

# Newspaper Clips

## July 18, 2013

MINT ND 18/07/2013 p-4



RAMESH PATHANIA/MINT

**Controversial issue:** IIT-Delhi is the organizing IIT for the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Advanced, the second part of the two-tier common engineering admission test.

### MISCALCULATION BY BOARDS

# Govt accepts discrepancy in IIT admission process

**Many state boards did not calculate the 20 percentile according to the formula prescribed by IIT Delhi**

BY PRASHANT K. NANDA  
prashant.n@livemint.com

NEW DELHI

The central government said on Wednesday that discrepancies in admissions to the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) were due to a miscalculation by various school boards.

Human resource development (HRD) minister M. M. Pallam Raju said after a review meeting with senior officials of the ministry and IITs that many state boards didn't calculate the 20 percentile ac-

ording to the formula prescribed by IIT-Delhi, the organizing IIT for the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Advanced, the second part of the two-tier common engineering admission test.

It wasn't immediately clear what would happen to these students, some of whom have filed cases in various courts across the country.

On 12 July, the Supreme Court stayed proceedings in a case related to this in the Andhra Pradesh high court and said it would hear the matter.

While IIT-Delhi had said the percentile should be based on the number of students passing the school-leaving examination, several boards including that of Andhra Pradesh based it on the number of students who appeared for the board examination, Raju told

reporters.

Raju said he doesn't have the exact numbers for the students who missed out due to this.

The IITs said they excluded 79 students who did not make the cut despite holding top ranks in the JEE Advanced. The Madras zone that includes Andhra Pradesh, had 35 affected students, followed by 19 from Kharagpur zone and 14 from Kanpur zone.

"We have gone by the rule. It was clear from last year that the percentile will be calculated on successful candidates of respective boards. The percentile calculation was supposed to be done by the COBSE (Council of Boards of School Education) but several boards calculated it on their own," said H.C. Gupta, the professor in-charge of the JEE-Ad-

vanced.

Gupta said most boards had miscalculated the percentile, indicating that the number of aggrieved students could rise.

He said Andhra Pradesh was the first to issue the percentile cut off.

Out of a total 530 marks in the Class 12 board exam, the top 20 percentile cut off was set at 476 marks for the general category. This should have been 487, he said.

Raju said that a related controversy over the normalization of different school boards for admission to all central government-funded engineering schools except IITs could not be discussed on Wednesday as the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) chairman was travelling to attend a court case.

CBSE was in charge of the normalization process for admission to 30 National Institutes of Technology (NITs), Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) and other top schools.

Scores of parents and aggrieved students have approached high courts and the Supreme Court to stay the admission process based on the normalization, saying that at least 25,000 students have missed out on admission to top engineering schools.

The Supreme Court said last week that admission to engineering schools would be subject to its eventual ruling on a petition challenging the process, but refused to stay the admissions.

CBSE chairman Vineet Joshi could not be reached despite several calls to his mobile phone but an HRD ministry official said the government is in favour of clubbing all the cases, related to normalization as well as admission to the IITs, to be heard in the Supreme Court.

The official, who did not want to be named, also said that Andhra Pradesh chief minister Kiran Kumar Reddy had reached out to Raju on the issue.

# 79 IIT aspirants stuck in limbo

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Indecision by the human resource development ministry could hit the fate of 79 IIT aspirants who could not get into the prestigious institute due to variance in calculation between the state boards and the institutions in deciding the top 20 percentile of students in class XII.

On Wednesday, HRD minister M M Pallam Raju met IIT-Delhi director R K Shevgaonkar and discussed the discrepancy in calculation. After the meeting, Raju said, "Immediately after the class XII board results came out, state boards calculated percentile by factoring in the total number of students who appeared in the board examination. But CBSE calculated percentile on the basis of students who passed the class XII examination." While the discrepancy has been noted in many state boards it is Andhra Pradesh that has been the worst hit as the first calculation made 89% as cut-off which went up to 91.8% according to CBSE's calculation.

