

Newspaper Clips January 27-28, 2016

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Deccan Herald, Jan 28, 2016

Sopory demits office as JNU VC, IIT prof Jagadeesh Kumar takes over

NEW DELHI: IIT Delhi professor Jagdeesh Kumar on Wednesday took over the reins of the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) from outgoing Vice Chancellor S K Sopory, and asserted his focus would be on strengthening the varsity's "heterogeneous" character.

Sopory, a favorite among students and teachers, was given a farewell which was attended by Deans and Directors of various schools and departments of the varsity.

A molecular biologist, Sopory began his academic career in 1973 as a faculty at JNU's School of Life Sciences.

From making the governance at varsity paperless to resumption of the students' union, Sopory is credited with

introducing several new departments and courses besides revamping the sexual harassment policy of the university which now also has penalty provisions for fake cases.

Taking a strong stand, Sopory had also lashed out at comments made by a pro-RSS journal that JNU was home to "huge anti-national block", saying the varsity is home to "intellectuals" and not anti-nationals and has contributed considerably to nation building.

The new VC, Jagadeesh Kumar, who was a professor of electrical engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, said his focus will be on "nation building" and strengthening the varsity's heteroge-

neous character.

The President, as Visitor of all central universities, selected Kumar from a panel of four eminent persons, including scientist V S Chauhan, coordinator of the National Centre of Applied Human Genetics, JNU, R N K Bamezai and Ramakrishna Ramaswamy of the Department of Physical Sciences, JNU.

Kumar, a karate expert, was born in Mamidala, Nalgonda district, Andhra Pradesh.

He was also the organising chairman of Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering GATE, 2012, with the overall responsibility of organising the test across India in 860 centers spread over 170 cities/towns.

PTI

Tribun ND 28/01/2016 P-7

Jagadeesh Kumar takes over as JNU VC

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 27

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IIT Professor Jagadeesh Kumar Takes Over As JNU Vice Chancellor

<http://www.ndtv.com/delhi-news/iit-professor-jagadeesh-kumar-takes-over-as-jnu-vice-chancellor-1270757>

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Amar Ujala ND 28/01/2016 P-1

अगले साल से खत्म होगा जेईई मेन का अस्तित्व

20 फरवरी को आईआईटी की जैब लेगी फैसला, अमेरिका की सैट जैसी परीक्षा, साल में दो बार आयोजन

संतोष सिंह

कानपुर। आईआईटी, एनआईटी, ट्रिपल आईटी, आईएसएम धनबाद और जीएफटी में एडमिशन के ज्वाइंट एंट्रेंस टेस्ट (जेईई) मेन का अस्तित्व सत्र 2017-18 से खत्म हो जाएगा। इसी सिलसिले में 20 फरवरी को ज्वाइंट एडमिशन बोर्ड (जैब) की मीटिंग हैदराबाद में बुलाई गई है। इसमें ज्वाइंट एंट्रेंस टेस्ट (जेईई) एडवांस के सभी चेयरमैन और आईआईटी के डायरेक्टर हिस्सा लेंगे।

साथ ही देश के प्रमुख इंजीनियरिंग, प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों में एडमिशन की एक प्रवेश परीक्षा (जेईई एडवांस) पर फैसला करेंगे। एक अर्हताकारी परीक्षा पर भी

जेईई एडवांस से आईआईटी, एनआईटी, ट्रिपल आईटी, आईएसएम धनबाद, जीएफटी की सीटें भरेंगी



04

लाख स्टूडेंट भर सकेंगे योग्यता परीक्षा पास करने वाले जेईई एडवांस का फार्म

बनेंगे नए नियम

जैब ही आईआईटी की खाली सीटों को भरने का नया नियम बनाएगी। इस दिशा में काम शुरू हो गया है। सत्र 2017-18 का जेईई एडवांस कौन आईआईटी कराएगा, इस पर भी जैब की मुहर लगेगी।



एनएटी का जो फार्मेट मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय को दिया है, उसका परीक्षण 20 फरवरी को जैब करेगी। गाइडलाइंस बनाकर टेस्ट में शामिल होने का फैसला लेगी। इस टेस्ट का आयोजन एक अथॉरिटी को करना है, जिसका गठन मंत्रालय से होगा। अथॉरिटी ही साल में दो बार एलिजिबिलिटी टेस्ट कराके स्कोर कार्ड जारी करेगा। स्कोर कार्ड धारक ही जेईई एडवांस का फार्म भरकर पेपर देगे। - प्रो. एसएन सिंह, चेयरमैन, जेईई, आईआईटी कानपुर परिक्षेत्र



क्या है जेईई मेन

जेईई मेन वहालीफाई करने वालों को ही आईआईटी में एडमिशन का मौका मिल पाता है। इसमें सफल ढाई लाख स्टूडेंट जेईई एडवांस का फार्म भरते और पेपर देते हैं। सत्र 2016-17 में भी ऐसा होगा। जेईई मेन और बोर्ड मावर्स को लेकर जो मॉरिट बनती है, उससे एनआईटी, ट्रिपल आईटी और जीएफटी की सीटें भरी जाती हैं।

फैसला संभव है, जिसका आयोजन साल में दो बार कराया जाना है। अमेरिका के स्कूलैस्टिक एपीटीयूई टेस्ट (सैट) की तरह ही देश के प्रमुख इंजीनियरिंग, प्रौद्योगिकी

संस्थानों में एडमिशन की एक व्यवस्था होगी। सत्र 2017-18 से ही साल में दो बार नेशनल एलिजिबिलिटी टेस्ट (एनएटी) कराया जाएगा। इसमें फिजिक्स,

केमिस्ट्री, मैथमेटिक्स और अंग्रेजी के प्रश्न पूछे जाएंगे। जिन चार लाख स्टूडेंटों के स्कोर अच्छे होंगे, उन्हें जेईई एडवांस का पेपर देने का मौका मिलेगा। इसमें सफलता के

बाद ही आईआईटी, एनआईटी, ट्रिपल आईटी और जीएफटी में एडमिशन मिल सकेगा। अभी एडवांस से सिर्फ आईआईटी की सीटें भरी जाती हैं।

Govin Capital signs agreement with IIT Madras Incubation Cell

<http://www.livemint.com/Companies/CN3PObKEta47N9FSrWT1VL/Govin-Capital-signs-agreement-with-IIT-Madras-Incubation-Cell.html>

Govin Capital to accelerate Med-tech and Life-Sciences start-ups from the wider IITM community

Chennai: Singapore-based Govin Capital signed an agreement with Indian Institute of Technology Madras Incubation Cell to offer Bio-Entrepreneurial education and accelerate Med-tech and Life-Sciences start-ups from the wider IITM community.

Govin Capital is focused on early-stage medtech and technology startups in Singapore and India will also be mentoring start-ups at IITM's bio-incubator and medtech Incubator and organize events such as boot camps in venture financing and private equity.

IIT Madras Incubation Cell seeks to nurture technology and knowledge based ventures through their start-up phase by providing the necessary support to help survive and scale forward in the competitive market space.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Engg admissions fall for first time since '06

BY PRASHANT K. NANDA
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NEW DELHI

The growth of technical education in India since Independence has been phenomenal as the number of engineering seats increased from 3,200 seats in 1947 to 1.9 million in 2014-15.

But now, for the first time since 2006, its growth has taken a correction in the face of poor employability of engineering graduates and sluggish job creation.

The total intake of engineering colleges in India has fallen to 1.84 million in 2015-16 from 1.9 million in 2014-15, an all-time high, according to data compiled by technical education regulator All India Council for Technical Education.

"The growth of technical education in the country before Independence was very slow. The number of engineering colleges and polytechnics (including pharmacy and architecture institutions) in 1947 was 44 and 43, with an intake capacity of 3,200 and 3,400, respectively," according to the regulator's website.

Policy initiatives through five-year plans and participation of private and voluntary organisations in setting up technical institutions on a self-financing basis has also helped the growth in number of engineering seats, says the regulator.

But in recent times poor quality of education and lack of job creation have given rise to the debate over whether there is a glut of engineers, which led the AICTE to ease the process for closure of technical colleges in the country, *Mint* reported on 27 January.

"There is over supply and this needs to be streamlined by easing the closure of ailing institutions and departments in sectors such as engineering and management," said a government

official who declined to be named.

"The dip in number is a good indicator and suggests that the professional education space is becoming rational," the official said.

India has nearly 3,500 engineering colleges and the technical education regulator is making a fresh count; the figures are likely to be released soon. AICTE chairman Anil Sahasrabudhe did not respond to calls or a text message seeking his response.

Harivansh Chaturvedi, alternate president of education promotion society of India, an association of professional education providers, said that institutions are slowly realising that unless they become competitive and industry worthy, it will be tough to attract students or survive.

"Employability is a key challenge for all education stakeholders: institutions, industry and authorities. You may see the number going down further in coming years," said Chaturvedi, who is also the director of Birla Institute of Management and Technology (BIMTECH) in Greater Noida.

S.S. Mantha, a ex-chairman of the AICTE, said quality is an issue in the technical education space in India.

"There are three categories: very good, above average and below average institutes and students taking admission there. The question is can we as a country shut down these lower-rung institutions, that too while the talking about access and equity," Mantha said.

