

Newspaper Clips

July 19, 2011

Indian Express ND 19/07/2011
Express Newline p-2

IIT-D counselling process now in three phases, goes online

NAVEED IQBAL

NEW DELHI, JULY 18

TO ensure that seats are not left vacant, the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, has started a three-phase counselling process this year. The institute has also put the counselling process online.

"This has been done to accommodate more students, after noting the students who were allotted seats earlier did not complete admission formalities and the seats were left vacant," said Professor Shantu Choudhry, Dean of under-graduate studies, IIT-Delhi.

The institute is also allowing change of subjects or branches after the third counselling session.

Putting the process online means that the students will not have to visit the campus to submit their choice of subjects or branch.

The number of girls who have been admitted to the institute rose to 12 per cent of total



strength this year, as compared to only 88 girls in the previous batch. Textile engineering has been the preferred course for girls, with 23 choosing it as their stream.

Over all, civil engineering emerged the favourite this year with 112 admissions. Mechanical engineering has 103 students, followed by 101 in textile.

In the Delhi zone, approximately 17,600 aspirants wrote the IIT-JEE this year. Of these, 868 have secured seats at IIT-Delhi. Admissions to all 430 general seats have been completed. In the reserved category, offer letters have been sent to 57 students.

The orientation programme for the new batch began on July 18 and will conclude on July 22.

Basic facilities missing at hostels

NEW DELHI: The hostel facility at the country's premier engineering institute, IIT-Delhi, leaves much to be desired. Students complain that there is no cooling or heating facility in their hostel rooms, making summer and winter month extremely tough.

"It's really difficult to live in the hostel because its always so hot," said a student.

While most of the lecture halls are air-conditioned, hostels are not provided even a basic cooler.

Dean of Students' Professor Shashi Mathur said such facilities could not be provided to the students because of power and water shortage at the campus. He also said "coolers increases the risk of dengue and other water-borne diseases because of stagnant water."

A final year students said: "We sit in the library to get away from the heat, but that too closes at nine."

Hindustan Times ND 19-Jul-11 p-11

'No-ragging' affidavit compulsory for new IIT-K students
KANPUR: As the academic session begins on Monday, IIT Kanpur asked all its new students to submit an affidavit, which says that disciplinary action can be initiated against them if found involved in ragging, IIT-K registrar Sanjeev Kashalkar said.

Rashtriya Sahara ND 19/07/2011

P2

आईआईटी : नए छात्रों की प्रवेश प्रक्रिया शुरू, देना होगा शपथपत्र

कानपुर (एजेसी)। आईआईटी कानपुर में सोमवार से अंडर ग्रेजुएट और पोस्ट ग्रेजुएट छात्र-छात्राओं के नए सत्र की पंजीकरण प्रक्रिया शुरू हो गई है। साथ ही उन्हें एक शपथपत्र भी देना होगा जिसमें वादा होगा कि रैगिंग या उससे संबंधित किसी कार्य में लिप्त पाए जाएंगे तो संस्थान में उनके खिलाफ अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाई की जा सकती है।

Financial Express ND 19/07/2011 P2

'Autonomy to IIM-A at variance with NCHER norms: Experts

Jyotsna Bhatnagar

Ahmedabad, July 18: HRD minister Kapil Sibals' latest attempt to empower the Indian Institute of Management at Ahmedabad is at complete variance with the legislation for the formation of a National Commission for Higher Education and Research (NCHER) that is currently pending clearance, say observers. Sibal has approved long-pending amendments to the institute's memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the government, allowing IIM-A to choose its own director and raise resources.

Highly-placed sources in the HRD ministry who spoke on condition of anonymity said the move flies in the face of the proposed NCHER. "One of the key functions of this proposed body, as and when it comes into existence, would be to prepare a national registry of people eligible for appointment to the position of directors/vice-chancellors of all major national institutions of higher learning. That being the case, what would the IIM-A board do with the autonomy provided to it by the HRD ministry to select its own director?" said a source.

