

Newspaper Clips

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Mint ND 21/01/2015 P-6

REVERSING FLOWS

AICTE looks to attract foreign students to Indian B-schools

Regulator is working on an entrance test, modelled on the SAT, to be rolled out first in Asian countries

BY PRASHANT K. NANDA
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NEW DELHI

The apex technical education regulator is seeking to attract more overseas students to enrol in domestic business schools, seeking to diversify the student mix on local campuses and adding a new strand to the Indian education narrative that's traditionally been about the flow of Indian students abroad.

Accordingly, the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) is working to prepare a management entrance test modelled on the US Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT), said two government officials familiar with the plan.

AICTE wants to attract students from some half-a-dozen Asian countries seeking admission to management programmes. The regulator is to roll out the entrance exam in Asian countries, followed by African countries and then take it global.

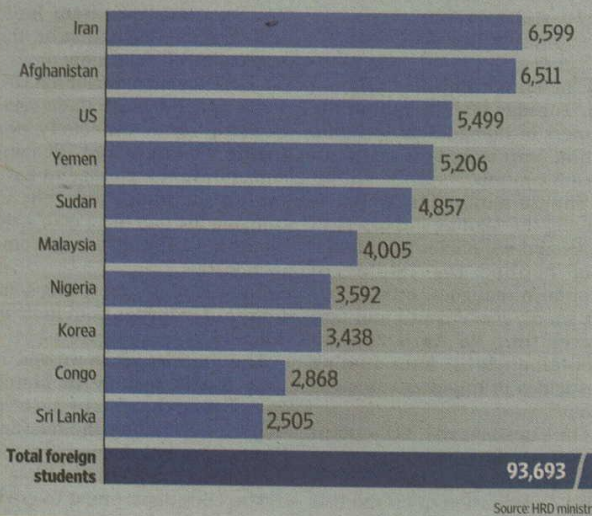
"The plan is to execute it in next six months or so, ideally before the next academic session begins in June-July," said one of the two officials, requesting anonymity.

Polymakers and experts say the move will initiate the process of internationalizing Indian higher education and benefit the country's educational institutions.

Although more than 100,000 Indian students go abroad for studies every year, the reverse flow to India is much less. According to data from the Human Resource Development (HRD) ministry, 93,693 foreign students were studying in India in 2013. But the official cited above said the number of new students

EDUCATION DESTINATION

Top 10 countries sending students to India (2013)



arriving in India every year may not make up more than 15% of this number.

"The opportunity to get students from Asian and African countries is huge but as a country, we have failed to tap that so far. Expanding the education boundary is not a bad thought," said the second official, who also requested not to be named.

The second official said the AICTE is in touch with the ministry of external affairs and embassies of the target countries to take the plan forward.

Avinash S. Pant, vice-chairman of the AICTE, confirmed the development.

"Yes, we are planning to go global. We have discussed it with the ministry of external affairs and they have advised us to write to the concerned embassies of the target countries," Pant said. "We recently wrote to the country embassies and have received so far two positive responses, and (are) waiting for others to share their views."

The plan follows a recent controversy over the opening of a research academy in Mauritius by

the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, allegedly in breach of rules. AICTE "is taking all steps to ensure that no problem arises in future," the second official said.

S.S. Mantha, who stepped down as AICTE chairman on 2 January, said he had started the process during his tenure.

"Other than internationalization, it will also help Indian B-Schools get enough students, diversify the teaching-learning atmosphere—a key for improving international ranking—and also bring dollars to the country," Mantha said.

Later, the HRD ministry and the AICTE can take tests for engineering and other top management courses abroad, Mantha said. "It will put in place a system and a proper screening process to get more foreign students," he argued.

Birmingham City University vice-chancellor Cliff Allan, who was recently in Delhi to promote the UK institution, said it would be a good attempt provided the institutions are sure about what they want to offer students.

Indian business schools may

not be among the world's best, but comparing Ivy League colleges and similar institutions to the country's tier-II institutions (non-Indian Institute of Management (IIM), non-IIT schools) is unfair, the second official said.

More than 300 out of India's 3,500 business schools are relatively good, while nearly 1,000 engineering schools out of 5,000 are very good, he claimed.

In any case, AICTE is not targeting the US or leading European countries, but its own Asian neighbourhood, to be gradually expanded to other continents, the official said. "India is one of the growing economies and most countries want to know about India, and here, education gives a good opportunity for future global managers," the official said.