"The other question is everyone beats up the supply side but what about the demand side: do we have five million jobs a year for five million youth who are graduating annually? If you flip the employability vs job debate, you will realize that job creation is much lower than what it should be in last several years," he added.

Improved rankings through focused efforts: B-schools

BS REPORTERS

Mumbai/Ahmedabad/Bangalore/
Hyderabad, 27 January

In 2013, when Ashish Nanda took over as the director at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A), one of his foremost wishes, he said, was for the institute to connect well internationally, going beyond student exchange programmes.

Looking at its performance in the *Financial Times* (FT) Global MBA Ranking, 2016 of top full-time global MBA programmes, IIM-A may well have begun connecting well internationally. The Indian B-school's post graduate programme for executives (PGPX) this year has emerged top ranked among Indian B-schools featuring in the FT Global MBA Ranking 2016, improving its rank from 26 last year to 24 this year. Notably, IIM-A was ranked first globally for career progress of its one-year full-time residential programme alumni, moving up from second rank in the FT Global MBA Ranking 2015 and beating marquee names such as Harvard Business School and Insead among others.

Ashish Nanda, director of IIM-A said, "Rankings are useful for benchmarking how we are doing compared to peer institutions. We are pleased that the institute continues to be highly regarded for the quality of education and career opportunities it provides to its students. We will endeavour to maintain excellence in the educational experience."

The B-school also improved on several aspects of campus diversity, such as percentage of female faculty, female students and international students. At IIM-A, both percentage of female faculty and female students were reported at 19 per cent, while percentage of international

WHO STANDS WHERE

	2015	2016
INSEAD	4	1
Harvard Business School	1	2
London Business School	2	3
IIM-A	26	24
ISB	33	29
IIM-B	82	62

Source: Financial Times

students stood at 4 per cent.

While the PGPX requires prior work experience, the share of students with work experience has been climbing at IIM-A, even for the two-year post graduate programme in management (PGP). The 2014-16 batch of PGP had 63.2 per cent of the students with work experience, which went up to 64.65 per cent for the 2015-17 batch. IIM-A plans to increase it to 80-85 per cent of its students by 2020-21.

One of the steps it has recently taken is a scheme during admissions, where selected candidates with less than three years of prior work experience are assured seats through deferred admissions. The candidates are, instead, encouraged to get work experience before coming back to join. The institute has been making efforts to increase diversity on its campus too. For instance, according to Nanda, specific steps such as introduction of supernumerary seats for international students and revisions to its admissions process have been taken in order to achieve increased campus diversity.

Having debuted in 2011 at 11th position in the FT Global MBA Ranking, IIM-A had maintained its position in 2012 before falling to 26 and later 30 in 2013 and 2014, respectively. However, the premier B-school has since then gone

on to improve on its position to 26th place in 2015 and now 24th position this year.

The Indian School of Business (ISB), the only private school from India to figure in the rankings, has bagged the 29th position this year, up four places from 2015.

While the 2016 rankings are based on the opinions of alumni belonging to 2012 batch and their performance in the last three years, one of the notable contributors to ISB moving four levels up in the rankings was its performance on the research front. ISB was the only Indian business school that figured in the University of Texas-Dallas (UT-Dallas) research rankings released recently. This is also reflected in FT's ranking when it comes to research as a

parameter.

A big differentiator has been the tenure track system followed by ISB with regard to the performance of its faculty in research work. Under this system, ISB faculty members are required to publish their research papers in top international publications with peer review in a span of six-seven years. Those who fail to publish their papers will have to move out of the institute.

Having a research paper published in a top international journal is a big accomplishment for a faculty member as the acceptance rate is typically just 2 per cent. Since its inception, the ISB faculty have contributed more than 150 articles to reputed international journals, according to the institute.

IISc research offers hope for those with Alzheimer's

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/IISc-research-offers-hope-for-those-with-Alzheimers/articleshow/50750326.cms>

Dr Vijayalakshmi Ravindranath, chairperson at Centre for Neuro Sciences at IISc, is using an extract of the ashwagandha root (an ayurvedic plant extract) on mice with Alzheimer's disease. Her preliminary finding is that it can reverse memory loss.

The Tatas have pledged an Rs 75 crore grant for the research being done on the IISc campus.

virgin coconut oils is very good for ppl suffering from alziemers . 4 tablespoon full 3 times a day will show positive r...

Read Moreash

"Research worldwide both in pharmaceutical companies and academia have failed to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease. There is far less optimism as most drugs have failed in clinical trials. We need to leverage the knowledge base of the traditional system of medicine, such as ayurveda, which have been practised for more than 2,000 years. Understanding the knowledge base of these systems of medicine and using it effectively in the modern context is essential as we are set to see a

"We are now purifying the mixture and reducing the effective dose. What is interesting is the way the ashwagandha worked in the mice. The extract did not work directly on the brain. Instead it enhanced a protein in the liver that is broken down and released into the blood to act as a sink for the amy- loid and helps pull out the amyloid from the brain," she added.

The 2015 Nobel Prize for medicine was won by Chinese scientist Tu You- you's for her discovery of artemisinin, a drug based on traditional Chinese herbal medicine. The drug is now part of standard anti-malarial regimens.

IISc scientists work on tool for 3D sketching

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/525573/iisc-scientists-work-tool-3d.html>

Bengaluru, Jan 28, 2016, DHNS

Can dramatically reduce product development time



Scientists at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) are working on a high-tech 3D sketching tool that will allow designers to sketch on a 3D canvas with better precision and control.

This, scientists say, will not only eliminate the need to convert 2D sketches into 3D format but also help save time while providing designers creative freedom. Dibaker Sen, Associate Professor, Centre for Product Design and Manufacturing, IISc, who is also one of the authors of the study, told Deccan Herald that this tool can dramatically reduce the product development time while eliminating many concept level mistakes right in the beginning.

The tool will also be equipped with stereoscopic vision to control the inability to touch and feel a 3D sketch and haptic feedback, a technology used in touch screens of smart phones.

Although such technologies already exist, they do not provide users precision and control while creating strokes in 3D and lack a certain 'feel of control' during the sketching process, say scientists. IISc scientists are now working on an interactive 3D sketching tool that could provide visual feedback, a feel of the object while sketching and enhance a designer's abilities to make efficient product sketches while designing a new product. The tool could also provide the designer the creative freedom to explore the new design.

Researchers have also used algorithms such as curve fitting, where the jagged freehand sketches could be made into smooth and orderly curves.

These algorithms provide a platform which leverages the advantages of both sketch and computer aided design, thus allowing for clear images while maintaining the creative freedom of sketching.

Prasad S Onkar from Department of Design at IIT, Hyderabad is also working in collaboration to create this tool.

AICTE reduces land requirement for opening engineering schools

<http://www.livemint.com/Home-Page/y1107pcehZ0EKmuiRdloEK/Land-AICTE.html>

New tech colleges can be set up on 1.5 acres in cities, 7.5 acres in rural areas, down from 2.5 and 10 acres respectively

New Delhi: Technical education regulator the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has reduced the land requirement to set up engineering schools, along with ushering in measures to improve quality, facilitate closure of ailing schools and tide over chronic shortage of teachers.

According to the new approval process document that AICTE has prepared for technical schools for the coming academic year, new engineering colleges can come up on just 1.5 acres of land in mega and metro cities and on 7.5 acres in rural areas. *Mint* has reviewed a copy of the document.

Earlier, the requirement was 2.5 acres and 10 acres, respectively.

The move is seen as an attempt by the AICTE to tide over land crunch in the country and also reflects the new thinking that the horizontal sprawl of an educational institution is no longer required in the present context.

Instead, institutions have been encouraged to go vertical, up to 10 storeys, provided building by-laws in the region allow such construction.

The AICTE move, applicable from this year, comes ahead of a similar exercise that the human resource development (HRD) ministry was mulling for Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management and central universities.

That plan is yet to be finalized.

AICTE MEASURES FOR TECHNICAL INSTITUTES

- Lower land requirement for starting engineering schools in metro cities and rural India
- Similar plan afoot for new IITs, IIMs, central universities by the HRD ministry
- 20% of faculty can be non-regular adjunct teachers or industry veterans to reduce shortage
- Progressive closure allowed for ailing colleges
- Minimum three-year AICTE affiliation, up from one, if 50% of the courses are NBA accredited
- Impetus for NBA accreditation for starting new courses such as a five-year integrated management programme

“For the past year, HRD ministry has been debating about reduction in land requirement. AICTE administration believes horizontal sprawl is no more possible or desirable in education sector,” said a government official, requesting anonymity.

Under the new approval manual, the regulator has decided to grant affiliation to technical institutions, such as engineering and management schools, for a minimum period of three years if at least 50% of the courses offered by them have been accredited by the National Board of Accreditation (NBA). Right now, all technical institutes are required to apply for fresh affiliation every year from the AICTE.

The NBA, autonomous body under the HRD ministry, accredits individual courses.

Technical schools, especially the reputed ones, have been demanding affiliation for longer duration.

