys usually don't have a problem eating with someone who has non-veg food for lunch. They are more chilled about the issue. But when it comes to girls, they often create a scene. However, I have never seen any girl going beyond the extent of sitting separately from those eating non-vegetarian food," says Shruti, a vegetarian IIT-Delhi student.

Arpit Singh, an IIT-Delhi student, explains, "The non-vegetarian food either cooked in the mess or just served in it is so bad that we hardly ever want to eat. Most of the students who want to eat non-vegetarian go out to eat. Creating an issue on the food habits of students is total nonsense. As students, we never get so much time to think about what is being served and how it is served. We just like to hang out with friends at breakfast, lunch and dinner, as that's the only time we get to chill in our tight schedule. Anyone raising such an issue is just targeting big institutions to get politically active and get come in the news, maybe to give a boost to their dying political career."

(*Name changed upon request)

IIT grads opt for new-age jobs

Yogita.Rao@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Civil, mechanical and electrical engineering Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) graduates continued to go for new-age jobs in finance, consultancy and software sectors despite efforts to promote core engineering (manufacturing) jobs.

IIT managements found this to their chagrin at the end of the third day of 2014-2015 placement season. Software major Oracle's offer of Rs 2.03 crore package to an IIT, Banaras Hindu University student on Monday exemplified this trend.

Microsoft had offered the highest package of Rs 65 lakh last year. The jump has been about 35% in the highest segment salary.

Only around one fourth of IIT-Bombay students had offers from engineering and technology firms by the end



NEW TREND: IIT Kharagpur

of the third day. Just 116 were from core engineering profiles of 430 offers made at IIT-B till 2am on Thursday. The rest were from consulting (96), finance (75), IT/software (112), analytics (54), research & development (55), sales & marketing and others.

One-third of 1,067 students placed through campus process got into engineering and technology firms last year. Start-ups and e-commerce firms hired a large numbers of students this year. At IIT-Kharagpur, 55 students got offers from

IT and core sectors, as opposed to consulting (60) and finance (70).

New-age firms on the contrary hired in large numbers from across campuses. E-commerce firm Flipkart hired 16 students from IIT-B and 19 from IIT-Madras. It made highest — 26 — offers at IIT Kharagpur and 20 at IIT-Kanpur.

Olacabs, a start-up that IIT-B students have set up, hired largest numbers of students — around 50 — from IIT-B. It hired 30 from IIT-Madras.

EXL services were the best hirer at IIT-Kanpur with offers to 38 students and a salary of Rs 55 lakh.

“Core engineering firms will take time to pick up in campuses across IITs. Even as the emphasis is on the core firms, these companies usually take a lot of time in the decision-making proc-

ess,” said Mohak Mehta, a placement coordinator at IIT-B. “On the contrary, with the government opening up investment options, the start-ups are the ones that are benefitting.”

Mehta said foreign investors were keen on investing in ready ideas. “This has resulted in an increase in job offers from the start-ups this year.”

At IIT-Kanpur, where 525 students have been placed, very few had offers from core engineering sectors.

Software giants, e-commerce companies and investment banking firms visited IIT-Kanpur, offering hefty salary packages. Oracle was the best hirer with an offer of Rs 1.5 crore to a computer science student.

At IIT-Delhi, where Facebook made the highest offer, 350 out of 2,000 candidates were placed.

Campus calling: 40 IIT students get ₹1 cr-plus offers; girls get top billing

HT Correspondent

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MUMBAI: It is hiring season in the country's premier technology institutes, the IITs. And making waves are the girl students, who despite a skewed gender ratio — one girl for every 10 boys — are outdoing the latter in landing plum offers, many with annual packages totalling to ₹1 crore or more.

On day 4 of placement interviews at IIT Bombay and IIT Kharagpur, it was a healthy mix of new economy and core manufacturing firms that saw 130 top companies such as GE, Airbus Industrie, Rolls Royce, Shell, Taiwan Semi-Conductor Manufacturing Corp, Facebook and Flipkart queuing up to chase India's finest brains.

Deepali Adlakha, a B Tech (computer science) student at IIT Bombay was hired on day 1 by social networking website Facebook as a software engineer. Her base salary is ₹65 lakh.

"This is the average figure that tech companies like Facebook, Google, Microsoft have been offering to students from IITs. I will be joining Facebook in either September or October next year



■ Students on IIT's Mumbai campus

HT FILE

and will work out of Menlo Park, San Francisco," Deepali told *HT*. The institute has also seen five other girl students bag similar job offers — beating the gender ratio of students on the campus.

Deepali's gross package, including bonus and stock options, will come to a gross of ₹1.44 crore.

The students were chary of sharing overall compensation figures, and the IIT officials also did not like to dwell on the salaries. However, according to some of the students, over 40 people have got offers that tot up to well over ₹1 crore per year.

Facebook has also hired three

other computer science graduates of which two were given pre-placement offers. The average gross salary for the trio is ₹1.40 crore a year.

But the computer science student is not the only IIT graduate to have been hired by a tech company. Darpan Malkan, a metallurgical engineering from IIT Bombay was hired by Flipkart, where he will work in different verticals including strategy, marketing before being confirmed in one department.

In all about 40 students from various IITs were recruited on the first day itself.

While job offers have been

plenty from manufacturing and core sector firms, placement coordinators say that the higher offers from tech companies get all the attention and distorts the average package. The institutes are strict in not talking about salaries. "Start-ups typically offer more as their funding is directly linked to the number of IIT grads they hire," said Mohak Mehta, placement manager at IIT Bombay. "But being an engineering institute, we make sure core manufacturing also gets due attention and are the first to meet our students."

Kartikeya Pophali, who is doing his masters in mechanical engineering from IIT Bombay, has been hired by oil major Shell at their technology center at Bangalore. Atishay Sharma, another masters student in electrical engineering, has been roped in as an R&D engineer with Taiwan SemiConductor Manufacturing Corp in Taiwan.