Moreover, though the HRD ministry has been actively involved in the process of selecting directors for IIM-A over the past two rounds, first in the case of Bakul Dholakia and then in the case of current incumbent Sameer Barua, it is the IIM-A board that has been the nodal body for selection of a director ever since the inception of the institute. Interestingly, though the government had increasingly been taking an interest in the selection of directors for the institute, the original MoU had not been tinkered with. In the case of the selection of the present director, the HRD min-



Kapil Sibal, HRD minister

ANOTHER MOVE OF THE HRD MINISTRY THAT IS NOT GOING DOWN WELL IS ITS NOD TO THE AMENDMENT FOR GRANTING THE IIM-A FINANCIAL AUTONOMY AS WELL INCLUDING THE SELLING OF SEATS ON THE IIM-A BOARD TO THE HIGHEST BIDDING CORPORATE DONOR TOO IS NOT BEING VIEWED FAVOURABLY BY INSIDERS AT IIM-A

istry had even advertised the post in leading national dailies, leading to consternation in some quarters over the "complete infringement of the institute's autonomy".

"As far as the selection procedure is concerned, the amendments to the MoU do not change anything on the ground materially," said a senior IIM-A faculty member. "As usual, it was the chairman of the IIM-A board who was sending a list of three names in order of preference and the government was granting its approval in accordance with this."

With the latest amendment to the MoU, however, the informal scope the government had of influencing the choice of director is likely to go completely. "If this is done, then it will be in complete variance with the role envisaged of the NCHER, which is supposed to prepare a panel of names for future appointments to all premier institutes of higher education through a collegium of academicians of distinction," the faculty member said.

Another move of the HRD ministry that is not going down well is its nod to the amendment for granting the IIM-A financial autonomy as well including the selling of seats on the IIM-A board to the highest bidding corporate donor too is not being viewed favourably by insiders at IIM-A. A faculty member observed that the move to auction seats would actually be tantamount to backdoor privatisation of the institute over a period of time. "That's because the board is accountable to the IIM-A Society. Thus far, it was the government which was monitoring the institute's finances while the Society had been comatose. If the board now becomes answerable only to the Society as envisaged in the amended MoU, it would, over a period, lead to an increase in control of corporates," he said.

Hindustan Times ND 19-Jul-11 p-11

IIM-LUCKNOW NEXT IN LINE FOR AUTONOMY

LUCKNOW: IIM-Lucknow is set to follow IIM-Ahmedabad's route towards autonomy. In a month, the institute will become financially independent and be able to pick its own director. Financial autonomy will mean IIM-L will be able to purchase and sell assets without government's approval.

IIM-B upgrades I-T, India Post officials' managerial skills



DEVINA SENGUPTA
BANGALORE

Leadership training may be new to officials working for the country's largest savings bank, India Post Office, or the income tax department, but the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore in association with top foreign universities, is all set to change that.

Some of IIM-B's professors have taken upon themselves the task of aligning the aspirations and managerial skills of employees to roles that The India Post and the Central Board of Direct Tax have charted out for them.

"If a Wipro or an Infosys can have training on client delivery models then why can't public institutes like the India Post Office?" asks Vasanthi Srinivasan, professor of organisational behaviour and human resource management, and faculty coordinator for the project in IIM-B. The training for India Post staffers began nearly six months ago, while that for income tax officials began on March 28. Through this programme, the Central Board of Direct Tax aims at improving employee efficiency and map the available talent.

Besides honing managerial skills, the training will also boost the department's forecasting methods. They will be able to identify which tax returns should be audited and which should be left out, according to Nagadevara, one of the directors for the I-T officers' programme and a former IIM-B dean. Being exposed to the best practices is also expected to help them come up with better public policies. Under a separate programme, which also began in March, 600 commissioners are being trained for three weeks at IIM-B and two weeks at the Maxwell School of Public Policy in New York State and other institutes abroad.

Nagadevara and his team along designed a survey of 270 questions, which would rate commissioners on their aspirations, experience, aptitude towards different policies, according to which they would be grouped into teams like investigation, transfer pricing, advocacy, taxpayer service and international mergers and acquisitions. Those who have been in one

stream but are suited for a different role would accordingly be moved, says Nagadevara.

"A better policy would mean more cash flows for the government, which is what the team will be trained to do," he says.

At India Post Office, at least seven professors are training top-level officers, including post master generals on strategy management and improve their customer delivery systems. Industry experts from insurance were brought in as guest faculty. The trainees were divided into groups and made to brainstorm on how they could achieve their goals.