Reminiscent of his stand on the Delhi University's four-year undergraduate programme (FY-UP), Raju was non-committal about the action the ministry can take. "We will see, will look

## IIT-Kharagpur faculty goes on hunger strike

Over 400 faculty members and a large number of alumni of IIT Kharagpur in West Bengal on Wednesday went on a token hunger-strike demanding immediate appointment of a director. The post of the director fell vacant on June 30, 2012 and there has been no permanent appointment till now, IIT Teachers Association general secretary Rajendra Singh said. The institute was being neglected by the HRD ministry, he alleged. PTI

into how many have got affected and on what basis," he said. Raju said he would like to have more clarifications on the matter and intends to hold a couple of more meetings on the admission process which would also include the system of normalization of marks. He was evasive about the question on reverting to the old system of admission to IITs. He said, "The present system was adopted as per the wisdom of the IIT council and it's for them to see what's fair and what's not."

Ministry officials say since majority of the students affected are from Raju's home state he would be more proactive than in the past.

# Decision on complaints of IIT aspirants soon

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, 17 July

The human resource development (HRD) minister, Mr M.M Pallam Raju, said today that the ministry will hold another meeting within a week to review the situation arising out of the concerns of IIT aspirants who were not eligible for admission this year owing to the new pattern of selection. He denied any decision has been taken on the issue yet.

Mr Raju said the confusion occurred on account the varying perception between JEE/CBSE and some state boards with regard to the laid down criterion for eligibility for taking the IIT-JEE examination. The minister was also non-committal on changing the procedures for admission from the next year.

The HRD minister decided to step in following complaints from students, especially from his home state

Andhra Pradesh.

As per the new selection criteria, IIT-JEE and AIEEE were merged and transformed into JEE (main) and JEE (advanced). The new scheme also laid down an additional criterion that only those having been placed in top 20 percentile in their respective board examinations would be eligible for admission to the 16 IITs across the country.

Sources in the MHRD said while the state boards

interpreted the 20 percentile has to be picked up from among all those students who appeared for the examination, the SBSE said 20 percentile has to be selected from those who actually passed the board examination.

However, some aspirants who were denied admission due to the additional criterion of 20 percentile allege that eligibility of cut-off class XII result was calculated twice.

# JEE changes made in a hurry: IITs

Alumni association to protest, demand restoration of the original examination system

KALPANA PATHAK & M SARASWATHY  
Mumbai, 17 July

The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) is yet to decide on reviewing the changes in the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) joint entrance examination (JEE), but the IITs have given their verdict — the changes have been brought about in a hurry and have complicated the examination and admission.

"We had been, since the beginning, suggesting this new pattern be implemented from 2014, but to no avail. Though incorporating board marks for admission to IITs is a good move, the new format was implemented in a hurry, without much thought," said Gautam Barua, director, IIT-Guwahati.

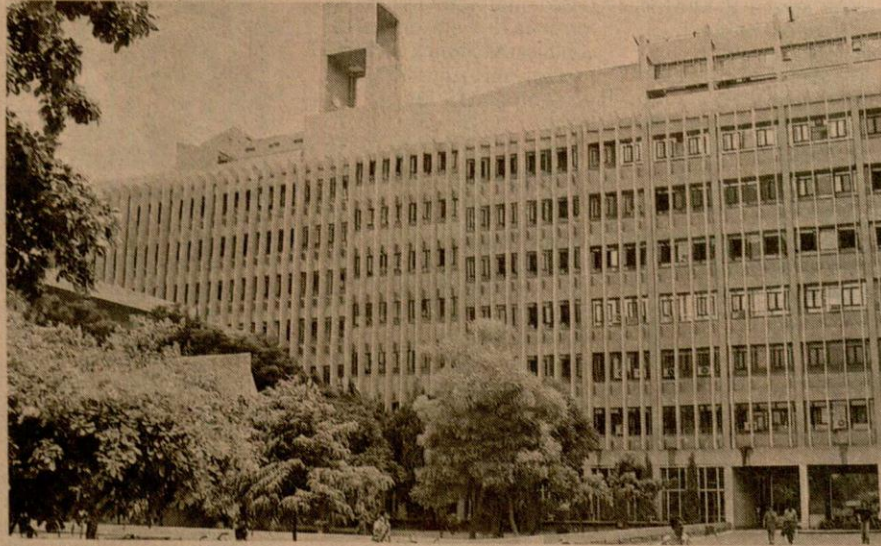
"The new IIT JEE has complicated the entire admission process," said Devang Khakhar, director, IIT-Bombay.

Last year, then MHRD minister Kapil Sibal had cleared the proposal to hold the JEE in two parts—main and advanced.