IIT Kharagpur, another premier IIT, has also seen Flipkart, Google and other tech majors hire their talented students. "Flipkart has taken about 25 students and we expect another 90 students in the pre-placement programme," said one coordinator who asked not to be named.

Placements Start on a High Note at New IITs

Number of students hired, salaries see rise in first week of placements this year

Devina Sengupta & Sreeradha D Basu

Mumbai: They may be unable to boast of crore-plus packages like their more established brethren, but newer IITs have got off on a strong note this placement season. Those in this group, like IIT Ropar, IIT Gandhinagar, IIT Bhubaneswar and IIT Mandi, confirm that hiring season will surpass previous years.

In the first week of placements, 60% of the 120-strong batch at IIT Mandi had already been placed across 16 companies. IIT Mandi was started in 2009. And at IIT Gandhinagar, which was established in 2008, 15 firms picked up 50% of their undergraduates. Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra, Flipkart, Cognizant and Microsoft are some of the companies that have hired from the new IITs this year.

"Salaries are better this year, firms from power and e-commerce sectors are still to come and despite not having branches in core and computer science, we will get more companies than the 45 last year," says a placement team member at IIT Gandhinagar. The institute has to place 127 students.

Hiring season for the most of the newer IITs starts in end-October — earlier than their older counterparts. After a week of placements, they typically begin a rolling process. This gives them a headstart and time to bring in additional firms during the course.

Placements at New IITs

New IITs like IIT Ropar, IIT Mandi, IIT Gandhinagar and IIT Bhubaneswar expect a good placement for batch 2015

At IIT Mandi, 60% of batch was placed in first week. At IIT Gandhinagar, 50% of undergraduates placed already

There has been an increase of at least 10-15% in average pay offered

Companies like Amazon, Microsoft, Cognizant, Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra and Flipkart have recruited from newer IITs



To give their 108 students more options, IIT Ropar approached several new companies well in advance. It is running a parallel recruitment process of two companies on the same day, a strategy the older institutes adopt.

At IIT Mandi, the highest salary offered by an IT firm was Rs 27 lakh as compared to Rs 23-24 lakh last year. Amazon offered Rs 29 lakh to students of IIT Ropar and they got seven pre-placement offers (PPOs) as compared to two last year. The average salary so far is Rs 11 lakh.

"Average packages have gone up by 15-20% this year. The number of PPOs have doubled from last year," said Arti Kashyap faculty advisor, IIT Mandi. "This

year, the response from core companies for mechanical and electrical engineering students is much better. Average packages in this sector are between Rs 7 lakh and Rs 12 lakh," adds Kashyap.

The feel-good sentiment has made IIT Bhubaneswar experiment with placement timings. They started their recruitment season on December 1, like their more established counterparts, and in the past two days, Flipkart, Cognizant, Tata Motors and United Health Group have hired 25 students from a batch of 145. "The new schedule has given us time to get more firms and complete our hiring at one stretch," says a placement team official at the institute.

Base salary stagnates, but variable pay zooms at IITs

KALPANA PATHAK & VINAY UMARJI
Mumbai/Ahmedabad, 4 December

Even as money rains down on Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) campuses, recruiters are focusing more on variable components rather than base salaries, which have remained close to the levels seen last year.

IIT placement cell officials said variable components in salaries — stock options, joining or sign-on bonus, relocation benefits, medical reimbursement, leave travel allowance, transport allowance and other benefits — had raised annual salaries to more than ₹1 crore. Including variable components, international pay packages have soared 10-30 per cent at IITs.

Consider this: US-based computer technology firm Oracle, which has made a job offer of ₹1.83 crore, is giving a base salary of ₹80 lakh and 4,000 shares in stock options. With the Oracle stock at about ₹2,590 (\$41.9), 4,000 stocks are valued at ₹1.03 crore, taking the overall compensation package to ₹1.83 crore.

This is also the case with social networking site Facebook,

which has made job offers for coding profiles. Students said of the company's compensation package, about ₹65 lakh was base pay, while ₹62 lakh was in stock benefits and the rest a one-time joining incentive.

A multinational firm at one of the IITs has made an offer of \$100,000 as the base salary, \$15,000 as a sign-on bonus and \$10,000 in relocation benefits, along with stock options.

Google, Oracle, Microsoft and Facebook are among several companies making big-ticket job offers to students.

IITs divide salaries into two parts — the guaranteed, or fixed, component and the variable component. They say they consider only the fixed component in their placement records. This, they add, is because in many cases, pay packages also include charges of students' accommodation in five-star hotels. "These are one-time payments and are completely misleading. We do not club these with the overall package. We focus only on the assured and recurring salary component," said a placement official at IIT-Bombay.

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Urban Ladder picks 16 IIT-M students



Urban Ladder, a Ratan Tata-backed e-commerce firm, selected 16 students from Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-M) on Wednesday, the most by any company during the day. On Wednesday, the third day of placements, companies gave offer letters to a total of 86 IIT-M students. For the past three days, overall offers (including to MBAs) stood at 487 (315 last year), while the number

of students placed (including MBAs) was 418 (275 last year). A total of 89 companies took part in the placements, against 64 last year. Among firms that came to the campus this year were Tata Motors (seven students selected), Caterpillar (five), Tiger Analytics (five), Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (four), Futures First Info Services (four), Citrix R&D India (four), Cerner Corporation (three), NetApp (three) and SanDisk (three).

BS REPORTER

Firms threaten withdrawal of job offers

With students from IITs going public with the compensation packages offered to them, companies have told these institutes they might withdraw the offers. "Companies are upset over the disclosure of compensation packages offered by them to our students and have threatened they will withdraw these offers. If this happens, it will be bad for students," said an official at IIT-Bombay. The institute said it had told students on an intra-net blog not to make placement details public. IITs sign a non-disclosure agreement with the companies that come to their campuses for placements.

KALPANA PATHAK

Base salary...

Placements at IITs are con-

ducted in two phases: The first phase began on December 1, while the second will begin next year and end in April-May. The new IITs began their placements in November, and the process is still underway.

At IIT-Madras, the highest salary recorded this time was \$129,500 (₹80.2 lakh).