“In the case of institutions having at least 50% of eligible courses accredited by NBA, and if the valid accreditation period is more than one year, that is, up to 10 April 2017, the period of approval for such institutions shall be for a period of a minimum of three years, or the academic year up to which the accreditation is valid—whichever is more,” stated the AICTE document. It has also made NBA accreditation an enabler for increasing student intake and starting courses.

Some 11,000 technical schools function under the purview of AICTE.

The regulator has also brought in a measure allowing for “progressive closure”, under which ailing technical schools will find it easier to shut shop. It will allow an educational entrepreneur to shut a college over a period of time. The move will thus take care of students who have already taken admission.

“The institute may apply for complete closure or progressive closure. In the case of complete closure, the institute shall be closed completely in one instance. In the case of progressive closure, closure at the first-year

level shall be allowed in the current academic year. The subsequent years of working shall lapse at the end of each academic year progressively,” the regulator said in the document.

The move is in line with the AICTE’s plan to cut the number of engineering and management schools that have mushroomed in the last few years. It aims to reduce total number of undergraduate engineering seats by as much as 40%, or by 600,000, over the next few years by facilitating the closure of institutes, *Mint* reported on 20 September.

Besides, it has allowed technical schools to have 20% guest faculty, a move that both education providers and administrators believe will address the teacher crunch and improve industry collaborations.

The AICTE said that 20% of the teaching staff in a technical school can be appointed as adjunct faculty, or resource persons, from industry.

“The 20% relaxation in faculty recruitment will allow us to bring people with industry experience. This will improve the industry-academia relationship and help tide over teaching staff shortage,” said R. Panicker, the director general of Indo Global Colleges, a chain of private professional colleges in Punjab.

Arundhati Bhattacharya appointed chairperson of IIM Sambalpur

http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/arundhati-bhattacharya-appointed-chairpersoniim-sambalpur_5153181.html

Arundhati Bhattacharya has been named the chairperson of Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Sambalpur for the next five years starting January 15. Arundhati Bhattacharya has been named the chairperson of Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Sambalpur for the next five years starting January 15. | 2 Comments Arundhati Bhattacharya appointed chairperson of IIM Sambalpur SBI chief Arundhati Bhattacharya has been appointed as the chairperson of the Society and Board of Governors of IIM Sambalpur, according to an official release. Arundhati Bhattacharya has been named the chairperson of Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Sambalpur for the next five years starting January 15. She is the first woman to lead an India-based Fortune-500 company and joined the SBI in 1977 as a probationary officer and held several positions during her long career at the largest bank of the country. Mentored by IIM Indore, IIM Sambalpur is among the six new IIMs which got approval of the government in the 2014-15 budget, the release said. Other new IIMs are IIM Vishakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), IIM Bodh Gaya (Bihar), IIM Sirmaur (Himachal Pradesh), IIM Nagpur (Maharashtra) and IIM Amritsar (Punjab).

January 27

Times Of India ND 27/01/2016 P-09

IIT-Hyderabad develops 'pendant' that can monitor heart rhythm

U.Tejonmayam@timesgroup.com

Chennai: It requires a trained medical professional to interpret ECG signals for any abnormality in heartbeat. Now, a 5mm chipset that can be worn as a pendant, though connected to ECG leads on the chest, can do that job and minimise hospital stay.

The chipset developed at Indian Institute of Technology-Hyderabad can monitor heartbeat and send an alert to the user and the doctor on variations in heart rhythm if it requires medical attention. The chip with 'embedded intelligence' helps maintain the medical history of the user. The technology, which has shown close to 95% accuracy during initial tests, will soon undergo field trials.

Studies have found that global prevalence of heart-related diseases will increase by almost 75% by 2020. The existing devices do not have the capability to process and interpret



The technology, which has shown close to 95% accuracy during initial tests, will soon undergo field trials

data for medical intervention.

The chipset records heartbeats through ECG leads attached to a body and processes the data. If it finds variation from the normal rhythm of heart that requires medical help, it activates the rest of the chip. The chipset, which is connected to a smartphone, alerts the user through an installed application. The app also alerts and transmits ECG signals to a doctor,

whose contact details are stored. When there is no variation in heart rhythm, the rest of the chip does not get activated, thereby saving power.

Assistant professor at Advanced Embedded System and IC Design Laboratory Amit Acharyya said the technology has novelties, including an embedded intelligence that can interpret the difference between ECG abnormalities that may or may not require medical attention.

"There are several wearable devices that can keep track of the heart rhythm. But they are all connected to a central server to which the ECG signals are transmitted and later interpreted by a professional," Acharyya said. "Our chip does all of this, yet consuming as little as one milliwatt battery power," he added. "When compared to a chip that can store five hours of data, our chip can save 35 hours of data in a compressed format," said Acharyya.

Hindustan Times ND 27/01/2016

P-16

IIT-B, Thales sign MoU

French multinational Thales and Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to create a jointly supervised IIT Bombay-CNRS PhD fellowship scheme starting July 2016.

Through this fellowship scheme, Thales and IIT Bombay seek to fortify the Indo-French scientific collaboration including cross-cooperation between laboratories and R&D (Research & Development) for industrial applications.

Millennium Post ND 27/01/2016P-08

Free campuses of political patronage

For a Vice-Chancellor to stand his ground, tutelage of political bosses should not be his sole merit

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

SIDHARTH
MISHRA



On its part, the Narendra Modi government also needs to understand that its ministers are meant to engage themselves with larger issues than hold a press conference on campus violence. ABVP can win campus battles of ideology only through its own strength and not the adrenaline provided by any government. If Rahul Gandhi is being incorrect in taking partisan position in students' politics, the Modi government is committing a grave mistake in giving him the opportunity for it

We are in the midst of Republic Day celebrations.

With the French president in town, the media space has been grabbed by issues related to terrorism and strategic partnership. 'The Republic' for the time being has decided to put the Dalit research scholar's suicide in Hyderabad University on the back burner. Rahul Gandhi is busy rescuing peasants in Bundelkhand, Arvind Kejriwal is now battering the Prime Minister for not making the country safe for Karan Johar's sexual preferences and HRD Minister Smriti Irani has decided to send the Hyderabad University Vice-Chancellor on an indefinite leave.

The story in Hyderabad University is about rival political groups contesting each other to establish dominance on campus. What is so unusual about it? Student groups do battle it out on campuses. But seldom do we hear of such rivalries turning so bitter that somebody is pushed to take the extreme step of committing suicide. This is worse than the actual physical violence committed by student groups on campus.

As we have witnessed in the past, violence perpetrated by student bodies on the campus can be dealt with an iron hand. Be it Mamoodur Rahman in Aligarh, MA Zaki in Jamia or Hari Gautam in Benares Hindu University, they all dealt with the crisis on their campus with a very firm hand and managed to contain the violence. They could do it because they were generally seen to be non-partisan administrators.

Closer to home, I am reminded of veteran jurist Upendra Baxi, who was the Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University during the turbulent anti-Mandal Commission agitation days. He had come to address the first big anti-government "Mashal



Union Minister Smriti Irani flanked by Ministers Vijay Sanpla, Thaawar Chand Gehlot, and Nirmala Sitharaman at a press meet

"Jaloos" (torchlight procession) on campus. He had climbed into his ambassador car and addressed the huge rally saying, "Carrying torches to register your protest is fine but please ensure that you don't end up torching your libraries and classrooms."

The anti-Mandal agitation was one of the biggest post-Independence student movements. The agitation was almost as big as the JP movement of the 1970s and it started from the Delhi University campus. It saw one Rajeev Goswami popularise the hitherto unheard cult of self-immolation. But all through the agitation, the Delhi University campus remained largely free of violence, despite rival groups sitting on protests at a distance of fewer than 500 metres.

This was possible because the teachers on campus, despite their well-pronounced ideological leanings, remained non-partisan in dealing with their students. The other day Congress veteran Purshottam Goyal, who taught economics at Shri Ram College of Commerce

(SRCC) for four decades, told your reporter, "When I recall my bright students, I realise several of them don the non-Congress colours, be it Arun Jaitley, Rajat Sharma (India TV) or for that matter Jagdish Mukhi (former Delhi Finance Minister)."

During the 1980s, DU was a centre for great ideological struggles. With Rajiv Gandhi rising as a youth icon, the Congress students body National Students Union of India (NSUI) was challenging the might of right-wing Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP). Ajay Maken (present Delhi Congress president) had in 1985 become first directly elected head of students union from the Congress benches. He had worsted Vijender Gupta, the present Leader of Opposition in Delhi Assembly.

During the next few years, NSUI and ABVP fought pitched battles in the DUSU polls. These polls were huge, spread over 80 colleges and across seven parliamentary constituencies. However, neither student body needed to draft the services of our coun-

try's HRD Minister to sort out their differences or teach a lesson to an opponent. A Jagdish Tytler (then Congress Minister from Delhi) or a Madanlal Khurana (then Delhi BJP stalwart) could have never written a note to anybody in the establishment to sort out campus rivalries.

I recall Vishwanath Pratap Singh visiting the campus and addressing a mammoth rally at Maurice Nagar Chowk after quitting the Rajiv Gandhi government. So did Arjun Singh, when he addressed a huge gathering in the Convocation Hall after quitting PV Narasimha Rao's government. Even BJP governments allowed space for ideological rivalries. Murli Manohar Joshi as HRD Minister did not take umbrage at Vice-Chancellor Deepak Nayyar for paying a courtesy call to Arjun Singh when he visited the Delhi School of Economics in 2002-03.

