

Newspaper Clips July 27, 2014

Hindu ND 27.07.14 P-18

IIT-Delhi team wins award



Director of LPSC, ISRO, K. Sivan with the winners of TechTop 2014 Best Innovation Award in Thiruvananthapuram on Saturday. PHOTO: S. GOPAKUMAR

Staff Reporter

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Only a fraction of digital material is available in Braille-print and hence there is a lack of accessibility for the visually impaired. Three students from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, have attempted to find a solution to this problem faced by a large majority of visually challenged people in India and have invented the 'Affordable Refreshable Braille Display' - the winning project of this year's TechTop National Innovation Challenge.

The ninth edition of the programme concluded at the Mar

Baselios College of Engineering and Technology here on Saturday. The winning team consists of Mechanical Engineering students Ankit Kumar Parsurampurua, Dhruv Gupta and Pulkit Sapra, who developed a system that uses Shape Memory Alloy wires to activate Braille dots. They were presented with a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh instituted by Degree Controls company. The project that bagged the second place is called 'Neosense' and it measures the oxygen saturation level in the blood of an infant. This was developed by Joshua Mathew, Kavya Suresh, Vivek Joy, Reshmy Prasad and Jojoy John Varghese, students of the

Mar Baselios College. They won Rs. 50,000.

An Automatic Pesticide and Insecticide Sprayer developed by Krishna Institute of Engineering and Technology, Ghaziabad won third place of Rs. 30,000.

Consolation prizes of Rs. 20,000 each was given to Amal Jyothi College of Engineering, Kottam and the Rajagiri School of Engineering and Technology, Kochi. Students from the Sahridaya College of Engineering and Technology, Thrissur, won the all-women's team award.

The focus on 'humanitarian technologies' was lauded by jury chairman V.K. Damodaran.

IIT-D students bag nat'l award

Thiruvananthapuram: A group of students from the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi bagged the best project at the ninth National Innovation Contest-TechTop 2014 which concluded here Saturday. An affordable refreshable Braille display got the best project award. Ankit Kumar, Dhruv Gupta and Pulkit Sapra from the mechanical engineering department, showcased a facility that will help more usage of the Braille display among visually challenged.

The students got a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh. The two-day event was held at the Mar Baselios College of Engineering and Technology. The winners said the idea for this project came after visiting a blind school Saksham Daksh in Noida. They said blind people were not able to "read" digital content and have to either print on Braille paper which was expensive and cumbersome or "listen" to the text using screen reading software. The innovation lies in the actuator design using a compliant system based on shape memory alloy technology. The new design has reduced the price of the display to less than one-tenth of the current technology. IANS

IIT Braille project gets innovation prize

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JULY 27

Students of India Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, have bagged an innovation prize for a Braille project which increases the display for visually challenged people.

The project titled "Affordable Refreshable Braille Display", designed by IIT-Delhi students of mechanical engineering has been announced the best project at the National Innovation Contest - TechTop 2014 at Mar Baselios College of Engineering and Technology (MBCET), Thiruvananthapuram.

It was a new feat for Ankit Kumar, Dhruv Gupta and Pulkit Sapra of IIT-Delhi. They have developed an actuator design using a compliant system based on Shape Memory Alloy technology that will enhance the Braille's visual range for the visually impaired. It was after a visit to a blind school, Saksham Daksh, Noida in NCR, they got the idea.

In the form of the prize Rs 1 lakh was awarded yesterday to the winners by K Sivan, Director, Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre, ISRO, at the valedictory function.

The second prize of Rs 50,000 was won by MBCET, Thiruvananthapuram, and Krishna Institute of Engineering and Technology, Ghaziabad, bagged the third prize of Rs 30,000.

IIT-Delhi Braille project wins top prize

THRUVANANTHAPURAM: A student project from IIT Delhi on increasing Braille display for the visually impaired has won the top award in a national innova-

tion contest here.

The winning team comprising Ankit Kumar, Dhruv Gupta and Pulkit Sapra developed an actuator design using a com-

pliant system based on Shape Memory Alloy (SMA) technology that will help in the increase of Braille display among the visually impaired.

PTI

Dainik Bhasker ND 27/07/2014

P-1

आईआईटी कानपुर से अजीम प्रेमजी को सम्मान

कानपुर। विप्रो चेयरमैन अजीम प्रेमजी को आईआईटी कानपुर ने अपनी 60वीं कन्वोकेशन में डॉक्टर ऑफ साइंस की उपाधि दी है। 69 साल के प्रेमजी को यह उपाधि शनिवार को भारत रत्न सीएनआर राव ने प्रदान की।

Hindustan Times ND

27/07/2014 P-12

IIT-Kharagpur to launch national digital library

KHARAGPUR: The government of India has given IIT-Kharagpur the responsibility of leading the initiative for a national digital library at an estimated cost of about ₹100 crores. On the institute's 60th convocation on Saturday director, when 2364 candidates were awarded degrees, Partha Pratim Chakrabarti said they would create the library and that the pilot phase would be complete in three years., Beside setting up innovation centers at the campus, the IIT-Kharagpur will start a credit based system which will benefit the students.