Last year, IIT-Madras had recorded the highest global pay package of \$210,000, or about ₹1.3 crore.

Officials involved with the placement process said in many cases, students didn't stick to a company for more than a year or two.

In such a case, students aren't able to exercise their

stock options (if they quit the company before three or five years). "We have seen many cases in which students have quit and come back to India in a matter of six to nine months," said an official.

IIT-Bombay's highest domestic pay package stood at ₹42 lakh – ₹34 lakh and ₹8 lakh as incentives – from Tower Research Capital India.

At IIT-Kanpur, average salaries have risen 23 per cent compared to ₹7.9-8 lakh last year. Sources at the institute, however, said IIT-Kanpur was "not into the average salaries game".

With inputs from Gireesh Babu in Chennai

MNCs make 487 job offers at IIT-M campus

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chennai

MULTINATIONAL companies recruiting candidates at the ongoing placement season at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, have offered 487 jobs to prospective candidates, which is comparatively higher than last year.

A total of 89 companies have so far participated in the campus interview and 487 offers were placed, which was comparatively higher than last year's offer of 315, a press release said.

Online home furnishing firm Urban Ladder recruited the highest number of 16 candidates followed by home grown automaker Tata Motors with seven.

Caterpillar India, Citrix Research and Development India, NetApp selected five, four and three candidates, respectively.

Other companies that offered placements were Toshiba Corporation (one candidate), Tiger Analytics (five) and Futures First Info Services (four students). The IIT-M placement season began early this week.

BHU-IIT में रेकॉर्ड जॉब ऑफर

■ दिनेश चंद्र मिश्र, वाराणसी : आईआईटी के प्लेसमेंट में स्टूडेंट्स को इस बार रेकॉर्ड ऑफर मिल रहे हैं। सॉफ्टवेयर कंपनी अरिंकल और गूगल ने बीएचयू-आईआईटी के दो छात्रों को करोड़ों का पैकेज दिया है। अरिंकल ने सबसे ज्यादा करीब 2 करोड़ का ऑफर दिया है। इसमें 1.24 करोड़ के स्टॉक और 77.5 लाख कैश है। गूगल ने 1.63 करोड़ का पैकेज दिया है, जिसमें 80.4 लाख सैलरी और 83 लाख की स्टॉक यूनिट्स हैं। प्लेसमेंट सेल के प्रभारी अनिल अग्रवाल ने बताया कि बीएचयू में पहली बार इतने बड़े ऑफर मिल रहे हैं। फेसबुक आईआईटी-खड़गपुर और आईआईटी-दिल्ली में 1.55 करोड़ का पैकेज दे चुकी है। इतनी बड़ी संख्या में एक करोड़ से अधिक के पैकेज पहली बार दिए जा रहे हैं।

▶▶ पेज 18



IIT में बरसे करोड़ों के ऑफर्स

■ वस/एजेंसियां, नई दिल्ली/
कानपुर

आईआईटी में प्लेसमेंट का दौर शुरू हो चुका है और पहले तीन दिनों में ही रिकॉर्ड टूट गए हैं। सॉफ्टवेयर कंपनी अरिंकल ने बीएचयू आईआईटी के एक स्टूडेंट को 2 करोड़ 3 लाख रुपये का पैकेज दिया है। यह अब तक का सबसे बड़ा शुरुआती पैकेज माना जा रहा है। कुछ मामलों में स्टूडेंट्स ने करोड़ों के पैकेज ठुकरा दिए हैं। यह भी पहली बार है जब इतनी तादाद में फ्रेशर्स को करोड़ से ज्यादा के पैकेज ऑफर किए जा रहे हैं। एक नजर इसी पर :

क्या है पैकेज में

प्लेसमेंट के दूसरे दिन ही आईआईटीज को एक करोड़ से ज्यादा के 40 ऑफर मिल चुके थे। इनमें कैश और स्टॉक्स, दोनों शामिल हैं। टॉप रिक्रूटर्स में फेसबुक, अरिंकल, गूगल, फ्लिपकार्ट जैसी कंपनियां हैं। अरिंकल ने 1.24 करोड़ रुपये की स्टॉक्स यूनिट्स के साथ 77.5 लाख सालाना का कैश ऑफर दिया है। वहीं गूगल ने यूएस में माउंटेन व्यू में पोस्टिंग के लिए 80.4 लाख सैलरी और 250 स्टॉक ऑफर किए हैं। कंपनियां एंफ्लॉइज को बनाए रखने के लिए स्टॉक्स का ऑप्शन देती हैं। असल में कंपनी में तय समय गुजारने के बाद ही उन्हें भुनाने की इजाजत होती है। फेसबुक ने आईआईटी दिल्ली, बॉम्बे और खड़गपुर में 250,000 डॉलर (1.55 करोड़ रुपये, सबकुछ शामिल) का ऑफर दिया है। फ्लिपकार्ट ने



Durgadatt Pandey

प्लेसमेंट इस साल

350

ग्लोबल फर्म्स हैं
हायरिंग में शामिल

20

दिन का है प्लेसमेंट
सेशन

3

दिन गुजर चुके हैं
अभी तक

आईआईटी कानपुर से 20 स्टूडेंट्स सिलेक्ट किए हैं। यहां 10 स्टूडेंट्स को 1.5 करोड़ रुपये का ओवरऑल पैकेज मिला है। 50-80 लाख रुपये की रेंज में काफी छात्र हैं।

स्टूडेंट्स क्या बोलते हैं

अरिंकल से ऑफर पाने वाले एक आईआईटीयन ने बताया कि मुझे एक लाख डॉलर बेसिक सैलरी, 15,000 डॉलर जॉइनिंग बोनस और 10,000 डॉलर रिलोकेशन अलाउंस देने का वादा किया गया है। इसके बाद स्टॉक ऑप्शंस भी दिए जाएंगे। वहीं फेसबुक की ओर से हायर की गई आस्था अग्रवाल बताती हैं कि एक करोड़ का पैकेज सुनने में बहुत बड़ा लगता है मगर उसमें कई कंपोनेंट्स होते हैं।