Students applying to the IITs have to appear for JEE-main. Of these students, only the top 1,50,000 are eligible for JEE-advanced. For final admission to the 16 IITs, based on JEE-advanced, a student has to be among the top 20 percentile in his respective standard-XII board.

While the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) conducts JEE-main, JEE-advanced was conducted by IIT-Delhi.

Coaching institutes have said the new process of normalisation has made it difficult for deserving students to qualify. The director of a Kota-based coaching institute said, "If a student from Tripura who secured 58 per cent marks in



**A DIFFICULT TRAIL** Coaching institutes say the new process of normalisation has made it difficult for deserving students to qualify

board exams is selected, while one from Andhra Pradesh with 80 per cent isn't, there could be flaws in the system."

"We need to discuss with Indian Statistical Institute (which had prepared the formula for normalisation)

**For final admission to the 16 IITs, based on the JEE-Advanced, a student should be ranked among the top 20 percentile of his respective Class-XII Board**

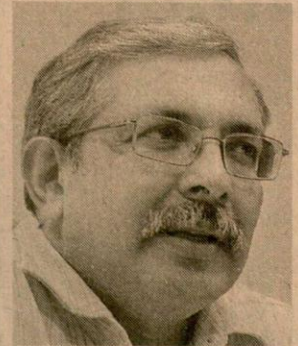
experts how real is the issue and whether it is a problem on a larger scale. Only after such an analysis can any change be proposed in the process," said a senior IIT official.

Meanwhile, members of the IIT alumni associations are set to go on an agitation later this month to protest against the new system. Somnath Bharti, ex-president of IIT-Delhi Alumni

**MHRD officials said the Andhra Pradesh government has taken up the issue in the high court**

Association and a Supreme Court lawyer, said the matter was sub judice. "We are looking at engaging directly with ministry officials on this issue. It is very unfortunate that these issues have cropped up," he said.

MHRD officials said the Andhra Pradesh government has taken up the issue in the high court.



**"The new IIT-JEE has complicated the entire admission process"**

DEVANG KHA KHAR  
Director, IIT-Bombay



**"We have been, since the beginning, suggesting that this new pattern should be implemented from 2014 but to no avail. Though incorporating Board marks for admission to IITs is a good move, the new format was implemented in a hurry and without much thought"**

GAUTAM BARUA  
Director, IIT-Guwahati

## WHAT IS NORMALISATION?

Normalisation, as used in the Indian context, is a process for ensuring students are neither advantaged nor disadvantaged by the difficulty of exams they do for the Boards. This process is used in other countries with similar issues as in India

**Normalisation process requires one to know the following**

**Percentile score:** Percentile score of a candidate in a Board or JEE (Main) will reflect what percentage of candidates have scored below that candidate in that Board or JEE (Main) Examination

A percentile score is the value of below which a certain per cent of observations fall. For example, the 20th percentile is the value (or score) below which 20 per cent of the observations may be found

**Example:** Suppose we have 13,711 candidates in a Board, and a candidate who's score is 60% of Board marks has 6,865 candidates below him; his percentile score will be calculated as follows

**Percentile score for 60% of Board marks:**  $6,865/13,711 \times 100$

**Percentile:** 50.07

Source: Joint Entrance Examination (Main) 2013 website, Central Board of Secondary Education

**Last year, then Union Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal had cleared the proposal to hold the JEE in two parts — main and advanced. Students applying to the IITs have to appear for JEE-main. Of these students, only the top 1,50,000 are eligible for JEE-advanced**

## 'State boards interpreted 20% rule differently'

At a meeting between Human Resource Development Minister Pallam Raju and IIT officials on Wednesday, it was said in the case of the new JEE norms, while the IITs had meant the 20 percentile rule was applicable for students clearing JEE-advanced, state boards had taken it as applicable to 20 per cent of the students appearing for the exam.

"The method of calculation of the top 20 percentile had been clearly stated by us from day one. Therefore, we presented this to the minister...we wouldn't make any change to it. However, state boards used a different formula for normalisation and this resulted in the confusion," said a senior IIT official who attended the meeting. It was also decided IITs would draw up a list of students affected by the new rule and hold another meeting to address the issue.

## Students pay for JEE percentile calculation goof-up

ANUBHUTI VISHNOI

NEW DELHI, JULY 17

IN YET another goof-up in the Joint Entrance Examination 2013, it has emerged that school boards and the IITs had calculated the top 20 percentile of students in different ways and this may have affected the admission prospects of a number of students.