The 247-year-old post office is joining the e-brigade with its large business and insurance portfolio and is going deeper into rural markets, for which it needs ways of logistics tracking and re-skilling of its workforce. "A top-down method is used where the employees are taught timely de-

livery, and trained in parameters like retaining customers, performance management or marketing the right customer service," says Srinivasan.

A director of the postal services in the southern region, who was part of the training a few months ago, said the programme focused on succession planning and how to reach targets in the next 10 years.

A direct result of the training is that changes made in the departments are being formed to track performance and other HR issues. Another change is that now examinations will be held for postal assistants who aspire to be post master generals and so on. "Earlier, it was about seniority and now it will be about aptitude," the director, who did not wish to be named, said.

Although the postal service has a results framework document, which states the different parameters of measurement and targets for each of them, IIM-B is helping them understand how to answer the 'what next' question.

Indian Forest Service officials are next in queue for training.

FOR REPRESENTATION



DU is ready to stamp out ragging with an iron hand. The measures against the menace have been strengthened.

MANY MEASURES TO CHECK THE MENACE



- Colleges will give prominent display to anti-ragging banners and posters in the campus. Contact details of the principal will be publicised
- DU has advised colleges to form Disciplinary Resource Committees (DRCs) which would be responsible for maintaining law and order in the campus
- Colleges have also been asked to appoint vigilance squads in addition to the DRC
- All colleges will have their own complaint boxes
- For the first few days no student will be allowed to enter the college without an identity card
- No guests are allowed to stay in the hostels during the initial weeks of reopening
- In addition to the mobile patrolling, police pickets will be stationed outside every college with special assistance to women colleges
- Two control rooms together manned by the police, DTC & university officials have been set up in North Campus and South Campus
- Freshers have already been asked to sign and submit an undertaking, at the time of admission, saying they won't be involved in any act of ragging



By Mail Today Bureau in New Delhi

University fires strong no-ragging deterrents

THE message against ragging at Delhi University (DU) is loud and clear.

In a bid to deal with the menace with an iron hand, the university has once again strengthened its anti-ragging code.

For starters, this year, the colleges have been advised to introduce the concept of special 'moral tutors'. "Freshers are shy and might need counselling during the first few weeks. We have asked colleges to appoint moral tutors for the purpose," Manoj Kumar Arora, deputy proctor, North Campus, said.

According to the circular issued to all colleges, the moral tutor should be a faculty member to whom freshers may be attached individually or in a group. The tutor is expected to devote time and energy to help them to overcome any emotional stress or problems encountered while adjusting to the new environment.

The authorities also hope that the personal rapport established by this teacher could prove to be helpful when a victim of ragging wants to confide in someone or needs the confidence to lodge a complaint against his/her senior.

In another relatively new measure, the varsity administration has requested the Delhi Police to conduct random checks even on the Metro trains that goes to Vishwavidyalaya station.

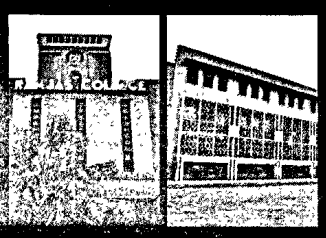
Fuchas can expect police presence on North and South Campuses and even in off-campus colleges to be at an all-time high as, in addition to mobile patrolling, there will be a police picket outside every college and women colleges will receive special assistance.

"We have set up control rooms that will be manned jointly by our security team, Delhi Police and DTC officials. There'll be a control room each in North and South Campuses and students can lodge a complaint of ragging directly in these rooms," Kumar added.

The above measures are in addition to the old rules which include not allowing guests to stay at college hostels during the first few weeks of the new session. Students will not be able to enter colleges without their identity cards and college campuses will display anti-ragging posters and banners

THE RECENT INSTANCES AT DU

- 2010-11: Ramjas College expelled a student of mathematics for beating up a fresher in front of the college canteen
- 2009-10: Kirori Mal College (right) expelled two students of computer science and physical science for ragging a junior in the hostel



besides giving adequate publicity to the contact details of the college principal and faculty members with whom ragging complaints can be lodged.

Colleges have already taken an undertaking from the students at the time of admission, stating that they will not aid or abet ragging on campus. Any student found guilty of ragging will be expelled by the college.