Political patronage to the ideological battles being fought on campuses is most uncalled for. This can be best resisted by people at the helm on the campuses, i.e. the

Vice-Chancellors and their team. But for a vice-chancellor to stand his ground, he is required to be an academic of eminence. The tutelage of political bosses cannot be his sole merit. The person should be a man or woman of character, possessed with the confidence to not act on the directions of the HRD Ministry, the way one Appa Rao Podile acted in Hyderabad.

On its part, the Narendra Modi government also needs to understand that its ministers are meant to engage themselves with larger issues than hold a press conference on campus violence. The ABVP can win campus ideological battles only through its own strength and not the adrenaline provided by any government. If Rahul Gandhi is being incorrect in taking a partisan position in student politics, the Modi government is committing a grave mistake in giving him the opportunity for it.

(The author is president Centre for Reforms, Development & Justice and Consulting Editor, Millennium Post. Views expressed are personal)

Expect tricky questions in this year's GATE

Gauri Kohli

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The Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE), an all-India entrance test to screen candidates for their comprehensive understanding of various undergraduate subjects in engineering, technology, architecture and postgraduate level subjects in science, will be conducted between January 30, 2016, and February 7.

WHAT'S NEW IN GATE 2016

GATE 2016 has gone through a few of changes from the previous edition. Announced by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, these changes will be incorporated from now on. An online virtual calculator will be available to candidates and no physical calculator will be allowed. The tool has been uploaded on the GATE 2016 website for practice before the test. In another first, all answer keys will be made available for dispute within a short time after the test. Every answer key can be challenged.

"GATE 2016 will check the basic knowledge of students, hence more conceptual questions are expected. Also, the questions may be more twisted and research-oriented this time. Students can use online calculators for solving questions, which will make it easy for them to complete the paper on time. Prepare five technical subjects in addition to math and general aptitude. Start your preparation with the subject which is your strength. Concentrate on the subjects which involve mathematics, formulae or logic," says Nitin Rakesh Prasad, co-founder, GATE Academy, a test preparation

toppertalk

I completed the general aptitude section in the first 10 minutes and started answering the two-mark questions in the subject section. Then I solved one-mark questions followed by the unanswered ones

DEEPAK R, all-India rank 2, GATE 2015

A score of 65 marks or more will get you a rank below 100. My advice to candidates is that they should attempt the one-mark questions first and then move on to the other questions. My aim in GATE 2015 was to answer 50 questions accurately

SHUBHAM NEEMA, all-India rank 4 GATE 2015

institute. The three-hour paper contains 65 questions carrying 100 marks, out of which 10 questions will be on general aptitude. "Prepare a list of important definitions, equations, derivations, theorems and laws in each subject. Analyse previous years' papers and start preparing for topics that have higher weightage," says JK Sinha, director, Gateforum.

Read the full story on www.hindustantimes.com/education

IIM Ahmedabad ranks 24 in FT's Global MBA Ranking 2016

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/education/iim-ahmedabad-ranks-24-in-fts-global-mba-ranking-2016/articleshow/50712545.cms>

MUMBAI: The Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad has been ranked 24th and the Indian School of Business and IIM Bangalore have taken 29th and 62nd places respectively in the Financial Times (FT) Global MBA Ranking 2016.

This ranking evaluates the world's best full-time MBA programmes.

IIMA was ranked number one worldwide for career progress of its alumni.

While IIM Ahmedabad has edged up two places in the overall list from 26th rank last year, ISB has moved up from 33rd spot and IIM Bangalore from 82nd last year.

Rankings for the three institutes in 2014 were 30, 36 and 68 respectively.

INSEAD tops the overall list, marking the first time that a one-year MBA has led the FT Global MBA Ranking. The other four places in the top 5 have been taken by Harvard Business School, London Business School, the Wharton School and Stanford Graduate School of Business respectively.

January 26

IIT Delhi Student Holds National Record for Solving Rubik's Cube

<http://www.nyoooz.com/chennai/333604/iit-delhi-student-holds-national-record-for-solving-rubiks-cube>

Summary: The IIT Delhi's mathematics and computing student holds the national record for solving a Rubik's cube in 6.91 seconds. "My brother bought me my first Rubik's cube about four years ago from a stationery shop. CHENNAI: Akash Rupela has a set of restless fingers — they quiver till they find a Rubik's cube to devour. A lot of kids have a Rubik's cube at home, but not many know how to solve one. These youngsters solving the cube are self-taught — well, nearly anyway.

CHENNAI: Akash Rupela has a set of restless fingers — they quiver till they find a Rubik's cube to devour. The IIT Delhi's mathematics and computing student holds the national record for solving a Rubik's cube in 6.91 seconds. What Akash does is called speed-cubing, or in common terms, turning the cube so fast that you can only see a blur of colours and fingers and solving it in a matter of seconds. In fact, the cube is 'broken in' with constant practice and lubricated so that it's easier to turn.

Finger tricks are also employed — the basic premise is that the sides of a cube can be flicked and turned by using just one finger. "My average time is 10 seconds. You can practice and bring down your solving speed, but after a point, it gets much tougher," he says, talking to City Express on the sidelines of Shastra's Cube Open. Chennai lad Kesava Kirupa Dinakaran, who holds the Guinness World Record for most cubes solved in one hour (293), concurs.

IISc genome expression expert gets Padma Shri

[Chethan Kumar](#) | TNN | Jan 25, 2016, 07.47 PM IST

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/IISc-genome-expression-expert-gets-Padma-Shri/articleshow/50720829.cms>

BENGALURU: Expertising in Genome Expression, Professor Dipankar Chatterji of the Indian Institute of Science has been conferred the Padma Shri.

Speaking with TOI Chatterji said: "There is a need for speedy release of money and increasing funds for science research in the country. While it has been good to see that stipends have been increased, more needs to be done."

Chatterji earned his BSc and MSc degrees in Chemistry from Jadavpur University, Kolkata and joined the Indian Institute of Science under the interdisciplinary programme of Molecular Biology for his PhD in 1973. E.coli is a type of bacteria and not protein. It would be great if you can correct this in your article. Ruchi Jhonsa

He worked for a year here and joined the School of Life Sciences at Hyderabad University as a lecturer in 1978 before leaving for the US to carry out postdoctoral work at Albert Einstein College, New York and subsequently at the University of New York at Stony Brook.

In January 1999, he moved to join as a Professor in Molecular Biophysics Unit of Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore and held a Chair of Molecular Biology And Genetics Unit till 2005. He is an Adjunct Professor, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Kolkata and a Distinguished Research Professor, Institute of Life Sciences, Hyderabad.

Before his return to IISc in 1999, Chatterji was working with after a stint at Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology

(CCMB), Hyderabad where he worked on transcription mechanism in E. coli, a type of protein. Chatterji's current interest includes the role of omega factor in bacterial transcription and genome expression.

Scientist VK Aatre gets Padma Vibhushan

[Chethan Kumar](#) | TNN | Jan 25, 2016, 05.01 PM IST

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/Scientist-VK-Aatre-gets-Padma-Vibhushan/articleshow/50718667.cms>



Vasudev Kalkunte Aatre

BENGALURU: Prominent Scientist Vasudev Kalkunte Aatre, former chief of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), has been conferred with the Padma Vibhushan, the second highest civilian award in India.

Speaking to TOI, Aatre, based out of Bengaluru urged scientists not to get bogged down by minor issues. "The issues, regardless of what they are must be perceived as challenges and scientists must be committed to the science that they are working on. They must realise that their work is for India as a nation," he said.

The former Advisor to the Defence Minister, an alumnus of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) is among the top defence scientists in the country along with people like P Rama Rao, who were key in setting newer challenges and goals. Other scientists like Prahalada, D Banerjee and V G Sekaran have all played key roles in the development of DRDO, but they came much later.

Born in 1939 at Bangalore, Aatre received BE (Electrical) from University of Mysore in 1961 and ME (Electrical) from Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, in 1963, while he completed his PhD (Electrical) by the University of Waterloo, Canada, in 1967.

After his PhD, Aatre joined the Technical University of Nova Scotia, Halifax, Canada, and worked till 1980, even as he was a visiting professor at IISc. He joined DRDO at the Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory in 1980 and became its Director in a quick span in 1984.

Times Of India ND 26/01/2016 P-18

2 'small' Indian univs make it big on international stage

Manash.Gohain@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Long conspicuous by their near absence on global lists of top-rated institutes, Indian colleges have finally found recognition among the world's best 20 in the maiden list of leading small universities.

Indian Institute of Technology-Guwahati and Savitribai Phule Pune University have been ranked 14th and 18th, respectively, in the list, released by Times Higher Education on Monday.

Small universities are defined as those having fewer than 5,000 students, and equipped with facilities for instruction and research across more than four disciplines.