Human Resource Development Minister Pallam Raju admitted Wednesday that the top 20 percentile as calculated by several school boards was different from the top 20 percentile calculated for the admission process by the 15 IITs.

JEE 2013 has two elements — the JEE Main for screening and JEE Advanced for the final IIT merit list.

In this format, 40 per cent weightage is given to Class 12 scores at the screening stage in JEE Main for determining admission to NITs, IIITs and other engineering institutes.

Students who clear JEE Main and are in the top 20 percentile in their respective boards were eligible to appear for JEE Advanced. Board marks have been 'normalised' across school boards to ensure a level playing field to students from all states.

While IITs have calculated the top 20 percentile of each board on the basis of the number of students who passed in that board this year, almost all school boards have calculated their top 20 percentile on the basis of the number of students who appeared for the board examination.

The HRD ministry, however, has concluded that the IITs cannot be blamed for this mismatch as they had clearly said in their admission notification that the top 20 percentile

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Students pay for JEE goof-up

would be calculated against the number of successful students.

As many as 79 students have already been denied admission to IITs even after getting initial offers due to this mismatch in percentile calculation. In the case of Andhra Pradesh, Raju's home state from where most complaints against the new JEE format have come, the first cut-off was 89 per cent which had to be corrected to 91.8 per cent. This resulted in many students not getting admission.

The IITs, meanwhile, said that even though some students may have been affected due to this calculation mismatch, little could be done now as they had already closed admissions.

"Almost every school board has calculated the top 20 percentile on the basis of

students who appeared for the boards and not on the basis of students who passed, as was required. There has been, in fact, a 2-3 per cent variation in the cut-off scores as calculated by state school boards and IITs. We have, however, admitted students as per our mandate and have been extra cautious as this is a new system. We have also now closed admissions so how can we accommodate new students at this stage," Prof H C Gupta, Organising Chairman JEE Advanced 2013, told *The Indian Express*.

Sources in the HRD ministry said that the state boards had not been careful while calculating the top 20 percentile and should not have gone ahead first and declared their cut-off scores in such a hurry. Still others said the school boards may have cal-

culated the top 20 percentile in a different manner as they may not have understood the CBSE's guidelines clearly.

The HRD minister had Wednesday called a meeting with Gupta, top officials of the HRD ministry and CBSE, where this issue was discussed as were the complaints regarding the normalisation of board scores. Raju has been getting a steady stream of complaints on the normalisation process used to give weightage to school boards and arrive at the top 20 percentile across each board. Many students have claimed that there were serious doubts over the normalisation formula used and it had affected the ranking scored in the engineering exam.

The issue has also been challenged in three high courts.

Hari Bhumi ND 18/07/2013 p-8

# आईआईटी मामले में राज्य बोर्डों से हो गई चूक

हरिभूमि ब्यूरो.नई दिल्ली

देश के प्रतिष्ठित प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों में दाखिले के लिए केंद्र सरकार के नए टॉप 20 परसेंटाइल फार्मुले पर छात्रों की नाखुशी के मामले में बुधवार को अपना पल्ला झाड़ते हुए केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री डॉ.एम.एम.पल्लम राजू ने कहा कि आईआईटी प्रवेश परीक्षा 2013 के परिणाम को लेकर छात्रों की नाखुशी के पीछे राज्य बोर्ड से हुई चूक जिम्मेदार है। राज्य बोर्डों से परीक्षा

परिणाम जांचने में गलती हुई। राज्य बोर्डों ने कुल जितने छात्र प्रवेश परीक्षा में बैठे थे उसे आधार मानकर टॉप 20 परसेंटाइल छात्रों की सूची तैयार की जबकि फार्मुले के हिसाब से जितने बच्चे प्रवेश परीक्षा में पास होते हैं उनमें सर्वश्रेष्ठ प्रदर्शन करने वाले बच्चों का टॉप 20 परसेंटाइल निकाला जाता है।

राजू ने इस बात की जानकारी होने से इंकार किया परिणाम पर नाखुशी ज्यादा आंध्र-प्रदेश में दाखिले के इच्छुक छात्रों में है।

Deccan Herald ND 18 July 2013 P-8

# Flawed percentile calculation deprives IIT aspirants

**NEW DELHI, DHNS:** Majority of state boards have faulted in calculating the cut-off for students passing the Class 12 examination, leading to confusion among Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) aspirants on their eligibility for admission to the premier technical institutes, a Central government inquiry has found.