DU's strong anti-ragging stance is

more than evident as the past instances of ragging have been dealt with the harshest punishment. Last year, Ramjas College expelled a student of mathematics for beating up a college fresher along with his friends. In the academic year 2009-10, Kirori Mal College, expelled two students of computer science and physical science, respectively, for ragging a junior in the college hostel.

HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT

You can file a complaint through either one of the following ways:

- Drop a written complaint in the complaint box at your college
- Call 24*7 national ragging helpline 1800-180-5522
- Call the Joint Control Room at 27667221 (North Campus) and 24119832
- Call or meet a member of the Disciplinary Resource Committee/Anti-Ragging Squad/Vigilance Squad
- Dial 100 or Inform the nearest PCR van
- Email your complaint to proctor@du.ac.in

SUPREME COURT ORDER ON RAGGING



- The punishment meted out should be exemplary and justifiably harsh
- An FIR against the accused must be lodged by the Institutional authorities
- The college prospectus should clearly mention that any student found guilty of indulging

in ragging may be refused admission or expelled

- Anti-ragging committee and squads to be formed
- Parent/guardians of students should assume responsibility to immediately report to the college authorities any instance of ragging

Why U.K. employers prefer foreign workers

Hasan Suroor

A piece of advice that newly arrived Indian immigrants often get from their British friends is — never do anything “silly” on a weekend because you are not likely to get any help until Monday. “I remember being told jokingly when I arrived on these shores 30 years ago: don’t die on a Friday afternoon unless you’ve pre-booked your funeral arrangements!” a Bangladeshi minicab driver said.

When it comes to work practices, there is no dearth of national stereotypes — the “French leave,” “Spanish practices,” the “Third World syndrome.” Britons, much to the irritation of their European neighbours, claim to work the longest hours in Europe seldom failing to have a dig at the French for their “measly” 35-hour week and long, leisurely lunches.

Britain, they stress, is the only country which has an “opt-out” from the European Union’s working time directive that imposes a 48-hour maximum working week on its member-states. The British opt-out means that U.K.-based employees may work longer if they wish but they cannot be forced to do so.

Claims by a European think tank, the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, in a report three years ago that Britons were among the “hardest working people in Europe” with only Romanians and Bulgarians putting in longer hours received tub-thumping coverage in the British media. The uber-nationalist *Telegraph* made a point of rubbing in the bit that said the French worked the least hours.

“By comparison, the French spend an average of just 37.7 hours a week at work, effectively giving them an entire afternoon off compared with British workers,” the newspaper noted gleefully adding: “And while working hours in many parts of Europe are generally falling, those in Britain are rising — from 40.7 hours last year in 2006.”

Studies show that British employers prefer foreign or immigrant workers to Britons because of their attitude to work.

Not quite persuaded by these claims, a well-known British stand-up comic decided to check it out for himself and found that the picture was not quite as rosy as he had been led to believe. In a hilarious piece, “At All work and no play?” in *The Guardian*, Dave Cohen wrote how a senior EU official protested ‘non, non, non’ when he asked whether it was a fact that Brits were the hardest working people in all of Europe after the Romanians and Bulgarians.

Mr. Cohen was shown a copy of the Fourth European Working Conditions Survey 2007, a detailed statistical analysis produced by the European Foundation (Eurofound), about working practices across Europe.

And what did it show?
“The closer I looked at the figures, the more surprised I was. The survey examines hours worked across 31 countries in Europe, including every member of the EU. Whichever graph I looked at — number of days worked, number of hours, average weekly hours — we were statistically dull. Just to rub things in it was even mentioned in the report. (Surprisingly, considering the importance of this debate in the British context, the U.K.’s working hours are about average.) I thought I’d better check the facts ... But every survey said the same thing — the British do not work the longest hours in Europe, even before you include those hard-grafting ex-communists and Turkish farmers who boost the ‘hours-worked’ statistics across the continent,” he wrote.

Three years later, the Fifth European Working Conditions Survey 2010 placed Britain among countries with above-average annual working hours (1,800-1,900 hours) along with Latvia, Ireland, Romania, Cyprus, Lithuania, and Italy but there was a sting in the tail. Britain, it clarified, was a “border-

line” case and “at the lower end of the group of countries with above average annual working hours.” Put bluntly, Britain’s above-average performance was essentially a statistical illusion. On the ground, things had not changed much.