R. Panicker, director general of Indo Global Colleges, a chain of private professional colleges in Punjab, said getting students for management schools has become tough in the last few years.

"Any attempt to put in place a process to bring foreign students will benefit Indian colleges a lot. More than any stream, management education needs to go global as it will benefit the colleges, students and the government. Colleges will get students, foreign students can avail education cheaper than in many other countries and government will see dollar flows to India," Panicker said.

Panicker said Indian B-Schools were suffering because of poor job prospects sentiments over the past few years in the face of rising student expectations and in some cases, poor learning environment.

Even the Common Admission Test (CAT) conducted by the elite IIMs has seen interest fading. In 2014, only 189,759 students applied for CAT, the lowest number since 2007 when around 250,000 did, forcing organizers to reopen the registration process midway, but the applicant numbers did not cross 200,000.

Deccan Herald ND 21/01/2015

P-8

US to extend development support to IIT-Gandhinagar

Prakash Kumar

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, the home state of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is set to be the initial beneficiary of US development support, instead of a technical institute proposed to be set up in Goa.

Months after Barack Obama administration agreed to offer expertise for establishing a new IIT in India, the Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry is in talks with the US Agency for International Development (USAID) for developing IIT Gandhinagar, one of the eight new premier technical institutes set up during the previous United Progressive Alliance (UPA) regime.

“The talks are proceeding well and have reached a very advanced stage. Ministry and USAID are keen on signing a joint declaration of intent in this regard very soon. It may be

done during the visit of US President,” sources in IIT Gandhinagar told *Deccan Herald*.

Earlier, the government’s plan was to establish a new IIT in Goa with the help of the US. However, suggestions began emerging from within the HRD Ministry that US support should be utilised to develop IIT Gandhinagar first, days after the Obama administration agreed to extend its support to establish “a new IIT” during Modi’s visit to the US.

The proposal to get IIT-Gandhinagar developed with the support of USAID has been approved by HRD Minister Smriti Irani, sources added. Although, the HRD Ministry first wants IIT-Gandhinagar to be developed with US support, sources said the collaboration with the USAID may also help setting up of five new IITs, announced by the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government.

To develop IIT-Gandhinagar, India has proposed to set up a

joint task force which would serve as a platform for dialogue and the exchange of information on technical assistance. The task force will be chaired by a person to be appointed with mutual consent between USAID and HRD Ministry.

To help set up academics as well as research and development activities at the institute, it has been proposed to establish a consortium of the US universities, sources said.

In 1959, a consortium of nine leading US universities, including MIT, University of California, California Institute of Technology, Princeton University, Carnegie Institute of Technology, University of Michigan, and Ohio State University, helped setting up of IIT-Kanpur.

India has sought USAID’s support in development of IIT-Gandhinagar with a broad aim of intensifying Indo-US collaborations in research and development as well as entrepreneurship, sources added.

Dainik Tribun ND 21.01.15 P-3

केंद्रीय उर्वरक एवं रसायन मंत्री अनंत कुमार ने कहा

सरकार जमीन दे, हम आईआईटी देंगे



सोनीपत में सिपेट केंद्र में बनने वाले हॉस्टल की आधारशिला रखते केंद्रीय रसायन एवं उर्वरक मंत्री अनंत कुमार, ओपी धनखड़ व रमेश कौशिक। -हप

सोनीपत, 20 जनवरी (हप)

केंद्रीय उर्वरक एवं रसायन मंत्री अनंत कुमार ने कहा कि प्रदेश सरकार जमीन मुहैया कराए तो केंद्र से आईआईटी मंजूर कराकर हम हरियाणा को देंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि हरियाणा शिक्षा का उभरता हुआ केंद्र बन रहा है, इसके लिए जरूरी है कि यहां आईआईटी स्थापित हो।

उन्होंने सिपेट (सेंट्रल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ प्लास्टिक इंजीनियरिंग एंड टेक्नोलॉजी) सोनीपत में एक डिग्री कॉलेज स्थापित करने, स्किल डेवलपमेंट सेंटर बनाने का भी ऐलान किया।

केंद्रीय मंत्री ने बताया कि देशभर में स्थापित 23 सिपेट की संख्या बढ़ाकर अगले 5 साल में केंद्र सरकार 100 करने जा रही है।