According to the Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry, these state boards calculated top-20 percentile cut-off on all the students who appeared in the Class 12 board examination instead of taking into account only those who passed it during calculation.

"It should have been the total number of students who passed the exam. We have asked for some more clarification," said HRD Minister M M Palam Raju,

referring to the preliminary findings of his ministry. Recently, there were reports that some 79 students could not make it to the IITs despite scoring well in JEE-Advance because of flaws in the calculation of their percentile by the joint admission board of the premier technical institutes.

While finalising the JEE format, the IIT council last year had decided that only 20-percentile holders in Class 12 board examinations will be considered for admissions to IITs on the basis of their performance in the JEE-Advance.

Admissions to the NITs and other centrally-funded technical institutions will be considered on the basis of students' performance in JEE-Main and their Class 12 board exam score, normalised under a formula.

Deccan Herald ND 18 July 2013 P-11P-11

## Percentile norm infuriates Andhra's bright IIT aspirants

Dateline

Hyderabad

JBS Umanadh

Despite reaping a rich haul of ranks in the IIT entrance examination, including four in the All India top ten slots, the students from Andhra Pradesh (AP) find themselves in a disadvantageous position in terms of the final admissions because of the mandatory 'top 20 percentile' norm. As per the norm fixed by the authorities, only those who are among the top 20 percentile category in the qualifying 12th standard examination of their respective state boards are eligible for admission into the IITs.

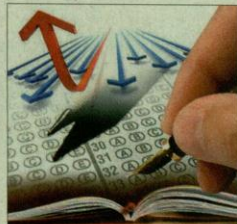
Traditionally, AP has been witnessing a fierce competition at the junior college level with scores over 90 per cent in the science stream being very common. As a result, the number of top scoring students in the 12th standard in AP is much higher compared to other states. Also, the AP students have been performing exceedingly well in the IIT entrance test. A large number of private coaching centres have

sprung up in Hyderabad and other cities to train the students for what is arguably the toughest screening test for admission into professional degree course.

In the IIT JEE (Advanced) 2013, Hyderabad boy P Sai Sandeep Reddy, son of a school teacher, had bagged the all India first rank while AP accounted for nine out of the top 25 ranks including first, second, seventh and eighth positions.

The JEE authorities had recently released the cut-off figures for each state to gain eligibility for admission into the IITs — the dream destination for science students in the country. The cut-off figures for general category students, released by JEE, have stunned students from the state. They have to score more than 91.1 per cent to gain eligibility — the highest in the country. Jharkhand has the lowest cut-off of 56.20 per cent. Barring Karnataka (86 per cent), Kerala (85.2 per cent) and Tamil Nadu (90.9 per cent), the students of all other states need to score less than 80 per cent to be eligible for admission into the IITs. For Maharashtra, the cut-off figure is 68.2 per cent.

Some students in AP find themselves out of the IIT race despite scoring seat-



fetching marks because they are not among the top 20 percentile scorers in intermediate, the 12th standard exam conducted by the state board. "There must be a level-playing field. Why should we be punished for performing better in the qualifying examination compared to our counterparts in other states?" asks Jasmita, who had an All India rank of 2,743 in the IIT JEE but failed to get a seat at IIT Kharagpur, because of the percentile factor.

Some students have approached the State Board of Intermediate Education but the officials there pleaded helplessness, saying that the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) had arrived at the cut-off figures based on the data provided by the state board. The exact number of the affected candidates from AP due to the percentile norm will be known only after the IIT admission process gets over.

### Counseling process

Peeved by the way Madras IIT has sent back students even after they received offer letters, showing the percentile clause as the reason, few students resorted to a legal battle. The AP high court recently directed the IIT authorities to the reserve seats of four such candidates as allotted earlier. In response to the writ petition filed by Anudeep Pendyala and three others, Justice Ramesh Ranganathan said in the denial of seats to the four petitioners is in violation of Article 14 of Indian Constitution. The court issued notices to IIT authorities asking them to reserve the four seats allotted to these candidates until the final verdict is given. However, the court

said the IITs can continue with the counseling process. Meanwhile, the state government has promised to extend help to the JEE advanced rankers who were denied seats in IITs.