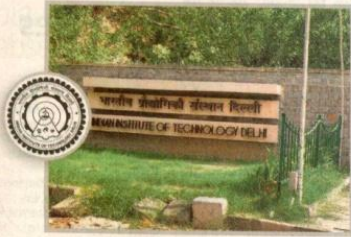
Amar Ujala ND 27/07/2014

P-16

'प्रोफेसर से भी ज्यादा स्मार्ट कुछ आईआईटी ग्रेजुएट'

खड़गपुर (प. बंगाल)। आईआईटी छात्रों की प्रतिभा की सराहना करते हुए जानेमाने नोबेल विजेता वैज्ञानिक सीएनआर राव ने कहा है कि कुछ आईआईटी ग्रेजुएट तो अपने प्रोफेसर से भी ज्यादा स्मार्ट हैं। आईआईटी में पढ़ा चुके राव ने कहा कि आईआईटी में पढ़ाना बड़ा चुनौतीपूर्ण है, कुछ छात्र अपने प्रोफेसर से भी ज्यादा स्मार्ट हैं। राव ने शनिवार को खड़गपुर आईआईटी के 60वें दीक्षांत समारोह में छात्रों व शिक्षकों को संबोधित करते हुए यह बात कही। आईआईटी को शानदार बगीचा करार देते हुए राव ने कहा, 'इस संस्थान के बहुआयामी माहौल में सभी तरह के पेड़, फल, फूल दूँडे जा सकते हैं।' एजेंसी

More the merrier? Decision to establish more IITs and IIMs has caused dismay among some sections



Following on their election promise, the NDA government announced in the Budget setting up of five each of IITs and IIMs. This caused unease especially among the existing faculty and students of these coveted institutions. Social media has been agog with the pro and anti stand on the issue. Should there be proliferation of these institutions or should the existing ones be expanded? The debate goes on. A report...

New IITs, IIMs: Boon or bane?

One or two a year will suffice

Dheeraj Sanghi



We had five IITs for a very long time. But in recent times, a large number of new IITs have been started. After the Guwahati IIT in the 1990s, the government started eight new IITs after 2000, and has now announced its intention of opening five more soon, with the goal of having an IIT in every state in the next few years. I wonder if the expansion will stop there. Surely, someone will point out that Uttar Pradesh has two IITs and hence all large states should have two each!

If you look at the problem dispassionately, India needs high quality technical education in larger numbers. We could possibly improve the existing institutions, or we could set up new ones. If we set up new ones, we could name them IITs or we could name them differently. One should, of course, try to improve the existing institutions, invest more resources, improve their governance structure, and provide them with the right leadership, and so on. However, we do not have many examples of institutions who have improved their quality substantially over a period of time after it was given proper inputs. Indeed, it is often said that an institution in India has a small shelf life of a few decades after which the quality decays. Hence, the clamour for new institutions. When it comes to new ones, the track record of state governments is abysmal. There is no state government engineering college anywhere in the country with a reputation of being world class. So, everyone is looking towards the Central government to set up an increasing number of quality institutes.

But the most important question is whether those new institutions should be named IITs. Couldn't they be named differently? Those who want more IITs, point to the brand value of IIT system and suggest that this brand value would help the new institutes attract faculty and other resources, and quickly build its own reputation and quality. Those who oppose new IITs point to the brand value of IIT system and suggest that any rapid expansion would mean that the new institutes would not be able to attract faculty quickly, and consequently have poorer quality of education. This would compromise the brand value of the IIT system.

Brand value

The truth is, as always, somewhere in between. I do not believe that just naming an institute would ensure quality and naming anything else would ensure mediocrity. IITs are world class for a

large number of reasons, with liberal funding being just one of them. The governance structure is such that it ensures autonomy which is an important ingredient to quality. The leadership, particularly in the initial years, was chosen without any political consideration. And, there are examples in recent years where a completely new name but with provisions of funding, autonomy and leadership have resulted in a quality institutions, comparable to IITs. The Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs) are one such example. Yes, branding helps, but not so much as those demanding IITs seem to believe in.

On the other hand, doubling the number of IITs in the last six years does not seem to have impacted the brand value of IIT system in any serious way. If it has impacted in a small way, surely the promoters of the IIT system have at least this much right on the brand that they can leverage it to bootstrap new engineering colleges. In any case, it is high time individual IITs start building their own brands, rather than remaining dependent on the mother ship.

I am not convinced of the brand-value

argument either in favour of more IITs, or in opposition to more IITs. We need to put our heads together and figure out how to expand high quality education, how do we attract faculty, how we encourage more of youth to go for PhD and academic careers, and how we take advantage of technology to offer quality education to larger numbers.