इनमें से एक सिपेट हरियाणा को और दिया जाएगा।

केंद्रीय मंत्री अनंत कुमार यहां सिपेट में बनने वाले हॉस्टल की आधारशिला रखने के लिए पहुंचे थे। उन्होंने तकनीकी शिक्षा को लेकर केंद्र सरकार की नीति और नियत का खाका प्रस्तुत करते हुए कहा कि हरियाणा को भी दूसरे राज्यों की तर्ज पर आईआईटी की जरूरत है। इसके

लिए वे खुद केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री स्मृति ईरानी से इसका आग्रह करेंगे। उनके मुताबिक प्रदेश सरकार अगर जमीन दे तो केंद्र सरकार यहां आईआईटी स्थापित कर देगी। इस दिशा में वे मुख्यमंत्री से भी बात करेंगे। केंद्रीय मंत्री ने कहा कि इन छात्रावासों की आधारशिला हरियाणा में मेक इन इंडिया अभियान के तहत एक शुरुआत है।

ONGC inks pact with IITs to develop E&P technology

'Industry-academia bid to boost Make in India in energy sector,' says CMD D K Sarraf

NEW DELHI: India's largest oil producer ONGC has signed an agreement with seven IITs for developing indigenous technologies to enhance exploration and production of hydrocarbons and alternate energy sources.

The industry-academia collaboration is aimed at bolstering 'Make in India' campaign in energy sector, ONGC Chairman and Managing Director Dinesh K Sarraf said here.

ONGC signed the Memorandum of Collaboration (MoC) with Pan-IIT, a consortium of seven premier Indian Institutes of Technology - IIT-Kharagpur, IIT-Kanpur, IIT-Madras, IIT-Mumbai, IIT-Delhi, IIT-Guwahati and IIT-Roorkee.

"Under the MoC, ONGC's R&D Institutes and the IITs shall jointly undertake advanced research and development projects for the E&P sector of the country in general and oilfield specific activities of ONGC in particular," he said. The MoC also ideates promoting internships, visiting and adjunct faculty programs, research oriented career programmes through an ONGC Scholar Programme.

Within the ambit of this collaboration, while ONGC will make its high-tech laboratories available to students and research scholars of IITs,



ONGC CMD D K Sarraf and IIT-Kharagpur Director Partha P Chakrabarti signing an MoC in the presence of HRD Minister Smriti Zubin Irani and Minister of State (I/C) for Petroleum & Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan

ONGC geoscientists and engineers will also have the opportunity of working with IITs, he said.

Prof Partha P Chakrabarti, Coordinating Director for the Pan-IIT Forum, said seven thematic research areas in the domain of geoscience, reservoir characterization, enhanced production of oil and gas, exploiting unconventional sources of hydrocarbons, software development, engineering solutions and alternate energy resources have been identified.

Sarraf said the collaboration was in response to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for Make in India and develop indigenous technologies.

The programme will be funded by Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) and

'ONGC's R&D Institutes and IITs shall jointly undertake advanced R&D projects for E&P sector in general and oil field-specific ONGC activities in particular'

shall take advantage of the available infrastructure and manpower of the IITs and ONGC. With this collaboration, while ONGC will use intellectual expertise of the IITs, the actual work will be done at the ONGC's in-house R&D Institutes and oilfields to enable the

best talents of the country to supplement each other by applying their mind on cutting-edge technologies to boost oil & gas production in the country.

On the occasion, HRD Minister Smriti Zubin Irani said her ministry will promote similar industry academia linkages on a large scale and will also facilitate engagement of Adjunct Faculty. Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said knowledge of theoretical aspects is available with IITs while the knowledge of practical aspects of energy business resides with ONGC.

To begin with, seven thematic research areas in the domain of geoscience, reservoir characterization, enhanced production of oil and gas, exploiting unconventional sources

of hydrocarbons, software development, engineering solutions and alternate energy resources have been identified. The Minister of HRD congratulated ONGC and IITs for joining hands to bring major push in the area of advanced research in energy sector. She said that such initiatives further demonstrate India's collective determination to realise full potential of our inherent strengths to make the country a true global leader. She termed this industry-academia partnership a welcome step in that direction. She also emphasized that this collaboration would further strengthen 'Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan' and the 'Make in India' campaigns of the Government, for the all-round progress of the Nation.