When rankers and their parents met secondary education minister Kolu Parthasarathi, he said the CBSE has communicated to the state government (Board of Intermediate Education) to consider the candidates in all streams, including MPC, BiPC, HEC, CEC and MEC, to calculate the percentile. When this was done, the cut-off mark that the state arrived at was 457 for general category students. But the CBSE had taken only candidates who appeared for MPC stream into consideration while deciding the top 20 percentile, which increased the cut-off mark in general category to 487, which had cost seats to many students from state.

Meanwhile, the state government decided to write to CBSE and Joint Admission Board (JAB) of JEE explaining the injustice done to AP candidates by their selection of only MPC stream in deciding the top 20 percentile marks. The minister said lack of proper communication between the CBSE and JAB might have cre-

ated the problem.

Andhra Pradesh has earned the distinction of sending the largest contingent of students for the IITs for the last decade and this is growing year after year. It is being said that by introducing percentile system, Central Minister Kapil Sibal reportedly achieved his ambition of scuttling IIT rankers from AP. Usually for more than 6000 plus seats in IIT, students from AP occupy no less than 3,000 ranks but this time this figure has fallen to less than 1,700 due to introduction of percentile system.

Strongly opposing linking intermediate marks for allotment of ranks for admission into various IITs in the country, TDP president and leader of opposition N Chandrababu Naidu saw a conspiracy to deny seats to AP students in premier institutions. Naidu said his party will fight a legal battle, if necessary, against the new system and raise the issue in Parliament also. The concept of giving weightage to intermediate course marks caused discrimination between the candidates from different regions and states. Naidu feels the cut off marks under the 20 percentile was varying from as low as 53 per cent in Tripura state to as high as 91.89 per cent in AP.

Hindustan Times ND 18/07/2013 P-11

## Very few takers for 'unpopular' IIT courses, 250 seats vacant

Vanita Srivastava

vanita.srivastava@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Despite a mad rush for admission to the IITs, around 250 seats remained vacant this year largely because some courses are not popular among the students.

Courses like pharmaceuticals, pulp and paper engineering, ocean engineering, process engineering with MBA, mineral engineering with MBA, petroleum engineering and mining engineering in some IITs have

few takers. More than 100 seats were vacant at ISM Dhanbad but some could be filled up during spot counseling from July 26. Over 100 seats were vacant in IIT-BHU, 20-22 seats remained vacant in IIT Kharagpur and around 20 in IIT Roorkee.

The four new IITs at Mandi, Ropar, Hyderabad and Indore do not have any empty seats.

"Students prefer mainstream engineering. While all courses have their own benefits and a well designed job market, too much specialization at an

**MORE THAN 100 SEATS ARE VACANT AT ISM DHANBAD AND IIT-BHU. 20-22 SEATS ARE EMPTY AT IIT-KHARAGPUR**

undergraduate level is not preferred by students," says an IIT director. Former director of IIT Kanpur, Sanjay Dhande said, "The individual institutes should take the responsibility of getting seats filled."



# IITs to help build 'smarter cities'

## **FUTURE** HRD ministry to tie-up with Bombay and Roorkee institutes to formulate plan

**HT Correspondent**

■ [letters@hindustantimes.com](mailto:letters@hindustantimes.com)

**NEW DELHI:** The human resource development (HRD) ministry will partner with IIT Bombay and IIT Roorkee for building “smart cities” that will have better amenities.

A one-day workshop in Delhi on July 19 will identify themes related to management of a city and draw up a roadmap by integrating technology with governance for a holistic development of the city.

The future lies in how we create and manage cities in a sustainable and inclusive manner through smart urban planning,” HRD minister MM Pallam Raju said.

“IITs and IIMs being the pre-

mier institutions have a significant knowledge pool to create a vision, strategies and plan of implementation in an integrated manner.”

“Urbanisation is growing at a fast pace in India. We now require qualified people to plan, build and manage megacities efficiently,” IIT Bombay director Devang Khakhar said. “Our work will not just be confined to engineering and science, but will also extend to design, social science and policy issues.”

IIT Roorkee director Pradipta Banerji said the objective of the workshop was to bring together a variety of institutions and people with different sectoral focuses on a common platform.