IIT-G director, professor Gautam Biswas sees the institute's achievement as a boost for the entire northeast. The country's second institute on the list, Savitribai Phule Pune University,

2016 RANKING

The Times Higher Education World's Best Small Universities Ranking 2016

Rank	Institutions	
1	California Institute of Technology, USA (also top in THE World University rankings 2015-16)	Small universities are defined by having fewer than 5,000 students and teach and research across more than four disciplines. Only 20 small universities in the world are world-class.
2	École Normale Supérieure, France	
3	École Polytechnique, France	
4	Pohang University of Science and Technology, South Korea	
5	École Normale Supérieure de Lyon, France	
14	Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India	(included in the Top 800 World University Rankings)
18	Savitribai Phule Pune University, India	

is one of only four among the world's 20 best small universities that cover all the six broad subject areas (arts and humanities, medicine and clinical, engineering and technology, physical sciences, life sciences, and social sciences).

"India's institutions are well represented in the 'World's Best Small Universities Ranking 2016'," said Phil Baty, Times Higher Education rankings editor.

For the full report, log on to www.timesofindia.com

Amar Ujala ND 26/01/2016 P-17

दुनिया के शीर्ष 20 विश्वविद्यालयों में आईआईटी गुवाहाटी और पुणे विवि भी

लंदन। दुनिया के शीर्ष 20 विश्वविद्यालयों में दो भारतीय विश्वविद्यालय को जगह मिली है। सोमवार को प्रकाशित टाइम्स हायर एजुकेशन की 'वर्ल्ड्स बेस्ट स्माल यूनिवर्सिटीज रैंकिंग-2016' के शीर्ष 20 में दो भारतीय विश्वविद्यालयों को शामिल किया गया है। इस रैंकिंग में भारतीय प्रौद्योगिक संस्थान गुवाहाटी (आईआईटी गुवाहाटी) 14वें और सावित्रीबाई फूले पुणे विश्वविद्यालय 16वें स्थान पर जगह बनाने में

कामयाब रहे। इसमें कैलिफोर्निया इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी शीर्ष पर काबिज होने में सफल रही। टाइम्स हायर एजुकेशन रैंकिंग्स के संपादक फिल ब्रेटी ने कहा कि वर्ल्ड्स बेस्ट स्माल यूनिवर्सिटीज रैंकिंग-2016 में भारतीय विश्वविद्यालयों ने शानदार प्रदर्शन किया। इन छोटे विश्वविद्यालयों में विश्व स्तरीय सुविधाएं हैं। पांच हजार से कम विद्यार्थियों वाले विश्वविद्यालय को स्माल यूनिवर्सिटीज की श्रेणी में रखा गया। एजेंसी

Hindu ND 26.01.2016 P-17

To develop solar-powered ACs jointly with IIT-M

G. BALACHANDAR

CHENNAI: Blue Star has collaborated with IIT-Madras for developing solar-powered air-conditioners (ACs) and indigenising controls and other parts used in inverter ACs. “We will jointly develop several products. IIT-M has an incubation centre. While we may end up using their facilities, we will also impart some training to them. In this joint development tie-up, we are focused on developing solar-powered air-conditioners in the

next two years. Also, we will focus on improving the existing product line-up in the air purification business,” said Mr. Thiagarajan.

It will also look at indigenisation of components for inverter ACs, a fast growing category for the company in the room AC segment. “We are optimistic about outcome of our collaboration with IIT-M,” he added.

It has planned to spend about Rs.30 crore in R & D during 2016-17 as against the budget of Rs.20 crore in 2015-16.

HRD Panel Blames Varsity Squarely for Vemula Death

Says HRD reminders had no role, notes trust deficit among students

Anubhuti.Vishnoi
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New Delhi: Hyderabad University administration was squarely responsible for mishandling of the Rohith Vemula case. There was trust deficit and a feeling of being discriminated against in certain groups of students. But the human resource development ministry's reminder letters were not a contributory factor in creating "any pressure" on university authorities. These are the key findings of the two-member fact-finding committee set up by HRD ministry in the Vemula controversy. ET has reviewed the report. The panel recommends that an external inquiry be set up to 're-examine' the whole issue and that Vemula's family should receive compensation. The university had last week announced an ex-gratia compensation of ₹8 lakh for Vemula's family.

Panel suggests external inquiry to 're-examine' the whole issue

'Gaps in Several Processes' >> 22

In Search of Truth

HRD PANEL'S OBSERVATIONS

NON-functional grievance redressal at varsity reinforced sense of discrimination

HUGE "trust deficit" and feeling of "academic discrimination" among some students

"GAPS IN SEVERAL PROCESSES" IN EXPELLING FIVE ASA STUDENTS

EC sub-committee "merely reviewed documents". The dean of student welfare, a Dalit, only co-opted on sub-committee

UNIVERSITY officials say no pressure through ministry reminders

RECOMMENDATIONS

ISSUE BE re-examined by external body

COMPENSATION for Rohith's family



'Gaps in Several Processes'

>> From Page 1

The panel says all three top administrative officials of the University of Hyderabad – the vice-chancellor, registrar and the dean of student welfare – told the committee that the varsity "had not taken serious cognizance of the letters from MHRD". The three top officials also said they "did not feel any pressure to act" because of the reminder letters from the ministry.

The V-C of the university has gone on leave. The students agitating over the issue have demanded his removal.

The HRD ministry-constituted committee points to "gaps in several processes" followed by the university administration. The university had expelled Vemula in December 2015.

As reported by ET earlier, the committee points to the difference in interim and final proctorial board decisions. It also notes that even the sub-committee of the executive council of the university looking into the matter had "not carried out a detailed exercise"

and had "not examined the matter afresh". The EC sub-committee "merely reviewed the documents", the report says.

A "dysfunctional" student grievance redressal process, the report observes, is "responsible for enhancing the feeling of deprivation and discrimination among students from socially and economically weaker sections".

The report adds that "very critical issues" were "left unchecked or unresolved...despite fault lines being obvious". The report goes on to mention that there was a "trust deficit" and a "feeling of academic discrimination among some of the students".

The committee notes that there was an absence of standard operating procedures for such issues, leading to very 'ad hoc decision making'.

Accordingly, the HRD committee suggested that the "whole matter be re-examined" through an external body. HRD ministry had last week announced a judicial commission to look into the matter after the committee submitted its report on January 22.

HRD minister Smriti Irani had sent ministry officials Shakila Shamsu and Surat Singh as members of the probe panel to the Hyderabad University last week.

The suicide by research scholar Vemula earlier this month became a political controversy. He was one of the five students associated with the Ambedkar Student Association. They were expelled from the hostel and several other parts of the university after the administration concluded they were at fault in a campus conflict between them and the head of ABVP's university unit.

Coming down strongly on the varsity, the two-member committee observed that the institutional redressal mechanism for student grievance redressal was as good as "non-functional/dysfunctional".

The last three months prior to JEE must be utilised for mock tests. Students at IIT-Delhi and Kanpur (below).

THE JEE PLANNER

As countdown begins for India's toughest examination, here is a month-wise plan and preparation strategy on how to ace the test

By Ramesh Batlish

THE last three months are very crucial as far as preparation is concerned. This time must be primarily utilised for quick revision and taking lots of mock tests. Each test must be followed by an in-depth analysis to identify weak spots and rectify the same. A serious aspirant ideally must have completed the syllabus by now. Here is a month-wise plan and preparation strategy on how to balance your board exams along with JEE preparations.

JAN-FEB: This time is crucial and should be utilised for revision. A subject-wise plan with important chapters must be identified.

MARCH-APRIL: For students who are writing board exams this period can be used for writing mock tests on the lines of JEE (Main) and JEE (Advanced). Analysis of each paper is important to check mistakes and to avoid repeating them in the actual JEE. Those repeating JEE should join some crash course for a topic-wise revision.

Not just NCERT books

Every entrance exam is designed with a particular goal. The questions in NCERT books are board exam-oriented. Entrance exams ask objective type questions with questions involving intermingling of concepts and higher difficulty levels. So for JEE, practice as much as you can from well-known sources. That will help in strengthening all important



concepts. Many students tend to think that if they prepare for JEE Main, but this is not correct. While preparing for JEE Main, they will have to cover additional topics from CBSE syllabi as well. Also, JEE Main

tests the aspirants for their speed and accuracy. Proper training for online and offline modes of answering is also important.

Suggested reading

The correct approach for those



The correct approach for those appearing for the first time or second time is to stick to one source and not to refer to multitude of books/study material available in the market

— RAMESH BATLISH, Head, FIITJEE, Noida



Texts to read before the test

CHEMISTRY	Name of Books
Authors/Publisher	Physical Chemistry
P. Bahadur	Inorganic Chemistry
J.D. Lee	Inorganic Chemistry
NCERT Text Book	Inorganic Chemistry
Paula Yurkanis Bruice	Organic Chemistry
PHYSICS	Concepts of Physics Vol I and II
H.C. Verma	Problems in General Physics
I.E. Irodov	MATHEMATICS
S.L. Loney	Trigonometry
S.L. Loney	Co-ordinate Geometry
Hall & Knight	Higher Algebra
I.A. Maron	Problems in Calculus of One Variable

FIVE THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

- Attempt easy questions first
- Choose sections that have less risk and more gain.
- Double-check before marking the OMR sheet
- Read the entire question paper in the first 5-10 minutes.
- Don't get upset if the paper is tough, as performance is relative

more for problem solving, developing short cuts, and memorising formulae, understanding ones strengths and weaknesses.