Minister of State (I/C) for P&NG underscored the need to bring together the Institutes of excellence, the industry and the scientific laboratories on one platform to enhance indigenous capabilities for reducing our dependence on imported technology in oil and gas sector. He said that this collaboration between ONGC and Pan-IIT will synergize our respective strengths and help invent indigenous technologies that will take this initiative beyond 'Make in India'.

ONGC signs pact with IITs to develop indigenous tech

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi

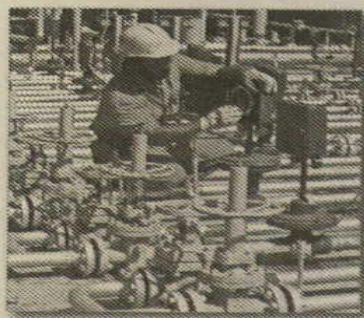
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IT pays the most in India: Monster index

ON THE JOB IT sector employees earn the highest salary of ₹341.8 per hour; experts upbeat about salary hikes ahead

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: It's official now.

India's information technology (IT) sector, famous for doling out perks such as high-end smartphones and luxury cars, is the top paymaster with an average gross salary of ₹341.8 per hour, according to the Monster Salary Index (MSI) released on Tuesday.

The average gross salary in the construction sector, according to study by job portal Monster India, is ₹259 per hour; in education it is ₹186.50 per hour, healthcare ₹215 per hour, legal ₹215.6 per hour, and the average salary in the manufacturing and transport ₹230.90 per hour.

Moreover, the new government's initiatives on economic revival has industry executives upbeat about salary hikes across sectors.

"Considering the limited talent across categories, a spurt in salaries looks obvious this year," said S Varadarajan, head, corporate affairs at Vistara, the recently launched joint venture airline of Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines.

"The country is on the edge of a new wave of development that is expected to deliver jobs and prosperity to millions, which has a direct correlation with salary and income," said Sanjay Modi, Monster India's MD for India, West Asia, Southeast Asia and Hong Kong.

However, the IT sector, which employs 3 million Indians directly and another 9.5 million indirectly, is not immune to gender pay gap. On an average, women earn 34% less than men. "While we have seen a great increase in the number of women in supervisory positions, this does not



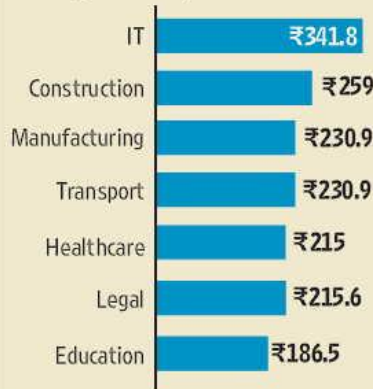
■ The office of an infotech MNC in Bangalore

FILE PHOTO

IT PAYS TO BE HERE

Technology is the most lucrative sector to work in India according to Monster Salary Index

Average salaries per hour



GENDER BENDER

₹259.8 Estimated pay for men across sectors in India

₹190.5 Estimated amount earned by women

DOMESTIC VS FOREIGN

Hourly earnings by workers in different cos

₹115 in companies owned by Indians

₹141.1 in wholly domestic firms

₹256.3 in partly domestic and partly foreign-owned firms

₹409.4 in wholly foreign-owned firms

Figures refer to earnings per hour

reflect in their salaries," the report said. This disparity is common across the world, including the US, the study said.

"The two welcome highlights are that the finance sector has emerged high in the league of lucrative careers. Secondly the gender pay gap is 19%, which is lower than the average in the Indian economy. On the other hand, in the IT sector, which leads the game, the gender pay gap is a very high 34%," Modi commented.

The Monster Salary Index

is a joint initiative of Monster India and Paycheck.in. IIM-Ahmedabad is the research partner in the study.

The report looked into overall average wages in India as well in several key sectors for the period between the first quarter of 2012 and December 2014.

The sample used for the analysis consists of 35,929 respondents, approximately 85.7% of which are men and the remaining 14.3% women and captures the organised sector.

Deccan Herald ND 21/01/2015 P-4

Edn sans borders: DU to launch Massive Open Online Courses

NEW DELHI, PTI: The Delhi University is all set to launch its series of Massive Open Online Courses later this month.

The MOOC is a system aimed at unlimited participation and open access via the web. It does not always quantify as formal education but

provides a platform to study quality courses from institutions offering them, usually for free.