ठुकरा दिए करोड़

आईआईटी कानपुर के चार छात्र-छात्राओं ने कैम्पस प्लेसमेंट के दौरान विदेशी कंपनी से करीब एक-एक करोड़ रुपये वार्षिक वेतन वाली नौकरी की पेशकश ठुकरा दी। यह ऐसा पहला मौका है। इनमें तीन छात्र और एक छात्रा हैं। एक छात्र और छात्रा ने 50 लाख के वार्षिक वेतन वाले दूसरी कंपनी का ऑफर यह कहते हुए स्वीकार कर लिया कि वे कम वेतन में काम करने को तैयार हैं क्योंकि इसमें मानसिक शांति ज्यादा है जबकि करोड़ रुपये वाला ऑफर उनके मिजाज से मेल नहीं खाता है। वहीं दो छात्र अभी आगे और पढ़ाई व रिसर्च करना चाहते हैं।

क्या है डिमांड में

कंपनियां स्टूडेंट्स को काफी देख-परखकर ही पसंद कर रही हैं। आईआईटी मद्रास में आईटी जॉब्स का क्रेज है। कानपुर में बीटेक-एमटेक इयूल डिग्री वाले स्टूडेंट्स नौकरी पा चुके हैं। इसके बाद कंप्यूटर साइंस, इलेक्ट्रिकल, मैकेनिकल हैं। एमबीए के 55 में 50 स्टूडेंट्स जॉब पर हैं।

Tribune ND 05/12/2014 P-11

4 IIT-Kanpur students turn down ₹1 cr per yr offers

KANPUR, DECEMBER 4

Considerations of professional fulfilment and a desire to pursue higher studies have trumped offers of eight-figure salaries during placements at IIT Kanpur as four students chose to turn down jobs which would have paid them more than Rs 1 crore yearly.

It is not everyday that a job-seeker turns down a Rs 1 crore offer and the decision by four of them -- three boys and a girl student -- at the premier technological institute here is sure to create a flutter, especially when two of them are said to have settled for lower salaries in order to work in profiles which they found to be more suitable for themselves.

According to the chairman of the IIT-Kanpur Place-

Settle for job with less salary, better profile

■ Three boys and a girl student have declined the offer. Two of them are said to have settled for lower salaries in order to work in profiles which they found to be more suitable for themselves

■ Chairman of the IIT-Kanpur Placement Cell, Prof Deepu Philip, the remaining two students have opted for higher studies over signing up to join any company

ment Cell, Prof Deepu Philip, the remaining two male students have opted for higher studies over signing up to join any company.

Philip, who refused to divulge the names of the four students, said that the offers were made yesterday by a multinational company

during placement interviews on their campus.

"The offer to these four students was for a take home of USD 150,000, or close to Rs 93 lakh per annum. Along with other incentives and perks, the size of the package was more than Rs 1 crore yearly," Philip said today.

"The girl student and one of the boys declined the offer saying it did not match their temperament and that they wanted professional fulfilment from their jobs. The two have accepted offers of Rs 50 lakh per annum from a smaller company.

"The remaining two students said they want to focus on higher studies and were, therefore, not keen on taking up the Rs 1 crore offer," added Philip. — PTI

मन का काम नहीं मिला तो आईआईटी छात्रों ने छोड़ दी एक करोड़ की नौकरी

दो ने 50-50 लाख की नौकरी चुनी, दो छात्र अभी पढ़ाई और रिसर्च करेंगे

एजेंसी | कानपुर

आईआईटी के छात्र करोड़ की नौकरी पाने के खातिर खबर बनते हैं, पर कानपुर आईआईटी के तीन छात्र और एक छात्रा ने उल्टी नजीर पेश की है। उन्होंने एक करोड़ की नौकरी ठुकराई है। वो भी मन का सुकूनभरा काम नहीं मिला इसलिए।

संस्थान के प्लेसमेंट सेल प्रमुख प्रोफेसर दीपू फिलिप ने इसकी जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया कि सैमसंग ने कैम्पस प्लेसमेंट के दौरान चार विद्यार्थियों को 1.50 लाख डॉलर (93 लाख रु.) सालाना वेतन की

ओरेकल ने दिया दो छात्रों को 1.82 करोड़ का ऑफर

मुंबई आईआईटी मुंबई के दो छात्रों को ओरेकल कंपनी ने 1.82 करोड़ रुपए का ऑफर दिया है। ये ऑफर एसएस कौशिक और तरुण कथूरिया को मिला है। देश में यह अब तक सबसे बड़ा ऑफर माना जा रहा है। इससे पहले फेसबुक ने 1.42 करोड़ का ऑफर दिया था।

पेशकश की थी। ये टेकहोम सैलरी थी। अन्य सुविधाएं मिलाकर करीब एक करोड़ का पैकेज था। पर चारों ने मना कर दिया। इनमें एक छात्र और एक छात्रा ने करीब 50 लाख रुपए के पैकेज पर दूसरी कंपनी का ऑफर मंजूर कर लिया। दलील दी कि कम

पैसे पर काम कर लेंगे क्योंकि यहां मानसिक शांति ज्यादा है। करोड़ रुपए वाला ऑफर मिजाज से मेल नहीं खाता। बाकी दो छात्र अभी और पढ़ना चाहते हैं। रिसर्च करना चाहते हैं। चारों ने बीटेक किया है। प्रोफेसर फिलिप ने आईआईटी नियमों का

हवाला देकर छात्र-छात्राओं का नाम नहीं बताया। पर कहा कि आईआईटी से निकले छात्र सिर्फ पैकेज नहीं, मन का काम भी चाहते हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि आईआईटी कानपुर में इस साल एक दिसंबर से प्लेसमेंट सीजन शुरू हुआ है। 300 छात्र-छात्राओं ने पंजीकरण कराया है। चार दिन में अब तक 90 कंपनियां आ चुकी हैं। सबसे ज्यादा ऑफर सैमसंग ने ही किया था और इन्हीं छात्र-छात्राओं को। बाकी छात्र-छात्राओं को औसतन 40 से 70 लाख रुपए तक का सालाना पैकेज ऑफर किया गया है। प्लेसमेंट सीजन 24 दिसंबर तक चलेगा।

CITY ANCHOR DEEPALI, 21, FROM IIT-BOMBAY GETS HER DREAM JOB IN US AND WANTS TO GET ON WITH IT

Delhi's Rs 1-cr Facebook catch savours her chance

SUMEGHA GULATI
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 4

AT Ayodhya Enclave in Rohini's Sector-13, a query about where to find Deepali Adlakha promptly sends you up a dimly-lit staircase to the second floor. The 21-year old student from IIT-Bombay has become a celebrity in the neighborhood after news spread of her first job with a salary that first jobs are not know to pay: Rs 1.4 crore a year in cash and options at Facebook in the US.