Some expansion of IIT system is inevitable. However, any expansion should be well planned at least in terms of financial inputs and infrastructure. Before a new IIT is announced, it should be ensured that the land has already been allotted for it. Most new IITs had to delay their construction work for years because land was not available. A full time director should be recruited at least a year before the first admissions take place. We may incentivise a few mid-level professors from existing IITs to move to new IITs to help build them. And given that there is limited bandwidth for mentoring a new IIT, it might be a good idea to spread the opening of new IITs to perhaps one or two per year.

(The writer is professor, Computer Science, IIT-Kanpur)

Better to expand existing ones

M S Sriram



We already have 13 Indian Institutes of Management (IIM), and five more have been proposed in the Budget. The basic debate is whether we need more capacity to train managers by expanding offering of training to a larger number of young and prospective professionals and the next question is about the form in which this capacity expansion should take place.

Considering the gap between the number of applicants for writing the entrance exam (which seems to have plateaued of late) and the seats offered by the existing IIMs, it appears that there is still a case for expanded offering, at least at the post graduate programme level. There is an increasing need for offering doctoral level programmes and increasing the research output. However, the fundamental debate is whether these objectives could be achieved only by setting up new IIMs.

The capacity of IIMs was almost static

for many years making IIM education coveted and exclusive. However, there has been a significant expansion of seats in the last few years. First expansion came because of the Supreme Court ruling on reservations for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) where it was held that the absolute number of seats for general category students had to be held while the OBCs were accommodated on a larger base. This resulted in almost doubling the capacity of the old IIMs.

In addition, six new IIMs were set up during the UPA II regime. These new institutions offered opportunities for innovation. It helped some of the new IIMs to break away from the shackles of legacy and think about their individual models afresh. IIM Udaipur for instance, has plans of focusing on two sectoral themes: Development management and tourism management in addition to the regular menu of programmes they offer. The new IIMs get an independent board and adequate autonomy and try out new systems of offering educational and training programmes. Most IIMs are also developing distinct revenue models as they continue to operate.

Diluting brand

However, there has always been a strong argument against newer IIMs. The argument is that the new institutions tend to dilute the brand of existing IIMs and spread the brand too thin. In the past, older institutions made a strong case for strengthening themselves and expanding to other geographies. IIM Ahmedabad had considered Mumbai and Hyderabad as locations for expansion; IIM Bangalore was interested in making a foray into Singapore and had a centre in Chennai; IIM Lucknow has a centre in Noida. Even the relatively new Indian School of Business decided to open a new campus in Mohali and thereby strengthen the existing systems and expanding the footprint of the brand. It was to prove that with some resources, there was opportunity to expand the offering in newer locations and still achieve the objective of offering a greater capacity.

The arguments in favour of retaining the original branding is that it helps in better placement opportunities, brings in the rigour of an established institution, is easier to recruit faculty and helps optimising costs and resources.

As regards the Budget announcement, the government may have hurried in making the announcement. Given that six new IIMs were set up a few years ago, it would have been important to review the experiences of these IIMs before setting out to announce more. Some of the new IIMs suffer from locational disadvantages, and may be finding it challenging to build a strong faculty base. Now that the announcement is made, thought needs to go into where these new institutions will be located. Being intellectual institutions, they do not create large number of jobs for the local population and therefore, the consideration for locating these institutes should be access to industry, trade and commerce rather than putting the institutions in isolated locations that are not easy to reach.

Similarly the resources allocated to all 11 new institutions (IITs, IIMs, four new AIIMs and an institute of Social Sciences) together has been Rs 500 crore. If we are to go by pure logic of allocation of financial resources from the budget, it would have been much better to encourage the existing institutions to have a better footprint. In the past, the finance ministers have announced liberal assistance to institutions of higher learning. From the point of view of effectiveness, at this time, it would have been much better to strengthen and stabilize the existing IIMs and allow them to grow and consolidate before announcing a new set of institutions covering some geographical and parochial interests.

(The writer is professor, Centre for Public Policy, IIM-Bangalore)

EXISTING AND NEW IITs, IIMs

■ **The 16 IITs in operation are:** Delhi, Mumbai, Kanpur, Chennai, Kharagpur, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Roorkee, Patna, Ropar, Bhubaneswar, Jodhpur, Indore, Gandhinagar, Mandi, and Varanasi.

■ **As of now, there are 13 IIMs:** Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Kolkata, Shillong, Raipur, Kozhikode, Indore, Rohtak, Ranchi, Kashipur, Tiruchirappalli, and Udaipur.

Between 2007 and 2011, eight new IITs and seven new IIMs were set up:

- **IITs:** Hyderabad, Mandi, Bhubaneswar, Patna and Gandhinagar, Ropar, Jodhpur and Indore
- **IIMs:** Shillong, Rohtak, Ranchi, Raipur, Udaipur, Kashipur, Amritsar

2014 BUDGET:

- **New IITs at Jammu, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala;**
- **New IIMs at Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Bihar, Odisha and Maharashtra.**

How much they will cost?

According to a government estimate, setting up an IIT will cost Rs1.750 crore and an IIM Rs1.000 crore, cost of land not included. Acquiring the land and handing it over to the Union government free is left to the states.