"DU will be offering a series of MOOC which will be open and accessible to everyone across the globe. The courses will be free of cost," said Malay

Neerav, media coordinator and joint dean of Students Welfare, Delhi University.

"The first course in the series will be 'India in 21st century'. It will include 10 lectures all of which will be delivered by Vice-Chancellor Dinesh Singh himself," he added.

"The first MOOC will kick-start from January 30. The enrolments for the course will be announced soon," Neerav said, adding "in the initial phase, the interactive facility will be available at four colleges — Aryhabhatta College, Maharaja Agrasen College, IP

College for Women and Keshav Mahavidyalya".

The students enrolling in MOOC at DU will be given a certificate for the short-term but non credit courses, subject to approval by the varsity's academic council which is meeting on Wednesday.

Students and members of the DU community can access the course through the varsity's internet network.

"Other people worldwide can access the course by enrolling and viewing it through the DU website," said Ashum Gupta, advisor of DU MOOC.

Business Standard ND 21/01/2015 P-24

B-schools back to achieving 100% placement record

H SARASWATHY & KALPANA PATHAK
Mumbai, 20 January

The pre-2008 days in final placements are back. Not only are companies doling out offers and business schools achieving 100 per cent placement in a matter of few days. Salary levels have also gone up 10-25 per cent.

At the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, Delhi, 219 students were placed in two weeks across 69 companies. The institute said foreign offers moved up to 13 with the highest salary of \$10,000 per annum by a US-based company. The highest domestic salary also surpassed an annual figure of ₹24 lakh.

At Management Development Institute (MDI), Gurgaon, there is a 50 per cent increase in the num-

ber of companies offering pre-placement offers (PPOs), compared to last year. The companies that offered PPOs include JP Morgan, Goldman Sachs, Colgate Palmolive, Coca-Cola, Pepsi, HSBC, Citibank and Dabur, among others.

Kanwal Kapil, chairperson-placements, MDI Gurgaon, said the package offered this year saw around 15 per cent increase compared to the ₹14.74 lakh package last year.

At Institute of Management Technology (IMT), Ghaziabad, 50 per cent of the batch was placed on day zero, and 80 per cent of the batch within the first week of placements.

With unparalleled interest and support from companies across industries and verticals, be it automobiles, manufactur-



E-commerce and technology firms recruiting in good numbers

ing and FMCG, students of the 2014-15 batch have been snapped up by large consulting firms, including Deloitte, KPMG and Ernst & Young, top pharma companies, big names from the corporate world like Microsoft, Google, Snapdeal L'Oreal and

Café Coffee Day.

"The current season has witnessed visits of over 90 companies from varied corporate sectors to the IMT campus. The average domestic pay package is above ₹10 lakh, and the highest domestic pay package offered is ₹23,00,000 per annum," the institute said.

IMT has also capped up a placement record for its PGDM (Executive) programme where industry bigwigs like Idea Cellular, Cummins, Accenture, Wipro, Snapdeal, Audi, Honda, Bacardi and Videocon partici-

pated in the placements. For the PGDM (Executive) programme the highest domestic pay package offered was ₹19 lakh per annum.

At Mumbai-based

NMIMS School of Business Management, there have been over 170 pre-placement offers. Debashish Sanyal, vice-provost (management education) & dean-SBM, said the performance has been exceptional. "Over 170 PPOs/PPIs have been received on account of exemplary performance of students during their internships, and the number of confirmed accepted offers would be around 110," he said.

Sanyal said salary packages have also gone up. Companies that have extended offers include

Goldman Sachs, ICICI Bank, JP Morgan, Asian Paints, GE, ITC, Marico, Microsoft, Bank of America, CRISIL, Cappemini, Nomura, Castrol, Dabur, HCCB, Cognizant Consulting, Cummins, HDFC Bank, Pidilite, Eaton, Idea Cellular, Kellogg's, TATA Motors, Vodafone, Flipkart, Wipro, Janssen and People Strong.

At other schools like SP Jain Institute of Management and Research, officials said while the final placement process was yet to begin, the number of PPOs has been better than last year.

MANUFACTURING SECTOR GOES SLOW ON HIRING

Hiring by e-commerce and information technology sectors on campuses has gone up, but manufacturing and conglomerates are going slow on recruitment. A placement official at a Mumbai-based B-school said while manufacturing companies have been slower in hiring intent this year, they are not completely staying away. "We have been informed by companies that the number of hires compared to last year could be reduced by 30-35 per cent this year," the official said.