Actually, working time in most west European countries is said to be decreasing because of improved employment conditions. Most fixed jobs now come with a relatively high amount of paid annual leave than before. The EU’s 48-hour maximum working week norm is rarely breached.

But, currently, there is a broader debate going on in Britain. It is not just about whether Britons put in longer hours than their European counterparts but about their very work ethic and whether many of the young Britons coming into the job market are fit to be employed at all. Studies show that British employers prefer foreign or immigrant workers to Britons because of their attitude to work. The perception about British workers’ lackadaisical approach to work cuts across the political/ideological divide.

A new report by the Centre for Social Justice, a right-wing think tank, says the widespread unemployment among Britons is down mostly to a lack of work ethic with 62 per cent of the employers saying they turn down British workers because of their “poor work attitude and ethic.” The report calls for a fourth “R” — responsibility — to be added to the three “Rs” — reading, writing and arithmetic.

Recently, an Indian industrialist unwittingly waded into the debate when he criticised the “work ethic” of some of his British workforce and went on to draw a contrast with Indian workers who, he said, were willing to go the “extra mile” in crisis situations. His remarks were described by one liberal

commentator as the “ultimate empire-strikes-back moment” pointing out how in the “bad old days of the raj” the Brits revelled in lecturing the “lazy” natives on work ethic.

In an interview to *The Times*, which was forced to apologise for tweaking the context in which he had made the comment, Ratan Tata recalled his frustration at the culture he found at two British companies, Corus and Jaguar Land Rover, when he bought them. Nobody, he said, was “willing to go the extra mile, nobody.”

In India, on the other hand, he added: “If you are in a crisis, if it means working to midnight, you would do it. The worker in JLR seems to be willing to do that; the management is not.” At JLR “the entire engineering group would be empty on Friday evening, and you have got delays in product introduction. That’s the thing that doesn’t happen in China or in Indonesia or in Thailand or in Singapore.” Under the new management, he said, things had changed.

The newspaper clarified that his comments “related to his view of the environment which existed when the Tata Group bought JLR and Corus and U.K. managers generally, and were not about his current management and staff.”

While some, especially on the Right, sounded upset arguing that similar remarks by a British employer about Indian workers would not go down well in India, the general reaction was one of agreement with Mr. Tata’s views. In an editorial, *The Sunday Times* said he had put his finger at the right place.

“Mr. Tata was giving voice to a phenomenon that many in business are well aware of. There have been so many reports about Britain’s mythical ‘long hours culture’ that we have come to believe it. In fact, too many have it too easy. Surveys show company directors believe they are poorly served by Britain’s middle managers, while managers rail against the lack of direction they get from senior executives. The result is that many middle managers, who should be the backbone of corporate Britain, are disillusioned time-servers.”

This was echoed by many British employers who are under pressure from the government to give “British jobs to British boys.” Reacting to the government’s call to hire more young British workers instead of immigrants David Frost, Director-General of British Chambers of Commerce, said businesses required young people who were able “to read, to write, to be able to communicate and have a strong work ethic.”

“Too often that’s not the case and there is a stream of highly able eastern European migrants able to fill those jobs. They are skilled, they speak good English and, more importantly, they want to work,” he said.

Other employers made the same point arguing that although British businesses wanted to give jobs to local people they struggled to find many “employable” young Britons. “The challenge is to ensure that more young Britons are in a position to be the best candidate,” a senior official of the Confederation of British Industry said.

Sir Terry Leah, former boss of the supermarket chain Tesco, described British school standards as “simply not good enough” to prepare children for the world of work. British businesses, he pointed out, needed more pupils to be taught “harder” subjects at school such as mathematics, sciences and languages.

“It’s not a good reflection of what’s needed for success in business. Success in business is about good manners, the ability to work in a team, to motivate others, to give more in than you take out, about integrity,” he said.

The debate is not new but has acquired an urgency — and is becoming increasingly ill-tempered — because of the current difficult economic climate which has made old notions of work ethic redundant. Long weekends sprawled before the telly are no longer sustainable.