Inside the two-bedroom flat, Deepali's mother Lalita — who teaches in a government school — is sorting vegetables in the room that was Deepali's before she went to

Mumbai to study computer science. The room is now her younger brother Abhishek's.

"Deepali's nurtured all her dreams and aspirations studying in this room," Lalita told *Newsline*, pointing to the modest space.

Speaking to *Newsline* over the phone from Mumbai, Deepali said her stint at the IIT was the "best time of her life". "If I'm asked to live these four years again, I would love to. I got to do a variety of things here. I became more social and confident and made great friends," she said.

Mother Lalita comes from Rewari in Haryana, whereas Deepali's father, Sanjay Adlakha, is from Uttar Pradesh's Badayun dis-



“My base salary is Rs 65 lakh. Another 20 lakh is the joining bonus. The rest is in stock option. So the impression that I will get about Rs 1.42 crore is exaggerated

DEEPALI (Left); her mother Lalita is on the right



trict. Their origins may be humble but they say they wanted to give the children the best education."

"We wanted our children to have the opportunities that we did not get. Luckily, Deepali was bright and focused since

childhood," Lalita said.

Deepali always set high goals and gave her "100 per cent" to achieve them, the mother said. Her teachers at Lancers' Convent were also very supportive, she said.

In her second year,

Deepali travelled abroad for the first time — to Germany. Her third-year internship was in the US, where she went to Facebook office for a "site visit". She did not then know it would become her workplace soon.

"I knew then that I would give my best to be here. My focus was on the top three firms — Google, Microsoft and Facebook. I wanted a placement in the US office of any of these companies," Deepali said.

Deepali said she is, however, bothered by all the attention the "three top packages" have drawn. She said she has been getting calls from IIT aspirants and their parents on how one gets such high packages.

"My base salary is Rs 65 lakh. Another 20 lakh is the joining bonus. The rest is in stock option paid after five years. So the impression that I will get about Rs 1.42 crore is exaggerated," she said, deflecting attention.

Hindustan ND 05/12/2014 P-12

आईआईटी बीएचयू के छात्र को 2.03 करोड़ का पैकेज

वाराणसी | वरिष्ठ संवाददाता

कैम्पस प्लेसमेंट में इस साल आईआईटी बीएचयू के छात्रों ने रिकॉर्ड बनाया है। यहां के एक छात्र को बहुराष्ट्रीय कम्पनी 'ओरेकल' ने 2.03 करोड़ रुपये का पैकेज दिया है। संस्थान के अन्य छात्र को 'गूगल' ने 1.63 करोड़ रुपये का पैकेज ऑफर किया है। पिछले कई सालों में यह सबसे अच्छा पैकेज बताया जा रहा है।

आईटी बीएचयू के 2012 में आईआईटी बनने के बाद यह सबसे बड़ा पैकेज है। 2012 में पहले ही साल फेसबुक ने एक छात्र को 1.32 करोड़ रुपये का पैकेज दिया था। कैम्पस प्लेसमेंट के लिए नामी गिरामी बहुराष्ट्रीय

सभी को मिलेगी नौकरी

पिछले वर्ष 1013 छात्रों में 702 छात्रों को ही जॉब ऑफर मिला। अर्थव्यवस्था की मंदी का असर प्लेसमेंट पर भी पड़ा था। इस साल अच्छी संभावना दिख रही है। अभी सिर्फ चार दिन के कैम्पस प्लेसमेंट में 300 छात्रों को जॉब ऑफर मिला है।

कम्पनियों ने छात्रों का विभिन्न स्तरों पर परीक्षण किया। इनमें ओरेकल, गूगल के अलावा माइक्रोसॉफ्ट, वॉलमार्ट, अमेजन, ईबे, सिटीकार्प, सैमसंग और हिन्दुस्तान लीवर जैसी कम्पनियां शामिल हैं। सभी कम्पनियों ने छात्रों को आकर्षक ऑफर दिए हैं।

Labourer son gets ₹80L Oracle offer

AGE CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, DEC. 4

The son of an impoverished daily wage labourer in Nalgonda district has made his parents and the entire district proud by bagging an offer from Oracle Corporation for an annual pay package of ₹79.18 lakh.

S.K. Naseer from Koduru village in Nalgonda district had joined IIT Kanpur in 2011 after securing a rank of 239 in JEE 2011.

Mr Naseer's father, S.K.

Jamaluddin, had moved from his village Koduru to Suryapet about a decade ago so he could provide for his son's education. He found daily wage labour work with a local granite company while his wife Raheema Begum worked from home as a tailor.

Always a bright child, almost all of Mr Naseer's education has been free. "I owe my schooling to Navodaya School for waiving off my fee and providing me with free education.

I think that was the first step to my success. I am deeply indebted to the school and my teachers," Mr Naseer said.

He secured 587 marks in his Class 10 board exams following which he moved to Hyderabad where Sri Chaitanya admitted him for free in its IIT-JEE coaching programme.

His success continued as he secured 969 out of 1,000 in intermediate and bagged the 239th rank in the JEE 2011.

"I was always fascinated by computers, so I thought computer science suited me best," he said. Mr Naseer opted for computer science at IIT Kanpur.