IIT Goa loses to Gujarat

Basant Kumar Mohanty

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1150121/jsp/nation/story_9484.jsp#.VL9iGOGIhWU

New Delhi, Jan. 20: The Centre has dropped plans to seek American handholding for the proposed Indian Institute of technology in Goa that is expected to start classes from this summer, government sources told **The Telegraph**.

They couldn't explain the reason but said IIT Gandhinagar was poised to receive US technical support instead. A joint declaration of intent might be issued during President Barack Obama's upcoming Delhi visit.

Smriti Irani's human resource development ministry and the United States Agency for International Development are likely to issue the declaration.

Top American institutions had helped India set up IIT Kanpur in 1960 while the Soviet Union, Germany and Britain did the honours for the institutes in Mumbai, Chennai and Delhi. IIT Kharagpur became operational with help from a team of resource persons from Germany.

All the eight IITs the UPA government established between 2008 and 2010, including the one in Gandhinagar, came up with support from the older IITs, styled "mentor institutes".

For example, IIT Bombay mentored IIT Gandhinagar, sending teachers and guiding the new institute every step

of the way.

After the Narendra Modi government assumed power, it decided to set up five new IITs in Goa, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.

Irani's ministry had planned to seek American support for the Goa tech school while the rest were to be mentored by the older IITs. But plans to take the matter up during Modi's America trip in September did not succeed, officials said.

Although the government has now decided to drop Goa in favour of Gandhinagar, similar support could be sought for the new IITs later, they added.

Under the plan, a consortium of American universities, research labs and industries will help IIT Gandhinagar in the areas of research and development and entrepreneurship. A joint IIT task force will facilitate the dialogue.

The ministry has received site proposals for four of the planned new IITs, which may come up in Tirupati (Andhra), Panaji (Goa), Palakkad (Kerala) and Raipur or Bhilai (Chhattisgarh). No proposal has yet come for the fifth, to come up in Jammu and Kashmir.

All the new IITs are expected to start functioning from the next academic session. The existing 16 institutes offer 10,000 undergraduate seats. The new ones are likely to admit 120 BTech students each this year.

Kochi students have got 'IIT' in them

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kochi/Kochi-students-have-got-IIT-in-them/articleshow/45737805.cms>

KOCHI: Students from Kochi are beating their rivals from Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode in the race for IITs.

While Kozhikode tops the list of students appearing for the IIT entrance exam, Kochi students have fared better when it comes to clearing the hurdle.

From 4,127 students who registered from Kerala for the IIT entrance from Kerala in 2014, 1,558 of them belonged to Kozhikode, followed by Kochi (1,462) and Thiruvananthapuram (1,128).

Interestingly, those qualifying from Kozhikode were lesser. As per the joint implementation committee report prepared by IIT Kharagpur after analysing JEE (advanced) 2014 data, 186 students from Kochi qualified for IITs, followed by Thiruvananthapuram (145) and Kozhikode (140).

But from the total 1.27 lakh students who appeared for IIT entrance exams, only 4,127 students are from Kerala, with only about 1.75% students qualifying.

At the all-India level, maximum number of students joined IIT from Hyderabad (2,337), followed by Jaipur (2,780) and Vijayawada (1,448). The lowest was Gangtok, where none of the 28 students who registered for the exam qualified.

About Kochi students doing well, educationists said that awareness about IITs was better in Kochi when compared to other cities in Kerala.

"Some CBSE schools in Kochi, Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode encourage students to appear for IIT exams. However, students from state schools are not really interested in appearing for the exams as they have the false notion that only CBSE students can make it to IITs," said career consultant P R Venkitaraman. Due to this, most coaching centres for IIT entrance are centred in these three areas, with majority of them in Kochi.

It is not just the lack of adequate coaching centres, there is also a mindset problem as Malayalis prefer medical courses or local engineering colleges. "Students are more interested in seeking admissions to MBBS rather than joining IITs. But we expect this mindset to change once we get our own IIT in Palakkad," said higher education department additional secretary M Sherif, who is also the liaison officer for IIT Palakkad.

Though Kochi fares better than Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode when it comes of IIT admission, educationists believe that the state's education system has not really evolved to encourage students to prepare for all-India entrance exams.