Chapters to focus

The syllabus of class XI and XII contributes about 45 per cent and 55 per cent of IIT-JEE question papers respectively. Special emphasis should be given on the following chapters while preparing.

MATHEMATICS: Quadratic Equations & Expressions, Complex Numbers, Probability, Vectors, Matrices in Algebra, Circle, Parabola, Hyperbola in Coordinate Geometry; Functions, Limits, Continuity

and Differentiability, Application of Derivatives, Definite Integral in Calculus

TIP: Try to do as much as quality problems as possible to develop a sound confidence level.

PHYSICS: Kinematics, Gravitation, Fluids, Heat & Thermodynamics, Waves & Sound, Capacitors & Electrostatics, Magnetism, Electromagnetic Induction, Optics & Modern Physics.

TIP: If concepts are clear, then this subject becomes all the more interesting.

CHEMISTRY: Coordination Chemistry & Chemical Bonding in Inorganic Chemistry, Electrochemistry, Chemical & Ionic Equilibrium, Mole Concept in Physical Chemistry and Organic Chemistry.

TIP: Just go through the periodics in general and read NCERT for Inorganic Chemistry. For Organic part, first build up your concepts and then start doing lots of practice. For Physical part, practice as many numericals as you can.

Students are advised to avoid selective study in Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics. The reason being, the number of questions is more in the objective papers where there is intermingling of concepts

from various topics.

Increase strike rate

Sometimes the right strategy and time management play a vital role in deciding the rank for an aspirant. So, one must be quick enough to adapt to the level of the paper and act promptly.

The following points may, however, be kept in mind when attempting the questions. One basic strategy could be not to give full time in one go to a particular subject but allocate some time so that one could review this subject again.

For a three-hour paper with three subjects, students tend to give one hour each. It is advisable that they give 40-45 mins in attempting questions from any one subject they feel confident and move on to the second subject and then to the third. In the remaining time the unsolved questions may be reviewed. This would help in increasing the attempting rate. However, students may develop their own strategy based on their preferences. Finally it is the relative performance that will matter on the exam day. So, put in your best performance and hope for the best.

The writer heads FIITJEE, Noida

India Gets Two Spots in Times Higher Education Top 20 Small Universities List

Indian Institute of Technology-Guwahati and Savitribai Phule Pune University among the global top 20 small universities

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Mumbai: Indian Institute of Technology-Guwahati and Savitribai Phule Pune University are among the global Top 20 in the first-of-its-kind Times Higher Education World's Best Small Universities Ranking 2016. While IIT-Guwahati is at the 14th spot, Savitribai Phule Pune University is placed four spots lower at 18th.

Small universities are defined as those having fewer than 5,000 students, offering teaching and research across more than four disciplines. Only 20 small universities in the world are world-class, as included in the Top 200 World University Rankings.

"India's institutions are well-represented in the World's Best Small Universities Ranking 2016. Alongside Caltech, they demonstrate the world-class offering available at smaller institutions, no matter their location," Phil

Baty, editor of Times Higher Education rankings, said in a news release.

The best small university in the rankings is California Institute of Technology, followed by France's Ecole Normale Supérieure and Ecole Polytechnique in the next two positions.

In terms of overall scores, though, there is a wide gap. Compared with Caltech, which has an overall World University Ranking score of 95.2 (WUR rank 1), IIT-Guwahati scores 28.1 (WUR Rank 501-600) and Savitribai Phule Pune University, 20.7 (WUR Rank 601-800).

"The Indian Institutes of Technology are renowned the world over for their prestige and their ability to prepare students for successful careers in industry. They typically do not rank so highly in the broader World University Rankings, due to their more narrow focus and generally lower research volumes, and a limited international outlook. But this new ranking, drawing on

Times Higher Education's database of performance information, allows us to recognise their strengths in a more focused context, alongside peers of a similar size and shape," wrote Baty in a response to ET.

The US, with five, has the highest number of universities in the World's Best Small Universities Rankings.

Only four of the 20 small universities cover all six broad subject areas (Arts and Humanities, Medicine and Clinical, Engineering and Technology, Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, and Social Sciences). These are Koç University, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Tokyo Medical and Dental University and University of Tulsa. Another half a dozen cover all subjects except medicine.

The universities have been evaluated on 13 performance indicators under broad heads such as industry outcome - innovation; teaching; citations, research and international outlook.

In the Big League

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE - of Technology, Ecole Normale Supérieure and Ecole Polytechnique take top 3 spots in overall rankings



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PHIL BATY, Editor of Times Higher Education Rankings

Problem with campus politics

Rohith Vemula's suicide should compel us to debate if universities and colleges should allow students to group themselves under labels that reflect political affiliations or caste, religious and community identities



MEERA RAMACHANDRAN

While there have been many suspensions, many suicides, irrespective of class and caste by students all across the country, few have received such extensive media coverage as the recent suicide of a young Dalit scholar, Rohith Vemula, at Hyderabad University. Nor has the political class flocked to the site, to fish in troubled waters in such hordes as after the suicide of Rohith Vemula. So, what has caused the present hysteria?

Rohith Vemula's suicide has caused so much heart-burn due to two factors. First, some letters were written by two Union Ministers, Mr Bandaru Dattatreya and Ms Smriti Irani, on the issue. Second, the affected student was a Dalit.

These two factors, when seen in combination, provide rich fodder to chastise the Modi Government and engage

in identity politics — the twin weapons that the media and the Opposition love to wield. But how far are these factors really crucial to this case?

It is a well-known fact that the head an institution, be it a college or a university, funded either by the Union or State Government, usually sits not just on a hot but a scorching seat. Political pressure in areas of student admissions, staff and faculty appointments, and law and order issues is significant. As the people's representatives and given their position within the electorate, politicians will inevitably respond to redresses, brought to their notice, by trying to intervene or by asking for an enquiry. But the buck for all actions, taken within the institution, stops with the head of the institution.

Hence, while investigating the turmoil at Hyderabad University, the letters by the

two Ministers have to be treated as immaterial, even if they are unfortunate. Only then can there be a fair probe, and also, the diversionary politicisation of the issue avoided.

It is the vice chancellor who has to come clean on the nature of the misconduct committed by a certain section of students and the procedures followed for conducting an investigation. Only then can we assess whether the recommended and executed punishment was in proportion to the misconduct and whether any caste prejudice was at play.

It is indeed unfortunate that a section of students within the university thought it worthwhile to stage a protest against the hanging of a convicted terrorist. It smacks of coercion from stakeholders of divisive politics outside the university.

And these stakeholders are

now finding excuses in the argument that the protest was only against capital punishment. Would they have arranged for or staged a protest against rapists who receive capital punishment? Or can the legitimacy of capital punishment not be discussed in principle without reference to one select individual?

Of course, they have a second argument, and in this they can be sure of instant and abundant media support. They ask: Shouldn't there be space for dissent in an academic university they ask? This, in fact, is this writer's primary concern.

Academia is a place where academic decorum must take precedence. By all means, students and faculty members can engage with the most provocative of issues, but this should only be in the discussion and discursive formats. The

moment the ideology or point of view is expressed in the form of marches, processions, placards and posters, they cease to be academic, and become entrenched in the politics of assertion. This then opens up the possibility of backlash.

Universities and colleges should debate whether they should allow students to group themselves under banners and labels that reflect their affiliations with political parties or their social identities of caste, religion and community. Such grouping necessarily prevents the individual from developing into a free, open-minded and reflective citizen — and this is the primary purpose of higher education — because he or she will be trapped and over-powered by the larger group identity.

Even student elections should be funded by the institution so that students seeking

office will not have to subscribe to identity politics in order to get financial and other kinds of muscle support from the outside for their campaign.

Leadership qualities within the university should be exhibited in addressing problems that pertain to conditions on campus, such as with regard to academics, lodging, disciplinary - and other local issues.

Can the media come out of its self-congratulatory missionary zeal, born of premature conclusions regarding the caste angle, and the culpability of the Union Government, as also its obfuscation of the voice of the other side, and conduct a more professional and dispassionate investigation of the unfortunate and tragic events at Hyderabad University?

(The writer is former Principal of Gargi College, University of Delhi)

Only quantity, no quality

The hitch is at the societal level. For a vast majority of us, education is only as good as the job it fetches. It is a mere commercial venture.

By S N Chary

The recent Indian Science Congress has been instrumental in once again bringing to fore the lack of scientific temper and the deplorable state of education in general in our country.

That our country's education system at all levels – primary, secondary, graduate and post-graduate – is missing in quality is known to all of us. We have heard and read a number of times that our average class V student cannot read a class II textbook; that none of our university-level institutions make the cut into the top 100 of the world; and many more of such facts. Industry has always lamented that our men and women coming out of schools/colleges need a heavy re-orientation before they are productive as employees.

A number of reasons were put forth for the sad state of the education. Lack of adequate funds for primary education by the governments; lack of teachers, particularly in the rural areas; lack of infrastructure – school premises, buildings, classrooms, toilets, particularly for the girl students, roads and approachability of schools for the rural students; lack of motivated faculty in colleges; paucity of funds for research and development in higher level university education; political interference in school and university administration and so on.