CARTOONSCAPE



Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: Jul 19, 2011; Section: Times City; Page: 8;

Jamia's stern message on attendance as new session begins

Manash Pratim Gohain | TNN

New Delhi: Jamia has made its attendance norms even more tough. From now on, students require a minimum of 80% attendance in the respective semester or year to be eligible to appear for exams. Till the last academic session, the minimum attendance required was 75% and a grace of 15% given to those suffering from serious illness or accident cases.

Kickstarting the new academic session, the university opened its doors to students on Monday. As per an ordinance passed by the Jamia administration, which is to be placed in the forthcoming executive council meet, the university has made 80% attendance the minimum eligibility criteria for students to sit for exams. Moreover, the grace percentage in case of serious illness has been reduced to 10%. The university has also listed a group of hospitals and health centres from where the students have to get medical certificates in case they seek the 10% relaxation.

"The university has been plagued by absenteeism in the recent years. We expect our students to be serious about studies, hence the decision. After studying the at-

tendance pattern we realized that serious students attend over 90% of the classes. Intensive academic practice and co-related activities is what we would like to see in the campus. It is a simple philosophy – if the students have not studied, how will they sit for the exams?" said vice-chancellor of the varsity, Najeeb Jung.

Earlier this year the university debarred 212 students across departments from taking their final exams because they were short on attendance. The university also wrote to the Medical Council of India for an inquiry against 12 doctors who allegedly issued fake medical certificates to the students. Following this, a group of students sought relief from Delhi high court, but their petition was quashed.

"Students have to get certificates from the hospitals mentioned in the ordinance. In case a student falls sick in Meerut, then he/she has to submit the relevant documents at the university health centre for verification," said Jung. The university has also asked the teachers to lead by example and ensure that classes are conducted regularly. "Teachers have to take up the responsibility as well," added Jung.

Hindustan Times ND 19/07/2011

P-4

35 under scanner for role in DUMET

ANOTHER SCAM? Cops get lists of alleged 'fraud' candidates

ht FOLLOW-UP

AFTER CASH-FOR-SEATS, A 'FAKE' EXAMINATION

Jatin Anand

■ jatin.anand@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A week after they stumbled upon yet another racket — this time, related to an apparent 'cash-for-seats' arrangement in Delhi varsity's University Faculty of Medical Sciences (UCMS) — the Delhi Police's investigations into the matter have entered murkier waters. Sources have revealed that they are now investigating the credentials of at least 35 candidates who took the said exam, held on May 22.

In addition, the racket's links to a similar one busted by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) earlier this month and the role of Himanshu Gupta and his associates — who were nabbed for providing admission to well-paying candidates in undergraduate courses recently —

■ The Delhi Police Crime Branch is said to have received lists of alleged 'fraud' candidates who took DUMET 2011

■ The role of at least 35 candidates is now being investigated

■ Besides links to AIIMS medical examination paper leak — being

are also under the scanner.

"We have received several lists of candidates from several sources who had flunked similar exams, but were more than just successful in the Delhi University Medical Entrance Test (DUMET) conducted just some weeks later," said a senior police officer from the investigation team requesting anonymity.

On July 11, Hindustan Times had reported the said scam, in which, according to a written complaint received by the Crime

investigated by CBI — the role of Himanshu Gupta, kingpin of DU fraud caste certificate is also under the scanner

■ Sources claim that kin of those who received leaked AIIMS papers took 'fraud' DUMET exam as well

Branch, eight candidates — who fared abysmally in and consequently, could not even qualify, a similar medical entrance test conducted by the Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGISPU) on May 7 — passed DUMET, conducted on May 22, with flying colours.

The said candidates — who got between 70 and 72% in the DUMET — had managed to score only 10.50% to a maximum of 22% in the GGISPU Common Entrance Test (CET) held just two weeks earlier.

"According to a similar complaint that has been received pertaining to the matter, the role of a particular candidate — who is understood to be related to someone who has been charge-sheeted by the CBI for her involvement in the recent paper leak during the All India Pre Medical Test (AIMPT) early this month — is being investigated," the officer said.

While the said candidate scored a whopping 72% marks in the DUMET examination, he could not even qualify the CET held on May 7.

His sister, meanwhile, is one of the 14 persons to have been questioned by the CBI after a recent AIIMS graduate — identified as Mahipal Singh — was arrested for getting his hands on and subsequently selling, the answer key to the said examination on July 5. Police said they are investigating the role of a city-based medical coaching institute in the matter.