“The country needs a large number of Centres of higher learning which are world class. I intend to set up five more IITs in Jammu and Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. Five IIMs would be set up in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Bihar, Odisha and Maharashtra. I propose to set aside a sum of Rs 500 crore for this.”

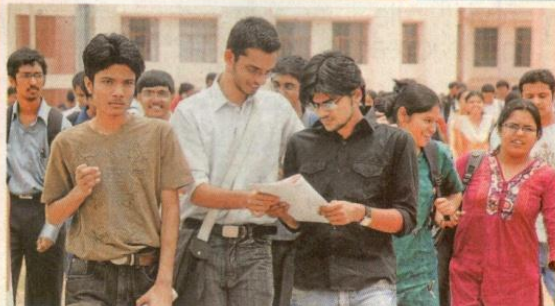


ARUN JAITLEY, Union finance minister in his Budget speech

“There is 36.5 per cent and 40.8 per cent vacancies in teaching positions in 16 IITs and 30 National Institutes of Technology (NITs) respectively. The reasons for faculty shortage are resignation, retirement, increase in students' intake and the non-availability of qualified candidates for taking up teaching assignments.”



SMRITI IRANI, Human Resource Development Minister in the Rajya Sabha



Times Of India ND 27/07/2014 P-1

With credits, IITs plan flexidegree

Somdatta.Basu
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Kharagpur: Two years from now, an IITian will be able to get his BTech degree in three-and-a-half years instead of four, thanks to a new credit scores system.

The country's premier tech institution will switch to credit scores from the 2016-17 academic session, replacing the standard four-year course, IIT-Kharagpur director Partha Pratim Chakrabarti announced during the 60th convocation on Saturday.

Emulating the American system, all IITs plan to give their students a flexible time frame to complete the BTech programme.

Student-friendly CAT format this yr

IIM-Indore on Saturday announced a student-friendly format for the Common Admission Test (CAT) to be held on November 16 and 22 at 354 centres across 99 cities for admissions to the country's premier business schools. **P 19**

Under the new system, students have to accumulate a stipulated number of credits, including class lecture, laboratory, workshop and field work. They will be free to decide how much time they need to complete it.

► **Inspired by MIT, P 17**

System inspired by MIT, Stanford, Harvard

► **Continued from P 1**

This means slow learners have eight years to do it — a huge relief for those driven to desperation, even suicide, for failing to match their peers.

The fastest learners will earn 176 to 182 credits spread over a minimum seven semesters. "A student who finishes seven semesters in three-and-a-half years will have the scope for enriching his academic career by doing

something on his own in the last six months. It could be an entrepreneurship venture or a start-up. While IIT will award him the degree at the convocation, the student will get a provisional marksheet at the end of three-and-a-half years to take up a job," the IIT-Kgp director said.

Chakrabarti said credits system will be rolled out in phases. "We have already introduced the international summer-winter programme. Some

more steps have to be taken before a complete switch-over to credits," said dean of undergraduate studies Rajendra Singh.

The system is inspired by the evaluation pattern of top-notch technology institutes like MIT, Stanford and Harvard, said dean of alumni affairs and international relations, Siddhartha Mukhopadhyay. "We are customizing their system with ours," he added.

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

IITs plan to fast-track degrees with credit system from 2016

[Sondatta Basu](#), TNN | Jul 27, 2014, 01.10AM IST

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/entrance-exams/IITs-plan-to-fast-track-degrees-with-credit-system-from-2016/articleshow/39072062.cms>

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IIT-Kharagpur is also mulling inter-IIT mobility once the uniform credit code is introduced across institutes. "Every IIT has its own centres of excellence. A student should be allowed to go and spend a semester or two at one of his preferred IITs. The credits earned by him during his stay will be exchanged. Though he will get the degree from the IIT where he is enrolled, the credits earned in any other IIT will be added to his marksheet," Chakrabarti said. He has already held discussions with the IITs in Guwahati, Kanpur and Mumbai on this.

The institute is introducing several courses funded by the alumni. "The MN Farooqi Innovation Centre will be built with \$1 million donated by HPL co-founder Arjun Malhotra. Gopal Rajgaria has donated Rs 10 crore for an International Programme. Ashok De Sarkar, Ruma De Sarkar and Samir De Sarkar have given \$1 million to set up a centre for excellence in petroleum. They will also fund the visit of two Nobel laureates every year to the campus," the director announced.

In his convocation speech, Bharat Ratna C N R Rao urged IIT graduates to stay back in the country. "Whatever I have done in science and whatever recognition I have received is by staying in India. If a high percentage of graduates from IITs serve the country then India would be so different," Rao said.

SOME CASE STUDIES

Innovative institute

The IIT Gandhinagar (IITGN) is one of eight new IITs launched in 2008. The campus though may be currently under construction, its distinctive undergraduate curriculum was recognised with a World Education Award for innovation in higher education at the World Education Summit 2013.