HT Mumbai

# 'IIT-B accommodation in abysmal state'

**Apoorva Puranik**■ [apoorva.puranik@hindustantimes.com](mailto:apoorva.puranik@hindustantimes.com)

**MUMBAI:** For over 200 girl students, who have been admitted to IIT Bombay for post graduate courses, getting a hostel accommodation turned out to be a harrowing experience.

After receiving a notification from the institute about availability of hostel accommodation, Pune resident Upasana Marathe, who secured admission in the

industrial designing course, arrived at the campus, along with her father, only to find that the accommodation provided to her was in a deplorable condition.

"When we arrived, we were shocked to see that students were asked to stay in a temporary accommodation," said Dr. Marathe, Upasana's father.

According to him, there were no mattresses or running water in the rooms and the TV room of the housing block was turned into

a dormitory. "I immediately tried to get to the bottom of this issue and found that other girls had been staying in this condition for over 2 days," he said.

"The problem arose because there was a slight delay in making the new hostel ready. After Dr Marathe bought this to my notice, we made sure the matter was resolved," said Dr. Devang Khakhar, director, IIT Bombay. The girls have now been shifted to the new hostel, he added.

# NO RESPITE FOR THOSE SEEKING STAY ON NIT ADMISSIONS

**MUMBAI:** With the Hyderabad high court refusing to pass judgment on the normalisation of marks as the case is pending in the apex court, there seems to be no respite for petitioners seeking a stay on the admission process to National Institute of Technology (NIT) and other institutes.

Petitions on the issue are pending in the Bombay, Delhi, Lucknow and Kerala high courts. The CBSE counsel has been directed to file for a transfer of all pending petitions to the Supreme Court (SC) by July 19.

“The judge has said if CBSE does not get a stay from the SC by next week, he will hear the matter every day from Friday,” said Dr Sanjeev Sanghvi, faculty, IIT-Delhi, on Tuesday.

**APOORVA PURANIK**

HT Lucknow

# SINGAPORE VARSITY TO SIGN MOU WITH IIM-LUCKNOW

**SINGAPORE:** After signing six agreements with Indian universities, Singapore Management University (SMU) is now set to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Management-Lucknow as part of its plan to expand an executive education programme in the country.

The SMU was ready to launch a number of higher educational programmes in India this month onwards, SMU's deputy president for academic affairs, Rajendran K Srivastava, said on Thursday.

"We want to link up and work with Indian universities as they provide us a landing spot to do research work in India," he said.

The SMU has signed six MoUs with the Indian Institute of Management (IIM)-Bangalore; the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Kanpur; the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT)-New Delhi; the Bombay Stock Exchange Institute-Mumbai; the Birla Institute of Management Technology (BIMTECH)-Noida; and the Indian Institute of Management-Rohtak.

The SMU will soon sign another MoU with the IIM-Lucknow for a programme in executive education in the Delhi region.

An SMU team would work with IIT-Kanpur from the month-end to co-design a masters' programme in innovations.

**PTI**

Business Standard ND 18-Jul-13 P-7

# No director, IIT-Kharagpur teachers go on token fast

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**

Kolkata, 17 July

About 400 faculty members and a large number of alumni of IIT-Kharagpur in West Bengal on Wednesday went on a token hunger strike demanding immediate appointment of the director.

The post of the director fell vacant on June 30, 2012, and there has been no permanent appointment to the post, IIT Teachers Association general secretary Rajendra Singh said.

Singh said a computer science department professor, Partha Pratim Chakraborty, was interviewed twice by the ministry of human resource development (MHRD) ministry and his appointment has been held back for long, pending vigilance clearance.

He said in the absence of the director, no major policy decision could be taken at the institute. Singh alleged the institute was being neglected by the HRD ministry.

He said on the convocation day on July 27 which would be attended by HRD Minister Pallam Raju, faculty members would stage a silent procession before the start but no academic activity would be disrupted.

Of the total 550 faculty members, 425 participated in the hunger strike.

# IIT-KGP faculty stage hunger-strike

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

Midnapore, 17 July

The faculty members and alumni of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (IIT-KGP) today went on a token hunger strike to protest against the inordinate delay in appointing a permanent director.

Members of the IIT-KGP Teachers Association alleged that the appointment of Dr Partha Pratim Chakrabarti, computer science professor and head of the Advance Technology Development Centre, as the new director of IIT-KGP is pending for over a year due to a delay by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) in clearing his name.