In his fourth year of engineering, he sat for the campus placements in his college and was picked by Oracle Corporation for an annual package of ₹79.18 lakh.

He was among the four students selected by Oracle to work in the company's Redmond Hills facility.

Millenium Post ND 05/12/2014 P-9

People with vested interests are attacking Irani

Individuals, who had earlier dominated the world of academia, are angry at their empires being taken away

INDER KAPAHY

Any union minister of human resources development from the Bharatiya Janata Party should be well prepared to face poison-dipped missiles from dispossessed individuals. The lack of an academic degree is inconsequential. Former union human resource development minister in the previous National Democratic Alliance government, Murlu Manohar Joshi, was an erudite professor and well endowed with high academic qualifications. However, it did not lend him any immunity from being charged with all the sins of the present incumbent. Individuals, who had earlier dominated the world of academia, owing to the patronage and protection provided by its Congress-Leftists benefactors, are naturally angry at their 'empires' being snatched away. This has prompted them to level all kinds of irrelevant charges against Smriti Irani. The recent diatribe against Irani by MM Ansari is an example of the above.

One can legitimately question the qualification of the former chief information commissioner MM Ansari, who was nominated by the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance to the University Grants Commission (UGC). Ansari laments were based on the fact that the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) used Article 20(1) of the UGC Act to rollback the much maligned



NO NONSENSE: Irani remains focussed on her agenda

Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUP). Does Ansari think that the minister should have sat quietly, while the Delhi University Vice-Chancellor wilfully flouted the National Policy on Education adopted by the Parliament? It was Irani's duty to intervene through Article 20(1) to protect the sanctity of Parliament and the policies it laid down. It is pathetic that Ansari did not condemn Kapil Sibal, Sam Patroda, Ashok Thakur and Dinesh Singh, when they were riding roughshod over all statutory and democratic processes to introduce FYUP. It is strange that when the UGC had asked DU to rollback FYUP, Ansari had supported it. It

is indeed a mystery, as to why he has now taken a U-turn on FYUP.

Many people have attacked Irani on the pretext that she lacks serious academic qualifications and is therefore unfit to be the minister. This is ridiculous! The same sets of people do not tire of praising Indira Gandhi, who had no university degree. If she could rule as the prime minister, controlling all departments of the government, why can't Irani handle the MHRD? A minister requires a quick understanding of the matters pending before the ministry, an analytical mind, the ability to set up targets and goals and a capacity for hard work. A clutch of academic degrees is unnecessary.

Ansari's hypocrisy was further compounded, after he argued against Irani's ability to interact with academics, considering her lack of suitable exposure to the portals of higher education. Ansari should tell us the basis on which he has made such an assertion. In fact my personal experience and the experience of many academics and educationists, who have interacted with the minister, are quite to the contrary. She comes across as a very sharp and committed person. As far as academic degrees are concerned Kapil Sibal must be on the top. However, he was a monumental failure as an education minister. His pomposity and total lack of empathy with

educational processes resulted in the comprehensive decline of our systems at all levels.

Accusations of saffronisation against any BJP education minister falls within the realm of convenience. When opponents have no legitimate charge, the bogey of saffronisation comes handy. Irani need not be overtly bothered about it. Mischievous people are deliberately providing a wrong twist to the ministry's move on German language, vis-a-vis Sanskrit in Kendriya Vidyalayas. German was taught as a third Indian language under the three language formula! There is no restriction on teaching any foreign language, and this should be encouraged. German, however, is certainly not a modern Indian language.

When Modi nominated Smriti Irani as a cabinet minister in-charge of human resource development, it caused a lot of heartburns. Some of the stories against Irani's nomination, which were planted then, were a direct result of this heartburn. A well entrenched cabal of St. Stephen's College academics planted anti Irani and pro-FYUP stories. Irani's move to review the functioning of the UGC and scrap the hegemonic Higher Education and Research Bill has upset those academics, who had exploited the education system to their advantage. They are now raising empty slogans against Smriti Irani. She should ignore them and focus on her objectives.

The author is a retired Associate Professor, Kirori Mal College, DU

University budget needs to be student-centric

DINESH K. GUPTA

When universities will give a value proposition to students with focus on competencies, professionalism, meritocracy and excellence, reflected in the teachers with the highest order of dedication, fee hikes will be justified

PUNJABI University, Patiala, has been in the news for the protest by the students over its decision to hike the fee by 10 per cent. In the recent past, the students of Himachal Pradesh University, Mumbai University, and Lady Irwin College of Delhi University have raised their voice against the same issue. Panjab University also saw similar reaction of the students against fee hike in 2013 and 2014.

The administrators of Punjabi University have given a strong justification for the increase in fee by pointing to the mounting budgetary deficit year after year. The estimated budgetary deficit for 2014-15 is pegged at Rs 157.36 crore with an estimated income of Rs 280.44 crore against an expenditure of Rs 437.80 crore. The picture of finances of public universities in Punjab, including Panjab University, is not much different. Panjab University has projected its deficit to the tune of Rs 288.15 crore for the academic year 2014-15.

Do the students have a non-academic agenda behind such demonstrations and agitations? Had that been the case, the reaction of the students would not have been the same across the length and breadth of the country.

The issue which is being positioned is as to why students of universities protest over a fee hike of couple of hundreds of rupees whereas the students of institutions like IIM, Ahmedabad, have not agitated over the fee hike of over 800 per cent in just a period of seven years?

A student does not mind to pay a heavy fee to IIM-A because he is sure



Activists of student organisations in a scuffle with policemen protesting against the fee hike.

that he will recover the cost of management education in less than a year after getting a gainful employment. The purpose of giving the example of IIM-A is to position the issue of successfully hiking the fee substantially by sensitising the need of making institutions of higher learning responsive and accountable to the need of quality education with a firm commitment of good placements.

This perspective will initiate positive changes in the portals of institutions of higher education by keeping an eye over the ever-changing needs of the market regarding the competencies of the work force; partnering with the potential employers in an endeavour to upgrade the pedagogy, syllabi and examination system; collaboration for quality theoretical and practical

research; enhancement of skills of the teachers through regular training and development; and nurturing an abiding relationship with alumni and their active involvement in making the institution a better place to gain state-of-the-art knowledge.