Svetlana Brzev, a faculty member, remarked: "The institute stands out from the rest with its innovative features in both its academic curriculum and administration. A unique five-week Foundation Programme for First Year B Tech students nurtures creativity, ethics, communication skills, teamwork, social engagement and physical fitness." He said, in the first phase, a fully residential campus for 2,400 students will be built and the Master Plan envisages a final student population of 4,800 students. IITGN will be shifting to the permanent campus in December, this year.

This academic year, the institute has around 900 students and 70 permanent faculties. To promote critical thinking and an appreciation of the inter-disciplinary character of knowledge, IITGN students take almost 20 per cent of their coursework in the humanities and social sciences, nearly twice the proportion of other leading engineering institutes in the country.

Though it does not have the so



IIT Gandhinagar

called popular branch of computer study, Dean, Strategic Planning & Special Initiatives Achal Mehra said, "Pursuing a popular programme like computer science is an easy call. At IITGN, we are focussed on a broader strategic vision premised on recruiting world class faculty to offer an exceptional educational experience to our students. We do not make distress appointments just to we can offer popular disciplines. Exceptional faculty in computer sciences are not readily available. However, we are now close to building the necessary faculty strength in this discipline and expect to be able to offer programme soon so that we can confidently say we offer the academic calibre which we aspire."

Swati Bhan in Gandhinagar

Still in infancy, facing staff crunch

IIT Jodhpur:

IIT Jodhpur started its operations in 2008. For initial two years the institute was attached with IIT Kanpur and was later shifted to Jodhpur in 2010. Presently, the institute is functioning in a transit campus in MBM Engineering College affiliated to Jodhpur's Jai Narayan Vyas University. Around 800 acres of land on Jodhpur-Nagaur highway was allotted to the institute for its permanent residential campus. But the institute could not commence the construction work due to delay in environment clearance and other sanctions from Union Government.

"We received environment clearance in February 2014. Immediately, we started construction work. We have taken possession of land and construction of boundary wall has been completed. By July 2016, IIT Jodhpur will be completely shifted to its permanent campus," said Aman-deep Kumar, deputy registrar, IIT Jodhpur.

Crunch of faculty members is another problem. The institute is short of 37 faculty members against the sanctioned strength of 90. Battling hard with acute vacancy, IIT-Jodhpur has now decided to encourage new faculty recruits by offering a start-up salary of Rs 25 lakh. Nearly two dozen faculty members have quit in the last two years and till two months ago, it had no faculty member in the professor rank.

Retention of students after the counselling session is also a major task for the institute. The intake capacity of institute is of 160 but some do not turn up leading to a small percentage of seats going vacant every year.

IIM Udaipur:

IIM Udaipur became operational in 2011 in a temporary campus located at the Mohanlal



IIT Jodhpur

Sukhadia University, Udaipur. State government gave 253 acre land to the institute in the Balicha area for building the permanent residential campus. Sources in the IIM Udaipur informed that due to some legal issues, the institute could not commence the construction work so far. However, officials at the IIM claim that construction will start soon and the institute will be shifted to its permanent campus in the next two years.

Like IIT, IIM Udaipur too is battling the problem of faculty crunch which is evident from the fact that it has only 25 permanent faculty members. Around 70 per cent of courses in second year of under-graduate programme are covered by visiting faculties from Bangalore and Ahmadabad IIMs.

The intake capacity of the institute is of 110-120 students. The average placement of the institute has been of Rs 10.23 lakhs. Sources say it is running to full capacity and more programmes will be introduced in the coming years.

Abhishek Gaur in Jaipur

Deccan Herald ND 27/07/2014

P-11

Not at home: land row reason

Among the several largesse doled out to Bihar by the UPA-I government was setting up an IIT - in 2007, it decided to establish the coveted institute in the state. A Central team, which visited the state to take stock of the situation, earmarked the venue at Bihta, around 30 km from Patna. The proposed site, however, got embroiled in controversy after the state government started the process of acquisition of 500 acre of land. It is now expected that IIT Patna will shift to Bihta by December 2014 when the new campus is ready.

Till then, the academic activity, which began from August 6, 2008, from a makeshift campus in Patna's posh Patliputra Colony will continue. The Nitish Kumar regime in 2008 had allowed the Government Polytechnic building, spread over 10 acre of land, to be used as a temporary campus for the IIT where each classroom is equipped with modern audio-visual electronic gadgets.

The academic building has state-of-the-art laboratories in Computer Science, Physics and Chemistry. It also houses the Computer Centre. Laboratories in Basic Electronics, Analog Electronics, Digital Electronics, Control, Instrumentation and Communication are also located in this building. The building



IIT Patna

also has a central library, the administrative office, a dispensary, a cafeteria and faculty chambers. In the present academic session, 199 students have been enrolled in B Tech, 101 students have got admission in M Tech, while 32 students have joined the PhD programme.