In July 2012, the Ministry of Human Resource Development had constituted a search-cum-selection committee which had selected Dr Chakrabarti to be IIT-KGP's director. But the appointment has been pending Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) clearance due to a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) case in which Dr Chakrabarti was named for irregularities as dean of sponsored research and industrial consultancy.

The country's oldest IIT, which offers the most diverse academic curriculum, has been without a head for over a year. While former director Dr Damodar Acharya's

term ended in July 2012, deputy director Dr Arun Mazumdar also left the institute a year ago. Currently, the senior-most professor, Dr Shankar Som, of mechanical engineering department, is officiating as director.

Mr Rajendra Singh, general secretary of IIT-KGP Teachers Association said, "IIT Kharagpur's board of governors has cleared Dr Chakrabarti of any wrongdoing once in March 2012 and again in March 2013. But the CVC is withholding the clearance. In the meantime, Dr S.K. Som has been discharging the director's duties. We feel it is due to the indifference of Human Resource Development (HRD) ministry."

Mr Singh said a full-time head was necessary for executing long-term plans, including the execution of the institute's 'Vision 2020' charter that envisages making IIT-KGP one of the top 20 institutes in the world.

"IIT-KGP is at crossroads for executing the Vision 2020 document. So, for long-term plans like these we need a full-time director," he said.

Mr Singh also said on the convocation day on 27 July, which would be attended by HRD minister Mr Pallam Raju, faculty members would stage a silent procession before the start but no academic activity would be disrupted.

# IIT Kharagpur faculty, alumni on hunger strike

**Indo Asian News Service**

*Kolkata, July 17*

The faculty members and alumni of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (IIT-KGP), participated in a hunger strike on Wednesday to press for the appointment of a full-time director at the premier institute.

Members of the IIT-KGP Teachers Association alleged that the appointment of Partha Pratim Chakrabarti for the post of director has been stalled for over an year due to a delay by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) in clearing his name.

“IIT Kharagpur’s board of governors has cleared Chakrabarti of any wrongdoing once in March 2012 and again in March 2013. But the CVC is withhold-

ing the clearance. In the meantime, S.K. Som has been discharging the director’s duties. We feel it is due to the indifference of HRD (Human Resource Development) Ministry,” Rajendra Singh, a faculty member, said.

Although the acting director has been discharging the directorial duties, Rajendra Singh said a full-time head was necessary for executing long-term plans, including execution of the institute’s ‘Vision 2020’ charter that envisages making IIT-KGP one of the top 20 institutes in the world.

“IIT-KGP is at crossroads for executing the Vision 2020 document. So, for long-term plans like these we need a full-time director,” he said.

# Treat foreign medicos on a par with Indians, says HC

**HT Correspondent**

htreporters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi High Court on Wednesday ruled that denial of emoluments to foreign medical students pursuing post-graduate courses in All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and not treating them on a par with Indians in terms of salary was "violative" of the fundamental right to equality, which is guaranteed even to non-citizens.

Justice VK Jain, providing relief to the foreign students, observed that "there was no reasonable basis for treating such doctors as an altogether different class, which can be subjected to differential treatment in the matter of payment of emoluments".

The court, hearing a petition

**The enforcement of fundamental of the Constitution can be claimed by a foreign citizen.**

**DELHI HIGH COURT**

by 20 doctors, directed AIIMS to pay emoluments to foreign doctors on a par with other students, except sponsored ones, who had taken admission in the postgraduate courses in the said institute.

The lawyer for the petitioners Nitin Gupta had contended that the foreign doctors were as much qualified as the other junior doctors and performed the same duties and functions.

Therefore, refusal to pay emoluments to them amounted

to contravention of their fundamental right under Article 14 of the Constitution.

The court in its judgment asked AIIMS to pay arrears to the foreign nationals within 12 weeks.

"The enforcement of fundamental rights guaranteed under Article 14 of the Constitution can be claimed not only by an Indian citizen, but also by a foreign citizen, to the extent that such enforcement is sought in the territory of India. Therefore, the foreign nationals, who are pursuing postgraduate courses in AIIMS, are entitled to equal treatment in the matter of grant of emoluments, unless it can be shown on account of some factors or circumstances they belong to a different class, which can be subjected to a different treatment," the court said.