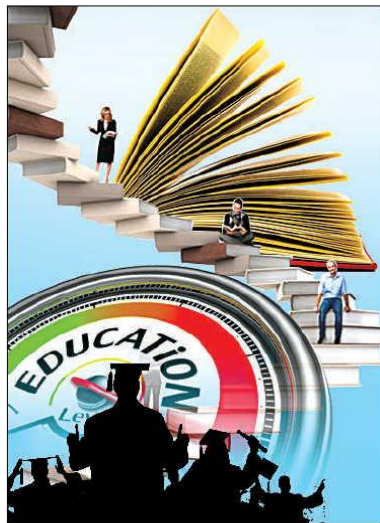
It is true that the governments at the Centre and states have, over the decades, done very little in promoting the quality of education in our country. What they generally do is to increase the quantity where it is easy to do so.

For instance, they increase the number of IITs and IIMs by sanctioning huge government-owned plots of land. They sanction the increase in the number of private technical colleges where every college management aspires to convert itself into a private university in the shortest possible time.

Increasing the number of rural

schools and teachers is a comparatively difficult job and, hence, only lip service is rendered towards it. It is said that many schools in some of our Indian states have teachers who rotate between not just classes but also between schools. So, a student sees the face of the teacher once in a fortnight perhaps.

Increasing the number of technical and management colleges is a lot easier than finding the right faculty for them. Therefore, some private management and technical colleges are forced to schedule many classes whenever a visiting faculty is available. Therefore, the quality of education imparted suffers at all levels – school and college.



However, the predicament of the lack of quality in education is deeper than the explanations mentioned above. The hitch is at the societal level. The problem is that most Indians have little desire for education as such. For a vast majority of us, the education is only as good as the job it fetches. Education is treated as a mere commercial venture. Its real objective, as one that makes us better human beings, is lost on us. Therefore, a teacher or a professor is perceived akin to a commercial trainer.

Since we do not value our teachers, we fail to attract good individuals in the teaching profession. The very fact that we do not value education results in our educational system paying low wages to those engaged in that profession. That may be a part of the reason for repelling well-qualified teachers at all levels.

Inadequate salary is a minor reason

for any good teacher to undertake the teaching profession. What s/he earnestly desires is recognition for knowledge and respect for her/his spirit of enquiry.

Freedom to be constantly in search for new frontiers in knowledge is a great turn-on for any teacher worth his salt. Unless the system respects these values of 'search' and 'discover', no teacher will be truly respected.

Encourage free enquiry

How will a good scientific work come out if the society and, therefore, the governance system does not encourage – it discourages, in fact – free enquiry? A society where the teacher – school or college – is seen as a low paid person dispensing the stock of information would get teachers of the same caliber. They would be good enough to just impart rote learning i.e. giving out the same information year after year. India as a society cannot make much progress unless there is primacy for thinking, imagination, innovation, search and research.

Unfortunately, today our citizens value mainly two things: cash and clout. We want rapid 'growth' in our economy. Not a bad objective to aim for. But, we want it quickly. We are full of greed – now we name it as aspiration.

Indians value power or clout. We have inherited it from the Babu culture of the bygone British rule and we are assiduously sticking to it. British wanted to have a large pool of clerks and super-clerks who were given some powers. We look in awe of those in power. Power and politics interests us like no other people in the world.

For example, if an opinion on an academic matter is to be discussed or consulted, we tend to invite the Vice Chancellor, Dean or Director of the institution who may have very little idea of the matter. We rarely invite the teacher/professor doing the relevant job.

We equate administrative position with knowledge. We may even invite a government bureaucrat or a CEO or a senior VP of a company. Knowledge has little importance. Mentally, we are still in an archaic, autocratic society.

If teachers and education are not valued, how will the standard of education ever improve? If it doesn't, how far can the so-called economic growth take us? *(The writer is former professor, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore)*

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THREE INDIAN B-SCHOOLS IN FT'S GLOBAL RANKING

Three Indian business schools figure in the Financial Times' annual Global MBA Ranking for 2016, which was topped by Fontainebleau-based Insead, which has a one-year MBA programme. Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, has been ranked the 24th best B-school in the world, climbing two places from the 2015 list. Indian School of Business, Hyderabad, was ranked 29, up four places from its position last year. Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, came in at 62, rising 20 places from last year. Insead climbed three places from its 2015 ranking to dislodge Harvard Business School to top the 2016 list. Harvard Business School, which was ranked the world's best for two years in a row, came in at No. 2.

● 2016 rank ● 2015 rank ○ Three-year average rank

Over 80% of engineers in India still unemployable: Survey

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/education/over-80-of-engineers-in-india-still-unemployable-survey/story-VHSmdFhsKLBwaKDbagUwEK.html>



Delhi has produced the highest number of employable engineers followed by Bangalore and other states in western India. (Sushil Kumar/HT file Photo)

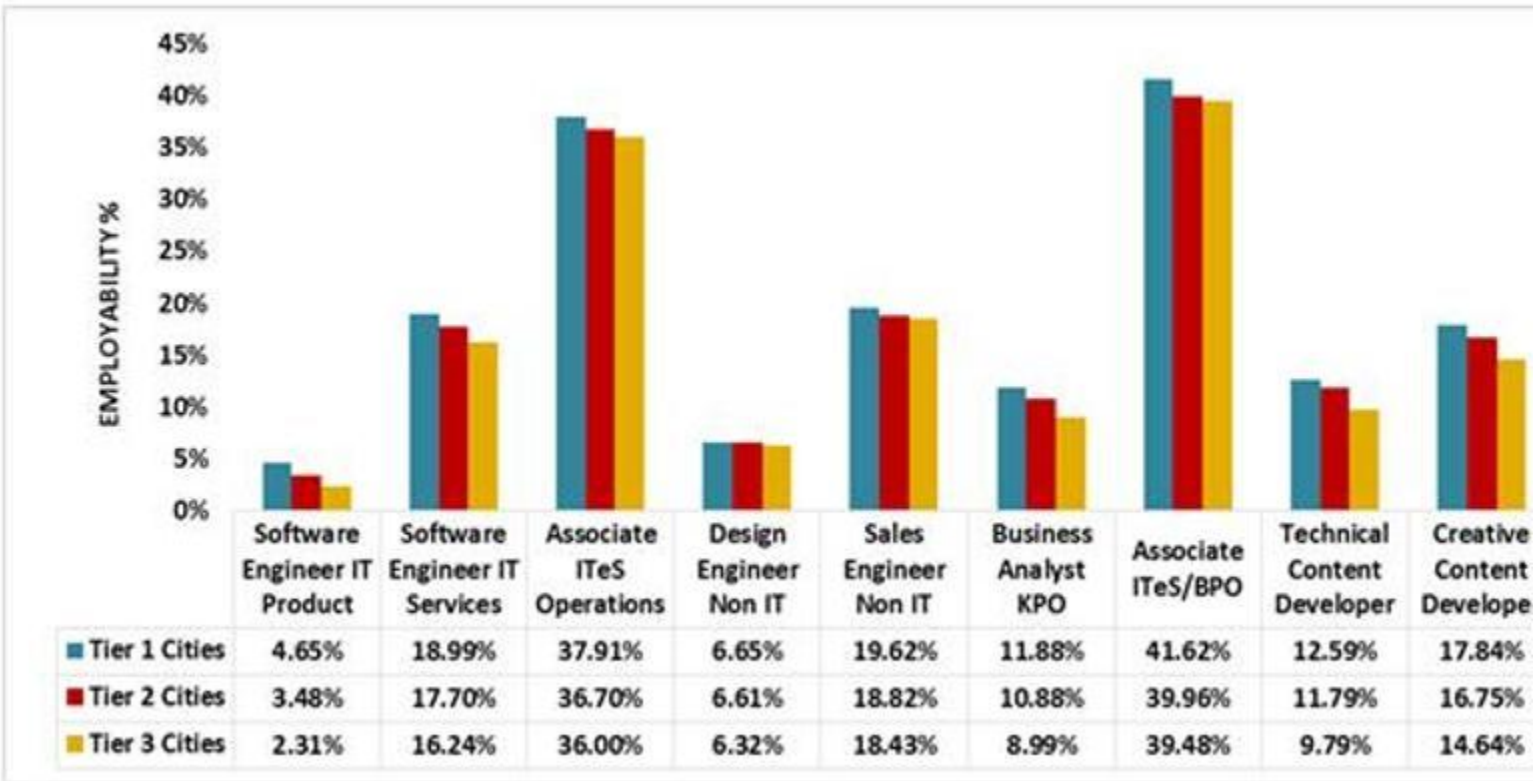
Despite a record growth in intake of candidates at All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE)-approved institutes, not to mention thousands of students trained by private universities, more than 80% of engineers in India remain unemployable, reveals a national employability report by Aspiring Minds.

The survey takes into account more than 150,000 engineering students from over 650 engineering colleges who have graduated in 2015 across the country. “The first large scale study on employability was done in 2011 but there has been no significant improvement in the last five years,” a press release said.

Delhi has produced the highest number of employable engineers followed by Bangalore and other states in western India.