Notably, IIT Patna is the first institute among all the IITs to start M Tech in Nanotechnology. "I have been told that IIT-Patna is far ahead of all other new IITs in terms of research work and has achieved international standards," said Partha Pratim Chakrabarti, the director of IIT Kharagpur, who has been given additional charge of IIT Patna after its director A K Bhowmick retired.

Abhay Kumar in Patna

More questions, more time for CAT this year

Ashish.Gaur1@timesgroup.com

Indore: The Indian Institute of Management-Indore on Saturday announced a new student-friendly format for the Common Admission Test (CAT) to be held on November 16 and 22 at 354 centres across 99 cities for admissions to the country's premier business schools.

The test duration has been increased from 140 to 170 minutes and purchase of offline vouchers has been discontinued. Questions in quantitative ability and data interpretation section, verbal ability and logical reasoning section have been increased to 50 each from the existing 30.

Tutorial on technicalities of the exam, which was made available before the start of the exam, will be discontinued. Students have been advised to go through tutorials hosted on the website of IIM-Indore which will be conducting CAT.

Candidates can pay reg-

NEW FORMAT

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istration fee for the exam through online modes, including credit, debit cards or net banking. Another significant change is that students will now be able to switch from one section to another during the examination.

The window for holding the examination has also been cut short. CAT 2014 will be conducted over two days — November 16 and November 22 — in the forenoon and afternoon sessions.

IIT-Hyderabad is on right path, says its Director

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/iithyderabad-is-on-right-path-says-its-director/article6255052.ece>

The faculty and students of the institute are involved in many projects including Rs. 90-crore sponsored research'. There are certain feelings attached to the old IIT's but even they took a couple of decades to reach this stage. The fact is youngsters in India need excellent education.

The IIT Hyderabad has created a niche for itself among the new IITs started in the country with focus on research. A recent study has revealed that IIT Hyderabad was the best in research rated nine on the h-index that measures the impact of a scientific research publication of an institution or individual. The assessment revealed that research from IIT-H had been cited 535 times. The institute now being housed in the Ordinance Factory in Yeddu Mailaram will soon move into its newly-built campus at Kandi, near Sangareddy. The Director of IIT-Hyderabad, U.B. Desai, tells **RAHUL DEVULAPALLI** that the progress of the institute is on the right path.

There is an argument that the standards of new IIT's are not on par with the old ones like IIT- Bombay, IIT- Ahmedabad and others. What is your observation

I don't believe in it. New IIT's are doing good work and have good faculty. We need to give time to the new IIT's to improve further. There are certain feelings attached to the old IIT's but even they took a couple of decades to reach this stage. The fact is youngsters in India need excellent education.

Talk about IIT-Hyderabad and the infrastructure there

We have close to 1,600 students including 400 Ph.D students and the numbers reveal the importance given to research. In fact, IITs have to focus on research as they are not just institutions giving engineering degrees.

We have a good faculty and all the facilities.

We will shift to our new campus after the convocation in August.

Can you provide details regarding the research projects at IIT-Hyderabad

The faculty and students of the institute are involved in many projects including Rs. 90-crore sponsored research and Rs. 10 crore sponsored industrial research. One of the important projects is Cyber Physical Systems and others are in the field of healthcare and robotics. We are awaiting other mega projects too.

You are leading the Indian team of researchers in the Indo-Japanese project related to earthquakes and natural disasters. Was there any research done on Hyderabad region and if yes, any outcome of this work

Hyderabad is a very safe region as it is on the vegetative Deccan plateau. We have put sensors at certain points, but no major seismic activity was recorded.

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Tata grant to IISc materialises five years after promise

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/422235/tata-grant-iisc-materialises-five.html>

Bangalore, Prashanth G N, July 27, 2014, DHNS:

Rs 75 crore fund for research on Alzheimer's disease

In line with industrialist Ratan Tata's promise in the centenary year of IISc, 2009, that the Tatas would fund research with practical benefits and make a substantial grant to IISc, the Tata Trusts have extended a Rs 75 crore grant to IISc for research on Alzheimer's disease.

IISc's Centre for Neuroscience (CNS) will conduct a study to enable early diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and develop appropriate treatment. The origin, rise and spread of the disease will be mapped.

The grant has come five years after the announcement owing to the difference in perception then, on areas to be researched between IISc and the Tatas. In 2009 and 2010, Ratan Tata on different occasions had said that the Tatas would support new research to mark the centenary of the Institute. But he had also specified that IISc needed to do more than what it had done so far.

Tata's expectations

At a meeting of the Court, the highest decision making body of IISc, Tata had said, "If I look back on what I have been trying to say in a very polite and in a very careful manner, it has been my perception that this institute, which is a great institute, has not perhaps changed as much as one would like to see. I have mentioned that we should perhaps be looking at greater change, research of greater global relevance and I have used my words carefully."

He had added, "I urge that all of us work together to make this possible in its true form where this institute not only files major number of patents compared to what it did before, not only pursues technical excitement or scientific excitement, but actually contributes to a new way of life both in India and elsewhere."