The budgetary estimates of Punjabi University for the year 2014-15 project the deficit of Rs 157.36 crore as against a deficit of Rs 63.37 crore of 2013-14. Of the total budgeted expenditure of Rs 437.80 crore, 63 per cent (Rs 273.35 crore) has been earmarked for spending on salary of employees alone. This percentage will rise to more than 90 per cent if all the benefits which accrue to the employees are included. Further, a sum of Rs 30 crore, which constitutes 19 per cent of the deficit, has been earmarked for the pension fund for the

The students have a simple question to ask. What has the university done in order to restructure and reduce expenses of the university administration?"

first time. Interestingly, the amount earmarked for scholarships and stipends for students is zero for 2014-15. This amount was a paltry sum of Rs 12.16 lakh in 2013-14, Rs 33.98 lakh in 2012-13 and Rs 88,105 in 2011-12.

The total budgeted revenue for 2014-15 has been pegged at Rs 280.44 crore. Of this 70 per cent (Rs 196.31 crore) has been sourced from the students by way of examination fee, tuition fee, security, registration fee, reevaluation fee etc. Punjab Government is likely to grant a sum of Rs 63.08 crore and the Central Government is to contribute a sum of only Rs 53,83,800.

A few interesting facts warrant immediate attention of the educational planners: the justification of contributing Rs 30 crore to the pension fund? Why should the students bear the burden of pension of the employees? Instead of contributing this sum to the pension fund, the university could have safely reduced the tuition fee of the students by roughly 60 per cent without enhancing its budgetary deficit. The argument that income of the university has gone up by only 6.5 per cent against an increase in expenditure by 34 per cent defies any logic. Further, how much revenue is likely to be earned by the university from consultancy and extension services to be offered by the faculty? Is the increase in revenue of the universi-

ty to be made only from the fee and other collections from the students and the grants to be given by the Government? Is it not the prime responsibility of the faculty and the alumni to contribute to the coffers of the university?

These are just two variables which exist in the Budget Estimates of Punjabi University. A lot can be written on better management of the finances in universities by using student-centric budgets and going away with the current practice of framing employee-centric budgets. Under these circumstances, no university can justify an increase of fee to the extent of even a single rupee. Further, every university should give a value proposition to each and every student who walks in its portals. The value proposition should focus on competencies, knowledge, attitudes, professionalism, meritocracy and excellence. Such a value proposition can find fancy with the teachers only when the teachers themselves have highest order of competence, dedication, commitment and love for the teaching profession.

The students have a simple question to ask. What has the university done in order to restructure and reduce expenses of the university administration? Has the university leadership shut down its air-conditioners in an attempt to economise? Has the top management of the university stopped travelling by air-conditioned cars? Has the university stopped reimbursement of travel by air? Highly regarded organisations are led by professionals who know how to give maximum to the organisation they work for.

The writer teaches at University Business School of Panjab University, Chandigarh.

Fastest camera can capture 100 bn frames per sec

WASHINGTON: In a breakthrough, researchers have developed the world's fastest 2D camera that can capture events up to 100 billion frames per second.

The camera is faster than any current receive-only ultrafast imaging techniques, which are limited by on-chip storage and electronic readout speed to operations of about 10 million frames per second, researchers said.

Researchers at the Washington University used a technique called compressed ultrafast photography (CUP) to make movies of the images they took with single laser shots of four physical phenomena: laser pulse reflection, refraction, faster-than-light propagation of what is called non-information, and photon racing in two media.



“For the first time, humans can see light pulses on the fly,” Lihong Wang, Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Engineering, said.

“Because this technique advances the imaging frame rate by orders of magnitude, we now enter a new regime

It's a series of devices envisioned to work with high-powered microscopes and telescopes to capture dynamic natural and physical phenomena

to open up new visions,” said Wang.

This camera is a series of devices envisioned to work with high-powered microscopes and telescopes to capture dynamic natural and physical phenomena.

Once the raw data are acquired, the actual images are formed on a personal computer; the technology is known as computational imaging. An

immediate application of the camera is in biomedicine.

It can be used to detect diseases or reflect cellular environmental conditions like pH or oxygen pressure.

Wang envisions applications in astronomy, tracking and predicting the movements of thousands of potentially hazardous pieces of “space junk.”

In forensics, CUP might be used in reproducing bullet pathways, which could once again open up the assassination conspiracy theories about former US president John F Kennedy and revive a more accurate analysis of the strange physics of the “magic bullet,” researchers said. AGENCIES

Hindustan ND 05/12/2014 P-13

क्रिस देंगे आईआईटी मद्रास को अनुदान

नई दिल्ली। इंफोसिस टेक्नोलॉजीज के सह-संस्थापक क्रिस गोपालकृष्णन ने आईआईटी मद्रास में कंप्यूटेशनल ब्रेन रिसर्च (कंप्यूटर मस्तिष्क अनुसंधान) के लिए 10-10 करोड़ रुपये की तीन पीठों की स्थापना के लिए अनुदान की घोषणा की है। इनमें से प्रोफेसर एच.एन. महाबाला के नाम पर पहली अनुसंधान पीठ का उद्घाटन किया गया।