Employability: Tier-I versus Tier-2 and 3

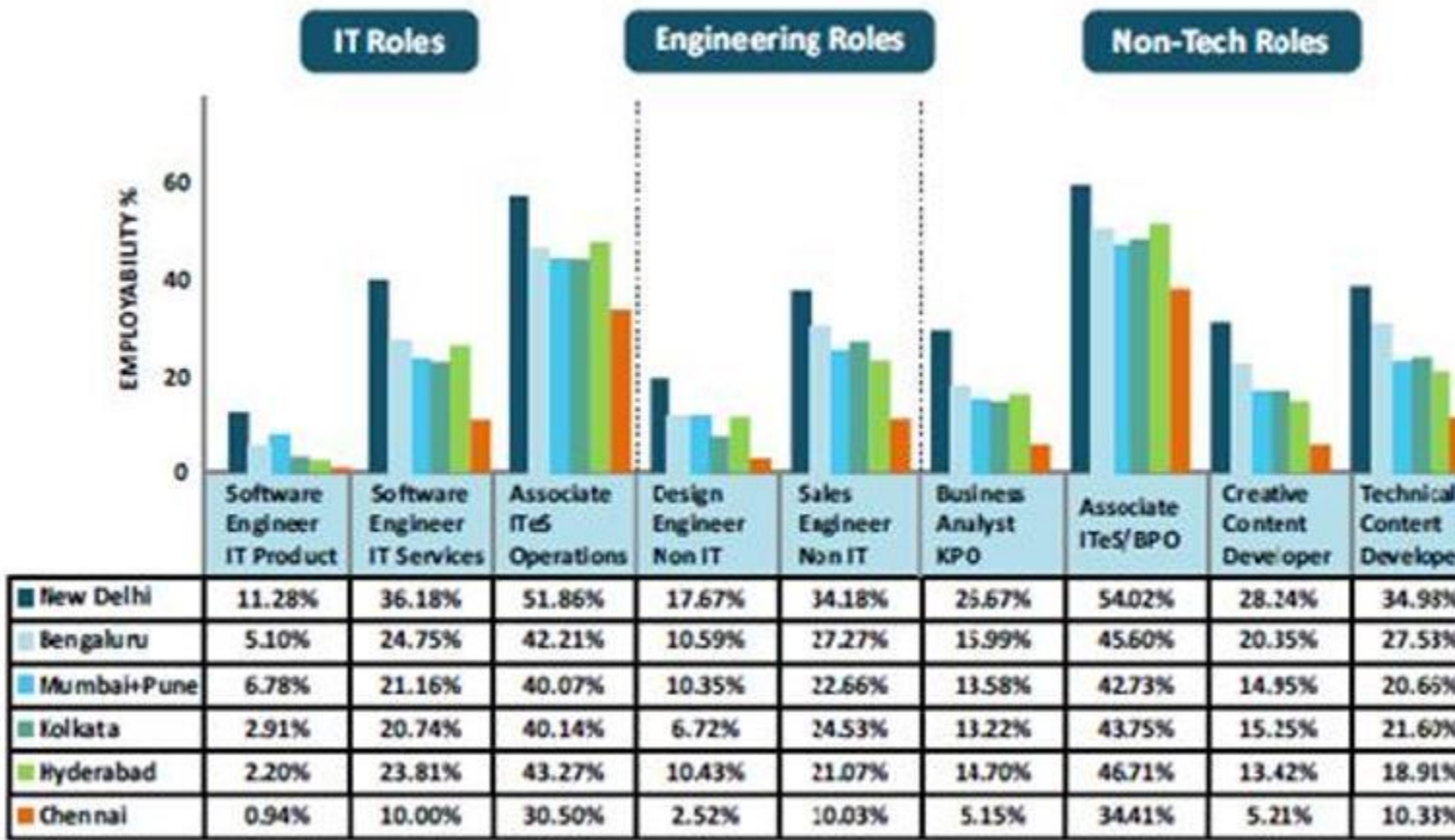
The employability of engineering graduates being produced by colleges in Tier-1 cities records a slight increase in all roles except those of sales engineers.



Employability Percentage across Tier-1, Tier-2 and Tier-3 Cities (Source: Aspiring Minds)

Employability by Metros:

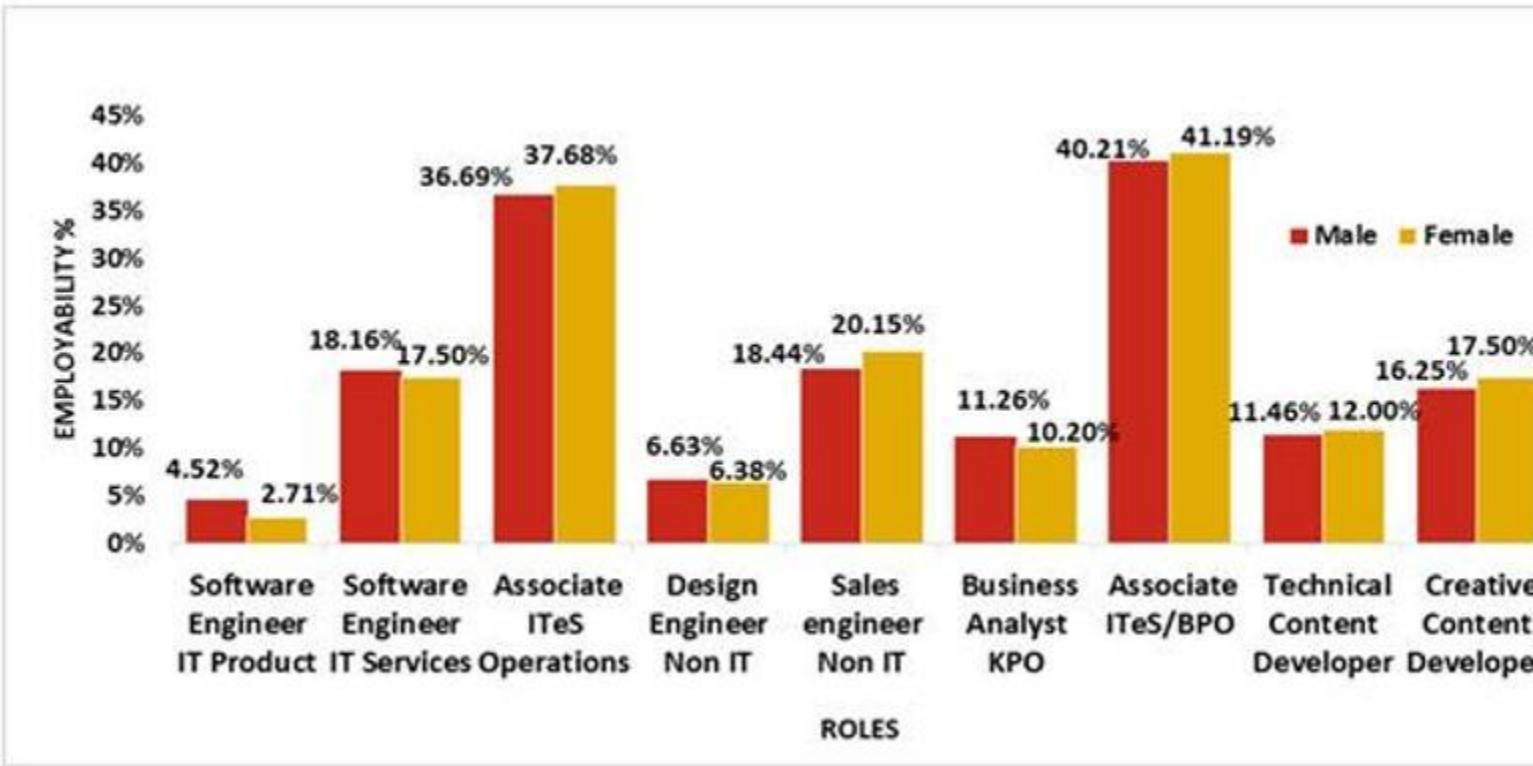
Delhi records the highest employability, followed by Bengaluru, Mumbai and Pune. The southern cities however, show no improvement and continue to have the lowest employability figures.



Employability percentage in different Metro cities (Source: Aspiring Minds)

Employability by gender

Roles of sales engineers, non-IT, associate ITeS/BPO and content developers have slightly higher employability of females. Employability indices for males and females are almost equal.



Employability of male vs female engineering graduates (Source: Aspiring Minds)

As per the AICTE approval process handbook 2015-16, in 2010-11, intake in AICTE-approved institutes was 1,314,594, which rose to 1,903,722 in 2014-15. “Engineering has become the de-facto graduate degree for a large chunk of students today. However, along with improving the education standards, it is quintessential that we evolve our undergraduate programmes to make them more job centric,” says Varun Aggarwal, CTO Aspiring Minds.

Year	Engineering
2006-07	550986
2007-08	653290
2008-09	841018
2009-10	1071896
2010-11	1314594
2011-12	1485894
2012-13	1761976
2013-14	1804353
2014-15	1903722

Growth of intake in AICTE approved institutions in last nine years (Source: AICTE Approval Process Handbook (2015 - 2016))