He had also said that they had to ask themselves as any good institute would, if what they were doing was good and relevant enough and how they could improve.

The greatest danger we have or anyone has in any congregation is to say that we are at the pinnacle of where we can be and we can do no better, he said.

Practical benefits

Then again in a March 2011 meeting at IISc, Tata had said that the research must connect with the masses and have utilitarian value. Referring to the tsunami, he had suggested that research by institutes like IISc should be able to devise robust products that could help people during such crises. Tata wanted practical research with practical benefits.

In May 2011, difference in perception on research topics between IISc and Tatas had surfaced. IISc broadly proposed chemical biology, mathematics, energy and materials sciences.

The Tatas indicated interest in energy, materials and chemical biology, but, Mathematics didn't excite them.

The Tatas and IISc spent a good deal of time discussing research on specific areas or on a series of areas - whether research should be specific or diffuse.

In a course of five years and several discussions on areas that needed to be researched, the Tatas finally decided that it would fund and support a specific issue - researching Alzheimer's, so as to be able to work out early diagnosis and prevent its rise and spread. The decision was not taken earlier because there was no convergence of interests.

IISc director Prof P Balaram had then echoed Tata's sentiments on research. "Tata raised a general issue — where each one asks oneself whether one is doing as well as one should, whether institutions in general are doing as well as they should.

He said we could and will do a lot better." Prof Balaram had said that the grant would come but that it could take time because of difference in perception areas of research to be funded.

Keen interest

The IISc director had said that the Tatas were keen on setting up a large research centre and facility at IISc and wanted it to be fresh, fruitful and cutting-edge, bring in new research.

He had added, "A lot of people and many aspirations have to be satisfied by this grant. Everyone taking a

decision on the grant will have to feel confident the right areas have been chosen. I'm sure it'll be worth the wait in the end."

IIM Ranchi professor accused of sexually harassing colleague

[Alok K N Mishra](#),TNN | Jul 27, 2014, 02.21 PM IST

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ranchi/IIM-Ranchi-professor-accused-of-sexually-harassing-colleague/articleshow/39105953.cms>

RANCHI: A core faculty member at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in Ranchi has been accused by a woman colleague of sexual harassment.

The victim, also a faculty member, lodged an FIR with Kotwali police station on Friday and police have launched a probe into the allegations.

The victim claimed that she had recently also lodged a complaint with IIM Ranchi management.

Ranchi city SP Anoop Birthary said: "The woman has lodged an FIR against one Sasadhar Bera, faculty member of IIM Ranchi. She has claimed that he has been making sexually explicit comments against her for the last two months." Birthary said.

Officer-in-charge of Kotwali police station Arvind Sinha said police have registered a case against Sasadhar Bera under Indian Penal Code section 354 (assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty) and 509 (word, gesture or act intended to outrage the modesty of a woman).

If the allegations are found to be true under these sections, the accused faculty member would be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both, said a police officer.

According to the institute's website, Sasadhar Bera is a member of IIM Ranchi core faculty and works in the area of operations management. IIM Ranchi director Binay Bhushan Chakrabarti said he has not received any information about this yet. "No police official has approached us so far. I am in Kolkata. The woman has never approached the management (of IIM, Ranchi) about any such issues. We strictly follow Vishakha Guidelines and also have the a committee against sexual harassment but the woman has also not approached it," said Chakrabarti.

Bera could not be contacted for his comments. He is yet to reply to an email sent on his official email ID by TOI.

Kotwali police station has given the job of investigation in this case to a sub inspector rank official Meera Singh. "The team led by Meera Singh had gone to the institute on Saturday, but neither the accused nor the complainant could be found. We are in the process of investigation and it would not be proper to divulge any more information right now," said Sinha.

"The victim has claimed that she had made a complain to the management of the institute. We will ask the management what actions has it taken in this case. If we find the allegations to be true the accused professor would be arrested," said Birthary.

Jharkhand Women's Commission chief Mahua Manjhi said the commission would take suo-moto action in this case. "No one has approached us so far in this case. But we will initiate an investigation into this case on Monday," said Manjhi.

Kalam visits IIM Shillong as guest faculty

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/on-campus/kalam-visits-iim-shillong-as-guest-faculty/article6254503.ece>

New Delhi, July 27:

"I want to see all of you as the creative leaders to bring about the required change, said APJ Abdul Kalam, former President of India, addressing students of IIM Shillong on July 24.

Kalam was at IIM Shillong for a course on the 'Dimensions of National Development'.

During his session with the students he talked about the challenges that our country and the world is facing at large and emphasised the role of leadership to tackle these issues and develop possible solutions.

He also talked about the concept of PURA (Providing Urban Amenities to Rural Areas) which focuses on rural development by providing opportunities through cooperative working of resource and social entrepreneur. This would enable our country to grow by shared efforts and overcome the challenges faced by the society.

Kalam charted out the link between creative leadership & economic development. He emphasised the importance of the role that change in leadership would play for ensuring the success in future. He also stressed the role of integrity among leaders for sustained success and development of the society.