Navbharat Times ND 05/12/2014 P-11

अफ्रीकी एग्जामिनरों पर UGC सख्त

■ विस, नई दिल्ली : यूजीसी ने भेदभाव न करने की सभी विश्वविद्यालयों को अडवाइजरी जारी की है। यूजीसी की तरफ से भेजे पत्र के मुताबिक, कोयंबटूर की भरतियर स्टेट यूनिवर्सिटी ने हाल में मैडेट इशू किया है, उससे परोक्ष रूप में ऐसा जिक्र है कि कोई रिसर्च स्कॉलर अपनी थीसिस किसी अफ्रीकी एग्जामिनर से रिव्यू नहीं करा सकता। यूजीसी ने कहा कि यह आदेश हमारे नियमों का उल्लंघन है। यह भारत सरकार की विदेश नीति के भी खिलाफ है। भरतियर यूनिवर्सिटी ने पीएचडी के लिए रेगुलेशन मॉडिफाई किए थे, जो 2013-14 से लागू कर दिए गए। लेकिन यूनिवर्सिटी ने कुछ वक्त पहले ही इन्हें वेबसाइट में डाला, जिसके बाद इस पर विवाद शुरू हुआ और यह शिकायत यूजीसी तक पहुंची। यूनिवर्सिटी के रेगुलेशन में कहा गया है कि जिन चार विदेशी एग्जामिनर से थीसिस रिव्यू कराई जाए, वे अडवांस्ड देशों के हों और अफ्रीकी देशों के एग्जामिनरों से दूरी बरती जाए। सिर्फ साउथ अफ्रीका को छूट दी गई है। अब यूजीसी ने सभी विश्वविद्यालयों से कहा कि अगर उनके रेगुलेशन में इस तरह का कोई क्लॉज है, जो किसी खास राज्य या देश के खिलाफ भेदभाव पूर्ण और नस्ली हो, उसे तुरंत हटाएं।

Students take quiet pride in IISc's 25th ranking

timesofindia.indiatimes.com/City/Bengaluru/Students-take-quiet-pride-in-IISc-25th-ranking/articleshow/45378243.cms

Bengaluru: They may not have high-fived when they heard that the Indian Institute of Science here jumped straight to the 25th spot in the Times Higher Education Brics and Emerging Economies' rankings. But these students' pride and joy in their premier institution was quite evident on Thursday.

The dominant feeling on campus is that the institution's potential is yet to be recognized. "The computer science department is the world's best in research on cyber security, but not many know it. It's time IISc opens itself to the Indian market," said sources in the institution. True to its low-key style, the institute website had no mention of the new feather in its cap.

The 105-year-old institution researches a wide range of subjects -- from black holes to missiles, nuclear energy to development of kits for detection of various diseases.

Pankaj Jain, a PhD student in molecular biophysics, said: "IISc was not even chosen last year in the survey and now, we're in the 25th position. The credit should go to former director P Balaram and his successor Anurag Kumar. IISc is all about research and that's why it stands out in Indian institutions," says Pankaj, also the secretary, academic affairs of the institute's students' council.

KV Abhinav, a PhD student in molecular biophysics, said, "IISc is slowly opening up itself to the outside world."

The ranking will make the world know more about IISc, said Snehal Mandlik, a PhD student in aerospace. "This time, placements will be better, especially for our undergraduate programme. Overall, 60 companies came to IISc in October 2014 for pre-placement interaction with students. That was a good move. We hope for more such events," said Snehal.

Anasuya Dighe, a PhD student, is proud about the ranking as it can result in more industry collaboration. "People outside the campus don't know what we do. Many people told me that if I wanted to do my doctorate, I should go abroad. It's sad that not many people don't know what we do," she said, adding, "The faculty should promote the institute's research work."

"Indians know more about IITs but not IISc. But you can find IIScians in the world's top research institutes. The alumni association of North America is extremely popular," say students.

IISc, IIT-B find place in Times Higher Education's Top 40 List for 2015

http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2014-12-04/news/56723192_1_indian-institute-iisc-phil-bat

MUMBAI: Two new entrants - Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and IIT Bombay - have debuted straight in the top 40 of Times Higher Education's second annual BRICS and Emerging Economies rankings 2015.

India has strengthened its overall representation in the list, with 11 universities in the top 100 as compared to 10 last year - including new entrant (and new national number one) [IISc](#) in 25th place and IIT Bombay in 37th place.

"India is starting to show its potential in these rankings. Only China and Taiwan have more top-100 institutions than India, which remains ahead of Russia and Brazil among the giant developing economies," Phil Baty , editor of the [Times Higher Education](#) Rankings, said in a release. "India's leading institutions have shown a hunger for further development and for sharing best practices.

If this is backed by a government-led commitment to support India's top universities to compete on the global stage, with sufficient funding and reforms, there would be plenty of room for optimism," he added.

Panjab University , which topped the India charts last year at No 13 overall, has slipped in the top 100 list to 39th place this year. Most of the other institutes - with the exception of IIT Madras - have also moved down the list as compared to last year. Baty said that despite India faring better overall, there is no room for complacency since several Indian institutions have actually lost ground compared with last year.

Some 22 countries classified as emerging economies by FTSE have been analysed for ranking purposes.

The methodology of the 2015 BRICS & Emerging Economies Rankings is slightly different from the methodology used last time to better reflect the characteristics and development needs of a university in the emerging economies. The weightage to "research influence", judged by publication citations, has been reduced from 30% in the world rankings, to 20%. The weightage for "industry income -innovation" has been increased from 2.5% to 10%, while for "international outlook", it has been increased from 7.5% to 10%.

UGC invites comments to improve higher education

Aim is to introduce international benchmarks

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/ugc-invites-comments-to-improve-higher-education/article6659765.ece>

The University Grants Commission has invited comments from the public and academia to help develop a uniform description of higher education systems at the national level.

The aim is to align UGC with the international benchmarks and promote transparency, comparability and mutual understanding in domestic and foreign institutions both for students and employers.

The UGC has constituted a committee to formulate the National Higher Education Qualifications Framework with Prof. Goverdhan Mehta as the chairman. The committee would evolve the descriptors, competencies and testing protocols for various qualifications for easy transition and mobility of students within India and abroad.

Issues related to the mechanism through which the competencies can be translated into credits and/or hours; the seamless amalgamation of the formal and non-formal modes of earning credits and fixing the minimum credits for certification will be discussed and incorporated in the Committee's report.

Last date

Feedback, not exceeding 150 words, may be sent either by snail mail or email at cppiisection@gmail.com by December 31.

In 2005, one of the recommendations of the Central Advisory Board of Education Committee was developing "appropriate framework" for universities to take advantage of Export of Higher Education.