The former president also met faculty members of IIM Shillong to discuss the role of academicians in promoting creative leadership among the students for betterment of the society in future.

This is the second time IIM Shillong is hosting Kalam as a guest faculty.

S'pore PM to interact with IIM Alumni and Indian businessmen

Press Trust of India | Singapore

July 26, 2014 Last Updated at 15:29 IST

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/s-pore-pm-to-interact-with-iim-alumni-and-indian-businessmen-114072600675_1.html

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong will interact and discuss business opportunities in [India](#) with alumni of the Indian Institute of Management (IIMs) and Indians heading global corporations at an international conference to be held here next month.

"Prime Minister Lee will be the guest of honour and deliver a key note address as well as interact with delegates," said Sanjiv Aiyar, President of the Pan [IIM](#) Alumni Association of Singapore (PIIMA), the organisers of the conference.

Deputy Prime Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam and the second Minister for [Trade](#) and Industry S Iswaran will

be hosting segments of the conference, IIMPACT 2014, to be held on August 22 and 23.

Indian business leaders would also be addressing some 1,000 delegates at the conference, backed by Singapore's [trade](#) promotion agencies.

The IIMPACT 2014 will also underline the growing importance of Singapore for India and global Indian business leaders.

There are about 6,000 Indian companies registered in Singapore. These companies can be used as a gateway to the East Asian [markets](#) under the "Look East" policy, said Piyush Gupta, chairman of the PIIMA Advisory Council and Chief Executive of DBS Bank of Singapore.

The "Look East" policy represents India's efforts to cultivate extensive economic and strategic relations with the nations of Southeast Asia.

"I have seen the profile of Indian companies changing in Singapore. I have seen a large number of regional hubs, treasury centres, family wealth and family-owned businesses shifting to Singapore. That shift in the profile of the kind of businesses engaged in Singapore is important," he said.

Likewise, Singapore companies are looking at India as "a massive [market](#) for opportunities, especially the large scale infrastructure development".

"From the Singapore stand point, India is a massive market. It is not only for Singapore companies but other companies domiciled outside Singapore," he said.

The conference, second after one held in April last year, is an ongoing initiative of the IIM Alumni to bring the global businesses of India and Asia together to drive the economic growth.

UGC seeks more time from SC to submit report on varsities

New Delhi, July 25, 2014, DHNS:

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/421884/ugc-seeks-more-time-sc.html>

With the July 31 deadline closing in, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has decided to seek more time from the Supreme Court to submit the report of its panel on the reassessment of 41 deemed-to-be varsities that are facing derecognition.

In a meeting on Tuesday, the higher education regulator decided to request a two-month extension to submit its stand to the Human Resource Development Ministry on the fate of these varsities.

The special four-member committee, headed by UGC Vice-Chairman H Devaraj, decided that it needed more time to come to a conclusion on the final report. It has already completed hearing the current status of all the 41 universities in question.

“The committee is now in the process of preparing its recommendations. It needs some more time to complete its report,” official sources from the commission said.

A few months ago, the apex court had, after hearing a petition in connection with the issue, directed the higher education regulator to give its advice on the present status of the institutions in question to the Human Resource Development Ministry before July 31.

The panel was tasked to reassess the fitness of the 41 varsities in terms of available physical and academic infrastructure, as well as academic performance and research output. According to sources, its proceedings were videotaped to maintain transparency.

In 2009, a committee of experts had recommended de-recognition of these varsities after finding them unfit for the deemed-to-be university tag.

Nai Duniya ND
27.07.2014 P-14

तीन दिन बाद आईआईटी बॉम्बे से चला गया तेंदुआ

मुंबई (मिड डे)। तीन दिनों के तलाशी अभियान के बाद ठाणे और संजय गांधी राष्ट्रीय उद्यान (एसजीएनपी) की बचाव दल ने शुक्रवार देर रात इस बात की पुष्टि की कि आईआईटी बॉम्बे परिसर में घुसा तेंदुआ चला गया है। बचाव दल के अनुसार प्रयोगशाला के चप्पे-चप्पे की तलाशी ली गई और कहीं भी तेंदुए के होने का पता नहीं चला।

वन विभाग ने शुक्रवार देर रात 2:00 बजे से 3:30 बजे तक आईआईटी की प्रयोगशाला में तलाशी अभियान चलाया है। कहा जा रहा था कि प्रयोगशाला में ही तेंदुआ घुसा था, लेकिन वहां की तलाशी में कोई भी जानवर नहीं मिला। डीएफओ केडी ठाकरे ने कहा कि कुछ न मिलने के बाद प्रयोगशाला की जिम्मेदारी वापस आईआईटी प्रबंधन को सौंप दी गई है। शुक्रवार देर रात तेंदुए का पता लगाने के लिए रिमोट कंट्रोल से चलने वाली कैमरा लगी कार, रोबोट और एंबुलेंस के सायरन का भी इस्तेमाल किया गया।